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AEC 787/5

November 8, 1955

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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

OPERATION REDWING

Note by the Secretary

The General Manager has requested that the attached letter to the Secretary of State be circulated for the information of the Commission.

W. B. McCOOL
Secretary

DISTRIBUTION

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DOE ORDER 5650 2B
NAME: <u>W. Chubb</u>
DATE: <u>05/25/95</u>

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: <u>03/16/02</u>	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))
AUTHORITY: <u>105.02</u>	1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
NAME: <u>W. Chubb</u>	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO
2ND REVIEW DATE: <u>07/25/02</u>	3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
AUTHORITY: <u>105.02</u>	4. COORDINATE WITH:
NAME: <u>W. Chubb</u>	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
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NW 972006A-273

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This document consists of 2 pages

Copy No. 18 of 21 Series B

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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 25, 1955

Dear Mr. Secretary:

To meet the requirements of the atomic weapons research and development program and of the Department of Defense weapons effects program, I propose to request the President to authorize the conduct of a series of atomic tests at the Pacific Proving Ground, commencing about May 1, 1956.

The proposed tests, designated Operation REDWING, are designed to achieve objectives vital to our continued progress in the research and development of atomic weapons and in the improvement of our atomic defenses.

Although there will be a greater number of shots in REDWING than there were in the previous Operation CASTLE, the total cumulative yield expected from REDWING is considerably less than one-half the cumulative yield obtained during CASTLE.

Furthermore, the maximum expected yield of the largest single shot during REDWING is about one-third the maximum obtained on the largest single shot in CASTLE.

Throughout Operation REDWING, it is intended to establish a danger area around the Pacific Proving Ground at least as large as that used during the later phases of Operation CASTLE.

Planning for Operation REDWING is in an advanced stage, and it now appears desirable to seek early Presidential approval of this very important program. By separate letter, I have recently requested formal concurrence and support from the Department of Defense.

After receipt of Presidential approval, but not before January 1, 1956, we plan to make a suitable public announcement of these tests. This announcement will be coordinated with the Operations Coordinating Board.

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The purpose of this letter is to confirm the information given verbally to Mr. Gerard Smith by Captain John W. Gannon on October 17, 1955.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Lewis L. Strauss
Chairman

Honorable John Foster Dulles
Secretary of State

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