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on seismic effects. (I understand that Drs. Van Allen and Christofolis are preparing such a report.)

Step 2. To have the State Department make information of appropriate classification from this report available to the Soviets and other countries concerned (such as the U. K., the Union of South Africa, appropriate South American countries, Japan) as it deems politically advisable under the circumstances, including the introduction of the report into the Geneva testing suspension talks, if, in the light of the over-all policy considerations bearing on these negotiations, such introduction is deemed advisable.

Step 3. To brief in advance the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, Disarmament Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and other appropriate Congressional groups.

Step 4. To issue a release from the White House comparable in nature and scope to the releases on seismological data once the appropriate foreign governments and key U. S. officials have been informed.

Step 5. To establish a panel of appropriate members of the U. S. Committee for the IGY and the National Academy of Sciences; key government officials in the Department of Defense, State Department, AEC, National Science Foundation, NASA, and the Office of the Special Assistant to the President for Science and Technology; to reply to anticipated queries from the press as per attached guidelines; thereby establishing better control over the release of information and speculation as to its meaning. If possible, this panel should meet with the press in the Great Hall of the National Academy of Sciences in order to emphasize the scientific aspects of this experiment.

*K. G. Harr Jr.*  
Karl G. Harr Jr.  
Special Assistant  
to the President

Attachment  
Guidelines (2 pages)

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GUIDELINES

1. The detonations produced no radioactive fall-out because (give technical explanation).
2. The detonations were one aspect of the HARDTACK series.
3. These detonations were conducted in late August and early September; there were no unannounced detonations after October 31.
4. There was no violation of the U.S. Government's policy of announcing a nuclear test series in advance because there was no policy of announcing every shot. Moreover, this was not the test of a weapon in the usual sense, but a scientific experiment utilizing nuclear detonations to discharge electrons into the earth's magnetic field.
5. Announcement has been withheld until now for purposes of evaluating data acquired. It is being released now because of its relevance to the question of detectability of high altitude detonations currently under discussion at the nuclear test suspension talks.
6. There was no violation of our IGY commitments. Unclassified information acquired by the satellite instruments has been made available to the IGY.
7. All safety precautions consistent with the remoteness of the launching area and the height of the burst were taken by the Task Force elements responsible for the experiment.
8. The nuclear materials were carried by X-17 rockets launched from the USS Norton Sound in the South Atlantic.
9. The sponsoring organization in the Department of Defense was the Advanced Research Projects Agency.
10. The detonations were achieved by already proven warheads of very small yield; specific yield classified.

THE DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION, U.S. ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, HAS DETERMINED THAT THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NO INFORMATION OF A NATURE WHICH WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE. THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLASSIFIED.

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11. Much data of importance to basic scientific knowledge resulted from the detonations, including (a) delineation of the shape and characteristics of the earth's magnetic field; (b) clues to the behavior of electronics within this field and effect of such behavior on electromagnetic communications.

12. The derived military implications of the experiment are under review and assessment of such data will remain classified; however, any unclassified data will be published in subsequent additions to the Weapons Effects Handbook.

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