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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

1ST REVIEW DATE: 9/12/01
 AUTHORITY: OAC OADG OADD
 NAME: *Arthur Hayes*
 2ND REVIEW DATE: 11/2/01
 AUTHORITY: ADP
 NAME: *Cheryl Carter*

DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))
 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO
 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
 4. COORDINATE WITH:
 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
 7. OTHER (SPECIFY): *180 only*

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 DOE CASE 5650-23
 REVIEWER:
 NAME: *W. Chiswick*
 DATE: *05/21/85*

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Dear Mr. Larson:

In response to the suggestion made in your letter of 19 September 1951, the Commission will be happy to discuss with you at any time the factors which led to our conclusion that a thermonuclear device will not be ready for testing prior to the winter of 1952-1953. We can, however, add little to the information supplied by Mr. Bradbury when he addressed the Committee on September 13, 1951.

To the extent that Fall is prior to winter, the present plan may improve upon our original estimate.

A special group has been established at Los Alamos charged with the coordination of all the technical tasks essential to the preparation of a thermonuclear device for the test in the Fall of 1952. In addition, the American Car and Foundry Company is undertaking the engineering design of the weapon and fabrication of the less critical parts of the actual device. It is our view that the proposal to design, fabricate and test a full scale model in one year's time is a truly ambitious undertaking and is indicative of the sense of urgency attached by the Commission and its contractors to the determination of the feasibility of a thermonuclear bomb.

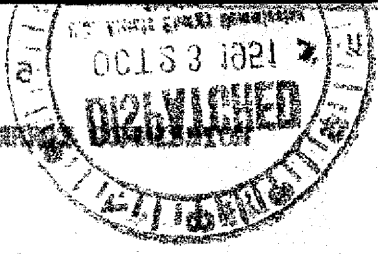
The matter of a very high yield weapon was covered in a memorandum of 9 October from the Director of Military Application. While it is not possible at this time to set a date for testing this weapon, we would hope to include it in the next operation to be carried out in the Trinity area.

[Redacted block]

Cu. in AEC 483/2

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION



Summer T. Pike
Acting Chairman

Honorable Robert L. Taylor
Chairman, Military Liaison Committee
to the Atomic Energy Commission
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.8

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By *DR* / *FS* Date *6/23/85*

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