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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM FOR INFORMATION

RELEASE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING TESTS

Note by the General Manager

The Director of Military Application concurs with the views expressed in the attached letter from General Hull and will recommend action by the Commission immediately on hearing from the State Department regarding the proposed memorandum to the President.

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED  
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC

Carl Wilson 3/21/84  
REVIEWED BY DATE  
H.R. Schmidt 7/1/85

By: W. Tamah 4/11/86

REPOSITORY NARA - College Park  
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HEADQUARTERS  
JOINT TASK FORCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

7 November 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE CHAIRMAN, ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
(Through the Military Liaison Committee)

SUBJECT : Release of Information concerning Tests

In your memorandum to the President, subject: Test of Atomic Weapons\*, now awaiting the concurrence of the Secretary of State, you state that the Joint Congressional Committee of Atomic Energy will be advised of the test program upon its approval by the President. Presumably the Atomic Energy Commission will accomplish this.

It seems important to me that this be done as soon as practicable after the President has given his approval and before the proposed press release is made, at least insofar as the Committee Chairman is concerned.

We need not only Congressional support in the holding of the tests but will need the strong backing of such gentlemen as Senator Hickenlooper in holding to the line of prohibiting attendance at the tests of foreign observers, members of the press and other unofficial observers. The plan as approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and concurred in by the Atomic Energy Commission is based on the concept that only a few official observers would be present and members of the press would not be authorized to attend. As a result only a limited number of accommodations over and above the requirements of the Joint Task Force including the scientific personnel are being provided and no communication facilities whatever for use by the press will be available. It would be most embarrassing to me as the Task Force Commander, and

\* This memorandum is on file in the Division of Military Application.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I'm sure to the Commission as well, should we, at the last minute, have to accomodate a press contingent with the resultant adverse reaction on their part because adequate facilities especially communications have not been provided.

I would hope that both the President and Senator Hickenlooper could help us on this point and suggest that, when they are briefed on the test program, their support on the matter of excluding the press and unofficial visitors be sought.

J. E. HULL  
Lt. General, USA