

MEMORANDUM

K-65-316

October 20, 1965

TO: Distribution

FROM: Classification Office  
LRL, Livermore

SUBJ: OPERATION ROUNDUP

This memo supersedes Classification Memo K-65-191, dated June 23, 1965.

A joint DOD/AEC public announcement has been released concerning Operation ROUNDUP. The following is a summary of that announcement:

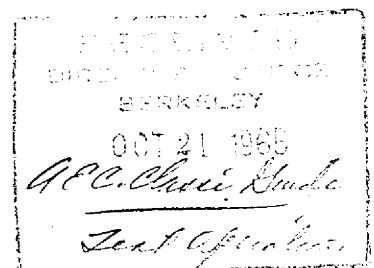
A joint Department of Defense-Atomic Energy Commission non-nuclear air drop exercise, similar to that of October 1964, will be conducted by Joint Task Force Eight in the Pacific area next month. As in the 1964 exercise, B-52 aircraft will drop instrumented test-simulation objects while other aircraft in the drop areas simulate gathering nuclear effects data.

All such exercises are designed to help maintain facilities, resources and crew proficiency in a state of readiness to institute promptly nuclear tests in the atmosphere, if ever required. While such readiness is necessary in the interest of National Security, the U. S. government position has always been that it earnestly hopes there will never be an abrogation of the Test Ban Treaty, and that its capabilities to resume such testing will not have to be exercised. The 1965 non-nuclear exercise is expected to be completed by mid-December.

The following facts on the exercise should be used sparingly and in reply to specific inquiries only.

1. Purpose of exercise:

- a. To evaluate the current capability of the DOD and AEC to conduct atmospheric nuclear tests, if necessary, using airborne diagnostic aircraft.
- b. To assess the adequacy of preparations for attainment of the prescribed readiness posture.




2. Locations:
  - a. Exercise - Mid-Pacific areas south of Hawaii.
  - b. Support activity-military bases in Hawaii and Johnston Atoll.
3. Time:

Mid-November to Mid-December.
4. Key personnel:
  - a. Major General John D. Stevenson, USAF, Commander, Joint Task Force Eight.
  - b. Colonel Robert E. Belville, USAF, Commander of the Exercise Task Group.
  - c. Doctor Philip L. Randolph of the AEC's Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, Livermore, California, Associate Scientific Deputy JTF-8 and Scientific Advisor to the Exercise Task Group.
5. Other participants will be from the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission and its Laboratories totaling approximately 1500 personnel.
6. Equipment:
  - a. Two B-52 aircraft to drop instrumented test-simulation objects.
  - b. Three NC-135A "Flying Diagnostic Laboratory" aircraft to test instrumentation.
  - c. Approximately 27 support aircraft/weather, sampler, rescue, etc., and a few naval support vessels.
7. Questions also may be answered on basis of previously published official information.

Release of information concerning this exercise other than that approved by this message must be cleared in advance with OASD /PA and DPI/AEC.

In all cases not mentioned by the above instructions, the JTF-8 Classification Guide and later JTF-8 classification releases will apply.

  
J. A. Jensen  
Classification Officer

HHT:vr

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