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IN VIEW OF CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH I HAVE DESCRIBED TO YOU I DOUBT THEIR APPROVAL OF A FIRING OF THE ORDER OF FORTY MEGATONS AND IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO MAKE A FIRING OF LESSER YIELD WITHOUT LOSS OF VERY IMPORTANT DATA PD THIS

CMM THEN CMM WOULD APPEAR TO INDICATE THAT EVERY POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO REDUCED YIELD VERSIONS OF THE LARGE YIELD SHOTS PD I BELIEVE ALSO THE COMMISSION WILL DESIRE TO HOLD TO A MINIMUM THE AMOUNT OF FISSION YIELD SO THE AMOUNT WILL BE GENERALLY OF THE ORDER OF MAGNITUDE OF THAT OF REDJING PD

/C/ I FEEL /BUT WITHOUT BENEFIT OF FULL DATA AS YET/ THAT THE TOTAL COST OF OPENING TAONGI AS A NEW SITE /INCLUDING BOTH AEC AND DOD COSTS/ WILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY ABOVE THAT OF CONDUCTING THE OPERATION ON THE TWO PRESENT LAGOONS PD THERE WILL BE /THOUGH I AM NOT CERTAIN AS TO AMOUNT/ ADDITIONAL POLITICAL OBJECTIONS TO THIS COURSE WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT WE SHOULD GO TO A THIRD ATOLL ONLY IF WE CANNOT CARRY OUT IN A REASONABLE TIME THE OPERATION IN THE TWO ATOLLS PD I DO WISH TO SEE AND TALK TO THE TASK FORCE ON THE MATTER OF TAONGI COSTS AS SOON AS I RECEIVE THE NECESSARY INFORMATION FROM JOHNSON AND REEVES CMM BUT BELIEVE THAT WE MUST PROCEED IN THE INTERIM ON THE BASIS OF TWO SOLUTIONS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS I CAN SECURE A DECISION ON THIS MATTER PD ONE SOLUTION /WHICH I STILL BELIEVE IS THE MORE PROBABLE/ IS THAT WE WILL USE ONLY ENIETOK AND BIKINI PD THE ALTERNATE WOULD BE THE USE OF TAONGI PD

PARAGRAPH I REQUEST CMM THEREFORE CMM THAT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE YOU RESCREEN THE LIST OF SHOTS EARLIER SUBMITTED GIVING CONSIDERATION TO THE ABOVE PD I WOULD HOPE

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THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SHOTS COULD BE HELD TO THE ORDER OF THE
 FIVE WITH FOUR TO FIVE OF THESE BEING HIGH ALTITUDE OR MILITARY
 EFFECTS SHOTS PD THIS WOULD LEAVE OF THE ORDER OF TWENTY SHOTS FOR
 THE TWO LABORATORIES PD IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR SCREENING CMM THERE-
 FORE CMM I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR OPINION OF YOUR ABILITY TO CONDUCT
 AN EFFECTIVE AND ADEQUATE TEST PROGRAM IF EACH LABORATORY WERE TO
 PLAN AS OF THE PRESENT ON THE BASIS OF TEN SHOTS EACH PD IF THIS IS
 NOT ADEQUATE AND SOME OTHER HIGHER NUMBER IS REQUIRED TO SECURE
 AN EFFECTIVE AND ADEQUATE PROGRAM CMM I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE NATURE
 OF THE INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE LOST BY HOLDING TO THIS FIGURE OF
 TEN A PIECE PD I REALIZE THAT AS TIME PROGRESSES IT MAY BE NECESSARY
 TO ADD A SHOT OR TWO AS HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST BUT THIS SHOULD
 BE BASED ON ADDED INFORMATION NOT PRESENTLY AVAILABLE END REF MA
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