

February 27, 1958

MEMORANDUM TO MR. STRAUSS

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION CLEAN SHOT IN HARDTACK

John McGruder has told you that at yesterday's Commission meeting the four Commissioners split 2 - 2, Libby and Vance versus Graham and Floberg against and for the demonstration Clean Shot in HARDTACK. The fact that you voted YES by proxy did not persuade Dr. Libby to consider the matter carried by majority vote. The subject will therefore rise again Friday when I expect it to be carried by a 3 - 2 vote, or possibly 4 - 1, if you are present and I can change Mr. Vance's views meanwhile.

Time in which to organize the observer and technical programs is critically short. The laboratories, particularly Los Alamos, and most of the Division of Military Application, consider the demonstration a waste of time. If this is reflected in visible evidence before the observers, results for this country may be adverse rather than favorable.

I therefore strongly recommend that you make clear to the General Manager and General Starbird that you wish the critical nature of this program made clear to the entire organization, and that it be organized and conducted with the greatest care. I further recommend that Dr. Lawrence or Dr. Teller, or both, take an active part in briefing the observers and in general supervision of the treatment they receive. I believe this a matter of utmost importance, deserving of your very close attention throughout.

*Jack*  
J. H. Morse, Jr.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
326 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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