

400741

MAY 23 1960

Honorable Clinton P. Anderson
United States Senate

Encl. 2 copies to addressee to Sen. Anderson's office

Dear Senator Anderson:

Reference is made to Chairman McCone's September 25, 1959 letter to you which stated that the activity at Kniwetoak was being reduced to a capability to resume testing there within twelve months after a decision to do so.

I now wish to inform you that the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense have agreed that a readiness state for nuclear test resumption at the Kniwetoak Proving Ground need no longer be maintained, because of the low probability that atmospheric testing will occur in the future.

The AEC and DOD have also agreed that the Kniwetoak Proving Ground need no longer be retained by the AEC as a nuclear weapon test facility. However, the Department of Defense has indicated a continuing requirement for Kniwetoak Proving Ground as an addition to the Pacific Missile Range. We intend, therefore, to proceed with negotiation of a satisfactory written agreement to transfer the plant facilities and the equipment and supply at the KPG on a non-reimbursable basis from the AEC to the DOD. We would intend to include in the agreement recognition in principle that the AEC could use the KPG for any activity which it might later need to conduct there if accomplished without cost to the DOD, and without interference with the DoD essential activities there.

Some of the equipment now stored at Kniwetoak may be useful at the Nevada Test Site and in Flowshare and detection improvement programs. We are now investigating that possibility and intend to bring back certain of the equipment there, where it proves to be economical, for such purposes.

- SO: Addressee
- CC: GM
- 2CC: Cong. Lia.
- CC: Test Reader
- CC: Reader
- CC: Locator
- CC: DMA Files
- CC: Test Pending

Sincerely yours,

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

General Manager

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BY R.S. DEWEY, DATE: 7/6/10/94

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BY [Signature] DATE 12/17

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By M + R
5/24/60

OFFICE	Test	MA:GJKeto	MA:JRHood	MA:Starbird	AGMA	Cong. Lia.
SURNAME	<i>Josephson</i> JW Josephson/ejc			<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>Non</i>
DATE	5/21/60	5/1/60	5/1/60	5/21/60	5/1/60	5/23/60

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