

May 2, 1957

Brig. Gen. Alfred D. Starbird Director, Military Application

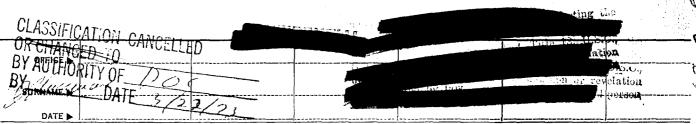
W. B. McCool, Secretary

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CONCISSION DECISION ON ARC 952/5 - TEST ACTIVITIES FOR CY 1958

SYMBOL: SECY:RVW

- 1. This is to confirm our telephone communication on May 2, 1957, that at leeting 1280 on May 1, the Commission:
  - a. Approved, for the purpose of guidance to the weapons laboratories and other agencies involved in the planning for Operation HARDTACK, the general scope of the test program, described in paragraph 11, of approximately 27 shots;
  - b. Noted that the occupancy and use of Taongi Atoll as a firing site, in addition to Eniwetok and Bikini, would reduce fallout problems and minimize the length of test operations in the Pacific;
  - c. Approved a request for DOD comment on the desirability of occupancy and use of Taongi Atoll, and the feasibility of DOD support of such occupancy and use by letter to the MIC such as Appendix "C" to AEC 952/5;
  - d. Noted that the actual test program for Operation HARDTACK will be presented to the Commission for consideration at a later date;
  - e. Noted that the test program outlined above and assuming the use of Taongi will require approximately \$10.0 million over the 34.7 million budgeted for overseas tests in FY 1958, and that this increase will have to be absorbed within the \$452.3 million budgeted for the weapons program for FY 1958 in estimates submitted to Congress. If the additional cost cannot be thus absorbed, the test program will be rescoped; and
  - f. Noted that it is not deemed appropriate to notify the JCAE at this time.
- 2. The General Manager has addrected that you take the action necessary to implement this decision. Copies of pertinent correspondence should be provided this office.



1 AEC-318 (Rev. 9-53)

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3. You will recall that Commissioner Murray indicated that he would circulate a suggested revision to ARC 952/5, regarding the test of a Class A weapon. Also, Commissioner Vance said he believed that in view of the present climate of world opinion, it would be unwise for the total yield of Operation HARDTACK to exceed that of Operation REDWING.  $E_1 > 2.7 \text{ OM}$ 

ce: General Manager
General Counsel
Controller
Director, Operations Analysis
Director, Information Services
Director, Biology and Medicine



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