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COLLECTION R6 326, 46-51 Secretary

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~~SECRET~~ Copy No. 1 of 2 Series. A

FOLDER 471.6 (10-20-48)
Greenhouse Vol. #1

R

447th AEC Meeting
8-2-50

4. Weapons Tests

General McCormack said that he had been advised informally that the Joint Chiefs of Staff had discussed future weapons tests, including GREENHOUSE, on the previous day. A decision as to Department of Defense support for Operation GREENHOUSE had not been reached. Instead, it was decided to propose that Joint Task Force 3 reexamine the scope of Operation GREENHOUSE to see whether the cost in money and men and transportation could be cut down. This study is in progress. The President also was now understood to recognize the importance and necessity of tests of atomic weapons. A letter from Mr. LeBaron would presumably reach the Commission shortly, agreeing to our proposed joint survey of possible alternative sites. In the meantime Mr. Tyler would continue survey operations. This survey is for long-range use and is not meant for use in determining a GREENHOUSE site -- time is too short.

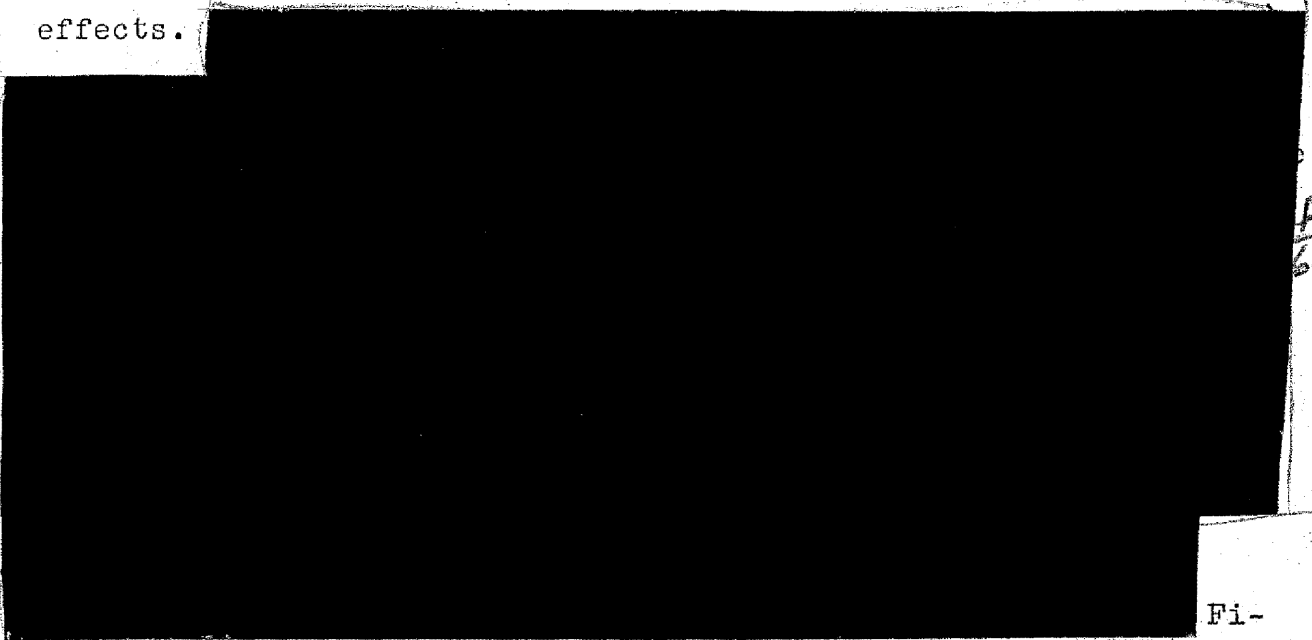
Mr. Tyler said that before leaving Los Alamos he had talked with Dr. Bradbury and Dr. Graves concerning preparations for Operation GREENHOUSE. Dr. Bradbury had felt that conduct of the full GREENHOUSE program on time during spring, 1951, was probably now out of the question. Los Alamos was continuing preparations for as much of the program as possible in the spring, 1951. Post-

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ponement from the spring to fall, 1951, would have several adverse effects.



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nally, the thermonuclear program would suffer somewhat by a delay in the current planning for testing in the spring of 1951.

Mr. Tyler also reported Dr. Bradbury's views on the use of a continental proving ground. Los Alamos has a group doing a quick field survey of the proposed Nevada site.

General McCormack said that it was his impression that the Department of Defense would not wish to raise again with the President the question of a continental test site. It appeared that any initiative in this matter would have to come from the Commission. This action would be reasonable only after a Department of Defense statement of inability to support the test at Eniwetok.

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