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Tests

Dear Mr. LeBaron:

To facilitate planning for military participation and support of stanis tests, the Commission wishes to inform the Committee of its ourrent plans for future full-scale weapons test operations. Three separate and distinct series will be discussed in this letter.

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U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

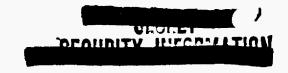
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A summary of plans for IVI was forwarded to you by our letter of October 29, 1951, together with a copy of ABG 488/1. Since that time the Commission staff and ABC contractor personnel have continued to work with joint Task Force 192 and Armed Forces Special Weapons Preject toward IVI and have participated in drawing up a nutually acceptable technical program. Three changes in the original: concept have developed. First, we now plan to evacuate all personnel from the Atell prior to the thermomuelear (MIEE) shet, since the safety of the firing party if left ashore is doubtful. Second, the high-afficiency, high-yield (400-600 ET) fission device (KIES shot) is scheduled to follow the MIKE shot, conditions following MIKE permitting. Third, unavoidable delays to date in engineering, fabricating, and prosuring materials for the errogenic and other technical apparatus have forced a change in scheduled shot date for MIR from October 1 to Bovember 1, 1958.

TPSHOT

Consideration has been given to conducting exciter full-scale est operation (UPSEOT) at the Nevada Proving Ground fellowing TUNNER-SKIPPER. To had tentatively placed to conduct PPSHOT in the Tall of 1958. It has recently been determined that TPSECT exampt be conducted prior to the early Spring of 1958. A target date for the beginning of the operation is rebruary 1, 1958. Those plans, however, must remain subject to change in the event of unexpected developments. Devices for testing during WPSHOT have not been completely determined

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CASTLE

From time to time various Department of Defense agencies conserved with operational problems connected with Pacific Proving Grounds tests have raised informally the question of the approximate date of whatever operation is planned for that area following IVY. Instance as you may wish to bring this matter to the attention of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for necessary support planning purposes, it is our opinion that a date of approximately September-Cetober 1988 represents the best guess that one be made at this time for occupancy of Eniwetok Atoll following IVY. GASTLE is the code name assigned to the series of atomic tests at the Pacific Proving Grounds in the Fall of 1988.

We will keep the Countities informed in any changes in the above plans.

Sincerely yours,

DELTED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY CONNESSION

Geting Chairman

Ronorable Robert LaBaron Chairman, Hilitary Liaison Committee to the Atomie Emergy Commission

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