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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
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November 3, 1952

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Dean.

The President read the attached memorandum yesterday, about noon. He was very appreciative of our getting it to him. He did not want to retain it; nor did he wish a copy. I had the impression that he anticipates we will report at the end of the Operation in more detail.

I would suggest keeping only one copy of this memorandum, if any. Do you wish to keep it in your files, or should I keep it?

K. E. Fields
 K. E. Fields
 Brigadier General, USA
 Director of Military Application

DELETED VERSION ONLY

NON-CCRP

Attach.:
Cy 1-A memo, 11-1-52,
Dean to President

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

BY AUTHORITY OF Topics 42 + 613 26W-4

BY Jose Diaz DATE 5/4/81

BY Robert G. ... DATE 8-5-81

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

(2)

November 1, 1952

Memorandum for the President

~~AUTHENTICATED~~ 19:
~~U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION~~
~~BY:~~
~~DOCUMENT NO. LXI - 2071 - 1A~~

The Atomic Energy Commission wishes to report that at 0715 November 1 (1415 October 31, Washington time), the first full scale thermonuclear experiment was conducted successfully at Eniwetok. You will recall that we discussed certain aspects of this operation with you on June 30, at which time Dr. Norris E. Bradbury, Director of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, described this particular experiment in some detail for you.

From early and incomplete evaluation of results, the yield is estimated roughly to have been more than 6 megatons, possibly as high as 12 megatons; that is, 6 to 12 million tons of TNT equivalent. In comparison with atomic bombs of the Hiroshima type, this is equal to some 50 to 75 in terms of destructive effect.

If the more precise and lengthy methods of measuring yield, which are now in process, confirm the above yield, the detonation exceeds what we had anticipated. We are confident even now, however, that the principles of [REDACTED] the recent discoveries that opened the way to accelerated thermonuclear effort, can be applied in full scale devices.

The shot island Eugelab is missing, and where it was there is now an underwater crater of some 1500 yards in diameter.

No significant fall-out of radioactive contamination occurred. As a precaution against fall-out, Joint Task Force 132 had evacuated Eniwetok Atoll for the shot. They expect to return to the atoll today.

Unfortunately, during the cloud sampling operation one aircraft, an F-84-G, and pilot, were lost in Eniwetok Lagoon. Otherwise the principal operational missions were conducted without incident and as planned.

Our present plan calls for the conduct of the second and final detonation of this operation not earlier than November 11, Eniwetok time. Actual conditions encountered on reentry to Eniwetok may, of course, cause delay beyond this date. This detonation will be a proof-test of a one-half megaton fission bomb dropped from a B-36 aircraft.

G. Dean
Gordon Dean
Chairman

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2