

MR. A. 7 - Redwing

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APR 2 1956

Dear Governor Peterson:

On behalf of the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission, I am inviting your agency to select a limited number of civil defense participants to observe a nuclear detonation scheduled for about May 1, 1956, at the Commission's Eniwetok Proving Ground.

This invitation is for the purpose of affording representatives chosen by your agency from regional, state or metropolitan civil defense organizations an opportunity to observe the events associated with explosion of a megaton yield nuclear device, in order that they may be better orientated with respect to civil defense problems and objectives. Background briefings, and tours, insofar as feasible, of some parts of the Proving Ground installations will provide a picture of the complexity of an overseas weapons test and the many safety measures taken in the public interest, as well as an appreciation of the event from a civil defense viewpoint.

The total number of Federal Civil Defense Administration-selected civil defense representatives is limited to twenty persons. These special observers would proceed to Honolulu, Hawaii, at their own expense, to arrive not later than April 23, 1956. There, they would join a group of selected news media representatives, proceeding together via Government transportation to the Proving Ground (and return to Hawaii by the same means).

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REPOSITORY NARA - College Park  
COLLECTION RG 326, 51-58 Secretary  
BOX No. 183 (NN 3-326-93-010)  
FOLDER MR & A 7, Redwing Vol. II

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Atomic Energy Commission "Q" clearance is not required for this special observer program. A certification that each observer nominee is considered to be a good security risk is required, however. Participants should be informed that photographic and communications equipment, binoculars and weapons are contraband items not allowed by the Joint Task Force in the Proving Ground area. Such items, therefore, may not be carried after the group leaves Hawaii. Your attention is also directed to the enclosed statement of immunization requirements.

Due to the short time available, we request that the following information concerning the representatives selected by your agency, plus the security certification mentioned above, be in the hands of the Chief, Civil Defense Liaison Branch, Division of Biology and Medicine, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, 1901 Constitution Avenue, N. W., Washington 25, D. C. by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 10, 1956:

Full name  
Rank or civilian rating, if applicable  
Title (position and office)  
Statement of U. S. Citizenship  
Date of birth  
Home and business addresses and telephone numbers  
Emergency addressee (name, relationship, address)

Sincerely,

Chairman

Enclosure:  
As above

Honorable Val Peterson  
Administrator  
Federal Civil Defense Administration  
Washington, D. C.

cc; Chairman  
General Manager  
AGW/R&ID  
Director, DMA  
Director, DIS  
Secretariat ✓

CDLB/DBI

Dir/DBI

DIA

DIS

GI

Chairman

Miller:gee

Dunham

3/29/56