

[Redacted] *Memorandum*

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MAT:RISchnittke:bm

FEB 27 1956

Dear General Loper:

Your memorandum dated January 1956, subject "Operation REDWING," concurred in our proposals for the starting date of the operational phase of REDWING and the designation of the Commander, Joint Task Force SEVEN, as the Senior Atomic Energy Commission Representative at the Pacific Proving Ground during this operational phase.

Attached for transmittal to the Department of Defense is a copy of my letter to Admiral Haulen requesting him to accept the designation and outlining the scope of his authority and responsibilities.

Sincerely yours,

Chairman

Enclosure:
By SA Ltr to Admiral Haulen

Honorable Herbert H. Loper
Chairman, Military Liaison Committee
to the Atomic Energy Commission

REPOSITORY *NASA College Park*
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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC
H. H. Hoppe 11/21/85
REVIEWED BY DATE
J. Dize 2/10/86
REVIEWED BY DATE

[Redacted]

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3-519-55
By: P.M. Sweetman 6/16/86

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2-27-56

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MAT:RIS
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FEB 27 1956

Dear Admiral Hanlon:

The Commission by letter dated October 17, 1955, informed the Department of Defense of our intention to designate you as the Senior Atomic Energy Commission Representative at the Pacific Proving Ground during the operational phase of Operation REDWING. By letter dated January 20, 1956, the Commission proposed to the Department of Defense that March 15, 1956, be the start of the operational phase of REDWING and that your designation become effective on that date. Department of Defense concurrence in your designation and the starting date of the operational phase was received on January 27, 1956.

Accordingly, you are requested to accept this designation, together with full authority to act for the Commission in all matters which concern the successful execution of Operation REDWING. This authority is operational in nature and is not intended to transfer to you any of the continuing administrative responsibilities of the Manager, Santa Fe Operations Office, or the Manager, Ekiwetok Branch Office, or the normal responsibilities for the technical direction of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, the University of California Radiation Laboratory (Livermore), or their contractors. The Commission desires that command channels to Atomic Energy Commission contractors now in effect at the site be left in effect and used as far as practicable. Should operational necessity require expenditure of Atomic Energy Commission funds beyond those available to the Manager, Santa Fe Operations Office, it will be necessary for you to consult the Commission.

In the exercise of your responsibilities you are delegated the specific authority to authorize access to classified thermonuclear material, by personnel possessing an appropriate clearance, to the minimum degree necessary for the successful accomplishment of your mission.

The effective date of your authority, if accepted, will be March 15, 1956. Operational uncertainties make it impossible to state now the exact date for termination of this authority. We expect, however, that it will coincide with the termination of the operational phase of Operation REDWING.

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Admiral Hanlon

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Authority to fire up to nineteen shots and to expend specific amounts of nuclear materials have been requested from the President and will be communicated to you when received. The number and type of medals to be fired, as well as spares, have been determined by the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory and the University of California Radiation Laboratory with Commission approval.

As Commission representative you are responsible for, and are the designated custodian of, all nuclear devices and their components which will be transported overseas for this operation. Mr. Kemner F. Hartford, Manager, Santa Fe Operations Office, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, will be directed to make necessary transfers into your custody of materials utilized by the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in its devices. Similarly, Mr. Harold A. Fidler, Manager, San Francisco Operations Office, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, will be directed to make necessary transfers into your custody of materials utilized by the University of California Radiation Laboratory in its devices. To assist you in the technical accountability aspects, Mr. Hartford has established an SS Station at the Pacific Proving Ground which will be responsible to you for accountability and proper maintenance of accountability records for all sources and special nuclear material components, both en route to and from, and in, the Pacific Proving Ground.

The Commission recognizes your responsibility as Task Force Commander to make decisions and take proper action in emergency situations where the health and safety of Task Force personnel or property are concerned, or where the national interest must be protected. You are authorized under such circumstances to make emergency disposal of nuclear materials, if required. If you do make such disposal, the Commission should be notified at the earliest practicable opportunity. You are requested to keep the Commission informed of any significant developments which arise in the course of the operation.



Admiral Hanlon

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You have the full support and confidence of the Commission in this operation. We extend to you our sincere wishes for the successful completion of your mission.

Sincerely yours,

Chairman

Rear Admiral E. Hall Hanlon, USN
Commander, Joint Task Force SEVEN
Washington 25, D. C.

Handwritten signature
ADMIRAL HANLON

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