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By D.M. L.C. Date 7/22/05This document consists of 2 pages  
Copy No. 8 of 9 Series CeUNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.Classification ~~SECRET~~ or Changed  
To Secret  
By Authority of J. D. Berkeley, Com. Off.  
Per memo to ~~copy from Riley, Ed. 7/1/51~~  
~~R. P. Ryden Admin. Secy., 7/1/51~~Name  Title Beta Date 

JAN 19 1951

DECLASSIFIED January 19, 1951  
U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
BY Righting, John L. (John L.)  
DOCUMENT NO. LXI-1401-874MEMORANDUM FOR THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY  
COUNCIL FOR ATOMIC ENERGY MATTERS

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Subject: APPROVAL FOR OPERATION GUNSMOKE

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As you have been advised previously, the Atomic Energy Commission proposes to conduct full-scale weapon tests at the Nevada Proving Ground in the Spring of 1951 (Operation GUNSMOKE).

Final determination of the weapon models and nuclear devices actually to be detonated during GUNSMOKE will depend in part on the outcome of the tests to be conducted at the Las Vegas site during February (Operation RUMBLE), and also on the course of events during GUNSMOKE. As now foreseen, the GUNSMOKE program will include from 3 to 5 detonations during the period April 1, 1951-June 3, 1951. The principal objectives of the GUNSMOKE program are the following:

- a. Proof-testing of nuclear components and associated weapon designs which may permit the attainment of much greater yields from a given amount of fissionable material, or, conversely, a given yield with the expenditure of less material.
- b. Examination of atomic weapons effects on buildings, aircraft structures, various materials, and on animals.
- c. Gaining information concerning the feasibility of the thermonuclear weapon.

The weapon models and nuclear devices under consideration for this firing program are:

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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E.O. 12816, Sec. 6.6

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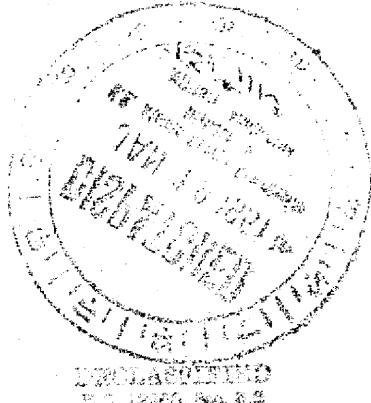
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The General Advisory Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission has  
approved of this program.

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

H. D. Smyth  
Acting Chairman



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