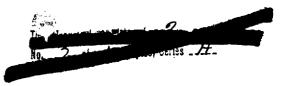


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K. E. Fields, General Manager THEU : H. S. Traynor and B. F. LaPlante

MILITARY RESEARCH & APPI - 7 Hardta.

April 24, 1958

Morse Salisbury, Director Division of Information Services

DRAFT JOTI ANNOUNCEMENT ON HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR OPERATION HARDTACK

SYMBOL:

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ISP:CAP

Attached for your approval and/or comment is a proposed Joint Office of Test Information announcement of the health and safety precautions being taken in Operation BARDTACK. The release is similar to amoundements issued in REWING and FLINGOB.

It has the approval of the Department of Defense, the Divisions of Military Application and Biology and Medicine and takes into account comments of JIF-7.

The announcement will raise some questions which it does not answer. It discusses health and safety precentions taken to minimize the hazards of fallout from a series that has been understood by the public to be primarily for the purpose of testing clean weapons; yet it says nothing reassuring about the contamination expected to result from this test series as compared with that from other series or the total yield as conpared with that of other series. Also, no detail is included about clean vespons. We have discussed with the Division of Military Application the possibility of making some positive and detailed statements about the testing of elean weapons and about total fission yield expected from the series and have concluded that no useful statements can be made. Of the 28 scheduled detonations in WARDTACK, 23 are expected to be less than 90% clean. Also the total fission yield, it is predicted, will be greater than that of the REDVING series.

However, there are strong reasons for releasing the attached statement: we have issued such a statement at REDVING and its absence in HARDFACK would be noted; it will ward off a good many queries and reply to those we have had from a Congressman and others expected; it has been strongly recommended by SAN; and the Office of Special Projects has asked for such a statement for use by the Department of State.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED SCSO. V, III-IV
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OCD VIEWED BY 5/19/8/ 184: W. Teuch 6/14/87

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K. E. Fields, General Manager

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April 24, 1958

On balance, we believe the statement should be issued. As the first test is expected any day, we should release the announcement as soon as possible.

Attachment

- 1. Unclassified proposed release
- CC: Brig. Gen. A. D. Starbird, IMA Charles L. Dunhem, M.D., B&M B. F. LaPlante, CHSA