MR & A-7 - Hardtack

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1361th AEC Meeting 4/24/58

8. Special Weapons Test (See also minutes of Meeting 1359)

General Starbird reported to the Commissioners that he had received a telegram from Dr. Edward Teller responding to questions in connection with the special weapons test proposed for later in the year. Dr. Teller, he said, had stated that there would be no eye damage to observers of the shot and that there would be no perceptable effects at surface level. General Starbird said he had communicated this information to Dr. Alvin Graves who is presently in the Pacific test area.

General Starbird suggested that rather than write to the GAC and request their views on the shot, a briefing be arranged at the next GAC meeting in May and their views obtained at that time. He further suggested that plans for the shot proceed and that the President and Department of State be notified of these plans.

Mr. Graham said he would favor this procedure. He pointed out that the Commission would always retain the right to cancel the shot if later information indicated it would be advisable to do so. After further discussion, the Commissioners decided to proceed with the plan outlined by General Starbird.

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