Copy 2.0 of . 13 copies each of ...... 2 pages sories of

40001

MGV 14 1951

## 409366

Dear Mr. Dean:

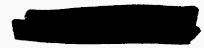
Reference is made to your letter of 18 October 1951 on the utilization of the Department of Defense facilities to assist the Atomic Energy Commission in the conducting of its weapons program. In amplification of my reply dated 31 October 1951, I wish to report that the Department of Defense is in accord with your proposal for the initial phase and has nominated as its representatives to initiate discussion and conduct a joint study the following officers:

> Colonel A. W. Betts, USA Captain T. A. Ahroon, USA Colonel C. F. Damberg, USAF Colonel C. F. Ball, USAF (MIC)

The officers that I nominate above were carefully selected on the basis of their general, technical and atomic energy experience. They will not be the specific representatives of their respective services, but are considered the best qualified and available officers to compile the listings we both desire. In this connection, it is stressed that the members of this group are to compile information for further action and are not in a position or authorized to make commitments. While essentially a fact finding board, I visualize that their report should contain appropriate comments and recommendations and mention should be made of associated problems such as natural cleavage points in weapon design.

At a joint meeting on 7 November of the Commission, the Under Secretary of the USAF, and the Assistant Secretaries of the Army and Navy, an area of agreement was reached as to the status and operations of this group. As I understand it, the joint group is to ascertain and record insofar as practicable for our mutual benefit:

IST REVIEW DATE 04 14 95 AUTHORITY ADD TADE TOTES AUTHORITY ADD TADE	
Rep. 1. diversion 1.12 C 48.5/2.	4327-1264-8-2 5 Aret
REPOSITORY MALA College Auk RG 326-ULICE ON HILL DECLETANJ COLLECTION 1951-1958 Correspondence BOX No. 186 (NN 3-93-326-010) FOLDER MCZA 9-1	BEST COPY AVAILABLE



a. The nature and scope of programs and specific tasks on which military assistance is contemplated by the Atomic Energy Commission.

b. The many facilities and talents within the three military Departments which are technically suitable and which might be made available to render assistance desired by the Corraission.

In addition to the information or data desired above, I believe it would be helpful for the group to develop the facts concerning the tasks currently being undertaken by the filitary for the Atomic Energy Convision and the procedures which are used in accomplishing them.

I suggest that the joint group subsit an interim report to our respective organizations as soon as practicable which would outline their findings, comments and recommendations to date as well as their projected course for future action. I suggest that Colonel Ball, Weapons Vivision, "ilitary Haisen Committee, act as coordinator and secretary for the meetings and the compilation of the joint report. The group has already set informally and chans to det an interim report out by 21 Vovabor.

Sincerely yours,

Robert LoBaron Chairman

Honorable Gordon Dean Chairman, Atomic Energy Convission 1901 Constitution Avome Washington, B. C.

Constants version
Constants version

NCV171931 \*\*\* 7.099100402,1193496 \*

