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MAY 27 1952

Honorable W. Sterling Cole
Chairman
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Cole:

Very recently, in the course of development of thermonuclear devices to be tested at Operation CASTLE, it has become apparent that the precision requirements on yield for the ~~SECRET~~ are such as to require confirmation by full scale test of that component. The urgency of this requirement was not anticipated at the time the UPSHOT program of full scale tests at the Nevada Proving Grounds was set.

A full scale nuclear test for the above purpose has been approved and will be held at the Nevada Proving Grounds at the earliest practicable date. When the target date is established, we will advise you thereof, and at the appropriate time will release an announcement to the press in order to inform the public of this test.

We anticipate the actual detonation will take place some time next week - perhaps as early as June 1. However, the actual date will have to be gauged by the progress of preparations now underway. In view of this, no official observer or troop participation programs are planned for this shot.

Sincerely yours,

~~SECRET~~

Gordon Dean
Chairman

Enclosure:
Draft Press Release

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
WITH DELETIONS
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC
[Signature] 12/5/85
REVIEWED BY DATE

[Signature] 1/21/86

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[REDACTED]

DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT BY TEST MANAGER
(For use when approved by the
Commission and after Coordination with DOD)

1. To confirm and apply results of research and development work just obtained at Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, an eleventh detonation has been added in the current series of tests at Nevada Proving Grounds. The additional detonation will be fired during the early part of June. **DOE ARCHIVES**

2. The additional test has been authorized by the Atomic Energy Commission to proof test the new development while the staff and equipment for the 1953 test series are still at the proving ground.

[REDACTED]

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