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OUTGOING TELEGRAM

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326 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Department of State

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Collection *Foran Comm. MURRAY*

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1955 NOV 17 PM 3 17

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Department just learned AEC Commissioner Thomas E. Murray will/tonight refer in speech critical of AEC policy ~~strongly released press~~ to Fortunate and Dragon incident/~~say~~ QTE Before these 1954 tests took place policy of almost utter silence had been established. Decision made issue only two statements -- first an announcement that tests were to be held, and then short guarded statement at their conclusion. However, inscrutable Providence of God, our Father, decided otherwise. Radioactive dust settled on Fortunate Dragon, some 90 miles downwind. You remember results. News about potential hazard of radioactive fallout from thermonuclear weapons burst out of secrecy. Twenty-seven Japanese fishermen announced to the world first fateful news about lurking catastrophe that may possibly lie in wait for all of us. In this instance, the official policy of secrecy proved inept. When the secret came out, through the wrong channels, the shock to world opinion rivalled in its own way the blast of the H-bomb itself. UNQTE

For Facts re advance notice and precautions taken see Department's telegram 2071 March 18, and 2106 March 23, 1954 and Chairman Strauss' March 31 statements sent USIA Tokyo by army signal March 31 in three parts numbered 311751, 311801, 311811.

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Speech also makes passing reference to atomic bomb QTE unfortunately dropped on Hiroshima. UNQTE.

Drafted by: *GCSmith* Telegraphic transmission and
S/AE: *DOE/DOE*;btm 11/17/55 classification approved by: S/AE:Gerard C. Smith

Received in Office of L. F. MURPHY
Date: 12/12/55 Time: 1:32

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[REDACTED]

After going into detail re effects thermonuclear weapons on life in general and Murray proposes convening / QTE Atomic Summit UNQTE Eniwetok/and detonating large thermonuclear weapons before representatives QTE all UNQTE peoples of the world. Audience would run in the thousands. Purpose not to ~~start~~ ^{strike} terror in the hearts of men but implant understanding their minds. QTE It would be impact of Fortunate Dragon raised to NTH power. UNQTE

Murray's statement represents only his personal views and was not repeat not cleared in advance with any Government agencies involved. Chairman Strauss ~~repudiating~~ Murray's statement is expected to repudiate Murray's statement.

Speech already released press.

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