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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director of Military Application, AEC,
Washington, D. C.

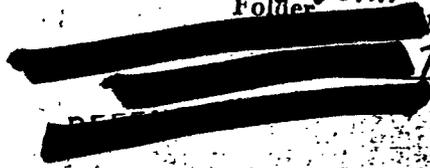
FROM : Manager, Santa Fe Operations

SUBJECT: OPERATION ORDER NO. 2-54, JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN
(INTERIM PHASE OPERATION ORDER)

SYMBOL: SF

DATE: June 10 1954
RC: 326 US ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Location **LANL**
Records Center J3
Collection *CS D 158*
Folder *10 Joint Task Force*
W1 Seven and
Task Groups



This office is in receipt of the subject operation order issued by Joint Task Force SEVEN delegating arrangements amongst the various Task Groups during the interim period between active field operations. Although a draft of this order was reviewed by the Acting Commander, Task Group 7.5, in the forward area, time did not permit its transmittal to this office for consideration, which should have been done inasmuch as the order covers the "interim period" when AEC's responsibility for the proving grounds is no longer delegated to the Commander of Task Force SEVEN, but is the responsibility of the Manager, SFO. This office considers a number of the statements made therein and certain of the arrangements covered to be contrary to existing policies and to be ambiguous in phraseology.

Enclosed herewith is a summary of some of the specific objections to details included in this Operation Order as raised by the Director of Test Operations of this office. I concur with Mr. Reeves' comments as to each of these matters.

It is quite apparent to me, from the general tone of the Order and particularly in its references to Task Groups 7.1 and 7.5, that the Order was drawn under a complete misconception as to the role of the Joint Task Force as to the control, operation and maintenance of the Proving Grounds during such interim phase. The Order in many respects tends to ignore the responsibility and authority given to this office by the Atomic Energy Commission with reference to the Pacific Proving Grounds. Under the completely cooperative and mutually satisfactory arrangements which existed during the CASTLE and IVY series between personnel of this office and the Task Force Commander and his staff, no conflict would be contemplated in the future - even under Operation Order No. 2-54 - if the same personnel were to be involved. However, since a new Task Force Commander is to be designated soon by the Military, and since the major part of the Task Force staff

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Director of Military Application

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will be replaced in the near future, it is considered essential that the conflicts in this Operation Order be removed as soon as possible.

It is, therefore, recommended that the Task Force be requested to withdraw this Operation Order and revise it in light of the existing authorities and responsibilities for interim activities in the Pacific Proving Grounds. This office is ready to participate in the drafting of a new Operation Order, if such should be desired.

Donald J. Leehey
Manager

Enclosure:
Cy 1A/7 memo to Mgr fr OTO

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Manager, Santa Fe Operations
THRU : Acting Assistant Manager for Engineering, Construction & Test Operations
FROM : Director, Office of Test Operations (Commander TG 7.5)

DATE: Jun 9 1954

SUBJECT: CJTF SEVEN OPERATION ORDER NO. 2-54 (INTERIM PHASE OPERATION ORDER)

SYMBOL: TO:JER

[REDACTED]

Task Group 7.5 has received copies of Operation Order No. 2-54 (Interim Phase Operation Order). This order contains a number of ambiguous statements and undesirable phraseology; and, if this office's interpretation of the wording of the order is correct, it appears that the Commander, Task Force SEVEN, is exceeding his authority in directing the operations of this office and its contractors during the "interim phase."

Paragraph 1a(1) states: "This operation order covers that period between the completion of the CASTLE operational phase and the beginning of build-up for the subsequent test...." It is assumed that the completion of CASTLE operation is considered to be June 2, 1954, the date on which CJTF SEVEN was relieved of responsibility as AEC representative for CASTLE matters at the Pacific Proving Grounds. However, the meaning of the phrase "....the beginning of build-up for the subsequent test...." is susceptible of several interpretations and should be clarified. Does it refer to the time when the Commission will transfer responsibility from Manager, SFO, to the Commander of Joint Task Force SEVEN or to some earlier date when planning or build-up will start?

Paragraph 1b(3) states, in part, "....CJTF SEVEN exercises full operational control of the Army Task Group at all times and operational control of other task groups for planning and coordination only." Annex A, paragraph 1b, states: "During the period between on-site operational phases (Commander, JTF SEVEN) exercises operational control of all task groups for planning and coordination. 'Operational Control for planning and coordination' is defined as such authoritative direction in planning and preparation as is necessary to insure successful accomplishment of the joint task force mission." (Parenthetical phrase supplied.) Yet, paragraph 3e, erroneously designated 3d, of the operation order states:

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Manager, SFO

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"Task Group 7.5 (TG 7.5) will:

- (1) Assist in the decontamination of AEC facilities and equipment.
- (2) Redeploy contractor personnel as they become surplus to requirements.
- (3) Continue to render necessary AEC contractor support to TG 7.1.
- (4) Conduct necessary liaison with CTG 7.2 to insure coordinated effort in the Defense against hostile action and natural disaster.
- (5) Operate, manage and direct camp facilities at the Pacific Proving Ground, less facilities on ENIWETOK Island charged to other units.
- (6) Assist TG 7.2 in the conduct of port and stevedoring operations at ENIWETOK in accordance with existing agreements.
- (7) Assume residual Rad-Safe functions at the Pacific Proving Ground (PPG) except ENIWETOK Island."

These activities are not considered to be of a planning nature, but are operational and contractual in character and as such do not come under the authority of the Task Force during the interim period. During the interim period, these are strictly AEC responsibilities under the administration of the Manager, Eniwetok Field Office.

In addition to the foregoing, it is the belief of this office that certain other portions of this order and its annexes should be clarified or changed as follows:

Paragraph 2a(4) states: "JTF SEVEN will: (4) Effect the efficient and expeditious disposition and redeployment of personnel, equipment and material employes in Operation CASTLE." If this mission has been accomplished prior to the date (June 2, 1954) CJTF SEVEN ceased to act as the AEC representative for Castle, this paragraph should be deleted. If it is to apply during the interim period, the word "military" or "Service" should be inserted ahead of the word "personnel" to clearly indicate the extent of JTF authority over personnel.

Paragraph 3x(1): "All Task Groups will: (1) Develop and maintain current plans to implement instructions contained in this order. Copies of plans will be submitted so as to reach this

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Manager, SFD

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headquarters not later than 1 July 1954." This requirement is interpreted as being primarily applicable to "Service" Task Groups and that the AEC will comply with requests for information necessary to Joint Task Force Planning for future operations.

Paragraph 4b: "CTG 7.2 is authorized to issue local administrative orders not in conflict with CJTF SEVEN and Service directives embracing all task force elements in the forward area. This will include such items as normal base regulations, i.e., speed limits, mess hours and safety instructions." This paragraph is incomplete in that the extent of the authority delegated to CTG 7.2 is referenced to other directives and in itself could be misleading or misconstrued. It could be clarified and made self-sufficient by inserting "....governing all Service Personnel in the forward area and ENIWETOK Island" in lieu of "...not in conflict with CJTF SEVEN and Service directives embracing all task force elements in the forward area." Thus, it would be clear that the cited authorization does not apply to AEC or AEC contractor personnel except when on ENIWETOK Island nor to islands other than ENIWETOK Island.

Annex D, paragraph 3e: "The AEC will maintain and operate facilities on PARRY Island." (Annex D has to do with communications). This statement is incomplete and restrictive and to conform with actual practice and responsibilities should be modified as follows: Delete the period after PARRY Island and add "and such other islands of the Eniwetok-Bikini Atolls, excepting ENIWETOK Island (to the extent of existing agreements), as may be necessary to their operations."

Annex D, paragraph 4a(2)(b): "Assignment of Responsibilities
a. Task Group 7.2 (2) Operate and maintain relay center, ENIWETOK, with the following terminations: (b) ENIWETOK-Los Alamos, Duplex RATT(1)." It is not the understanding of this office that TG 7.2 would maintain the Eniwetok-Los Alamos duplex RATT circuit. Effective May 18, 1953, a radio teletype circuit was established between USARPAC and Los Alamos with tape relay facilities to Eniwetok Atoll. It is understood that for the Redwing operation, the direct circuit from Eniwetok to Los Alamos would be reactivated with an electronic patch at USARPAC similar to the arrangements established during Castle. These understandings should be verified and the provisions of the quoted paragraph deleted.

Annex D, paragraph 4a(2)(e): "Assignment of Responsibilities
a. Task Group 7.2 (2) Operate and maintain relay center, ENIWETOK, with the following terminations: (e) Local teletype

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Manager, SFO

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service to TG 7.2 and TG 7.5 (H&N)." This office objects to the use of "TG 7.5 (H&N)" to designate the AEC and its contractors during the interim period and it is requested that "AEC and its Contractors" be substituted therefor in this and other paragraphs containing similar phrasing.

Annex D, paragraph 4c: "Assignment of Responsibilities c. Task Group 7.5," followed by eight sub-paragraphs setting forth operational and maintenance responsibilities. Since Task Group 7.5 has no operational authority during the interim period and these are AEC responsibilities during this period, the paragraph should be modified to read "Assignment of Responsibilities c. AEC and its contractors," and the phrase "AEC and its Contractors" should be substituted for the phrase "TG 7.5" throughout this paragraph.

Annex D, paragraph 4(c)4: "Operate and maintain separate TG 7.5 voice and radio-teletype facility between PARRY Island and BIKINI Atoll as required. This facility is for UNCLASSIFIED conversations and traffic only." Until such time as Bikini is re-activated, it is contemplated to retain these facilities in a standby condition. It is also the understanding of this office that arrangements have been made with CJTF SEVEN for the loan from CTG 7.2 of two off-line crypto devices to handle teletype messages Secret RD between Parry Island and Bikini in order to permit the exchange of classified information when the unit is re-activated. This paragraph should be modified to delete the operation and reflect this agreement.

Annex D, paragraph 4c(5): "Operate motion picture facilities at PARRY Island." This paragraph is restrictive and does not conform to actual practice. To depict actual responsibilities and practice, it should be modified by deleting the period after "Island" and adding "and any other island camps excepting on ENIWETOK Island."

It is recommended that DMA be requested to have the Joint Task Force revise this order to clarify the points presented herein.

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James E. Reeves, Director
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