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HEADQUARTERS
TASK GROUP 7.1
JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN
P. O. Box 1663
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

NMB-U

JDC-173

FOR R. C. SMITH'S APPROVAL BEFORE DISPATCHING

[Handwritten signature]

635
Castle



September 1954

Major General Eugene McKinley
Joint Task Force SEVEN
Washington 25, D. C.

THIS DOCUMENT CONSISTS OF 9 PAGE(S)
NO. 11 S COPIES, SERIES A

Dear Gen:

Before leaving the Task Force, Perk said that any correspondence on the History should be sent to you. I am therefore returning to you under separate cover one copy of the History of Operation Castle. It has been downgraded to Secret, Restricted Data, by our classification section.

Although the contents of the draft are in general satisfactory, I must confess, with due apologies to the author or authors, that the style seems needlessly wordy and awkward. Many sentences are obscure and involved. By careful editing the draft could be greatly improved in clarity and readability; and I recommend that this be done.

The following comments apply to the sections, chapters, and pages indicated.

In the "ABBREVIATIONS" Section I recommend that kt be used for kiloton and Mt for megaton. These abbreviations should be changed accordingly throughout the book.

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CHAPTER I

- Page 1, line 11 Change "Los Alamos" to "the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory".
- Page 2, line 6 Delete "as well as noting" and substitute "and noted" from bottom
- Page 2, last line Delete "to be".
- Page 5, line 4 Delete "combining with" and substitute "for" from bottom
- Page 7, line 6 After "and" add "of the High Commissioner of" from bottom

Deleted Version Only
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
1. REVIEW DATE: 6-22-94
AUTHORITY: EAOAC 1.4(c) (2)
NAME: W. M. McMillan
2. DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))
1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
4. COORDINATE WITH:
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6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED

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~~RESTRICTED DATA~~
This document contains Restricted data as defined in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. Unauthorized disclosure subject to Administrative and Criminal Sanctions.

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- Page 9, line 4 Change "5,000" to "4,500".
- Page 9, line 10 from bottom Change "their" to "its".
- Page 11, last sentence Delete "as confirmed during the course of the operation". After "radiation" insert "fall-out". Delete all after "which" and substitute "it was hoped would prove much less when the detonation occurred on a floating barge rather than on land".

CHAPTER II

- Page 7, Item 2 Change "will" to "would".
- Page 8, last Par As a result of Typhoon Hester, Holmes & Narver devoted 7,120 man-hours and \$20,764 to clean-up and miscellaneous repair. On Eniwetok Island alone, Holmes & Narver rehabilitated the cargo pier, pump house, roads and sea wall, and re-located some water lines at a cost of \$399,661 and 29,000 man-hours. This was in addition to work done on other islands. Details are probably available in reports held by the Task Force or could be obtained from SPOC. Some mention of this work should be made in this part of Chapter II.
- Page 9 At beginning of 2nd paragraph, change "simultaneous" to "simultaneously".
- Pages 11 and 12 These pages are poorly phrased and I recommend that they be rewritten.
- Page 12, line 2 Change "simultaneous" to "simultaneously".
- Page 12, line 5 After "Force" add "and Task Group".
- Page 12, line 8 After "available" add ", while preserving enough flexibility and reserve capability to cope with inevitable additions, changes, and operational and logistic difficulties."
- Page 13, line 17 After "Force" add "and Task Groups".
- Page 14, line 6 Change "feasible" to "desirable".
- Page 15, line 10 Change "are" to "is".

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- Page 15, line 11 Change "influence" to "influences" and "require" to "requires".
- Page 16, line 6 Change "as well as arranging" to "and arrange".
from bottom
- Page 18, line 4 After "can" add "the handling of".
from bottom
- Page 18, line 2 Delete "always" and change "the highest" to "high".
from bottom
- Page 28, line 8 Change "were" to "was" and after "ways" add "in which".
from bottom
- Page 29, sentence Change this sentence to read: "The only solution to
beginning line 5 this well-known and recurrent problem involves the
initiation of clearance action as far in advance of
actual reporting as possible and the most expeditious
handling of clearance papers by all agencies concerned."

CHAPTER III

- Page 2, line 14 Delete "two shots" and substitute "the design, fabrica-
tion and assembly of two devices".
- Page 2, line 15 Delete "the two" and substitute "these shots".
- Page 2, line 8 Substitute "In Ivy" for "Previously".
from bottom
- Page 4, line 12 After "shot" add "capability". Delete "and approved".
- Page 4, line 15 Insert before "deep" "surface shot over" and in the
next line eliminate the word "shot".
- Page 5 Recommend that the "Estimated Yield" column be amplified
to show the presumed range of yields.
- Page 6, line 13 Delete "at LASL" and substitute "jointly by LASL and
AFSWC".
- Page 6, line 14 After "fact" add "for some samplers".
- These criteria are better expressed on page 10 of the
Final Report of the Commander, Air Task Group 7.4.

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Page 7, line 10
from bottom

After "7-80's" add "plus two featherweight B-36 samplers and one KB-36 control aircraft".

Page 9, line 10
from bottom

Delete "of the". After "projects" add "the addition of Project 3.4 'Neutralization of a Planted Sea Mine Field', Project 6.1 'Test of Interim IEDA Procedures for High Yield Weapons', and Program 4 'Biomedical Studies'."

Page 9, line 9
from bottom

Delete "in".

Page 9

Delete the last sentence and substitute the following: "This was in order to reduce contamination, to make better use of the limited amount of real estate available, and to speed up the tests by scheduling assembly operations at a proposed barge slip at Eniwetok, and moving each barge into position about five days before detonation. This made it possible to plan on using the same zero point, if necessary or desirable, regardless of the high radiation levels to be expected on the islands in the vicinity of the preceding shot. It also permitted late changes in the location of the zero point if operational developments warranted them."

Page 10, line 3

Substitute "dependable" for "safe".

Page 10, line 2
from bottom

After "devices" add "which could not be readied for the CURTISS departure".

Page 11, line 10

Delete sentence beginning on line 10 and substitute the following: "The Aircraft Positioning meeting and Exercise TIGERCAT are discussed elsewhere."

Commander Task Group 7.1 was responsible for recommending safe positions for aircraft and, subject to safety limitations, for recommending positions that would insure that DOD Project 6.2 obtain the required data.

- Page 13, Par 14 This paragraph mentions the requirement for the capability to complete operations from about ship if Bikini Atoll were contaminated but it is believed that more emphasis should be placed on planning for this capability either in Chapter II or in Chapter III (under the "Scientific Task Group" section).
- Page 17, lines 13 and 14 See previous remarks on the subject of Typhoon Hester.
- Page 24, line 15 After "and" add "together with the other fall-out projects".
- Page 26, line 7 Substitute "partially" for "soon".
- Page 26, line 8 Add the following: "Additional information on communication difficulties aboard the ESTES is contained in APPENDIX C."
- Page 29, 1st Par Recommend that the BAIROKO off-loading dates be added.
- Page 36, Par 4 After "recovery" add "and general logistic support".
- Page 37, Par 2 The sentence beginning "Communications and electronics" is not understood.
- Pages 43-45 The activities of Task Group 7.5 do not seem to be too well covered. Jim Reeves might like a chance to comment.

CHAPTER IV

- Page 1, Par 2 and 3 The problems of technical preparation for the shots (including simultaneous preparations for two locations in the latter part of the operation) and of Radiological-Safety operations from afloat should at least be mentioned in these paragraphs.
- Page 2, line 10 The sentence beginning on line 10 says "the actual physical accomplishment was greatly enlarged". Is this the desired meaning?
- Page 2, line 3 from bottom Change "personnel" to "personnel's".
- Page 8 At the end of the first paragraph after "Bikini" add "and to the agility of the passengers".

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- Page 11, line 5
from bottom Delete the last three words and substitute "high speed camera firing circuit interlock".
- Page 12, 1st
sentence After "due" insert "to".
- Page 13, line 16 Before "Bikini" add "and from".
- Page 13, line 10
from bottom Delete "0800 H" and substitute "0707 H when the Firing Party reported sky shine and rapidly rising radiation readings outside the Control Building and subsequently within the building after it had been closed up".
- Delete "this time" and substitute "about 0800H".
- Page 14, line 6 After "devised" add ", which included early recovery of the Firing Party by helicopter".
- Page 17, line 4
from bottom Substitute "fall" for "feel".
- Page 20, line 1 Substitute "fall-out" for "blast".
- Page 22, line 4
from bottom After "base." add "Boating was slow, wet, rough, and uncomfortable and getting into and out of boats was dangerous, particularly where satisfactory accommodation ladders and physical assistance in embarking and debarking were not available."
- Page 24, line 11
from bottom Substitute "Fall-out data" for "Knowledge".
- Page 24, line 10
from bottom Delete "more than apparent following the time" and substitute "available as a result".
- Page 25, line 9
from bottom Eliminate "not entirely".
- Page 25, line 8
from bottom DOE
- Page 26 In the table, the Estimated Yields should be revised to agree with the Weighted Average Yields in Table 2.1, Report of the Commander, Task Group 7.1.
- Page 27, line 14 Delete "unpredictable yields" and substitute "wide range in the predicted yields incident to novel experimental devices".

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Page 27, line 6
from bottom

After "of" insert "the existence of a submarine on
Eniwetok Island at zero time and to some extent because
of".

Eliminate the sentence starting on this line.

Page 24, Par 1

Project 4.1 was added [redacted] CTG 7.1 recom-
mended to CJTF SEVEN on 29 December 1953 that Project
6.1 be added to the program. No record of CJTF SEVEN
action is available here but this recommendation was
probably approved within a short period of time. CJTF
SEVEN approved the addition of Project 3.4 on 3 February
1954.

DOE

CHAPTER V

Page 1, line 10

Delete all after "in the" and substitute "Weapons Test
Reports of the Atomic Energy Commission".

Page 1, line 2
from bottom

Delete "potential" and substitute "potentially".

Page 2, line 7

Substitute "Two" for "The".

Page 2, line 9

[redacted]

DOE

Page 2, line 13

[redacted]

DOE

Page 2, line 8 from
bottom

[redacted]

DOE

In the next sentence
delete "resultant" and delete "had the desired effect" and
substitute "was acceptable".

Page 3, line 1

[redacted]

DOE

Page 3, line 3

[redacted]

DOE

Page 3, line 7

[redacted]

DOE

Page 3, line 8

After "14⁶" add "D" and eliminate all after "weapon".

Page 3, line 10

[redacted]

DOE

Page 3, line 11

[redacted]

DOE

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Page 3, line 4
from bottom

[Redacted]

DOE

Page 3, line 3
from bottom

Delete sentence beginning with "The".

Page 3, line 2
from bottom

After "employs" add "the". After "fuel" add "Li⁶D (enriched to 95%)".

Page 4, line 3

[Redacted]

DOE

Page 4, line 6
from bottom

DOE

Page 5

[Redacted]

CHAPTER VI

Page 3, line 3
from bottom

Substitute "some" for "many".

Page 5

Suggest that the meanings of Support Programs 99.1 to 99.6 be added.

APPENDIX A

Page 17

Believe the column headed "1945" should be "1954".

Page 17, Par 2

Before "southerly" insert "pronounced".

APPENDIX B

Page 7, line 8

Substitute "much less important" for "relatively insignificant".

Page 8, line 12
from bottom

Task Group 7.5's Rad-Safe unit was self-sufficient only between operations.

Page 9, last line

After "technicians" add "most of whom were military personnel on a TAD basis".

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Page 10, line 10
from bottom Delete "legal".

Page 16, line 10 Sentence beginning with "The" is not correct.

7.1 radsafe personnel were at both stalls when it was decided to be ready to fire at either location. That decision had little effect on distribution of radsafe personnel.

APPENDIX C

Page 13, line 3 Delete "problems were few" and substitute "difficulties from bottom were successfully overcome".

Page 13, last line Substitute "delay" for "hamper".

No mention is made of the EG&G voice circuit between stalls which was used extensively by JTF SEVEN and other Task Groups as well as Task Group 7.1.

APPENDIX D

Page 5 Change the following items in the column headed "Task Group 7.1":

Item 2	"55" to "47"
Item 3	"12" to "20"
Item 4	"1" to "0"
Item 10	"20" to "0"
Item 18	"3" to "2"

Some of these discrepancies are probably caused by a mistake in the draft tabulation whereby vehicles actually allotted to Task Group 7.5 (for whom there is no column) were charged to Task Group 7.1; for example, it is believed that Task Group 7.5 had 20 Army-owned DUKW's (Item 10); Task Group 7.1 had none.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Original signed by
ALVIN C. GRAVES
ALVIN C. GRAVES

DC/py/rmp
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