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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Brig. General Alfred D. Starbird, USA  
Director of Military Application, AEC Washington

DATE: APR 24 1957

FROM : James E. Reeves, Director, Test Division, ALO

SUBJECT: DIAGNOSTIC REQUIREMENTS - TAONGI

SYMBOL: ETE:JBS-4212

Enclosed are duplicate copies of transmittal letter and memorandum between UCRL representatives Walter D. Gibbons and G. W. Johnson. The memorandum states UCRL requirements for a diagnostic ship in the event Taongi is approved as a shot atoll. It further outlines their operational concept, and justifies to a large extent obtaining the USS Curtiss in lieu of other craft considered.

This office supports the request made for the USS Curtiss on the basis of information contained in the memorandum and knowledge gained through discussions with personnel who will equip and man the ship for diagnostic purposes. Accordingly, it is recommended that you commence negotiations to place the USS Curtiss on an optional or available if required basis, pending a decision on Taongi. Information here is that the Curtiss is scheduled to inactive status July 1, 1957.

Pursuant to terms and conditions outlined in Agreement OPNAV 4000.10A, dated September 8, 1953, negotiations should provide for the following:

1. That AEC obtain the ship on an indefinite loan basis, subject to recall only in the event of a declaration of a national emergency.
2. That the ship be operated by a MSTIS crew under a contract with AEC or Holmes & Narver. A contract provision will permit the contracting officer to reject non-cooperative or otherwise undesirable employees. The controlling officer will reserve the right to supplement a MSTIS crew or to relieve any portion of the crew in favor of more qualified or desirable personnel.

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*Without enclosure*

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1. REVIEWER DATE: 6/1/77	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER) 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO 4. COORDINATE WITH: 5. CLASSIFICATION EXEMPT 6. CLASSIFIED INFO GRANTED
2. AUTHORITY OF LEAD AGENCY: 10 CFR 101.11	
3. NAME: J. E. Reeves	
4. 2ND REVIEWER DATE: 6-15-94	
5. AUTHORITY: AOD	NAME: [Signature]

THIS MATERIAL CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, TITLE 18, U.S.C. SECS. 793 AND 794. THE TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF SUCH INFORMATION TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

MILITARY RESEARCH & APPL 7 *Enroute R/Roving Groups*

Req # 210461

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Brig General Starbird

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[CHANGE BY DMA 7-04334, TWX FROM AEC]

3. AEC should be granted unrestricted authority to modify the vessel, ~~insofar as modification does not impair the vessel from a standpoint of safety and operation.~~ *Sole responsibility for safety in operation of the vessel will rest with AEC.*
4. AEC should not be held responsible to restore the vessel to its original condition less normal wear and tear upon completion of the loan period.

Major modifications to vessel will be made at commercial ship yards under a contract with Holmes & Narver.

Design and engineering work in connection with ship modifications will be done by Holmes & Narver. Minor repairs and modifications will be made by Holmes & Narver, generally at EPG.

Enclosure:

Trans ltr fm UCRL dtd

4/15/57 w/attach (in dup.)

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