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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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

DATE: DEC 29 1959

FROM : James E. Reeves, Assistant Manager for Test Operations, USAEC, Albuquerque

SUBJECT: VANDENBERG - ENIWETOK PROPOSED MISSILE SHOTS

SAB20006426A001

SYMBOL: AIT:JER-2601

Attached is a report by James Sugden of this office covering a SAC meeting held at Kirtland regarding a program to fire ICBM Atlas missiles from Vandenberg to Eniwetok Atoll.

It is strongly recommended that, before such a program is approved, the AEC be fully briefed on the guidance system and the dependability of the missile accuracy. It was Mr. Sugden's feeling that the SAC personnel present at the meeting were under the impression that AEC approval was not required.

We have learned through our contractor, Edgerton, Germeshausen and Grier, Inc., at Las Vegas, that the target will be in the lagoon area with personnel and equipment stationed on the island. They felt that there would be no particular hazard associated with the shot, as the target would probably be missed by miles. The warhead is to contain only a small number of pounds of HE and will be detonated in the air. Apparently detonation techniques applied will assure the burst will occur at an altitude commensurate with safety.

It is suggested that SAC be contacted at the Washington level for clarification of this program.

Enclosure:
Memo fr Sugden, 12/21/59

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
1ST REVIEWER-DATE: 6/1/
DETERMINATION [CLASS]
1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO
3. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
4. NO DOE CLASSIFIED
5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
2ND REVIEWER-DATE: 6/6/91
AUTHORITY: ADD
NAME: D.P. Crouch

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
1ST REVIEWER-DATE: 3/27/92
DETERMINATION [CLASS]
1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO
3. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
4. NO DOE CLASSIFIED
5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
7. OTHER (SPECIFY)
2ND REVIEWER-DATE:
AUTHORITY: ADD
NAME:

Maj Stull (AFDAT)
Col Reid / Maj Bu
Proj Officer
in Div of Opns Strategy

Lt Col Tuller

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