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SUGGESTED FOREWORD BY ADMIRAL STRAUSS FOR AEC
BASIC STATEMENT



The Atomic Energy Commission joins the American people and other peoples of the world in the devout hope that the theoretical information on nuclear weapons effects contained in the statement below will never be reflected in human experience as the result of war. President Eisenhower, motivated by facts such as those stated below, has made clear that the United States Government is doing and will do everything in its power to achieve a stable and lasting peace.

However, it is the policy of this government, first acted upon by the President in his speech to the United Nations of December 8, 1953, to give the American people and other peoples maximum knowledge on the dangers of modern nuclear warfare. Until the hazard of an overnight nuclear conflagration is eliminated by a workable international disarmament plan, the study and evaluation of weapons effects and civil defense protection measures must be a necessary, though reluctant, duty of any prudent government.

Guided by these considerations, the Atomic Energy Commission has carried on for several years a continuous study of these subjects. Some of the results of this study have now become available, and are hereby released as public information.

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