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September 7, 1954



MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Operation TRAPOT

1. On September 2, 1954, during my briefing session at Denver with the President, I presented to him your letter on the above subject dated August 30, 1954. After reading your letter, the President directed me to advise you that he gave his approval to conducting the test series and to making the necessary announcement. With reference to the necessary announcement, he requested me to discuss with you his views. He would prefer that the announcement be in two parts: a) a generalized, brief, "dead pan" announcement, which might be made soon, and which might include a suitable reference to civilian or peaceful uses; b) a warning notice to clear the area involved, which might be made later but within the limits required to be effective to clear the area.

2. While the President and I did not directly discuss the point, it occurs to me that on a matter of this kind a coordination of Executive Branch views might be desirable and that the OCE, upon your or my request, might form a working group to coordinate the timing and content of announcements, such working group to be chaired by an AEC representative and to have on it representation, in addition to the OCE agencies, from FCDA and USIA. It was only at the last OCE meeting that General Smith spoke of the desirability of working more closely with AEC, a matter he intended to talk with you about.

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E.O. 13526, (b) (7) (D)

ROBERT CUTLER
Special Assistant
to the President

MR 89-292#8
BY *AK* DATE 7/5/91

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