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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
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RECEIVED

20 January 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

Returned herewith is the letter dated January 12, 1954, to the President from Representative W. Sterling Cole, proposing showing to Members of Congress and the press a version (containing no restricted data) of a film of the Eniwetok nuclear tests held in the fall of 1952.

I have received from the Secretary of State and from the Deputy Administrator of the Federal Civil Defense Administration letters indicating their belief that such use of the film would be helpful. There has been no communication from the Secretary of Defense but I have been informed by telephone that the Secretary of Defense will offer no objection from a security standpoint.

The showing of the film to Members of the Congress in my opinion would be desirable. The Public Information Division of the Commission calls my attention to the fact that to show the film to the press would give rise to difficulties since it would be a preferential treatment for one of the media of public information. We are working toward a proposed general release which would cover all media, with a target date in mid-February.

Also attached are a draft of a proposed reply to Representative Cole and a suggested statement to be appended to that letter to be attributed to the President by Mr. Cole when the film is shown.

*Respectfully,
Lewis L. Strauss*

Lewis L. Strauss

encls.

*7m Munich
"Sand" keep drafts
from reports - with file
2/8*

DRAFT

LLS/vhw
1-20-54

Dear Mr. Cole:

I am glad to have your suggestion
~~This is to acknowledge with thanks your letter of January 12th with the suggestion that the film which was made at Eniwetok in the autumn of 1952 be shown to Members of ^{the} Congress and to accredited members of the Washington press corps at a later date. I understand that the version of the film to which you refer is, *James Stewart*, the one which is marked "Official Use Only" and which contains no restricted data.~~

~~I can see no objection to showing the film to Members of Congress and, agreeable to your request, I am appending a statement with which the film could be introduced when so exhibited.~~

~~Since the Atomic Energy Commission, the Department of Defense, and the Federal Civil Defense Administration are jointly working toward the end of a possible release of an adapted version of this film to the several media of public information some weeks from now, I do not think it would be a good idea to show it to the Washington press corps, for this would be preferential to one segment of this field.~~

With warm regards,
Sincerely yours,

DDE

Honorable W. Sterling Cole
Chairman
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
The Capitol

