

REPOSITORY NARA [redacted] 408854  
 COLLECTION RG 326 51-58 Secretary  
 BOX No. 182 (NN3-326-93-010)  
 FOLDER MRA 7 [redacted], v2 JAN 8 1958

MA:ADS

MEMORANDUM for the Chairman  
 Through the General Manager

Subject: CANCELLATION OF U.N. OBSERVATION PROGRAM AND ANNOUNCEMENT  
 THEREOF

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ABC 952/25 recommended that the U.N. Observation Program, together with the press observer program for BARBUCK be dropped and that a public announcement be made to that effect. The Commission has not taken action as yet on that paper. General Fields discussed the paper with you immediately prior to your trip to Paris and you indicated that you might raise the matter with the President. I then asked you to withhold discussion with the President pending our examination of one more possibility. That examination has been completed. I am again of the opinion that the program should be cancelled in full and understand General Fields passed this information to you immediately before Christmas. It is my further understanding from General Fields that you intend to discuss this matter shortly with the President. My intent in this memo is to recommend to you the manner in which we might handle the publicity.

It is the opinion of DIS, shared by the Information Service of the DOD that:

- a. It would be better to make a short, brief statement than to wait until queried. Mr. Farley is of the same opinion in this matter but does not feel there is any urgency in making such an announcement.
- b. The attention focused on any announcement would be reduced if coupled with some other statement relative to BARBUCK.
- c. The press observer program (both national and international) should be cancelled simultaneously with the U.N. Observation Program. Mr. Salisbury believes, that in view of other world

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: 02/13/95	1. CLASSIFICATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))
AUTHORITY: E.O. 13526, E.O. 13526	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
NAME: [redacted]	3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
2ND REVIEW DATE: 4-5-95	4. COORDINATE WITH:
AUTHORITY: ADD [redacted]	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
	6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
	7. OTHER (SPECIFY):

WITH ATTACHMENTS/ENCL

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED  
 OR CHANGED TO  
 BY AUTHORITY OF [redacted]  
 DATE 3/27/93

MA:Starbird Test DIS MA:LPG/ee MA:CEStewart  
 Starbird/vcj/bs

1/7/58 1/ /58 1/ /58 1/ /58 1/ /58  
 COPY FOR SECRETARIAT

1-8-58

interests now, such cancellation may not lead to exceptional pressure or criticism. The presence of newsmen at an open shot delayed by weather could lead to adverse criticism about "clean" weapons. Mr. Hollis points out that the press will consider that this is a retreat from a former "right" gained at REDWING and will object whether or not they really want to attend so as to continue the "precedent."

The next press release we would make with respect to HANDBACK would be one announcing the Commander and Organization of the Joint Task Force. Such an announcement could occur between 15 January and 1 February. It would be possible to couple with this a short announcement saying that the U.N. and press observer programs have been cancelled. A suggested announcement of the JTF organization and U.N. program cancellation is at Enclosure #1.

I recommend, therefore, the following:

- a. You clear action on the U.N. cancellation with the President at your earliest meeting with him and thereafter inform the OCB. Immediately following the informing of the OCB, the General Manager inform the JCAE of the action contemplated by a letter substantially like Enclosure #2.
- b. Subsequent to "a" above, the joint announcement at Enclosure #1 be issued.
- c. Note that final coordination with DOD on joint announcement will be made as soon as your approval is received.

General Loper and General Lydecke have seen the draft and concur in the action proposed.

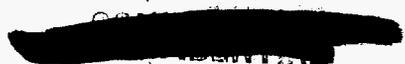
Alfred D. Starbird  
Brigadier General, USA  
Director of Military Application

**Enclosures:**

- 1. Joint AEC-DOD announcement
- 2. Draft letter to Chairman, JCAE

SO&CC: Addee  
CC: Gen. Manager  
Secretariat

1960  
 JAN 15 1960  
 JCAE  
 # #



Washington 25, D. C.

AEC-DOD NAME TASK FORCE HEADS;  
GIVE UP PLANS FOR  
OBSERVATION OF NEXT TESTS

The forthcoming Spring nuclear test series in the Pacific which was announced by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense on September 15, 1957 is to be known as Operation Hardtack. This operation will be conducted by Joint Task Force 7, commanded by Major General Alvin R. Luedcke, U. S. Air Force. General Luedcke was head of the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project of the Department of Defense from June 1953 until he assumed command of Joint Task Force SEVEN. The General began his direct participation in nuclear weapons programs in June 1949 as the Executive Secretary of the Military Liaison Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission. In February 1951, General Luedcke was appointed Deputy Chief of the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project.

General Luedcke's principal staff heads will be:

Dr. William Ogle, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory,  
Deputy for Scientific Matters;

Major General William W. Dick, U. S. Army,  
Deputy for Army;

Rear Admiral David M. Tyree, U. S. Navy,  
Deputy for Navy, and

Brigadier General Perry B. Griffith, U. S. Air Force,  
Chief of Staff.

Enclosure #1

After extensive investigation, the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense have concluded that it will not be possible without risk to U. S. national security for uncleared observers to conduct at the forthcoming Eniwetok weapons tests instrumented observation of the degree to which the United States has succeeded in reducing the radioactive fallout from nuclear weapons. Therefore, the AEC and the DOD have discontinued planning for United Nations observers and for the complementary observation by news media representatives at the next Pacific tests as was announced on September 13, 1957.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Draft Letter to Chairman, JCAE from the General Manager

On 14 September Mr. Donovan, Office of Congressional Liaison, AEC, delivered to Mr. Emsy in advance of release a public announcement relative to the HARDTACK series. Our announcement indicated that we intended to ask U.N. observers, as well as international press, to witness one detonation of a device of low radioactive fallout. We indicated that we were examining the problem of observation to determine what instrumentation might be allowed to the U.N. observers without revealing important nuclear design information.

After detailed study with the DOD, the Commander, JTF, and our laboratory directors, we have concluded that:

- a. Any program, if to be convincing to observers, would necessarily involve the risk of revealing to the Soviets certain aspects of nuclear design information.
- b. If not convincing, a demonstration would, undoubtedly, react unfavorably on the U.S.
- c. Under such condition, it would be best for our national interest that the proposed program not be carried out and that there be no attendance by U.N. observers or the press at HARDTACK.

The next planned public announcement concerning HARDTACK would be one to announce the Commander and Organization of the Joint Task Force. Coordination of the plans for this are underway and a release is expected in the latter part of January. It is our intent to announce publicly

This material is the property of the U.S. Government and is loaned to you. It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your organization.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED  
OR CHANGED TO  
BY AUTHORITY OF [Signature]  
BY [Signature] DATE 3/22/77  
Enclosure #2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

the cancellation of plans for possible U.N. and press attendance at  
HARDTACK as a part of the release which announces the Commander and  
Organization of the Joint Task Force. The statement on the cancel-  
lation will be substantially as follows:

"After extensive investigation, the U.S. Atomic Energy  
Commission and the Department of Defense have concluded  
that it will not be possible without risk to U.S.  
national security for uncleared observers to conduct at  
the forthcoming Eniwetok weapons tests instrumented obser-  
vation of the degree to which the United States has  
succeeded in reducing the radioactive fallout from nuclear  
weapons. Therefore, the AEC and the DOD have discontinued  
planning for United Nations observers and for the comple-  
mentary observation by news media representatives at the  
next Pacific tests as was announced on September 15, 1957."

We shall inform you of developments on this matter as they occur.

Sincerely yours,

General Manager

CONFIDENTIAL  
SEP 15 1957  
AEC  
DOD  
# #

CONFIDENTIAL