

E. LORD

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

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MAR 31 1954

REPOSITORY NARA College Park  
COLLECTION RG 326 51-58 Security  
BOX No. 182 (ANN-326-93-010)  
FOLDER MRA 7 July, V3

Mr. W. I. Beale, Jr.  
Chief of Bureau  
The Associated Press  
330 Star Building  
Washington 4, D. C.

Dear Mr. Beale:

This is in reply to your letter of March 3, 1954, to Chairman Strauss on the subject of official pictures of 1952 activities at the AEC's Pacific Proving Ground.

The Executive Branch decision to permit public issuance of certain unclassified motion picture film and still pictures of 1952 test activities has been made in the interest of the national civil defense program. Accordingly, the AEC and the Department of Defense have processed the releasable materials and turned them over to the custody of the Federal Civil Defense Administration for medial distribution and release.

You should know, however, that the AEC has concurred in a recommendation by the FCDA that a lead time be given on issuance of pictorial material so that virtually all will have an opportunity for simultaneous issuance, with resultant widest possible service to the public. This seemed the procedure best calculated to give maximum service to the public, combined with a reasonable break for all media.

Your letter has been forwarded to the FCDA, attention of Mr. John DeChant, Director, Office of Public Affairs.

Sincerely yours,

cc: Secretariat   
John DeChant, Director, Office of Public Affairs, FCDA  
Morse Salisbury, DIS

K. D. Nichols  
General Manager

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