[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

409079

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 4, 1955

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The Atomic Energy Commission is in agreement with the thoughts expressed in your March 5, 1955* letter to me. We have asked our Livermore Laboratory to submit a proposal for realignment of their program to make a major effort in the directions of increasing and decreasing the radioactive yield of thermonuclear weapons. Specifically, the Laboratory has been asked to consider this as an urgent project, with a view to initiating at the earliest vigorous and extensive efforts to disclose fruitful lines of attack, and those with promise to be prosecuted at as rapid a pace as possible. Both the increasing and the decreasing of radioactive yields will be investigated but priority will be given to the latter. Increasing of radioactive yields will be confined to theoretical studies at this time. We hope to be able to test a device of decreased radioactive yield at an early date, possibly in REDWING.

Progress made on these important research efforts will be reported to you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ W. F. Libby

W. F. Libby
Acting Chairman

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Honorable Charles E. Wilson
The Secretary of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

CARL Wilson 3/28/84
H. R. Schmidt 7/29/85
By: Dick Koogle 3/20/86

*Secretariat Note: Circulated as AEC 778/3.

[redacted]

[redacted]