

November 30, 1954

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC
R.E. O'Brien 12/9/85
REVIEWED BY DATE
J. Diaz 1/27/86
REVIEWED BY DATE

By: P.M. Sweetman 6/17/86

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN STRAUSS

Dear Lewis:

SUBJECT: Investigations of Different Contaminating
Characteristics of High Yield Weapons.

409083

Your memorandum of November 15, 1954, indicates that this subject will be considered by the Commission before information from Los Alamos and Livermore, related thereto, is conveyed to the Department of Defense. I understand, also, that a staff paper on this subject is now in preparation for Commission consideration.

It is my view that important advantages would accrue from early stockpiling of high yield weapons with relatively small amounts of radioactive products per megaton of total energy yield. So important in fact as to require a most vigorous development effort involving the marshalling of our very best talents in the weapons field without impairing the effectiveness of our current weapons program.

It may be that the initial surveys will prove discouraging or at best not especially attractive. But this should not deter us from that type of effort which, carried forward in the face of obstacles in the past, has been attended by so much success. Our objective should be to test a weapon of this type at the earliest possible date.

I therefore suggest that in acting on the forthcoming staff paper on this subject the Commission consider the establishment of a program commensurate with the need for early development of this weapon type.

REPOSITORY NARA College Park

COLLECTION RB 326 - Office of Secretary

Thomas E. Murray No. 188 (NN3-326-93-110)
Commissioner

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FOLDER MRA 9-1 Radioactive

cc to Mr. Campbell
Dr. Libby
Mr. Nichols
Mr. McCool

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CARL Wilson 3/28/84
REVIEWED BY DATE

H.R. Schmidt 7/29/85

By: Dick Koogle 3/20/86