to a base 4500 miles from the mainland, the construction force, and the operating force for the Eniwetok Proving Ground. Not only was it a completely unified operation the Army, Havy, and Air Force including the Armed Porces Special Weapons Project, but it was a combined operation of military personnel and civilian scientists and technicians of the Atomic Energy Commission and its contractors.

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Raymond A. Carpenter 5.11

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The support given to the AEC Proving Ground Group which conducted the tests was complete, and without the assistance of military personnel in the technical phases of the operations, the test program could not have been carried out.

The successful completion of this test program is a triumph for the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, where weapon development work for the Commission is carried on. It is also a triumph for Dr. Darol K. Proman and the remarkable scientific and technical staff which he assembled for these tests. Again on behalf of the Atomic Energy Commission, I wish to congratulate Doctor Froman and his staff.

As Test Director for the Commission, I want to pay tribute to the work of Dr. Alvin C. Graves as Deputy Scientific Director under Doctor Froman, to Colonel Paul T. Preuss, USAF, as Deputy Test Director.

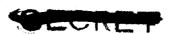
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In order to understand the importance of the operations of Joint Task Force Seven it is necessary only consider the reasons why these tests were held. During the period of wartime development of atomic energy, the one goes relentlessly pursued was the creation of an atomic bomb would work - - and work in time to be effective in World It had only to work; it needed not to be too efficient, a related problems of engineering and production were dealt with in the urgency of wartime conditions.

The bomb did work. It worked initially at Alamagordo, N.M., where the first test took place on July 1945. It worked again at Hiroshima and Hagasaki, then the following year at Bikini. But all of these weapons, as it as their state of development is concerned, were about or par. They were the wartime weapon - - designed under expressure and without regard for many problems which in the long run are of great importance in the military application of atomic energy.

In its January Report to Congress, the Atomic El Commission said its goal in the field of weapon developm was the scientific and engineering perfection of improvedesigns, and that thorough testing of weapons and compon is necessary to improved design.



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In any program of developing and producing weapons, the need for proof testing, or for conducting furscale experiments, is natural and obvious. Failure to tenew developments would soon throttle the design of improvements. America's preeminence in the field of atomic weapons is not a static thing, it depends upon achievement day to day, year to year, and test to test achievement.

(Mote to correspondents: If Captain Russell is to be que please use remarks as contained in this statement.)

