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February 16, 1954

Honorable Sherman Adams
The White House

Dear Governor Adams:

I am sorry about the delay in replying to your letter of January 13, 1954. I put off answering it until I had an opportunity to see the Commission's final minutes regarding this matter.

I surely don't want to labor this but would like briefly to tell you the circumstances of my writing the President. I think they cast a somewhat different light on the episode.

In December the Commission had under consideration an uncleared observer program for the next Pacific tests involving some 200 persons. It decided not to undertake such a program. I dissented. During the discussion, I had suggested the possibility that the President might want to invite one United Nations observer. Because of the broad policy considerations involved and the probable interest of other government agencies, the Commission unanimously decided that the entire matter should be brought to the attention of the President. This Commission decision to notify the President of its action on the uncleared observer program led me to submit to the President the collateral suggestion for an invitation to the United Nations to send one observer.

Subsequently Chairman Strauss decided that no further written notification from the Commission was needed and that he would take up the matter orally with the President.

Under these circumstances, I believe that my letter to the President cannot fairly be characterized as a request for his intervention in a Commission decision or as an appeal from a Commission decision. It simply volunteered a suggestion which I had hoped might be of some help in curbing the atomic arms race, a subject on which I believed ideas from any knowledgeable source would be welcome.

Very sincerely yours,

Thomas E. Murray
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: 8-7-77	2. DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBERS)
AUTHORITY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EOC <input type="checkbox"/> DD	1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
NAME: <i>[Signature]</i>	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
2ND REVIEW DATE: 12/6/99	3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
AUTHORITY: <input type="checkbox"/> DD	4. COORDINATE WITH: <i>Des, 602, AF7AC</i>
NAME: <i>[Signature]</i>	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELED
	6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
	7. OTHER (SPECIFY):

declass per DCS ltr dtd 9/27/98
DOD ltr dtd 10/18/98
AFTR ltr dtd 12/4/97

cc to Chairman Strauss
Commissioner Skyth
" Zuckert
" Campbell

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