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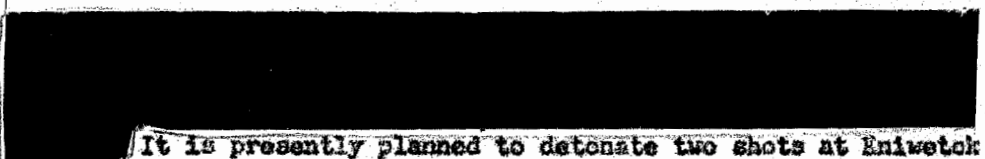
R

Honorable Robert LeBaron
Chairman, Military Liaison Committee
to the Atomic Energy Commission

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
SINGLE REVIEW AUTHORIZED BY: DOE Order 5486.2B	TERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S)) 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO 4. COORDINATE WITH: 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED 7. OTHER (SPECIFY):
REVIEWER (ADD): NAME: <u>Alan D. Rice</u> DATE: <u>5/23/95</u>	

Dear Mr. LeBaron:

Reference is made to our letter of January 2, 1953^{*} which outlined the CASTLE Operation as we contemplated it at that preliminary stage. Since that time in the process of further development and test, it has become apparent that, if feasible, the scope of CASTLE should be increased in the interest of assuring the resolution of factors bearing on emergency capability weapons and special material requirements. At this stage, we believe a program of six shots would assist materially in the above, and, accordingly, we have been working with Joint Task Force Seven on questions of the feasibility of such a program. From their standpoint and ours, it appears practicable to execute a six shot program and to maintain the proposed timing of CASTLE, provided the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense accept such a program and provided the various contributing phases such as special materials production at Oak Ridge remain on schedule.



It is presently planned to detonate two shots at Eniwetok and four at Bikini. The first detonation is scheduled for February 15, 1954, with seven to ten days intervals between shots.

It should be emphasized, however, that the actual scope and plan for execution of CASTLE cannot be fixed until about September. At that time the relevant factors bearing on the merits of the various proposals and on the operational capabilities and limitations both of material production and of a Task Force nature will be more complete. We hope crystallization of these factors will be sufficient at that time to enable us to reach agreement on the specific scope for CASTLE.

Circulated in aec 597/17, 6/19/53.

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FOLDER #3 MRA-7 CASTLE

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: <u>08/27/01</u>	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S)) 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: <u>CRD</u> 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO 4. COORDINATE WITH: 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED 7. OTHER (SPECIFY): <u>PP-35-02</u>
AUTHORITY: <u>DOE Order 5486.2B</u>	
NAME: <u>Arthur Hays Sulzberger</u>	
END REVIEW DATE: <u>11/20/01</u>	
AUTHORITY: ADD	
NAME: <u>Gregory A. ...</u>	

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