

UNIQUE DOCUMENT #SAP20010466A001

~~SECRET~~
ST DOCUMENT NUMBER 53 228 A
2

Security Information

404173

REF ID: A6705
SUBJECT: Atomic Weapons Effects Program, Operation QASTIX.

Headquarters, Armed Forces Special Weapons Project, P. O. Box 2610,
Washington, D. C. 9 FEB 1953

TO: Chairman, Research and Development Board, Washington 25, D. C.

1. The Committee on Atomic Energy of the Research and Development Board at its meeting on 17 December 1952 considered an Armed Forces Special Weapons Project program for weapons effects measurements at Operation QASTIX. At this meeting AFSTP requested specific guidance with respect to the inclusion in the program of a project proposed by the Department of the Navy for proof testing of AF ship countermeasures using two radio-controlled Liberty ships. After discussion, CAC action on this item was deferred pending further analysis and the preparation of more detailed plans by the Department of the Navy. An alternative plan using manned vessels was also considered.

2. As a result of the recommendations of this meeting, the Department of the Navy has conducted further studies relating to this proposed project and prepared more detailed plans for its conduct. These plans are forwarded as Inclosure 1.

3. The Armed Forces Special Weapons Project has studied these plans and reached the following conclusions:

- a. The proposed project should be considered primarily as a test of defensive measures against atomic weapons rather than an attempt to obtain data on the effects of atomic weapons.
- b. The problems listed in paragraph 1 to Inclosure 1 should be answered in order to determine the operational requirement for various proposed Naval atomic defense systems, which might ultimately involve the expenditure of more than one hundred million dollars for operational installation.
- c. The proposed test program is a reasonable approach to obtaining operationally useful solutions to most of these problems although it is recognized that difficulty may be encountered in extrapolating the results of these tests to a variety of operational conditions and Naval vessels.
- d. The use of radio-controlled vessels offers a greater probability of obtaining operationally useful data than would manned vessels.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

From NMB-V

~~SECRET~~
Security Information

~~RESTRICTED DATA~~
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT 1946

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER)
1ST REVIEWER-DATE 6/16/94	1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
AUTHORITY: EAOB EADG EADD	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED SECRET
NAME: M. K. KOLBAY	3. NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
2ND REVIEWER-DATE 11/2/94	4. COORDINATED WITH: AFAC
NAME: J.P. Cannon	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
	6. CLASSIFIED UNPACKAGED

FORMERLY RESTRICTED DATA
Unauthorized disclosure subject to
Administrative and Criminal Penalties.
Handle as Restricted in Foreign
Dissemination Section 144.b., Atomic
Energy Act 1954.

RPTAL memo 1/12/94

11/2/94
HR Schmidt

1st Indorsement only

~~SECRET~~

~~Security Information~~

3. The estimated funds to undertake this project appear reasonable for the measurements which are proposed.

4. Accordingly, it is recommended that the subject project be approved for inclusion in the scientific program for Operation CASTLE and that an overall expenditure of \$661,750 R and D funds be approved for this project. Since \$150,000 was already planned for similar projects within the program approved by the CAE on 17 December and since these can be essentially absorbed in this project, the overall increase in the CASTLE fund requirements will be limited to \$511,750.

1 Incl:

n/c

Copy Furnished:
Op-36 w/o Incl.

A. R. LUEDECKE
Brigadier General, USAF
Acting Chief, AFSWP

2

~~SECRET~~

~~Security Information~~

~~SECRET DATA
ARCHIVED
APR 1946~~