

Insert 1



10/15/67

407387

This being the case, a certain specious argument has been advanced to the effect that we could, without material danger to ourselves, suspend tests on these weapons until such time as our detection devices indicate that Soviet Russia has broken faith and continued testing. At that time, according to this argument, we could then continue with our testing program. Now the fallacy in this argument is this: Testing is absolutely essential to determining the validity of development work on the H-bomb. Mathematical figures in themselves must be backed up by the results of tests. But any test requires many months of preparatory work. A test is not organized and run over a weekend. Consequently, if we, acting in good faith, stop this work, we can, if Soviet Russia continues, be unknowingly conceding a ^{full} year in the vital race of development. We might, thus, be confronted with a ^{type} of attack for which we would, ~~be~~ through our own neglect, ^{be} woefully unprepared. We must always stay ahead in the race for developments.

Consider the impact on the outcome of World War II if Hitler had developed the atomic bomb some six months earlier than did we.

One final argument has ^{some} basis in validity and the American people deserve an answer. This argument, advanced by some well-meaning individuals, is that racial suicide can result from continued tests without the declaration of a war. In this regard let me say one personal thing: I hope that the American people do not consider me so irresponsible that I would order continuation of these tests if racial suicide were a remote possibility therefrom. However, let me give you the following to illustrate

REPOSITORY Eisenhower Library FOLDER H-bomb Speech [drafts
Ann Whitman File for possible use in
 COLLECTION Speech Series future speech, dated
Oct 15-16]
 BOX No. 17

REPRODUCED AT THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY

Two matters bearing directly on our peace efforts have

recently become prominent in public discussion. I don't wish to dwell on them tonight. This much I feel obligated to say -- not as a candidate for re-election to the Presidency, but as your President and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.



There are certain facts applying to the development and testing of H-bombs that, while already published, have seemingly escaped public notice in this latest flurry of argument. The first fact is this. Some months back our government turned its development and testing work away from the search for bigger and more destructive bombs, to the perfection of smaller

and cleaner ones -- by this, I mean hydrogen bombs that would have very little radio-active fall-out. *in the development of small, clean H-bombs* One of the purposes ^{is} to defend our country against the possibility of a long-range hydrogen bomb ^{missile} being used against our cities.

There seems to be no ^{way} ~~possibility~~ to stop the arrival of such a missile, except by the employment of a defensive missile bearing a small hydrogen bomb. *which destroys it far from its intended target.*

question is simply this: Without knowing -- I repeat, without knowing -- that every other nation is ready to follow our lead in stopping the development and testing of H-bombs, are we to allow our security to be based wholly on wishful thinking, not on our own best efforts?

Insert 1
~~Another fact to be pointed out is that the development work on the H-bomb~~

Then the H-bomb development going on is for the purpose of protection of our own cities rather than for the purpose of increasing the destruction we can visit upon

REPRODUCED AT THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY

cannot be determined until they are actually tested. Yet any test must be proceeded by many months of preparatory work. Consequently if we, acting in good faith, stop all this work, we can unknowingly and without warning be suddenly confronted with a type of attack for which we would be, through our own neglect, woefully unprepared.



how little the atmosphere had been affected by the sum total of 51 tests to

date: * * *

In summary, my friends, the considered opinion of this government, concurred in by the chiefs of all the professional services -- Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps (?) -- is that continuation of the hydrogen bomb tests are essential to insure the safety of our country.



REPRODUCED AT THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY