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Greenhouse Vol. #2

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Dear Mr. Thomas:

As you know, the full-scale atomic test program at Bikini Atoll includes a number of shots during April and May of this year. The Atomic Energy Commission invites your attendance and that of other sub-committee members at one of the test shots of the program.

The tentative shot schedule, as it now stands, follows:

<u>Shot</u>	<u>Rehearsal Date</u>	<u>Actual Date</u>	<u>Type</u>
1	April 3	April 7	Lower shot of projected stockpile weapons.
2	April 14	April 16	Lower shot of projected stockpile weapons.
3	May 5	May 9	Lower shot of experimental laboratory device with high yield.
4	June 1	June 3	Lower shot of experimental laboratory device, to be used only in case shot #3 is unsatisfactory for some reason.

The scope of this program is much larger than any we have held in the past. On the scientific side, we expect many times the volume of data obtained at BARRY, for example, while the Department of Defense participation in the areas of effects on structures, cloud physics, effects on materials, etc. should produce much information of value to Civil Defense as well as to the Armed Forces. Additionally, the military weapons effects measurements will supplement our Atomic Energy Commission scientific measurements.

Observer parties for each shot will be made up in Washington from members of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, the Sub-Committee on Independent Offices of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, the General Advisory Committee, the Atomic Energy Commission and observers invited on a restricted basis by the Department of Defense. Due both to the importance of each scheduled test and to the somewhat limited facilities for the accommodation of senior observers, it is suggested that your Committee may wish to spread its attendance among several tests, should many be interested in making the trip.

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A party for each shot will depart from Washington by Special Air Mission Military Aircraft, and will fly during daylight hours only. There will be two flights for each party. The first flight will depart approximately three days prior to the rehearsal, arriving, in most cases, in time to see the rehearsal. The second flight will depart only in time for the shot itself, approximately three days before the scheduled shot date. Both flights will depart Enewetak for Washington shortly after the shot. The first flight will therefore be absent from Washington approximately 11-12 days, and the second flight 7-8 days.

Observers can make personal arrangements to join these flights at Travis Air Force Base, Fairfield-Suisun, California, or at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

Accommodations will be available for observers at Harry Island, and meals will be available at the central mess. Transportation on these flights will be provided at Atomic Energy Commission expense to ABC-invited observers. There will be an appropriate charge for in-flight lunches and for service and meals while at the site.

Each party will be assigned a "tour officer" to escort it and to relieve members of the party from all administrative details. Recreation and guided tours will be available during otherwise unoccupied time. Observers will be required to have an up-to-date immunization against typhoid, tetanus, and smallpox. The weather in Enewetak during the time in question is warm and generally pleasant, suitable for light summer clothing.

Only the outline of the program is presented herein; details will be made available at a later date to those desiring to make the trip.

Sincerely yours,

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Baron Dean
Chairman

Honorable Albert Thomas
House of Representatives

Enclosures