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March 31, 1948

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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

409250

OPERATION SANDSTONE - PROGRESS REPORT NO. 3  
JANUARY 5 TO MARCH 22, 1948

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Note by the Secretary

The attached teletype of March 25, 1948 from the Test Director is circulated for Commission information.

ROY B. SNAPP  
Secretary

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NR288 FM LOS ALAMOS 25/0303Z

TO USAEC WASHINGTON DC INFO USAEC LOS ALAMOS NMEX

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FOR GEN MCCORMACK INFO TO SPENCE. CITE TEST DIRECTOR TWO ZERO THREE SUGAR ONE FIZE. THIS IS PROGRESS REPORT NUMBER THREE FOR PERIOD ONE FIVE TO TWO TWO MARCH. TASK FORCE ARRIVED ENIWETOK SIXTEEN MARCH. FOUR PRINCIPAL SHIPS NOW ANCHORED OFF ENGEBI. UNLOADING STARTED IMMEDIATELY AND IS ON SCHEDULE. ALL INSTRUMENTATION INSTALLATIONS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE WITH EXCEPTION OF TECHNICAL PHOTO FACILITIES WHICH ARE BEING PUSHED. HULL AND STAFF HAVE VISITED ALL SITES AND EXPRESSED COMPLETE SATISFACTION. ENGINEERS HAVE DONE A CREDITABLE JOB. POOR COMMUNICATIONS HAVE TAMPERED ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS SOMEWHAT. SPIRIT OF SOME MEMBERS OF SCIENTIFIC GROUP DAMPENED BY SUBMARINE ALERT SECOND NIGHT IN PORT. WORLD NEWS CONTRIBUTING FACTOR. PROBLEM DISCUSSED WITH COMMANDER WHO WERE ADVISED THAT NUMEROUS ALERTS WOULD INTERFERE WITH ACCOMPLISHMENT OF TASK IN HAND. UNNECESSARY ALERTS WILL BE AVOIDED. POST SANDSTONE SECURITY PROBLEM UNSOLVED. IS SUBJECT OF SEPARATE MESSAGE. BEGINNING DISCUSSIONS WITH JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN ON PRESS RELEASES AFTER SHOTS. ANY WASHINGTON AEC GUIDANCE WOULD BE HELPFUL. WE FEEL THAT DETONATION WILL BECOME PUBLICLY KNOWN WITHIN SEVERAL DAYS OF EVENT.

LJ.

4-14-49  
JLD

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3/27/49/01