No

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION WASHINGTON 23, D. C.

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AUG 1 5 1951

REPOSITORY BOX No. /80 FOLDER

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

Dear Mr. LeBaron:

In the Fall of 1950 the weapons development plans of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory anticipated the need for a full-scale weapons test in the Spring of 1952, probably at the Eniwetok Proving Grounds. In our memorandum of December 20, 1950, we acquainted you with our tentative plans for such a test and requested Department of Defense support for it.

As you know, the results of RANGER and GREENHOUSE have added materially to our knowledge, both in the field of fission weapons and in the thermonuclear field. We do not now believe that a thermonuclear device will be ready for testing prior to the Winter of 1952-53. Meanwhile, we believe that our Nevada Test Site will satisfy our requirements for fission weapons tests until that time.

Informally we understand that JTF-132 has already been activated to assume the residual responsibilities of JTF-3 as well as to furnish the support we requested for the next Eniwetok test. To assist in planning, we suggest that this change to a later date be brought to the attention of the Commander, JTF-132.

Sincerely yours, UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION Summer T. Pike Summer T. Pike Cinculater Acting Chai Departmen in **OF** 1ST REVIEWER-DATE ON (CIRCLE NUMBER(S)) RETAINED AUTHOR:1 y NAME: 1 DOE CLASSIFIED INFO 2ND REVIEWER-DATE: OHDERTE WITH AUTHORITY: ADD SSIFICATION CANCELLED ASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED NAME: BEST COPY AVAILABLE 4327-1261-9-20 COPY FOR THE SECRETARIAT