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MEMORANDUM FOR

Mr. Gordon Arneson Room 7258 New State Building New York Ave. & 21st, H.w. wchibal 10/95

The Commission has examined the draft paper carrying the proposed Panel "L" report. Members of the Commission concluded that the facts of research on controlled thermonuclear reactions should not be declassified and referred to in connection with announcements regarding the IVY series. The reasoning was that the time and the scope of possible application of such reactions, assuming they could be achieved was so nebulous that we would be opening the United States to ridicule and effective counter propaganda by associating the announcement of such studies with announcement of weapons experiments. There was further reluctance to brin, the fact of such studies out into the open until there has been an opportunity to assess the findings of the more vigorous research program currently underway as reported to the Panel by Dr. Johnson.

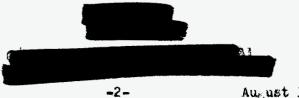
The Commission also concluded that, under certain conditions, which you will understand from your conversation with the Chairman, it would be advantageous to issue within the next few days an

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Gordon Arneson

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announcement by the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission that a series of weapons development tests will be conducted during the autumn months at Eniwetok Atoll by Joint Task Force 132.

The Commission approved the remainder of the recommendations.

It is the Commission's suggestion that the draft report be amended to make 1 A (1) (a) read:

In the late summer make a terse announcement by the Department of Defense and the AFC stating that Joint Task Force 132 will conduct a series of weapons developmental tests in the autumn months of 1952.

In accordance with the Commission's view that there should be no declassification and announcement of the fact of research in controlled thermonuclear reactions, both draft statements should be changed by eliminating the final sentence.

Morse Salisbury

cc: Gordon Dean Roy Snappv

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