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FOLDER MKA 7 - Ivy (Vol 1)

September 17, 1952

Dear Mr. Durham:

This is with further reference to our discussion by telephone yesterday concerning the public information on the forthcoming IVY series of tests at Eniwetok Atoll.

409422

After thorough consideration of all the circumstances involved, including the international relations of the United States, it is the consensus in the Executive Branch that there should be no public mention or discussion of the test with uncleared persons before the detonations, save for the brief announcement which was issued by the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission on September 9. Copies of this announcement were furnished to the Joint Committee on the day of release. It is also the consensus that the public statements following the test should be quite terse and contain no details or intimations regarding the character or the specific results of the tests.

All executive agencies involved are adhering to this policy, and unless circumstances arise that are different from those now foreseen there will be nothing more publicly issued on the IVY series by the Department of Defense, the Atomic Energy Commission, or any other Executive agency until the conclusion of the series.

It will be appreciated if you will convey this information, along with our request that they follow the same policy, to the members of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. The reasons for adopting the policy have been summarized in a report adopted by the Psychological Strategy Board, a copy of which is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

05/24/95
WCh...
7/26/95
...
H. D. Smyth
Acting Chairman
cc: Dr. Smyth
Mr. Boyer
Mr. LeBaron
Mr. Hollis
Cong. Comm.
S. Thompson
Mr. Shapp
SEP 18 1952
M.A.
6-12-52

Honorable Carl T. Durham
Acting Chairman
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States

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