

(Handwritten initials)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : David E. Lilienthal, Chairman

DATE: May 11, 1954

FROM : Morse Salsbury, Director, Public and Technical Information Service

SUBJECT: CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12065

SYMBOL: PTI:MS:fc

OR CHANGED TO
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE

NWD 91

EXEMPTED DATE 6/14/73

By J. T. [unclear]

We think the best timing -- if you can arrange it -- will be for reporting session with the President to be held any time Monday, May 17, or the morning of Tuesday, May 18. We would advise General to hold the Oahu press conference Tuesday 11 a.m. Honolulu time (5 p.m. EDT). Are you still calculating that a public announcement might be made by the Commission delegation immediately following to President; or would you think a formal White House press statement following conference with President by an hour or two better; or a Commission announcement?

I'm inclined to favor the second alternative -- White House statement issued shortly after Commission group reports to President. Realize that it identifies the report with the White House but does not give any impression of shooting from the hip as talking with reporter emerging from President's office would.

So far we have reassured the public and the press by the very care and precision of our statements on the proving ground operation. It might be disturbing to press and public if, at the climax of the operation, we should suddenly appear to be handling things in a casual way. This would be open to being interpreted as a spur-of-the-moment political move connected with the confirmation ruckus. Such an interpretation would not help.

(Handwritten initials)

REPOSITORY NARA/College Park
COLLECTION R6 326/Lilienthal Files
BOX No. 5
FOLDER Eniwetok Proving Ground

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~