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By authority of U. S. Atomic Energy
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Per Ben D. Dittendorf/WBm/wk Date 4-7-58
Document No. LXI-4879-1A

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CJTF-7, Eniwetok, MI

PERSONAL AND EYES ONLY TO GENERAL LUEDECKE FROM STARBIRD.

REFERENCE YOUR 03005ZEBRA COMMISSION AND LOPER MET THIS P.M. AND BELIEVE IT NOT POSSIBLE TO SECURE DECISION UNTIL SEVEN APRIL WASHINGTON TIME AT EARLIEST AS TO WHETHER: HIGH ALTITUDE SHOTS CAN BE FIRED AT EPG OR MUST BE MOVED: IF AT EPG NEED ORANGE BE FIRST. COMMISSION AND LOPER REQUEST THAT YOU RETAIN FLEXIBILITY AND AVOID ACTION WHICH WOULD MATERIALLY INCREASE POSSIBILITY OF PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE OF CONTROL PLANS UNTIL YOU CAN BE NOTIFIED OF DECISION. THEY REALIZE THAT THIS PROBABLY WILL DELAY FIRINGS IF ULTIMATE DECISION IS TO FIRE AS NOW PLANNED. EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO CRYSTALIZE DECISION SO YOU COULD BE INFORMED BY 6 APRIL YOUR TIME. ALL REGRET THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE. QUERY. COULD YOU INFORM ME BY MONDAY OF YOUR DEFINITION AS TO WHAT WOULD BE THE NATURE OF THE "SERIOUS EYE DAMAGE" FOR TWO CONDITIONS: (1) AT EXTREME RADIUS OF HAZARD YOU HAVE GIVEN AND IF LOOKING DIRECTLY AT BLAST; (2) AT SAME EXTREME RANGE IF LOOKING 5 to 10 DEGREES AWAY FROM ZERO POINT. END REF MA:ADS

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FM CJTF 7 ENIWETOK MI
TO USAEC GERMANTOWN MD
COFS USAF WASHDC

AEC PASS TO STARBIRD. USAF PASS TO AFOAT. FROM LUEDECKE.
REFERENCE YOUR MESSAGE 050030Z. INFORMATION HEREIN MAY BE
PERTINENT TO YOUR DELIBERATIONS ON MONDAY. IN THREE PARTS.

I. OUR CAPABILITIES TO CARRY OUT A PLAN OF POSITIVE
ACTION TO PROTECT THE NATIVES WITHIN A 435 MILE RADIUS HAS BEEN
GREATLY ENHANCED BY PREPARATIONS FOR PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT
AND DETAILED EXAMINATION DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS. THE PLAN
APPEARS FEASIBLE. ITS 100 PERCENT EFFECTIVENESS CANNOT BE
ASSURED BECAUSE WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THE REACTIONS OF EACH
INDIVIDUAL NATIVE TO THE INSTRUCTIONS.

A. EACH INDIVIDUAL ISLAND OF EACH ATOLL HAS BEEN
PHOTOGRAPHED, POPULATED AREAS LOCATED AND HELICOPTER
AND BOAT LANDINGS PLOTTED. (ON THIS SURVEY, SEARCH
WAS MADE FOR SHIPPING. NONE SIGHTED.)

B. EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN SECURED AND IS BEING
READYED FOR 35 TEAMS OF TWO TO THREE PERSONS EACH
TO PROVIDE FOR TWO WEEKS RATIONS, SHELTER, WATER
AND TWO WAY COMMUNICATIONS FROM TEAM TO AIRBORNE
AIRCRAFT.

C. EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL BEING WITHDRAWN FROM
WEATHER SERVICE AND RADSAFE CONTINGENT, ALONG WITH
OFFICERS FROM TASK FORCE HEADQUARTERS AND TASK
GROUPS TO HEAD TEAMS GOING INTO ATOLLS. THEY WILL
BE ACCOMPANIED BY TRUST TERRITORY OFFICIALS IN CASE
OF MAJOR AREAS OF POPULATION (7-10), BY TRUST
TERRITORY EMPLOYEES IN OTHER CASES, AND BY INTERPRETERS

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PROVIDED BY TRUST TERRITORY IN THE REMAINDER. PLAN TO HAVE ALL THESE PERSONNEL HERE BY THURSDAY FOR TRAINING AND BRIEFING UNTIL SUNDAY, 13 APRIL.

D. BETWEEN 14 AND 18 APRIL, THE BOXER AND TWO LSDS WITH HELICOPTERS AND SMALL BOATS WOULD PLACE TEAMS ON 35 ATOLL AND ISLAND POPULATION CENTERS, CONTACT NATIVE CHIEFS AND SUB CHIEFS, BRIEF THEM ON HAZARD AND MAKE THEM RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING WORD TO THEIR PEOPLE AND ASSURING PRECAUTIONS WERE TAKEN. TEAMS WOULD STAY WITH THEM, AND TEAM MEMBERS WOULD OBSERVE SAME PRECAUTIONS. NATIVES WOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO KEEP THEMSELVES SHIELDED FROM PROPER DIRECTION FROM 0100 TO 0500 BEGINNING FOLLOWING SUNDAY, 20 APRIL. BOXER WOULD RETURN BIKINI. LSDS WOULD REMAIN IN VICINITY AILINGLAPALAP AND LIKIEP. AFTER SHOT, TEAMS WOULD BE COLLECTED AND RETURNED.

E. SINCE WEATHER (WIND STRUCTURE) IS NOT RPT NOT AS CRITICAL FOR THIS DETONATION AS FOR OTHERS, WB 50 AND SA 16 AIRCRAFT CAN BE AVAILABLE FOR SEARCH AS WELL AS P 2 V'S. WE WOULD HOPE TO BE AWARE OF ANY SHIPPING APPROACHING THE AREA.

F. INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE PRINTED IN MARSHALLESE AND DISTRIBUTED BY TEAMS.

G. A HIGHLY QUALIFIED OPHTHMOLOGIST WILL BE AVAILABLE HERE TO INSTRUCT TEAM MEMBERS IN SYMPTOMS AND FIRST AID TREATMENT OF EYE BURNS, AND MEDICAL TEAMS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO GO TO ANY AREA WHERE TROUBLE IS REPORTED, OR TO EVACUATE PATIENT HERE IF SUCH ACTION INDICATED.

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II. MY EARLIER ESTIMATE OF SITUATION RELATIVE TO JOHNSTON ISLAND APPEARS REASONABLY ACCURATE. THE TEAM VISIT RESULTED IN MORE DETAILED COST ESTIMATE. MORE IMPORTANT POINTS:

A. MONEY SPENT HERE NOT RPT NOT RECOVERABLE, 1.8 MILLION.

B. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS OF MOVING ALL PROJECTS TO JOHNSTON ESTIMATED ON 1.97 MILLION.

C. ALL CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, TRAVEL, ETCETERA, 3.15 MILLION.

D. TIME ESTIMATE, 5 TO 7 MONTHS.

E. I HAD NOT RPT NOT KNOWN THAT SAND ISLAND WAS DESIGNATED AS BIRD SAFCTUARY. THIS NOT RPT NOT TROUBLESOME ON JOHNSTON, BUT CLEARANCE ON THIS POINT WOULD BE REQUIRED.

III. A. WITH RESPECT TO YOUR QUERY ON SERIOUS EYEBURN IN THE OUTER ZONES, THE INTENT IN OUR STUDY WAS TO IMPLY THAT "SERIOUS" MEANS 50 PERCENT OF RABBITS WOULD HAVE A DEMONSTRABLE BURN IN THE RETINA. IF THE BURN WERE IN THE AREA OF CENTRAL VISION, IT WOULD CONSTITUTE A SERIOUS DISABILITY, POSSIBLY PERMANENT. IF IT WERE 10 PERCENT OFF THE LINE OF CENTRAL VISION, THE IMPAIRMENT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE SERIOUS AFTER SOME TIME BECAUSE OF ADAPTATION, BUT WOULD BE VERY NOTICEABLE FOR SOME PERIOD.

B. MARRIAGE OF TEAK WARHEAD ACCOMPLISHED TODAY. DECISION TO FIRE ORANGE FIRST WOULD MEAN ONE DAY DELAY FOR EACH DAY UNTIL DECISION REACHED, TODAY INCLUDED.

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C. IF WE FIRE EITHER SYSTEM HERE, I FEEL IT
MOST IMPORTANT THAT THE SHOT BE TEAK FOR REASONS
ALREADY COVERED IN MY EARLIER MESSAGES.

BT

05/2005Z

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