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OBSERVER PARTICIPATION IN OPERATION REDWING

Note by the Secretary

The General Manager has requested that the attached exchange of correspondence with the Chairman, MLC, be circulated for the information of the Commission.

W. B. McCOOL
 Secretary

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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 31, 1955

Dear General Loper:

This is to acknowledge your letter of September 30, 1955, concerning a Congressional request for observer participation at the next atomic test. Your interim reply to Congressman Gray is noted. Inasmuch as Operation REDWING has not as yet been approved by the President and no public announcement of the Operation has been made, it is not advisable at this time to take final action on this request.

On the basis of the action taken on similar requests of this nature during past operations, there is little likelihood of a favorable reply. The critical nature of the availability of space within the Pacific Proving Grounds and the limited facilities for housing make it difficult to accommodate even properly cleared personnel. However, information along these lines cannot be given to Congressman Gray at the present time.

I will be happy to discuss with you the views of the Department of Defense on a general observer policy for Operation REDWING.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Lewis L. Strauss
Chairman

Honorable Herbert B. Loper
Chairman, Military Liaison Committee
to the Atomic Energy Commission

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Requests from the Committees on Armed Services.

As a partial basis for the establishment of a general policy, I have requested the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the attendance of foreign observers. Upon receipt of their reply I will be prepared to discuss with the Commission present joint policies concerning observers at the next atomic

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Herbert B. Loper
Assistant to the Secretary
of Defense (Atomic Energy)

Honorable Lewis L. Strauss
Chairman, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission

*Secretariat Note: On file in DMA

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