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Folder Desert Rock (Upshot/Knothole)

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Mr. Carroll L. Tyler, Manager
Santa Fe Operations, USAEC
P. O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Tyler:

A preliminary meeting was held on 3 September 1952 at Headquarters Armed Forces Special Weapons Project regarding troop participation in UPSHOT-KNOTHOLE. Representatives from Headquarters, AFSWP, and the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force attended. Discussions were only in general terms and more formal considerations are to follow. These formal concepts and service requirements are to be forwarded by Headquarters AFSWP to the Atomic Energy Commission when received from the three Services. They are due in Headquarters, AFSWP on or before the 24th of September 1952.

Forwarded herewith are pertinent extracts of the preliminary report. Only items that are believed to be of general interest to you are included.

The following concepts for troop participation were expressed by the Army and concurred in by the Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps:

a. Camp Desert Rock will be activated by the Army as a Class 1 installation. Its capacity will be 2500 troops and 540 troop observers. Fifteen hundred service troops will man the camp. The Army will accommodate units from the other Services as was done at TUMBLER/SNAPPER.

b. The Army will appoint an Exercise Director to supervise and coordinate all troop participation.

c. The DOD will request participation in all shots. The scope of participation in each shot will vary depending upon the yield of the devices to be fired. The minimum effort at any one shot would be an equipment display.

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d. The DOD will request a 180 degree sector around ground zero for maneuvers. A 90 degree sector would be the minimum acceptable. An additional drop zone for airborne troops may be required.

e. The DOD will request freedom of movement as prescribed by the Exercise Director anywhere within the assigned sector. Troops on a volunteer basis will be dug in at progressively closer distances to ground zero with 3r of prompt radiation (plus 3r of residual radiation) or 5 psi overpressure as the limiting factor.

f. The DOD will request that the Exercise Director be responsible for radiological safety matters concerned with troops and troop observers. Each unit participating will have their own qualified radiological safety personnel.

g. The DOD will request that the Exercise Director be authorized to admit any military personnel to the test area that he sees fit.

h. The maneuvers will include the use of tanks, vehicles, helicopters, equipment displays, and animal exposure.

i. TAC and SAC units will probably participate in air maneuvers.

j. The code name for troop participation in Operations UPSHOT-KNOTHOLE will be "DESERT ROCK V".

k. The number and category of troop participants desired by the various Services are summarized below:

Service	Units	Number Persons	Number Troop Observers	Number of Shots	Total Number of Personnel
Army	2 BCT per shot	2500 per shot	500 1500 (Service Trps)	2 or more 1	6000 or more 1500.
Navy			100	4	400
Air Force	1 Flt Wing 1 Wing Maint.	150 150	200		500
Marine Corps	2 BCT	2100	100 50	1 3 or more	2200 150 or mor

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1. Troop and Observer Indoctrination:

The Exercise Director will conduct a briefing and indoctrination program for all Desert Rock participants. In order to provide the best qualified briefing personnel it was decided to invite instructor assistance from the various Atomic Defense Schools (Army, Navy, and Air Force).

The tentative indoctrination program is as follows:

Time (Hours)	Topic
2	Weapons Effects
4	Tactical Application of Atomic Weapons
1	Small Unit Protective Measures
2	Exercise Director's Indoctrination
1	Technical Displays
1	Medical Aspects
3	Critique

Please bear in mind that these are not firm but are intended only as information to indicate the present trend of planning for troop participation (DESERT ROCK V). We intend to keep you further informed as the plans develop more fully.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL T. PREUSS
Colonel, USAF
Director,
Weapons Effects Tests

Copy furnished:
Dr. J. C. Clark,
LASL

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