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SANDIA CORPORATION
SANDIA BASE, ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.

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T. B. COOK, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT, RESEARCH

MAY 22 1968

Albuquerque Operations Office
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
P. O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87115

Attn: Mr. S. A. Upson, Director
Non-Weapons Activities Division

Re: Feasibility Study of Beaver Concept

Ref: Memo, R. J. Cesaro, ARPA, to S. A. Upson, ALO,
dtd February 5, 1968, subj: Request for Feasi-
bility Studies of Special Purpose Conventional
Munitions (U)

Dear Sir:

As requested in the referenced memo, Sandia Corporation has been communicating with ARPA regarding Southeast Asia problems. The problem of rapid clearing of helicopter landing zones was introduced during these discussions. In compliance with a subsequent ARPA request, a scope of work has been prepared incorporating several possible methods for a solution to this problem into a feasibility study.

This feasibility study, nicknamed Project Beaver, involves the use of explosively accelerated steel segments to cut trees followed by debris clearance due to overpressure. The system would be air-deliverable by helicopter or other aircraft.

If Sandia Corporation undertakes this project, it will not interfere with scheduled (Phase III) weapons programs. This program should yield information that is applicable to future nuclear weapon programs. In view of the problems presently posed in Southeast Asia, our participation in this program should be in the national interest.

Sincerely,

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Original Signed By
R. S. CLAUSEN

EGKadlec:5611:ar

For and in the absence of
THOMAS B. COOK, JR.