SECRET

400727

WITHOUT ENCLOSURES
CONFIRMED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
AUTHORITY: DOE/SA-20
BY R.S. DEWEY, DATE: 6/8/79

JUN 8 1960

0-4633

Dear Mr. Herter:

In an exchange of letters on April 22 and May 16, 1960, between the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense, agreement was reached that a readiness state for nuclear test resumption at the Eniwetok Proving Ground need no longer be maintained because of the low probability that atmospheric testing will occur in the future.

The Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense have also agreed that the Eniwetok Proving Ground need no longer be retained by the Commission as a nuclear weapon test facility. However, the Department of Defense has indicated a continuing requirement for the Eniwetok Proving Ground as an addition to the Pacific Missile Range. We intend, therefore, to proceed with negotiation of a written agreement to transfer the custody of the Eniwetok Proving Ground from the Commission to the Department of Defense. We would intend to include in this agreement recognition in principle that the Atomic Energy Commission could use the Eniwetok Proving Ground for any activity which it might later need to conduct there, if accomplished without cost to the Department of Defense, and without interference with essential activities of the Department of Defense there. An appropriate announcement to public news media is in preparation and will be coordinated with your Department prior to release.

Copies of the correspondence referred to above are enclosed for your information. I am also informing the Secretary of Interior today of this planned transfer of the Eniwetok Proving Ground.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
When separated
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE
BY [illegible] DATE 1/31/77

SO&CC: Addressee
CC: GM
CC: Chairman
CC: OGC
CC: DIS
CC: Test Reader
CC: Reader
CC: Locator
CC: DMA Files CC: Test Pending

MILITARY RESEARCH & APPL.

JUN 1 1960

Sincerely yours,

Eniwetok Proving Ground

When separated from enclosures, handle this document as Unclassified ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Insert proper classification)

Chairman

CO	dc
CA	/
INDEXED	/
FILED	dc

Enclosures:
Cy of 4/22/60 ltr fm Chairman to Gates Cy 2B
Cy of 5/16/60 ltr fm Douglas to Chairman Cy 2B

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

Mr. Keto
Col. Hood
DGM

Honorable Christian A. Herter
Secretary of State

SECRET

	Test	MA:Starbird	OGC	DIS	AGMA	GM
OFFICE ▶	Bankhead		Ferguson			
SURNAME ▶	Josephson SW/osephson/eje	[signature]	[signature]	DC	DD	[signature]
DATE ▶	6/2/60	6/3/60	6/3/60	6/3/60	6/6/60	6/7/60

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