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K. E. Fields, General Manager
THRU : H. S. Traynor and B. F. LaPlante

April 24, 1958

MILITARY RESEARCH & APPL. - 7 Hardtack

Morse Salisbury, Director
Division of Information Services

DRAFT JOTI ANNOUNCEMENT ON HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR OPERATION HARDTACK

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SYMBOL: ISP:CAP

Attached for your approval and/or comment is a proposed Joint Office of Test Information announcement of the health and safety precautions being taken in Operation HARDTACK. The release is similar to announcements issued in REDWING and PLUMBOB.

It has the approval of the Department of Defense, the Divisions of Military Application and Biology and Medicine and takes into account comments of JTF-7.

The announcement will raise some questions which it does not answer. It discusses health and safety precautions taken to minimize the hazards of fallout from a series that has been understood by the public to be primarily for the purpose of testing clean weapons; yet it says nothing reassuring about the contamination expected to result from this test series as compared with that from other series or the total yield as compared with that of other series. Also, no detail is included about clean weapons. We have discussed with the Division of Military Application the possibility of making some positive and detailed statements about the testing of clean weapons and about total fission yield expected from the series and have concluded that no useful statements can be made. Of the 28 scheduled detonations in HARDTACK, 23 are expected to be less than 90% clean. Also the total fission yield, it is predicted, will be greater than that of the REDWING series.

However, there are strong reasons for releasing the attached statement: we have issued such a statement at REDWING and its absence in HARDTACK would be noted; it will ward off a good many queries and reply to those we have had from a Congressman and others expected; it has been strongly recommended by SAN; and the Office of Special Projects has asked for such a statement for use by the Department of State.

(cont'd)

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC DOE 5650.2, III-12
Jose Diaz 5/19/81
REVIEWED BY DATE
Wilbur Strauser 5/19/81
REVIEWED BY DATE
BY: W. Tench 6/16/87

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This document [illegible] as defined in the Atomic [illegible] or the [illegible] of its contents in [illegible] manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited.

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On balance, we believe the statement should be issued. As the first test is expected any day, we should release the announcement as soon as possible.

Attachment
1. Unclassified proposed release

CC: Brig. Gen. A. D. Starbird, DMA
Charles L. Dunham, M.D., B&M
B. F. LaPlante, GMSA

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