IN REPLY

REFER TO:

LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY
(CONTRACT W-7405-BNG-36)

P. O. Box 1663 LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

October 23, 1952

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ASSIFICATION CANCELLED

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Brig. Gen. E. E. Pields, Director Division of Military Application. U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Nashington 25, D. C.

Bear General Fields;

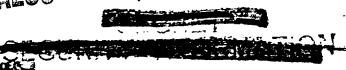
This is just a note to review the route by which we become confused, and finally straightened out I hope, on the question of the extent of future oversons test operations as decided in the conference held at Enivetok October 7.

I. Horris Bredbury was told by Jack Clark who obtained the information from Milton Rex that it had been decided at the conference that each future operation in the Enivetok-Bikini area be limited to not more than two shots of the mathton variety and two of the kiloton variety, perhaps as large as and further that budgeting was being made on the basis of a total of four shots.

- 2. We assumed that the above implied one large and one small shot on bikini and the same on Emiwetok. We could not understand the reasons for so stringent a limitation at Emiwetok and Morris eaked me to inquire about it while in Washington last week.
- 3. In my first discussion with you and Capt. Hayward last Tuesday or Wednesday you told me that the decisions were that the limitations were one large and one small shot on Bikini and one large, two manufactured and possibly an air drop on Eniwetok. This seemed entirely reasonable to me, and I assumed that we had just got our original information mixed up over the verbal route. The next day you asked me if I had this information straight and repeated

what you had said the day before.

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- 4. On returning to Los Alamos I naturally informed Jack Clark of this understanding. He was very surprised that he could have been so wrong. Later that day, last Monday, Reube Cole same into Clark's office and confirmed the original story that the October 7 decision had been to limit any one series to two large and two small shots. Moreover, the FY 1954 budget proposals were based upon this assumption.
- here been tentatively talking of one large and two small shots for Castle, and we have understood that Whitney was likely to propose two shots at least one of which was large. Therefore, I called you on the telephone but due to connection trouble you had gone to Mr. Dean's office by the time I got through and I spoke with Chick Enyward instead. Chick confirmed your original statement to me as indicated in 3. above but also confirmed that the budget proposal: made to the Bureau of the Budget was based upon a maximum of four shots. This seemed contradictory to me, especially in view of our conversation just prior to your meeting with the Bureau of the Budget. However, Chick assured me that he believed the dollars requested would cover more than four shots. He specifically advised that we should not limit our planning for Castle by considering a ceiling of two shots to be proposed by Los Alanos if more seemed advisable and justifiable.

The result of all this is that LASL is proceeding upon the assumption of limitation of LASL participation in Castle to one shot in the megaton range, two tower or ground shots in the kiloton range up to approximately the size of the s

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Incidently, Morris plans to discuss with Al Graves and other members of the Task Force at Eniwork the merits and discoventages of a plan to divide overseas operations into two distinct parts as far as scientific work is concerned. Thus, IASL would supply a scientific director to the Task Force for Eniwork operations which would involve exclusively IASL tests. Any work done there by Whitney personnel would be done as if Whitney were a subcontractor to IASL, such as ERL or E. G. and G. For Bikini operations, the Task Force Commander would have a different scientific director supplied by Whitney and the IASL-Whitney relationship would be exactly reversed. The same Task Force, construction contractors, etc., could easily be used at both places. The only problem would be to fix time schedules and this should be easy. Please understand that this is not a formal proposal but just an idea Horris is investigating to see if it might have some merit. We have not discussed it with Whitney personnel nor anyone else yet.

My visit to Washington last week was not only pleasant but very profitable for the Laboratory and the hospitality of DMA was up to its usual high standard.

Origina Signed DAROL FROMAN

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M:P

Distribution:

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EA - Cerroll L. Tyler

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