SAVE

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT
P. O. Box 2610
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

REFER TO FILE No. _____

THIS DOCUMENT CONSISTS OF 2 PAGE(S)
NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES, SERIES A

27 April 1945.

SPECIAL RE-REVIEW
FINAL DETERMINATION
UNCLASSIFIED, DATE: 8/21/80

322 Trinity
Measurements
MED
OPPIE
Bx. 13

VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
JFW 8/13/80
LMR 7-17-79
12-17-84

Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer,
P. O. Box 1663,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

My dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

During my visit to Los Alamos on 18 April 1945, I went over Dr. Tolman's report on Program for Trinity Test, dated 17 April 1945, and also discussed the plans for the test with him and with Dr. Bainbridge. I have the following remarks to make in connection with this work.

1. In carrying out the final test it appears to me necessary for legal protection to have a few measurements on earth shock made at sufficient distances from the zero point to demonstrate clearly the harmful effects to structures could not have resulted from earth shock at greater distances. Information as to the distances at which such measurements should best be made can be obtained from the preliminary 100-ton test. In addition it is my understanding that Dr. Bainbridge is planning to obtain geophysical advice on this problem from Professor L. D. Leet of Harvard University. This has my approval, subject of course to security clearance which is now being processed.

2. In addition, it also appears to me necessary to have measurements which will demonstrate clearly the limits beyond which air blast damage could not have resulted. Perhaps paper gauges placed at sufficient distances would be helpful for this purpose.

3. With regard to possible toxic effects from the products of the explosion, I am in agreement with your plans to send out radio equipped cars provided with instruments for measuring alpha particle and gamma ray intensities in outlying regions. On the basis of these measurements, evacuation of inhabitants could be carried out if necessary. I am asking General Farrell to be present at these tests and to supervise the aspects where military action is desirable or might be essential.

4. In arranging for the final test, I wish for reasons I will

FINAL DETERMINATION
UNCLASSIFIED
L. M. Redman
[redacted]
July 14, 79

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

OK LMR 7/17/79
CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973

be pleased to discuss with you on the phone, to have your written opinion as to the safety of the proposed test from the points of view of earth shock, air blast and toxic effects. I understand your opinion is identical with mine.

Sincerely yours,

L. R. GROVES,
Major General, USA.

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U. S. C., 31 and 32, as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

2252 9354

OK LMR 2/17/79
CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973