

NMB-U

635  
Castle

DIR-801

23 January 1953

CLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Brigadier General K. E. Fields  
Director of Military Application  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

Via: C. L. Tyler, Manager, Santa Fe Operations

CRM FILE BC  
DD 64834

Dear General Fields:

Reference is made to Colonel Butler's letter of January 8, 1953, MAT:KFC, regarding planning for the CASTLE operation. We completely agree that no realistic target date can be set for this operation until after the UPHOT-KNOTHOLE sequence. However, we have recently set 15 February 1954 as our best present guess for the first CASTLE detonation, and believe that this is fully in accord with the over-all philosophy described in that letter.

Further reference is made to General Fields' letter of January 8, 1953, MAT:HDG, and forwarded by Mr. Tyler's letter of January 16, 1953, T-6. While we do not object to three air drops being chosen as the planning number in the event of a possible Fall, 1953 DOMINO operation, we would have been inclined to suggest a slightly larger number (perhaps five) in view of the relative ease and cheapness of such tests and in the event the AEC



Furthermore, if scientific developments at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory should indicate the necessity of a Fall, 1953, overseas test operation on an emergency basis, our recommendation along this line would include due consideration of the scientific support required of us or our contractors to provide the necessary diagnostic or other data. As you are aware, we regard this contingency as extremely remote.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW  
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Very truly yours,  
Original Signed by W. E. Bradbury

W. E. Bradbury  
Director

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- 1A and 2A - Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields Rec 105993
- 3A - C. L. Tyler Rec 105994
- 4A - F. C. Diluzio Rec 105995
- 5A - A. C. Graves
- 6A - M. G. Hollaway
- 7A and 8A - Files

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