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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

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RG 326 AEC SECRETARIAT DM 152 Date 7/6/82
COLLECTION 1951-58 TOP SECRET
BOX No. 208 Classified SECURITY INFORMATION
FOLDER MRA 7 CASTLE ENCLOSURE "B"

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory
P. O. Box 1663
Los Alamos, New Mexico

22 September 1953

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

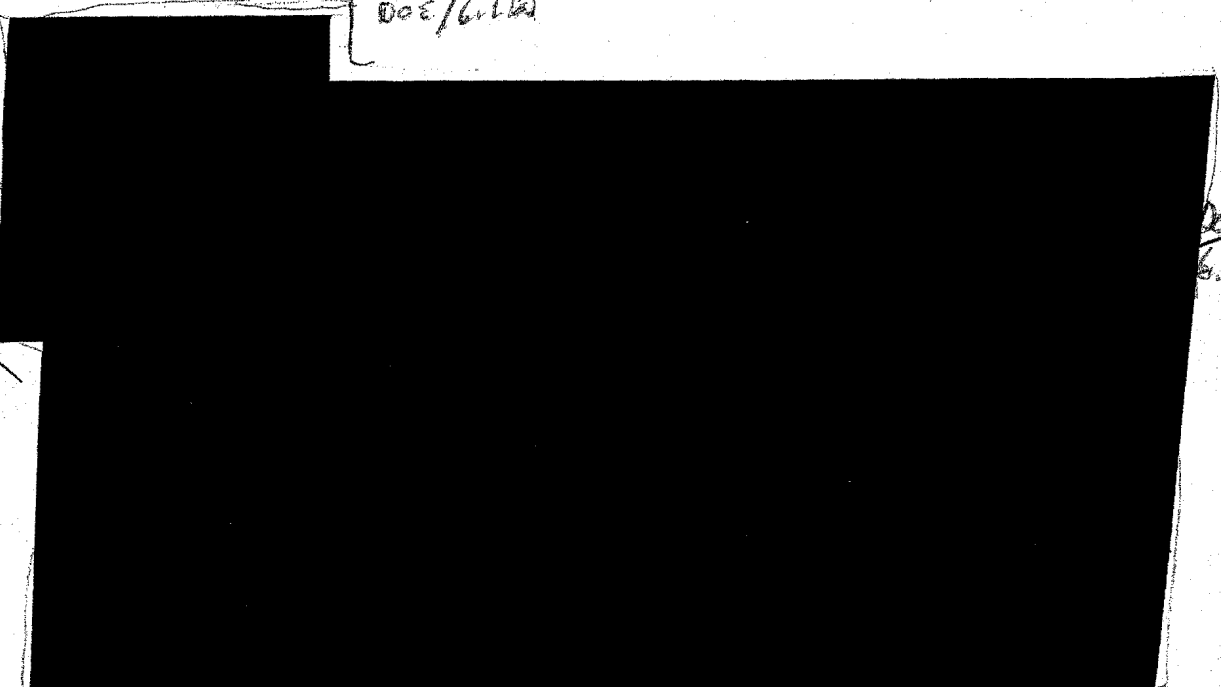
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By Authority of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
w. E. Day by James H. Weisenborn Date Oct 5, 1953
Per. James H. Weisenborn
Document No. CX-836-28C

Dear General Fields:

As you are aware, extended discussions regarding the CASTLE operation took place at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory on 17 and 18 September between representatives of Holmes and Narver, the Eniwetok Field Office, the Santa Fe Operations Office, the San Francisco Operations Office, the Radiation Laboratory (Livermore), the Oak Ridge Operations Office, Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Company (ADC Plant), Joint Task Force 1, the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, and your office. As the result of these discussions, conclusions were reached regarding the proposed content and schedule of the CASTLE program which it is the purpose of this letter to report.

The LACL proposes to test at CASTLE four thermonuclear systems of which certain details are given in Appendix I. These systems are as follows:



DOE/6112

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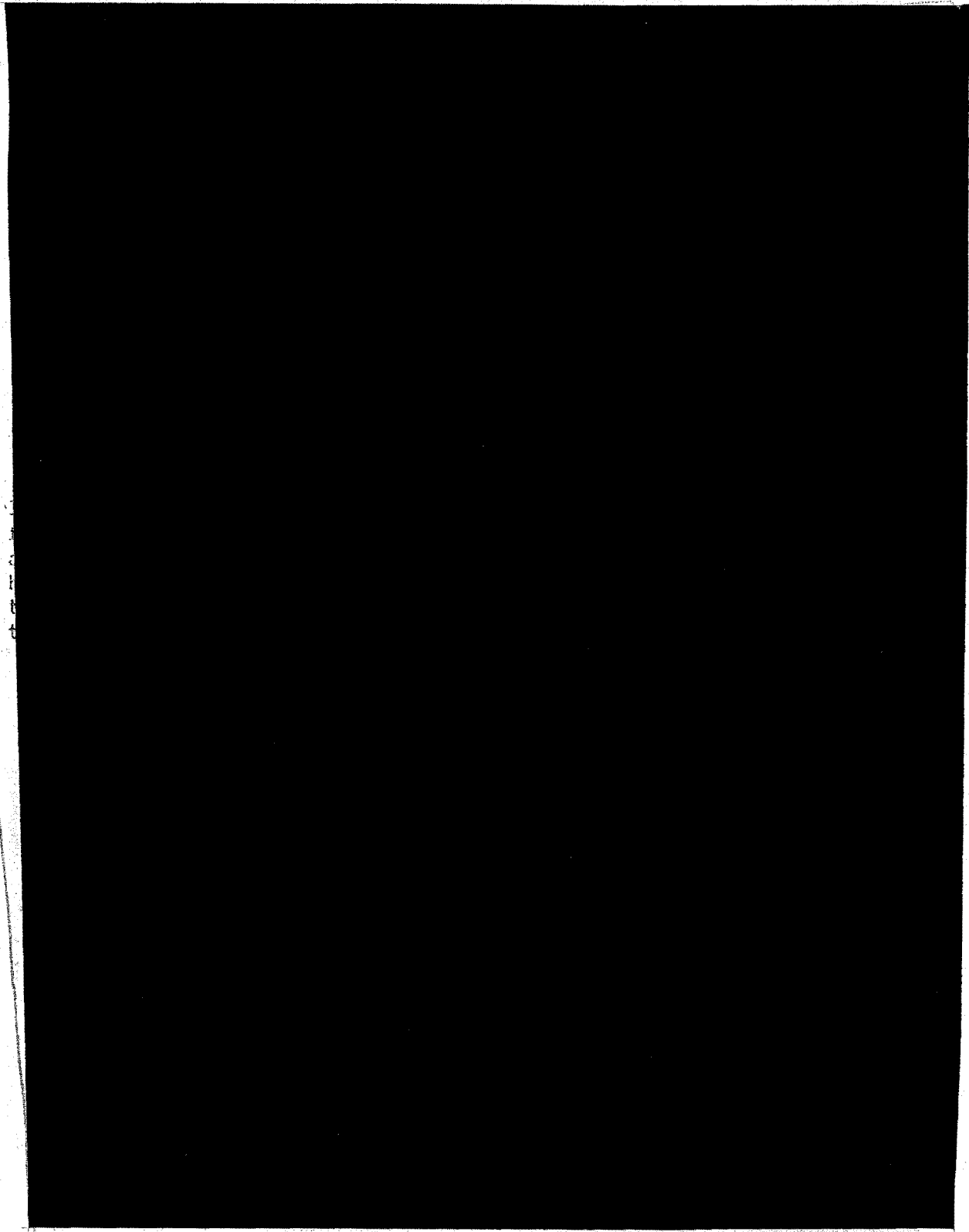
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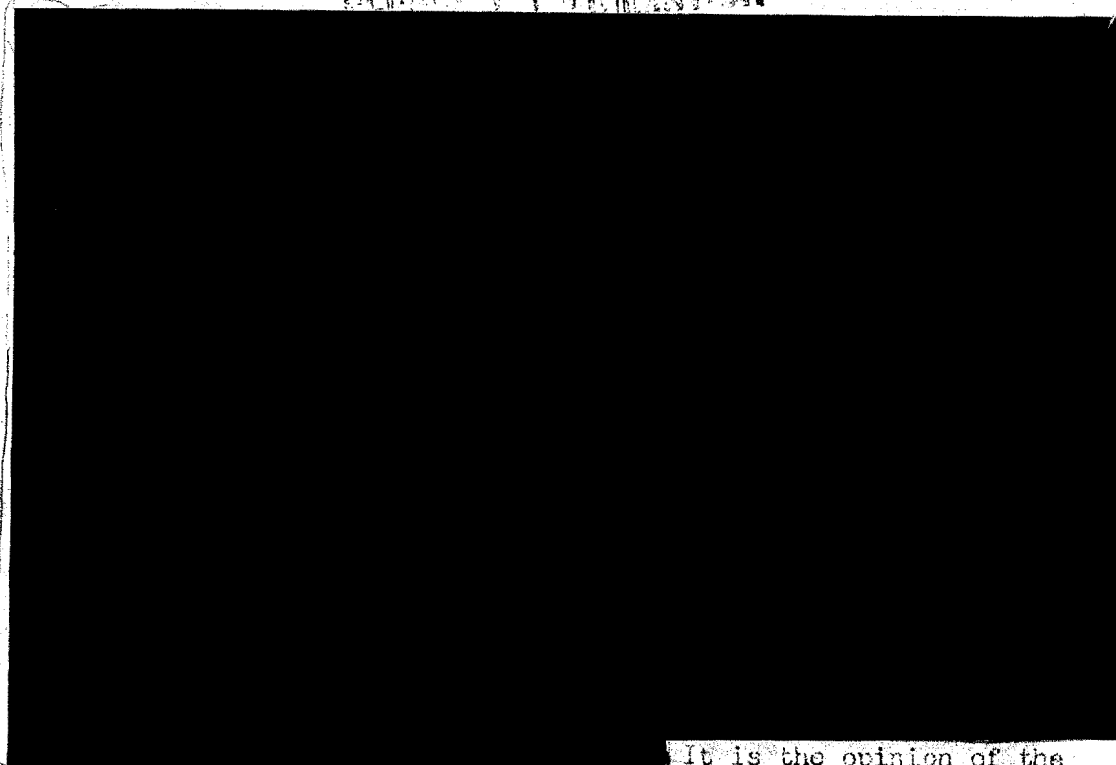


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DOE
G. (a)

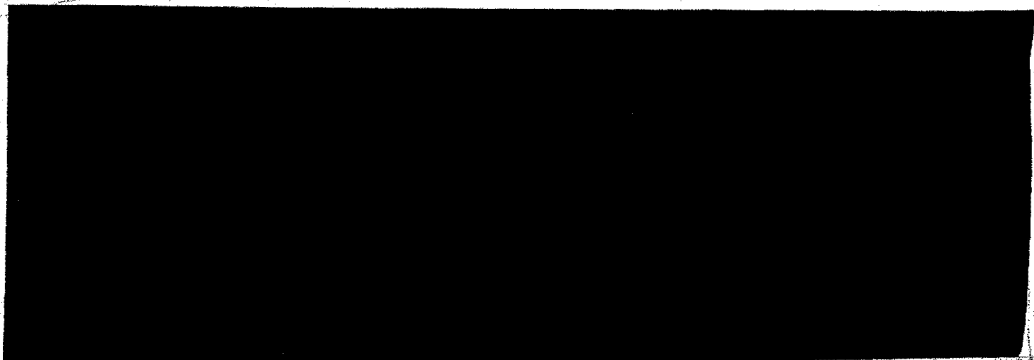
It is the opinion of the
LSSL that this field will increase rapidly in importance and
that it is essential to obtain experimental information thereon
at the earliest possible date.



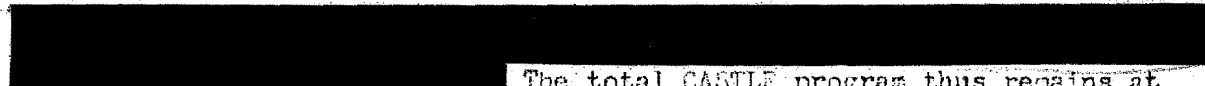
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G. (a)

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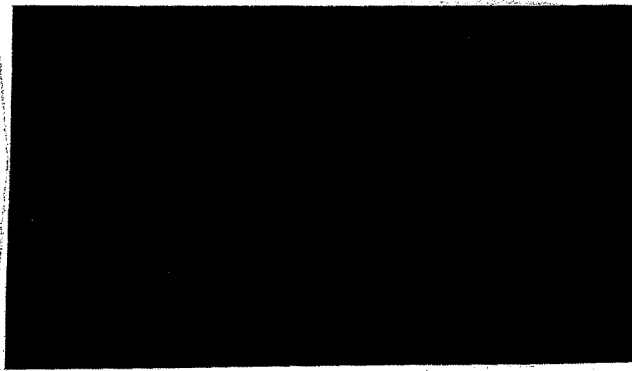


DOE
6.1 (a)



DOE
6.1 (a)

The total CASTLE program thus remains at six shots. The schedule of these six shots was established, after a thorough review of the status of construction at Eniwetok-Bikini, the rate of availability of Li⁶, the design and fabrication status of the test shots, and the logistic problems of the Task Force, as follows:

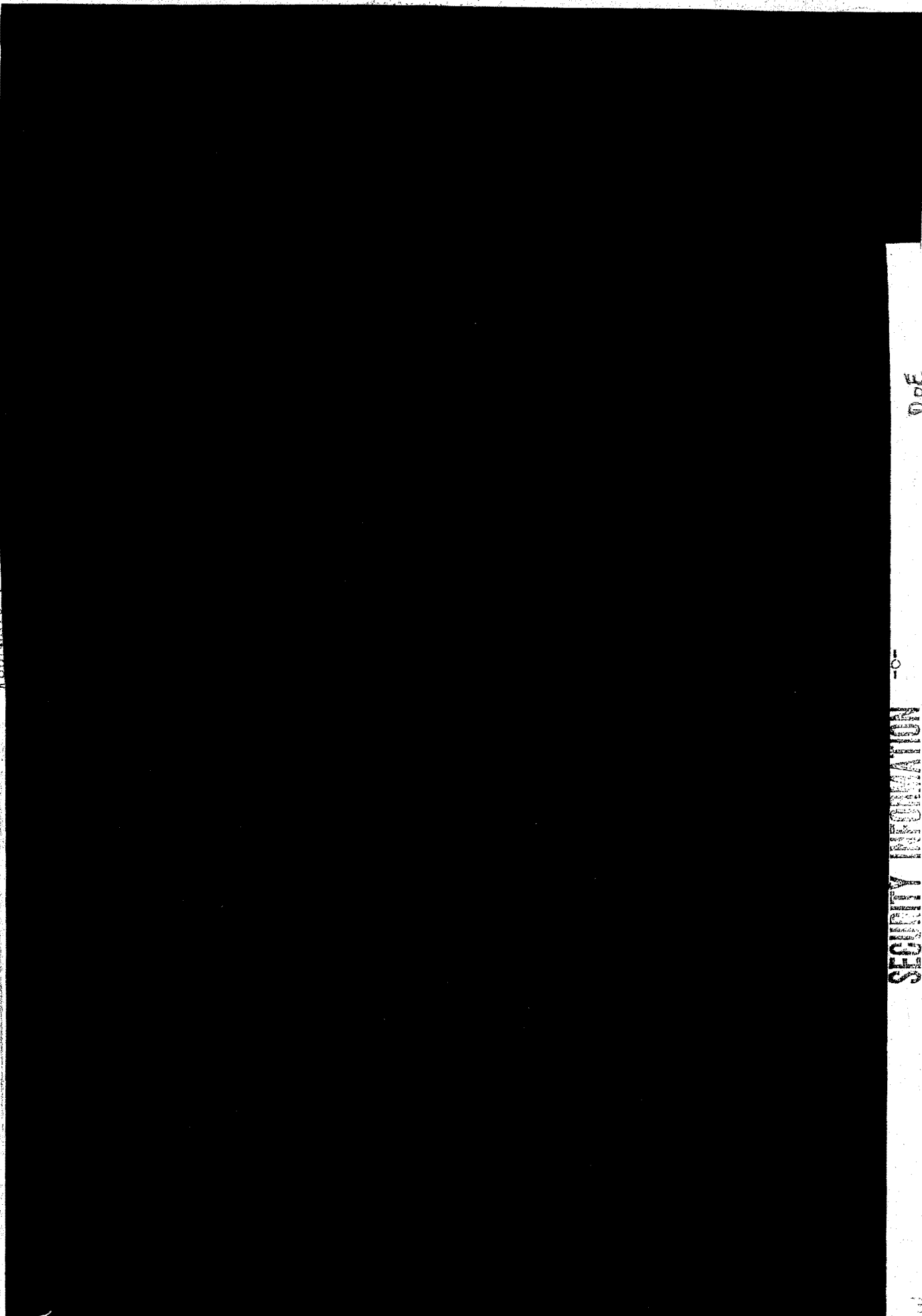


DOE
6.1 (a)

Pre-eminent among the factors which have led to the adoption of this schedule are the following:

1. The construction program at Eniwetok would require joint occupancy of test structures by the contractor and by scientific personnel for at least two weeks before shot date if an earlier schedule were to be attempted. Such joint occupancy (e.g. wiring going in by the contractor at the same time electronic equipment is being tested by scientific personnel) is believed to be completely impractical. From a security point of view, it is most undesirable to have construction workmen present during weapon assembly and placement operations. The proposed schedule eliminates (or minimizes) such joint occupancy.
2. The supply of Li⁶ for the proposed experiments should be complete (according to present predictions) for the proposed schedule at least 50 days in advance of actual shot date. Approximately 40 days is regarded as minimal time for shipment, fabrication, local

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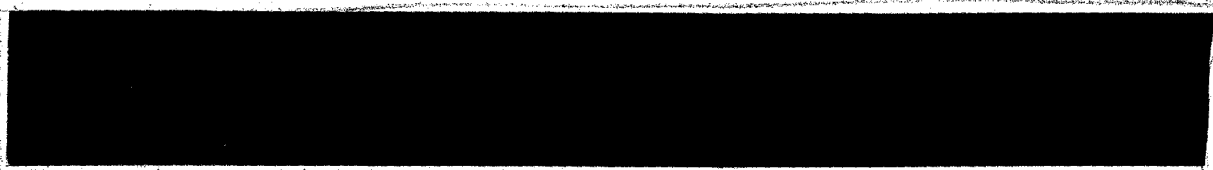


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DOE (b) (1) (c)

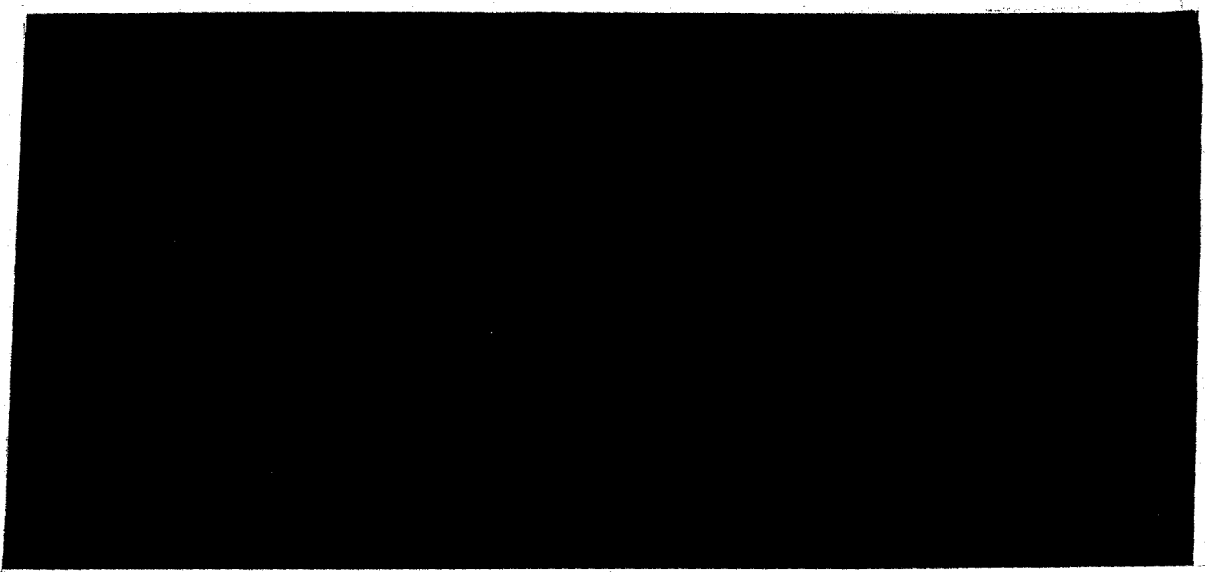
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APPENDIX (2)



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6.1(a)

The proposed production plan is based upon the following assumptions:



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6.1(a)

[Handwritten scribble]

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SECURITY INFORMATION

TABLE I

JAN.
FEB.
MAR.
APR.
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUG.
SEPT.

[REDACTED]

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6.1 (a)

* Includes 2 practice units.

[REDACTED]

DOE
6.1 (a)

It gives an a priori preparedness for both a wet and a dry weapon, as well as capabilities for both a cheap and an expensive (in terms of scarce materials) system.

[REDACTED]

DOE
6.1 (a)

[REDACTED]

DOE
6.1 (a)

TABLE II

[REDACTED]

DOE
6.1(a)

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUG.

SEPT.

[REDACTED]

DOE
6.1(a)

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NW: 9770268
BY DA 52 Date 7/5/04