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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

This document consists of 5 pages

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NW 972006A
By DM LRC Date 7/25/05

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By authority of U. S. Atomic Energy
Commission
Per Sgt B. Snapp, Jr. Date 10-28-53
Document No. EW 111-250-11A

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SECURITY INFORMATION

October 28, 1953

SINGLE REVIEW	
DOE ORDER 5650.28 0	
REVIEWED BY: C.	
NAME: C.R. Kaiser	
DATE: 5-24-95	

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 920

3:15 p.m. Tuesday, September 29, 1953

Present

Lewis L. Strauss
Henry D. Smyth
Thomas E. Murray
Eugene M. Zuckert

M. W. Boyer
Walter J. Williams
William Mitchell

Harold D. Anamosa

Also Present

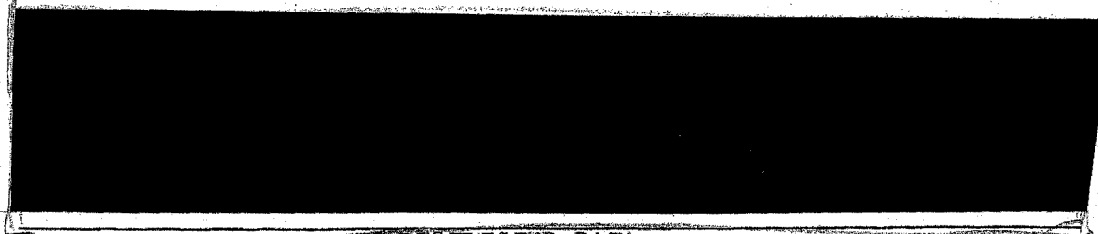
Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields
N. E. Bradbury
Marshall Holloway
Alvin C. Graves
Col. Vincent G. Huston
Col. E. T. Dorsey
Lt. Col. Paul. M. Butman
Paul C. Fine
John Mackenzie
Gerard Smith

REPOSITORY NARA - College Park
COLLECTION RG 326 AEC SECRETARY
BOX NO. 208 CLASSIFIED
FOLDER M2A 7 CASTLE

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
OR CHANGED TO S/PD/61
BY AUTHORITY OF Shelley R. 244
BY Clady DATE 3-7-84

CASTLE Program

General Fields reviewed briefly the discussions at recent meetings concerning the CASTLE program and presented for approval by the Commission a summary of the conclusions he believed had been reached by the Commission in these discussions.



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DOE
6.1(a)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

1. DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER)
 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED
 3. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO UNCLASSIFIED
 4. COORDINATE WITH: _____
 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
 6. OTHER (SPECIFY): _____

REVIEW DATE: 8/26/12
 AUTHORITY: EAAC EAO 1000
 DATE: 8/26/12
 ID REVIEW DATE: 10/20/12
 AUTHORITY: ADG
 NAME: W. M. ...

CLASSIFICATION: TOP SECRET - A2

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

NW 972006A
By DM LRC Date 7/25/05

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GROUP 1
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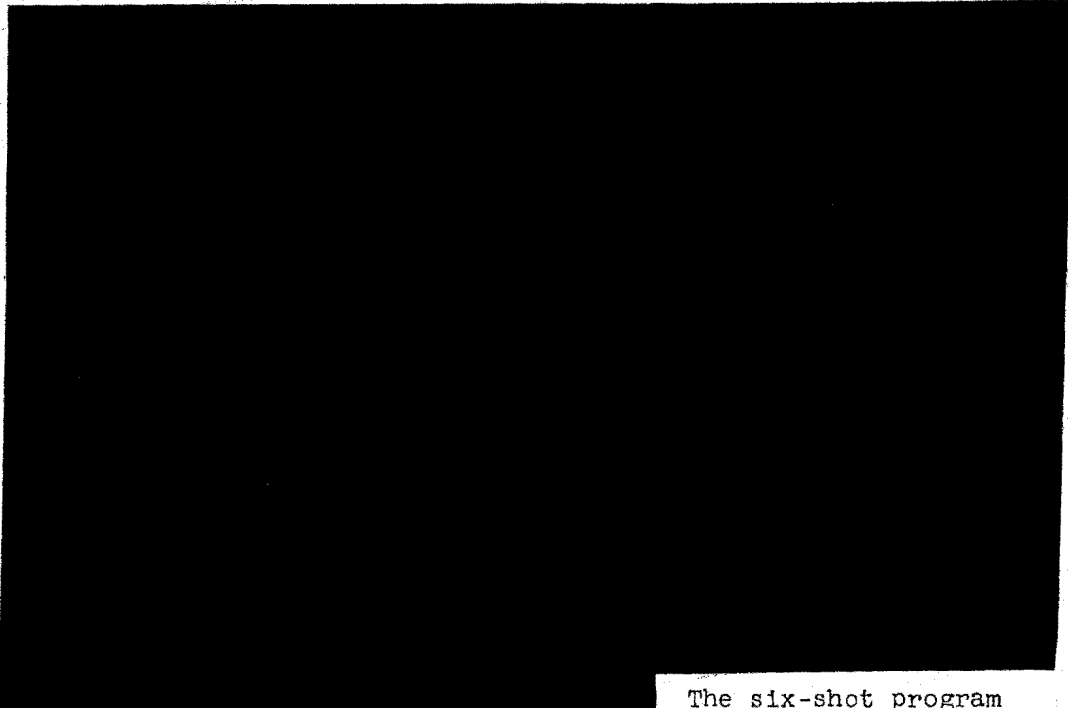
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██████████ He observed that provision of an emergency capability means not only that promising devices must be tested early, but that numbers of those successfully tested must be available. If the quantitative requirements are increased, more effort and money must be expended to meet those requirements.

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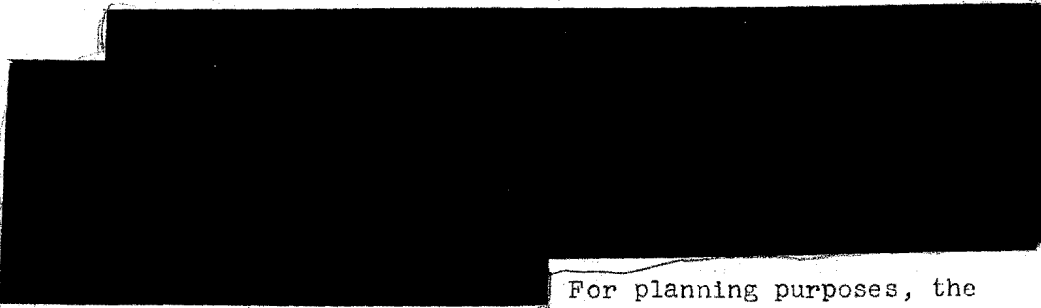


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The six-shot program for CASTLE anticipated two shots on barges at Bikini, with instrumentation provided in concrete structures on land.

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██████████ Dr. Graves commented that carrying out a seven shot program did not at this time seem much more difficult than a six shot program.

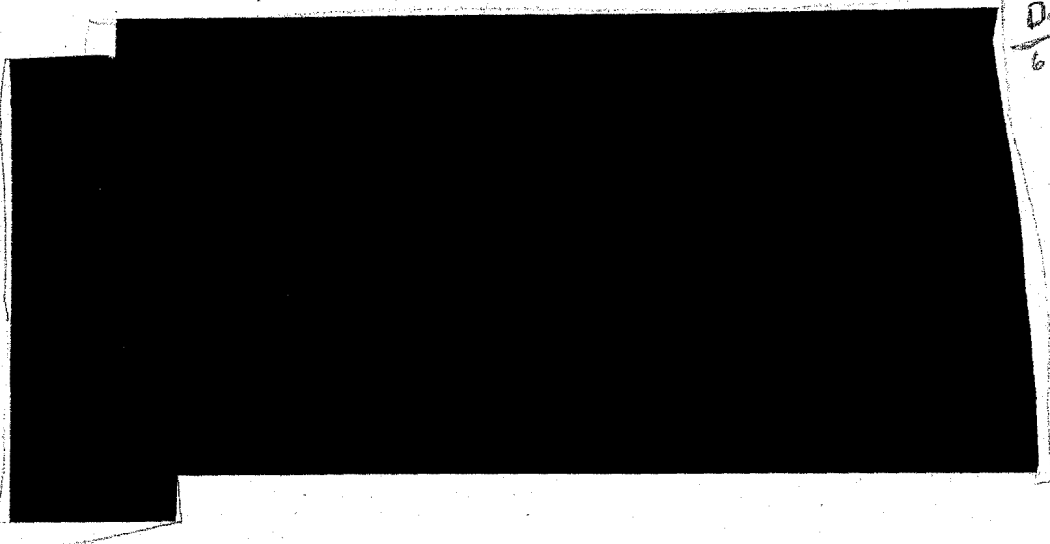


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For planning purposes, the

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Laboratory needed a decision on whether six or seven devices would be tested. If it were decided not to test more than six, then the desirability of one shot versus another must be debated. Dr. Graves pointed out that if the number of shots were reduced to, say, four, it would relieve considerably the strain on the test organization, but the difference between six and seven shots in terms of difficulty was not great. It was just a question of early planning for seven shots instead of six.



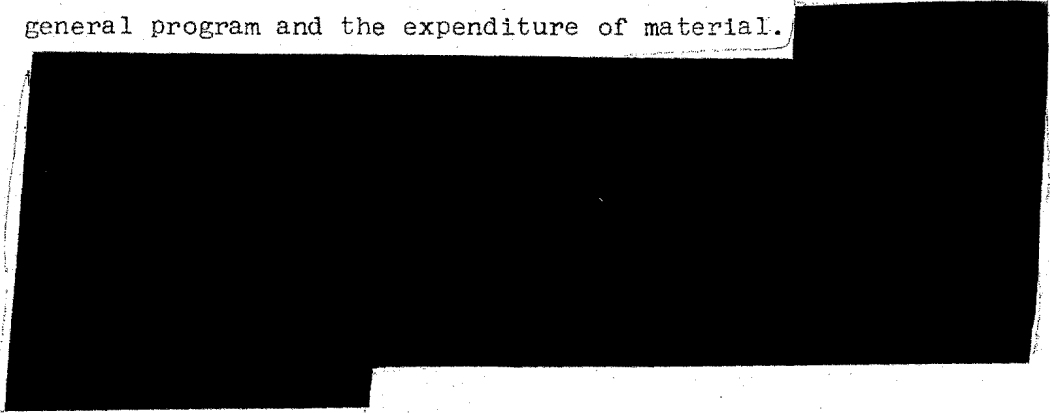
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Referring to the memorandum given the Commissioners earlier in the meeting, General Fields said he wished to know if the actions recorded there properly reflected the wishes of the Commission regarding the emergency capability, whether they were in agreement with the present plans for CASTLE, or whether an earlier test was desired. A staff paper recommending formal Commission approval of a CASTLE program was in preparation, and would be submitted to the Commission within the next day or two. (See AEC 597/23, subsequently circulated.) Mr. Strauss noted that the last item of the proposed action envisaged the possibility of a seventh shot, and pointed out that the AEC would have to justify the seventh

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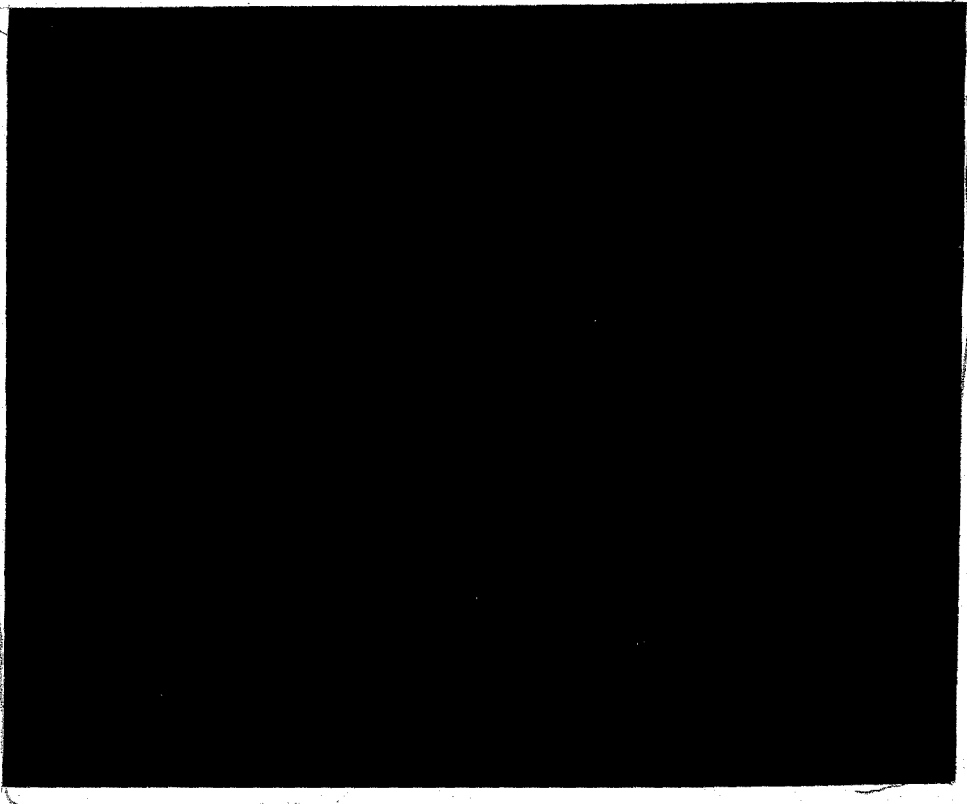
shot to the President in the request for approval of the general program and the expenditure of material.



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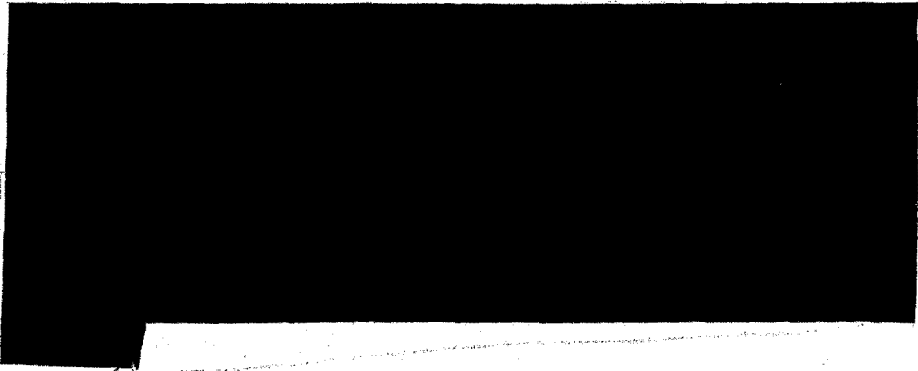
After further discussion, the Commission:

a. RESOLVED that establishment of an "emergency capability" at the earliest possible date is currently the most important objective of the thermonuclear program;



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i. DIRECTED that the CASTLE tests start March 1, 1954, or earlier if practicable; and

j. NOTED that planning for the CASTLE program is proceeding on the basis of six shots with the possibility of extension to seven shots, and that a specific CASTLE program will be submitted for approval within two weeks.

ROY B. SNAPP

Secretary

Approved by the Commission: Nov. 12, 1953

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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No. 1 of 2 Copies, Series A

DRAFT MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF COMMISSION ON SEPTEMBER 22, 1953

After the meeting was cleared, the Commission continued discussion of the thermonuclear program and requested General Fields to provide them as early as possible with the following:



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6.1(a)

2. Any compelling reasons against advancing the test date.

General Fields presented estimates of the numbers of thermonuclear weapons which are scheduled to be available in the emergency capability program.

The Commission considered AEC 458/13 in regard to the second ADP. (Mr. Boyer wrote down the Commission action on this.)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
SINGLE REVIEW AUTHORITY
DOE ORDER 5650-28
REVIEWER (AEC):
NAME: C. R. Kneier
DATE: 5-24-95

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
OR CHANGED TO SECRET
BY XXXXXXXXXX DATE 2-28-64

GROUP I
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~~RESTRICTED~~ 12 Oct 1953
U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
BY: REDfield - J. H. ...
DOCUMENT NO. 2423-1A

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DRAFT MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF COMMISSION ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1953

The Commission met in executive session at 10:30 A. M. on September 23, 1953, with the following persons present:

Mr. Strauss
Dr. Smyth
Mr. Murray
Mr. Boyer
Mr. Williams
Mr. Cook
Gen. Fields
Dr. Froman (LASL)
Lt. Col. Butman
Dr. Fine

Gen. Fields summarized the characteristics of the thermonuclear weapons related to the emergency capability program. He tabulated the number of emergency capability weapons as a function of time on the basis of various assumptions about which types would prove successful at CASTLE.

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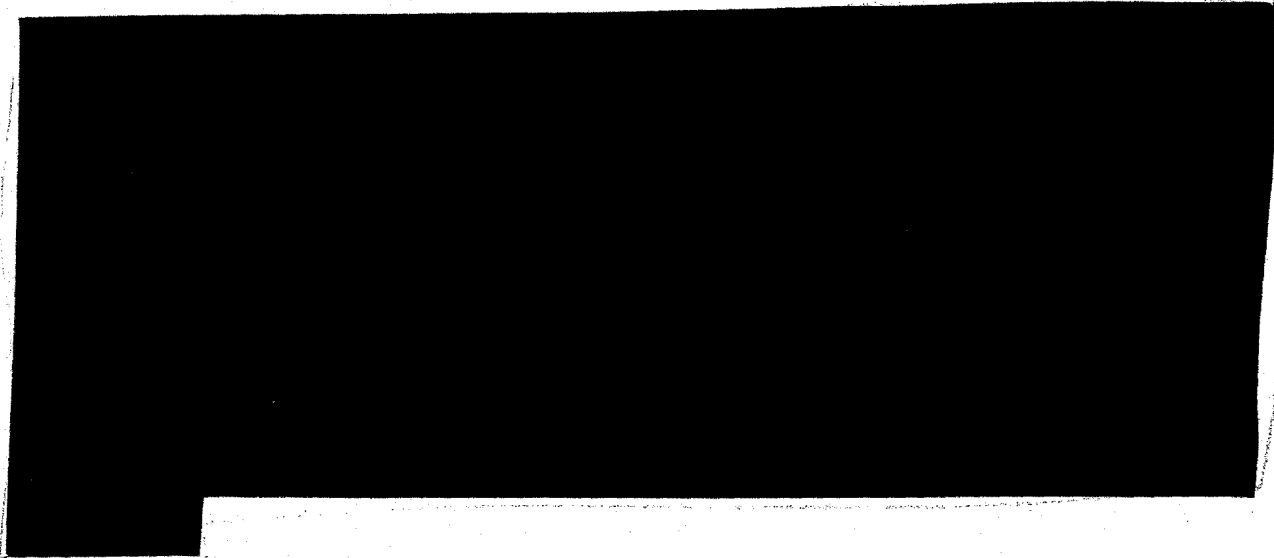
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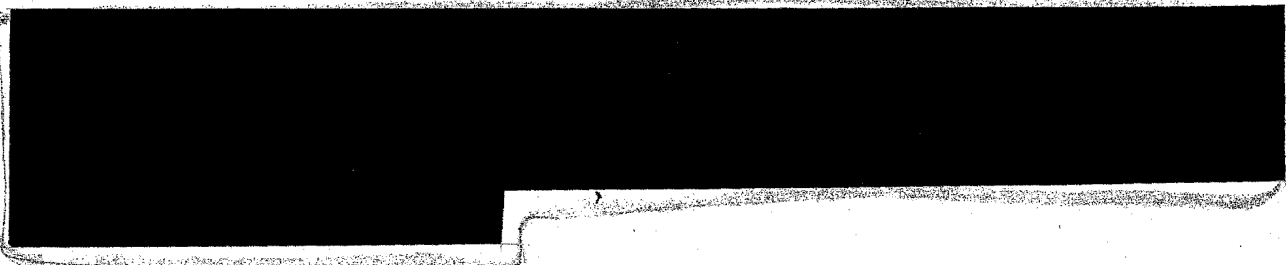
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The Commissioners also inquired about the status of the Air Force program for handling the logistics of liquid deuterium. Gen. Fields said that a number of the Cambridge Corporation dewar-refrigerator units constructed for Operation IVY are available for transportation of liquid deuterium by road and possibly by ship. Investigation is being made of the possibility of removing the unit with its motor-generator from the trailer on which it is mounted and thus permitting air transportation in a large cargo airplane (C-124). In addition, the Air Force has a program for the development of liquefiers, refrigerating units, and air transportable dewars for use at forward bases. Prototype equipment is scheduled for delivery during the first half of 1954.

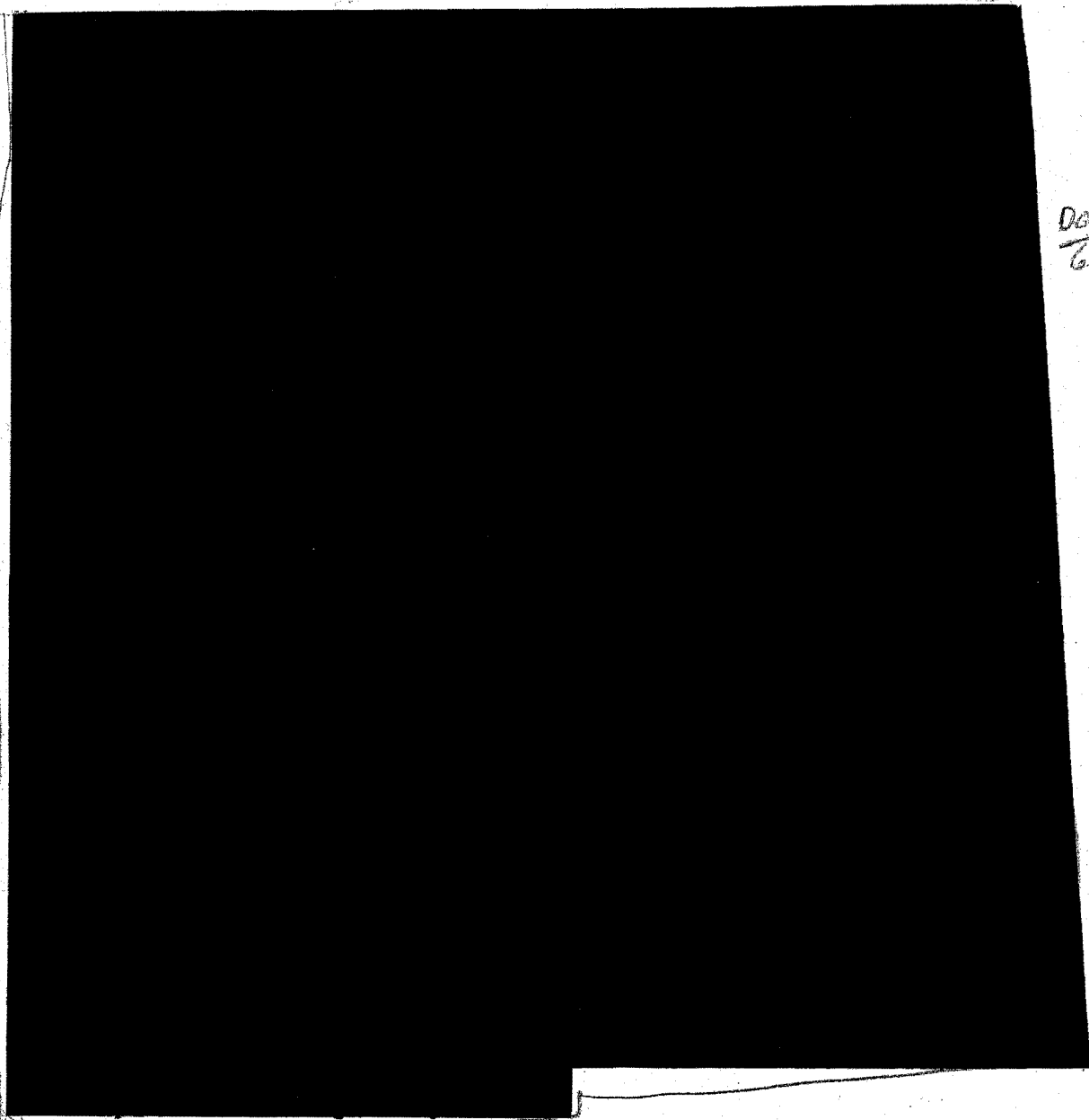


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The Commission took the following action:

Resolved that establishment of an "emergency capability" at the earliest

possible date is currently the most important objective of the thermonuclear program.



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Directed that the CASTLE tests start March 1, 1954, or earlier if practicable.

Noted that planning for the CASTLE program is proceeding on the basis of six shots with the possibility of extension to seven shots, and

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that a specific CASTLE program will be submitted for approval
within two weeks.

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