

DECLASSIFIED

Authority EO 10501

By AS NARA Date 7-7-07

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01975

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~SECRET/RESTRICTED DATA~~

INFORMATION

March 13, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Phil Odeen *PO*
SUBJECT: Observation of 1972 French Nuclear Tests *AK*

Secretary Laird has sent you a self-explanatory memorandum (Tab A) informing you that DOD plans to observe and collect weapons effects data from the three French nuclear weapons tests scheduled during May-August 1972. Two aircraft and a ship will be involved. The operation will be similar to that of last year. A request for final approval will be submitted in the routine manner with the April Reconnaissance Book.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5
MLN 00-01/13 per ISCAP Gr. May 1, 2009
By JSK NARA, Date MAY 30, 2009
[p. 1 of 3]

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~~FORMERLY RESTRICTED DATA~~
Unauthorized disclosure of information to
Admiralty, Navy, or other agencies
Results as provided only to Foreign
Intelligence Section 1042, Atomic
Energy Act 1954.

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Authority EO 10501

By AS NARA Date 7-7-07

NSC 1975

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

3 MAR 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Weapon Effects Data Collection from 1972 French Nuclear Tests

As in the last French nuclear atmospheric test series, DoD is planning to acquire weapon effects data from their tests late this spring. Intelligence indicates there will be three French nuclear detonations at their Pacific Test Facilities in the May through August time frame.

Observation of these events on a unilateral basis can provide radar data of great importance in assessing the performance of hardsite ballistic defense radar designs in a battle environment. Additionally, nuclear test sensors being developed for the 647 satellites can be calibrated.

The Director of the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA) will be the technical coordinator for the collection effort. Operational direction will be exercised by the JCS Joint Reconnaissance Center as during previous (NICE DOG) operations. Two aircraft and a range tracking ship have been designated as the scientific collection platforms. The Defense Nuclear Agency code name for the scientific effort is DIAL FLOWER.

The observations will be conducted independently of the French, except for flight safety considerations, and are therefore consistent with our obligations under the LTBT.

A request for final approval of NICE DOG/DIAL FLOWER will be submitted in the routine manner by the Joint Reconnaissance Center with the April Reconnaissance Book. This request will contain the operational and technical details associated with the collection operation.

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| DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW | |
| 1ST REVIEW DATE: <u>2-2-59</u> | DETERMINATION SYMBOL NUMBER: |
| AUTHORITY: <u>EO 10501</u> | 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED |
| NAME: <u>AS</u> | 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: <u>SECRET</u> |
| 2ND REVIEW DATE: <u>2-7-91</u> | 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO |
| AUTHORITY: <u>EO 10501</u> | 4. COORDINATE WITH: <u>DoD</u> |
| NAME: <u>AS</u> | 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELED |
| | 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED |
| | 7. OTHER: <u>2025 2-15</u> |

See Def Cont Nr. X-

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~~ATOMIC ENERGY ACT 1954~~

NUM 00-01/13 (p.2 of 3)

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
REGRADING; DOD DIR 12-0-80
DOES NOT APPLY

SPECIAL INQUIRY PERMITTED
NOT RELEASABLE TO THE PUBLIC