

~~SECRET~~

OLC 69-0787

19 September 1969

Mr. Edward Bauser  
Executive Director  
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy  
Congress of the United States  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Bauser:

This is in response to your request for Central Intelligence Agency advice on declassification of the document, "Policy and Progress in the H-bomb Program: A Chronology of Leading Events."

The U.S. conclusions on the bottom of page 12 of the document concerning [redacted] weapons information are unclassified. However, [redacted]

The paragraphs which we have paper clipped on the document are intelligence or CIA-related but we believe that, at this point in time, revelation of the information contained therein would not jeopardize intelligence sources and methods. We would request, however, that the references to the Central Intelligence Agency on pages 23, 35, 36, and 53 be deleted or rephrased in such a way as to avoid specific references to this Agency.

We have no suggested security deletions other than the above and those specified by the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense as noted on the copy which you forwarded to us.

Sincerely,

[redacted signature]

John M. Maury  
Legislative Counsel

Enclosure

[redacted enclosure]

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**Congress of the United States**

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 4, 1969

Mr. John M. Maury  
Legislative Counsel  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505



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Dear Mr. Maury:

At the request of Congressman Holifield, I am enclosing a copy of a 91-page chronology entitled "Policy and Progress in the H-bomb Program: A Chronology of Leading Events." This chronology was prepared by the staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in 1952 and was originally classified Top Secret Restricted Data.

In a letter dated September 21, 1966, the AEC advised the Committee that a classification review of the document resulted in it being downgraded to Secret Restricted Data. The letter also stated that if 134 deletions were made (which were listed in a separate attachment), the document would not contain RD or FRD information. The Department of Defense also reviewed this document and suggested several deletions.

It would be appreciated if you would have this document reviewed by the Central Intelligence Agency classification officials and advise the Committee as to what classified defense information other than RD or FRD is contained in this chronology and which must be removed in order to declassify this document.

Sincerely yours,

Edward J. Bauser  
Executive Director

Enclosure:  
91-page chronology  
on H-bomb

When separated from enclosure,  
handle as unclassified.

**SECRET**

**25 AUG 1969**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Policy and Progress in the H-bomb Program:  
A Chronology of Leading Events, dated  
1 January 1953**

Subject paper has been reviewed by this Division and paper-clipped paragraphs on the listed pages have been found to be intelligence or CIA-related. Most or all of these items are believed to be unclassified as of now; the information is quite old, and can have no effect on sources, methods, etc. However, we feel some comments are necessary on several of these items, as given below:

Pages 4, 24, 45 and 78 - Unclassified.

Pages 12, 13 and 38 - U.S. conclusions on bottom of page 12 concerning Fuchs' weapons information are unclassified.

[Redacted]

Pages 23, 35, 36 and 53 - These are all official CIA statements, or in one case a reference by JCAE to the lack of a CIA statement. This appears to raise a question of Agency policy on publication of official CIA statements and positions, and we would defer to the Legal Staff of the Agency for a recommendation regarding these quite old statements.

[Redacted]

Chief  
Nuclear Energy Division/SI

**Distribution:**

Orig. & 1 - forward  
2 - NED/SI

OSI/NED/[Redacted] :lhc:6707 (25 August 1969)

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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EXCERPT FROM JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 4 August 1969

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4.  In response to a call, met with Mr. George Murphy, Deputy Director, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and received from him a chronology on the decisions leading to the building of the hydrogen bomb for our review for security and sensitivity prior to publication by the Committee. Mr. Murphy advised that AEC and DOD have reviewed the document. No suspense date for completion of the security review has been established by the Committee.

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