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JOINT TASK FORCE ONE
Washington, D. C.

2 April 1946

RESTRICTED:

From: Commander Joint Task Force ONE.
To : All Personnel in Joint Task Force ONE.
Subj: Publicity Regarding Operation CROSSROADS.

1. All personnel in Joint Task Force One undoubtedly realize that one of the most important end results of our forthcoming operations lies in the confidence and acceptance of these results by all agencies of the War and Navy Departments, the Congress, other branches of the government, and the general public. Continuous efforts must be maintained to assure that the true scope, impartiality and joint nature of these tests are completely understood.

2. The general public must not obtain the erroneous impression that the sole purpose of the tests is to determine the effects of atomic explosives against naval vessels. The public must realize that the Army and the Navy and other branches of the government are cooperating in these tests, not with the intent to "prove" something, or to "disprove" something, or with the belief that the tests will once and forever establish whether there will be a great or small air force, navy, or ground force. The American public must not await the Bikini tests with such a misconception. Nothing is further from the truth. We seek nothing but information acquired by scientific methods. From this information it will be possible to improve our military and naval equipment and tactics in the unfortunate event of an atomic war. Much information of great value to science, medicine and industry will also be obtained.

3. With the concurrence of the Secretaries of War and Navy, the Joint Chiefs of Staff have centralized in me the control of all War and Navy Department publicity on CROSSROADS. I urge that all personnel in this task force, in all their relations with the public, be guided by the thoughts expressed in this letter.

/s/ W. H. P. BLANDY
Vice Admiral, United States Navy
Commander, Joint Task Force ONE

AUTHENTICATED:

D. R. Bergh
D. R. BERGH,
Flag Secretary.