Dear Glenn:

We have become aware of feasibility studies being made concerning the possibility of the development of a 100 megaton bomb capability for the United States.

While we do not have a basis for judgment as to the military necessity for such a bomb, there are a number of associated considerations related to arms control and disarmament policy which we believe should be taken into account at the time of the formulation of final recommendations to the President in connection with this matter.

These considerations, as we see them, deal largely with the effect on our negotiating position, political and psychological, and on the consistency of such a development with the principles and purposes of our nuclear capabilities, as set forth in Presidential and other statements.

We would be prepared to go into these considerations at the appropriate time and request that, if and when the military and technological requirements relating to the development of such a weapon have been further developed, a meeting of the Committee of Principals be held at which various aspects of the problem can be explored.

Sincerely,

William C. Foster

The Honorable
Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman,
Atomic Energy Commission.