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Press Release - Muskie Urges Release of 'Top Secret' A-Test Reports

Edmund S. Muskie

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MUSKIE News

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MUSKIE URGES RELEASE

OF 'TOP SECRET' A-TEST REPORTS

Senator Edmund Muskie today issued the following statement:

"I am disturbed by the White House's taste for Top Secret and Restricted data stamps on environmental policy reports.

Once again, as in the case of recommendations on the SST, important public documents are being shrouded from the public view.

The latest case involves the administration's failure to release information on the environmental impact of the underground nuclear test scheduled for October 2 on Amchitka in the Aleutian Islands.

I find this refusal inexcusable.

Once again the administration has forced interested citizens to seek in the courts the rights they should have to information that affects their daily lives. It has refused the request of members of Congress for the data that press reports say contain recommendations against the scheduled test.

I have said before that the Cannikin test is unnecessary in terms of our ABM program.

I have expressed doubts as to the environmental safety of the Cannikin shot.

Shrouding this information can only raise the level of suspicion and doubt as to the safety of this test.

The President should instruct his advisors to release immediately all data which does not affect the national security so that an informed public can participate in the final decision on this questionable action.

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