

Atomic Artillery Shot Proves Successful; Another May Be Set Off

The Monday morning atomic energy test at Frenchman's flat

in Nevada, in which the first atomic artillery shell was fired, concluded the original schedule of detonations in the 1953 Spring series at the Nevada proving grounds, Carrol L. Tyler, test manager, announced. In commenting on the series, the test manager said:

"The series has been successful and has resulted in our acquiring knowledge of great value to the programs of the Atomic Energy Commission, the Defense Department and the Federal Civil Defense administration. Data obtained will be of particular value to nuclear weapons development.

"Some 3,000 individuals, both military and civilian, in our test organization, and others in Desert Rock and Indian Springs Air Force Base, contributed directly to the success of the operation. Other thousands in governmental, educational and industrial agencies and installations elsewhere supported the series.

"It has been a long series and the Off-site effects such as flash, blast, and radioactive fallout have undoubtedly tried the patience and understanding of our neighbors in southern Nevada and southwestern Utah and in other states. By their understanding of our mutual problems and by their cooperation they have assisted greatly in our effort to advance the national security.

"To speed weapons development it may be found that one more test detonation later this spring or in early summer is advisable. In case such a determination is reached an announcement will be made."