

Triple Option H-Bomb

Washington
U.S. atomic weapons designers disclosed yesterday that they are working on a versatile new type of hydrogen bomb—a kind of triple-use weapon nicknamed the FUFO.

They revealed that an experimental model of the "Full-Fuzing Option Bomb" has been successfully tested underground at the nuclear proving grounds in Nevada. Further, they voiced confi-

dence they now could perfect operational weapons of this type if the Defense Department orders them.

The new, still experimental weapon is designed to be detonated either in the air, on the earth's surface, or by delayed action after penetrating the ground.

The aircraft's bombardier, by merely pushing a button or twisting a dial, would be able to select the method of detonation.

But it would be, in effect, a three-in-one weapon replacing in a single device three separate types of differently fuzed weapons which now must be carried by bombers of the Strategic Air Command.

The new FUFO would be designed to replace old hardware of the separate, three-variety kind in SAC's B-52 and F-111 bombers.

Details of the envisioned new weapon were obtained

by the Associated Press after a newsman noted a reference to it in the Atomic Energy Commission's annual report to Congress.

Major General Edward Giller, chief of the AEC's division of military application, supplied what details can now be revealed within the limits of national security.

He stressed that such three-way weapons, if even-

tually placed in SAC's bombers, would not change the firepower of the craft.

That is, a given bomb would have the same explosive power as an older one of the same nuclear components. But the bombardier could fire it in either of three ways, and thus a bomber craft would not have to carry so many different bombs for different possible purposes.

Associated Press