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OCB 337 Minutes. APR 1, 1951

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Agenda Item 3 -- Nuclear Energy - Special Report

(a) Discussed the paper, dated Feb 2, 1951, on Courses of Action to Achieve Better Understanding of the Varying Effects of Sizes and Types of Nuclear Weapons, deferred action, and referred the problem back to the

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working group to be kept for further consideration. Agreed that each Board member would advise his working group representative of his reaction to the paper and give him guidance on the subject in the interim. Working group.

(b) Noted Defense concern over the number of Federal agencies that were being proposed for action assignments in connection with the information program concerning nuclear weapons. Agreed that there is no definite conclusion as yet that such a broad and intensive program is necessary or even desirable at this time.

(c) Agreed that guidance of a specific nature is needed regarding what appropriate U. S. officials should say to allay public reaction apprehension due to ignorance of certain aspects of nuclear weapons and their effects.

(b) Discussed cable received from Ambassador Aldrich suggesting that a statement on radiation fall-out be made by Admiral Strauss during his visit to England later this month. Noted and concurred in the suggestion of Chairman of the AEC that it would not be appropriate for him to make a statement on this subject in any foreign country. Further noted that he will request, through State Department channels, that a public affairs officer meet him upon his arrival to assist in contacts with representatives of the press.

(c) Noted suggestion by the Director of the NSIA that further consideration be given to the possibility of making a public statement during Admiral Strauss' visit to the U.K., summarizing progress which has been made with respect to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

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Authority: ALC 4320
By: DWT - N.S.P. 11/1/80

Exec. Asst. to the
Executive Officer

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