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50 USC 3024
NSC E 88-1480
MK 82-38747
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OPERATIONAL RESEARCH BOARD
Washington, D.C.



R

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BOARD (NSC 6800)

SUBJECT: Follow-Up Report on Overseas Reaction to the
February 15, 1954 Statement on the Impact of
High-Yield Nuclear Weapons
(Reference: NSC 6800, 10/19/53)

The attached report is for the Board's information and is
dated May 27, and is scheduled for a Board meeting on May 31, 1954. It
complies with the NSC request for a report of the Overseas Reaction.

This report has been prepared by the OPR in reply to the
Nuclear Energy Project's and Board's Information request in
response to the Board's request dated March 10, 1954. It is
NSC, dated March 2, and signed by the Undersecretary of State,
that:

"a. (4) While still not a public information
specifically designed to counter unfavorable trends,
not required at this time, the program should be kept
under continuous review by the Overseas Reaction
Board, and a further report should be furnished to the
National Security Council at the end of six months.
Special attention should be given to the emergence of
neutralist trends which might lead to a decrease in
awareness of the effects of the effects of the atomic
explosion."

[Signature]
Director, OPR

Attachment:

Subject Report dated 5/27/54, OPR 54-11-114

OC: File No. 49

OPERATIONAL RESEARCH BOARD

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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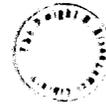
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thermonuclear weapons. The public's increased awareness of its effects has not been matched by an equal increase in the public's knowledge of the dangers. It is not considered possible to predict with any accuracy what conditions we should place on our allies (and the possible consequences of such) should large-scale nuclear war break out. It is, however, clear that the health effects of fallout, particularly those with respect to children,

Fear of Fallout from Tests.

3. In addition, there has been a general feeling of concern about the radiation effects of nuclear weapons tests. The first nuclear explosion at the Nevada Test Site in 1952, and the subsequent tests of the large-yield weapons developed in the subsequent years, had become discernible as the clouds of the Nevada Test Site were publicly reported. There were newspaper articles, news items, and tests by India, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union. Conference, as well as other international conferences, on the effects of radiation are even in progress. The effects of fallout from the tests until an international agreement of prohibition of nuclear weapons effect was effected in 1968. The United States was not the only country to have introduced a resolution regarding the effects of fallout from nuclear explosions.



Soviet Bloc Reaction:

4. In the Soviet Union, the Moscow newspaper, "Pravda", which is immune from destruction by atomic weapons, under the leadership of the Council, was confident that the new atomic bomb would be used to pains to belittle the possibility of a world war. The Soviet Union of broadcasts to its home front, which were being made, drew the amount of attention given to this subject.

B. CONCLUSIONS:

5. Since January 19, 1950, the Soviet Union has been working for cessation of nuclear arms, public recognition of the atomic energy, individual nuclear test (the first test being conducted in 1949) has occurred even in the face of a situation as a result of the atomic scientific circles.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS:

6. In view of the fact that the atomic energy and related work is being undertaken, at the first time, the following matter will be made to information on nuclear energy of countries in general and in particular, no specific recommendations are being made at this time:

7. The Atomic Energy Commission is conducting a study program of reducing atomic energy and related work. This information is available to the public and is being disseminated to the public. This will be a step toward the program to the Atomic Energy Commission of the United States, which is being conducted in cooperation.

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3. A possible plan for the exchange of information on an exchange of information... on an urgent basis by A-100-100000.

4. Under the terms of the... information agreement, pertinent information... made available to A-100-100000.

5. Since mechanisms for... information on nuclear weapons... keeping the problem of... effects under... separate report to the... required.

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Chronology of events since August 19, 1954
Climate of Opinion among the public

- February 13, 1955: AEC statement on the incident of the explosion.
- February 21, 1955: In his weekly news conference, the Director of Atomic Energy stated that the explosion had not caused any damage to the reactor and that the situation was under control. He stated that the explosion had not caused any damage to the reactor and that the situation was under control.
- February 22, 1955: The press reported that the explosion had caused a large release of energy and that the situation was under control.
- Early March: Rumor spread in Washington that the explosion had caused a large release of energy and that the situation was under control.
- March 4, 1955: The AEC issued a statement on the incident and the situation.
- March 10-15, 1955: Stories in the newspapers reported that the explosion had caused a large release of energy and that the situation was under control.
- March 16, 1955: The AEC issued a statement on the incident and the situation.
- March 20, 1955: The AEC issued a statement on the incident and the situation.
- March 24, 1955: The AEC issued a statement on the incident and the situation.
- April 3, 1955: The AEC issued a statement on the incident and the situation.
- April 13, 1955: The AEC issued a statement on the incident and the situation.



- April 13, 1958 : Decision regarding suggested by 25 other... (text is faint and partially illegible)
- April 14, 1958 : ... (text is faint and partially illegible)
- April 15, 1958 : ... (text is faint and partially illegible)
- April 16, 1958 : ... (text is faint and partially illegible)
- April 17, 1958 : ... (text is faint and partially illegible)
- April 18, 1958 : ... (text is faint and partially illegible)
- April 19, 1958 : ... (text is faint and partially illegible)
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