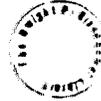


OPERATIONAL CONSPIRACY PROGRAM
Washington, D.C.



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11/11/71

NOTED BY THE OCB STAFF REPORT # 11111

SUBJECT: Follow-up Report on the Operations of the Operational Con-
spiracy Program as of the 11/11/71 Meeting

Herewith draft of follow-up report on the operations of the Operational
Group meeting Wednesday, 11/11/71.

[Handwritten signature]
11/11/71

Enclosures:

Follow-up Report

- 2 cys - Mr. Gerard Smith - State
- 1 cy - Mr. David Z. Beckler - ODM
- 1 cy - LGen W. S. Paul - COM
- 1 cy - Mr. Robert Matteson - PUA
- 2 cys - Mr. Morse Salisbury - ACP
- 2 cys - Maj. Gen. Herbert A. Loper - (SM)
- 1 cy - Dr. Stefan T. Posson - AFMSP
- 1 cy - Adm. Paul F. Poster - AEU
- 2 cys - Mr. Joseph G. Hanson - JAG
- 1 cy - Mr. Charles E. Pearce - (M)
- 1 cy - [REDACTED] - (M)
- 1 cy - Mr. Don Irwin - BOB
- 3 cys - Col Hirsch - OCP

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 E.O. 12958, SEC. 1.4
 AUTHORITY: NSC FRI 480
 DATE: 08-17-2017
 BY: [REDACTED] 11/11/71

11/11/71



Fear of Fallout from Tests

3. In addition, there was considerable concern about the possible radiation effects of a large-scale nuclear war, particularly in light of the exploded at the Nevada Test Site in 1952, and the publication in 1953 of the large-yield weapons described in the February 15 report. This concern, although not yet apparent at the time of the presentation of this problem to the Council early in 1954, became a major factor in the various shots at the Nevada Test Site were publicly reported. It led to new proposals for an effective arms control system by the British Labour Party, and the convening of a conference in London in 1954 for an international study of the effects of radiation from nuclear weapons. It also led to the control of future tests. (See Exhibit 1).

Soviet Bloc Reaction

4. In the Soviet bloc, the February 15 report was widely publicized and immune from destruction by nuclear weapons, noted in the February 15 report to the Council, was continued. The Soviet bloc reaction was particularly notable in that it belittled the contribution made by our own weapons development and broadcasts to its home audiences, which were supposed to be the main focus of attention given to this subject.

B. CONCLUSION

5. Since February 15, 1954, the question raised by the February 15 report with respect to the critical role of nuclear weapons in international security has remained the private concern of the staff of the Council. The February 15 report has been widely discussed over the past several years, conducted by the major powers.

C. RECOMMENDATION

6. In view of the belittled contribution of the February 15 report...



being undertaken, and the fact that the following information is available
information on radiation effects of nuclear weapons and that the Commission
specific recommendations as to further action necessary at this
time.

a. The Atomic Energy Commission is currently operating a program
of releasing appropriate material on radiation effects and is available
for correcting misstatements and disseminating information as well as
at home

b. A possible U.S. initiative program for the exchange of information
exchange of information on radiation effects of nuclear weapons on an
urgent basis by AEC, State and DOD.

c. Under the recently concluded WHO agreement for information
agreement, pertinent information on radiation effects will be available
able to the international members of the WHO's committee.

7. Since mechanisms for providing the public with information on
undisclosed information on nuclear weapons and their effects, the Commission
the OCB is keeping the problem of nuclear weapons and their effects under
effects under continuous review, it is being requested to submit a
separate report to the National Security Council and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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Chronology of Events Since February 15, 1955 Affecting
Climate of Opinion Concerning Radiation

- February 15, 1955: AEC statement on effects of large atomic bomb explosions.
- February 23, 1955: In his weekly press conference, the President announced that the United States does not favor experimentation on tests except as part of a comprehensive disarmament agreement. Premier Bulganin had announced similar position in press interview on February 15.
- February 26, 1955: French Foreign Minister, General de Gaulle, in a statement to the National Assembly, stated that the effects of radiation from tests are negligible.
- Early March: Numerous references to the possibility of a nuclear weapon which could be used in the world and the possibility of a new form of warfare.
- March 6, 1955: The Federation of American Scientists issued a statement of conclusions to study of effects of radiation from nuclear explosions.
- March 10-14, 1955: Nordic and Scandinavian and U.K. governments concerning passage of radioactive cloud from nuclear tests.
- March 16, 1955: India sends a formal note to the Secretary General reiterating its intention to press the nuclear powers for a moratorium on nuclear tests for at least 10 years - until the next tests.
- March 24, 1955: French Foreign Minister, General de Gaulle, in a statement to the National Assembly, stated that the effects of radiation from tests are negligible.
- March 28, 1955: The Executive Board of WHO issued a proposal for an International Agency to coordinate research on the effects of radiation.
- April 8, 1955: The National Academy of Sciences announced that it will undertake an independent study of the effects of radiation from nuclear explosions.
- April 13, 1955: Ambassador Lodge advised the State Department that he believes that we must expect proposals for international study or action relating to radiation at the next session of the UN General Assembly. He recommends that we prepare and to take the initiative in the matter.

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- April 15, 1955 : AEC Chairman Strauss testifies concerning radiation effects before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy.
- April 20, 1955 : Sir John Cockcroft makes a major public statement pointing out that the level of radioactivity from nuclear power is far below the danger level.
- April 20, 1955 : Senator Byrd's speech on W. of A. is widely interpreted as a resolution of existing W. of A. fears, and a call for protection from nuclear explosions.
- April 24, 1955 : The committee on the extent of liability for nuclear accidents is set up and the report is expected to be published in the near future.
- April, 1955 : The W. of A. bill is passed by the House of Representatives.
- April, 1955 : The late Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer is named as one of the nuclear scientists.
- May 4, 1955 : The Senate Committee on Atomic Energy reports that Sweden is now taking protective measures against radiation effects.
- May 10, 1955 : USSR reports a new outbreak of the "fear" of radiation on disarmament and nuclear power.
- May 16, 1955 : The late Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer is named as one of the nuclear scientists.