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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 950

2:15 p.m., Wednesday, January 6, 1954

REPOSITORY NARA - College Park

COLLECTION REC. MEETING MINUTES

BOX No. 7 Vols. 13-14 (1954)

FOLDER MEETINGS 950 - 980
Vol. 13 1 of 2

Present

Lewis L. Strauss
 Henry D. Smyth
 Thomas E. Murray
 Eugene M. Zuckert
 Joseph Campbell

K.D. Nichols
 Walter J. Williams
 William Mitchell

W.B. McCool
 John H. Stumpf

Also Present

Faul W. McDaniel
 Spofford G. English
 James G. Beckerley
 Brig. Gen. K.E. Fields
 Capt. William L. Guthrie (USN)
 Paul C. Fine
 Charles H. Reichardt
 Morse Salisbury
 Edward R. Trapnell
 R.W. Cook
 Oscar S. Smith
 J.A. Waters
 John H. Burchard
 John Mackenzie, Jr.
 David S. Teeple
 E.J. Bloch
 Lyall Johnson

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1. Invocation

Upon a proposal by Mr. Murray, and realizing the grave responsibilities placed upon them and their need for Divine assistance, the Commissioners at their first regularly scheduled meeting of the New Year invoked God's blessing and guidance on their work,

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEW DATE: <u>8-14-95</u>	2. DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))
AUTHORITY: <u>CEC/DIR. 2000</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. CLASSIFIED AND RETAINED
NAME: <u>D. LITTLE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
2ND REVIEW DATE: <u>8-16-95</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
AUTHORITY: ADD	<input type="checkbox"/> 4. COORDINATE WITH:
NAME: <u>W. CHROBAK</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. OTHER (SPECIFY): <u>PAGES 1-7</u>

2. Current Activities Reports

The General Manager and Division Directors reported on current developments at field installations and on the progress of matters under study by the staff. Questions by the Commissioners were discussed.

a. Status of Hanford Strike

Mr. Smith reported that all construction at Hanford had ceased as the result of the strike which had begun on January 5. Complete information on the issues underlying the strike was not yet available. The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service had entered the dispute.

At this point Mr. Smith left the meeting.

b. Status of Plans for Tripartite Conference

Dr. Bugher reported that a proposed agenda for the forthcoming tripartite conference on Area 2 of the modus vivendi had been transmitted to Canada and the United Kingdom. The Canadian reply had already been received.

c. Appointment of New Member to Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine

Dr. Bugher also reported that Dr. Thomas Farran had indicated that he would be unable to accept an invitation to join the Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine. The Chairman said that before anyone else is approached on this matter he would like to attempt personally to prevail upon Dr. Farran to accept the appointment.

At this point Mr. Zuckert entered the meeting.

d. Long Range Radiation Detection Techniques

Dr. Bugher described recent efforts to detect radiation at high altitudes by means of balloons and rockets. He said that

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activity had been detected up to 88,000 feet which could quite definitely be attributed to the Mike Shot in Operation IVY. However, by far the largest part of the Mike debris remained unaccounted for.

e. Review of AEC Budget by Appropriations Committee Investigating Group

The General Manager said that the Controller had been informed that, as in 1952, an investigating group representing the House Appropriations Committee would review AEC budgetary questions.

3. Approval of Minutes.

The Commission approved minutes for Meetings 937 through 940, inclusive.

At this point Commissioner Zuckert and Messrs. Cook and Burchard left the meeting and Mr. Fine entered.

4. AEC 43/749 - Proposed Transmittal to the U.K. of Information Under Area 5 (Detection)

Under consideration was a report by the Commission Member of the CPC Subgroup of Scientific Advisers, proposing that the Commission note with approval that the information contained in Appendix "C" to AEC 43/749 would be forwarded to the U.K. as an activity within Area 5 of the Technical Cooperation Program.

The Commissioners discussed at length with Mr. McDaniel, Mr. English and other members of the staff questions concerning the nature of the information which would be transmitted and its significance in interpreting weapons test data. Mr. Smyth observed that it seemed clear that the information involved in the proposed exchange of documents would not exceed the limits of the Technical Cooperation Program. However, he did not believe that this information would entirely satisfy the British and it was possible that they might request conferences on the matter. If such conferences were actually held it would be necessary to exercise extreme caution since direct discussions might easily lead to the inadvertent disclosure of information which is not to be communicated.

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said that he had previously discussed with Mr. Salisbury various revisions in the draft press release (Annex 2 to Appendix "A") and that these revisions were to be made before the release was issued. The Commissioners commented briefly on various individual items in the proposed plan.

After further discussion, the Commission:

a. Noted that the draft press release attached as Annex 2 to Appendix "A" to AEC 597/34 would be revised in accordance with the discussion at the meeting;

b. Approved the AEC-DOD Joint Information Plan for Operation CASTLE (attached as Appendix "B" to AEC 597/34);

c. Noted that the plan has been drafted in conformance with the Commission's action on AEC 597/31 at Meeting 947 on December 18, 1954, which authorized the General Manager to compile an adequate record in text and pictures which may be issued at the conclusion of the tests as seems desirable in the national interest; and

d. Noted that the Joint Information Plan for Operation CASTLE is before the Department of Defense for approval.

At this point General Fields and Captain Guthrie and Messrs. English, Beckerley, Salisbury, Trapnell, Waters, Burchard, and Mackenzie left the meeting.

9. Intelligence Briefing

Mr. Reichardt presented a review of intelligence information concerning the Russian atomic energy program. Questions by the Commissioners were discussed.

W. B. McCool
Acting Secretary

Approved by the Commission: May 11, 1954