

R

CONFIDENTIAL

REPOSITORY NARA - College Park  
 COLLECTION AEC Meeting Minutes  
 BOX No. 7, Vols 13-14 (1954)  
 FOLDER MEETING 950-980  
VOL. 13, 1 OF 2

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 967

2:15 p.m., Tuesday, March 16, 19 54

\*\*\*\*\*

Present

Thomas E. Murray  
Eugene M. Zuckert  
Joseph Campbell

K. D. Nichols  
William Mitchell

Roy B. Snapp

Also Present

Morse Salisbury  
John A. Hall  
Dr. John C. Bugher  
Col. Vincent G. Huston

Executive Session

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1. Japanese Fishing Vessel

The General Manager referred to the newspaper accounts that 23 crew members of a Japanese fishing vessel had suffered radiation injury as a result of fall-out from the first shot in the current test series and read the only cable on the subject that had been received from JTF-7. The Commissioners discussed this situation which had developed and indicated that until accurate accounts of what had occurred were received, no new public statement should be made on the subject.

Mr. Hall reported that a message had been received from the Ambassador to Japan and that the Department of State was eager to send instructions to Tokyo as soon as possible. After extensive discussion the Commission requested that Mr. Hall arrange to have a message sent to the Ambassador in Tokyo which would contain the following points:

- 91 -

1ST REVIEW DATE: <u>8-14-95</u>	COORDINATION WITH:
AUTHORITY: <u>LAD</u>	COORDINATION LABELLED:
NAME: <u>D. LITTLE</u>	COORDINATION LABELLED:
2ND REVIEW DATE: <u>8-16-95</u>	COORDINATION LABELLED:
AUTHORITY: <u>AD</u>	COORDINATION LABELLED:
NAME: <u>W. CHROBAK</u>	COORDINATION LABELLED:

PAGES 91-93

a. Dr. Morton, ABCC, has been instructed to report to the Ambassador to offer his technical services and the assistance of the ABCC.

b. Col. Arthur Meeks, USAF, has also been instructed to report to the Ambassador and offer technical assistance.

c. Other countries should not have access to the ship. (To facilitate this the U. S. would offer to decontaminate the vessel.)

d. A warning to ships has been issued. Specific information on this matter will be supplied to the Ambassador as soon as possible.

The Commission also requested Colonel Huston to obtain (1) precise information regarding the decision as to what constitutes the danger zone and what warning had been posted to shipping, and (2) what statements had been made to the U. N. pertaining to atomic tests in the Marshall Islands.

Mr. Murray said that he wished to emphasize the importance of preventing access to the vessel because of the information that might be gained from ash samples.

The Commission then discussed a proposal by Mr. Zuckert that a committee of the various agencies concerned be established to make recommendations as to developments in the test series. After discussion, the Commission:

Agreed to request the Departments of State and Defense and JTF-7 to designate members of a committee to study and make recommendations on developments in the current test series.

*From Meeting  
# 967*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2. Joint Committee Hearings

The General Manager reported on Joint Committee Hearings held on March 15 and 16.

*Roy B. Snapp*

Roy B. Snapp  
Secretary

Approved by the Commission: May 19, 1954

*From Meeting  
# 967*