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COLLECTION AEC MINUTE MEETINGS  
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FOLDER MEETINGS 950-990  
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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 979

5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 27, 1954

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Present

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

K. D. Nichols  
William Mitchell

Roy B. Snapp  
John H. Stumpf

Also Present

Don. S. Burrows  
Francis J. McCarthy  
R. W. Cook  
E. J. Bloch  
Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields  
A. Tammaro  
Paul W. McDaniel  
Howard Brown  
F. J. Walcavitch  
John A. Derry

1. AEC 728 - General Assumptions for the FY 1956 Budget Estimates

The General Manager and members of the staff reviewed and commented upon the FY 1956 Budget Assumptions as set forth in the Appendix to AEC 728. Questions by the Commissioners were discussed and various revisions in the assumptions were suggested. In particular, the Commission indicated that the assumptions should include estimates for the initiation of construction under the Master Plan for the Brookhaven National Laboratory.

After further discussion, the Commission: **BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

a. Approved the general assumptions for the Fiscal Year 1956 budget set forth in the Appendix to this report, as revised in accordance with the discussion at the meeting.

1ST REVIEW DATE: <u>8-14-95</u>		DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S)) <input type="checkbox"/> 1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED <input type="checkbox"/> 2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO <input type="checkbox"/> 4. COORDINATE WITH: _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED <input type="checkbox"/> 6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED <input type="checkbox"/> 7. OTHER (SPECIFY): <u>PAGES 142-144</u>
AUTHORITY: <input type="checkbox"/> AEC <input type="checkbox"/> ENDC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADD		
NAME: <u>D. LITTLE</u>		
2ND REVIEW DATE: <u>8-16-95</u>		
AUTHORITY: ADD		
NAME: <u>W. CHADBAK</u>		

b. Noted that Program Directors will supplement these assumptions by providing guidance in more detail to the Managers of Operations in the preparation of their budget estimates for the Fiscal Year 1956; and

c. Noted that a determination of the quantities of various weapons materials and parts to be produced and assembled in Fiscal Year 1956 will be made during the month of June as a result of the analysis of the CASTLE test shots. There will, therefore, be a delay in the budget submission of the items affected. All other aspects of the budget will be processed in the normal schedule.

At this point all members of the staff except the Secretary and the General Manager left the meeting.

2. Questions Concerning Oppenheimer Hearing

The Commission considered various questions concerning the Oppenheimer Hearing. Discussion centered around the question whether to provide the Board with copies of a "Thermonuclear Weapons Program Chronology" prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the Commission's request at the TOPNOTCH II Conference (see AEC 600/1). The General Manager read the draft of a letter to cover the transmittal of the chronology to the Board.

The Secretary pointed out that the chronology was a draft paper and, while it contained essentially all of the information that had been located on the subject in the Secretariat files, choices had to be exercised in selecting the material, and there were undoubtedly elsewhere papers pertinent to the subject. The Chairman and the General Manager observed that the existence of a letter of October 14, 1949, from Dr. Seaborg to Dr. Oppenheimer expressing Dr. Seaborg's views on the thermonuclear program had just been discovered. The Commission asked the Secretary to indicate the circumstances in the chronology. The Chairman said that apparently Dr. Seaborg's views were not in accord with those of the other members of the GAC.

The Commission agreed that the chronology should be made available to the Board as a draft paper which gave an account of the major events leading to the decision of January 31, 1950. The Joint Committee would be