



ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

408576

MEETING NO. 986

R

2:15 p.m., Tuesday, May 18, 1954

Present

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

K. D. Nichols
William Mitchell

Roy B. Snapp
E. J. Knowles

REPOSITORY NASA/College Park
COLLECTION AEC Minutes (NNS-326-92-006)
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FOLDER Vol 14 (1 of 2)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1. Transcript of Commission Meetings

The Chairman referred to the difficulty that the Commission had been experiencing in agreeing on minutes. He suggested that the Commission have a stenographer present at all meetings.

After discussion, the Commission:

Agreed that a stenographic transcript should be made of all Commission meetings.

The Secretary reported that he had Mr. Knowles and Mrs. Edwards available for this afternoon's meeting. While they were competent

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[REDACTED]

stenographers, neither of them were court reporter and obviously could not get all the remarks that were made. Arrangements would be made, however, for a regular court reporter at future Commission sessions. (At this point Mr. Knowles entered the meeting.)

2. Mercury

Mr. Strauss: I call attention of the Commissioners to the article in Business Week of May 15 which notes that mercury prices have gone through the roof, as the result of some sort of a statement, or rather the fact that ODM doesn't deny we are the people who are interested.

3. Telegram to Clarkson and Graves

Mr. Strauss: On the 14th I sent a telegram to Clarkson and Graves, Dr. Smyth and Mr. Campbell agreeing, in which the names of all the Commissioners were signed. A telegram of congratulations, and after it had gone I realized I had taken liberties with your name and Tom's. With the degree of sensitivity that now prevails, perhaps I should never have done so -- but it was done.

Mr. Smyth: The copy I had said "Clarkson".

Mr. Nichols: I changed the telegram to read "Clarkson and Graves".

Mr. Smyth: Good.

4. FY 1955 Appropriations

Mr. Strauss: I would also like to report that the Senate Appropriations Committee restored the cuts in the various items as we had asked them to do and they had severally indicated they would -- with the exception of the reduction of the contingency reserve. They gave us, however, \$16 million in that. I am hopeful that when this gets into conference we will be able to preserve practically all of it. I am sure, Harry, the research will not suffer.

5. Operations Coordinating Board

Mr. Strauss: The OCB is a body on which we are not represented, but occasionally they invite us to attend. They have done one or two