

believed that a Presidential statement should be issued on weapons testing and development, including a reference to the lower rates of fallout from Operation REDWING, in order to modify the effect of General Gavin's statement. The Secretary of State had indicated today that such a statement was urgent and therefore Mr. Strauss said he had drafted a proposed statement which he intended to discuss, in his capacity as Special Assistant, with the President. He then read the proposed statement and added that he would appreciate the personal views of the Commissioners and General Loper on it.

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it was his personal opinion that the proposed statement contained as much information as could be released without compromising sensitive information about new design developments.

Mr. Strauss said he would discuss the draft statement with the Secretary of State and Assistant Secretary of Defense, Mr. Gordon Gray, and then send it to the White House at once.

General Loper said that he believed such a statement would help to allay public fear but he added that it seemed necessary to him to transmit additional information on new weapons design to our allies. With regard to General Gavin's testimony, he said that under the conditions of attack which General Gavin had cited; that is, the bombing of three to four thousand air fields in the Soviet Union, casualties up to three or four hundred thousand could be expected.

At this point General Loper left the meeting.

2. Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability of Materials Overseas

Mr. Strauss said that he would see Mr. Robert McKinney on Friday and he thought one of the purposes of Mr. McKinney's visit was to offer his further services to the Commission. He said he would like to request Mr. McKinney to chair an Ad Hoc Committee to study the system of fissionable material accountability overseas. The other Commissioners accepted Mr. Strauss's suggestion.

Page(s) 424-425 remain(s) classified.

The withheld page(s) will be coordinated with the  
Department of Energy under NND 982027.