

policy regarding further release of information concerning the tests and regarding the division of responsibility between the Commission and the military supporting force.

The Commission approved General McCormack's recommendation that he and Dr. Froman work out practical organizational relations with the military, on the basis of which formal assignment of responsibility can be made. General McCormack, the Acting General Counsel, and the Office of the Budget were directed to work out im-

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mediately an arrangement whereby a block of AEC funds will be made available as a drawing account for the military task force.

General Hull informed the Commission that he is recommending to the Joint Chiefs of Staff that a public statement be made shortly, preferably by the AEC, concerning the forthcoming tests, so that he will not be hampered by unnecessary secrecy in his preparations. The Commission concurred in the advisability of such a release, which should announce the general area where the tests will be held, the scheduled quarter of the year, and the names of leaders. The release will stress that the tests are under the direction of the AEC and that they are primarily technical rather than military in nature.

It was agreed that all necessary and desirable measurements and observations will be scheduled which are consistent with the primary technical purposes of the Los Alamos group and which do not lead to postponement of the urgent initial test.

The Commission assured General Hull of its readiness to consider interim emergency clearance for a small key group of personnel, with subsequent full FBI investigation.

Carroll L. Wilson
Acting Secretary

Approved by the Commission: December 10, 1947

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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

September 29, 1947

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MEMORANDUM for the Commissioners.

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HR-ml WD 9/30/47

Arrangements have been made for Lt. General John E. Hull to call on you on Wednesday morning at eleven o'clock. General Hull, as you know, has been chosen by the Joint Chiefs of Staff as Commander of the military task force for the forthcoming tests.

Admiral Parsons has been appointed as the Navy deputy to General Hull. The Air Force deputy is General Kepner, who occupied the same position under Admiral Blandy at Crossroads. As I foresee the problems ahead of us, the choice of top military figures is ideal. General Hull is well known and widely respected throughout the Services for his wisdom as well as for his ability to get things done. Another advantage to his appointment is that as the Commander of the U. S. Army Forces in the Pacific, he has channels for getting things done on the site which would be more difficult for an officer not so situated. Also, it is my impression from conferences to date that he has impressed himself most favorably on Bradbury and Froman, as well as on the Navy and the Air Force.

As a matter of background, General Hull was Chief of Operations in the War Department during the last two years of the war, a job occupied successively by Marshall, Gerow, Eisenhower, Handy, Hull, and Norstad over a period of the past twelve years. His appointment to this test job is in addition to his command duty in the Pacific, but he is prepared to devote his full time as may be necessary to the project.

9-29-47

General Hull will wish to discuss with you in broad terms a few of the problems he has met to date. I am sure that among these problems will be the matters of policy regarding any further release of information, and division of responsibility between the military and the Commission.

In conclusion, I commend General Hull to you as a highly respected personal friend of mine for a long time. A great load was lifted for me as regards any worries about how difficult relationships will be when I heard of his appointment.

James McCormack, Jr.
James McCormack, Jr.
Brigadier General, AUS

11-17-49
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