

MI-0145

Attachments:

TAB "A" - Draft Guidance Memo on International Aspects of Operation IVY Film, dtd 3/11/54.

TAB "B" - "Why Statement" dtd 3/11/54.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TAB "A"

March 11, 1954

DRAFT GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM ON INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS
OF OPERATION IVY FILM

A. In his historic address before the United Nations, President Eisenhower charted the outlines of a bold plan whereby the awesome force of atomic energy and the "miraculous inventiveness of man" might be "not dedicated to his death, but consecrated to his life."

It is against the background of "a danger shared by all" that the President spoke to the world when he said, "The atomic age has moved forward at such a pace that every citizen of the world should have some comprehension, at least in comparative terms, of the extent of this development, of the utmost significance to all of us.

"Clearly if the peoples of the world are to conduct an intelligent search for peace, they must be armed with the significant facts of today's existence."

Consequently, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense have prepared for public issuance by the Federal Civil Defense Administration a non-secret portion of the motion picture account of Operation IVY," for civil defense purposes in the United States and to assist in an intelligent understanding of the problem.

The film prepared for public issuance was carefully edited to eliminate any information which would compromise the security of the United States. What remains is a dramatic story of the emergence of U.S. weapons research into

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the new world of nucleonics. It is a world which contains undreamed of opportunities for peace and progress for all men — as well as the elements of the destruction of civilization. And it is a world whose problems all peoples must understand if the world is to survive.

For as President Eisenhower has expressed it, "in nuclear explosions, enormous amounts of energy are in an instant released — and as quickly lost to the service of men. As our atomic weapons steadily improve, the United States will continue to strive patiently and prayerfully to speed the day when this gigantic energy shall become exclusively the servant of peace — a tireless benefactor bringing greater health, comfort and happiness to all men, women and children on earth."

The earlier policy guidance furnished to diplomatic missions by the State Department indicated that the grim threat from atomic weapons, outlined by President Eisenhower in his UNGA speech December 8, 1953, should not be minimized.

The public release of this film in the United States and still photographs abroad is in keeping with the President's dictum:

"Clearly, if the peoples of the world are to conduct an intelligent search for peace, they must be armed with the significant facts of today's existence."

In the event that Soviet propaganda plays up this film abroad as evidence of U.S. war-mongering and as support for the Soviet proposal to outlaw atomic weapons, positive statements why this film was released should be made along the following lines:

(a) It is essential to the democratic process that if peoples are to attempt to control their own destiny, they must obtain knowledge of the significant events of their age.

(b) The United States, and more recently the British Government, have published the essential facts about atomic weapons in order that the peoples of the world may be kept informed of developments which will affect their destiny.

(c) Although the Soviets have proclaimed the existence of their nuclear weapons, they have yet to release pictorial or eye-witness accounts in this category.

(d) By way of contrast, in recent years the United States has released, for public consumption, pictorial and technical reports on weapons effects.

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TAB "B"

To be issued by:

For Release

_____ p.m. EST

FEDERAL CIVIL DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
Washington 25, D. C.

April _____, 1954

3/11/54

"WHY STATEMENT"

BACKGROUND MEMORANDUM FOR ALL MEDIA

"OPERATION IVY"

THE TEST

"Operation Ivy" is the code name given to a nuclear weapons test series in which occurred the first full-scale thermonuclear, or "hydrogen," detonation. The site of the series was the Atomic Energy Commission's Proving Ground in the Pacific during the fall of 1952. The thermonuclear test at Eniwetok atoll, Marshall Islands, was conducted by Joint Task Force 132 for the AEC and the Department of Defense.

MEDIA

MATERIALS

NOW BEING

RELEASED

The following media materials, prepared by the AEC, DOD and the Federal Civil Defense Administration, are being issued by the FCDA:

1. 16mm, 27 1/4-minute color and black and white films for television use.
2. A series of black and white clips on 35 mm film, totaling 15 minutes, for newsreel use.
3. A similar series of 16 mm film for television "news" use.
4. 19 still pictures in black and white, with captions.

5. A 14 minute sound tape for "feature" radio use taken from the above film and containing commentary, music and sound effects. (Similar tape material is available for radio "news" use.)
6. The following additional background and technical information:
 - a. This all-media background sheet.
 - b. Scene list and notes for newsreel-television "news" footage. (This material is also for the use of the press as additional background.)
 - c. Information on release details of interest to press, radio and still picture representatives.
 - d. Information on release details for television and newsreel representatives (including a synopsis of the motion picture and a statement on clearances.)
 - e. Full text of the motion picture commentary including text material by President Eisenhower and FCDA Administrator Val Peterson.
 - f. Statement by the Federal Civil Defense Administration for advance use on release of the film "Operation Ivy." (to be cleared with OCB)

DATE OF
RELEASE

The FCDA statement referred to in "f" above is for release on the 31 March 1954. All other materials are for release after _____ p.m., EST on _____ April _____, 1954.

No portion, synopsis or intimation regarding these materials may be published or broadcast before this release time.

BACKGROUND
OF THE RELEASE
OF THE FILM

In his historic address before the United Nations, President Eisenhower charted the outlines of a bold plan whereby the awesome force of atomic energy and the "miraculous inventiveness of man" might be "not dedicated to his death, but consecrated to his life."

It is against this background of "a danger shared by all" that the President spoke to the world when he said, "The atomic age has moved forward at such a pace that every citizen of the world should have some comprehension, at least in comparative terms, of the extent of this development, of the utmost significance to all of us.

"Clearly, if the peoples of the world are to conduct an intelligence search for peace, they must be armed with the significant facts of today's existence."

Consequently, there has been prepared for public issuance by the Federal Civil Defense Administration a non-secret portion of the motion picture account of "Operation Ivy."

will continue to strive patiently and prayerfully to speed the day when this gigantic energy shall become exclusively the servant of peace—a tireless benefactor bringing greater health, comfort and happiness to all men, women and children on earth."

EFFECTS ON
CIVIL
DEFENSE
PLANNING

It would be unrealistic for practical civil defense planning purposes to draw a sharp distinction between the conventional atomic bomb and an H-bomb. The fundamental difference is only in the amount of damage produced. The kinds of damage—blast, heat and radiation—would remain the same.

As FCDA Administrator Val Peterson has stated, "FCDA has constantly planned to meet the problems of larger atomic

weapons. Attack on the United States with such weapons would mean greater areas of destruction requiring greater numbers of trained civil defense workers and equipment and more widespread support from the non-target areas. In other words, the use of the hydrogen bomb means a greater degree of disaster with which organized civil defense must deal. It would not be a different kind of disaster."