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OGB 337 Minutes JAN 23 1957



SECRET

(b) AEC Draft Announcement on the 1957 Nevada Test Series *000.9*

(1) Noted the AEC draft announcement of the 1957 Nevada Test Series which had been submitted to the Board for its views with respect to the content and timing of the announcement from the standpoint of possible impact on the international climate of opinion. Noted that the President has approved holding the test series and that preparatory steps have already been taken which raise the possibility of premature and uncoordinated publicity on the test preparations.

(2) The Board:

(i) After noting considerations for and against an announcement prior to the termination of the current UN General Assembly debates on disarmament, agreed that on balance the U.S. would be best served by an early announcement along the general lines of the text as revised by the working group;

(ii) Agreed that it would be desirable to develop a code name for the test series which would avoid possible adverse public reaction to the use of "Operation Pilgrim" in view of the special religious and historical connotation given to this word; and

(iii) Agreed that the AEC would consider the Board suggestion of reducing the length of the announcement.

(3) Noted that AEC tentatively plans to issue the announcement approximately January 24.

See

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E.O. 12333, SEC. 3A (b)

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