

OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD
Washington 25, D. C.

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April 16, 1957

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING: OCB Working Group on Nuclear Energy Projects and Related Information Programs
Fifty-Fifth Meeting held Tuesday, April 16, 1957, at 10:30 a.m., Room 1B700, Pentagon

Working Group Members Present:

- USIA - Mr. Joseph O. Hanson, Jr.
- AEC - Mr. Morse Salisbury
- FCDA - Mr. Harold Goodwin
- OCB - Mr. Richard Hirsch

Others Present:

- State - Mr. Jameson Parker
- " - Mr. George Spiegel
- Defense - Major Richard Orphan, USA
- " - Mr. Roger Delaney
- " - Mr. Lee Hargus
- " - Lt. Col. Robert A. Carr, USA
- AEC - Mr. Shelby Thompson
- FCDA - Mr. John Hurley

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1. A ten-minute film "H Hour Minus 10" depicting activities at the Nevada Test Site, including tests of civil and military equipment and structures, was viewed by the working group at the request of the Department of Defense member. Mr. Hargus explained that the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project was seeking to release the film for viewing over 22 TV Stations of the Armed Forces Radio and TV Network. Mr. Hargus advised that substantial "foreign eavesdropping audiences could be expected, particularly in Western Europe" and that the purpose of the film was to dramatize the "Power for Peace" theme of Armed Forces Day, May 17.

2. In the discussion that followed, the working group noted that unless the audiences could be strictly confined to U.S. Service personnel, the film would be considered objectionable from the standpoint of impact on overseas audiences for the following reasons:

- a. Main emphasis in the film is on damage to civil structures--not military.
- b. Film is dated in terms of references in the sound track to the number of bombs exploded by the U.S. at Nevada as well as the designation of the tower structure which, in the case of the 1957 tests, will in many instances, be supplanted by captive balloons.

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- c. The film is deficient in terms of adequately expressing the U.S. Government position towards the conduct of nuclear tests, the importance of agreed effective safeguarded disarmament, and U.S. efforts in making the "Peaceful Atom" available for the benefit of mankind.

AEC Memorandum re Soviet Weapons Test Announcements.

3. AEC memo, dated April 15, 1957, was distributed to members of the working group. It was agreed that Mr. Salisbury of AEC and Mr. Hansor USIA, would prepare for early consideration of the working group a draft statement of the type proposed in the referenced memorandum.

4. It was agreed that the working group would meet on call of the Chairman for review of the draft announcement and to prepare a recommendation for the OCB prior to its luncheon meeting of April 24.

5. It was recognized that the timing of the proposed announcement would have to be carefully considered in relationship to a possible note to the Soviet Union inviting Soviet press and military representatives to the Nevada tests in exchange for a written agreement which would provide reciprocal privileges to the U.S. to attend Soviet tests. It was felt that if a decision is made to dispatch such a note to the Soviets, the weapons announcement should be delayed until the Soviets accept or reject the U.S. offer.

/s/ Richard Hirsch
OCB Staff Representative

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