

DRAFT

OPERATIONS ORGANIZATION BOARD
Washington, D.C.

2000



R

PROGRESS REPORT ON
NUCLEAR ENERGY PROJECTS AND RELATED INFORMATION
(INCLUDING NSC 5421/1 and NSC 5507/2)
PERIOD: OCTOBER 1954 THROUGH MARCH 1955

A. SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTION AND DEVELOPMENTS

1. The following actions and decisions were taken by the Board in accordance with NSC 5421/1 and NSC 5507/2, and NSC 5421/1 and NSC 5507/2. The OCE role was to insure that proper attention be given to the maximum psychological advantage of the U.S. with respect to the for-peace program.

a. Establishment of an International Atomic Energy Agency. Agreement has been reached with the U.K. and Canada regarding the provisions of a draft statute for the International Atomic Energy Agency. The draft statute was given by April 1955 to the other States principally concerned--France, Australia, Belgium, West Germany and South Africa. With comments from these countries being available, the announcement of the program has been made.

b. Training and Information Assistance. The Board has initiated the following training and information programs to assist interested countries in developing peaceful uses of atomic energy:

(1) The School of Nuclear Science and Engineering, Brookhaven National Laboratory opened March 1, 1955, with 31 students from 19 foreign countries. Ceremonies included a welcome by the President during a week of orientation to be directed by Dr. S.

(2) AEC Technical Libraries, consisting of a collection of research and development reports, abstracts, index cards and other material were presented to Japan (Nov. 1954), Italy (Mar. 1955), and France (Apr. 5, 1955). In addition, arrangements for international cooperation were made in the case of Norway (Apr. 1955) and Sweden (Apr. 1955). In addition, AEC has approved presentation of libraries to Japan, Egypt, Australia, Iran, France, Belgium, and other countries.

c. Assistance in Power Reactor Technology. The Board has cooperated in atomic power reactor assistance with other agencies as announced in a speech by Ambassador Murren at London, England, in 1954. While there were published references to negotiations for cooperation agreements for cooperation with Britain, Canada, and Belgium regarding reactor technology, no agreement has been signed, and it is felt that no agreement could be made.

d. Research Reactor Assistance. With extensive assistance to potentially interested countries in the development of research reactors.

DECLASSIFIED WITHIN 1000
DATE 12/28/88 SEC 3410
BY SP-7/BJD
87-48945
10/24/92

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page.

REPRODUCED BY THE DTIC FROM THE DTIC SOURCE



assistance. A bilateral agreement was concluded with Turkey on May 1, with President Eisenhower participating in the ceremonies. Negotiations were under way with the Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy and the Philippines. This program was further implemented by Ambassador Patterson's trip to the Middle East in December 1-52, 1954, and announcements of the sale of ten tons of heavy water to India on February 12, 1955, and the agreement in principle on a similar sale to Italy on March 29, 1955. Interest in ongoing negotiations was shown by Spain and Brazil. Efforts to stimulate a program in Japan and Mexico were continuing.

e. International Conference. At the United States initiative, the UNGA on December 4, 1954, unanimously resolved to invite the U.S. Secretary General, assisted by an Advisory Committee, to convene an International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. The Advisory Committee, consisting of U.S., U.K., Canada, France, India and Brazil, and the USSR met in New York January 11-23, 1955, and agreed to hold such a Conference in Geneva on August 1-20, 1955. Concrete plans for sustaining U.S. scientific and political leadership at the Conference were developed. Two major implementation actions publicized were the joint State-AEC announcement of plans for U.S. participation in the Conference, and the announcement of U.S. initiation of plans to operate a research reactor at the Conference site.

f. Nuclear-powered Ship. On April 25, 1955, a formal announcement was made of the intention to construct a nuclear-powered merchant vessel and send it on a round-the-world voyage as a demonstration of peaceful uses of atomic energy.

g. Atoms-for-Peace Stamp. In addition, the full design action was developed by the Working Group at the suggestion of the Atomic Energy Commission. Forty designs were received from AEC sources and a commemorative eight-cent Atoms-for-Peace stamp. Post Office announcement of the plan to issue such a stamp was made on April 19, 1955.

h. AEA Activities in Support of the General Atoms-for-Peace Program.

1. Exhibits. Exhibits to Italy, West Germany, France, Netherlands, Austria, Brazil, India and Pakistan were displayed in a total of 40,000,000 visitors. Additional exhibits were displayed in Finland, Scandinavia, Yugoslavia and Latin America.

2. Plans. In the period to September 1955, 100,000 Atoms for Peace were issued in 46 countries and 1,000,000,000 production items were free gifts to the public in 40 countries.

3. Anti-India. Public relations efforts were directed at least one step per week. AEC - India - 1955.



(4) Press Services: The pamphlet, first issued in 1954, 'Atomic Energy for Peace', achieved the fastest growth in circulation, with 3,800,000 copies distributed in 24 languages. A pilot model of a second major pamphlet, 'Atoms for a Better World', a composite of various speeches by 17 of the world's leading scientists, is in field reproduction.

2. Actions on the manner and timing of statements by various agencies

a. In response to NSC Action 20(1) and 20(2), a preliminary and a 90-day follow-up report on press reaction to the NSC report of February 15, 1955 was prepared.

b. In response to the specific actions of March 1955, April 13th, the Working Group explained reasons of action to secure a better public understanding of the atomic age and effects of nuclear weapons, and acceptance of the use of these weapons under responsible restrictions.

c. Review of AEC-IA information plan for the Nevada test series, including public education plan for Nevada, and press information plan for the general public, initial press announcement, motion picture on radiological safety in Nevada field, and development of the test of an atomic bomb series began.

d. Review of ECDA information plan for the Nevada test series, initial public announcement.

e. Review of OLM action plan for the Nevada test series, initial public announcement of Government.

f. Review of draft ECDA statement of intent, the existence of any plan to use atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

B. EVALUATION OF PROGRESS

3. In the Atoms-for Peace program, the past six months have been a period of planning, of exploration of the interest and attitude of other countries, and of negotiation. International Atomic Energy Commission negotiations were continuing. Several bilateral agreements were expected to go forward to the President and the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy this year. The interim training programs agreed to have met the present needs of most areas of the world, and have established a strong interest.

4. Response to UNIA Atoms-for Peace exhibits were excellent. Together with continuing extensive NSI visits and tours, the exhibits helped to achieve a better understanding of the possibilities in advancing the peaceful uses of atomic energy. This was due to the receptivity of foreign and domestic audiences, and the high quality of the exhibits in this field.



5. In the absence of a series of major substantive actions in the U.S., a USIA opinion poll in four European countries in the early 1953, in recollection of the President's international pool proposal of December 8, 1953. There was also a slight lessening of anxiety toward peaceful atomic energy programs initiated by other countries, including the USSR.

6. Serious concern continued to be expressed at the USSR, Europe, in the Far East, and India over the effects of experimental explosions of nuclear devices. In particular, there was growing anxiety over the possible cumulative genetic effects of radioactivity from weapons tests. Despite factual official statements, there was widespread apprehension of the nature of fallout, its causes and its conditions which render it harmless or hazardous.

C. EMERGING PROBLEMS AND FUTURE ACTIONS

7. General Appreciation. The major problem confronting the United States in the area of foreign climate of opinion on peaceful uses of nuclear energy is to develop specific actions which are both sound and of sufficient stature to offset Soviet counter moves. Special attention must be paid to offsetting world apprehensions with respect to weapons developments by a vigorous and fully-supported program of international cooperation in peaceful uses.

8. Continued Nuclear Weapon Tests. The development of a joint information operations in connection with future weapons tests is the joint responsibility of the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission. Under the terms of NSC Action 136C, the NSC will advise with the Chairman, AEC, with respect to the overseas implications and implications bearing on such public information plans.

9. Effects of Radiation from Tests. Although the announcement of the National Academy of Science study of radiation effects programs can be considered an excellent forward step toward clarifying the consensus of U.S. scientific viewpoints, Ambassador Lodge has requested additional international follow-up action appears necessary in view of the severe propaganda attacks on the United States in the United Nations, in the United Nations and elsewhere, particularly since the findings would be criticized as exclusively American and not reflecting the views of foreign scientists. Certain portions of the NAS study which are classified data which cannot be made available to argue the position. Study is being given by interested agencies to determine the best way of dealing the problem posed by Ambassador Lodge.

10. Disarmament. The U.S. position on disarmament is generally understood abroad as it must be. This has an important bearing on foreign attitudes toward U.S. nuclear programs, including the necessity for continued weapons tests. It has not been possible to...



by the NSC for coordinating the psychological effort in this field, although from time to time certain aspects of this program should be noted by the Board. Specific responsibility within the Board should be placed for the coordination of domestic and overseas public information programs on disarmament should be established, and the Office should be kept

11. Atoms-for-Peace Programs.

a. Bilateral Agreements for Research Reactors. It is proving necessary to stimulate requests for bilateral agreements for cooperation for research reactors. In many cases, such reactors seem not to be attractive unless they are provided by the United States. In under-developed countries, furthermore, the necessary technical staff to operate research reactors and use them productively is not available, and funds even to operate such reactors are scarce. We shall have to show continuing ingenuity to keep any of the few technically advanced countries actively interested in developing "Atoms-for-Peace" research reactors during the next few years until economic nuclear power development is proceeding.

b. International Conference. At the forthcoming International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy at Geneva in August, the U.S. must achieve a maximum information exploitation of all contributions, and offset expected USSR propaganda efforts to either dominate the Conference or distort its purposes. An ad hoc interdepartmental information group representing State, AEC, and UICIA is planning for the coordination of all U.S. activities to combat an active and effective USSR

c. Nuclear-powered Ship. The psychological impact of the nuclear-powered merchant vessel program, announced by the President on April 25, will be governed to some extent by the degree to which the maritime community accepts the vessel itself as a genuine contribution to marine progress, and, to a greater extent, by the degree to which the free world accepts the program as a genuine demonstration of peaceful nuclear energy application.

The foregoing suggests that for most effective psychological exploitation, the "snowboard" aspects of the vessel, as well as exhibits and demonstration of nuclear ship propulsion, should be combined with its utilization as a working craft.

12. Civil Defense Exercises. Public reporting of details of Civil Defense exercises and continuity of government programs will continue to have a collateral bearing on our general climate of opinion in the United States. On behalf of the Board the Working Group is in a position to advise the respective operating agencies as to their public information plans for these events and will be prepared to coordinate whatever actions may be necessary to minimize public concern and to bring climate of opinion overseas as well as domestic.



13. The Soviet Challenge.

a. World Peace Congress. Soviet-manipulated world peace Council will stage a World Peace Congress at Helsinki June 17. A widespread international signature campaign for a peace petition which calls for the outlawing of atomic weapons has been under way for several months. Continued Soviet exploitation of "ban the bomb" propaganda may be anticipated. An interdepartmental working group composed of State, Defense, and USIA representatives is developing the U.S. information program to offset the Soviet efforts in this direction.

b. Soviet "Atoms-for-Peace" Maneuvers. Although the U.S. is maintaining its lead over other nations in the atoms-for-peace field, competition from the USSR has been emerging during the past six months. The Soviets have launched an atoms-for-peace propaganda campaign of their own, of which the chief theme has been their claim (probably true) to have in operation the world's first non-military atomic power station. There is a real possibility that the Soviet actions, presently limited to satellite countries, may be extended to neutral states such as India, Pakistan or Burma. This possibility gives urgency to proceeding with the courses of action set forth in NSC 6509/2, particularly development of a small-scale power reactor suitable for use in rural and remote areas.