

REPOSITORY NARA/Colley Park ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

408461

COLLECTION AEC Minutes (NW3-326-92-006)

BOX No. 2

MEETING NO. 167

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10:30 a.m., Thursday, April 22, 1948

Present

Also Present

David E. Lilienthal
Sumner T. Pike
Lewis L. Strauss
W. W. Waymack

Morse Salisbury
John H. Manley
David B. Langmuir
James B. Fisk
Col. R. G. Butler, Jr.
Lt. Comdr. J. M. Dunford
Francis J. McCarthy, Jr.
Roger S. Warner, Jr.
Frederick Warren

Carroll L. Wilson
Adrian S. Fisher
Joseph Volpe, Jr.

T. O. Jones
Philip J. Farley

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1. President's Directive for 1948 Production Program

The Chairman reported that on April 21, 1948, he submitted to the President the Directive for the 1948 program for production of atomic weapons, signed by the Secretary of Defense and himself. The approved directive, with amounts filled in in the President's handwriting, has been returned to the Commission, and a copy will be forwarded to the National Military Establishment through the Military Liaison Committee.

2. Report to Chairman of Joint Committee on Operation SANDSTONE

The Chairman stated that on April 21, 1948, he reported to Senator Hickenlooper on the progress of Operation SANDSTONE, and suggested a Commission report to the full Joint Committee. Senator Hickenlooper replied that he would consult with Congressmen Cole and Price on their return from the proving ground before making arrangements for any further reports by the Commission.

CONTINUED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
AUTHORITY: DOE-DFG
BY: [signature] DATE: 3/21/90

OF [redacted]
BY: [redacted]
BY: [redacted]

9. AEC 58/3 - Export Licenses on High Energy Accelerators

Under consideration was a report (AEC 58/3) on the above subject by the Director of Engineering. After discussing the advisability of attaching conditions to any approval of applications for export licenses for accelerators, the Commission:

DEFERRED action on AEC 58/3.

10. AEC 82 - Establishment of Excepted "Scientific and Technical" Positions

Under consideration was a report (AEC 82) by the Acting Director of Organization and Personnel, concerning the manner in which excepted "scientific and technical" positions will be established. After discussion, the Commission:

APPROVED the recommendation of AEC 82.

11. Public Announcement Concerning Operation SANDSTONE

The Chairman reported that after further consultation with the National Military Establishment on April 15, 1948, during which the representatives of the military establishment expressed the opinion that security might be hampered if a release were made prior to completion of all tests but recognized that it would not be uncooperative of the Commission to release a statement, the Commission approved a public announcement to be made after 12:00 noon on April 19, 1948. On April 17, the Director of Public and Technical Information Service sent a copy of the approved release to the Military Establishment through the Chairman of the Military Liaison Committee. On the same day, Secretary of the Army Royall dispatched a letter to the Chairman of the Commission recording the understanding reached on April 15. A reply was dispatched by Mr. Waymack on April 19, 1948, reiterating the Commission's feeling that issuance of a brief statement would contribute to the best interests of national security. (The exchange of letters was subsequently circulated as AEC 9/7.)

12. Appointment of Director of Organization and Personnel

The General Manager reported that after receiving and studying the complete report by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on its investigation of Mr. Eric Nicol, he had granted final personnel security clearance to Mr. Nicol, had appointed him Director of Organization and Personnel, and had approved a public announcement of the appointment.

13. Conference with Joint Committee on Commission Program

The General Manager presented a draft letter to the Joint Committee, suggesting a conference for discussion of the Commission's program. After revising the draft letter, the Commission:

APPROVED the letter as revised for dispatch to the Joint Committee. (Subsequently designated AEC 84.)

14. Confidential Personnel Security Files

The Chairman referred to a letter from Senator Hickenlooper concerning the agreement between the Department of Justice and the Commission as to access by the Joint Committee to the Commission's confidential personnel security files, and requested staff comment as to a suitable reply. The General Counsel stated that in his opinion, Senator Hickenlooper's letter would not preclude a workable arrangement for handling requests by members of the Committee's staff for access to the Commission's confidential personnel security files. The Commission:

NOTED that the Associate General Counsel would prepare a reply acknowledging Senator Hickenlooper's letter.

At this point Mr. Volpe left the meeting.

15. Disposition of Pacific Proving Grounds

Mr. Waymack inquired concerning arrangements for disposition of the Pacific proving grounds upon completion of Operation SANDSTONE. The General Manager replied that the matter had been discussed with the Director of Military Application and that a preliminary estimate of the cost of garrisoning the proving grounds had been submitted by the Military Establishment. The Commission:

NOTED that the General Manager would submit a report on disposition of the proving grounds.

T. O. Jones
Acting Secretary

Approved by the Commission: May 4, 1948