

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : K. E. Fields, General Manager

DATE: May 24, 1955

FROM : W. B. McCool, Secretary *W. B. McCool*

408571

RSUBJECT: RECAP OF INFORMAL MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS LIBBY
AND VON NEUMANN, 2:15 p.m., MAY 24, 1955: MONTHLY
REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

SYMBOL: SECY: JHS

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW	
1ST REVIEWER-DATE: <i>6/13/54</i>	DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S))
AUTHORITY: <i>EAAC EAAC EAADD</i>	1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
NAME: <i>W. B. McCool</i>	2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: _____
2ND REVIEWER-DATE: <i>6-14-54</i>	3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
AUTHORITY: <i>ADD</i>	4. COORDINATE WITH: _____
NAME: <i>W. B. McCool</i>	5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
	6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED

Commissioners Requests and Other Business

1. Tonium Production - Dr. Libby asked to be informed on uses of ionium in the weapons program.
2. Centrifuge Studies - Dr. Libby said that he generally agreed with the program of future studies outlined by Dr. Johnson but that he wished to speak with Dr. Johnson concerning several points.
3. WIGWAM Briefing - The Commissioners agreed that a briefing on WIGWAM results should be scheduled in the near future. You asked Colonel Huston to arrange for a briefing next week and suggested 20 minutes as a reasonable time for the presentation.
4. Selection of Vessel for Merchant Ship Reactor - With regard to alternative vessels now being considered, it was agreed that the Commissioners would be willing to discuss the matter with the Maritime Administration but that the choice should be made by the President. You may wish to inform the Chairman to this effect upon his return. *with 7*
5. Costs of power from U.K. Reactors - It has occurred to us that you might wish to inform the Joint Committee of the conclusions reached by Operations Analysis from their study of this question. *Will let you know later. f*
6. Effects of Weathering on Fall-Out - Dr. Libby inquired concerning AEC studies in this area. Dr. Bugher said that the result from the UPSHOT KNOTHOLE series are now being prepared.

In view of Dr. Libby's interest in this matter, you may wish to request the preparation of an information paper when the results of these studies are complete.

REPOSITORY *NARA College Park*
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May 24, 1955

7. Civil Defense Exercise - In response to your question, Mr. Derry said that Mr. Kelehan has prepared a memorandum to the Commissioners on this subject.

8. Status of Negotiations of Bilateral Agreements - In response to a question by Dr. Libby, Mr. Mitchell said he did not believe it would be necessary to obtain Presidential authorization for more than the 100 KG's, U-235 already allocated before agreements requiring more than this amount are initialled. You said that you believed the Commission should discuss at an early meeting procedure for initialling the agreement.

9. Tritium Costs - Dr. Libby said that he and Dr. von Neumann wished to discuss this question with Mr. Bloch.

Items of Information

1. Uranium Prospects in Texas and Washington.
2. Status of Construction at Portsmouth.
3. Accident to Equipment at Alpha-5.
4. Preliminary results of monitoring at West Coast Canneries.
5. Volume of requests for access agreements.

You may wish to inform the Joint Committee of these matters.

3 and 5 OK. Others must be covered
in routine reports? F 5/25
Secretary - Com. informed. 5/25
Decision