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COLLECTION AEC Minutes (44-326-92-006)  
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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 578

DECLASSIFIED

NND 911161  
HRM/RS 11-10-92

10:30 a.m., Thursday, July 12, 1951

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Present

Gordon Dean  
Sumner T. Fike  
Henry D. Smyth  
Thomas E. Murray

M. W. Boyer  
Walter J. Williams  
Everett L. Hollis

Roy B. Snapp  
D. G. MacDonald

Also Present

Neil J. Carothers  
Col. Richard T. Coiner, Jr.  
Paul W. McDaniel  
Charles F. Knesel

Bruce Uthus  
Thomas A. Courtney  
Ronald I. Spiers  
Morse Salisbury  
Norvell W. Page  
Henry B. Kline


1. Responsibility for Weapons Testing Programs and Proving Grounds

Mr. Dean said he had given further thought to the transfer of Joint Task Force 3 responsibilities effective August 1, 1951, to Joint Task Force 132 under the command of Major General P.W. Clarkson without prior clearance with or notification to the AEC, about which he had expressed concern at the meeting on the previous day. In view of the Commission's responsibilities for maintenance of the Eniwetok Proving Grounds and the orderly termination of and preparation for test operations, there was a need for fuller information regarding the administrative and operational relationships existing among the several agencies which shared responsibility for operation of the proving ground.

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*[Handwritten signature]*



Colonel Coiner concurred and said he understood that in the transfer of JTF-3 responsibilities to JTF-132 the failure to consult with the Commission had been inadvertent. There was discussion of the organization of the new task force; of the magnitude of "roll-up" operations to close out Operation GREENHOUSE; and of the complexity of multi-agency responsibilities for the conduct of Eniwetok operations.

After further discussion, the Commission:

NOTED that an information paper would be prepared detailing joint and separate responsibilities of agencies associated with the maintenance of the Eniwetok Proving Grounds and the conduct of test operations, including the ownership of land and facilities and the budgeting for program activities.

At this point Messrs. Uthus and Courtney entered the meeting.

2. AEC 264/85 - U.S. - U.K. - Belgian Memorandum of Understanding

Under consideration was a report by the Chief of Special Projects recommending approval of a draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Belgium, the U.K., and the U.S., and of a draft Joint Communique announcing an increase of revenue accruing to the Belgium Congo from the sale of uranium and setting forth the means by which the U.S. and the U.K. will provide technical assistance to Belgium.

Mr. Dean reviewed briefly his discussions with Mr. Pierre Ryckmans of Belgium and commented on the terms of the draft Memorandum of Understanding and draft communique which he said he thought the Belgians would find acceptable.

After further discussion the Commission:

- a. APPROVED the recommendation of AEC 264/85; and
- b. AUTHORIZED the Chairman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

At this point Mr. Spiers entered the meeting.