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1175th AEC Meeting 2-10-56

3. Observers at REDWING (pp. 20-25)

Mr. Strauss said that he had been informed that the DOD was considering inviting military observers from the U. K. and Canada to Operation REDWING, and that he had discussed the matter with Admiral Radford and had expressed his concern that an announcement regarding foreign military observers would be made prior to agreement between the DOD and AEC on the subject of press representation at REDWING.

Mr. Fields reported on FCDA interest in having observers at REDWING and discussed some of the problems which would be involved in having representatives of FCDA and the press at REDWING. He said that a staff paper was being prepared on this question. Mr. Murray recommended that the Commission take a position now that the observer program was desirable. The Commissioners discussed this point and agreed to defer consideration until the staff submits recommendations.

Mr. Mitchell said that the presence of British and Canadian military observers at REDWING might be interpreted as communication of Restricted Data and, if this were the case, a joint determination by the DOD and AEC would be required. Mr. Murray observed that British and Canadian observers were present at Operation TEAPOT. Mr. Fields pointed out that no Restricted Data had been communicated to these observers. The Commissioners requested Mr. Mitchell to consider whether it was necessary now to make the determinations required by the Atomic Energy Act in order to legalize the attendance of the foreign observers at TEAPOT. In addition, the Commissioners requested that the forthcoming paper on the observer program at REDWING include a statement whether the presence of foreign military observers would involve communication of Restricted Data.

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