



REPOSITORY NARA/College Park ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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COLLECTION AEC Memo (AEC-326-92-006)

BOX No. 2

MEETING NO. 166

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10:30 a.m., Thursday, April 15, 1948

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Present

Also Present

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

Fletcher C. Waller  
Morse Salisbury

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

T. O. Jones  
Philip J. Farley

OR CHANGE  
BY AUTHORITY  
BY [Redacted] 3-29-59

1. Appointment of Eric Nicol

Mr. Waller stated that he wished the Commission's view as to immediate announcement of Mr. Nicol's appointment as Director of Organization and Personnel. He reviewed the history of the recruitment of a Director and of the tentative selection of Mr. Eric Nicol for appointment to the position. Mr. Nicol, at present a consultant to the Commission, is undergoing routine investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and has been granted emergency clearance with access to restricted data, after a preliminary file check. Mr. Waller referred to Mr. Wilson's recent report to the Commission regarding certain allegations against Mr. Nicol, which his business associates had declared to be unfounded. After discussion, Mr. Pike proposed and the Commission:

AGREED that Mr. Nicol should be retained in his present status and should not be appointed or announced as Director of Organization and Personnel until a complete report has been received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and a full clearance granted.

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AUTHORITY: DOD-DPC  
BY: R. E. O'BRIEN DATE: 3/21/90

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2. Correspondence with Joint Committee concerning Weapon Storage

Mr. Strauss reported that on April 14, 1948, he had called on Senator Hickenlooper to present the Commission's reply to a request from the Joint Committee for certain detailed information about storage of weapon components (AEC 68). At the Senator's request, he had summarized the desired information orally; no one else was present at the time.

3. Correspondence Concerning Dr. Walter F. Colby

Mr. Strauss reported that he had received a letter from Dr. Walter F. Colby stating that the president of the University of Michigan had given Dr. Colby an informal release to accept an appointment from the Commission. Mr. Strauss stated that he was preparing a letter to the president of the University, for the Chairman's signature, formally requesting Dr. Colby's release.

4. Public Announcement Concerning Operation SANDSTONE

The Chairman reported that late yesterday afternoon he had been notified that the understanding on a public statement concerning Operation SANDSTONE, reached yesterday in discussion between the Commission and the Chairman of the Military Liaison Committee, was not acceptable to the Military Establishment. The position of the Military Establishment appeared to be that only a release by the Task Force Commander upon completion of the test program would be advisable. After discussion, the Commission:

NOTED that the Chairman would endeavor to present to the Secretary of Defense the Commission's opinion that withholding a release for more than a few days was unwise.

T. O. Jones  
Acting Secretary

Approved by the Commission: May 4, 1948