

November 22, 1955

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING: Working Group on Nuclear Energy Projects and Related Information Programs (Including NSC 5507/2) Thirty-fourth Meeting held 11 a.m., November 21, 7258 New State Building

Working Group Members Present:

- State - Mr. Gerard C. Smith, Chairman
- Mr. Philip J. Farley, Alternate
- CIA - ..... Alternate
- USIA - Mr. Joseph O. Hanson
- ICA - Mr. Steon McCall
- AEC - Mr. Morse Salisbury
- OCB - Mr. Richard Hirsch



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Others Present:

- State - Mr. Philip Burrus
- Mr. Ronald Spiers
- Defense - Major Richard Orphan
- AEC - Mr. Charter Heslep

1. FCDA Draft Standby Press Release on Advisory Bulletin Containing Information on Clandestine Nuclear Weapons

Subject release was distributed by the OCB Staff Representative for information of the Working Group members with the understanding that any comments would be telephoned directly to Col. Theodore Babbitt, FCDA, Code 1221, Ext. 5385.

2. Forthcoming Visit of Atomic Energy Minister Strauss of the German Federal Republic

The Working Group agreed that it would be desirable for the AEC to accord VIP treatment to Atomic Energy Minister Strauss of the German Federal Republic on his forthcoming 2-week visit to the United States beginning December 2, 1955. It was understood that Department of State officials were cognizant of the importance of this visit and that the Working Group members would only be notified in the event that there were any unforeseen developments in the anticipated reception of Minister Strauss.

3. Review of Draft Progress Report

The draft progress report was commented upon, and it was agreed that

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the OCB Staff Representative would circulate a revised draft to the Working Group for final review before submission to the Executive Officer of OCB. Discussion brought out the following point not previously covered:

Effect of U.S. Announcements of Soviet Weapons Tests. -- At the suggestion of the Chairman, the Working Group members concerned (State, USIA) agreed to obtain the facts with respect to domestic and overseas reaction to past U.S. announcements of Soviet weapons tests together with reactions to announcements of comparable U.S. weapons tests. It was the sense of the Working Group that the manner and timing of recent U.S. announcements on Soviet tests had not achieved widespread public attention. It was felt that the policy of restricting announcements of Soviet tests to a mere mention of their occurrence without descriptive detail of any kind was mitigating against widespread public interest. It was recognized that for effective overseas news play, sufficient lead time should be provided for guidance to be given to news media in advance of any U.S. announcement on this subject.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the call of the Chairman.

/s/

Richard Hirsch  
OCB Staff Representative

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