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**OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.**

March 19, 1954

STAFF STUDY

**SUBJECT: Coordinating Information and Timing of Projects
in Nuclear Energy and Related Fields**

THE PROBLEM

1. To formulate recommendations with regard to overall coordination of public statements, information and timing of projects related to the question of nuclear energy, particularly as to the extent of OCB responsibility in these fields and as to which if any additional responsibilities the Board or other agencies might be charged with by the NSC.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

2. OCB Responsibilities under Executive Order 10483 - Section 2 of Executive Order 10483 provides for two types of OCB actions:

a. Subparagraph (1) which deals with actions specifically assigned to OCB by NSC, charges the Board with "advising with the agencies concerned" respecting "the execution of each security action or project so that it will make its full contribution to the attainment of national security objectives and of the particular climate of opinion the United States is seeking to achieve in the world." In recognition of this function, the NSC recently assigned two actions to the OCB in the general nuclear energy field:

NSC 10483, Sec 2(a)(1)

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Authority <i>NLE 87-4854</i>
By <i>DJH</i> NLE Date <i>1/9/97</i>

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- (1) NSC Action 1045 charged the OCB with advising the Council with respect to the timing of release of the Ivy Film.
- (2) NSC Action 1061 charged OCB with coordinating the timing of the public announcement of the nation-wide Civil Defense Exercise, as well as the general lines to be taken by publicity about it.

b. A second responsibility of OCB stems from subparagraph (1) of Section 2 of Executive Order 10483, which provides that "the Board shall... initiate new proposals for action within the framework of national security policies in response to opportunities and changes in the situation." In fulfillment of this function, the OCB, by action of December 9, 1953, authorized a program for the domestic and international information program in support of the President's UFGA speech. This group includes representatives of the AEC and FCDA.

c. Subparagraph (2) of Section 2, cited above, provides that the OCB can make recommendations to the NSC with respect to nuclear energy related projects, which have not been specifically assigned to the Council, but which may affect other national security actions which have been assigned to OCB by the Council.

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d. OCB's interest responsibility in this aspect has been recognized by the Atomic Energy Commission. Although NSC Memo, October 1, 1953, "Official Statements on Nuclear Weapons" charges officials in the Executive Branch with clearing nuclear weapons statements with the Chairman AEC and charges the latter with clearing intelligence aspects with the Director of CIA, and foreign relation aspects with State, in two recent instances, the Chairman AEC has sought the advice of the OCB with respect to timing and content of official statements on nuclear weapons. By letter to the OCB Staff Representative of February 19, 1954, the AEC Working Group member requested OCB approval of the timing of the announcements of Joint Task Force Seven, and by letter to C. L. Jackson on March 1, with reference to public reporting of the Joint Task Force Seven tests, the Chairman of the AEC stated:

"The ultimate decisions on whether to use these materials, how to adopt them, and what timing to follow in issuance, if it should be found desirable, should of course be made in the light of the judgments that can be assembled by the Operations Coordinating Board.

3. Additional Major Actions not Presently Assigned for Coordination:

a. A number of major public statements with respect to immediate application of atomic energy, international exchange of power reactor technology, and exchange of weapons with NATO allies will be made in connection with the forthcoming hearings on amendments of the Atomic Energy Act. These hearings are presently scheduled for May.



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b. The FCDA has developed a statement with respect to basic planning assumptions for the fiscal year 1955 which it wishes to release for use by state and local Civil Defense organizations. These assumptions include a considerable amount of significant data with respect to the effect of nuclear weapons, targets, destruction, etc.

c. A number of additional actions and public statements will need to be developed with respect to FCDA's annual report, FCDA's exchange of Civil Defense information with friendly countries, and public information developed through the DDM with respect to non-military defense measures (industrial dispersion, dispersal of Federal agencies, etc.). These actions may have important aspects affecting the United States position overseas, depending principally upon their content and their timing in relation to other significant overseas developments.

4. Major Responsibilities for Actions Cited Above.

a. The FCDA under Public Law 920 has responsibility to "publicly disseminate appropriate Civil Defense information by all appropriate means."

b. The AEC under the Atomic Energy Act of 1946 is charged with making available to Congress and the public unclassified reports with respect to atomic energy.

c. The ODM, under authority of the National Security Act and Reorganization Plan No. 3, has responsibility for the broad dissemination of non-military defense measures, including public information with respect to such measures.

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d. The Chairman of the AEC, under NSC 151/1, is responsible for coordinating programs for the disclosure of atomic energy information to friendly countries. In carrying out this responsibility he operates through various agency channels depending upon the purpose involved.

DISCUSSION

5. NSC Actions 1045 and 1061, and the AEC letters of 19 February and 1 March 1954, cited above, acknowledge OGB's interests in the nuclear energy field. As precedents they suggest that the NSC should instruct the OGB to advise with the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Director of the FCDA on the timing, and manner of presentation of such programs as may significantly affect the climate of opinion factor which the United States is seeking to maintain abroad. Such programs, in addition to those previously cited, logically would include:

- a. the timing of declassification of information covered in 151/1, "disclosure of classified information to allied countries";
- b. manner and timing of release of proposed information to public officials, law enforcement agencies on clandestine nuclear weapons;
- c. domestic nuclear proving ground publicity;
- d. military applications aspects of AEC unclassified reports, and non-military applications aspects of Department of Defense unclassified reports.

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6. In the discharge of its duties, the Commission should coordinate with the State, coordinate with the Federal Government, and coordinate with the OCE's responsibilities in the area of the management of the State's resources. The Commission should make explicit the primary role of the State in the management of its resources, the role of OCE with respect to the management of the State's resources, and the role of the Federal Government in the management of the State's resources. Information of significance to the State should be made available to the State.

CONCLUSIONS

7. In the discharge of its duties, the Commission should coordinate with the State in the execution of the program affecting the State's resources, the State's resources, the State's resources, and the State's resources.

- a. The Commission should coordinate with the State in the execution of the program affecting the State's resources, the State's resources, the State's resources, and the State's resources.
- b. Proposing programs and activities for the State's resources, the State's resources, the State's resources, and the State's resources. The Commission should coordinate with the State in the execution of the program affecting the State's resources, the State's resources, the State's resources, and the State's resources.

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8. Climate of opinion and discussion created by individuals and all government actions in the past several years has been such that the public which are capable of signal action... many other significant... which seems desirable... exercise judgment... objectives.

9. Review of the... to the AEC, the Office of... imposed upon... and Public... operational control... timing of, nuclear energy... evident that the... National Security Council... position was... the detriment of...

RECOMMENDATION

10. It is recommended that...

REPRODUCED FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



a. Inform the US which is OCB responsible for the
timing of projects and coordination of these with the state of energy
and related projects, that:

"The OCB interest in projects is primarily to secure
maximum foreign support and the best international cooperation
with respect to nuclear energy, progress and development.
The OCB should encourage the countries to express their
views with respect to the project and the timing
of actions in the field of nuclear energy which should
have significant benefits to these countries."

"Inasmuch as the OCB interests in projects in the
foreign field are in the nature of international
final authority for these projects and the
against overseas considerations with respect to
and statement of the project which is the project
itself. The OCB should be notified of these projects
to visit

"The OCB will be notified of all projects
considered to be of interest to the OCB and
should be consulted on all projects of interest
and should be consulted on all projects of interest
to the OCB. The OCB should be notified of these projects
to visit

The OCB should be notified of these projects

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The following information is being furnished to you:

The release of public information *and the timing of projects* which may be of interest to the public should be advised with the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State will advise with the Secretary of State the advisability of releasing public information. The official statement will be issued as requested. The information plan will be issued as requested.

- 1) Public information plan will be issued as requested.
- 2) Public information plan will be issued as requested.
- 3) Public information plan will be issued as requested.
- 4) Public information plan will be issued as requested.
- 5) Public information plan will be issued as requested.
- 6) Public information plan will be issued as requested.
- 7) Public information plan will be issued as requested.
- 8) Public information plan will be issued as requested.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS



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be considered by the ...

- "A. Federal ...
- "B. ...
- "C. ...
- "D. ...
- "E. ...

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Federal Civil Defense Administration will sit with the Operations Coordinating Board and will participate in the formulation of the Board's recommendations and such other activities of the Board as may be concerned with this program."

e. Contingent upon NSC approval of a. above, circulate the memorandum, attached as TAB "A" with enclosures, to members of OCB, Chairman AEC, Director FCDA, and the Director ODM.

d. Establish working groups or make such other arrangements as may be appropriate (1) to assist the Board in advising the Chairman of AEC and other agencies concerned with respect to OCB views as to the timing of proposed actions or statements pertaining to nuclear energy; and (2) to initiate suggestions to the NSC or to other appropriate authorities for the more effective exploitation of actions or statements in the field of nuclear energy. This group should have appropriate security clearances for access to AEC restricted data and the Chairman of AEC ^{should} participate as a member of the OCB at which nuclear energy matters are discussed.

Attachment:

TAB "A" - draft Statement by [redacted] attached Check List [redacted]

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Draft Statement by OCB to:
Members of Board
Chairman, AEC
Director, FCDA
Director, ODM

The area of United States Government public reporting, which is one of the most important problems of coordination now arise in the field of nuclear energy development, both for weapons and general beneficial uses. The urgency of bringing about such coordination has been heightened by the need to maintain and enhance the American leadership established by the President's speech of December 8, 1954, to the UN General Assembly. Major actions taken and the subsequent public statements on nuclear applications and findings should wherever possible be examined with an eye to making them carry the fullest possible weight in support of this Nation's objectives throughout the world.

The Board stands ready to assist in this type of coordination. It will give first priority of members, staff assistants, staff working groups to expediting it and to providing written guidance where appropriate. Our purpose is to insure explicitly to insure a range of timing and content of official actions and statements, the full range of judgments available in the agencies represented by the Board and the working groups to make sure that no pertinent considerations will be overlooked; and that the maximum support for the United States international position in nuclear energy matters may be possible. The timing of actions taken and by official public reporting should be coordinated in this field.

To reduce the possibility of lapse or oversight, on this subject

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consultation on matters of nuclear energy action or announcements, the Board's staff and working groups have compiled the attached check list of items which in the judgment of the various agency representatives hold potentialities for harm or help in the advancement of the United States' interests.

It is suggested that agency heads advise their principal assistants dealing with these matters to bring them to the attention of the Board for advisory comment on content or timing or operational significance as concerns national policy. The longer in advance notice can be provided, the more adequate and useful will be our advisory action.

The check list, of course, does not include all points that might merit attention. It will be revised periodically. We will welcome your comments on additions--or omissions--which occur to you and your staff.

Attachment: Check List

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Check List of Actions of Information Policy Branch
in the Nuclear Energy and Related Fields

1. Actions in support of the President's message in his State of the Union address of December 8, 1953.
2. Major policy statements expressing our leadership policy with respect to international control of nuclear energy.
3. Executive Branch proposals with respect to amendments of the Atomic Energy Act.
4. General content of information plan for publication of 1954 announcements on weapons test results, availability of fuel, and related matters.
5. General content of information plan for publication of 1954 announcements, and official reports, on technical developments in operations of nation-wide civil defense exercises.
6. General content of information plan for publication of 1954 announcements and official reports on public health and safety activities, such as the proposed Code of Federal Regulations on radiation protection (NRC-ANS) exercises planned for 1954.
7. General content of information plan for publication of 1954 announcements and reporting materials on major developments in industrial defense activities in the United States as planned by AEC.
8. Declassified information proposed for release in public domain by intelligence and law enforcement agencies to aid the Department of Defense.

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clandestine delivery of nuclear weapons by enemies

9. Timing of public announcements of overseas deployment of military combat elements capable of employing nuclear weapons
10. Official comment on guided missile developments reflecting air offensive or air defensive capabilities involving nuclear characteristics.
11. Timing and content of public reporting materials on biological warfare, either offensive or defensive