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Mtgs? Agenda Vol 2

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April 15, 1954

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION - MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF EIGHTY-SEVENTH CONFERENCE

December 3, 1953

The Conference convened at 2:00 p.m., with the following persons present:

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Lewis L. Strauss
Thomas E. Murray
Joseph Campbell

Hon. Robert LeBaron
Maj. Gen. J. E. Briggs
Maj. Gen. H. G. Bunker
Brig. Gen. H. McK. Roper
Rear Adm. G. C. Wright

James L. Kelehan

Maj. Gen. A. R. Luedecke (AFSWP)

Roy B. Snapp
Charles A. Perry

Col. Orin S. Richardson

Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields
Col. Vincent G. Huston
Comdr. C. M. MacDonald, USN
Comdr. J. M. Dunford, USN

Col. Robert A. Olson
Col. Donald G. Williams
Lt. Col. H. L. Whitten
Lt. Col. M. L. Shoss
Comdr. Nels R. Nelson

Capt. Paul H. Ramsey, USN
Comdr. Roger F. Smith, USN

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DOD HRD

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Eighty-fourth, Eighty-fifth and Eighty-sixth Conferences were approved.

2. Standardization and Type Classification (Acceptance) of Atomic Weapons

The scheduled briefing on this subject was postponed. The date is to be determined later.

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4/30/1954/2/10

See memo dated 4-15-54

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3. Observers at CASTLE

General Roper stated this subject was brought up as a result of a request from the Task Force Commander, General Clarkson, for information on the policy to be adopted for the official observer program. Mr. Strauss observed that the Commissioners and staff are not, of course, to be considered official observers. It was observed that this same status applies to the MLC and similar DOD personnel having direct interests in the operation. Mr. Strauss further stated that some official observer program at the next tests may be desirable but the question has not yet been resolved by the Commissioners. A discussion of the direct and indirect costs involved followed. Mr. Strauss said that following Commission consideration of these and other factors further discussions with the DOD will be held.

4. Status of AEC Request for Priorities at Savannah River

Mr. LeBaron stated that the AEC request of November 13, 1953, for an increase and extension of the "S" priorities for Savannah River is under consideration within the DOD. The MLC have recommended DOD approval of this request and favorable action is anticipated at an early date. Mr. Strauss stated a report of the final action could be made at the next joint meeting.

5. General Discussion

a. Belgian Reactor Program

Mr. Strauss asked about the status of DOD concurrence in the draft response to the Belgian memorandum of April 15, 1953, concerning extension of the U. S.-U. K.-Belgian Agreement of 1944. Mr. LeBaron stated he would check with Secretary Wilson and inform Mr. Strauss.

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b. Division of Responsibilities for Weapons System Development

Mr. Strauss stated that the President had approved the AEC proposal for a Presidential directive on DOD participation in the production and custody of non-nuclear components of atomic weapons.

c. Classification of IVY Film

Mr. Strauss reviewed plans for the declassification of an IVY film to OFFICIAL USE ONLY for an early showing to a group of mayors. He stated that he expected requests for early showings of this revised version by Civil Defense authorities and desired MLC comment as to whether the film should be released to the public at this time.

General Luedecke stated that the film, even in the new version, is such that yield, fireball size, crater size, etc., can be determined, and that without a decision to declassify the yield, release of the film would be in violation of the joint classification guide.

Mr. Strauss then asked that the film be again reviewed from a classification standpoint.

6. Proposed Dates of Next Two Meetings

January 14 and February 25, 1954 were approved.

ROY B. SNAPP
Secretary
Atomic Energy Commission

ORIN S. RICHARDSON
Colonel, U.S.A.F.
Executive Secretary
Military Liaison Committee

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