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REPOSITORY NACA/Colling Park ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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COLLECTION AEC Minutes (WAS-326-92-011) MEETING NO. 179

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BOX No. 2

FOLDER Vol 2+3 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 15, 1948

Present

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

Also Present

Brig. Gen. James McCormack, Jr.
Capt. James S. Russell, USN
Col. Paul T. Preuss

Carroll L. Wilson

Roy B. Snapp

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BY ~~_____~~

1. Report of Test Director

Captain James Russell, USN, AEC Test Director for Operation SANDSTONE submitted his preliminary report to the Commission. He reported that the Commission's directive to the Test Director (AEC 9/2) had been fulfilled, and three shots successfully fired. He described the arrangements and implementation for the tests, and the tests for the Armed Forces which were included in the experimentation. He reviewed the organization and cost of Operation SANDSTONE and the philosophy of operations. He reported on the condition in which the proving ground was left and commented on the significance of the results of the proof test operation.

Mr. Lilienthal expressed the deep appreciation of the Commission to Captain Russell and to Doctor Froman, in the latter's absence, for their successful work in the test program. Mr. Lilienthal stated that the Commission shared the grave concern of its Test Director over the lack of public recognition for the participation of the scientists on the proof test operation. The Commission had approved fully the recommendation of General Hull and Captain Russell that public recognition be given at the Hawaii press conference to the scientists who made such a marked contribution to the

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program. The Commission considered it very unfortunate that a last-minute objection prevented the public recognition planned, since such occurrences make it difficult to interest and retain scientific talent in the atomic energy program.

Mr. Lilienthal expressed appreciation for the manner in which Joint Task Force 7 had fulfilled its mission and for the outstanding assistance it gave the Commission.

The Commission:

a. AGREED that the dissolution of Joint Task Force 7 would be appropriate when so ordered by the Joint Chiefs of Staff;

b. ACCEPTED Captain Russell's report and agreed that the Commission directive of January 14, 1948 (AEC 9/2) to the Test Director was fulfilled;

c. REQUESTED that Captain Russell have letters of commendation prepared, for the Chairman's signature, to those scientists who made outstanding contributions, and that other commendatory letters be prepared as appropriate;

d. NOTED WITH APPROVAL that the General Manager had designated the Office of Santa Fe Directed Operations as the field agency of the Commission for administration of the Commission interest in the Eniwetok Proving Ground after dissolution of Joint Task Force 7; and

e. ACCEPTED the recommendation that the framework of the Proof Test Division at Los Alamos Laboratory be maintained during the intervals between tests and that a steering committee be formed jointly among the Commission and Military Liaison Committee staffs.

Roy B. Snapp
Secretary

Approved by the Commission: July 15, 1948