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AEC 483/23

409020

October 15, 1952

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

ACTION ON THE NSC DIRECTIVE CONCERNING PUBLIC REPORTING  
ON THE IVY SERIES

Note by the Secretary

The attached report by the Director of Information Services is circulated for the information of the Commission.

REPOSITORY NARA College Park  
COLLECTION RG 326 51-58 Secretary  
BOX No. 182 (NNS-326-93-010) ROY B. SNAPP  
FOLDER MRA 7 Aug, 42 Secretary

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

WITH ATTACHMENT  
CONFIRMED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED  
BY AUTHORITY OF DOE/OC  
H.L. Hoppe 11/22/85  
REVIEWED BY DATE  
By: P.M. Sweetman 6/11/86  
Res Deny A.D.O. 415/95

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15-52

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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

ACTION ON THE NSC DIRECTIVE CONCERNING PUBLIC  
REPORTING ON THE IVY SERIES

Report by the Director of Information Services

1. In the press of other business it was impossible for the Commission to consider AEC 483/20 during the week of September 22. It being clear that the Commission wished to follow the provisions of the NSC Directive of September 17, and that the dispatch of the necessary instructional and information notices should not wait for another week, the Chairman endorsed the sending forward of such notices by the General Manager, the Director of Military Application and the Director of Information Services.

2. There are attached copies of the communications which have been forwarded.

3. This concludes the necessary notifications on the NSC Directive.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

OR CHANGED TO \_\_\_\_\_  
BY AUTHORITY OF DO  
BY [Signature] DATE 3/22/73

[REDACTED]

APPENDIX "A"

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 30, 1952

Mr. James S. Lay, Jr.  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lay:

Following receipt of your letter of September 17 on "Psychological Exploitation of Certain Thermonuclear Developments," the Commission has instructed the staff to act in accordance with the decisions of the Psychological Strategy Board transmitted by the letter. We are enclosing a copy of the General Manager's instruction to the staff members affected.

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Gordon Dean  
Chairman

Enclosure  
General Manager's  
Instruction

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ANNEX TO APPENDIX "A"

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

September 25, 1952

MEMORANDUM

TO : Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields, Director,  
Division of Military Application  
Morse Salisbury, Director  
Division of Information Services

FROM : M. W. Boyer, General Manager

SUBJECT: COMPLIANCE WITH NSC REQUEST ON PUBLIC REPORTING OF

1. The Commission has received from the National Security Council endorsement of the decision of the Psychological Strategy Board concerning public statements on IVY, and request for our appropriate action in this connection. You have the letter in the text of AEC 483/20.

2. You are requested to take the necessary action for the Atomic Energy Commission, conveying the instructions to the supervisors and the operating officers of Joint Task Force 13 and to the Public Information Service and the Santa Fe Operating Office of the AEC.

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APPENDIX "B"

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 26, 1952

MEMORANDUM

TO : Those Listed Below

FROM : Morse Salisbury, Director  
Division of Information Services

SUBJECT: COMPLIANCE WITH NSC REQUEST ON PUBLIC REPORTING OF  
IVY

We have now received the NSC endorsement of the PSB decisions on public reporting in connection with IVY, and the Commission has instructed staff to act in accordance with these decisions. General Fields has sent the text of the NSC letter to General Clarkson and Mr. Tyler, requesting that JTF 132 and AEC follow a line of information operations which will comply with the decisions, and stating that I will give you a word on the matter.

The word is brief: Our compliance will follow the course stated in my memorandum to you of September 17.\* For your reference I am providing along with this a copy of the NSC communication.

Enclosure

Addressees

Chief, Public Information Services  
Public Information Officer, JTF-132  
Director of Information, Santa Fe Operations Office

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\*Secretariat Note: Circulated as Appendix "B" to AEC 483/20.

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APPENDIX "C"

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 26, 1952

Mr. Andrew H. Berding  
Director, Office of Public Information  
Department of Defense  
Room 2E-800  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Andy:

Doubtless you have seen the NSC directive of September 15 on public reporting in connection with the autumn test series. We have taken action on it at the direction of the Commission sending notice to JTF-132 (insofar as it acts as agent for the AEC) and to our own public information offices that are involved. I'm enclosing our file of communications for your information. Would appreciate copies of the instructions you get out to the services and commands from the DOD side.

I might say that prompt action on this seems indicated, since we have just had a proposed joint DOD-AEC release from the Albuquerque area scientists and officers attending the test. We are turning it down from the AEC side, of course. There will be more such proposals unless we send around the word of the directive.

Sincerely yours,

Morse Salisbury, Director  
Division of Information Services

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[REDACTED]

APPENDIX "D"

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 26, 1952

Mr. Carroll L. Tyler, Manager  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Santa Fe Operations Office  
P. O. Box 5400  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Tyler:

The Commission has received now an NSC directive under the title "Psychological Exploitation of Certain Thermonuclear Developments," which sets up a strictly limited program of public reporting on Operation IVY. I am enclosing the text of the NSC letter.

The General Manager has instructed us to act in accordance with the directive and this will, of course, govern the public reporting by Santa Fe Operations and Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory on this occasion. The Director of Information Services has already forwarded to your public information director and the public information officer of Joint Task Force 132 an informal instruction on compliance with the recommendations of the Psychological Strategy Board. He will also give the same to the men an advisory on compliance with the NSC directive which will, of course, be the same as the previous instruction on the PSB recommendations.

The program calls for no public statement from now on until the end of the series, a brief statement then and no press conference.

Sincerely yours,

K. E. Fields  
Brigadier General, USA  
Director of Military Application

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

APPENDIX "E"

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 26, 1952

Major General P. W. Clarkson, USA  
Commander, JTF-132  
12th and Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Clarkson:

Earlier you were acquainted by Morse Salisbury with the preliminary conclusions of a panel of the Psychological Strategy Board which affect the public reporting of Operation IVY. The Psychological Strategy Board has now acted on the Panel's recommendations, and we have received their decisions for appropriate action in a communication from the National Security Council. I am attaching a copy of the NSC communication and of the final report of the Panel.

The Commission has approved our action in accordance with the PSB decisions, and the Department of Defense approved the decisions through its membership in the PSB. You are requested in the public information operations of JTF-132 to act in accordance with these decisions. This of course does not affect the authority to take proper action in emergency situations as outlined in the next to final paragraph of the Commission's letter to you of August 20.

The Director of Information Services is forwarding to the Public Information Officer of the Task Force and to the concerned information staffs in the AEC an advisory on compliance with NSC directive.

Sincerely yours,

K. E. Fields  
Brigadier General, USA  
Director of Military Application