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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

APPOINTMENT OF AEC REPRESENTATIVE FOR JTF-3

Note by the Secretariat

1. The attached report by the Director of Military Application is circulated for the information of the Commission.

2. It is to be noted that the Director of Military Application intends to request, at an early meeting, the Commission's decision on the appointment of an AEC representative as discussed in the attached report.

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PHILIP J. FARLEY
Office of the Secretary

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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

APPOINTMENT OF AEC REPRESENTATIVE FOR GREENHOUSE

Report by Director of Military Application

1. The problem of Commission delegation of authority during the period of overseas operation of Joint Task Force THREE was mentioned to the Commissioners at Meeting 311 on October 6, 1949. More recently, General Quesada, in a memorandum to the Commission dated October 28, 1949, (see AEC 153/3) noted that the plan for the GREENHOUSE operation, as prepared by the Joint Proof Test Committee, would be submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and to the Commission. The views of the Commission as to their representative were also requested.

2. It will be recalled that at SANDSTONE, Captain James S. Russell, of the Division of Military Application, was the Senior AEC Representative and Test Director, while Dr. Darol K. Froman, of Los Alamos Laboratory, was the Scientific Director under Captain Russell. The SANDSTONE Task Force organization, under General Hull, consisted of a joint staff of personnel from the three military services; operational responsibility was delegated to seven Task Groups, one of which was commanded by Captain Russell. This Group was responsible for directing the technical and scientific tests and included Dr. Froman's unit which was the scientific and only subordinate unit of the Task Group.

3. Thus, it can be seen that Captain Russell, as Test Director, actually performed two functions during the test. As Commander of Task Group 7.1, he was a military commander, responsible directly to the Task Force Commander for all operations, administration and decisions pertaining to the AEC. Dr. Froman, as the Scientific Director heading the subordinate Task Unit 7.1.1,

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looked to Captain Russell for his needs in the way of military support. He could not from his level directly influence over-all operations policy except through Captain Russell.

4. The second function performed by Captain Russell, as Task Force Director, was that of Senior AEC Representative. In this capacity he was delegated full and complete authority to act for the Commission with all elements of the Task Force. His position was essentially similar to that of the Commission's Managers in the field except that his authority was somewhat greater because of the remoteness and urgency of the operation. Dr. Froman's position was in a sense comparably reduced, as compared with that of the Directors of the Commission's laboratories.

5. This was the situation which prompted the joint recommendation of Captain Russell and Dr. Froman for an improved command relationship in future test operations. This, too, accounted for the feeling that the extremely cordial personal relations between General Hull, Captain Russell and Dr. Froman successfully bridged a gap between the great responsibility of the Scientific Director and his comparatively subordinate positions of authority which might otherwise have proved a serious hazard.

6. Half of the dual problem of SANDSTONE has already been solved. The GREENHOUSE military organization places Dr. Graves in direct control of the Scientific Task Group, rather than in a lower unit of this group. He is also assigned functional duty as Task Force Deputy for Scientific Affairs, directly under General Quesada. These assignments will effectively close the gap between responsibility and authority in the relationship of the Scientific Director with the Task Force. There remains, then, the problem of what might be called AEC (or administrative)

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relations between the Scientific Director and the Senior AEC Representative.

7. An informal suggestion was made in October that Dr. Graves be designated as AEC Representative in addition to his duties as Scientific Director and Deputy for Scientific Affairs to General Quesada. However, in view of certain questions raised at that time both as to the propriety of having the Commission represented by a contractor's employee and the undesirability of placing an additional administrative burden on Dr. Graves, an alternate solution is now offered. This solution has the concurrence of both Mr. Tyler and Dr. Graves, and is also believed to answer the Commission's requirements of good management and properly delegated authority.

8. It is proposed that, at a time mutually agreeable to the AEC and the Department of Defense, the Commission designate the Commander, Joint Task Force Three (General Quesada) as its over-all representative. As the individual charged with the success of the test operation, it is clear that he is already ultimately responsible to both the AEC and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. To assist General Quesada in this duty, a senior officer from the Division of Military Application will be incorporated into his staff, possibly as Deputy Chief of Staff. This officer will be the advisor and executor on all AEC matters; as such he will represent the AEC, both the Washington Staff and the Manager, Santa Fe Operations. Similarly, Dr. Graves, as Deputy for Scientific Affairs, will advise the Task Force Commander on scientific requirements and policy.

9. The Commission would thus be officially represented by a very senior government employee, namely General Quesada, who in

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all cases is advised by, and acts through, both the AEC Scientific Director and the Division of Military Application Deputy Chief of Staff on all AEC matters. The Scientific Director controls all scientific affairs, in a position of authority commensurate both administratively and operationally with his responsibility. Finally, both the Director of Military Application and the Manager, Santa Fe Operations are represented by an individual, (the Deputy Chief of Staff, who would be a member of the Division of Military Application) thoroughly cognizant of their needs and policies.

10. Pending the ultimate assignment of this broad authority to General Quesada, AEC interests in the 1951 test will continue to be handled under currently delegated authority by the Director of Military Application and the Manager, Santa Fe Operations.

11. The Commission's decision in the organizational problem presented above will be requested by the Director of Military Application at a meeting with the Commission in the near future.