

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 794

30983

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 23, 1952

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Present

Gordon Dean  
Henry D. Smyth  
Thomas E. Murray  
Eugene M. Zuckert

M. W. Boyer  
Walter J. Williams

Harold L. Price

Roy B. Snapp  
John H. Stumpf

Also Present

Richard W. Cook  
Rafford L. Faulkner  
Lawrence R. Hafstad  
Malcolm C. Henderson  
Jesse C. Johnson  
Donald H. Loughridge  
Philip Mullenbach  
Morse Salisbury  
E. R. Trapnell  
John A. Waters  
J. H. Burchard  
Stuart McLain  
J. C. Robinson  
E. N. Stirewalt  
R. Southwick  
Charles G. Manly

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STATUS VERIFIED

BY Willie Struss DATE 8/15/79

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

~~SECRET~~ *deleted version only*  
BY AUTHORITY OF J. L. Cucchiere, DPC, 5/2/79  
BY B. Wise DATE 2/24/79

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AEC 487/21 - Troop Participation in Continental Tests

General Fields outlined the present plans of the DOD for extensive troop participation in the UPSHOT-KNOTHOLE series. He pointed out that the most significant point of difference between the present proposal and the previous troop participation exercise is that in the forthcoming tests the usual limits of physical exposure to weapons effects would probably be exceeded. It was therefore proposed that responsibility for the physical safety of the troops participating in the exercise be delegated to the DOD and that the DOD be informed of the possibility that exceeding the normal limits of exposure to radiation or pressure might endanger the participating personnel. Dr. Eugher briefly discussed the possible effects of exceeding the normal radiation and pressure limits to the extent proposed by the DOD.

Mr. Dean observed that since the DOD apparently considered it necessary to conduct the exercises in this manner, the AEC was not in a position to recommend that the normal limits be observed. He suggested that the draft letter to the Chief, AFSWP, be revised accordingly. After further discussion the Commission:

a. APPROVED delegation of responsibility for physical and radiological safety of troops and troop observers in the exercise area at UPSHOT-KNOTHOLE to the DOD, contingent upon the Exercise Director's transmitting to the Test Manager, for information, the safety plan for the exercise including statements as to which particular limits, if any, of the AEC's safety limits are being exceeded and by how much;

b. APPROVED issuance of a public statement by the Exercise Director through the joint AEC-DOD information office prior to the exercise, clarifying DOD responsibility for the safety of troops at the exercise and including the paragraph on responsibility for safety criteria outlined in Enclosure II of Appendix "B";

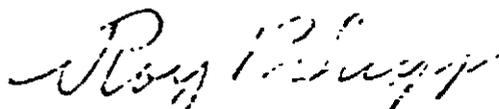
c. APPROVED the DOD plan for troop and troop observer participation in UPSHOT-KNOTHOLE (Annex to Appendix "A")

subject to the amendments set forth in a and b above and to the additional amendments noted in Appendix "B" and Enclosure I thereto;

d. NOTED that the draft letter to the Chief, AFSWP, attached as Appendix "B" to AEC 487/21 would be revised in accordance with the discussion at the meeting;

e. APPROVED dispatch of a letter such as that in Appendix "B" to the Chief, AFSWP advising of Commission action on the DOD plan for troop participation in UPHOT-KNOTHOLE; and

f. NOTED that copies of the letter to the Chief, AFSWP will be provided the MLC, and that the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy will be advised of this action by appropriate letter.



Roy B. Snapp  
Secretary

Approved by the Commission: February 4, 1953