

FORM CD-14 (3-9-59)		U.S. DEPT. OF COMM		ATE
TRANSMITTAL SLIP			7-31-60	
TO: <i>Col. Lawrence M. Hensch</i>			REF. NO. OR ROOM/BLDG.	
FROM: <i>John Weber, Pres. Secy.</i>			REF. NO. OR ROOM, BLDG. 1CRPF	
ACTION				
<input type="checkbox"/>	NOTE AND FILE	<input type="checkbox"/>	PER OUR CONVERSATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NOTE AND RETURN TO ME	<input type="checkbox"/>	PER YOUR REQUEST	
<input type="checkbox"/>	RETURN WITH MORE DETAILS	<input type="checkbox"/>	FOR YOUR APPROVAL	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NOTE AND SEE ME ABOUT THIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FOR YOUR INFORMATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE ANSWER	<input type="checkbox"/>	FOR YOUR COMMENTS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PREPARE REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	SIGNATURE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/>	INVESTIGATE AND REPORT	
COMMENTS: <i>File</i>				

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*Rad. Pres. at Food Program. Inter departmental
Committee on Radiation (1959-1960)*

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON RADIATION PRESERVATION OF FOOD

Minutes of Meeting
March 21, 1960

1. Time and Attendance

The eleventh meeting was held on March 21, 1960 from 10 A.M. to 10:45 A.M., in Room 4817, Department of Commerce, with Mr. H. Herbert Hughes, Chairman, presiding. Seven members/alternates, seven phase group leaders, nine representatives, and seven other guests were present.

Members/Alternates:	Jacob M. Schaffer	Department of Commerce
	R. G. H. Siu	Department of the Army
	James Salisbury, Jr.	Small Business Admin.
	George W. Irving, Jr.	Department of Agriculture
	James C. Meem	International Cooperation Administration
	A. Tammaro	Atomic Energy Commission
	Paul C. Aebersold	" " "
Phase Group Leaders:	John A. Holston	Department of the Interior
	E. J. Hand	Department of Commerce
	Harry W. Ketchum	Department of Commerce
	Joseph E. Machurek	Atomic Energy Commission
	Robert M. Rodden	Department of the Army
	Olof E. Stamberg	" " "
	David H. Rest	" " "
Representatives:	Laurence M. Hursh	Department of the Army
	William B. Levin	" " "
	William C. Miller	Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
	Thomas W. Delahanty	Department of Commerce
	H. W. Koch	" " "
	G. W. Seymour	Small Business Admin.
	Wilbur T. Pentzer	Department of Agriculture
	E. Eugene Fowler	Atomic Energy Commission
	Richard E. Benson	" " "
	Other Guests:	F. J. Haase
John L. Schwab		" " "
A. W. Harvey		" " "
G. B. Wareham		Department of Defense
Robert S. Roe		Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Edwin P. Laug		" " "
Andrew C. Wheeler		" " "
Secretariat:		John Weber

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2. Summary of Meeting

The major actions taken by the Committee were:

- (1) Accepted the paper entitled "Notes on the Agenda" as read by the Chairman with exception that one additional item be added. This is Item #9 on page 3 of the above paper and reads as follows: "To avoid duplication of effort, close and direct cooperation and interchange of information among the staff of all member agencies is in effect."
- (2) The Chairman reported that comments have been received from all of the agency heads or their representatives who have membership on the Committee relative to the ad hoc report "A National Civilian Radiation Processed Foods Program" and are on file in the Secretary's office. Copies of agency comments from the Atomic Energy Commission and the Departments of Army, Agriculture, and Interior were reproduced and furnished Committee Members, Alternates, and Representatives prior to the meeting in view of the detailed information furnished.
- (3) It was decided to furnish the agency heads that have representation on the Committee copies of all the "ad hoc report" comments of the nine agencies involved, with an appropriate letter of transmittal. It was agreed that this action disposes of the Committee responsibility to the agencies with regard to the ad hoc report.
- (4) It was agreed that the Chairman of the Committee, if called upon to appear before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy at a scheduled open hearing March 31, 1960, would ask other representatives of the Committee to "stand by" for technical assistance during the hearing.
- (5) It was agreed that the Chairman would transmit to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy a copy of the paper "Notes on Agenda" and a copy of all agency comments on the ad hoc panel report. This was done on March 24, 1960.
- (6) It was decided to issue a press release broadly describing the current activity of the Government irradiated food program. The press release was issued March 28, 1960.

John Weber
Executive Secretary

Distribution:

Chairman
Members/Alternates
Representatives
Guests
Agency Technical Representatives
Department of Defense (Ass't Secy. - R&E)
Director, Bureau of the Budget
Department of Army (Office of R&D)
OQTC, I&E Division
QM R&D Command
Department of Commerce - Secy.

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S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

**INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON
RADIATION PRESERVATION OF FOOD**

John Weber: ST 3-5200
Ext. 328

FOR RELEASE MONDAY,
MARCH 28, 1960

GOVERNMENT INCREASES RESEARCH
ON RADIATION PROCESSING OF FOODS

Through the stimulus of the Interdepartmental Committee on Radiation Preservation of Foods, definite steps are now being taken to carry forward a national program of research and development on radiation processing of food. This important phase of the President's Atoms for Peace Program was announced today by H. Herbert Hughes, Deputy Administrator of the Business and Defense Services Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce, who is Chairman of the nine-agency Committee, following a meeting of the Committee held on March 21, 1960.

These steps include the following:

The Atomic Energy Commission has established a program of research and development on low dose radiation processing of perishable foods to extend shelf life. During the next five years the Atomic Energy Commission expects to spend approximately \$5,000,000 on this project. During fiscal years 1960 and 1961, \$115,000 and \$500,000, respectively, are being devoted to the program. Under the Atomic Energy Commission program emphasis will be placed on basic studies in food chemistry, microbiology, wholesomeness testing, preservation factors of shelf life extension and radiation processing technology.

The Department of the Army has approved a revised Army food irradiation program. Over a six-year period, the Army Research program will cost an estimated

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\$5,000,000. It also proposes to construct a radiation food research facility to cost about \$1,800,000. This facility will consist of a megacurie cobalt 60 gamma irradiator, variable voltage linear electron accelerator, and associated facilities with emphasis on high dose treatment of foods.

The Departments of Agriculture, Interior and Commerce have conducted research and development in their respective areas and indicate they plan to continue their individual programs in cooperation with the Army and the Atomic Energy Commission.

To avoid duplication of effort, close and direct cooperation and interchange of information among all the member agencies are in effect.

Research on the use of radiation for processing food must take into account the provisions of the several food regulatory acts, such as those administered by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Department of Agriculture. The wholesomeness and safety of radiation-processed food must therefore be established to the satisfaction of these agencies.

Agencies represented on the Committee are: Departments of State, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Health, Education and Welfare, Army, Atomic Energy Commission, Small Business Administration, and International Cooperation Administration.

Mr. Hughes indicates that, as the national research and development program on radiation processing of food progresses, the Interdepartmental Committee through its member agencies will encourage commercial adoption of this technology.

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