

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 869

10:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 26, 1953

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Present

Gordon Dean
Henry D. Smyth
Eugene M. Zuckert

M. W. Boyer

Harold D. Anamosa
Charles A. Perry

Also Present

Dr. John C. Bugher
Gerard Smith
Newton I. Steers
Richard W. Johnston
Frank C. Legler
Robert L. Butenhoff

1. Effects of Atomic Detonations on Weather

Mr. Dean asked if the adverse weather conditions at Eniwetok following the Mike and King shots could be attributed to those detonations. Dr. Bugher said that according to a report by Commander Patc, Staff Weather Officer for JTF-7, these disturbances appeared to have been caused by the shots. Photographs of the King shot indicated that up until shot time the weather had been as predicted, but after the shot heavy clouds and squalls developed. The disturbances were a series of high altitude (40,000 ft.) storms over a wide area, with precipitation and many thunder storms. The weather conditions prior to the shot were favorable to rain, and the large vertical disturbances caused by the blast seemed to have "triggered" the storms which began at Eniwetok and spread north and west over an area of 250,000 square miles. There was no damage, and recognition of the phenomenon was retrospective. Dr. Bugher added, however, that meteorological experts have not been able to uncover any relationship between the recent weather conditions throughout the U. S. and the Nevada tests.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

~~ORIGINATED TO~~

BY AUTHORITY OF *L. M. S. [signature]*

BY *R. Anderson* DATE *4/14/79*

2. Biology and Medicine Progress Report

Doctor Bugher, assisted by members of the Biology and Medicine staff, demonstrated telemetering equipment used in recording radiation and weather conditions at remote unmanned positions and transmitting this information automatically to a central recording point. This equipment is in the later stages of development and will be available for use in the immediate future. It should effect a saving in men and time far beyond its production cost.

3. Report on Recent Fall-out Incidents

Doctor Bugher reported on the fall-out following the firing of the atomic cannon on May 25. Mr. Dean asked that a report be prepared compiling accounts of radiation sickness allegedly resulting from AEC (atomic tests.

DELETED

Harold D. Anamosa
Acting Secretary

Approved by the Commission: June 26, 1953