

~~TOP SECRET~~

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 872

2:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 1953

Present

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

M. W. Boyer
Walter J. Williams
William Mitchell

Roy B. Snapp
John H. Stumpf

Also Present

Comdr. Guy J. Anderson
Lt. Col. Paul M. Butman
Lt. Col. Raymond P. Campbell
Lt. Col. Lorin R. Dedrickson
McKay Donkin
Col. Elmer T. Dorsey
Paul C. Fine
Lt. Col. Norman D. Greenberg
Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields
Harold H. Plough
C. Arthur Rolander
Lt. Col. W. R. Sturges, Jr.
Rear Adm. E. N. Parker, AFSWP
Herbert Scoville, AFSWP
Roland A. Anderson
Robert P. Petersen
James K. Pickard
George F. Trowbridge
Morse Salisbury
David Z. Beckler
W. L. Davidson

1. Presentation on Results of Weapons Effects Tests

General Fields introduced Mr. Herbert Scoville of AFSWP who described in detail the preliminary results of the weapons effects tests held in conjunction with the ninth and tenth Shots of the UPSHOT-KNOTHOLE series. Referring to charts and diagrams, he commented

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BY AUTHORITY OF Lt. M. Sakrinski
BY R. Andrus DATE 4/14/75

upon blast, thermal radiation and other phenomena accompanying the detonations. In particular, he described the extraordinary effects of the precursor blast resulting from the tenth shot and observed that information derived from this test might profoundly affect calculations concerning the optimum height of burst, since it was now apparent that peak pressure was not, in all circumstances, an accurate indication of destructive effect. In response to questions by the Commissioners he reviewed theories which have been advanced to account for the precursor phenomenon. A film depicting some of the blast and thermal effects of the ninth shot was then shown to the Commission.

Mr. Plough reviewed the preliminary results of experiments conducted in conjunction with the first shot of the series to determine the genetic effects of fast neutron bombardment resulting from nuclear detonations.

At this point Rear Adm. E. N. Parker; Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields; and Messrs. Dorsey, Anderson, Butman, Campbell, Dedrickson, Greenberg, Sturges, Fine, Plough, Rolander and Scoville left the meeting and Messrs. Mitchell, Anderson, Trowbridge, Petersen, Pickard, Davidson, Beckler and Salisbury entered.

DELETED

Roy B. Snapp
Secretary

Approved by the Commission: July 10, 1953