

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 1032

2:15 p.m., Tuesday, October 5, 1954

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Present

Lewis L. Strauss  
Thomas E. Murray  
Joseph Campbell  
W. F. Libby

K. D. Nichols  
William Mitchell

Roy B. Snapp  
W. B. McCool  
Harold D. Anamcsa

Also Present

Dr. John C. Bugher  
Brig. Gen. K. E. Fields  
Morse Salisbury  
Joseph Egan  
Col. E. T. Dorsey  
John Mackenzie, Jr.  
Capt. William L. Guthrie, USN  
James L. Kelehan  
Paul C. Fine  
Norris Bradbury (LASL)  
James E. Reeves (SFOO)  
Gaelen Felt (LASL)  
J. C. Clark (LASL)  
William E. Ogle (LASL)  
Richard Elliott (SFOO)  
Col. Vincent G. Huston  
R. W. Cook  
Edward Diamond  
Harold L. Price  
E. R. Trapnell  
Don S. Burrows  
Lawrence R. Hafstad  
John A. Hall

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

~~OR CHANGED TO~~

BY AUTHORITY OF L. M. Satriani  
BY P. Anderson DATE 4/14/79

Numbers after each item refer to the transcript of the meeting.)

I. TEAPOT Briefing (pp. 2-33)

Mr. William E. Ogle of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory discussed the preliminary studies made thus far in preparation for Operation TEAPOT, pointing out that successful completion of a test series, from the standpoint of safety, would be determined by the nature of fall-out control problems. Application of the lessons learned from previous Nevada tests indicates the need for determining which shots appear likely to result in serious fall-out, and treating those shots with every care in regard to weather.

Mr. Ogle said one difficulty in the past had been the lack of sufficiently detailed, last minute, weather information, since weather predictions made several hours before a shot were frequently not valid at shot-time. Also in past test series, factors other than fall-out, such as numbers of observers, pressure to complete on time, etc., were permitted to affect the decision to fire.

Mr. Ogle then described the fall-out process and the effect which the fireball touching the ground apparently had on fall-out intensity. With the aid of charts he reviewed data from all previous Nevada shots, showing the correlation between the fireball diameter burst height ratio and the amount of resulting fall-out. With the aid of this data, formulae had been developed which could be applied to TEAPOT to identify the shots which were likely to be serious from the fall-out aspect. The serious shots could then be fired during weather conditions which would not produce serious fall-out in the inhabited area.

During discussion of questions by the Commissioners, Dr. Bradbury advised that specific proposals and justifications for the test program probably would be submitted early in December.

At this point the Commission went into Executive Session with the General Manager, Director of Military Application, and Dr. Bradbury to discuss stockpile matters. The meeting then reconvened with Commissioners Strauss, Murray, Campbell, and Libby, the General Manager and Messrs. Mitchell, Cook, McCool, Anamosa, Snapp, Egan, Diamond, Rice and Trapnell in attendance.

DELETED

W. B. McCool  
Secretary

Approved by the Commission: November 3, 1954