

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
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JUN 18 1959

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

MEMORANDUM TO:

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→ GENERAL MANAGER
GENERAL STARBIRD

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SUBJECT: MEETING OF PRINCIPALS ON TEST SUSPENSION POLICIES

The meeting was called by Secretary Dillon at 5:00 p.m. June 17th, Room 5100, State Building; attended by Deputy Secretary Gates, Dr. Killian, Mr. Gray, Mr. Allen Dulles, Mr. McCone, General Loper, Mr. Farley, Dr. English, Mr. Keeney, and one or two other staff members.

Dr. Killian and Mr. Keeney reported on the arrangements to dispatch a group of scientists to Geneva to meet with the British and Soviets on high altitude detection. Dr. Panofsky is to be Chairman, other members were named. Preparatory meetings have been held in California, further discussions of the group are to be held in Washington on June 19th and 20th, and the group will be present at Geneva on June 22nd, and will meet with the British in a preparatory meeting on Sunday, June 21st at Geneva. (Dr. Panofsky may be one day late.)

It was agreed that the Panofsky Reports would not be released as they would be valuable working papers for our scientists. This recommendation was approved. Sanitized copies and summaries of the reports are in preparation should we wish to present them at the Conference but no releases would be made as was done with the Berkner Report.

The conference then turned to a discussion of underground detection.

Mr. Dulles presented CIA views on various means of utilizing intelligence information and factors in assisting on on-site inspection determinations. CIA feels that there are a very great many sources of information to them which will be very helpful in connection with on-site inspection. Mr. Dulles stated he felt that no large excavation operation which would be necessary for conducting a series of underground tests could be carried on without CIA obtaining some information on the operation.

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State and CIA pointed out that the most recent Soviet proposal to the effect that the "suspicioning country" could make the decision on the on-site inspection, when the instruments indicated a suspicious event, gave us very important leverage and made possible utilization

[redacted] The Conference agreed that it would be better for the United States or Britain to state when an inspection was to be made rather than place this responsibility in the hands of an administrator.

Secretary Gates and General Loper expressed concern over system capability, discounted CIA's assured feelings that they would have information on activities and spoke of the difficulties if not impossibility of detecting small tests, particularly if there was a decoupling.

McCone expressed reservations concerning the adequacy of the detection system, the questionable improvements and the fact that decoupling techniques would probably ~~advance~~ parallel with seismic improvements.

Dr. Killian proposed that all the factors plus and minus should be taken into consideration by a group of scientists who could evaluate the probabilities of the success or failure of an agreed quota of inspections. During this discussion he stated that he felt the scientists might conclude that 100 inspections, if directed by us or the British, and free to utilize both seismic and instrument indications as well as intelligence information might turn out to be an effective safeguard. He questioned whether a smaller number would be effective. He said positively that twenty-five would not be effective and he questioned whether fifty would turn out to be effective.

The Conference agreed to set up such a scientific panel immediately with members drawn from interested departments and with Dr. Killian and his Scientific Advisory Committee having prime responsibility.

All concurred and it was agreed to proceed at once. McCone supported this idea stating that such a study would serve to either validate the reservations of the various departments including Defense and AEC or, conversely, would demonstrate in a convincing manner the effectiveness of a quota of inspections if the inspections are directed by the "suspicioning party" as suggested by the Soviets.

AEC should nominate two or three members to this Panel and this should be done by noon today. I suggest men whose experience and knowledge in this area such as Dr. Spofford English and Dr. Harold Brown. Would appreciate staff recommendations after this morning's NSC Meeting.



for Dwight Ink
John A. McCone

