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COPY NO. 15

J.S.P.C. 902/464

2 December 1954

This document consist of 6 pages.
Cyr: 1 of 1 Cys. Series: SA-A

REPORT BY THE JOINT STRATEGIC PLANS COMMITTEE

to the

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

on

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DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE~~

MARK 15 PROGRAM

References: a. J.C.S. 1823/156
b. J.C.S. 2096/20

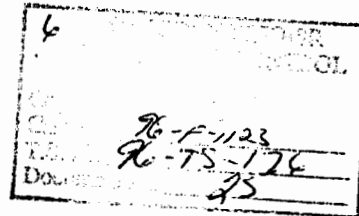
Note by the Secretaries

The attached report, responsive to J.S.P.C. 902/460/D and prepared by the Joint Strategic Plans Group, is circulated to the Joint Strategic Plans Committee for consideration.

J. E. STEPHENS,

D. B. WILLIAMS,

Joint Secretariat.



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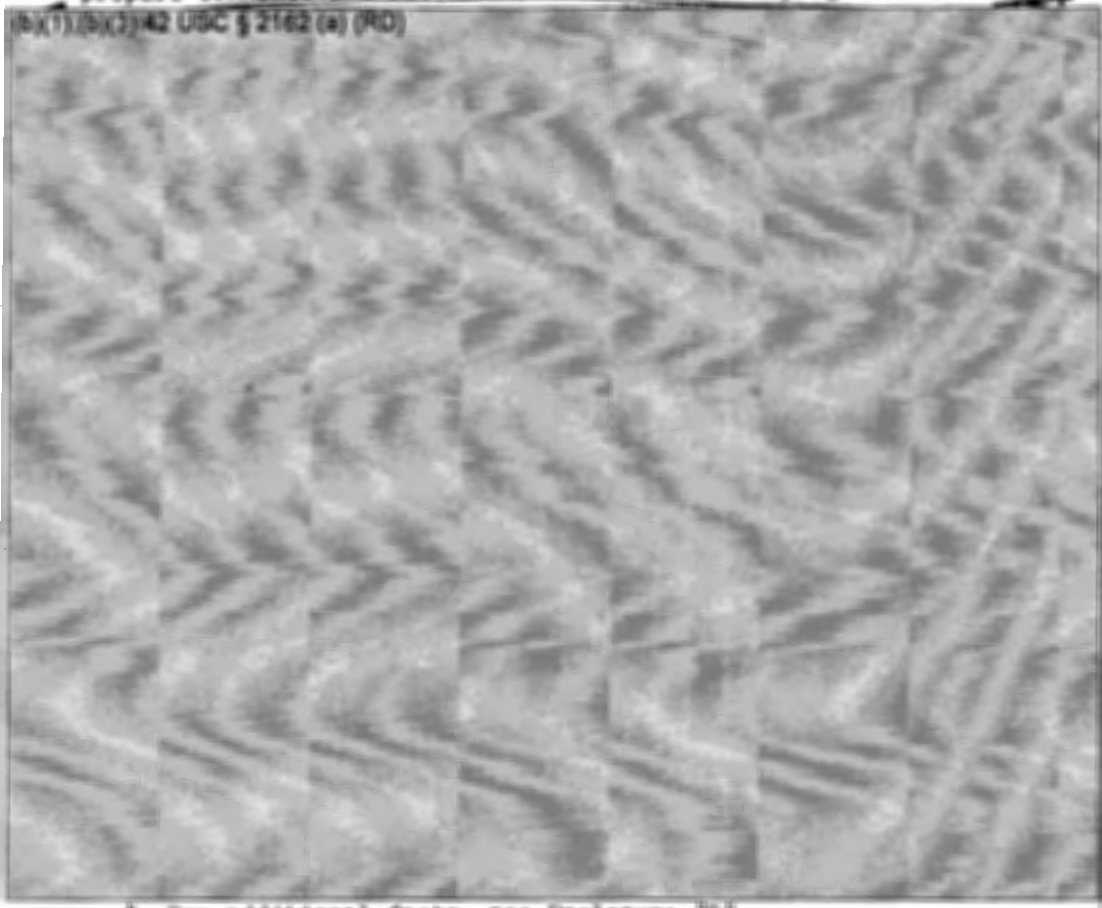
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MARK 15 PROGRAM

THE PROBLEM

1. In response to a memorandum* by the Chairman, MLC, to prepare comments and recommendations on the ATC program** for



(S)(1)(b)(3)42 USC § 2162 (a) (FOI)

1. The additional facts, see Enclosure "B".

DISCUSSION

5. Considering the availability of enriched lithium, the AEC

proposal** appears to be consistent with the DOD desires for thermonuclear weapon production through July 1955



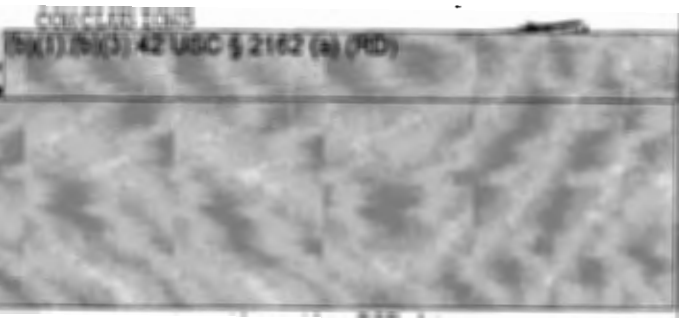
* Enclosure to J.C.S. 1823/186

** Appendix to Enclosure to J.C.S. 1823/186

with technological and economic considerations. More definitive guidance should be reflected in revisions to the military characteristics.

6. Since it has not been feasible to estimate the composition of the atomic stockpile beyond fiscal year 1956, it is not possible to relate the adequacy of the AEC lithium separation facilities to the DOD requirements for thermonuclear weapons. However, there are some indications that increasing emphasis on light weight thermonuclear weapons may increase the emphasis on the lighter thermonuclear fuels (lithium deuteride) and thereby alter the present lithium to oralloy ratios of thermonuclear weapons. The AEC is in a better position than the DOD to evaluate the possible impact of these technological developments on the adequacy of the programmed lithium separation facilities.

7. The AEC proposal



9. The AEC is in a better position than the DOD to evaluate the possible impact of technological developments on the adequacy of programmed lithium separation facilities.

RECOMMENDATION

10. It is recommended that the J.C.S. forward the memorandum in Enclosure "A", which reflects the above conclusions, to the Chairman, MLC.

11. No recommendation is made as to the distribution of this paper to unified or specified commands.

* Appendix to Enclosure to J.C.S. 1823/186

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ENCLOSURE "A"

D R A F T

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Subject: Mark 15 Program

1. Reference is made to the following:

a. Memorandum for the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff by the Chairman, MLC, subject as above, dated 25 October 1954.*

b. Memorandum for the Chairman, MLC, by the Secretary, Joint Chiefs of Staff, subject: "Development and Production Guidance Concerning Thermonuclear Weapons," dated 5 February 1954.**

(S)(1)(b)(3) 42 USC § 2162 (a) (RD)



More definitive guidance should be reflected in revisions to the military characteristics.

3. Since it has not been feasible to estimate the composition of the atomic stockpile beyond fiscal year 1956, it is not possible to relate the adequacy of the AEC lithium separation facilities to the DOD requirements for thermonuclear weapons. However, there are some indications that increasing emphasis on light weight thermonuclear weapons may increase the emphasis

* Enclosure to J.C.S. 1323/186
** Enclosure to J.C.S. 2096/20

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Enclosure "A"

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on the lighter thermonuclear fuels (lithium deuteride) and thereby alter the present lithium to metal ratios of thermonuclear weapons. The AEC is in a better position than the DOD to evaluate the possible impact of these technological developments on the adequacy of the programmed lithium separation facilities.

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Enclosure "A"

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ENCLOSURE "B"

FACTS RELATING TO THE PROJECT

(b)(1), (b)(3), 42 USC § 2162 (a) (RD)



memorandum* to the Chairman, MLC, which contained the following

information on the yields desired in thermonuclear weapons

(b)(1), (b)(3), 42 USC § 2162 (a) (RD)



* Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 2096/20

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Enclosure "B"

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