

1. Requests from Executive and Congressional to purchase prints of the film will be routed through the AEC and handled only in interest of the AEC.

Though implicit in the background information for all copies (see "B" of the enclosed) it is not directly stated that the AEC is to be the issuing point for the film and stills and sound track. This is because the film has been adapted for the purpose of stimulating citizen participation in civil defense. The whole history of the subsequent steps leading to public release is one of employing various adaptations of the film for civil defense orientation and appeal. These steps were:

1. Adaptation in the late summer of 1953 through excerpting and rearranging the resultant version of the film to SECDEF's showing of this version at a Washington meeting in September to State and Territorial civil defense directors given emergency clearance for this purpose. This was requested by the AEC and approved by the President.

2. Further adaptation through excerpting and declassification of the resulting product, but with the marking CONFIDENTIAL, NO COPY copies and general public showing withheld. This again was requested by the AEC and approved by the President for the purpose of showing the film to the White House Conference of Mayors in December, 1953. Subsequently the Chairman of the Congressional Joint Committee on Atomic Energy asked Presidential authorization to show this OCE version to all members of Congress. This was granted, and the film shown to more than 300 Representatives and Senators.

3. Further excerpting, adding at the beginning a roll-up text explaining the civil defense purposes in showing a public version plus a highlight of appropriate portions of the President's December 8 address to the AEC and adding at the end an appeal spoken by Director Tabor of the AEC for citizen participation in civil defense local organizations. This adaptation was also asked by AEC. This is the version which is now approved by SEC action on the recommendation of the OCE for public showing under the stipulations noted in the attached OCE paper and in the earlier portion of this memorandum.

Throughout these various steps the AEC position has been that this agency was not presenting the public showing of the film since it would not give aid in the operations of the agency; but that it was not opposing, once the question of clearance or classification was resolved, the showing of the film to the various groups for purpose of expediting civil defense.

Attachment



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