

ARMED SERVICES EXPLOSIVES SAFETY BOARD
Washington

In reply refer to
ASESB- 350-59/1

29 May 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BOARD

SUBJECT: Resumes of the 192nd Meeting of the Armed Services Explosives Safety Board, 18 May 1959

- Present:
- Capt. W. T. Jenkins, USN, Chairman
 - Mr. F. M. Bishoff, Alt. Army Member
 - Capt. C. McKellar, USN, Navy Member
 - Col. R. T. Fincke, USAF, Air Force Member
 - Lt. Col. P. S. Brongle, USAF, AFSWP Consultant
 - Mr. G. L. Feazell, Cml Consultant
 - Mr. G. J. Haney, AFSWP
 - Mr. J. H. Herzog, OCT Consultant
 - Mr. F. Z. Hough, BuOrd, D/N
 - Mr. H. N. Marsh, Consultant
 - Mr. W. B. Murphy, DCS/Per, D/A
 - Col. A. W. Hamilton, USA, ASESB
 - Lt. Col. G. Couch, USAF, "
 - Mr. W. M. Wisenberg, "
 - Mr. H. F. Harris, "
 - Mr. R. G. Perkins, "
 - Mr. C. A. Breeding, "
 - Mr. R. C. Herman, "

1. The Army Alternate Member informed the Board of preliminary information available on the recent Nike Hercules tests and showed slides illustrating damage to the sites. The third test in the series has been cancelled. Technical reports on the tests are now being prepared.

2. The Air Force Member recommended that the "Explosives Safety Standards for Airfields, Lighter-than-air Facilities, Heliports and Seadromes" be reviewed. It was proposed that parking areas, taxiways and runways be separately considered, rather than under one all-inclusive grouping and that smaller quantities be included in the tables. The Chairman announced that a work group would be appointed for this project; Board Members will designate membership to represent their respective service.

3. The Board was briefed on studies being conducted to develop policies for Staff guidance to promote Service uniformity on various Service explosives and ammunition safety procedures. Presentation on two of these studies were made and copies of the studies were furnished to the Board Members. Problem #1 pertains to use of automatic sprinklers when electronic equipment is in the same bay or in the same building with explosives. Problem #2 covers the direction of burning of the combustible train when loose explosives are destroyed.

4. The reporting procedure for explosives incidents was discussed. Each of the Board Members will inform Board and the other Service Members of significant explosions so the lessons learned will benefit all. Board Members were given an accident summary, prepared by the Staff, listing a brief summary of incidents since 15 April 1959. The Board Staff will continue to supply Board Members with a summary of incidents reported.

5. The Board was informed of the results of a conference with AEC representatives on explosives safety criteria for shipment of special weapons.

6. Status reports were given on current projects:

a. Consolidated comments on piers and wharves positions of the three Services are being sent to the three Board Members. A meeting will be set up in the near future for resolution of areas of disagreement.

b. The Staff paper on "Underground Storage" is at the printers and is expected to be ready within two weeks.

c. The paper prepared by the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, on reliability of scale tests in determining hazard classification of large size propellants, has been distributed to Service representatives on the technical panel. A meeting of the technical panel will be called as soon as all Members of that panel can be assembled, to develop their recommendations on scale tests.

7. It was proposed that a work group be formed to study information now available and develop a test program which could be used in gaining more information on the effectiveness of dividing walls. The Chairman informed the Members that they would be contacted to get the names of technical personnel to serve on this work group.

8. A proposal to eliminate the June meeting because of the many other activities scheduled during that month was unanimously concurred in.

W. T. Jenkins
W. T. JENKINS
Captain, USN
Chairman