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29 JUL 1958  
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INDOCTRINATION EXERCISE - OPERATION LIGHTHOUSE

Minutes of meeting of Board of Management for Atomic Weapons Tests, Working Party, held at 339 Swanston Street, Melbourne, on Tuesday, 29th July, 1958.

PRESENT :



Department of Supply (Chairman)  
Department of Defence  
U.K.J.S.L.S.  
U.K.M.O.S.S.(A)  
U.K.M.O.S.S.(A)  
Department of Navy  
Department of Army  
Department of Army  
Department of Army  
Department of Army  
Department of Air

Members agreed that Australia should take advantage of the U.K. offer to participate in the Indoctrination Exercise at Operation "Lighthouse" and decided that a brief outline of the following proposals be conveyed, through U.K.M.O.S.S.(A) channels, to the appropriate U.K. authorities for consideration and comment in order that detailed planning may proceed at the earliest opportunity. These proposals, together with a request for specific information on certain aspects, have been despatched to the U.K.

Numbers involved :

- Navy, 14 - All above ground. (12 Officers and 2 C.P.O.'s.)
- Army, 500 - 350 in trench systems and 150 above ground. (The 350 will be all ranks from the Brigade Group whilst the 150 will be Officers.)
- Air, 50 - 35 in trench systems and 15 above ground. (The 35 will comprise 10 Officers and 25 O.R.'s whilst the 15 above ground will be Officers).

Camps :

Two camps to be established by an advance party. One for the troops who will "dig in" and one for the above ground indoctrinees.

Location of camps :

To be determined by the Range Commander [redacted] in association with the Atomic Weapons Staff Officer [redacted]



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2.

Domestic Support :

Indoctrinees to be self supporting, including water, as it is unlikely that water can be supplied from the Maralinga distillation plant. (During the "Antler" Operation in 1957, water bought from the Commonwealth Railways and delivered to Watson Railway Siding cost 5.425 pence per gallon).

Movement to and within Maralinga :

This will probably be a combined exercise co-ordinated by the Department of the Army. Method to be determined at a later stage.

Trench systems :

To be constructed by the Engineering Troop component of the indoctrinee force. (No help can be given by the Maralinga Range Support Unit.)

Period Indoctrinees will be on site :

Approximately 2 weeks in all, providing burst takes place on schedule.

Reconnaissance :

A reconnaissance party from the Department of the Army to proceed to Maralinga in the near future for the purpose of preparing an estimate of man hours and equipment involved in the construction of the trench systems.

Blood Counts :

All participating troops to be blood counted before arrival on site.

Information required from U.K. :

- (a) Approximate date of indoctrinee round.
  - (b) Site for trench systems. In this connection it is desired that indoctrinees be as close as possible to GZ.
  - (c) Approximate numbers and ranks of U.K. indoctrinees expected to take part in the exercise.
  - (d) What are the U.K. views on administration of the U.K. indoctrinees camp.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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