

UNITED STATES
 ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
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Lester Rogers, Director, Division of Radiological and Environmental Protection

AEC RESEARCH ON TRANSPORTATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

Thank you for your March 26 memo inviting our input on the above subject.

Below is a list of those radioactive material transportation related research efforts in which this Office has a direct interest from a safeguards standpoint. The status of each of these projects is given in general terms.

1. An analysis of the threat of diversion of safeguarded material during transportation -- work conducted under contract by Wright-Long and Company completed; report OUO to protect privileged information.
2. An analysis of domestic shipping patterns and methods used for less-than-truck-load shipments of certain quantities and types of special nuclear material -- Edlow International Company conducting study on an unclassified basis; study now completed and a report being prepared.
3. Constant position locating satellite communication system for vehicles carrying material under safeguards -- work is being done on a classified basis by Sandia Laboratories for DMA; project has just begun.
4. Study of methods for hardening packages which contain material under safeguards to delay potential diverters from getting access to the materials sufficiently long to facilitate recovery actions -- initial efforts now under way under DMA sponsorship on a classified basis.

Although Items 3 and 4 above are identified as being carried out on a classified basis, it is highly possible that when completed their potential application in some form to unclassified special nuclear material movements under safeguards will be at a lower classification level or will be unclassified. It is possible that the existence of

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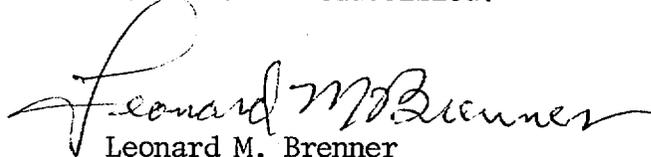
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Lester Rogers

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a capability or system for Items 3 and 4 would be unclassified and that details of how it operates or other characteristics which might lead to countermeasure information would remain classified.



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