

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Harold L. Price, Director
Division of Licensing and Regulation

FROM : Brigadier General Alfred D. Starbird, USA
Director of Military Application

SUBJECT: EXPORT OF RADIOISOTOPES TO SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES

Symbol: MAC:EBC

DATE: Document No. TDC/RSB 095-80
This document contains 11 pages
No. 2 of 2 copies, Serial A
5-27-59

Reference your memorandum to me of May 4, 1959, subject as above.

I have reviewed the two requests for radioisotopes from Soviet Bloc countries and have found that there are no military considerations which dictate against the export of these radioisotopes to Soviet Bloc nations.

It is understood that the radioactive standards supplied by the Nuclear-Chicago Corporation (RaD + RaE, Co-60, Sr-90/Y-90, Tl-204, Cs-137/Ba-137, Ta-182) would contain 10^4 to 10^6 disintegrations per second for each of these samples and would be in 3 to 5 ml volumes. It is further understood that the Carbon-14 sample supplied by New England Nuclear Corporation would be a 5 microcurie sample.

It is my opinion that the supply of the radioisotopes requested in the amounts specified would be of value to the recipient Soviet Bloc nations for research purposes in general, but would not have any apparent military applications. In this connection, it should be noted that although Sr-90/Y-90, Tl-204, Cs-137/Ba-137, and Ta-182 are probably all produced at Oak Ridge, no classified information could be derived from analyzing any of these four materials. Further, as a matter of note, Ta-182 was at one time considered for use in RM. However, the amount specified herein is too small to be of significance in this connection.

It is my opinion, therefore, that from a military-consideration point of view, the radioisotopes may be exported to Soviet Bloc countries in the amounts specified.

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By Authority of James H. Shea
Date of Declassification Sept 18, 1996

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