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EURATOM INFORMATION

U. K.-EURATOM COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION MEETS:

FURTHER COLLABORATION CONSIDERED

WASHINGTON, November 30--The United Kingdom-Euratom Continuing Committee for Cooperation held its second meeting in Brussels on November 29.

Representing the United Kingdom were Lord Hailsham, Lord President of the Council and Minister for Science, and Sir Roger Makins, Chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (AEA). M. Etienne Hirsch, President of the Euratom Commission, and M. Emmanuel Sassen, a member of the Commission, represented the Community.

The Committee expressed its satisfaction in the practical application of the U. K.-Euratom Agreement of February 4, 1959, and in the progress made in executing the agreement since the Committee held its first meeting in December 1959. It concluded that a satisfactory basis had been established for the exchange of information on various aspects of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, such as power reactors, controlled thermonuclear reactions, and health and safety problems.

The Committee discussed plans for further collaboration on power reactor systems and on other research projects. Early in 1961, fifteen

(more)

Euratom experts will discuss with their U. K. AEA counterparts at Harwell and Winfrith the possibilities of pooling data in the basic fields of reactor and engineering physics, with particular reference to nuclear measurements. In addition, the Committee's working group, at its regular meetings, will promote further exchanges of information on gas-cooled, graphite moderated, and organic liquid moderated reactor systems.

Both sides agreed to an increase in the exchange of personnel between the two groups. It was noted with gratification that two engineers from Euratom had already started work at Harwell in connection with the operation of experimental irradiation loops and that, on November 28, British representatives had visited the Belgian Nuclear Center at Mol. Here the group was able to see the BR-2 Reactor, soon to go critical, and the plutonium research laboratories, both jointly operated by the Belgian Authority at Mol and the Euratom Commission. U. K. representatives requested that the possibility of the detachment of British personnel to Euratom facilities for some months, covering the start-up operations of BR-2, be examined.

The Committee also discussed and affirmed its belief in the long-term prospects of nuclear power. Both sides agreed that experts from Euratom and the U. K. should consult on the detailed economics and costing problems of nuclear power projects. Finally, the Committee agreed to continued collaboration on health and safety questions and on the application of radioisotopes.