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SECRET

AEC Probes Security In U. S. Weapon Story

House Member Hits Arms Agency Aide For Disclosure of High Radiation Bomb

The Atomic Energy Commission is investigating whether security regulations have been violated in the disclosure of the fact that the United States has developed a nuclear weapon with "enhanced radiation" which may approach the potency of the so-called neutron bomb.

Adrian Fisher, deputy director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, mentioned the "enhanced radiation" weapon in a March 14 letter to Senator Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut. The letter was released by the Senator Tuesday.

Republican Representative Jack Westland, of Washington, an influential member of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, says he "hit the ceiling" when he saw The Star's report on what he said had been a "top secret" weapon. He will demand Mr. Fisher's resignation, Mr. Westland said. The Atomic Energy Commission confirms his belief that security regulations have been violated.

Foster Comments

The Star article, written by Reporter Earl H. Voss, was based on Mr. Fisher's letter and on Senator Dodd's remarks. William C. Foster, director of the disarmament agency, informed Representative Westland by letter yesterday that

the lead paragraph on the article was not "in any way justified by Mr. Fisher's letter." "Mr. Voss," the director said, "obviously had this information from another source and used the letter from Mr. Fisher to Senator Dodd as a 'handle' for publishing it."

Question of Clearance

Mr. Foster said his deputy's language in referring to the "enhanced radiation" weapon had been "made available for clearance to representatives of the Department of Defense, the AEC and CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) concerned with this area, and no objection was made to its publication."

The critical point, according to competent sources, is whether the Fisher letter was submitted for clearance or classification, that is, for permission to men-

tion publicly the reportedly "top secret" weapon.

The Fisher letter, it was reported, had been submitted to Leland J. Hayworth, atomic energy commissioner, Paul H. Nitze, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, and McGeorge Bundy, special assistant to the President for national security affairs, among others.

No objections were raised, according to informed sources.

The chairman of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, Senator Foster, Democrat of Rhode Island, is said to be "very concerned" about the case. The committee expects a report from security authorities in the Atomic Energy Commission, possibly today.

AEC Has No Comment

The Atomic Energy Commission had no comment on the report its security section is investigating the case.

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tion, the lower discriminating fields of tons of tons TNT equivalent, instead of thousands of tons.

Minimum Blast Effect

The neutron bomb generally is understood to be a pure fusion weapon which has a minimum blast effect but a maximum number of neutrons that could kill people while preserving structures.

So far scientists are not known to have developed a "neutron radiation" refers to a burst of neutrons lasting for a period of a second or less, which could be confused with the effects of a nuclear explosion.

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