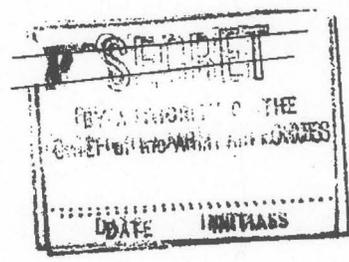


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14 November 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Training of Bomb Commanders and Weaponeers.

1. On 14 November 1946 a conference on above subject was held in the New War Department Building. Attending were Major General L. R. Groves, Manhattan Project; Major General C. E. LeMay, DC/AS Research and Development; Brigadier General A. W. Kissner, AC/AS-5, and Colonel J. G. Armstrong, AC/AS-3.

2. The purpose of this conference was to resolve certain difficulties being encountered by the AAF in the training of Bomb Commanders and Weaponeers by Manhattan Project.

3. The following items were agreed to by Major General Groves and Major General LeMay, the latter speaking for the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:

- a. Bomb Commanders will be experienced AAF Pilots. A total of thirty (30) potential Bomb Commanders will be technically trained by Manhattan Project at Sandia Base, New Mexico at a rate to be determined in detail by agreement between Manhattan Project and Headquarters AAF.
- b. Normally, Weaponeers are to be technically trained aircrew personnel assigned to the AAF.
- c. A total of forty-five (45) Weaponeers will be trained from personnel available as follows:
 - (1) Manhattan Project will technically train selected officers from the Corps of Engineers. The AAF will then give to these officers aircrew training sufficient to familiarize them with air operations and to determine their potential qualifications as air crewmen. No officer of the Corps of Engineers will be eliminated from this special course of aircrew training except at the individual's own request. Upon completion of this period of aircrew

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training, each of these officers will be requested to submit application for transfer to the AAF if such a transfer is desired by the individual concerned. Each of these officers will have been informed of his potential function in the AAF to include his "career" possibilities. Those officers whose applications are approved will be transferred to the Air Corps, will be rated as Technical Observers, and will be assigned to appropriate AAF units.

- (2) The AAF will provide suitably qualified officers to be technically trained by Manhattan Project at Sandia Base, New Mexico, in numbers and at a rate to be determined by mutual arrangements. These officers may be eliminated from technical training if deemed unsuitable. These officers will then be assigned to appropriate AAF units for aircrew assignment and training.
 - d. Only those officers who are qualified for the technical duties and for flying as aircrewmembers will be transferred or assigned to the AAF units as Weaponers.
 - e. A system for the refresher technical training of AAF Weaponers at Sandia Base will be established by mutual arrangement.
 - f. In the event of national emergency, those officers trained as cited in Paragraph 2³⁶⁴(1) above, but still assigned to the Corps of Engineers, will be available for AAF combat flight operations.
4. Major General LeMay directed Colonel Armstrong to make detailed arrangements with Manhattan Project as indicated in Paragraph 3 above and to initiate AAF action accordingly.

/s/ John G. Armstrong
JOHN G. ARMSTRONG
Colonel, Air Corps

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DISPOSITION FORM

SECUR.

~~SECRET~~
 BY AUTHORITY OF THE
 CHIEF of the ARMY AIR FORCES
 18 Nov 46 NB
 DATE INITIALS

FILE No.

SUBJECT

Training of Bomb Commanders and Weaponers

TO

WDGPO (GENERAL NORSTAD)

FROM

AFBRD

DATE

NOV 18 1946

COMMENT No.

1. Attached hereto, for your information, is a Memorandum for Record of agreements reached with General Groves by the undersigned and General Kissner relative to the initiation of training of bomb commanders and weaponers for the AAF.

2. It is recommended that the War Department forward a copy of this memorandum to General Groves.

Classification cancelled or changed to

~~RESTRICTED~~

By authority of Chief of Staff, USAF

By: _____

Date: _____

Curtis E. LeMay

C. E. LeMAY
 Major General, USA
 DC/AS for Research and Development

1 Incl:

Memo for Record
 dtd 14 Nov. 46 (Cy.)

P&O 353 TS (18 Nov 46)

TO: CG, Manhattan Engineer District From: PMSS:P&O Date: Comment No. 2
 WDGS 26 Nov 46

1. At the request of General LeMay, the attached memorandum for record pertaining to the initiation of training of bomb commanders and weaponers is forwarded to you for your information.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND OPERATIONS:

J. McCormack, Jr.

J. McCORMACK, JR.
 Colonel, GSC
 Acting Chief, PMSS

1 Incl:

Memo for Record
 dtd 14 Nov. 46 (Cy.)

Classification cancelled or changed to

~~RESTRICTED~~

By authority of Chief of Staff, USAF

By: _____

Date: _____

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THIS DOCUMENT CONSISTS OF 1 PAGES
NO. 1 OF 4 SERIES *a* (Page 2)

Subject: Training of Bomb Commanders and Weaponers (Nov 18, 1946)

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Comment #3

Manhattan Project, P. O. Box 2610, Washington 25, D. C., 10 December 1946.

To: Colonel J. McCormack, Jr., PMSS, Office Director of Plans and Operations,
War Department General Staff, Washington 25, D. C.

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the "Memorandum for the Record", subject: Training of Bomb Commanders and Weaponers, dated 14 November 1946, signed by Colonel John G. Armstrong, AC. The record of the conference described in paragraph 1, basic communication, is essentially correct but I wish to take this opportunity to clarify a statement made in paragraph 3c(1). An inference might be drawn from the statement made in this paragraph, that it was agreed, Engineer officers upon completion of air crew training would be urged to submit application for transfer to the Army Air Forces. I wish to make it clear that this will be a matter for the individual concerned and no urging will be given by us that might influence any transfer to the Army Air Forces.

2. In addition to the information contained in basic communication, General LeMay, on behalf of the Air Forces, indicated his concurrence with the idea that in addition to the Air Forces bomb commanders trained at Sandia, certain selected members of the Manhattan Project would receive bomb commanders' training at a later date thereby increasing the pool of regular officers who have taken bomb commander training.



L. R. GROVES,
Major General, USA

1 Incl.

Memo for Record
dtd 14 Nov 46

~~RESTRICTED~~

By: *W. H. F. C.*

Date: *25 Jan 47*

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P&O 353 TS (18 Nov 46)

SUBJECT: Training of Bomb Commanders and
Weaponers

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TO: DC/AS for R&D
(MaJ Gen LeMay)

FROM: FMSS:P&O
WDGS

DATE: 23 Dec 46 COMMENT NO. 4

1. Comment No. 3 forwarded for your information.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND OPERATIONS:

C. H. Bonesteel III

C. H. BONESTEEL III
Colonel, GSC
Chief, Politico-Military Survey
Section

1 Incl
Memo for Record,
dtd 14 Nov 46

Classification Category of Document

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Authority of Issue

NY: *LTR-17E*

Date: *26 Jan 50*

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