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P THE CG, AAF

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES

WASHINGTON

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25 Nov 46 J.O.A.
Date Initials

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25 November 1946

SUBJECT: Training of Bomb Commanders and Weaponsmen

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file
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TO: Commanding General
Manhattan Project
Post Office Box 2610
Washington 25, D.C.

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LTJ REC-25/1-50

By: R. A. H. [Signature]
Date: _____

1. As suggested by Colonel H. McK. Roper, your Headquarters, the following verbal agreements reached between your representatives Manhattan Project and Headquarters AAF are confirmed.

2. Bomb Commanders Training.

- a. Manhattan Project will conduct the technical training of thirty (30) AAF Bomb Commanders.
- b. The AAF will provide thirty (30) selected officer students for training as Bomb Commanders.
- c. These officers, in increments of six (6) per class will be placed on duty at Sandia Base, New Mexico for periods of approximately three (3) weeks.
- d. Classes will begin as follows:
 - (1) First Class - As soon as possible.
 - (2) Second Class - To Start 6 January 47.
 - (3) Third Class - To Start 27 January 47.
 - (4) Fourth Class - To Start 17 February 47.
 - (5) Fifth Class - To Start 10 March 47.
 - (6) Sixth Class - To Start 31 March 47.
- e. Officer students will report to the Commanding Officer, Sandia Base for temporary duty at least two (2) days before classes of instruction are scheduled to begin.

3. Weaponsmen Training.

- a. Normally, Weaponsmen are to be technically trained aircraft personnel assigned to the AAF. [unclear] changed to

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By: Air Force Declassification Office
10 June 2010

By authority of Chief of Staff, USAF
By: _____
Date: _____

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b. A total of forty-five (45) Weaponners 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 aircrewmembers. 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 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. 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. Details of this training are as follows:

(a) First Class will start 20 January 47.

(b) Additional classes will matriculate at twelve (12) week intervals thereafter.

(c) Each class will be under instruction for twenty-four (24) weeks.

(d) There will be ten (10) students per matriculating class.

(e) Officers will be placed on TDY at Sandia Base, New Mexico for a period of approximately twenty-four (24) weeks for the purpose of attending Weaponners School and will report to the Commanding Officer, Sandia Base upon arrival.

(f) Officers will report for duty two (2) days before classes are scheduled to begin.

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- c. 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 Weaponsmen.
 - d. A system for the refresher technical training of AAF Weaponsmen at Sandia Base will be established by mutual arrangement.
 - e. In the event of national emergency, those officers trained as cited in Paragraph 3b(1) above, but still assigned to the Corps of Engineers, will be available for AAF combat flight operations.
4. It is suggested that you confirm these agreements by indorsement hereon.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Classification ~~changed~~ or changed to/s/ Dan Canterbury, Col., A.C.
for CURTIS E. LeMAY
By authority of Chief of Staff, USAF Major General, U. S. Army
By: Deputy Chief of Air Staff for
Date: Research and Development

This Document Consists of 2 Pages (Pages 344)

Copy No. 1 of 1 Series. 1st Ind.
Manhattan Project, P.O. Box 2610, Washington, D. C. 10 December 1946

To: Deputy Chief of Air Staff for Research and Development, Headquarters,
Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.

1. The plan for training of bomb commanders as outlined in paragraph 2, basic communication, is concurred in. Preparations have already been completed at Sandia Base to accommodate students as indicated in paragraph 2b.

2. a. Reference the weaponsman training, it is desirable that a total of 45 Air Force weaponsmen be trained as indicated in paragraph 3b (2). Appropriate arrangements are now being made at Sandia Base to accommodate these classes as indicated. The officers of the Corps of Engineers who will be trained as weaponsmen should be considered as a pool in excess of the 45 weaponsmen trained from Air Force personnel. It should be remembered that the primary duty of the Engineer officers concerned is the assembly of the weapon and therefore these officers can be used as weaponsmen only if they are not needed for their primary work.

- 3 -

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1st Ind. (contd),
By authority of Chief of Staff, USAF
Date:

b. It may be inferred from paragraph 2b(1) that Engineer officers would be urged to transfer to the Army Air Forces upon completion of their air crew training. I wish to make it clear that this will be an individual proposition between the Air Forces and officers concerned, and that no assurance will be given that Engineer officers upon completion of air crew training will transfer to the Army Air Forces.

3. With the exceptions as noted above, the agreements indicated in basic communication are confirmed.

/s/ L. R. Groves
L. R. GROVES
Major General, USA

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