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for Dr. W.C. Johnson.
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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
OR CHANGED TO
BY AUTHORITY OF ERANDIGER/PAE.
John K. Harrisack
REVIEWED BY
3/27/78
DATE

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
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John K. Hartsock
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I. Activities of Chairman and Secretary of Committee on Declassification Since Meetings of 12 and 13 November.

Following the meetings of the Committee on Declassification in Pasadena on 12 and 13 November, the Chairman of the Committee and the Secretary prepared a draft of a memorandum to General Groves, a copy of which was transmitted on 18 November to each member of the Committee for comments and suggestions. Early in December, after incorporation of all suggestions made by the Committee members which did not conflict with previous action by the full Committee, the memorandum was prepared in final form and sent to each member of the Committee for signature after which it was forwarded to General Groves.

In accordance with the thoughts expressed at the Pasadena meeting, the Chairman of the Committee and the Secretary undertook to arrange for meetings of the Committee with representatives of industrial organizations during the latter part of December. After preliminary discussion by telephone with each industrial organization, telegraphic invitations were sent on 12 December, signed by the Chairman, and meetings were held in Wilmington on 27 December and in New York City on 28 and 29 December.

II. Copy of Teletype Inviting Industrial Organizations to Meetings in Wilmington and New York.

The following teletype was sent to the addressees listed below on 12 December:

1. Mr. Roger Williams, du Pont Company
2. Mr. W. J. Harshaw, Harshaw Chemical Company
3. Mr. E. R. Bartlett, Hooker Electrochemical Company
4. Mr. R. T. Branch, Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation
5. Mr. H. A. Winne, General Electric Company
6. Mr. G. H. Bucher, Westinghouse Electric Corporation
7. Mr. J. C. White, Tennessee Eastman Corporation
8. Kellex Corporation, Attention Mr. P. C. Keith
9. Mr. T. K. Keller, Chrysler Corporation
10. Mr. Walter Geist, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company
11. Mr. V. P. Rumley, Crane Company
12. Mr. J. A. Rafferty, Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation
13. Kellex Corporation, Attention Mr. A. L. Baker (sent 21 December)

*COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF FOLLOWING PERSONS HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY MAJOR GENERAL GROVES TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO HIM ON DECLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION OBTAINED ON WORK OF THE MANHATTAN PROJECT

R C TOLMAN CHAIRMAN, R F BACHER, A H COMPTON, E O LAWRENCE, J R OPPENHEIMER, F H SPEDDING, H C UREY, J R RUHOFF SECY TO THE COMMITTEE

GENERAL GROVES HAS SET FORTH TO DR TOLMAN THE OBJECTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE AS FOLLOWS -

'THE OBJECTIVE OF YOUR COMMITTEE IS IN CONSIDERATION OF BOTH THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE NATIONAL WELFARE TO RECOMMEND TO ME A PROGRAM ON THE DECLASSIFICATION AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION. YOUR REPORT SHOULD INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON -

- A-THE EXTENT TO WHICH INFORMATION OBTAINED ON THE WORK OF THE MANHATTAN PROJECT SHOULD BE DECLASSIFIED.
- B-THE DETAILED RULES TO BE FOLLOWED IN SUCH DECLASSIFICATION.'

THE COMMITTEE HAS HAD ONE MEETING AND HAS JUST COMPLETED MAKING SOME RECOMMENDATIONS TO GENERAL GROVES. IT IS ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS COMMENTS SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH BEAR ON THE COMMITTEES DIRECTIVE. IT IS FELT HOWEVER THAT IT WOULD NOT BE PROPER TO DISCUSS THE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE HAS MADE TO THE GENERAL UNTIL HE HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACT ON THEM. HENCE AT THE COMING MEETING THE COMMITTEE WILL NECESSARILY BE CONFINED TO RECEIVING SUGGESTIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

EXAMPLES OF MATTERS ON WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO ADVISE THE COMMITTEE FOLLOW-

1. DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE DETAILS OR MECHANISM FOR THE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN EFFECTING DECLASSIFICATION.
2. WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE OBSERVED TO INSURE FAIRNESS TO ALL CONCERNED.
3. WOULD YOU PREPARE LISTS OF SUBJECTS WHICH IN CONSIDERATION OF THE GENERALS DIRECTIVE ARE -
 - A-DEFINITELY RECOMMENDED FOR DECLASSIFICATION.
 - B-SHOULD DEFINITELY REMAIN CLASSIFIED.
 - C-BORDERLINE CASES OR CASES WHERE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE UNCERTAIN.
4. WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO MAKE SURE THAT ONLY THAT INFORMATION WHICH IS PROPERLY DECLASSIFIABLE IS DECLASSIFIED.
5. WHAT PARTICULAR PROBLEMS DO YOU ANTICIPATE MAY ARISE IN CONNECTION WITH DECLASSIFICATION AND HOW MIGHT THEY BE HANDLED."

(The next paragraph of the teletype is not quoted verbatim. It was different for each organization and dealt only with the times and places of the meetings.)

"IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF YOU WOULD ARRANGE TO PROVIDE THE COMMITTEE WITH WRITTEN COMMENTS IN ADVANCE OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING. EIGHT COPIES OF THESE SHOULD BE SENT TO LT COL J R RUHOFF CARE AREA ENGINEER U S ENGINEER OFFICE 3600 NORTH 2ND ST ST LOUIS 7 MISSOURI AND SHOULD REACH HIM BY DECEMBER 21 IN ORDER TO ALLOW TIME FOR NECESSARY DISTRIBUTION. WILL YOU KINDLY INFORM COL RUHOFF U S ENGINEER OFFICE MANHATTAN DISTRICT

P O BOX E OAK RIDGE TENNESSEE OR TELEPHONE KNOXVILLE L D 60 EXTENSION
5-6110 AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE OF THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO WILL
REPRESENT YOUR ORGANIZATION. I BELIEVE THAT COL RUHOFF WILL BE IN
POSITION TO FURNISH YOU WITH ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU MAY NEED.

R C TOLMAN
CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON DECLASSIFICATION."

III. Narrative Report of Meetings in Wilmington and New York.

A. Attendance.

Dr. R. C. Tolman, Chairman, Dr. F. E. Spedding, Dr. H. C. Urey,
and Lt. Col. J. R. Ruhoff attended the meetings of the Committee.

Dr. R. F. Bacher, Dr. A. H. Compton, Dr. E. O. Lawrence, and Dr.
J. R. Oppenheimer were unable to attend.

B. List of Questions Discussed with Each Contractor.

The Chairman of the Committee discussed the following questions
with each contractor:

1. What does declassification consist in?

- a. Cancelling "Secret" or "Confidential" stamp on a document.
- b. Stating that a particular field is declassified.*
- c. Stating that a particular contract is declassified.*

*The Chairman of the Committee stated that by careful
selection there will probably be some cases where a
field or contract can be declassified as a whole; however,
that the usual case must be handled document by document
to make sure that inappropriate material is not included.
The Declassification Office will be glad to receive sug-
gestions as to items which could be handled by methods
b and c.

2. What sorts of documents need declassification?

- a. Business correspondence.

Is your company interested in declassification of any
documents currently in your files? The Army may want to

get as many documents declassified as possible to avoid inventory and bookkeeping difficulties. What would your reaction be to such a proposal? It was suggested that declassification of routine or business correspondence could be carried out by some officer--for example, the Area Engineer or Contracting Officer--with assistance of some technically trained enlisted men if necessary.

b. Existing reports on scientific work.

c. Existing reports on engineering and technological work.

3. What treatment should be accorded new documents, papers, etc?

They should be classified in accordance with existing District rules; see Security Manual dated 25 November 1945. It is contemplated that the Committee will recommend revision of these rules in the near future to effect a reduction in the volume of new classified material.

4. What are Government obligations in making declassified information generally available? How should these obligations be discharged, for instance, so as to assure fairness to different companies?

5. Is there anything else that you would like to bring to the attention of the Committee? Do you foresee any places in which the Committee is likely to get into serious difficulties?

The comments of each contractor are given in Sub-Section C.

C. Wilmington Meeting with Contractors on 27 December.

(1) du Pont Company.

The Committee conferred with the following representatives of the du Pont Company:

Dr. C. H. Greenewalt
Mr. J. N. Tilley
Dr. R. G. Clarkson

Dr. E. M. Evans
Dr. H. W. Elley
Mr. G. M. Read Mr. J. S. Beekley

The du Pont Company will not undertake to make recommendations to the Manhattan District as to what fields or items of information should be declassified. However, they are glad to inform the District (see du Pont communication) as to the difficulty they encountered in getting a certain piece of work done.

They will also be willing to say what they can as to possible industrial applications of the information under consideration and gave some suggestions along this line in the meeting. They definitely do not wish to recommend for or against declassification of any particular item.

Certain divisions of the du Pont Company have an appreciable amount of classified material in their files such as routine business correspondence, plans for change houses, purchase orders for construction material, etc., the declassification of which would be a convenience to them, while other divisions of the company believe that the work involved in declassification would be more than would be required to maintain the files in their present form.

There was some feeling among the du Pont representatives that if information has been declassified, the Government has a definite obligation to make that portion of it available to the general public which the Government owns and has the right to publish. They also state that the Government should take a positive stand on requiring information to be declassified and to be made generally available after declassification.

du Pont pointed out that the Government does not have the right to publish all of the information which the Government has received from du Pont but only that information which was obtained by the expenditure of Government funds. du Pont, however, would be willing to disclose enough of their own old "know-how" to make a complete report provided (a) other companies working in the same field would do the same thing, and (b) the patent position of the Government would be made known and would permit the granting of a satisfactory type of license. The Chairman pointed out that, while the Committee was sympathetic to the establishment of a rational patent policy, the entire matter of patents was completely outside the purview of the Committee, and hence that the Committee's recommendations on declassification could not be predicated on any step which the Government might take in the future on the granting of licenses under patents.

It was hence concluded that for the time being the Government may make public only that information to which it is entitled under the terms of the contract. It was suggested that a possible mechanism for handling this matter would be for the Government to request the du Pont Company to prepare reports for publication which contain only information which the Government is entitled to publish.

du Pont believe that irrespective of patent policy, declassification should go ahead.

Discussions were held during which consideration was given individually to each of the major fields in which the du Pont Company has done work for the Manhattan District.

a. TNX (Hanford)

The general conclusion was that not much could be released about the activities at Hanford. A list of instruments suitable for declassification could be prepared. Also, it might be worth while to release certain information on remote controls; the opinion was expressed that the remote controls at Hanford were 20 years ahead of the rest of industry.

b. P-9 (Heavy Water)

The general conclusion was that there was very little about du Pont work on P-9 that could be declassified unless the whole of the du Pont P-9 Project were declassified. Design and operational data on the columns used, the largest of which was 15 feet in diameter, would be of great value in industries where distillation is involved, such as the oil industry and the alcohol industry; the du Pont Company also would like to use information from the P-9 Project in other parts of their own business.

A suggestion was advanced that the availability of heavy water should be made known generally in order to stimulate research on the uses of heavy water.

c. Fluorine and Fluorocarbons.

The opinion was expressed that knowledge of the existence and properties of fluorocarbons would not be of great advantage to an enemy but would be very helpful to American industry. There was some feeling that while fluorocarbons should be manufactured and made available, the methods of manufacture should not be disclosed at this time.

(2) Hooker Electrochemical Company. (Fluorine and Fluorocarbons)

The Committee conferred with Mr. R. L. Murray and Dr. Bruno H. Wojcik of the Hooker Electrochemical Company.

Hooker would like to get as much material declassified as possible, including business correspondence, etc.

Hooker felt that the Government had an obligation to foster the declassification and dissemination of information without, however, revealing its application in the manufacture of the atomic bomb.

In Hooker's particular case, they are not much concerned about disclosure of their previous "know-how" which might result from the publication of reports and papers on the work they did for the Government; they are perfectly willing to prepare such reports and papers prior to the formulation of a patent policy by the Government. Hooker agreed, in fact, that declassification and publication of information would be a step which might hasten the adoption of a definite patent policy on the part of the Government since manufacturers would then be in a position to ask for licenses. Until the matter of patents is cleared up industries will have to use the information made available at their own risk.

(3) Harshaw Chemical Company. (Fluorine)

The Committee consulted with Mr. K. E. Long of the Harshaw Chemical Company.

It was suggested that possibly "Fluorine Cells" could be declassified as an entity.

Harshaw would like to see as much material declassified as possible in order to decrease the work involved in taking care of classified information.

Harshaw is not concerned about the matter of publishing reports on work done for the Manhattan District from the point of view of disclosing old Harshaw "know-how".

Declassification should take place as soon as possible and should not be delayed pending the establishment of a patent policy.

(4) Combined Meeting.

After the Committee had consulted with representatives of each company separately, the Committee spoke with the du Pont, Harshaw, and Hooker representatives together. The conclusions

reached did not disagree with those set forth above, Harshaw and Hooker on the whole being most liberal in their views.

(5) General Matters.

Certain points of general interest were brought out at various times during the day. These are summarized below:

- a. Care must be taken to see that secrecy orders on patent applications are lifted concurrently with the declassification of the subject matter by the Manhattan District.
- b. The Army now has in operation some system for the declassification of the technical reports on German industries. The Manhattan District might be able to make use of some of the current declassification procedures.
- c. Mr. Greene of the Department of Commerce, Publication Bureau, has done a good job on the dissemination of the technical reports on German industries referred to above as well as on indices to the reports, and on cards containing abstracts of the reports. Perhaps something can be learned from Mr. Greene which will be of help to the Manhattan District.
- d. Care must be taken to protect people who publish papers, etc., from prosecution under the provisions of the Espionage Act. It should be remembered that the final determination of what information affects the national defense of the United States must be made by the courts; the declassification of a document by the Manhattan District does not necessarily mean that if someone publishes it he cannot be prosecuted.

D. New York City Meeting with Contractors on December 28th.

(1) Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation.

The Committee conferred with Mr. A. C. Klein of the Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation.

Stone & Webster is not particularly interested in the declassification of material in their own files. A great deal of what they have has already been boxed up and put away in vaults. Stone & Webster is concerned, however, with the disposition of the large amount of classified material which they have sent out to other contractors, vendors, subcontractors, etc. They have over 100,000 receipts for classified documents which they have sent out. The disposition of the documents covered by

these receipts should presumably be decided by the Manhattan District. Mr. Klein suggested that a satisfactory solution would seem to be to send a letter to each organization which has received classified material from Stone & Webster stating that certain documents had been declassified by the Army and asking that the recipient of the letter likewise declassify the copies of the documents in their files. In any event, Stone & Webster hopes that they will not be asked to get back all of the documents for which they have receipts in their files. It was suggested by the Committee that another appropriate mechanism would be to have an officer with the assistance of some technically trained enlisted men, if necessary, declassify the documents as suggested in Section III-B-(2) a -- top of Page 4.

It was generally agreed that it was not worth while in most instances to bother with the declassification of "Restricted" material.

Stone & Webster believes that the Government has a distinct obligation to see that information which would be of value is made available not only for the information and benefit of science and industry in general but also for the information and benefit of the different units of the Atomic Bomb Project.

Mr. Klein gave several examples of things which in his opinion should be made public; e.g., new techniques on the fabrication and installation of glass pipe developed by Stone & Webster at Oak Ridge, results of tests at the University of California on the pumping speeds of diffusion pumps made by various manufacturers, zircon insulators, electronic tubes, etc. Mr. Klein pointed out that the Boston Area Engineer had already declassified a large volume of papers by stamping "Declassified" on the outside of the folders in which they were filed; reports of Stone & Webster inspectors were cited as an example. It may be noted that such action is in accordance with the provisions of the Security Manual dated 25 November 1945 and agrees with the suggestions already made on Page 4 for the treatment of non-technical business papers.

(2) General Electric Company.

The Committee consulted with Dr. T. R. Rhea of the General Electric Company.

The General Electric Company is not particularly concerned whether or not the material in their files is declassified.

It would be only a minor nuisance for General Electric to allow all the material to retain its present classification.

General Electric feels that great care should be exercised in the declassification of documents and in particular that the connection of the Manhattan District with specific items of information should not be disclosed. General Electric feels that the writing of papers in which the subject matter is associated with the Atomic Bomb Project will be very revealing.

General Electric feels that it is desirable to get information declassified when it is not contrary to the interest of the Government to do so; such information should be made generally available.

Dr. Rhea brought up another problem which involves security although it does not bear on declassification. General Electric has already received two orders from a foreign country for equipment which from the very definite specifications given appears to General Electric to be quite similar to equipment supplied by General Electric for use on the Manhattan Project. General Electric would like to get the answer to two questions:

- (a) Should the orders be filled?
- (b) To whom in the Government should General Electric go for advice on a matter such as this?

Dr. Rhea pointed out that if General Electric did not fill the orders, the purchaser would probably go to some other manufacturer in this country who would not know anything about the Manhattan Project or who might be less scrupulous than General Electric and who would fill the orders. He suggested that the Army should make a study of this matter and set up a definite procedure for handling it if necessary. It was suggested to General Electric by the Committee that for the time being they ought to turn to the Manhattan District and more particularly to the District Engineer for advice on questions such as this.

(3) Westinghouse Electric Corporation

The Committee consulted with Dr. L. W. Chubb and Mr. J. B. MacNeill of Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

Westinghouse would like to see as much routine and business correspondence declassified as possible.

Westinghouse feels that where work was done at Government expense and is declassified, the information should be made available to everyone. When something is declassified, Manhattan District should see that papers are written and published but no information should be included as to applications.

Westinghouse would like to see the following subjects declassified if possible:

- a. Leak detectors (made by Westinghouse).
- b. Certain features of the centrifuge such as seals, bearings, and glands.
- c. Gas bearings motors.
- d. Diffusion type vacuum pumps.
- e. Improvements in vacuum technique developed in connection with the Calutron.

It was the opinion of Westinghouse that the following should remain classified.

- a. Dimensions, designs, and engineering data on the Calutron.
- b. New processes of isotope separation until they have been carefully checked.

In general, design, engineering and operational data should remain classified while purely scientific information should be more freely exchanged. Westinghouse felt that there should be free interchange of information among organizations such as Westinghouse which are working on the Project.

Mr. MacNeill stated that the country should have a broad plan for keeping up not only on the scientific phases of the Project but also on technological phases, e.g., designs have been suggested which would increase the output of the Calutron by 15 fold, etc.

(4) Tennessee Eastman Corporation.

The Committee conferred with Mr. E. P. Baker of the Tennessee Eastman Corporation.

Tennessee Eastman Corporation would be interested in having as much material declassified as possible. They believe that whatever can be declassified should be declassified and should be made available to the public. If need be, the Government should exert pressure on contractors to submit information for declassification and publication. Uniformity of the timing of the release and publication of information is important.

Tennessee Eastman is not concerned about the possible disclosure of some of its previous "know-how" in connection with publication of declassified information. As an example, they would be perfectly willing to have papers published on high vacuum techniques used at Y-12.

Mr. Baker was also interested in keeping to a minimum the creation of new classified documents. He pointed out that if fewer classified documents were prepared, less time and money would be spent in the operation of Y-12.

In summary, Mr. Baker said that Tennessee Eastman is generally sympathetic to declassification as far as it can be carried out. They would urge that the rules be made as definite as possible. Declassification should be carried out as uniformly as circumstances permit and at the same time for everyone. Declassification would definitely aid in keeping the best people on the job. Freedom of expression and recognition of effort by publication will make technical people happier.

The thought was expressed by a member of the Committee that compartmentalization was very bad. It would seem perfectly proper to keep information from the enemy but it should not be kept from friends.

(5) Kellex Corporation.

The Committee conferred with Mr. P. C. Keith, Dr. Manson Benedict and Mr. P. B. Gordon, representing the Kellex Corporation.

Kellex believes that it would be very desirable to declassify existing documents to as great an extent as possible providing security is not seriously compromised. The Manhattan District has an obligation to make available to the country information which has been acquired at Government expense just the same as the Bureau of Mines does.

Mr. Keith took quite a strong stand on keeping almost all information classified for a period of two years. He said that

in his opinion the advantages of withholding information for two years would far outweigh the advantages to be gained by publication at once. Furthermore, the contributions to industry and science that can be made by releasing information on K-25 and K-27 are not in his opinion revolutionary in any way.

He feels at least as strongly about theoretical information as he does about information of an engineering or technical nature. He was most emphatic in stating that if an engineer is any good and if he has a good understanding of the theory of a process, he can take any process from any laboratory and put it into operation. His thought was that we should not publish all we know about the various components of the Project but that selected people could be informed so that good would accrue to the country from the information.

Keith feels that the theory of the diffusion method and of the cascade should not be published at this time nor should the details of the manufacture of fluorine or fluorocarbons. He believes that if the people who already know how to make fluorocarbons are permitted to manufacture them and supply them to the public, that is sufficient for the time being. He would say, however, that if there was one change which he might contemplate making in the memorandum he prepared for the Committee, it would be to release the restrictions he recommended on fluorine and fluorocarbons.

Dr. Benedict's feeling was that it would be worth while to publish information on the theory of the cascade but that the design of certain key pieces of equipment such as valves should not be released.

(6) Chrysler Corporation.

The Committee conferred with Mr. J. M. Hartgering of the Chrysler Corporation.

The Chrysler Corporation has consolidated their files and are not interested in declassifying documents which they have at this time.

Chrysler feels that everything about the Atomic Bomb should be locked up and kept. However, if anything is declassified, the Government has an obligation to make such information available

to the public when it was acquired by the expenditure of Government funds. Many manufacturers, however, will probably wish not to disclose their previous "know-how" which was developed with their own money. For example, the nickel plating of the inside of pipes was developed by Chrysler with Chrysler money and furthermore is based largely on old Chrysler "know-how". Hence, it is not a proper subject for the Government to disclose. However, the technique of welding nickel plated steel was developed by Chrysler with Government money and would be a proper subject for publication, if it were declassified.

(7) Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company.

The Committee conferred with Mr. Edwin H. Brown of the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company.

Allis-Chalmers would like to have as much matter in their files declassified as possible both from the point of view of reducing the work required to take care of classified information and also in order to permit Allis-Chalmers to make commercial use of the information. Mr. Brown said that at the moment the blowers made by Allis-Chalmers for the Manhattan District were erased from men's minds. Allis-Chalmers would like to publish information about these blowers.

(8) Crane Company.

The Committee conferred with Mr. A. M. Hauser of the Crane Company.

The Crane Company would like to have the classified material in their files declassified to reduce the effort required to take care of it and also to permit the Crane Company to use some of the information in their own business. Their interest lies, of course, in valves which were supplied to K-25; Mr. Hauser pointed out that these valves are all practically of conventional design and that their competitors are currently selling similar products without restriction.

(9) Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation.

The Committee conferred with the following representatives of the Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation:

J. A. Rafferty
L. A. Bliss
R. H. Crist

L. M. Currie
Mr. Alsbaugh
G. M. Murphy

Union Carbide & Carbon does not believe that it would be worth while to bother declassifying material in their files simply as a matter of convenience since their estimate is that only about 20-25% would be declassifiable.

They urge that publication of information should be carried out in such a way that the interest of the Manhattan District is not revealed. It was pointed out that an important feature of publication was to see that, as far as possible, everyone concerned should publish at about the same time. Pressure should be brought to bear by the District if necessary to see that this is done.

Mr. Rafferty said that we should be very careful about what is released. Mr. Bliss said that the importance of the diffusion process would not be great for general use and that he saw no reason why the theory should be released. It would be just "one more tool" for industry.

Mr. Rafferty said that just at this time an attempt was being made to launch the UNO and also to get a general agreement set up for the control of the Atomic Bomb. He urged that we go very cautiously until these are set up and in operation. It was pointed out by Dr. Urey that if, however, we hold back on releasing information, other countries may consider this as a threat to their security and thus our action will actually hasten war. The final suggestion of Union Carbide & Carbon was that before information is released to any extent, some sort of control should be set up.

(10) General Matters.

- a. Many contractors do not seem to have the latest copy of the Manhattan District Security Manual. Steps should be taken to see that the information in the manual on the classification of new documents is made available to all people who originate documents which need classification.
- b. During the discussions, it was learned that leak detectors made by the General Electric Company had been declassified by General Groves as a result of a request by General Electric but that leak detectors made by Westinghouse were still classified due in part in all probability to the fact that Westinghouse had made no request for their declassification. Instances of this sort should be avoided in order to insure equal treatment to all concerned.

E. New York City Meeting with General Groves on December 29th.

The Committee conferred with General Groves on the morning of 29 December.

The first item of discussion dealt with the position of the General in recommending or authorizing further declassification and release of information in view of the testimony which had been given before the Senate Atomic Energy Committee, and in view of published articles stating that no information about the atomic bomb should be released. A particular case which was cited was the public criticism of the release of the Smyth Report. Although General Groves appeared friendly to a liberal declassification policy, he pointed out that in view of so much publicly expressed sentiment in favor of retaining all information, it would be difficult for him to recommend or authorize further declassification and release of information and that he would need strong support to do this.

The Committee pointed out that many of the industrial people with whom they had conferred during the preceding two days had thought that the issuance of the Smyth Report was ill-advised until an explanation of the circumstances leading up to its preparation and release was given them by the Committee.

Some discussion followed about the advisability of including the basic theory of the cascade in Class I. It was suggested that the Committee might want to reword this item a little bit; also, some indication should be given of the major advantages to be gained in disclosing information on this item at this time.

One thing which the General thought would be of help to him in adopting the Committee's recommendations on declassification would be a compilation of brief statements of what was known prior to say, 1 January 1942 about each of the classified elements whose properties have been recommended for inclusion in Class I together with a short summary of what further information would be released as a result of the inclusion in Class I.

The General suggested also that justification should be given for the declassification of the properties of each element in Class I in Table I and of each Topic in Class I in Section IX. He suggested that this could be most easily handled by making up a short list of numbered reasons for declassification and indicating the reasons applicable for each property or topic by number.

Discussion followed as to whether manufacturing "know-how" should be released generally at this time. The Committee pointed out that several industrial companies suggested that a possible way to handle the matter was to allow the "know-how" to stay for the time being in the hands of the people who already had it and encourage them and possibly a few

other selected organizations to enter into the manufacture of the items involved without publishing the methods used.

General Groves did not indicate approval or disapproval of this method of procedure but suggested that the Committee report it as a possibility in their next memorandum.

F. New York City Discussion by the Committee.

The Committee gave further consideration to the matters which had been brought to its attention by General Groves. Although it was necessary for the General to return to Washington before this phase of the meeting had been completed, the impression was gained that he would feel friendly to proposals such as those discussed below.

The members of the Committee present felt, in their discussion of the situation, that some sort of a public statement of the conclusions of the Committee on the matter of declassification ought to have a beneficial effect in framing public opinion. The suggestion was made that the Committee on Declassification should send a letter to the McMahon Committee setting forth their philosophy on declassification and incidentally expressing their approval of the release of the Smyth Report; this met with the approval of the members present.

The members of the Committee present also discussed an additional step which might help in the declassification program. This would be to have a meeting of the Committee on Declassification and make a public announcement of the feelings of the Committee on the desirability of a liberal and forward looking declassification program. Such a meeting should be held in a city where good publicity could be arranged. Reporters should be invited and also representatives of Time and Life; a picture of the Committee should be taken. It was agreed that further consideration should be given to this proposal.

Richard C. Tolman

RICHARD C. TOLMAN,
Chairman,
Committee on Declassification.

John R. Ruhoff
JOHN R. RUHOFF,

Secretary to the
Committee on Declassification.