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AE 1/3.2

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY
Washington 25, D.C.

11 February 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Subject: Interim Directive for the Committee on Atomic Energy

Attached: AE 1/3 Interim Directive

1. The Committee on Atomic Energy submits herewith an Interim Directive, AE 1/3, under which it proposes to operate until such time as a more detailed directive is feasible,

2. In submitting the Directive the Committee wishes to call the Board's attention to the following deviations from the standard REB form for committee directives:

MEMBERSHIP

The provisions of paragraphs 3 b., c., and d., have been modified to limit the Committee's military membership to the members of the Military Liaison Committee. General Brereton dissented to limitation of the military membership to members of the MLC, since the Air Force desired immediate representation on the Committee without waiting for action on appointment of Air Force representatives to MLC, it being anticipated that there would be considerable delay in this latter action.

Paragraph 6 provides that no deputies shall be appointed for members or associate members. This supersedes paragraph 4 of the standard form. General Brereton dissented to the elimination of deputies for executive members. However, the majority opinion was that this action by the Committee was not inconsistent in that the members of MLC do not have deputies in their official assignment, and unless deputies were appointed as MLC deputies, the Committee should not have deputy members.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Paragraph 10 b. has been modified to read "Analyze and evaluate this information with regard to research and development...".

Two additional provisions have been included under paragraph 10 c., whereby the Committee will "inform the Atomic Energy Commission through the MLC of special interests of the National Military Establishment in the Commission program" and "assist the Board in informing the AEC through the agency of the MLC, of the special interests of the National Military Establishment in the research and development phases of the military application of atomic energy."

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WNRC:
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ACCESSION# 68A-0247
BOX# 2
FILE NAME: Atomic Energy Committee, AEM, 1947-48

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The standard version of paragraph 10 d. (1) has been modified to read "not less frequently than once a year, review and report on the research and development program of the Atomic Energy Commission in so far as it affects the military application of atomic energy."

Paragraph 10 d. (4) has been modified to read "present to the Board, in advance of the presentation of annual budget estimates, recommendations for the continuation, extension, reduction, alteration or termination of existing atomic energy research and development projects, within the National Military Establishment."

3. The modifications noted in paragraphs 10 d. (1) and (4) have been dictated by the present confused situation in the field of research and development activities pertaining to the military application of atomic energy, making it impossible at this time for the Committee to define its responsibilities and authority in a precise manner. Furthermore, this situation makes it infeasible for the Committee to undertake to carry out in the immediate future the modified provisions noted in paragraphs 10 d. (1) and (4). It will, however, explore the possibility of being able to submit by 1 September 1948 the data which is required to fit in with the provisions of RDB 114/2,2, Annual Plan of Operation for the Research and Development Board.

4. It is requested that the Board consider the approval of the Committee's Interim Directive submitted herewith.

/S/ JAMES B. CONANT

Attachment

James B. Conant
Chairman

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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AE 1/3

INTERIM DIRECTIVE

COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY

ORGANIZATION

1. The Committee on Atomic Energy is established as an agency of the Research and Development Board (RDB).

OBJECTIVE

2. a. The objective of the Committee on Atomic Energy shall be to assist the Board in connection with atomic energy aspects of the Board's complete and integrated program of research and development for military purposes.

b. The Committee will also discuss with, and advise the Military Liaison Committee on any matters which either the Committee or the MLC may wish to have considered.

MEMBERSHIP

3. The Committee on Atomic Energy shall consist of:

a. Three civilian members, including the Chairman, appointed by the Chairman of the RDB.

b. The members of the Military Liaison Committee.

4. Any major agency of the Army, Navy, or Air Force, having direct interest in the functions of the Committee and not represented

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by a regular member may formally nominate a qualified representative to act as an associate member subject to approval by the Committee and by the Board.

5. Whenever matters pertaining to 2, a are under consideration the associate members will normally sit with the Committee. At other times associate members shall sit with the Committee whenever the Chairman decrees that their presence will be of value.

6. No deputies for members or associate members will be appointed to this Committee.

PROCEDURE

7. In accordance with the Rules of the Board, the Committee is authorized:

- a. To employ professional and other personnel as necessary to discharge its responsibilities under a budget authorized by the Board through the Executive Secretary.
- b. To establish its own administrative procedures.
- c. To organize its own Secretariat.
- d. To establish such supporting Panels and Consultant agencies as it may require.

8. On internal matters of procedure, administration, budgets, and personnel, and in relationships between the Committee and the Board or other Committees, the Secretariat of the Committee shall function within the administrative framework established by the Executive Secretary, RDB.

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9. Action of the Committee shall be effectuated in accordance with the Rules of Organization and Procedure of the Board.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

10. In pursuit of its stated objective, the Committee on Atomic Energy shall:

- a. Continuously survey research and development activities in the field of Atomic Energy, both within and without the Military Establishment, and obtain necessary information
 - (1) Concerning U. S. and foreign progress, programs, plans and budgets in the field of atomic energy
 - (2) from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, through the Executive Secretary, RDB, on such aspects of over-all planning for National Defense as the Committee desires in formulating an adequate program for research and development in the field of atomic energy.
- b. Analyze and evaluate this information with regard to research and development in order to
 - (1) determine the major goals and problems in the field of atomic energy and direct constant emphasis upon them;
 - (2) assess the adequacy of plans, programs, and projects of the Military Establishment and assess the

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merit and effectiveness with which programs are handled;

- (3) determine the presence of unjustifiable duplication of effort in the field of atomic energy;
- (4) determine the presence of serious gaps which exist in the program;
- (5) assess the adequacy of facilities, personnel and equipment within the National Military Establishment and estimate future requirements; and
- (6) appraise the degree of coordination obtained in atomic energy programs of the Military Establishment, including that reflected in budget requests.

c. Prepare and present such reports and informative papers as the Committee deems desirable in order to

- (1) inform the RDB and authorized agencies of the Military Establishment of the facts and trends in the field of atomic energy necessary to assure continued and increasing progress in that field;
- (2) inform the Joint Chiefs of Staff, through the Executive Secretary, RDB, as to the implications upon plans, operations, and strategy of new weapons, equipment and techniques in the field of atomic energy.
- (3) inform the Atomic Energy Commission through the MLC of special interests of the National Military Es-

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establishment in the Commission program;

- (4) assist the Board in informing the Atomic Energy Commission through the agency of the MLC of the special interests of the National Military Establishment in the research and development phases of the military application of atomic energy.

d. In accordance with regular procedures of the Board, the Committee shall

- (1) not less frequently than once a year review and report on the research and development program of the Atomic Energy Commission in so far as it affects the military application of atomic energy.
- (2) allocate and when desirable, reallocate responsibility within the Military Establishment for research and development projects in the field of atomic energy;
- (3) specify means whereby maximum advantage may be taken of critical resources and new advances, solution of problems may be speeded, undesirable duplication, waste or neglect may be avoided, and liaison, cooperation, and direct dealing among agencies may be furthered;
- (4) present to the Board, in advance of the presentation of annual budget estimates, recommendations, for the continuation, extension, reduction, alteration or

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termination of existing atomic energy research and development projects within the National Military Establishment.

LIAISON

11. The Committee on Atomic Energy shall function in close collaboration with the Military Liaison Committee in accordance with the Joint Rules of Procedure (AE 4/3) and within the legislative procedures established by the Congress.

The Committee will communicate with the Atomic Energy Commission on behalf of the Board through the agency of the Military Liaison Committee.

By direction of the Board:

L. R. HAFSTAD
Executive Secretary

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