

FILE SOURCE Ltr, C CWS to (Distribution List), 9 May 46, sub: Chemical Warfare Organization and Policy in the Post-War Army.	SUBJECT-SUBDIVISION CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE ORGANIZATION AND POLICY	NATURE OF NOTE REORGANIZATION OF CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD
FILE 319.1 - Wallington Board Report, 1945.		

NOTE TAKER LB/hmb	<p>"1. Plans for the reorganization or modification of our existing military structure, applying lessons of World War II, are under study by the War Department. This program may involve new legislation and changes in regulations.</p>
COMMENTS	<p>2. It therefore would be both inappropriate and premature for me as Chief of the Chemical Warfare Service to attempt at this time to enunciate and prescribe as settled and firm, the detailed organization, policy, and doctrine to govern this Service in the peace period ahead.</p> <p>3. During this time of transition and reorganization, however, I consider it is especially desirable that our Chemical Warfare Service officers, particularly those assigned to staffs of major tactical units, be conversant with my views and know where I stand on broad questions of policy and doctrine involved in the current consideration of the military establishment as a whole. I therefore request your careful reading and thoughtful application of the contents of this letter and the inclosure.</p> <p>4. Certain facts are manifest and should be understood by all concerned, viz.:</p> <p>a. The contribution of the Chemical Warfare Service to the war effort was not only great in magnitude but vital. Let none doubt or question this fact. The achievements of this Service in the development of production of incendiary bombs and flame weapons, in providing active combat support of the ground arms with heavy mortar and smoke generator units, in developing on an unprecedented scale a system of protection against the possible outbreak of gas warfare, are fully recognized.</p> <p>b. As heritage of the war, the Service finds itself possessed of greatly improved and expanded technical facilities, most, if not all of which, can be applied to research and development activities in the peace period ahead.</p> <p>c. Gas warfare continues an undiminished and outstanding military problem. Unused as a weapon in this war (no criterion for the future) gas nevertheless underwent constant improvement and development. Thus, while our standard chemical agents are still weapons of great potential value, new compounds discovered and developed during this war must now also be reckoned with. The application of atomic energy to warfare, rather than rendering gas obsolete, may well extend the field for atmospheric attack.</p>

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d. Biological warfare studied intensely and greatly developed by the Chemical Warfare Service in secret during the war is still in its infancy. The necessity for vigorous pursuit of this problem is fully recognized.

e. Aside from these broad fields of future development, the war has brought numerous specific chemical problems requiring renewed effort toward the improvement of existing military means. The interests of the National Defense dictate devotion of our best scientific brains and technical equipment also to these problems which I shall not mention here.

5. It seems clear then that in the peace period ahead of us the efforts of the Chemical Warfare Service must be directed along two main lines, viz.:

a. First and foremost, the vigorous prosecution of scientific research for the development and production of new and better means.

b. Second, the assurance of chemical preparedness in all its various aspects. This includes the maintenance of adequate stocks of standard munitions and supplies in war reserve and the continued training and indoctrination of the Army in chemical warfare. There must be a suitable Chemical Warfare Service nucleus in the peace time organization of the field forces.

6. The research and development program is already under way. Project plans have been prepared and the recruitment of scientists and technicians, in converting our technical establishment from a war to a peace basis, is well advanced.

7. In the field of military organization and operations the plans of this Service are also well under way. Items and quantities of munitions and equipment required for our war reserve have been determined and arrangements for long storage are in hand. A definite program for career training of our officers has been drawn up. While still aiming at a high degree of versatility, this program seeks to orient future education and training of officers so as to develop specialists for executive and command positions in three functional groups: Research and Development, Procurement and Supply, and Troops and Training.

8. It is realized that definite plans and doctrines for the Chemical Warfare Service structure in the field forces cannot be determined and announced pending decision and announcement by the War Department as to the organization and composition of the major tactical elements. Meanwhile, for the information and guidance of Chemical Officers during this interim period, I am issuing as an inclosure to this letter a statement and discussion of my views as to the proper post-war organization of the Chemical Warfare Service in the Ground Forces up to and including the Field Army.

9. I have been assisted materially in arriving at these conclusions by the report of a board of Chemical Officers with field experience in this war which was convened at my office as soon as practicable after the cessation of hostilities. The statement of organization and doctrine inclosed, in most respects, is substantially as recommended by this board. In some instances, where the board was not in unanimous agreement, I have decided the issue on the basis of my own opinions.

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10. This document should be of assistance to chemical staff officers in their current planning and organizational problems. However, it is to be distinctly understood by all concerned that it is provisional and subject to modification and change as may be dictated by developments and circumstances now undressen, or by specific decisions and directives later to be issued by the War Department.

11. It is contemplated that further studies of this nature, applying to Chemical Warfare Service organization and functions in the Army group and Theater of Operation Staffs, in the Communication Zone and Zone of the Interior and in relationships of the Chemical Warfare Service with other agencies of the Government in the prosecution of war will be made and copies similarly distributed at later date.

/s/ Alden H. Waitt
ALDEN H. WAITT,
Major General,
Chief, Chemical Warfare Service.

1 Incl.

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