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August 7, 1943

VERIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

LMR
Karl Lang 2-6-85

Brig. Gen. G. R. Groves
War Department
U. S. Engineer Office
P. O. Box 2610
Washington, D. C.

PUBLICLY RELEASABLE
LANL Classification of 11/2/77
Pf/Plato

Dear General Groves:

Under cover we are sending you the forms vouching for the loyalty of our personnel as agreed upon on your last visit. All present members of our staff are covered, with the exception of six whose names and whose present clearance status as obtained from Lieutenant Clark will be found on the enclosed document. The reason that these six are not included in the vouching is not that there is the least doubt on the part of anyone here of their loyalty and discretion, but rather that they are not personally known to any members of the laboratory with an intimacy that would justify so sure a statement as we are signing.

We have made three changes in the statement as presented. In paragraph 2 we have deleted the phrase "for whose work I am responsible," in order that the statement be applicable when signed by one member of the laboratory for another whose work did not lie in his jurisdiction. In the case of the three Canadians, Sutton, Froman and Bryce, who have not applied for first papers, we have added the phrase "except on direct order of the Government of Canada" to make the statement applicable to them. Further, we have added "during the present war" in the second paragraph to make it conform to the first.

On this point a comment is perhaps appropriate. I myself feel that the addition of "during the present war" in some respects makes this statement weaker than it should properly be, since all rights to the work we are doing here should legally, and in my opinion, also in the broadest possible sense, belong to this country which is supporting the work and in which it is being done. I believe that it would be possible to delete this phrase from our statement, provided it were made quite clear that there was nothing in the statement committing the members of the laboratory to a view which either supports or opposes the general

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FINAL DETERMINATION
UNCLASSIFIED
L. M. Redman
OCT 28, 1980

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PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973

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Brig. Gen. L. R. Groves
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idea of the United Nations, and such sharing of information between this country and others as that might involve. The point which concerns us is not whether people believe that this would be a wise or an unwise policy, but only that they commit themselves to leaving that policy to the Government of the United States.

If you would like to redraft, or have us redraft, a statement along these lines, I am sure that the people who have signed the present one will be glad to sign again. This will afford an opportunity both to remove the limitations on time and to introduce the distinction which I have made between political conviction on the one hand and personal action on the other.

Very sincerely yours,

J. R. Oppenheimer

JRO:pg

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