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AUTH CS, USAF

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
 Headquarters United States Air Force  
 Washington 25, D. C.

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July 1951

MEMORANDUM TO: DEPUTY CHIEFS OF STAFF AND DIRECTORS  
 SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Biological and Chemical Warfare

1. The Vice Chief of Staff has directed in a memorandum to all Deputy Chiefs of Staff, signed 20 June 1951, that the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, expand the functions and responsibilities of the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, for Atomic Energy (AFOAT) to include those incident to the earliest attainment of an Air Force-wide combat capability in Biological and Chemical Warfare (BW-CW) on a high-priority basis.

2. The Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, has charged the Assistant for Atomic Energy, BCS/O, with monitoring the USAF BW-CW (toxic) program and further directed that AFOAT's functions and responsibilities be expanded to include establishment of a BW-CW Division and suitable supporting field agencies charged with the following general functions:

a. Achieve at the earliest possible date an Air Force-wide combat capability in the field of BW-CW.

b. Assume responsibility for organizing the program, expediting projects, and coordinating Air Staff action in order to effect:

- (1) Development of concepts, doctrines and plans for offensive BW-CW and for defensive measures to minimize the effects of its employment by an enemy.
- (2) Development, procurement, distribution and maintenance of materiel, including the agents themselves, devices for their dissemination, and defensive equipment.
- (3) Training of personnel Air Force-wide, including the training of specialists in this field.

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Authority <u>NDD917103</u>
By <u>cm</u> NARA. Date <u>8/11/94</u>

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3. In performance of the functions prescribed in paragraph 2, the BW-CW Division, AFOAF, will collaborate with and secure the collaboration of staff divisions in this headquarters in any way concerned with the program. Emphasis will be placed on accomplishment of the following, utilizing to the maximum the normal staff agencies:

a. Development of doctrine and techniques for strategic and tactical employment of BW-CW agents, both offensive and defensive.

b. Development of logistic procedures for handling, storing and preparing munitions for loading on the aircraft.

c. Issuance of necessary manuals to place the information in the hands of the using personnel. This will include both offensive and defensive BW and CW.

d. Training the necessary personnel for:

(1) Handling BW-CW munitions.

(2) Disseminating munitions from aircraft.

(3) Employment of BW-CW munitions in specific military operations, including war planning for such operations.

(4) Tactical defensive measures.

e. Expediting the development and procurement of improved means of dissemination of BW-CW agents.

f. Integration of the various elements of the problem outlined above to insure an orderly progression in all phases, and expedite the BW-CW program in accordance with its military value.

4. In furtherance of the Air Force BW-CW program, action will be focused initially on the accomplishment of the following projects:

a. Survey USAF personnel resources to identify personnel now qualified in this field and personnel who have such qualifications that they can be quickly trained with a minimum of on-the-job training. Assign such personnel, after adequate training, to BW-CW staff positions in Eq USAF and the major commands.

b. Institute an expedited BW-CW training program of approximately 3 months for suitably qualified personnel capable of receiving such training with view to augmenting Air Staff and field agencies, in furtherance of the entire program.

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- c. In order to insure the necessary emphasis and priority required to attain an early operational capability, it is considered essential to provide indoctrination in BW-CW for all major commanders and subsequently to the key staff officers of all units.
- d. Institute an individual technical training program in BW-CW to provide specially trained personnel for the handling, storage, shipment, and maintenance for BW-CW munitions, agents, and specialized equipment.
- e. Augment present military post-graduate training of Air Force officers to meet the needs of the BW-CW program, particularly in Research and Development field.
- f. Institute a long range training program (approximately one year) actively following projects at Camp Detrick, Maryland, and Army Chemical Center, Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, to give a full rounded technical background to approximately 200 officers initially.
- g. Exploit with the Chief Chemical Officer, Department of the Army, the possibility of cross-assignment of personnel.
- h. Reinforce and accelerate the R&D program through assignment of additional technical personnel as project officers to monitor the program with the Chemical Corps.
- i. Re-examine the R&D effort in the light of operational and policy doctrines and recommend re-programming where necessary.
- j. Establish firm Air Force doctrine of BW-CW employment and protection in order to determine proper requirements and revise statements of military characteristics where necessary.
- k. Provide facilities for developmental test, and operations and training as required to obtain adequate data for evaluation of munitions; development of operational and logistic tactics and techniques; provide a vehicle for furtherance of organizational training.
- l. Survey existing literature and publications in BW-CW field and prepare and publish manuals on BW-CW tactics and techniques, for both offensive and defensive aspects.

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m. Develop requirements, qualitative and quantitative, for materiel and their supporting funds and integrate into the Air Force program with assignment of priority commensurate with its military value.

n. Review and modify existing Tables of Organization and Equipment to provide logistic and operational support for toxic munitions.

o. Maintain close liaison with the major US and overseas Air Force Commands, with the Departments of the Army and Navy, government agencies, and civilian educational institutions in furtherance of the program.

p. Provide means for evaluating (and exploiting) the psychological impact of BW-CN.

q. Prepare and publish intelligence material on target systems.

r. Establish and expedite an intelligence capability in the fields of BW-CN relating to agents, munitions, defensive equipment, techniques, tactical doctrine, plans for employment, production plants and training.

5. The assignment of Air Staff functions and responsibilities in BW-CN field has been delineated in Memorandum signed by the Vice Chief of Staff on 20 October 1950. The BW-CN Division, AFOAT, will not assume the responsibility of any Air Staff agency for performance of these functions. However, in its capacity as monitoring agency to organize the program, expedite the projects, and coordinate the activities of the Air Staff agencies concerned in any way with the BW-CN program, AFOAT will collaborate with and render active assistance to the Air Staff, assuming some of the Air Staff functions until properly qualified personnel can be provided and adequate Air Staff capability is developed.

6. It is emphasized that one of the primary missions of AFOAT in this program is to encourage the development of Air Staff capabilities and that it will cease to function for or in behalf of any Staff agency once the latter has developed an adequate capability.

7. It is requested that all current documents pertaining to BW-CN program be made available to AFOAT upon request and that BW-CN activities or correspondence for the time being be coordinated with the BW-CN Division, AFOAT.

*Howard G. Bunker*  
 for R. C. WILSON *Brig. Gen. USAF*  
 Major General, USAF  
 Assistant DCS/O for Atomic Energy

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