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AFOAT-BW

12 March 1953/ekb

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

SUBJECT: Discussion with General Doolittle re USAF BW-CW Committee

1. On 12 March 1953 Colonel Hoffman delivered a copy of Operations Analysis Report No. 16 by Dr. Rafferty on status of BW-CW to General Doolittle for his information.

2. General Doolittle inquired as to the reason for Colonel Seiler's and/or air staff members reluctance to Dr. Merck serving on the proposed sub-panel of the Army Killian Committee to study the Air Force problem. Colonel Hoffman stated that he was not aware of any objection by Colonel Seiler or other Air Force personnel to Dr. Merck's appointment to the sub-committee, but that there was considerable doubt as to whether the committee's report would serve any useful purpose to the Air Force in light of the proposed organizational arrangement - i.e., that the sub-committee, chaired by Dr. Bronk, would submit its report to Mr. Killian, who in turn would submit the report to the Secretary of the Army. In the event that anything deleterious to the Army's and/or Chemical Corps actions in the past or views at present was included in the report, it probably would be pigeonholed either by Dr. Killian or the Secretary of the Army. Furthermore, the Air Force might never get the opportunity to utilize the report for official action. General Doolittle stated that it was not his intention to have the committee established in such a manner. He stated that if the RDB report as of 1 April 1953 did not meet the Air Force requirements for a study of these problems, he would request Dr. Killian to appoint a sub-committee headed by Dr. Bronk with members to include Mr. Mallenkraut and Mr. Kettering and any other members of the Killian committee that Dr. Killian desired to include as well as Dr. Merck, to study specifically the Air Force problem and submit its report to the Air Force as well as such other Services and agencies as desire it. Colonel Hoffman indicated that under such circumstances the committee report would probably then be useful to the Air Force.

3. General Doolittle immediately called Mr. Gardner, Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force to inform him that he intended to advise Dr. Killian along the lines described in paragraph 2 above.

4. During the discussion General Doolittle very pointedly asked Colonel Hoffman why Colonel Seiler and his staff had neglected to advise him regarding the Killian committee prior to his recent meeting with Secretary of Army, in which the Army proposed that the Killian committee



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study the Air Force problem rather than have the Air Force establish a new committee of its own. Colonel Hoffman advised General Doolittle that until the matter was discussed with General Doolittle at the meeting with the Secretary of Army, the Air Force had no official cognizance of the Killian Committee. In 1952 when Colonel Hoffman was confidentially advised by a representative of OSD that the Killian committee had been appointed, an attempt was made by the Air Force to obtain official information on this committee, its purpose, and its findings. The Air Force was unable to obtain any official information whatsoever from the Army on this subject. After the recent meeting with the Secretary of the Army, inasmuch as the Army had made reference to the Killian committee, Colonel Seiler took the opportunity to request General Nichols to provide the Air Force with a copy of the Killian committee report. This report has just recently been received and will be provided to General Doolittle for his information.

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