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MINUTES OF TECHNICAL BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 26, 1946

Present: Dr. Bradbury, Col. Gee, Mr. Roy, Maj. Smith, Mr. ~~Holloway~~,
Mr. Holloway, Mr. Froman, Mr. Walters, J. E. B. Kellogg,
Col. Betts.

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1. Discussed long range weapon development described separately.
(Col. Gee departed)
2. Director announced that he had prepared a draft of the 1947 program for the Laboratory. Copies of this draft are to be distributed to all Division Leaders for their study and comment.
3. Discussed property matters. Decided to take whatever steps are necessary to improve the status of our property; this to include the establishment of property responsibility at a Group Leader or equivalent level. This responsibility does not necessarily have to remain with the Group Leader himself, but may be delegated to a member of his group. It is to be a financial responsibility only where gross negligence is shown. Necessity for taking inventory was discussed and it was decided to initiate this at the earliest possible date. Detailed instructions on this are to be prepared by the Supply Group.
4. Discussed classification of new documents. In order to decrease work of declassification it was decided that responsible reviewers will attempt to review new reports before they become published documents to try to keep them from requiring classification. The need for a classification guide was emphasized.
5. The question was raised as to what Project handbooks were in the process of being written since there had been many rumors on this subject. A checkup after the meeting determined that a handbook of employment regulations is being prepared by Mr. Young in the Personnel Group. He has agreed to have this reviewed by the Patent Office as was requested at Tech Board. There is also a Los Alamos guide being prepared by Mr. Challis for use in connection with recruiting. This handbook will be carefully reviewed to be sure that it is not worded to give the impression that this is a vacation resort.
6. Holloway asked what decision had been made about possible stock-piling of weak sources. It was reported that a memo had been written to the General on this subject but as yet we had no answer.
7. Discussed requests for documents that come to us from off the Project. It was agreed that such could be funnelled to Major Smith or Dr. Bradbury and handled by the Document Division.
8. In view of discussion in (1) above, the question was

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raised as to whether or not we would want to start up the low temperature laboratory. It was pointed out that the necessity for starting up this Laboratory again was not immediately apparent. No decision was reached but Kellogg agreed that he had enough information on which to base his own decision as to whether or not he should hire a particular employee with whom he had been negotiating.

9. Information was requested as to whether or not the new rent schedule was available. After the meeting Col. Gee was contacted and stated that it would be out within a day or so.

10. It was announced that Lt. Col. Fore has been designated Public Relations Officer.

11. It was reported that three more plutonium spheres are available but that there has been no final neutron determination made on these spheres. The problem of assignment of responsibility for this determination was discussed. It was decided to place this responsibility in "M" Division. In the event that OMR at some time in the future, obtains a man experienced in this operation, they may take this operation over as part of their production process. It was agreed that Buchanan and one member of Group M2 will take immediate steps to check these three spheres. The Director will clear this with Quantity Control. Froman stated that there was an obvious need for a weapons control. Whether or not this should be in "M" Division or "OMR" was discussed, but no decision reached until Walters could review this in his Division (OMR).

12. It was requested that arrangements be made to permit long distance calls to be made from Class "C" telephones where the person making the call normally is permitted to make such calls from his own Class "A" telephone. This is to permit making such calls when the one placing the call must do so from some outlying site at the time when the call becomes necessary.

13. The emergency defense plan was discussed and it was recommended that the plan as it referred to outlying sites be changed. It is not considered desirable that Technical personnel should move to outlying sites immediately upon the declaration of an emergency but rather that they should be available to the Military Commander in case some need for their presence at outlying sites should arise. It was pointed out that in most cases there would be no justification for an attempt to defend any of our firing sites. It was also requested that six people be considered a sufficient number to designate for all of "S" Site. This is to be referred to the Commanding Officer.

14. Discussed assignment of space in the Technical Area. It was decided that in general, buildings as such are not to be assigned to the exclusive jurisdiction of any Division.

15. The construction of a new X-Ray firing site for

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"X" Division was discussed. This is made necessary by the fact that "P" Site is now being used by "M" Division. The point was raised that it should be possible for both "M" and "X" Division to use one firing site. It was decided that those concerned would meet separately to discuss this problem, but in principle the necessity for construction of a new site is not apparent.

16. A plan for the establishment of a central mail and records group was announced. Mr. Hassan will discuss this with each division leader and develop a plan for its establishment. This plan will be reviewed by all concerned before any decision is reached.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

A. W. Detts
A. W. Detts,
Associate Director

- Distribution: Maj. Gen. L. R. Groves
- Dr. W. E. Bradbury
- Col. H. Gee
- Dr. D. Froman
- Dr. Max Roy
- Mr. R. Richtmyer
- Dr. E. Jette
- Dr. J. M. B. Kellogg
- "Z" Division
- Capt. R. A. Larkin
- Maj. R. C. Smith
- Dr. Marshall Holloway
- Col. A. W. Detts
- Mr. E. S. Allen

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