

Friday, 7 September 1945

VISITS

10:20 am Gen Groves off to Dr Chadwick's office  
11:00 am Dr Briggs  
11:30 am Burt Andrews of the Herald Tribune  
12:20 am Col Forney  
2:30 pm Col Cooney

CALLS

9:05 am Dr Suits, Schenectady called Gen Groves re whether or not he would approve of sending Dr. Kingdon to Santa Fe to interview prospective employees. Gen Groves said that there was no objection but before Dr Suits does that certain plans must be put into operation. Gen Groves said that he hopes to go there either the last of this week or the first of next week, and after that time Dr. Kingdon could go. Gen Groves will have someone call Dr. Suits today and tell him of the probable time of Dr Kingdon's visit. Dr. Suits also said that the proposal will be in shape next week and would like to send it down for the General to read and then he would like to talk with the General and to get into as much detail as the General would wish.

9:25 am Gen Groves called Dr Conant, Rockefeller Foundation, NYC. Gen Groves advised him that he spoke with Oppie yesterday and it seems that everything is uncertain out there and Oppie thinks it is important that the General and Dr Conant get out there as soon as possible to exert "soothing" influences. The General said that he would be at Dr Conant's disposal and would go and return with him to Y. Gen Groves advised him that there has been a lot of trouble re radioactivity but that there is no basis to it--Col Warren is going into Hiroshima soon. Gen Groves also advised Conant that a party of top flight newspapermen are going out to see the crater and Gen Groves

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is going with the--will leave Sat. morning and come back on Monday--Oppie will be with the General on Sunday. Dr Conant said that it would be more convenient for him if they could leave the week after this coming week if at all possible. It was left that Dr Conant would talk to George tonight and Gen Groves will call Dr Conant at his home in Cambridge tonight around 9pm

9:40 am

Gen Groves called Dr Rea, Oak Ridge re difference between leukemia & leukopenia. Dr Rea said that leukopenia means the decrease in the white cells and leukemia means an increase in the white cells. Leukemia is more like a cancer of the white cells. Gen Groves asked Dr Rea what a Lauritson Spectroscope was. Dr. Rea said he thought it was something like the Geiger counter. Gen Groves said he had received a report. The report gave three different causes of casualties, blast injuries, radiation from the bomb, burns, etc. Dr. Rea said that the men in the field should be able to give the causes. The burns would be from thermal rays and X rays. Dr. Rea said that he thought the heat caused most of the deaths because it was so intense. Gen Groves asked if leukopenia could be caused by diet and Dr Rea said no but that it could be caused by some medicines like benzidrene etc. Dr. Rea said that the deaths now could be caused from the blast, etc., example people who are in accidents and walk away apparently unharmed but die the next day, the patient noticing a swelling, say his leg was under him, in his leg and then he does not feel well and does not discharge urine.

9:50 am

Dr Lyman Briggs called and wanted to see Gen Groves about 11:00 am

11:40 am

Gen Groves called Dr Oppenheimer, Santa Fe, N.M. and informed Oppie that about 20 representatives of the leading newspapers were going out to see the crater--they will be at the Alamogordo Airfield--leave here tomorrow and get there tomorrow.--Sunday nite they will drive up to see the site--news photographers will go out in plane and take pictures of the crater--would like Dr.

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Hemplemann and several scientists to be along. Gen Groves advised that he is going along with the newspapermen but instead of landing at Alamogordo he will come to Albuquerque--spend Saturday nite at Albuquerque and then whoever went down to your place could get me at Albuquerque. If Oppie could come it would do more good than anything else. Oppie said that he would try to make reservations at the Hilton--hire 2 or 3 rooms as the General will have Officers with him. Oppie spoke about the radioactivity and delayed effects from the radiation and Gen Groves advised that he had talked with Dr. Rea and also had some reports from Gen Farrell which disclose that the injuries are delayed heat and blast cases. Gen Groves thought it would be a good idea to have a lot of people there who could give the newspapermen background information--have talked to Jim--he can't come conveniently this next week but can come a week later. Oppie advised that from the 20 to 23d Sept he will be in Chicago for the Panel Meeting--Gen Groves suggested arriving there on the 18th and spending the 19th with Oppie, then dropping Oppie off at Chicago. Gen Groves said that they would talk the problem over this Sunday on the way down or back and then Oppie could talk to his people and then it could ride for a week. Oppie also asked if Gen Groves approved of Col Seeman being assistant director--Gen Groves approves wholeheartedly.

12:45 pm

Gen Groves called Capt. Buckley and made arrangements for plane trip to Albuquerque; Gen Groves and others (to be determined later) will meet Buckley at 8:30 am tomorrow and expect to arrive around 7:00 pm tomorrow night. Plan to fly back Monday morning, 10 September, arriving in Washington that night; this was at Buckley's suggestion, rather than start the trip Sunday and take second lap Monday morning.

2:25 pm

Gen Royall called Gen Groves to say that he sent a letter to Gen Groves about George W. Bacon & that now he has a letter to the Presidnet on the same subject which he will send to Gen Groves.