

SECRET

5 October 1943.

SUBJECT: Program of the Work Related to Use of P-9

TO: The District Engineer
U. S. Engineer Office
P. O. Box 1111
Knoxville, Tenn.

1. Attention is invited to the enclosed copy of identical letters sent to Dr. Compton, Dr. Urey, and the duPont Company, attention of Mr. Williams.
2. I have studied carefully the memorandum from Dr. Compton to Dr. Allison and Dr. Smyth dated 22 September 1943 on the program of work related to the use of P-9. My comments will refer to the paragraphs in that memorandum. In general the plans must conform to the approved program of the Military Policy Committee.
3. With reference to 3. first paragraph. The process design should not be so complete as to cause difficulty in the working out of the necessary engineering details in a final design. Perhaps a better description would be the basic process design.
4. With reference to 3. second paragraph. Care must be taken not to let the cost or effort of this phase of the program to get out of control. It should be held to the barest minimum.
5. With reference to 4. first paragraph. I doubt whether it will be possible, at least for some time, to use metal enriched in 25. Also, any design planning on the use of enriched metal in 49 must provide for the initial enrichment.
6. With reference to 5. With respect to the interchange of information or visits with the Canadians, no interchange will be undertaken without my prior approval until such time as the definite procedures for interchange are established. The latter awaits certain approvals by the United Kingdom. When such interchange is provided for it will not include the interchange of any information pertaining to the graphite piles, including the experimental one at Argonne. This will not prevent, however, the interchange of information on instruments used in the graphite pile which it is definitely expected to use in the P-9 piles.

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Authority NND92440

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L. R. GROVES,
Brigadier General, C. E.

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