DOCID: 3978567

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12 AUG 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Preparation of Mobilization Type Barracks at Fort Meade for National Security Agency Occupancy During Interim Operations

1. The Department of the Army has approved, with minor exceptions, National Security Agency request for support and services for National Security Agency Interim Operations.

2. Included in this approved request are the following requirements: "Provide and maintain adequate barracks for 250 single enlisted men of all services (approximately ten (10) female)". Authority was also extended for direct coordination and adjustment of requirements.

3. Changes in the composition of the National Security Agency activity to be moved to Fort Meade on or about 1 January 1955 have increased the housing requirement for single enlisted men to approximately 750. The following housing and attendant facilities are required and will provide unit integrity for the detachments of Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps personnel:

15 - 63 Man barracks (for occupancy by 50 enlisted men each)
4 - Company size mess halls (1 per detachment)
4 - S&A Buildings (1 per detachment)
4 - Day rooms (1 per detachment)

4. Inspection of the available mobilization type buildings and facilities at Fort Meade indicates that they are greatly inferior to the accommodations habitually provided Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps single enlisted personnel. The authority of and the availability of funds to the Commanding Officer, Fort Meade, will permit only minor improvements. I recognize the logic of the limitation on expenditure of funds for rehabilitation and improvement of mobilization type buildings. However, the military personnel furnished to this Agency by the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps will be occupied in the conduct of Interim Operations at Fort Meade for approximately two years and cannot, under any circumstances, be considered to be in a transient or temporary status. Their morale will influence my ability to conduct effective dispersed operations over the two year period while our new Operations Building is being completed.

Approved for Release by NSA on 06-12-2012 pursuant to E.O. 13526

5. In order to bring the mobilization type structures up to an acceptable standard, the following essential improvements should be made:

a. Mess Halls. (as indicated on OCE plan "Guide Plan for Rehabilitation Company Type Kitchens", 4 Nov 1948, revised 24 Mar 52)

Includes a 3" concrete floor, mesh reinforced, in the kitchen, 5 floor drains, maroon colored mastipave for flooring in the dining room, interior painting, fluorescent lights, steam table, stainless steel or formica serving counter, automatic gas heating to include thermostatically controlled heating of 140 degrees and 180 degrees hot water and gas tie line ... 4 @ $14,000 ea.	$56,000

With these modifications, the kitchens should then be equipped with the latest Quartermaster equipment authorized for company size mobilization type mess halls.

b. Barracks and Day Rooms.

(1) Barracks. Includes asphalt tile floors, rubber or plastic mats on new stair treads, interior wall finish, interior painting, new overhead light fixtures, Venetian blinds, and new mirrors, electrical fixtures, and outlets in the latrines. (Ceilings are already covered) ... 15 @ $4,000	$60,000
(2) Day Rooms. Includes asphalt tile floors, Venetian blinds, and interior painting ... 4 @ $550	$ 2,200
Total	$62,200

c. Gas heating for barracks, day rooms and S&A Buildings. The existing coal fired furnaces, hot water heaters and stoves should be replaced by gas burning equipment.

19 gas fired furnaces @ $1,400	$26,600
15 gas fired hot water heaters @ $600	9,000
8 gas fired unit heaters @ $200	1,600
Gas line from Mapes Road	22,000
Total	$59,200
Total estimated cost of improvements	$177,400

6. It is recommended that the Department of the Army be instructed to provide the necessary funds and to proceed with the work expeditiously in order that the modified structures will be ready for occupancy by NSA enlisted personnel on or about 1 January 1955, the date established for the start of Interim Operations at Fort Meade.

RALPH J. CANINE
Lieutenant General, US Army
Director

Copies furnished:
Secretary of the Army
Secretary of the Navy
Secretary of the Air Force
CG, Second Army
CO, Fort Meade
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DNC

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M/R: The mobilization-type facilities at Fort Meade which NSA enlisted personnel will occupy during Interim Operations are below the standards of the living quarters now occupied by the Navy and Air Force Detachments.

To bring these facilities up to an acceptable standard extensive rehabilitation is required. The rehabilitation is broken down into three categories:

a. Mess Halls ($56,000)
b. Barracks and Day Rooms ($62,200)
c. Gas heat for Barracks, Day Rooms and S&A Buildings ($59,200)

The attached letter to the SecDef states the problem and requests that the Army be instructed to provide the funds and proceed with the work so that the rehabilitation may be completed by 1 January 1955.

/s/ Col. G. G. Brinckerhoff, MGp/60626/cms