Meeting of the Executive Group for Board Affairs
held 21 June at 1100 in the Conference Room
May 17, Newport

Present:

Dr. R. F. Felsted, Chairman
Dr. G. Wallner
Dr. H. Hume
Dr. H. Campagne
Dr. R. A. Farley, Secretary
Dr. L. Clark (for Col. Ansell)

Secretary

Col. C. H. Satterfield
Col. J. E.
Col. J. C. Gregory

The minutes of the Advisory Board meeting of 11 June were considered, particularly the following statement: "The Advisory Board discussed the problem of evaluation of the contribution which OUCF can or could make to the warning of an impending attack on the United States. The Board raised the question of whether the Director, NBS, might consider it desirable to request the Advisory Board to inaugurate a study of this problem."

Mr. Truchas, indicating that General Currie had directed that the study should be initiated without delay, presented a draft of a letter from General Currie to the Board requesting it to undertake the study. NBSA approved the draft prepared by Mr. Truchas.

There was a long discussion of the problem and how it should be handled. The type of warning could be "early" or "advance." The first of these (based on radar or 3/A indications) is the one to be studied intensively, since much emphasis has been put on it recently. The study might have been undertaken by the Special Evaluation Subcommittee (called the "Continental Defense Committee" or "Ball Committee") of the National Defense Council, but it has been decided otherwise. Consequently, the study will have to be done for NBSA alone, without exploring its effectiveness in general with national councils. The possibility of the Advisory Board cooperating with the Ball Committee is limited by the directives to the latter committees to submit a report by 15 July. It was agreed by all that the restriction on evaluation of OUCF left the Advisory Board as the only group to make the study. It was agreed that Prof. Yamada is the better best qualified to direct the project.

Col. Gregory proposed a statement of a more detailed directive to the Board, as follows: "The Advisory Board is requested to examine into the capabilities of the OUCF effort under the present and under a possibly augmented program: with a view to determining: first, what our probability of providing effective warning is; second, what our capabilities are for a program which will include a supplementary program of an augmented O.U.C.F. program." It was subsequently decided to leave Dr. Frieden's draft of General Currie's letter to Prof. Yamada in its original version.

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Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 06-20-2014, pursuant to E.O. 13526
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Mr. Wilson outlined a procedure for getting action quickly. He could send the letter to the chairman, Prof. Salome, with information copied to the others, then call Prof. Salome on the telephone and ask him to report Prof. Salome to begin immediately on the project. It is probable that Salome will be preoccupied with other matters, and Salome and others have volunteered to undertake this study.

Chairman

Copy furnished:
Mr. W. F. F. Jakobs
Dr. R. Feldbau
Dr. A. Misher
Mr. R. Cummings
Dr. A. Feldbau
Col. Hervell