

PSF: War Dept. - Gen. Malin Craig

Box 103

DECLASSIFIED

0 016 5200.9 (9/27/58)

SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Date- 1-18-59

November 19, 1938.

Signature: *Carl S. Spicer*

*PSF  
War  
Malin Craig*

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL WATSON:

Subject: Status of certain critical arms and materiel.

1. Following are a few of the critical items of modern weapons and equipment which require a long period to produce and are essential to our ground Army on mobilization.

Item	On hand at end F.Y. 1939	Additional require- ment to make effective the Protective Mobiliza- tion Plan.
Semi-automatic shoulder rifles	12,540	214,494
*75 mm. guns, M2 (modernized)	141	1,375
155 mm. howitzers (modified for high speed)	415	510
37 mm. Anti-tank gun	228	652
37 mm. AA gun	115	988
3 in. mobile AA gun (Incl. Seacoast Defense)	484	192
60 in. AA searchlights - not fixed (Incl. Seacoast Defense)	377	914
60 mm. mortars	1	3,750
81 mm. mortars	129	724
105 mm. howitzers (new carriage)	0	55
Medium tanks (Incl. 18 older model)	36	208
Light tanks	319	792
Gas Masks	304,464	1,101,813
Air Bombs (all types)	78,888	268,735

\* There are 4,737 - 75 mm. guns on hand of which 141 are modernized and 1966 have been modified for high speed towage. 3406 are capable of being converted to the M2 gun, modernized.

2. This list does not include other critical items of which ammunition is of very high priority.

3. Aircraft is not listed because of the President's projected program.

4. It is important to note that not only do most of these items require in excess of one year to produce, but if placed in War Reserve, they will suffer practically no deterioration over a period of 25 years.

*Malin Craig*  
Chief of Staff.

SECRET

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ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY CARBON COPY AND ADDRESSED TO

TO INSURE PROMPT ATTENTION  
IN REPLYING REFER TO

NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ATTENTION OF \_\_\_\_\_

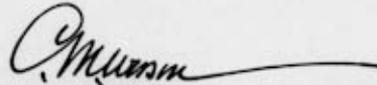
WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE  
WASHINGTON

November 20, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL WATSON:

In compliance with your request, I am furnishing you herewith additional information on the items enumerated in the memorandum to you from the Chief of Staff, dated November 19, 1938.

The items discussed are among the most critical in the three hundred million dollar program to supply the deficiencies in Ordnance equipment for the Protective Mobilization Plan.



C. M. WESSON  
Major General, Chief of Ordnance

Inclosures  
Statement and Photographs

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2-18-59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

~~SECRET~~

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11/20/38

Semiautomatic Shoulder Rifle

This rifle is at least three times as effective as the present arm. A raw recruit can be trained to deliver effective fire in thirty percent less time than with the present rifle. A soldier can deliver two and one-half times as many aimed shots in a given time than he can with the present arm. This new rifle is two and one-half times as effective against low-flying aircraft as the present rifle. It will take two years, starting from scratch, to produce the requirements. (See Photo A)

75 mm Field Gun M2 (Modernized)

This gun and carriage combine the French 75 gun of war production with a modern carriage having split trail, balloon tires, with 45-degree elevation and 85-degree traverse, and includes modern sighting equipment. These characteristics enable effective fire to be delivered at longer ranges, and permit the guns of various batteries to concentrate their fire on a single target. The wider traverse greatly increases the effectiveness of these guns against tanks. Eighteen months will be required to complete the program. (See Photos B and C)

155 mm Howitzers (Modified for High Speed)

This is a war-time weapon designed to operate at four to six miles per hour, being towed by a heavy tractor. The high-speed modification is essential to employ the weapon in accordance with modern tactical doctrines. The modification consists of applying an adapter with balloon tires, permitting speeds of 35 miles per hour when drawn by commercial trucks. It will require 8 months to complete this modification.

37 mm Anti-tank Gun

The experience of every nation indicates the necessity for a high-powered weapon of approximately this caliber for defense against tanks. This gun has just been developed and an adequate supply should be secured without delay. The principal powers are now equipped with a gun of this type. It will take one year to produce the required number. (See Photo D)

~~SECRET~~

### 37 mm Antiaircraft Gun

All of the other principal military powers are equipped with an antiaircraft gun of approximately this caliber, for use against low-flying aircraft. This country is not so equipped. The gun has just been developed. Manufacture under the fiscal year 1939 program has just been inaugurated. One year is required to produce this materiel. (See Photo E)

### 3-inch Mobile Antiaircraft Gun

This materiel is the backbone of antiaircraft defense. While the guns here provided will equip the Regular Army and the National Guard, it must be emphasized that provision is not being made for antiaircraft defense of seacoast cities. A tremendous requirement will inevitably develop for this type of defense. Eighteen months will be required to produce this materiel. (See Photos F and G)

### 60-inch Antiaircraft Searchlights

These searchlights are essential for antiaircraft firing at night, and, if the artillery is provided, these searchlights must likewise be provided.

### 60 mm and 81 mm Mortars

The war-time trench mortar was not only inaccurate but was dangerous to operating personnel. These two modern mortars, which correct both these faults, have just been adopted by the Army, and are essential for the close support of troops in action. Eighteen months will be required to produce this materiel together with its ammunition. (See Photo H)

### 105 mm Howitzer New Carriage

Up to this time the Army has had no weapon of this type. The old war-time 155 mm Howitzer is not only heavy and unwieldy, but lacks proper flexibility in elevation and traverse. This modern weapon will correct these limiting faults. Eighteen months will be required to produce this materiel. (See Photos I and J)

~~SECRET~~

Light and Medium Tanks

The war-time tanks of these types could operate at speeds not over 4 to 6 miles an hour, which made them highly vulnerable targets. The light tank referred to here has a maximum speed of 45 miles an hour and the Medium Tank 33 miles an hour. Both of these tanks have more armament, greater protection, greatly increased mobility over rough terrain, greater cruising radius, greater crew space, and provide a more suitable firing platform than the corresponding war-time tanks. The modern tank compares to the war-time tank as a modern truck would to a farm wagon. It will require 18 months to produce this materiel. (See Photos K and L)

Gas Masks

There is a marked shortage in gas masks to supply the Protective Mobilization Plan, and no provision has been made for supplying gas masks to the civilian population in this country. It is believed that the requirements for gas masks will be tremendous in quantity, and certainly the number required to supply the PMP should be supplied as early as practicable. This materiel can be supplied in approximately 8 to 10 months. This is not an Ordnance item of issue and expressions here are simply those of my belief.

Air Bombs, All Types

The PMP provides for certain aircraft. Having provided for such aircraft, the provision of the necessary bombs follows as a matter of course. The bombs required can be provided within two years.

Photo "A"

U.S. SEMIAUTOMATIC RIFLE CAL.30 M1



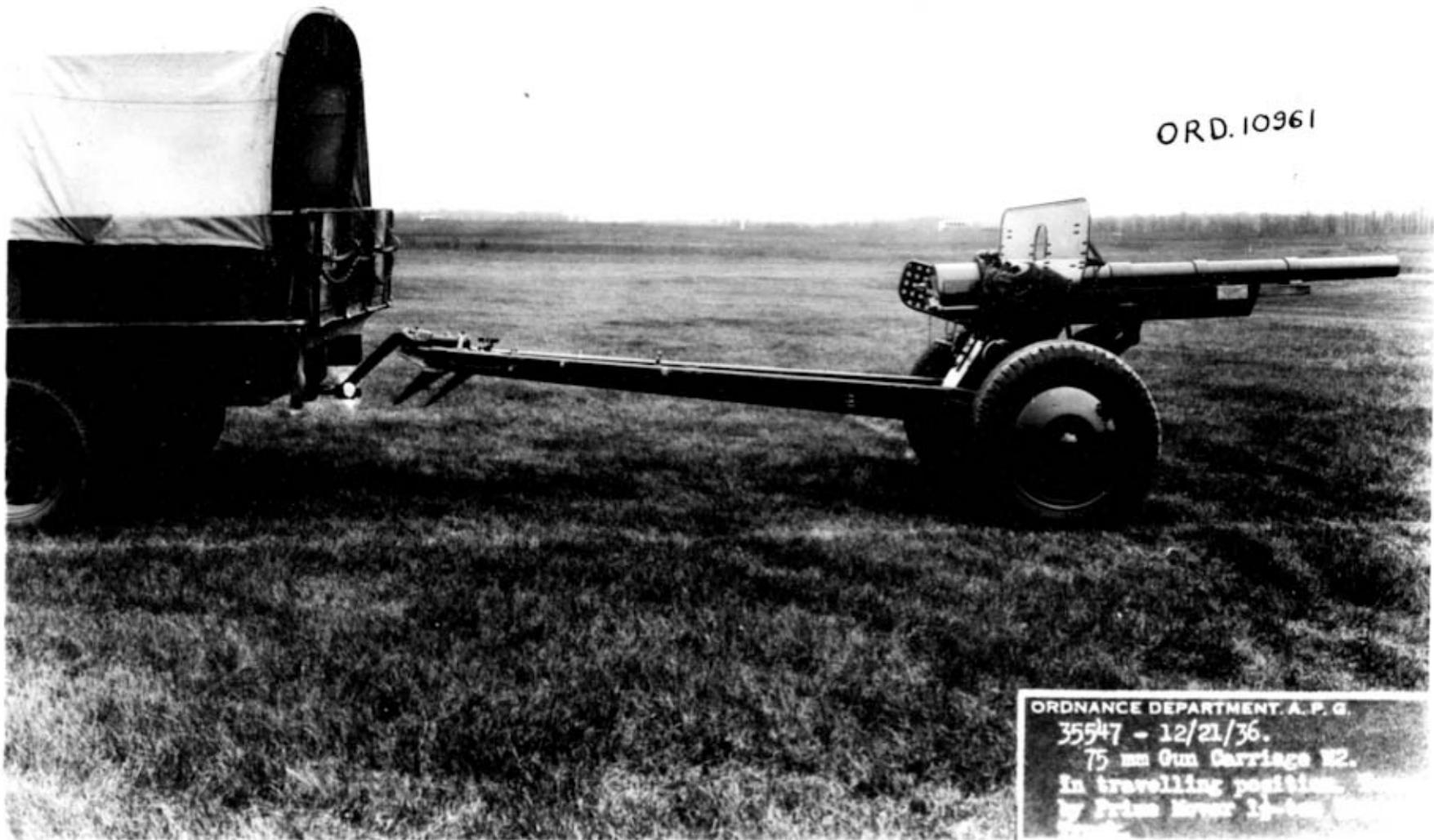
WEIGHT WITH SLING & BAYONET  
WEIGHT WO/ SLING & BAYONET  
OVERALL LENGTH OF RIFLE  
TYPE OF MECHANISM  
FEED  
CAPACITY OF CLIP  
SIGHT RADIUS (BATTLE)  
SIGHTS GRADUATED TO

LBS. 10 - 8 OZS.  
LBS. 8 - 15 OZS.  
INS. 42.906  
GAS OPERATED  
CLIP EN BLOCK  
ROUNDS 8  
INS. 27.48  
YARDS 1300

ORD 9351

Photo "B"

ORD. 10961



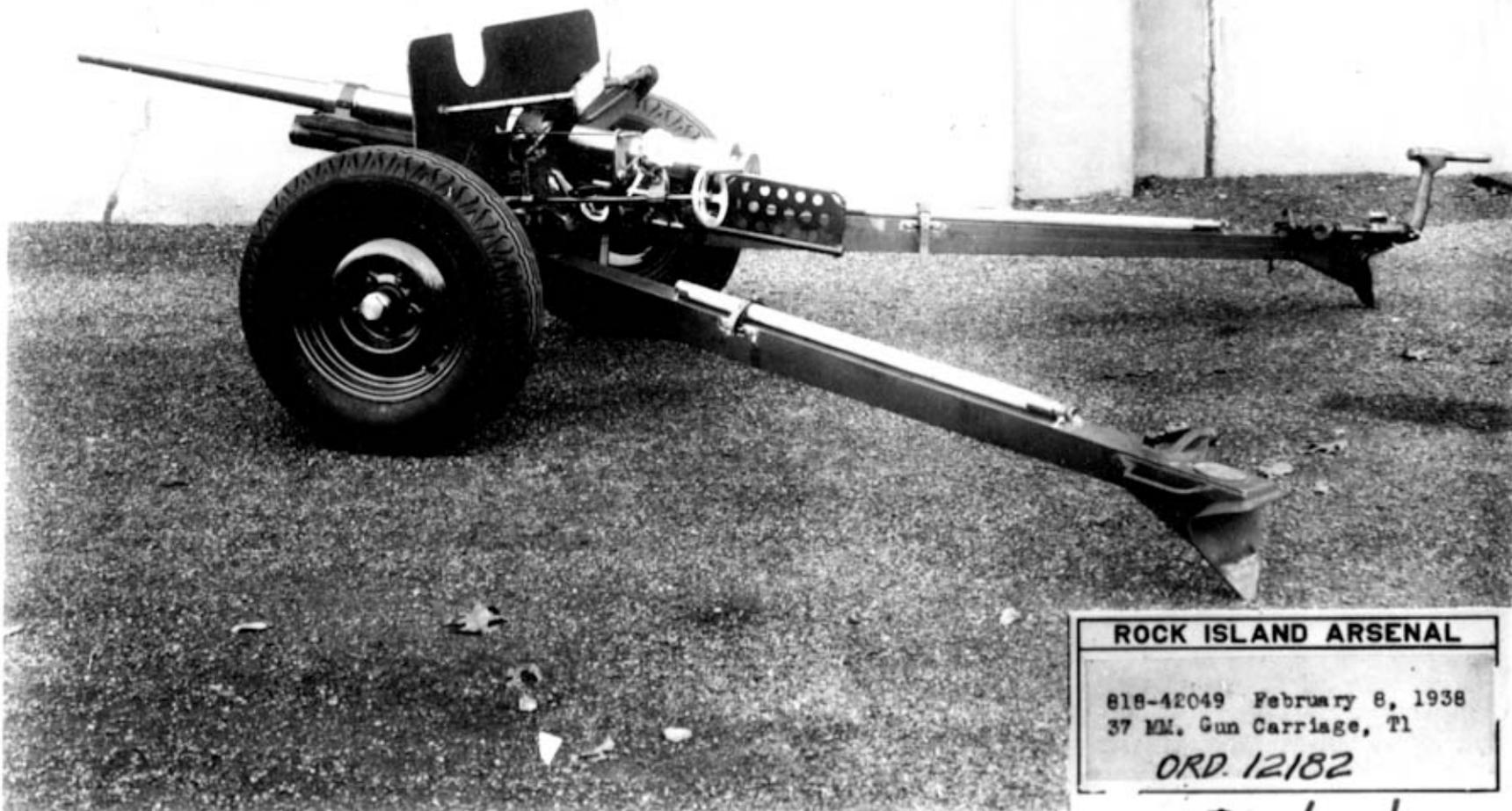
ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, A. P. G.  
35547 - 12/21/36.  
75 mm Gun Carriage M2.  
In travelling position. Towed  
by Prime Mover 1 1/2-ton M100.

Photo "C"

ORD. 10963

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT A P G  
35545 - 12/21/36.  
75 mm Gun Carriage M2.  
In firing position, 45° elevation. Trails spread 90°.

Photo "D"



ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL

818-42049 February 8, 1938  
37 MM. Gun Carriage, T1

ORD. 12182

anti tank gun

Photo E

ORD  
12563

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, A. P. O.  
36815 - 5/12/38. O.P. 2679.  
37 mm Automatic Gun M1,  
No. 3, on 37 mm Gun Carriage M1,  
No. 1. Firing position complete.

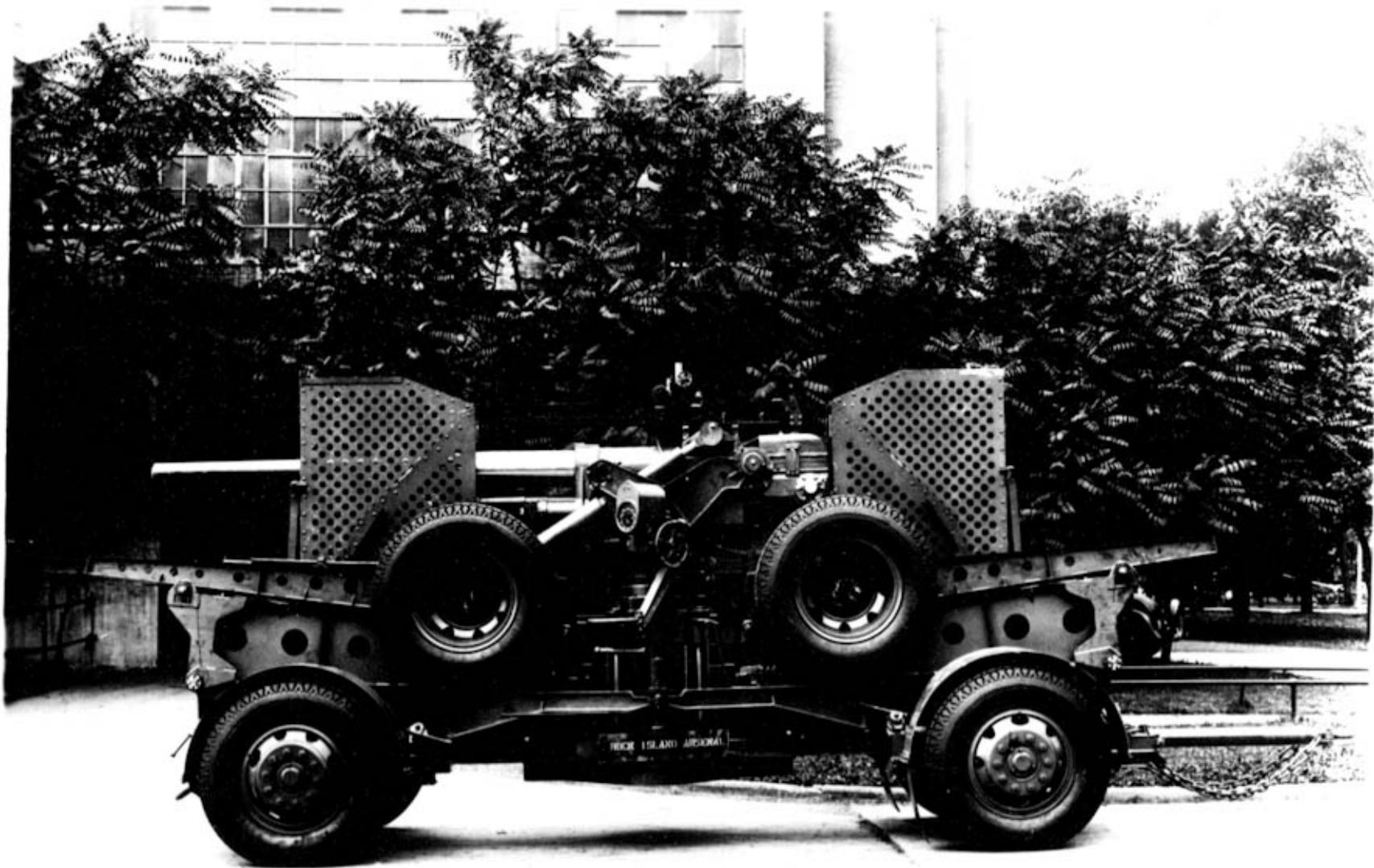


Photo "F"

ORD  
5927

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL

689- 39094 June 1, 1934

Photo "G"  
" 2 "

ORD  
4418



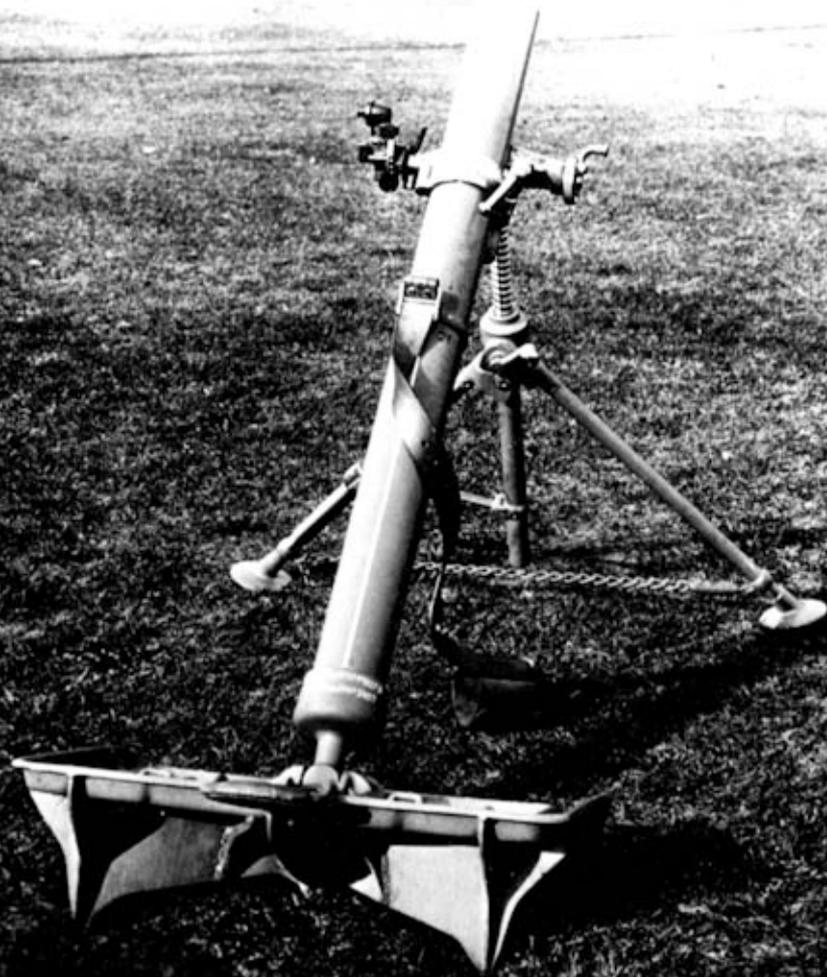
ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, A. P. G.

26383 - 11/5/29.

3" A.A. Gun, M3 on Mobile  
Mount, M2. Duties at commencing  
"Commence firing".

Photo "H"

ORD  
5309

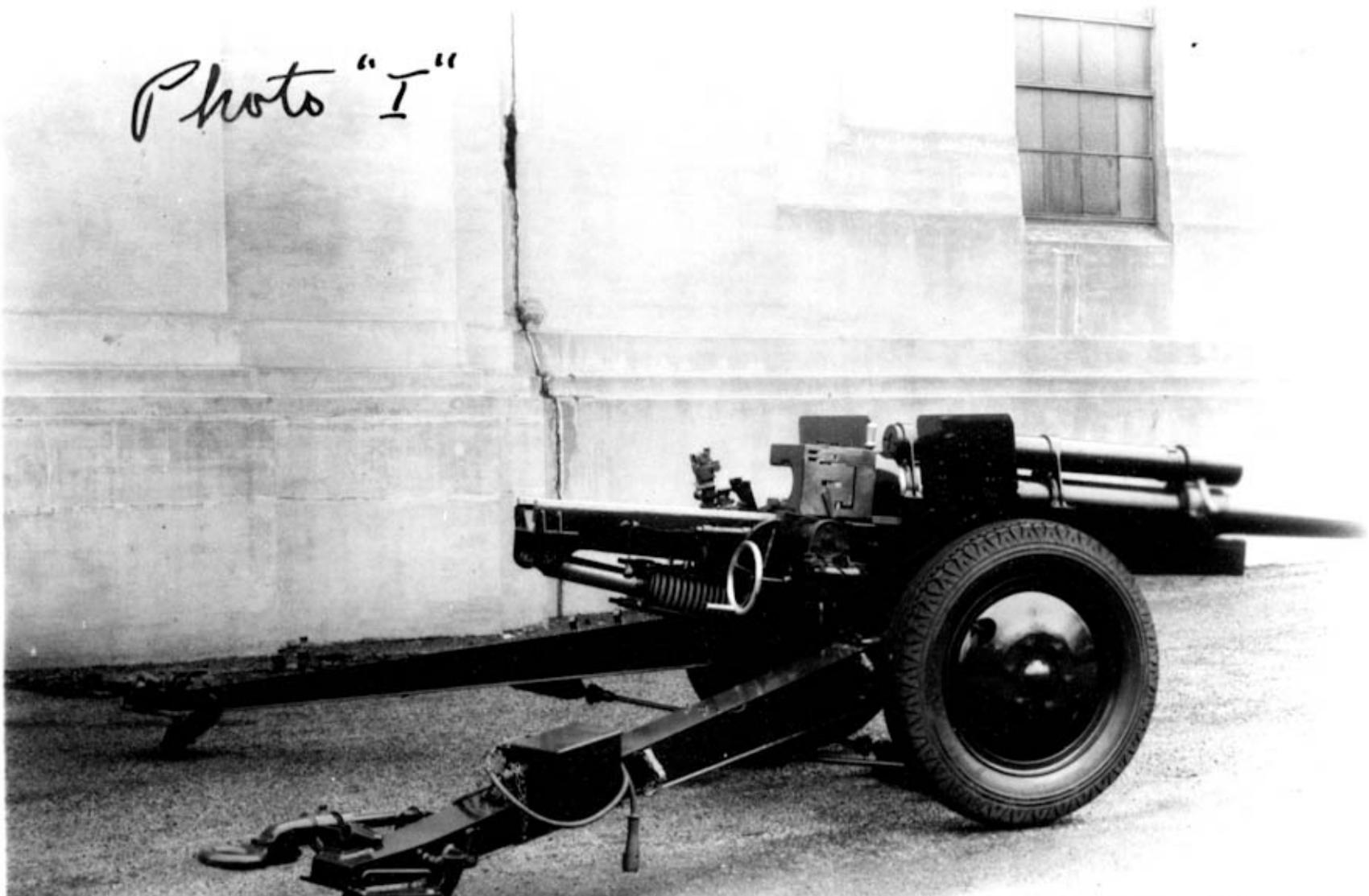


ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, A. P. G.

28360 - 11/9/31.

81 m/m Mortar, T-4 (81mm  
Brandt) in firing position at  
45° elevation. Bay.

Photo "I"



ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL

810-42075 February 18, 1918  
Carr. No., 105-10-42,  
Fire position, machine  
detachment, 1st 81st

ORD 12226

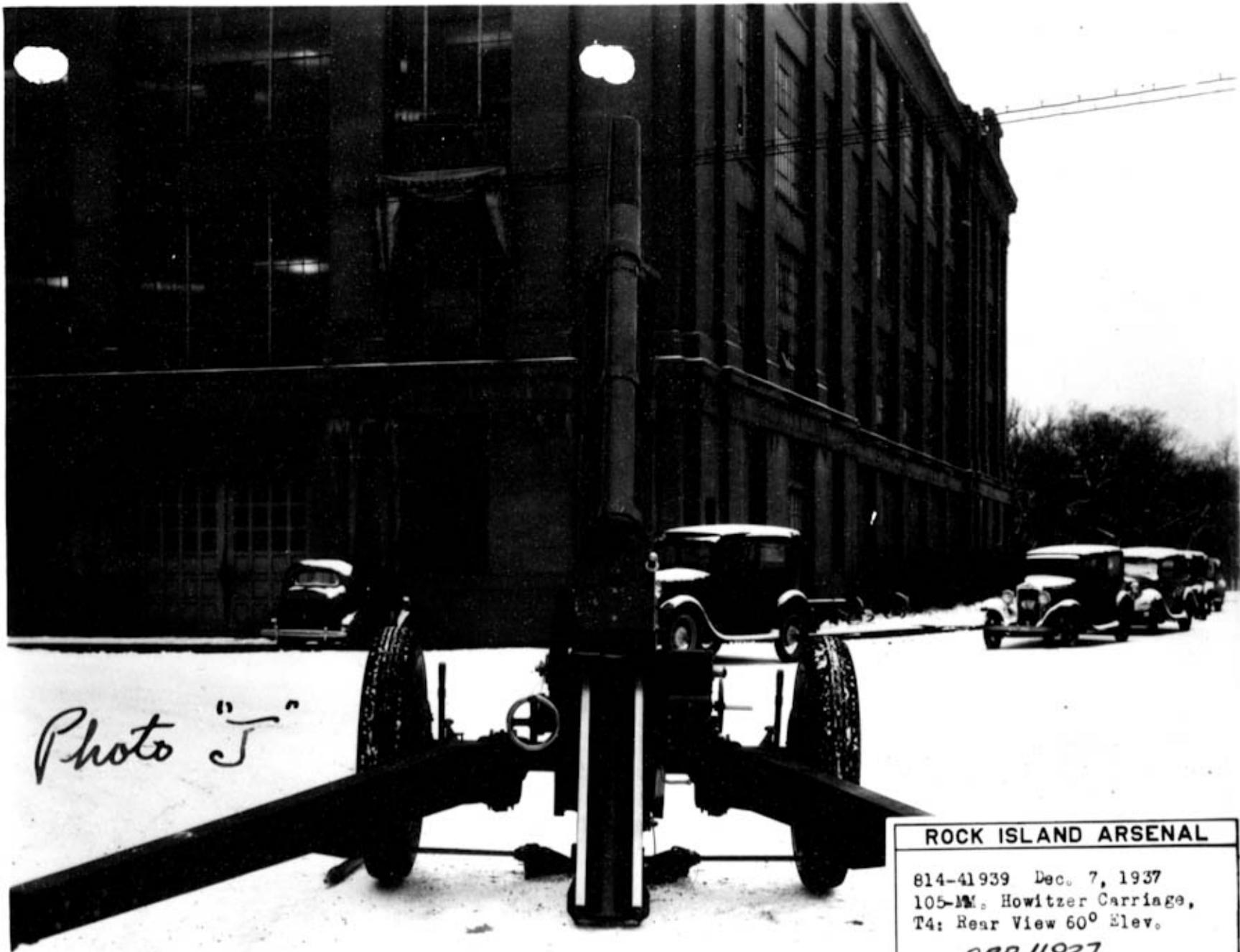
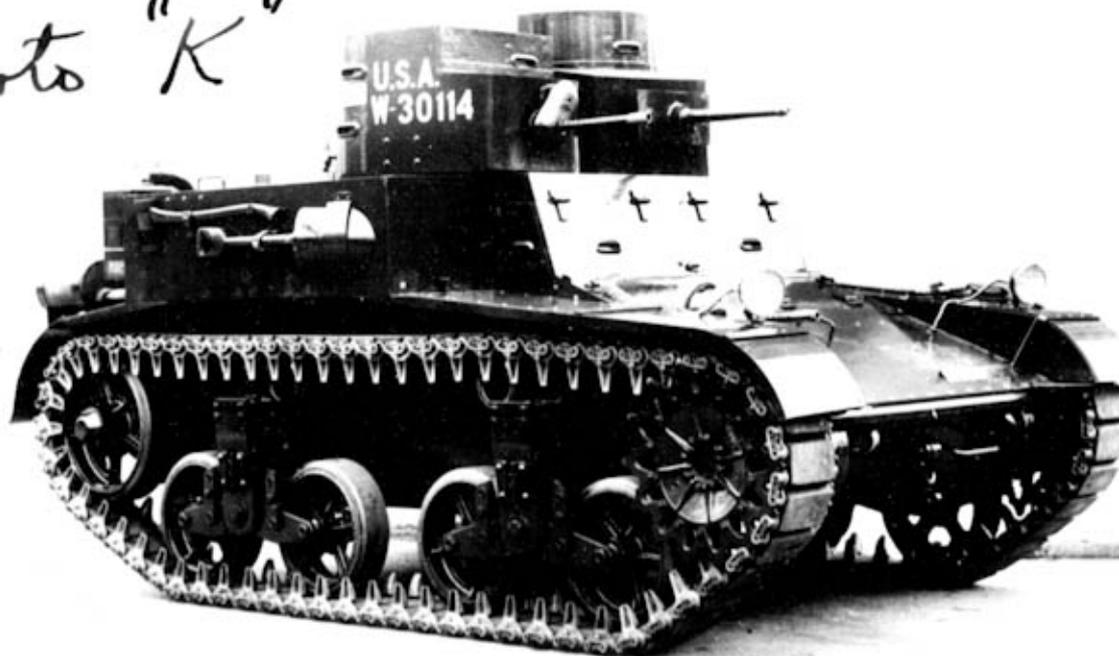


Photo "J"

<b>ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL</b>
814-41939 Dec. 7, 1937
105-MM. Howitzer Carriage,
T4: Rear View 60° Elev.
<i>ORD 11927</i>

Photo "K"



## TANK, LIGHT, M2A2

DESIGNED 1934

ORD  
10645

WEIGHT.....19,400 LBS. GR.

LENGTH.....13 FT. 7 IN.

HEIGHT.....7 FT. 8 IN.

CLIMBING ABILITY.....3 5°

ARMOR.....1/4, 1/2, 5/8

ARMAMENT.....1:50 CAL. & 2:30 CAL. MACH. GUNS

SUSPENSION...VOLUTE

ENGINE...CONTINENTAL, 7CYL. RAD. 260 H.P.

SPEEDS...5 FORWARD, 1 REVERSE

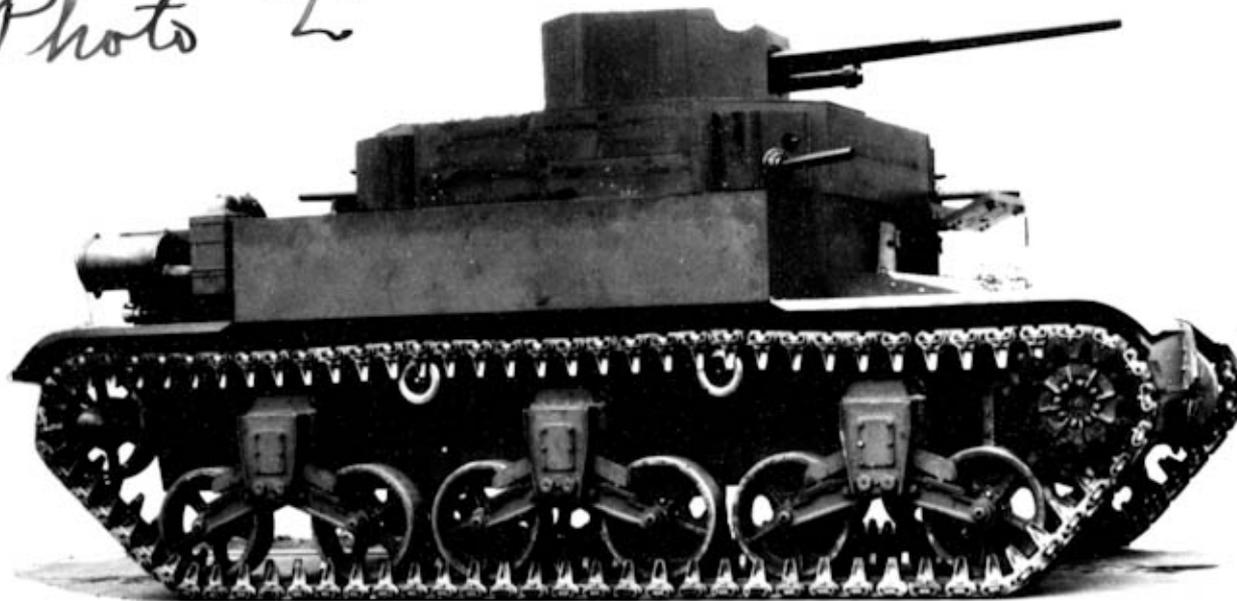
MAX. SPEED.....45 M.P.H.

CRUISING RADIUS.....100 MILES

CREW.....4 MEN

STEERING...CONTROLLED DIFFERENTIAL

Photo "L"



ORD.11932

MEDIUM TANK, T5 (PHASE I)

DESIGNED 1937

WEIGHT\_\_30,000 LBS. GR.

LENGTH\_\_16 FT. 10 INS.

HEIGHT\_\_8 FT. 9 INS.

CLIMBING ABILITY\_\_35°

ARMOR\_\_1/4" - 3/8" & 1 IN.

ARMAMENT 1-37 MM. GUN & 6-.30 CAL. MACHINE GUNS.

SUSPENSION\_\_VOLUTE

ENGINE\_\_CONTINENTAL-7CYL. RAD.-260 H.P.

SPEEDS\_\_5 FORWARD 1 REVERSE

MAX. SPEED\_\_33 M.P.H.

CRUISING RADIUS\_\_175 MILES

CREW\_\_5 MEN

STEERING\_\_CONTROLLED DIFFERENTIAL

3" A.A. Battery  
in action (Schematic)  
has personnel.



*PST  
War  
Malvin Craig*

December 13, 1938

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

Subject: Appeal from Limiting Figure, Bureau of the Budget.

1. Prior to submitting to you the Military Estimates for the fiscal year 1940, I caused them to be reduced by \$43,145,684, by restricting maintenance and personnel in every possible manner in order to provide for the maximum augmentation of armament, equipment and facilities required in an emergency. The Bureau of the Budget has made additional reductions of \$23,820,363. Of these reductions, I accept \$13,898,852 without comment. The remaining \$9,921,511 concerns certain items which are of such importance that I feel it my duty to present the facts to you and request that you take the matter up personally with the President with a view to having that amount restored to the regular budget.

2. There has recently been submitted to the President a statement showing that approximately \$420,500,000 will be required to provide the critical items of equipment for the Protective Mobilization Plan Force. This sum is over and above the amounts, approximately \$43,500,000 (9% of the total), carried for the same purpose in the regular estimates for the fiscal year 1940. The attached table shows items included in the latter total which have been disallowed by the Bureau of the Budget in the amount of \$6,921,511. Information has been received informally from the Bureau of the Budget that the reductions in the estimates were based on the disallowance of the items indicated.

3. In addition to the restoration of items pertaining to the Protective Mobilization Plan, the restoration of \$2,000,000 for "Educational Orders" and \$1,000,000, "Air Corps, Army", for purchase of second and third best models presented in aircraft competition, are recommended for the reasons stated in the attached table.

Encls:  
Table of reductions  
in essential items  
required under PMP, "Edu-  
cational Orders" &  
"Air Corps, Army"

elt

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
Chief of Staff. **DECLASSIFIED**

**ODD DIR.** 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2-18-59

Signature-

*Carl T. Spier*

REDUCTIONS MADE BY THE BUREAU OF THE BUDGET IN FY 1940 ESTIMATES FOR  
ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT REQUIRED UNDER THE PROTECTIVE MOBILIZATION PLAN  
FOR "EDUCATIONAL ORDERS" AND FOR "AIR CORPS, ARMY."

<u>Appropriation Title and Item</u>	<u>Quantity in Budget Reduction</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>Engineer Service, Army:</u> Proj. 3 - Searchlights, Antiaircraft.	60	\$1,500,000	Required as initial equipment for 10 existing National Guard Antiaircraft Regiments. Each regiment requires 15 searchlights. 41 are on hand. These 60 plus 49 set up in National Guard estimate (shown below) are essential equipment for these 10 IPF regiments. (Initial Protective Force, E.A. and N.G., is part of the Protective Mobilization Plan Force).
<u>National Guard:-</u> Proj. 65 - AA equip- ment. Searchlights - AA.	19	475,000	These 19 searchlights are part of the 49 searchlights which were set up in National Guard estimate in order to complete the initial equipment of 10 active National Guard regiments as shown above. 16 months is required for the procurement of searchlights.
<u>Chemical Warfare Service:</u> Proj. 9 - Gas Defense Appliances.	--	100,000	Total project (\$375,500) provides for 30,500 gas masks, 20 tons impregnate and necessary solvents for impregnating clothing (Overseas Departments). These items are for defensive purposes only. 220,000 additional gas masks are needed to equip the IPF. 70 tons impregnate are needed for minimum requirements of IPF. Solvents required for operating overseas impregnating plants are not available locally. Total requirements in gas masks for IPF is 500,000; impregnate 100 tons.

<b>Project 10 - Gas Defense Equipment:</b>				
Impregnation plant	1	\$	14,000	An impregnating plant has been provided for each Overseas Department. One of these plants is essential for continental U.S. as no facilities are now available for providing the minimum amount of protective clothing required for peacetime tests and development work.
 <b><u>National Guard:</u></b>				
Proj. 56 - Chemical Warfare equipment.				
Gas masks.	15,000		117,150	These are purely defensive items which apply towards making up the shortage in gas masks required to equip the IPF.
 Proj. 57 - Ordnance equipment.				
	--		999,923	Total project (\$3,999,923) provides essential modern weapons such as semi-automatic rifles, anti-tank guns and 60mm mortars which are urgently needed to equip existing National Guard units. These items apply against shortages for the IPF.
 <b><u>Seacoast Defense:</u></b>				
Proj. 12 - Searchlights, U.S.				
	11		231,000	These are 60" antiaircraft searchlights which are required for protection of Harbor Defenses, Pacific Coast, against air attack. Will complete requirements.
 - Searchlights, Insular Depts.				
	22		462,000	These are required for illumination of water areas in seacoast defenses, Hawaii. Will complete requirements.
 - Searchlights, Panama Canal				
	7		140,000	These are portable antiaircraft searchlights which are required to complete the program of 131 searchlights for the defense of the Panama Canal.

Proj. 14 - Facilities for Submarine Mines.	--	271,670	Necessary installation of mine store-houses, cable tanks, and re- pairs to wharves to complete the submarine mine project for the Harbor Defenses of San Francisco. This pro- ject is a part of the minimum re- quirements for submarine mine defense under the PMP.
Proj. 15 - Sites for installation of 2 16" batteries, Narragansett Bay.	--	141,031	These batteries (4 guns) are essen- tial to the protection of Narragan- sett Bay and are required by the Protective Mobilization Plan. Four guns are on hand and two carriages are partially completed. Time of construction from 2 to 3 years.
Proj. 22 - Ordnance Materiel, U.S. AA machine guns.	89	293,700	These funds required to provide cal. .50 AA machine guns and 37mm AA guns for protection of Harbor Defenses on Pacific Coast against air attack. No 37mm AA guns are now on hand either in U.S. or in Overseas De- partments. Deficiency of 229 beyond amount allowed by Bureau of the Budget.
Proj. 22 - 3 8" Rail- way batteries, U.S.	--	618,000	Manufacture of 3 batteries, one each for Harbor Defenses of San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego. Required by Protective Mobilization Plan.
Insular Departments: .50 cal. machine guns	50	165,000	For cal. .50 AA machine guns, 37mm AA guns and 3" AA guns for protec- tion against air attack, Hawaii. Deficiency of 231 <del>for</del> annual. machine guns and 20 3" AA guns beyond amount allowed by Bureau of the Budget.
Mobile AA guns	8	320,000	
Panama Canal: Machine Guns.	72	237,600	For .50 cal. AA machine guns and 37mm AA guns for protection of Panama Canal against air attack. Defi- ciency of 264 beyond amount allowed by Bureau of the Budget.

Proj. 34 - Procurement  
and Installation of fire-  
control equipment:

United States: Fire con-  
trol for the harbor de-  
fenses of San Francisco  
and San Diego.

-- \$384,822

This sum will complete installa-  
tions in the areas indicated.  
Remaining requirements for the  
Pacific Coast at Los Angeles, the  
Columbia and Puget Sound are  
\$651,480. Required by the PMP.

Insular Departments:  
Fire-control for anti-  
aircraft and seacoast  
batteries.

-- 346,884

Part of the project essential for  
the defense of Oahu and especially  
the naval installations in Pearl  
Harbor. A further sum of \$643,826  
is required to complete the project.  
Required by the PMP.

Panama Canal:  
Fire-control and commu-  
nications for antiair-  
craft artillery.

-- 103,731

The project is based on the minimum  
requirement for reasonable protec-  
tion of important canal installa-  
tions. This reduction will delay  
completion of the project which  
will require, in addition to the  
sum indicated, \$1,527,913. Required  
by the PMP.

TOTAL - PROTECTIVE MOBILIZATION  
PLAN..... \$6,921,511

Educational Orders..... 2,000,000

A specific appropriation should be  
provided for this purpose. Other-  
wise, the War Department will be  
required to reduce amounts provided  
for items pertaining to the require-  
ments of the Protective Mobiliza-  
tion Plan in order to provide for  
Educational Orders.

Air Corps, Army:  
Proj. 71 - For Research  
and Development Work with  
Airplanes.

-- \$1,000,000

Due to inadequate funds for research and development, the Air Corps in practically every design competition purchases the winning design only and thereby loses opportunities to acquire definite advances in important features of art or design found in airplanes which have not been first in the competition. The practice of purchasing the winning design only deters many manufacturers who cannot afford to spend considerable sums on the development of military airplanes for a restricted market with small hope of return. Purchases of second and third models will more than pay for themselves by widening competition and thus increasing rapidity of development. \$1,000,000 is considered a minimum for this purpose.

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GRAND TOTAL.....\$9,921,511

Letters are in Bloch, Louis Folder - Drawer  
2--1939

Please read this correspondence  
in the following order:

1. December 1, 1938 - letter  
to Bloch from Louis Bloch  
and Mary Bloch's letter  
dated 1938 to Bloch.

2. December 1, 1938 - letter  
from Bloch to Bloch.

3. December 1, 1938 - letter  
from Bloch to Bloch.

4. December 1, 1938 - letter  
from Bloch to Bloch.

5. December 1, 1938 - letter  
from Bloch to Bloch.

6. December 1, 1938 - letter  
from Bloch to Bloch.

That you have read these please  
return to Bloch.

Very truly yours,  
JUN 1 1939 P. D. B.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

PERSONAL  
AND

February 1, 1939.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SPEAKER

Please read this correspondence  
in the following order:

1. December 1, 1938 - letter  
to President from Louis Bloch  
and copy Bloch's letter of  
October 28th to Dies.
2. December 7, 1938 - letter  
from the President to Starnes.
3. December 8, 1938 - letter  
from Starnes to the President.
4. December 9, 1938 - letter  
from the President to Starnes.
5. January 2, 1939 - Starnes'  
letter to the President.
6. January 9, 1939 - letter  
from the President to Starnes.

When you have read these please  
return for my files.

DECLASSIFIED

By Deputy Archivist of the U.S. JUN 6 1972 F. D. R.

By W. J. Stewart Date \_\_\_\_\_

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~  
February 1, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR  
THE CHIEF OF STAFF

This will interest you. What do you think about keeping Faymonville in Moscow a little longer? Please return enclosure.

F. D. R.

Letter to the President from Ambassador Davies dated January 18, 1939.

DECLASSIFIED  
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.  
By W. J. Stewart Date JUN 6 1972

*NSF War Dept.  
McCrig*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~

March 13, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF WAR  
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR  
THE CHIEF OF STAFF

This comes from the American  
Ambassador in London. It is worth  
reading and should not go beyond  
the planning section of the General  
Staff.

F. D. R.

*Summary in Arch. Kennedy Folder*

DECLASSIFIED  
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.  
By W. J. Stewart Date JUN 6 1972

att. to Sayre & FDR  
9-15-39  
war

December 14, 1939.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Frank:

Yours of November sixteenth is extremely interesting and at the same time reassuring. I am glad about the attitude taken by President Quezon because to my mind he is right in setting a precedent in regard to a second term because, after all, he is the George Washington of the republican form of government experiment in the Far East.

Furthermore, on the question of independence in 1945, it is best, as far as we all are concerned, to go through with our definitely chosen policy -- chosen here and in the Philippines.

I do not think we can look too far ahead. Things may work out after that date and they may not, but consistency on the part of Republics is always a good lesson to the rest of the world.

As ever yours,

Honorable Francis B. Sayre,  
The United States High Commissioner,  
Manila, Philippines.

FDR/dj

DECLASSIFIED  
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.  
By W. J. Stewart Date JUN 6 1972

December 14, 1939.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Frank:

Yours of November sixteenth is extremely interesting and at the same time reassuring. I am glad about the attitude taken by President Quezon because to my mind he is right in setting a precedent in regard to a second term because, after all, he is the George Washington of the republican form of government experiment in the Far East.

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As ever yours,

Honorable Francis B. Sayre,  
The United States High Commissioner,  
Manila, Philippines.

FDR/dj

DECLASSIFIED  
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S. ....  
By W. J. Stewart Date 5/11/72

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~  
May 3, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

GENERAL CRAIG  
GENERAL MARSHALL

The enclosed is for your  
own eyes only. Please read and  
return.

F. D. R.

Letter dated April 18, 1939 from  
Ambassador Bullitt enclosing memo-  
randum prepared by General Requin  
giving his views on the American Army.

DECLASSIFIED

By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.

By W. J. Stewart Date JUN 12 1972

757  
1000 / Craig

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF WAR

Please send the following in  
secret code to Paul McNutt:

Approve your leaving for  
home May eleventh and will  
appoint Weldon Jones Acting  
High Commissioner as of that  
date. For many reasons which  
I will discuss with you when  
you get here, it may be ad-  
visable for you to stay in  
this country. I hope, there-  
fore, you will arrange things  
to meet that circumstance if  
it arises. Best wishes

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF WAR

Please make out necessary papers for appointment J. Weldon Jones as Acting High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands, effective May 11, 1939, in the absence of High Commissioner McNutt.

F. D. R.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

I have your memorandum of May 4, 1939 asking me to let you know about Mr. J. Weldon Jones who has been recommended by High Commissioner McNutt for appointment as Acting United States High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands, effective May 11, 1939.

On November 2, 1933 you appointed Mr. Jones, a native of Texas, Auditor for the Philippine Islands. In connection with the reorganization of the Governor General's staff, as a result of the enactment of the Tydings-McDuffie Act, Mr. Jones was, on September 23, 1935, appointed financial expert on the staff of the High Commissioner, then Governor Murphy. After the departure of Governor Murphy from Manila, you appointed Mr. Jones Acting High Commissioner and he functioned in that capacity from September 5, 1936 until the arrival of High Commissioner McNutt in the spring of 1937.

I

The President,

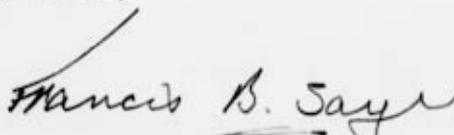
The White House.

I understand that Mr. Jones' service in the Philippines has been satisfactory and I believe that he is eminently fitted to serve as Acting High Commissioner after the departure of High Commissioner McNutt on May 11.

Under the provisions of the Act of June 5, 1936 (49 Stat. 1478), you have authority, in the absence of the High Commissioner, to appoint an Acting High Commissioner. For convenience of reference, I am enclosing a copy of that provision.

I am returning herewith the Secretary of War's letter of May 2, 1939.

Faithfully yours,



Francis B. Sayre  
Assistant Secretary

Enclosures:

Copy of Section 1237b,  
Code of Laws.

From Secretary of War,  
May 2, 1939.

[COPY - PI:DW]

§ 1237b. Same; acting High Commissioner; appointment; powers and duties. The President is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to designate a member of the staff of the United States High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands or an officer of the Army or Navy of the United States, to act as the High Commissioner in the event of a vacancy in said office, or the temporary disability or absence of the High Commissioner, and the official so designated shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the High Commissioner during such vacancy, disability, or absence. (June 5, 1936, c. 519, 49 Stat. 1478)

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

May 2, 1939.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
MAY 2 3 51 PM '39  
RECEIVED

The President,

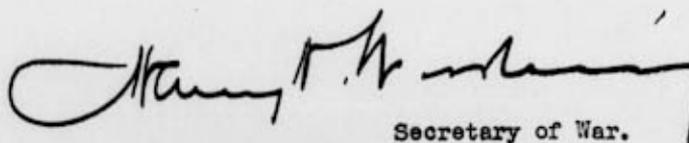
The White House.

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to quote below the translation of a message in cipher (radiogram No. 269, May 2, 1939) received in this Department from the United States High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands:

"For the President: Unless you think the trip inadvisable at this time I wish to leave with my family for the United States May 11. Should you approve this request I desire to recommend the appointment of J. Weldon Jones as Acting High Commissioner effective that date. Mr. Jones served with distinction as Acting High Commissioner 1936-1937 and is at present the senior member of the staff. McNutt."

Respectfully yours,



Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF INSULAR AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to

B. I. A. No. ....

May 6, 1939.

*file*  
*PSF*  
*War: Craig*

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Rudolph Forster,  
Executive Clerk, The White House.

In accordance with telephone conversation of today,  
there are furnished you herewith copies of two radiograms  
in secret code transmitted by this Bureau to the United  
States High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands relat-  
ing to his return to the United States and to the appoint-  
ment of Mr. J. Weldon Jones as Acting High Commissioner.

*Charles Burnett*  
CHARLES BURNETT,  
Chief of Bureau.

2 Incls.  
Copies radios Nos. 266 & 267.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 7-29-70

Signature- *JWR*

~~SECRET~~

RADIOGRAM IN CIPHER

May 5, 1939.

U. S. HighCom.,

Manila.

No. 266.

Reference your No. 269. Following from the President:

"Approve your leaving for home May eleventh and will appoint Weldon Jones Acting High Commissioner as of that date. For many reasons which I will discuss with you when you get here, it may be advisable for you to stay in this country. I hope, therefore, you will arrange things to meet that circumstance if it arises. Best wishes

Franklin D. Roosevelt."

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DRL 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 7-29-70

Signature- *QMR*

~~SECRET~~

RADIOGRAM

HE/Ed

in

SECRET CODE

May 6, 1939.

U. S. HighCom.,

~~SECRET~~

Manila.

No. 267.

For Mr. J. Weldon Jones. In accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress approved June 5, 1936, entitled "An Act To authorize the President to designate an Acting High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands", the President designates you to act as High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands during the temporary absence of the High Commissioner beginning May 11, 1939. Please acknowledge receipt of this message by radio. WOODRING.

For the High Commissioner. Please advise President of Philippines, Army and Navy authorities and others immediately concerned of the President's designation of Mr. Jones as Acting High Commissioner. Please inform Mr. Jones that it is not necessary for him to take oath of office under this designation.

BURNETT.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 7-29-70

Signature- *gwr*

~~SECRET~~

file  
d- ✓

PSP - War :  
Craig

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

5/25 (39?)

Gen. Craig:

"Tell the President that we arrested Bergdoll on his ship about 25 min. ago and we have incarcerated him at Castle William on Governors Island.

"No difficulty; full cooperation. That's that."

PSF: Wau  
M. C. V.

THE UNITED STATES HIGH COMMISSIONER  
MANILA

November 13, 1939.

My dear General Watson:

I am enclosing a personal and confidential letter for the President. I shall greatly appreciate your kindness in handing it to him.

I hope that all goes well with you.

Ever sincerely yours,

*Francis B. Sayre*

Enclosure.

Brigadier General Edward M. Watson,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

THE UNITED STATES HIGH COMMISSIONER  
MANILA

November 16, 1939.

Personal and Confidential

My dear Mr. President:

Since my arrival here I have taken the occasion to see as much as possible of President Quezon and have cultivated very cordial and somewhat intimate relations with him. I thought you might possibly be interested in a conversation which I had with him a few days ago.

We were talking rather intimately and I asked President Quezon whether it was in his mind to run for a second term. You remember that he was elected for a six-year term which expires in 1941. The present Philippine Constitution provides that the President shall have but a single term lasting for six years. A constitutional amendment has recently been proposed to the effect that the President may be elected during two successive terms of four years each.

In reply to my question, President Quezon said that he had decided in his own mind not to stand for a second term. The reason which he gave was that if he did so the precedent would be set for Commonwealth Presidents to be reelected for successive terms without limit and that the result would be an almost unavoidable tendency toward a dictatorship government, if not in his time, in the time of his successors. He therefore felt that he should resign at the end of his six-year term and not stand for reelection.

I next asked him whom he would favor for the next President of the Commonwealth. He replied unhesitatingly that he had decided on Osmeña, the present Vice President of the Commonwealth. He said that in his own mind, Yulo, the present Speaker of the Assembly, is an abler man and, because of his innate sense of justice and his judicial attitude, would probably make a better President than Osmeña. President Quezon said, however, that Yulo was not generally known throughout the Islands in the way that Osmeña is, and that the only way to elect Yulo would be for President Quezon to announce that he was his choice and back him as his personal candidate. He said that if he backed Yulo, Yulo would always be considered

as

The President,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED

as his puppet, whereas Osmeña could be elected because of the people's genuine regard for him, and Yulo would thus be given a chance to stand on his own feet and perhaps come in as President at a later time. President Quezon also spoke of Roxas, the present Secretary of Finance, as an able man whom he considered a Presidential possibility.

Although, as you know, President Quezon's mind keeps changing often with great rapidity, I think there is no question that this represents his present thoughts.

I also discussed with President Quezon the issue regarding Philippine independence. He said to me that although there were governmental officials advocating "reexamination", in his own opinion the Filipino people will never consent to relinquishing or indefinitely postponing the idea of independence. He said that he did not consider the indefinite postponement idea from the viewpoint of practical politics at all practicable, and that he would continue to support the independence movement as provided for in the Tydings-McDuffie Act.

I believe that the position which I stated when I arrived in Manila is the only sound one for the American Government to take. I enclose a copy of my statement. It seems to me clear that the American Government is morally bound not to withdraw or substantially modify the program of independence adopted under the Tydings-McDuffie Act unless and until the Filipino people and the Commonwealth Government make a specific request. In that event, it will be for the United States to decide what course to follow, and this decision must be made in the light of the world situation as it exists at the time. What the world situation will be then, no one can foretell.

Do you not agree that this is the sound position for us to take?

I feel very happy about your victory in securing the passage of the new Neutrality Bill.

With affectionate regards, believe me,

Ever sincerely yours,

*Frank*

Enclosures.

*I am also enclosing an editorial which might be of interest.*  
*F.*

PRESS RELEASE

Statement of the United States High Commissioner  
to the Philippine Islands concerning Philippine Independence.

October 22, 1939

When questioned concerning his attitude toward Philippine independence, the High Commissioner said:

"The question of Philippine independence is beset with innumerable difficulties and complications but the fundamentals of the problem seem clear. During the forty years that the United States has exercised sovereignty over the Islands, the Filipino people have been repeatedly assured by both Democrats and Republicans of the intention of our Government to grant them independence. In 1934 Congress, in accordance with these assurances, passed the Tydings-McDuffie Act, prescribing the terms and conditions under which independence is to be achieved. The Act was shortly thereafter accepted by the Philippine Legislature, and a Philippine Constitution, adopted in accordance with its terms, was approved by the Filipino people. At its last session Congress, with the approval of representatives of the Commonwealth Government, complemented the political arrangements of the Tydings-McDuffie Act by a program of necessary economic adjustments. The Tydings-McDuffie Act, thus modified, is the law of the land, which only Congress can change. Unless and until Congress does alter this Act, it is the duty of American and Philippine officials faithfully to carry out its provisions.

To my mind the passage by the American Congress of the Tydings-McDuffie Act and the acceptance by the Philippine people of a Constitution based upon its provisions constitute a moral obligation not to withdraw the independence program or to alter its fundamental provisions except by the wish of both peoples. If ever the day should come when the Filipino people should decide to change their minds and alter the policy to which they have unyieldingly adhered for over forty years and should bring such a request before Congress, it would be for Congress to decide upon what course of action the United States should pursue. Such a decision, I need hardly add, would have to be made in the light of such conditions as may then exist in the world and in the Philippines; and what these will be no one can foretell."

## The Philippines Herald

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MANILA, PHILIPPINES, TUESDAY, NOV. 14, 1939

### Editorials

#### A Statesman Speaks With Courage

IN A courageous and statesman-like address before the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines last night, United States High Commissioner Francis B. Sayre declared that, since "the past is gone irretrievably," the Filipinos and the Americans who have chosen to live with them, following the American way, guided by the American spirit, and inspired by American ideals, should strive, "through ceaseless effort and study and experimentation to seek a progressive and constant adjustment to changed conditions, ever struggling toward greater economies in production and wiser adjustment in the planning and machinery of production."

The speech was at once an invitation to envision the future and a challenge to both the Filipinos and Philippine Americans to face it with courage. But even as he challenged his listeners, he gave them encouragement. He indulged in plain-speaking, yet he captured general admiration. The High Commissioner's address was a most penetrating and realistic re-examination of local Filipino-American relationship present and future.

"Whatever the future may bring," he declared, "whether or not American sovereignty continues in these Islands, we shall never be able to set the clock backwards and return to the conditions of earlier days. The past is gone irretrievably. Revolutionary changes are transforming the world with a rapidity which is breath-taking. Here in the Philippines we surely cannot escape, even if we would, this profound and world-wide movement of transformation and consequent economic dislocation."

His listeners, pioneer American business men here as well as others of later vintage, could have understood him to mean nothing else but that there can be no backward step in Philippine-American relationship. The die is cast. The past being beyond recall, we must face the future and read its message. "I like to think of the Filipino people," he said, "aided by a group of American pioneers like yourselves and prizing that aid, working out their own destiny... carrying into Eastern Asia something of this same American spirit and these American ideals." The future is thus clear: the Americans who choose to cast their lot with the Filipinos, must live in the Philippines and with the Filipinos, carrying a while longer with the Filipinos the American torch of individual freedom, insuring initiative, courage, and the constant adventuring for new ways of life.

To the American pioneers and those who will come after them, he issued this challenge: "Surely the group of American business pioneers who have been building here for forty years will not fear change and new adjustment. Change means life; absence of change means stagnation and the end of growth. To the pioneer American spirit, change and adjustment mean but new change for fresh endeavor. Difficulties and the necessity of meeting new conditions are what the American spirit has been bred upon since our earliest days."

11-13-19  
P.S. : ... Dept. - 1 ...

you desire to have an in-  
directed against me for  
... or against him for  
... I have denounced.



"I am, therefore, returning these  
papers with the request that the  
Mayor be requested to clarify his  
statements on this matter."

PAGE 3

To the Filipinos, he has a double challenge. He said that before them lie two roads, one to "defeatism and surrender," the other the American way which entails "struggle and sacrifice," but which "leads ever forward and upward to a larger life and a higher standard of living for the individual men and women who compose the nation." At the same time he declared that in following the second alternative, "the Filipino people will need again and again the resourcefulness and the energy and the vision which Americans since the days of 1898 have freely contributed," and expressed the hope that "the new nation will not fail to extend its friendly protection, encouragement and support to such a group of dauntless builders as have gathered here under the American flag; for, apart from all other considerations, such a group can be of incalculable assistance to a youthful nation struggling forward and seeking to develop its material resources and to lay the foundations for nationhood."

We believe that we bespeak the unanimous sentiment of the Filipino people when we say that they have chosen the American way; that there is only gratitude to America in every heart; and that those Americans who will choose to remain here and assist in the further development of the nation to greater strength and achievement will symbolize in Filipino eyes not only the eternal debt owed to America but also the continuing American assistance to the Filipinos and abiding interest in their welfare. The Filipinos, it is true, had fought the American forces for three disastrous years, but once they were convinced of the good faith of America and once they realized the greatness and unselfishness of her work in the Philippines, they became moved by an inner wrath which in time developed into the deepest and most genuine gratitude ever felt by any race for another.

There is all the more reason for this gratitude in the positive statement made by the representative of American sovereignty in the Philippines when he said:

"Philippine independence surely will not mean the end of American cooperation. Civilization goes forward when different races and different cultures join hands and make their contributions each to the other. Also it is well to remember that Philippine independence does not mean the end or cessation of Philippine-American trade. For forty years Filipinos have been learning to use American commodities and Americans to use Philippine commodities. Independence will of course mean changed conditions and far-reaching economic adjustments. But it will mean building up a trade on new foundations, which will be more permanent and sound than the present highly artificial ones. If the Philippines choose with the United States to build their trade on liberal commercial policies, our reciprocal trade can develop far."

In mentioning this possibility, he also warned the Filipinos against excessive economic nationalism, pointing out that not only will such a policy preclude reciprocal trade with the United States but also threaten the basis of democratic freedom which America is leaving to the Filipinos as a heritage.

It is certainly most gratifying and encouraging to hear such a positive assurance from the High Commissioner. There have been those who have told the

Filipinos otherwise, avering that when the United States leaves the islands she will do so stock and barrel, and sarcastically warning that the Filipinos cannot eat their cake and have it too. After the grant of independence, the Filipinos will not, cannot reasonably look for any American favor beyond fair reciprocity, but they will certainly cherish any form of American cooperation that will contribute however indirectly to the vigor and permanence of the American institutions they have adopted as their own.

It is hardly necessary to repeat that the frank and straight-from-the-shoulder analysis of the inevitable and the discussion of the ideal adjustment that may be worked out by both Americans and Filipinos will make for greater understanding and cooperation on the home front. If American leadership in the Philippines had uninterruptedly been as faithful to American ideals and as farsighted as that of Francis B. Sayre gratitude would have flourished in the Filipino heart sooner, and a great deal of misunderstanding would have been avoided. But, as the Hight Commissioner has said, the past is gone and cannot be recalled. We must now face only the future and face it not alone with faith and courage but also with a continuing regard for the brotherhood between two races that has been born in the course of a common and successful enterprise.