

● PS f - Subject file

Dr. Vannevar Bush

Box 121

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE BEST
AVAILABLE. EVERY TECHNICAL
EFFORT HAS BEEN TAKEN TO
INSURE LEGIBILITY.

PSF
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 13, 1942.

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE
DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET
FOR RECOMMENDATION.

F.D.R.

Letter to the Pres. from Vannevar Bush,
Director of Office of Scientific Research
and Development 1/9/42 re Civilian
Scientific Corps and the mobilization of
same.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY
HYDE PARK, N. Y.



Papers of President Franklin D. Roosevelt

*PSF Bush folder
file
Confidential*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 11, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. VANNEVAR BUSH

I am greatly interested in your report of March ninth and I am returning it herewith for your confidential file. I think the whole thing should be pushed not only in regard to development, but also with due regard to time. This is very much of the essence. I have no objection to turning over future progress to the War Department on condition that you yourself are certain that the War Department has made all adequate provision for absolute secrecy.

F.D.R.

From the Office of

V. BUSH

PST
file April 23, 1942.
V. Bush

Mr. Forster:

These are films of the "amphibious jeep". I think the President, when he has a moment to relax, may enjoy seeing them. They are confidential, of course, but not extremely so, for the vehicle itself has been seen on the road and there was a brief statement about it released by the Army.

This is one of the fastest jobs on record. My group were turned loose on it about December 10, and by March 10 we had a finished vehicle on test, and it is now under production.

One would expect that, when a jeep is made to swim, it would become a poor land vehicle. Quite the contrary, the amphibious jeep outperforms the ordinary jeep on land. Also it does well in surf, as the film shows.

Uses are of course being held closely confidential. Please tell the President, however, that the British Commandos know all about it, and are following it closely.

My group of engineers is now busy making other things swim.

V. Bush

From the Office of
V. BUSH

*file
for Mr. Forster* P.S. V. Bush Folder
Subj: File
June 24, 1942.

Mr. Forster:

The accompanying memorandum
is in reply to the memorandum from
the President to me of yesterday,
reading "Do you have the money?".

V.B.

V. Bush.

From the Office of

V. BUSH

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

June 24, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

We have the money. The Army plans to use available funds to be later replaced.

Arthur Compton has plenty of reason for being excited, but like many a scientist is not noted for staying in channels. He is getting results, however, and I hope he gets them fast enough.

V.B.

V. Bush.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED AEC to
Director, 2-12-70

Bush Folder

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1942.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. VANNEVAR BUSH:

Do you have the money?

F.D.R.

Copy of the Vice President's letter attached for our files, original sent with telegram from Arthur H. Compton to the Vice President "I suspect Bush is having trouble getting suitable financing of work we have discussed. Have strong evidence Germans will have this weapon ready for use in 1943? If we are not similarly ready this would mean disaster. Can see no safety from this threat short of all out effort to develop counter measures. Please check with Bush to ensure making such effort possible." from Pittsburgh, Penna.

THE M
June 20, 1942

The President

The White House

Dear Mr. President:

You might take the enclosed wire from Arthur Compton into account along with the report submitted to you by Vannevar Bush and signed by myself and the Secretary of War.

Respectfully yours,

H. A. Wallace

75F ~~Box~~ - Bush

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Box

July 11, 1942.

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. VANNEVAR BUSH:

I do not think I have replied to yours of June 19th in relation to the purchase of certain ore in Canada. I agree with you that we should encourage the Canadians to go ahead.

Also, I wholly approve your patent control policy.

I talked with Mr. Churchill in regard to this whole matter and we are in complete accord.

F.D.R.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director, FDRL

2-12-70

W 2

75F-~~4~~-Bush

~~SECRET~~

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
1530 P STREET NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

VANNEVAR BUSH
Director

June 19, 1942.

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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
AEC to Director, FDRL
2-12-70

Dear Mr. President:

The program of very confidential nature which you initialled on the seventeenth is now being put into effect. In accord with our policy, I am informing the British of our technical and organizational plans, and they will presently send to me the program which they are just now considering. I feel sure these two plans will fit together adequately.

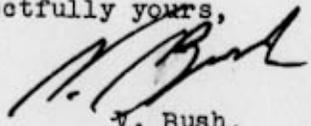
In this connection I have occasionally been consulted by the British concerning after-the-war relationships on this matter, and my reply has always been that you will presumably discuss these with Mr. Churchill. These relationships may be of exceedingly great importance, for one thing because of the power production aspects.

On one point, however, I would like to be in a position to give a reply. The Canadians are considering quietly purchasing the principal ore source in Canada so that it will be under their government control. The British seem to approve this move, but ask our reactions. I am inclined to encourage them to go ahead, with the thought that international relationships will be more readily handled if control of the matter is in government hands. Do you wish me to indicate that such a step would be considered appropriate?

With this same thought in mind, I am providing for adequate records of our research on the basis of which patents can later be prepared, and I intend to see to it, so far as possible, that these are assigned outright to the United States Government. Unfortunately, complete patent control may not be possible in this way, but sufficient may be obtained so that the method could not be applied in peace time except under government license.

Otherwise, I will take steps on control of the matter, or on international relationships concerning it, only as you may direct.

Respectfully yours,



V. Bush,
Director.

file
personal

BF

Mr. Bush folder
2-42

December 28, 1942.

Dear Van:-

I have yours of December sixteenth with postscript of December twenty-third in regard to the special project. I will approve the recommendations.

Please send me a memorandum as to how you think I should approach the Budget in asking for the appropriation.

I am returning your folder and letter duly sealed.

Always sincerely,

*The original of this letter returned to
Dr. Bush, as per President's notation.*

Office for Emergency Management
OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
1530 P Street NW
Washington, D.C.

*2/4/43
hm*

February 2, 1943

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

Dear Mr. President:

This memorandum is in response to your note of December twenty-eighth, in which you ask that I indicate how you might appropriately approach the Budget in connection with the special program which you authorized at that time.

My suggestion is that you direct the Army to include the matter with its other requests for appropriation as a contingent percentage for reserves for one of the larger items. No detailed justification would be submitted, but a general justification could be made confidentially to the Chairman of each Appropriation Committee and to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

If you wish the matter handled in this way, I will be glad to so inform the appropriate officers in the Army.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) V. BUSH

V. Bush,
Director.

"V. B.
O.K.
F.D.R."

From the Office of

V. BUSH

February 2, 1943.

Mr. Forster:

If this is what the President wants, and I think it is, I'll see that it gets done. The Army is agreeable to doing it this way. I judge the President will probably initial and return my note, so that I will have definite instructions to proceed.



V. Bush.

REMIN MR. HOPKINS TO SPEAK TO

GENERAL SOMERVELL ON THIS

NEXT THREE OR FOUR DAYS

2/19/43-

~~SECRET~~

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director FORL

2-12-78

PSF
Bush

From: London
To: President of the United States

Unnumbered February 16, 1943.

Prime Minister to Mister Harry Hopkins personal and ~~signed~~
(signed Prime).

Do you remember our conversation about that very secret matter we called "Tube Alloys" which you told me would be put right as soon as the President got home? I should be very grateful for some news about this, as at present the American War Department is asking us to keep them informed of our experiments while refusing altogether any information about theirs.

PRIME

~~SECRET~~

PSF
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 2, 1943

*file
personal*

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

I suppose this is self-explanatory to you.

MHM

DST Bush folder 2-43

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

1530 P STREET NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

VANNEVAR BUSH
Director

March 31, 1943.

Mr. Marvin H. McIntyre,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

When I lunched with the President last Wednesday he inquired concerning a military establishment in the State of Washington. It appears that one of the Senators from Washington had taken up with him the question of whether this establishment would not unduly interfere with agricultural efforts in the region. At the time I did not know all the facts, and I hence told the President that I would look it up.

I find that the establishment in question, which is near Pasco, is indeed one connected with a development that I have had something to do with. Accordingly, I discussed the entire affair with the Army engineers involved and examined particularly into the question of interference with crops. I came to the definite personal conclusion that every care has been used to render this interference minimum.

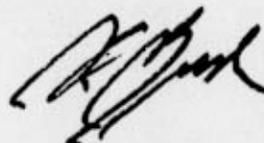
A very careful search was made before choosing the site. No other site in the entire country could be found that combined the rather strict needs of this project for power, water, and isolation. A representative of the Department of Agriculture looked over the site with the Army representatives and stated that he knew of no other site where less damage would be done to agriculture in view of the needs. The extent of the tract occupied and the general arrangements have been based on the recommendations of engineers that I consider highly competent, and I believe their stated requirements are essential for the best success of the effort and could not safely be decreased.

-2-

I also find that definite steps have been taken to insure that this year's crops will be taken off except where the area is actually in use, and the used area will be a small part of the tract. The efforts to keep the interference with agriculture in the region at an absolute minimum consistent with Army needs seem to me to have been handled with every inclination to protect the agricultural effort as far as possible.

I think that the President did not wish me to do anything further than to examine into the situation independently and form an opinion as to whether it was being well handled. This I have done with the above conclusions. If, however, there is anything further he would care to have me do in this connection, you will of course let me know.

Cordially yours,



V. Bush,
Director.

PSF: Bush folder 2-43

The President

Does this go to Admiral
Brown to file or keep.
it in our secret files
here? GBT.

Mr Latta —

Miss Jolly wants to
know to whom this should
be referred —

ZJB

Miss Tully - . . .

I believe this is a matter for consideration
by Dr. Vannevar Bush, Director of the Office of
Scientific Research and Development.

M. C. L.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Miss Tully

To the President

from
Mrs. Roosevelt

*V. Bush folder
2-43*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 14, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY HOPKINS:

What should I do about this
and the reply to Churchill's wire?

F.D.R.

Ltr. 6-30-43, from Harry Hopkins to
Dr. Vannevar Bush, Carnegie Institution,
1530 P St., N.W., re discussion with the
Prime Minister re question of exchange of
information re tube alloys, including the
building project.

*The above ltr. 6/30/43, from Mr. Hopkins
+ orig. of this memo sent to Dr. Bush,
7/14/43.*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR

MISS GRACE TULLY

The President has
read this and it can now
be filed.

H.L.H.

Encl.
file from
Dr. V. Bush re
tube alloys

4166

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

RF Mr. Bush folder
Subj. File 3-45

March 9, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR

DR. VANNEVAR BUSH:

FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

"F.D.R." F.D.R.

• of
Copy/Confidential memorandum, 2/12/45, re Utilization of Scientific Manpower, from Mrs. Roosevelt, which discusses the unwarranted usurpation of manpower by the National Research Defense Committee and the Office of Scientific Research and Development and the use of that power to protect the pecuniary interests of individual scientists at the expense of the war effort; mentions particularly the loss of the services of men in the Minesweeping Section (620) of the Bureau of Ships.

PSP - Bush

~~SECRET~~

Subject File

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

1530 P STREET NW.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
Washington 25, D.C.

August 7, 1943.

VANNEVAR BUSH
Director

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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
AEC & Director FDRL
2-12-70

Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to your instructions contained in your letter of July twentieth, I have proceeded to arrange for further interchange with the British on the subject of tubealloy.

This matter was, in fact, raised by the Prime Minister while I was in London and there were conferences there in which Secretary Stimson participated. In response to your cable to the Prime Minister, Sir John Anderson arrived in this country this week and there have been further conversations here. We asked him to indicate definitely the way in which the present American policy should be altered or supplemented in order to provide for interchange as desired by the British, and he has done so in a letter, a copy of which I enclose. I have replied to this, and enclose a copy of my reply, the substance of which has been approved by Secretary Stimson and General Marshall. Unfortunately, Mr. Wallace has been out of the city this week so that I could not consult him, but I feel sure that he will also approve the arrangements. I have also informed the members of the Military Committee on this subject, General Styer and Admiral Purnell, of developments. Finally, I enclose a copy of a brief letter dated August 6, in which Sir John Anderson indicates that our agreement is satisfactory to him.

In my opinion this exchange of letters provides adequately for appropriate interchange, with due regard to the maintenance of security, and with the object of providing the British with all of the information which they can utilize in this connection in the prosecution of the war, in return for the benefit of the deliberations of their own scientific and technical groups.

Sir John Anderson has now written me a further letter concerning details of interchange, but I feel this should go before the Combined Policy Committee as soon as it is formed.



~~SECRET~~

-2-

You will note that my reply gave no comments concerning the first four points, which are matters of broad international agreement. I understand that the Prime Minister has advised Secretary Stimson of these suggestions. There has, of course, been some discussion of these during the course of my consultations, and I have encountered some strong opinions concerning them, but you will undoubtedly wish to consult on this broad aspect of the matter directly rather than through me.

I have attempted to bring about the extended and renewed interchange which you desire, in an appropriate and effective manner, without introducing any step which could be regarded as either improper or improvident. Our thought has been guided by the conviction that all steps taken at this time should be solely for the purpose of winning the war at the earliest possible moment. I trust you will feel that this attempt has been successful, and that we may have your further instructions.

At your convenience I shall of course be happy to report to you upon other aspects of my recent journey.

Respectfully yours,



V. Bush,
Director.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director FDRL

2-12-70

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director FORL

2-12-70

BRITISH EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

6th August, 1943.

~~SECRET~~
My dear Dr. Bush,

Thank you so much for your letter of the 6th August which is entirely satisfactory from my point of view.

I am of course quite ready to make the small amendment which you suggest in the first clause of the draft agreement, and I am now proposing to submit the draft, with this alteration, to the Prime Minister for his consideration. I assume therefore that you will similarly submit it to the President.

As regards the point made regarding the interpretation of sub-paragraph (b) in the 5th clause of the draft, I agree, of course, that it will not be for the combined Policy Committee to interfere with the control of the American programme by the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army. My thought is that the members of the combined Policy Committee should have such information as may be necessary to enable all of us to be satisfied that we are making the greatest possible contribution towards bringing the project to fruition at the earliest possible moment.

I am afraid that, owing to the short notice which it was possible to give of my visit, you have been put to considerable inconvenience, and I am most grateful to you for the great trouble you have taken to round the matter off in the limited time which I have been able to spend here.

My visit has given me great pleasure personally and I hope we may meet again soon.

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Dr. Vannevar Bush,
Office of Scientific Research & Development,
1530 P. Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

~~U.S. Secret - British Most Secret~~

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

1530 P STREET NW.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington 25, D.C.

August 6, 1943.

VANNEVAR BUSH
Director

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC & FORL Director

2-12-70

Sir John Anderson,
Lord President of the Council,
British Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir John:

I was glad to receive your letter of August 4 and I believe that it presents an excellent basis for settlement of the question of interchange of information which we discussed. It is evident that the subject matter of the suggested agreement falls into two categories. The first four points are concerned with matters of international understanding quite beyond the definite problem of appropriate arrangements for interchange. These four points, therefore, are for the consideration of the President and the Prime Minister.

I have reviewed the fifth point only, which is concerned with arrangements for full and effective collaboration on the research and development program, with Mr. Stimson and with General Marshall and have, of course, discussed it quite fully with Dr. Conant. All of us are in agreement that it presents a procedure by which interchange on this subject can now be carried on for the purpose of the most rapid possible development of this affair. Mr. Wallace, the remaining member of the Policy Committee to which the President referred the general handling of this subject, is absent from the city and I have not been able to discuss the matter with him. I am, however, confident that he will agree. The matter, therefore, appears to be now in form for presentation to the Prime Minister and to the President, and it is to be hoped that they will agree that a suitable solution has been reached.

The object of the arrangement is so to interchange information, as you state, as to bring the project to fruition at the earliest possible moment. This

2-12-70

-2-

has in fact been definitely in the minds of our Policy Committee from the outset, and was in fact the basis for our recommendation that interchange should be made wherever the receipt of the information would definitely advance the project as a war measure. The implementation of this in its detail has in fact become confused in recent months, but I am glad to say that I now feel that on the basis of your memorandum we have arrived at a position where all possible misunderstandings may be promptly cleared away, and fully effective collaboration restored. In order that we may be sure that there is now no misunderstanding I will comment on a few points.

There is one very small point in your first clause of the draft. You state that a very much greater expense will fall upon the United States. I suggest that this might now be put in the past tense. The fact is, of course, as you know, that the United States has already committed itself to the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars, and has employed the services of thousands of scientific and technical men on the project. It might, therefore, be well in the final draft to signify this fact by a minor change at this point.

As you state, the acceptance of this draft of principles will soon need to be followed by steps for implementing the arrangements in detail. I have now received your letter of August 5 along these lines, but have not placed it before our policy group. As a matter of procedure the first step after the formation of the Policy Committee would certainly seem to be the presentation to that Committee by American and British scientists the over-all picture of the current situation in their respective countries and the plans for the future. On the basis of the evidence thus presented the Policy Committee would agree as to the method of providing specific interchange to carry out the provisions of the agreement.

One very important early step will be the selection of the Combined Policy Committee to which we will proceed to give thought immediately. The most important

~~U.S. Secret - British Most Secret~~

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director FORL

2-12-70

-3-

result of the creation of this Committee will, I think, be that it will provide for a thorough understanding of the general status and progress of the effort at the top level in the two Governments. It is our understanding that while the members of the Policy Committee will have access to all general information about all phases of the effort, the interchange of information about the detail of manufacture or construction of plants or of any final weapon will be governed by the provisions of (d), and that your suggested provision (b) merely is intended to provide that members of the Committee may interchange with their immediate scientific advisers the information they may have, in view of the fact that in some cases members of the Committee may not themselves be scientists. It is, of course, clear that this Committee is concerned with general policy, especially as to the extent and procedure on the interchange; and that its existence will not interfere with the control of the American program by the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army. I trust that we may find it possible to select a very strong group indeed for this purpose.

I trust that you will present this matter to the Prime Minister when you meet, and if you will let me know that you intend to do so, I will simultaneously transmit our exchange of letters to the President, so that they may both be fully informed of the successful outcome of our discussions when they meet. I hope very much we will find that they are also in agreement on the procedure at which we have now arrived.

Very truly yours,

Vannevar Bush.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director FDRL

2-12-70

BRITISH EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

4th August, 1943.

~~SECRET~~

My dear Dr. Bush,

Many thanks for your letter of the 3rd August and the documents which you kindly sent me with it.

As you know, the Prime Minister prepared some draft Heads of Agreement after our meeting in London and sent a copy of them to Mr. Stimson. I have been working on this document in the light of our talk and I now send you an expanded version of it which I have entitled:- "Draft articles of Agreement governing collaboration between the authorities of the U.S.A. and the U.K. in the matter of Tube Alloys".

My idea is that we should try to reach agreement on a draft along these lines and submit it as soon as possible to the President and the Prime Minister for their consideration.

You will see that in the draft articles I have dealt with the broad principles on which interchange of information should be conducted. I contemplate, however, that there should be a second memorandum setting out with greater precision and detail the arrangements which should govern the direct interchange of information between the groups in our two countries working on each section of the project. If the wording of the document dated the 15th of December 1942, and enclosed in your letter, were altered to make it clear that it applied to interchange on this level only, I agree with you that it might well serve as a basis for this second memorandum. The details would, of course, need modification in the light of the programme of work agreed by the combined Policy Committee; but I imagine that you always intended that these arrangements should be reviewed and amended in the light of alterations made from time to time in our respective programmes.

Dr. Vannevar Bush,
Director, Office of Scientific Research and Development.

The draft articles have been prepared in a form suitable for an agreement between the U.S.A. and the U.K. only. We shall, I think, have to discuss together and with the Canadians the question of Canadian participation which would, of course, necessitate appropriate changes in the form and wording. But we need not let that delay us in our immediate task of settling the kind of clauses which should be contained in the agreement, whether the Canadians come in or not.

Finally, may I thank you very much for sending me the statement on the possible use of radio-active material in warfare. This is a matter to which we also have given some attention. I shall look forward to receiving the more detailed report to which you refer, and I will, on my return, at once have the results of our studies checked against yours.

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) JOHN ANDERSON

Dr. Vannevar Bush,
Office of Scientific Research and Development,
1530 P Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

DRAFT articles of Agreement governing collaboration between the authorities of the U.S.A. and the U.K. in the matter of Tube Alloys.

1. Whereas it is vital to our common safety in the present War to bring the Tube Alloys project to fruition at the earliest moment; and whereas this may be more speedily achieved if all available British and American brains and resources are pooled; and whereas owing to war conditions it would be an improvident use of war resources to duplicate plants on a large scale on both sides of the Atlantic and therefore a far greater expense will fall upon the United States;

It is agreed between us

First, that we will never use this agency against each other.

Secondly, that we will not use it against third parties without each other's consent.

Thirdly, that we will not either of us communicate any information about Tube Alloys to third parties except by mutual consent.

Fourthly, that in view of the heavy burden of production falling upon the United States as the result of a wise division of war effort, the British Government recognize that any post-war advantages of an industrial or commercial character shall be dealt with as between the United States and Great Britain on terms to be specified by the President of the United States to the Prime Minister of Great Britain. The Prime Minister expressly disclaims any interest in these industrial and commercial aspects beyond what may be considered by the President of the United States to be fair and just and in harmony with the economic welfare of the world.

And Fifthly, that the following arrangements shall be made to ensure full and effective collaboration between the two countries in bringing the project to fruition:

(a) There shall be set up in Washington a Combined Policy Committee composed of:-

The functions of this Committee, subject to the control of the respective Governments, will be:-

- (1) To agree from time to time upon the programme of work to be carried out in the two countries.
 - (2) To keep all sections of the project under constant review.
 - (3) To allocate materials, apparatus and plant, in limited supply, in accordance with the requirements of the programme agreed by the Committee.
 - (4) To settle any questions which may arise on the interpretation or application of this Agreement.
- (b) There shall be complete interchange of information and ideas on all sections of the project between members of the Policy Committee and their immediate technical advisers.
 - (c) In the field of scientific research and development there shall be full and effective interchange of information and ideas between those in the two countries engaged in the same sections of the field.
 - (d) In the field of design, construction and operation of large-scale plants, interchange of information and ideas shall be regulated by such ad hoc arrangements as may, in each section of the field, as appear to be necessary or desirable if the project is to be brought to fruition at the earliest moment. Such ad hoc arrangements shall be subject to the approval of the Policy Committee.

*Bush folder
2-43*

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

July 28, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Col. Sexton, in General Marshall's office, called to say that Dr. Conant is not in town today but is expected between 10:00 and 10:30 tomorrow morning. He may then be reached at Dr. Bush's office -- Dupont 6400.

djb

Gilbe - where?

~~SECRET~~

← File

PSF-Bush
17

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED

ARC & Director, FORL
2-12-70

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 28, 1943

not in file
comments

Dear Mr. President:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 20th to Dr. Bush concerning exchange of information with the British Government regarding tube alloys. I have informed Dr. Bush, who is now in England, concerning the substance of your letter.

Tomorrow I shall also bring your letter to the attention of Dr. James B. Conant upon his return to Washington. He is now in Chicago on business related to this project, on which he acts as Dr. Bush's deputy.

Sincerely yours,

Carroll L. Wilson

Carroll L. Wilson
Executive Assistant
to Dr. Bush

The President
The White House
Washington

~~SECRET~~

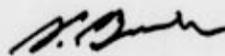
From the Office of

V. BUSH

August 4, 1943.

Mr. McIntyre:

I transmit a letter for the President which I have received from Dr. Oppenheimer, but which I think it is quite appropriate to transmit without my review. It is in reply to the President's recent letter to Dr. Oppenheimer.



V. Bush.

file
No answer

LOS ALAMOS
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
P. O. BOX 1663

PSF - Bash 15

Subject File

July 9, 1943

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your generous letter of June 29th. You would be glad to know how greatly your good words of reassurance were appreciated by us. There will be many times in the months ahead when we shall remember them.

It is perhaps appropriate that I should in turn transmit to you the assurance that we as a group and as individual Americans are profoundly aware of our responsibility, for the security of our project as well as for its rapid and effective completion. It is a great source of encouragement to us that we have in this your support and understanding.

Very sincerely yours,

J R Oppenheimer

J. R. Oppenheimer

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director of FDRL
2-12-70

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

~~SECRET~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 1, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

DR. CONANT

Dr. Bush asked that the
enclosed letters be sent to you
for safe delivery.

Grace G. Tully
PRIVATE SECRETARY

(Enclosures)

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC & Director FDRL

2-12-70

~~SECRET~~

June 29, 1943

My dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

I have recently reviewed with Dr. Bush the highly important and secret program of research, development and manufacture with which you are familiar. I was very glad to hear of the excellent work which is being done in a number of places in this country under the immediate supervision of General L. R. Groves and the general direction of the Committee of which Dr. Bush is Chairman. The successful solution of the problem is of the utmost importance to the national safety, and I am confident that the work will be completed in as short a time as possible as the result of the wholehearted cooperation of all concerned.

I am writing to you as the leader of one group which is to play a vital role in the months ahead. I know that you and your colleagues are working on a hazardous matter under unusual circumstances. The fact that the outcome of your labors is of such great significance to the nation requires that this program be even more drastically guarded than other highly secret war developments. I have therefore given directions that every precaution be taken to insure the security of your project and feel sure that those in charge will see that these orders are carried out. You are fully aware of the reasons why your own endeavors and those of your associates must be circumscribed by very special restrictions. Nevertheless, I wish you would express to the scientists assembled with you my deep appreciation of their willingness to undertake the tasks which lie before them in spite of the dangers and the personal sacrifices. I am sure we can rely on their continued wholehearted and unselfish labors. Whatever the enemy may be planning, American science will be equal to the challenge. With this thought in mind, I send this note of confidence and appreciation.

- 2 -

Though there are other important groups at work, I am writing only to you as the leader of the one which is operating under very special conditions, and to General Groves. While this letter is secret, the contents of it may be disclosed to your associates under a pledge of secrecy.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer,
Post Office Box 1663,
Santa Fe,
New Mexico.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

UNCLASSIFIED

AEC to Director PDR
2-12-70

~~SECRET~~
June 29, 1943

My dear General Groves:

I have recently reviewed with Dr. Bush the highly important and secret program of research, development and manufacture with which you are familiar. I was very glad to hear of the excellent work which is being done in a number of places in this country under your immediate supervision and the general direction of the Committee of which Dr. Bush is Chairman. The successful solution of the problem is of the utmost importance to the national safety, and I am confident that the work will be completed in as short a time as possible as the result of the wholehearted cooperation of all concerned.

I am writing to you as the one who has charge of all the development and manufacturing aspects of this work. I know that there are several groups of scientists working under your direction on various phases of the program. The fact that the outcome of their labors is of such great significance to the nation requires that this project be even more drastically guarded than other highly secret war developments. As you know, I have therefore given directions that every precaution be taken to insure the security of your project. I am sure the scientists are fully aware of the reasons why their endeavors must be circumscribed by very special restrictions. Nevertheless, I wish you would express to them my deep appreciation of their willingness to undertake the tasks which lie before them in spite of the possible dangers and the personal sacrifices involved. In particular, I should be glad to have you communicate the contents of this letter to the leaders of each important group. I am sure we can rely on the continued wholehearted and unselfish labors of those now engaged. Whatever the enemy may be planning, American Science will be equal to the challenge. With this thought in mind, I send this note of confidence and appreciation.

Very sincerely yours,

Brigadier General L. R. Groves,
Room 5120, New War Department Building,
21st and Virginia Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

From the Office of

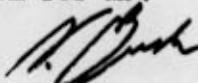
V. BUSH

Mr. Bush folder
June 28, 1943.

Mr. Forster:

When I lunched with the President last Thursday I suggested two letters for his signature to help improve the morale of the scientists on an important matter, and he seemed to think this was desirable. I take the liberty of enclosing drafts, one to Oppenheimer who is in charge of one important group, and the other to General Groves which he can in turn take up with several groups. I group it in this way to avoid the necessity of numerous letters, and I think these two will take care of it.

I will appreciate it if you will have these typed and lay them before the President. If this is done after I leave, which will be on Wednesday, they can be delivered to Dr. Conant at 1530 P Street, who will take care of them for me.


V. Bush.

DRAFT OF LETTER

Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer
P. O. Box 1663
Santa Fe, New Mexico

My dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

I have recently reviewed with Dr. Bush the highly important and secret program of research, development and manufacture with which you are familiar. I was very glad to hear of the excellent work which is being done in a number of places in this country under the immediate supervision of General L. R. Groves and the general direction of the Committee of which Dr. Bush is Chairman. The successful solution of the problem is of the utmost importance to the national safety, and I am confident that the work will be completed in as short a time as possible as the result of the wholehearted cooperation of all concerned.

I am writing to you as the leader of one group which is to play a vital role in the months ahead. I know that you and your colleagues are working on a hazardous matter under unusual circumstances. The fact that the outcome of your labors is of such great significance to the nation requires that this program be even more drastically guarded than other highly secret war developments. I have therefore given directions that every precaution be taken to insure the security of your project and feel sure that those in charge will see that these orders are carried out. You are fully aware of the reasons why your own endeavors and those of your associates must be circumscribed by very special restrictions. Nevertheless, I wish you would express to the scientists assembled with you my deep appreciation of their willingness to undertake the tasks which lie before them in spite of the dangers and the personal sacrifices. I am sure we can rely on their continued wholehearted and unselfish labors. Whatever the enemy may be planning, American science will be equal to the challenge. With this thought in mind, I send this note of confidence and appreciation.

Though there are other important groups at work, I am writing only to you as the leader of the one which is operating under very special conditions, and to General Groves. While this letter is secret, the contents of it may be disclosed to your associates under a pledge of secrecy.

Very sincerely yours,

DRAFT OF LETTER

Brigadier General L. R. Groves,
Room 5120, New War Department Building,
21st and Virginia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear General Groves:

I have recently reviewed with Dr. Bush the highly important and secret program of research, development and manufacture with which you are familiar. I was very glad to hear of the excellent work which is being done in a number of places in this country under your immediate supervision and the general direction of the Committee of which Dr. Bush is Chairman. The successful solution of the problem is of the utmost importance to the national safety, and I am confident that the work will be completed in as short a time as possible as the result of the wholehearted cooperation of all concerned.

I am writing to you as the one who has charge of all the development and manufacturing aspects of this work. I know that there are several groups of scientists working under your direction on various phases of the program. The fact that the outcome of their labors is of such great significance to the nation requires that this project be even more drastically guarded than other highly secret war developments. As you know, I have therefore given directions that every precaution be taken to insure the security of your project. I am sure the scientists are fully aware of the reasons why their endeavors must be circumscribed by very special restrictions. Nevertheless, I wish you would express to them my deep appreciation of their willingness to undertake the tasks which lie before them in spite of the possible dangers and the personal sacrifices involved. In particular, I should be glad to have you communicate the contents of this letter to the leaders of each important group. I am sure we can rely on the continued wholehearted and unselfish labors of those now engaged. Whatever the enemy may be planning, American Science will be equal to the challenge. With this thought in mind, I send this note of confidence and appreciation.

Very sincerely yours,

~~SECRET~~

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director PDRL

2-12-70

PSF

Bush

Subject File

August 23, 1943.

29A

MEMORANDUM for The President:

Tubealloy - Interchange with the British.

We await your instructions regarding interchange with the British on this subject as a result of correspondence with Sir John Anderson recently placed in your hands through Mr. Hopkins. A report on the present status of the whole project has just been forwarded to General Marshall.

The next steps, if you approve the correspondence regarding interchange, are to convene a combined committee, which will lay down rules for security and arrange conferences between scientific groups as needed to expedite the program fully.

I suggest, before you leave the Prime Minister, one step to accelerate matters. It would help if a top British scientist, accepted and of sound judgment, could be sent here as chief liaison under Sir John Anderson, to help make arrangements for the committee's work. He should be of the caliber of Sir Henry Dale or Sir Henry Tizard, and not one of the group working experimentally on a single phase of the problem.

I hasten to make this suggestion for the following reason. In previous negotiations difficulty was encountered because the British representative was an industrialist, Mr. Akers of International Chemical Industries. This same man is now here, apparently to make similar arrangements. He recently, and without consulting us, brought four eminent British scientific workers here for interchange. As we cannot use them until the combined committee has laid down the rules, they are likely to think us reluctant to interchange, whereas the exact opposite is true and we are anxious to get appropriate interchange going in an orderly fashion, so that relations will not this time become tangled. Akers is a very able man, but not the one to handle this matter.

We will proceed promptly with the whole affair on receiving your instructions.



V. Bush

V. Bush.

~~SECRET~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PRIME MINISTER.

Tube Alloys.

1. May I send the President the attached set of telegrams in amplification of what you told him about the visit by Sir Edward Appleton?
2. In the Articles of Agreement signed at Quebec it was stated that the United States members of the Combined Policy Committee should be the Secretary of War, Dr. Bush and Dr. Conant. Mr. Stimson spoke to you about this after luncheon yesterday, but I did not hear clearly what he said. Do you wish to make any record of his remarks or inform the Lord President?

1.17.17.

9.9.43

Mr. Hopkins to see first.

48
Tube alloys
21

PSF
Bush
Subject File

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM TO PRIME MINISTER FROM LORD PRESIDENT.
August 28, 1943.

Tube Alloys. Reference your WELFARE 450.

I am distressed at this report on Akers, who has rendered most excellent service as our Chief Executive on Tube Alloys and about whose integrity and ability I have not the slightest doubt. During negotiations in Washington there was a suggestion that the United States authorities would not regard Akers as a suitable person to represent us on the Combined Policy Committee, an attitude which could be understood having regard to the fact that his work lies in the field of technical rather than political direction. No objection was however then raised to our using him for the sort of purpose for which he is now in the United States - namely, to co-ordinate the views and activities of the representatives of our individual scientific groups and to act as Chief Technical Assistant and Adviser to our representatives on the Policy Committee.

I should add that the four eminent British Scientific workers were sent over on my instructions. This step was clearly necessary if time was not to be unnecessarily wasted and was in accordance with the following passage taken from the 5th paragraph of Dr. Bush's letter of the 6th August to me:-

"As a matter of procedure the first step, after the formation of the Policy Committee, would certainly seem to be the presentation to that Committee by American and British Scientists of the overall picture of the current situation in their respective countries and the plans for the future. On the basis of the evidence thus presented the Policy Committee would agree as to the method of providing specific interchange to carry out the provisions of the agreement."

Evidently however Akers's inclusion among our representatives on Tube Alloys in Washington has caused trouble in the past and is likely to continue to do so, and this is a fact which, in the interests of the prosecution of that project as a joint enterprise, we cannot afford to ignore. I accordingly suggest for your consideration that you should propose to the President that Sir Edward Appleton should at once go out to Washington on a short visit. The purpose of his visit would be first to help to arrange

for launching of the Combined Committee, and secondly to submit to me recommendations regarding any adjustments which he may consider that the establishment of the Combined Committee makes necessary in our present arrangements for the technical direction of our work on the project.

In the latter connection an important factor to which we have every right to give full consideration is the general cohesion and contentment of our workers on the project. I doubt whether the recommendations which Appleton will have to make will affect anything more than our representation on the technical level in Washington, but even in that respect he will have to bear in mind the position of our team in Canada who have hitherto been accustomed to look to Akers for technical direction. I do not think that either Dale or Tizard would be suitable for this Mission, indeed I am convinced that Appleton is the only man for it. Besides having the scientific eminence apparently required, he is also the permanent Head of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, of which the Directorate of Tube Alloys is a part. He thus has some general responsibility in the matter and also intimate knowledge of all the personalities involved on our side. I have every reason to believe that he will be acceptable to the American Scientists, with whom he has always been on the best of terms. I should be grateful if you could telegraph as soon as possible whether Appleton should go.

We cannot possibly hope to be able to conceal from Akers the fact that objection has been taken to him from the American side, though we need not, of course, make any specific mention of Bush.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC to Director FDRL

2-12-70

COPY

~~MOST SECRET~~ FOR PRIME MINISTER FROM LORD PRESIDENT.
September 2, 1943.

There is an excellent opportunity of sending Appleton by fast boat due to reach New York towards the end of next week, but this will involve his leaving London tomorrow night September 3rd.

After careful consideration I have come to the conclusion that, even if immediate difficulties about Akers's personal position should be cleared up otherwise, it would still be very valuable for Appleton to pay a visit to Washington at this stage. Combining as he does a general knowledge of the whole field of Anglo-American co-operation on scientific matters with a particular responsibility, as head of the D.S.I. R.N. for the scientific side of tube alloys, he is better qualified than anyone to get on to such terms with the American scientists in tube alloys as to ensure that there shall be no further difficulties or misunderstandings. I have accordingly decided to take advantage of this special opportunity and have asked Appleton to leave tomorrow.

CONFIDENTIAL
TOP SECRET

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

AEC & Director FORL

2-12-70

COPY

MOST SECRET, FOR LORD PRESIDENT FROM PRIME MINISTER.
September 2, 1943.

I am glad Appleton is coming.

EXTRACT FROM 'WHO'S WHO'

APPLETON, Sir Edward Victor, K.C.B. cr. 1941; M.A., D.Sc., Hon. L.L.D. (Aberdeen), F.R.S. 1927; Secretary Department of Scientific and Industrial Research since 1939; b 6 Sep. 1892; s. of Peter Appleton, Bradford, Yorks; m. Jessie, d. of late Rev. J. Longson; two d. Educ. Hanson School, Bradford; St. John's College, Cambridge (Scholar and Exhibitioner); Natural Science Tripos, Parts I and II (Physics), 1913 and 1914; Wiltshire Prizeman 1913; Hutchinson Research Student, 1914. Served European War 1914-18, West Riding Regt. and Capt. R.E.; Assistant Demonstrator in Experimental Physics, Cavendish Laboratory, 1920; sub-lector, Trinity College, 1922; Wheatstone Professor of Physics, University of London, 1924-36; Jacksonian Professor of Natural Philosophy, Cambridge University, 1936-39; formerly Fellow of St. John's College Cambridge; Chairman of British National Committee for Radio-telegraphy; Morris Liebmann Memorial Prizeman (1929) and Vice-President (1932) American Inst. Radio Eng.; Hughes Medallist of Royal Society, 1933; President International Scientific Radio Union. Publications: various original papers on electricity and the scientific problems of wireless-telegraphy. Address: 4, Exeter House, S.W.15. Club: Athenaeum.

~~SECRET~~

PSF Bush folder

Subject File
10/12/43

28

MEMORANDUM for Dr. Vannevar Bush:

Referring to your letter of August 6th with reference to tubealloy and the enclosed copies of correspondence with Sir John Anderson, I approve of the establishing of a Combined Policy Committee as suggested and hereby appoint as the two American members:

Dr. Vannevar Bush, with Dr. James B. Conant as an Alternate.

Major General Wilhelm B. Styer.

These members should meet with the British members at a very early date to organize and initiate the work.

The President.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
AEC & Director FDRL
2-12-70

~~SECRET~~

For the President

File 9/3/44

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

*PP72

*Return to
President*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND
PLEASE RETURN FOR MY EYES.

F.D.R.

*W. H. ...
Lords Lane Summary*

*PSF Mr. Vannevar Bush folder
Subject File 3-44*

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
1530 P STREET NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Washington 25, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

MAR 5 18 38 AM '44

RECEIVED

PSF

March 7, 1944.

Subject File

VANNEVAR BUSH
Director

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

Dear Mr. President:

I return the letter from Irving S. Lowen, enclosed with your note of March second. This is the young man who is much stirred up about the special project.

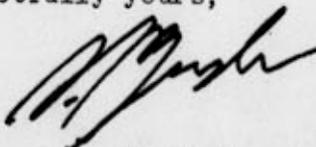
Dr. Conant tells me that you mentioned this matter in passing last Friday, and that he told you that Mr. Baruch had been brought into the subject. All three men noted in the memorandum which I return have now been seen.

Conant had a long talk in Chicago with Fermi and Wigner, and tells me they are quite satisfied with the arrangements now in effect and do not share Lowen's views. I spent about all day with Szilard yesterday. His criticisms boil down to the feeling that his group have not been fully used. There has, of course, been a reluctance to introduce scientists of foreign origin to the full knowledge of a matter of potentially great military importance. There is also a matter of early patent applications which has its difficulties.

My conclusion is that there have been no more missteps or delays than ought to be anticipated on a matter of this novelty and complexity, and that the organization is sound and in capable hands.

I suggest that Lowen be advised to see Mr. Baruch again. Baruch will turn to Conant if he needs further information.

Respectfully yours,



V. Bush,
Director.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 25, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

I suggest that you might sometime ask Mr. Conant to see Professor E. Wigner, Dr. L. Szilord, and Professor E. Fermi, who are with the Metallurgical Laboratories, University of Chicago, to tell about their work which has such important implications for the future.

E. R.

situation changing in that respect, it seems I am more or less out of the running for good.

Should you have any reason to desire more current information than I can supply, I think the following men would probably be happy to come to Washington at your request to supply it. Their names & addresses are

<u>Prof. E. Wigner</u> x	} Metallurgical laboratories Univ. of Chicago Chicago, Ill.
<u>Dr. L. Szilard</u> x	
<u>Prof. E. Fermi</u> x	

The first two men were responsible for starting the Chicago project, having proposed the idea to the President via Prof. Einstein. The third, a Nobel Prize winner, discovered the phenomena on which the development is based. The first man, Wigner, is leaving the project in July.

In conclusion, may I say, that if there should be any way in which I might be of use in this matter, I stand ready to do anything I can. Finally, if in any way I can be of service to yourself, may I express the hope that you confer the great honor of calling on me.

Most sincerely yours

Irving S. Bowen

His name address of Ben
to J. J. & suggest that he
lighten the all present to
other man. I think that's better
his about the world be. but
such was his intention
for the future

COPY

ZONE 25

~~SECRET~~

DECEMBER 30, 1943

THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I AM RETURNING HEREWITH THE LETTERS SENT YOU BY MR. IRVING S. LOWEN, SHORTLY BEFORE YOU WENT AWAY. YOU MAY RECALL THAT YOU ASKED ME TO SEE THIS MAN ONCE AGAIN ON YOUR BEHALF. THIS I DID A FEW WEEKS AGO. I DISCOVERED, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAD ALREADY BEEN IN WASHINGTON AND HAD SEEN NUMEROUS PEOPLE, INCLUDING MR. B. M. BARUCH. I UNDERSTAND FROM MY CONVERSATION SUBSEQUENTLY WITH MR. BARUCH THAT HE IS TAKING CARE OF MR. LOWEN.

I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU THAT IN MY OPINION, BASED ON INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF THIS WHOLE PROJECT, EVERYTHING IS GOING AS WELL AS IS HUMANLY POSSIBLE. I BELIEVE WE ARE VERY FORTUNATE IN HAVING IN GENERAL GROVES, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ENTERPRISE, A MAN OF UNUSUAL CAPABILITY AND FORCE. CRITICISMS LIKE MR. LOWEN'S ARE BASED ON AN INCOMPLETE VIEW OF THE TOTAL PICTURE ON THE ONE HAND AND ON THE OTHER REPRESENT THE INEVITABLE EMOTIONAL REACTIONS OF HUMAN BEINGS INVOLVED IN AN ENTERPRISE OF THIS SORT.

VERY SINCERELY YOURS

JAMES B. CONANT

ENCLOSURES

Ans.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND
PLEASE RETURN FOR MY FILES.

F.D.R.

Letter from Dr. V. Bush, Director, Office of Scientific Research and Development, 3/7/44, to the President, returning letter which Mrs. Roosevelt received from Irving S. Lowen, 1 Jane St., NYC, 2/15/44, together with copy of letter which Dr. James B. Conant addressed to the President under date of 12/30/43, in reference to a certain secret project. Dr. Bush suggests that Mr. Lowen be advised to see Mr. Baruch again.

hm

March 2, 1944.

Dear Van:

This young man has bothered us twice before and I think Jim Conant has seen him. I fear, too, that he talks too much. Do you think we should refer the matter to Conant?

Always sincerely,

Dr. Vannevar Bush,
Office of Scientific Research and
Development,
1530 P Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Letter which Mrs. Roosevelt received from Irving S. Lowen, 1 Jane St., NYC, 2/15/44, in re project, the name of which he does not mention, but suggests that Professor E. Wigner, Dr. L. Azilard and Professor E. Fermi, all of the Metallurgical Laboratories of the University of Chicago, would be willing to come to Washington to discuss the matter. Attached is Mrs. Roosevelt's memorandum of 2/25/44 to the President reading "I suggest that you might sometime ask Mr. Conant to see Professor E. Wigner, Dr. L. Szilard, and Professor E. Fermi, who are with the Metallurgical Laboratories, University of Chicago, to tell about their work which has such important implications for the future".

See ltr from Lowen filed - See Cases "d" dr. 5-43

3526

27

PSF Mr. Bush folder 3-44

Subj. File

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 29, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR

DR. V. BUSH

Many thanks for your letter of August twenty-eighth, together with the accompanying report on the operations of The Office of Scientific Research and Development.

I am delighted to have this and I feel that you are absolutely on the right track.

I am referring the recommendation for termination when peace comes to the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy personally, and I will let you know as soon as I hear.

F. D. R.

Bush folder 3-44

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 29, 1944

SECRET *CLS*
9-12-66

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF WAR
and
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY *3527*
(with copy of ltr 8/28/44) *hmo*

Please read this very interesting report of Dr. Bush in regard to The Office of Scientific Research and Development and its termination, and let me have your judgment, especially in regard to pages 57 to 61.

F. D. R.

Original of report and copy of Dr. Bush's let to the P 8/28/44 sent to SecWar 9/29/44 - Sealed in envelope and given to Major Oulie to deliver to the Secretary's office personally.

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

1530 P STREET NW.
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

VANNEVAR BUSH
Director

August 28, 1944.

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

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit herewith a further report on the operations of the Office of Scientific Research and Development. It touches on some highlights of accomplishment, and recites changes in organization.

There is a section on plans for termination, for OSRD is a war agency, and should plan to go out of existence in an orderly manner at the proper time. I hope you will find opportunity to look at this section, for I would like to announce the plans to our personnel soon, and I trust you will caution me if you see anything wrong with the plans. I have taken them up with the Secretaries of War and Navy, and feel sure I will have their assent.

I have included a section on military organization for research, for my experience of the past four years has left strong convictions as to the manner in which it should be conducted post-war. Undoubtedly I will be called on to say what I think on this subject at some time, and I believe that my thinking on the matter is not far from your own. Still I would appreciate it enormously if you should find time to consider my statements on this subject and to advise me where you think I am on the wrong track. The sections of the report which deal with termination and post-war organization bear tabs for ready reference.

It is pleasant indeed to look forward to the time when it will be possible to drop off my present burden, although it has certainly been a privilege and a pleasure to serve under your command. You may be assured that, while we plan for termination, we will not leave anything undone which may help in bringing the whole war to an early and successful conclusion.

Respectfully yours,



V. Bush,
Director.



Dr. Bush folder 3-44
①

file

~~SECRET~~
WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

October 18, 1944.

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with your request, I have read Dr. Bush's long report with the greatest interest.

I have especially noted his proposal for dealing with the Office of Scientific Research and Development after the defeat of Germany. Furthermore, the appropriate Army officers have had extended conferences with Dr. Bush as to the working out of this program.

It will require careful handling to be sure that the scientific effort in the Office of Scientific Research and Development will continue to be fully effective in helping to bring about the final defeat of Japan, but those who have the particular responsibility in the Army are confident that Dr. Bush's plan can be so worked out in practice as to accomplish this result.

Faithfully yours,

Henry L. Stimson
Secretary of War.

The President,
The White House.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 3-19-59

Signature- *Carl S. Spicer*

~~SECRET~~

7/1/88

1944

PSP Mr. Vannevar Bush folder

Subj. File 3-44

May 29, 1944.

Dear Vannevar:

I am sorry for the long delay in writing to thank you for your letter of April twelfth. I feel that there is much to be gained by the interchange of views and opinions.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

"F. D. R."

Dr. Vannevar Bush,
Director,
Office of Scientific Research and
Development,
1530 P Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

ADDRESS YOUR REPLY TO
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
AND REFER TO NO.

RTM:mlm



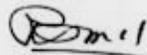
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

10 May 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

You will remember that I told you about my conversation with Doctor A. Baird Hastings, upon his return from Russia. In view of what has happened in the Ukraine it seems to me that the fears he expressed as to the Russians being unable to move ahead in that area were not well founded. I am sure that his visit to Russia was of definite benefit and since we are to have some of the Russian scientists visit this country during the coming summer, I am sure that it was more than worthwhile.

As far as answering this letter is concerned, I see no particular point in it, unless you wish to be nice and tell Doctor Bush that you feel that there is much to be gained by such an interchange of views and opinions.


R.T. MCINTIRE

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

April 15, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ADMIRAL McINTIRE.

Should this be answered at all?

F. D. R.

CONFIDENTIAL

CLS
9-12-66

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

1530 P STREET NW.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

VANNEVAR BUSH
Director

April 12, 1944

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Last November when we were about to send a Medical Research Mission to Russia, you very kindly wrote a letter to Dr. A. Baird Hastings, giving your official blessing to this enterprise. This Mission was the first American scientific group to be sent to Russia to exchange war research information.

The Mission has now returned and has submitted a very complete report on their conferences and visits to laboratories in Russia. We are very gratified that they were cordially received by the many Russian groups whom they met and by the frank and friendly discussions of medical research problems which took place. Our group took with them reports and samples representing many of our most important results in the broad program of research in military medicine. The Russians reciprocated in full measure, and I am confident that as a result the programs of both countries will benefit materially.

Our best information as to the impression produced by this Mission, in both American and Russian circles, is contained in the following cable from Ambassador Harriman:

"Evidently the Soviets agreed to open up before the arrival of Drs. Hastings and Shimkin, and they did so with increasing frankness during the course of their visit in Moscow, which was most successful. There is no doubt that Dr. Hastings' personality and the manner in which he handled himself had an important bearing with results attained, as well as, of course, the valuable material he brought with him. I was told by both the Commissar for Health Mitereff and Vice Commissar Parin with great emphasis the importance they placed on the information obtained and on maintaining a continuous interchange of scientific information. Their great respect for Dr. Hastings and the helpfulness of Dr. Shimkin, whose knowledge of Russian combined with his understanding of the subjects under discussion, obviated the necessity for the usual formal and unsatisfactory interpreters, was also expressed by them.



CONFIDENTIAL

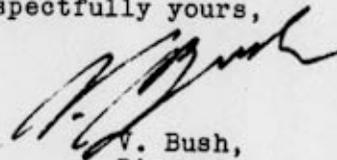
-2-

"We may find that although there is no doubt the Russian scientists sincerely desire continuation of the relationship established, other influences in the Government may interfere with their carrying out their intention fully. So that I may put pressure on the Foreign Office to fulfill the agreement reached with Dr. Hastings, I hope you will keep me in touch with the developments.

"Also in our overall relations with the Soviet, I feel that the trip has been of real value. In sending Dr. Hastings and for the thorough preparation of the material he brought with him, I wish to express to you my appreciation. May I express to you and Dr. Conant my best regards."

Following the return of the Mission, we extended an invitation to the Russians to send a return Mission to this country. The three Surgeon Generals joined us in this invitation. Word has just been received that this invitation has been accepted, and we hope that the auspicious start which has been made is only the beginning of a close and mutually beneficial cooperation between medical research groups in the two countries.

Respectfully yours,



V. Bush,
Director.