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A-84-019
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Minutes of G-7 Administrative Meeting March 27, 1945

UNIQUE DOCUMENT # SAC200104750000

The future status of various sections of G-7:

McDonald's Section: There is no necessity for any change in layout of the group. About April 1st, McDonald's section will be asked to load about 300 per week, of the new double detonators. McDonald will also keep detailed data and information on our own and CIT detonators. Every batch of detonators should have some sort of label which will identify it.

Buchanan's field section: No important change except that Buchanan will be asked to take over the testing of the CIT switches. ~~CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973~~

Fisher's circuit section: Fisher will try to improve the shorting switches and send them to CIT for manufacture. He will also work on making triggered spark gaps as good as possible for use in the field. The main object of this is to get for X-5 a great deal of experience with the spark gaps. [redacted] The best way of doing this seems to be to make experimental use of the M-2 lot which is due to arrive about May 1st. This seems more urgent than drop tests. It is up to Captain Parsons to decide whether we get some of these early boxes. Hornig thinks that we will be able to get some of the early M-2 sets because he expects that the drop tests will probably run behind schedule for the first month or so.

DOE b(3)

Fisher will build a similar prototype of the M-2, probably with fewer points and only those parts necessary for field use, using components supplied by Hornig.

Bacher stated that 60 to 75% of the lens explosives to be used on the project will be used at K site. The spark gap will be very helpful to them. The extra time spread due to the longer lengths of cable should be very slight. This can be improved even more, if , as Buchan says, the cables can be shorted from 30' to 20'.

DETERMINATION [CIRCLE NUMBER(S)]
1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
4. COORDINATE WITH:
5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
7. OTHER (SPECIFY):

1ST REVIEW-DATE: 11-22-97
AUTHORITY: DAOC DADC ADD
NAME: [illegible]
2ND REVIEW-DATE: 11/21/97
AUTHORITY: ADD
NAME: [illegible]

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Spark plug connectors. Some failures have occurred with these, but the number of experiments performed have as yet been rather meager. The first M-2 sets will come in with the spark plug connectors. Much more work is necessary to prove them either good or bad, and meanwhile suitable substitutes are being investigated.

Field priorities - Bacher believes that it is up to G-7 to fix it so that priority problems do not arise in the field. This can be done by "yelling for more people" and by training people at the sites to do their own servicing. Even more shots than are being used now will be fired at most sites in the future. The firing of shots must not be dependent on G-7's supply of men serving detonators. The firing schedules are now being limited by the production of castings by S site. This production, however, is rising rapidly.

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Double detonators in the field: Double detonator design by Henderson using CIT's booster method is being put into our shop. By April 1st Henderson expects 300 of these to be delivered per week, and wants us to load them. These will be used for testing. An order has been placed by Henderson at CIT for 1000 per week. It has not as yet been placed by CIT, since they were trying to throw out Henderson's model. If, however, it is adopted for our gadget, we will want the same kind for field use. As quickly as we can we should see that no lens shot is made in the field without double detonation. The absolute urgency on this work depends on how good our detonators are.

Fitzpatrick has promised us 50 of the revised temporary double detonators for today, and 25 per day from now on (he will not meet this schedule - 3-29-45).

We have about 4000 loaded CIT 1-F 3 detonators on hand now and expect 8000 more to arrive soon. CIT will start making the 1-F 5's very soon. However, with the present shape adapter they are not good for double detonation. This should be able to be changed so that they can be used.

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The section will concentrate on war head program with the object of getting to Henderson's double detonators. They are working on loading 1-E 5's now. Some work has been done on 1-E 8's with special regard to sparking the sides. Indications are that the sparking will not occur.

cc: Bradner
Buchanan
Fisher
Johnston
Lofgren
McDonald
Bacher
Hornig

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