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E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

24 November 1943 LRG:mk

ATTENTION OF
November 23, 1943

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31 and 32, as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

Mr. E. G. Ackart, Chief Engineer,
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company,
Brig. Co. Wilmington, Delaware.

War Department
Box 2510
Washington, D.C.
My dear Mr. Ackart:

Mr. Mackie has undoubtedly reported the results of our meeting of this morning on manpower. We are doing everything that we can to assist you in securing an adequate supply of labor for the Hanford project. If anyone, anywhere, has any suggestions which would result in adding any extra employees to the Hanford rolls, I would be glad to get them.

I realize that we are unable to give you perfect assistance in the solution of the recruiting problem. But the tremendous importance of the work as well as its cost, makes it mandatory on all of us to handle the job in such a way that the important areas will be completed at the earliest possible dates regardless of any previously suggested schedules or any difficulties which may be thrown in our respective ways. I am constantly being impressed with the fact that the importance of this job is becoming greater with each day that passes.

I know that you agree with the above and realize, as I do, that we must, at every opportunity, strengthen the "will to win" of our subordinates.

Sincerely,

L. R. GROVES,
Brigadier General, C. E.

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
DATE 2/20/61
For the _____ Commission
[Signature]
Chief, Declassification Branch

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6001 Hanford
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88-6.3



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E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

ADDRESS REPLY TO THIS DEPARTMENT
ATTENTION OF

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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November 23, 1943

Brig. Gen. L. R. Groves
War Department
Box 2610
Washington, D.C.

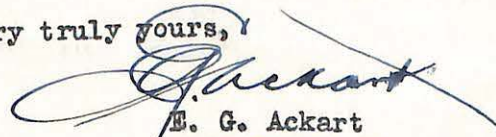
My dear General Groves:

HANFORD ENGINEER WORKS - CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE
Referring to your letter of November 16, quoting two paragraphs from Mr. W. O. Simon's letter to you of October 29.

You, Sir, are no more disappointed than we of the du Pont Company, over the limitations which stringent Governmental controls of manpower have imposed upon the procurement of labor for this Hanford project. If one were to base any judgments upon the information developed yesterday from the telephone conference between Col. Barker of your office and our Construction Manager, F. H. Mackie, the prospects would seem to indicate that the completion dates may be even later rather than earlier than those given in the construction schedule of September 30. You will recall the statement given Col. Barker at the beginning of the month, that our schedules of completion were based upon securing some 9500 additional field employees between November 3 and December 8, and you directed us, in your letter of November 2 to Mr. G. M. Read, to follow instructions from the War Manpower Commission to secure this labor direct from the United States Employment Service, - a procedure which has resulted as of November 20, in adding not a single employee to the Hanford rolls.

You may be assured, General Groves, that this job will be completed at the earliest date possible, regardless of any previously suggested schedules, having in mind that at this date the lack of sufficient field labor is the cardinal limitation.

Very truly yours,


E. G. Ackart
CHIEF ENGINEER

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This document consists of 1 page.
Copy of 5 copies.

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16 November 1943

Mr. E. G. Ackart,
Chief Engineer,
E. I. Dupont Company,
E. I. Dupont De Nemours Bldg.,
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the super-cautious letter of Mr. W. O. Simon, Manager of Hanford Engineer Works, dated October 29, 1943. In this letter he said:

"The construction schedule indicated the date of completion of the first 100 Area to be about August 15, 1944, with the second and third Areas following at two months intervals. The schedule further indicated that the 200 Area is to be completed as early as they would be needed to handle materials for the 100 Areas.

"The construction schedule assumed that construction labor would be available at Hanford as needed. However, to date the War Manpower Commission has not made the necessary construction labor available. Consequently, the scheduled dates have been set back from one to two months. This has been made clear by Mr. Read's letters of October 4 and October 8 to General Groves. Furthermore, if the War Manpower Commission continues to be unable to supply construction labor at the required rate, additional delay will follow."

Apparently Mr. Simon had not been informed of my definite refusal to accept Mr. Read's "scheduled" completion dates.

I am still unwilling to accept such a setback and, on the contrary, am expecting that an organization as competent and experienced as yours will beat the August date by an appreciable number of weeks.

Very truly yours,

L. R. GROVES,
Brig. General, C. of E.

cc - Col. Matthias
cc - Col. Nichols

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

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2/27/61

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