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PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED PER EXCEPTIONS PARAGRAPH 44g, AR 380-5

Secretary, General Staff
Colonel Pasco 3542

REVIEWED BY John R. Hartwick DATE 9/17/75

24 July 1945

TERMINAL

Number WAR 37683

Notice to Code Clerk. This message is of greatest secrecy and urgency and should be seen only repeat only by those people necessary to get it early Wednesday morning to McCarthy for General Marshall for his eyes only from Handy.

For General Marshall's eyes only from Handy. Begin msg:

In view of Secretary of War's plans for departure set out in VICTORY 263, Arnold's instructions to Spaatz in VICTORY 243, Spaatz's scheduled meeting with MacArthur 1 August, and necessity for not interrupting preparations for use, the following proposed directive to Spaatz is submitted by radio rather than by courier.

Directive was drafted by Groves, and concurred in by Air Forces, Colonel Stone and Mr. Harrison, all of whom approved transmission by radio in order that your approval and the Secretary of War's approval might be obtained as soon as possible. The information brought back by Colonel Stone was considered in the selection of the targets listed.

Begin directive:

"To General Carl Spaatz, CG, USASTAF:

1. The 509 Composite Group, 20th Air Force will deliver its first special bomb as soon as weather will permit visual bombing after about 3 August 1945 on one of the targets: Hiroshima, Kokura, Niigata and Nagasaki. To carry military and civilian scientific personnel from the War Department to

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(July 45)

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COPY No. 1

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observe and record the effects of the explosion of the bomb, additional aircraft will accompany the airplane carrying the bomb. The observing planes will stay several miles distant from the point of impact of the bomb.

"2. Additional bombs will be delivered on the above targets as soon as made ready by the project staff. Further instructions will be issued concerning targets other than those listed above.

"3. Dissemination of any and all information concerning the use of the weapon against Japan is reserved to the Secretary of War and the President of the United States. No communiques on the subject or releases of information will be issued by Commanders in the field without specific prior authority. Any news stories will be sent to the War Department for special clearance.

"4. The foregoing directive is issued to you by direction and with the approval of the Secretary of War and of the Chief of Staff, USA. It is desired that you personally deliver one copy of this directive to General MacArthur and one copy to Admiral Nimitz for their information.

Signed Handy"

End directive.

Also required is approval of following JCS Directive to General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz, General Arnold, and General Spaatz:

Begin directive:

"To General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz, General Arnold, General Spaatz:

"The injunction against attack of Hiroshima, Kokura and Niigata covered in Joint Chiefs of Staff action WARK 26350

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of 3 July 1945 is removed and the targets are released to the Commanding General, U. S. Army Strategic Air Forces for attack only by the 509 Composite Group, 20th Air Forces."

End directive.

Being dispatched by special courier, (Major Charles G. Heitzeberg) tonight are papers containing additional information which is not considered essential for the immediate approval of the directive. These include (1) Study drafted by Groves and approved by Harrison; (2) Study from Air Forces These documents answer all queries of Secretary of War and General Arnold. Also included are copies of directives waiving security requirements as regards personnel with special knowledge participating in aerial flights over enemy territory.

End

ORIGINATOR: SGS

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