March 14, 1947

Associate Director's Office

H. S. Allen

Disposal of Scrap

SYMBOL: IAB-A-4

0782 TA-21

Our experiences of the last two weeks have shown us that there is a real danger in trying to send to the Post Salvage Officer for disposal metal scrap and electronic units from which all salvagable parts have been removed.

We have discussed this problem at some length with Mr. Tribby, Group Leader of CMR-12, and are in complete agreement with his declaration that it is almost impossible to completely monitor such material. He is unwilling to certify that such material is not contaminated unless he has actually taken swipes of cavities and holes to be sure that no contamination exists there.

Obviously such a procedure is far more costly than the value of the material itself as salvage. Under these circumstances it seems in the best interests of the government and for the safety and health of all concerned to institute a regular procedure of considering all scrap material of this nature to be contaminated and to bury it in the contaminated dump. Individual pieces of equipment such as used machine tools, etc. will be carefully monitored and will not be disposed of in such fashion.

We therefore would like authorization to send directly to the contaminated dump scrap & salvage material after making the necessary property listings and obtaining clearance from the Accountable Property Officer. We feel sure this procedure will in the long run not only save the government money but actually prevent the spread of contamination.

HSA/ac

cc: R. J. Van Gemert
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File

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