

July 3, 1947

- 9:20 A.M. Arrive Office.
- 9:30 A.M. To see Secretary of War.
- 9:35 A.M. Cong. Sikes called and was referred to Gen. Chauncey.
- 10:00 A.M. Departed from National Airport for Texas.
- 11:00 A.M. Senator Lodge called. Was informed that Gen. Vandenberg is out of town
- 11:05 A.M. General Streett called.
- 11:10 A.M. Major White called Dr. Morgan and delivered a message.
- 11:15 A.M. Mr. Arthur Christie called. He asked if Gen. Vandenberg would be back before Saturday night. He was informed that the General would return late Saturday.
- 11:15 A.M. Col. Morris Bauer saw Gen. Chauncey re letter which Gen. Spaatz received from Gen. William E. Hall concerning Col. Bauer. Colonel Bauer came in to see Gen. Vandenberg but was referred to Gen. Chauncey.
- 11:25 A.M. With reference to Mrs. Sam Anderson's invitation to Gen. and Mrs. Vandenberg for dinner on July 11th, Mrs. Anderson was notified that both Gen. & Mrs. Vandenberg are out of town but will notify her Monday whether or not they will be able to accept.
- 11:30 A.M. Gen. Stearley's office called to give Gen. Vandenberg a list of the Sub-Committee Members of the Merger Bill. They are
Clare E. Hoffman - Mich. Carter Manasco - Ala.
George H. Bender - Ohio John W. McCormack - Mass.
Henry J. Latham - New York Chet Holifield - Calif.
James W. Wadsworth - New York
- 1:00 P.M. Elmer Davis, news commentator, called to ask whether we had obtained State Department Clearance to send the flight of B-29's to Europe. Maj. White informed him that he was not familiar with the flight since he had just returned from a trip and told him that he would have General Chauncey call him. General Chauncey was out of his office so Maj. White contacted Gen. Partridge who gave him the details and said that he did not want to become involved in it since he did know the entire story. He said that he would call General Norstad and see just what approach we should take in our answer to the press.
- 1:30 P.M. Captain Goggins, CIG, called to invite General and Mrs. Vandenberg to cocktails on Thursday, July 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 at the Officers' Mess, Navy Yard. Major White told Capt. Goggins that he would call him back on this Monday. *Declined 7/7*
- 2:30 P.M. Admiral Sherman called to speak to Gen. Vandenberg. Major White took the call. It was regarding cutting down on exhibition flying due to the shortage of aviation gasoline. Maj. White referred him to Gen. Partridge.

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2:50 P.M. General Macauliffe came to see General Vandenberg. No message.
Said he would have to see someone else.

July 5, 1947

1:00 P.M. Returned from Wichita Falls, Texas.

July 7, 1947

9:15 A.M. Arrive Office.

9:15 A.M. Gen. Rawlings

9:40 A.M. Gen. Boatner with mail.

9:43 A.M. Colonel Garland on phone with reference to memorandum from General Kenney on how to have more groups and fewer people. Was that approved? Approved to extent instructions given that SAC units be left alone until September and at that time make a decision as to approval of Kenney's organization and how extensively it will be used in the Air Force. Find out if Kenney has been advised and let me know.

9:45 A.M. Colonel Galloway thanking General Vandenberg for what he put on for CIG.

9:50 A.M. Colonel Garland advised that General Hood had handled the matter of SAC units and would be right down to brief Gen. Vandenberg.

9:55 A.M. Gen Chauncey on phone from Pocatello, Idaho to state that Gen Cannon doesn't want Moody or Turner in Georgia. Doesn't want Columbus at all—wants to substitute San Marcos. Wants to concentrate all expansion in a little bunch in Texas and take over fields that belong to ^{other} commands like Brooks and Bergstrom. General Chauncey says that it is possible we will have to give up the two in Georgia. Gen Chauncey stated he advised Gen Cannon to put his wants in writing and not to telephone as Gen Chauncey feels Gen Cannon is not too sure of himself, as two months ago he wanted to get out of San Marcos and now he wants it and also Brooks & Bergstrom.

10:00 A.M. Gen Hod & Col Hobson —briefing on SAC units.

10:55A.M. Mr. Zuckert re civilian personnel and limitations and personnel at inactive installations or installations which we are not planning to retain in our permanent structure.

11:05 A.M. Mr. Robert Gross and Mr. Maher of Lockheed

11:55 A.M. Gen. Sam Anderson

12:00 To War Council in absence of Gen. Spaatz

12:20 P.M. Returned and then to lunch

1:00 P.M. Returned

(Cont'd)

July 7, 1947 (Cont'd)

- 1:10 P.M. Mr. Hicks of the Toronto Star, Toronto, Canada on phone - He spoke in regard to the "flying discs". They understand these discs are a U.S. plane that is still on the secret list. He asked Gen. Van what he thought they were and Gen. Van was quite noncommittal. Gen. Van said that some National Guard Planes were on duty on their own volition to search for the discs, but that no planes have been put on duty from Hq, AAF.
- 1:20 P.M. General Tommy Power
- 1:40 P.M. Cong. Drewry of Va. on phone requesting a B-29 be sent to Blackstone, Va. for a celebration by the CAF and volunteer fire organizations in the vicinity. Date - July 27. May be able to do some recruiting on that day. Gen. Van said he would look into the matter and advise Mr. Drewry's office.
- 1:50 P.M. Mr. Leo on phone re article on "Saucers". Said one had been found with instructions on it to get in touch with Colonel Frank Hackett in Spokane. Mr. Leo reported the matter to General Schulgen, G-2.
- 1:52 P.M. Mr. Zuckert on phone informing him with reference to National Guard that all places where we haven't squadron or group headquarters should take their people away.
- 1:55 P.M. Mr. Leo and General LeMay with reference to discs.
- 2:00 P.M. Colonel Frank Hackett, Spokane, Washington on phone - General Van informed Colonel Hackett that we had gotten a call from the Houston Chronicle saying that a flying disc had landed there with his (Colonel Hackett's) name on it. Gen. Van asked if he knew anything about it. Colonel Hackett stated that he knew nothing at all about it. Gen. Van told Col. H. that it was reported here that Col. H. said that his people knew all about it and that a statement was coming out from Washington. Col. H. said, "I have said nothing". Col. H. had the Chronicle called and told to get in touch with the F.B.I. - get photographic proof - and then get in touch with Gen. Twining.
- 2:20 P.M. Colonel Bob Warren, Ellington Field, Tex on phone. - Gen. Van informed Col. Warren that the Houston Chronicle had found a disc about 20" in diameter and 5 or 6" thick. It is supposed to have Col. Frank Hackett's name on it. We are most anxious to explode this thing. I would appreciate it if you would get in touch with the Chronicle, ask them where it is, go out and see the thing and then call me back. The line of approach is that we have nothing like that, we don't understand what it is, but we are leaving no stone unturned to be sure. Colonel Warren said it would be a couple of hours before he could call back.

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July 7, 1947 (Cont'd)

- 2:30 P.M. To airport to meet Mr. Symington and then to Mr. Symington's office.
- 4:10 P.M. Returned.
- 4:15 P.M. General O'Donnell.
- 4:20 P.M. General LeMay
- 4:20 P.M. Col. Warren called back re Gen. Vandenberg's directive that he run down the story about the flying discs. Col. W. finally located the reporter who picked up the story from another man. This man lives in Goose Creek. He now says that it was entirely a figment of his imagination and that he just made it up. Col. W. talked to a Mr. Evans who is handling this thing at the Chronicle -- and they took it up with somebody up at the Air Depot at Spokane. - - - - He said to them that he just made the thing up. Col. Warren said that the Chronicle seemed to be satisfied that the thing was just a cock and bull story. Col. W. is going to check with the local F.B.I. and possibly drive over to see the man at Goose Creek. If anything further develops he will call Gen. Vandenberg.
- 4:30 P.M. Mr. Leo on phone - Gen. Van told him the above story. A civilian, Joe Shipman, who works with Col. Hackett is reported to have told the Chronicle to contact Gen. Twining.
- 5:00 P.M. To see Mr. Symington
- 5:15 P.M. Departed for office of Congressman Hoffman.

July 8, 1947

- 9:20 A.M. Arrive office.
- 9:25 A.M. General Gardner and General Power - approved restrictions on flying due to gasoline shortage so that the Air Force would be in a tenable position if it became necessary to curtail civ. gas consumption.
- 9:30 A.M. Gen. LeMay & Dr. Bowles - briefing for JRDB meeting.
- 9:50 A.M. JRDB Meeting with General LeMay.
- 12:15 P.M. Returned - then to Mr. Symington with reference to personnel for the President's Air Board.
- 12:45 P.M. Lunch.
- 1:30 P.M. Returned.
- 1:50 P.M. Colonel Moore on phone who stated Senator Guerney stopped him in the hall and said they were starting hearings on the three million six hundred thousand dollar cut in flying pay.
- 2:10 P.M. Gen. Rawlings advised Colonel Moore that the cut was okay as we had reduced the number of people on flying status. Also advised Colonel Moore that Sen. Guerney had been sent the letter of June 20 that went to the rest of the members of the committee with reference to flying pay.
- 2:30 P.M. Mr. Chalmers Hall on phone with reference to a study he is going to present to Senator Vandenberg with reference to the security of this country. Read his plans in detail to Gen. Vandenberg and the General advised him that all the things contained in his study were in the new bill on unification - that it had all the elements he was plugging for.
- 3:00 P.M. General Lyon on phone with reference to the cases of Major John M. White and Gerald R. Johnson for transfer to the Air Forces. All transfers by War Department direction have been cancelled as of 31 March. In the case of Major White there will be no trouble in event of the merger goes through and recommend this case be held until then. Johnson was recommended against by General Fairchild.
- 3:10 P.M. Air Marshal Goddard
- 3:25 P.M. Senator Cabot Lodge on the phone with reference to increased appropriation to call for 70 Groups. (1) Was the 70 Group Program cleared by the Budget or not? Gen Van said no--were cut down to 55 Groups. (2) Can you have someone in your office write an argument as to why it should be 70 Groups? Gen Van advised him how the 70 Group was arrived at and that the 15 Groups remaining to make up the 70 would be skeletonized so they could be expanded.

- 3:25 p.m. (Cont'd) Wants a statement prepared ~~which~~ he can use as coming from him -- not an Air Force or General Vandenberg statement. -- for the 70 Group Program instead of 55. He wants this in a day or two.
- 3:35 p.m. Briefing by Gen Kauch, Mr. Zuckert, A-3, A-5 on Alaskan Air Base.
- 3:45 p.m. To Office of Congressman Wolverton with Mr. Zuckert on the subject of Alaskan Air Bases. Took up matter of starting hearings at this session of this committee. Will give us an answer tomorrow. Any hearings to be held will be started next week.
- 5:07 p.m. Returned from Congressman Wolverton's office.
- 5:08 p.m. To Mr. Symington with reference to personnel for the President's Air Board.
- 5:12 p.m. Gen. Rawlings on the box reference request of Senator Cabot Lodge mentioned above (3:25 p.m.)
- 5:14 p.m. To Mr. Symington - re personnel for the President's Air Board.
- 6:15 p.m. Gen. Kissner on phone re request of Senator Lodge for statement in connection with appropriations. General Kissner will have this ready by Noon tomorrow.
- 6:20 p.m. To Mr. Leo's office and then home.

July 9, 1947

- 8:30 A.M. Arrive Office.
- 8:50 A.M. General Chauncey
- 9:13 A.M. General Stearley re letter in connection with motion picture personnel. Gen. Van advised it would not get by Secretary Patterson. Have to take a reading on exactly how we can get by with 8 reserve officers and 2 regulars and still spend that money on them. (\$500,000 each) Gen. Van advised him to look into the matter of reserve officers and that his office should write the letter.
- 9:17 A.M. General Gardner, General Power, Col. Peterson
- 9:33 A.M. Cong. Harness of Ind. re Capt. Roger Smith O-744641 who has had 5 years overseas with B-29's and is now on terminal leave. He wants reassignment - regular or otherwise, and is willing to be placed on foreign service. Gen. Van asked that he come over to see Major White and we would get him the information. Cong. Harness advised he thought we were getting the Merger Bill worked out pretty fine.
- 9:35 A.M. General Doolittle on phone. To come in at 10:30.
- 9:38 A.M. Mr. Ben Pearse with reference to two stories he is writing - one about the Anglo-American Oil Agreement and the other about CIG.
- 9:25 A.M. Harry Bruno of New York - Gen. Van advised he would let him know as soon as he could with reference to an engagement for week-end either 18 July, 25 July, 1 August or 8 August.
- 10:30 A.M. To Mr. Symington
- 10:50 A.M. To Gen. Eisenhower's office with General Norstad
- 11:45 A.M. Mrs. Bowers of the White House called Major White to advise that Gen. Vandenberg should be in the President's office at 12:15 tomorrow for signing of Air Force proclamation.
- 12:15 P.M. Returned from Chief of Staff's office.
- 12:50 P.M. To Mr. Symington
- 12:57 P.M. To JCS Meeting

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2:15 p.m. Returned from JCS

2:30 p.m. To Mr. Symington

3:10 p.m. Returned

3:30 p.m. Mr. Leo on phone re "This recruiting matter". Gen. Streett's office recommends against it on the ground that that is a small enterprize down there and they don't want to set a precedent. Mr. Leo will check further and call back. Also, General Streett has been concerned in the event of unification - about recruitment funds and wanted Mr. Leo to express to Gen. Vandenberg his opinion that it ought to be a gradual shift if there was not going to be a central recruitment.

3:40 P.M. General Anderson - General Van informed Gen. Anderson that he was definitely against his leaving Washington at the present time and plans to recommend to Gen. Spaatz that it not be done.

5:05 p.m. Mr. Pethick and Mr. Lawrence. Mr. Pethick (Navy), Mr. Lawrence (President of the Reaction Motors) and General LeMay. Presented to General LeMay and General Vandenberg problem of their monetary position which was bad and they were afraid of being refused contracts which would set back the jet rocket motor development several years. General LeMay stated that they were to take it up with Wright Field and present their case out there where the contracts are let.

5:35 P.M. Home.

10 July 1947

8:40 a.m. Arrived office.

9:12 Mr. Vincent of Counter-Intelligence

9:20 Gen. Chauncey & Gen Old

9:40 Senator Lodge on phone, asked Gen Van if he was in favor of 70 Groups for peacetime. Gen Van said that he was, and that unless the Services would go along with that and unless we could get money for rehabilitation of quarters, however, it would be impossible to get the 70 Groups, also must make sure we get enough enlistments. The Senator advised all he could find on record is that General Spaatz had asked for 50 Groups and 15 skeletonized. Gen Van advised we asked the War Dept. for 70 Groups peacetime. They knocked it down to 58 then the Bureau of the Budget knocked it down to 55.

10:17 General O'Donnell

10:30 To General Groves, AFSWP (Armed Forces Special Weapons Project) with General LeMay.

11:05 Returned

11:07 Colonel MacCloskey with reference to ROA (Reserve Officers' Association)— civilian component.

11:10 Ben Pearce, questions on articles he is writing.

11:25 General George McDonald

11:35 General Burns, A-1 on phone re vacancy at National War College. Advised that General Kissner had it fixed that we will be given the vacancy if we have the personnel to recommend. Thought General Vandenberg should call General Norstad. General Vandenberg advises this has been done and that General Chauncey is to prepare a stronger letter. General Burns to check with General Chauncey.

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- 11:55 a.m. To White House with Mr. Symington and General Doolittle for signing of AF Proclamation.
- 12:30 p.m. Returned with Mr. Symington, General Vaughn, and Colonel Neblett (ROA), all having lunch in General Spaatz' office. (General Spaatz out of town).
- 2:00 Returned from lunch.
- 2:07 General Chauncey
- 2:55 General Welsh on phone reference luncheon date sometime.
- 3:00 Mr. Leo re information for Senator Drewry on B-29. Decided to let Gen. Stearley handle this on an interim basis until Monday or Tuesday, when we get the final dope.
- 3:25 Gen Harry Vaughn on phone stating he and Neblett were discussing the Bill that is pending. Neblett went up to see Pat Drewry. Drewry is not enthusiastic about it but he is going to vote for it. If they took the vote today, it would pass 2 to 1. Gen Van said that they almost agreed on everything except CIG and that that ought to be sewed up soon. Gen Vaughn & Gen Vandenberg both agreed that the bill will be passed in about a week.
- 3:40 General Rawlings
- 4:00 General Gilkeson on phone. Said he was talking for General Junius Jones re a case of a man named Private Carol who/^{and} through a fake message on the teletype. General Spaatz inquired of Gen Jones what was to be done in the matter. General Spaatz told Gen Jones at first that he didn't think the case should be tried but upon investigation, Gen Spaatz felt that he should be tried. The case will be coming into Gen Van's office soon.
- 4:15 Colonel Carpenter on phone. Gen Van asked if he had talked with General Norstad on the business for ~~Wook~~ Hoffman. Will you go and ask him if that covers in general the feeling he has about the bill? We will have to modify^{the} the letter to Hoffman from me, telling him in a kindly way that his bill should be changed in these particulars. See whether General Norstad agrees with main points. I will see if I can get an appointment with Norstad for you.

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- 4:25 p.m. Colonel Fiegel on phone. General Van requested a copy of the Haislip Board Report as he understood the draft of a final report is in A-3. Col Fiegel to buzz him back on the box.
- 4:45 Gen. O'Donnell
- 4:55 Col. Shelmire
- 5:00 Lt. Col. McDonald is taking up two personal problems. 1 - his assignment to the Materiel Command and 2 - his regular army status.
- 5:05 Col. Carpenter. Will you take up that paper to Gen. Norstad and if he wants information he will call you and I will be back here to hear what the comments are. (Col. Carpenter given letter).
- 5:06 Mr. Zukert. Would like to come get the Haislip Board Report and go over it and give me your comments. (Report given to Mr. Zukert).
- 5:40 Home.

11 July 1947

- 8:40 A.M. Arrive Office.
- 8:45 A.M. General Chauncey with the mail.
- 8:55 A.M. General Orval Cook - asked if General Van was able to get anything on the matter he took up with him the other day. Gen. Van advised he was sorry he was just getting to it today. Gen. Cook said that this planning what the rest of the Army is to do in connection with the agreement and policy of Gen. Spaatz for cross-servicing in event of unification -- that is what constitutes the test case.
- 9:40 A.M. Colonel Carpenter to see Gen. Van with final draft of letter to Mr. Hoffman re Air Force views on HR 3972
- 9:50 A.M. Mr. Burdette Wright called to invite Gen. & Mrs. Vandenberg to the races tomorrow. General Van suggested he check with Mrs. Vandenberg.
- 10:00 A.M. Mr. Boutelle on phone - made appointment for lunch at 11:45 today.
- 10:20 A.M. Gen. Upston on phone - re Gen. Sam Anderson's assignment --
- 10:30 A.M. Mr. Symington calling from St. Louis - with reference to article in the New York Times by Hanson Baldwin on B-36's. It was very critical of the AAF. It does not make much difference except he has a certain following. He also wrote another bad article about 10 days ago about the AAF on Guided Missiles. He is close to Radford. The line he is taking now ties in with Research and Development in the future.
He spent about five days with Twining recently and they thought the trip was pretty good -- on the other hand he has now come out with this article. It ties in with the question of procurement we discussed the other day. I thought that some morning you might come to Dayton and I would come over from here and meet you. Gen. Van advised that as soon as we found out what we are going to get and General Gardner made it up and before we published it and started to make contracts -- meet in Dayton and talk it over with General Twining. Mr. Symington advised that he had asked General Rawlings to meet him in Colorado Springs on the 24th and that he (Mr. S) was starting West a week from Monday. The best date to meet him in Dayton would be a week from today -- that is Friday. (Time set at about 11:00 A.M.) our time -
Told Gen. Van to have Gen. Spaatz get Curtis to serve on the Board .
- 10:40 A.M. Belgian Military and Air Attache, Maj. Du Monceau, made appointment to see Gen. Van at 4:30 today.
- 10:45 A.M. Gen. Rawlings
- 11:00 A.M. General K. B. Wolfe and General Upston

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- 11:30 A.M. Col. Fiegel, A-3 -- Gen. Van told him to set up a conference re Rotation Policy with General Partridge, General Wolfe and Gen. Vandenberg at 2:30 on Monday and get together all the data so we can discuss it.
- 11:45 A.M. General Fairchild on phone -- the officer selected for Ground Force instruction is going to retire and asked of Bob Frederick would suit. Gen. Van recommended him very highly as a young and smart officer who had been recommended to him as one of the smartest and nicest personalities in the Ground Forces. Gen Fairchild advised that Rear Admiral Brown was being replaced by Captain Moberg (?). Gen. Fairchild agreed to taking Gen. Frederick.
- 12:10 P.M. Gen. Persons
- 12:15 P.M. To lunch with Mr. Boutelle
- 4:30 P.M. Returned
- 4:33 P.M. Major Du Monceau - Belgian Military & Air Attache
- 4:50 P.M. Col. MacDonald on phone with reference to an officer for speech writing. Recommended following: Maj. Harry P. Kelleher, 130th Base Unit, Offut Fld. McCook, Neb. and Capt. Posvar, now in the Public Information Section of the Ground Forces in Room 2C 860, Pentagon.
- 5:00 P.M. Mr. Weatherhead - advised he had been proselyting for the Army in connection with the bill for unification. Heard that Congress had a lot of amendments so Weatherhead called a few of them up. Mr. W. had a call from one of the members that they had approved the Senate Bill with a few changes such as names and salaries. It will come up for a vote next week - Tues. Wed. or Thurs. Gen. Van asked if he found it was not going through, could he give him a call. Mr. W. said he would call the General on Monday afternoon from Ariz. and if it didn't look good he would go to work on it again.
- 5:12 P.M. Gen. Born called from Gen. Quesada's office - re problem concerning the Alaska maneuvers - hauling these troops from McCord Field To Alaska. The question is which route to take. They had a meeting this morning with ATC, Flying Safety, weather people and A.M.C. and those people are going back to their stations and work up the pros and cons on the two routes. Gen. Quesada would like to have a meeting with Gen. Van sometime Monday the 21st of July. Meeting set at 2:00 P.M. July 21st.

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5:25 P.M. Mr. Soucy -

5:35 P.M. Col. McCrumb for Gen. Rawlings

14 July 1947

- 9:00 a.m. Arrived office.
- 9:05 General Chauncy with mail.
- 9:25 Mr. Shaw re the Morrow Board.
- 9:30 General Kissner on the phone. Gen Van said he understood we are pushing to have an air man in the Caribbean as C & C. General Kissner advised we were not doing that until after Crittenberger finishes up. Gen Van said that some of the boys in Gen Kissner's office apparently didn't understand that. General Kissner said that he would get it straightened out.
- 9:45 Colonel Clare Bunch re his school assignment. Gen Van advised he did not think he could step right into the National War College before going to some of the other schools first. Will let him know as soon as he hears from A-1.
- 10:30 Gen Kissner, Gen Sam Anderson
- 10:55 Gen. Persons on phone re Joe Alsop's article in the Washington Post. Came down at 11:40.
- 11:45 Col. Harris Hull on phone. Gen. Van advised he had seen at least 3 articles by Brown in which he says the airplane is obsolete. Told Col. Hull to gather all these trends that are looking as though they are knocking the Air Force and bring them up.
- 12:35 p.m. To lunch
- 1:15 Returned
- 2:15 Col. Eckert
- * Mr. Symington's telephone call. 1:22 P.M. Mr. Symington told Gen. Vandenberg that he had talked to Sec. Forrestal. He seemed to be annoyed at what Mr. S. told him Brown had done. Sec. F. said he would take care of it. Mr. S. told Sec. F. that he thought we would postpone such discussions & Sec. F. agreed. He will look into it immediately.
- 2:20 General Brereton. Asked Gen Brereton if he could have lunch with General Spaatz Friday before the meeting in General Eisenhower's office. He understood that General Spaatz had to go before the Committee on Saturday. General Brereton accepted and Gen Van said he would have him notified later in the week as to the exact time.
- 2:30 General Wolf, Gen. Partridge, Gen Kissner and Col ? on rotation of units to the Pacific .

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3:45 P.M. To Office of Senator Parnell Thomas of New Jersey with General Persons.

5:15 P.M. Returned to Office.

5:30 P.M. Home.

15 July 1947

- 8:50 A.M. Arrived Office.
- 8:50 A.M. General Fairchild
- 9:10 A.M. Colonel White and Colonel Macrum with reference to future procurement program.
- 9:15 A.M. General LeMay, General Partridge, Colonel Kettel and Colonel Hebert and Lt. Col. Brooks
- 10:30 A.M. General Gaffney re C-82 units going into Alaska for joint maneuvers.
- 11:15 A.M. To General Spaatz with the mail.
- 12:15 P.M. Mr. Rogers of Douglas Aircraft with Mr. Frank Holt and Mr. George Gelly
- 12:40 P.M. To Lunch
- 1:35 P.M. Returned with General Spaatz and General Norstad
- 1:40 P.M. General Kissner on phone. Gen. Van told him to drop the matter of the Air Forces filling the vacancy at the National War College.
- 1:50 P.M. To Gen. Spaatz
- 2:23 P.M. Returned with Gen. Twining
- 3:30 P.M. General Brereton. It was decided that Gen. Spaatz & Gen Van would have lunch with General Brereton at 12:30 on Thursday instead of Friday due to the fact that Gen Spaatz ~~was going to~~ is going to Dayton Friday.
- 4:00 P.M. Gen Hilldring on phone. Wanted to know if a JCS paper no. 1790, having to do with feeding Italians has been acted upon. Gen Van informed him that it had been acted upon this morning.
- 5:40 P.M. Mr. Leo reference Air Show to be held at Blackstone, Va.. The 2nd Army and Lower Echelons had made a commitment for airplanes to take part in the Air Show. Mr. Leo was of the opinion and Gen. Booth stated that since the commitment had been made there would be no objection to the planes participating provided Gen. Vandenberg had no objection. *See 11:45 16 July*
- 5:45 P.M. Home

16 July 1947

9:05 A.M. Arrived office.

9:05 Meeting on 1948 Budget

10:30 To Secretary Royall's office.

10:55 Returned

11:45 Major White advised Mr. Leo that Gen Van wished him to carry through and handle the matter with General Booth with reference to airplane for the Air Show at Blackstone, Va.

12:45 p.m. To lunch with Mr. Boutelle

2:15 Returned

2:15 Gen Chauncey

3:00 To Air Staff Meeting

3:40 Returned

3:45 Gen Sam Anderson reference paper for Gen Spaatz

3:50 Col Harris Hull. Gen Van advised that Gen Spaatz would do the speech provided he could make the record here in the building and the speech would be prepared for him by DOI. The speech will be on 3 August titled "The Veteran Wants to Know."

3:55 Group Captain Rolphe talked to Gen Van with reference to "Thunderbolt". Asked if a couple of Naval officers could be invited to attend. Gen Van said yes and also suggested that a couple of top Ground Force officers be invited.

4:40 Colonel Wilson, War Dept Records Board, called reference efficiency report for General Weckerling.

4:40 Gen Fred Smith with reference to Gen Van's visiting Cadet CAP Camps. Gen Van to accompany him on 28 August to Michigan.

4:50 Stanley Draper (someone calling for him) with reference to Gen Eaker and Gen Spaatz attending the Eaker dinner. Gen Van advised that Gen Spaatz would be out of the country and that he had another commitment. Gen Chauncey has been

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designated to go and represent them.

- 5:10 p.m. Mr. Arthur Christie on the phone. Gen Van told him he could go for one week beginning Friday, the 8th, but must return on Monday the 13th.
- 5:20 Gen Orval Cook on the phone, inviting him to attend an Air Force Meeting. Gen Cook advised him to have the meeting and then send the results to him. Gen Cook advised that the Chief of Engineers stated that it was in conflict with responsibilities assigned to him under Circular 138 and also contrary to their understanding of General Eisenhower's and Gen Spaatz' agreement. Gen Van advised he would try to get him the results tomorrow evening. Gen Cook asked him would he please call General Lutes if he (Gen Cook) was not in.
- 5:15 Mr. Ward of Fairchild

17 July 1947

- 9:00 A.M. Arrived Office
- 9:05 Gen Chauncey with mail.
- 9:35 Gen Bradshaw called to tell Gen Van that in regard to the meeting held in Mr. Forrestal's office yesterday with Chan Gurney, that there was no change in policy. Secretary Royall asked Gen Bradshaw to convey this information to Gen Van.
- 9:40 Gen Bob Douglas called from Lexington, Ky. enroute to his station, San Antonio, Texas. Gen Van advised him that Gen Spaatz was very disappointed at our show and expects great things to be done by you. Wants you to go to Paris Island, look it over where he thinks you will get a much bigger contrast. Gen Douglas said he would like to go to San Antonio, receive his goods and then go to Paris Island about the 27th. Also advised that he had been committed to Newark on August 1st and will probably see Gen Van in N.Y. Asked Gen Van to advise Gen Upston of the plans for Paris Island. Gen Douglas will call Gen Cannon & tell him what Gen Spaatz wants.
- 10:15 Gen Chauncey & Gen Ritchie
- 10:40 Gen Sam Anderson on phone. Gen Spaatz is having Gen Brereton & Gen Van for lunch and thinks that Gen Anderson should also come. Gen Anderson said he would bring with him the paper which Gen Eisenhower wants to see prior to his going to the hospital at 2:00 o'clock this afternoon. Gen Anderson said that in the event that Gen Eisenhower wanted the paper before that time, he would bring it down and discuss it with Gen Spaatz before lunch.
- 10:50 Mr. Leo- on the phone --said that he understood that Tony Laverno (N.Y. Times) had been authorized by Gen Van to talk to the Staff Sections to get their view on unification--that is changes that might take place immediately unification is passed. Gen Van said he had talked to Laverno and told him there would be no immediate change and it would not affect us one way or another, that we were just going to carry on and really go to work. Mr. Leo was most anxious that Laverno not be given the idea that we were going into new uniforms--thank God we were free again and all that sort of thing. Gen Van said he gave him the idea that right after unification we were not going to change everything. Advised that we would have to go along with Mr. Laverno, but along with him coordinated. Mr. Leo said he would contact Mr. Laverno further.

17 July 1947 (Cont'd)

11:30 a.m. Gen Chauncey, Gen Kauch, Gen Burns

11:35 Col Hull on phone. Gen Van wanted to know when Gen O'Donnell would be back. Wants him to go to Wright Field, leaving tomorrow morning at 8:00 o'clock. Col Hull will locate Gen O'Donnell and advise Gen Van.
Col Hull advised that Hanson Baldwin is in the building and is due to see Gen Norstad. Thought perhaps Gen Van would want to advise Gen Norstad what he and Gen Spaatz thought of Baldwin's article.

11:40 Congressman Busbey with reference to Lt. Blazina and Lt. Col. Donald Hillman flying at Chicago Memorial Day Program. It is not the intention to have stunt flying but just wants them to be in the air during the celebration. Advised Gen Van that it is not a densely populated area and a lot of vacant property around. At least twelve miles from the city, two miles from the airport. General said he would have it locked into, but that it seemed everytime a boy went to his home town he cracked up. The Congressman said it was close to the airport and they were used to airplanes in Chicago and it did not make any difference as to the height they flew. Gen Van will advise Congressman Busbey.

12:35 p.m. To lunch w/Gen Spaatz, Gen Brereton & Gen Sam Anderson.

1:30 Returned

1:40 Gen Handy's office

2:00 Gen Cook, Gen Chauncey, Col Fisher with reference duplication by Engineers.

18 July 1947

9:30 a.m. Generals Weyland & Sam Anderson

9:45 Major White

9:50 Phil Bower of CIG

9:50 General Stearley on phone with reference to the 3 letters sent to Mr. Hoffman, one signed by Gen Van, one by Gen Spaatz & one by somebody else, saying that the AAF would look just the same and it wouldn't cost anymore with Unification. Mr. Karsten would like to use these letters on the Floor. General Stearley said it was all right for him to have them. The General said he would go over there after lunch & Gen Stearley asked that he stop by the office of Congressman Price where there would be a card for him to get in.

10:15 Col. Harris Hull

10:25 General Schuyler on phone in regard to the paper Gen Van was talking about to Norstad. Gen Schuyler said that his lawyers have a few changes in words which they think are necessary to clarify it. Gen Schuyler said they had checked it over with Anderson, and it is agreeable to him.

10:30 Col. Giffin brought papers down for Gen Van to initial.

10:35 Gen Sam Anderson on phone saying he is agreeable with the changes that have been made reference the above papers. They were made to him on the phone.

10:40 Gen Anderson called back and asked that the papers not be initialed, as Admiral Leahy is writing a letter non-concurring with Gen Eisenhower's memorandum and writing a much shorter one than we wrote, but that it says much the same thing. Admiral Leahy is writing that the problem confronting the State Dept. was not answered by the Chief of Staff's memo. ^{ANDERSON} Gen Anderson was also told that the Navy Dept was going to concur with the one prepared by Leahy.

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General Van said that he concurred in both of them.

- 10:45 a.m. Gen Sam Anderson called and said that Gen Tom Handy said that Ramsey was on his way over with Leahy's revised version, and asked that Gen Van come up to his office.
- 10:50 Gen Partridge
- 11:00 To General Handy's office (see 10:45 a.m. above.) with Gen. Anderson
- 11:15 Colonel Jack Beam of Denver called with reference to arrival of Colonel Bubb enroute to Walter Reed Hospital.
- 11:45 Col. Flickinger
- 11:55 Gen. Chauncey
- 12:00 Gen. Harper
- 12:30 Lunch
- 2:00 To Gen. Partridge's Office for conference.
- 3:00 Gen. Henry on the following - with reference to meeting on Monday to decide whether the Pacific Route or the Northwest Staging Route is going to be used for the Air Lift for exercise in Alaska. Gen. Henry stated the joint board was of opinion the inside route and the Alaskan Highway that parallels it are most desirable to be retained if not essential for the Air Support of Alaska. The Canadian Cabinet has called on its members to present a United States Defense for the maintenance of that system. If we want that system maintained we should show some interest by using it. The winter maneuver is our chance. ~~xx~~ If you go up the other way there will be no air lift until you strike Anchorage and Gen. Van stated that is the reason we are considering the inside route — there are the worst icing conditions up there in the world. Only 20 days when it is clear and Gen. Henry said we had lots of money on the inside route and the Canadian Government had reimbursed us for it. Gen. Vandenberg stated to General Henry "What you are saying is that you would prefer from the Joint Board's viewpoint that we use the inside route — use it at least for part of the maneuver. I don't entirely agree but I will bear it in mind when we talk about it on Monday when Quesada will be present."

3:20 P.M. Mr. Symington Called Gen. Vandenberg. Gen. Van stated that the budget is the most distressing thing he has come up against and the next distressing is trying to find out why we are not getting anywhere on the Alaskan lift. Said he had talked to General Gaffney and called Gen. Norstad and didn't get much there — apparently Craig's Headquarters is the one that has the message and here they put in for eight million for the Ground Force and four million for Air Fields and that kind of business isn't going to help a bit when we get unification. We had a conference for about 3 hours on airplane procurement. We come in for things that couple of colonels and majors in the back room have agreed is Air Force policy — but we have a procedure now and will see what comes out of it. Mr. Symington stated the fewer the models the better. Mr. Symington stated that Don Burrows, now with War Assets would be tops and would help General Rawlings an awful lot, as he did not want "Ed" to drop Cost Accounting for Budget — that he considered Cost Accounting the most important. Gen. Van stated that he would like to come out and see Mr. S. after we get a little further along. Mr. S. said he would be in San Francisco and the Los Angeles area around the 10th.

3:45 P.M. General Gardner said he had been worrying lest the Navy might get gasoline procurement but instead they are now suggesting a Joint Procurement System. General Gardner thinks it is a very good idea but wanted to check with General Vandenberg before he called General Lutes back. General Vandenberg agreed that it is all right for the interim because the new Secretary of National Defense will probably have ideas of his own — he might go along with it or he might not.

4:00 P.M. General Booth called to tell General Vandenberg that Mr. Patterson had resigned effective the 24th and that General Royall is being appointed Secretary of War effective the 24th. Gen. Van stated he would give Mr. Symington a call.

4:10 P.M. Gen. Vandenberg called Mr. Royall to extend his congratulations and best wishes both for himself and General Spaatz who was flying.

Colonel Ordway called re Rio conference, which is to be a Working Committee composed of State, War and Navy Departments. Colonel Ordway wanted name of the general officer the AAF is going to send to Rio. General Vandenberg gave him General Weyland's name. State Department people think the conference will be finished in about 10 days. Colonel Ordway will keep General Weyland informed.

General Welsh called to say that he is going to have some repair work done Tues. afternoon, which should take about a couple of hours.

General Welsh also stated that if the Hoffman bill passes and the Nimitz clause is retained, there is a possibility of a Presidential veto.

4:45 P.M. Home

21 July 1947

9:05 a.m. Arrived office
Gen Chauncey & Gen O'Donnell

9:30 Gen Twining

9:35 Gen Hoag to call back for a luncheon date with Gen Van.

9:55 Col White on phone requesting that he (Col White) come to a meeting of the Budget with Wright Fld representatives.

10:00 Meeting with Wright Fld representatives on the Budget.

12:30 p.m. Lunch with Gen Twining

1:30 Returned

2:00 To conference on Alaskan Air Routes, held in the Air Room with General Quesada present.

3:15 Returned

3:15 Gen George

4:20 Mr. Shaw on the phone with reference to putting Fighter Group at Turner, Troop Carrier at Moody, and TACAR at Morrison. Do not want to get in trouble as we did at Ft. Warren.

4:30 Mr. Vandevanter of the N.Y. Times

5:00 Gen Quesada

5:30 Home

22 July 1947

9:10 a.m. Arrived office.
Gen Chauncey with mail.

9:17 Col. Carpenter on phone. Gen Van stated that one of the columnists said in the paper this morning that we were a military department and therefore not on a par with the Navy & Army and were worse off than before. Col Carpenter he said he had told the reporter that the law stated we were a military department and not an executive department. He said he thought this was a Navy scheme and that there was no intention to make the Air Force the same character as the Navy & Army. Col Carpenter said "Military" may not be the same as "Executive," and thought this was a bad thing in the law.

10:25 Mr. Robt Lovett, Ass't Secy of State, on the phone--stated that he was to testify in the Brewster Investigation Committee next week with reference to the Kaiser-Hughes (HK1). Felt that he should see the file on that and asked if Gen Van would get it out so that he could come over and take a look. Gen Van said he would have the file in his personal office for him when he came over. - *completed*

10:55 Gen Lemay

11:00 Mr. Leo

12:15 Col. Earl DeFord

12:20 ** See next page.

12:30 Lunch

1:35 Return

1:45 Gen. Sims - Gen. Sam Anderson

2:00 Commanders Meeting

4:00 Return

4:05 Gen. Cannon

4:35 Cong. Bishop's secretary on phone with reference to the Congressman's request for a plane ride to San Francisco on Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday. General Vandenberg said he would check and let him know this afternoon or tomorrow a.m. With reference to return trip advised him to get in touch with the local Air Force commander as it was difficult for him to know planes coming from that area. *Turned over to Chauncey*

- ** 12:20 p.m. Col White returned Gen Van's call. Gen Van asked him what the status was on the '48 appropriation. Col White replied that there was no definite action on it. Col White said that there were no rumors except that judging from the Navy Bill, he would judge that the War Dept would get about 80% of the recommendation and the Air Forces would get even more than that.
- 4:40 Mr. Shaw
- 4:42 Gen Spaatz
- 4:45 Congressman Harness of Indiana on the phone to find out the situation with respect to taking officers in from the Reserve to the Regular Army who might be over age. Gen Van advised the WD had set a policy to which no exceptions have been made to date. He advised that integration of officers into the Army has been on age groups in grade so that 10 or 15 years from now we will not have a hump. Congressman Harness had in mind Major Donald G. Lambert an Attorney (patent) out at Wright Fld., who is 4 months over age, and has not made application due to that fact. Congressman says he understands the Air Forces would like to retain him, and perhaps a waiver could be made in his case. Gen Van to look into it and call Congressman Harness.
- 5:10 Gen Chauncey
- 5:15 Gen Welsh on the phone re possibility of someone for the National Guard & Reserve—suggested Tim Manning and Gen Van said he was a good "guy" etc. Gen Van asked how long his primary basic training was going to be tied up with the Navy. Gen Welsh advised it was their airplane and Gen Van asked him if he could get it turned loose for a loan to the Army for 3 weeks. Gen Welsh said he would take a reading and call him up tomorrow afternoon.
- 5:20 Gen Kissner. Information for the British and suggested method of answering Bissell's cable which Gen Van approved.
- 5:23 Mr. Zuckert with a message from Mr. Symington reference organization of AMC.

23 July 1947

8:55 a.m. Arrived

9:00 Col Carpenter

(9:03) Gen Chauncey

9:30 Gen Weyland

9:40 Gen Streett on phone asking if he could come down and talk about recruiting.

9:45 Gen Hood re Air Base organization of the flying training command on which I told him it would not deviate from the plan until Gen Cannon's alternate plan had been received & compared with the original.

10:00 Gen Streett with reference to recruiting.

10:30 Gen Orval Cook reference memorandum to Gen Lutes on the subject of duplication in repairs, utilities and construction functions in the AAF.

11:12 Gen Maxwell

11:40 Col White, Col Mac Crum, Col Swofford and two representatives from the Bureau of the Budget reference Unification plan.

12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:20 Returned

1:30 Mr. Fields of the N. Y. Mirror, for article re Gen Vandenberg to be published on Air Forces Day.

2:30 Gen Upston - movements in General Officers.

3:30 To Gen Paul's office (G-1) reference Gen Bevans & Air Nat. Gd. General recommended by Governor Warren. Gen Paul to call Gen Van on both subjects.

4:12 Mr. Leo re Gen Van's speech for Air Force Day.

23 July 1947 (Cont'd)

4:40 p.m. Col Harris Hull re speech before Veterans of Foreign Wars.
(Cleveland) Col Hull to get additional information.

4:45 Gen Chauncey

5:00 Home

24 July 1947

8:40 a.m. Arrived office

8:55 Gen Spaatz & Col Swofford

9:23 Gen LeMay & Gen O'Donnell

9:30 Gen J. W. Jones & Gen McDonald & Mr. Leo re leaks in Air Force secrets.

10:00 Mr. Boutelle on phone asking him for lunch. Gen Van to call him back at 12:00.

10:25 To Office of Secretary of War with Gen Spaatz for farewell speech by Judge Patterson.

11:00 Returned and then to Gen Spaatz' office where Mr. Lovett was present.

11:15 Representatives of Piasecki Helicopter Co. with model & pictures. Gen Spaatz & Gen Weyland also present with Gen Van.

11:40 To Mr. Symington.

12:05 p.m. Gen Fred Smith

12:20 Gen Stearley

12:30 To lunch with Mr. Boutelle

2:45 Returned and Gen LeMay was in Gen Van's office when Gen Van got back.

3:55 Col John Oberdorf, 9th Troop Carrier Command

4:00 Gen Boatner with the mail.

4:00 Mr. Leo

24 July 1947 (Cont'd)

5:00 p.m. Mr. Bruno on phone. Gen Van cancelled date for
Saturday and hopes he can get up in September.
(Montauk L.I.)

5:05 Home

25 July 1947

9:15 a.m. Arrived office

9:17 To Conference Room for briefing on fighters.

9:10 Major White notified Gen Weyland, McDonald, Lemay, O'Donnell to represent the AAF at the departure of Judge Patterson from ATC Terminal today, to be there between 2:30 and 2:40. The Judge will arrive 2:45 and take off at 3:00.

11:05 Returned from Briefing and to Mr. Symington

11:45 Returned from Mr. Symington's office.

12:30 p.m. Gen Harper re planes to take Foreign Committee to Europe & Japan. Gen Harper said he was sure he could do it and actually it would be a very good business to his way of thinking. Gen Van said he did not want to overload Gen Harper's people. Gen Harper said that they should have an aircraft available with a crack crew any time. Gen Harper informed Gen Van that they could take 24 with 4 portable bunks and 30 with just the seats. Gen Van said he would talk further with him on the subject.

12:45 To Mr. Symington

12:50 Colonel Flickinger

1:00 Gen Van called Gen Carter in Gen Marshall's office and told him that we would have to find out where this Foreign Committee wants to go, when and how long. Gen Carter informed Gen Van that this will not be a deal where Congress will have to appropriate the money to pay the War Dept for it. Gen Carter said that the only matter of principal that had to be decided upon this afternoon was whether or not the War Dept could bear the revenue out of its appropriations. Gen Van said we could give Gen Carter his answer when we found out where they want to go, when and how long. Gen Carter said he would find that out right away and call Gen Van back.

1:10 Gen Carter on phone re Foreign Committee going to Europe and Pacific by plane. Gen Carter informed Gen Van he has talked with Cong. Eaton. They had originally planned to break the Committee up into 3 or 4 Committees. They were more worried about getting around on ATC facilities than anything else. They are now considering the matter to see just what they are going to decide. They want to go to Europe and to the Pacific that is why they have split up into Groups. Gen Carter said he had talked to General Eisenhower

25 July 1947 (Cont'd)

and he said that the War Department would bear the tariff and they would have an airplane available for the whole Committee. Gen Eisenhower said that when they used Army transportation it would be free of charge. Gen Carter is waiting now for the call from the Committee as to whether or not they would be using the airplane. They also asked Gen Carter to contact the Navy to see if a boat could take them over. Gen Van informed Gen Carter to give any further information to Major White, if he is not here (Gen Van.)

- 1:13 p.m. Mr. Paul Fonda (Fairchild) on phone, informing Gen Van that they would get the trainer into the Training Command on Wednesday, the 13th of August for as long as they would like to have it.
- 1:15 To lunch
- 1:40 Gen Cannon on phone asking Gen Van if he had given anymore thought to gasoline. Gen van said we were working on it, and that we were getting some more bids in. Gen Cannon said that as far as the students go in the Trng Cmd, they should have enough gas to put them through, but if they hold them up it will throw a monkey wrench into the entire training program. Gen Cannon said that if the students are held up in this class it will mean they cannot take a class the 15th of October. Gen Cannon said they have no objections to the permanent party flying just enough for pay purposes but he did think that consideration should be given the Training Command for enough fuel to complete the training of the students they will have. Gen Van asked Gen Cannon if he had an estimate of what that would take. Gen Cannon said he didn't have it right there but he would get it to Gen Van. Gen Van asked that Gen Cannon estimate the minimum amount of gas that they will require. Gen Van said that as soon as he receives Gen Cannon's estimate of their minimum requirements he will give him a definite answer.
- 1:45 Gen Van called Colonel Feigel, A-3 and asked him what the situation was in regard to oil for the Training Command. Gen Van said that he wanted an answer for Gen Cannon on Monday. Gen Van said that Gen Cannon was going to send in his estimated minimum requirements. Gen Van asked Col Feigel to call back Sat. and give him a report.
- 2:00 Gen Sims
- 2:15 To Airport for departure of Judge Patterson and then for departure (Gen Van) for New York City (3:15).

28 July 1947

9:00 a.m. Arrived office
Gen Chauncey with the mail.

9:20 Gen Sam Anderson on phone, advising that the War Dept had approved the Legion of Merit for Air Marshal Sanders. Gen Van advised that either he or Gen Spaatz would present it when the Air Marshal comes over here.

9:25 Gen Jones

9:30 To Mr. Symington with Gen Spaatz

10:20 Mr. Larry Bell

10:30 Gen Osborn & Gen Phillips with reference to the Hughes Investigation.

11:25 Mr. Burdette Wright

11:30 Gen Upston

12:20 p.m. Gen LeMay briefing on lunch with Dr. Conant (Atom Bomb)

12:25 Col Rosenblat on phone in regard to his being a Reserve Officer. He has been assigned to the 1st Air Force. He got a ltr to come out to Mitchel to sit in on some meetings etc. He claimed there was nothing he could do for the 1st Air Force. He said he was interested in the Air Reserve Program and was interested in getting an assignment in Wash., D. C. Where he could do the most good. Gen Van said that he would like to tell Mitchel Fld to leave him (Col Rosenblat) alone and that about Jan or Feb when things are more straightened out then he would fix his status. Col Rosenblat will go over to Mitchel himself and see what it is all about. He told Gen Van not to do anything, that he would take care of it himself.

12:40 To lunch w/Gen Spaatz, LeMay and Dr. Conant

1:40 Returned

1:45 Gen Persons, Norstad & LeMay

2:50 Gen Chauncey

28 July 1947 (Cont'd)

- 3:05 p.m. Gen Lemay & Gen Powers
- 4:10 Gens Kepner, Weyland, Power & Col Armstrong re Operations Crossroads.
- 4:30 Gen Twining on phone stating he is sending in a letter on 1948 aircraft production program. It has to do with moving fast on '48 production and to have something to show for our money. Gen Twining said that in regard to the Evaluation Board (Gen Lemay, Gen Van and Gen Twining) we want it 100%. It may be a little late for 1948 funds. Gen Twining said that Mr. Symington and General Spaatz said that we should move promptly. Gen Twining said that if we delay longer we are not going to have enough delivery to show. We are not in any way changing our mind about Evaluation Board. We still think we should have it. Gen Van said he was worried about after we are spending this money whether or not at the end of the time we get these airplanes, can somebody ask us why we bought those particular ones.
- 4:35 Under Secretary of Navy Sullivan on phone, stating that they have a problem involving Corpus Christi. He said that they have three aviation training centers at Corpus Christi, Pensacolo and Jacksonville. He said that they are not able to support three. He said that they are now working on the problem of contracting their training operations into 2 stations. He asked Gen Van if we were interested in Corpus Christi. Gen Van told Mr. Sullivan that we would like to look it over and would let him know.
- 5:00 Mr. Symington on phone saying that he called Larry Norstad after talking with the White House. He asked when this bill would go into effect. Mr. Symington said that Gen Norstad feels that it should be the 1st instead of the 15th of Sept. He said that Mr. Forrestal will bring this up tomorrow. Mr. Symington asked Gen Van if it wasn't true that we had been working on this quietly for a year. He also asked if it wasn't true that since Gen Van came in he had been working on it quite heavily. Some of the things will obviously be changed over and some will take time. Gen Van said there were three categories. Gen Van went on to say that there was a Class III Station which meant an Air Force Station. There is a category where there is some controversy but we feel should be transferred to us about October, November, December, or January. For instance the handling of the 1948 Budget. Gen Van said that money is in the War Dept and we are going to have to administer it but the indirect appropriation of the AAF^{with} is in the hands of the War Dept and they already have it/in their system. We want to wait on that until that is cleared up. Gen Van stated that there is another category that depends on what the Secretary of National Defense decides, he is going to do with the hospital systems with various things that the Navy & the Army may want to get together as a central procurement agency and we will put our money into the pot. Mr. Symington reviewed what Gen Van said by stating; in other words there are the ones that really will have autonomy anyway. Gen Van said that those are the ones that

23 July 1947 (Cont'd)

we are going to try and get the 1st of Sept. Gen Van said there are several other categories that are going to take various lengths of time and we will work them out with the WD and the Navy Dept. Mr. Symington asked Gen Van if this was under his direction. Gen Van said yes. Mr. Symington then said that then there are ones that have to have the decision of the Secretary of National Defense. Mr. Symington stated that we have people, (personnel) money and we are getting control of the money anyway of our budget. Gen Van stated of the '49 direct Air Force. Gen Van said that we cannot take over all of the indirect of the '49 Budget right away because we have to build up our people in order to take care of that. Mr. Symington said that we are going to get our '48 as soon as we can and get our '49 automatically as we develop it. Gen Van agreed. Mr. Symington said that our personnel will come to us as soon as the WD says we can handle it and they will be the first to say we should handle personnel. Gen Van said that there is a joint recruiting program which we have contributed money to. Gen Van said we are looking at that now to see whether or not both the WD and the Air Force will recommend that there comes our share to us and should we handle it or should we continue to do it on a joint basis. That is another one of those longer term things that we are working out. This is not a September 1st job by any means. Mr. Symington suggested that Gen Van consider putting somebody like Mr. Zuckert in his office to do spade work for this thing. Gen Van agreed that it was a fine idea. Mr. Symington said in that case Mr. Zuckert could run around and see him wherever he was and if anything comes up he knows some of his philosophy and then Mr. Symington could present it to Gen Van. Gen Van told Mr. Symington that he just had a call from Sullivan in the Navy. He said that the Navy is giving up Corpus Christi. He said Gen Cannon was on the phone at the time and he asked him if he wanted it. Gen Van told Mr. Symington that Gen Cannon was going to run down and take a look at it, but he is not going to make any commitments. Gen Van said that would involve some politics and that if we take that we will have to give up some other stations. Mr. Symington said that we should give up the field we want the least.

5:07 p.m.

Gen Stearley on phone. Gen Van asked what happened to the promotion bill & Gen Stearley said he could not get a copy of it. Gen Van wanted to know when it went into effect & Gen Stearley said as soon as it was signed. Gen Van said Mr. Symington was very anxious about this bill. Gen Stearley to call back.

5:15

Gen Stearley called back and put a Colonel Baya on the line to talk to Gen Van. Colonel Baya said that the Bill as it passed both Houses, provides for not more than five 4 stars for the Army, four 4 stars for the Navy plus one for Marine Corps and four Air Corps.

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Col Baya repeated as the Bill passed the House there were:

- 4 Army
- 3 Air Corps
- 3 Navy
- 1 Marine

He said the Navy were begging for 6. The Senate Committee finally agreed to give them 5, two more than the House gave them. They gave the Army one more and the Air Force one more. It was amended on the Senate Floor to cut the Navy down. In other words Colonel Baya stated that it is 5, four and four, plus marine. Gen Van asked when we could start making promotions for permanent grades of Colonel, Brigadier General & Major General. Colonel Baya said the Bill was effective at once. He also said that nobody can be promoted unless recommended by a Selection Board, therefore this board will have to be set up. For promotion of Captain, Major & Lt Colonel--it is not effective until next year. All permanent promotions are suspended for 6 mos. On July 1st of next year they will make these initial promotions to fill vacancies and those not selected are not considered to have failed. Gen Van asked when we can promote 3 & 4 stars. Colonel Baya said that under existing law there is no limitations on the numbers. Col Baya said that under the bill the limit takes effect on July 1st, 1948. Gen Van stated that in other words we cannot have 6 four star people in the Air Forces after July 1948 but we can have up to 6 or 10 until that time. Colonel Baya said that the new provisions of this bill with respect to 4 & 3 star provide that the President of the United States will designate for the Army, Navy and AAF certain positions which will carry the extra rank of which it specified as Chiefs of AAF, Army, Navy will be 4 star. The senior representative to United Nations will be a three star. The President will designate positions which will carry that rank. Gen Van asked the Col if that meant we could promote Brigadier Generals right away and the Col said yes.