

THE STATE-ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SANA-5804
30 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Reference: SWNCC 226/4

Forwarded herewith is a copy of the Second Decision
Amending SWNCC 226/4.

Copy No. 43 of the above reference was forwarded to
the Secretary of War as the enclosure to SWN 5002, 24 December
1946.

For the State-Army-Navy Air Force Coordinating Committee:

Charles E. Saltzman
Chairman

Enc.-Cy. No. 43 of Second Decision
Amending SWNCC 226/4

Copies to:
State Member
Army Member
Navy Member
Air Force Member
P&O
OP-35 (2)
AC/AS-5 (2)
CAD
JCS

COPY FOR SWNCC DAY FILE

STATE-ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SANA-5803
30 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Reference: SWNCC 226/4

Forwarded herewith is a copy of the Second Decision
Amending SWNCC 226/4.

Copy No. 63 of the above reference was forwarded to
the Secretary of State as the enclosure to SWN 5003, 24
December 1946.

For the State-Army-Navy-Air Force Coordinating Committee:

Charles E. Saltzman
Chairman

Enc.-Cy. No. 63 Second Decision
Amending SWNCC 226/4

Copies to:
State Member
Army Member
Navy Member
Air Force Member
P&O
OP-35(2)
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THE STATE-ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Washington, D. C.SANA-5802
30 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF:

Subject: Alternative Locations for a Guided Missile
Experimental Range.

At the meeting of the Secretaries of State, Defense, Army, Navy and Air Force (or their representatives) on 27 October 1947, it was agreed that the Joint Chiefs of Staff should be requested to study and make recommendations for alternate locations for a guided missile experimental range. An extract of the Minutes of this meeting is set forth in Enclosure "A".

This matter arose as a result of the Division of Mexican Affairs of the Department of State having been approached informally by officers of the Research and Development Board (Colonel Perry W. Brown, Army and Captain D. A. Harris, Navy). The Department of State was advised that it had been determined by the Research and Development Board that the most appropriate site for a guided missile experimental range is in the area of Southern California-Lower California (Mexico), and that it was being contemplated that the Department of State should approach the Mexican Government in this connection. The views of the Department of State on this matter are indicated in Enclosure "A".

There is also enclosed for your information in Enclosure "B" a copy of a memorandum from the Air Force Member of the Subcommittee on Military Information Control of the State-Army-Navy-Air Force Coordinating Committee requesting that that Subcommittee authorize the disclosure to the Mexican Government of certain information pertaining to the establishment of the guided missile range.

As the Secretary of SANACC also acts as secretary for the Committee of Secretaries (now the Committee of Two), this matter is accordingly referred for consideration and recommendation.

For the State-Army-Navy-Air Force Coordinating Committee:

H. W. MOSELEY
Secretary

Enclosures:

"A" - Extract of Minutes
"B" - Memo to MIC

Copies to:

1-State Member 1-Air Force Member 2-AC/AS-5
1-Army Member 1-P&O
1-Navy Member 2-Op-35

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ENCLOSURE "A"

Extract from the
Minutes of the Meeting of the Secretaries of State,
Defense, Army, Navy and Air Force (or their Repre-
sentatives, October 27, 1947

* * * * *

II. Plans for Guided Missile Experiments over Mexican Territory

Decision:

It was agreed that the problem should be referred to the Joint Chiefs of Staff with a view to recommending alternative locations for a guided missile experimental range, which locations could then be discussed with the State Department for the purpose of deciding upon which would meet technical requirements and those of foreign relations.

Implementing Action:

The Secretary of the Committee to refer the matter to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Discussion:

SECRETARY MARSHALL said that the State Department has been approached by officers of the Research and Development Board who advise that it has been decided that the most appropriate site for a guided missile experimental range is from Southern California southward over the Gulf of California, Mexico, with the possibility that sometime in the future the range would be extended as far as the Galapagos Islands. It would be necessary to build control stations on Mexican Territory. The State Department has been requested to consider approaching the Mexican Government in this connection. He said that the State Department did not wish to approach the Mexican Government at this time in this connection for the following reasons: (a) the fact that certain disclosures would have to be made to the Mexicans is a factor insofar as security is concerned, (b) there is also the possibility that the project could be built up into an anti-American campaign by one of several Mexican factions, (c) the fact that two objects have allegedly recently landed and exploded near Juarez, Mexico will make it difficult if not impossible to obtain permission, (d) that if guided missiles are sent over populated areas of any other country, the immediate assumption will be that the United States has less regard for these people than it has for its own. Furthermore, it is not inconceivable that ratification of the Inter-American Treaty on Reciprocal Assistance signed at Rio de Janeiro in September might be jeopardized if we proceed with this proposal at this

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time. SECRETARY MARSHALL summarized by stating that we are having some difficulties with the Mexicans now which should not be agitated, and that it was the opinion of the State Department that it was inadvisable to take up this matter with the Mexican Government at this time. He said that the State Department wished to propose that this problem be referred for study to the JCS to determine alternative locations for a guided missile experimental range, which sites could then be discussed with the State Department with a view to any necessary negotiations with foreign governments.

SECRETARY SYMINGTON said that he understood that Banana River, Florida - Bahama Islands was a second choice for an experimental range of this type and the feasibility of using this location should be further explored.

SECRETARY FORRESTAL said that he was agreeable to having the JCS look into this matter.

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ENCLOSURE "B"

14 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE FOR MILITARY INFORMATION
CONTROL OF THE STATE-ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE COORDINATING
COMMITTEESUBJECT: Disclosure of Classified Guided Missile Range
Information to Mexico.

1. The Research and Development Board (JRDB) has designated Headquarters, United States Air Force as the executive agency to initiate action with a view to establishing the National Guided Missile Range. It has been determined by the Research and Development Board that the most appropriate site for the range is in the area Southern California-Lower California (Mexico).

2. In order to ascertain the views of the Mexican Government regarding the establishment of the Range, it will be necessary for U.S. Military representatives to disclose to that government general information concerning the proposed project.

3. As an exception to Paragraph III e. SWNCC 206/29, it is requested that the Department of the Air Force be authorized by the Committee to disclose to the Mexican Government, through the Joint United States-Mexican Mission, information classified no higher than CONFIDENTIAL pertaining to the proposal to establish the National Guided Missile Range. Preliminary discussions will not include classified information concerning the missiles.

4. It is further requested that in the event agreements are reached which will result in the establishment of the proposed Range that the Department of the Air Force be authorized by the Committee to exchange information classified no higher than CONFIDENTIAL with the Government of Mexico on installation, instrumentation and operating techniques as is necessary for the development of the National Guided Missile Range.

B. A. SCHRIEVER
Colonel, USAF
USAF Member, SANAC-MICCopies furnished:
Army (Col. H.H.Mole)
Navy (Capt. Taylor)

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THE STATE-ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Washington, D. C.

SANA-5801
29 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE MEMBER
ARMY MEMBER
NAVY MEMBER
AIR FORCE MEMBER

SANACC 356/1 dated 29 October 1947 is circulated
for consideration by the Committee, as a matter of
PRIORITY.

It is requested that you indicate your comment or
concurrence hereon and return to the Secretariat,
SANACC.

H. W. MOSELEY,
Secretary

APPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

Copies to:

- 1 - P&O
- 2 - Op-35
- 2 - AC/AS-5

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