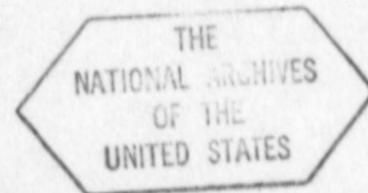


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MINUTES - 26th RTAC LTG  
18 May 1948

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

REPARATIONS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of the Reparations Technical Advisory Committee held in the Reparations Section Office, Kokubu Building, Tokyo, 18 May 1948

ATTENDANCE:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <u>Chairman:</u> | Brigadier General W. K. Harrison, Jr. (SCAP)                                 |
| Australia        | Mr. R. Gillies   |
| Canada           | Mr. R. M. Dobson, Mr. G. W. Mackie   |
| China            | Dr. Bannong Wu, Mr. Z. F. Wong   |
| France           | Mr. R. Y. Ducrest, Mr. A. I. Borrou  |
| India            | Mr. P. Ratnan  |
| Netherlands      | Mr. H. G. Mout, Mr. F.F.W. Mynlieff  |
| New Zealand      | Mr. R.L.G. Challis   |
| Philippine       | Mr. B. P. Abrera, Major C. R. Velasco  |
| U.S.S.R.         | Mr. L. ... Razin   |
| United Kingdom   | Mr. A.A.F. Shearer, Mr. C. Blyth, Miss I. M. Asbury                          |
| United States    | Mr. C. L. Hodge, Mr. H. Baker, Mrs. E. Cunningham                            |
| SCAP             | Lt.Col C. F. Harding, Major J. T. Nicholas,<br>Mr. R. H. Edmonds (Secretary) |

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GENERAL HARRISON (Chairman) opened the meeting at 9:40 A.M.

ITEM 1 - APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 25th R.T.C MEETING

Minutes of the 25th R.T.C Meeting were unanimously approved.

ITEM 2 - INVENTORIES OF ADVANCE TRANSFER ARSENALS

GENERAL HARRISON stated that letters concerning inventory discrepancies discovered in the course of inspections of electrical equipment in the 17 Advance Transfer Arsenals by the claimants had been received from the United Kingdom, Netherlands, and Chinese Delegations. As had been stated in previous meetings, before distribution of the inventories, errors and discrepancies were to be expected since it was not felt advisable to withhold the inventories from the claimants while further intensive checks were made on the data submitted by the Japanese. One of the purposes of the inspections was to check data on the spot and report any glaring errors for correction. GENERAL HARRISON referred to the letter received from Mr. Shearer (Appendix A, 25th R.T.C Meeting), of which the last paragraph requested information showing:

"(a) Facilities from the 17 arsenals withdrawn for future allocation under the 70 percent programme.

(b) Facilities in authorized use for the purposes of the Occupation.

(c) Facilities returned to the Japanese."

GENERAL HARRISON stated that, in the 17 arsenals proper, only rolling mill 15D in arsenal 01-58 had actually been withheld for the 70 percent in order to maintain a more equitable 30-70 percent division. Any other items withdrawn were not available for other reasons. In some cases unnumbered items which were originally not part of the 17 arsenals, but which had been concentrated there from small dispersal areas were included, as these were not sufficient to jeopardize the 70 percent interests. The original selection of 17 arsenals had been based solely on machine tools as these were the only items declared available. Accordingly, some installations without machine tools were not really considered in the original division. Despite this fact, however, the selection had proved reasonably fair.

Regarding facilities in authorized use, GENERAL HARRISON pointed out that these consisted not only of equipment being used by the Occupation Forces but also of equipment approved for use by the Japanese to provide employment and prevent disease and unrest among the people. Some of the individual items in authorized use had escaped marking because the directive instructing the Military Government to mark all such items had been issued while the inventories were being made. This meant that there would be authorized use equipment that had not been marked in time to appear as such on the inventory.

GENERAL HARRISON stated that the release of certain items to the Japanese had resulted from the provision of the original directive stating that

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non-armorant facilities which had been engaged in the production of non-durable consumers' goods should not be made available under the Interim Program. In consequence of that directive certain items were listed for inventory as being suitable for reparations. Non-armorant production items, including woodworking machines, were excluded from that list and were not originally inventoried. They do, however, still exist in Japan and are subject to a final reparations program directive, but at present where removed from custody they are not inventoried. In cases where items such as woodworking machines are still located in reparations plants they have been inventoried under the revised methods and are included as available for reparations unless they are clearly of a non-armorants nature.

GENERAL HARRISON, referring to paragraph 2(c) of Mr. Shearer's letter, stated that the optical glass factory 32-32E had not been listed in the original 30-70 percent division since it was a subdivision of the plant without machine tools. Inspection proved that it was not part of the arsenal proper, but was in fact, a separate facility located several miles away and not set up for the advance transfer. Allocation of electrical equipment of this plant separately, as requested in the Chinese letter, would damage the plant as an integrated unit. In addition, this glass factory was the only facility of its kind in all the arsenals.

Plant 32-30 which Mr. Shearer stated had supposedly been released to the Japanese was an example of an inventory difficulty which resulted from the earlier informal release of equipment for use by the Japanese and failure to mark the equipment as being in authorized use. The plant had not been wholly placed in authorized use, but most of the small items of electrical equipment previously inspected were actually authorized use equipment.

The problems raised regarding the substation and diesel generators at plant 27-4, and the Kirschner bandsaws at plant 13-53 were presently being investigated. There was a possibility that items supposedly in authorized use, but standing idle, had been idle only temporarily due to schedules of operation, lack of power, or some similar reason. MR. SHEARER (UK) asked if the nature of use of the bandsaws could be investigated further. GENERAL HARRISON replied that he would have a further inquiry made.

GENERAL HARRISON observed that Dr. Wu's letter had commented in addition to some of the preceding points, on the fact that parts of the arsenal buildings were being used by the Japanese as private factories. Since the guards and custodians were Japanese, Dr. Wu feared that reparations items might be subject to confusion and loss. In reply, it should be pointed out that private factories operated in the arsenals kept equipment in authorized use at one location, whereas dispersal of the equipment to other locations would entail even larger risks. As for the use of Japanese guards and custodians, no other solution was possible. The letter also referred to what was believed to be deliberate damage done to some of the control panels, which had not been noted in the inventories. It was of course unfortunate that the inventories were not always accurate and it was true that

*Refracted*

the damage could have been deliberate, but he did not know whether the blame should be placed on the Japanese or on the troops which may have destroyed the equipment when the occupation forces first came in. With reference to the question on items which were not marked or on which the numbers had been crossed out, GENERAL HARRISON said that the instructions issued had been that everything in the plant was to be evaluated and inventoried whether or not it was numbered.

GENERAL HARRISON called attention to the portion of Dr. Wu's letter pointing out that inspection of the electrical equipment available to the advance transfer claimants, had indicated that most of the equipment was either inoperable or in authorized use, thus seriously reducing the capacity available. Dr. Wu had suggested that data for more generating sets in arsenals be distributed among the claimants. In reply it could be pointed out that additional diesel engines and generators had been found at Yokosuka and an attempt was now being made to put these together to furnish additional generator sets. Also, there was additional equipment at Kure Naval Arsenal to be discussed later in the committee meeting. Other than this, however, it would not be practicable to take electrical equipment from arsenals other than the 17 since such an action would cut into the 70 percent. The advance transfer claimants would have a subsequent chance to draw under the final program, therefore it would not be fair to the 70 percent claimants to withdraw equipment now.

GENERAL HARRISON stated that Mr. Mout's letter (Appendix B) itemized errors in the inventory descriptions. As far as it was administratively feasible, the errors would be corrected and the catalogs revised. MR. MOUT (Neth) said that he was interested in getting the most accurate data available to transmit to his home government since selections of equipment were based on these data.

GENERAL HARRISON said that if time had been taken to re-inventory the 17 arsenals under the system of close supervision set up for the job in private munitions and aircraft factories and remaining arsenals, the inventories would have been more accurate. However, since the claimants had been desirous of having the advance transfer program carried on, the job had been rushed through. If a decision were reached on the 100 percent program, proceedings so far as the advance transfer would cease immediately. It was to the advantage of the 30 percent claimants to get what equipment they could under the present program. MR. SHEARER asked if in view of this possibility there was any means of speeding up the allocations of machine tools in aircraft plants. GENERAL HARRISON replied that this would depend on the release of these plants for allocation. The evaluations and inventories were being prepared in anticipation, but there was no way of knowing when further facilities would be released or what they would be. This would probably depend on decisions reached as the result of the study of the Overseas Consultants and the Johnston Reports.

MR. RATNAM (India) asked if the decisions to be arrived at on the basis of these reports would have the effect of delaying the advance transfers. GENERAL HARRISON agreed that further action on the advance transfers would be unlikely until decisions were reached on these reports.

*Refracted*

ITEM 3 - ADVANCE TRANSFER PROGRAM

GENERAL HARRISON stated that by the end of June shipment of approximately 13,000 machine tools and secondary metalworking machines and of the laboratory equipment allocated under the 30 percent, would have been completed. There was still left available for advance transfer the electrical and residual equipment in the 17 arsenals. There were four plant inventories in the last stages of completion that would shortly be distributed to the claimants after which it would be a matter of inspection and claim. MR. SHEPHERD said that as the first birthday of RTAC approached it would appear that the reparations program had not advanced very far. The present situation was much like the one eight months previous with further action dependent upon analyses of the various reports. GENERAL HARRISON said that at least the claimants had some machine tools to show for the last year's efforts. It was agreed that it would have been much better if a complete program had been instituted at once, but that would have meant indefinite delay.

MR. RATNAM asked if there was a time or a quantitative limit on the operation of the advance transfers. GENERAL HARRISON replied that no time limit had been set. The purpose of the advance transfer program had been to give the four countries who had suffered the most from Japanese aggression some equipment to assist them in rehabilitation. The quantity of equipment allocated was not to exceed 30 percent of that made available.

ITEM 4 - EQUIPMENT IN AUTHORIZED USE

MR. ABRERA (PI) asked if equipment in authorized use in the 17 arsenals was still available for reparations. GENERAL HARRISON replied that it was not available at present. According to current directives it would be available later. MR. ABRERA asked if it would be possible to get a list of all equipment now in authorized use in the 17 arsenals. GENERAL HARRISON replied that it would be possible to furnish such a list but compiling it would slow up the other work in progress. Making up the list would entail the same type of procedure as making up the inventories. After the inventories were completed, a list of authorized use equipment might be furnished. If information was needed before then, the section of the evaluation reports devoted to authorized use would be available for study in the Inventory, Evaluation and Cataloging Division.

MR. MOUT said that there was a directive stating that all primary war facilities would be available for reparations. What was the definition of a primary war facility? GENERAL HARRISON said that the early directives had listed primary war facilities as arsenals, private munitions and aircraft plants. MR. MOUT asked if any of these facilities now in use would be allocated later. GENERAL HARRISON replied that under the present directives these facilities would be allocated when they were no longer needed for purposes of the occupation. Some such items of equipment had already been turned back for allocation at Yokosuka. One of the reasons for withholding items in authorized use was that there was no way of knowing what the condition of these items would be when they became available. MR. DUCREST (Fr)

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said that the question of authorized use was becoming one of the more important issues before the committee. It would be desirable to know just how much equipment was in authorized use in all of the arsenals and in the aircraft and private munitions plants and what, if any, time limit would be put on the use of such equipment. GENERAL HARRISON replied that a list of equipment in authorized use would be furnished to the members of the committee just as soon as it was possible to compile the information without hampering the current program. MR. ABRA asked if it would be possible to indicate how much equipment was in use by the Occupation Forces themselves and how much by the Japanese. GENERAL HARRISON said that it would be difficult to show such a breakdown in the 17 arsenals as no provision had been made for this, but that it could be shown for the balance of the plants.

#### ITEM 5 - NON-FERROUS FACILITIES

GENERAL HARRISON stated that he had received a letter (Appendix C) from Mr. Abra concerning the allocation of rolling mill 17D in arsenal 01-58. A meeting at which the four advance transfer claimants would discuss the problems relative to this allocation was set for the following day.

GENERAL HARRISON introduced the problem of the allocation of non-ferrous rolling mills. In this particular type of facility the 17 advance transfer arsenals contained an unusually large proportion of the total of such facilities. So far about 50 percent of the non-ferrous rolling mills in all arsenals had been allocated in the advance transfers so that the interests of the 70 percent claimants were somewhat impaired. There was one other rolling mill (15D in arsenal 01-58) which was being reserved for the 70 percent, but the Japanese had already partially dismantled it. The dismantling and packing would have to be completed in order to protect the equipment. However, if the 70 percent claimants were definitely not interested in this rolling mill, it would be allocated to the advance transfer claimants. If the 70 percent claimants indicated that they were interested in non-ferrous facilities, an attempt would be made to compile any technical data they deemed necessary. The question would be held over for the next meeting as an immediate decision was not required.

#### ITEM 6 - MISSING MOTORS

MR. MOUT referred to a list of motors available for reparations in plant 2444 which had been obtained on the last inspection there. It had been found that some of these motors belonged to machine tools rejected in Segment 1 because the motors were missing. The Netherlands wished to claim these machines with motors if possible. GENERAL HARRISON replied that the practicability of doing this would be studied.

#### ITEM 7 - ELECTRIC FACILITIES

GENERAL HARRISON stated that there was at Kuro Naval Arsenal, two parts of which were in the advance transfers, a 60-cycle power plant which had so far been treated as reserved for the 70 percent claimants. This plant was one of

the largest in all the arsenals and constituted about 47 percent of the value of all available electrical generating facilities in all the arsenals. Without it, the 30 percent was low, only about 15 percent; with it, the percentage would be over 60, which was quite high. The plant was, however, divided into two parts, one of which was a 15,000 KW very new and excellent steam plant, the finest in all the arsenals, and the other was an old plant which had been rather badly bombed, but parts of which were usable. If the new plant could not be put in the advance transfers it was still possible that the old plant might. Indications so far were that only the Philippines and China were interested in 60 cycle equipment. If this was the case and none of the 70 percent countries were interested in the equipment, the most reasonable action would be to include the whole plant in the advance transfer program.

MR. HODGE (US) said that he would like to check to see whether or not Korea was interested in 60 cycle equipment. MR. DUCREST said that it would be difficult to make an immediate answer since it might be possible for a 50-cycle country to convert a 60-cycle plant for its own use. GENERAL HARRISON stated that he did not expect any immediate decisions on the matter. It could be discussed again at the next meeting or later.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM to meet again at 9:30 AM, 1 June 1948.

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APPENDIX A  
TO MINUTES OF 26th RTAC MEETING, 18 MAY 1948

CHINESE REPARATIONS & RESTITUTION DELEGATION

Ref. No. RC/398

May 15 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Reparations Section, GHQ, SCAP

SUBJECT: Result of Inspection of Electrical Equipment in Advance Transfer Arsenals.

1. Our recent inspection of electrical equipment from Advance Transfer Arsenals in the Nagoya, Osaka, Sasebo and Sendai areas has resulted in the following findings:

a) Because of the limited number of units with great differences in capacity, it will be extremely difficult for the four claimants concerned to reach an equitable allocation among themselves.

b) Some items of equipment have already been released to the Japanese for civil use.

c) Parts of some arsenal buildings are being utilized by Japanese private factories. Since the guards and custodians at those arsenals are Japanese nationals, the reparations items therein are easily subject to confusion and loss.

d) The control panels of some substations have received, under custody, deliberate damages which are not declared in the inventory list. Some Japanese should be held responsible for the sabotage. We hope that the Reparations Section of GHQ will carry out effective measures to discontinue the malpractice.

e) A great number of machines such as panels, motors, pumps and pulleys have the marked code numbers crossed out and some bear no numbers at all. How are those unnumbered items to be treated and classified, if they neither belong to the residual equipment category under the 30% Advance Transfer Programme nor belong to the group under the 70% Transfer Programme?

f) Some substations, though marked "Authorized Use", are at a standstill without circuits connected. We hope that the situation will be clarified whether the substations in question are in authorized use or available for transfer.

2. In view of the above findings, we propose that some remedial measures be worked out in the interest of the claimants. Specially we maintain that the following is desirable for prompt transfer to the claimants:

a) The total capacity of power generating equipment mutually agreed upon among the four claimants for tentative allocation is about 17,000 KVA. After inspection of the plants, it has been found that most of the equipment is either inoperable or in authorized use. On account of this fact, the capacity for allocation is further lessened. According to Exhibits 12-7 and 12-8 of the Overseas Consultants' Report, the aggregate capacity of steam and internal combustion generating equipment in arsenals and naval bases is about 88,000 Kw. We understand that in general cases capacity is not a criterion. However, it seems that some arrangement can be made to release more units for advance transfer. In order to solve the present inadequacy for allocation, we suggest that the data of a few more generating sets in the arsenals be distributed and the sets be inspected.

b) Osaka Plant 32-32. We have been informed by the representatives of the Military Government that substation No. 2 and other small stations now temporarily in authorized use may be made available for reparations. We hope that the Reparations Section will be good enough to confirm the information furnished us by the Military Government.

c) 32-32(E) and 11-5(5). The substations and electric furnaces of the Ikeda Optical Factory as well as the 11-5(5) 60 cycle steam turbine generators are looked upon as desirable items for immediate allocation to the claimants.

(Signed) BANNONG WU  
Bannong Wu  
Chairman

cc to Netherlands, Philippines  
and United Kingdom R&R Delegations.

APPENDIX B  
TO MINUTES OF 26TH RT.C MEETING, 18 MAY 1948  
NETHERLANDS R.E.P. REPARATIONS & RESTITUTION DELEGATION

11-3/2245

TOKYO, May 11, 1948

TO: The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers  
Attention: Reparations Section

1. Reference is made to the following correspondence:

- a. Letter No. 2209 dated April 24, 1948 to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers from the Netherlands R&R Delegation.
- b. Letter dated April 28, 1948 to the Chief, Reparations Section, GHQ, SC.P, from the United Kingdom R&R Delegation.

2. In connection with (1a) and (1b) above, attention may be drawn to some facts, observed by our personnel when inspecting arsenals.

Military Arsenal Sagami (19-18)

Inventory No. 3491 - Generator set consisting of:

- a. 180 HP diesel engine (Osaka Kinzoku 1944) 1000 RPM;
- b. Alternating current generator, 70 KW, (Tokyo Shibaura), 250 volts, 600 RPM.

In reality it was found that the set consisted of:

- a. a diesel engine as recorded in the inventory;
- b. not to the set fitting gearing;
- c. a DC submarine motor (or generator), code No. 3497, recorded elsewhere in the inventory list.

From several diesel engine-generators recorded in the inventory list exciters, starting motors and dynamos were missing. In another building some of these parts were found amidst a collection of motors, generators, a.s.o. Several more discrepancies between the inventory lists and the actual situation have been discovered. However, these two cases have only been mentioned to indicate the incompleteness of the inventory lists which causes serious difficulties during the inspections.

3. With reference to under (1) and (2) above it will be highly appreciated if attention can be paid to the matter illustrated above and if the inventory lists may be revised as far as practicable.

The Chairman of the Netherlands R&R  
Delegation.

(Signed) M. G. LOUW.

APPENDIX C  
TO MINUTES OF 26TH RTAC MEETING, 18 MAY 1948

PHILIPPINES DELEGATION ON REPARATIONS AND RESTITUTION

17 May 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chief, Reparations Section, GHQ, SCAP

SUBJECT: Rolling Mills 15D, 16D and 17D, in Plant 01-58

1. At the 16th RTAC meeting held on December 16, 1947, items 1523, 1570, 1574, 1594, 1603, 1604 and 1606 in Plant No. 01-58 were considered as rejections and have been reclassified as integrated facilities.

2. At the conference meeting on January 5, 1948, the United Kingdom and the Philippines agreed to permit the allocation to China and the Netherlands of rolling mills 16D and 17D as integrated facilities, the same items which were considered as rejections in the 16th RTAC meeting.

3. It appears now from Conference Report dated April 13, 1948, that China had agreed to take rolling mill 17D which is being disposed of by the Netherlands.

4. The Philippines objects to this arrangement. While at first glance the barter between China and the Netherlands is purely a question between the two nations, on further study it would be clear that the interests of the Philippines are involved. If the Philippines did not agree to permit the allocations of these integrated facilities to the two claimant nations, it would have been entitled to a chance to draw the entire facilities in a latter segment.

5. The Netherlands has already been allocated a similar rolling mill from Sendai. This allocation was not reported to the other claimant nations.

6. The Philippines is interested in rolling mill 17D.

7. Request that final action on this matter be deferred until further discussion on the subject by either the four nations in the advance transfer program or in open RTAC meeting.

(Signed) B. F. CERRERA  
Chairman