66-8-7156

25X1A6a [redacted]

16 February 1953

MEMORANDUM

TO : Assistant Deputy Director, Administration (IAS)

FROM : [redacted] 25X1A6a

SUBJECT : Fire and Safety Survey, [redacted] 25X1A6a

1. The contents of Security's Fire and Safety Report dated 22 January 1953 have been thoroughly studied and the following actions have been taken or are contemplated concerning Recommendations set forth in the report.

a. A study has been made of the present water supply at [redacted] 25X1A6a including the possibility of increasing the flow of water or providing a reserve supply of 75,000 gallons. This office is in accord with the recommendations that an additional water supply is an absolute must for fire protection at [redacted]. A study has been made from 2 February 1953 through 6 February 1953 and it was found that the normal pressure from our hydrants averaged between 20 and 40#. During the morning period of 0830 to 0900 the pressure varied from 10 to 30#. It is apparent that such water pressure is not adequate. Even though the water is run through a pumper on a fire truck, a vacuum could be created by increasing the pressure over too long a time. 25X1A6a

When [redacted] made the study he was of the opinion that a 75,000 gallon water tower would provide the necessary pressure at all times. The cost of an installation of this kind would be over $60,000 and, therefore, is not considered feasible. An alternative would be the construction of a reservoir or tank to provide the additional water needed. A survey of available sites was made and it was determined that adequate water storage can be maintained by the enlarging of the present fish pond adjacent to all [redacted] This work would necessitate the erection of a small, concrete wall to prevent seepage; the digging of the present pond to a depth of six feet and the enclosure of the area by a fence, as a safety precaution. It is estimated that this work can be done for approximately $4825.00. 25X1A9a 25X1A

The only other alternative would be the construction of an underground concrete reservoir at a cost of approximately $15,000.00. Of the alternatives provided, it is my belief that the deepening of the fish pond would amply fulfill our needs and is, therefore, strongly recommended.

b. The protection of the Dispensary Building from an explosion due to the use of ether or other anesthesia has been studied. The following corrective measures will be taken to provide maximum protection against explosions:

(1) The louvers in the lower panel of the door of the operating room will be removed. The doors will be weatherstripped to prevent air from being drawn toward the furnace from underneath the door at the floor level and an exhaust fan will be placed in the room to provide the removal of the ether from the room, as well as needed air circulation.

(2) The present light switches will be removed from inside the operating room and placed in the hallway. The present wall receptacles will be removed and spark-proof receptacles installed.

c. Bids have been let for the installation of a fire escape or escapes at Building #13. At present we are negotiating with the lowest bidder as to our exact method of installation and total equipment to be installed. Installation will be accomplished as soon as we can agree on the terms of the contract and money is available.

d. The brackets that support the balcony at the rear of the stage in the Gym Building have been reinforced by lag screws and now should be sufficiently strong to hold any anticipated load which may be placed upon it.

e. The floodlight floor sockets circuit in the Gym has been disconnected and is no longer operative.

f. The shower head in the basement of the Gym has been removed and the pipes plugged. To give further protection the light switch has been disconnected.

g. The feasibility of installing a panel board system at the Fire Station, connected to the sprinkler alarm system in each building at 25X1A [redacted] has been studied. Such an installation involves [redacted] 25X1A and the installation of transmitters alone costs approximately $1500, not considering the cost of electrical connections between the buildings and the Fire Station. By installing such a system the Fire Station would probably receive notice of the fire approximately one minute prior to the notice received if called by telephone. In view of the presently installed sprinkler bell alarm outside each building; hourly guard checks and the fact that students are in the area most of the time, the cost is not offset by the advantages gained. This office, therefore, considers the installation too expensive for the extra protection afforded.

h. Plans for an incinerator are now being drawn by the Engineering Branch. Upon completion of the plans, immediate construction will be started in order that the fire hazard may be eliminated.

i. Bids have been let for the purchase of a rubber floor mat for the Emergency Generator House.

j. Bids have been let for the purchase of four back packs to be used as protection against brush fire.

k. The above-ground gas tank at [redacted] will be lowered to ground level and a two foot dirt mound will be placed over the tank. To place it at a further depth might result in a malfunction. 25X1A6a

[redacted] 25X1A9a