

## EXHIBIT NO. 62

THE JOINT BOARD  
Washington

S E C R E T

MINUTES OF MEETING, NOVEMBER 26, 1941.

The weekly meeting of The Joint Board scheduled for November 26, 1941, was held today in Room 2003, Munitions Building, at 11:35 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Admiral H. R. Stark, U.S.N., Chief of Naval Operations, Presiding;  
General G. C. Marshall, U.S.A., Chief of Staff;  
Rear Admiral R. E. Ingersoll, U.S.N., Assistant Chief of Naval Operations;  
Major General William Bryden, U.S.A., Deputy Chief of Staff;  
Major General H. H. Arnold, U.S.A., Deputy Chief of Staff for Air;  
Rear Admiral R. K. Turner, U.S.N., Director, War Plans Division, Office Naval Operations;  
Brigadier General L. T. Gerow, U.S.A., Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, War Plans Division;  
Captain D. C. Ramsey, U.S.N., Bureau of Aeronautics, in the absence of Rear Admiral J. H. Towers.  
Colonel W. P. Scobey, U.S.A., Secretary.

The presiding Officer directed the minutes of the meeting of November 19, would stand approved unless there were objections. There were no objections and the minutes were approved.

The Secretary then announced the agenda for the meeting as follows:

Serial 724 -- Priority of A-1-a for Medium Tanks.

Serial 718 -- Construction of Airdromes in the Aleutian Islands and the Alaskan Peninsula.

Action of the Board on the two serials was as follows:

Serial 724 -- Priority of A-1-a for Medium Tanks. Following a discussion of the Joint Planning Committee report during which the Navy members announced their agreement to eliminate consideration of the four-engine bomber program in order to expedite action on the tank program, motion was made and seconded that the serial be approved. Motion was adopted without objection.

Serial 718 -- Construction of Airdromes in the Aleutian Islands and the Alaskan Peninsula. In the course of the discussion of this subject the Army members agreed with Admiral Stark that the work proposed in the recommendations made in the Joint Planning Committee report should not be pushed at the expense of other defense construction projects in more vital areas. It was moved and seconded that the serial be approved. Without objection the serial was approved.

The Board having disposed of the agenda proceeded to a discussion of professional topics.

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Admiral Stark raised the matter of United States military requirements in Brazil and read a dispatch from Admiral Beauregard, the United States Naval Attache in Rio de Janeiro, outlining the difficulties encountered in obtaining Brazilian authority to base Navy patrol planes in Natal and Maceio for protecting our shipping. The attitude of the Brazilian Government, as reported by Admiral Beauregard, is to oppose further military development in Brazil by the United States. General Marshall recounted his experience during his recent visit to Brazil. At that time the Brazilian military chiefs favored U. S. military assistance in Brazil. Since that time there had been a marked change in their attitude and now collaboration with the United States had been supplanted by opposition. The responsibility for this reversal in relationship was attributed largely to Nazi efforts, and should the democracies suffer further reverses, continued and further opposition to the United States in Brazil might be expected. No Joint Board action was taken on this subject, but Admiral Stark requested that the Army postpone further requests to base troops or planes in Brazil until the Navy is fully established there.

Admiral Stark wanted to know if any material had been forwarded by the Army to Chiang Kai Shek by airplane or if any such request had been received. His query was based upon a request made by Mr. Currie for the use of one Navy patrol plane to fly certain critical items of equipment from Manila to Singapore or Rangoon. General Arnold knew of no materials being forwarded by airplane except some spares for pursuit airplanes which had become necessary because of damage to airplanes already delivered to China.

The Board next engaged in a discussion of the Pacific situation. The Navy had information that Japanese airplanes had been making reconnaissance and photographic flights over the United States islands in the Western Pacific. It was felt that in view of recent developments indicating reinforcements and activity in the construction of defense installations in the Marshall and Caroline Islands, efforts should be made on the part of the United States to photograph the more important of these islands. General Arnold announced that two planes were already enroute from Dayton to the Philippines with photographic equipment and with instructions to photograph Truk, Jaluit, and such other important Japanese islands as required. With reference to this mission, Admiral Turner announced that the Commander-in-Chief, Asiatic Fleet, Admiral Hart, had proposed that the United States, the British, and the Dutch undertake to photograph all of the islands in the Far East and Western Pacific, but since the Army was engaged in the stated photographic mission, the Navy would like the planes to obtain certain specific information. General Arnold proposed that the Army would assist the Navy in obtaining desired data if the Navy would furnish to him, without delay, a memorandum of exactly what was desired so that instructions could be given to the pilots engaged on the two photographic missions.

The Board next discussed the stationing of Army pursuit aviation on islands of Midway and Wake. The Army is willing to locate a squadron of twenty-five airplanes on each of the islands. The Navy members announced their agreement. In connection with the operation General Marshall proposed: 1st, that a Navy airplane carrier be used to transport the Army pursuit units from Hawaii to their destinations; 2nd, that

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the Navy cooperate in the movement of Army air units to the Philippines by furnishing air and sea protection at Midway and Wake Islands, utilizing patrol planes and such other Navy facilities as available. Speaking for the Board Admiral Stark directed that Admiral Turner and General Gerow get together and make necessary arrangements for the movement.

In a discussion on the development of an airplane route across the Pacific further eastward, the Navy raised the question as to the extent of Army plans for the development of Christmas Island as one of the landing fields on this route. It was the Navy's belief that developments contemplated by the Army should be made on Palmyra rather than Christmas Island, because the sovereignty of Christmas Island, being in dispute between the United States and the United Kingdom, would be claimed by the British following the war. Explaining the reason for the developments on Christmas Island, General Arnold pointed out that in the early considerations for the development of an interior southern air route, the Naval Commandant of the 14th district, Hawaiian Islands, had given General Short, Commanding General, Hawaiian Department, information that the Palmyra developments could not be completed until August of 1942. A reconnaissance made by Army engineers indicated that construction of landing field facilities on Christmas Island could be expedited and the minimum development for flight operations could be completed by January 15, 1942. Considering the necessity for early completion of the field the Commanding General, Hawaiian Department, had secured transportation facilities and operating equipment and moved into Christmas Island, and now construction was well under way. So that the Navy members might have the full picture of Army action, General Gerow read the message sent to the War Department by the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department. General Arnold stated that Canton and Christmas Islands were to be staging fields, and the permanent installations would be kept at a minimum. Following this explanation Admiral Stark stated that, whereas the Navy considered Palmyra more desirable than Christmas, nevertheless the Navy would not now offer further objections to the development and completion of the Christmas Island project.

There being no further business before the Board, adjournment was taken at 12:45 p.m.

W. P. SCOBEE,  
Colonel, General Staff,  
Secretary.