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SPEX

September 17, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

SUBJECT: Release of Colonel L. R. Groves, C.E. for Special Assignment.

1. It is directed that Colonel L. R. Groves be relieved from his present assignment in the Office Chief of Engineers for special duty in connection with the DSM project. You should, therefore, make the necessary arrangements in the Construction Division of your office so that Colonel Groves may be released for full time duty on this special work. He will report to the Commanding General, Services of Supply, for necessary instructions, but will operate in close conjunction with the Construction Division of your office and other facilities of the Corps of Engineers.

2. Colonel Groves' duty will be to take complete charge of the entire DSM project as outlined to Colonel Groves this morning by General Styer.

a. He will take steps immediately to arrange for the necessary priorities.

b. Arrange for a working committee on the application of the product.

c. Arrange for the immediate procurement of the site of the TVA and the transfer of activities to that area.

d. Initiate the preparation of bills of materials needed for construction and their earmarking for use when required.

e. Draw up the plans for the organization, construction, operation and security of the project, and after approval, take the necessary steps to put it into effect.

BREHON SOMERVELL,
Lieutenant General,
Commanding.

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