

<b>REQUEST FOR RECORDS DISPOSITION AUTHORITY</b> (See Instructions on reverse)		LEAVE BLANK	
TO <b>GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION</b> <b>NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC 20408</b>		JOB NO. <i>NI-338-86-7</i>	DATE RECEIVED <i>5/16/86</i>
1 FROM (Agency or establishment) Department of the Army		NOTIFICATION TO AGENCY	
2 MAJOR SUBDIVISION Boards		In accordance with the provisions of 44 U.S.C. 3303a the disposal request, including amendments, is approved except for items that may be marked "disposition not approved" or "withdrawn" in column 10. If no records are proposed for disposal, the signature of the Archivist is not required.	
3. MINOR SUBDIVISION			
4 NAME OF PERSON WITH WHOM TO CONFER Marvin H. Kabakoff	5 TELEPHONE EXT. 7-693-7216 8-273-7216	DATE <i>8-27-86</i>	ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES <i>Frank B. Bunker</i>
6 CERTIFICATE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE			

I hereby certify that I am authorized to act for this agency in matters pertaining to the disposal of the agency's records, that the records proposed for disposal in this Request of \_\_\_\_\_ page(s) are not now needed for the business of this agency or will not be needed after the retention periods specified, and that written concurrence from the General Accounting Office, if required under the provisions of Title 8 of the GAO Manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies, is attached

A GAO concurrence  is attached, or  is unnecessary

B DATE 14 May 86	C. SIGNATURE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE <i>WR Boardman, CRM</i>	D TITLE Army Records Manager	
7 ITEM NO	8 DESCRIPTION OF ITEM (With Inclusive Dates or Retention Periods)	9 GRS OR SUPERSEDED JOB CITATION	10 ACTION TAKEN (NARS USE ONLY)
	<p>Located at the National Personnel Records Center (Military), St. Louis, Missouri, are Army organizational records generally dating from the late 1940's through the 1960's. These records are now being reviewed for the purpose of determining their ultimate disposition. The submission of this SF115 is a part of this effort.</p> <p>This schedule covers only those records located in NPRC created by U.S. Army Boards. Consequently, it is not applicable to current records.</p> <p>Unless otherwise noted, the disposition numbers cited correspond to those in AR 340-18.</p>		
			<i>56 items</i>

Items in this Schedule

Adjutant General Board

1. Research and Development Case Files

Airborne and Aviation Boards

2. Research and Development Case Files
3. General Correspondence

Animal Equipment Board

4. Research and Development Case Files

Beach Erosion Board

5. Research and Development Case Files
6. General Correspondence
7. Intelligence General Correspondence

Chemical Board

8. Research and Development Case Files
9. Research and Development Correspondence
10. General Correspondence
11. Management Improvement Project Files

Field Forces Boards

12. Research and Development Case Files
13. Research and Development Correspondence
14. General Correspondence

Infantry Board

15. Technical Report Record Files
16. Research and Development Case Files
17. Research and Development Correspondence
18. General Correspondence

Maintenance Board

19. Research and Development Case Files
20. General Correspondence

Medical Services Board

21. Technical Report Record Files
22. General Correspondence

Military Police Board

23. Research and Development Case Files
24. Research and Development Correspondence

Ordnance Boards

25. Technical Report Record Files
26. Research and Development Case Files
27. Research and Development Correspondence
28. General Correspondence

Quartermaster Board

- 29. Technical Report Record Files
- 30. Research and Development Case Files
- 31. Research and Development Correspondence
- 32. General Correspondence

Signal Board

- 33. Research and Development Case Files
- 34. General Correspondence

Transportation Board

- 35. Technical Report Record Files
- 36. General Correspondence

Records Created By More Than ONE Type of Board

- 37. Staff Studies
- 38. Research and Development Specifications and Drawings
- 39. Research and Development Technical Committee and Board Files
- 40. Manuals
- 41. Daily Journals
- 42. Memorandums
- 43. Bulletins
- 44. Circulars
- 45. Security Correspondence

Adjutant General Board

1. Research and Development Case Files, 1960, 3 in.

The Adjutant General Board created one case file consisting of a printed report on the use of ADPS for "Military Personnel and Organizational Accounting in the Field." It illustrates the improved methodology computers would bring to the military.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Airborne and Aviation Boards

2. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1947-59, 12.3 cu. ft.

Records from Aviation and Airborne Boards. Case files from the Airborne and Electronics Board (4 cu. ft.), consist of service tests, evaluations, and drafts of military characteristics relating to aerial delivery, by helicopter and plane, of personnel and equipment; wind measuring equipment; airborne reconnaissance radar; infrared target detectors; cryptographic and cipher equipment; and air transportability of military units. Those from the Joint Airborne Troop Board (4 cu. ft.) consist of test plans, progress reports, evaluations, and suggestions for modifications on parachutes, entrenching tools, mortars, and airplanes. Case files from the Joint Tactical Air Support Board (3 in.) consist of quarterly reports on projects, and test reports, military characteristics., and photographs relating to radar.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

3. General Correspondence, ca. 1951-57, 4.2 ft.

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from Aviation Boards, pertaining to the day-to-day activities but varying widely in value. Much of the material is routine in nature, dealing with personnel matters, security clearance, funding, and similar housekeeping functions. Records from the Aviation Accident Board (2 in.) contain valuable information on accident research and prevention as well as statistical data on aircraft accidents. Files from the 400.112 and 471 level from the Joint Airborne Board contain much data on research and development projects, as does a folder from the Joint Tactical Air Support Board titled summary of Projects.

a. All records from the Aviation Accident Board; file numbers 400.112 and 471 from the Joint Airborne Board; Summary of Projects folder from Joint Tactical Air Support Board.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. All other records.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Animal Equipment Board

4. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1952-54, 6 cu. ft.

Test reports, correspondence, photographs, and other material from the Animal Equipment Departmental Board and generally relating to the use of mules as pack animals. Included are tests of packs and pack-loading, and service tests of halters and bridles; correspondence on and photographs of pack saddles used by foreign armies; and numerous photographs of mules being used as pack animals. The series also contains records on the development of military characteristics for oxygen equipment for the air transport of animals.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Beach Erosion Board

5. Research & Development Case Files, ca. 1942-51, 3 in.

Studies, test and progress reports, project estimates, and similar materials created by the Beach Erosion Board. Included are documents on beaches and shorelines, including maps and charts, relating to beach erosion, harbor defenses; tests of shore-related equipment, such as landing craft, beacon-transmitters, mine warfare counter-measures, mobile breakwaters, and breakwater caissons. Much of the material concerns research done during World War II.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

6. General Correspondence, ca. 1945-53, 1.5 ft.

Letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence from the Beach Erosion Board consisting of minutes of Board meetings; news clippings on Board activities; correspondence on planning study of New Jersey Coast, damages to Connecticut oyster beds, and training on Wave Phenomena; hydrological studies of the Connecticut shoreline; and routine data on wages and personnel.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

7. Intelligence General Correspondence, ca. 1955-58, 2.1 cu. ft. 501-01

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Beach Erosion Board relating to the day-to-day operations of the Intelligence Section of the Board. Much of the material consists of reports and correspondence on Board studies of beaches, coastlines, sea levels, etc. of countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America; these include copies of CIA editorial comments on these studies. Many of these concern characteristics and military aspects of potential landing beach areas, and include maps and information on how data is collected. The series also includes

reports on exercises involving beaches, data on the use of amphibious vehicles, and correspondence with a variety of foreigners wanting information.

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Chemical Board

8. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1923-55, 30 cu. ft.

Technical reports, field and service tests, studies and related material from the Chemical Board pertaining to a variety of items used in chemical warfare, such as flame throwers, incendiary grenades, gas masks, smoke generators, decontamination apparatus, and equipment, such as mortars, used in weapons delivery. Other items of interest include a World War II study on napalm; military characteristics for dosimeters and test reports on them; and toxicological studies of various chemical warfare items. Many of the case files include photographs, drawings, specifications, and blueprints.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

9. Research and Development Correspondence, ca. 1948-54, 2 cu. ft., 1301-01

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Chemical Board, relating to the Board's research and development activities. Much of the material is from Decimal File No. 400.112 on the development, testing, and adoption of Chemical Corps materiel, or from No. 470, relating to specific items of research, and including a 1949 report on various types of warfare agents, from anthrax to tear gas, and protections against them. The series also contains historical reports on the Board, filed in No. 334.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

10. General Correspondence, ca. 1955-58, 6 cu. ft.

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Chemical Board documenting the day-to-day activities of the Board. Much of the material is routine in nature and of no archival value, such as budget correspondence, modification work orders, and many publication background files (no. 461 of filing system). However, there are comprehensive quarterly progress and historical reports (334); lists of long-range CBR projects, such as marking guerrillas for identification and tracking (319.1); test reports from Dugway (322); and a great deal of information on research and development activities (400.11, 470-476). In addition, the classified portion of the series contains intelligence reports on Soviet research in chemical warfare; reports on Board projects; and information on combat development activity involving chemical warfare.

a. All classified material; decimal file numbers 319.1, 322, 334, 400.11, and 470-476.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. All other material.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

11. Management Improvement Project Files, ca. 1959-61, 6 in. 216-01

Documents from the Chemical Board relating to changes in work and management methods. Included are data on staffing and manpower requirements; form letters and memorandums on their distribution; and copies of the plans for operating budget programs.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Field Forces Boards

12. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1922-56 91 cu. ft.

Variety of records created by Field Forces Boards, generally consisting of test reports on a wide range of equipment used by the military. Case files from CONARC Board #1 (1922-50, 4.6 ft.) generally date from the 1930's and consist mostly of test reports on trucks; other items tested include truck batteries, harness packs, tents, radio sets, and microphones. Records from Army Field Forces Board #1 (1947-53, 4.4 ft.) consist of service tests of various equipment generally related to airborne activities, such as helicopters, airplanes, gliders, parachutes, searchlights, and methods for airborne delivery of trucks, howitzers, etc. Many of the tests were held under desert and arctic conditions, including a variety of tests conducted by the Board's Arctic Test Branch in Alaska. Case files from the Army Field Forces Board #2 (1938-56, 81.8 ft.) are generally from the World War II period, and consist of test reports on guns, gas nozzles, tank covers, range finders, gun carriages, scout cars, periscopes, incendiary cartridges, protection against anti-tank mines, and flame throwers. Included are test reports on vehicles from the Mechanized Cavalry Board. One group of reports, created by the Armored Board at Ft. Knox and the Tank Destroyer Board at Camp Hood, dates from May-July, 1945 and relates to Project Sphinx which was to develop equipment and tactics to be used against Japanese Field fortifications. Records from Army Field Forces Board #3 (ca. 1952-55, 3 in.) consist of suitability tests of machine gun ammunition belts, of ammunition boxes, and of hexagonal tents, as well as tests done by its Arctic Test Branch on such things as cold weather tents.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

13. Research and Development Correspondence, ca. 1944-54, 41 cu. ft.  
1301-01

Letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence from various Army Field Forces Boards relating to research and development activities. Records from Army Field Force Board No. 2 (1944-53, 40.7 ft.) contain both routine and valuable material.

The latter consists of study plans and test reports on a wide variety of equipment, from packs to vehicles to rocket launchers; these are quite similar to case files. Other valuable material is found under decimal file 210.53, trip reports, with data on Arctic indoctrination, new tanks, etc., often with photographs and drawings; and 470-476, containing such items as draft military characteristics for tanks, and specifications for delay fuzes. Other correspondence relates to Project Sphinx, the project to develop tactics and materiel, in mid-1945, for use against Japanese field fortifications. Routine material is found in the usual decimal files, and contains vehicle status reports, requisitions, etc. Records from Army Field Forces Board No. 6 (1954-54, 2 in.) relate to equipment and testing, mostly for helicopters and their components, and include some progress reports.

a. All records from Board No. 6; from Board No. 2, Decimal Files 210.53, 319.1, 400.11, 470-476, and those records similar to case files.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. All other material.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

14. General Correspondence, ca. 1951-56, 7 cu. ft.

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from Army Field Forces Boards relating to routine, day-to-day activities, such as personnel utilization, tables of distribution, driving tests, requisitions for supplies, administrative aspects of conferences, lists of tools, and the like. However, file number 400.112 - 400.114 and 470-472 contain a great deal of information on research and development activities.

a. Files 400.112 - 400.114; 470-472.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. All other correspondence.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Infantry Board

15. Technical Report Record <sup>sets</sup>~~Files~~, ca. 1957-66, 5.5 cu. ft. 1304-14

Final reports, in print or near-print form, from the Infantry Board, on variety of tests performed on the wide range of military equipment used by the Infantry. Items tested include radar sets, flame-thrower kits, tents and uniforms, portable decontaminating apparatus, antitank rockets, cartridges and weaponsights, mechanized combat vehicles, and similar items. Most tests were done on the serviceability and suitability of the item for infantry use; most reports include photos and charts.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

16. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1947-61, 37.4 cu. ft.

Case files from the Infantry Board containing reports of service tests, troop tests, comparative tests, and durability tests, and draft military characteristics for a wide variety of equipment used by the Army Infantry. Among the items tested or covered were rations; uniforms; smoke grenades; tents; grenade launchers; mortar shells; rifles and cartridges; and sighting devices. Some tests were accomplished under arctic or desert conditions. Case files may include, variously, trip reports, questionnaires, evaluations, photographs, charts, drawings, and blueprints. Some of the test reports were created by Army Field Forces Board No. 3 at Ft. Benning; all the material was, however, retired by the Infantry Board.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

17. Research and Development Correspondence, ca. 1920-60, 24.8 cu. ft.  
1301-01

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence retired by the Infantry Board; much of the material, however appears to have been created by the Army Field Forces Board #3 at Ft. Benning. The records relate to research and development activities at that installation. Although some of the material is archivally valueless, such as copies of routine messages, much of it provides data on various projects relating to equipment used by the Infantry, such as clothing, food, rifles, hand grenades, fire control, etc. Generally this information is found in the 400 level of the Decimal File. Additional information on specific equipment is found in test reports and trip reports filed under 319.1.

a. War Department Decimal File Numbers 314.7, 319.1, 400-499

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. All other material.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

18. General Correspondence, ca. 1951-57, 1.5 ft.

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Infantry Board documenting routine day-to-day activities of the Board. The material concerns only housekeeping functions, such as the administration aspects of tests, such as scheduling, visitors, etc. Also included in the series are management improvement files, tables of distribution, and correspondence on British and Canadian visitors and what equipment they were interested in.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Maintenance Board

19. Research and Development Case Files ca. 1955-61, 20 cu. ft.

Trip reports, training texts, and other materials retired by the Maintenance Board, and relating to the repair and maintenance of a variety of Army equipment. Most of the records were created by other agencies, including various training texts from the Combat Development Center, and a supply procedure guide from the 8th Infantry Division. Included in the series are inspection reports, procurement data, and publications background files on repair and maintenance manuals.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

20. General Correspondence, ca. 1955-57, 1 cu. ft.

Letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence from the Maintenance Board relating to routine, housekeeping, day-to-day activities of the Board, such as logs of telephone conversations, budget data, procurement records, reports of visits, and much publication background material on maintenance manuals.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Medical Services Board

21. Technical Report Record <sup>sets</sup> Files, ca. 1955-57, 1 in. 1304-14

Final reports, in print and near-print form, on studies undertaken by the Medical Services Board, for the Surgeon General on such topics as the command and staff relationship of the Surgeon General to the Army hospital system; enlisted training in the medical service; and officer procurement in the medical service.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

22. General Correspondence, 1954-57, 1 in.

Records from the Medical Services Board consisting only of two files: 319.1, Activities Report; and 314.7, Historical Report. Both provide information on the mission and functions of this Board.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Military Police Board

23. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1951-54, 2.8 cu. ft.

Case files from the Military Police Board relating to the variety of equipment used by Military Police. Files include, variously, surveys and questionnaires, test reports, studies, reprints of articles on firearms, photographs, and service tests. Items and

topics covered include revolvers, patrol wagons, reflectorized batons, lie detectors, fingerprint kits, spotlights, use of helicopters by MP units, training films, motorcycles, portable traffic signals, and similar matters.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

24. Research and Development Correspondence, ca. 1953-55, 1 in., 1301-01

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Military Police Board relating to the routine administration of research and development activities. Topics covered include training films, visitors, public availability of technical bulletins, and various pieces of equipment. The last item includes brochures and advertisements from private companies; any substantive material is also contained in case files on a given item.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Ordnance Boards

25. Technical Report Record <sup>sets</sup> ~~Files~~, ca. 1963-67, 21 cu. ft. 1304-14

Final reports, generally in print or near-print form, from various ordnance boards, pertaining to tests performed by those boards. Records from the Armor Board (1963-67, 15.3 ft.) include some case files in addition to the final reports and cover test plans and service tests of combat vehicles, cargo and troop carriers, and underwater fording kits for tanks. Records from the Artillery Board (1965-66, 3 ft.) consist of evaluations of rocket launchers, howitzers, and wind-measuring sets; and tests of chemical rocket warheads. Printed reports include photographs and charts; some files contain test directives and memorandums in addition to the printed report. Files from the Air Defense Board (1964-66, 2.6 ft.) include some tests done for the Army Missile Command, such as tests of transmitters for target missiles and tests relating to range and hit probability of air defense weapons systems. Other tests relate to fire distribution systems and air conditioner collective protectors. Some reports from the Air Defense Board were conducted by the Test and Evaluation Command.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

26. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1936-64, 113.7 cu. ft.

Variety of records created by Ordnance-related Boards, generally consisting of test reports on a wide range of equipment used by the military. Case files from the Ordnance Board (ca. 1950-54, 9.5 cu. ft.) generally concern repair and maintenance, and stock control; most relate to service tests of tool sets for repair and maintenance of aircraft and ground vehicles. Case files from the Artillery Board (ca. 1936-62, 18 cu. ft.), consist of reports on tests, usually performed by Army Field Forces Board #1. These tests were evaluation, service, confirmatory, or suitability tests on such items as plotting equipment, ammunition, meteorological

balloons, ballistic data computer, firing mechanisms, transport equipment, radar for seacoast artillery, and other items relating to artillery. Most of the case files include test and progress reports, photographs, drawings, blueprints, and charts. Case files from the Armor Board (ca. 1946-64, 86.2 cu. ft.) consist of test plans and reports on evaluation of trucks, tank guns, dosimeters, entrenching machines, range finders and fire control equipment, bulldozers, and the like. The material includes tests of equipment under arctic and desert conditions. Most case files contain drawings, photographs, blueprints and specifications, and correspondence, in addition to the test reports.

- a. Case files from the Armor Board and the Artillery Board.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- b. Case files from the Ordnance Board.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- 27. Research and Development Correspondence, ca. 1951-62, 5.5 cu. ft.  
1301-01

Letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence from the various Ordnance Boards relating to research and development activities. Records from the Artillery Board (1959-62, 1 ft.) consist generally of trip reports and test reports pertaining to ordnance equipment and maintenance, mostly missiles, missile launchers, and defense systems. Much of the material relates to setting up requirements for ordnance equipment in conjunction with other boards and ordnance facilities. Records from the Ordnance Board (1951-54, 2 ft.) are a mixture of routine, housekeeping material, and information on specific projects, such as a 1952 Report of Electronics and Communications Mission to Korea (no. 413), and drawings of shops for a theater of operations (no. 600). The series also contains good historical reports in 314.7 and 337. Files from the Armor Board (1956-59, 2.5 ft.) consist only of routine, housekeeping records, such as publication background files, requisitions, and correspondence on supplies.

- a. All records from Artillery Board; Decimal File Numbers 314.7, 337, 413, 471-472, and 600 from Ordnance Board.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- b. All other records.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- 28. General Correspondence, ca. 1954-57, 17.8 cu. ft.

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Armor Board concerning routine, day-to-day activities of the Board. Much of the material relates to housekeeping activities, such as audit reports; accidents; personnel matters; supplies; commercial

leaflets; vehicle inspection lists; requisitions; and space utilization. Many of the records are publication background files for technical manuals, or trip reports on a variety of conferences pertaining to Armor equipment, although generally containing only schedules and agendas. Also included are copies of research and development reports from other Army organizations.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Quartermaster Board

29. Technical Report Record <sup>sets</sup>~~Files~~, ca. 1952-53, 2 in. 1304-14

Final reports, in print or near-print form of tests, conducted by the Quartermaster Board to determine the utility, acceptability, etc., of new products, such as sleeping bags, insulated boots, thermal underwear, tents, and foods. Many of the tests were performed by the Arctic Test Branch of the Board at Ft. Churchill, Manitoba.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

30. Research and Development Case Files, ca. 1942-59, 57 cu. ft.

Case files from the Quartermaster Board relating to two major areas of concern: the role of the Quartermaster Corps in military operations; the testing of specific items of equipment. The first area contains studies, reports, and correspondence generally concerning the development of a scheduled supply system in which requirements of a using organization are calculated in the rear and supplies shipped forward without requests on the part of the user. Much of the material relates to the Quartermaster role in this system. Other items include a reevaluation of the airborne mission of the Quartermaster, and a collection of studies and reports on petroleum supply. The case files from the second area of concern contain quarterly and technical reports, test plans, surveys, photographs, drawings, charts, and the like on uniforms, shoes, tents, helmets, etc.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

31. Research and Development Correspondence, ca. 1943-52, 6 cu. ft. 1301-01

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Quartermaster Board relating to administrative aspects of the Board's research and development activities. Although some of the material is routine in nature, concerning foreign visitors and shipping, the series provides much information on World War II test plans, especially concerning food and clothing and food conservations. Also included are test directives, trip reports, and correspondence from Quartermaster Test Teams at Yuma, with the Desert Test Program, and at Ft. Churchill, Manitoba, with the Arctic Test Program.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

32. General Correspondence, 1953-54, 6 in.

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence pertaining to the day-to-day activities of the Quartermaster Board. The overwhelming majority of the records concern routine, housekeeping functions, such as funds and allotments; personnel matters; holiday messages, and the like. Two items are worthy of permanent retention: file number 0.7, containing articles on research, development, and testing activities of the Board; and a folder listed as No. 41, Historical Program, providing a history of the Board and a mission statement, as well as a listing of Board evaluation projects.

- a. File NO. 41 and 0.7, Publicity and Press.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- b. All other correspondence files.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Signal Board

33. Research and Development Case Files, ca. k924-62, 11.5 cu. ft.

Service tests, reports, surveys, and related material created by the Signal Corps Board and generally pertaining to radio communications equipment and operations, including frequencies, receivers, speech inversion systems and cryptographic operations, and repairs and maintenance. Other topics of research covered by these case files include air-raid alarm devices, protective equipment, and combat effectiveness of signal troops.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

34. General Correspondence, ca. 1924-56, 3 in.

Letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence from the Signal Board relating to the day-to-day operations of the Board. Although much of the material is routine, concerning supplies and shipping, the records contain historical data including the 1924 order establishing the Signal Board, and other correspondence relating to the early years of the Board, its functions and compositions. There is also material on Board activities and projects in the 1930's and during World War II.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Transportation Board

35. Technical Report Record <sup>SETS</sup> Files, ca. 1963-65, 1 cu. ft., 1304-14

Final reports, in print or near-print form, of variety of tests conducted by the Transportation Board. Included are service tests of howitzers and amphibious cargo carriers; a movement adaptability test of a mobile floating assault bridge; and military potential tests of road-rail conversion kits.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

36. General Correspondence, ca. 1955-57, 5 in.

Letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence from the Transportation Board documenting the routine day-to-day activities of the Board and consisting of improvement suggestions, trip reports on vehicles, tables of distribution, and routine correspondence on security. The series also includes project correspondence from 400.112 relating to seat belts, antennae, amphibious trucks, ambulance trains, snowplows, and similar equipment.

- a. File No. 400.112.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- b. All other records.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Records Created By More than One Type of Board

37. Staff Studies, ca. 1957-59, 5 in.

Studies from the Maintenance Board (4 in.) and the Signal Board (1 in.) consisting of correspondence, memorandums, trip reports, survey results, recommendations, and the like. Those from Maintenance cover a variety of topics, including a study of the role and operation of logistics forces in Army of future, and modernization and simplification of maintenance literature. Signal Board study concerns support for Signal officers in the field.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

38. Research and Development Specifications and Drawings. ca. 1945-57, 1.4 cu. ft. 1304-12

Drawings, blueprints, specification sheets, charts, and similar records created by the Armor Board (1947-57, 1.2 ft.) and the Army Field Forces Board No. 2 (1952-52, 3 in.), both located at Ft. Knox. Material from the Armor Board consists of specifications for various items of research and development such as guns, cargo carriers, aerial-delivered anti-tank mines, and related items of

equipment. Blueprints and drawings pertain to radio control devices, antitank guns, armor piercing projectiles, etc. Charts relate to ammunition needed to defeat various types of armor, or cover military characteristics of armor-related materiel. Records from Board No. 2 consist of drawings, blueprints, and maps for Project Sphinx, the 1945 plan to build Japanese-type fortifications, and test tactics and equipment against them.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

39. Research and Development Technical Committee and Board Files, ca. 1947-61, 10.4 cu. ft. 1303-02

Trip reports, project summaries, conference and meeting reports, test plans, and variety of correspondence created by most Boards. Generally, these records provide a great deal of information on the activities of each Board, and the projects each was involved with. They include board comments on items of equipment and on test plans and reports, and correspondence on the equipment. Some routine, administrative records are intermixed with the valuable material.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

40. Manuals, ca. 1961-63, 2 in. 227-01

Issuances from the Maintenance and Transportation Boards prescribing uniform policies and procedures, establishing programs, describing organizational structure, and listing responsibilities and functions. These issuances are in printed form.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

41. Daily Journals, ca. 1950-63, 2.1 cu. ft. 228-09

Documents reflecting a chronological record of events at the Armor Board (2 ft.) and the Transportation Board (1 in.). Each of these Boards created two types of these records. The Armor Board had Daily Activity Reports, which contain daily lists of project numbers, test equipment, time, test officer, and test activity; it also had "Daily Journals" to record routine items such as visits, phone conversations, and messages sent and received. Neither of these contain any concrete information on test activities. The Transportation Board did a chronological record in "Highlights of the Week," which documented routine activities, such as lists of repairs made; lists, by project number, of tests being done; and recaps of mileage and maintenance operations. This Board also prepared Notes, which are actually reports on exercises, describing equipment and tests, and providing information on experimental vehicles and components, and tests in Panama and the Arctic.

a. Daily Journals titled "Transportation Board Notes."

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- b. All other Daily Journals, by whatever name.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

42. Memorandums, ca. 1951-64, 4.5 cu. ft. 227-01

Numbered and unnumbered printed issuances from a variety of Boards, used for a variety of purposes, from promulgating policy directives to prescribing short-term administrative procedures. Although most memorandums concern only routine activities, the Beach Erosion Board issued technical memorandums relating to various studies and projects, such as artificially nourished and constructed beaches, wave and lake level statistics for Great Lakes, and sources of beach sand.

- a. Technical memorandums from Beach Erosion Board.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- b. All other memorandums.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

43. Bulletins, ca. 1951-62, 7 in. 227-01

Numbered issuances from most Boards used to convey official and unofficial information of an advisory, informative, or directive nature. Generally, bulletins contain information of only the most routine sort. However, Technical Information Bulletins from the Transportation Board are similar to printed technical reports on evaluations of items of equipment; and Technical bulletins from the Beach Erosion Board are similar to technical reports or technical journals, and generally pertain to shoreline protection and design.

- a. Technical and Technical Information Bulletins from Beach Erosion Board and Transportation Board.

Permanent. Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

- b. All other bulletins.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

44. Circulars, ca. 1958-63, 2 in., 227-01

Numbered issuances from the Aviation and Transportation Boards published for the purpose of providing operating instructions for the implementation of regulations. The information promulgated is often transitory in nature, and circulars often bear an expiration date not later than one year from the date of issue.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

45 Security Correspondence, ca. 1950-62, 1.4 cu. ft.

501-01

Letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence from most Boards, relating to routine administration of security violation and security clearance and classification activities. The vast bulk of this correspondence concerns ephemeral transactions and procedures relating to the day-to-day operations of the creating unit, such as the handling of classified material, the regrading of security classified documents, visitors to the facility and the processing of individual security clearances.

Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

## Justifying Memorandum for Standard Form 115 on Boards

This is one of a series of Standard Forms 115 covering the records of specific echelons of U.S. Army field units located in the National Personnel Records Center (Military) that have been offered to the National Archives for possible accessioning as archival. This offer consists of some 560 cu. ft. of permanent and unscheduled records created by U.S. Army Boards, generally between the late 1940's and the early 1960's.

The major mission of most Army Boards was to test items of equipment and decide on the military characteristics of a particular item. According to a 1946 War Department Memorandum, the major functions of Boards were the following: to test new items of equipment or supply in production or being developed to determine whether military characteristics were being met and if improvements were required; to test standard commercial articles to determine whether they were suitable for military supply, or what changes were required to make them suitable; to determine operating techniques for employment of equipment; and to provide liaison with appropriate field organizations and activities of the Armed Forces.

In addition to the general functions common to all Boards, each Board had specific duties relating to the work of specific Army branches.

The Adjutant General Board was established in 1941 to consider problems referred to it by the Adjutant General and on its own initiative for the improvement of the whole department, particularly services in the field.

The airborne boards at Ft. Bragg were outgrowths of the Airborne Troop Board, set up in the 1940's to study glider tactics and test special equipment used by airborne troops. The Board for Aviation Accident Research appears to have grown out of the Office of Flying Safety, which studied safety and accident factors in aircraft and air equipment, as well as accident and safety factors in flying training programs, and accident prevention.

The Beach Erosion Board, part of the Corps of Engineers, was established in 1930. Its mission was to prepare studies of foreign and domestic beach and port areas for military intelligence, and for civilian operations.

The Chaplain Board handled equipment needs and prepared training aids and literature.

The Chemical Board was established in 1923 to coordinate technical developments and recommend service tests. In 1945, the Board was given the function of approving and assigning all important projects for research, development, and testing, and evaluating results. In 1956, it was assigned the primary mission of providing long-range studies to determine the proper application of CBR warfare systems in future military operations, and to provide guidance for research and development activities.

The Army Field Forces Boards conducted numerous tests for many of the technical service boards. They were descendants of various earlier boards. Board #1 was originally the Field Artillery Board, set up to develop, test, and

procure field artillery materiel. Board #2 was the descendant of an Armored Board, founded in 1940 to conduct field tests of tanks and other equipment used by armored units; of the Tank Destroyer Board, which had conducted field tests of guns and sights, radar, and ammunition; and of the Mechanized Cavalry Board, which conducted tests of various types of vehicles. Board #4 grew out of the Coast Artillery Board, which conducted firing tests and recommended standardization of equipment.

The Infantry Board at Ft. Benning was in charge of service tests for infantry weapons, most of which were under development and procurement by the Ordnance Department and other technical services. Among types of equipment tested were machine guns, grenades, rocket launchers, optical sights, radar, and weapons for jungle warfare,. It also evaluated other equipment used by Infantry personnel.

The Intelligence Board was set up to review combat and other films, prepare training aids and literature, and intelligence bulletins and reports.

The Maintenance Board was a field agency of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics. Its mission was to develop, review, recommend revision of, and coordinate policies, procedures, and doctrine governing organizational maintenance, and repair parts and tools for its support, for all equipment of the Army in the field. The Board was concerned with uniformity and consistency of maintenance policy, doctrines, and procedures Army-wide.

The purpose of the Medical Services Board was to assist the Surgeon General in analysis and development of Army Medical Service policy. It was concerned with the policies, training, and organization of medical services; with items of equipment and supply under development; and with the adaptability of commercial medical articles for Army use.

The Military Police Board developed special training aids such as film strips, and motion pictures, and conducted field tests of munitions, radar, and other equipment used by MP units.

The first Ordnance Board was created in the 1880's by Congressional authorization to serve as the final judge of the utility of proposed new models of weapons. In 1919, the Westervelt Board was established to explore the whole field of ordnance design. More specialized boards were created during World War II to test weapons and equipment, especially armor and artillery. An Ordnance Department Board was set up at Aberdeen in 1942 to study and submit recommendations on the improvement of organization and training of Ordnance troop units; in addition, it conducted field tests of materiel and troop units. The post-World War II Ordnance Board appears to have concentrated on maintenance and repair of ordnance equipment, while additional boards were set up for specific types of ordnance, such as armor, artillery, and air defense.

The Quartermaster Board was established in 1934; it served as a military advisory group to the Quartermaster on broad policy programs in all aspects of operations. The Board tested clothing, equipment, and subsistence under simulated field conditions, and was responsible for research and development

activities, involving administration, technology, and organizational functions and systems. In addition, the Board assisted in the formulation and coordination of combat development objectives, studies, field experiments and tests, and materiel requirements, and was concerned with logistic implications of new concepts of warfare.

The Signal Corps Board at Ft. Monmouth was set up in 1924 to consider problems of organization, equipment, and tactical and technical procedures. It conducted service tests of commercial communications equipment and that developed by the Signal Corps; reviewed existing and proposed military characteristics for such equipment, analyzing combat and field experience, and recommending modifications if necessary.

The Transportation Board was established in 1944 to develop and execute research and development programs. It conducted field and engineering tests to determine whether equipment met military characteristics; conducted operations leading to improvement of transportation capabilities in difficult environments.

One major problem I encountered in the examination of research and development files and correspondence from Boards was the determination of which Board actually undertook a given project. In numerous cases, one Board did tests for another. This was especially true of various Field Forces Boards, which appear to have conducted numerous tests for the Armor, Artillery, or Infantry Boards. This was most common with Field Forces Boards located at the same installation as one of the Service Boards, such as Field Force Board #2 and the Armor Board, both at Ft. Knox, and Field Force Board #3 and the Infantry Board, both at Ft. Benning. In addition, some technical reports from the Air Defense and Infantry Boards also have the title Army Test and Evaluation Command. Some Boards retired test reports from several different-named units. For example, the Army Field Forces Board #2 retired records created by the Armored Board, the Mechanized Cavalry Board, which appear to have been forerunners of the Field Forces Board, and by the Tank Destroyer Board at Camp Hood. It is not clear whether a given Board retired informational copies of reports created by other Boards, or whether one Board functioned as coordinator on a particular project and maintained the record copy of the report, regardless of which Board actually conducted the test. The latter would appear to be true in most cases. For that reason, records will be grouped for appraisal purposes according to the Board that retired the documents; the same procedure will hold true for screening and arrangement.

Examples of each record series, with samples from each organization creating that series, were examined intensively for this SF 115. The descriptions and disposition instructions for most series are self-explanatory. Following, however, are additional comments and explanations for particular series:

Items 1,2,4,5,8,12,16,19,23,26,30,33. Research and Development Case Files. As always, this series is the most problematical in the collection. Case files from Boards differ from those created by other types of organizations: they do not generally document basic research and development of a particular item of equipment. Instead, they document the various kinds of tests which equipment must undergo before acceptance. This includes service tests and user evaluations; confirmatory tests; climatic tests; field tests; and plans

for all these types of tests. While item testing files are themselves disposable per AR 340-18-1304-11, that citation should perhaps not apply to test files from Boards, since the major mission of Boards was to test items of equipment to determine whether military characteristics were being met and whether modifications or improvements were required. In addition, these case files provide a great deal of documentation on particular items and on the whole process by which the Army acquired new equipment and decided whether it would fulfill the requirements of the military.

I spoke about these records with Marcel Coppola, an archivist with the Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command who is familiar with Army records at NPRC. He believes that they do contain valuable information and should be retained, especially those case files created before 1962. In that year, the Army established the Test and Evaluation Command, which generally maintains copies of these test files. Dr. Coppola said that it is not clear whether copies exist of test files created before 1962.

Based on my examination of these case files and on the information from Dr. Coppola, I am recommending the permanent retention of most research and development case files. In order to provide more complete descriptions of the records, and because of the sizable volume of the series, I am describing separately the case files from each type of Board.

Items 3,6,10,14,18,20,22,28,32,34,36. General Correspondence. Because of the disparity in the value of material in this series, the records have been described and appraised by type of creating organization, with accordingly different recommendations on the disposition of the records.

There are common factors to all General Correspondence. All were originally scheduled according to EAR 345-200/18D and other items in the AR 345-200 series. All are composed of letters, memorandums, reports, and other correspondence relating to the functions and activities of U.S. Army Boards. The vast bulk of this correspondence concerns ephemeral transactions and procedures relating to the day-to-day operations of the creating unit. This item is applicable not only to centralized General Administrative Files, but also to specific administrative files maintained by individual offices. This item is not applicable to those individual files which document long-range planning, organizational, and policy matters, and which have previously been scheduled for permanent retention. In addition, this item is not applicable to specific series or portions of administrative files described and provided for elsewhere in this schedule.

Because of the nature of the series itself, in all cases, much routine, housekeeping material is intermixed with other records in the series. However, almost all the files also contain historical reports, filed under War Department Decimal File 314.7; these will always be retained, no matter what the recommendation for other records in this series. In general, much of this series, from most Boards, consists only of routine, housekeeping records of no archival value. When valuable records do exist, they are most often from the 400 level of the War Department Decimal Filing System and relate to research and development activities. When even these do not exist in General Correspondence, it is likely that they were filed with Research and Development Correspondence, which contains very similar types of material in the 400

level. Additional information would also be found in those series previously appraised as permanent. With some Boards, there is a notable difference between classified and non-classified correspondence, while at others, the date of creation is pertinent to value, generally with older records being more valuable, and more recent ones more routine. In all of these cases, the description for General Correspondence from each type of creator indicates the reasons for the recommendations being made.



MARVIN H. KABAKOFF  
Archivist  
Military Operations Branch

Boards Creating Records Maintained at NPRC

Adjutant General's Board, Ft. Benjamin Harrison, ca. 1958-62, 1.1 cu. ft.

Airborne and Aviation

Airborne and Electronics Board, Ft. Bragg, ca. 1947-63, 4 cu. ft.

Joint Airborne Troop Board, Ft. Bragg, ca. 1951-52, 8 cu. ft.

Joint Tactical Air Support Board, Ft. Bragg, ca. 1952-54, 5 in.

Board for Aviation Accident Research, Ft. Rucker, ca. 1957-58, 3 in.

Animal Equipment Departmental Board #3, Ft. Carson, ca. 1952-53, 6 cu. ft.

Beach Erosion Board, Washington, D.C., ca. 1942-58, 4 cu. ft.

Chaplain Board, Ft. George Meade, ca. 1956-57, 1 in.

Chemical Corps Board, Army Chemical Center, MD, ca. 1923-61, 40 cu. ft.

Field Forces

Army Field Forces Board No. 1, Ft. Bragg, ca. 1947-54, 10 cu. ft.

Army Field Forces Board No. 2, Ft. Knox, ca. 1938-56, 126 cu. ft.

Army Field Forces Board No. 3, Ft. Benning, ca. 1951-53, 10 in.

Army Field Forces Board No. 4, Ft. Bliss, ca. 1951-52, 6 in.

Army Field Forces Board No. 5, Ft. Bragg, ca. 1951-53, 2.8 cu. ft.

Army Field Forces Board No. 6, Ft. Rucker, ca. 1952-56, 4 in.

CONARC Board No. 1, Ft. Sill, ca. 1922-54, 5.6 cu. ft.

Infantry Board, Ft. Benning, ca. 1920-66, 71 cu. ft.

Intelligence Board, Ft. Holabird, ca. 1960-61, 1 in.

Maintenance Board, Ft. Knox, ca. 1955-63, 21.8 cu. ft.

Medical Services Board, Walter Reed, ca. 1954-57, 3 in.

Military Police Board, Ft. Gordon, ca. 1951-61, 3.2 cu. ft.

Ordnance

Air Defense Board, Ft. Bliss, ca. 1956-65, 3 cu. ft.

Arctic Test Board, ca. 1958-60, 3 in.

Armor (and Engineer) Board, Ft. Knox, ca. 1946-67, 131 cu. ft.

Artillery Board, Ft. Sill, ca. 1963-64, 22.8 cu. ft.

Ordnance Board, Aberdeen Proving Ground, ca. 1951-59, 12 cu. ft.

Quartermaster Board, Ft. Lee, ca. 1942-59, 63 cu. ft.

Signal

Signal Board, Ft. Monmouth, ca. 1924-63, 11.7 cu. ft.

Signal Corps Invention Evaluation Board, Ft. Monmouth, ca. 1948-56, 4 in.

Transportation Board, Ft. Eustis, ca. 1956-64, 1.8 cu. ft.

Records Previously Appraised as Permanent

Adjutant General Board

General Orders, ca. 1958-62, 4 in.

Operating Program Progress Reports, 1960, 1 in.

Airborne and Aviation

Airborne and Electronics Board

General Orders, ca. 1957-62, 3 in.

Unit History, 1963, 1 in.

Joint Tactical Air Support Board

General Orders, ca. 1953-54, 1 in.

Unit History, ca. 1953-54, 1 in.

Board for Aviation Accident Research

General Orders, 1957, 1 in.

Operations Planning Files, 1957, 1 in.

Beach Erosion Board

SOP, 1957, 1 in.

Chaplain Board

General Orders, ca. 1956-57, 1 in.

Chemical Board

General Orders, ca. 1959-61, 1 in.

Installation Historical Files, 1960, 1 in.

Military Historians Files, ca. 1959-61, 3 in.

Mobilization Planning Files, 1959, 1 in.

Operating Program Progress Reports, ca. 1959-60, 2 in.

Operations Planning, 1960, 1 in.

Organization Planning, ca. 1959-61, 3 in.

Field Forces

Army Field Forces Board No.1

General Orders, 1954, 1 in.

Organization Planning, ca. 1953-54, 1 in.

Unit History, ca. 1949-54, 2 in.

Army Field Forces Board No.2

General Orders, ca. 1951-53, 1 in.

Unit History, 1953, 5 in.

Army Field Forces Board No.3

General Orders, 1953, 1 in.

Newspapers, 1955, 1 in.

Organization Planning, 1952, 1 in.

Army Field Forces Board No.4

General Orders, ca. 1951-52, 1 in.

Army Field Forces Board No.5  
General Orders, 1954, 1 in.

Army Field Forces Board No.6  
General Orders, ca. 1955-56, 1 in.

CONARC Board No.1  
General Orders, ca. 1953-56, 1 in.

Infantry Board  
General Orders, ca. 1954-63, 5 in.  
Newspapers, 1955, 1 in.  
Operations Planning, ca. 1955-56, 1 in.  
Organization Planning, ca. 1951-63, 5 in.  
Regulations, 1963, 1 in.  
Unit History, 1953, 1 in.

Intelligence Board  
Organization Planning, 1960, 1 in.

Maintenance Board  
Organization Planning, ca. 1957-63, 5 in.

Medical Service Board  
General Orders, ca. 1956-57, 1 in.  
Operations Planning, ca. 1956-57, 1 in.

Military Police Board  
General Orders, 1961, 1 in.  
Operating Program Progress Reports, 1953, 2 in.  
Unit History, 1951, 1 in.

#### Ordnance

Air Defense Board  
General Orders, ca. 1956-65, 1 in.

Arctic Test Board  
General Orders, ca. 1958-59, 1 in.

Armor Board  
General Orders, ca. 1954-66, 5 in  
Operations Planning, 1961, 1 in.  
Organization Planning, 1959, 1 in.  
Unit History, 1954, 11 in.

Artillery Board  
General Orders, ca. 1955-64, 5 in.  
Organization Planning ca. 1958-63, 3 in..

Transportation Board  
General Orders, ca. 1956-64, 1 in.  
Organization Planning, ca. 1963-64, 3 in.