

RBF - RBT

I am not at all sure that any help from us will be needed - but if it is I think we want to see this through, and on a scale which will always give us satisfaction W.W.

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

205 D
Univ. of Calif.
Radiation

DATE: September 20, 1945

COMMENTS:

SEP 27 1945

Lawrence came in to see me yesterday and I had a thrill - he says very positively that if it hadn't been for the RF, there would have been no atomic bomb. He is eager to get on with the finishing of his cyclotron. I had not realized that the instrument was incomplete when it was developed for military purposes. There is a balance of \$400,000 of the money which we appropriated. Due to rising costs, this isn't going to be enough to complete the instrument - particularly in view of the fact that new ideas have developed in the last five years. He thinks he can get the money from the Government and wasn't asking for money yesterday. On the other hand, he is worried about the conditions under which money may be made available by the Government (and when he uses the word "Government," he means the Army) - conditions which would restrict freedom for research on his part and on the part of his group.

This cyclotron is our baby and it is going to be one of the jewels in our crown - that is, if we don't use the bomb to blow the world to pieces with. If Lawrence needs more money and is unable to get it from the Government under the conditions which will give him complete

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

205 D
Univ. of Calif.
Radiation

FROM: RBF

DATE: September 20, 1945

TO:

WW		Wew
H M M		H M M

COMMENTS:

SEP 27 1945

SUBJECT:

Ernest Lawrence came in to see me yesterday and I had a thrilling talk with him. He says very positively that if it hadn't been for the RF, there would have been no atomic bomb. He is eager to get on with the finishing of his cyclotron. I had not realized that the instrument was incomplete when it was developed for military purposes. There is a balance of \$400,000 of the money which we appropriated. Due to rising costs, this isn't going to be enough to complete the instrument - particularly in view of the fact that new ideas have developed in the last five years. He thinks he can get the money from the Government and wasn't asking for money yesterday. On the other hand, he is worried about the conditions under which money may be made available by the Government (and when he uses the word "Government," he means the Army) - conditions which would restrict freedom for research on his part and on the part of his group.

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freedom of action, I would be in favor of our stepping in. I am quite sure that such a proposal would have the enthusiastic support of the Trustees.

RBF DBF