

June 21, 1943

Subject: Dissemination of Information

W/m Los Alamos

To: Division Leaders
Group Leaders
Members of the Coordinating Council

The growth of the laboratory at Los Alamos and the addition to the staff of specialist personnel with interests lying in widely varying fields has raised the question of the extent to which all information should be made available to all members of the laboratory staff. It is the general opinion of the direction of the laboratory that in no case should information be withheld from anyone who could work more effectively if the information were in his hands, or who would be in a better position to maintain a high level of security in his possible dealings with outside workers if he were more fully informed. It is, however, the conviction of the director that not all workers here will wish to concern themselves in detail with the developments that are going on in quite remote branches of the project, and that in general no effort should be made to force everyone in the laboratory to try to follow the details of every branch of our work. For these reasons we propose the following general procedure.

1. Any member of the laboratory staff who has been properly cleared shall have access to any specific class of information with the approval either of his group leader, his division leader or the director.
2. Any member of the laboratory staff who is properly cleared may have blanket access to all information upon the recommendation of his division leader or the director.
3. Since the division leaders in theoretical physics and experimental physics have already expressed their desire to have their scientific staff properly fully informed on questions of physics and on the broad outlines of chemical and engineering problems, these groups will, as in the past, have no limits placed on the information which is available to them.

Free

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NNO 730039
BY..... NARS, Data

4. It is requested that access to secret documents be granted only on the written recommendation of group leaders, division leaders, or the director.
5. Access to colloquia and secret documents will in general be indicated by the white letter-number badge, and such badges should not be assigned except in cases where attendance at colloquia and access to secret literature, properly validated by the appropriate authorities, is permitted.
6. A list of personnel who shall have access either to all or to certain categories of secret documents will be maintained in the hands of the librarian and it is the responsibility of the appropriate authorities to see that this list is maintained up to date.

J. R. Oppenheimer
Director