

REQUEST FOR RECORDS DISPOSITION AUTHORITY			JOB NUMBER N1-167-99-01	
To: NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (NW) WASHINGTON, DC 20408			DATE RECEIVED 7-15-99	
1. FROM (Agency or establishment) National Institute of Standards and Technology			NOTIFICATION TO AGENCY In accordance with the provisions of 44 U.S.C. 3303a, the disposition request, including amendments, is approved except for items that may be marked "disposition not approved" or "withdrawn" in column 10.	
2. MAJOR SUBDIVISION				
3. MINOR SUBDIVISION				
4. NAME OF PERSON WITH WHOM TO CONFER Sue C. Cox		5. TELEPHONE 301-975-4064	DATE 10-5-99	ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES <i>John W. Paul</i>
6. AGENCY CERTIFICATION I hereby certify that I am authorized to act for this agency in matters pertaining to the disposition of its records and that the records proposed for disposal on the attached ___ 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, under the provisions of Title 8 of the GAO manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies,				
<input type="checkbox"/> is not required; <input type="checkbox"/> is attached; or <input type="checkbox"/> has been requested.				
DATE 7-13-99	SIGNATURE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE <i>Sue C. Cox</i>		TITLE Forms and Records Management Officer	
7. Item No.	8. DESCRIPTION OF ITEM AND PROPOSED DISPOSITION	9. GRS OR SUPERSEDED JOB CITATION	10. ACTION TAKEN (NARA USE ONLY)	
	Record Group 167, Records of the National Institute of Standards and Technology This schedule provides disposal authority for records stored at the WNRC. NOTE: Items 2 and 4 are withdrawn at the NIST's request until a mutually agreeable disposition can be determined. SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULE			

10/15/99 copy NWML: Agency

**National Institute of Standards and Technology
WNRC Project
RG 167 records stored at WNRC**

NOTE: This schedule provides one-time only disposition authority for the specific NIST and NIST predecessor records which are stored at WNRC. This schedule cannot be used to provide continuing disposition authority for NIST records which may be located elsewhere in agency custody.

1. National Inventors Council Files, 1940-53

National Inventors Council committee files, arranged by Committee number, thereunder by a NIC numerical designation, thereunder alphabetically by name of inventor. Each Committee was responsible for evaluating submissions for a specific area of science and technology, such as ordnance and firearms, metals and metalurgy, signals and communications, etc. The files contain explanations and evaluations of the more significant proposals received by the Council, which was established in 1940, under the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, to provide a clearing house for inventions that might be useful for national defense, and to bring such inventions to the attention of the armed forces. The NIC was most active during WW II but continued to solicit inventions into the mid-1950s. When the OTS was abolished, the Department of Commerce transferred its functions to the National Bureau of Standards, which had provided both technical and administrative support to the NIC.

AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

See attachment for list of WNRC accessions and box numbers.

Justification: These records were appraised as permanent in an appraisal report dated March 25, 1971 (NN371-166). The appraisal report was not formally approved because of the restrictions imposed by the agency, which strongly believed in the proprietary nature of the records, precluded accessioning at that time. As late as 1988, the National Bureau of Standards Records Officer Bernie Hale, reiterated this position, saying that the records could not be opened to the public "until after the turn of the century." The value of these records for research into the history of science and technology is undisputed, and these records are especially significant considering the impact of technology on WW II.

Withdrawn 2.

National Inventors Council Plans and Drawings

Largely oversize plans, drawings, and supporting documents arrange alphabetically by last name of inventor. Files include photostats and blueprints. The plans and drawings were removed from the incoming correspondence files

~~AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.~~

~~See attachment for list of WNRC accessions and box numbers.~~

~~Justification: These plans and drawings visually supplement the inventions files documented in item 1 above, and were part of the original inventors submissions.~~

3. **National Inventors Council Day Files, 1947-54**

✓ Chronological correspondence files ("Day Files") of the National Inventors Council, 1950-1958, and of John C. Green, 1947-1958. Green served as Chief Engineer for the Council during WW II, and was head of the Department of Commerce's Office of Technical Service, under which the NIC was established. Tissue copies of outgoing correspondence, including both form letters and substantive replies to inventors concerning the utilization of their submissions as well as entitlements due them.

AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Note: Duplicative files will be destroyed during archival processing of the records.

See attachment for list of WNRC accessions and box numbers.

Justification: These correspondence files relate to the inventions documented in item 1 above. Given the lack of an index or other finding aids to the NIC files, these correspondence files should be permanent. They also provide a useful supplement to the invention files, because they document both NIC's post-war existence and continued interest by inventors in their submissions.

Withdrawn 4.

National Inventors Council Incoming Correspondence

~~Incoming correspondence files of the National Inventors Council, 1940-1953, largely inventors submissions and inquiries, arranged alphabetically by inventor's last name. All that remains of this is mid-T through ZZ, the rest having been destroyed. The bulk of this file was permanently withdrawn by the agency and returned under a different accession number. Destruction of that accession was authorized by the Department of Commerce records officer under NI-40-90-2, the disposal authority for patented invention case files of the Office of Chief Counsel for Technology, Department of Commerce.~~

~~AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in~~

See attachment for list of WNRC accessions and box numbers.

Justification: These incoming correspondence files relate to the inventions documented in item 1 above. Given the lack of an index or other finding aids to the NIC files, these correspondence files should be accessioned with the other NIC records listed here. Even though fragmentary, they provide insight on the relationship between material submitted and what was actually retained in the NIC files. Even though these records are already listed as permanent, they appear here because of their relationship to the other NIC records, and because the listed disposition authority, N1-167-92-17A, is generic for NIST sponsored committees and commissions, and a specific disposition authority is more appropriate for these records.