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 Serial: 488

JOINT TASK FORCE ON  
 NAVY DEPARTMENT  
 Washington 25, D. C.

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3 October 1946.

To: The Chief of Naval Operations,  
 Attn: The Motion Picture Board of Review.

Subj: Official Technical Documentary Film of OPERATION CROSSBOW,  
 Request for production.

1. It is requested that an official, technical documentary film of OPERATION CROSSBOW be prepared, having as its primary purpose the provision of an accurate, highly informative, visual record of the atomic bomb experiments. This film would be for immediate use and for future training and study.
2. The projected film will parallel, supplement and illustrate the official written history of Joint Task Force One. It will further serve to acquaint the President of the United States, the Congress, and the higher echelons of the armed services with the full scope of the complicated operations.
3. It will be a vehicle for scientific study, for tactical analysis and for the rapid indoctrination of personnel at the various war colleges and staff schools of the armed services. Definite requirements for a film of such proportion has been established.
4. This documentary will be one of the principal historical compilations of the operation and will have a detailed technical accuracy not possible with earlier film releases.
5. Technical advisors will be Commander Frederick A. Spencer, USN., and Lieutenant Richard J. Cunningham, USN. The script writer and researcher will be Marie Gault, Janet E. Koch, USN.
6. Attention and interest will be carefully accorded to each of the participating agencies of the operation in order to emphasize the high degree of cooperation and coordination effected. Responsible personnel of the technical engineering branches of the armed services will be considered as additional technical advisors.
7. While emphasis in this film will be on technical accuracy derived from official Task Force reports and historical documents, production will be directed toward achievement of pictorial interest and dramatic quality.
8. Six weeks' production time is envisaged for a film of this proposed composition. The film will be produced at the Naval Photographic Center, Annapolis, D. C., with a working title of "JOINT TASK FORCE ONE - OPERATION CROSSBOW". Approximate running time of the film will be 90 minutes.

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**JOINT TASK FORCE ONE**

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9. The approximate number of 35mm sound prints required will be not less than 50.

10. Services required will include selection, editing, titling, sound track and some photographic coverage. The chief deposit of required footage is already at the Naval Photographic Center. The film will make further use of footage exposed by the newspaper and television press and footage in the central and regional files of the Manhattan Engineering District and the usual services.

11. The classification of the film will be TOP SECRET until a finished working print is submitted for review at the time of final editing.

12. It is requested that a top priority be given this film project.

**W. A. P. HARRIS,  
Commander, Joint Task Force One.**