

COPY

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

April 21, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR JULIUS H. AMBERG, ESQ., Special Assistant to the  
Secretary of War

Subject: Senate Investigation - Sale of Screws  
at 830th AAF Specialized Depot, Memphis,  
Tennessee

1. This memorandum is submitted with reference to your memorandum of 27 March 1944 addressed to the Chief, legislative Services, Headquarters, Army Air Forces, Attention: Colonel Warren S. Ege.

2. The lot of brass and steel screws referred to in Mr. Halley's letter had been advertised for sale by the 830th AAF Specialized Depot at Memphis, Tennessee. Telephonic directions were issued from the Office of the AC/AS, Materiel, Maintenance and Distribution on the morning of 16 March 1944 withdrawing the lot of screws from sale. These directions were confirmed by a teletype on 17 March 1944 addressed to the Commanding Generals, Air Service Command and Materiel Command. Prompt notice of the withdrawal of sale was sent to all prospective bidders to whom the Depot has sent letters advertising the sale.

3. The lot of screws was declared to the Procurement Division, Treasury Department on 24 March 1944 on Forms #182. The screws are now being held by the Army Air Forces pending disposal by the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department.

4. The original estimates of requirements for aircraft type of screws were based on consumption data on aircraft under production at the time of procurement. Changes in Aircraft design, type and construction methods resulted in changes in the types and sizes of crews required. This created a surplus of the old types.

5. The requirements for common hardware types of screws were reduced below the original estimates due to the transfer to the manufacturer of responsibility for packing, crating and shipment of a considerable portion of the supplies and equipment.

6. The screws declared to Procurement Division, Treasury Department are the residue remaining after circularization to the Technical Services of the Army Service Forces, to the Navy and to the Redistribution Division of the War Production Board.

For the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:

William E. Hall  
Brig. Gen. USA  
Deputy Chief of Air Staff

5/5/44  
mailed copy to  
Mr. E. B. B. B.  
Buckley