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MO. 2

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FINE CHEMICALS
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326-68A-588

April 25, 1949

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W7405-eng 29

MCW 1948-1949

Mallinckrodt - eng-29

Mr. W. E. Kelley
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
New York Operations Office
P. O. Box 30, Ansonia Station
New York 23, New York

Subject: Production of Uranium Metal for Commercial Uses

Dear Mr. Kelley:

We have your letter of March 1 concerning the above subject, and wish to state that we will be very pleased to cooperate with the Commission in making uranium metal available for non-project research and educational uses.

We should like to make the following comments on various parts of the proposal outlined in your letter.

1. We will procure on the open market sufficient uranium raw materials to produce 200 pounds of metal by processing it in Commission-owned facilities. We assume that it will be satisfactory to charge into the process the same amount of uranium content as required in the finished product. Following this procedure will require the purchase of less raw material than would be necessary if the metal were being produced as a separate lot, not in an operating uranium plant, and will avoid the almost impossible problem of separating the residues generated in the course of producing the 200 pounds of uranium metal from the normal operations. However, if you prefer an alternate procedure, whereby we would put in enough uranium in excess of 200 pounds to take care of that which will be in residues, and then make arrangements whereby we will sell the residues to you, this will, of course, be agreeable to us.
2. We will reimburse you for using your facilities in the production of this metal, with your office furnishing the cost to us.
3. We will arrange so that the purity of the 200 pounds of uranium metal produced will meet (within normal limits) the specifications as outlined in Mr. Lawrence C. Burman's letter of October 26, addressed to Mr. W. F. Michener.

TO FW
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4. & 5. Arrangements will be made to distribute the uranium metal produced in accordance with the normal discount schedules pertaining to Analytical Reagent chemicals for different classes of customers, i.e. chemical manufacturers, stock houses, wholesalers, consumers, and so forth. The lowest price at which this material will be sold by us will be to chemical manufacturers at which price there will be no Mallinckrodt profit. This procedure is being suggested and would appear to be the best in the interest of making uranium metal available "in promoting free research and development" as you have stated.

We appreciate the opportunity of participating in this program of providing metallurgically pure uranium metal. We will, of course, withhold any announcement we wish to make until such time as a public announcement is made by the Atomic Energy Commission.

Very truly yours,

MALLINCKRODT CHEMICAL WORKS

J. Fister
 Vice President

JFistere
 cb

CC: Mr. C. L. Karl

P.S. So that you will know the order-of-magnitude cost of doing this work we have prepared a preliminary estimate of those elements for which we are responsible. They are as follows:

Raw Materials	\$12 per pound of Finished Product
Processing Cost	<u>5</u> per pound of Finished Product
Total	\$17 per pound of Finished Product