COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF

BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN V.L.R. BOMBING OF JAPAN

Memorandum by the British Chiefs of Staff

1. Consequent upon the Combined Chiefs of Staff approval in C.C.S. 691/1 for the deployment of British very long range (V.L.R.) bomber force in the Pacific, the Chief of the Air Staff discussed the problems of the redeployment of this force with General Kuter at ARGONAUT. Following this, Air Vice Marshal Lloyd (Force Commander Designate) visited Washington for discussions with the United States Army Air Forces Staff.

2. Air Vice Marshal Lloyd was informed that the American bases both existing and planned will be fully occupied by American forces but that the valley of the Cagayan River in northern Luzon which is suitable for airfield construction might be made available for the deployment of our bomber force.

3. In order to implement the decision in C.C.S. 691/1 we are in urgent need of a decision as to where our V.L.R. force is to be deployed, so that planning for the airfield construction and administrative backing for the force can be completed with the least possible delay.

4. We therefore request the Combined Chiefs of Staff approval of the allocation of the Cagayan River area in northern Luzon to the British V.L.R. bomber force.