

29 August 1956

The Files

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Trip and Progress Report - ATP-3 - Investigating the Use of Sand Castings - [REDACTED]

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1. On 14 August 1956, the [REDACTED]

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was visited to determine the feasibility of casting several parts for the ATP-3. It was also desired to obtain general information on the casting of small parts for future reference.

2. [REDACTED] At [REDACTED] Corporation, we met Mr.

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[REDACTED] Sales Manager, and Mr. Gaffney of the Engineering Department. They stated that on an order of our size (65 pieces each) sand castings would be practical. However, only three of the pieces, the frame block, the cover, and the case could be cast by this method. It was pointed out that, in general, the thinnest section economically feasible to sand cast was 3/16"; thinner sections would have to be machined. All mounting surfaces would have 1/16" machining stock remaining and no windows or holes would be cast in the pieces.

3. The company indicated that the three pieces named above would cost somewhat less than \$1000.00 in lots of 65 each. The quote is tentative and subject to revision based on finish machine prints which we would have to provide. The above figure is very encouraging when savings in machine labor and tie-up are considered. A breakdown of this quote and all pertinent information on deliveries, alloy, etc., will be presented in the ATP-3 program study now in preparation.

4. Laboratory personnel toured the plant accompanied by Mr. Hammond who explained the operation of the foundry, pattern shop, and metal finishing departments. The company was processing numerous items for commercial aircraft and Government rocket work both of which require 100% X-ray analysis. The facilities observed, and the degree of complexity of the work in process, provide adequate evidence of capability in terms of the ATP-3 work.

5. The sand casting of the three major pieces would still leave numerous smaller parts to be completely machined. It was

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decided to investigate investment castings (loss-wax process) for these parts. To this end, three firms in the New York-Philadelphia areas were visited on a separate trip. Results are reported under separate cover.

Lab/DLC/rkb (29 August 1956)

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