MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL ISHII

SUBJECT: Groves Project

24 July 1942

1. The following plan and schedule for initial attack using special bombs have been worked out:

a. The first bomb (gun type) will be ready to drop between August 1 and 10 and plans are to drop it the first day of good weather following readiness.

b. The following targets have been selected: Hiroshima, Kokura, Niigata and Nagasaki.

   (1) Hiroshima (population 320,000) is an Army city: a major RE; has large TF and supply depots; has considerable industry and several small shipyards.

   (2) Nagasaki (population 210,000) is a major shipping and industrial center of Kyushu.

   (3) Kokura (population 173,000) has one of the largest Army arsenals and ordnance works; has the largest railroad shops on Kyushu; and has large munitions storage to the south.

   (4) Niigata (population 200,000) is an important industrial city, building machine tools, diesel engines, etc., and is a key port for shipping to the mainland.

g. All four cities are believed to contain large numbers of key Japanese industrialists and political figures who have sought refuge from major destroyed cities.

g. The attack is planned to be visual to insure accuracy and will take favorable weather. The four targets give a very high probability of one being hit even if the weather varies from that predicted, as they are considered separated.
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