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February 24, 1943

LCB:nr

Mr. J. H. Manley,
University of Chicago,
Metallurgical Laboratory,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Manley:

Lieutenant Burman has been in contact with Baker & Company, Incorporated, relative to your possible requirements in platinum group metals of extreme density.

The following possibilities suggest themselves:

1. Platinum-Iridium Alloys up to 30% iridium content. 30% iridio-platinum is the highest iridio-platinum alloy that can be reasonably well handled, worked, or cast. Densities about 22 plus.

2. Osmium-Iridium Alloys. These alloys can be cast reasonably well but are absolutely unworkable. The supplies of these are decidedly limited and consequently should be considered for experimental work or laboratory scale operations only.

3. Pure Iridium Shell. Baker & Company is prepared to supply a pure iridium shell into which can be cast any other dense metal you may have in mind, for example tuballoy. The iridium shell can thereafter be welded shut.

copy 1 - addressee
2 - "
3 - Class. File
4 - Mat. File

We suggest that you get in touch directly with Dr. F. E. Carter, of Baker & Company, 113 Astor Street, Newark, New Jersey, who has been advised as to your interest. Dr. Carter is absolutely uninformed as to the general nature of the project but may be of assistance to you in obtaining suitable platinum group metal alloys.

For the District Engineer:

Very truly yours,

[redacted]
THOMAS T. CRENSHAW,
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,
Assistant.