

1943
Dear Mr. Divinia

In compliance with your request, I herewith submit an outline for the making of pictures at Plant II Boeing Wichita. This is doubtless very incomplete, but my intention is to give you an idea of what I see to do and to make a working skeleton.

The building of the B-29 seems to me to be not only one of the most important endeavors in the nation's war effort but is also an embodiment of the genius of American industry, engineering, and accomplishment. As such there should be made as fine a pictorial record of this achievement as it is possible to make. That this is a colossal task I am well aware, and it is my most sincere and humble hope that I may prove to have sufficient vision, ability and strength to fulfill such an undertaking. I am here to give you the fullest measure of which I am capable.

It is now six months since I came to Boeing. During that time I have endeavored to fulfill the requirements of the Public Relations Department and at the same time

to make myself as familiar as time would allow with the general plan and the manufacture of the ^{air} plane. Some of the pictures I have already made would be included in the series I have in mind. Many have failed to measure up to my own standards largely for lack of time. Some assignments, of course, have already covered some sections of this outline, and others I am sure will follow.

Here are three ultimate purposes to the complete series of picture and text. First the use most of them can be put to, either now, or at a much later date, by the Department for advertising purposes. Second, the possible publication of a book similar in outline and idea to the one I have already published or two others which are at the moment partially finished but shelved for the duration, though the subject matter is so vastly different. Such a book might be called "The building of the B29 in Wichita". My thought being to translate this outline into pictures which tell the story. Under such headings as Personal, I should like to make adequate portraits, character portraits of the men whose efforts and abilities are going into this great work. I know from past experience that publishers want

the human side of all such efforts. These pictures also would add sufficient variety and balance to the series as a whole. The text of such a book should contain an accurate, simplified statement of the story covering in some instances some phases which do not lend themselves to fiction (I have done this in my book "The Pueblos") and to interpret as dramatically as possible the spirit, vision, and fulfillment of this enterprise.

The third purpose of the series would be to produce an exhibition of prints of such a standard that it would be routed through the major museums of the country. During the past ten years, I have had numerous showings of prints of my Southwest, Yucatan, and other subjects in twenty or more of the leading museums, a list of which I shall gladly furnish if you wish it, and I believe that an exhibition of the B29 story would be accepted if I maintain my standard. Such an exhibition would acquaint a portion of the American public with the achievement at Boeing, Wichita, and such knowledge should prove of practical advertising value to whatever future production the Plant will accomplish. All this, of course, is far in the future and must be done hand in hand with the ^{current} demands of the department. To have such a purpose to work for

is what I hope may be granted me.

All of this is the barest outline which will need many ^{or} revisions and additions. I only hope that it may give you an idea of what I see to do. My first duty is to carry on the necessary work, but as an artist I have another responsibility - that of interpreting and translating into plastic form the drama of the magnificent effort which is being enacted before us day after day. I hope also that you have me well enough by now to know my earnestness of purpose and desire to contribute.

Yours sincerely

L. S.

The Building of the B-29st In Wichita, Kansas.

I. Organization

1. original project
2. Army
3. Personnel
4. Legal
5. Plant protection

II Wichita Plant.

1. Architecture
Exterior
Interior
2. Air view.

III Engineering.

1. Personnel
2. Specification
3. Design
 1. drafting
 2. blue printing
 3. photoexpose
 4. engineering plotting & lay

IV Plant Planning

1. Layout & Construction
2. Planting Engineering
3. Maintenance
4. D. P. C.

V

Tool Design & Planning

1. Drafting
2. Machine Shop Fabrication
3. Jig Building
4. Tool Proving
5. Pattern Shop
6. Foundry

VI

Purchasing

1. Contract Purchase
2. General Requirements
3. P. P. C
4. Govt Furnished Equipment.

VII

Material Control

1. Receiving
2. Stock Room
3.
 1. Raw Stock
 2. Purchased Parts
4. General Requirements.

VIII

Accounting

1. Treasury
2. Cost accounting
3. Time Keeping
- 4.

IX

Manufacture

1. Master Control
2. Process Planning
3. Dispatch
4. Minor Parts Fabrication
5. Heat Treating
6. Anodizing
7. Plating
8. Sub Assemblies
9. Group Assembly
10. Major Assembly
11. Joining
12. Final Assembly

X Inspection

1. Receiving Inspection
2. Inspection Laboratory
3. First Parts Inspection
4. Functional Inspection
- ~~5. Industrial~~
5. Installation Inspection
6. Ground Testing
7. Flight Testing
8. Salvage

XI General Personal.

1. Medical & First Aid
2. Public Relations
3. Cafeteria
4. Education
5. Recreation