Truman, Chief Aides Study Effect Of Atom Bomb at Special Parley

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (UP)—President Truman called in top military, diplomatic and scientific advisers today to discuss the atomic bomb, whose terrific destructive effect twice has been felt by Japan.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson canceled a regular Thursday morning news conference to attend the White House meeting. He took with him Maj. Gen. Leslie R. Groves, who supervised the secret work and was harnessed for war purposes the atom's terrific energy.

General Groves was to have attended Mr. Stimson's news conference today.

Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, who sat beside Mr. Truman when the President announced Russia's declaration of war on Japan yesterday, came across the street to join the meeting.

Others present included scientists who played a leading part in developing the revolutionary weapon:

Dr. Vannevar Bush, director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, and Dr. James Conant, president of Harvard University.

George L. Harrison, one-time president of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, who also contributed to the vast engineering work involved, completed the group.

Upon leaving the White House, the conference declined to discuss their session with the President.

Nobel Winner Aided Work

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (UP)—The President talked with the scientists and Cabinet members for about thirty minutes. Mr. Stimson said later that the conference did not go into the peace time uses of atomic power, with which the interim committee is concerned. All he would say was that Mr. Truman sent out, "a special call" for the members to visit him.

Meanwhile, the War Department disclosed that Dr. Harold C. Urey, 1934 Nobel Prize winner in chemistry, was one of the scientists who played an important part in development of the atomic bomb. Dr. Urey of Leona, N. J., has been executive officer in the Columbia University Department of Chemistry since 1939. He specialized in studying the structure of atoms and discovered the hydrogen atom of atomic weight which combines with oxygen to produce so-called "heavy water," a substance used in atom-splitting experiments.

General Groves also disclosed the names of a number of other officers whose work was of "particular value" to the development of the bomb. They included Col. Earl H. Marsden and Maj. John F. Vance, both of New Haven; Capt. William A. Good of Newark, N. J.; Maj. Robert F. Furman of Trenton, N. J.; Lieut. Col. Charles Vander Bulk of Lincoln Park, N. J., and Lieut. Joseph Volpe of Cedar Grove, N. J.


The War Department said Col. Stafford L. Warren of Rochester, N. Y., was chief of medical services for the project, adding that he earned much of the credit for the "remarkable safety records" of the plants manufacturing the new weapon.