

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Serial: 0635

9 Oct 52

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~~~CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION~~

Professor Howard P. Robertson
 California Institute of Technology
 Pasadena, California

Dear Professor Robertson:

As you will note from the enclosure, I have decided to establish a Scientific Advisory Board to assist us in our work and have prepared a charter with a definite statement of mission as a guide for the Board.

I hope that you will not only find the charter of interest, in view of your participation in the former advisory body (SCAO), but will also give your earnest consideration to my invitation, hereby extended to you, to become the first Chairman of our Board.

You will also note from a careful reading of the second sentence of paragraph 3 and of paragraph 4e(5) of the enclosure that emphasis has been placed upon the services of members of the Board acting in their individual capacities as consultants. I think this will mean that the Board would be called into session as a complete body only two or perhaps three times a year at most. Therefore, the chairmanship of the Board should not prove burdensome to you, especially since most of the mechanical details pertaining to the functioning of the Board or of panels thereof can be handled by the AFSA Executive Group for Board Affairs, as outlined in paragraph 8 of the enclosure.

I know, of course, of your manifold interests and of your distinguished participation in the recent past in the work of other organizations devoted to assisting Governmental agencies engaged in scientific investigations. I am well aware that you left Washington last June because of your deep-seated desire to go back into the cloisters of Caltech to resume research and teaching in your own professional field, and that the amount of time and energy which will remain at your disposal after carrying out your obligations at the Institute will therefore be very limited. But I hope that in working with us as a member of SCAG you gained a sufficiently clear insight into the nature and importance of some of the activities under my direction to lead you

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to accept my invitation to head our new Board, and, if that is not possible, to become at least a member of the Board, visiting us as often as time or opportunity affords.

I would be most appreciative of a prompt reply.

Sincerely,

RALPH J. CANINE
Major General, US Army
Director, Armed Forces Security Agency

Enclosure - 1
AFSASAB charter,
JED 21 Aug 52,
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AFSA Memo. 20-10

MEMO FOR RECORD:

At the Meeting of EKSAB (Ex. Group for AFSASAB Affairs) held 26 Sept., Prof. Robertson, among others, was selected as a possible chairman of AFSASAB. The candidates were discussed with General Canine who decided that Dr. Robertson should be the first one to be approached. This letter asks Prof. Robertson if he would consider being the 1st chairman of the Board and if not would he be a member.

Copies furnished:

AG (2)
OOF (1)
OOB (1)

W/F.Friedman/eby/6 Oct 52
CONS/Ext. 60493

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