

Serial: 1356

26 March 53

Professor Stewart S. Cairns  
Chairman, Department of Mathematics  
University of Illinois  
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Stewart:

Commenting upon your letter of 20 March to Bruck, I do not think you have misstated the case. I failed to send you a copy of our recent one to him. For your private information, the fact that Bruck has many relatives abroad will not count against him, since they are all in countries on this side of the iron curtain. In any case, we are asking for a clearance through SECRET in his case, and no higher, to begin with. That should be enough to take care of him for this summer's session.

With reference to your hand-written draft memo to send to Advisory Board members, immediately on receipt of your letter of 20 March to me I got that draft from Leibler. I am having it reproduced and will send it out as promptly as possible. A copy will be sent to you for information.

Your letter of 17 March, marked for the attention of Admiral Wanger, makes one realize how burdensome it must be for busy people outside of Government service to submit such detailed information as they require nowadays. If this continues, I think I shall get out a best seller. It would consist of a book that is put in the fist of a new born babe and in which he is to record, or have recorded for him, his places of residence or abode from the time of birth until death, so that he will never be in doubt as to where he lived and when. Several million copies a year would be bought because a decree would make it mandatory to have such a record.

Seriously, I would suggest that you do not spend too much time or effort in going back to get data pertaining to all residences. Just do the best you can and put down "do not know" or "do not remember," where applicable.

Some time soon we will want to get together to do something further about the Advisory Board and its panels. At this writing I can tell you only that we have heard no further from Dr. Elmer W. Engstrom, the RCA one, who promised to come to see us but has not. We are going to send him a letter reminding him of his promise. I understand that Dr. Thompson, Vice Chairman of EDB, has finally been granted a clearance but I have not had notification of it in a formal memorandum as yet.

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It should be here in a day or two. With regard to the representative from the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Mr. Horton, we are still waiting word as to his clearance and this may take several months because we found that we would have to start practically from scratch in his case, since he had, according to what records we could find, a clearance only for something like Confidential.

Before making an approach to Dr. McRae, who was the leading nominee of the Board for the job of Deputy Director for Research and Development, we wanted to have the GS-15 grade and space in our hands. Since the wheels grind slowly, we do not yet have what we need but expect to receive notification within a very few days now. Promptly upon receipt of this notification we are going to get Mr. Wilson, the new Secretary of Defense, to sign a letter to Dr. Kelly, President of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, asking for the loan of McRae's services for a period of 18 months or two years.

We have had no response yet from the Secretary of Commerce to our letter about the summer seminar but I understand that the Bureau has decided to go ahead anyhow.

This about brings you up to date and I will close with best regards.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN  
Special Assistant

Incl:

Copy of ltr to Dr. Bruck

cc: AG  
C/S  
S/ASST  
R/D (Dr. Leibler)

M/R: This ltr ~~XX~~ answers Prof. Cairns ltrs of the 20th of March and 17 March and brings him up to date on details pertaining to NSASAB of which he is Chairman.

W. F. Friedman/S/ASST/60493/23 Mar 53