

Serial: 3220

23 Dec 52

Dr. Marvin J. Kelly
 President
 Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc.
 463 West Street
 New York 14, New York

Dear Dr. Kelly:

In May 1951 you were good enough to permit Dr. Claude E. Shannon to participate in the deliberations and work of a group of specialists, designated as the Special Cryptologic Advisory Group (SCAG), to assist us in finding answers to certain problems important in the National Defense.

Upon completion of one year's activities and the filing of a report, SCAG was dissolved, and a new and more permanent body, designated as the National Security Agency Scientific Advisory Board, was established. The new Board will be quite limited in its membership. In fact, I expect its number not to exceed ten, all to be top-level experts. There will also be panels to assist the Board, so that the various areas in our field of interest may be adequately covered. One of the items for the agenda for the initial meeting of the Board, tentatively scheduled to be held on or about 26 January 1953, deals with the matter of determining the number and composition of these panels. The Chairman of the Board is Prof. Stewart S. Cairns, Head of the Department of Mathematics, University of Illinois. Thus far we have as members of the Board Prof. H. P. Robertson, of the California Institute of Technology, Prof. S. E. Wilks, of Princeton University, and Mr. Edwin A. Speakman, representing the Research and Development Board, Department of Defense. In addition, I plan to have as members of the Board one or two experts in the general field of wire, cable, and radio communication engineering, a specialist in the electronics field and one in the field of high-speed analytical machinery. I would like very much to have a specialist from the Bell Telephone Laboratories, either in the person of Dr. Shannon again, or Dr. Shockley, or any other expert that you feel would add to the strength of our Board in either the field of communication theory, or general electronics, or transistor development, or allied fields.

In giving consideration to my request to you to designate somebody from the Laboratories for this purpose, I give you my assurance that the person selected by you will not be called upon frequently to attend formal meetings of the Board. In fact, Prof. Cairns shares my earnest desire to limit the number of such meetings to two or three a year. We expect to place more emphasis upon individual consultation and this will mean that Board members will place themselves at our disposal only for such consultation as their own time and convenience affords.

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It is hardly necessary to indicate that when attending Board meetings, or serving in a consultative capacity, the Government will pay the cost of travel and a consultant's fee not to exceed \$50.00 per day. I hardly need mention that the matters that come before the Board are of a highly classified nature and hence if you should designate any one other than Dr. Shannon, who already has the necessary clearance, such new nominee for membership would have to be given special clearance after appropriate security investigation.

I thank you for your valued cooperation in the past and sincerely hope that you will reply promptly and favorably to my present request.

Sincerely,

/s/

RALPH J. CANINE
Major General, US Army
Director

cc: AQ
C/S
CONS

M/R: Requesting Dr. Kelly of BTL (President) to designate some one in the field of communication theory, general electronics, transistor development, or allied fields to serve on the Nat. Sec. Agency Scientific Advisory Board.

W.F.Friedman/60493/17 Dec 52