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MAY 18 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL CANINE

SUBJECT: SCAMP 1953

1. a. The symposium of a Special Committee Advising on Mathematical Problems (SCAMP) was initiated in 1952 at the suggestion of the Armed Forces Security Agency Special Cryptologic Advisory Group (SCAG). It was held at the National Bureau of Standards, Institute for Numerical Analysis (INA), Los Angeles, California, during July and August 1952. It was attended by eight non-NSA mathematicians for the entire time and six others for part of the time. Fifteen representatives of NSA also participated for short intervals. (Tab 1)

b. Stated in most general terms, the fundamental objective of SCAMP is to investigate mathematical techniques potentially applicable to cryptology; the most important immediate objective in 1952 was the study of finite projective planes. One of the principal purposes of SCAMP 1953 is to develop new mathematical techniques applicable to problems of discrete analysis. Some of the major problems in this field relate to high-grade wired-wheel cipher machines. One line of emphasis at SCAMP will be aimed at developing techniques for successful attacks on machines of this type.

c. Mathematicians and high speed computing machines are required to implement this program. Since the INA has adequate machines and suitable office space for mathematicians, and since Los Angeles has been a focal point for mathematicians desiring to do applied research during the summers, it was selected as the site for SCAMP 1952. In addition, the Institute has experts in the field of discrete analysis who will contribute to the objectives of SCAMP. No comparable location exists in the Department of Defense or in private industry.

d. The fiscal arrangements for the 1952 symposium were made through the National Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce, by the Office of Naval Research, on behalf of the Director, AFSA. The total cost of the 1952 symposium was \$37,197, including \$8352 for travel. AFSA R&D funds were used for this purpose. (Tab 2)

2. a. Upon the recommendation of certain of the chief participants in the 1952 symposium, the Director, National Security Agency decided to hold a second symposium in 1953.

b. Planning for SCAMP 1953 began in October 1953, with the cooperation of ONR, the INA, and the Mathematics Department of UCLA. On 23 April 1953 the Director, NSA sent the Chief of Naval Research a letter stating that the estimated cost of SCAMP 1953 was \$70,000, which was considered reasonable, and that funds in that amount were being transferred by Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request. The cost of travel and other incidental expense will bring the total estimated cost of SCAMP for 1953 to about \$75,000. (See Tab 2)

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c. Early in 1953, question was raised as to whether the recently promulgated Presidential Directive aiming toward a reduction in the number of Government employees affected the SCAMP program. The Director, NSA sent a letter to the Secretary of Commerce, dated 2 March 1953, requesting a favorable interpretation of the Presidential Directive so that the SCAMP program could be carried out as planned. On 23 March 1953, the reply, signed by Mr. Sheaffer, Acting Secretary of Commerce, was in the affirmative. (Tab 3)

d. On 22 April 1953, Dr. Campaigne addressed a letter to the appropriate division of OMB, requesting a transfer of funds to the Bureau of Standards, for the purpose of holding the SCAMP 1953 meeting again at the IMA, it having turned out to be unpracticable to hold it elsewhere. (Tab 4)

e. On 4 April 1953, a memorandum from the Under Secretary of Defense, Mr. Eyes, to the Secretaries of the three Services and the Chairman, RDB required that specific approval of the SecDef be obtained for the transfer of RDB funds to other government agencies. (Tab 5) On 29 April 1953, the Chairman, RDB, issued a memorandum setting forth procedure to be followed in submitting requests for such approval. (Tab 6)

f. The Chief of Naval Research sent his request on 7 May 1953 to the Navy Comptroller via the Chief of Naval Operations. (Tab 7) It is understood that the Navy Comptroller has sent the request to the Secretary of the Navy, who is to forward it to the Chairman, RDB. At this writing the request is on its way to the Secretary of the Navy.

3. I recommend that you place this case personally before Mr. Eyes without waiting for the letter referred to in subparagraph 2f above to reach him via the normal channels. If we wait until the letter arrives, it may be too late, even if favorable, to go through with the program. On the other hand, if Mr. Eyes should withhold approval, there would still be time to avail ourselves of Prof. Robertson's offer to let us use facilities at Caltech. Even though the latter will not be nearly as favorable as those at IMA, we would at least have done our best to keep faith with the eminent mathematicians whom we solicited to attend SCAMP 1953 and who have already made arrangements therefor.

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN
Special Assistant

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Tabs 1 thru 7

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