

CONFIDENTIAL

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5 FEB 1954

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Dr. Claude Shannon
 Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc.
 Murray Hill, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Shannon:

It is my understanding that, several weeks ago, the Director, National Security Agency, sent you a letter of invitation to membership on the Mathematics Panel of the National Security Agency Scientific Advisory Board (NSASAB). At the risk of prematurely contacting you, since the Director has not yet received your response, I would like to submit for your consideration the fact that there are certain areas in which panel action can now be initiated. Specifically, we intend to make a special study of certain types of general purpose flexible analytic equipment. Such equipment is important in the analysis of various devices of direct concern to the Agency, and it is felt that we can make a genuine contribution to this effort.

It is hoped that Prof. J. Forrester, Mr. J. Desch, Mr. John Howard, Mr. S. W. Dunwell, and yourself will be able to devote some effort to this study. Mr. John C. McPherson, Vice President, International Business Machines Corporation, 590 Madison Avenue, New York 22, New York, and Chairman of our Electronics Panel, has accepted the chairmanship of this group.

It is hoped that you will consider this concurrently with the invitation to Panel membership. However, if you are at all reluctant for fear of unnecessary demands on your time, please be assured that you will be called upon only when your own time and convenience will permit.

I will be looking forward to a reply from you and wish to express my appreciation for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

cc: AG
 C/S
 S/ASST (Mr. Friedman)
 Dr. Cairns (S/ASST)

S. S. CAIRES
 Chairman
 NSA Scientific Advisory Board

M/R: Invitation to Dr. Shannon to join a group under the chairmanship of Mr. J. C. McPherson (Electronics Panel, NSASAB, chairman) to make a special study of certain types of general purpose flexible analytic equipment.

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