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REES

Major General Ralph J. Canine, US Army
Director, Armed Forces Security Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Canine:

In response to your request for comments on the symposium which was held last summer at the Institute for Numerical Analysis under the sponsorship of the Armed Forces Security Agency, I have studied with considerable care the report (with appendices) submitted by Professor Stewart S. Cairns, with the date 8 September 1952. I should like to make the following comments: It seems to me that the undertaking at UCLA last summer made a start in a direction which can be extremely significant for the mission of AFSA. My one major reservation concerns the problem of securing the highest possible relevance of the summer's work to the outstanding problems of your agency. I have discussed this matter rather fully with Professor Cairns and Dr. Campaigne, and I believe they are making intelligent and serious efforts to insure the maximum relevance. In particular, it is clear that the best results will be obtained if virtually all the participants in the symposium can have a substantial understanding of the applications which are contemplated for their work.

Since I understand that it is now agreed that Professor Cairns will be chairman again during the summer of 1953, I make no remarks on this subject. I believe, however, that it may be worth saying that it seems to me extremely desirable to continue some activity (although at a greatly decreased level) at the Institute for Numerical Analysis during the winter not only to provide an opportunity for the numerical exploration of the ideas which have been generated during the summer, but also to facilitate the continued interest of possible junior participants in the symposium who may be graduate students at UCLA. I would hope that if this summer activity is continued in the future it would provide not only significant research results applicable to your AFSA effort, but also particularly able junior personnel who can be added to your staff after they have obtained their degrees.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Mina Rees

MINA REES, Director
Mathematical Sciences Division

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