

SCAG

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Serial: 1058

14 JUL 1951

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Mr. William Webster  
Chairman,  
Research and Development Board  
Department of Defense  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Webster:

On the occasion of my return as Director of the Armed Forces Security Agency, I wish to take the opportunity to thank you for the splendid support you have given, and the deep interest you have shown in, the work of this organization. It is with sincere regret that I have learned of your contemplated early departure from the Research and Development Board, for I know your energetic and able Chairmanship will be missed not only by AFSA, but by all of the other activities which come within the sphere of the Board.

Your assistance in establishing the Special Cryptologic Advisory Group is especially appreciated. The first two sessions of the group have indicated that we have created a very useful mechanism for calling the interest and assistance of some of our most able scientists, engineers, and mathematicians. It is our hope to extend the present membership as time goes on.

In the latter connection I believe that as a part of SCAG we should endeavor to establish a small select group of outstanding men who might advise us from the standpoint of general guidance of the effort. It is anticipated that such a group might meet only once a year, in effect as a Board of Advisors, for the purpose of reviewing the general aspects of AFSA's effort. This would give added assurance that the vital work of this agency is being directed along the best possible lines. It might also afford the members, who in most instances might represent civilian activities upon which AFSA depends for support, a chance to secure themselves of the vital nature of the work.

In view of the obvious interest that you have always displayed in AFSA, I would especially welcome you to the membership of SCAG. Naturally, we would be pleased to have you participate not only in the meeting of the group referred to above but also in the technical discussions to any extent that you may be able to spare the time.

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As an additional member of the group I would also like to nominate Rear Admiral Joseph R. Redman, former Director of Naval Communications and now Vice President of Western Union. Admiral Redman is eminently qualified both by experience and interest, and would be a distinct asset to SCAD. It would obviously be desirable also to have Dr. Vannevar Bush included in the group. However, in view of his previously expressed reluctance to serve in any formal capacity because of his many other commitments, I hesitate to suggest his name to you. You will be the best judge of the advisability of approaching him.

Respectfully yours,

EARL E. STONE  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Director, Armed Forces Security Agency

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AFSA-00T



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Draft prepared by AFSA-00B  
RADM Earl E Stone/wm/14 July 51  
AFSA-00, Ext 60528

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