

Serial:

W. H. Friedman

Dr. H. P. Robertson
 Director of Research
 Weapons Systems Evaluation Group
 Office of the Secretary of Defense
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Robertson:

I very much appreciate your letter of 6 June 1952, setting forth your reasons for feeling that it would be desirable that the original SCAG be called together once more in the near future, for the purpose of further discussing and clarifying the SCAG report. I realize that benefit could result from such a meeting, but I hesitate to call it, for it would mean diverting some SCAG members from a special mission which was established as a result of a SCAG suggestion. I refer here to the two-months' Summer Seminar, opening on 2 July 1952 at the Institute for Numerical Analysis, under the guidance of Dr. Cairns. Not only would it be inadvisable to ask him to come to Washington at this time, or even after the seminar is well under way, but also Dr. Tompkins and Dr. von Neumann expect to attend the seminar, so that in their case, too, a diversion from the main task would be inadvisable.

There were, of course, certain points in the SCAG report which required some elucidation or elaboration. You were good enough to meet with us and with Mr. Spackman, Mr. Post, and Dr. Engstrom for the purpose of assisting in clarifying those points. Since then we have had the additional benefit of individual discussions with Dr. Cairns, Dr. Fetter, and Dr. Tompkins, who corroborated the clarifications and elucidations of the first group of which you were a member. I feel, therefore, that a special meeting for further clarification is not essential and, for the reason given above, undesirable.

However, after discussing the matter with Dr. Engstrom, he has undertaken to write a letter to all SCAG members whose individual clarifications have not yet been obtained, thus ensuring that no member's views on the SCAG report will have failed to come to my attention. A copy of his letter will be sent to all other SCAG members, for their information.

In closing, I wish to thank you not only for your interest in writing me on this matter, but also for your assurance that you will be glad to do what you can personally to assist this Agency in accomplishing its mission. I will therefore not hesitate to call upon you when the proper time arrives.

Sincerely,

Copies furnished:
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RALPH J. CAHINE
 Major General, US ARMY
 Director, Armed Forces Security Agency

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