

Serial: 6149

15 DEC 1953

Dr. John von Neumann  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton University  
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. von Neumann:

At the last meeting of the National Security Agency Scientific Advisory Board, it was agreed to establish three panels devoted respectively to the fields of mathematics, telecommunications, and electronics. It is the intention of the Board to staff these panels with eminent scientists who can be called upon for special service or consultation in matters of importance to this Agency. It is proposed that formal meetings of the panels be very infrequent and that, as a general rule, panel members be called upon to serve only as their convenience permits and on an individual consultant basis. When the panels are operating as such, they will work through their chairman, who will report to the Board.

It is my understanding that you have expressed willingness to serve on the Mathematics Panel, in addition to your current service as a member of the Board itself. The Chairman of this Panel is Dr. H. P. Robertson, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California; and he will be writing you soon to ask you to confirm your willingness to serve on his panel and to notify you of the date when the panel may have its first full meeting.

I wish to express my deep appreciation for your active interest in our problems and for your valued contributions to their solution.

Sincerely,

RALPH J. CANINE  
Lieutenant General, US Army  
Director

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Chairman of the Mathematics Panel