

Serials 3234

30 June 53

Mr. John C. McPherson
 Vice President
 International Business Machines Corporation
 570 Madison Avenue
 New York 22, New York

Dear John:

Thank you very much for saying a word or two to Dr. Small. Your intervention brought a prompt action from Steve and I am inclosing herewith a copy of my letter to him which went out under the date of 27 June 1953. I am slightly embarrassed on our own account for failing to answer his letter. I suppose that the only thing one can say is that this is an accident which happens to everyone once in a while. At any rate we are very happy to have Steve on our list and we hope to see him soon.

My present letter gives no opportunity to clear with you in advance an approach which I would like to make to Dr. Maxwell H. Thomas, of IBM, who has been nominated by Professor von Neuman for membership on one of the panels of the Agency's Scientific Advisory Board. I would be grateful if you would give me whatever information you can provide about Thomas, such as his special fields of interest, experience, present position in IBM, and your opinion of his suitability for one of the three panels. I also need his place and date of birth, detailed business address, and home address, so that in case you agree that he would be an asset to one of our panels I can start the clearance procedure without delay if he has no present clearance.

This might also be a good opportunity for us to indicate to you that in my opinion the last meeting of the Board initiated an action which is likely to have very important consequences. I refer here to the study project which was discussed and which General Canine has asked the Board to undertake. You no doubt have already received a letter on this subject. I am looking forward to hearing today or tomorrow from Robertson saying that he is willing to accept the Chairmanship of the Study Team and that he will come to talk the matter over with us very shortly. Since you indicated your willingness to participate in the study when fields of interest to you are being scrutinized, I shall also look forward to seeing you, too, some time this summer.

With cordial greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Approved for Release by NSA on 06-20-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN
 Special Assistant

2 Incls
 Ltr to Small dtd 27 June

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than I see in a letter of this sort. In any case, I think that just as soon as you can spare the time we would like to have you pay us a visit, spending perhaps two full days with us so that we can bring you up to date on our problems and you can bring us up to date on your progress. We will, of course, send you travel orders in advance, pay the cost of travel, and, if acceptable to your company and to you, pay you the usual consultant's fee. If, however, the acceptance of a fee for serving as consultant is against company policy, invitations to travel orders which do not require payment of a fee for such services, will be issued to you for such period of time as you may indicate you can spare.

I was interested in what you wrote about the John Doe cipher material. I suggest that you bring your photostats with you when you come for the official business and we can have a talk about this unofficial business in my air-conditioned study at my home.

Thanking you for your kind words about our past relationships and looking forward to seeing you soon again, I am,

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN
Special Assistant

cc: AG
S/S
S/ASST
CIVPERS - Mr. Staler
R/D - Dr. Leibler

M/R: This is an invitation to Mr. Dunsell to become a member of the NSASAB Panel on Electronics.

W.F. Friedman/S/Asst/60493/26 Jun 53-ed

Ltr to Mr. John C. McPherson, V-P, IRI

Serial: 3234

30 June 53

cc: AS
G/S
S/ASST
R/D - Dr. Lebler
CIVPERI - Mr. Sisker

R/R: This letter forwards a copy of a letter to S. W. Dunsell, IRI, re his prospective membership on an NEASAB panel, and requests information about Dr. L. H. Thomas as a prospective NEASAB panel member.

W.F. Friedman/S/Asst/60493/29 June 53/ebv