



Serial: EXSAB 20-56 25 January 1956

Mr. William F. Friedman 310 2nd Street, S. E. Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

Inclosed is a copy of the agenda for the forthcoming meeting of the Scientific Advisory Board. Also inclosed for your information is a copy of the minutes of the last Board meeting and an announcement of the changes in Board membership.

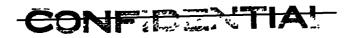
Sincerely,

S. KULLBACK

Executive Secretary
NSA Scientific Advisory Board

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REF ID: A64029

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA

15, 16 and 17 FEBRUARY 1956

All meetings will be held in Room 17-131 at the Naval Security Station except as otherwise indicated.

WEDNESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 1956

0900-1200	Reading of various documents.
1200-1255	Lunch.
1300	Opening remarks by Lieutenant General Ralph J. Canine.
	Review and approval of Minutes of 6-7 April 1955 meetings.
	Report on membership changes.
1315	Report on the Agency Activities - PRODUCTION.
1400	Report on the Agency Activities - COMSEC.
1445-1500	Break.
1500	Report on the Agency Activities - RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT.
1545	Report on the Agency Activities - STAFF.
1630	Report on NSASAB Panel Activities.
	Proposals for Panel Activities.

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THURSDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 1956

0900	Summary report on PHASE I, II, III Documents on Mechanization.
	Discussion.
1130-1155	Visit with General Canine in his office.
1200-1255	Lunch.
1300	NSA problems of communication.
1400-1500	Long Range Estimate.
1.500-1.51.5	Break.

Discussion of UHF/VHF/SHF plans.

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA

15, 16 and 17 FEBRUARY 1956

All meetings will be held in Room 17-131 at the Naval Security Station except as otherwise indicated.

FRIDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 1956

0900 Report on Recommendations in the Robertson Report.

1200-1255 Lunch.

1300-1530 New Board business:

Exchange Fellowships.

Other.



MINUTES OF THE NSA SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

HELD ON 6 APRIL 1955

1. The following were present at the meeting.

a. Board Members:

Mr. J. C. McPherson, Chairman

Mr. H. P. Corwith

Dr. W. R. G. Baker

Mr. A. W. Horton

Dr. H. T. Engstrom (arrived 1400)

Dr. J. von Neumann (arrived 0935, departed 0955)

Mr. D. A. Quarles (arrived 1230)

b. NSA Executive Group for Board Affairs:

Dr. S. Kullback, Vice Chairman

Mr. A. B. Clark

Dr. H. H. Campaigne

Dr. R. A. Leibler

c. NSA Observers:

Lt. General R. J. Canine, USA (departed 1010)

Brig. General W. M. Burgess. USAF

Captain D. M. Agnew, USN

Colonel J. J. Davis, USA

Colonel D. Sinclair. USA

Colonel F. E. Herrelko, USAF

Dr. J. J. Eachus

Dr. R. H. Shaw

Dr. H. Nyquist

Dr. H. J. Stukey

Mr. M. H. Klein

Mr. C. J. Schierlmann

Captain I. T. McDonald, USAF

Captain R. J. Scott, USAF

d. Recorder:

Miss C. Johnson

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- 2. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Mr. McPherson. The tentative minutes of the previous Board meeting on 20-21 April 1954, were reviewed and approved as written.
- 3. General Canine told of results of the college recruitment program of last year. NSA hired 500 college graduates, mostly from the upper half of the graduating class. The psychometric consulting service has materially improved the personnel situation. NSA had 14% turnover last year. Of the 1200 people moved to Fort Meade only 41 quit.
- 4. General Canine requested the Board's consideration of the desirability of setting up a separate, or captive organization, as an adjunct to the Agency. A discussion followed in which the following points were mentioned:
- a. The Board might organize an Ad Hoc Committee to consider the question.
- b. Perhaps an organization such as RAND, or even a portion of RAND itself, might be used in such an endeavor.
- c. Dr. von Neumann believed there were enough people in the Washington area to provide a nucleus for the project.
- d. General Canine thought sufficient funds would be made available for such an endeavor.
- e. Mr. Horton and Mr. Corwith both favored further investigation of establishing a captive organization and that some members of NSA be included in the committee if one is appointed.
 - f. Dr. Baker suggested that RAND evaluate the idea.
- g. General Canine and Mr. McPherson agreed to discuss the subject informally at a later date.
- 5. Dr. Baker reported on the progress of the R/D Advisory Council of the Signal Corps. This Council has 14 members with Dr. Hull as Chairman. They have several "task forces", who come up with special reports, such as the BEACOM report with its 32 recommendations.
- ·6. Colonel Sinclair, NSA, briefed the Board on college graduate recruitment. In the spring 91 colleges were visited in which 1039 acceptable people were located. Of these 215 were offered jobs and 191 bachelors have accepted. In the coming year it is planned to visit 111 colleges, aiming for 350 recruits.

- 7. Major Grottle described the NSA Building at Fort Meade and the layout of the site. The building will have 1,100,000 square feet of usable space and will accommodate 10,000 people.
- 8. Mr. Clark reported on the present status of R/D activities and plans for the future. The budget for R/D is \$14.4 million, which with overhead and other realistic charges is in fact equivalent to \$19.3 million. Of this about 12% is true research. It is planned to put most of this research in an unclassified outside site.
- 9. Mr. Mathews presented a talk on his Division, the Communications Security Equipment Division.
 - 10. Dr. Eachus introduced those who were to speak on COMINT.
- a. Mr. Kirby discussed the problems involved in the intercept of traffic.
- b. Mr. Hausman gave the R/D approach to the problems and the program which they have in the intercept group in R/D to support PROD.
 - 11. The meeting was adjourned at 1630 until 0900 7 April 1955.

S. KULLBACK Executive Secretary NSASAB

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(Note: A verbatim record of the Board proceedings and individual reports will be on file in the Office of Research & Development for individual study.)

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MINUTES OF THE NSA SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

HELD ON 7 APRIL 1955

1. The following were present at the meeting.

a. Board Members:

Mr. J. C. McPherson, Chairman

Mr. H. P. Corwith

Mr. A. W. Horton

Dr. H. T. Engstrom (arrived 0930)

Dr. J. von Neumann (arrived 1425)

b. NSA Executive Group for Board Affairs:

Dr. S. Kullback, Vice Chairman

Mr. A. B. Clark

Dr. H. H. Campaigne

Dr. R. A. Leibler

c. NSA Observers:

Major General J. B. Ackerman, USAF

Brig. General W. M. Burgess, USAF

Dr. J. J. Eachus

Dr. H. Nyquist

Mr. M. M. Mathews

Mr. C. J. Schierlmann

Mr. J. J. Connelly

Mr. H. L. Conley

Mr. H. DeFrancesco

Mr. D. R. Hogan

Dr. A. W. Hesse

Dr. R. H. Shaw

Captain I. T. McDonald, USAF

Captain R. J. Scott, USAF

d. Recorder:

Miss C. Johnson

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- 2. Mr. Clark opened the meeting by introducing Mr. Conley from PROD.
- a. Mr. Conley's talk concerned traffic analysis. There followed a brief discussion of the problem of intercepting hand-sent Morse traffic and the difficulties involved in developing a translator to do the job automatically.
- b. Mr. DeFrancesco of R/D briefed the Board on the intercept of weather information and its strategic value.
- 3. Mr. Hogan presented a talk on the general features of Analytic machines, with some specific illustrations of their applications.
 - 4. Dr. Hesse gave a presentation on Special Machine Systems.
- 5. Dr. Leibler described various hand systems of encipherment used and some of the techniques of cryptanalysis.
- 6. Mr. Hogan gave a survey of analytic machines explaining their various functions. A complete written version of these expositions is available to Board members on request.
- 7. A discussion followed concerning evaluating computer ability and certain possibilities for improving analytic machines.
- 8. Dr. Engstrom reported for his Sub-Panel on analytical machines. The report emphasized the necessity of additional research effort to determine the physical limits of the components necessary to realize ultra high speed operation. It accepted the general concept of a programmed sequence control machine communicating with ancillary units to accomplish particular cryptologic processes. Provision for microprogramming, functional parallelism, and simplicity of programming were urged. The report commended the work to date on FARMER and recommended additional engineering and design effort to define the functional elements of the system and to accomplish initial design work. In the discussion which followed, considerable attention was given to the value of general purpose machines versus special purpose equipment. There was general agreement that target speeds for a general system should be of the order of 50,000 characters per second for input-cutput, 250,000 characters per second drum reading and 1,000,000 characters per second logical manipulation. A copy of the full report is attached.
 - 9. The possible use of machines for automatic programming was discussed.
 - 10. The meeting adjourned at 1630.

S. KULLBACK Executive Secretary NSASAB

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(Notes: Friday, & April, was left as an open date, during which time Board members might study particular subjects of interest. A verbatim record of the Board proceedings and individual reports will be on file in the Office of Research & Development, Room 17-131, NSS, for individual study.)