

OSA 0895-62

15 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT : Recent Changes in Structure of the Scientific Advisory Board of USAF, as Reported by [REDACTED]

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1. In a discussion with [REDACTED] 13 August, he mentioned his attendance last week at a Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) meeting in Los Angeles and, in this context, related to me a story he thought would be of interest to you having to do with recent changes in the SAB structure dictated by the Secretary of Defense.

2. Mr. McNamara had recently requested a briefing on the scope and activities of the SAB, which he received. Following this briefing he reportedly directed that henceforth the SAB would be limited to a full membership of 70 people (as opposed to the present 100), which former figure would also have to include the permanent staff of the SAB. He is also reported to have directed the consolidation of existing panel groups and the elimination of unspecified other panels, and to have insisted that no consultants be employed by the SAB except in unusual circumstances of which he would be made aware in advance. He is said to have further directed that the Board would henceforth report to him as well as to the Secretary of the Air Force, and, further, that he would retain the right to direct the Board's efforts at any time on special activities if he felt such action was required.

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3. [REDACTED] who has been a WOC consultant to the SAB since his retirement, has reportedly been invited to join as a full member of the Board, also on a WOC basis. Presently engaged consultants to SAB will be retained until October 1962 in accordance with Mr. McNamara's injunction. As a last point, [REDACTED] tells me that Trevor Gardner has been cut out of the pattern with SAB. It is unclear whether this action was directed specifically at him by the Secretary of Defense.

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JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Acting Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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