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SCIENCE MEETING WITH THE
PRESIDENT
THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1975
5:30 p.m.
Cabinet Room



Canon

THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIFIC LEADERS
Thursday, July 17, 1975
5:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. (15 minutes)
The Cabinet Room

From: The Vice President

I. PURPOSE

To drop-by at the end of an all-day meeting of distinguished scientific leaders who are here discussing research tasks for the proposed Office of Science and Technology Policy.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

A. Background.

1. You authorized the Vice President to bring together a group of distinguished scientific leaders to assist in initial planning for the new Office of Science and Technology Policy.
2. Today, these scientists have been helping to map out:
 - areas warranting study because scientific and technical considerations are important to issues and problems that will be coming to your attention;
 - where our long-range science-and-technology potentials lie and how we can exploit them;
 - in what specific areas task-forces should be established once the bill authorizing the new Office of Science and Technology Policy has been signed.



3. A list of some of the topics these scientists have been discussing is at TAB A.
4. At the Vice President's request, you agreed to drop-by and welcome this group.
5. A formal report on the group's deliberations will be forwarded to you subsequently by the Vice President.

B. Participants. TAB B.

C. Press Arrangements. White House Photographer.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. I want to welcome you all - and thank Nelson, and Dr. Si Ramo and Dr. Hans Mark - for bringing you together.
2. Today is a significant first step in identifying areas where the proposed new Office of Science and Technology can make a contribution. I would expect the new office and its task forces to:
 - help find the solutions to problems and issues where scientific and technical considerations are important, and
 - identify significant scientific and technical opportunities or problems that may lie ahead.
3. I know Nelson is going to send a formal report in to me in a few days -- but maybe we could take just a minute to hear about some of the main issue-areas you've been discussing.

(Brief remarks by the Vice President and Dr. Ramo.)

4. Thank you. I regard this meeting and the suggestions you are making as an important step in assuring that the channels between the scientific and technical community and the White House are open and that I'm getting first-hand information on matters of national importance.
5. Thank you for coming.



List of Topics being Discussed at the Meeting of
Scientific Leaders at the White House, July 17, 1975

1. Safeguarding nuclear materials.
2. Food and famine.
3. International economics and technology transfer.
4. Productivity and information technology.
5. Communications.
6. Environment, health, and safety.
7. Biomedical and behavioral research policy.



List of Participants

The Vice President

Dr. William O. Baker
President, Bell Laboratories

Dr. Lewis M. Branscomb
Vice President and Chief Scientist, IBM

Dr. Harold Brown
President, California Institute of Technology

Dr. Lee A. DuBridge
Former President, California Institute of Technology
Former Presidential Science Adviser, 1969 - 1970

Dr. John S. Foster, Jr.
Vice President for Energy Research and Development, TRW, Inc.
Former Director of Research, Department of Defense

Dr. Philip Handler
President, National Academy of Sciences

Dr. J. George Harrar
Former President, The Rockefeller Foundation

Dr. Wilmot N. Hess
Director, Environmental Research Labs, National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Hans M. Mark
Director, Ames Research Center, NASA

* Dr. Franklin M. Murphy
Chairman of the Board, Times-Mirror Company, Los Angeles

Dr. Courtland Perkins
President, National Academy of Engineering

Dr. Simon Ramo
Vice Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Executive
Committee, TRW, Inc.

* Illness will prevent his attendance



Dr. Norman C. Rasmussen
Professor of Nuclear Engineering, MIT

Dr. Dixie Lee Ray
Former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission

Dr. H. Guyford Stever
Director, National Science Foundation

Dr. Edward Teller
Director-at-Large
Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, University of California

Jim Cannon

Glenn Schleede (Domestic Council)

David Elliott (National Security Council)

Dick Allison (Vice President's Staff)





OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

MEETING OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANTS
with the Vice President
Thursday, July 17, 1975
10:00 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

- 10:00 a.m. - The Vice President's Conference Room, #263 EOB
1. Introductory remarks by the Vice President
 2. Status of the establishment of the Office of Science and Technology Policy
 3. Discussion of criteria for task forces
 4. Discussion of possible task-force issues
- 12:00 p.m. - The White House Mess - Private Dining Room
1. Adjourn for lunch
- 1:30 p.m. - The Vice President's Conference Room, #263 EOB
1. Reconvene
 2. Selection of urgent task forces
 3. Discussion of possible task-force members
 4. Discussion of follow-up plans
 5. Concluding remarks by the Vice President
- 4:30 p.m. - Adjournment
- 5:15 p.m. - The Roosevelt Room, West Wing, The White House
1. Assemble for meeting with the President
- 5:30 p.m. - The Cabinet Room, West Wing, The White House
1. Meeting with the President
- 5:45 p.m. - Adjournment



Jim Cannon



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

MEETING OF DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIFIC LEADERS
Thursday, July 17, 1975
10:00 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. (7-3/4 hours)
The Vice President's Conference Room
The White House Mess, The Cabinet Room

From: Dick Allison

I. PURPOSE

To discuss the most important science and technology issues facing the society, in order to identify task-force research areas for the proposed Office of Science and Technology Policy.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

A. Background.

1. Hans Mark and Simon Ramo met in Los Angeles on July 1 and put together a list of invitees, all but one of whom have thus far accepted. (Franklin Murphy is ill.) (TAB I)
2. Simon Ramo has sent each a memo outlining the meeting, and suggesting possible subject areas for study by task forces. (TAB II)
3. Simon Ramo has also drafted a suggested agenda, which has been incorporated in the Scenario/Talking Points, below.
4. Hans Mark has additional observations on the meeting, which he has put in a letter to you. (TAB III)



5. Hans Mark has also suggested "Criteria for Selection of Tasks [i.e., study areas]."
(TAB IV)

6. The President's Briefing Paper is at TAB V.

B. Participants. TAB I.

C. Press Arrangements. The appointment will show on your daily schedule. The Vice President's photographer will be available.

III. SCENARIO/TALKING POINTS

A. Scenario

- The group will meet in the Vice President's Conference Room at 10:00 a.m. Copies of Dr. Ramo's background memo (TAB II) as well as copies of the bill and a fact sheet will be available.
- Dr. Ramo and Dr. Mark want to act as "secretaries".
- You may open the meeting by welcoming the group, and making introductory remarks (see TAB VI).
- You may also advise the group as to the status of the bill, or call on Glenn Schleede from the Domestic Council, who will be there as an observer.
- You will be welcome throughout the meeting, of course; but, should you have to leave, Dr. Ramo will be available to act as informal chairman in order to keep the meeting moving.

-- The substance of the morning's meeting will be:

*Discussion of criteria for task forces.
(see Dr. Mark's views at TABS III and IV)

*Discussion of possible subject-areas.
(see Dr. Ramo's suggestions at TAB II)

-- About Noon, the group will adjourn to a private dining room in the White House Mess, for cocktails and lunch.

-- After lunch, the group will reconvene in the Vice President's Conference Room at about 1:30 p.m.

-- The substance of the afternoon's meeting will be:

*The selection of urgent task forces to be recommended to the President.

*Discussion of candidates for membership in task forces.

-- Next will be a discussion of follow-up plans:

*The group will be asked to think about the day's meeting and then to send to you their refinements and additions concerning:

-- task-force subjects;

-- task-force members.

*Dr. Ramo has also raised the possibility of a second meeting -- to get the thoughts and participation of scientific leaders who were not included in today's meeting. He suggested mid and late August, but I told him schedule clearance would not be possible for several days.

-- At about 4:45 p.m., the group will adjourn for a break, and then proceed to the Roosevelt Room to await the 5:30 meeting with the President in the Cabinet Room. (TAB V)

B. Talking Points. (TAB VI)

cc: Jim Cannon
Hugh Morrow

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President, Bell Laboratories

Dr. Lewis M. Branscomb
Vice President and Chief Scientist, IBM

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President, California Institute of Technology

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Dr. J. George Harrar
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Dr. Wilmot N. Hess
Director, Environmental Research Labs, National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

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Director, Ames Research Center, NASA

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Dr. Edward Teller
Director-at-Large
Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, University of California

Jim Cannon

Glenn Schleede (Domestic Council)

David Elliott (National Security Council)

Dick Allison (Vice President's Staff)

July 7, 1975

Subject: July 17 Meeting with Vice President Rockefeller

The meeting, as discussed already with almost all of you, will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Executive Office Complex in Washington, D. C. (You will shortly receive a letter from Richard Allison of the Vice President's staff, giving room number, traveling expense reimbursement and all other required information.) We shall all be guests of the Vice President for luncheon.

To confirm, the purpose of the meeting will be to exchange thoughts regarding the most urgent and important science and technology issues of the society. Pending passage by Congress of the President's proposal for an Office of Science and Technology Policy within the Executive Office of the President, it is considered advantageous to commence the task of identifying areas which are of major importance for scientific and technological development and would be suitable for study by task forces set up within the new Office. When the Office is established, its director selected and installed, and the staffing begun, an available list of recommended areas for immediate consideration (together with names of individuals believed especially competent to serve on task forces) should be helpful in speeding up action.

The candidate areas we will discuss at the meeting probably will have characteristics such as these:

1. Nature and importance such as to be totally appropriate for attention at the Presidential level.
2. Science and technology aspects dominant or at least very strong, even though most often the subject will have at least an equally important dependence on non-technological (economic, social, and political) considerations.
3. Science and technology aspects such as to require broad, interdisciplinary deliberations.
4. Interfaces between the science and technology and non-technological aspects highly complex.

To: List Attached

7/7/75

Page 2

Subj: July 17 Meeting with Vice President Rockefeller

5. Problem such as to lend itself to useful attack by an ad hoc task force.

One, or a few, task forces might conceivably be appointed at once (by the President, without waiting for the new Science and Technology Office to become effective) if the matter appears sufficiently clear and urgent. These early task forces might engage in an initial phase (say, a six-month period) in which they will not be concerned primarily with seeking out the detailed answer to the question. Rather, the group will try to describe a proper program (short or long-range as may be most sensible, or a combination of the two) by means of which the problem best can be handled. The initial phase may be followed by a different task (and perhaps a different task force) concerned with monitoring, continuing advice, and an effort to guide and improve the performance of the implementation program commenced as a result of the advice from the first panel.

Because the tasks will involve deliberations of interactions between scientific and technological aspects and the other important parameters, the manning of a task force should reflect this varied content. Thus, a typical task force of, say, ten individuals might include only five leading experts in the underlying science and technology, with the other five a mixture of generalists skilled in the application of science and technology to the society and specialists in the pertinent social, economic, and political issues.

A number of steps, hopefully of short duration each, will be required before a task force commences actual operations (selection of a specific problem area, definitization of the charter for the task force, selection and recruitment of a suitable chairman, selection and recruitment of the remainder of the task force, creation of a plan for meetings, arranging associated staff support). Realistically, these steps cannot be accomplished over night; they may require one or two months. At about that time, it is hoped that the bill creating the Office will have been passed, and at least an embryonic staff on hand to serve the task forces as they start their activities.

To: List Attached

7/7/75

Page 3

Subj: July 17 Meeting with Vice President Rockefeller

Enclosed are several examples of candidate areas for discussion at the meeting. You are encouraged to be prepared to make suggestions of projects you consider suitable. We have arranged for adequate note-taking so that all proposals made in the discussion can be considered for future follow-up.

While I have knowledge that almost all of you can attend, a few had not been reached yet as this was being written. Since the time is short, we plan to assume that each of you will attend unless we hear to the contrary. A message will reach me if left with my Los Angeles office, (213) 536-1005.



Simon Ramo

SR
mr
Encls.

Nuclear Energy, Materials Control and National Security

A new level of potential nuclear proliferation has surfaced with the energy crisis. As many more nuclear reactors become available around the world, and enriched uranium and plutonium are produced, shipped and utilized at a higher rate, the problem of control of these materials has risen to new heights. Together with the increasing spread of technological know-how, this means that an increasing number of nations, even relatively small ones, could now turn available materials into at least a small number of weapons. (We can add to our concerns the possible stealing of weapons.)

The matter of control figures into recommendations, decisions, and actions, taken by a number of government agencies but Presidential level decision making may be increasingly required because of the growing breadth of the problem. How enriched uranium will be produced in the United States and in the rest of the world, and with what kind and degree of governmental control (both by the separate governments and in the sense of cooperation between them), cannot evolve intelligently without an adequate base of analytical and creative effort in the related science and technology.

Means for control of critical materials include both technological and non-technological aspects. It is proposed that the task force examine both aspects with thoroughness, and that the interactions of the technological to non-technological be considered realistically.

The task force should attempt a superior articulation of the nature of the various aspects of the problem, their interaction and integration and the laying out of alternative approaches to the handling of it. The task force's results could aid in the allocation of the various segments of the problem to the government agencies most suitable, and could provide recommendations on how to achieve the required continued integration of the overall attack on the problem.

Food and Famine

The United States probably does not have a critical problem of food supply (though our problems do include matters of pricing and distribution). However, the world food problem on the average is so severe that hundreds of millions of people will be at or near the starvation point over the next decade or two. Other millions will suffer such undernourishment as to become mental or physical cripples. More widespread birth control and increased food production and distribution (both of which will rely in major part on science and technology as well as on government policies) will have to parallel political understandings if this problem is to be handled, both in the short and the long term.

While important fragments of this developing situation are under study by numerous government and private groups around the world, there does not exist an adequate science and technology base for those aspects of the problem which are greatly influenced by science and technology. It is likely that the President will have to deal with these issues on a crash-urgency basis, that is, without the availability of adequate backup knowledge of the interrelationships of the various aspects of the problem and of the costs and benefits of alternative actions. The task force should attempt to lay out a program for changing this situation to a more satisfactory one.

International Economics and Technology Transfer

Science and technology considerations are important ingredients of, and sometimes the dominant factor in, many issues in the field of international economics and, more generally, in a variety of political-social-economics matters involving the relations of the United States to other countries. Examples of such issues are: balance of payments; trade restrictions; detente with the Soviet Union; controls on private foreign investment; "export of technology" by multinational corporations; foreign government sponsorship of competitive industrial operations (such as foreign government subsidies of their national airlines); international information exchange on energy R&D programs.

Usually, such issues are handled by the Executive Department and the Congress, or discussed by the media, with little appreciation of the importance of the underlying science and technology and the aspects of technological competition between nations. The issues overlap and interact and it is not easy to separate technological from non-technological considerations. However, a concerted effort to clarify the science and technology underpinnings of these matters should lead to an improved understanding of the issues, alternatives, and costs and penalties of specific courses of action. This better understanding should result in superior decisions.

The status of America's scientific research and advanced technological development is very fundamental to America's economic health and to world economic stability. Compatible trade and investment relationships with the rest of the world certainly require that the U. S. should plan for and demonstrate leadership in science and advanced technology in at least certain fields. In ensuring healthy peacetime economic cooperation and development -- in this discussion we are excluding military aspects -- it is of fundamental importance to move our understanding of the role of science and technology to a higher plateau.

This task force might be a continuing one. However, as a first phase an attempt should be made to understand the problem of the relationship of science and technology to international economic-social-political issues, and then to evolve ways in which specific problem areas might best be attacked. After the suggestion of improved

mechanisms and procedures, and the assigning of further responsibilities to various government agencies for implementation, the task group (or a new one) might continue as advisory for the purpose of monitoring the effort.

Productivity and Information Technology

An increasing fraction of the time of all workers in the nation (in government, business, factories, services, professions, education) is spent in the handling of information. What most people do at their jobs is obtain, store, categorize, deliberate upon, process, communicate, and utilize information. Substantial increases in the efficiency of performing such tasks means increases in productivity, which in turn means reduced costs, a counter to inflation, higher per capita income, lower government budgets, greater discretionary income for investment, higher gross national product, and improvement in the competitive position of the U. S. vis-a-vis other nations.

In the last decade, and especially the last few years, we have seen an upturn in the rate of development and future potential of new electronic information systems technology. We now have lower cost, more reliable, smaller, less energy-consuming -- and yet more sophisticated -- electronic hardware, as well as vastly superior software systems.

Some industries (airlines in automatic electronic reservation making, banks in electronic computerized teller systems, department stores in charge authorization) are rapidly installing the new technology. They are realizing gains in quality of service rendered, a substantial return on investment, and lower cost to the consumer. Routine accounting operations, both in government and in private activities, have long since gone to computerization for improved efficiency and lower costs. However, the overall gap between what is now technologically and economically feasible, and what is installed or contemplated for early installation, is very great. Shift-overs to new systems, even though they provide higher productivity after installation, still depend upon the availability of capital. Capital budgets have been squeezed owing to the combination of recession, inflation and the low profits of the immediate past and present.

In government, in particular, the potential exists of substantially decreased cost for all operations which handle information (and this covers a large fraction of government expenditures).

The proposed task force, including specialists in information technology and generalists who are skilled in the application of technology

to practical real-life problems in government and private organizations, should consider how the application of information technology to enhance productivity could be accelerated. What is the role of the federal government in this regard? Is it feasible to start a major project to plan out and then implement major changeovers in information handling in various government sectors? If so, which sectors, through what kind of implementation scheme? How would such a program be mounted? What would be its potential costs, timing, benefits? How are the technological skills of the private sector to be utilized? If a large effort is mounted to improve productivity in the government sector by the use of advanced information technology, how can the results be made to flow most readily for application in the private sector?

Communications

Increasingly, communications policy has to be dealt with at the highest federal government level. The interaction of commercial and military communications matters, the rapid development of new technology (as exemplified by communications satellites, microminiaturization, and digital communication techniques), the interrelationship of private and government participation, the growing issue of privacy, the international aspects of communications (both from the standpoint of security and peacetime economic cooperation) -- these and many other aspects of the communications field are creating a growing backlog of unfinished, unthought-out communication policy problems.

It is probably a continuing task force assignment to sort out these communications issues with emphasis on creating a solid foundation of understanding of the science and technology aspects.

Environment, Health, Safety

We badly lack an adequate scientific base for judging the effects on the health and safety of people of numerous man-made phenomena. Whether it be radiation hazards due to nuclear effects, carcinogenics, ozone-removing material in the upper atmosphere, insect controls, air pollution, or noise, the prevailing situation is one of increasing confusion.

This situation is far less tolerable than it was a few years ago because of the increasing importance of impending energy shortages and problems with the economy. A stable, low unemployment, growing economy involves steps that have to be traded off against others intended to preserve the environment and to control health and safety hazards. Decisions in this field are being delayed or are too often based on emotional and political, rather than objective, considerations. In some important areas, a near paralysis in decision making has set in. (Is it good or bad to accelerate the development and installation of nuclear reactors? Are automobile exhaust standards too severe? Can sub-sea petroleum be extracted without serious danger of contamination of the shores?)

Decisions regarding tradeoffs will always involve value judgments and the goals of the society will always be difficult to articulate and then use as guides. Available data will never be totally exact and complete. However, it would be much easier to settle the major issues if those parts of the problem susceptible to scientific analysis are adequately explored, and if the public believes the search for such data is made with competence.

Many government agencies and private groups are already presently involved and some of the work is being as competently pursued as could be arranged. However, the total effort is highly fragmented and most groups are looking at the problem from a very narrow base of consideration. The nation can do better in this area. The payoff of a superior effort would be high in terms of getting on with the making of sound decisions and the implementing of projects that are badly needed.

The task force should study how this whole problem area can be attacked. What further effort is needed? Who should carry it out?

How can the effort be integrated to the extent necessary? How can the results be communicated to provide the greatest benefit? What projects particularly deserve the highest priority?

The task force might consist of approximately a dozen individuals. There should be one or two each of experts in the physical science, engineering, and biomedical specialties involved. Several panel members should be experienced in relating the pertinent science and technology to the economic-political-social aspects.



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D C 20201

CHARTER

PRESIDENT'S BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH PANEL

Purpose

P.L. 93-352, Title II, establishes the President's Biomedical Research Panel to review and assess, identify and make recommendations with respect to policy issues concerning the subject and content of and organization and operation of biomedical and behavioral research conducted and supported under programs of the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Note: Does not include the Veterans Admin., AEC, NASA, Food and Drug Admin, Communicable Dis. Center, etc

Authority

Mandated by Title II of P.L. 93-352. Subject to the special provisions of Title II, this Panel is established in accordance with and is governed by the provisions of P.L. 92-463 which sets forth standards for the formation and use of advisory committees.

Function

The President's Biomedical Research Panel shall advise the President and the Congress concerning biomedical and behavioral research conducted and supported under programs of the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Mental Health. *Note: Does not include man-power training aspects (not explicit mandate); also, no in-depth analysis of effect on colleges and universities is to be expected.*

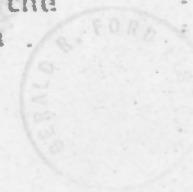
The Panel shall consist of the Chairman of the President's Cancer Panel and six members appointed by the President who by virtue of their training, experience and background are exceptionally qualified to carry out the duties of the Panel. At least five of the members shall be distinguished scientists or physicians. The President shall designate one of the appointed members to serve as Chairman of the Panel.

The six appointed members shall be appointed for the life of the Panel.

Management and staff services shall be provided by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health and that Office shall designate an Executive Secretary.

Meetings

Meetings shall be held monthly at the call of the Chairman, with the advance approval of a government official. A Government official is present at all meetings.





NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
AMES RESEARCH CENTER
MOFFETT FIELD, CALIFORNIA 94035

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

July 2, 1975

Vice-President Nelson A. Rockefeller
Room 275
Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20501

Dear Nelson:

Please excuse the delay in my reply to the "marching orders" of June 19 on the Technology Policy Advisory matters. I am, of course, most delighted to be of any help I can. I wanted to delay this note to have the opportunity to talk with Si Ramo before I replied. We have now had several telephone conversations and yesterday we had a lengthy and very productive meeting.

We discussed a number of ideas regarding the kinds of "task forces" as well as the topics they should deal with. Most important, we are attempting to develop a set of criteria that should be employed for deciding whether a task force is actually necessary. I need not go into detail about this matter here since Si himself will be in touch with you shortly.

We also talked at length about the meeting of senior scientific and technical people that we are planning to have on or about July 17. We have what we believe is a good list - there are 16 names we will suggest. Si and I also believe that it is very important to structure the meeting in such a way that it is successful both from your viewpoint and from that of the people who attend. Specifically, there are two points we considered to be important:

(1) The meeting should have a well-defined agenda. If it is at all possible, you should be there at the beginning to perhaps provide some background information about what we have been doing in the past few months with respect to the establishment of the Science and Technology Policy Office. More important, I think that a short statement of what you and the President expect from such an office would be of great importance.

(2) If there is press coverage at (or after) the meeting it should be very carefully worked out. Personally, I would prefer no



Vice-President Nelson A. Rockefeller
Page 2

July 2, 1975

press coverage at all. (Franklin Roosevelt used to say that advisors are most valuable if they have a "passion for anonymity". I think he was right.) However, if for some reason or other, the press is involved, then there should only be one spokesman for the group (preferably Si) and the meeting itself should be closed with a press conference afterwards.

I will be in Washington next Tuesday (July 8) and will probably drop in to see Jim Cannon on another matter. If you're in the office, I'll stick my head in the door to say 'hello'.

Best regards to all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hans".

Hans Mark

cc: Dr. Simon Ramo

Criteria for the Selection of Tasks

It is assumed that a few 'ad hoc' task forces will be formed soon to deal with some of the more urgent problems. Generally speaking, the topics that task forces will look at fall into two broad categories:

(1) Those topics dealing with an urgent political or social problem that might have a technological component. (Examples: Nuclear proliferation, health care for older people, urban mass transit, etc.) Task forces studying such topics would have a membership that would include specialists in the social, economic and political implications of the study as well as technical and scientific people. The general orientation of these groups would be toward short-term goals.

(2) Those topics that concern new technologies that are on the horizon and that will develop so that they will have political or social impact in the next decade (Examples: Genetic engineering, undersea mining, etc. etc.). Task forces studying these topics will perform the 'early warning' function that has been envisaged. The membership would be more heavily oriented toward technical experts since the essential function of these task forces would be to determine whether a given technology will actually mature to the point where it will require the attention of political people. The general orientation of these groups will be toward the long term.

The criteria used to select topics for study by task forces will differ for the short-term and the long-term categories. For the short-term, a task force should be set up if:

(1) There is no agency within the federal or state government dealing adequately with the technical aspects of the problem.

(2) There is a serious dispute between two federal agencies, the federal government and a state government or the public sector and the private sector over some technical issue.

(3) Technical people who are knowledgeable but who are not presently working on the subject can be drawn into it by the task force mechanism (essentially recruiting).

For the long-term problems, a task force should be set up if:

(1) There is a general consensus that a given technology has great potential for development to the point where it becomes socially important.

(2) There is a need to generate support for a potentially valuable area of basic science that is being neglected.

(3) There is a situation where, by providing incentives to private industry, a promising technology can be brought to fruition.



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIFIC LEADERS
Thursday, July 17, 1975
5:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. (15 minutes)
The Cabinet Room

From: The Vice President

I. PURPOSE

To drop-by at the end of an all-day meeting of distinguished scientific leaders who are here discussing research tasks for the proposed Office of Science and Technology Policy.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

A. Background.

1. You authorized the Vice President to bring together a group of distinguished scientific leaders to assist in initial planning for the new Office of Science and Technology Policy.
2. Today, these scientists have been helping to map out:
 - areas warranting study because scientific and technical considerations are important to issues and problems that will be coming to your attention;
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 - in what specific areas task-forces should be established once the bill authorizing the new Office of Science and Technology Policy has been signed.



3. A list of some of the topics these scientists have been discussing is at TAB A.
4. At the Vice President's request, you agreed to drop-by and welcome this group.
5. A formal report on the group's deliberations will be forwarded to you subsequently by the Vice President.

B. Participants. TAB B.

C. Press Arrangements. White House Photographer.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. I want to welcome you all - and thank Nelson, and Dr. Si Ramo and Dr. Hans Mark - for bringing you together.
2. Today is a significant first step in identifying areas where the proposed new Office of Science and Technology can make a contribution. I would expect the new office and its task forces to:
 - help find the solutions to problems and issues where scientific and technical considerations are important, and
 - identify significant scientific and technical opportunities or problems that may lie ahead.
3. I know Nelson is going to send a formal report in to me in a few days -- but maybe we could take just a minute to hear about some of the main issue-areas you've been discussing.

(Brief remarks by the Vice President and Dr. Ramo.)
4. Thank you. I regard this meeting and the suggestions you are making as an important step in assuring that the channels between the scientific and technical community and the White House are open and that I'm getting first-hand information on matters of national importance.
5. Thank you for coming.

List of Topics being Discussed at the Meeting of Scientific
Leaders at the White House, July 17, 1975

1. Nuclear energy, materials control, and national security.
2. Food and famine.
3. International economics and technology transfer.
4. Productivity and information technology.
5. Communications.
6. Environment, health, and safety.
7. Biomedical and behavioral research policy.

B

List of Participants

The Vice President

Dr. William O. Baker
President, Bell Laboratories

Dr. Lewis M. Branscomb
Vice President and Chief Scientist, IBM

Dr. Harold Brown
President, California Institute of Technology

Dr. Lee A. DuBridge
Former President, California Institute of Technology
Former Presidential Science Adviser, 1969 - 1970

Dr. John S. Foster, Jr.
Vice President for Energy Research and Development, TRW, Inc.
Former Director of Research, Department of Defense

Dr. Philip Handler
President, National Academy of Sciences

Dr. J. George Harrar
Former President, The Rockefeller Foundation

Dr. Wilmot N. Hess
Director, Environmental Research Labs, National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Hans M. Mark
Director, Ames Research Center, NASA

* Dr. Franklin M. Murphy
Chairman of the Board, Times-Mirror Company, Los Angeles

Dr. Courtland Perkins
President, National Academy of Engineering

Dr. Simon Ramo
Vice Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Executive
Committee, TRW, Inc.

* Illness will prevent his attendance

Dr. Norman C. Rasmussen
Professor of Nuclear Engineering, MIT

Dr. Dixie Lee Ray
Former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission

Dr. H. Guyford Stever
Director, National Science Foundation

Dr. Edward Teller
Director-at-Large
Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, University of California

Jim Cannon

Glenn Schleede (Domestic Council)

David Elliott (National Security Council)

Dick Allison (Vice President's Staff)

TALKING POINTS

1. At the Opening of the Meeting (10:00 a.m.)

- Thank the group, and especially Si Ramo, who, with Hans Mark's help, really put the meeting together;
- Describe the plan for the day:
 - In the morning, description of the office which is planned in the bill, the status of the bill, and the general substantive consideration of:
 - *Criteria for task forces;
 - *Possible subject-areas;
 - Indicate that you hope to be with the group throughout the day, but that you will have to go out from time to time; Si will then chair;
 - About twelve, there will be cocktails and lunch in the White House Mess, with reconvening at about 1:30;
 - In the afternoon, the group hopes to be specific regarding:
 - *The selection of urgent task forces to be recommended to the President;
 - *Discussion of candidates for memberships in task forces;
 - About five, the group will adjourn to the West Wing for a 15-minute meeting with the President at 5:30.

- Discuss the general objective of the meeting -- to identify the most important science and technology issues facing our society which demand Presidential attention and the impact of those issues on major national problems.
- Discuss the general concept of the office, referring to the fact sheet which each member of the group will have before him (together with a copy of the text of the bill);
 - Director; Deputy Director; staff of 15; budget of \$1.5 million; with authority to contract, etc.
- Call on Glenn Schleede (Domestic Council observer) to discuss the present state of the bill.
- Allow discussion to proceed on:
 - Criteria for task forces (TABS III and IV, above);
 - Possible subject areas (TAB II, above);

2. At Lunch (12:00; White House Mess Private Dining Room)

- Ask Dr. Ramo to recapitulate the morning's discussion;

3. At the Close of the Meeting (about 4:15 or 4:30, before adjourning to the White House for the meeting with the President)

- Thank the group for coming; thank Drs. Ramo and Mark for acting as "secretaries";
- Thank the group for adding to the quantity and quality of the ideas regarding which subject areas deserve task-force attention; what the criteria for task forces should be, and who should be considered as task-force members;

- Ask them to think about today's meeting, and then to send to you additions and modifications of their ideas;
- Their suggestions will be combined with the minutes prepared by Drs. Ramo and Mark -- and the result will be a report to the President;
- [NOTE: You may want to raise the possibility of another meeting, with a different group, to get additional suggestions. But, so far as you can determine at this time, this will be the only meeting of this particular group -- although individual attendees may be asked to participate further in different ways.]