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August 11, 1975

Robert Linder -

**The attached letter should
receive a "very nice reply".**

Jim Connor

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 8, 1975

MR. PRESIDENT:

The attached will be handled
in a routine manner unless you indicate
otherwise.

Jim Connor

*Very nice reply
JCC*

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

BELL LABORATORIES
MURRAY HILL, NEW JERSEY 07974

W. O. BAKER
PRESIDENT

August 6, 1975

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

As one of the assignments in science and technology in which I have had the privilege of serving your Office is completed, I take the occasion to express enthusiasm and loyalty for working with your Administration.

The particular mission, as a charter member of the National Commission on Educational Research, provided, particularly in the past year, an opportunity to introduce some of the aspects and techniques of industrial science and engineering into the rather tradition-bound methods of education. Even Senator Magnuson eventually agreed that we had worked out, in collaboration with the diligent staff of the National Institute of Education (particularly Emerson Elliott, Acting Director, and Peter Gerber, Staff Head for the Board) new chances of lifting values and lowering costs of the more than \$90 billions we spend on education annually.

Further, it was heartening to work with Jack Shaw and others in finding Hodgkinson for Director, and with Robin West -- a special strength in the recruiting system -- in the wise choice of Jack Corbally as chairman.

Indeed, this particular completion (so kindly noted by Doug Bennett) reminds one of the welcome ways in which we have been able to collaborate with your appointments group in finding special talent in science and learning suitable for your high purposes. These range from directorship of the

Mr. President - 2

National Bureau of Standards (where we are close to final recommendations for Doug Bennett and Curtis Fee) through to our long efforts with Jack Shaw to find a right nominee for Librarian of Congress (relating also to my service on your National Commission on Libraries and Information Science). We have also been able to join in special persuasion to acquire key people in ERDA (Dr. James Liverman, Dr. Richard Roberts, et al, and in the EPA, and recently, NSC). In these and many other cases, it has been a special privilege to work with your staff.

Similarly, in your invaluable evolving links with our national community of professionals as Presidential aides and advisers, we have excellent interaction with Robin West and his associates. (Thus, your decision on Dr. Jack Corbally, President of University of Illinois, as chairman of the National Council on Educational Research is an example of wise selection.)

These are but current cases of the privilege we feel in building many new bonds between your leadership and the small, but economically and politically crucial, science and technology community throughout the nation.

Thus, in the courteous discussions you had with us on July 17, I was also able to report, as a worker for science and engineering in independent industry, to you the excellent qualities of Federal science and technology in the present Executive departments and agencies. In doing so, I was reflecting, among other sources, the judgments of a group we have brought together, called the Committee of Scientific Society Presidents, representing some 500,000 members of such professional groups. Its present chairman is Dr. Ernest Gilmont, who has met you in the past. Also, I was expressing as well significant views of the National Academy of Sciences (as Dr. Handler, who has met with you, agrees), its National Academy of Engineering and Institute of Medicine. The present Federal work, as it is distributed and decentralized through the operating areas, has many advantages and bureaucratic efficiencies.

Mr. President - 3

But since you have so perceptively brought into the basic issues of Federal Presidential organization for support of science and technology the assignment of the Vice President, I shall take the liberty of reporting to you in another note brief comments on the special values of that activity. It has vital potentials for national progress and security, as could be only barely touched on in your meeting of July 17. Yet, as you know, from such important experiences as your recent European missions, continued American superiority in such products of research and development as lasers, transistors and other solid state electronics, digital machines, solar cells, superconductors -- just to mention a few things that have come from our own Laboratories (to say nothing of the host of innovations from other laboratories) -- has a special role in our international and domestic strength. So we shall report separately the great values we see in your inclusion of the Vice President and Domestic Council in these matters.

With repeated appreciation at the opportunity to be associated with your great service to America, and with highest esteem, I am

Respectfully,

Bill Baker