

24 January 1952

Meeting about SCAG, 22 January 1952

Present: Wm. F. Friedman
Frank Rowlett
Frank Raven
Oliver Kirby
Louis Fordella
Andrew Gleason
Howard Campaigne
Joseph Eachus
Marshall Hall

The question of naming a secretary for SCAG was discussed. It was suggested that Capt. Mary Lane might function so, and Mr. Friedman agreed to see if this is feasible.

A draft of a letter from Admiral Wenger to SCAG members was reviewed. The letter was felt to be too impersonal, and the October Survey was thought to be not relevant nor understandable for them to study. It would be better to ask each of them specific questions, and to have them each come individually to answer these questions in conference. The satisfactory conferences with Girschick and Blackwell were contrasted with the SCAG meetings. Raven and Campaigne, with the help of Hall, Gleason, and Eachus, were delegated to draft letters to each member along the lines described, aimed at the specialty of that member. It was suggested that a specific date for an individual visit be given to encourage that visit.

The question of a group of Agency people corresponding to SCAG was considered. It was suggested that it might consist of guides or opposite numbers, one for each SCAG member. An alternative of its being an internal board of visitors was advanced. This would make it somewhat like the Operations Management Board recently established in the Office of Operations, but for all the Agency. It was decided to postpone such a move until OMB has proved itself.

A third suggestion was put forward, that this group form the nucleus of a sort of learned society of cryptologists. There was some controversy over this notion. Such a society might be an affront to rank and file, rather than a morale builder. The present Management Bulletin was advanced as an example. There was an extended discussion of the morale situation, and the contribution that a professional journal might make. Mr. Raven stated that a review journal was needed to enable people to keep current with developments.

It was agreed that the first suggestion, a group of opposite numbers, was the one to use for the time being.

HCampaigne