

University of California at Berkeley The Bancroft Library, The University Archives, Berkeley CA	
RECORDS SERIES FILE	CALIF UNIV PRESIDENT CONVCS + PAPERS
BANCROFTULARY C NO.	CJ-5
PARTIAL NO.	317
FOLDER NAME	748 (Folder 243)
NOTES	10420
FOUND BY, DATE FOUND	Roberto Landazuri

COPY

BERKELEY: OFFICE OF THE
DEAN OF THE GRADUATE DIVISION

March 24, 1951

President Robert Gordon Sproul
250 Administration Building

Dear President Sproul:

Below are my comments, as requested by Miss Robb, on Professor Pace's letter to you of March 12, 1951, and Lieutenant Golden's letter of March 16, 1951, both of which letters are attached hereto.

1. The proposal of the Office of Naval Research for the immediate mobilization of Dr. Pace's "research team" seems to be eminently fair to the University. As you know, Professors Cook and Pace and their staffs are now carrying out fundamental research supported by, and under the University's contract with, the Office of Naval Research. The proposal before you would allow Professor Pace and twelve people from his, Professor Cook's, and other related staffs to carry out these same studies but with their entire salaries borne by the O.N.R. In the foreseeable future Professor Pace would in addition, but at no cost to the University, be able to continue his present teaching program, and the graduate students among the junior scientific staff would be able to continue their programs of independent research toward higher degrees. It appears that no additional space or University facilities would be required. Professor Olmsted assures us that the teaching and research program of the Division of Physiology would not be reduced.
2. Professor Pace is right, I think, in emphasizing the advantages to the University, to the Navy, and to scientific advance generally in the country, to be gained from retaining research groups on the campuses of our universities as against breaking them up and scattering their members through a number of hastily improvised laboratories.
3. Judging from our past experience and that of other universities in the Association of American Universities, I believe the O.N.R. can be fully trusted to live up to the policy of leaving appropriate independence to the university investigators it supports. There will no doubt be sincere anxiety among some of our faculty and administration lest the step now proposed should become a new type of entering wedge towards the support and control of university science by outside agencies. This danger must be watched and guarded against continually. It is my personal belief that the precedent that would be set by establishing an O.N.R. research team under the conditions here proposed would actually strengthen the University's hands in insisting on equally high standards of scientific independence in any other similar projects that may later be proposed.

1156792

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA	
University of California at Berkeley The Bancroft Library/The University Archives, Berkeley CA	
RECORDS SERIES TITLE	CALIF UNIV PRESIDENT CORRES + PERSONAL PAPERS
BANCROFT TQARD D NO	21-5
ARTICLE NO	87
FOLDER NAME	748 (Folder 243)
NOTES	
FOUND DATE FOUND	11/9/20 Roberta Landauer

COPY

BERKELEY: OFFICE OF THE
DEAN OF THE GRADUATE DIVISION

President Sproull

-2-

March 24, 1951

4. Putting any appreciable number of our scientists and their staffs into uniform will suggest to many that the University is on the way to becoming an armed camp. Even though the plan under consideration leaves our scientific personnel free from military restrictions, I think having some of our personnel in uniform will tend to alter somewhat the atmosphere of our laboratories, and in an undesirable direction. But I think this a lesser evil than would be the dispersal of our staffs through laboratories scattered widely over the country.
5. Even if praver emergency should in the future constrain the C.N.R. to withdraw the scientific staff it supports from teaching in order to concentrate on investigations that might be of pressing military significance, I believe the University's interests would still be likely to be better protected than if such research teams as Professor Pace's are not now set up. For in many cases our staffs might thus be able to continue relatively intact in our laboratories, even though they should be devoting their main efforts to researches dictated by immediate military needs.

Sincerely yours,

William R. Dennes.

William R. Dennes

WRD:rlb

1166793