

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):
2005-0336-F

FOIA Number:
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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Science and Technology Policy, Office of (OSTP)
Series: Bromley, D. Allan, Files
Subseries: General Science Files

OA/ID Number: 62044
Folder ID Number: 62044-001

Folder Title:
Physical Science: Geophysics [1 of 2] [1991]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
	0	0	0	0

"Document Control"

TYPE: INFORMATION DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9124529
ORIGINATOR: 02 STATUS C DIRECTORATE STATUS

FROM: RISBETH, H.: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

TO: DR. D.A. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 10/08/91

SUBJECT: HE IS FORWARDING A COPY OF A LETTER HE SENT TO THE
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE REGARDING THE PROPOSED
MOVED OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY TO NEW MEXICO.

DIRECTORATE STAFF
ASSIGNED: ASSIGNED:

ACTION STAFF
REQUIRED: ACTION:

SENDER'S DUE DATE:
OSTP DUE DATE: STAFF DUE DATE
DATE COMPLETED: DATE COMPLETED/DEPT:

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley
PHYSICAL SCIENCES

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #: CONTACT PERSON:
REMARKS: PHONE: EXT:

OSTP RECEIVED: 10/24/91 DEPT RECEIVED:
FILE: P-PHYSICAL SCIENCES-GEOPHYSICS
CENTRAL FILES:



University
of Southampton

Physics
Department

Highfield
Southampton SO9 5NH

Fax (0703) 585813
Telex 47661 SOTONU G

Switchboard (0703) 595000
Direct line (0703)

4529
RECEIVED

8 October 1991

91 OCT 24 A 8:45

Dear Dr Bromley,

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR
I enclose a copy of a letter I have written, in a private capacity, to the Secretary of the Air Force about the proposed move of the Geophysics Laboratory to New Mexico. While I can see that a little benefit might accrue from the move, this would be greatly outweighed by the loss of the geographically- and geophysically-based cooperation in the Northeast. I saw for myself what an important role the GL Scientists play in this impressive scientific effort.

Yours sincerely

Dr D Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President
Old Executive Office Bldg (Room 360)
17th & Pennsylvania NW
WASHINGTON DC 20506

Henry Rishbeth
Professor H. Rishbeth

8 October 1991

Sir,

Proposed Move of the Geophysics Laboratory to New Mexico

I am a senior British scientist in the field of solar-terrestrial physics (specializing in ionospheric physics) and I lead a small but active university research group with many international links. I was formerly the Deputy Director of the Appleton Laboratory in the UK, and served many years ago as a consultant at the Boulder Laboratories (now part of NOAA). I have occupied many positions in national and international science, and have published over 100 scientific papers.

During a visit to Boston University last year, I was disturbed to hear of the proposal to move the Geophysics Laboratory, which I believe would be detrimental to international science. I assume that the reason why the US Air Force supports the Laboratory is to provide a pool of expert scientists, well qualified to conduct research of value to all parts of the Air Force and to give advice on scientific problems that may arise - a role that I understand very well. An excellent example of the quality of GL's science is the "big blue book", published about 1985. It contains very good reviews of many branches of geophysics and solar-terrestrial science, and I've used it many times. It's probably the best reference work in the field.

I am no stranger to moves and mergers; my present position resulted from one. In the case of GL, I believe the move would be most detrimental to US science, largely because it would destroy the central role that GL plays in solar-terrestrial science - both theoretical and experimental - in the Northeast USA. This region is geophysically highly interesting, being situated just south of the auroral zone. Thanks to the contributions of many universities and government laboratories, the region contains an impressive range of experimental facilities and instrumentation, backed up by spaceborne instruments. There is probably no other part of the world that boasts such a wide range of complementary instrumentation. During my visit I was able to see for myself the quality of the scientific cooperations, largely led by GL, which are making rapid advances in our complex, fascinating and useful science.

In this subject, geographical location matters in a way that has no parallel in laboratory science - in which an experiment should give the same result whether it be performed in Massachusetts, Manchester, Melbourne or even Moscow! That is certainly not true of GL's kind of science. Were GL to move to New Mexico, a much less interesting site from the point of view of solar-terrestrial science, US teamwork in the subject would be jeopardized and science would be the loser.

I might add that I well understand the need for the effective defence of a nation that is a good ally of my own country. But it seems to me that the planned move risks the destruction of a proven resource - the GL team - and would ill serve the Laboratory's fine purposes.

Yours respectfully,

Honorable Donald B. Rice
Secretary of the Air Force
The Pentagon
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000



Professor Henry Rishbeth

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9124108
ORIGINATOR: 02 STATUS I DIRECTORATE STATUS

FROM: RYCROFT, Michael J.: CRANFIELD

TO: DR. D.A. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 09/13/91

SUBJECT: THE RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY
PRESENTLY AT HANSCOM, AFB.

DIRECTORATE STAFF
ASSIGNED: PHYSICAL SCIENCES ASSIGNED:


ACTION STAFF
REQUIRED: FOR DAB'S SIGNATURE ACTION:

SENDER'S DUE DATE:
OSTP DUE DATE: 10/04/91 STAFF DUE DATE
DATE COMPLETED: DATE COMPLETED/DEPT:

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #: CONTACT PERSON:
PHONE: EXT:

REMARKS: *From letter developed for other similar letters.
Sent response 10/25.*

CLOSED

OSTP RECEIVED: 09/20/91
DEPT RECEIVED:

FILE: P-PHYSICAL SCIENCES-GEOPHYSICS





4108

College of Aeronautics

Cranfield Institute of Technology
Cranfield Bedford MK43 0AL England

Telephone Bedford (0234) 750111

Telex 825072 CITECH G

Direct Lines

Telephone Bedford (0234) 752707

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RECEIVED

91 SEP 20 A 9: 33

MJR/pf

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dr. D Allen Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science
and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20506
U.S.A.

13 September 1991

Dear Dr. Bromley,

Several colleagues of mine at the much respected Air Force Geophysics Laboratory at Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts have suggested that I write to you. The purpose of my letter is to request that you consider retaining your wide-ranging, well-balanced and top-quality research activities at Hanscom, rather than attempting to move them across the continent to New Mexico. In view of the breadth of the basic and applied research programmes on atmospheric and space science that are carried out there, it may also be beneficial to retain the staff's responsibility to the entire US Air Force rather than changing it to one particular command, as I understand might occur with the move.

In summary, the AFGL has an enviable international reputation which, I consider, would be damaged by the proposed transfer. Such restructuring funds might be put to better use by developing the present Laboratory's research on the near-Earth space environment and on the tenuous upper atmosphere which protects all living matter from the energetic radiations present in space.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael J Rycroft". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Professor Michael J Rycroft

Editor-in-Chief

Journal of Atmospheric and Terrestrial Physics

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 25, 1991

Dear Professor Rycroft:

I am writing in response to your recent letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

Your interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karl A Erb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Professor Michael J. Rycroft
Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Atmospheric and Terrestrial Physics
College of Aeronautics
Cranfield Institute of Technology
Cranfield Bedford MK43 OAL England

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: INFORMATION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9122678

ORIGINATOR: 02

STATUS C

DIRECTORATE STATUS

FROM: SPILLHAUS, A.F.: AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION

TO: DR. D.A. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 07/22/91

SUBJECT: A COPY OF THE 10 VOLUME U.S. NATIONAL REPORT TO THE
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS.

DIRECTORATE STAFF
ASSIGNED: ASSIGNED:

ACTION STAFF
REQUIRED: ACTION:

SENDER'S DUE DATE:
OSTP DUE DATE: STAFF DUE DATE
DATE COMPLETED: DATE COMPLETED/DEPT:

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley
PHYSICAL SCIENCES

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #: CONTACT PERSON:
PHONE: EXT:
REMARKS: Enclosures to DAB.

CLOSED

OSTP RECEIVED: 07/24/91
DEPT RECEIVED:

FILE: P-PHYSICAL SCIENCES-GEOPHYSICS



2678
American Geophysical Union

2000 Florida Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
Phone (202) 462-6900
TWX 710-822-9300
FAX 202-328-0566

RECEIVED

91 JUL 24 P 3: 46

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR
July 22, 1991

Honorable D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 358
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Allan:

Attached is a copy of the 10 volume U. S. National Report to the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. This Report is published by AGU on behalf of the U. S. National Committee. It presents a broad summary of U. S. scientific accomplishment in geophysics over the past 4 years.

The Report will receive worldwide dissemination to individuals and, as a part of Reviews of Geophysics, will be permanently archived in libraries here and abroad. I hope you will find it of interest and use either personally or in your office.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fred".

A. F. Spilhaus, Jr.
Executive Director

Enclosures

Committee on Volcanology, Geochemistry, and Petrology

Volcanology, Geochemistry, and Petrology

U.S. National Report 1987—1990

Twentieth General Assembly
International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
Vienna, Austria
August 11—24, 1991

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 2, 1991

Dear Dr. Spilhaus:

Thank you very much for the U.S. National Report to the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. As someone who has been responsible for similar -- if perhaps not quite as exhaustive -- reports in the past, I know the amount of care and work that goes into them. Extend my congratulations to everyone involved.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Allan Bromley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "B" at the end.

D. Allan Bromley
The Assistant to the President
for
Science and Technology

Dr. A. F. Spilhaus, Jr.
American Geophysical Union
2000 Florida Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9121552

FROM: DULDIG, M.L.: AUSTRALIAN ANTARTIC DIVISION

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 05/21/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: PHYSICAL SCIENCES

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

06/12/91

DATE COMPLETED:

12/26/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 05/29/91

FILE: 6- PHYSICS-GEOPHYSICS

Pres

Cosmic Ray Section
C/- Physics Department
University of Tasmania
GPO Box 252C
Hobart Tasmania 7001
AUSTRALIA

RECEIVED

91 MAY 29 P 4: 37

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

21 May 1991

Dr D Allen Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science & Technology
Office of Science & Technology Policy - Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC 20506
U S A

Dear Dr Bromley

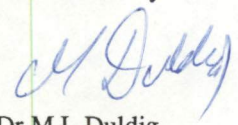
I have recently been informed that the US Air Force is considering the transfer of its Geophysics Laboratory (AFGL) from its present site at Hanscom, AFB, Massachusetts, to the recently established Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico. AFGL is recognized as an international centre "par excellence" covering all geophysically important research areas from the solar surface to the solid earth. In particular, continued high quality research at AFGL on the earth's environment is paramount if the impact of changes are to be understood and predicted. Such understanding will have significant ramifications not only to humanity in general but also to military operations and planning. A relocation of this type will inevitably lead to the loss of a large proportion of the most experienced and active researchers who are unable to relocate. This would have a seriously detrimental effect on the productivity and quality of research and would almost certainly result in the subsequent loss of international standing and influence that AFGL has built up over many years.

Such a relocation carries with it a change in mission objectives and it is my understanding that the goals will be very narrowly defined and short term in nature. The importance of long-term research can not be over-emphasized. Without long-term baseline measurements, any observed changes can not be properly ascribed to natural variation or significant trends. This can have serious future policy and planning implications such as "crisis" instead of "prospective" management decision making. Two short examples may help to stress this point.

In the last decade the ozone depletion over Antarctica has resulted in extraordinary efforts to internationally control the release of chloro-fluoro-carbons and has demonstrated the fragility of the environment to increased ultraviolet radiation. At the same time, no long term data on ozone depletion is available and the relative effects of natural variation and human activity is by no means well known. It will be necessary to continue research on this problem for several decades before the issue can be settled and the world-wide ramifications, both environmental and economic, understood. The second example relates to the cosmic ray ground level enhancements (GLE's) of late 1989 and early 1990. These events are rare averaging only one per year since the late 1940's. Only in the last two years has it become apparent that there may be radiation health risks to pilots and crew of aircraft who fly at high altitude during such events. Clearly the risks to spacecraft and astronauts are even more serious. Without continued long-term monitoring of cosmic rays and analysis of each event any detailed understanding of GLE's will be impossible and it is obviously in the best interests of the air force to continue such research. Furthermore, researchers at AFGL are recognized world-wide as the prime experts on such phenomena.

Given the considerations above I oppose the relocation and management changes and consider them to be ill-advised. I believe that your national longer-term interests would be far better served by maintaining AFGL as an independent long-term environmental research centre of excellence at its present site.

Yours sincerely


Dr M L Duldig

cc Donald B Rice
Secretary of the Air Force

Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories

121552
**Australian
Antarctic Division**

Channel Highway, Kingston
Tasmania, Australia 7050
Telephone (002) 29 0209
Telex AA 57090 ANARE
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

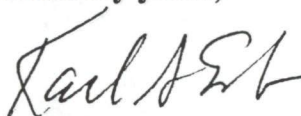
December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Duldig:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our
response is so tardy.*

Dr. M.L. Duldig
Cosmic Ray Section
c/o Physics Department
University of Tasmania
GPO Box 252C
Hobart, Tasmania 7001
Australia

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9121029

FROM: AKASOFU, Syun-Ichi: GEOPHYSICAL INSTITUTE, UNIV. OF ALASKA

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 03/29/91

SUBJECT: THE RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY
PRESENTLY AT HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: FOR DAB SIGNATURE

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE: 04/22/91

DATE COMPLETED: 12/26/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

Use same reply

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 04/08/91

FILE: *B*·PHYSICS-GEOPHYSICS *(Pres)*



9121029

RECEIVED 8/29/91

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science & Technology
Office of Science & Technology Policy - Rm 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506

APR 8 9:39

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dear Dr. Bromley:

My science colleagues relate that the Geophysics Laboratory of the Air Force Systems Command is to be moved to become part of the Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Geophysics Laboratory has pioneered in many fields through the use of their one-of-a-kind facilities and through a long-term commitment to maintaining a competent scientific and management staff.

For the past 25 years, I have worked closely with the Geophysics Laboratory. This cooperative work has been significant in achieving a unified understanding of the aurora, its relation to solar activity and to many upper atmospheric disturbance phenomena that impact Air Force radiowave propagation and satellite systems. In addition, I and our staff have had many fruitful cooperative projects with other groups at the Geophysics Laboratory. I can confidently say that this understanding would not have occurred without the initiatives and continuity of the dedicated staff of the Geophysics Laboratory.

Their position in the scientific community is a credible one, based on merit in the number and quality of refereed scientific publications as well as their initiatives for cooperative studies with other government research centers and universities. The accomplishments distinguish the Geophysics Laboratory as a national asset to be maintained as an entity.

The wisdom of relocation and consolidation within an organization not aligned with the demonstrated capabilities of the Geophysics Laboratory may be ill founded, particularly at a time when the geophysical environment is strategically crucial, as demonstrated by the Gulf War. A loss of focus for environmental studies and the fragmentation of the competent staff is likely. I understand that my personal view is similar to that of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, i.e., to maintain the Geophysics Laboratory as a "corporate" facility. I urge you to reverse the transfer/consolidation decision and to recognize the broad mission contributions that only an environmentally focussed laboratory can provide.

Sincerely yours,

Syun-Ichi Akasofu
Director

Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-0800

PHONE: 907-474-7558 TELEX: 35414 GEOPH INST FBK
FAX: 907-474-7290 TELEMAIL: GEOPH.INST.FBK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Akasofu:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Dr. Syun-Ichi Akasofu
Geophysical Institute
University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-0800

*I am sorry our reply
is so tardy.*

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120874

FROM: VOIGT, Hannes: RICE UNIVERSITY

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 03/20/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: FOR DAB SIGNATURE

SENDER'S DUE DATE: OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED: 12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/25/91

FILE: b- GEOPHYSICS Pres



Hannes Voigt
Space Physics Department
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251 - 1892

91 MAR 25 P 4: 55

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy – Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20506

March 20, 1991.

re: Relocation of the Geophysics Laboratory
from Hanscom, AFB, Massachusetts.

Dear Dr. Bromley:

Please allow me to express my concern about the future of the Geophysics Laboratory which the Air Force considers to transfer from Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts, to Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Geophysics Laboratory (GL) has contributed enormously to our present knowledge about the Earth's space environment. Both spacecraft experiments and theoretical studies performed by the scientists from the Lab are cornerstones of today's scientific activities in space science within the United States and worldwide. Moreover, the Air Force operated DMSP satellites routinely monitor our space environment: this activity is not covered by the NASA space program at all, but the routine services provided by those satellites are vital for developing a reliable space weather forecast. Space weather forecast modeling (crucial for the assessment of Air Force satellite operation) is presently done in close cooperation between GL and various University research groups.

This last point leads me to emphasize that a cooperation between GL and University research groups has turned out to be very beneficial for both the Air Force and the scientific community: The *present* organizational structure of GL serves as a "translator" between the operational needs of the Air Force and the enormous pool of expertise in the scientific com-

munity. I argue that, through GL, the Air Force is utilizing know-how that would not be readily available to the Air Force if GL became part of the Phillips Laboratory in Albuquerque.

In recognition of the above outlined vital role GL is presently playing for the needs of the Air Force, I strongly recommend that the Geophysics Laboratory be established as a corporate-type Laboratory at Hanscom AFB.

With best regards,



Hannes Voigt,
Senior Research Scientist,
Center for Space Physics.

Phone: (713) 527 - 8101, Ext. 3774

Span: RICE::VOIGT

FAX: (713) 285-5143

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Voight:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Dr. Hannes Voight
Space Physics Department
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, Texas 77251-1892

*I am sorry our reply
is so tardy.*

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE:

ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120796

FROM: WOLF, Richard: RICE UNIVERSITY

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 03/12/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: FOR DAB SIGNATURE

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/18/91

FILE: b- GEOPHYSICS Pres



RICE UNIVERSITY
Department of Space Physics & Astronomy

9120796
RECEIVED

91 MAR 18 AM 11:41

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR
March 12, 1991

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy - Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20506

Dear Dr. Bromley:

I am writing to help express the alarm of many scientists in my field, concerning the Air Force's plan to transfer the Geophysics Laboratory, which is currently located at Hanscom Air Force Base near Boston, to the new Phillips Laboratory in Albuquerque. This move will have a serious adverse effect on research in various Earth sciences. I therefore hope that your office will investigate the probable consequences, on U. S. science, of the Air Force's plan to move the Geophysics Lab.

The USAF Geophysics Laboratory, for many years called the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory, is an old and famous research institution dedicated to research on the Earth's environment, including various layers of the atmosphere as well as the near-Earth part of space. The move to Albuquerque will bring a quick end to that distinguished record, for two reasons:

1. Many of the Laboratory's essential personnel -- the scientists who know what is going on and can make things happen -- are died-in-the-wool New Englanders who will not move. I can't imagine the Laboratory continuing to function effectively with so many key people suddenly leaving the organization.
2. Even if the move could somehow be carried out without the loss of key personnel, it would anyhow be difficult for the Laboratory to continue to fulfill its essential role in the Air Force as part of the Phillips "superlab". The Geophysics Lab has traditionally provided technical support to a remarkably wide range of Defense Department operations. Only a small fraction of that work directly supports development of new weapons, which is the essential goal of the Phillips Lab. The Geophysics Lab should more appropriately be re-established as a "corporate lab" that connects directly to a high point in the Air Force administrative structure.

Now seems a particularly poor time for the Air Force to dissipate its in-house expertise on its own operating environment, which extends from the solid Earth through the

atmosphere and out into the nearby part of interplanetary space. As weapon and surveillance technology becomes more and more sophisticated, its interaction with the environment becomes more and more delicate. The effects work both ways: the natural environment frequently damages the high-tech devices, and there is always the chance that the devices will damage the environment. It seems particularly impolitic for the Air Force to dismantle its in-house expertise on environmental issues at a time when the American public is becoming increasingly concerned about these matters.

The Geophysics Lab is an important factor in U. S. research in several Earth sciences. For example, in ionospheric and magnetospheric physics, which is my particular specialty, the Geophysics Laboratory has for many years been a very significant and visible part of the total U. S. effort. That laboratory is responsible for a large fraction of the spacecraft that have monitored the near-space environment for the past 15 years, and they have also made central contributions to several research-dedicated spacecraft (one recent example being the highly successful CRRES mission, which is a joint NASA/Air-Force program). Therefore, I fear that consolidation of the Geophysics Laboratory with the Phillips Lab in Albuquerque -- which to the Air Force is just a minor part of a huge reorganization -- is likely to have dire consequences for some important areas of U. S. science. Since I believe that you are committed to the health of U. S. science, I hope that your office will give this matter careful study and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Wolf". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first name "Richard" being more prominent.

Richard A. Wolf
Professor

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Professor Wolf:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our
reply is so tardy.*

Professor Richard A. Wolf
Department of Space Physics and Astronomy
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, Texas 77251

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120797

FROM: WU, S.T.: THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 03/11/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GOEPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: FOR DAB SIGNATURE

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED: 12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/18/91

FILE: b - GEOPHYSICS Pres

9120797



The University
Of Alabama
In Huntsville

Huntsville, Alabama 35899
Telephone (205) 895-6660

31 MAR 1991

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Center for Space Plasma and
Aeronomic Research
Affiliated Academic Units
Computer Science Department
Department of Electrical
& Computer Engineering
Department of Mathematics
and Statistics
Department of Mechanical
Engineering
Department of Physics

11 March 1991

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science & Technology
Office of Science & Technology Policy - Room 360
Old Executive Building
17th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Dr. Bromley:

Recently, it has come to my attention that the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (AFGL) which is presently located at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts, will be transferred to the newly established Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico. As I understand, the Phillips Laboratory is a mission oriented laboratory and AFGL has served as a board based missions of national interest in the area of geophysical sciences. The scope of its research efforts reaches from the solid earth to the Sun's surface. It is understood that the space environment of the near earth is very complex and fragile. It is extremely important that this environmental research continue, not only for understanding the significant impact that the environment has on military operations, but also, for its obvious impact on our civilian space programs such as operations of space station, trip to Mars, etc. Based on the discussions with my associates at AFGL, I understand that the proposed move could seriously impair the AFGL's productivity due to a large number of key scientists being unable to relocate. Since the laboratory's mission would then become narrowly focused, the present strong interaction between the AFGL staff and national universities would be greatly impaired. It would take many years for the relocated laboratory to regain its present level of expertise. I strongly believed that this national resource should not be dismantled or moved.

In recognition of the broader base of the AFGL I would like to add my voice to that of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and also recommend that the Geophysical Laboratory be established as a corporate-type laboratory at Hanscom AFB. In this way, the Laboratory's expertise could be kept and operational needs of the Air Force better served.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
S. T. Wu

S. T. Wu
Director, CSPAR
UA System Distinguished Professor
AIAA Fellow
Chair, AIAA Nat'l TC on Plasmadynamics and Lasers

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Wu:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Dr. S.T. Wu
Director, Center for Space Plasma
and Aeronomic Research
University of Alabama
Huntsville, Alabama 35899

*I am sorry our
reply is so tardy*

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120698

FROM: VONNEGUT, Bernard: STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 03/07/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB. ENCLOSURES INCLUDE A LETTER TO DONALD
B. RICE & JOHN L. MCLUCAS AND A MEMO TO JOHN O'NEIL.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley
Michelle Van Cleave

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/11/91

FILE: b- GEOPHYSICS

Pres



Earth Science Building, Room 323
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222

RECEIVED

91 MAR 11 A(518) 342-4499/4586

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

7 March 1991

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy - Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Dr. Bromley:

I conceive, as I feel sure you do, that one of the important roles you play in your present position is to do whatever you can to assure the continued development of the Nation's scientific resources. I therefore wish to bring to your attention the Air Force's plan to move their Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. I fear this may deprive not only the Air Force but the rest of the nation of the vitally important expertise that is becoming increasingly necessary for us to deal wisely with environmental problems.

To provide you with some background concerning this situation I am enclosing for you copies of a letter and other supporting documents I have sent to The Honorable Donald B. Rice, Secretary of the Air Force.

I should mention another, and not inconsequential result of the projected move, which is that it may well lead to the dispersal of one of the finer scientific libraries in the country. This contains, among many other important collections, all of the original hand-written manuscripts of the magnificent contributions that Lord Rayleigh made over his lifetime.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Vonnegut
Bernard Vonnegut

BV:spm

cc: The Honorable Donald B. Rice



Earth Science Building, Room 323
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222

(518) 442-4499/4586

21 February 1991

The Honorable Donald B. Rice
Secretary of the Air Force
Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Recently I was surprised and disappointed to learn that the Air Force is considering a plan to transfer its Geophysics Laboratory, which for many years has been located at Hanscom, AFB, MA, to the Phillips Laboratory in Albuquerque, NM. This is of interest to me, because in 1975 when I was a member of the Geophysics Panel of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, I strongly objected to a plan for a similar move. My reactions fifteen years ago apply equally well to the present plan. Therefore, I am enclosing for your consideration a letter and a memorandum I wrote at the time to The Honorable John L. McLucas and to Lieutenant General John W. O'Neill. I hope these may be of help to you in evaluating the pros and cons of the move now under consideration.

It should be recognized that in the forty five years since it was founded through the foresight of General Arnold and the eminent Theodore Von Karman, the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory has matured into a world-class scientific organization, well known and highly respected here and abroad for its growing list of basic scientific contributions.

In my opinion this Laboratory is one of our country's important scientific assets. It would be a tragic mistake that would almost insure its demise to relocate it in the Phillips Laboratory. A far better course of action that should be followed is to assure the continued productivity of the Laboratory by making it a corporate entity at its present location.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bernard Vonnegut".

Bernard Vonnegut

BV:spm
Enclosures



DEPARTMENT OF
ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY
1400 WASHINGTON AVENUE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12222

13 December 1974

The Honorable John L. McLucas
Secretary of the Air Force
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As a member of the Geophysics Panel of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, I was surprised to learn that a rumor I heard last week concerning the Air Force's plans for the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories is not without substance. Although I have not as yet been able to receive any authoritative information through Air Force channels, I have learned from telephone talks with scientific associates at the Geophysics Research Directorate that severe cuts are planned in the staff of environmental scientists there and that those who are not discharged will be transferred from the Boston area to New Mexico.

If what I have learned unofficially is true, this is a most important decision involving geophysics that the Air Force has made. In my opinion it is an extraordinarily bad one. If anything, the importance of understanding geophysical phenomena as they relate to Air Force operations is of increasing importance and it is vital that this branch of the Defense Department have a first-rate in-house capability in geophysics. If the proposed change is implemented, it will seriously impair the ability of the Air Force to deal with current problems, to make competent judgments on future development programs, and to take full advantage of scientific resources in universities and in industry. Had I been informed or consulted concerning this decision, I would have urged strongly against it.

Sincerely,

Bernard Vonnegut

BV:smp



STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY
1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12222

DEPARTMENT OF
ATMOSPHERIC - SCIENCE

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Lt. Gen. John W. O'Neill

From: B. Vonnegut

Subject: Effects of Reorganization on AFCRL

Introduction

This report is to assess the effects that will be caused by the proposed organizational changes on the scientific capabilities of the USAF related to geophysics. My conclusions are based on my experience as a practicing scientist, my acquaintanceship with scientists now or formerly employed at AFCRL, and a visit on April 14th and 15th to Lincoln Laboratories and to AFCRL. Before discussing the possible effects of the proposed changes, it is worth stating my conviction, reinforced by this visit, that if the Air Force is to fulfill its responsibilities, it will require a continuing and growing need for a first-rate capability in geophysics.

USAF Resources in Geophysics

The Air Force now derives the expertise in geophysics necessary for its operation from several sources: USAF laboratories, other government laboratories, industry, universities, private laboratories, and consultants. At present the primary resources for the solution of geophysical problems are found in the scientific personnel of the AFCRL. It is therefore of importance to assess the scientific capabilities of this laboratory and the extent to which it is successful in supplying scientific support to the various groups that it serves.

Quality of AFCRL

I find no reason to alter my impressions accumulated over the years since it was established that the AFCRL is a very good laboratory that compares favorably in its scientific stature and in the productivity of its personnel with any similar group of scientists in this country or abroad. Over the last quarter century it has grown in size

and stature until at the present time it is an important member of the Boston scientific community and a resource in geophysics not only to the Air Force but to the country as a whole.

Effectiveness of AFCRL

There appears to be general agreement concerning the high quality of its scientists and their research as well as its relevance to the Air Force mission. I have found, however, divided opinion on the effectiveness of the AFCRL in supporting the needs of the Air Force in planning, problem solving and system acquisition. These opinions range from those who think that the laboratory is doing a first-rate job to those who have found the personnel of the laboratory to be insensitive to the problems with which they are confronted and unwilling to cooperate in areas in which they have competence and could be expected to provide assistance.

In my recent discussions with AFCRL scientific personnel I found the prevailing view to be that although they were furnishing effective support, it could be considerably improved by better scientific liaison with the rest of the Air Force organization and by a clearer statement of their responsibilities, which often appeared to them to be unclear. While many of the people I talked to felt that their value to the Air Force could be improved by organizational changes, no one was of the opinion that their effectiveness was hindered by geographical separation or that it could be improved by a change in location. Instances were cited in which very effective cooperative programs were being carried out between groups thousands of miles away more effectively than with groups that were within walking distance.

Probable Effects of Reorganization

My estimates of the probable effects of the reorganization on the AFCRL are based largely on my conversations with members of the scientific and technical staff during my recent visit. Laboratory members were apprehensive for several reasons concerning their scientific careers, their personal lives, and the effectiveness of the laboratory to contribute to the solution of Air Force problems. There was widespread belief that the proposed RIF of approximately 20 percent was larger than those imposed on other units of the Air Force and that this reflected a lack of support for scientific activities of the sort being pursued in the laboratory. It was

further recognized by others that this cutback would fall most heavily on the younger, more recently employed personnel and would aggravate the present deficiency in new young talent.

The planned move of the geophysical group from the Boston area to Albuquerque came as an unhappy prospect to many of the personnel who had strong ties to the Boston area. This point of view was by no means universal. Several scientists though dubious about its career implications were pleased at the prospect of the move to New Mexico. There was widespread belief that the scientific climate and the opportunities of association with fellow scientists in Albuquerque would suffer greatly by comparison with the opportunities available in the Boston area. There was the further apprehension that if further layoffs of personnel were to occur after the move, it would be far more difficult for both scientists and supporting personnel to find employment in their specialties in the Albuquerque area.

Another feature in the proposed changes in Air Force research with considerable impact on the laboratory personnel was the announced policy of reducing the role of basic research in Air Force laboratories and transferring this effort to universities and to industry. Most of the scientists with whom I talked felt that this policy could prove detrimental to their own scientific careers. They believed that in the long run this policy would lower the caliber of the scientists that could be attracted to careers in Air Force laboratories.

From my conversations it was clear that the total effect of the three factors of the reorganization--the RIF, the move, and the Chapman report--would be a synergistic one. The detrimental effects on both morale and effectiveness would be far more than just the sum of the three effects taken separately. There was widespread belief that the organizational changes were largely motivated by politics and were not made for sound scientific or organizational reasons. A significant number were of the opinion that the moves were deliberately undertaken as part of a plan leading to eventual termination of in-house geophysical scientific research activities in the Air Force.

Many members of the laboratory staff will refuse to make the move from Massachusetts to New Mexico. Some will, indeed some already have, made arrangements when the move takes place to accept new positions in other laboratories in Boston and elsewhere. This group includes not only some of the best scientists, but also skilled technicians and machinists. Even in this period of recession these well-

qualified specialists will be able to find other jobs in the Boston area. There are others who will elect to remain, either to retire or to hope for an improvement in the job market.

At best the laboratory when it is established in New Mexico will be a badly fragmented organization lacking key personnel on all levels. It will not be able to regain its effectiveness unless new talent can be hired and trained to fill the various vacancies. The recruitment and training of new scientific personnel involves a considerable element of chance and even if it is successful the process will require years.

There are some advantages in that in this period of a poor job market it will probably be possible to attract able new scientific talent. The development of these scientists and their ability to contribute to Air Force needs may, however, be hindered by the lack of senior people to guide them.

The movement of the extensive laboratory equipment will involve problems. I was impressed during my visit by the amount of heavy apparatus that will obviously require either new buildings or extensive remodeling of any existing structures when it is installed in New Mexico. A vital asset to the laboratory is the present library, which is generally recognized to be one of the best geophysical resources in the country. Whatever the decision--move it, leave it, or divide it--it will lead to hardships either in Albuquerque or Bedford or both. In any event, the repairing of the library resources after the move will lessen the effectiveness of the laboratories and require time and money.

Alternative Scientific Resources in Geophysics

A problem closely related to the projected reorganization is to what extent the Air Force's continued need for geophysical expertise can be supplied from other sources during the adjustment following the laboratory reorganization. To some extent this can be filled by making use of scientists in universities, industries, other government laboratories, and private laboratories and consultants. This may be a risky business, for in any case the effective use of outside scientific resources requires a strong in-house scientific capability. During the transition this competence will doubtless be impaired. At best the Air Force will be relying on scientists who often will not have a satisfactory understanding of the Air Force requirements and who cannot be expected to give them their continuing and undivided attention.

Summary

It should be recognized that in the AFCRL the Air Force has a first-rate broad-range geophysical laboratory that is capable of satisfying its continuing and growing need for in-house geophysical competence. It has taken over 20 years and the expenditure of large sums to assemble this organization. I doubt that any of the possible advantages of the contemplated changes can justify the serious and long-term impairment of its ability to serve the Air Force that will inevitably result.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Vonnegut:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our
reply is so tardy.*

Dr. Bernard Vonnegut
State University of New York
Earth Science Guilding
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120813

FROM: MULLAN, Dermott J.: THE UNIVERSITY JOF DELAWARE

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 03/01/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: FOR DAB SIGNATURE

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/20/91

FILE: *b* · GEOPHYSICS

Pres

9120803

BARTOL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Newark, DE 19716

RECEIVED

91 MAR 20 A 9:42

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

March 1, 1991

Dr D. Allan Bromley
 Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
 Office of Science and Technology Policy, Room 360
 Old Executive Office Building
 17th St and Pennsylvania Ave
 Washington DC 20506

Dear Dr Bromley:

I understand that the Air Force may transfer the Geophysics Laboratory (GL) from Hanscom AFB to Albuquerque. I have been acquainted with the research work in solar-terrestrial physics which has been going on at the GL since 1978: in the summer of that year, at the invitation of then USAF Captain S. Peter Worden, I spent several months at the Sacramento Peak Observatory, where the Air Force supports a major component of solar-terrestrial research. I have the highest regard for the work done by the GL, and for the researchers who are on the team.

I think that a move to Albuquerque would have a serious and negative impact on the research which would be done by the GL, because many of the key scientists in the team would find it difficult, if not impossible, to relocate. This would likely result in a major alteration in the research work, perhaps to the detriment of the present strong interaction between GL staff and researchers at universities across the country.

I support the recommendation of the US Air Force Scientific Advisory Board to the effect that the GL should be established as a corporate-type laboratory at Hanscom, where the research team can continue their nationally recognized work.

Sincerely Yours

Dermott J. Mullan
 Bartol Research Institute
 University of Delaware
 Newark, DE 19716
 Phone: (302) 451-2170
 SPAN: BARTOL::MULLAN
 Bitnet: dmullan @ solar

TELEPHONE: 302-451-8111

TELEFAX: 302-451-1843

TELEX: 5106660805
BARTOL NARK

An Equal Opportunity University

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Mullan:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our reply
is so tardy.*

Dr. Dermott J. Mullan
Barton Research Institute
University of Delaware
Newark, Delaware 19716

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120658

FROM: FENTON, A. G.: UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/27/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/07/91

FILE: *B* - GEOPHYSICS *Pres*



University of Tasmania

Department of Physics

Telephone:

National (002) 202410

International +61 (02) 202410

Facsimile:

National (002) 202410

International +61 (02) 202410

Sandy Bay Campus

Churchill Avenue

Sandy Bay Hobart

Correspondence

GPO Box 252C

Hobart Tasmania 7001

Australia

Telex AA 58150

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR



27 February 1991

Dr. D. Allan Bromley,
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology,
Office of Science and Technology Policy - Room 360,
Old Executive Office Building,
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.,
WASHINGTON, DC 20506
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dear Mr. Bromley,

I understand that the U.S. Air Force is considering the transfer of its Geophysical Laboratory (GL) from its present location at Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts, to New Mexico. As a long-time admirer of the first-rate basic research being conducted by GL in the area of solar-terrestrial phenomena, I regard this proposed transfer with considerable concern and urge you to consider alternatives which would be less likely to disrupt their fine work, and which might hopefully strengthen GL's mission in longer-term environmental research.

The Geophysical Laboratory is widely recognised outside the United States as a world-class centre for geophysical research. In my experience, staff members from GL have attended most of the International Cosmic Ray Conferences held since the International Geophysical Year, and have made very significant contributions to the proceedings, notably in relation to the influence of the geomagnetic field on charged cosmic rays approaching the Earth, and in the understanding of the ground-level enhancements (GLE's) following acceleration processes at the Sun. Over the years the GL has built up an impressive bank of knowledge and expertise in these areas of environmental research. This expertise could be lost if the laboratory were to be moved from the east of the US, disrupting the existing links with other institutions in the area and losing key scientists who may be unable to relocate.

I understand that the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board has recommended a corporate-type management and funding structure for the Geophysical Laboratory. While I am in no position to comment on the specifics of this proposal, it would seem that GL has developed such a high level of expertise in solar-geophysical research that a way should be found to preserve this into the future, not only for the provision of environmental information and advice for military purposes but also more generally to the wider world community through a continuation of scientific publications and collaborative projects.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. A. G. Fenton,
Honorary Research Fellow in Physics.

Maury -

12/23

Incl. the ltr. to Dr. A.C. Fenton,
these are ~~these~~ replies to the
geology. ltrs. addressed to DAB.

I have 6 others w/ Dr. Erb
for signature & to reply to those
who had written forwarding notes to
DAB, enclosing copy of ltr. to Sec. Rice.

I don't think I will produce
letters to those who merely copied DAB

Document Originally
Attached to
Following Page

→ Mary Smit

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Fenton:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our reply
is so tardy*

Dr. A.G. Fenton
Department of Physics
University of Tasmania
GPO Box 252C
Hobart, Tasmania 7001
Australia

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120570

FROM: LANG, Kenneth R.: NASA

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/26/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 02/28/91

FILE: b- GEOPHYSICS Pres



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Washington, D.C.
20546

9120570
RECEIVED

91 FEB 28 P 3: 27

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Reply to Attn of:

SS

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy - Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506

February 26, 1991

Dear Dr. Bromley:

The Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (GL) plays an important role in funding research at neighboring universities in the Boston area. Interaction with these universities on a daily basis has extended the scientific return of the GL research program in a manner that could not exist in almost any other location. I would therefore strongly discourage the Air Force from relocating the GL, but instead encourage their consideration of alternate plans that can continue this valuable university interaction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kenneth R. Lang
Visiting Senior Scientist
NASA Headquarters
and
Professor of Astronomy
Tufts University
Medford, MA 02155

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Professor Lang:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our reply is
so tardy*

Professor Kenneth R. Lang
Department of Astronomy
Tufts University
Medford, Massachusetts 02155

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120757

FROM: KANE, Sharad and Robert P. Lin: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/26/91

SUBJECT: THE RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY
PRESENTLY AT HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: FOR DAB SIGNATURE

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/15/91

FILE: b- GEOPHYSICS

Pres

9120757

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

RECEIVED

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

91 MAR 15 4 9: 07

(415) 642-1361
 TWX: UC SPACE BERK
 (910) 366-7945

SPACE SCIENCES LABORATORY
 BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

February 26, 1991

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
 Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
 Office of Science and Technology Policy, Room 360
 Old Executive Office Building
 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
 Washington, D.C., 20506

Dear Dr. Bromley,

We are writing to you in connection with a possible relocation of the Air Force Geophysical Laboratory (AFGL) which is presently located at Hanscom, AFB, Massachusetts. It appears that the Air Force is considering transferring AFGL to the newly established Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico. We are surprised that the Air Force is considering such a move for AFGL because it will almost certainly affect the quality as well as the direction of the research being presently conducted at AFGL. Over more than a decade, we and other research scientists at the University of California, Berkeley have closely collaborated with AFGL scientists and participated in Air Force sponsored research projects related to a variety of geophysical and solar phenomena, and their effect on the earth's environment. Such collaborative studies have been instrumental in obtaining a better understanding of the basic physical processes occurring at the sun and in the geophysical environment.

Our concern regarding a possible move of the Geophysical Laboratory stems from its impact on AFGL in two important ways: (1) The change from an environment emphasizing primarily basic and applied geophysical research to one where the engineering support for space and missile missions will be most probably emphasized will adversely affect the morale and creativity of the AFGL scientists; (2) The close relationship between AFGL and the excellent universities and other educational institutions in the Boston area, which has provided over the years a fertile base for producing young geophysicists, will be lost.

In view of the importance of research in geophysics to the security and prosperity of the nation, we urge you not to move the AFGL from its present location at the Hanscom AFB. If a reorganization is indicated by other considerations, we suggest that the Geophysics Laboratory be established as an Air Force corporate laboratory dedicated to conducting and sponsoring geophysical research.

Sincerely,

Sharad R. Kane
 Research Physicist

Robert P. Lin
 Professor of Physics

RPL/bl

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Drs. Kane and Lin:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Dr. Sharad R. Kane and Dr. Robert P. Lin
Space Sciences Laboratory
University of California
Berkeley 94720

*I am sorry our
reply is so tardy*

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120618

FROM: COPPI, B.: MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/25/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/04/91

FILE: *B* · GEOPHYSICS

Pres

91206A

RECEIVED

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

91 MAR 4 7 3: 00

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

February 25, 1991

Prof. Allan D. Bromley
Science Advisor to the President
O.S.T.P. (White House)
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Professor Bromley,

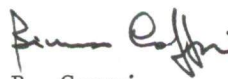
It has come to my attention that the Air Force is considering the transfer of the Geophysics Laboratory, which is presently located at Hanscom, AFB, Massachusetts, to the newly established Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Geophysics Laboratory is a world-class center of excellence for geophysical research. The scope of its research efforts reaches from the solid earth to the Sun's surface. The proposed move could seriously impair the laboratory's productivity and corporate memory due to a large number of key scientists being unable to relocate. The laboratory's mission would then become narrowly focused. It is difficult to see how the relocated laboratory would regain its present level of expertise and connections.

The worst consequence would be the loss of the existing strong interaction between the GL staff and the unique cluster of internationally known universities and research centers that exists in the Boston area. Therefore, I believe that this national resource should not be dismantled or moved.

I would like to add my voice to that of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and also recommend that the Geophysics Laboratory be established as a corporate-type Laboratory at Hamscom Air Force Base.

Sincerely,



B. Coppi
Professor

BC/cl

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Professor Coppi:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Professor B. Coppi
Department of Physics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

*I am sorry our
reply is so tardy*

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE:

ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120642

FROM: CANE, Hilary V.: UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/23/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM, AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED: 12/26/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 03/05/91

FILE: *B* · GEOPHYSICS

Pres

9120642
RECEIVED

91 MAR 5 9:51

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy - Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C., 20506
U. S. A.

Sandy Bay Campus
Churchill Avenue
Sandy Bay Hobart
Correspondence
GPO Box 252C
Hobart Tasmania 7001
Australia
Telephone (002) 202101
Telex AA 58150
Facsimile (002) 202186



February 23, 1991

Dear Dr Bromley:

I understand that the Air Force is considering transferring the Geophysics Laboratory to the newly established Phillips Laboratory in New Mexico. Apparently this latter institution has a narrowly defined set of operational goals, unlike the present Geophysics Laboratory. Consequently it is likely that much of the basic research at present being undertaken at the Geophysics Laboratory will no longer be supported. This would be a great shame. Long-term environmental research, which is the expertise of the Geophysics Laboratory, is important both to the Air Force and to the world and should be continued. Even if the transfer of command does not directly mean a cessation of the research, a move to New Mexico would make it inevitable. Many of the key scientists would not be able to relocate and the absence of pools of good science and engineering schools in Albuquerque will mean the lack of the important interactions that presently take place in the Boston area.

A transfer of the Geophysics Laboratory to New Mexico would certainly make it very difficult for me to interact as closely with my colleagues as I do at present. We have produced at least one jointly authored scientific paper per year over the last five years or so. I spend several months each year at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland and during this time make a trip to the Geophysics Laboratory. The air fare to Boston is not significant. The higher airfare to Albuquerque is essentially prohibitive.

The Air Force Scientific Advisory Board has apparently recommended that the Geophysics Laboratory be established as a corporate-type laboratory at Hanscom AFB. This proposal would maintain the Laboratory's expertise. I would like to register my support for it and hope that the Air Force will seriously consider this alternative plan.

Sincerely,

Hilary V. Cane

Hilary V. Cane

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Cane:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

Your interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our reply
is so tardy*

Dr. Hilary V. Cane
University of Tasmania
Sandy Bay Campus
GPO Box 252C
Hobart, Tasmania 7001
Australia

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120514

FROM: SILEVITCH, Michael B.: NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/22/91

SUBJECT: THE RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY
PRESENTLY AT HANSCOM AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: FOR DAB SIGNATURE

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED:

12/26/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 02/25/91

FILE: 8-GEOPHYSICS

Pres

9/20514



Northeastern University

RECEIVED

Center for Electromagnetics Research

91 FEB 25 PM 2: 04

22 February 1991

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Old Executive Office Building, Room 360
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention that the Air Force is considering the transfer of the Geophysics Laboratory, which is presently located at Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts, to the newly established Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

I am a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Northeastern University in Boston. In addition, I am also the Director of a National Science Foundation/Industry/University Center of Excellence in Electromagnetics, a research area which bears on the Geophysics Laboratory's mission. My involvement with the Geophysics Laboratory has extended over a ten-year period. During this time I have developed several collaborative research projects with scientists at the Geophysics Laboratory in areas relating primarily to coupling between the Earth's atmospheric, ionospheric and outer space environments. This area is a critical one for establishing reliable ground-based and satellite communications which are needed for reliable information gathering and interpretation. Over the past decade the Geophysics Laboratory has evolved from a laboratory primarily concerned with program management into a world class research facility. The anticipated move will, in my opinion, result in a dismantling of Geophysics Laboratory research capability and credibility.

I urge you to consider the broader mission of the Geophysics Laboratory and its relationship to the national interest. As shown by an official technology transfer study, GL supports a wide range of organizations extending beyond the immediate mission of the Phillips Laboratory which has narrowly defined

22 February 1991

Page Two

operational goals. There is a real danger here that the long-term goal of understanding the environment will be sacrificed for short-term operational objectives. When the short-term goals change, the expertise gained from long-term research will not exist for application to a new set of operational problems.

In recognition of the broader customer base and mission of the Geophysics Laboratory, I would like to add my voice to that of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and also recommend that the Geophysics Laboratory be established as a corporate-type laboratory at Hanscom AFB. That is, its funding and management should be separated from that of the Phillips Laboratory and its goals defined in terms of the longer-term environmental requirements of the Air Force as well as the shorter-term needs of the products division. In this way, the Laboratory's expertise can be maintained and the operational needs of the Air Force better served.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MBS", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Michael B. Silevitch
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Silevitch:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Dr. Michael B. Silevitch
Director
Center for Electromagnetics Research
Northeastern University
235 Forsyth Building
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

*I am sorry our
reply is so tardy*

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120541

FROM: CURRY, John A.: NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/21/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSCOM AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE: OSTP DUE DATE:

DATE COMPLETED: 12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 02/26/91

FILE: b-GEOPHYSICS (Pres)



Northeastern University

Office of the President

February 21, 1991

9120541
RECEIVED

91 FEB 25 P 5: 26

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy - Room 360
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Dr. Bromley:

It has come to my attention that the Air Force is considering the transfer of the Geophysics Laboratory, which is presently located at Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts, to the newly established Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Geophysics Laboratory is a world-class center of excellence for geophysical research. The scope of its research efforts reaches from the solid earth to the sun's surface. The earth's environment, as I am sure you are aware, is very complex and fragile. It is extremely important that this environmental research continue not only for understanding the significant impact that the environment has on military operations, but also for its obvious impact on the general health and well-being of the human race. I understand from discussions with my associates at the Geophysics Laboratory that the proposed move could seriously impair the laboratory's productivity and corporate memory due to a large number of key scientists being unable to relocate. Since the laboratory's mission would then become narrowly focused, the present strong interaction between the GL staff and nationally renowned universities would be greatly diminished. It could take many years for the relocated laboratory to regain its present level of expertise. I believe that this national resource should not be dismantled or moved.

I urge you to consider the broader mission of the Geophysics Laboratory and its relationship to the national interest. As shown by an official technology transfer study, GL supports a wide range of organizations extending beyond the immediate mission of the Phillips Laboratory which has narrowly defined operational goals. There is a real danger here that the long-term goal of understanding the environment will be sacrificed for short-term operational objectives. When the short-term goals change, the expertise gained from long-term research will not exist for application to a new set of operational problems.

110 Churchill Hall
Northeastern University
Boston, Massachusetts 02115
617-437-2101

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
February 21, 1991
Page 2

In recognition of the broader customer base and mission of the Geophysics Laboratory I would like to add my voice to that of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and also recommend that the Geophysics Laboratory be established as a corporate-type Laboratory at Hanscom AFB. That is, its funding and management should be separated from that of the Phillips Laboratory and its goals defined in terms of the longer-term environmental requirements of the Air Force as well as the shorter-term needs of the product divisions. In this way, the Laboratory's expertise can be maintained and the operational needs of the Air Force better served.

Sincerely,


John A. Curry
President

JAC/ljr

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Curry:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

*I am sorry our reply
is so tardy*

Dr. John A. Curry
President
Northeastern University
110 Churchill Hall
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

"CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING"

TYPE: ACTION

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 9120518

FROM: RESTAINO, Sergio R.: NATIONAL OPTICAL ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORIES

TO: DR. BROMLEY

DATE OF
CORRESPONDENCE: 02/19/91

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF THE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY PRESENTLY AT
HANSKOM AFB.

ASSIGNED TO: Dr. Wong

ACTION REQUIRED: AS NECESSARY

SENDER'S DUE DATE:

OSTP DUE DATE: 03/17/91

DATE COMPLETED:

12/20/91

COPIES TO: D. Allan Bromley

WHITE HOUSE TRACKING #:

CONTACT PERSON:

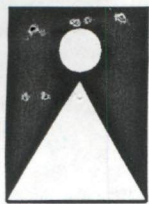
REMARKS:

CLOSED

DATE RECEIVED: 02/25/91

FILE: b- GEOPHYSICS

Pres



National
Optical
Astronomy
Observatories

RECEIVED

9120518
P.O. Box 62
Sunspot NM 88349-0062
(505) 434-7000 FAX: (505) 434-7029
Telex: 1561030 AURANSO UT
Internet: sp@sunspot.naoa.edu

National Solar Observatory Sacramento Peak

February 19, 1991

Dr. D. Allan Bromley
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy - Room 360
Washington, D.C., 20506

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dear Dr. Bromley:

It has come to my attention that the Air Force is considering the transfer of the Geophysics Laboratory, which is presently located at Hanscom, AFB, Massachusetts, to the newly established Phillips Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Geophysics Laboratory is a world-class center for geophysical research, and I have been able to experience it personally. The scope of its research efforts reaches from the solid Earth to the Sun's surface. The Earth's environment, as I am sure you are aware, is very complex and fragile. It is extremely important that this environmental research continue not only for understanding the significant impact that environment has on military operations, but also for its obvious impact on the general health and wellbeing of the human race. I understand from discussion with my colleagues at the Geophysics Laboratory that the proposed move could seriously impair the laboratory's productivity and corporate memory due to a large number of key scientists being unable to relocate. Since the laboratory's mission would then become narrowly focused, the present strong interaction between the GL staff and nationally renowned universities would be greatly diminished. It could take many years for the relocated laboratory to regain its present level of expertise. I believe that this national resource should not be dismantled or moved.

I urge you to consider the broader mission of the Geophysics Laboratory and its relationship to the national interest. As shown by an official technology transfer study, GL supports a wide range of organizations extending beyond the immediate mission of the Phillips Laboratory which has narrowly defined operational goals. There is a real danger here that long-term goal of understanding the environment will be sacrificed for short-term operational objectives. When the short-term goals change, the expertise gained from long-term research will not exist for application to a new set of operational problems.

In recognition of the broader customer base and mission of the Geophysics Laboratory I would like to add my voice to that of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and also recommend that GL be established as a corporate-type Laboratory at Hanscom AFB. That is, its funding and management should be separated from that of the Phillips Laboratory and its goals defined in terms of the longer-term environmental requirements of the Air Force as well as the shorter-term needs of the product divisions. In this way, the Laboratory's expertise can be maintained and the operational needs of the Air Force better served.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sergio R. Restaino

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 20, 1991

Dear Dr. Restaino:

I am writing in response to your letter to Dr. Bromley, in which you express concern about the potential relocation of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory from Massachusetts to New Mexico. It is my understanding that the final decision on this matter has not yet been made. However, in making that decision the Air Force must necessarily take into account a variety of factors, including the ones you mentioned in your letter. The final outcome will certainly be influenced by the need to retain scientific excellence at the Laboratory.

You interest in the Air Force's geophysics program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Karl A. Erb
Acting Associate Director
for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Dr. Sergio R. Restaino
National Optical Astronomy Observatories
P.O. Box 62
Sunspot, New Mexico 88349-0062

*I am sorry our
reply is so tardy.*