

University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

May 13, 1959

Trustees of UCAR

Gentlemen:

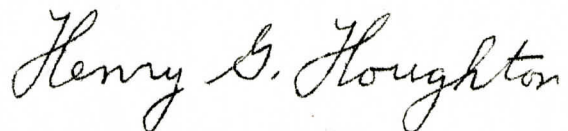
I inform you with regret that the Thomas Appropriations sub-committee of the House disallowed the \$500,000. item in the NSF budget for the National Institute for Atmospheric Research and the House passed this appropriation bill without debate. Also disallowed was the \$2,000,000 item for research on weather modification. In all, the House cut \$17,000,000. from the NSF budget. The Thomas sub-committee has frequently taken similar action in the past on scientific appropriations.

In the opinion of NSF there is a good chance that these cuts will be restored by the Senate Appropriations Committee and NSF intends to do what it can with that Committee. As you know, executive orders make it difficult for NSF to make direct approaches to members of the Senate Committee. We are under no such restrictions and I believe that we should immediately do all that we can to approach members of Congress to urge that these items be restored. It is evident that the members of the Senate Appropriations Committee are in a key position in this matter and I enclose a list of the membership for your information. I do not know how much time we have but I urge you to take appropriate action at once. I am not in a position to advise you how you should approach this matter but will depend on your judgment to do whatever seems most appropriate.

We have been holding back from direct approaches to Congress until NSF has taken some affirmative action on our proposal but, in the present crisis, we must do whatever we can. It is appropriate that we support not only the item for the National Institute but also the \$2,000,000. item for research on weather modification. Since our proposal has now been submitted (copy enclosed) we can also point out that \$1,200,000 is needed for the Institute rather than the original \$500,000.

I depend on you for prompt and vigorous action and I will do all I can from here.

Sincerely yours,



Henry G. Houghton