

While these procedures could be improved in many ways, the committee wishes to point out to scientists that they themselves, even under present procedures, can better the situation.

The following proposal aims at raising the level of the confidential reports on which clearance decisions are based. In most investigations, agents of the FBI obtain information from friends, neighbors, and colleagues of the person to be cleared, as well as from less direct sources. The results are collected in a confidential dossier in which the sources of information are often anonymous, or revealed only to a very limited number of officials. It is obvious that these unacknowledgeable statements can cause serious misunderstanding which cannot easily be clarified, especially in cases where the clearance status meets with difficulties.

It is, therefore, strongly recommended that all scientists adhere to the following rules whenever possible:

- (1) When giving information to loyalty and security investigators, state willingness to testify if necessary.
- (2) Prepare a signed, written statement of the information for the investigating agency.

SCIENTISTS' COMMITTEE ON LOYALTY PROBLEMS: *Lyman Spitzer, Jr.*, Chairman; *William A. Higinbotham*, Associate Chairman; *Arthur S. Wightman*, Secretary; *Donald E. Hamilton*, Treasurer; *David Bohm*, *Roy Britten*, *Robert R. Bush*, *Elmer G. Butler*, *Albert Einstein*, *Luther P. Eisenhart*, *Samuel A. Goudsmit*, *M. Stanley Livingston*, *Stuart Mudd*, *David Pines*, *Oswald Veblen*, *Irving Wolff*.

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### The Northern Limit of the Fauna of the African Equatorial Forest

While in the southern Sudan in 1948 with the U. S. Navy Medical Science Group (University of California African Expedition) I gathered material and information concerning the fauna of the forested mountain ranges of the Latuka country in the eastern part of Equatoria Province.

The Imatong Mountains (10,376 feet = 3163 meters) and Didinga Mountains (8935 feet = 2724 meters) are the highest elevations between the mountains of Kenya and Uganda and the highland of Ethiopia. Four species of mammals belonging to the forest fauna have been previously recorded from this area and can now be correctly identified, thus serving as index species for an appraisal of this fauna. They are (1) Black and White Colobus Monkey, *Colobus polykomos occidentalis* Rochebrune (syn. *dodingae* Matschie), (2) Blue Monkey, *Cercopithecus mitis stuhlmanni* Matschie (*otoleucus* Selater), (3) Bushbuck, *Tragelaphus scriptus delamerei* Pocock (*dodingae* Matschie, *locorinae* Matschie, *barkeri* (Millais)), (4) Blue Duiker (*Philantomba monticola aequatorialis* Matschie), (5) From descriptions received locally, although no specimens were obtained, it appears probable that the Black Mangabey (*Cercocebus albigena johnstoni* Lydekker) also occurs.

These forms are subspecifically identical with those occurring in the forests of Uganda and in the Ituri

forest. They indicate that the reduction of the continuous forest and the development of the forest islands in the East Nile area are of fairly recent origin. On the other hand the separation of the mountain forests of southern Ethiopia is more remote. The species of this forest fauna are subspecifically distinct from those in the mountains of the Latuka country.

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### A Statement of the Governing Board of the A.I.B.S.

For more than a decade, biological scientists and particularly geneticists and cytologists in the USSR have been attacked by so-called "Michurinists," led by T. D. Lysenko, now a high government official and a public figure. Lysenko and his followers have declared the principal attainments of genetics and cytology, including Mendel's laws, to be invalid. This has been done in a manner which shows clearly that Lysenko is either unfamiliar with, or else is willfully ignoring, the basic facts and the methods of investigation of the sciences which he presumes to negate. On the other hand, Lysenko and his adherents have claimed successful experiments with higher organisms demonstrating directed hereditary changes of a useful kind, by means of adaptive responses that later were inherited. Such phenomena would have been of great theoretical and practical value if confirmable. However, outside Lysenko's group in the USSR, such confirmation has proved impossible.

The necessity for clarifying the situation becomes all the greater because Russian spokesmen, such as I. I. Prezent and S. Kaftanov, quote from the works of Western geneticists in support of their views. This Communist party line has even penetrated in subtle ways into reputable weekly and daily journals in France, England, and the United States. The opinion is consequently spreading that modern genetic researches in the West support the official Communist views on heredity. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Authors quoted by the Russians have strongly denied the validity of drawing such conclusions from their studies. In no case has their work discredited or contradicted the firmly established validity of the gene. They resent having their papers cited as leading to such a discrediting, for this is a manifest reversal of their data and of the intent of their statements.

The opinions and claims of Lysenko and his followers have become a matter of especially serious concern to scientists everywhere because the government of the USSR has not only approved and supported the Lysenko group, but has also condemned and suppressed those biologists in the USSR who have disagreed with Lysenko and who have tried to continue their research in the fields of genetics, cytology, and related sciences. As reported in recent months by the world press, and published in the official newspapers of the USSR, the views of Lysenko have been endorsed by the government organs directing scientific research in that country—among them the