

December 10, 1946

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Mathematisches Institut der Universität
Bunsenstrasse 3-5
Göttingen, Germany (British Zone)

Dear Siegel:

We are all of us delighted to hear the good news of the extension of your passport to Germany and of your arrival in Göttingen. Professor Harald Bohr intimated that he thought you would probably be back in Denmark by the end of December or the beginning of January. Can you give me some indication as to just what your plans are?

You will remember that your leave of absence was fixed for three months from the time of your leaving the United States with the possibility of extension. If you could give me some indication as to about when we might expect you back in Princeton, I should be glad to bring the matter to the attention of the Trustees and see that appropriate action is taken.

I hope you will give my warm regards to Miss Braun and say that we hope it will not be long until we see her in Princeton.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jar

Copy to Miss Miller
Miss Blake

leave expires Jan. 6

Extracts of letter from C.L.Siegel to O.Veblen

Göttingen, December 3, 1946

Two months have passed since I saw you the last time, the day when I left Princeton. Six weeks were spent on the way between New York and Göttingen. My lectures started two weeks ago --- and now I am wondering how much time it will take to come back to Princeton.

But let me first tell you that my visit to Göttingen was necessary, both from the general and the personal point of view.

It seems that my lectures really mean a great deal to some decent people here, in the present situation of confusion and despair. I firmly believe that I am doing a good work for scientific and moral reasons.

***** I am now convinced that my definite place is on the side of my colleagues from the Institute in Princeton, and I shall try, after my return, to be a more useful member of your scientific community than I was during the past. *****

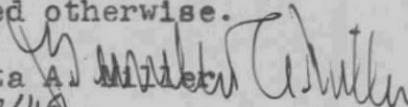
Dr. Aydelotte:

Prof. Siegel's leave of
absence with salary ceases Jan. 4, 1947.

I will not put him on the January
payroll for more than the four days
unless I am informed otherwise.

Bernetta A. Miller

1/7/46



Mathematisches Institut
der Universität

Göttingen, den 1. December 1946
Bunsenstr. 3/5
Land Niedersachsen
Britische Zone
Deutschland

Dear Dr. Aydlotte:

After having obtained the permission to stay in Germany until the end of February 1947, I began two weeks ago a series of lectures concerning the principal part of my work during the last six years, before the mathematical colleagues and some advanced students at the university of Göttingen. I have the impression that these lectures, together with some talks at the "Göttinger Mathematische Gesellschaft", make a valuable contribution to the reestablishment of international scientific relations.

I also started the preparation of a book on the Theory of Quadratic Forms, in collaboration with Dr. H. Brauer. However, the conditions in Germany — lack of food, lodging, heating, light — are rather unfavorable to concentrated mathematical research, and the state of health of Miss Brauer, after her long and dangerous illness, requires the postponement of our more detailed common work until she has been able to come to the United States and to recover completely.

I still hope she can be brought over in December or January; but you will understand that I cannot leave her under the present circumstances and that I intend to stay here as long as she does.

Therefore I apply to grant me leave of absence from the Institute for another period of three months. I should be happy if I could return to Princeton at an earlier date, but it is beyond my power to decide about this possibility.

With kindest regards, I am

At Prof. Veblen's suggestion Yours sincerely,
I sent copies to the following:

Carl Ludwig Siegel

Alexander
Einstein
Morse
Veblen
von Neumann
Weyl
Miss Blake
Miss Miller

Miss Miller - also I have a copy - 1/17/47

C O P Y

MATHEMATISCHES INSTITUT
der UNIVERSITÄT

Göttingen, den 1, December 1946
Bunsenstrasse 3/5

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

After having attained the permission to stay in Germany until the end of February 1947, I began two weeks ago a series of lectures concerning the principal part of my work during the last six years, before the mathematical colleagues and some advanced students at the University of Göttingen. I have the impression that these lectures, together with some talks at the "Göttingen Mathematische Gesellschaft," make a valuable contribution to the reestablishment of international scientific relations.

I also started the preparation of a book on the Theory of Quadratic Forms, in collaboration with Dr. H. Braun. However, the conditions in Germany--lack of food, lodging, heating, light--are rather unfavorable to concentrated mathematical research, and the state of health of Miss Braun, after her long and dangerous illness, requires the postponement of our more detailed common work until she has been able to come to the United States and to recover completely. I still hope that she can be brought over in December or January; but you will understand that I cannot leave her under the present circumstances and that I intend to stay here as long as she does.

Therefore I apply to grant me leave of absence from the Institute for another period of three months. I should be happy if I could return to Princeton at an earlier date, but it is beyond my power to decide about this possibility.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

CARL LUDWIG SIEGEL

Carl Ludwig Siegel, 206 Göttingen
Mathematisches Institut der Universität
Bunsen Str. 3/5
Land Niedersachsen
Britische Zone
Deutschland

Copy To:

Prof. Alexander
Einstein
Morse
Veblen
von Neumann
Weyl

Miss Blake
Miss Miller
Dr. R. Courant
original to FA.

November 11, 1946

Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley, Chief
Passport Division
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

I am perfectly delighted to have your letter of November 5th saying that Professor Siegel will be allowed to proceed to Germany. I am sure that this visit is in the public interest and I am most grateful to you for arranging it.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Reference: M130-Siegel, Carl Ludwig

FA1jer

Copy to Professor Veblen
Professor Weyl
Miss Blake

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



*Vulturn
wef*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
M130-Siegel, Carl Ludwig

November 8 1946

My dear Mr. Aydelotte:

With further reference to my letter of November 1, 1946, I am glad to be able to say that permission has been obtained from the military authorities for Professor Carl Ludwig Siegel to proceed to Germany. The Department's representative at Copenhagen is being authorized by cable to validate Professor Siegel's passport for Germany.

Sincerely yours,

R B Shipley
R. B. Shipley,
Chief, Passport Division.

Dr. Frank Aydelotte,
Director,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



November 1, 1946.

In reply refer to
130-Siegel, Carl L.

Veblen
Sel under
Siegel

Dear Mr. Aydelotte:

I am sending your letter and its enclosure to the Joint Chiefs of Staff to see if this has any favorable bearing on the request of Professor Carl L. Siegel to return to Gottingen, Germany to deliver a course of lectures. I have no feeling of assurance that this will be granted but I think it is well worth while to send the papers down.

Very sincerely yours,

R. B. Shipley,
Chief, Passport Division.

Dr. Frank Aydelotte,
Director,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

Copy to Prof. Veblen
Miss Blake

October 28, 1946

Visa Officer
Joint Chiefs of Staff
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Some weeks ago I made application to Mrs. Shipley of the State Department for a passport for our Professor Carl L. Siegel to return to Göttingen, where he was originally professor, to give a course of lectures. This permission was refused.

Since this application was made, Professor Blackett of the University of Manchester received a letter from Ronal Fraser of the British Control Commission saying that Professor Siegel's appointment was entirely satisfactory to the Control Commission and expressing the hope that he would be allowed to go to Göttingen. Mr. Fraser made the point, however, that this permission would have to come from the American authorities and I understand that in the last analysis it would have to be approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. I, therefore, take the liberty of sending you a copy of the letter from Mr. Fraser to Professor Blackett and should like to express the hope that Professor Siegel may be granted permission to go to Göttingen and to accept this invitation to lecture at the University.

Professor Siegel is at present in Denmark where he went to attend a mathematical conference and he may be reached in care of Professor Harald Bohr, Megdamsvej 15, Copenhagen. If it is possible to grant Professor Siegel this permission to enter Germany, it would only be necessary to cable the American Consul in Copenhagen. I should be glad to cable Professor Siegel that he should apply there for the necessary modification of his passport.

Yours very sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte
Director

FA:jer
Enc. 1

Not sent
11/2/46
k

28 October 1946

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

You may remember the case of Professor Carl L. Siegel of the Institute who applied for a passport to return to Göttingen where he used to be professor to deliver a course of lectures. You granted a passport to Professor Siegel for Denmark and other countries, but specifically provided that he could not go to Germany or Austria. My recollection is that you stated that this was in accordance with the ruling of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

You have been so very kind about all the complicated arrangements for travel here at the Institute that I hesitate to bother you again about this matter, but it so happens that some of our English friends who know Siegel and understood about his plans had talked the matter over with the appropriate officials of the British Control Commission. I enclose a letter from Mr. Ronald Fraser of this Commission to Professor Blackett of the University of Manchester, which will be self-explanatory. Do you think there is any chance that this statement of approval by the British Control Commission would weigh with whoever decides these things for the Joint Chiefs of Staff? If so, should I make application through you, or is there anybody you would like to have me approach directly?

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE
Director

Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley
Visa Division
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

C O P Y

PERSONAL

Research Branch,
Trade & Industry Division
Zonal Executive Offices,
CCG Minden,
64 HQ CCG
BAOR

15th October, 1946.

Professor P.M.S. Blackett, F.R.S.,
Department of Physics,
The University,
Manchester, 13.

Dear Blackett:

In answer to your letter of the 7th October, the case of Siegel was not altogether unknown to me. However, on receipt of your letter, I made detailed enquiries in Göttingen, with the following results.

A request that Siegel should be invited to Göttingen, in the first place as Gast-Professor, possibly later, if he himself were willing, as Ordinarius in a specially created Chair, was passed by the Dean of the Faculty of Science (Euckin) to Education Branch in Göttingen, who are the people in CCG who are responsible for such appointments. The request was duly passed by Mr. Bird, University Education Officer for Göttingen University, to the HQ. Education Branch at Blunde, who have already sent a formal invitation to Siegel in the States.

There the matter stands at present. Subsequent action must come entirely from the American side. There is, of course, a general difficulty here, which is not peculiar to the Siegel case, in that no final arrangements have yet been made for English or American academics to teach in German Universities; but everything that can be done on the side of CCG in Siegel's case has, I am satisfied, been done.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd:) Ronal Fraser.

RGJF/DEM

October 5, 1946

Dear Siegel:

A friend of mine, Professor W. L. G. Williams of the Department of Mathematics of McGill University in Montreal write me that the Canadian Mathematical Congress is planning a seminar for a month or six weeks in June and July 1947. The seminar will be planned largely for young university teachers and the central theme next year is to be algebra and the theory of numbers. Williams asks whether there is any chance that you would be willing to attend and give some lectures. I do not think you need to give him a definite answer now, but if there is a chance that you would be interested, I should like to let him know. They would plan some payment which would cover your expenses, plus a modest honorarium.

Yours sincerely,

FA:kr

Frank Aydelotte

Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Harold Bohr
St. Kannikestr 2
Copenhagen K, Denmark

October 5, 1946

Dear Williams:

I think it would be entirely suitable to invite Siegel to your seminar and if he were interested in going, I am sure that the payment of his expenses, plus a modest honorarium would be entirely sufficient. The only question is whether Siegel will be here. He hopes to go back to Germany some time soon to lecture for a term at the University of Göttingen, and the difficulties of arranging passage to and fro are such that it is impossible to be certain about his return. I will mention the matter to him, however, and will let you know whether he is interested.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:kr

W. L. G. Williams, Esq.
c/o Father M. W. Burke
Gaffney, St. Mary's College
Halifax, Nova Scotia

MEMORANDUM

TO Jane S. Richardson

Date October 3, 1946

FROM Dr. Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel has been granted leave of absence for 90 days, with full salary, effective the date he is sailing, October 4, 1946 to January 4, 1947.

If Professor Siegel wishes to extend his leave, permission must be secured from the Trustees.

Siegel

10/3/46

90 days from
Oct 4

until Jan 4

Coputogen Oct 14

c/o Prof Harold Bohr

LE CONGRÈS CANADIEN
DE MATHÉMATIQUES

c/o Father M. W. Burke - Gaffney,
St. Mary's College, Halifax,
Nova Scotia
THE CANADIAN
MATHEMATICAL CONGRESS

Sept 26. 1946

Dear Hydolotte, - I am ashamed to say that your letter giving the date of your lecture has disappeared. Perhaps your secretary would be good enough to drop me a line at the above address giving it to me again.

This letter is principally about another matter. The Canadian Mathematical Congress is planning for next summer a "seminar" or "workshop", lasting about a month or six weeks (Probably within the months of June & July). This is to bring together mathematicians, particularly younger people at the beginning of their university teaching careers, to work together, listen to advanced lectures, etc. Next year Algebra & Theory of Nos. will be the central theme and we are expecting as one of the leaders Professor L. J. Mordell

Sadlerian Professor of Maths. at Cambridge. A suggestion
has been made that Siegel of the Institut might
be invited. I am writing informally to ask you
whether this would be likely to be agreeable to
the Institut & to get your advice about what
kind of offer would be suitable; if an offer were to be
devised appropriate. Professor Modell suggested that
he be paid on the basis of expenses (which would be
income tax free) + some honorarium. Of course

his expenses in coming from England would be fairly heavy.

I am just leaving for a trip visiting
the universities of the Maritime Provinces. One of the
people I am to see is the Prime Minister of New Brunswick
the Honorable

John B. McNair.

who was Rhodes Scholar
from New Brunswick.

Yours faithfully
W. L. G. Williams

September 20, 1946

Colonel William Whipple
Secretary General, OACUS
APO 742
Care of Postmaster New York
New York

Dear Whipple:

I have just learned that Professor Siegel's mother had moved and that her new address is care of Frau Stupp, Park-Strasse 12a, parterre, Berlin-Pankow. I believe she is still in considerable distress as would be inevitable in the case of an elderly lady with no relatives. Professor Siegel and I would greatly appreciate anything you can do to meet the daily expenses of living and shall, of course, be glad to refund any money you may pay out on her behalf.

I shall soon be sending you the names of some Rhodes Scholars to interview in Berlin.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

FA:jar
Copy to Professor Siegel

September 20, 1946

Dear Oswald:

It would be very useful if you could return to Princeton as soon as possible. Siegel's mental condition seems to me quite serious. He feels that he is in prison and that life is not worth living unless he can escape. I told him that when he got back to Germany he would know what restraint really was and that he would undoubtedly look back on his time at the Institute as the freest he had had since Hitler came to power. He confessed that he knew intellectually that this was true but that emotionally he could not feel it.

He is now determined, he says, to enter Germany illegally via Denmark and join the "German underground movement." Weyl, Courant and I spend long hours trying to make him realize the realities of the situation but so far without much success. I think it is a time when all of Siegel's friends ought to be on the job.

I have said to Siegel repeatedly that none of us here have any desire to coerce him, that the Institute will be generous in assisting him to carry out whatever plan he prefers and that we will make every effort to get what he wants from the authorities. I have tried to make him realize at the same time that there are limits to what we can do and that the chances are we shall have Miss Braun over here before he can get to Germany.

I have succeeded in getting help for Siegel's mother through some Rhodes Scholars in Berlin but I gather from some stray hints that have come back to me that she is far from satisfied with what people have been able to do for her.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Oswald Veblen
Care of R. A. Bowden
Brooklin
Hancock County, Maine

FA:jar

September 6, 1946

Dr. Paul G. Hermsberg
6316 5th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Hermsberg:

Dr. Maximilian J. Herzberger who has been working at the Institute for Advanced Study this summer has told me about your projected visit to Germany. I am taking the liberty of asking whether you would be willing to do a kindness for the mother of one of the members of our Faculty.

I refer to Frau Bertha Siegel who is living at Pankgrafens Strasse 7, parterre, Berlin-Pankow, with a Polish family by the name of Rozinski. She is the mother of Professor Carl L. Siegel of the Institute Faculty and Professor Siegel has recently learned that his mother is in distress and has been unable to secure help from any source in Berlin. If by any chance you had the opportunity to visit her and would be willing to furnish her with money or with anything else she needs, Professor Siegel and I would be most grateful. Professor Siegel will, of course, be delighted to reimburse you for any expenditures which you may occur on this account.

I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in writing. Professor Siegel is so distressed about his mother's condition that I feel I ought to take every possible opportunity of reaching her with assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte
Director

FA:jar
Copy to Professor Siegel

Waterford, Connecticut.
September 5, 1946

Professor Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Oswald Veblen
c/o R. A. Bowden
Brooklin
Hancock County, Maine

Dear Siegel:

Many thanks for your letter of September 2nd. Things look really more encouraging about Miss Braun than I think you realize. I am not at all certain that we shall not be able to get her over here before it will be possible to procure permission for you to visit Germany. We shall know definitely the answer to both questions in a few weeks' time.

I look forward to seeing you again in Princeton. The Institute opens on September 16th and you will soon receive a notice of the first Faculty meeting at five o'clock on the afternoon of that day.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

FA:jer

Brooklin, Maine; September 2, 1946

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I am very grateful that the Executive Committee of the Institute has granted me leave of absence for my projected visit to Germany. Though I am most embarrassed concerning the generous offer of paying my full salary for a period of ninety days during my absence, which I had not expected, I feel that I ought to accept it because it will help diminishing at least the material distress of my relatives and friends.

If Miss Braun were able to come to the United States within a few weeks, I would postpone my travel until next spring. However, I have the definite impression that she cannot come and that the stone wall of official anti-germanism still will stand for a considerable time, so that my only hope now consists in making my escape from this country as soon as possible.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Carl L. Siegel

12
Veblen

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Brooklyn
28 Aug. 1946

Dear Frank:

I received the copy of the Johnson proposals ^{yesterday} and the Dunn & Bradstreet ratings today. The first seems to have been delayed by being special delivery. All these special services delay the mail here.

This is merely to say that I still think it wise to go ahead with the Johnson proposal unless you have found some serious reason for doing otherwise.

As ever,

Oswald Veblen

Dr. Aydelotte:

Aug.22/46

Re Letter from Schaffeld

Do you suppose that anything could be
done via the American Red Cross?

O.V.

Dr. Siegel

COPY

Egon Schaffeld
Senator Vogesstrasse 5
(20) Peine, den 25. Juli 1946

Lieber Herr Courant,

Ihr Brief vom 31. Mai dieses Jahres kam an. Vielen Dank dafür.

Der alten Frau Siegel können wir nach wie vor nur sehr beschränkt und durchaus unzureichend und unbefriedigend helfen. Nach Berlin zu reisen ist immer noch vollständig unmöglich.

Aus einigen Anlagen dieses Briefes können Sie sich ein ungefähres Bild davon machen, wie es Frau Siegel geht. Ich lernte Anfang Dezember 1945 einen englischen General kennen. Den bat ich, das Amerikanische Rote Kreuz zu veranlassen, Frau Siegel in seine Obhut zu nehmen. Ich gab ihm einige Zeilen mit. Eine Abschrift davon ist unter den Anlagen. Das Amerikanische Rote Kreuz hat sich, wie Frau Siegel schreibt, auch wohl bemüht, aber die Bemühungen sind in den Anfängen steckengeblieben. Deutsches Geld können wir Frau Siegel schicken. Daran liegt ihr aber nichts. Siegel muss sich mit dem Amerikanischen Roten Kreuz in Verbindung setzen und es bitten, sich ganz intensiv um seine Mutter zu bemühen. Ausserdem muss Siegel versuchen, seiner Mutter Devisen zu schicken, wenn das erlaubt und möglich ist. Dafür kann Frau Siegel in Berlin vielleicht etwas kaufen. Das wichtigste aber ist, dass Siegel sofort in kurzen Abständen Lebensmittelpakete an seine Mutter schickt. In einer Zeitung las ich, dass das jetzt wieder möglich ist. Wenn Sie durch das Amerikanische Konsulat in Hamburg erwirken können, dass ich die Erlaubnis bekomme, nach Berlin zu fahren, würde ich für Frau Siegel an Ort und Stelle kurzerhand alles arrangieren. Der nächste Winter wird allem Anschein nach für Deutschland und insbesondere für Berlin furchtbarer als je ein Winter zuvor.

Lassen Sie die Anlagen und das, was ich sonst über Frau Siegel geschrieben habe, Siegel bitte nur in den Raten lesen, die sein kompliziertes Nervensystem ertragen kann.

Von Briefen, die ich von Bessel-Hagen bekam, lesen Sie doch bitte die Abschriften. Die alte Gelehrtenfamilie Bessel-Hagen ist also durch grauenhafteste Schicksalsschläge ausgerottet.

Hecke hat eine zweite sehr schwere Operation überstanden. Ich glaube sicher, er wird wieder gesund. Harald Bohr hat ihn nach Dänemark eingeladen.

Die amtliche Erlaubnis ist auch da, aber er wird wahrscheinlich in absehbarer Zeit nicht reisen können, er wird zu schwach sein. Ich werde ihn sehr wahrscheinlich in Hamburg abholen und ihn bei Bekannten in der Heide unterbringen, damit er zunächst sich etwas erholen kann. Unter den Anlagen finden Sie Abschriften von einigen Briefen von Frau Hecke. Hecke darf aber über seine Krankheit nichts erfahren. Wenn Sie Hecke ein paar Lebensmittelpakete schicken können, würde er sich nicht nur sehr freuen, sondern auch schneller gesunden.

Das sind so drei reguläre Schicksale, aber bei weitem nicht die schlimmsten.

Unsere Bemühungen für den alten Planck scheinen vorwärts zu kommen. Ein Sohn des alten Geheimrats wurde im Zusammenhang mit dem 20. Juli 1944 erhängt. Dies abscheuliche Verbrechen ist Ihnen sicher bekannt geworden.

Sie werden hoffentlich bald nach Deutschland kommen und Göttingen besuchen. Lassen Sie es mich bitte rechtzeitig wissen. Ich bin dann in Göttingen, wenn Sie keine Zeit haben, sich Peine einmal anzusehen.

Einen Bericht über die Zerstörungen in Ulm schicke ich Ihnen bald. Wenn Sie Auskünfte über Verwandte oder Bekannte in Ulm wünschen, schreiben Sie es mir bitte. Ein Reisender von uns, der in der Nähe von Ulm wohnt, kann alle erforderlichen Feststellungen treffen.

Mir geht es in jeder Beziehung innerlich und äusserlich schlecht, ich finde auch keinen Trost bei unseren Dichtern und Denkern. Mich tröstet nur, dass Gauss nicht das Unglück gehabt hat, eine Scheuertuchfabrik zu erben. Fragen Sie bitte Siegel, der wird das verstehen.

Die anderen Anlagen werden Sie sicher auch interessieren.

Viele Grüsse, insbesondere an Ihre Frau Gemahlin und auch an Siegel

Ihr

(Signed) EGON SCHAFFELD

Egon Schaffeld

15 Anlagen, auf zusammen
4 Briefe verteilt

August 22, 1946

Professor Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Oswald Veblen
c/o R. A. Bowden
Brooklin, Hancock County
Maine

Dear Siegel:

I had the opportunity yesterday to present to the Executive Committee your request for leave of absence for your projected visit to Germany. I am happy to say that the Committee is very glad to fall in with your plans. If your visit is to be a comparatively brief one the Institute will be most happy to grant you leave of absence with full salary and I was authorized yesterday to say that you could count on full salary for a period of ninety days from the time you leave the United States.

If you wish to stay abroad for a longer time than three months, I should be grateful if you would let me know so that I can present to the Trustees my recommendation for what I hope will be a generous arrangement.

No dates were attached to this vote for the reason that we all of us feel that Government red tape may delay the issuance of your passport for a considerable time. Meanwhile I hear from Courant that the prospects of getting Miss Braun over here are more favorable than they have ever been. If Miss Braun were able to come to the United States in September or October would that alter your plans for going to Europe? I want you to know that you can count on most sympathetic cooperation from the Institute in the realization of whatever plan seems to you preferable.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jar

Copy to Professor Veblen
Miss Blake
Miss Miller

MEMORANDUM ON STEPS TO TAKE RE: CARL L. SIEGEL

1. Telephone to Mrs. Shipley to ask her to expedite passport. Application was filed with Clerk of Court at Ellsworth, Maine, on August 5, 1946. Supporting letters have been sent by Dr. Aydelotte, Professor Weyl and Professor Veblen. Tell her that Institute is behind the application?

2. Cablegram to Col. Whipple suggesting that he secure permission for Mr. Schaffeld to go to Berlin to make arrangements for Frau Berta Siegel. Schaffeld thinks this could be done through the American Consul at Hamburg.

Frau Berta Siegel
c/o Rozanski
Parkgrafen-strasse 7 Parterre
Berlin-Pankow, Russian Zone

Egon Schaffeld
Senator Vogesstrasse 5
(20) Peine
Provinz Hannover
Britisch Besatzungszone

If this cannot be done, at least see that she gets a pair of shoes and a bed.

3. Other cablegrams.

4. Letter to Mr. J. H. Alberti
Technical Intelligence Center
Room 4524
Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.
(Telephone: Republic 7400, Extension 63696)

to express appreciation of his efforts re Miss Braun (no mention of anything relative to Siegel) who will play an important role in our scientific work in general and in its relation to research for the Navy.

5. Professor Veblen will telephone to Mr. Frye of the Commerce Department to bring us up to date.

6. Professor Veblen will leave copy of his letter to Miss Balch.

7. Professor Veblen will get copy made of Schaffeld letter.

8. At Executive Committee leave of absence with pay will be recommended by Dr. Aydelotte and supported by Professor Veblen.

August 21, 1946

OV:jsr

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

August 21, 1946

Miss Emily Balch
Maison Internationale
112 rue du Vieux College
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Miss Balch:

A few days ago, just before I left Brooklin for a flying trip to Princeton, I had the pleasure of seeing and talking with your sister. I told her something about the difficulties which are being experienced by the stepmother of my colleague Professor Carl Ludwig Siegel. From her I got your address and I am venturing to tell you a little about the problem in the hope that you might be able to help out while you are in Europe. I know that this is only one of thousands of cases of distress, but it happens to touch us very closely. I am under the impression that you also met Professor Siegel when he was staying in Brooklin several years ago. The lady in question is 76 years old, and living in the Russian controlled part of Berlin. Frau Berta Siegel, c/o Rozanski, Pankgrafen-strasse 7 parterre, Berlin-Pankow Russian Zone. Her son is as much attached to her as he would have been to his own mother, because she devoted herself to him in just that way. He left his chair in Göttingen where he was recognized as the leading mathematician of Germany, when it had become evident that the Nazis had set out to conquer Europe,--this in spite of the fact that he has no Jewish connections. He has been at our Institute ever since, and recently has been appointed to a professorship. He has applied for a passport to visit Germany, but it is very doubtful whether, as a recently naturalized American citizen, he can get one in time to be of help to his mother.

She was bombed out of her own home and is now living with another woman who wants to get rid of her because she (the hostess) is going to get married and needs the room and bed occupied by Frau Siegel. The latter is completely destitute and writes that she is unable to find any other place to which she can move because she would herself have to provide a bed. This she is unable to do. Also she no longer has any shoes, and her feet are terribly swollen. She is unable to buy shoes. She has little if any money, and shoes seem impossible to obtain even if she had any money.

Miss Emily Balch

-2-

August 21, 1946

There are three things which might be done for her:

(1) Provide a pair of shoes, which should be large on account of the swelling of her feet. Her son thinks that they should be at least size 7 according to American notation. He thinks they are size 39 according to the German notation, but no one here seems to know how to translate from the one notation to the other.

(2) Provide her with a bed, blankets, etc.

(3) It would be best of all, however, if it were possible to move her to Göttingen where there are many friends who would look after her. In particular, there is Dr. Helene Braun, whose address is:

Nikolausberger-Weg 56^{III}
20 Göttingen
Hannover
British Zone
Germany

There is also a well-to-do German industrialist, Dr. Egon Schaffeld,

Senator Vogesstrasse 5
(20) Peine
Provinz Hannover
British Zone
Germany

who would be very glad to go to see her and provide her with everything that she needs, and bring her either to Göttingen or to his own home at the address above. It is not perfectly sure that at her age and in her desperate state of mind she would be willing to go, but I feel that if she were told that her son is trying to come to Göttingen, and would not be able to come to the Russian Zone, she would make the effort.

I told Professor Siegel that I would write to you and ask you whether you would try at least to send a pair of shoes to his mother. He of course wishes to reimburse you for every expense which would be involved, and he is well able to do so. I have ventured to tell you the story rather completely, feeling sure that if you know of any possible way of helping you will do so.

It was a great pleasure to see your sister, and both my wife and Professor Siegel thought that she was looking much better than she did when they last saw her. They both join me in cordial greetings.

Sincerely yours,

OV:kr

Oswald Veblen

Copy for Dr. Aydelotte

August 13, 1946

My dear Mrs. Shipley:

In reply to your letter of August 2 I should like to state what I know about Professor Siegel's application for a passport.

Professor Carl L. Siegel is an American citizen recently naturalized. He sent in his application to your office on July 12, and Professor Oswald Veblen and Dr. Frank Aydelotte supported his application by two letters addressed to you written on July 15 and July 17 respectively. My guess is that Siegel was informed by your office that he ought to file application with a state court near the place of his residence. I have been informed that that has been done (though not in Princeton, but in Maine where Professor Siegel is spending a vacation). I expect that his application will finally come to your attention again for final decision. In that case I hope that the letters from Professor Veblen, Dr. Aydelotte and myself will receive due consideration.

Yours very sincerely,

Hermann Weyl

Mrs. R. B. Shipley, Chief
Passport Division
Department of State
Washington, D.C.
HW:GB

July 17, 1946

Mrs. Ruth Shipley
Passport Division
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

Professor Carl L. Siegel of the School of Mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study is applying for a passport for travel in England, Denmark, and Germany. Professor Siegel, who is one of the most eminent mathematicians in the world, has been invited to return to Göttingen, where he was formerly a professor, to give some lectures, and he would like very much to do so. This would, of course, be the means of giving a great impetus to German mathematics.

Professor Siegel's eminence as a scholar is only matched by the courageous way in which he opposed the Hitler regime and finally left Germany because of his disapproval of Nazi methods. Professor Siegel is now an American citizen. I hope very much it will be possible to grant him the permission which he requests for his lecture trip to Germany.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:mh

COPY

July 15, 1946

*File under
Siegel*

Mrs. Ruth Shipley
Passport Division
State Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

My colleague, Professor C. L. Siegel, tells me that, following a suggestion from Dr. Aydelotte, he has written to you to apply for a passport to England, Denmark, and Germany. Professor Siegel, now a professor in our Institute, is one of the leading mathematicians of the world and we are very desirous of having him feel at home in our country. He has been invited, through British channels, to return to his old chair in Göttingen where he was recognized as the logical successor of Riemann and Hilbert. Instead of accepting or rejecting this invitation, he proposes to go to Göttingen as a visiting professor.

There is no doubt in my mind that if he is permitted to do this he will be able to make a great contribution toward restoring scientific work for its own sake rather than as the servant of German nationalism. If he fails in this enterprise he will return to us with the consciousness of having satisfied all previous obligations.

Even if he cannot yet be permitted to go to Germany, a visit to England and Denmark would have very valuable scientific consequences. He knows more than most of us about the work of the younger mathematicians all over Europe. Therefore his personal consultations with like-minded leaders (such as Bohr and Hardy) could help greatly in restoring our lines of communication and in preparing for future cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) OSWALD VEBLER

Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Mountain Ash Inn

Brooklin, Hancock County, Maine

July 13, 1946

Dear Dr. Agdelotte:

I have written to Mrs. R. Shipley concerning the passport to travel in England, Denmark and Germany. The text of my letter follows the lines of my application to the State Department which I enclosed in my letter of June 28th to you.

You kindly propose to write to Mrs. Shipley in support of my application, and I should be most grateful if you would do this. Following your advice I am also asking Professor Veblen and Professor Weyl to write to her in my behalf. I am sorry to incommode you with this matter during your vacation; however, I got very discouraging letters from Germany in the last weeks, and it seems urgent to avoid any further delay.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Carl L. Siegel

gel. muss
Siegil

4

Berlin-Pankow, den 13.7.46

Mein lieber guter Carl!

Heute erhielt ich Deinen Brief vom 30.5. und ich danke Dir für Deine lieben Zeilen. Du sprichst mir guten Mut zu, aber ich bin sehr traurig über mein ganzes Schicksal, was doch niemals besser werden wird, ich habe niemand der mir helfen tut und mir auf meine alten Tage beisteht, ich bin verlassen von Gott und von der Welt; wenn ich nicht noch die Hoffnung hätte, Dich einmal wiederzusehen, dann möchte ich wirklich nicht mehr leben. Aber noch warten bis zum nächsten Jahr wenn ich an den Winter denke, der bald da ist, dann ist mir ganz schlecht. Im vorigen Jahr habe ich gar kein geheiztes Zimmer gehabt und so wird es wohl wieder kommen - na nur den Mut nicht verlieren.

Deine Geburtskunde habe ich besorgt und dieselbe an Frl. Braun gesandt; es ist im Standesamt Tiergarten auch alles vernichtet, so bekam ich einen Schein und den sollte Frl. Braun von der Universität Göttingen bescheinigen lassen, dass die Sachen da vorgelegt worden sind, dann hat der Stempel seine Gültigkeit. Sie wird Dir denselben schon vorlegen, wenn sie zu Dir kommt oder schicken.

Nun mein lieber Carl, bis jetzt habe ich nichts von Lebensmitteln erhalten, hoffentlich kommt bald etwas, ich warte so sehnsüchtig darauf, ich bin so schwach und möchte doch so gerne gesund bleiben und Dich noch einmal wiedersehen. Die Quäker haben sich einmal nach mir umgesehen, aber bis jetzt habe ich auch von ihnen noch nichts erhalten. Ich wollte so gerne ein Bett, da ich keine Betten habe, ich habe schon auf Lebensmittel verzichtet, ich muss hier meine

-2-

Wohnung wieder wechseln und ich bekomme kein Zimmer, weil ich keine Betten habe, es geht mir zu traurig, ich weiss nicht womit ich das verdient habe.

Ich will Dir Deinen Kopf nicht so schwer machen, damit Du mit mir soviel Kummer hast, hoffentlich kommt es bald alles anders. Ich brauche auch so sehr nötig ein paar Schuhe, ich habe nur sehr schlechte Schuhe, habe ganz kranke Füsse, kann damit gar nicht laufen und man bekommt keine, es gibt auch nichts zu kaufen, na, ich will hoffen, dass es bald anders wird.

Frl. Braun ist noch die Beste, die kümmert sich noch immer um mich.

Lieber Carl, ich bin sehr alt geworden, die meisten Leute erkennen mich gar nicht wieder, mein Leben ist ganz trostlos. Ich schlafe schlecht und habe augenblicklich sehr schlechten Mut und wenig Hoffnung auf eine bessere Zeit. Nun habe ich genug geklagt und Dir meine grössten Sorgen mitgeteilt. Ich wünsche Dir zu Deiner Reise recht gute Erholung und auch sonst alles Gute. Es grüsst Dich recht herzlich Deine Mutter

The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey
July 11, 1946

Dear Whipple:

I appreciate very warmly your letter of June 17th about Frau Bertha Siegel. Of course, you cannot do anything which infringes the regulations, and I would not think of asking you to. Any friendly word or visit from you or your wife would be deeply appreciated by her. Her son, our Professor Siegel, is a mathematician of such eminence that another great scholar said to me last year that one of Siegel's papers would justify all that the Institute for Advanced Study had spent on mathematicians since its foundation.

With kindest regards and deep appreciation of your interest, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Colonel William Whipple
Secretary General, OMGUS
APO 742
c/o PM
New York, New York

FA:mh

July 11, 1946

Dear Professor Siegel:

I wrote to Colonel William Whipple, a friend of mine in Germany, about your mother, and I enclose herewith copy of his reply, which I have just received. I am sure that you can count on the friendly interest of Colonel Whipple and his wife, and I hope that the time will soon come when you can send funds directly to your mother.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Walther Mayer
White School House
Bethlehem Road
Littleton, New Hampshire

FA:mh
encl.

July 10, 1946

Dear Siegel:

I have your letter of July 4th and hasten to say that I shall be glad to follow the course you propose, namely, to continue our efforts to get Miss Braun brought over to the United States and, at the same time, to assist you in getting permission to return to Germany. This last will be rather a slow business, since travel to and from Germany is severely restricted. Your chances are improved, however, by the fact that you now have your citizenship and can travel on an American passport.

The first thing for you to do is to write to Mrs. Ruth Shipley, Passport Division, State Department, Washington, D.C. I should advise you to apply for a passport to travel both in England and in Germany, since it may easily happen that your passage to Europe either by ship or by air will have to be via England.

You should explain to Mrs. Shipley that you are away from Princeton and ask her to furnish you with the proper application blanks to make out. When you have filled these out and sent them in, let me know and I will write to Mrs. Shipley in support of your application. It would be a good thing to have Professor Veblen and one or two other friends write to her also.

My advice to you would be that you mention that the purpose of your trip is to accept the invitation of the University of Göttingen to deliver some lectures there. It might even be worthwhile to send the invitation from the Rector along with your application.

I expect that Courant will be back from Bikini very soon now. I have had a letter from the Navy Department suggesting that it was better to leave our application about Miss Braun until Professor Courant's return. As soon as he comes back, I'll ask him to go directly to Washington and

Professor Carl L. Siegel

- 2 -

July 10, 1946

try to put the thing through. If he is successful, as I hope he will be, it ought to be possible for the Navy to arrange an immediate passage for her by air.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Walther Mayer
White School House
Bethlehem Road
Littleton, New Hampshire

FA:ah

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Brooklyn
5 July 1946

Dear Frank:

Weyl telephoned me day-before-yesterday and I gave my opinion strongly in favor of doing everything possible to help Siegel get his trip to Göttingen and to bring Miss Braun over here. I would not drop our project in favor of the other until one of them succeeds, no matter what Siegel says as to his preference between the two.

What I am afraid may happen next is that he will renounce his American citizenship and ask to be repatriated as a German national. In view of the long history of the Braun case (I have been trying to get action on it for nearly a year) we can hardly accuse him of undue impatience.

The affair is of great importance to the Institute as a whole, for if we lose Siegel and Pauli (the latter may be influenced by what happens to the former) our faculty will be exactly what Flexner left behind minus a number of retirements.

As ever,

Oswald Veblen

July 4, 1946

Dear Dr. Ayddolotte :

I thank you very much for your kind letter and your telegram. You express hope that the Department of Commerce might be willing to bring Miss Braun to this country immediately. If this plan would be successful in the near future, I should postpone my visit to Göttingen until May, 1947.

However, my conscience urges me to continue trying the other possibility as long as the first one still remains doubtful. Apart from my personal reason, which is the more important one, I was also feel obliged by the promise in my letter to the dean of the Göttingen faculty. Therefore I should be most grateful if you would help me to get the immediate authorization from the State Department for my travel to Germany. I do not think that this permission interferes with the plan concerning the Commerce Department. If it turns out that this plan really works more rapidly than the other, then the delay of my visit to Göttingen until next spring would be perfectly correct.

Yours sincerely,

Carl L. Siegel

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Brooklin,
Hancock Co.
Maine

3 July, 1946

Dear Frank:-

After mailing you a short letter yesterday I received one from Siegel, dated June 30, which convinces me that it would be wise to grant him the leave of absence which he requests. Quite apart from his state of mind, it might be an important step toward the resumption of good scientific relations with Europe as a whole if he could spend some time at Göttingen as a visiting professor. It ~~might~~^{would} also be in accord with the tradition which our Institute is establishing as an international center. Presumably it will be hard to arrange with Washington, but you are in a position to deal with the highest authorities.

I would favor continuing to press the case of Miss Braun by whatever means you consider best.

There is to be a Scandinavian Mathematical congress in Copenhagen later this summer. This might serve as an excuse for his going to Denmark, if a visa for Germany is out of the question.

As ever,

Oswald Veblen

BROOKLIN
HANCOCK COUNTY, MAINE

2 July 1946

Dear Frank:-

I have the copy of your telegram of June 28 to Siegel. I hope that he will do as you suggest, but I have persuaded him so often to accept delays and ^{to} wait for the rather weak actions that I was able to bring about that I hope ~~also~~ this time you will take matters into your own hands. It seems to me ~~to be~~ very doubtful whether anything but delay will result from leaving things to Dutcher and Conant. The same holds for the approach through the Commerce Dept. which I suggested over the telephone, unless you bring heavy pressure to bear. Admission to this country is controlled by the State Dept. All approaches at lower levels have failed. Therefore I conclude that the only real possibility is an approach by yourself ~~to~~ (perhaps accompanied by Senator Alex. Smith) to the President or the Acting Sec. of State.

As ever,

Oswald Viblen

July 1, 1946

Dear Siegel:

Weyl and I have discussed very carefully your proposal to return to Germany immediately. If you want a leave of absence from the Institute, I shall, of course, be glad to recommend it to the Trustees and I have no doubt that it will be granted. I have no such optimistic idea about getting you permission to go to Germany. It may be that the State Department will grant your application; but my expectation is that they will be dubious about it, that there will be long delays, and that we can succeed in getting Miss Braun to the United States many months before you can get permission to go to Germany. It is for you to decide which plan you prefer.

I had a good talk on the telephone a few days ago with the Commerce Department, which had originally proposed to bring Miss Braun to this country as a part of a larger scheme. When Courant returns from Bikini, I propose with his assistance to present a strong case to the Department of Commerce for bringing Miss Braun to this country immediately. If you prefer that I should not do this and wish to go to Germany instead, I shall be glad to do all I can to further your plans.

I do not know, of course, which will be easier, but my opinion is that you will see Miss Braun sooner if you will stay here and wait for her to come than if you wait to get permission to return to Germany. I shall hold your letter until I get your reply.

Whether you return to Germany, or whether you decide to stay here and wait for Miss Braun, I wish to assure you most cordially of the continuation of your appointment at the Institute. I believe firmly, as I said to you

Professor Carl L. Siegel

- 2 -

July 1, 1946

long ago, that you will do more scientific work here in the next five or ten years than you will in Germany; and I hope it will not be long, by one plan or another, before you and Miss Braun are united on this side of the ocean.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Walther Mayer
White School House
Bethlehem Road
Littleton, New Hampshire

FA:mh

~~(SM) C.L.Siegel~~

Dr. Aydelotte

~~Prof. v. Neumann~~ ✓

~~Veblen~~

Weyl

Telegram received from Littleton, N.H., by G.Blake June 28/46

HAVE TO BE ABROAD FOR INDEFINITE TIME. PLEASE CANCEL RENT
OF HOUSE. SIEGEL

[His previous authorization to rent the Oppenheim house, did not arrive in time to comply.

I have, within the last few days, forwarded 1 or 2 letters from Prof. Siegel's mother, who he had told me has long been ill, and about whose circumstances in the Russian Zone of Berlin he has been especially concerned of late. G.B.]

June 28, 1946

Day Letter

Professor Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Walther Mayer
c/o Duranti's Gasoline Station
Littleton, N.H. (Telephone 552-M(R-1))

Question wisdom of going abroad at this time just as we hoped to secure permission for Miss Braun to enter United States. Hope very much you will return Princeton and consult with us before leaving. Am making arrangements with American officers in Berlin for relief to your mother.

Frank Aydelotte

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

June 28, 1946

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I hesitate to incommode you with this letter during your summer vacation; however, the matter is of vital importance for me, and I hope that you will excuse me.

Yesterday I heard that the State Department has advised once more against Miss Braun's travel to this country. This means that Prof. Veblen's efforts during the last four months have been definitely in vain.

You know that Miss Braun is my fiancée. We intended to marry in 1940, but the German government did not allow her to come to this country at that time. Last year, when the war in Europe was over, you kindly renewed her invitation to the Institute. Now I have been waiting for another year without success. It seems that the American authorities have inherited some of the Nazi methods.

No government in the whole world shall hinder me to meet the person whom I dearly love, my future wife. Perhaps you will advise me to be patient — I do not want to wait any more; I do not want to have another winter like last winter in Princeton, the most desperate time in my whole life; I do not want the most important event of my future life to remain any longer at the mercy of Washington's autocratic officials. I shall go to Germany immediately.

Some days ago I got the long awaited letter from the dean of the faculty in Göttingen, inquiring whether I would return to my former position. I answered that I should like to come first as a visitor, in order to find out about the attitude of the students, and I.

proposed to deliver a course of lectures there during the next term.
I enclose a copy of my reply.

Now I am asking you for two great favors: To grant me a leave of absence from the Institute, of course without salary, and to forward the enclosed application for passport and visa together with a recommendation from your side to the right man in the State Department.

Very sincerely yours,

Carl L. Siegel

Your telegram arrived when I had completed this letter. I do not share your hope that the immigration authorities might modify their anti-German attitude in the near future, since they just stated for the third time that they will not admit Miss Braun into this country. Under these circumstances I only see one solution: to leave the United States as soon as possible and to meet her in Germany.

Two enclosures

copy
THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

1946 Juni 28

Sehr geehrter Herr Dekan!

Ihr Schreiben vom 4. April ist soeben hier eingetroffen, waehrend das vom 24. August vorigen Jahres leider verloren gegangen ist.

Mit grosser Freude nehme ich davon Kenntnis, dass die mathemat. - naturwissenschaftliche Fakultaeet die Absicht hat, mich in ein mathematisches Ordinariat zu restituieren, in der Hoffnung, dass ich in Goettingen an der Wiederherstellung eines wahren Lebens in der Wissenschaft mitwirken koennte. In den ganzen Jahren seit meiner Flucht war dies auch meine sehnliche Hoffnung. Jetzt will ich versuchen, Ihnen mit allen meinen Kraeften bei der schweren Aufgabe behilflich zu sein.

Ich muss Ihnen ein Bedenken mitteilen, dass mich verhindert, von hier aus ohne Kenntnis gewisser naeheren Umstände die ehrenvolle Berufung rueckhaltlos anzunehmen. Nachdem mir das hiesige " Institute for Advanced Study" durch jaehrliche Gewaehrung von Stipendien die Moeglichkeit zu ungestoerter rein wissenschaftlicher Arbeit geboten hatte, hat es mir im vergangenen Jahre in grosszuegiger Weise eine feste Anstellung gegeben. Ich habe aber dieses Angebot nur unter der Voraussetzung angenommen, dass mir die Rueckkehr an die Universitaet Goettingen offen gelassen wuerde, wenn mir die dortige Taetigkeit in wissenschaftlicher und allgemein humanitaerer Beziehung vor-dringlicher erscheinen wuerde. Auf diesen Punkt bezieht sich nun mein Bedenken: Ich muss mit der Moeglichkeit rechnen, dass bei betraechtlichen Teilen der akademischen Jugend und auch einer Reihe von Kollegen nach den langen furchtbaren Jahren geistiger und koerperlicher Unterdrueckung der Sinn fuer die Freiheit des Wortes und der Persoenlichkeit gaenzlich verloren gegangen ist; sie wuerden in mir nur den Deserteur sehen, der um seiner Grundsaeetze willen sogar seine Freunde verlassen hat, und sie wuerden meinen Bemuehungen Misstrauen und Hass entgegen setzen. Ich habe keine kaempferische Natur und wenig paedagogische Ueberzeugungskraft, nur eine selbstlose Liebe zu meiner Wissenschaft, und ich kann die Befuerchtung nicht abweisen, dass ich vielleicht damit allein der mir bevorstehenden Aufgabe in Goettigen nicht gewachsen waere.

Wegen dieses Bedenkens moechte ich die Fakultaeet bitten, die endgueltige Entscheidung ueber die Wiedereinsetzung in mein Amt aufzuschieben, bis ich selbst ein genaueres Bild ueber die Aussichten meiner erzieherischen Aufgabe in Goettingen gewonnen habe. Vielleicht koennte ich im kommenden Semester dort eine Gastvorlesung halten. Auf jeden Fall will ich jetzt versuchen, von " Institute for Advanced Study" Urlaub zu nehmen und die Erlaubnis fuer meine Reise nach Goettingen bei der zu-staendigen Behoerde zum fruehesten Termin zu erreichen.

Carl Ludwig Siegel

OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY (U. S.)
Office of the Secretary General
APO 742

17 June 1946

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

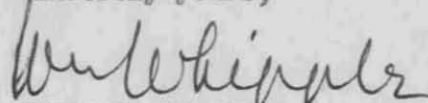
Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I have had one of our staff officers call on Frau Bertha Siegel, as suggested in your letter of 31 May. I am sorry to say that Frau Siegel, while reasonably healthy, is very short on money and on clothing. As far as I can see there is absolutely no way in which Professor Siegel can properly transfer her any funds. I cannot of course be a party to evading the Military Government Regulations, which it is my job to enforce. I can, however, help out Frau Siegel as a private matter and I am sure that Mrs. Whipple would be interested in the project as my informant states that Frau Siegel is a fine old lady.

American relief agencies are now operating in Germany through CRALOG and also relief can be handled through CARE by means of a recently concluded agreement. However, neither of these arrangements have as yet been extended to include Berlin on account of quadripartite difficulties. Frau Siegel, by the way, lives in the Russian Sector of Berlin, but we can of course go there at any time.

I regret that I cannot open any channel through which Professor Siegel can send assistance to his mother, but it is not possible to do so.

Sincerely yours,


WILLIAM WHIPPLE

June 11, 1946

Professor Carl L. Siegel
28 Hibben Road
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Professor Siegel:

I enclose a reply from the American Friends Service Committee to my inquiry about sending packages to your mother. It would seem to me that your best plan would be to arrange with an American soldier in Berlin to ask for packages which you could send him and which he could send to your mother. If you want to do this I could easily give you the names of some suitable men.

Yours sincerely,

FA:jsr
Enc. 1

Prof. Siegel

*Please return to Dr.
Aydelotte's office.*

May 31, 1946

Dear Gil:

Are you going to Germany on behalf of the American Friends Service Committee? If so, could you undertake a commission for one of the members of our Faculty here at the Institute, Professor Carl Siegel. Professor Siegel's mother, Frau Bertha Siegel, lives in Berlin-Pankow, Pankgrafen Strasse 7, parterre. She lives with a Polish family by the name of Rozinski.

Professor Siegel hears indirectly that his mother is in destitute circumstances. It is of course impossible to send her money or supplies directly. What Professor Siegel would greatly appreciate would be if you or one of your assistants would call on Frau Siegel, inquire about her situation, and give her any money she may need, which of course Professor Siegel would repay. I will guarantee the repayment.

It is too bad that American relief agencies cannot operate in Germany and I hope that that situation will soon be ended. Meanwhile, you can understand the anxiety that Professor Siegel feels about his mother and the gratitude and relief which he would experience at having some way to send assistance to her.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Gilbert White, Esq.
American Friends Service Committee
20 South 12th Street
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

FA:KK

*Please return to Dr. Aydelotte's
office*

May 31, 1946

Dear Whipple:

Is there any impropriety in my asking you to undertake a little commission of relief for one of the greatest mathematicians in the world, Professor Carl Siegel of our Faculty? His mother, Frau Bertha Siegel, lives in Berlin-Pankow, Pankgrafens Strasse 7, parterre. She lives with a Polish family by the name of Rozinski.

Professor Siegel hears indirectly that his mother is in destitute circumstances. It is of course impossible to send her money or supplies directly. What Professor Siegel would greatly appreciate would be, if you could send someone to call on Frau Siegel, inquire about her situation, and give her any money she may need, which of course Professor Siegel would repay. I will guarantee the repayment.

It is too bad that American relief agencies cannot operate in Germany and I hope that that situation will soon be ended. Meanwhile, you can understand the anxiety that Professor Siegel feels about his mother and the gratitude and relief which he would experience at having some way of sending assistance to her.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Colonel William Whipple
Hq. U. S. Group Control Council
(Germany)
APO 742
c/o Postmaster
New York, N. Y.

FA:KK

May 6, 1946

Judge Phillip Forman
United States District Court
Trenton 5, New Jersey

Dear Judge Forman:

I am delighted to have your letter of May 4th with the notice that Professor Siegel will be naturalized on May 23rd. This is great news. They do not award Nobel Prizes for mathematics but if they did, we all of us here feel that Professor Siegel would be the outstanding candidate. It may interest you to know that Professor Siegel's paper on symplectic geometry was heralded by some mathematicians as being a sufficient justification for all the money that the Institute for Advanced Study had ever spent on mathematics in the twelve or fourteen years of its existence.

I must confess to you that I cannot understand a single word of Professor Siegel's paper but I am sending you a reprint of it on the off chance that you may be interested in preserving it among the records of your alumni.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jsr
Enc. 1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

May 4, 1946.

PHILLIP FORMAN
JUDGE

TRENTON 5, N. J.

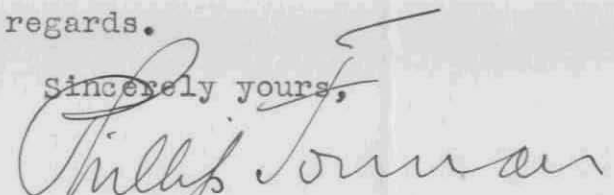
Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Doctor Aydelotte:

I am pleased to advise you that I
was informed this morning that Professor
Carl Siegel will receive notice that he
will be naturalized on May 23, 1946.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,



Phillip Forman

PF:SR



Copy To Prof. Veblen
Prof. Siegel
Miss Miller

April 30, 1946

Dear Judge Forman:

I am glad to report that I am safely back in the United States and that I had lunch with the Paulis in Zürich ten days ago. They are very happy and very proud of their American passports. I think we have every reason to be proud of having added them to the roll of American citizens.

Can you tell me anything about the arrangements for the admission to citizenship of Professor Carl L. Siegel of the Institute? He applied about the same time as Pauli and so far as we know here, all the formalities have now been complied with. I very much hope that it will not be long until he is formally admitted to citizenship. I should be most grateful if you would look up the case and let me know approximately when this may take place.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Judge Phillip Forman
U. S. District Court
402 State Street
Trenton, N. J.

FA:KK

Professor Siegel was placed on the TIAA plan in October 1945. He contributes \$1,625 a year to the pension fund and the Institute contributes \$1,625 also. This will entitle Professor Siegel to a pension of something over \$4,000 a year at age 65.

April 5, 1946
JSR

March 23, 1946

Professor Carl L. Siegel
28 Hibben Road
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Siegel:

On behalf of the Trustees and the Director of the Institute I am very happy to tell you that your salary has been raised to \$15,000 a year, effective as of July 1st. Writing as a mathematician I know that I voice the sentiments of all my colleagues in mathematics in congratulating you and the mathematics group on this event.

Very sincerely yours,

Marston Morse
Chairman of the Standing Committee

MM:jar

Copy to Miss Miller

January 21, 1946

Dear Professor Siegel:

Your letter to Dr. Aydelotte arrived after his departure for England, but I am sending it on via the State Department so that he will have it when he goes to the Continent.

Yours very sincerely,

Secretary to Dr. Aydelotte

Prof. Carl L. Siegel
4 Sarenac Avenue
c/o Mrs. William Lamb
Lake Placid, N. Y.

FA:KK

January 13, 1946

Professor Carl L. Siegel
28 Hibben Road
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Professor Siegel:

The plans of the Joint Anglo-American Commission on Palestine are now definite and I am happy to say that one of my assignments will be to visit the Universities of Göttingen and Heidelberg. If I can possibly arrange it I hope for a glimpse of Dr. Helene Braun. It would be a convenience if you could give me the name of someone you trust in Göttingen who could provide me with information about her so that if I am not able to see her I can at least send messages to her.

I enclose copy of a cablegram which I received from Colonel Miller. I am making application to General Hildring as he suggests and shall let you know the result though actually I may not know the result myself until I reach Berlin about February 1st.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jsr
Enc. 1

FAST

DIRECT



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VLT FRANK AYDELOTTE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

PRINCETONNJ

REGRET THAT BRITISH NOT YET ABLE REPORT THAT HELEN BRAUN
LOCATED AND CLEARANCE GIVEN FOR HER DEPARTURE UNDER
CIRCUMSTANCES SUGGEST YOU REQUEST GEN HILLDRING CIVIL
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT TO CABLE OFFICIAL
REQUEST THAT BRAUN BE BROUGHT TO UNITED STATES HOPE SEE
YOU SOON

FRANCIS MILLER

*Copy To Prof. Morse Siegel
Weyl Veblen*

M 1923

Telephone: HAnover 2-1811

To secure prompt action on inquiries, this original RADIOGRAM should be presented at the office of
RCA COMMUNICATIONS, Inc. In telephone inquiries quote the number preceding the place of origin.

Princeton, N.J.,

December 6, 1945

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I am in a bad state of health (stomach and appendix trouble, possibly due to nervous strain), so I shall not be able to attend the dinner in honor of Professor and Mrs. Wolfgang Pauli.

My best thanks to you and Mrs. Aydelotte for your invitation to the reception at Olden Manor on Wednesday, December nineteenth. I should like very much to come, provided I feel better at that time.

I wish you and Mrs. Aydelotte a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Sincerely yours,

Carl L. Siegel

FOR RELEASE MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 1, 1945
Princeton, New Jersey

The appointment of Carl L. Siegel to a professorship in the School of Mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study was announced today by Director Frank Aydelotte. Professor Siegel is of German nationality and left his professorship in Göttingen in 1940 because of his opposition to the Nazi regime. Before his appointment at Göttingen in 1938 he had lectured in Hamburg and had held a professorship at Frankfurt-am-Main. He has been a member of the Institute for Advanced Study since 1940 and has his first United States' naturalization papers and will soon be eligible for citizenship.

In announcing this appointment Dr. Aydelotte stated that ~~in the opinion of~~ ^{by} scholars competent to judge, both in the Institute Faculty and in other universities, Professor Siegel is ^{considered} ~~one~~ of the great mathematicians of this generation and is recognized as such all over the world. He is more classically minded than most of our present mathematicians. He shows a preference for hard concrete problems as opposed to present day tendencies to abstraction. He is an inspiring teacher and both his papers and his lectures are characterized by conciseness of style and perfection of literary form. He is at the height of his productivity and has during the last few years produced an impressive body of work.

September 28, 1945

Dear Siegel:

I am greatly pleased to receive your letter and to welcome you into the Faculty of the School of Mathematics of the Institute. Everyone who has come in contact with the Institute during your stay here has the highest admiration of your work and great personal affection for you. I am sure you would be surprised if you knew how universal these sentiments are.

I know how troubled you are about Germany and I respect and admire you for your desire to help to rebuild German mathematics when the time comes that that can be done. I am afraid it is going to be a long time but meanwhile I am sure that in your work here you are doing more than you realize to make German mathematics respected.

With warmest good wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FA:KK

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

September 27, 1945

Dear Dr. Aydelotte :

Please excuse the delay in my definite answer with regard to your proposal of June 11, 1945. When I came back to Princeton 10 days ago, I was resolved to accept it. Immediately after my return, however, I was affected by some interior trouble, probably caused by the change in my method of living, so I could not make up my mind before today.

I should like to express once more my gratitude for the honorable offer of the Faculty and Trustees of the Institute. I accept it, and I promise to try everything in my power in order to become a useful member of the Institute Faculty.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Carl Ludwig Siegel

copy to: Professors Alexander
Einstein
Morse
Veblen
von Neumann
Weyl

Miss Miller

C O P Y

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

September 27, 1945

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Please excuse the delay in my definite answer with regard to your proposal of June 11, 1945. When I came back to Princeton 10 days ago, I was resolved to accept it. Immediately after my return, however, I was affected by some interior trouble, probably caused by the change in my method of living, so I could not make up my mind before today.

I should like to express once more my gratitude for the honorable offer of the Faculty and Trustees of the Institute. I accept it, and I promise to try everything in my power in order to become a useful member of the Institute Faculty.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

CARL LUDWIG SIEGEL

Siegel

BROOKLIN
HANCOCK COUNTY, MAINE

4 Sept. 1945

Dear Frank:-

I have a letter from Courant which says: "I am afraid that Siegel does not realize the actual situations here and abroad and is tormented by all kinds of doubts, so that if he were now pressed for a definite decision he might do something very foolish." Courant then urges me to write to Siegel. I incline to think, however, that it is wiser for me to wait and to talk with Siegel after we both return to Princeton. Since you are likely to arrive before I do, I thought it well to give you this inkling of the situation. We plan to return next week in our old leisurely manner by ~~the~~ one of the old routes, so as to arrive in time for the opening of the

BROOKLIN
HANCOCK COUNTY, MAINE

Institute ~~your~~ term.

It seems to me that it would be a very good thing for the Institute to have Siegel taking part in our deliberations as an insider rather than as a guest — even though he should later decide that it is his duty to go elsewhere. His point of view would be a very salutary one in the problems that seem to be ahead of us.

As ever,

Oswald Veblen

June 27, 1945

Dear Siegel:

Many thanks for your letter. I understand fully your attitude in regard to Germany and shall be glad to talk the whole matter over with you when you return to the Institute in September. Meanwhile, I should like to say again that if, as I hope, you accept our offer, I shall understand perfectly if you decide later that you ought to resign in order to return to Germany.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Black Mountain College
Black Mountain, N. C.

FA:KK

Blake Mountain College

June 19, 1945

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated June 11. I am most grateful for the confidence of the Faculty and the Trustees that I would be a useful member of the Institute Faculty. I would be happy to do research work at the School of Mathematics and to help other people in such work. However, I am not sure that I could do this in a satisfactory way.

The main point I have to consider in my decision with regard to your very generous offer is the possibility to help rebuilding a fruitful academic life in Germany. At present it is impossible for me to get a picture of the conditions in Germany; so I am unable to find out whether I might be of any use.

Perhaps I shall see clearer after some months. Therefore I am very grateful for your proposal of talking the final decision over with you at the beginning of the next term.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely

Carl L. Siegel

So Dr. Max Dehn
Black Mountain College

Black Mountain, N.C.

1945 June 12

Dear Dr. Aydelotte :

Mrs. Rice gave me your telegram and I wired you that I cannot be in Princeton before July 9. I have arranged to stay at Black Mountain College for the month of June. At the end of this month I intend to go to a hiking trip in the Smoky Mountains together with a friend who invited me some time ago.

If it is possible I would be very grateful if you could write me about the important matter you mentioned in your telegram.

I depart from Asheville, N.C., on July 8th 4:30 P.M. to the Adirondacks via New York, and I pass through Trenton about 10 A.M. on July 9th. If a personal meeting seems advisable, I would make a stop and come to see you either before noon or in the early afternoon.

Yours sincerely

Carl L. Siegel

June 11, 1945

Dear Professor Siegel:

I think I had better put to you by letter the proposal which I should like to have made to you verbally if you had been in Princeton. This is to extend to you on behalf of the Faculty and Trustees of the Institute a very cordial invitation to become a member of the Institute Faculty.

I am able to offer you a salary of \$10,000 per year plus a contribution from the Institute of \$1625 a year to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association on your behalf, on condition that you make a like contribution from your own salary. Our retirement age is 65. You were born, according to my records, December 31, 1896, and would consequently retire June 30, 1962, being the end of the academic year following your 65th birthday. The contribution of \$1625 per year from you and \$1625 per year from us, or \$3250 per year altogether, would entitle you to a pension at age 65 of something over \$4,000. The pension would be not less than \$4,000 and it might somewhat exceed that amount if interest rates improve. Since the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association is a mutual company and policy holders receive a minimum guarantee plus any additions which may be justified by the actual earnings of the company, the pension might be more than \$4,000.

I hope very much that you will consider our invitation favorably. Your scholarly work and your skill in lecturing have made a deep impression on all of us here at the Institute, and we should look forward with the greatest satisfaction to having you here during the remainder of your active scholarly career.

I know your feelings about Germany. Whether it would ever be wise or feasible for you to return to Germany is a question, of course, which only you can decide. If you wish to accept our invitation and should wish later to resign for the purpose of returning to a post in Germany, that would be a perfectly honorable thing to do, and I am sure it would be understood by the Faculty and Trustees of the Institute.

- 2 -

If there are any aspects of your whole situation which you would like to talk over with me personally, I should be most happy to see you. It is rather difficult for me to be here on July ninth, but if you are willing to interrupt your visits in North Carolina so as to make a trip to Princeton at such time as to be here on July second, I should be glad to see you on that day and the Institute would pay your expenses from Black Mountain up to Princeton and back in order that you might resume your interrupted visit.

On the other hand, if you wish to think the matter over longer and discuss it when you return in September, that will be equally satisfactory to me.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Black Mountain College
Black Mountain, North Carolina

FA:KK

June 8, 1945

Dear Nell:

I have a telegram from Siegel saying that the first time he could come to Princeton would be July ninth. Would you talk to him and ask him what his plans are? Does he intend to stay at Black Mountain until the ninth?

If so, I may make an effort to get him to make a special trip up here and back. I think you could talk the matter over with him and write to me more easily than he could write a letter.

Yours affectionately,

Frank Aydelotte

Mrs. Nell Aydelotte Rice
Black Mountain College
Black Mountain, N. C.

FA:KK

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PRESIDENT

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F	TIME FILED

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

To Mrs. Nell Aydelotte Rice

June 6, 19 45

Care of or Apt. No. Black Mountain College

Street and No. _____



Place Black Mountain, North Carolina

If Professor Siegel is still at Black Mountain, please ask him whether he could stop in Princeton for talk with me about an important matter before he leaves for his summer vacation. Please wire me *collect* about what date to expect him. Had satisfactory talk with Schwartz yesterday in New York.

Frank Aydelotte

Sender's name and address
(For reference only)

Institute for Advanced Study

Sender's telephone number

March 26, 1945

Dear Professor Siegel:

I have your letter and hasten to say that I very much hope, as do all your colleagues in the School of Mathematics, that your decision is not a final one. We should hate to see you leave the Institute at this moment, though of course if you do decide you must go, I shall stand ready to give you any assistance in my power in the matter of getting through the formalities.

Meanwhile I do not think you need to feel any conscientious scruples against accepting membership in the Institute for next year. No one knows when the war will be over or what the conditions will be in Germany immediately after the war ends, nor indeed how long it will be before any kind of travel to Germany will be possible.

I hope you will feel free to accept this continuation of your membership with the understanding that you may resign before the year is out if you come to feel that it is your duty to return to Germany.

I hope for an opportunity of talking the whole matter over with you.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Institute for Advanced Study

FA:KK

Princeton, March 24, 1945

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I thank you very much for your noble-minded offer of renewing my membership in the Institute for the next academic year, with a stipend of \$4,000. Unfortunately, at the present moment, I am not able to decide whether I can accept it or not; I still count upon the possibility of getting a position at a German university before next fall.

In your letter of April 13, 1943, you were so kind as to offer me your assistance in carrying out my future plans. Probably I shall have to rely upon your help in order to solve the following two practical problems: To get in touch with the Prussian Ministry of Education, after the cessation of actual warfare in Europe, and to obtain a travel permit from the respective civil and military authorities. Of course, I am well aware that these questions cannot be settled before the elimination of the present form of government in Germany.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Carl L. Siegel

Princeton, March 24, 1945

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I thank you very much for your noble-minded offer of renewing my membership in the Institute for the next academic year, with a stipend of \$ 4,000. Unfortunately, at the present moment, I am not able to decide whether I can accept it or not; I still count upon the possibility of getting a position at a German university before next fall.

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With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Carl L. Siegel

March 17, 1945

Professor Carl L. Siegel
26 Westcott Road
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Professor Siegel:

On the recommendation of the Faculty of the School of Mathematics, it gives me great pleasure to offer you renewal of your membership in the Institute for the academic year 1945-1946, fixing your stipend at \$4,000. I take this occasion to express to you the satisfaction which we all feel in having you as a member of the Institute group and the pride which we take in your scholarly achievements.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jar

Copies to Professor Weyl
Miss Miller

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
APPLIED MATHEMATICS GROUP

Under the direction of the Applied Mathematics Panel
NATIONAL DEFENSE RESEARCH COMMITTEE, OSRD

April 10th, 1945

53 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH
NEW YORK 12, N. Y.
SPRING 7-2000

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Director, Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

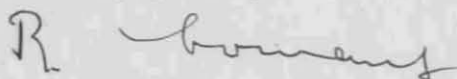
Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

After our luncheon conversation I searched my old dusty files for documents concerning Siegel but to my disappointment I could not find anything.

Siegel's lectures here are a very great success with everybody and I have the impression that Siegel is also getting quite a bit of satisfaction from his contact with so many interested and intelligent people. I hope that after this present term such mutually beneficial arrangements can be continued.

With cordial regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



R. Courant

RC mrf

2/27/45

Having recommended the appointment of a new professor of theoretical physics, the School of Mathematics feels that another appointment should be made in mathematics at the earliest possible moment. After discussing various candidates, the Nominating Committee decided to propose at this juncture only one name, because it eclipses all others,- that of Carl L. Siegel. In Siegel's case as in Pauli's, it seems important to act without much delay because of the same risk of losing him forever.

Focus on
Birkhoff

Siegel is forty-eight years old.[Quote details about his career?] Although he has a firm grip on all branches of mathematics, his main achievements belong to number theory and the application of transcendental analytic methods to arithmetical problems. Siegel prefers to carve the stone of hard concrete problems rather than to knead the soft clay of general abstractions. He is more classically minded than the ^{most} average of our present mathematicians. Not that he does not know how to handle our modern machinery of abstract concepts and methods. But when he has need of them he reinforces them by the steel of some specific ideas of his own invention, and uses them to solve some pre-existing concrete problem which had before been unapproachable. Thus when he, as the first, devised a general method for investigating a deeply hidden property of numbers, their transcendence, he used the zeros of the Bessel functions, numbers which play the same role for the harmonic oscillations of a circular membrane as π does for the string, as a test of power for the new method. His more recent beautiful work on discontinuous groups uses topology and abstract algebra, but again he combines the general theorems with more specific ideas in order to establish a detailed theory of the group of units in simple algebras (of which Dirichlet's classical theory of units in an algebraic field and Minkowski's theory of reduction for quadratic forms are two special aspects).

Leaving aside numerous isolated contributions including some very interesting ones on celestial mechanics, one can roughly arrange Siegel's achievements in four groups. The first group deals with diophantine approximations. He begins by generalizing Thue's famous work in that line from rational to algebraic approximations. Ten years later he reaps the reward of continuous efforts in this direction in a great paper that by an ingenious combination of ideas due to Thue, André Weil and Siegel himself, settles the question in its true generality. It is in the same paper that he develops his method for transcendency proofs mentioned above.

Another group is concerned with the analytic number theory of algebraic fields. The lattice structure of such fields is exploited in a very fruitful manner. Basic additive problems, in particular the representation of integers as sums of squares of integers, are attacked by a combination of Hilbert's arithmetic and Hardy-Littlewood's analytic methods. The crowning achievement in this line is his recent paper on the "Generalization of Waring's problem to algebraic number fields". One of Siegel's more subtle results concerning the class number of quadratic fields proved to be an essential prerequisite for Vinogradoff's work on additive prime number theory. One of Siegel's last papers begins by proving a conjecture of Gauss that had remained a challenge for more than a century.

The third group, perhaps the most impressive body of his investigations, deals with the theory of definite and indefinite quadratic forms. Here he continues the great tradition of Gauss, Dirichlet, Hermite, and Minkowski. In three papers published between 1935 and 1937 in our *Annals of Mathematics*, he broke new ground in the analytic theory of quadratic forms. Recently he was able, by an entirely different approach, and particularly in-

genious and elaborate estimates, to prove that (with certain restrictions) the density of representations of one form by another depends only on the genus of the latter; a truly provocative result, the reasons for which are far from being fully understood. In the field of indefinite forms, about which little was known before Siegel, he took up ideas of Hermite's and penetrated deep into the structure of their units.

The fourth line is pursued in his papers on modular functions, on fundamental domains for the modular group and other discontinuous subgroups of the symplectic group, and on automorphic functions of several variables. Here, as in the analytic theory of quadratic forms, his discoveries open a completely new field which we cannot yet survey adequately.

In rapid succession Siegel has during the last years produced one masterwork after the other. It is difficult to convey an impression of the imaginative power behind these achievements. There is no one in Siegel's generation and among the younger mathematicians who is of comparable strength, and he is now at the height of his productivity. The following quotations from Lefschetz and Courant confirm the opinion of the mathematicians in our own midst:

"Siegel is, I think beyond any doubt the most gifted and original mathematician of his or lesser age anywhere. Suffice to say that in automorphic functions of several variables he has done work of exceptional originality. Indeed the only work of any consequence for possibly 50 years. He has put the subject on the map at last, a thing that no one believed possible until he began to work at it. If I am not mistaken, he has done work of at least as high caliber in number theory. In addition, as we well know, he is a letter perfect lecturer and an utterly clear writer."

S. Lefschetz

"There are two overwhelming and closely connected reasons why Siegel's remaining in this country seems of the highest importance from the point of view of our science. First, in my considered judgment Siegel is the strongest and most substantial mathematician whom I have

met, the only one of his generation whose strength could be compared with that of the mathematical heroes of the preceding era. There is not the slightest hint of superficiality or dilettantism in any of his scientific activities. The fields in which he has been working most and which are, perhaps, of the most profound significance to mathematics, are relatively unknown to the younger mathematical generation. There is hardly anyone who could plant the seed of these ideas here except Siegel. If he could stay and inspire a group of young scientists, this might easily serve to counterbalance the dangerous tendency to abstraction prevalent in present day mathematics. A scientific development such as would probably be started by Siegel in this country would have little chance to develop elsewhere in the post-war world." R.Courant

Siegel's extraordinary mind is embodied in an extraordinary personality. His papers are works of literary art, composed in a most concise style. He reads his Homer or Thucydides in Greek, and is a painter of some talent. Capable of enormous physical endurance, he has wandered all over Europe, - in Spain, the Alps, the north of the Scandinavian peninsula, and Greece. Being a genius, he bears some of the stigmata of genius. He is of a retiring disposition and finds it difficult to enter upon and maintain open and natural communication with his fellowmen. It is not easy to win his confidence. But he is not difficult or uncooperative as a colleague, and to those he trusts he is a most loyal friend. He will not suggest a problem to a young mathematician unless the latter takes the initiative in approaching him. Only those who are willing to meet him more than halfway will be able to profit from his treasure of mathematical experience. Fortunately he likes to lecture, and always prepares his lectures with extreme care. He is an absolutely superior and inspiring teacher for advanced students, and if we help him in arranging courses, seminars, informal talks, so as to provide contacts with our younger members, he can exercise an enormous and very healthy influence.

In the letter quoted before, Courant, who knows Siegel most intimately, continues:

"The second important reason for wanting Siegel to remain in this country is his scientific personality and scientific ethics. Siegel has no personal ambition whatsoever. He does not want money nor does he want recognition. His life is truly and fully devoted to the services of mathematics. Superficial problems that promise easy success have no appeal for him. He does not want to seem brilliant or throw sand into the eyes of admirers in order to win temporary praise. This attitude pervades his entire personality and makes him intolerant and contemptuous of people to whom science is just a vehicle for ambition or a means to position or social prestige. A scientist of Siegel's greatness, who is at the same time such a Puritan scientific personality, can set an inspiring example for the younger generation and act as a counterbalance to the materialism that is so dangerous for scientific development."

[There are other letters from E. T. Bell, H. Rademacher and J. F. Ritt.
A letter from G. H. Hardy is expected.]

February 27, 1945

After this report was written two letters arrived, from G. H. Hardy of Cambridge, England, and Claude Chevalley of Princeton. After a brief analysis of Siegel's work, Professor Chevalley comes to this conclusion:

"The foregoing list, although far from including the whole of Siegel's work, may give an idea of his amazing versatility. In each field, he concentrated on the most difficult problems; in each, he obtained results of outstanding value, which place him on a level with a Hilbert or a Poincaré. Furthermore, Siegel's papers always distinguish themselves by the elegance of the methods and the perfection of the style. In contrast with those of many creators of new ideas, his proofs never leave one with the disagreeable impression of not being quite convinced; in contrast with many virtuosos of rigour, he never lets trivialities be published under his signature."

Professor Hardy writes as follows:

"I have always felt an intense admiration for Siegel's work, from the earliest years, just after the last war, when he first burst into fame, and when I met him for the first time in Jena. I suppose one can distinguish three periods: the first, of intense activity -- the "Thue-Siegel" theorems, the additive theory of number-fields (to which I am delighted to see that he has now returned), and so on: the second, when he would not publish, but one heard from time to time of the remarkable things he was doing; and the latest, in which America has happily succeeded in bringing him out into full flower again. I don't remember any time when anybody questioned that he was the

equal of any mathematician of his generation, and certainly I never doubted it myself. And in one way -- and that a very important one when you are thinking of a professorship for him -- I put him first of all. There may be others (Vinogradov, for example, to mention only a man whose work I know) who have done things as difficult and deep: I know no one whose work produces quite the same total impression of combined profundity, scholarship, and perfection of literary form. He ought surely to make a magnificent leader of a school."

Hardy then goes on to review a few of Siegel's papers with which he is familiar, and concludes as follows:

"Well, I don't know the circumstances, the alternatives, and so on. But if I were an elector to any professorship in the world, and Siegel were available, then I find it extremely difficult to imagine myself not voting in his favour."

Swarthmore, Pa.

February 21st, 1945

Dear Weyl:

I have not much to add to your appraisal of Siegel's work. You have already in your report evaluated the most outstanding of his papers. However two more of Siegel's achievements seem to me worth mentioning. The first is shown in a group of papers in the Göttinger Nachrichten 1922 and the Mathematische Annalen vol. 87. In these papers Siegel exploits the lattice structure of an algebraic field in a very fruitful manner: he proves again the functional equation of the Dedekind Zetafunction and shows that the discriminant of an algebraic field is greater than 1 by expressing it as $1 +$ a positive number, a number incidentally which directly reflects the lattice of the field. These papers are, in my opinion, his actual start on his way to his mastership in analytic number theory.

The second achievement I have in mind is shown in his short paper "Ueber die Classenzahl quadratischer Zahlkörper" *Acta Arithmetica*, vol. 1, 1935, in which he obtains in an effortless way, among other things, $L_k(1) > C k^{-2}$ for the Dirichlet L-function with real character modulo k , a result which had long been sought by many authors and which then was an essential (although, as Walfisz could show, not indispensable) tool for Vinogradoff's famous work on Goldbach's problem.

However, I think that Siegel's most important contributions to our science are found in his papers on the analytic theory of quadratic forms and on modular functions of several variables. His discoveries here open a completely new field which we cannot yet survey adequately.

You know that I see in Siegel one of the greatest mathematical minds among the living, a mathematician whose name will rank with our classics.

In all his work Siegel shows deep erudition combined with intellectual power, a strength which is sometimes hidden behind the ease and elegance of his penetrating reasoning. He has exhibited an undeclining productivity which again and again has created masterpieces. He is, as I know from many memorable occasions, also an inspiring lecturer of unusual accomplishments.

In summarizing I wish to say that I cannot think of any better choice than Siegel to fill a vacancy in Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study.

With best wishes,

cordially yours,

Hans Rademacher

Hans Rademacher

PUBLICATIONS OF PROFESSOR CARL L. SIEGEL

- Approximation algebraischer Zahlen, Math. Zeitschr. 10 (1921), pp. 173-213
- Ueber Näherungswerte algebraischer Zahlen, Math. Ann. 84 (1921), pp. 80-99
- Darstellung total positiver Zahlen durch Quadrate, Math. Zeitschr. 11 (1921), pp. 246-275
- Ueber den Thueschen Satz (Videnskabs-selskapets Skrifter, Christiania 1922), No. 16, 12 pp.
- Neuer Beweis für die Funktionalgleichung der Dedekindschen Zetafunktion, Math. Ann. 85 (1922), pp. 123-128
- Bemerkungen zu einem Satz von Hamburger über die Funktionalgleichung der Riemannschen Zetafunktion, Math. Ann. 86 (1922), pp. 276-279
- Neuer Beweis des Satzes von Minkowski über lineare Formen, Math. Ann. 87 (1922), pp. 36-38
- Additive Theorie der Zahlkörper I, Math. Ann. 87 (1922), pp. 1-35; II, 88 (1923), pp. 184-210
- Ueber die Diskriminanten total reeller Körper, Göttinger Nachrichten 1922, pp. 17-24
- Neuer Beweis für die Funktionalgleichung der Dedekindschen Zetafunktion II, Göttinger Nachrichten 1922, pp. 25-31
- Ueber die Coefficienten in der Taylorsche Entwicklung rationaler Funktionen, Tohoku Math. J. 20 (1922), pp. 26-31
- Additive Zahlentheorie in Zahlkörpern, Jahresber. der D. M. V., 1922, pp. 22-26
- X, The integer solutions of the equations $y^2 = ax^n + bx^{n-1} + \dots + k$, Journal London M. S. 1 (1926), pp. 66-68
- Ueber einige Anwendungen diophantischer Approximationen, Abh. der Akad. der Preuss. Wiss., Berlin, 1930, No. 1, 70 pp.
- Ueber Riemanns Nachlass zur analytischen Zahlentheorie, Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte der Math. 2 (1933), pp. 45-80
- Ueber die Perioden elliptischer Funktionen, Grelles Journal 167 (1932), pp. 62-69
- Ueber die Classenzahl quadratischer Zahlkörper, Acta Arithmetica 1 (1935), pp. 83-86
- Ueber Gitterpunkte in convexen Körpern und ein damit zusammenhängendes Extremalproblem, Acta Mathematica 65 (1935), pp. 307-323

- Ueber die analytische Theorie der quadratischen Formen, *Annals of Math.* 36 (1935), 527-606
- Ueber die analytische Theorie der quadratischen Formen II, *Annals of Math.* 37 (1936), pp. 230-263
- Ueber die analytische Theorie der quadratischen Formen III, *Annals of Math.* 38 (1937), pp. 212-291
- The volume of the fundamental domains for some infinite groups, *Trans. A. M. S.* 39 (1936), pp. 209-218
- Mittelwerte arithmetischer Funktionen in Zahlkörpern, *Trans. A. M. S.* 39 (1936), pp. 219-224
- Ueber die algebraischen Integrale des restringierten Dreikörperproblems, *Trans. A. M. S.* 39 (1936), pp. 225-233
- Die Gleichung $ax^n - by^n = c$, *Math. Ann.* 114 (1937), pp. 57-68
- Analytische Theorie der quadratischen Formen, *Comptes rendus der Congrès International des Mathématiciens, Oslo (1937)*, pp. 104-110
- Formes quadratiques et modules des courbes algébriques, *Bull. des Sciences Mathématiques, 2^e série*, 61 (1938), pp. 1-21
- Ueber die Zetafunktionen indefiniter quadratischer Formen I, *Math. Ztschr.* 43 (1938), 682-708
- Ueber die Zetafunktionen indefiniter quadratischer Formen II, *Math. Ztschr.* 44 (1939), 398-426
- Einführung in die Theorie der Modulfunktionen n^{ten} Grades, *Math. Ann.* 116 (1939), pp. 617-657
- Einheiten quadratischer Formen, *Abhandlungen aus dem Mathematischen Seminar der Hansischen Universität* 13 (1940), pp. 209-239 (Hamburg)
- Der Dreierstoss, *Annals Math.* 42 (1941), 127-168
- On the integrals of canonical systems, *Annals Math.* 42 (1941), 806-822
- Equivalence of quadratic forms, *Am. Jour. Math.* 63 (1941), 658-680
- On the modern development of celestial mechanics. *Am. Math. Month.* 48 (1941), 430-435
- Iteration of analytic functions, *Ann. Math.* 43 (1942), 607-612
- Note on automorphic functions of several variables, *Ann. Math.* 43 (1942), 613-616
- Symplectic geometry, *Amer. Jour. Math.* 65 (1943), 1-86

Contributions to the theory of the Dirichlet L-series and the Epstein zeta-functions, *Ann. Math.* 44 (1943), 143-172

Generalization of Waring's problem to algebraic number fields, *Am. Jour. Math.* 66 (1944), 122-136

Discontinuous groups, *Ann. Math.* 44 (1943), 674-689

On the theory of indefinite quadratic forms, *Annals Math.* 45 (1944), 577-622

Algebraic integers whose conjugates lie in the unit circle, *Duke Math. J.* 11 (1944), 597-602

The average measure of quadratic forms with given determinant and signature, *Annals Math.* 45 (1944), 667-685

Pls. return to Director's office

March 1, 1945

Dear professor Weyl ,

I send you , as you requested me to do , a few words concerning my opinion of Siegel's work .

If one tries to classify approximatively the main topics of Siegel's papers, one can point to the following periods of his mathematical activity :

- 1) His early work on diophantine approximation , marked by the proof of Siegel-Thue's theorem , which remains to this day the deepest result in the theory of approximation of irrational numbers ;
- 2) His proof of the theorem that there are only a finite number of integral points on an algebraic curve of genus > 1 ;
- 3) His studies on transcendental functions and numbers (transcendental character of the Bessel functions and of the values of these functions for algebraic values of the variable) ;
- 4) His very elegant new proof and generalization of Heilbronn's theorem to the effect that there are only a finite number of imaginary quadratic fields of discriminant 1 ;
- 5) His studies on quadratic forms . Hasse had proved that a quadratic form X can be represented by a quadratic form Y if it can be represented everywhere locally by Y . The problem solved by Siegel was, roughly speaking, to give an estimate for the number of ways in which X can then be represented by Y ;
- 6) The theory of quadratic forms led Siegel to try to generalize the methods by which Jacobi studied the decompositions of an integer in four squares by means of the elliptic modulfonction . This was the origin of Siegel's recent work on modulfonctions of several variables, both from the point of view of pure analysis and from the point of view of analytic number theory ;
- 7) His work on the three body problem .



The foregoing list, although far from including the whole of Siegel's work , may give an idea of his amazing versatility . In each field, he concentrated on the most difficult problems ; in each, he obtained results of outstanding value , which place him on a level with a Hilbert or a Poincaré . Furthermore, Siegel's papers always distinguish themselves by the elegance of the methods and the perfection of the style . In contrast with those of many creators of new ideas, his proofs never leave one with the disagreeable impression of not being quite convinced ; in contrast with many virtuosos of rigour , he never lets trivialities be published under his signature.

In the hope that this expression of my respect for the mathematical genius of Siegel will be of some use to you, I am

sincerely yours,

C. Chevalley

PUBLICATIONS OF PROFESSOR CARL L. SIEGEL

- Approximation algebraischer Zahlen, Math. Zeitschr. 10 (1921), pp. 173-213
- Ueber Näherungswerte algebraischer Zahlen, Math. Ann. 84 (1921), pp. 80-99
- Darstellung total positiver Zahlen durch Quadrate, Math. Zeitschr. 11 (1921), pp. 246-275
- Ueber den Thueschen Satz (Videnskabs-selskapets Skrifter, Christiania 1922), No. 16, 12 pp.
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- Bemerkungen zu einem Satz von Hamburger über die Funktionalgleichung der Riemannschen Zetafunktion, Math. Ann. 86 (1922), pp. 276-279
- Neuer Beweis des Satzes von Minkowski über lineare Formen, Math. Ann. 87 (1922), pp. 36-38
- Additive Theorie der Zahlkörper I, Math. Ann. 87 (1922), pp. 1-35; II, 88 (1923), pp. 184-210
- Ueber die Diskriminanten total reeller Körper, Göttinger Nachrichten 1922, pp. 17-24
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- Ueber die analytische Theorie der quadratischen Formen II, *Annals of Math.* 37 (1936), pp. 230-263
- Ueber die analytische Theorie der quadratischen Formen III, *Annals of Math.* 38 (1937), pp. 212-291
- The volume of the fundamental domains for some infinite groups, *Trans. A. M. S.* 39 (1936), pp. 209-218
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- Ueber die algebraischen Integrale des restringierten Dreikörperproblems, *Trans. A. M. S.* 39 (1936), pp. 225-233
- Die Gleichung $ax^n - by^n = c$, *Math. Ann.* 114 (1937), pp. 57-68
- Analytische Theorie der quadratischen Formen, *Comptes rendus der Congrès International des Mathématiciens, Oslo (1937)*, pp. 104-110
- Formes quadratiques et modules des courbes algébriques, *Bull. des Sciences Mathématiques, 2^e série*, 61 (1938), pp. 1-21
- Ueber die Zetafunktionen indefiniter quadratischer Formen I, *Math. Ztschr.* 43 (1938), 682-708
- Ueber die Zetafunktionen indefiniter quadratischer Formen II, *Math. Ztschr.* 44 (1939), 398-426
- Einführung in die Theorie der Modulfunktionen n^{ten} Grades, *Math. Ann.* 116 (1939), pp. 617-657
- Einheiten quadratischer Formen, *Abhandlungen aus dem Mathematischen Seminar der Hansischen Universität 13* (1940), pp. 209-239 (Hamburg)
- Der Dreierstoss, *Annals Math.* 42 (1941), 127-168
- On the integrals of canonical systems, *Annals Math.* 42 (1941), 806-822
- Equivalence of quadratic forms, *Am. Jour. Math.* 63 (1941), 658-680
- On the modern development of celestial mechanics. *Am. Math. Month.* 48 (1941), 430-435
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Algebraic integers whose conjugates lie in the unit circle, Duke Math. J. 11 (1944), 597-602

The average measure of quadratic forms with given determinant and signature, Annals Math. 45 (1944), 667-685

Trinity College
Cambridge

14 Feb 1945

Dear Weyl

The delivery of your telegram was delayed by my absence for a day or two in London, and I suppose that the matter is urgent. So I will reply at once, though that will make anything I say the more inadequate. It would be inadequate anyhow because Siegel is so very active now and I, like most elderly people, am getting lazy in my attempts to keep up with the latest advances.

[I have always felt an intense admiration for Siegel's work, from the earliest years, just after the last war, when he first burst into fame, and when I met him for the first time in Geneva. I suppose one can distinguish three periods: the first, of intense activity

- the 'Three-Siegel' theorems, the additive theory of number-fields (to which I am delighted to see that he has now returned), and so on: the second, when he would not finish, but one heard from time to time of the remarkable things he was doing: and the latest, in which America has happily succeeded in bringing him out into full flower again. I don't remember any time when anybody questioned that he was the equal of any mathematician of his generation, and certainly I never doubted it myself. And in one way - and that a very important one when you are thinking of a professorship for him - I put him first of all. There may be

others (Vinogradov, for example, to mention
only a man whose work I know) who have done things as difficult
and deep: I know no one whose
work produces quite the same total
impression of combined profundity,
scholarship, and perfection of literary
form. He ought surely to make a
magnificent leader of a school.]

I have been turning over some of
his papers — those only of which I
can find copies easily in my rooms,
and that excludes most since about
1935, though fortunately not all.
Most, naturally, are 'period 1';
and these I find as impressive
as ever. Then I run into two of
'period 2', on the transcendence of
 $J_0(x)$ and periods of elliptic functions:
these are really beautiful, and show
conclusively that his originality
never slackened, even when one was

hearing comparatively little of
him. Finally, four recent papers
which he sent me and which
have not yet got overlaid: one
on discontinuous groups (Annals
1943), which is beyond me:
one on L -series and J -functions
(ditto): one on Waring's problem
(Amer. J., 1944), in which he
returns to his early work and
completes it dramatically: and
the big paper (Annals 1936) on
quadratic forms. An inadequate
selection, but amply sufficient
to show how great a mathematician
he is, if one didn't know it
already.

[Well, I don't know the circumstances,
the alternatives, & so on. But,
if I were an editor to any
profession in the world, and

Sejals were available, then I
find it extremely difficult to
imagine myself not voting in
his [favor].

With all kind regards

Yours ever

S. H. Harry

I send this by air-mail, as you
ask me to (though I have been
told that it is now sometimes
slower than the common post)

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
PASADENA 4 Calif.

12 Feb. 1945.

Dear Professor Weyl:

So far as I am capable of judging Siegel by such of his work as I know, I would rate him an outstanding mathematician of his generation. In his work on the theory of numbers (including transcendental numbers, several years ago), he uses a full battery of highly technical subjects with complete mastery. I doubt whether, in this field, there is another mathematician who can use so many different

Methods as an expert in each. He always comes out at the end with a definitive, specific result. I regard him as a mathematician of great power.

You suggest a comparison with others. This is hardly feasible, as no one in his age group has so wide a range. But I would think - if it is meaningful to speculate about the future - that 100 or 500 years hence, Gödel's contribution will be remembered, while from the very nature of the problems in which Siegel is interested, there is a good chance that the solutions, at least, will be superseded. Or to put it another way: Siegel is one man in 100 years, Gödel, in 500 (or better). But it may be objected that Gödel's work is only on the fringe of mathematics.

Yours sincerely,
E.T. Bell.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
APPLIED MATHEMATICS GROUP

Under the direction of the Applied Mathematics Panel
NATIONAL DEFENSE RESEARCH COMMITTEE, OSRD

February 9th, 1945

53 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH
NEW YORK 12, N. Y.
SPRING 7-2000

Siegel

Professor Hermann Weyl
School of Mathematics
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Weyl:

Your letter of February 6th asking for an appraisal of Siegel as a candidate for a professorship in the Institute is very gratifying.

Only an unorthodox institution such as the Institute is in the position to have enough independence and freedom of judgment to identify itself with a personality as unusual as Siegel's. I feel strongly that Siegel could have an enormous and beneficial influence here if only he could be induced to stay and if sufficient contact with the younger generation of mathematicians could be established for him.

There are two overwhelming and closely connected reasons why Siegel's remaining in this country seems of the highest importance from the point of view of our science. First, in my considered judgment Siegel is the strongest and most substantial mathematician whom I have met, the only one of his generation whose strength could be compared with that of the mathematical heroes of the preceding era. This is not only my own opinion. I remember, for example, that when it came to selecting a successor to Hilbert in Goettingen, the same opinion was expressed by men like Landau and Schur. Not only are the depth and breadth of Siegel's mathematical achievements unsurpassed but it is a miracle that his productivity is continuing unabated. Siegel, as a mathematician, embraces with a firm grip the whole field of mathematics. There is not the slightest hint of superficiality or dilettantism in any of his scientific activities. The fields in which he has been working most and which are, perhaps, of the most profound significance to mathematics, are relatively unknown to the younger mathematical generation. There is hardly anyone who could plant the seed of these ideas here except Siegel. If he could stay and inspire a group of young scientists, this might easily serve to counterbalance the dangerous tendency to abstraction prevalent in present day mathematics. A scientific development such as would probably be started by Siegel in this country would have little chance to develop elsewhere in the post-war world.

Professor Weyl

February 9th, 1945

Siegel is not only a scientist of highest rank but also an absolutely superior and inspiring teacher for advanced students. This he proved in Frankfort and I have little doubt that as a member of the Institute, if given sufficient chance to contact groups of young people, he will exercise an enormous and very healthy influence.

The second important reason for wanting Siegel to remain in this country is his scientific personality and scientific ethics. Siegel has no personal ambition whatsoever except achievement in his science. He does not want money nor does he want recognition. His life is truly and fully devoted to the services of mathematics. ~~It is impossible for him to look for simple problems that promise easy success.~~ He does not want to seem brilliant or throw sand into the eyes of admirers in order to win temporary praise. This attitude pervades his entire personality and makes him intolerant and contemptuous of people to whom science is just a vehicle for ambition or a means to position or social prestige. ~~It seems very important that a scientist of Siegel's greatness, who is at the same time such a Puritan scientific personality, should be in a position as an inspiring example for the younger generation and as a counterbalance to the materialism that is so dangerous for scientific development.~~

These two points of view seem to me to be so overwhelmingly convincing that all the difficulties of a personal character that one might observe in Siegel fade into insignificance. Nobody knows these personal difficulties better than I. They are not of a trivial character. Siegel is not cantankerous nor is he difficult or uncooperative as a colleague. His personal difficulties are more deeply rooted. They come from a contrast of his innate love of human beings and of the world with the disappointment suffered when the realities clash with his standards. The consequence is sometimes an attitude appearing as irrational, cruelly persistent or erratic ~~to~~ the conventional type of people and, on occasion, even ~~to~~ unconventional people; but I may add that men like Niels and Harald Bohr, who know Siegel almost as well as I do, never have paid much attention to these difficulties and that the same is true of people like Hardy, Veblen and others in Princeton. I would therefore consider all objections to Siegel's personal peculiarities as irrelevant.

Quite another question is whether Siegel, with his present psychological disorientation due to his personal isolation, would react favorably to an offer as envisaged. Frankly speaking, I think that if he were asked pointblank at this moment, without any preparation, whether he would accept the position, his first reaction would probably be negative. Yet I think that he could be persuaded to stay if simultaneously with such an offer he would be encouraged to

*Alteration approved
by Cowart 2/15/45
HW*

Professor Weyl

-3-

February 9th, 1945

feel that his more personal problems could be straightened out, that is, his human isolation and his lack of contact with the young scientific generation.

Altogether I congratulate you and the Institute for having conceived the idea of inviting Siegel. I am deeply convinced that few steps would be so useful to mathematics in this country as the successful accomplishment of this plan.

Sincerely yours,

R. Courant

RC mrf

R. Courant

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
GRANT FOR PROFESSOR CARL L. SIEGEL
YEAR 1943-44 ENDED JUNE 30, 1944

RECEIPTS:

July 3 1943	The Rockefeller Foundation	\$1,500.00
December 27, 1943	The Rockefeller Foundation	<u>1,500.00</u>
	TOTAL RECEIVED	\$3,000.00

DISBURSED:

Stipend in twelve (12) monthly installments July, 1943 to June, 1944 inclusive	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
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Submitted by ~~Bernetta A. Miller~~

July 1, 1944

Bernetta A. Miller

26 Westcott Road, Princeton, N. J.

February 8, 1944

Dear Dr. Aydelotte,

I thank you very much for your kind invitation to continue as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study for the next academic year and I gratefully accept it. As a matter of fact, I have serious doubts concerning the value of my scientific work; however, I shall continue to try to find something which might be not completely without interest for mathematics.

Yours sincerely,

Carl L. Siegel

Copy to Miss Blake
Miss Miller

February 7, 1944

Dear Professor Siegel:

On the recommendation of the faculty of the School of Mathematics it gives me pleasure to invite you to continue as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study for the academic year 1944-1945, with a stipend of \$3000.

Looking forward with great pleasure to your continued presence in the Institute, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

Siegel

Correspondence with Mr. Maass regarding the payment
of income tax by Drs. Gödel, Pauli, and Siegel

See Kurt Gödel

February 9, 1944

Dear Siegel:

Many thanks for your note. It may be healthy for you to entertain doubts concerning the value of your scientific work, but you are the only person I ever heard of who did entertain such doubts. I hear the highest praise of your mathematical articles from everyone capable of understanding them.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

December 22, 1943

Dear Professor Siegel:

Many thanks for your letter of December 18th. I hasten to assure you that your stipend is available for the remainder of the academic year and that I look forward with great satisfaction to the continuance of your work at the Institute. All the mathematicians assure me that your published papers are reflecting the highest credit on you and on our School of Mathematics.

With warmest good wishes, in which Mrs. Aydelotte joins for Christmas and the New Year, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Carl Siegel
26 Westcott Road
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

Princeton, N.J.

December 18, 1943

Dear Dr. Aydelotte,

Eight months ago, when you were so kind as to offer me a renewal of my stipend at the Institute, for the academical year 1943/44, I considered the possibility that the war in Europe might be over in December 1943, and I wrote to you that in this event I should need the stipend only for the first term of the academical year. I think it is correct to state explicitly that I intend to stay in Princeton also during the second term.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, also to Mrs. Aydelotte,

yours sincerely

Carl Siegel

April 13, 1943

Dear Professor Siegel:

I have your letter of April 12th and am very much interested in what you tell me about your future plans. I hasten to say that you must, of course, consider yourself at liberty to return to Germany at any time that that may prove to be feasible. I very much wish, however, that I might have a talk with you sometime in the near future - say about two weeks hence - about your work and your plans.

I am interested because of the extraordinary importance and success of the scientific work which you have done at the Institute. While your papers are entirely outside my range, I have heard most flattering comments about the importance of the contributions to mathematics which you have made since you have since you have been at the Institute, and I have no hesitation in saying that I believe there is the possibility of your having a most brilliant scientific career in this country if you should choose to remain and to accept a good position in one of our American universities when the opportunity occurs. There is, however, no hurry in making a decision and the Institute has no purpose in the whole matter except to assist you in carrying out whatever plans you may finally prefer.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Professor Carl L. Siegel
243 Jefferson Road
Princeton, New Jersey
FA/MCE

April 12, 1943

Dear Dr. Aydelotte :

I gratefully accept your generous offer to make use of the hospitality of the Institute for a fourth year. Allow me to add the following remarks concerning my plans for the future :

I have the intention of returning to Germany as soon as the present inhuman form of government is abolished there, and I earnestly hope that this will be possible in the summer of 1944. If the opportunity of performing the voyage would already arise at the end of 1943, I should like to use it ; in this case, of course, I would only need the stipend for the first term of the next academic year.

Thank you very much for your kind words in regard to my scientific work.

Yours very sincerely,
Carl L. Siegel

April 5, 1943

Dear Professor Siegel:

On the recommendation of the School of Mathematics, it gives me great pleasure to offer you a reappointment as a member of the Institute for the academic year 1943-1944, with a stipend of \$3000.

I myself and all the members of the School are deeply sensible of the value of the contribution which you are making to our work in mathematics during these difficult years.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Dr. Carl L. Siegel
243 Jefferson Road
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

April 27, 1942

Honorable Charles M. Phillips
United States Attorney
Post Office Building
Trenton, New Jersey

My dear Sir:

I have been invited to speak to the Graduate Club in Mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania on May 7th and I wish at the same time to pay a visit to Swarthmore College at Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. I should be grateful if you would give me permission to travel to Philadelphia and Swarthmore by train, leaving Princeton on May 7th and returning on May 10th. My registration number is 5337790.

Very truly yours,

Professor Carl L. Siegel

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

April 6, 1942

Dear Dr. Bydelotte,

In your letter of March 5, you were so kind as to offer me a renewal of my stipend for the next academic year. I accept this with my very best thanks.

In this time of general confusion, your Institute seems to be the only place where pure scientific work is still possible, and I greatly appreciate the new chance given to me by your generous invitation for the next year.

With best regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Carl L. Siegel

January 16, 1942

Honorable Charles M. Phillips
United States Attorney
Post Office Building
Trenton, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for the travel permit, which reached me yesterday. I have filled out the forms enclosed with it, have attached one to my permit, and send the other three to you herewith.

Very truly yours,

Carl L. Siegel

January 5, 1941

Honorable Charles M. Phillips
United States Attorney
Post Office Building
Trenton, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Phillips:

I have planned, for reasons of health, to make a trip to Lake Placid during the Christmas recess of the Institute for Advanced Study, of which institution I am a member. I should like to leave Princeton on Thursday, January 15th, and return approximately two weeks later. It was my plan to drive in my own car from Princeton to New Rochelle, where I would meet a friend, who is an American citizen, and travel in his car with him from New Rochelle to Lake Placid, returning in the same manner.

I am a German citizen; my alien registration number is 5,337,799. I came to the United States on April 15, 1940, and received my first citizenship papers in the autumn of 1940.

I should be grateful if you could grant me permission for this travel.

Very truly yours,

Carl L. Siegel

March 5, 1942

Dear Professor Siegel:

On the recommendation of the School of Mathematics, it gives me great pleasure to offer you a renewal of your appointment as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study for the academic year 1942-1943, with a stipend of \$3000.00.

It is difficult for me to convey to you the many expressions of appreciation which I hear of the satisfaction which is felt by our whole mathematical group at having you in residence here. I only wish it had proved possible for your fiancee to make her escape from Germany to join our group and I hope that will happen some day.

With warmest good wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

L.
Professor Carl/Siegel
243 Jefferson Road
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

May 9, 1941

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that
Professor Carl L. Siegel has been a member
of the School of Mathematics of the Institute
for Advanced Study since April, 1940, and that
he has been reappointed for the academic year,
1941-1942. This is to certify further that
Professor Siegel was a member of the Institute
for Advanced Study in 1935.

ESTHER S. BAILEY
Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 9th day of May, 1941

Notary Public of the
State of New Jersey

Porcatello (Idaho), 1941 VII 17
Porcatello -

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

As I intend to leave Porcatello at the end of this month, I would greatly appreciate if you will send the next payment of my stipend by air mail, to the address

Dehn

c.o. Professor Max Dehn
University of Idaho
Porcatello, Idaho.

With best thanks

yours truly

Carl L. Siegel

done
BGM

March 5, 1941

Dear Professor Siegel:

On the recommendation of the faculty of the School of Mathematics it gives me great pleasure to offer you a renewal of your appointment as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study for the academic year 1941-1942, with a stipend of \$3000.00.

We look forward with the greatest pleasure to having you at the Institute for another year.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Carl L. Siegel
162 Springdale Road
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/WCE

November 4, 1940

Dear Professor Siegel:

Many thanks for your kind note. I see no reason why the offer to Miss Braum should not be kept open as long as necessary, and I very much hope that she will eventually be able to leave Germany.

If you have any further news at any time I hope you will pass it on to me.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Carl L. Siegel
162 Springdale Road
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

Princeton, 1940 XI 3

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I am very grateful for the kind invitation which you have sent to Miss Braun. I have written to her and tried to explain that she should leave Germany as soon as possible.

Certainly it will take several weeks and perhaps months, before she gets the permission to go, and in the meantime, she will not be allowed to give any definite answer.

With best thanks and kindest regards,

I am

Yours sincerely

Carl L. Siegel

(Siegel)

Institute for Advanced Study

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

23
October 22, 1940

Dr. Helene Braun
Rohnsweg 37
Göttingen (Germany)

Delighted assure you admission Institute Advanced Study stipend twelve
hundred dollars available on arrival

Aydelotte, Director

242
.10

October 22, 1940

Dear Professor Siegel:

I have just sent the enclosed cable to your fiancée and earnestly hope that she will find it possible to leave Göttingen immediately and make her way to Princeton. I suppose there is a possibility that if the Nazis allow her to go they may insist on her going by Siberia and the Pacific.

I had promised Professor Veblen that this appointment would be arranged in the only way that then appeared possible, namely, by taking Miss Braum's stipend from your own. I am happy to say that it now appears possible to offer her a stipend of \$1200, \$700 of which will have to be taken from your stipend, while \$500 can come from Institute funds.

I am asking Professor Veblen to show you our cablegram before it is sent in order that you may make quite sure that it will be intelligible, to Miss Braun and also in order that you may follow it up by a cable or letter if you think it advisable.

I can assure you that all your friends here are most eager that your plans should carry through without mishap and that Miss Braum may soon be able to arrive safely in Princeton.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Professor Carl L. Siegel
162 Springdale Road
Princeton, New Jersey

FA/MCE

Brooklin, 1940 VIII 4

Dear Miss Blake!

For the next time I am staying in the

Mountain Ash Inn

Brooklin, Maine.

Please be so kind as to send my letters to this address.

With best regards

yours truly

C. L. Siegel

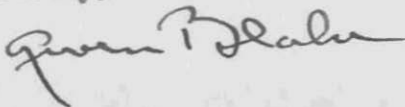
THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

May 8, 1940

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

Professor Carl L. Siegel entered the United States this time, April 15, 1940, at New York City, with a non-quota immigration visa, No. 23 (section 4(d)), of unlimited duration, which was issued at Copenhagen, March 20, 1940.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ivan Blau". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

March 13, 19 40

To Professor Carl Siegel
Care Professor Bohr
Street and No. Maglevaenget 9
Place Copenhagen-Charlottenlund

Institute Advanced Study cordially offers position effective immediately
 stipend three thousand dollars

Frank Aydelotte, Director

Charge Institute for Advanced Study

2.50

Sender's address
for reference

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS
FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

Sender's telephone
number

File
Note:

Professor Siegel's application for visa was on the basis of a post, so that he cannot be classified as a student. Therefore it is not necessary to send the attached data to the Department of Immigration.

E. S. P.

June 29, 1940

Professor Carl L. Siegel
c/o Professor Hans Rademacher
c/o Professor Rosenstock-Huessy
Four Wells
Norwich, Vermont

My dear Professor Siegel:

I am sending you herewith check of
the Institute for Advanced Study for \$500.00,
your stipend for the months of July and August,
1940.

National Newark &
Essex Banking Co.
Check No. 3156
June 27, 1940

I also enclose a letter of intro-
duction to Mr. Jens Fredrick Larson of Hanover,
New Hampshire, who is the architect of the
Institute for Advanced Study. Please do not
hesitate to present it to him if you need identi-
fication.

Very truly yours,
ESTHER S. BAILEY

ESB

Secretary

June 29, 1940

Mr. Jens Fredrick Larson

Hanover, New Hampshire

Dear Mr. Larson:

This will introduce to you Professor Carl L. Siegel, a member of the School of Mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study, who is driving in New England. He may need a reference or perhaps identification in connection with cashing his Institute check which I am mailing him today. His passport picture will of course identify him in case he presents this note.

We shall be deeply grateful to you for any courtesy you show to Professor Siegel.

Sincerely yours,

ESB

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Date December 12, 1941

Full name CARL LUDWIG SIEGEL

Alien Registration No. 5337790

Date and place of birth December 31, 1896 Berlin, Germany

~~Married~~ single

~~Name of wife or husband~~

Citizenship German but has
1st U.S.A. naturalization
papers

Name and age of dependent
children and registration
numbers None

Under what kind of visa did you enter the United States? Non-quota Immigration (Sec.4d)

What kind of visa do you hold now? " " " "

Visa No. 23 Place and date of issue Copenhagen, Denmark, Mar.20,1940

When does visa expire? No expiration

When and where did you enter the United States? April 15, 1940, New York City

When does entry permit expire? No expiration

Statement of relevant facts, including plans for citizenship
Has 1st U.S.A. Naturalization papers

Princeton home address 243 Jefferson Road Telephone 1218-W

Permanent address

If automobile owner, give (1) automobile license number LN-53U
(2) driver's license number 1205010

College or university, degrees, year conferred

Dr.Phil. 1920 University of Göttingen

Honors and societies

--

Positions you have held, giving dates, or are holding (including any
graduate scholarships and fellowships)

University of Hamburg - Lecturer 1920

University of Göttingen - Assistant and Privatdozent 1921; Guest lecturer 1930;

Professor 1938- **

> " " Frankfurt - Professor 1922-37
Voluntary statement of any other facts which may be of possible use to
the United States government.

**Objected to the war policy of the German government and resigned his
professorship in 1940

*Rockefeller Foundation Fellow 1925

Institute for Advanced Study and Princeton Univ. - Visiting lecturer 1935

" " " " - Member 1940 (Spring) -

(Use other side of sheet, if necessary)

Date **Dec. 12, 1941**

Full name **Carl Ludwig Siegel**

Alien Registration No. **5337790**

Date and place of birth **Dec. 31, 1896 Berlin, Germany**

Married or single **single** Name of wife or husband

Citizenship **German but has 1st U.S.A. naturalization papers** Name and age of dependent children and registration numbers

Under what kind of visa did you enter the United States? **Non-quota Immigration (Sec. 4d)**

What kind of visa do you hold now? " " "

Visa No. **23** Place and date of issue **Copenhagen, Denmark, Mar. 20, 1940**

When does visa expire? **No expiration**

When and where did you enter the United States? **April 15, 1940, New York City**

When does entry permit expire? **No expiration**

Statement of relevant facts, including plans for citizenship
Has 1st U.S.A. Naturalization papers

Princeton home address **243 Jefferson Road** Telephone **1218-W**

Permanent address

If automobile owner, give (1) automobile license number **LN-53U**
(2) driver's license number **1205010**

College or university, degrees, year conferred

Dr. Phil. 1920 University of Göttingen

Honors and societies

Positions you have held, giving dates, or are holding (including any graduate scholarships and fellowships)

University of Hamburg - Lecturer 1920
University of Göttingen - Assistant and Privatdozent 1921; Guest lecturer 1930; Professor 1938- **

University of Frankfurt - Professor 1922-37
~~Voluntary statement of any other facts which may be of possible use to the United States government.~~

Rockefeller Foundation Fellow 1925
Institute for Advanced Study and Princeton Univ. - Visting lecturer 1935
" " " " - Member 1940 (Spring) -

****Objected to the war policy of the German government and resigned his professorship in 1940**

(Use other side of sheet, if necessary)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES

1. Please give a list of countries in which you have resided since April 10, 1940, giving dates in each case. Indicate also any changes that may have taken place during that time in your citizenship.

Sailed from Bergen, Norway, on Norwegian ship April 7, 1940
Arrived United States (New York City) April 15, 1940

Have received first U.S.A. citizenship papers

2. Please list the country or countries in which you have been domiciled since April 10, 1940. ("Domicile" as distinct from "residence" means the place which you have adopted as your permanent home)

United States

3. If you have been domiciled in the United States since April 10, 1940, but have visited some other country or countries, please give name of the countries, length of visit, and reason for same.

Have not left the United States

4. If you have first citizenship papers, please give the date on which they were issued. (This question applies only to those who failed to give the date on the form recently filled out)

First citizenship papers issued Trenton, N.J., December 4, 1940, No. 3474

Please return as
promptly as possible
to G. Blake

Prof. Siegel

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES

1. Please give a list of countries in which you have resided since April 10, 1940, giving dates in each case. Indicate also any changes that may have taken place during that time in your citizenship.

Norway , April 10, 1940 — April 15, 1940
United States of America, since April 15, 1940

2. Please list the country or countries in which you have been domiciled since April 10, 1940. ("Domicile" as distinct from "residence" means the place which you have adopted as your permanent home)

United States of America

3. If you have been domiciled in the United States since April 10, 1940, but have visited some other country or countries, please give name of the countries, length of visit, and reason for same.

4. If you have first citizenship papers, please give the date on which they were issued and the number shown on the papers. (This question applies only to those who failed to give this information on the form recently filled out.)

December 4, 1940

No. 3474

No. 501124

No. 3.-199705

December 19, 1941

Name: Carl L. Siegel

Position: Member of the Institute

Monthly Salary: \$250.00

Citizenship: German. (Sailed from Bergen, Norway, for United States,
on a Norwegian ship, April 7, 1940)

Date of entry into United States: April 15, 1940

Kind of visa or permit: Non-quota immigration visa

Naturalization status: First papers issued December 4, 1940

Domicile since June 17, 1942: United States. No absences

THE QUADRANGLE CLUB
CHICAGO

1935 V 9

May 9 -

Dear Dr. Flexner!

I am very sorry that I had not more an opportunity to meet you before I left Princeton. Now I wish to express by this letter how much I enjoyed my time at the Institute. I shall never forget these peaceful months in the dean atmosphere of scientific interest.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

C.L. Siegel

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

_____ 19____
April 30, 1935

To _____
 PROFESSOR U. P. LANE
 Street and No. _____
 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
 Place _____
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

~~SIEGEL LEFT THIS MORNING FOR NEWYORK STOP AFTER COLUMBIA LECTURES HE GONS TO CHICAGO TO BE THERE AT DATE YOU SPECIFIED STOP HAVE FORWARDED YOUR TELEGRAM TO COURANT ONE FORTY TWO CALTON ROAD NEWROCHELLE NEWYORK REQUESTING HIM TO SEND YOU SUBJECT~~

VIBLIR

.90

Sender's address
for reference

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY
IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.

Sender's telephone
number

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

APRIL 30, 1935

19

To PROFESSOR RICHARD COURANT

Street and No. 142 CALTON ROAD

Place NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y.

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM PROFESSOR E. P. LANE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
 QUOTE TWO WEEKS AGO WE INVITED SIEGEL TO LECTURE HERE NEXT WEEK BUT HAVE HAD NO
 REPLY IMPERATIVE FOR PURPOSES OF PUBLICITY TO KNOW SOON WHETHER HE IS COMING AND
 IF SO SUBJECT OF HIS LECTURES PLEASE ASK HIM TO WIRE US IMMEDIATELY WHETHER HE
 IS COMING AND INDICATE HIS SUBJECT UNQUOTE PLEASE SEND LANE SUBJECT AND DATE OF
 SIEGEL'S ARRIVAL IN CHICAGO

VEBLEN

172

Sender's address
for reference

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY
IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.

Sender's telephone
number

April 25, 1935

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Graduate College
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor Siegel:

I am sending you herewith checks
of the Institute for Advanced Study, amounting
to \$1,250, as follows:

January 22, 1935	\$200
April 22, 1935	250
April 22, 1935	<u>800</u>
	<u>\$1250</u>

In this sum are included your honorarium for
lectures at the Institute for Advanced Study (\$500)
and the balance of your grant from the Rockefeller
Foundation (\$750).

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. SOWLEY
Assistant Secretary

April 8, 1935

Dear ^{Dr.} Weaver:

Thank you for your very kind letter of April 3rd. I know from experience how these little administrative accidents occur, but I am really glad that you did not undertake to explain. The main thing is that you are generous in your attitude towards Professor Siegel, who has, by the way, made a very deep impression upon the mathematicians here. They obviously knew of him while he was still at Frankfurt, but I don't think that they realized how able he was until they had the opportunity for closer personal contact.

With all good wishes and high regard,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. Warren Weaver
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York City

AF/MCE

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

THE NATURAL SCIENCES
WARREN WEAVER, DIRECTOR
FRANK BLAIR HANSON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

April 3, 1935

Dear Mr. Flexner:

May I thank you for your letter about Dr. Siegel.

I would like to explain to you that the handling of this small matter has, from the very first, been complicated by a series of administrative accidents which, in total, certainly would justify anyone in thinking that our procedures are clumsy. I think that there is nothing to be gained by going back and explaining this series of accidents in detail. The major contributing cause was the fact that I was ill and absent from the office for several weeks, during which this matter was handled by several persons who did not accurately understand just what we were trying to do. I am certainly sorry that there has been so much confusion.

I have just had an opportunity to discuss the question of the necessary accounting for Dr. Siegel's grant. The request which Mr. Gillette made was strictly in accordance with the general procedure of the Foundation for grants-in-aid. However, it is recognized that this is a special situation and it is agreed that we will be glad to waive the usual regulations. It will not be necessary for Dr. Siegel to make any accounting whatsoever to the Foundation for the sum or sums which he has received.

Very cordially,

Warren Weaver

Mr. Abraham Flexner
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.
WW:PH

March 28, 1935

Dear Dr. Weaver:

I have had some correspondence with Mr. Gillette regarding an accounting on the part of Professor Siegel for the sums which have been placed at his disposal by the Rockefeller Foundation, Princeton University, and the Institute. I am sorry to appear to go over Mr. Gillette's head, but I should not do so if I did not feel some embarrassment in approaching a man of Professor Siegel's eminence with the request that Mr. Gillette makes. I enclose copies of two letters, one of which I addressed to Professor Siegel on March 11th at the request of Mr. Gillette, and the other of which Mr. Gillette addressed to me on March 22nd. In view of the eminence of Professor Siegel I confess I hesitate very much to urge upon him the procedure which Mr. Gillette suggests. I should be very grateful for your judgment and advice.

You will be interested to know that Professor Siegel has made a profound impression here on both the professorial and the working group. I feel certain that the action of the Foundation in making his visit to America possible has been more than justified.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. Warren Weaver
Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York City

March 25, 1935

Professor Carl Siegel
Graduate College, Entry 17
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor Siegel:

I am sending you herewith check
for \$250, a quarter of the grant to you from the
Rockefeller Foundation for the six months beginning
approximately February 1, 1935.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY
Assistant Secretary

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER
GEORGE J. BEAL, COMPTROLLER
H. M. GILLETTE, ASSISTANT COMPTROLLER

CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK

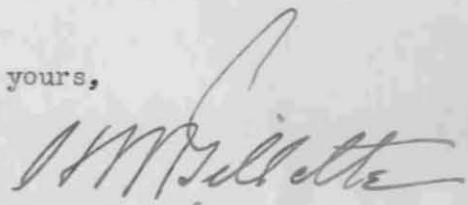
March 22, 1935

Dear Dr. Flexner:

Replying to your letter of March 11 regarding an accounting under our grant to Professor C. L. Siegel, we might explain that in order to satisfy the demands of our auditors, it is necessary for us to obtain financial reports covering expenditures on our grants.

Inasmuch as the Foundation's grant toward Professor Siegel's studies supplements funds received from other sources, it would appear necessary in making a financial report to the Foundation to show total receipts and total disbursements. The statement can be brief and expenditures reported under the 3 general headings listed in our letter of March 1.

Very truly yours,



Dr. Abraham Flexner
The Institute for Advanced Study
20 Nassau Street
Princeton, New Jersey

HMG:HT

C. L. Siegel

March 11, 1955

Dear Mr. Gillette:

Neither the Institute for Advanced Study nor, as I understand it, Princeton University requires an accounting for its grants to Professor Siegel. I imagine, therefore, that the Rockefeller Foundation will only wish an accounting for the sum of \$1000 which it has advanced towards his expenses.

I shall communicate with Professor Siegel and explain to him the kind of accounting you desire.

Always sincerely,

ABRAHAM F. EXNER

Mr. H. M. Gillette
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York City

AF/MCE

March 11, 1935

Dear Professor Siegel:

I am informed by the Comptroller of the Rockefeller Foundation that when you have expended the appropriation of \$1000 made to you by the Rockefeller Foundation you are expected to make a return to them showing as nearly as you can the way in which the same has been expended, under the following headings: (1) living expenses, (2) travel, (3) miscellaneous.

I may add that neither the Institute nor, as I understand, Princeton University requires any accounting whatsoever.

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Carl Siegel
Graduate College
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

March 4, 1935

Mr. H. M. Gillette
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Gillette:

In order that Professor C. L. Siegel, to whom the Rockefeller Foundation has made a grant of \$1,000 for a six months' visit for work in Princeton, may keep track of his expenses in the way you desire, won't you please let me know the main headings under which his accounting to the Rockefeller Foundation must be made on the termination of your grant to him?

With kind regards, in which Dr. Flexner joins, I am

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER
GEORGE J. BEAL, COMPTROLLER
H. M. GILLETTE, ASSISTANT COMPTROLLER

CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK

March 1, 1935

My dear Mrs. Bailey:

Kindly pardon the delay in replying to your letter of February 7 regarding our grant of \$1,000 toward the studies of Professor Siegel.

At the completion of his studies we should like to receive a report including total receipts from the 3 sources, Princeton University, Institute for Advanced Study, and the Rockefeller Foundation, totaling \$2,000, and expenditures under such headings as living expenses, travel and miscellaneous.

Very truly yours,



Mrs. Esther S. Bailey
The Institute for Advanced Study
20 Nassau Street
Princeton, New Jersey

HMG:HT

February 7, 1935

Mr. H. M. Gillette
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York City

My dear Mr. Gillette:

In Dr. Flemer's absence from Princeton I desire to thank you for your letter of the fourth, enclosing check to the order of the Institute for Advanced Study for \$1,000, which represents payment in full of the grant of the Rockefeller Foundation to Professor C. L. Siegel toward his expenses during his visit of six months to Princeton University and the Institute for Advanced Study, beginning about February 1, 1935.

We shall ask Professor Siegel to send to you a statement of expenditures. It would probably be helpful if you could let me know how detailed a report you wish, what headings, etc. At the end of Professor Siegel's visit the Treasurer of the Institute will be glad to send you a check for any unexpended balance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY
Assistant Secretary

C. L. Siegel

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER
GEORGE J. BEAL, COMPTROLLER
H. M. GILLETTE, ASSISTANT COMPTROLLER

CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK

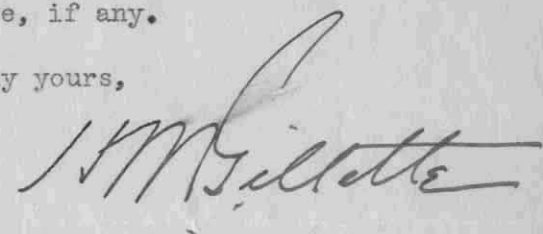
February 4, 1935

Dear Dr. Flexner:

We are enclosing herewith check to the order of the Institute for Advanced Study in the amount of \$1,000. This represents payment in full of our grant toward the expenses of Professor C. L. Siegel in connection with a six-months' visit to the Department of Mathematics of Princeton, and the Institute of Advanced Study, beginning about February 1, 1935.

Upon the termination of this grant, we should be pleased to receive a statement of expenditures, together with a check for the unexpended balance, if any.

Very truly yours,



Dr. Abraham Flexner
The Institute for Advanced Study
20 Nassau Street
Princeton, New Jersey

HT
Enc. 1 check

January 31, 1935

Dear Dr. Hanson:

Thank you very warmly for your kind favor of January 28th. The arrangement which you have agreed to adopt in reference to Professor Siegel's grant is probably the most convenient way to dispose of it. We shall understand that you will, at your pleasure, send us either the entire sum appropriated or that you will, during each of the next six months, send one-sixth of the total. It is, of course, definitely understood that the grant is made for Professor Siegel's benefit and will be used for no other purpose.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Frank Blair Hanson
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York City

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

AF/MCE

C. L. Siegel

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

THE NATURAL SCIENCES
WARREN WEAVER, DIRECTOR
FRANK BLAIR HANSON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

January 28, 1935.

Dear Dr. Flexner:

Professor Oswald Veblen has informed us that Princeton University and the Institute for Advanced Study have invited Professor C. L. Siegel, of Frankfurt, Germany, to spend the next six months in this country, principally at Princeton, New Jersey. We are advised that Princeton University and the Institute for Advanced Study have contributed a total of \$1,000 toward the expenses of Professor Siegel's visit. Professor Veblen has requested from The Rockefeller Foundation an additional sum of \$1,000.

On January 7 I wrote to President Dodds of Princeton University informing him that The Rockefeller Foundation had made a grant of \$1,000 toward the expenses of Professor Siegel. This grant was made to Princeton University for the reason that it did not seem advisable to divide such a small sum between the two co-operating institutions. Dean Eisenhart, on January 15, wrote me that he thought it would be more appropriate to have the grant made to the Institute for Advanced Study. We have accordingly changed our grant to read "Institute for Advanced Study" instead of Princeton University.

This grant is available immediately. Mr. G. J. Beal,

Dr. Abraham Flexner

January 28, 1935.

2.

Comptroller of the Foundation, will take care of the payments under this allocation to the Institute for Advanced Study upon receipt of instructions from you.

It is understood that this grant, together with moneys contributed from other sources, will be sufficient to enable Professor Siegel to spend approximately six months in this country. It is also understood that this grant is exclusively for the use of Professor Siegel and that no part of it may be diverted to any other purpose.

May I express to you my gratification that it has been possible to extend this assistance to the Institute for Advanced Study.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Blair Hanson

Frank Blair Hanson.

Dr. Abraham Flexner
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

FBH:WH

December 1, 1934

Dear Doctor Weaver:

I received your letter of November 28, and after talking with Weyl and Eisenhart I have sent the following cable to Siegel:

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY AND PRINCETON UNIVERSITY INVITE YOU AS GUEST LECTURER FOR REST OF ACADEMIC YEAR STOP TOTAL HONORARIUM ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS STOP IT IS PROBABLE THAT ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION WILL GRANT YOU A FELLOWSHIP IN ADDITION WITH A STIPEND OF APPROXIMATELY TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS STOP FOR THIS APPLICATION MUST BE MADE BY YOU TO TISDALE TWENTY RUE DE LA BAUME PARIS STOP WEYL WRITING FULLER DETAILS

I fear that I may have gone too far in mentioning the amount of \$2000 to him, but I have had no previous correspondence with him and feel that it is necessary for him to have something concrete in mind. I tried to formulate the whole thing so that it should raise no unfounded expectations.

I was a little surprised that Tisdale and Bohr were still talking about the Stanford possibility on October 29. In any case our invitation has no relation of any sort with that. My understanding of the whole matter is exactly that which you have stated in the second page of your letter.

It now appears that the invitation from Duke University, which I had counted on, may not materialize, but I am going to see the Duke people again. And I feel confident that there will be invitations from other more important universities. In particular, I have talked with some of the Harvard people on the subject.

The Siegel visit should be very important scientifically, and I feel sure that we shall all be glad in the future to have been concerned with it.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Warren Weaver
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street, New York City

O.V.

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

COPY OF MESSAGE SENT TO W.U. BY TELEPHONE

NOVEMBER 30, 1934 19

To PROFESSOR SIEGEL

Street and No. UNIVERSITY

Place FRANKFURT (GERMANY)

Wm. B. Bailey

~~THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY AND PRINCETON UNIVERSITY INVITE YOU AS GUEST~~
~~LECTURER FOR REST OF ACADEMIC YEAR STOP TOTAL HONORARIUM ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS~~
~~STOP IT IS PROBABLE THAT ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION WILL GRANT YOU A FELLOWSHIP~~
~~IN ADDITION WITH A STIPEND OF APPROXIMATELY TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS STOP FOR THIS~~
~~APPLICATION MUST BE MADE BY YOU TO TISDALE TWENTY RUE DE LA BAUME PARIS~~
~~WEYL WRITING FULLER DETAILS~~

6.96
VERLEN

Sender's address
for reference

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY
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THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

THE NATURAL SCIENCES
WARREN WEAVER, DIRECTOR
FRANK BLAIR HANSON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

November 28, 1934

Dear Professor Veblen:

Since I wrote to you on November 15, there has been an interchange of two cables with Dr. Tisdale on the Siegel matter. In his reply to my original cable Dr. Tisdale stated:

"Reluctant consider Siegel as fellowship account
German complications Prefer grant to some independent
American group to manage."

To this I replied:

"Siegel proposal contingent his obtaining normal
leave for trip Stop No suggestion permanent ap-
pointment here Stop Fellowship appears only pos-
sible mechanism within program Stop Am not urging
but do not understand complications."

To this last cable of mine I received the following answer:

"Memorandum my talk with Harald Bohr re Siegel
arriving New York Harding today Stop Associated your
telegram sixteenth with above Stop Willing con-
sider normal special fellowship."

I have subsequently received the memorandum to which Dr. Tisdale referred. When he talked with Prof. Bohr at Copenhagen on October 29 Bohr expressed his belief that Blichfeldt was about to offer Siegel a post beginning in the fall of 1935 and asked if there were any possibility that the Foundation assist Siegel in the meantime. Dr. Tisdale obviously thought that I had this memorandum in hand when I sent him my

original cable, so that he interpreted the suggestion as furnishing a temporary relief for Siegel pending the acceptance of a probable post at Stanford. It is my understanding that your proposal to bring Siegel for the second semester and summer has no relationship to any possibility that Siegel eventually obtain a post in this country, is dependent upon his obtaining normal leave under satisfactory conditions from Frankfort, and anticipates Siegel's return to Frankfort next fall. Dr. Tisdale is willing to consider a "normal special fellowship" for Siegel under these conditions. I gather from this somewhat paradoxical terminology that he implies that the fellowship would be special in the sense that it would be given for less than one year and for an unusual purpose, but that it would be normal in that Siegel would have leave from his permanent post at Frankfort and would expect to return to it at the conclusion of the fellowship.

It seems to me that it is now appropriate for Siegel to apply for such a special fellowship if he wishes to do so. I would suppose that it would be necessary for you to cable to him, indicating the amount and nature of the responsibility which the Institute is prepared to assume and suggesting the possibility that the financial side could be supplemented by a special fellowship, arrangements for which should be made with Dr. Tisdale in Paris.

Very cordially,

Warren Weaver

Prof. Oswald Veblen
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.
WW:PH

November 19, 1934

Dear Doctor Weaver:

Many thanks for your letter of November 15, and for your prompt activity in the Siegel case. I am hopeful that, if the appointment does go through, such misgivings as you have will be dissipated. Professor Siegel's line of work is so important and has as yet had so little attention in this country that I feel sure the visit will turn out to be really important.

With regard to the arrangements in the Institute, I think perhaps I ought to explain that we of the mathematical group live on a fixed budget, which was determined last spring for the present academic year. This budget included an appropriation of \$1000 for occasional lectures and visits. Part of this had already been earmarked before the Siegel possibility was heard of by us, and what we do has to be taken out of the remainder. I imagine you will agree with Dr. Flexner and our Trustees that it is a good thing for us to operate in this way.

I hope that we may have a visit from you in Princeton at some time in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Warren Weaver, Director
The Natural Sciences
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York City
OV:GB

Oswald Veblen

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

THE NATURAL SCIENCES
WARREN WEAVER, DIRECTOR
FRANK BLAIR HANSON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

November 15, 1934

Dear Professor Veblen:

Inasmuch as the time is pressing, I have cabled to Dr. Tisdale in our Paris office the essentials of the proposal which you made the other day over the telephone relative to Siegel. I have informed Dr. Tisdale that the Institute proposes to sponsor a visit during the second semester and the summer, within which time Siegel would deliver a short series of lectures at the cooperating institutions. The Institute for Advanced Study and Princeton are each prepared to contribute \$500 to such a scheme, Columbia \$200, Duke University something between \$100 and \$200, while it is probable that Chicago, New York University and the University of Cincinnati will also wish to come in. Approximately \$2,000 is thus available from these sources, and it is suggested that the Foundation furnish approximately \$2,000 more.

The foregoing review of our conversation is essentially what I have cabled to Dr. Tisdale, with the remark that the case almost qualifies for consideration under our deposed scholar category except for the fact that the term and nature of the proposed appointment do not at all fit into that scheme. Dr. Tisdale will have available to him reports of rather extended conversations which I had last month with

both Prof. Weyl and Prof. Courant concerning Siegel. I have asked Dr. Tisdale whether the Paris group would consider a special fellowship or a traveling professorship in accordance with the above proposal.

I think you know that the decision in such a matter, arising in the European field, is made by the group in Paris. I have not conveyed to them any recommendation of mine. Had I done so, it would have been, quite frankly, a mixed recommendation. From the point of view of scientific interest and importance, I think a very strong case can be made for the man. On the other hand, we have never felt it possible to go in very much for the scientific tour sort of activity. Moreover, the schedule which is now proposed, particularly since Chicago is indefinite, involves a visit to only one place that could reasonably be rated as a mathematical center of importance. The real scientific importance of the visit, in other words, is largely concentrated in the fact that Siegel will be at Princeton and at the Institute. It will be rather hard to avoid the notion that Princeton and the Institute, if they really feel this visit to be a matter of first importance, are themselves in a position to handle it. I am saying this to you quite frankly, although I have not conveyed any such suggestion to the Paris office.

As soon as I have word from Dr. Tisdale I will get in touch with you.

Prof. Oswald Veblen
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

Cordially,

Warren Weaver

WW:PH