

cc. SM

Professor Dr.

Carl Ludwig Siegel

geb. 31. Dezember 1896

gest. 4. April 1981

Göttingen

Auf Wunsch des Verstorbenen hat die Beisetzung in aller Stille
stattgefunden.

Im Namen der Freunde und Schüler:

Theodor Schneider

NEW YORK TIMES, 15 April 1981

Prof. Carl L. Siegel, 84; Leading Mathematician

Prof. Carl Ludwig Siegel, one of this century's leading mathematicians, died April 5 in Göttingen, West Germany, at the age of 84. He made fundamental discoveries in the theory of numbers, the theory of analytic functions and celestial mechanics.

Professor Siegel was born in Berlin and at the age of 25 was appointed to a full professorship at Frankfurt University, where he was a member of the faculty from 1922 to 1937. He was then a professor at Göttingen University until he left Germany in 1940 to join the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J., where he remained as a member conducting his own research until 1945.

In 1945 he was appointed a faculty member of the institute and took part in administrative and policy-making functions. While there he also served as an adjunct professor of mathematics at New York University.

Professor Siegel remained with the institute until 1951, when the Government of West Germany invited him to accept a chair at the University of Göttingen. He was professor emeritus of mathematics there at his death.

In 1978, Professor Siegel was one of nine leading research scientists who shared the \$500,000 Wolf Prize, established in 1976 by the Israeli Parliament. Professor Siegel was cited for his work in the theory of numbers, complex variables and celestial mechanics.

He leaves no immediate survivors.

3 January 1961

Memorandum to File:

On November 22nd, 1960, after consultation with Professors Montgomery and Weil, Dr. Oppenheimer told Mr. Morgan that the grant-in-aid to Professor Siegel for the academic year 1960-1961 should be charged to the Mathematics Stipend fund instead of the National Science Foundation grant for the support of work in analysis.

Professor Siegel left the Institute at the end of the first term of this year. The total grant paid to him was \$2500.

V.H.

Verna Hobson

Copy to: Mr. Morgan
Miss Underwood

Siegel

cc Mr. Morgan
Miss Underwood

24 October 1960

Dear Professor Siegel:

This is to confirm our agreement that your financial support for this year will derive from a grant to the Institute from the National Science Foundation, for the support of work in analysis.

The Foundation appreciates acknowledgment of its contribution in publications of work done during your tenure of membership, or as a result of work done then. They would be glad to have offprints of such publications, and we therefore ask that you send to Miss Underwood one copy of preprints, and six copies of reprints, so that she may transmit them to the Foundation.

With good wishes,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Carl L. Siegel
The Institute for Advanced Study

NSF-G14600

cc: Mrs. Barnett
cc: Beurling
Borel
Gödel
Morse
✓ Oppenheimer
Selberg
Weil
Whitney

Göttingen, May 3, 1960

Dear Montgomery:

I was pleased to get your kind letter. In the meantime I have already written to Mrs. Barnett asking for the reservation of an apartment. I have a berth on the "Bremen" arriving in New York on October 17, and I should be very grateful if the Institute station wagon could meet me at the boat.

Please convey to Veblen my cordial wishes for his recovery.

I am looking forward to see you again in a few months, and I hope that it will be a pleasant time for all of us.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Carl L. Siegel

Göttingen, Bunsenstr. 3-5

14. April 1960

Siegel
Told Mrs Barnett
Miss Ludenwood

Dear Professor Oppenheimer:

After my return voyage from India I got your kind letter together with its copy. I am delighted to receive this new offer in its flexible form, which makes it possible to shorten my visit abroad in case I should not feel well. So I do no longer hesitate to accept this generous invitation.

I have booked a passage to New York in the middle of next October, and I hope to arrive in Princeton approximately on October 20th.

Looking forward to see you again, as well as the other colleagues and friends in Princeton, I remain with good wishes

Carl Ludwig Siegel

P.S. May I ask Mr. Barnett for another visitor's visa application form, since I have lost somewhere the previous one?

- love

Prof. Beurling
✓ pls. return to D. O.

cc Mr. Morgan
Mrs. Barnett
Miss Underwood

10 March 1960

Dear Professor Siegel:

Thank you for your letter of December 12th, 1959. We were, of course, unhappy that you were not in a position to accept our invitation. We think that we can meet your objections by making the invitation entirely flexible from the point of view of the length of time and the selection of the time that you might come.

We would be delighted and grateful if you would visit us next year in whatever way best suits your plans, your interest, and your health, whether it be for a week, a month, a term, or, hopefully, an even longer period. We shall keep the \$10,000 that we have reserved for your visit on our books, so that we can give an appropriate part of it to you whatever you decide to do. We do not in fact need to know very long in advance of your coming: just long enough to be sure that your accommodations are prepared for you.

I write this letter with some contrition at not having suggested these alternatives when I first wrote. I write, as you must know, to express the hope, not only on my part, but that of your colleagues here, and your friends, that we will see something of you, in a way which suits you entirely.

With good wishes,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Carl Ludwig Siegel
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
Apollo Pier Road
Bombay 1, India

cc: Professor Siegel
Mathematisches Institut
Bunsenstr. 3 - 5
Göttingen, Germany

Siegel

cc: A. Borel
K. Gödel
D. Montgomery
M. Morse
✓ R. Oppenheimer
A. Selberg
A. Weil
H. Whitney
O. Veblen

TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

Apollo Pier Road, Bombay 1

February 15, 1960

Dear colleagues Beurling, Borel, Gödel, Montgomery, Morse, Selberg, Weil
and Whitney:

I was very pleased to receive your friendly letter and the nice gift
which accompanied it. Certainly I should like very much to visit you
when I come next time to the United States.

Perhaps I may add a few words explaining my negative answer to the
official invitation. I was frightened by the idea that my stay at the
Institute for a longer period of time would not be welcomed by the
younger generation of mathematicians whose scientific taste and interest
seems to be very different from my own. It is quite possible that the
abstract dreams of these people ultimately may lead again to fertile
ground and to real progress. However, I feel unable to adapt myself to
this modern spirit, and I prefer to continue my own work in the style of
the 19th century.

There is a second reason which I did not mention in my letter to
Dr. Oppenheimer. During the last years my health has become very unstable
and I was afraid that I should find great difficulties in trying once more
for a year the uncomfortable life of an old bachelor in America which I
know so well from long experience. Such difficulties might not arise
during a shorter stay, but I did not feel free to propose another form of
invitation.

Thanking you for your kind intention, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Carl Ludwig Siegel.

TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

National Centre of the Government of India for Nuclear Science and Mathematics

Telegrams: ZETESIS

APOLLO PIER ROAD, BOMBAY 1

Telephone: 255521

New Siegel
Miss Underwoodcc: Math Faculty
(pls. return to
D.O.)

December 12, 1959

Dear Professor Oppenheimer:

Please excuse the long delay of my answer to your kind letter of October 15. By some mistake the letter was forwarded from Germany to India by ordinary mail, and when it finally reached Bombay I was in the hospital.

I thank you very much for the honorable invitation to spend the next academic year as a member of your Institute. I am very sorry to say that I cannot accept it, for the following reason: My health is very unstable, and in my age I am very doubtful about the value of my further contributions to science, so I feel that I would be just a burden to the Institute and that my presence could be severely criticized by the younger generation.

Thanking you once more for your kind intention I remain

with all good wishes,

Carl Ludwig Siegel

Siegel

Note to File

November 17, 1959

Today Professor Weil informed me that, in a personal letter to him, Professor Siegel had said that he hoped to be able to come to the Institute next year if his health allowed. Professor Weil thought it unlikely that Siegel would make a formal answer to the invitation for some time.

vh

File cc: Members, 60-61, Siegel
✓ Former Faculty, Siegel
Bd of Trustees, pending

cc: Mr. Morgan
Mrs. Barnett
Miss Underwood

15 October 1959

Dear Professor Siegel:

You must know that for some time your colleagues here have all wished to have you come back to the Institute for a visit. The School of Mathematics has now asked me formally to offer you a membership in the Institute for the academic year 1960-1961. This I do with great pleasure, and in anticipation of your returning to an Institute in which you spent many creative years, and which still bears many imprints of your work and your presence. We can make available to you a grant of \$10,000 to meet the expenses of your travel and your sojourn.

With all good wishes,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Carl Siegel
Mathematisches Institut
Bunsenstr. 3 - 5
Göttingen
Germany

enclosures: Exchange-Visitor Program memorandum
Certificate of Eligibility

NOTE TO MR. MORGAN: Grant to be charged to Math. stipend fund. The Board of Trustees agreed to consider a special appropriation at a later date, should this seem necessary.

Siegel

cc: Professors Beurling
Borel
Gödel
Montgomery
Morse
✓ Oppenheimer
Weil
Whitney

Göttingen, November 9, 1958

Dear Professor Selberg:

Thank you for your kind letter which I received with some delay because of my absence from Göttingen during the last month.

Next year I shall retire from my position in Göttingen on April 1st. I shall keep the right to give lectures here, if I wish, though I doubt whether I shall do so under the present disagreeable situation at our Institute. On the other hand, my health is rather unstable, and it would not be wise to try once more to find a new home in another part of the world.

I should be glad if I could spend the academic year 1960/61 at the Institute for Advanced Study. During the winter 1959/60, as you probably know, I shall be some time in Bombay, because of the Colloquium on Function Theory, and I would not dare to expose my bad health to the different climates of three continents.

Please give my best regards to Mrs. Selberg.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Carl Siegel

Siegel

cc: Professors Beurling
Borel
Gödel
Montgomery
Morse
✓ Oppenheimer
Weil
Whitney

Göttingen, November 9, 1958

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Please give my best regards to Mrs. Selberg.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Carl Siegel



THE NAME OF THE
THE GREAT ALUMNI
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON SQUARE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10003

Return Requested



The Institute for Advanced Study
Office of the Director
Princeton, New Jersey

MATHEMATICS COLLOQUIUM - NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Courant Institute, 251 Mercer Street

Monday, April 10, 1967
Room 109, 3 - 5 p.m.

Professor Carl Ludwig Siegel
of
University of Göttingen

THE WEIERSTRASS PREPARATION THEOREM

This is a special Colloquium. Professor Siegel will receive an honorary degree at the conclusion of the Colloquium.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

March 30, 1953

Dear Colleagues:

The following is a copy of a letter which I have received from Carl L. Siegel:

"I shall be delighted to give a lecture at the Institute for Advanced Study and I propose to speak on Friday, April 10, at 2:40 on

The normal form of differential equations near an equilibrium solution.

"I should be grateful if Miss Underwood would make a hotel room reservation for Friday and Saturday night (April 10-11).

"Looking forward to seeing you soon, I am

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Carl Siegel"

- Professors Montgomery
- Oppenheimer ✓
- Pais
- Selberg
- von Neumann
- Whitney

New Rochelle

May 17, 1951

Joe
Siegel

Dear Director Oppenheimer:

When I came to your office last Tuesday in order to say good bye you were out of town. Therefore, before sailing, I want to send you this note to thank you and my colleagues for all the friendliness and help I have received in the Institute.

I am glad to know that you and others in Princeton understand the inner motives which made it necessary for me to seek a position in which I can be of use as a teacher of young students. Please transmit my best wishes and my farewell greetings to all my colleagues in the Institute whom I was unable to reach personally.

With cordial thanks and wishes for yourself,

Sincerely yours,

Carl Ludwig Siegel.

March 22, 1951

Memorandum to Mr. Fleming:

The resignation of Professor Carl L. Siegel as a member of the Faculty of the Institute has been accepted as of the end of our present fiscal year, June 30, 1951.

Robert Oppenheimer

Copy to Miss Trinterud
Miss Underwood

March 22, 1951

Dear Professor Siegel:

Your good letter of March 21st came to me this morning. Although it has news in it which, as you know, makes me and your friends here sad, I must thank you for the candor and the friendliness with which you wrote. It is surely true that we are content that in one way at least the Institute has fulfilled its real function and provided a home for you during some years in which you have made such massive and beautiful contributions to science. That is what we are here for.

As to the future, we must of course wish, for the sake of your own happiness and creativeness, that the decision you have now taken to return to Göttingen will prove a wise one. If, when you have had time to assess the situation in Göttingen, it should turn out that you regret the decision, or would in any way wish to reconsider it, you must surely then let us know, in order that we may reopen the question of your return. I say this despite the good wishes that go with you, only that you may be sure of my eagerness and that of all your colleagues to be helpful to you within the limits of our ability.

With every warm good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

C.L. Siegel, Grand Hotel Kurhaus
Lenzerheide, Switzerland

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mrs. John D. Leary

Is this Institute for Advanced Study
address we have Princeton, N.J.
for Siegel? U.S.A.

Princeton, New Jersey

March 21, 1951

Dear Director Oppenheimer:

At the beginning of this academic year I told you that I had an offer to go back to the University of Göttingen, where I had been a professor before I came to this country in 1940. Having now received the enclosed official telegram from Hannover concerning my reinstatement, I am asking you to accept my resignation from my position at the Institute for Advanced Study, with the end of the present term.

Feeling that the reasons for my decision should be clearly explained, I have to speak of the difficulties connected with my personality. I want to state at the beginning that I shall forever be thankful to the Institute for the hospitality during the war years when I found here a quiet place to carry on my peaceful work in pure mathematics; probably I could not have done it elsewhere. However, as the war continued, I became

worried because of the demand which my indefinite presence meant under the difficult financial situation of the Institute at that time. Without any direct relations to friends or family I also suffered more and more from the hardship of an isolated and lonely way of living. My hope was to become again a professor in Göttingen after the war and to obtain there some contact with mankind by educational work which could appear, from a humanitarian point of view, more satisfactory than the continuation of research work without pupils or collaborators.

In 1945, shortly after the end of warfare in Europe, the Institute generously offered me a permanent position. It is now clear to me that I made a serious mistake in accepting it, but at that time I had become doubtful whether my return would be feasible during the next few years and whether I could do actual help in Göttingen as long as the confused situation

prevailed. When I finally succeeded to visit Germany in 1946/47 I was utterly disappointed by the attitude of the person whom I had considered as my nearest friend, and this deep shock brought me back to Princeton. I am sorry to say that I have not been able to reestablish the state of mind which leads to creative work, though I am not convinced that my intellectual power has seriously deteriorated; probably it is rather a lack of will and interest. As a consequence of this lack of mental equilibrium my situation in our community has become completely unstable. I owned a nice and quiet home during these last 3 years and I occupied one of the most comfortable offices at the Institute — but I never felt at ease in either place.

I doubt whether I shall find that ease nowadays in Germany. However, I should think that the duty of delivering regular courses might be helpful in finding some sense in the

continuation of life, in spite of its exterior difficulties, and it might even happen that a gifted young student becomes interested in one of my problems. Furthermore I expect to find a decent caretaker who shall prepare my meals at regular hours of the day — this point is not unimportant for a man of my age whose health is declining.

To be sincere I should mention another reason of disillusion, though this may appear unpolite. More than half of my whole scientific work has been published in this country, during the last 16 years. Quite apart from my own estimation I cannot think that this work is entirely worthless since men like André Weil and Hermann Weyl added some thoughts of their own to one or another of my problems. This contrasts with the attitude of the younger American generation of mathematicians from whom I never obtained during all these years a single sign of deeper concern with my own work. Some

time ago. I published a little book on trans-
cendental problems with the purpose of making this
subject more accessible to mathematicians in
general — I have no doubt that in the second
half of the twentieth century these problems still
might be used for recreation, instruction and
research —, but the reviewer in the Bulletin of
the American Mathematical Society found nothing
worth mentioning except the bad style, the dull
and uninspiring presentation of the proofs. It
was the most mischievous review I ever saw in a
scientific journal. On the other hand I have
received during the last years quite a few
indications that I am still understood by
mathematicians in Germany, and elsewhere in
Europe.

Please do not think that I wrote the last
paragraph under the influence of any political
ideas. I have no political ideas at all. During
the first great war when my adolescent mind

gave the decisive impact from my fellow-creatures

I wrote into my diary:

Ich hasse die Deutschen mehr noch als die
Menschen.

Q. e. d.

Carl Ludwig Siegel

Feb 12.1951

Siegel

Dr Oppenheimer:

The last mortgage payment has been made on the Siegel house; pending a little paper work the place is his.

HKFleming

May 5th, 1950.
fil
Siegel

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Some months ago a number of the American Mathematical Monthly contained a short notice saying that I had been appointed Visiting Professor of Mathematics at New York University, New York, N.Y. In view of this notice my loyalty towards the Institute for Advanced Study might appear somewhat doubtful, so I feel obliged to explain my attitude.

My connection with Prof. Courant's group of mathematicians at N.Y. U. goes back to a time when I was very much disappointed about the outcome of my attempts to lecture in Princeton. Last fall, when I decided to give once more a course of lectures in New York, I expected that there would not be any official announcement and that I should receive no other payments, except to cover my actual expenses. This had been the arrangement at my previous lectures in 1945 and 1946. So I was astonished to get an official statement calling me a Visiting Professor, but I did not object at that time, being careful not to hurt anybody. However now I asked Professor Courant to make them stop paying me more than my expenses. I am enclosing the reply from Dean Park.

I am leaving for Brussels on Saturday, and I expect to stay in Europe until the beginning of the next term (or to the end of my life, whatever comes first).

Hoping that you and Mrs. Oppenheimer have a good vacation,

Sincerely yours,

Carl Ludwig Siegel.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCE
WASHINGTON SQUARE
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

TELEPHONE: SPRING 7-2000

April 28, 1950

Professor Carl Siegel
Institute for Advance Study
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor Siegel:

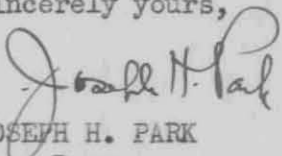
Professor Courant told me that you prefer not to receive further payments from New York University, in view of the fact that you had to miss a number of class meetings and that your actual expenses have been covered by the payments received so far.

It is only with great reluctance that I comply with your request.

The University is genuinely grateful for the help and inspiration you are giving to our Graduate students. We feel that the payment offered you is only a token expression of our appreciation.

In accepting your generous offer I want to express our hope that in the future you will continue to lecture for our Mathematics Department in an informal way.

Sincerely yours,


JOSEPH H. PARK
Dean

December 19, 1949

Dear Professor Siegel:

It is a pleasure for me to inform you that at its meeting of November 15, 1949, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study adopted the following resolution:

It was moved and carried that, operative as of July 1, 1950, the minimum total pension of present full Institute professors should be \$6000; that the obligation of the Institute is to provide the difference between this amount and the pension provided through insurance; that the additional payments should be covered in the ordinary budget.

Thus, under the terms of this resolution, the funds available to you from the TIAA policy which you now hold will be supplemented by the Institute to bring the total to \$6000. a year. The Trustees of the Institute understand that in some cases a professor may desire to make provision for the support of his wife in the event of his death. In general, the Institute will allow each professor to exercise this option with regard to its contribution to his retirement allowance, and in general accordance with the terms of options as established by the TIAA.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

Professor Carl L. Siegel

Copy - Miss Trinterud, Business Office
Institute TIAA file - Director's Office

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

5/31/5
7
Carl Siegel

I am leaving for Zurich
to-day and I hope you will
have a good summer vacation

Carl Siegel

May 31, 1949

Military Permit Office
Kirchenfeldstrasse 78
Berne, Switzerland

Gentlemen:

Professor Carl Siegel, the bearer of this note, is a permanent member of the Faculty of the School of Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study.

It is Professor Siegel's hope that he will be able to visit his mother, Mrs. Bertha Siegel, in Berlin this summer. Mrs. Siegel is seventy-five years old and has been seriously ill for months; she has no family except Professor Siegel and he feels that unless he can see her soon he will not see her again.

We sincerely hope that every consideration will be given Professor Siegel's request for permission to go to Berlin this summer.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

7 - Faculty - Siegel



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MILITARY PERMIT OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Please refer to
Case #11839

8 March 1949

Mrs. John D. Leary
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Leary:

Thank you for your letter of March 1st concerning Professor Siegel's proposed visit to Berlin. A cable has been dispatched today about his case and we have asked for an early reply by cable.

I will write to you again as soon as a reply is received.

Yours sincerely,

A. TATTENBAUM
Military Permit Officer

AT/ms

3/17/49

Permission not granted because
Prof. Siegel's mother lives in
Soviet sector. Letter given
Prof. Siegel. EWL

March 1, 1949

Dear Mr. Khanamirian:

Dr. Oppenheimer has asked me to send you the enclosed application for permission for Professor Carl Siegel to go to Berlin. This is in response to your letter of February 18th. A copy of the Director's letter referring to this application is also enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. John D. Leary)
Aide to the Director

Mr. A.K. Khanamirian
Military Permit Office
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D.C.

Enclosed: Passport No. 138384
Money Order for \$3.00



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MILITARY PERMIT OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

18 February 1949

The Institute of Advanced Study
Princeton
New Jersey

Dear Mr. Oppenheimer:

Thank you for your letter of 11 February 1949 concerning Professor Carl Ludwig Siegel's mother in Berlin, Germany. As you know the blockade of Berlin makes it difficult for visits to that city. We will, however, upon receipt of the enclosed application form, completed by Professor Siegel, send a cable to our authorities in Berlin requesting that Professor Siegel be allowed to visit his mother.

In addition to the application form, it is also requested that Professor Siegel be asked to forward his passport to this office with a money order for \$3.00 made payable to the "Military Permit Office".

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. K. Khanamirian".

A. K. KHANAMIRIAN
U S Military Permit Officer

AKK/ms
Encls
Appl fm

February 11, 1949

Mr. A. K. Khanamirian
Military Permit Office
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Khanamirian:

In the hope that it will be possible for a member of our Faculty, Professor Carl Ludwig Siegel, to get permission to visit Berlin in the near future, I am writing in detail the urgent personal reasons prompting his request.

Professor Siegel's mother, Mrs. Bertha Siegel, is in Berlin and has been hospitalized by pneumonia and a broken hip. She is seventy-five years of age, and according to the most recent news of her, there is serious doubt that she will recover. She has no family except Professor Siegel. Naturally, with conditions what they now are, he is gravely concerned about her; more than that, he feels that unless he can make the trip reasonably soon he will not see her again. It is increasingly difficult for him to get news of her condition.

If it is at all possible to know in advance whether he can go to Berlin, Professor Siegel would like to make arrangements for passage in early May. If anything can be done to help him make this trip, it would be deeply appreciated.

Perhaps I should add that Professor Siegel came to this country from Germany in 1940 to continue his mathematical studies at the Institute; he joined the permanent Faculty of our School of Mathematics in 1945. He is now a United States citizen.

Yours faithfully,

Director

February 11, 1949

Refer to E 130 - Siegel, Carl Ludwig

Mrs. R. B. Shipley
Chief, Passport Division
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

In answer to your communication of February 10th, requesting further details about the reasons for my proposed trip to Europe, I trust the following is the information is what you wish to have.

I hope to visit Germany and Switzerland, leaving here in early May and remaining abroad about three months. The primary purpose of my trip is to visit my mother who is in Berlin; she is seventy-five years of age and very ill. According to the most recent word I have had there is little hope of her recovery. I have been advised that when my passport is released I should apply for a military permit to enter Germany. My application for the special permission to visit Berlin is now on its way to the Military Permit Office. My trip to Switzerland would be to visit friends and to tour.

I should appreciate very much your consideration of my request for renewal of my passport. I shall be deeply grateful for any help you can give me in facilitating my arrangements as my trip is of grave concern to me.

Yours sincerely,

Carl Ludwig Siegel

Faculty - Siegel

October 26, 1948

To: Professor Siegel
From: Mrs. Leary

Professor Weyl's son phoned from the OER office in Washington yesterday to give the following advice about meeting Professors Magnus and Oberhettinger:

They will arrive Friday, October 29th and will have to be met in New York by a representative of the Institute. The place and time will be telephoned to me by Mr. Max Coreth, Special Devices Center, Sands Point, Port Washington, Long Island. (His telephone: Port Washington 2800, Ext. 4) The Navy station wagon from the Physics Department at Princeton can drive up to meet the professors. Mr. Bussey of the Physics Department will make the arrangements; I am to call him when we hear from Mr. Coreth.

Mr. Weyl said money should be given the professors on arrival. (Prof. Veblen took the \$100. cash the other day to give to you.)

The Institute will be responsible for the two visitors until November 9th when we are to transport them back to New York - and I presume Mr. Coreth.

I will let you know when I hear time and place of arrival. Will you be able to meet them, or do you wish to have someone else from the Institute do it?

Prof. Siegel met them 10/30/48

Copy: Professor Weyl
Miss Blake

Carl Ludwig Siegel

April 7, 1948

Siegel, Carl Ludwig

Studied Univs. Berlin and Göttingen
Dr.Phil. 1920 Göttingen

Born Dec.31,1896, Berlin, Germany

Citizenship - ~~Germany~~ Naturalized USA May 23/46

Unmarried

Entered USA:

- 1) Jan.1935 for spring term
- 2) Apr.15/40 at NYC under Non-quota immigration visa (§4(d)) No. 23, issued
Copenhagen Mar.20/40. Duration unlimited

Princeton home address- (1947) 178 Ewing Street

No telephone

Positions held:

Hamburg Univ. -Lecturer 1920

Göttingen Univ. - Asst.to Prof. Courant and Privatdozent 1921; Guest Lecturer 1930;

Frankfurt Univ. - Prof. 1922-37 /Prof. 1938- RESIGNED; Vis.Prof.winter 1946-7

Rockefeller Foundation Fellow 1925

IAS (and Princeton Univ. spring term 1935); Stipend 1940-45; Professor Oct.1/45-
(On leave 1946-7)

*Carl
Siegel*

Memorandum

To *Mr. Russell* Date _____

From *G. Blake* Re _____

Professor Carl L. Siegel (addresses received June 25/48)

June 26 - Aug. 2
Park Hotel
Pontresina, Switzerland

Aug. 2 - 30
Hotel du Glacier
Saas-Fee, Switzerland

Aug. 30 - Sep. 19

"as yet indeterminate"

May 31, 1948

Dear Professor Siegel:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have written to Professor Eichler about an apartment for next year.

The matter of Professor Mayer's income tax Dr. Oppenheimer thinks should be handled personally. He suggests that perhaps Professor Mayer would like to talk it over with Mr. David J. Levy, who is a law partner of Mr. Maass, one of our Trustees. Mr. Levy made a study of the tax status of Institute members and it was his opinion that was forwarded to Professor Mayer. He did not have the complete file but I believe he had all the pertinent information. However, if Professor Mayer wishes to go over the problem with him I could send Mr. Levy whatever material they wish to have.

Dr. Oppenheimer had thought - and hoped - that the opinion in the case of Professor Mayer would be different. He cannot, however, give any advice contrary to that of the Institute's legal counsel.

If you prefer, I could write to Professor Mayer about his seeing or corresponding with Mr. Levy. And I would be very happy to telephone Mr. Levy in New York if Professor Mayer wishes to get in touch with him. His address is: Mr. David J. Levy, Maass, Davidson, Levy & Friedman, 20 Exchange Place, New York.

We all hope you have a most pleasant summer.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. John D. Leary)
Aide to Dr. Oppenheimer

Professor Carl L. Siegel

Copy: Professor Weyl

October 11, 1947

Professor Oswald Veblen
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Oswald:

I am rather disturbed about this question of Siegel's salary. In the ordinary way of things when we gave Meritt leave of absence to go to Oxford and Panofsky leave to go to Harvard, we did it in each case on the basis of half salary.

In Siegel's case, it was not certain that he could go to Germany and we consequently gave him leave for ninety days on full salary while he made the attempt. This leave on full salary was further extended so that he had about half the year before the payments were reduced to the ordinary half-salary basis. I am only too glad to do anything for Siegel that we fairly can but I must say that it seems to me that he has been rather more generously treated than other members of the Faculty already. It seems to me that in matters of this kind, the Institute should be scrupulously fair.

If there are any elements in the problem to which I am not giving due weight, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Frank Aydelotte

Copy to ✓ Dr. Oppenheimer
Miss Trinterud

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

September 25, 1947

Samuel D. Leidesdorf, Esq.
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

Professor Siegel has bought a house at 178 Ewing Street in Princeton at a cost of \$11,500. Professor Siegel is prepared to pay \$4,000 in cash and he has raised the question with me whether the Institute would take a mortgage on the house for the remaining \$7,500. He would consider our usual terms of 4% interest reasonable and he believes that he can pay back the principal of the mortgage at the rate of \$2,500 per year, liquidating it in three years.

Professor Siegel would prefer to have his payments for interest and principal deducted from his salary month by month which I think would be the most satisfactory arrangement for the Institute.

This seems to me an admirable investment and I hope very much that you and the Finance Committee will approve. I should be grateful if you would send me a line giving me your own reaction to the proposal so that Professor Siegel will know what to do. Personally, I think it an admirable solution of Professor Siegel's living problem and I am really surprised that he was able to obtain the house at such a comparatively moderate price.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Copy to Professor Siegel
✓ Dr. Oppenheimer
Miss Trinterud

ONE TWENTY FIVE PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK

Office of
Samuel D. Leidesdorf

September 26, 1947

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

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

In reply to your letter of the 25th, we would be glad to take the mortgage on Professor's Siegel's house for the remaining \$7,500. I will submit the matter formally to the Finance Committee on October 9th, but Professor Siegel may proceed on the assumption that it will be approved.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

S. D. LEIDESDORF

Original to Professor Siegel

Copy to ✓ Dr. Oppenheimer
Miss Trinterud

7

September 30, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TRINTERUD:

Professor Carl L. Siegel's six months leave of absence expires as of September 30, 1947 and he should, accordingly, be placed on the payroll at full salary as of October 1, 1947.

FRANK AYDELOTTE
Director

September 6, 1947

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Care of Professor Harald Bohr
Regensen, St. Kannikestrasse 2,
Copenhagen K., Denmark

Dear Siegel:

I am delighted to have your letter of August 27th and to know that you are now making definite progress toward recovery. You have probably had a notice that the Institute opens formally on September 22nd and that we have a faculty meeting at five o'clock on that afternoon. If everything worked perfectly, you might arrive in Princeton just in time. I have had so much experience, however, flying across the Atlantic Ocean that I know that everything does not always work perfectly and that you may be held up by bad weather at various points. At any rate we shall all be glad to see you whenever you do arrive. I hope and expect that Miss Braun is coming with you.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Fynshav , August 27, 1947

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I am most grateful for your very kind letters of June 4th, July 10th and July 22nd. In the meantime I had my complicated and dangerous illness. During the last weeks I have been making definite progress toward recovery. I am staying at an inn on the Danish island of Als, near to the summer house of Harald Bohr. Swimming, sun-bathing and walks in the forest are helping me to get back my strength.

If not an unexpected obstacle turns up, I intend to use my plane reservation for September 20th. This will be just in time for the beginning of the next academical year. I hope that until then also my mental capacity will be all right. As a matter of fact, I am eager to do some reasonable work after this long delay.

I am sending you my best wishes for the rest of your stay in Connecticut.

With kindest regards, also from Miss Braun, I am

Yours sincerely,

Carl Siegel

LR

*will come
as planned*

July 22, 1947

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Care of Professor Harald Bohr
Regensen, St. Kannikestr. 2
Copenhagen K., Denmark

Dear Siegel:

I am very grateful for the kind letters from Miss Braun and Harald Bohr in regard to your illness and the progress which you are making toward recovery. I am not surprised that you have felt discouraged. It looks to me now as if your trip to Germany involved an unreasonable strain upon your health. I felt when you left that this might be true and I rather reproach myself for not having urged you more strongly to be cautious. I have always believed, however, in the maxim that it is better to waste health like a spendthrift than to save it like a miser and with that principle in mind I did everything in my power to facilitate your going.

I am sure that the time has now come for you to return and I am equally certain that a few months of regular and healthy life in Princeton will do more for you than all the hospitals and doctors.

So far as your leave of absence is concerned, do not worry about it. I will take the responsibility of making sure that it is extended on the same terms as at present, namely half salary, until such time as you are able to return to Princeton and resume your work. I hope that time will be soon.

I am, as you know, preparing to retire from the Directorship in October. My program for the last year has been a brutal one and I ought to be in the next bed to you in a hospital with doctors fussing over me and friends coming into call. Unfortunately, I never seem to know how to be ill at the right time and consequently the only thing that has suffered from this excessive period of work and strain has been my game of golf. I hope to go off to Connecticut tomorrow for six weeks or two months where I shall make a strenuous effort to repair that damage. I hope that you and Miss Braun will be arriving in Princeton very shortly after my return.

With kindest regards to you both and to both of the Bohrs, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

July 22, 1947

TO MEMBERS OF THE MATHEMATICS FACULTY:

Oswald Veblen sends me the enclosed letter which he has just received from Harald Høhr and suggests that I should pass it on to members of the department. It is easy to understand that Siegel should be rather discouraged and I think it would cheer him up a great deal to receive letters from his colleagues here.

FRANK AXELOTTE

Copy to: Professor Alexander
Professor Einstein
Professor Morse
Professor von Neumann
Professor Veblen
Professor Weyl
Miss Blake

C O P Y

Regensen
St. Kannikestraede 2
Copenhagen
7 - 7 - 1947

Dear Veblen!

I write to you to tell you more detailed about Siegel's serious illness of which you already may have heard. For about a month ago, he went to the hospital to be operated for a doublesided hernia. The operation itself went well, but a few days after he got pneumonia in one of the lungs which, however, in some days got cured by help of penicillin. Shortly afterwards he got a new attack of pneumonia, this time in the other lung. And now the medicine did not really work anymore so that he was rather ill. Then when the fever finally went down his pleura was inflamed and, as he was rather weak, the situation began to be dangerous. At that time I was sorry to leave Copenhagen to go to a colloquium in Nancy, and while I was away there came some trouble and the doctors were seriously afraid that he should die (besides the surgeons at the hospital, Niels during my absence got also a professor of intern medicin to treat him in order that everything possible could be done to help him). After some very dangerous days it looked, however, as if he should overcome his illness, and when I returned he was somewhat better, even if he was very weak indeed and the situation still rather critical. Now, fortunately, the doctors hope that he shall recover in not too far a future, but naturally he still will be very weak for a rather long period. At the whole he has kept up his spirit very well even if he was quite clear how ill he was. But of course sometimes he feels rather depressed after all these sufferings. We hope that he in a rather near future will be well enough to come out of the hospital and go to a recreation place somewhere in Denmark, perhaps -- if the journey is not too strenuous -- and also, as he naturally wishes to be together with his Danish friends, Nielsen, Jessen, Fuchel, etc. During his stay in the hospital he, when he is not dozing, naturally speculates over many things and among others he feels very unhappy that his friends in Princeton should think that he does not feel his responsibility towards the Institute strong enough in case he -- what seems to me not quite improbable -- shall not be sufficiently restored to go to Princeton in due time for the beginning of the semester. I

have tried to make it quite clear to him that this is nonsense and that his only and obvious duty both to himself, his science and the Institute is to recover completely and not make this recovering still more difficult by absurd speculations of this kind. I think that it will make him good when I tell him that I have written to you and both told you in detail about how seriously ill he has been and still is and asked you -- what I therefore hereby allow me to do -- to tell to the other authorities at the Institute, first of all to Aydelotte, about the content of this letter.

May I allow me to add that I have the feeling that in Siegel's weakness a kind letter from you may mean very much to him indeed, both in itself and also in order to release him from all kinds of absurd speculations of the kind mentioned above. As most of the Danish mathematicians have gone on holidays only Jessen and I remain in Copenhagen and we, together with Miss Braum of whom we all have the very best impression, are daily visiting him in the hospital even if we are only allowed to stay rather shortly in order that he shall not be too tired.

As I should like to send this letter already this evening, and it is rather late, I finish it without telling you about other things, such as the Congress in France, etc.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Veblen from us all

Ever yours

/s/ Harold Bohr

COPY

To Miss Miller

BROOKLIN
HANCOCK COUNTY, MAINE

17 July, 1947

Dear Frank:-

Here is a letter from
Harald Bohr giving a rather full
and clear report about Siegel. If you
think it advisable, will you have
copies sent to the professors in the sch. of
Math. and to Oppenheimer, Mass and Strauss? At
least, my first reaction is that it would
be desirable that these gentlemen should know
the exact state of affairs. You will know
better than I what to write to Siegel, but
I agree with Bohr that ~~he~~ should be
relieved of any anxiety about the Institute's
point of view. It is wonderful luck for
him to have the protection and care

BROOKLIN

HANCOCK COUNTY, MAINE

of the Bohrs.

We were glad, Elizabeth and I,
to gather from your letter of July 17th 48
(the same date as Bohrs') that you are
really going to take a vacation in
Waterford. I feel sure that your present
plan will get you over the move
with the least possible derangement.
Here's wishing you a good holiday.

We are making a concession to
advancing age by getting a ^{bottled} gas ~~stove~~
refrigerator.

As ever,

Oswald Veblen

4
C O P Y

Copenhagen, July 4, 1947

Dear Miss Blake:

Best thanks for your letter which came some days ago. Since you heard from my illness through Dr. Aydelotte, I got a new disease which brought me very near to death. Two weeks ago I got multiple embolies of the lungs, and for two days I was not far from suffocation, though I stayed under an oxygene tent. Then I got a heart attack — but I recovered, my heart still being very strong. Now I can respire more freely and I have no more pains. The doctor told me that I shall be able to leave the bed for the first time in about a week. But I am feeling utterly depressed.

Early in May I wrote to Miss Miller inquiring about an Institute apartment for myself and another for Prof. Braun. I did not receive any reply. Would you be so kind as to find out whether there has been made a reservation?

My recovery — if not a fourth disease brings the end — certainly will require a long time, but I hope very much that I shall be able to resume my work at the Institute at the beginning of the next term

With best wishes for your vacation trip,

Sincerely yours,

CARL L. SIEGEL

[Written in pencil — by Prof. Siegel or Prof. Braun? GB]

10 July 1947

Dear Siegel:

Miss Blake has just showed me your letter of July 4th, and I hasten to express my profound sympathy with you in all the troubles which you have had to undergo. I can understand your feeling depressed, but I read between the lines of your letter that your health is nevertheless on the mend, and I hope that a few months of a healthier and less strenuous regime in Princeton will put you on your feet again.

If I failed to reply to you about your apartment I send you my heartfelt apologies. We have reserved an apartment for Miss Braun, but the Standing Committee felt that we ought to adhere to the rule that these apartments were for temporary members, and I accordingly have reserved what I hope you will feel is a desirable apartment for you in Princeton. Indeed, I think you will find it more comfortable than our Institute apartments which are inevitably somewhat rough and ready. Your new address will be 40 Patton Avenue.

My wife and I are still here engaged in removing our furniture from Olden Manor to a house we have bought at 88 Battle Road. I also find it a good deal of a job to move my papers out of the Director's office in order to make room for Dr. Oppenheimer, who takes over in October.

With kindest regards to Miss Braun and yourself, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Care Prof. Harald Bohr
Regensen, St. Kannikestr. 2
Copenhagen K, Denmark

Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.
10 July 1947

Dear Siegel:

Miss Blake has just showed me your letter of July 4th, and I hasten to express my profound sympathy with you in all the troubles which you have had to undergo. I can understand your feeling depressed, but I read between the lines of your letter that your health is nevertheless on the mend, and I hope that a few months of a healthier and less strenuous regime in Princeton will put you on your feet again.

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With kindest regards to Miss Braun and yourself, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE

Professor Carl L. Siegel
care Prof. H. Bohr
Regensen, St. Kannikestra. 2
Copenhagen K., Denmark

June 18, 1947

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I am sorry to say that Siegel's disease followed a more complicated course than originally expected. The operation took place on June 3rd under normal circumstances. Two days later on pneumonia occurred, which is unusual when local anaesthesia has been employed. He received immediately penicillin and sulfa-drugs, so the fever disappeared in a short time and the pneumonia was stopped. Unfortunately he got a new attack of this illness 10 days after the operation, together with heavy pains in the lungs. In spite of the same medical treatment the fever and the pains continued for 7 days. Now the fever is over. Siegel gets still penicillin and is extremely weak.

I should like to express my best thanks for your help in accomplishing my admission to the United States. Your last letter in this matter--directed to Mr. Erickell of the State Department, with copies to Siegel and Bohr--was very important in obtaining here, with Professor Bohr's help, a Danish Foreigner's Passport and a Non Quota Immigration Visa to USA. Now I hope that I really shall be in Princeton at the beginning of the winter-term.

Already when we arrived in Denmark, Siegel tried to get boat reservations for us to America, but there was no opportunity earlier than next November, and no plane reservation before September 20th. This is the date we expect to travel.

Kindest regards from Siegel.

Respectfully yours,

H. BRAUN

c/o Professor H. Bohr
Regensen
St. Kannike-Strasse 2
Copenhagen K, Denmark

Copy to Professor Veblen
Professor Weyl
Miss Blake
Prof. Courant

c/o Professor Harald Bohr
Regeusen, St. Kannikestr. 2
Copenhagen K, Denmark

May 31, 1947

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I thank you very much for your kind letter of May 7th. In the meantime, the copy of your letter to the State Department concerning Professor Braun has been very useful to Professor Harald Bohr, when he went to discuss the matter with the American Consul in Copenhagen, and it seems probable that the visa will be granted. We intend to travel to New York at the earliest possible date--this means by plane on September 20th, all accommodations on boats being taken until November, on planes until the middle of September.

We are in medical treatment for several diseases, and for both of us an operation was necessary. Miss Braun is already out of danger, whereas I have to undergo the operation next week. I am still feeling very much tired.

I was very sorry to hear that you intend to retire from the Directorship in a few months. Since I came as a refugee to America, you showed the kindest interest in my scientific work and my personal fate, and I shall never forget how much I am indebted to your generosity.

With best regards I am,

Yours sincerely,

CARL L. SIEGEL

Copy to Professor Courant
Professor Veblen
Miss Blake
Miss Miller

May 7, 1947

Professor Carl L. Siegel
Care of Professor Harald Bohr
Regeusen, St. Kamickestr. 2
Copenhagen K., Denmark

Dear Siegel:

I received your letter of May 1st from Copenhagen and set to work immediately to do everything in my power to obtain a visa for Professor Braun. I have already sent you a copy of a letter which I wrote to the State Department asking them to instruct our Consul in Copenhagen to grant this visa and I am at the same time asking Professor Courant to do what he can through Navy channels. In one way or another I am very optimistic about accomplishing something. You are so good at this kind of thing yourself, however, that I hope you will continue your own efforts. I am delighted that you both got as far as Denmark and I have every hope that the rest of the way will be easier.

We are all of us a good deal troubled to know that both you and Miss Braun are not well. I am glad you are staying with the Bohr's and I hope that you are getting adequate medical attention. I suppose you see Professor Niels Bohr frequently. I hope you will give him our regards and say that we are all hoping that he can spend part of next year at the Institute.

I think you knew that I was scheduled to retire from the Directorship as of October 1947. I don't know whether I have had time to tell you the news that Dr. Oppenheimer of the University of California and Los Alamos has been elected as my successor. He has just been spending a few days with us in Princeton and we are all enthusiastic about the prospects of the Institute under his leadership. I think Professor Niels Bohr will be interested.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Prof. Veblen
Prof. Wogl
Miss Blake
Miss Miller

Copenhagen, May 1st, 1947
c/o Prof. H. Bohr.
Regeuseen, St. Kamickestred
Copenhagen K., Denmark.

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Two days ago I arrived in Copenhagen, together with Professor Braun. She received at last the exit permit from the Military Government in Germany, and she has now the permission to stay in Denmark for a period of six months, in the interest of scientific collaboration with Danish colleagues.

There remains the problem of obtaining the American immigration visa for Miss Braun from the consul in Copenhagen. I do not know the best procedure in her behalf, and I would greatly appreciate your advice, in order to avoid wrong steps. Of course, we are eager to overcome the last serious difficulty as soon as possible.

Both Miss Braun and I are here under medical treatment. We hope that we can soon continue the work on our book, though for the moment we feel very much exhausted. Professor H. Bohr has been extremely kind to us in helping to get the Danish visa, and we now stay in his hospitable house.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Carl L. Siegel

C O P Y

Copenhagen, May 1, 1947

Dear Dr. Ayfelette:

Two days ago I arrived in Copenhagen, together with Professor Braun. She received at last the exit permit from the Military Government in Germany, and she has now the permission to stay in Denmark for a period of six months, in the interest of scientific collaboration with Danish colleagues.

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With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

CARL L. SIEGEL

c/o Professor H. Bohr
Regeusens, St. Kæmpestr. 2
Copenhagen E., Denmark

Copy to: Professor Courant
Professor Veblen
Professor Weyl
Miss Blake
Miss Miller

April 3, 1947

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

Dear Siegel:

I have your letter of March 24th and am very sorry indeed to hear the difficulties that you have in leaving Germany. I shall, of course, be very happy to recommend a prolongation of your leave of absence for whatever time is necessary. I think the Trustees will feel that after six months of leave at full salary you ought to be placed on leave at half salary which is our regular practice for members of the Faculty who have been granted permission to lecture in other institutions. We have a meeting of the Board of Trustees on April 16th. I shall bring the matter up then and let you know promptly.

I am sorry to hear that you found the winter in Germany a little trying so far as health is concerned but I am not surprised. It will be good for you and Miss Braun to get over to the United States as soon as that can be managed. I am deeply disappointed that Courant has not been able to put through his plans but I know that he is still working and I am sure that the movement of scientists from Germany to the United States will become steadily easier.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Copy To Prof. Courant
Miss Miller
Miss Blatte
Prof. Veblen

March 20, 1947

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

Dear Siegel:

Many thanks for your letter of February 15th which reached me today. I am delighted to know that you and Miss Braun are on the way. It seems very likely that you will have been gone before this letter reaches Göttingen. I send it, on the off chance that you may have been delayed, to say that if there is anything that you think we could do from this side of the ocean, please send me a cablegram and I will use my utmost efforts. I think there must have been some slip in your correspondence with the American Consul in Bremen since I am quite certain that the wife of an American citizen has the right of entry into the United States, regardless of her previous nationality. We all of us look forward eagerly to seeing the two of you in Princeton.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jer

Copy to Miss Miller
Miss Blake

Mathematisches Institut
der Universität

Göttingen, den
Bunsenstr. 3/5

March 4, 1947

Dear Dr. Syldotte:

I am very sorry that I have to apply once more for a prolongation of my leave of absence. When I wrote in the beginning of December, I felt sure that I would be able to leave Germany at the end of February and to go back to America via Copenhagen. However, my Danish visa expired in the meantime; I applied for a renewal about seven weeks ago, but I am still without definite reply. Also my efforts to get into contact with the American consulate in Bremen were without success. Since more than two months I am trying to get some information about train connection with Copenhagen and the direct airplane line to New York. It may seem incredible, to every one not living in Germany at the present time, that I still do not know how to manage my return.

When I came to Göttingen last November, I started to collaborate with Dr. Braum on our planned book. In spite of the very difficult conditions we made some progress in the earlier part of this winter, and we hope to continue our work in a more satisfactory way, as soon as we live again in a tolerable temperature. In the present moment we feel both very tired, and my health is rather unstable, so the days are spent waiting for a better time.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Carl Ludwig Siegel

Copy to Prof. Courant
Miss Miller
Miss Blate
Prof. Veblen

C O P Y

MATHEMATISCHES INSTITUT
DER UNIVERSITÄT

Göttingen, den March 4, 1947
Bunsenstrasse 3/5

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I am very sorry that I have to apply once more for a prolongation of my leave of absence. When I wrote in the beginning of December, I felt sure that I would be able to leave Germany at the end of February and to go back to America via Copenhagen. However, my Danish visa expired in the meantime; I applied for a renewal about seven weeks ago, but I am still without definite reply. Also my efforts to get into contact with the American consulate in Bremen were without success. Since more than two months, I am trying to get some information about train connection with Copenhagen and the direct airplane line to New York. It may seem incredible, to every one not living in Germany at the present time, that I still do not know how to manage my return.

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With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

CARL LUDWIG SIEGEL

Mathematisches Institut
der Universität

Göttingen, den
Bunsenstr. 3/5

February 15, 1947

Dear Dr. Ayddotte :

Best thanks for your air mail letter of January 27 which arrived yesterday. I feel most grateful about the continuation of my leave of absence. My guest lectures at the university of Göttingen will end in two weeks, and it is very probable that I shall travel to Denmark together with Miss Braum in the first part of March. She has received the permission from the Danish authorities to come to Copenhagen in behalf of our scientific collaboration with the colleagues here, and we are now waiting for the exit permit from the Military Government. The Danish Military Mission in Berlin is interested in the case and tries to facilitate the necessary formalities; so we hope to get the travel papers within a few weeks.

More than a month ago I wrote to the American consul in Bremen about the question of bringing the German wife of an American citizen to the United States, but he did not even send a reply. As a matter of fact I did not obtain any help from the American or English authorities here, only from my German friends.

I am most eager to bring Miss Braum to Princeton at the earliest possible date, in order to take up our common scientific work after this long delay. It seems that Professor Bolin's plan will lead to the quickest solution, though it might require some time to secure her admittance to U.S.A. through the American Consulate in Copenhagen. I have not been able to do any mental work during the last nine cold weeks, except giving two weekly lectures, and my health has been declining since some time, but I still believe in a happy end.

With kindest regards, I am

Copy To Prof. R. Courant
Miss Blake
Prof. Veblew
Miss Miller

Yours sincerely,

Carl Ludwig Siegel

February 20, 1947

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

Dear Siegel:

It gives me great pleasure to report to you that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study at their meeting on February 18, 1947 approved my recommendation that your leave of absence should be continued on full salary for three months from January 4, 1947 with the understanding that if you have not been able to return to the Institute by April 4, 1947, your leave should be continued on half salary.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jar

Copy to Miss Miller
Miss Blake

C O P Y

MATHEMATISCHES INSTITUT
DER UNIVERSITÄT

Göttingen, den February 15, 1947
Bunsenstrasse 3/5

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Best thanks for your air mail letter of January 27 which arrived yesterday. I feel most grateful about the continuation of my leave of absence. My guest lectures at the University of Göttingen will end in two weeks, and it is very probable that I shall travel to Denmark together with Miss Braun in the first part of March. She has received the permission from the Danish authorities to come to Copenhagen in behalf of our scientific collaboration with the colleagues there, and we are now waiting for the exit permit from the Military Government. The Danish Military Mission in Berlin is interested in the case and tries to facilitate the necessary formalities; so we hope to get the travel papers within a few weeks.

More than a month ago I wrote to the American Consul in Bremen about the question of bringing the German wife of an American citizen to the United States, but he did not even send a reply. As a matter of fact I did not obtain any help from the American or English authorities here, only from my German friends.

I am most eager to bring Miss Braun to Princeton at the earliest possible date, in order to take up our common scientific work after this long delay. It seems that Professor Schr's plan will lead to the quickest solution, though it might require some time to secure her admittance to U. S. A. through the American Consulate in Copenhagen. I have not been able to do any mental work during the last nine cold weeks, except giving two weekly lectures, and my health has been declining since some time, but I still believe in a happy end.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

CARL LUDWIG SIEGEL

Copy to Professor Richard Courant

Professor Veblen
Miss Blake
Miss Miller

H

January 27, 1947

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

Dear Siegel:

Warmest thanks for your letter of December 1st which I have had no opportunity to answer on account of the fact that my wife and I have been away in Florida for four weeks' holiday. We are continuing without any remittance our efforts to secure permission for Miss Braun to enter the United States. I hope some kind of result will be apparent before long and I am perfectly sure that we shall secure permission for her eventually. I do not know what your own plans are and I feel a certain hesitation about making the following suggestion but because of what you have said to me in the past, I feel I ought to say that if you were married there would be no difficulty whatsoever in securing her admittance as the wife of an American citizen.

So far as the terms of your own leave of absence are concerned, there has been no meeting of the Executive Committee. I have, meanwhile, continued your leave on full salary on my own responsibility. If you expect to remain in Göttingen for some considerable time, I think the Executive Committee will want to reduce this to half salary but if, as I hope, you expect to return soon, I shall be glad to recommend that your full salary be continued.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

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~~████████████████████~~

January 12th, 1947

Dear Oswald:

I am perfectly delighted to see this abstract from Siegel's letter to you. As you see, it is clear cut, and I think we can count on him. Without any authority, I took the liberty of telling Miss Miller to continue Siegel on full salary, until my return, and I expect to bring the matter up to the executive Committee at its meeting in February.

Siegel is a funny person. I can think of a very easy way to get Miss Braun into the United States. That would be for them to get married immediately. I see no indication from his various letters, that he intends to do that, and I propose therefore, to push the matter of her entrance in the ordinary way. I will get on that as soon as I get back.

We are having a wonderful holiday, and are only just now realizing how much we needed it. I hope you and Elizabeth are going to get down here soon.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Aydelotte

Prof. Oswald Veblen,
Institute of Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey

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

January 9, 1947

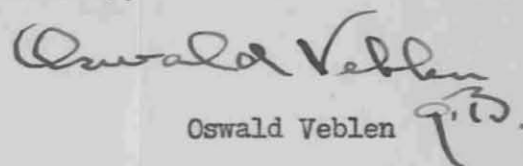
Dear Frank:

I am enclosing for your information a portion of a letter dated December 3 from Siegel. I think it shows, perhaps even more clearly than his letter to you, that he now has really made up his mind. I think the last sentence which I am quoting is very significant in view of my previous observations about Siegel's strong sense of responsibility. I think that we may find him extremely helpful in the everyday affairs of the Institute as well, of course, as one of our great protagonists of mathematics.

It is, however, clear now from both of our letters that his return is conditioned on Miss Braun's coming to the United States. In view of the slowness of the process that has so far been used toward bringing her over, I wonder whether there is anything that you could do through your acquaintances in Washington?

I hope that your sojourn in Florida is proving most delightful. With cordial greetings from Elizabeth and me to Mrs. Aydelotte and yourself,

Yours sincerely,


Oswald Veblen

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Highland Park Florida Club
Lake Wales, Florida
OV:GB

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. *****