vN Neumann

File → former faculty

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
TORONTO, CANADA
M5S 1A1

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

February 25, 1984

Professor Robert M. Fossum
Department of Mathematics
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801, U.S.A.

Dear Professor Fossum,

Everett Pitcher, Secretary of the American Math Society kindly sent me a copy of his letter of 13 February 1984 addressed to you and concerning a possible memorial program in honour of John von Neumann.

About one year ago I undertook to organize such a meeting, scheduled for the last week of August, 1984 in Toronto. The motivation was simply that many of us who knew and worked with von Neumann would not be around to participate if such a meeting were to be held much later. Also Marshall Stone had pointed out the lack of authentic biographical material concerning von Neumann and at such a meeting many of us could be stimulated to make records of our information about von Nemmann.

My attempt to organise such a meeting was welcomed most enthusiastically. A number of colleagues; Goldstine(Automata, Computers), Kadison(Operator algebras, quantum mechanics), Kaplansky and Halperin(Continuous ~~rings~~ geometries, regular rings), Kleene(Foundations), Shapley and Tucker (Game theory, economics) agreed to take responsibility for the technical program in respective areas. The Sloan Foundation agreed to make a grant of $20,000 U.S. funds towards an estimated need of $70,000 for the meeting. All publishers of works of von Neumann agreed to offer as gifts,1 or 2 copies of such works to be used initially in displays at the meeting and several asked for the right to publish proceedings of the meeting. The Institute For Advanced Study and Professor Eugene Wigner agreed to be named as sponsors of the meeting and Dr. Marina von Neumann Whitman (daughter of von Neumann) agreed to formally open the meeting and chair its first session on Game theory and economics.

Then I suffered a 5-month spell of physical exhaustion and since at the time I had no local arrangements group or assistance to carry on correspondence I was forced to give up the proposed meeting. Although I am now in excellent health, with no after effects of the exhaustion, I recognize that I ought not to attempt to organise such a meeting as an individual, that it ought to be a project of an established society or institution with adequate secretarial facilities.

I hope very much that a von Neumannn commemorative meeting will be arranged(and in time for me to be present at it). I continue to be concerned to gather authentic biographical material about von Neumann (for the use of future historians) and I plan to spend a week in April, 1984 studying the von Neumann files at the Library of Congress in Washington.

Yours sincerely,

Israel Halperin

Israel Halperin

Copies of this letter are sent to all those named in the letter.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

HARRY WOOLF
Director

March 17, 1982

Mr. Nicholas A. Vonneuman
1396 Lindsay Lane
Meadowbrook, Pennsylvania 19046

Dear Mr. Vonneuman:

Thank you very much for yours of 5 March 1982. I shall be pleased to advise you of requests which may come to this office from potential biographers of John von Neumann.

With all best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Harry Woolf

Harry Woolf

Princeton, New Jersey 08540 Telephone 609-734-8200

NICHOLAS A. VONNEUMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1396 LINDSAY LANE
MEADOWBROOK, PA. 19046
TEL. (215) 886-6244

March 5, 1982

Dr. Harry Woolf
Director
Institute for Advanced Study
Olden Lane
Princeton NJ 08540

Dear Dr. Woolf:

I am now engaged in reorganizing and redrafting my notes on one specific aspect of the biography of my brother, John von Neumann. This is the aspect which covers the evolution of John's personal philosophies or attitudes on some not directly mathematical but rather moral issues, to the extent that this evolution can be traced to his formative years of childhood and early adulthood in the around-the-dinnertable discussional family environment under the influence of his father, and to the extent that I happened to be a witness in this environment.

I do not know exactly as yet in what form this reorganization of my notes will end up. However, it occurred to me that quite irrespective of whether the final form will or will not be appropriate for publication in itself, it may also become relevant for incorporation into or absorption by the more comprehensive intellectual biography which sooner or later will undoubtedly have to be written by a well qualified biographer. If such a biographer happens to arise, then I might be prepared to make available my notes in their final form for such a purpose. I assume that you will be in the position where such a biography project would come more readily to your attention. If so, then may I ask you to advise me at that time or else refer the potential biographer to me, so that we could then make arrangements for making available my contribution.

Looking forward to hearing from you, and with best regards,

Sincerely yours

N. A. Vonneuman

N. A. Vonneuman

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NICHOLAS A. VONNEUMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1396 LINDSAY LANE
MEADOWBROOK, PA. 19046
TEL. (215) 886-6244

November 4, 1981

Prof. Mark Kac
Department of Mathematics
University of Southern California
SAL 300, University Park
Los Angeles CA 90007

Dear Professor Kac:

Thank you for your recent telephone call and letter. In reply, I would like to assure you that my views in this matter, as reflected in my communications with Stan Ulam and others, and as expressed in my letters to MIT and ABA JJ, are no secret. You may quote me even without my permission, and you may use your own judgment in determining whether my data are correct or requiring confirmation. As it happened, MIT responded at that time through its Executive Editor, advising me that they referred my letter to the author, and that after receiving the author's reaction they will pass it on to me. To this I replied promptly by placing on record that my position remains and will remain unchanged. I did not hear anything from them since then.

Quite obviously, I am not interested in the author's nor in the publisher's views. It was not my intention to engage with them in disputes or further correspondence. John's status in the history of science is well established and does not need any, and most certainly not my defense or protection. My principal purpose in engaging in that and related correspondence was merely to place on record my existence in the hope that this will increase the probability of future well qualified biographers contacting me for consultation. Let me give you one example, out of potentially many more, where this may be of practical relevance.

In connection with certain intellectual and philosophical background features of John's and his father's personal attitudes, the author goes out of his way by tracing the origins of these to events of the nineteenth and preceding centuries. This approach is of course sheer nonsense, but at least it should remind us of how much more realistically this aspect could have been clarified by relying on the twentieth century. I am referring to the around-the-dinner-table discussional environment as influenced and motivated by John's father. This, and generally the father's attitude and role was decisive from many angles. This could have thrown much more light on the evolution of John's personal philosophy, particularly in conjunction with what he himself wrote on this in FORTUNE (June 1955). Apparently none of this information was available to the author, or else he did not comprehend it and was unable to interpret it. And yet it would have been significant, from the point of view of the biography, and also from the point of view of parents and educators interested in guiding their children or students towards science oriented careers.

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In making these comments I do not wish to convey the idea that a new biography is a necessity, or that my potential contributions would have great significance. However, since John regrettably did not reach the stage of writing his autobiography or memoirs, a vacuum persists in that respect. The SCIENCE (212:1496) reviewer of the Heims book aptly remarked in that context that "The appetite is whetted for intellectual biographies of both Wiener and von Neumann." And the existing vacuum may also tempt more authors and publishers of third class science fiction to enter the market. So we might as well encourage and assist the truly well qualified biographer, if he happens to arise. I will be prepared to cooperate, but would have to exercize my discretion in determining as to who is well qualified.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours

N. A. Vonneuman

N. A. Vonneuman

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cc: Stan Ulam

To Dr. Woolf

with the compliments of

NICHOLAS A. VONNEUMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

1396 LINDSAY LANE
MEADOWBROOK, PA. 19046

NICHOLAS A. VONNEUMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1396 LINDSAY LANE
MEADOWBROOK, PA. 19046
TEL. (215) 886-6244

June 22, 1981

The President
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
28 Carleton Street
Cambridge MA 02142

S. J. Heims: "John von Neumann and Norbert Wiener. From Mathematics to the Technologies of Life and Death." MIT Press 1980

Dear Sir:

I noticed recently that on page 427 (Note 30) of this publication the author states that "I am grateful for the recollections of John von Neumann's childhood recounted to me by his brothers Nicolas Vonneuman and . . . ". This portion of the statement is not correct. I have never recounted anything to the author, nor have I discussed with him this or any other subject. Indeed, according to my best recollection I have never met the author and had no communications with him. In view of the foregoing, I must now ask you to make the necessary and appropriate corrections so that the past, present and future readers of your publication would not be mislead in that respect.

I am now engaged in studying additional aspects of your publication which may involve the publisher's responsibility from the point of view of invasion of privacy and other angles. I will revert to this matter at a future date.

Please confirm the receipt of this letter.

Sincerely yours

NAVonneuman

N. A. Vonneuman

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NICHOLAS A. VONNEUMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1396 LINDSAY LANE
MEADOWBROOK, PA. 19046
TEL. (215) 886-6244

June 17, 1981

Prof. Edward Gerjuoy
Editor-in-Chief - ABA Jurimetrics Journal
100 Allan Hall
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh PA 15260

S. J. Heims: "John von Neumann and Norbert Wiener. From Mathematics to the Technologies of Life and Death." MIT Press 1980

Dear Prof. Gerjuoy:

May I ask you to accept this "Letter to the Editor" for publication in ABA JJ as my commentary on some aspects of the captioned publication, to the extent that it deals with John von Neumann. May I also express my hope that you will give due consideration to my commentary in the course of your other editorial or critique functions involving this book.

There have been many publications dealing with the scientific work of John von Neumann, written by his peers, co-workers or other well qualified authors. Some of these authors who were on more intimate terms with the scientist, may have included in their coverage as much of his family and philosophy background as may have been relevant for the purpose of evaluating a scientist's achievements and career. Although this subject matter has not necessarily been exhausted, it is well covered and not much of new substance could be added to it.

There seems to be, however, a new generation of biographers arising, who were not there when it happened, or have no access to any further direct or first-hand information. In order to compensate for this lack of new substance, they would then grab for treatment some sensational but irrelevant details of the scientist's private life, in order to arouse attention and justify a new publication. Although the captioned book is not in this extreme category, it raises serious doubts whether it did justice to the achievements and career of an eminent scientist, by taking out of context some of his achievements, ignoring others, overlooking the interrelations and overall results, and then using the arbitrarily isolated and exaggerated features for the purpose of making meaningless comparisons and reaching erroneous conclusions.

To the extent that the message of this book is that the malpractice of mathematics leads to the technologies of death, there must be also a great number of other mathematicians and non-mathematicians whose

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EG ABA JJ
06/17/81

contributions to the historical events of the 40's or otherwise were considered as beneficial, but who may not pass the author's unholy inquisition. This does not mean that the basic theme introduced by the author, namely, science-society relationships and responsibility of scientists, is not a valid one, but merely that this book had nothing to contribute to it.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours

N. A. Vonneuman

N. A. Vonneuman

eq

cc: Lee Loevinger
Layman E. Allen

BY AIR MAIL

AEROGRAMME

Prof. John Von Neumann
Institute for advanced Study
Department of Mathematics
Princeton, N. J.
U. S. A.

SENDER'S NAME & ADDRESS

DR. TULSI DASS NARANG
FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS,
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI,
DELHI-110007, INDIA.

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

TAJ MAHAL 502

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS,
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI,
DELHI-110007, INDIA.
8·1·79

Dear Prof. Neumann,

I would greatly appreciate receiving a reprint/preprint of your paper entitled

On Complete topological Spaces
— Tran. Amer Math Soc, 37 (1935), 1-20

and other papers on the same or allied subjects.

I request you to put my name on your regular mailing list.

Thanking you for your courtesy,

Yours sincerely,

Tulsi Dass Narang

(TULSI DASS NARANG)

January 24, 1979

Mr. Tulsi Dass Narang
Faculty of Mathematics
University of Delhi
Delhi 110007
India

Dear Mr. Narang:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of 8 January, addressed to Professor Neumann. I regret to say that Professor John von Neumann died in 1957, and all his papers were transferred to the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540, U.S.A.

Sincerely yours,

Aida L. La Brutte
Secretary to the Director

February 23, 1976

Mr. Bern Dibner
Burndy Library
Norwalk, Connecticut 06856

Dear Mr. Dibner:

In accordance with the request in your letter of February 19, 1976, I enclose a short biography of John von Neumann.

Sincerely yours,

Geraldine F, Kaylor
Secretary to the Director

Enclosure

BURNDY LIBRARY
Norwalk, Connecticut 06856

February 19, 1976

Public Relations Department
Institute for Advanced Studies
Princeton, New Jersey

Gentlemen:

I have accepted the invitation to participate in the Festschrift of Dr. David Rose, an eminent citizen and technologist in New York. I have chosen as my topic "The Budapest School", signifying the coming to America of a brilliant coterie of scientific minds - George de Hevesy, Theodor von Karman, Leo Szilard, Peter Goldmark, Dennis Gabor, Eugene Wigner, Albert Szent-Gyorgyi and John von Neumann.

send c v

Specifically, may I obtain from you a short biography of the last-named which can be coordinated with that of the others to form a common theme? I seek the influences that created this extraordinary pool of brains for which America must be grateful.

Sincerely,

Bern Dibner

Bern Dibner

BD:mg

September 22, 1975

Dr. Thomas C. White
Director
Communications
American Federation of Information Processing Societies, Inc.
210 Summit Avenue
Montvale, New Jersey 07645

Dear Dr. White:

I write to add my word of thanks on behalf of the Institute for the recognition that the Federation has given to the work of von Neumann and his collaborators.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

American Federation of Information Processing Societies, Inc. 210 Summit Avenue, Montvale, New Jersey 07645 201-391-9810

afips

July 30, 1975

Dr. Herman Goldstine
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, NJ 08540

Dear Herman:

Enclosed at long last is the "corrected" Commemorative Plaque honoring all those who worked on the electronic computer project at the Institute of Advanced Study with Dr. John von Neumann. Hopefully, this can be displayed in a prominent location at the Institute. Further, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to you and to the organizing committee for what was a most memorable occasion in Anaheim. I regret that other assignments prevented me from participating, but I would like you to know how much I enjoyed the opportunity of working with you and Bruce and Jim in the organization of the program.

On behalf of Ev and myself, plus all of us who were privileged to participate in this program, "many thanks," and congratulations on your achievements.

Cordially,

Tom

Thomas C. White
Director
Communications

TCW/rmt
cc: Ev Bonney

November 4, 1974

OK

Dr. Kaysen:

I spoke to Mr. White on Friday, and he had already set a meeting with Dr. Goldstine for the 19th. After this Nov. 19th meeting Mr. White will send you a note, and perhaps you can get together at some point after you return from Europe.

Aida

Avenue, Montvale, New Jersey 07645 201-391-9810

afips

November 1, 1974

Dr. Herman Goldstine
Institute of Advanced Studies
Princeton, N.J. 08540

Dear Dr. Goldstine:

Further to our recent discussion relating to the Pioneer Day Program to be featured as part of the 1975 National Computer Conference, this will confirm our get together at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 19 in your offices. I have since been in touch with both Bruce Gilchrist and Jim Pomerene and it looks as though we have indeed picked a convenient day. I suggest that we meet at your office and then proceed with our discussions through the rest of the morning and on through lunch. My hope is that we will be able to pin down our early planning and also to have enough specifics in hand so that we may draft an initial news release.

As mentioned, Evelyn Bonney will of course be joining us and will most probably come in from Dartmouth College either the morning of the 19th or the evening of the 18th. Ev, as you know, is serving as the Coordinator for the Conference Steering Committee and as such will report on our meeting to Donal Meier, Conference General Chairman.

I have not yet had the opportunity to chat directly with Dr. Carl Kaysen but I presently understand that he will be in Europe at the time of our meeting. In line with this, I have suggested to Mrs. Labrutte that we may wish to get together with him at a more convenient time -- perhaps early in December. My schedule should be fairly free at that time and I would be happy to come down again to join both you and Dr. Kaysen in further discussions. Also, I will be more than happy to take minutes of our meeting and provide copies to all concerned.

By way of further background on the NCC, enclosed are copies of several recent news releases plus a Xerox copy of a four-page insert which will shortly appear in the November issues of leading society publications including COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ACM, COMPUTER MAGAZINE of the IEEE Computer Society, DATA MANAGEMENT and SIMULATION.

continued-

We are delighted to have this opportunity to honor the Task Force which worked with Dr. John von Neumann and I personally look forward to the opportunity to get together with you and with your associates.

Very truly yours,

Thomas C. White

Thomas C. White
Director
Communications

TCW:ls
Enc.
cc: Dr. Carl Kaysen ✓

'75 NCC PREVIEW

Non-Profit Organization
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AFIPS

1975 NATIONAL COMPUTER CONFERENCE, MAY 19-22, ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
'75 NCC, C/O AFIPS, 210 SUMMIT AVENUE, MONTVALE, N. J. 07645

NCC PREVIEW provides news and views on the 1975 National Computer Conference and Exposition. We welcome your comments. To assure receipt of further information, write '75 NCC, c/o AFIPS, 210 Summit Avenue, Montvale, N. J. 07645. Or, outside of New Jersey, call toll-free (800) 631-7070.

FIRST WEST COAST NCC TAKES SHAPE

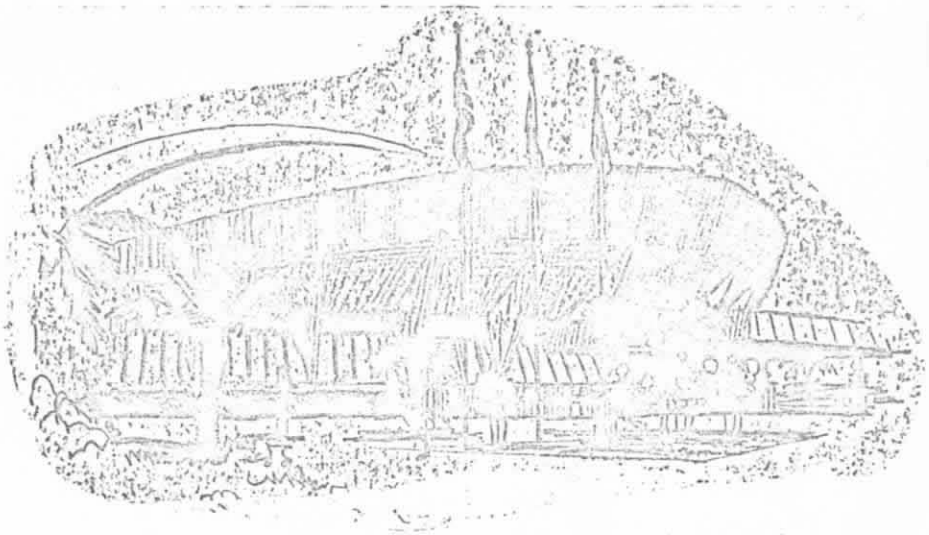
While many of us are still sorting out trends from the highly successful 1974 National Computer Conference in Chicago, the 1975 NCC is far from a gleam in its organizers' eyes. Even at this date, some six months from opening day, all signs point to a conference of record-breaking proportions.

The '75 NCC marks the first AFIPS-sponsored conference west of the Rockies since the 1972 Fall Joint Computer Conference — also held at the Anaheim Convention Center. And whether it's the draw of California in May or the enthusiasm shown by the local organizing committees, there seems to be a special aura to the West Coast shows.

Indeed, with some 30,000 attendees expected and more than 800 exhibit booths already reserved, the '75 NCC seems certain to top any previous computer conference held in a major West Coast population center.

According to Conference General Chairman Donal A. Meier, the '75 NCC will open Monday morning, May 19 with a Keynote Address by a leading national figure. Late morning will mark the opening of exhibits, with early afternoon as the kickoff of some 84 program sessions which will run through Thursday afternoon, May 22.

The entire Exhibit Program and all NCC sessions will be held in the Anaheim Convention Center, virtually on the doorstep of Disneyland. Most conference special events and activities, including the Conference Luncheon and the Industry Luncheon, are also slated for the Center.



Situated on 40 acres adjacent to Disneyland, the ultramodern Anaheim Convention Center offers ideal facilities for the '75 NCC. With a 9,100 seat arena, a 200,000 square foot exhibition hall, plus a host of meeting rooms, the Center will house the entire NCC under one roof.

Under Program Chairman Stephen W. Miller, Manager of Program Development for the Information Science and Engineering Division of Stanford Research Institute, conference sessions will cover key topics in Data Processing Methods and Applications, Computer Science and Technology, and Societal Issues.

Monday afternoon will be reserved primarily for sessions of a general or introductory nature. The following three days will feature a series of mini-programs aimed at updating the specialist and user in a variety of important areas. Where possible, each will be staged in a single meeting room.

Add to this some 300 exhibitors expected to occupy slightly over 900 booths, and the '75 NCC shapes up as a "can't-miss" conference for the individual determined to keep up-to-date in cost-effective computer usage. It looks like an outstanding conference for its sponsors — the American Federation of Information Processing Societies, the Association for Computing Machinery, the IEEE Computer Society, the Society for Computer Simulation, and the Data Processing Management Association.

'75 NCC, c/o AFIPS, 210 Summit Ave., Montvale, N. J. 07645

_____ Yes, send me my *Everything Card*. I've enclosed $60, covering the '75 NCC program and exhibits, plus preregistration benefits described below.

_____ Please continue to send me all the facts.

_____ My company is interested in exhibiting at '75 NCC.

Name _____ Title _____

Company _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

'74 NCC Everything Card

'75 NCC EXHIBITS NEAR SELLOUT

Attendees at the '75 NCC can count on the largest display of computer products ever held in California. With well over 800 booths already reserved, the conference is close to its maximum capacity of slightly more than 900 booths.

The Exhibit Program will spotlight every significant area of the industry — from minicomputers to mainframes, from package programs to peripherals, and from CRTs to communications equipment. Among the more than 200 companies which have already signed up are such leading organizations as Control Data Corporation, Data General, Digital Equipment Corporation, General Automation, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Kodak, and Tektronix.

Many new products and services will be on display for the first time. As with past conferences, there will be a host of live demonstrations, ample supplies of new product literature and specification sheets, and countless industry representatives.

The '75 NCC Exhibit Program may well be the most relevant industry gathering ever held, according to Stephen D. Bowers, NCC Exhibit Chairman and Director of Marketing Communications for General Automation, Inc.

"The Exhibit Program," Bowers comments, "stands alone in enabling the attendee to see equipment he's only been reading and hearing about; to talk to the top technical people in the industry; and to meet with other users and benefit from their experiences. Add to this the opportunity to compare multiple offerings and claims from virtually every equipment and service category, and you have a 'must' for the computer professional, the user, and the executive whose business depends on computer-related output."

Donal A. Meier
Conference Chairman

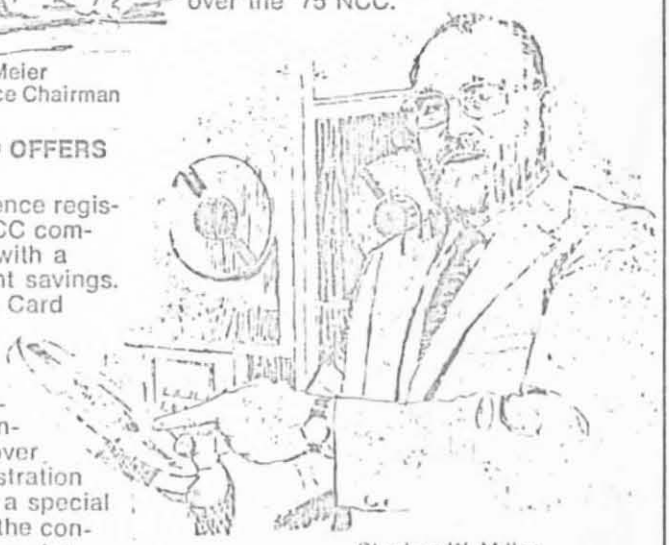
EVERYTHING CARD OFFERS UNIQUE BENEFITS

Advance full-conference registration for the '75 NCC combines convenience with a number of significant savings. The gold Everything Card covers all four days of the conference program, including full access to the exhibit floor. Benefits include a $15 saving over full-conference registration on-site in Anaheim, a special discount on each of the conference luncheons, receipt of advance housing information and forms, plus a copy of the '75 NCC Program Booklet.

The conference sponsors have added a number of additional pluses. Full-conference registration includes a copy of the '75 NCC Proceedings. Post-conference price for the Proceedings alone is $40. In addition, Everything Card holders will be in the running for one of five NCC lifetime registrations to be awarded at the Conference Luncheon.

"A MATTER OF RELEVANCE" — '75 NCC CHAIRMAN

Relevance and interdisciplinary discourse are key words which come up repeatedly in discussions with Donal A. Meier, Conference General Chairman, and an independent computing consultant. Stocky, of medium height with a full head of blond hair swept in a modish cut, Meier exudes an air of quiet confidence coupled with almost unbounded enthusiasm over the '75 NCC.



Stephen W. Miller
Program Chairman

Escondido office, some 30 miles northeast of downtown San Diego, he looks back to the '72 FJCC which he served as Program Chairman, and to the forthcoming NCC.

"In a sense," Meier comments, "our task would be relatively easy if the NCC were just another conference. But here you've got the once-a-year national gathering of the entire computer field — at least in terms of outstanding speakers, a virtual 'who's who' of industry authorities and experts, plus just about every major exhibiting organization.

"Taken in total," he adds, "it represents a commitment of some $30-to-$40 million, culminating essentially in a week's activities. Not that our budgets reflect that figure, but it's a reasonably accurate price tag when you consider the investment of time and effort on the part of everyone involved, costs associated with attending the conference, and the investment represented on the exhibit floor.

"It's not just a question of size," he notes. "There's an enormous burden on the Steering Committee to develop a program to meet the diverse needs of our field. The mandate for relevance is overwhelming.

"The key is getting the designer together with the user. All too often new systems are developed in a partial vacuum. The designer tends to work in relative isolation while the user feels increasing frustration that his specific requirements are not taken into account.

"Against this background, we have a three-fold objective: to keep the computer specialist up-to-date on the latest innovations and trends in science and technology; to update the user on methods and applications in key areas cutting across many industries and also in specialized user fields; and to promote the kind of interdisciplinary discourse vital to the development of increasingly cost-effective systems and software."

Meier is the first to admit that while the NCC has been successful in meeting the first two objectives, even partial success in satisfying the third is a tall order. However, he's confident that Program Chairman Steve Miller and his Committee have worked out an approach which should substantially increase the give-

designers.

A computer specialist by training, Meier's concern with EDP user requirements is based on more than 20-years' experience in the information processing field. Prior to his consulting activities, he was Manager of Applied Research for the NCR Data Processing Division in San Diego. Previously, he served as Director of Research for the then NCR Data Processing Division in Hawthorne, California, before its acquisition by Control Data Corporation.

NCC PROGRAM FOCUS: OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS

While the '75 NCC will feature approximately 100 distinct activities, events, and program sessions, size is not the objective.

"The program," according to Technical Program Chairman Steve Miller, "must focus on issues and answers. Sessions should articulate the challenges facing the information processing community as a whole, present proposed methods of meeting those challenges, and provide the appropriate forum for interdisciplinary discussion.

"Although we're not adopting a formal theme for the Anaheim Conference," he adds, "if we picked one it might well be 'The Challenge of Entering the Era of Operational Systems.'

"More specifically, we have in mind those large-scale systems within an institution or corporation which are dedicated to a single major function and which hopefully enable management to control the function while it is happening. Such systems are generally characterized by a large geographic dispersion of satellite facilities

linked together through communication devices and networks; the use of specialized terminals which permit the layman to interact directly with the system; and the requirement for an unusually high degree of reliability.

"In addition to examining the characteristics of such systems," Miller notes, "a portion of the program will provide an analysis of key challenges and issues facing the designer, the implementer, and the user. Areas which we hope to explore include: the training of user technical personnel; definition of operational requirements and management objectives; such societal issues as privacy and confidentiality; and the development of design techniques which more specifically embody critical user requirements."

According to Miller, several principles have been adopted in planning the conference program.

"First," he notes, "the program must serve the basic technical areas and specialties of the computing field. As such, emphasis is being given to fast-moving areas of computer hardware, software, programming, systems development, and key areas of continuing research.

"Second, we have evolved into a software-intensive, people-intensive industry. How we program our computers and how we operate our systems is of critical importance — in

fact it becomes the 'make-or-break' area for many users. With this in mind, a major portion of the program must center on a state-of-the-art analysis of techniques vital to cost-effective computer usage.

"A third principle," Miller states, "is that the conference cannot be measured by the number of sessions nor by the number of areas covered. We have the dual obligation to provide attendees with a wide range of options plus a coherent format within each program segment. This is especially true where much of the emphasis is focused on interdisciplinary communications," he adds.

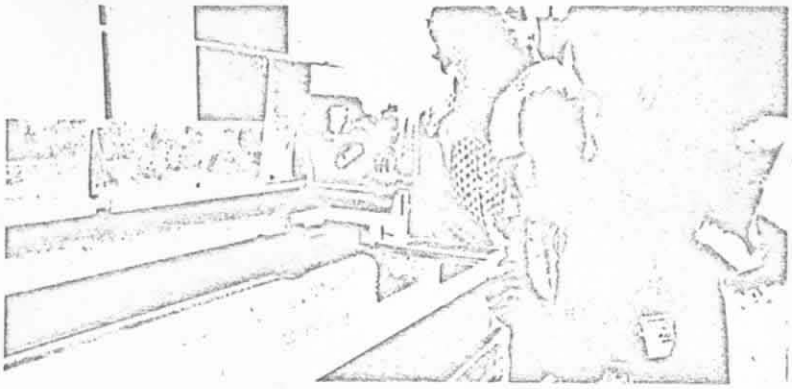
To meet such needs, the '75 NCC program will feature a series of one day "mini-programs." All sessions on a given topic, or on closely related topics, will be held in one room, where possible.

"In some cases," Miller concludes, "topic areas will be covered using a 'conference-within-a-conference' format. Each will begin with an introductory or tutorial session which will define any special jargon and bring the individual up-to-date on the general state-of-the-art. This will be followed by two sessions which will examine specific areas. Finally, a wrapup session will sum up the day's activities and foster cross-discussion among panelists and members of the audience."

NCC PROGRAM AREAS DEFINED

According to Miller, each of the NCC mini-programs will be headed by a Technical Area Director. In addition, various "horizontal" subjects will be dealt with throughout the conference, cutting across the basic areas of methods and applications, science and technology, and societal issues.

METHODS AND APPLICATIONS: Emphasis in this portion of the program will be on the critical need for more cost-effective utilization of existing



equipment, services, techniques, and manpower. Areas planned include:

- Generating Accurate User Requirements
- Governmental and Legal Issues
- Banking/Electronic Funds Transfer
- Medical/Health Care
- Economics of EDP Performance
- Education and Training
- Cost-Effective Simulation
- Interaction of EDP/Transportation/Communication

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: A number of critical areas in this category will be explored at the '75 NCC. Specific topics slated for examination include:

- Computer Architecture
- Interaction of Hardware and Software
- Memory Technology
- Microprocessors
- Data Base Management
- Programming Technology
- Interactive Graphics
- Communications and Networking

SOCIETAL ISSUES: This area will focus on the impact of computers on society with emphasis on the safe usage of information processing and the protection of individual rights. Specific subjects include:

- Making Computers Safer Through Good Practices
- Computer Abuse
- Computers and Constitutional Rights
- Professionalism and Ethics
- Security Through EDP Auditing
- International Issues

'75 NCC HIGHLIGHTS

- World's largest exhibit of computer hardware, software, systems, and services.
- Approximately 300 exhibiting organizations occupying over 900 booths.
- Approximately 30,000 attendees representing virtually every world area of the information processing community.
- Approximately 84 program sessions covering computer science and technology, methods and applications, and societal issues.
- Over 400 leading speakers and program participants.
- Featured addresses by leading national authorities, high interest special events, and a wide range of social activities.
- Everything Card advance full-conference registration, including special discounts.

'75 NCC The Biggest Computer Show on Earth

c/o AFIPS, 210 Summit Avenue, Montvale, N. J. 07645
In New Jersey: (201) 391-9810
Outside of New Jersey, call toll-free: (800) 631-7070

November 1, 1974

NOTE: Mr. Thomas White, Director of the American Federation of Information Processing Societies, Inc., and Dr. Eveleyn Bonney will meet with Dr. Herman Goldstine in Princeton on November 19, 1974. Mr. White will write to CK on the results of this meeting.

Thomas White: (201) 391-9810

Oct. 28, 1974

afternoon of
Nov. 14

Dr. Kaysen:

Mr. Thomas White, Director of the American Federation of Information Processing Societies, called regarding the 1975 National Computer Conference's Pioneer Day Program. Members of the steering committee (Mr. White, Ms. Bonney, and others) are planning to come to Princeton to meet with Prof. Goldstine the week of November 18, and Mr. White would like to know whether you would have some time during that week to meet with them & talk about general plans for the Pioneer's Day Program.

that week you have:

18-19 November:	Germany
20 November:	dinner Council Foreign Relations (Simon)
22-23 November:	UPS

Aida

P.S. Prof. Goldstine called today (Wed, Oct. 30) to say that he and Mr. White discussed dates for the week of November 11th; Prof. Goldstin is not available Nov. 13 - any other day is fine.

MEIER

cc. Prof. Goldstine

October 9, 1974

Mr. Donal A. Meier
General Chairman
1975 National Computer Conference
2756 Mountain View Drive
Escondido, California 92027

Dear Mr. Meier:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 2. I am most pleased to hear that the Institute group will be honored at the 1975 National Computer Conference. They are richly deserving of the honor.

I will be glad to do what I can to be helpful in this connection, and I hope that it will prove possible for me to participate.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

1975 National Computer Conference

May 19-23
Anaheim, California

October 2, 1974
2756 Mountain View Drive
Escondido. CA 92027

Dr. Carl Kaysen
Director
Institute of Advanced Studies
Princeton, NJ

Dear Dr. Kaysen;

The Steering Committee of the National Computer Conference has selected the group that worked with John von Nuemann at the Institute of Advanced studies for recognition during the Pioneer's Day Program of the 1975 Conference. There is only one group so honored at each Conference.

This recognition is disgned to honor a select group of contributors and their collective achievements rather than that of just one individual. The program will review and highlight the early achievements of the group at the Institute, and will involve many people who, at one time or another, were actively engaged in the project.

Ms. Evelyn Bonney, currently of Dartmouth College, has been appointed as the Sterring Committee's Coordinator of the Pioneer's Day Program. In this role she has made an initial visit to Dr. Herman Goldstine to discuss the organization of such a program.

With your support, and I hope participation, the Pioneer's Day Program will be meaningful and will contribute to a very successful 1975 National Computer Conference.

Very truly yours,

Donal A. Meier

Donal A. Meier
General Chairman

cc: Dr. Herman Goldstine
Evelyn Bonney
Thomas White

THE COMPUTER and the Development of Science and Learning

A conference marking the 25th anniversary of JOHN VON NEUMANN'S achievement of the first modern computer

Sponsored by THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY and DAEDALUS

6 - 8 June, 1972
Princeton, New Jersey

Papers and discussion will examine broadly how the electronic computer has influenced the kinds of problems that have been chosen for investigation, and the way they have been defined and solved in selected fields of science and learning in the last quarter century.

The papers, formal comments, and an abstract of the discussion will subsequently be published as an issue of *Daedalus*.

June 6

Afternoon Arrival of Conferees

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:30 p.m. Introduction
Carl Kaysen
Director, Institute for Advanced Study

Welcoming Remarks
Thomas J. Watson
Chairman of the Executive Committee, International Business Machines Corporation, and member, Board of Trustees, Institute for Advanced Study

Address
von Neumann's Contribution to the Development of the Computer
Herman Goldstine
IBM Fellow

June 7

9:00 a.m.-12:00 Papers

Pure and Applied Mathematics
Stanislaw Ulam
Senior Scientist
Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory
Discussant: Michael Atiyah
Professor of Mathematics
Institute for Advanced Study

Logic and the Foundations of Mathematics
Michael Rabin
Professor of Mathematics
Hebrew University
Discussant: Dana S. Scott
Professor of Philosophy
and Mathematics
Princeton University

12:30 p.m. Lunch

2:00-5:00 p.m. Papers

Physics and Astrophysics
K. V. Roberts
Division Head
Culham Laboratory
Discussant: Léon van Hove
CERN

The Applied Physical Sciences
Walter H. Munk
Professor of Geophysics,
Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, University of California at San Diego

Jule G. Charney
Alfred P. Sloan Professor of Meteorology
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Discussant: ~~Gordon MacDonald~~
~~Member, Council on Environmental Quality~~ Leon Knopoff Prof. Geophys. Sci. UCLA

7:30 p.m. Dinner

June 8

9:00 a.m.-12:00 Papers

Economics
Lawrence R. Klein
Benjamin Franklin Professor of Economics
University of Pennsylvania
Discussant: Herbert Scarf
Professor of Economics
Yale University

The Historical Social Sciences
Charles Tilly
Professor of Sociology and History
University of Michigan
Discussant: ~~David Landes~~ Theodore Rabb
Professor of History
~~Harvard University~~ Princeton Univ.

(over)

12:30 p.m. Lunch

2:00-5:00 p.m. Papers

The Biological Sciences
Sidney Brenner
Senior Member
Medical Research Council Laboratory
of Molecular Biology, Cambridge
Discussant: ~~Joshua Lederberg~~
~~Professor of Genetics~~
~~Stanford University School of~~
~~Medicine~~ MIT

Marvin Minsky, Prof. Elec. Eng.

Language, Learning, and
Models of the Mind
George Miller
Professor of Psychology
Rockefeller University
Discussant: Peter Elias
Cecil H. Green Professor
of Electrical Engineering,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:30 p.m. Address

The Computer and Man's Image
of Himself
Philip Morrison
Professor of Physics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

THE COMPUTER AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND LEARNING

A conference marking the 25th anniversary of
John von Neumann's achievement of the first modern computer

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Sponsored by

The Institute for Advanced Study

and

Daedalus

Princeton, New Jersey 6 - 8 June, 1972

June 6

Afternoon - Arrival of Conferees

7:00 P.M. - Dinner

8:30 P.M. - Introduction: Carl Kaysen, Director
Institute for Advanced Study

Welcoming Remarks: Thomas J. Watson, Chairman of the Executive Committee, International Business Machines Corporation, and member, Board of Trustees, Institute for Advanced Study

Address: "von Neumann's Contribution to the Development of the Computer" - Herman Goldstine, IBM Fellow

June 7

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 noon - Papers

Pure and Applied Mathematics:

Stanislaw Ulam, Senior Scientist,
Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory

Discussant: Michael Atiyah, Professor of Mathematics
Institute for Advanced Study

Logic and the Foundations of Mathematics:

Michael Rabin, Professor of Mathematics,
Hebrew University

Discussant: Dana S. Scott, Professor of Philosophy and Mathematics, Princeton University

12:30 P.M. - Lunch

2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. - Papers

Physics and Astrophysics:

K. V. Roberts, Division Head,
Culham Laboratory

Discussant: Léon van Hove,
CERN

The Applied Physical Sciences:

Walter H. Munk, Professor of Geophysics,
Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, University of California at San Diego

Jule G. Charney, Alfred P. Sloan Professor of Meteorology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Discussant: Gordon MacDonald, Member,
Council on Environmental Quality

7:30 P.M. - Dinner

June 8

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 noon - Papers

Economics:

Lawrence R. Klein, Benjamin Franklin Professor of Economics, University of Pennsylvania

Discussant: Herbert Scarf, Professor of Economics, Yale University

The Historical Social Sciences:

Charles Tilly, Professor of Sociology and History, University of Michigan

Discussant: David Landes, Professor of History, Harvard University

12:30 P.M. - Lunch

2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. - Papers

The Biological Sciences:

Sidney Brenner, Senior Member, Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge

Discussant: Joshua Lederberg, Professor of Genetics, Stanford University School of Medicine

Language, Learning, and Models of the Mind:

George Miller, Professor of Psychology, Rockefeller University

Discussant: Peter Elias, Cecil H. Green Professor of Electrical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

7:00 P.M. - Dinner

8:30 P.M. Address: "The Computer and Man's Image of Himself" - Philip Morrison, Professor of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

(yes)

June 29, 1971

Dear Larry:

I write to invite you to participate in a two-day symposium in honor of the 25th anniversary of John von Neumann's achievement of the first modern electronic computer which will be held here at the Institute June 6-8, 1972. The topic of the symposium will be "The Influence of the Computer on Science and Learning." All in all, there will be eight papers on major areas of mathematics, the natural and social sciences, which have been strongly influenced by the computer.

Discussion on each topic will be organized around a paper prepared in advance and circulated amongst all the participants. Papers will not be read through at the symposium, but each author will be asked to introduce his paper. He in turn will be followed by an invited commentator, and then by general discussion in which all authors, commentators, and other invited participants will take part. The total number of invited participants is expected to be 30. In addition, the physical arrangements of the symposium will be such that there will be an audience drawn from the local academic community, and questions and comments from the audience will be possible.

The aim of the papers will be to present a broad survey of the influence of the computer as a tool in the way each discipline has come to conceive its possibilities, to select the problems it seeks to solve, and the modes of attack on them. While these topics cannot be discussed without reference to the specific technical details of how the computer is used, the purpose of the paper is not to recite a list of problems in each area that have been solved and the recipes that have been evolved for solving them, but rather to make a philosophical evaluation of the influence of the computer on the way the discipline has evolved in the last 25 years.

DAEDALUS, the journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, is joining with the Institute in sponsoring the conference. The proceedings will be taped, and the papers, formal comments and materials from the informal discussion will all be published in an issue of DAEDALUS given over to the topics. Through DAEDALUS the papers and discussion will reach a wide audience in the world of science and learning. The journal now prints over 60,000 copies per issue, and no journal can claim a more distinguished audience in all fields of scholarship. Moreover, the audience has come to expect serious and thoughtful treatment of important topics in science, the humanities, and the arts,

on which they themselves are not specialists. The theme of our symposium is one which certainly deserves such an audience, and I believe that, by keeping it in mind, we can make this an event of some intellectual significance.

The list of topics currently proposed is as follows:

1. Pure and applied mathematics
2. Logic and the foundations of mathematics
3. Physics and astrophysics
4. The applied physical sciences
5. The biological sciences
6. Economics
7. The historical social sciences
8. Language, learning, and models of the mind.

In addition, there will be two addresses, one a historical account of von Neumann's contribution to the development of the computer, and the other a discussion of the computer and man's image of himself.

I invite you to contribute a paper on economics. The Institute can offer you an honorarium of $1,000, your travel expenses, and its hospitality while you are at the conference.

I am sure you can do a terrific job on this and I hope you can accept. If you do I am planning to ask Paul Samuelson to be the commentator on your paper, but I have not as yet said anything to him.

Cordially,

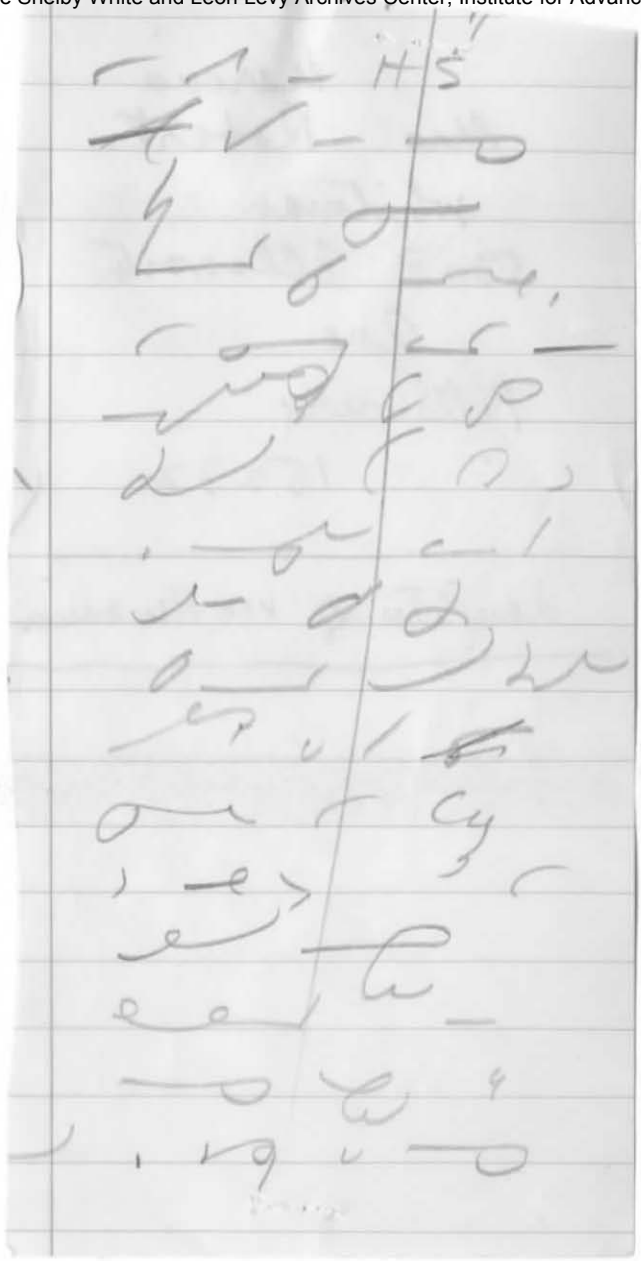
Carl Kaysen

Professor Lawrence Klein
University of Pennsylvania
335, SSII Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Marina
Mrs Robert
Whitman
5308 Ellsworth
Ave
Pittsburg
15232

---

daughter of von Neumann



October 21, 1971

Mr. R. Millington
Burford Design Group Ltd.
147 Wardour Street
London W1V 3TB
England

Dear Mr. Millington:

Thank you for your letter of October 18 requesting information on the von Neumann computer.

I suggest that you communicate with Mr. Herman Goldstine, 18 Hay Rake Avenue, Chappaqua, New York 10514, who is at present working on the history of the computer and was eminently associated with von Neumann's efforts here.

Sincerely yours,

Angela E. Wakeham
Secretary to the Director

147 Wardour Street
London W1V 3TB
Telephone 01-437 7838

18th October 1971

Information Officer,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princetown,
New Jersey,
08540
U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

The Birth of the Computer

I am preparing a history of computers, published in serial form by the 3M Company. When complete, this will represent the first fully comprehensive history of the industry.

I am interested in the IAS computer started in 1946 by Professor von Neumann and his colleagues and completed around 1952.

Can you help us by sending any photographs of this machine. If there are any historical or general articles you can refer me to, I would be particularly grateful.

We shall, of course, include a printed acknowledgement to the IAS and send a copy for your files.

Yours faithfully,
BURFORD DESIGN GROUP LTD

R. Millington.

Directors:
M.J.A. Bell (Managing)
R.F. Bowden

June 3, 1971

Mr. Kalman Seigel
Letters Editor
The New York Times
Times Square
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Seigel:

I am writing to you at the instance of Dr. Joseph Smagorinsky of the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory of Princeton University.

I have no views on the appropriateness of formal permission in the case of your wish to reprint the letter from von Neumann in question. As far as I am concerned, of course, I have no problem, but the Institute is not the owner of the literary property in von Neumann's estate; rather, that is Mrs. Robert F. Whitman (Marina von Neumann Whitman), 5308 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15232. If you feel that permission is required, I suggest you get in touch with her.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

cc: Dr. Joseph Smagorinsky

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Environmental Research Laboratories

Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory
Princeton University, Post Office Box 308
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Phone: 609-452-6502

May 26, 1971

Dr. Carl Kaysen
Director, Institute for Advanced Study
Post Office Box 631
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Dr Kaysen

I have received a request from the Letters Editor of the New York Times (attached) regarding a letter that John von Neumann wrote while he was still affiliated with the Institute for Advanced Study. Certainly, I have not had any connection with his estate and even wonder whether it hadn't been disposed of a long time ago. I suppose Walter Sullivan suggested my name because I had worked with von Neumann in the early 50's at the Institute.

I discussed this with Mr. Seigel by phone, and we decided that it would be appropriate that I forward this correspondence to you to see whether you feel that formal permission is required at this time to republish Johnny's letter, and if so, whether the Institute should be involved. My own feeling is that considering this late date and the original nature of the letter, it is probably in the public domain.

I would be grateful if you could convey your thoughts (and signature if necessary) directly to Mr. Seigel at the Times.

Sincerely,

Joseph Smagorinsky
Director

JS:ejg
Enclosure

cc: K. Seigel

The New York Times
Times Square

May 22, 1971

Prof. Joseph Smagorinsky
21 Duffield Place
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Professor Smagorinsky:

I am sending this request for permission to you at the suggestion of Walter Sullivan, a colleague here at The Times. I am grateful for your cooperation, and I regret any inconvenience.

With every good wish,

Kalman Seigel

Kalman Seigel
Letters Editor

KS:cr

Dr. Kaysen - For your information.
JHB

Center For International Management Studies

291 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007 • TELEPHONE: (212) 349-0700

October 19, 1970

Dr. Julian Bigelow
Chief Engineer of Computer Projects
Institute for Advanced Studies
Princeton University
Olden Lane
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Bigelow:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for receiving Mr. Philip and Mr. Szentivanyi from the Hungarian delegation, as well as myself, to talk to us about Professor von Neumann.

Your reminiscences of Professor von Neumann were greatly appreciated, although I know it was not easy for you. You, who knew him for over twenty years, must have respected and liked him very much, much more than anyone could understand. You made the Hungarian delegation feel extremely happy and fulfilled to learn about one of their greatest fellow countrymen of whom, I am sure you realize, they are very proud.

Thank you again for your generosity in sharing with us this most rewarding part of your life.

Sincerely yours,

Agnes Pall

Mrs. Agnes Pall
Assistant Director

P R O P O S A L

on the program of the YMCA CIMS delegation's visit to Hungary in 1971

1st day - Introduction to the Hungarian economic management system in order to make acquainted the YMCA CIMS delegation with the background of the problems to be studied.

Participants: economic managers, university professors, experts.

2-3rd day - Hungarian experiences in the supply and education of managers of different level, including the basic university training, extent and trends of specialization, postgraduate training as well as the teaching system of the supplementary fundamentals of management science.

Visit to the Department of Labour and the National Management Education Centre. Meeting at the Budapest University of Economics and the Budapest Technical University with High School experts.

4-5th day - Visit to different Institutes for Industrial Economy and Organization in order to study the above and the following subject matters:

- methods of application of automation and computers;
- the impact of these on the company's organization and structure;
- sociological problems of automation in management;
- the use of computer in production management.

Introduction to the above subject matters through the explanation of the conception of the State Office of Technical Development as well as visits to the Hungarian Computer Education Centre and the Laboratory for Information Processing.

7th day - F r e e

6-8-9th day - Use of the achievements of management science to solve social problems, first of all in settlement planning, organization, urbanization, housing policy, regional planning, organization and management of existing cities.

Visit to the Ministry of Building and Town Planning, the Budapest Municipal Council and the Balaton Executive Committee. Review of the projects of the City Planning Institute

10-11th day - Introduction to the view-point of Hungarian management scientists on the new forms of intellectual management organization/team-system, committees, staff organization/. Review of efforts aimed at understanding the logical relations between the organizations in order to bring to light the best methods which might contribute to the development as a whole.

Explanation of these questions at a round-table meeting at the Miskolc Technical University, then through a study tour to the Budapest Chemical Works, the MEDICOR Medical Instruments Works, the Institute for Building Economy and Organization and one Constructional Unit Factory.

12th day - C l o s i n g s e s s i o n.

Herman H. Goldstine
P. O. Box 218, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

October 16, 1970

Dear Carl,

I am returning herewith the originals of the material you were so kind to loan me yesterday on von Neumann. I will get them translated in the next few days. Please tell Mrs. Bortell how much I appreciate her assistance.

Best regards,

Herman

Dr. Carl Kaysen
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

[illegible] Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15232

January 19, 1969

Dear Mrs. Bortell,

Thank you very much for forwarding the von Neumann material to me. Thank you, too, for your discretion in the matter of the photograph. With all due respect to Professor Rosin's sincerity and good intentions, I'm not enthused about a von Neumann sweatshirt.

Yours sincerely,

Marina v. N. Whitman
(Mrs. Robert F. Whitman)

December 30, 1968

Mr. Robert Rosin
Department of Computer Science
State University of New York
Buffalo, New York

Dear Mr. Rosin:

I am sorry I cannot fulfill your request of December 20 for a photograph of Dr. John von Neumann. Unfortunately, our files contain no pictures of him.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Paul Bortell, Jr.
Secretary to the Director

cc: Mrs. Whitman

State University of New York at Buffalo

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Dec. 20, 1968

Gentlemen:

I am interested in obtaining a photograph, hopefully 4x5 or larger, of Dr. John von Neumann.

Although my reasons for doing so may seem frivolous, indeed they are to recognize this man's contribution to computer science and to make young people in this field aware of him as well as his work.

A friend at Brown University has contacted an art student - and the two of them produce, on a very limited scale, Babbage sweatshirts! I would like to provide them with a photo of von Neumann for similar purposes. As I said, though it may seem frivolous and disrespectful, it is not.

If you can supply such a photo from your files, I would be most grateful. If there is some cost which I can bear, I would be happy to do so.

Sincerely
Robert F. Rosin
Assoc. Prof.

4250 RIDGE LEA ROAD BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14226 TEL.(716)831-1351

Fac von Neumann

February 5, 1963

The Albert Britnell Book Shop
765 Yonge Street
Toronto, Canada

Dear Sirs:

We have received a second order for a game of poker, which we are returning to you with this letter. We are very sorry that we can help you with this, but the Institute for Advanced Study is devoted to research in the fields of mathematics, physics, and history. The closest connection the Institute could possibily have with this subject is that one of our former faculty members did do a paper on poker. Reference to this paper is the only help we can give you. The title of the work is "Two Variants of Poker" from CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE THEORY OF GAMES by D. B. Gillies, J. P. Mayberry and John Von Neumann. This was published Annals of Mathematics, Vol. 2, No. 28, University Press, Princeton (N.J.), pages 13-50.

We hope this is the information that you need.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. William Grander)
Office of the Director

Enclosure

12/10/58

Dr. Oppenheimer

from the desk of SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

For von Neumann Award

Copy for Dr. Oppenheimer

347 Vista de la Playa
La Jolla, California
December 6, 1958

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf, Sr.
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

May I express in a few words my very deepest gratitude for your great help in donating so generously the von Neumann Award to the Air Force Academy. Just as so many times in the past, you have again come to my help in solving quickly and with true friendship a difficult and embarrassing situation for the von Neumanns.

I am sure that no expression of mine can convey fully my thanks and deeply felt gratitude at having Johnny's memory protected by such a sincere and good friend as you have always been to us.

My sincerest hope is that I shall not ever have to bother you again and that, in some way aside from this very inadequate letter, I can express my real feelings about your help.

Sincerely yours,

Klara von Neumann-Eckart

Fac von Neumann

347 Vista de la Playa
La Jolla, California
November 13, 1958

Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer
Director's Office
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Robert:

Your prediction proved to be completely correct. About ten days ago, Captain Maxwell appeared here and, without any further argument, signed the contract for the publication of Johnny's COLLECTA. This means now that we can go ahead in an orderly fashion with our dealings with him, and shelves at least one problem. I just thought that you might want to be informed about this matter.

Copy in Inst Pers von Neumann Publication

There is one more thing that I am somewhat confused about and I was wondering if, as usual, you could help me out on it. If you recall, when I was East I called Mr. Leidesdorf's office, as I think I reported to you on the phone. I did not get him but talked to his secretary, gave her the information about the amount and the form of the Air Force price and thought that that particular matter had been brought to a successful conclusion, mostly thanks to your help.

Now, however, I am a little bit worried because Mr. Leidesdorf's secretary told me that when they wrote the letter to the Air Force, she would send me a copy of it and, up to date, I have not heard either from her nor from the Air Force, which also promised to let me know. It is a little embarrassing for me to ask either of them if any action has been taken. Furthermore, considering the smallness of the sum, I am quite sure that it could be provided from our own family funds.

So there are really two things that I would like to ask you if you could possibly do; (1) to find out in some casual way from Mr. Leidesdorf's office whether the thing has been taken care of. This I am sure you can do better than I; and, (2) should you find that they have not done it, then I would like to give the money myself; however, not under my own name but possibly naming the Institute as a donor. I wonder if this would inconvenience you in any way. If so, perhaps you could suggest some other cover under which I could sneak it in.

I am sorry to bother you again with this same old little problem but I just do not feel good until it is all tied up neat and clean.

With many thanks for whatever you can do in this matter, and with very best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Klari

Klari

11/17 spoke with Mrs. Van. She said that Mr. Leidesdorf had made the gift, and they had asked the air force to acknowledge it to Mrs. Eckhart. They had intended to send a copy of their letter to Mrs. E.; apologised for the omission. They have received their acknowledgment from the air force, and perhaps by now Mrs. E. has too.

August 5, 1968

Mr. Richard Stillerman
2340-A West Touhy Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60645

Dear Mr. Stillerman:

In response to your letter of July 30, I am sorry to inform you that we do not have a photograph of Professor von Neumann. May I suggest that you contact his daughter - Mrs. Robert Whitman, who is the owner of his papers. Her address is 5308 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15232.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Wakeham
Secretary to the Director

OFFICE PHONE: 274-1001

HOME PHONE: 869-9443

RICHARD STILLERMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
2340-A WEST TOUHY AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60645

July 30, 1968

Director
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

John Jewkes, Professor of Economic Organization at Oxford University, David Sawers, an economist, and myself are completing a revision of our book "The Sources of Invention". MacMillan will publish the revision early next year. We have included a case study of the early history of the electronic digital computer. We would like very much to include a photograph of one of the early pioneers, Professor John von Neumann.

I am hoping that you might have a photograph of Professor von Neumann which we might use in our book. I would appreciate any help you could give me on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Richard Stillerman

Richard Stillerman

RS:EC

CUSHMAN, DARBY & CUSHMAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
AMERICAN SECURITY BUILDING
730 FIFTEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

C. WILLARD HAYES
JOHN W. MALLEY
PAUL N. KOKULIS
IRVIN H. RIMEL
ALLEN KIRKPATRICK
DAVID E. VARNER
LLOYD J. STREET
GEORGE T. MOBILLE
JAMES L. DOOLEY
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RAYMOND F. LIPPITT
G. LLOYD KNIGHT
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AKIN T. DAVIS
EDGAR H. MARTIN
WILLIAM K. WEST, JR.
KEVIN E. JOYCE
EDWARD M. PRINCE
DONALD B. DEAVER
DAVID W. BRINKMAN

LEAH K. HENDRIKSEN
GERALD J. FERGUSON, JR.
JAMES F. TAO

ARLON V. CUSHMAN (1892-1950)
JOHN J. DARBY (1920-1950)
MAX C. LOUIS (1919-1962)
WILLIAM M. CUSHMAN (1925-1964)

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December
Nine
1 9 6 6

Mr. Minot C. Morgan, Jr.
The Institute For Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Morgan:

We very much appreciate your letter of December 7, 1966. I do plan to visit your facility as soon as possible. I will make a telephone contact as to the exact time I could visit your staff and see the documents.

Thanking you again, I remain

Very truly yours,

CUSHMAN, DARBY & CUSHMAN

AK:AB

By

c.c. to:
Thomas G. Devine, Esq.

December 7, 1966

Mr. Allen Kirkpatrick
Cushman, Darby and Cushman
American Security Building
730 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

I have your letter of December 5 regarding the Electronic Computer Project at the Institute. We do have certain files dating back to the institution of the project in 1945 and there is some correspondence relating to patent rights. We should be happy to make this available to you or your representative, if you can come to Princeton.

Mrs. John Gorman, secretary of the School of Natural Sciences, was Dr. von Neumann's secretary and she is the custodian of any of his remaining papers.

Sincerely yours,

Minot C. Morgan, Jr.

MCM:jws

CUSHMAN, DARBY & CUSHMAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
AMERICAN SECURITY BUILDING
730 FIFTEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

C. WILLARD HAYES
JOHN W. MALLEY
PAUL N. KOKULIS
IRVIN H. RIMEL
ALLEN KIRKPATRICK
DAVID E. VARNER
LLOYD J. STREET
GEORGE T. MOBILLE
JAMES L. DOOLEY
ALVIN GUTTAG
RAYMOND F. LIPPITT
G. LLOYD KNIGHT
CARL G. LOVE
LAWRENCE A. HYMO
AKIN T. DAVIS
EDGAR H. MARTIN
WILLIAM K. WEST, JR.
KEVIN E. JOYCE
EDWARD M. PRINCE
DONALD B. DEAVER
DAVID W. BRINKMAN

LEAH K. HENDRIKSEN
GERALD J. FERGUSON, JR.
JAMES F. TAO

ARLON V. CUSHMAN (1892-1950)
JOHN J. DARBY (1920-1950)
MAX C. LOUIS (1919-1962)
WILLIAM M. CUSHMAN (1925-1964)

PATENT AND TRADEMARK CAUSES

CABLE
MYCUSHRA FAX WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 202
NATIONAL 8-3460

December
Five
1 9 6 6

Mr. Minot C. Morgan, Jr.
The Institute For Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Morgan:

This will acknowledge with appreciation your letter of December 2, 1966 which provides certain useful information and is quite helpful.

However, your letter does not answer one of our questions, which is whether the files of your Institute still contain any of the records of the Electronic Computer Project which was conducted at the Institute. We will appreciate your answer to this particular question at your first convenience.

Very truly yours,

CUSHMAN, DARBY & CUSHMAN

AK:AB

By Allen Kirkpatrick

December 2, 1966

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Your letter of November 29 to the Director has been referred to me.

The Electronic Computer Project at the Institute was terminated more than a decade ago and the shell of the original equipment is now in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. No member of the staff that developed the computer has any connection with the Institute today, except for Dr. Julian Bigelow, who is this year on leave of absence. His address is: 16509 Akron Street, Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles, California 90272. Dr. von Neumann is deceased. Dr. Herman Goldstine, his deputy, is now associated with the International Business Machines Corporation, 112 East Post Road, White Plains, New York 10601.

During the entire period of the Institute's activity in the construction of the computer, the project was supported with government funds and no patents were sought by us. I am sorry not to be of more help to you.

Sincerely yours,

Minot C. Morgan, Jr.

MCM:jws

Mr. Allen Kirkpatrick
Cushman, Darby and Cushman
American Security Building
730 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

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PATENT AND TRADEMARK CAUSES

CABLE
MYCUSHRA FAX WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 202
NATIONAL 8-3460

November
Twenty-nine
1 9 6 6

The Director
Institute of Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to determine how I may most conveniently review the records of your Institute insofar as they pertain to studies there made prior to 1949 in respect of digital data processing equipment ("computers").

The reason for our interest in your records is that one of our clients, Control Data Corporation, has been sued for infringement of a U. S. Patent to Sharpless et al, No. 2,611,813, and we are gathering evidence of the invalidity thereof. Various persons have indicated that Dr. von Neuman, Dr. Bigelow and others associated with your Institute did studies and wrote reports on the subject of digital data processing prior to 1949.

Therefore, I will greatly appreciate information from you as to when I could inspect the materials

The Director
Institute of Advanced Study Nov. 29, 1966

that are available at your facility on the aforesaid subject, and what person I should contact for that purpose.

Very truly yours,

Allen Kirkpatrick

AK:AB Allen Kirkpatrick

For her File von Neumann

23 November 1966

Dear Madam:

I am sorry to hear about your difficulties, but unfortunately there is nothing that the Institute can do to help you. Our resources are available only for the support of scholarship and science, and not for other purposes, no matter how deserving.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Kaysen

Mrs. Kallai Istvanne
Budapest, XIII
Pannonia - u 26
Hungary

cc Mrs. Robert Whitman
5308 Ellsworth Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15232

Dec. XI. 17.

The Institute for Advanced Study
Office of the Director.

Please excuse me, that I wright. My deceased related Dr Neumann János atomfizikus, his daughter to Dr Witman Maria I had wright and she don't me answer. Sorry we are old, ill married couple (my husbound is 82 years old, we should like very much a little money other something to receive, because we have very little pension.

Please holpe me something I beg you

~~Kl.~~ Kállai Istvánné
Budapest, XIII. Pannonia u 26.

Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies board of directors.

Please excuse me that I right, I should like that you right me. John Weimann scholar familiadress, I am related, I know that John Weimann is dead and I schould lik right to his widow. Excus me that I can not well English right I wait your letter.

./.

Please Schlenck Jga.

My address:

Kállai István úr
Budapest XIII.
Csanády-u. 26.

5308 Ellsworth Ave
Pittsburgh

(Mrs.) Robert –
Dr. Marina Whitman
U. of Pittsburgh
Dept of

– von N. 1/4
1. / – o / Marina

Feladó: Kállai Istvánné
Budapest, XIII. Pann
Romania - u
24

Princeton Institute
advanced Studies.

PAR AVION
LÉGIPOSTA

Princeton

U. S. A.

24 June 1966

Dear Mr. Istvanni:

In response to your letter of June 2nd, addressed to the Institute, in which you inquire about the von Neumann family, I am sorry to say that Mrs. von Neumann is no longer living. You might like to write to their daughter, Dr. Marina Whitman, whose address is 5308 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Carol Nielsen
Office of the Director

Mr. Kallai Istvanni
Pannonia-u.26
Budapest XIII, Hungary

von Neuman

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

June 22, 1966

Reverend V. Lada-Mocarski, S.S.
420 Humphrey Street
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Reverend Lada-Mocarski:

Your letter of June 7 to Mrs. Hobson has been referred to me. Enclosed is a Xerox copy of Part II, Vol. 3 of von Neumann's work. It consists of 26 pages at 10¢ per page = $2.60. Please make your check payable to The Institute for Advanced Study and send it to me.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Elizabeth S. Gorman

Enclosure

420 HUMPHREY STREET

New Haven, Conn.

June 7, 1966

Dear Mrs. Hobson:-

You may remember our correspondence of last August in regard to the original mimeographed copies of John ven Neumann's work on computers.

Since writing to you, through the kindness of a friend at International Business Machine, I have been able to secure the original papers in question except for Part II, Vol. 3 - Planning and Coding of Problems, dated August 16, 1948.

Would it be possible to ask the Institute, through your very kind intermediary, to make a Xerox copy of this particular Part II, Vol. 3, so that I would have a complete series of von Neumann's work as originally presented, even though the last part would be in Xerox form.

I apologize for troubling you again and if it is simpler for you to give me the name of a person in the Institute with whom I could negotiate this reproduction by the Xerox method, I would be deeply grateful.

Sincerely yours,

V. Lada-Mocarski

V. Lada-Mocarski

Mrs. Wilder Hobson
Secretary to the Director
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Donna Jai von Neumann

Call 3/1/66 from Pat Powell, making film about von Neumann for Mathematical Association of America. Probably coming here Thursday or Friday, asked permission to take film in vN office. I told her that would be up to present occupant, Prof. Selberg. They may also want to take a shot, as though the camera were von Neumann, walking in the front door and down the corridor to his office. I told her of our rule against pictures in public rooms, but said that I would ask you whether you thought this harmless enough to give permission.

She said that there is very little visual material on von Neumann, and that they would be very grateful for any steers. Most of the things I thought of they had already tried. She wondered if you would know of a hidden camera at Lamy station which took pictures of people getting off train to go to Los Alamos (this for security identification). Said she had checked with FBI and justice dept. of army, to no avail.

They asked if you would make a short filmed statement, and I said that you were not able to these weeks for health reasons. They may ask again in mid-April.

---

420 HUMPHREY STREET

New Haven, Conn.

August 27, 1965

Mrs. Wilder Hobson
Secretary to the Director
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Hobson:-

May I thank you very much indeed for all the trouble you have taken, particularly in communicating with Dr. Oppenheimer - even though the result was negative.

With many thanks again, I am,

Sincerely yours,

V. Lada-Mocarski

V. Lada-Mocarski

von Neumann

420 Humphrey Street
New Haven
Conn.

August 27, 1965

Dr. Robert J. Oppenheimer
Director
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:-

Shortly after the last war I had the pleasure of meeting you - and hearing you speak - at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. Little did I expect at that time that some 15 or 20 years later I would decide to collect scientific books and publications in journals dealing with the incredible developments in science of our own time!

Needless to say, the outstanding work you have done in the atomic field would be just the kind of thing I should have in my collection. If it isn't too much trouble, may I ask that you dictate to your secretary the titles of just a few significant articles, books or pamphlets which you may have published during and since the war. I know it is a presumption to trouble you with this request and if I receive no answer, I shall, of course, understand.

Very sincerely,

V. Lada-Mocarski

V. Lada-Mocarski

13 August 1965

Dear Reverend Lada-Mocarski:

I have now had a chance to put your request to Dr. Oppenheimer, and he has asked me to let you know that we cannot let you have our file copies of the ven Neumann articles, but to ask if you would be interested in photocopies. We could have these made and bill you.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Wilder Hobson)
Secretary to the Director

C: if he says yes, consult B. Gorman. Let her know outcome in any case.

Reverend V. Lada-Mocarski, S.S.
420 Humphrey Street
New Haven, Connecticut

6 August 1965

Dear Reverend Lada-Mocarski:

Mrs. Gorman has passed on to this office your letter of July 28th about the multilith copies of the von Neumann articles. We have only file copies of these, and your request is one that will have to be referred to Dr. Oppenheimer, who is at present on vacation. We shall be in touch with you after his return.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Wilder Hobson)
Secretary to the Director

Reverend V. Lada-Mocarski, S.S.
420 Humphrey Street
New Haven, Connecticut

July 29, 1965

Verna:

The ECP files contain:

1. One bound mimeograph copy.

2. Two bound mimeograph copies.

3. One original* copy.

4. One original,* one mimeograph copy.

Betty

* Not handwritten, but apparently orig. work copies from which masters were made.

420 Humphrey Street
New Haven
Conn.

July 28, 1965

Mrs. Elizabeth S. Gorman
School of Mathematics
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Gorman:

Many thanks indeed for your kind note of July 21st and the information about Mr. von Neumann's works.

I am most anxious to secure the originally bound multilith copies and should be glad to pay an appropriate price for them - provided that they are in reasonably good condition. Could you help me in this respect? Perhaps you yourself, or one of your colleagues, has a set which he would be willing to exchange for something more mundane!

Please let me hear from you and do help me if you can.

Sincerely yours,

V. Lada-Mocarski

V. Lada-Mocarski SS.

July 21, 1965

Reverend V. Lada-Mocarski, S.S.
420 Humphrey Street
New Haven, Connecticut.

Dear Reverend Lada-Mocarski:

Your letter of June 21 has been referred to me as former secretary to the late John von Neumann.

The articles by John von Neumann et al. referred to in your letter were originally bound multilith copies. They have since been published in The Collected Works of John von Neumann, Vol. V, Macmillan and Co., New York, 1963.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Elizabeth S. Gorman

420 HUMPHREY STREET

New Haven, Conn.

June 21, 1965

The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton
N. J.

Dear Sirs:-

Mr. A. L. Williams, President of International Business Machines Corporation, who is a friend of mine and knows my interest in scientific books, has told me about the book by John von Neumann entitled, "Preliminary Discussion of the Logical Design of an Electronic Computing Instrument". I understand it is a 4-part work and am interested in first editions only (originals) of the following:-

1. Part I, Volume I - by Arthur W. Burks, Herman H. Goldstine and John von Neumann, June 28, 1946,

2. Part II, Volume I entitled "Planning and Coding of Problems for an Electronic Computing Instrument" by Herman H. Goldstine and John von Neumann, April 1, 1947,

3. Part II, Volume II entitled "Planning and Coding of Problems for an Electronic Cpmputing Instrument, April 15, 1948, and

4. Part II, Volume III entitled, "Planning and Coding of Problems for an Electronic Computing Instrument, August 16, 1948.

Do you have fisst editions of these works and how much would they cost? I will send you a check upon hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

V. Lada-Mocarski S.S.

V. Lada-Mocarski

Fac: von Neumann
C/R F.M. C. Eckart

347 Vista de la Playa
La Jolla, California
February 25, 1961

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Director's Office
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Robert:

This is mainly to thank you for the wonderful care that you and the Institute have given in putting Johnny's papers together and sending them to me. I just want to let you know that they arrived in the minimum time, in perfect condition, and I am most grateful for your having taken on the job of getting them here in such good shape.

Both Carl and I have come back with the most wonderful memories of our Princeton stay. We really enjoyed every minute of it and, now that we are at a safe distance, we even enjoyed the snowstorm. But truly, the kindness and the friendship that you and many others showed to us while we were there made us feel very welcome and, although there is a lot of sunshine here, we still have the warm glow of old friendships which we brought back with us from Princeton.

With our best regards to both you and Kitty who, I hope, is keeping well,

Sincerely,

Klari

Klari Eckart

TEMPE, ARIZ
SEP 26
530PM
1960

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Office of the Registrar
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Date Sept. 26, 1960

Gentlemen:

We have received a report of the death of the following individual who is scheduled for inclusion in the 10th Edition of AMERICAN MEN OF SCIENCE:

Prof. John Von Neumann

Since it is our policy to include only biographies of those living, it is necessary that we obtain confirmation of this report. We cannot print obituary lines without confirmation.

Your prompt reply with dates on the return postcard will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Jaques Cattell

Jaques Cattell, Editor