#### THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

#### PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

cc Mr. Morgan Mrs. Barnett Miss Underwood

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

1 February 1957

Dear Dr. Weil:

Thank you for your good letter of January 25th. We would be delighted to extend our earlier invitation for either the first or the second term of 1958-59, and vary much hope that you will be able to arrange to come then. Usually Serre and Leray are here in the autumn term rather than the spring, but beyond that it may now be a little too early to predict the visitors will be.

It occurs to me that you might find it natural and convenient to stop by on your way to France. We should very much like that. There will always be people herethough in summer relatively few--who would be most interested to hear you; and if you can come, and would like to talk, we shall make an honorarium of \$300 available to you.

Very sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer

Dr. André Weil Department of Mathematics The University of Chicago Chicago 37, Illinois

NOTE TO MR. MORGAN: May have to be specially budgeted for 1958-59.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO CHICAGO 37 · ILLINOIS

# DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

January 25, 1957.

cc to each of Math facutty

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

Dear Dr.Oppenheimer:

I am much obliged to you for your very kind letter of Jan.23. I have no doubt at all that it could be quite pleasant and quite profitable for me to stay for some time in Princeton.

During the academic year 1957-58, however, I shall be on leave from this University on an Air Force contract, and I have already made plans to spend the whole of that year in Paris. This makes it impossible for me to consider your invitation for the first term of 1958, as I should otherwise have done.

It may be premature to start making plans now for a more remote period; but I see no reason why I should not be able to arrange to spend some time in Princeton after I come back to this country in the Summer of 1958.

Shall we say 5 pring's 9 or autum's ??

Very sincerely yours

1 pei

André We11

BIBLIOGRAPHY (Possibly incomplete)

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## Andre Weil

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ce: Mr. Morgan Mrs. Barnett Miss Underwood

23 January 1957

Dear Dr. Weil:

It is a pleasure and honor for me to invite you to visit the Institute next year. Your colleagues in the School of Mathematics very much hope that you can come here for the first term of 1958, or as much of it as you can arrange. Indeed, we would be delighted if you could come for a longer time. The term runs from January 13th to April 11th. We can make available to you a grant of \$8,000.

You will know how much your associates here look to your visit; and they will be writing you at this time to tell you something about the membership of the School of Mathematics during next spring's semester. Let me add that it would also give me great pleasure if you could come.

Very sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer

Dr. Andre Weil Department of Mathematics University of Chicago Chicago, Illinois charge either 1/2 Borel (on leave) salary charge either 1/2 Borel (on leave) salary on budget in special sparts.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

December 21, 1956

Weil

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer Institute for Advanced Study

Dear Robert:

Deane Montgomery proposed informally and I think the School of Mathematics informally approves the suggestion that André Weil be invited to spend the second term of next year here with a grant which would be in the order of the one we now give Leray for a term. Considering the present state of the School of Mathematics funds, it is felt that this would be difficult unless it is possible to use the money saved from Borel's leave of absence during the second term for this purpose.

The question is complicated by virtue of the fact that we do not know the financial arrangements with regard to Borel's absence; whether his salary will be deducted during just the months in which he is at M.I.T., or whether he will be on leave of absence for a term and the \$9,000 deducted for this term. It was recommended that if any arrangements of this sort are possible, Borel clearly understand the deductions which are to be made.

All of this is tentative and should be discussed further between us and the School.

Sincerely yours,

Marston Morse

Marston Morse

MMcdu

December 6, 1944

Dear Professor Weils

Director's Office: Faculty Files: Box 36: Weil, André- Member, Profe

From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA

I am delighted to certify that you are not a person who will be harmful to public order, and enclose a letter herewith which I hope will be satisfactory.

I don't know what to do about your wife and your father and mother. Obviously if I wrote letters concerning them, I should have to say that I did not know them and was writing only from hearsay, which would make a bad impression on the officials. Are there any members of the faculty at Lehigh who are acquainted with these sembers of your family? If so, my advice would be that you procure letters from them.

I am very glad that everything is now clear for your move to Brazil and send you warmest good withes for every possible success. It is a great satisfaction to know that you have made such progres on your work meanwhile, on your Guggenheim fellowship.

Tith varmest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Andre Weil 549 Riverside Drive Apt. 6 G New York 27, N. Y.

FA:KX Enclosure

December 6, 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Director's Office: Faculty Files: Box 36: Weil, André- Member, Professor and Emeritus 1936-1957 From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA

FA:KK

This is to certify that I know Professor Andre Weil and that I take great pleasure in testifying to his high character and his unusual ability. He is one of the ablest mathematicians in this or in any other country.

I can state with great emphasis that he is an individual who would not be harmful to the public order, to the national security, or to the public institution. On the contrary, I consider that Professor Weil would be an asset to any country where he may make his home.

Yours very truly,

Frank Aydelotte Director

549 Riverside Drive (Apt.6 G) New York 27, N.Y. December 3, 1944.

Dr.F.Aydelotte Institute for Advanced Study Fuld Hall Princeton, N.J.

### Dear Dr.Aydelotte:

I have a favor - another one - to ask of you. The Brazilian consulate, in order to give us our visas, requires that I should bring, for myself and for each member of my family, "two letters from officials of reliable firms, stating bearer is not harmful to public order, to the national security or to the public institution" (I am quoting this verbatim from their official documents). May I ask you to be kind enough to send me such letters, viz. one for myself (André Weil), one for my wife (Mrs.Madeleine J.E.M.Weil), one for my father (Dr.Bernard Weil) and one for my mother (Mrs.Salomea Weil) ? I am also asking Dr.Moe for similar letters.

I had intended, before my departure, to find some occasion of taking leave from you, and expressing you my gratitude once more for all you have done for me recently. As things to do, in connection with my impending trip, are piling up more and more, I am uncertain whether I shall be able to do so, and may therefore take the present occasion of giving you some news of myself. My wife's health has been making very satisfactory progress, so that nothing now stands in the way of our trip to Brazil any more; we shall be sailing from New Orleans some time next month. In the meanwhile, thanks to the Guggenheim fellowship, I have been working steadily at my book, the bulk of which is now completed and in the hands of the American Mathematical Society, who, I expect, will publish it.

With heartfelt thanks again, I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours

Alleig

André Weil

## JOHN SIMON GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION 551 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 17 • N. Y.

June 22, 1944

Dr. Frank Aydelotte The Inn Buck Hill Falls, Pa.

Dear Frank:

annon for bours they boy

Herewith is a letter just received from Dr. André Weil. I think probably you will agree with me that the answer to his request ought to be in the negative. It doesn't seem to make any real sense to me and I don't think I ought to exercise any discretion I may have in his favor to the effect he suggests.

May I have your advice, please, before I respond?

Sincerely yours,

Henry Allen Moe

## JOHN SIMON GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION 551 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 17 • N. Y.

June 21, 1944

Dr. Frank Aydelotte The Inn at Buck Hill Falls Pennsylvania

Dear Frank:

I thank you for sending me Dr. Weil's letter to you and a copy of your reply. Both are returned herewith. We have taken copies for our files.

I share your feelings about this and about the way he is going at things, and I am delighted that you wrote him as you did. I hope it makes him more sensible about it.

Sincerely yours,

Allen Moe

M:1

Director's Office: Faculty Files: Box 36: Weil, André- Member, Professor and Emeritus 1936-1957 Copy From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA be coalable indeputed. I am sem jon will understand that if you allow This permission & lapse itmonth to very dufficielt for me & enturene on your behalf gain. Siece jour Auggenteinen Fellowship is only for one year it would seem to be a quat pely to seen acce rick of toring the appointment at vao Taolo. tos all these reasons I shory & adouse you to proceed we the your plans to sail as some as your mifis treach well firmel. With nonement ford moles Jan Sciecce & Jour

as from Institute for aa and Stude Ke INN at BUCK HILL FALLS PENNSYLVANIA June 20, 1544 Alecen Teoferson Weel: I can very tong to treas of your mexis ellees and lesfe it will not be long cutil the recovers. It is muy cullecky the jon feel that you cannot cake unmideale ad occulage of The percession of the State Department to go to Bragel. It nos wit Lasy & get This ormer upual recursed and one caused be sure that this permession sell

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fellow ship at the end i il year it woned seems a gra pile 15 nue any rist y losing the appointment at são Paolo. For all these reasons & strong or 40 to porced und your places to sail a soon a your writes tealch user perceit. weed we went ford wish 5 au Tracel Bey Delde seek slight renses het water sam founds'

## LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY

602 W.Broad St., Bethlehem, Pa. June 17, 1944.

Dear Dr.Aydelotte,

It is hard for me to express my gratitude for your action on my behalf, which has met with such full success. If I have not written to you immediately on receipt of your telegram, it is because I have spent some busy days, trying to decide on the next steps which I had to take.

I must confess that I had so little expectation of such a prompt success in this matter that, in the meanwhile, I had already cancelled my reservations for the next boat; but this does not make much difference, because it would have been in any case next to impossible to get my furniture disposed of, to get my books and manuscripts censored, etc., in time for the sailing which I had had in mind; and, what is more serious, the strain and overwork of these years in Bethlehem have told on my wife's health, and it now appears that it will now be wise to delay our departure until she has had the opportunity fully to restore her health by a period of complete rest for which I am now trying to make arrangements. I have every reason to believe that the University of S.Paulo will not object to such unavoidable delays on my part; and, in the meanwhile, the Guggenheim foundation is taking care of me, as you know.

My prospects seem therefore to be settled as satisfactorily as could be hoped for in the present circumstances; and it is largely due to you that they are taking this favorable turn. Assuring you again, therefore, of my lasting gratitude, I beg to remain

Sincerely yours

A Weif

André Weil

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June 13, 1944

Howard K. Travers, Esq. Passport Division State Department Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Travers:

I appreciate very warmly your attention to the case of Dr. Andre Weil and I am delighted that it has been satisfactorily settled. I am sure the decision you reached is in the national interest and is at the same time the best thing for Professor Weil's own scholarly work.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FAijsr

Copy to Henry Allen Moe



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

June 13, 1944

Professor Andre Weil 602 Broad Street Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Delighted hear from State Department this morning that your permit for Brazil has been cleared. Only remains for you to call at Philadelphia office where you originally made application to receive necessary papers. Hearty congratulations.\*

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jsr

\*Cannot be included in telegram. Copy sent to Henry Allen Moe, 6:13:44

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



DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON

June 12, 1944

In reply refer to SEA

#### My dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I have your letter of May 25, 1944, concerning Professor André Weil's desire to obtain <u>a reentry permit</u> for the purpose of his proposed professorship in São Paulo. Unfortunately, war conditions prevent the Department from divulging the reasons for the refusal of this application. Personally, I am in accord with you concerning the academic merits of Professor Weil, but I regret that I am in no position to object to the considerations which motivated the Department to reject his application for reentry permit.

I trust Professor Weil will be able to continue the good work he is doing at Lehigh University. Perhaps conditions may change in a year or so in such a way that his proposed professorship in Brazil would be possible.

Sincerely yours,

Harry H. Pierson Assistant Chief Exchange and Liaison Branch Science, Education and Art Division



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

-Personal-

June 10, 1944

Howard K. Travers, Esq. Passport Division State Department Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Travers:

I was talking on the telephone to Mrs. Shipley this morning about the case of Mr. Andre Weil, a French refugee who is at the present moment teaching mathematics at Lehigh University and who has an invitation to become professor of mathematics at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. At Mrs. Shipley's suggestion I am writing to you to urge that Professor Weil be given permission to go to Brazil to accept this appointment.

Weil is one of the ablest of all the young French mathematicians. He would be a great addition to the United States were it not for the fact that he is somewhat difficult per sonally, and in my opinion will never fit comfortably into the organization of an American university. He is the kind of man who is critical of his surroundings wherever he is, and the best way to make him a loyal supporter of the United States would be to send him to Brazil.

I as sorry to say that the State Department has so far refused him permission to leave this country. I am writing to ask whether you could see your way to reversibe this decision. I am confident that Weil's presence in Brazil could not in any way assist the Germans and I am sure that it would in the end tend toward better relations between France and the United States. If you knew Weil personally as well as we do here at the Institute, I am sure that you would come to the same conclusion. If there is any information which we can present to the State Department which would aid you in reaching a decision in this case, I hope you will not fail to let me know.

Yours very sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA: KK

Henry Allen Moe, Esq. Guggenheim Foundation 551 Fifth Avenue New York, New York

Dear Henry:

I have discussed Weil's case very fully with the members of our School of Mathematics. As you know, he was here some years ago and it was through efforts made by the Institute that he received his appointment at Lehigh.

We all of us feel that an effort should be made to provide for him and that he will need more than the \$2500 of his Guggenheim stipend. The ideal solution would of course be the appointment in Brazil. I have telephoned this morning to the State Bepartment about that and have been encouraged to think that the case is not hopeless. I am writing to Travers and shall let you know his reply.

Failing that, I think it may be possible to get a thousand dollars for Weil from a refugee fund which Shapley is trying to procure, \$25,000 of which is to come to the Institute for precisely such purposes as this, namely, support of refugees who will return to their own countries after the war.

Failing that, it might be possible for us to make an appropriation of a thousand dollars for Weil out of our mathematics stipend fund to supplement his Guggenheim fellowship. I think the faculty of our School of Mathematics would vote for such an appropriation provided Weil does not come here. I will pursue all these various lines and let you know the result. Meanwhile, I return Weil's letter and suggest that you reply to him that he can take up his Guggenheim fellowship on July first if he wishes, that the question of going to Brazil is not completely hopeless, and that if it should prove feasible for him to leave sometime during the summer, he may be allowed to keep as much of his Guggenheim stipend as has already been paid and resign the rest.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:KK Enclosures

June 10, 1944

Professor Andre Veil 602 Broad Street Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Dear Professor Weil:

Director's Office: Faculty Files: Box 36: Weil, André- Member, Professor and Emeritus 1936-1957 From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA

> I have had a telephone conversation with the State Department this morning about the question of allowing you to go to Brazil and have been encouraged to think that the case is not hopeless. I am making further efforts and shall let you know the result.

> > With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:KK

June 9, 1944

Weil

Professor Oswald Veblen The Institute for Advanced Study Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Oswald:

Director's Office: Faculty Files: Box 36: Weil, André- Member, Professor and Emeritus 1936-1957 From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA

> I am anxious to get in touch with you through Miss Blake as soon as you return this week and to discuss the capes of Andre Weil. He has been refused permission to go to Brazil and would like to come to the Institute next year. He has a stipend of \$2500 from the Guggenheim Foundation, but with a wife and two children and his aged parents to support he could not possibly live in Princeton on that amount.

Hermann Weyl, before he left a few days ago, raised the question with me whether we should not offer Andre Weil an extra \$1000 out of our mathematics stipend fund. What do you think?

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:KK

## **IOHN SIMON GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

#### 551 FIFTH AVENUE . NEW YORK 17 . N. Y.

June 5, 1944

En wheel and and a set Dr. Frank Avdelotte The Institute for Advanced Study Princeton, N. J.

Dear Frank:

The enclosed letter from Dr. André Weil has just come. The answers to his first two questions are easy, of course. Before I respond to him, however, I had better ask you whether or not the Institute could add anything to his Guggenheim Fellowship stipend, which is \$2,500. Doubtless \$2,500, considering his family responsibilities, would be rather slim in Princeton.

Will you please return Dr. Weil's letter to me?

Sincerely yours,

Henry Allen Moe

M:1

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY BETHLEHEM, PA. MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY

> 602 W.Broad St., Bethlehem, Pa. May 29, 1944.

Dr.F.Aydelotte Institute for Advanced Study Princeton, N.J.

Dear Dr.Aydelotte,

I am afraid the Department of State is refusing to let me <u>go to</u> Brazil, not (or not merely) to let me <u>come</u> back from there; for otherwise, as you suggest, I should simply go, and wait for the other matters to get cleared up later. This is partly indicated by the wording of the letter of which I sent you a copy (..."The Department of State has declined to grant concurrence" <u>as to destination</u>); and it is definitely confirmed by an enquiry which has been made on my behalf, specifically about the point raised by you, by the French Delegation. I quote from a letter from the French Delegation, dated May 18:

"... La Délégation étant intervenue auprès du Département d'Etat pour faire transformer votre demande de permis de rentrée en une demande de simple permis de sortie, s'est vu opposer un refus formel, définitif, et sans explication".

With best thanks

Sincerely yours

Aheif

A.Weil

1 1-

May 26, 1944

Dear Professor Weil:

Do I understand from the copy of this letter from the Department of Justice that the only difficulty in your case is with a re-entry permit? If that is so and if you are free to go to Brazil, I should like to raise the question whether it would not be wise to do so even without the assurance of re-entry to the United States. After the war all these restrictions are sure to be relaxed, and I should think you would have no difficulty returning to this country if you wish to do so, even though you do not have assurance of permission in advance.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor André Weil 602 West Broad Street Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

FA: MGH

5

602 W.Broad St., Bethlehem, Pa. May 24, 1944.

Dr.F.Aydelotte Institute for Advanced Study Princeton, N.J.

Dear Dr.Aydelotte:

I am greatly obliged to you for your kind letter and your willingness to help me.

As you suggest, I am sending you herewith a copy of the letter from the Immigration Service, which is the only official notice I have had of the action taken by the Department of State in this matter.

> With most grateful thanks, I remain Sincerely yours

AWeig

André Weil

(COPY)

U.S.Department of Justice Immigration and Naturalization Service Philadelphia 2

> P-1356233 P-1356234 P-1356235 R&EPU

Mr.Andre Weil 602 West Braad Street Bethlehem, Pa.

My dear Mr.Weil:

Reference is made to the applications for reentry permits which you submitted in behalf of yourself, your wife and her son, which were received in this office on March 17, 1944.

In accordance with existing regulations, it was necessary to refer these cases to the Department of State at Washington, D.C., for possible concurrence as to destination. That Department has declined to grant concurrence, and, therefore, reentry permits may not be issued to you, your wife and her son.

The fees in the sum of three dollars each which were submitted with your applications will be returned to you as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours

Earl G. Harrison, Commissioner

By

(Sd.) T.B.Shoemaker

T.B. Shoemaker, Assistant Commissioner

N.B. (1) An identical letter was sent to my parents, Dr.and Mrs. Bernard Weil (File-numbers P-1356236 and P-1356237, REPU).

(2) The Immigration and Naturalization Service has later agreed to keep the cases in abeyance for the time being, so as to give me the opportunity for a direct appeal to the Department of State.

May 25, 1944

Mr. Harry H. Pierson, Jr. Assistant Chief, Division of Cultural Relations Department of State Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pierson:

Members of the School of Mathematics here at the Institute have been much interested in Professor André Weil of Lehigh University, who was formerly a member here and who has now received an offer of an excellent professorship in the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. I have just heard from Professor Weil that he is in danger of losing this professorship because our State Department has refused him permission to go from the United States to Brazil. Professor Weil has no idea of the reasons why this permission was refused. I do not wish to be indiscreet but I have been wondering whether it would be possible to get this decision reconsidered.

We have very full information about Professor Weil at the Institute. He is one of the most brilliant and promising of the younger French mathematicians. Individuals who know him well are prepared to guarantee his loyalty to the Allied cause and it seems, on the whole that this appointment in Brazil would be an excellent way of taking care of a distinguished refugee mathematician, who, through no fault of his own, has been driven out of his native country.

Professor Weil's position at Lehigh is not a very good one, but it was the best we could find for him at the moment. While American universities have absorbed a great many refugees, there is a limit to the number we can take, and from now until the end of the war it seems clear that the amount of university teaching needed is going to decrease rather than increase. Under the circumstances, the appointment at Sao Paulo would seem to be an extremely good solution for Professor Weil's case, and we believe that enabling him to take it would facilitate friendly relations both with France and Brazil.

Yours sincerely,

FA : MGH

Frank Avdelotte

pulse week

#### **OHN SIMON GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

551 FIFTH AVENUE . NEW YORK 17 . N. Y.

May 24, 1944

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

Dear Frank:

Dr. Weil(has also) written me of the State Department's refusal of a visa. I have not done anything about it because it seemed to me that in war time there is nothing I could possibly do about it. The person who would have jurisdiction in a matter of this kind is the Chief of the Passport Division of the Department of State. Mrs. Shipley. Mr. Harry H. Pierson, Jr., Assistant Chief of the Division of Cultural Relations in the State Department is also aware of Dean André Dreyfus' plans for Dr. Weil: Pierson has had conversations with Dean Dreyfus about it. I doubt that he would be in a position to do anything about it at all. If Weil were an American citizen I doubtless should feel differently about this but as it is, in war time, I don't see that either you or I can do anything about it.

Sincerely yours, Henry Allen Moe

M:1

May 23, 1944

Henry Allen Moe, Esq. Guggenheim Foundation 551 Fifth Avenue New York City

Dear Henry:

I have a letter from André Weil saying that after all arrangements had been completed for him to go to Sao Paulo the State Department has refused to allow him to go to Brazil. According to Weil, the Brazilian Embassy has interfered on his behalf but the State Department has remained adamant and refuses to give any explanation of the decision. Has Weil written to you about the matter and have you done anything about it? I thought it better to consult you before taking any action myself, so that there will be no danger of getting our wires crossed. Do you know who would have jurisdiction in a case of this kind--would it be Charles Thomson or Howland Shaw? It seems a curious attitude for the State Department to take, and I hope that in some way it may be possible to get the matter satisfactorily arranged.

Yours sincerely,

FA: MOH

Frank Aydelotte

May 23, 1944

Professor André Weil Lehigh University Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Dear Professor Weil:

I have your letter of May 19 and am very much surprised that the State Department should take the line of refusing to allow you to go to Brazil. I must say frankly that I do not understand it, but I shall initiate inquiries immediately and see whether it may not be possible to get the ruling changed. If you could send me any communications you have had from the State Department about the matter, that would help in getting the difficulties cleared up.

Yours sincerely,

FA: MGH

Frank Aydelotte

# LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY

## May 19, 1944.

Dr.F.Aydelotte Institute for Advanced Study Fuld Hall Princeton, N.J.

Dear Dr.Aydelotte:

You are, I believe, well informed of the fact that, a few months ago, and for the first time since I left France in 1941, I was offered a position which afforded fair prospects of being suitable and congenial and of giving some scope to whatever abilities I may possess as a mathematician; this offer came to me from Brazil. I was to go to the University of Sao Paulo, as professor of mathematics; under an agreement of long standing between the Brazilian and the French Governments, the regular professorial salary which I was to receive from the University was to be supplemented by an equal salary to be paid by the French authorities, who were also to pay for my travelling expenses, for me and my family, from this country to Brazil; I am mentioning this, because it may possibly have some bearing upon my main point, which is the following.

After long and tedious formalities connected with my proposed departure, and when I thought that everything was at last in order, I was suddenly informed that the Department of State had refused to allow me to go to Brazil. This was so unexpected LEHIGH UNIVERSITY BETHLEHEM, PA. MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY

-2-

that I at first imagined this refusal to be due to some mistake or misunderstanding; inquiries, however, which have now been made through the French Delegation show that this is not so, and that the decision of the Department of State is to be regarded as final. I have not yet heard from the Brazilian Embassy, whom I also asked to intervene in my favour; but it would seem, from the answer that I have received from the French Delegation, that they have been equally unsuccessful in this matter.

No explanation whatsoever has been given by the Department of State for their decision. Therefore, being entirely at a loss to understand what may be behind such a move, which seriously threatens my prospects by compelling me to stay in a country where, possibly by my own fault and possibly for other reasons, I have been unable to find for myself any suitable position, I venture to inform you of the circumstances of my case, hoping that it may be possible to you, by direct or indirect means, to make another appeal on my behalf to the responsible authorities in the Department of State. If they hold it against me that I am to be partly supported by the French authorities, then it might be pointed out that similar arrangements are being made by them in favour of American professors who are being sent there, and that, since I cannot hope to get such support from the United States, I can hardly be held responsible for the fact that I have to get it from some other LEHIGH UNIVERSITY BETHLEHEM, PA.

-3-

source. If, on the other hand, they should, for some reason, have any personal objection against me, then the matter should be investigated, and I, or the French authorities acting on my behalf, should be given an opportunity of dispelling such doubts on their part.

It is true that, if this should fail me, I shall fortunately not find myself in immediate trouble; I am referring to the Guggenheim Fellowship, which, partly (or, as I should perhaps say, largely) through your own efforts on my behalf, has recently been awarded to me, precisely in view of such a contingency. But, quite apart from the fact that this would afford only a temporary relief from my difficulties, it hardly seems fair that I should have to give up the first promising prospects to have been offered to me for such a long time, because I find myself detained, and, for aught I know, arbitrarily detained by a country where I had hoped to find the freedom which was being denied to me in my own.

Whatever you may do in this matter will only add to the debt of gratitude which I already owe to you. Therefore, assuring you again of my deep sense of obligation for what you have done for me, I beg to remain

Sincerely yours

Ahri

André Weil

#### Re: VD 811.111 Weil, Andre

May 7, 1941

#### Dear Mr. Warren:

In reply to your letter of May 6th I wish to express my appreciation of all your efforts in regard to Professor Andre Weil. I am glad to inform you that he came to the United States via the ships from Marseilles to Martinique and is now living in Princeton. He has already given some lectures in mathematics which have attracted most favorable attention on account of his brilliant originality. You can rest assured that in assisting him to some to this country you have conferred a great benefit on the science of mathematics.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

A. M. Warren, Esq. Chief, Visa Division Department of State Washington, D. C.

FA/MCE

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



### DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON

In reply refer to VD 811.111 Weil, Andre

May 6 1941

My dear Mr. Aydelotte:

I refer to my letter of February 12, 1941 and to previous correspondence concerning the visa application of Professor André Weil. A further report in this matter has been requested from the American Consular Offices at Lyon and Helsinki. As soon as the reports are received, I shall be glad to communicate with you further.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. There

A. M. Warren Chief, Visa Division

Mr. Frank Aydelotte, LL.D., Director, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey.

1941 Mar 3 PM 6:18

VONNEUMANN

C O P Y

VANSTITUTE PRINCETON NJ

ARRIVED TODAY WITH FAMILY COMING PRINCETON WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS

WEIL

COPY FOR DR. AYDELOTTE

#### February 28, 1941

#### Dear Doctor Johnson:

I have received today two letters from Professor André Weil, one dated Marseilles, France, January 24, and the other Guadeloupe, February 21. In the first he tells me that he is sailing on the <u>S.S.</u> <u>Winnipeg</u> of the French Line, bound for the French West Indies (presumably <u>Martinique</u>), where he expects to transfer to another boat and then to land in <u>Baltimore</u> at the end of February or first of March. The second letter is a short note telling of his arrival in <u>Guadeloupe</u>, and his expectation of arriving in <u>New York</u>, via <u>St. Thomas</u> and <u>Porto Rico</u>, early in March. He does not name any ship.

Very sincerely yours,

John von Neumann

Dr. Alvin Johnson, Director New School for Social Research 66 West 12th Street New York City JvN:GB COPY

La Guadeloupe, Feb. 21, 1941

Dear Johnny,

This is just to tell you that we are on our way to good old U.S.A. via Saint Thomas and Puerto Rico, and that we expect to reach New York early in March.

Looking forward to seeing you soon, and with best greetings to all in Princeton

Very sincerely yours

A. WEIL

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



#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON

In reply refer to VD 811.111 Weil, Andre

February 12, 1941

My dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Referring to my letter of January 24, 1941, a preliminary report has been received by cable from the American consular officer at Lyon concerning the visa application of Professor Andre Weil. The Department is again communicating with the officer by telegraph regarding certain aspects of the matter and I shall communicate with you again as soon as his further report is received.

Sincerely yours,

G. J. La

A. M. Warren Chief, Visa Division

Frank Aydelotte, LL.D., Director, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey. COPY FOR DR. AYDELOTTE

#### January 27, 1941

Dear Doctor Johnson:

I have received just now the following wire from Marseilles, France, probably from André Weil's father:

ANDRE ANS FAMILLE HAVE LEFT TODAY FOR USA VIA MARTINIQUE WEIL

If I should get any other information from Weil in the course of his voyage I will immediately forward it to you.

I am very glad that Weil seems to have been able to penetrate the mountain of red tape which appeared to block him in.

Sincerely yours,

#### John von Neumann

Dr. Alvin Johnson, Director New School for Social Research 66 West 12th Street New York City JvN:GB agaille

COPY

VIA RCA CD MARSEILLE

Recd. 1941 JAN 26 AM 8 20

LC VONNEUMANN

VANSTITUTE PRINCETON NJ

ANDRE ANS FAMILLE HAVE LEFT TODAY FOR USA VIA MARTINIQUE

WEIL

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



#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

von Mermann

WASHINGTON

In reply refer to VD 811.111 New School for Social Research January 24, 1941

My dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I regret very much that as the result of the heavy pressure of work during this time your letter of November 29, 1940 concerning the immigration case of Professor Andre Weil has not received an earlier reply.

In the interim, however, the Department has been in telegraphic communication with the American consular officer at Lyon with regard to the visa applications of alien professors who have been offered appointments by the New School for Social Research and expects to receive cabled reports indicating the final action taken in their cases.

As soon as a report is received in the case of Professor Weil I shall communicate with you again.

Sincerely yours,

A. M. Warren Chief, Visa Division

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

#### THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH 66 W TWELFTH ST NEW YORK

December 2, 1940

Wie

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I appreciate very much your sending me the copy of your letter to Mr. Coulter.

Sincerely,

alvin Is hurson

Alvin Johnson Director

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

November 29, 1940

#### Dear Dr. Johnson:

Professor von Neumann has just handed me the enclosed cablegram from Weil, which I send to you immediately, together with copy of a letter which I have written to Mr. Coulter. I hope very much that you will feel you can write in the same vein to Mr. Coulter and that we may break this vicious circle by having an American visa granted first.

As to the trensit permit across Spain, I do not know how to proceed, but I hope very much you will have some plan to meet that difficulty.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

#### FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Dr. Alvin Johnson New School for Social Research 66 West 12th Street New York City

FA/MCE

November 29, 1940

#### Dear Mr. Coulters

May I ask your kind assistance in another refugee case? Professor Andre Weil, formerly of the University of Strasbourg, is eager to leave France to come to the United States, and he has a two-year appointment at the New School for Social Research in New York City.

Professor Weil has applied for an American visa and has been told by our Consul in Vichy that an American visa can be granted to him only if he obtains an exit permit from France and a Spanish transit visa.

A number of us who are interested in Weil requested the French Ambassador in Washington to use his influence in obtaining this exit permit, which he is very glad to do, making as a sole qualification that Professor Weil should first obtain an American visa.

You will see the vicious circle that is thusset up. The French government will grant an exit permit only if he has an American visa; the American Consul at Vichy will grant the visa only if he has an exit permit. Under the circumstances, I should like to urge that you request our Consul in Vichy to grant the American visa which seems to be the indispensable requisite for the exit permit. I make this request believing that the American authorities are more accessible to reason and good sense than the Vichy government is likely to be.

I should greatly appreciate anything you can do in the situation.

Yours sincerely,

#### FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Mr. Ekict B. Coulter, Acting Chief Visa Division Department of State Washington, D. C.

FA/MCE

Weil

COPY

New School for Social Research

November 28, 1940

Dear Doctor von Neumann:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 27.

I am distressed over the difficulty of getting exit permits but there seems to be no way we can hurry things up from this end.

Sincerely,

ALVIN JOHNSON

Alvin Johnson, Director

1940 NOV 27 PM 10 52

NP 227 VIA RCA-CD CLERMONTFERRAND 720 25 27

NLT VONNEUMANN VANSTITUTE PRINCETON NJ

AMERICAN VISA ONLY IF EXIT AND SPANISH TRANSIT OBTAINABLE TRY GET INSTRUCTIONS FROM STATE DEPARTMENT TO MADRID AND VICHY EMBASSIES

WEIL

#### November 27, 1940

Dear Doctor Johnson:

I hasten to answer your letter of yesterday. Since we last talked I have had the following two cables from André Weil:

CLERMONTFERRAND NOV. 19, 1940

WIFE ARRIVED NEXT PROBLEM VISAS YOUR HELP NEEDED CONCERNING EXIT PERMIT AND SPANISH TRANSIT VISA PLEASE CABLE POSTE RESTANTE GREETINGS WEIL

NOV. 23, 1940

PLEASE CLIPPER AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT FOR WIFES SON ALLAIN ROBERT RACUL DE POSSELDEYDIER YOUR HELP NEEDED FOR EXIT PERMIT AND SPANISH TRANSIT

WEIL HOTEL EELLEVUE CEYRAT PUYDEBOME

to which I replied as follows:

ANDRE WEIL HOTEL BELLEVUE CEYRAT, PUYDEDOME (FRANCE) NOVEMBER 25, 1940

AYDELOTTE JOHNSON APPROACHED FRENCH AMEASSADOR CONCERNING EXIT AMEASSADOR PROMISED HELP BUT SUGGESTED YOUR OBTAINING USA VISA FIRST STOP ALEXANDER SENDING AFFIDAVIT STOP HAVE NO CONNECTIONS FURTHERING SPANISH TRANSIT GREETINGS

JOHN VONNEUMANN

You will notice that, in agreement with our last conversation, Dr. Aydelotte also has written to the French Embassy, and has also received an encouraging answer to which my cable to Weil refers. In his letter to the French Ambassador Dr. Aydelotte expressed, as a member of the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars, his interest in furthering your efforts for Weil and also his immediate interest in bringing to this country a first rate man like Weil. Professor J. W. Alexander's affidavit, mentioned in my cable to Weil, was mailed yesterday and should go by tomorrow's Glipper.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Alvin Johnson, Director New School for Social Research 66 West 12th Street New York City JvN:GB

John von Neumann

P.S. I am enclosing a copy of Dr. Aydelotte's letter to the French Ambassador.

Ambassade de la République Française aux Etats-Unis.

Washington, le November 22, 1940.

Sir:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 13 concerning Dr. André Weil, formerly of the University of Strasbourg, who has been offered a position on the staff of the New School for Social Research in New York.

I shall be glad to transmit your request to my Government, but Professor Weil will probably obtain his exit permit if an American visa has first of all be granted to him. I believe it would be advisable to suggest to Dr. Weil that he apply for such a visa at an American Consulate in France./.

#### Sincerely yours,

Joegun mulle

Mr. Frank Aydelotte, U/ The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.

November 13, 1940

The French Ambassador French Enbassy Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ambassadors

As a member of the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars I take the liberty of asking your good offices in securing an exit permit for Dr. Andre Weil, formerly of the University of Strasbourg.

Professor Weil is one of the most eminent mathematicians in the world. He is a member of the Jewish race and because of conditions in Europe he is eager to come to the united States. He has been invited to a position in the New School for Social Research in New York, and Dr. Alvin Johnson, the head of the School has, I believe, made application to you or to M. Charles Lucet in support of Professor Weil's application for permission to leave France. I should like to support this application very strongly.

Professor Weil has previously been a member of the Institute for Advanced Study, of which I am the Director, and we know at first hand the eminence of his gifts in mathematics. In granting him permission to return to this country I am sure that the French government would be taking action which would be recognized by men in Professor Weil\*s field as a service to scholarship.

I should be most grateful for anything that you can do to facilitate Professor Weil's plans to come from France to the United States.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

FA/MCE

FRANK AYDELOTTE

November 11, 1940

#### Dear Dr. Johnson:

Have you any news about the situation of Andre Weil, whom I understand you have invited to come to this country? Weil has cabled our Professor von Neumann, asking for help, but I see nothing that I could do unless reinforce there is some way in which I could the efforts you are making. I should be most grateful if you would let me know what the situation is.

Yours sincerely,

#### FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Dr. Alvin Johnson New School for Social Research 66 West 12th Street New York City

FA/MCE

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH 66 WTWELFTH ST NEW YORK

November 13, 1940

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

I talked yesterday with Professor von Neumann about André Weil.

I am writing to the Secretary of the French Embassy, Mr. Charles Lucet, asking him to use his good offices to get Weil an exit permit, and it would be very helpful if you would also write to Lucet eluding, of course, the invitation from the New School.

Sincerely,

Alvin John ron

Alvin Johnson Director

AJ:EW

Dr. Frank Aydelotte Institute for Advanced Study Princeton, New Jersey INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

TELEGRAN	ORDINARY	Г
DAY	URGENT	
SERIAL	DEFERRED	
NIGHT	NIGHT	7
SPECIAL	SHIP	

## COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NOVEMBER 5, 1940

ANDRE WEIL FOSTE RESTANTE CLERMONTFERRAND (FRANCE)

TRYING EVERYTHING STOP WILL CABLE DEVELOPMENTS GREETINGS

JOHN VON NEUMANN

October 25, 1940

#### Dear Dr. Johnson:

I have just had a talk with Professor von Neumann of the Institute for Advanced Study about Andre Weil, whom you have invited to come to this country. Weil has just sent von Neumann the following cablegrams

#### "MOST DIFFICULT GETTING EXIT PERMIT PLEASE HELP THROUGH STATE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY WELL CHEZ CARTAN FACULTE SCIENCES CLEPMONTFERRAND"

You will have had more experience in this kind of situation than any of us, but I wonder whether it would not be wise to take this up with the French Ambassador in Washington. I don't believe that our State Department would have any influence on the Vichy government, but I can easily see how it might be possible to intimate to the French Ambassador that the granting of an exit permit in this case would be a bit of evidence that the Vichy government could act in an independent and self-respecting manner, which the Ambassador is trying with some difficulty to demonstrate to the American people.

I had a somewhat similar situation in the case of Goedel last spring and such an appeal to the German Embassy worked and Goedel got permission to leave Austria. If you think this the right line to take, von Neumann and I will be most happy to cooperate in any way that we can by writing to the French Ambassador letters reinforcing yours. If you think of anything else that we can do, I should be grateful if you would let me know.

#### Yours sincerely,

#### FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director

Dr. Alvin Johnson New School for Social Research 66 West 12th Street New York City

FA/HCE

COPY

October 24, 1940

NP260 VIA RC-CD VICHY 23 24

NLT VONNEUMANN VANSTITUTE PRINCETON NJ

MOST DIFFICULT GETTING EXIT PERMIT PLEASE HELP THROUGH STATE

DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY

WEIL CHEZ CARTAN FACULTE SCIENCES CLERMONTFERRAND

Uns. Barle INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

TELEGRAM DAY RATE LETTER DEFERRED SERIAL ETTER LETTER

COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

OCTOBER 1, 1940

DOCTOR B. WEIL POSTE RESTANTE TOULOUSE (FRANCE)

NEW SCHOOL SOCIAL RESEARCH NEWYORK OFFERED YOUR SON FOSITION STOP NO REPLY RECEIVED STOP PLEASE WIRE WE YOUR FULLEST INFORMATION

JOEN VONNEUMANN

2.61

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

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# COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

OCTOBER 1, 1940

mes. Dant

3.78

SMITHIES ST. JOHNS COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE (ENGLAND)

REW SCHOOL SOCIAL RESEARCH REWYORE OFFERED ANDRE WEIL POSITION BY CABLE STOP NO REPLY RECEIVED STOP PLEASE WIRE ME YOUR FULLEST INFORMATION THANKS-JOHN VONNEUMANN

10 WORDS ANSWER PREPAID

Recd. Sep. 3, 1940

CABLE FROM LONDON SEP.2,1940

VONNEUMANN

VANSTITUTE PRINCETON N.J.

AWAITING REPATRIATION STOP WIFE OCCUPIED FRANCE STOP AMERICA BEST HOPE EARLY INVITATION WOULD HELP SHALL CABLE AGAIN FROM FRANCE WEIL

#### Institute for Advanced Study

DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY	URGENT
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL	SHIP

## COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

August 31, 1940

Andre Weil White City Clearing Center London (England)

Have hope securing some invitation to America Please wire your immediate

plans and address

Von Neumann

2.00 000

(A prepaid night letter was arranged for when sending this message)

Institute for Advanced Study

DOMESTIC	CABLE	CABLE	
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY		
DAY	URGENT		
SERIAL	DEFERRED		
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SPECIAL	SHIP	1	

# COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

August 27, 1940

Frank Smithies St. John's College Cambridge (England)

Please cable collect anything you know concerning Andre Weil's address

John von Neumann Vanstitute

H. o tart

Steil

	CABLE	
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY	
LETTER	URGENT	
SERIAL	DEFERRED	
NIGHT	NIGHT	X
SPECIAL	SHIP	

# COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

August 23, 1940

NLT

Dr. <u>B. Weil</u> 3 rue du Bourbonnais Vichy (France)

Has your son returned stop Hope can secure American invitation stop

Please wire me Vanstitute Princeton NewJersey

John vonNeumann

2.5 tare

January 14, 1936

Monsieur Andre Weil 3. Rue Auguste Comte Paris, France

My dear Monsieur Weil:

On the recommendation of the professors of the School of Mathematics I take pleasure in informing you that you will receive a stipend of \$1,500 that you may be a member of the School of Mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study for one term of the academic year, 1936-1937, whichever is more convenient for you. The first term will begin on October 1, 1936, and the second term will begin on January 18, 1937.

Looking forward with great pleasure to the association with you. I am

Sincerely yours,

ADTAHAM PLEYNEL

AF: ESB

## UNIVERSITÉ DE STRASBOURG

INSTITUT DE MATHÉMATIQUE

& 10.11.36. 193

#### Dear Dr.Flexner,

I am very grateful to you and to my colleagues of the Institute for the honor done to me in inviting me to be a member of your School of Mathematics during one term next year. I shall very gladly avail myself of the invitation, and accordingly intend to spend in Princeton the second term (January to April) of the academic year 1936-37.

Looking forward with great pleasure to my association with the Institute, I am, with best thanks

Sincerely yours

Ahs

A.Weil

Dr.A.Flexner

The Institute for Advanced Study

20, Nassau Street

Princeton, N.J. (U.S.A.)

## UNIVERSITÉ DE STRASBOURG

INSTITUT DE MATHÉMATIQUE

(PALAIS DE L'UNIVERSITÉ TEL 40.52)

Dear Dr.Flexner,

I am very grateful to you and to my colleagues of the Institute for the honor done to me in inviting me to be a member of your School of Mathematics during one term next year. I shall very gladly avail myself of the invitation, and accordingly intend to spend in Princeton the second term (January to April) of the academic year 1936-37.

Looking forward with great pleasure to my association with the Institute, I am, with best thanks

Sincerely yours

Ahz

A.Weil

Dr.A.Flexner

The Institute for Advanced Study

20, Nassau Street

Princeton, N.J. (U.S.A.)