

277

CORRESPONDENCE

March 22-31, 1960

N. WIENER MC 22

22 Mar 60
22 rue d'Edimbourg
Paris 8

Dear Professor Wiener,

Would you be so good as to send a copy of our joint paper, "On the definition and ergodic properties of the random adjoint of a unitary transformation," which appeared a couple of years ago in Rendiconti di Palermo? to

Professor Pallu de la Barrière
Faculté des Sciences
Université de CAEN (Calvados)
France ?

sent 3/25

I don't have any copies here.

I have been working on a variation of Bernstein's approximation problem and have just completed an article which I hope will appear in The Annales de l'Ecole Normale. I have spent quite a lot of time with Prof, Mandelbrojt who has shown me a great deal of kindness and consideration. He has often mentioned you in terms of great respect and asks me to convey to you and to Mrs Wiener his best wishes and salutations.

There is a great deal of mathematics going on in Paris, especially partial differential equations to which two large seminars (those of L.Schwartz and Leray) are devoted. Bourbaki also continues, but there seems to be less novelty in his point of view which has either gotten adopted or modified over the past years.

De Gaulle is one of the strangest anachronisms going; it is entirely beyond me to see how a man with his metaphysical views can actually run a modern state. Perhaps it really doesn't matter very much what the head of state says or seems to believe. In the Place de la Concorde I have seen slogans chalked on the walls, "Fusillez deGaulle". Lately there have been murmurings of dictatot when he refused to convene the Parlement on its request.

With best regards,

*Best wishes to Prof. Martin
and all.*

R. J. Akutowicz

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
GEORGE F. BAKER FOUNDATION

SOLDIERS FIELD
BOSTON 63, MASSACHUSETTS

22 March, 1960

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

I have just returned from a consulting mission to Turkey, and I find on my desk the two books which you sent me. These I shall read, and when I have done so I will give you my comments, preferably orally. Perhaps we can get together for luncheon.

It will interest you to know that while I was in Turkey, I was a guest in the home of Mr. Fahri Tanman. Mr. Tanman is a marine engineer and a very successful businessman. I was hardly five minutes in his house when he asked me, "How is Professor Norbert Wiener?". He has never met you in person, but he has studied your work and speaks of you with reverence and admiration.

I promised to send him a copy of THE TEMPTOR, which I am doing. I thought you would be interested in this bit of information.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

William Applebaum
sk

William Applebaum
Visiting Consultant
on Food Distribution

WA/sr

March 22, 1960

Professor Herbert Weiner
M. I. T.
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

I would like very much to come and see you regarding communications with vision by cosmic rays. I have some very valuable information regarding it, but I need help from someone like yourself.

Enclosed, please find stamped addressed envelope for your reply. Be so kind as to write me before April 1st as I plan on leaving here about that time. Thank you.

940- 22nd Place
Vero Beach, Florida

Very truly yours,
Mrs. Norman Cooke
[ans 3/28/60]

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ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN

March 22, 1960

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I have been reading your fascinating book, "I Am A Mathematician."

I fear this letter to you may be an imposition on your time and if so, please disregard it.

Do you regard the universe as infinite in time, and if so, why has the Second Law of Thermodynamics not already reduced everything to the "heat death of equilibrium and sameness" to which you refer on page 324 of your book?

Or is it possible that the element of irregularity in the universe is so pronounced that it even invalidates the Second Law of Thermodynamics itself as an absolute?

Yours sincerely,

George W. Curtiss

GWC:MB

194 Forest St S-23
Cambridge (40)
Massachusetts
3/22/60

Dr Norbert Wiener
Chief of Mathematics Dept.
M. I. T.
Cambridge (39) Mass

Dear Dr Wiener: I have just completed reading the article "Machines that really think" in "Science Digest" a mighty interesting article. It also states that you "set down" the basic theory of Cybernetics in a book published in 1947. Will you kindly tell me the title of the book, and its cost, also can the average college graduate grasp same? I realize how extremely busy you are a doctor, but should like an authoritative word from you on this subject. I am a thirty four year service Post Office clerk I like to read articles on "Mindreading" how "Dunning" can read thoughts of combinations, etc. Now Doctor is his, or any other top flight Stage, and T.V. Mindreader's ability, explainable by your "Cybernetic" theory? Is there any technical book published, that explains their "accepted Rules of procedure"? Your "Cybernetic" Machines, could prove to be, the World's greatest non human mentalist. Hope you can favor me with an answer to above. Thanking you in advance
I am Respectfully Yours
E. O. Menzies [and 3/23/60]

(B STAMP ENCLOSED)



RAYTHEON COMPANY

RESEARCH DIVISION

WALTHAM 54, MASSACHUSETTS

22 March 1960

HTM-L-444

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

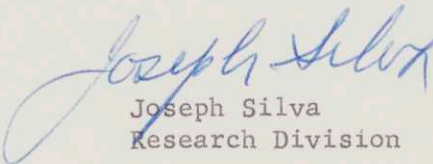
Dear Professor Wiener:

I had the pleasure of meeting you last week at a barber shop in Belmont and drove you to your home. During that time, discussion centered around some of the work that is being done at the Research Division of Raytheon. I mentioned a new material that has been developed here called PYROGRAPHITE and you expressed interest in receiving information regarding its properties.

I am enclosing a brochure which describes the general properties of the material. Its uses are quite varied but at the present time interest is centered on missile application. However, its thermal and electrical anisotropy certainly lends itself to many more applications.

I am also sending, under separate cover, a small sample of PYROGRAPHITE.

Yours sincerely,


Joseph Silva
Research Division

ec

Encl.-1

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

March 23, 1960

Mrs. Eva-Maria Ritter
Secretary to Professor Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. Ritter:

Thanks for your note. Mr. Fred Bennett of our staff will be at Professor Wiener's home at 53 Cedar Road in Belmont at 3:30 p.m. on Monday. We appreciate particularly Mrs. Wiener's helpful map.

Sincerely,



Edward D. Eddy Jr.

EDE: mh

March 23, 1960
330 17th Street S.E.
Fuyallup, Wash.

Prof.
Dear ~~Dr.~~ Wiener.

I would like to thank you for your kind letter received today.

I have sent to Doubleday to order your book, "The Human Use of Human Beings".

Unfortunately, the local library does not carry any of your books. A friend and I are exploring the idea of building "Elmer" and "Edie", mentioned in the March issue of Science Digest. We are now casting about for information on how they are built.

I hope soon to gain enough knowledge to read your book "Cybernetics."

Thank you again

Yours Respectfully
Douglas Hinton

P.S.

Please excuse mistake above in calling you Dr. instead of Prof. I noticed on outside of your envelope it was Prof.

BOLLINGEN FOUNDATION

140 EAST 62ND STREET

NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

March 23, 1960

Professor Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

Thank you very much for your letter
in recommendation of Professor Giorgio de
Santillana who is applying to this Foundation
for a fellowship.

The Trustees of the Foundation
will find your comments very helpful in
reaching a decision this spring in the
matter of a grant.

Sincerely yours,



Mary C. Ritter
Administrative Assistant

le 23 mars 1960

Prof. M. Frechel
2, Rue Emile Faguet
Paris 14^e
France

Mon cher collegue:

Je retiens des souvenirs tres agreables de notre travail ensemble a Strassbourg dans l'ete de 1920. Pendant les 40 ans il a ete tres interessant a considerer les degres auxquels la mathematique a suivi la direction de nos investigations de cette epoque-la. Si vous vous en souvenez, j'ai travaille sur l'integration dans un espace fonctionnel et sur un theme que, comme j'ai decouvert plus tard, est ete aborde independamment par Panach. Pour votre part, vous etiez en train de continuer vos recherches sur la topologie analytique. Il me semble que les choses que nous interessaient a cette epoque la -- maintenant si eloignee -- ont forme une partie considerable du developpement de la mathematique jusqu'aujourd'hui. Je suis tres fier, Monsieur, d'etre entre eux qui ont senti la richesse de vos idees et l'elan de votre enthousiasme. Quant aux choses que j'ai dit dans mon livre, j'aurais du ecrire plus soigneusement.

Je suis bien interesse dans les idees nouvelles que vous avez presentees dans votre lettre. Est-ce qu'il est possible de m'envoyer plus de details sur ce sujet?

Avec les meilleurs souhaits de ma femme et moi, et dans l'esperance que pendant mes vacances a l'Europe cet ete nous aurons l'occasion de causer un peu, je me sousigne

Votre collegue respectueux

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 23, 1960

Mr. Arthur Grad
Program Director for Mathematical Sciences
National Science Foundation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Grad:

I find to my dismay that I have left unanswered for an excessive time your letter concerning an application by Mr. Masani for a support in his research. Mr. Masani has been my collaborator for three years or more, and I find him a mathematician of ability, independence and integrity. I would rate his project as excellent, and I would rate Mr. Masani as able to develop it better than any other man. Masani has a degree of independence and stubbornness in his nature which is in sharp contrast to the rather complacent attitude which is all too common among his fellow countrymen, and I consider this stubbornness, although it is at times a little trying, for those who work together with him, a very positive asset for a man who wishes to make a break-through into as yet unexplored fields.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 23, 1960

Mr. John C.H. McCarthy
P.O. Box Riverview
Zululand, Natal
South Africa

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

My book "Cybernetics" has been published in two places. In France by Hermann & Cie, Paris, and in the USA jointly by Technology Press, M.I.T., Cambridge, and by John Wiley & Sons, New York. I am at present engaged in a revision of the book for a new edition to be published jointly by Wiley & Sons and Technology Press. I am very much interested in the problem of instrumentation and I think you will find some more material on that in the revised edition.

I am delighted that you are thinking of working further in the field.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 23, 1960

Mr. E. P. Menzies
19a Forest Street S-23
Cambridge 20, Mass.

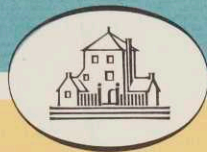
Dear Mr. Menzies:

The book you refer to is "Cybernetics" published jointly by John Wiley & Sons, New York, and the Technology Press, M.I.T. You might also be interested in its small popular companion "The Human Use of Human Beings" which appears in the Anchor Series by Doubleday (Pocket Book).

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr



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March 24, 1960

RE: THE TEMPTER

Dear Norbert:

The printer has returned to us the material listed on the attached card. Because we do not have proper storage facilities here, any material pertaining to books which have already been published must be disposed of. Please indicate your decision on the enclosed card and mail it to us within thirty days. If we do not hear from you by that time, the material will have to be destroyed.

Sincerely,

Jason

yes

Berlin-Charlottenburg, 25. März 1960

Sehr geehrter Herr Professor Wiener,

Ich freue mich sehr über Ihre zustimmende Nachricht vom 18. März und werde Ihnen nun in Kürze den Mitarbeitervertrag zuleiten, dem auch eine Druckprobe beiliegen wird.

Mit herzlichem Dank und mit den besten Empfehlungen

Ihr Ihnen sehr ergebener

Wieland Germsdorf



WÖRTERBUCH
DER SOZIOLOGIE

Redaktion:

DR. W. BERNSDORF

BERLIN-CHARLOTTENBURG 9

Fredericiastraße 27/IV



Prof. Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Tech.
Department of Mathematics
Cambridge 39, Mass.,
U.S.A.

Saturday Review

*25 West 45th Street
New York 36. N. Y.*

*John Lear
Science Editor*

March 25, 1960

Dear Professor Wiener:

Thanks for writing as you did on March 2nd.
I hope the collaboration on your next book
won't spoil your style. I liked it as it
was. Dry, perhaps. Pedestrian -- ?

Sincerely,



Professor Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Cambridge 39, Mass.

jl:rs

MORTON M. WINTHROP
18 WARREN LANE
JERICHO, NEW YORK
—
WELLS 8-7305

March 25, 1960

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Until today's telephone conversation, I had had a great respect for you. I admired your visionary leadership in an area which I do not completely understand but whose critical importance I can sense. Your speech, which George Wood showed me, enhanced this respect because of its forthright language and its square confrontation with urgent problems.

Unfortunately, this talk did not receive the attention in the press I feel it deserved. Newspapers and wire services brazenly shout sordid murder trial testimonies and ignore one of the most important statements of the year.

Dr. Wiener, I assure you that my sense of morality and my ethics in writing are just as keenly developed as yours in your field. I do not "ghostwrite." That is the reason for the "as told to" phrase and, I assume, your objections.

I suggest that there has been a serious semantic confusion which has lead to your signal reaction.

I wish you would have had the courtesy and the sense of fair play to hear me out, inasmuch as I was simply trying to give the largest possible audience to what I feel is one of the most important warnings of our time.

Sincerely,

CC: George D. Wood, Jr.

Morton M. Winthrop

[ans 4/1/60]

March 25, 1960

Mr. Roger Craver
Box 22
Dickinson College
Carlisle, Penna.

Dear Mr. Craver:

It is already not only theoretically possible, but possible on the basis of apparatus already designed to make a machine of a rather complicated character (a general nonlinear transducer) make a machine of adjustable and undetermined characteristics into its own likeness by proper connections between the outputs of the two machines which are working on a common random input. This bears out my thesis that the individuality of a man, like a machine, does not depend on continuing identity of substance but on the reproduction of patterns. The example which I gave was not suggested as intermediate practical possibility but as an emphatic way of alerting people to the fact that a problem of identity is a problem of organization.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 25, 1960

Mr. Jack Lamb
74 Gerdes Avenue
Verona, N. J.

Dear Mr. Lamb:

Thank you for your interesting letter of Feb. 4 which I only now find time to answer. I am rather at a loss to give advice as to what developments can help a child with a hearing problem in the auditory cortex or between cochlea and auditory cortex. The particular thing that puzzles me is that I do not know anything about the possible interruptions of communication which may occur in other than the cochlea channel leading to the auditory cortex and the speech centers. I should suggest that you go either to one of the leading neurologists or to an ear, nose and throat man who has been already alerted to neurological problems. I don't have any particular man in view, but I suggest that you go to one of the great hospitals such as the great ones around the Rockefeller Institute and talk directly with one of their leading neurologists.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 25, 1960

Mr. Gary Richardson
1517 Yale Station
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Mr. Richardson:

It is now definitely possible for a learning machine to be able to defeat consistently at checkers the man who has programmed it after 10 to 20 hours of working in. The man who has been doing most with such machines is Mr. Solomon at the IBM Laboratories in Ossining, New York. Manifestly, whatever the strict definition of originality is we should normally say that such a machine displays something very much resembling originality. This is limited at a lower level than the higher manifestation of human originality, of course, but that it is of a different nature than human originality is not at all clear.

Why don't you write to Mr. Solomon.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 25, 1960

Mr. E. L. Rooney
Assistant News Editor
The American Society of Tool Engineers
10700 Puritan Avenue
Detroit 38, Michigan

Dear Sir:

As requested by wire, and I hope not too late, I am sending you a glossy photograph and biographical information of Professor Wiener for use in publicizing the event of the ASTE Awards.

Sincerely yours,

Eva-Maria Ritter (Mrs.)
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

Enclosures--2

SCHEDULE FOR PROFESSOR NORBERT WIENER

Monday, March 28

- 3:30 p.m. Mr. Fred Bennett will meet Professor Wiener in Cambridge and drive him directly to Sherwood Motel in Dover. After arrival at the motel, Mr. Bennett will register Professor Wiener and leave him to unpack, etc.
- 6:15 p.m. Dean Faiman will pick up Dr. Wiener at the Sherwood and bring him to the Memorial Union.
- 6:30 p.m. Informal dinner for Dr. Wiener with those making arrangements for his visit. Total: Eight. Coos-Cheshire Rooms.
Dr. Johnson
Dean Faiman
Dean Grinnell
Dean Reed
Dr. Hall
Dr. Haslerud
Dr. Munroe
- 8:00 p.m. Open meeting of the University Senate in Carroll-Belknap Suite of Memorial Union.
Dr. Johnson will introduce Dr. Wiener who has been asked to speak on the topic "The Organization Man in the University."
Open discussion will follow the formal speech.
Coffee will be served after the discussion, from tables set up in back of the room.

Dean Faiman will return Dr. Wiener to the Sherwood Motel at the close of the coffee hour.

Tuesday, March 29

- Morning Free. Breakfast at Dr. Wiener's convenience in the motel.
- 11:50 a.m. Dr. Kuusisto will pick up Dr. Wiener at the Sherwood Motel and drive him to the campus.
- 12:15 p.m. Dr. Wiener will meet for luncheon and discussion with the Committee on Academic Programs and Teaching Methods. (Dr. Kuusisto to arrange place of luncheon, etc.)
- 2:15 p.m. Dr. ^{Hall} ~~Munroe~~ will pick up Dr. Wiener (by prior arrangement with Dr. Kuusisto) at luncheon meeting place, and will take him to the informal seminar at 2:30 p.m.
- 2:30 p.m. Dr. Wiener will meet in an informal seminar in DeMeritt 209 with members of the Departments of Mathematics, Physics, and other related areas. Dr. Munroe will be responsible for arrangement for the seminar.
- 4:30 p.m. Dr. ^{Hall} ~~Munroe~~ will return Dr. Wiener to the Sherwood Motel where Dr. Wiener will have an hour to rest and get ready for dinner.
- 5:45 p.m. Dean Gardiner will pick up Dr. Wiener at the Sherwood Motel and take him to dinner at Acacia fraternity at 6 p.m. Following dinner and discussion, Dean Gardiner will return Dr. Wiener to the Sherwood.

Wednesday, March 30

- Breakfast Dr. Wiener will have breakfast at the motel at his convenience.
- 9:40 a.m. ~~Dr. Munroe~~ ^{Miss Peters} will meet Dr. Wiener at the motel and bring him to the campus.
- 10:00 a.m. Dr. Wiener will meet with Dr. Munroe's class in Measure Theory
Between this class and luncheon Dr. Wiener will have free time to look over the campus or just to chat with anyone available. Dr. Munroe or his representative will be his host.
- 12 noon Luncheon with members of the Department of Mathematics (place and exact time to be arranged by Dr. Munroe) *Fac. Dining Rm - Commons*
- After Lunch ~~Dr. Munroe~~ ^{OWENS} will arrange to have Dr. Wiener returned to the Sherwood Motel for a brief respite.
DR Carroll will pick up Dr. W. at Commons - Take to
- 2:00 *Psych SEMINAR*
3:45 p.m. ~~Dr. Roen~~ will pick up Dr. Wiener at the Sherwood Motel and bring him to the campus. *Psychology Dept. Seminar and return Dr. W. to Motel*
- 4:00 p.m. *Return to Motel* Informal seminar with members of the Department of Psychology (To be arranged by Dr. Haslerud and Dr. Roen)
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner and informal discussion with members of Psi Chi, honorary society in psychology (to be arranged by Dr. Roen) *Dr Roen will pick up Dr. W. at motel.*
- Evening Informal social gathering for members of the Department of Psychology (Tentative: to be arranged by Dr. Roen)
Dr. Roen will return Dr. Wiener to the Sherwood Motel for the night.

Thursday, March 31

- Morning Free. Breakfast at the motel at Dr. Wiener's convenience.
- 11:30 a.m. Dr. Eddy will pick up Dr. Wiener at the motel and bring him to campus
- 11:45 a.m. Small, informal luncheon for Dr. Wiener at the home of President and Mrs. Johnson.
- 1:00 p.m. Dr. Wiener will speak at the University Convocation in the Strafford Room of the Memorial Union. Dr. Johnson will introduce him.
- 2:15 p.m. Dr. Eddy will return Dr. Wiener to the motel where he will have a chance to pack, sign out, etc.
- 3:15 p.m. Mr. Curtis will pick up Dr. Wiener at the motel and bring him to the Memorial Union.
- 3:30 p.m. Informal coffee hour for Dr. Wiener in the Coos-Cheshire Suite of the Memorial Union, sponsored by the Student Union and open to all students and faculty members.

Thursday, March 31 - cont'd

5:00 p.m.

Dr. Owens
A member of the Department of Mathematics (to be arranged by Dr. Munroe) will pick up Dr. Wiener at the Memorial Union and drive him to his home in Cambridge. The driver should be prepared to stop with Dr. Wiener en route for dinner in case Dr. Wiener would like to have dinner before reaching home. (All expenses to be paid from Alumni Visitor funds.)

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AGENCY

MR NORBERT WIENER

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If the passenger's journey involves an ultimate destination or stop in a country other than the country of departure, the Warsaw Convention may be applicable and the Convention governs and in such cases limits the liability of carriers for death or personal injury and in respect of loss of or damage to baggage.

March 25, 1960

Mr. Jack Sloves
601 West 26th Street
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Sloves:

I regret that I find only now time to answer your letter of February 5.

Directly, I can give you no advice in medical matters, as I am not a physician. However, I can refer you to Mr. Stanley-Jones, an English surgeon who is particularly interested in such matters. He has gone further in cybernetic medicine than any man I know and he may have an interesting suggestion.

His address is: Mr. D. Stanley-Jones
Buckshead, Townshend
Hayle, Cornwall
England

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 25, 1960

Mr. W. A. Stanbury
Managing Editor
FACTORY
McGraw-Hill Publishing Co.
330 W. 42nd Street
New York 36, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Stanbury:

With all the good will in the world, I have neither the time nor the energy to write the article you requested. I am getting to the stage at which if I want to do the new work which is really my chief interest, I am forced to slash away all other obligations.

I do appreciate your interest and your generous offer, but I hope you will understand that in the middle sixties even the most active men cannot afford not to conserve their resources.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

Dear Norbert Wiener: I am trying to get together the money for 6 of us
American WW II veterans to return to the Elbe River (just April 25th).
Will you and your friends help us?

AMERICAN VETERANS OF THE ELBE RIVER LINK-UP
15th ANNIVERSARY
APRIL 25, 1945 -- APRIL 25, 1960

Kindest regards -

Joe Polowsky
Thanks for your
letter.

March 28, 1960

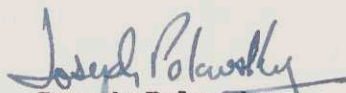
A PERSONAL DECISION TO RETURN TO THE ELBE RIVER ON APRIL 25, 1960
AND THERE TO SWEAR ONCE AGAIN THE 1945 OATH AT THE ELBE. A CALL
TO FIVE AMERICAN WORLD WAR II VETERANS AND SIX SOVIET WORLD WAR II
VETERANS TO JOIN ME IN REAFFIRMING THE OATH AT THE ELBE AS AN ACT
OF GOOD FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE.

Fifteen years ago—on April 25, 1945—six American soldiers thrust through
the no man's land between the American and Russian lines and crossed the Elbe River
in a small boat, uniting on a common, informal friendly meeting ground the armed
forces of two great allies of the Second World War: the United States and the Soviet
Union. At that first long-awaited meeting of the United States and Soviet Armies,
the soldiers on both sides, over the bodies of the dead women and children at the
meeting site, swore an oath to honor the United Nations organization being born
that same day half a world away in San Francisco. The soldiers on both sides swore
never to forget one another, swore never to forget their comrades in arms who had
fallen along the way, nor to forget the dead women and children all about them.
The soldiers swore to work for a better world, to meet as friends after the war,
and to honor the Elbe meeting ground and to keep its meaning alive in their hearts.

As one of the six American Infantrymen to make the boat crossing over the
Elbe River 15 years ago, as one of the American and Russian soldiers to swear the
Oath at the Elbe, I believe I voice something of the thoughts and feelings of all
of us in this critical hour in the history of the human race, when our planet has
become more and more like an arms-heavy, dissension-torn aircraft hurtling through
the sky.

I therefore call upon the nations of the world for a new birth of concilia-
tion, a new sense of human responsibility, that the Oath sworn on that hallowed,
blood-soaked historic ground at the Elbe River shall not have been taken in vain.

I have tried to keep the faith. I have decided to reaffirm at the Elbe
River meeting ground the Oath we took 15 years ago. I shall depart from New York
April 21st, be at the western border of East Germany on April 23rd, and hope to be
in the historic Torgau area on April 25, 1960 to honor the 15th anniversary of the
Elbe River link-up. I call upon five American World War II veterans, as an act of
good faith, good will, trust and confidence on our part, to join me in the trip
overseas, and invite six Soviet World War II veterans to meet us as friends at the
Elbe River meeting ground on April 25, 1960.


Joseph Polowsky,
Secretary

4126 Sheridan Road
Chicago 13, Illinois

RESOLUTION

We American and Soviet veterans of the Second World War, meeting in Moscow on the occasion of our 14th anniversary reunion, again resolve to fulfil the oath we took at the historic friendly meeting of our armies at the Elbe river on April 25, 1945, to work for friendship between our two countries.

During our two previous reunions- in Moscow in 1955 and in Washington in 1958 - we approved a resolution calling for yearly reunions and exchanges of friendly greetings between Soviet and American World War II veterans. We here affirm our support of that resolution. We hope that the exchange of visits of Soviet and American World War II veterans- not only of Elbe veterans, but also veterans representative of the various veterans organizations and services- will be considerably increased to facilitate the strengthening of good relations between our two countries.

We believe that the increased exchange of visits of Soviet and American World War II veterans will serve to strengthen the cultural exchange program which exists between the two countries. This will facilitate the increase of mutual understanding between the people of our two countries.

In securing and strengthening good relations between the USA and the USSR, it is important to remember and build upon the cooperative spirit which existed between our two countries during their World War II effort. That remains our objective in the future.

We will continue to work toward the goal that, as the World War II veterans of the two countries meet more and more - veterans representative of various organizations and services, at various times of the year - the friendship between the people of the Soviet Union and the people of the United States will grow secure and strong, to help assure an honorable and happy future for all.

On behalf of the American Veterans of the
Elbe River Link-up

(signed) Joseph Polowsky

On behalf of the Soviet War Veterans Committee

(signed) Alexey Maresyev

Moscow, USSR
May 9, 1959

RESOLUTION

We American and Soviet veterans of the Second World War, meeting in Washington on the 13th anniversary of the historic friendly meeting of our armies at the Elbe River, again dedicate ourselves to carry out the oath we took on April 25, 1945 to work for friendship between the people of our two countries.

During our reunion in Moscow in 1955, we approved a resolution calling for yearly reunions and exchanges of friendly greetings between Soviet and American World War II veterans. We here reaffirm our support of that resolution.

Affirming our support of the cultural exchange program recently signed by the United States and the Soviet Union, we hope that the exchange of visits of United States and Soviet World War II veterans under that program will be considerably expanded.

To advance understanding and good will between the people of the United States and the people of the Soviet Union, we will work toward the goal that the celebration each year of Elbe Day will become an increasingly important holiday in the two countries.

Strengthening the traditional friendship between the people of the United States and the people of the Soviet Union, we World War II veterans have now had three great friendly meetings: At the Elbe River in 1945, in Moscow in 1955, and now here in Washington during Elbe Week 1958. We will work toward the goal that, as the World War II veterans of the two countries meet each year, the friendship between the Soviet Union and the United States will grow stronger, to help assure a happy and honorable future for all.

On behalf of the Soviet War Veterans Committee

(Signed) Alexey Maresyev

On behalf of the American Veterans of the Elbe River Link-up

(Signed) Joseph Polowsky

Washington, D. C.

April 25, 1958



KUPCINET

KUP'S COLUMN

MIAMI BEACH—Your wandering reporter, ever a soft touch for a glamorous doll, came down here to help one celebrate her birthday. The doll is Miami Beach, a queen among resort cities. Miami Beach, in a display of frankness that is rare among her sex, admits to 45 sun-drenched winters. She prefers to forget the summers, when business isn't so hot.

Some 3,000 natives and tourists assembled in Convention Hall on Wednesday to toast M.B.'s birthday and sing her theme song, "You Are My Sunshine," with apologies to the songwriter, Gov.-elect Jimmie Davis of Louisiana.

MIAMI BEACH, IN ANOTHER DISPLAY of frankness, discussed the men in her life with a touch of pride. There have been so many. . . . Like John S. Collins, who first recognized her talents as a possible resort city. . . . And Collins' son-in-law, T. J. Pancoast, for whom Lake Pancoast was named. . . . And Carl Graham Fisher, the Indianapolis multimillionaire who was responsible for glamorizing Miami Beach with those newspaper photographs of bathing beauties. . . . And the late President

Undaunted Joe Plans Elbe River Reunion Trip

Like any old campaigner, Joe Polowsky fights harder after a defeat than before.

Polowsky, a veteran of the

OCEAN-FLOOR CITIES SEEN

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—A medical research director for the Australian Navy predicted nuclear warfare could force humanity to build cities on the ocean floors.

He said divers soon will be able to live at 200-foot depths for a week in plastic and metal huts being developed in the United States and Britain.

Elbe River meeting of Russian and U.S. troops during World War II, failed in his attempt to bring his Russian counterparts to America for the 15th anniversary of the meeting.

He wanted to combine this celebration with the 15th birthday of the first session of the United Nations, which met on April 25, 1945, the day Polowsky's patrol crossed a 30-mile no-man's land in search of the advancing Russian Army.

His celebration plans were stopped when he was informed by the State Department that Russian nationals are not permitted to visit San Francisco, where part of the UN celebration is to be held.

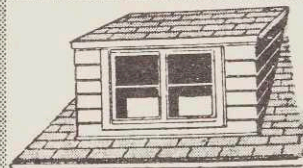
Nothing daunted, Polowsky,

40, of 4126 N. Sheridan, will make a pilgrimage to the Elbe. He has invited the five other American veterans who made first contact with the Russians to join him.

At the site of the original meeting, Polowsky hopes the

six Soviet soldiers who were there 15 years ago will "meet us as friends."

He said he wants the veterans to renew their oath to honor the UN and the "Elbe meeting ground and keep its meaning alive. . . ."



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APRIL 25, 1945 – American and Russian Armies Join Forces at the Elbe River. Soldiers of the United States First Army, in jeep: Pvt. Bryon L. Shiver, at wheel; Pvt. Joseph Polowsky, standing; Pvt. Joseph W. Johnson, at right, exchange greetings with Soviet troops.

The Oath at the Elbe

Two years ago, April 25, 1945 — the day of the opening of the first session of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco — six American soldiers crossed the Elbe River in a small boat, signaling the military junction of two great Allies of the Second World War: the United States and the Soviet Union. The six American soldiers, members of a twenty-eight man Infantry patrol under the leadership of Lieutenant Albert Kotzebue of Houston, Texas, having left the forward American lines west of the Elbe the previous afternoon with the mission of finding a common meeting ground with the Russian Army, thrust through the thirty mile no-man's land between the Russian and American lines. At eleven-thirty in the morning, April 25, Lieutenant Kotzebue's patrol—followed later in the day by two other American patrols—successfully contacted the forward Russian lines on the east bank of the Elbe. A half hour later, at noon, the river crossing by the six American soldiers heralded the link-up of General Courtney H. Hodges' United States First Army and Marshall Ivan S. Koniev's First Ukrainian Army, successfully consummating a great common American and Russian endeavor and unity of purpose and interest.

April 25, 1945, the historic day of the military junction of the two great Allies in Europe, the day of the opening of the first session of the United Nations in San Francisco, marked a high point in American-Russian relations. The two years which have elapsed have seen a precipitous deterioration of relations between the two great war-time Allies. The disappointments and misunderstandings of the past two years have charged the atmosphere with distrust and recrimination. The remembrance of a happier day when, as trusting war-time Allies, they met on a common field of battle, met with hope and enthusiasm at a common conference to help set up the post-war structure, has been almost forgotten.

Unless some great positive and whole-hearted demonstration of conciliation, trust and confidence takes place in the near future, the issues which separate the nations will become irreconcilable. A great primary act of enthusiasm and confidence which can ease the present tension and reverse the present ruinous trend must come from the remembrance, celebration and regeneration of the spirit of a Spring day in 1945 when they met, with high expectation, as brothers at the Elbe and in San Francisco.

We must, all of us—Americans, Russians, and all other peace-loving peoples of the world—ardently hope that April 25 will be set up as a day of friendship and conciliation among nations, and that it be celebrated by all men and women of good will in all countries and areas.

On April 25, 1945, addressing the delegates meeting in session at the first United Nations Conference in San Francisco, President Harry S. Truman of the United States said:

"We approach our task humbly, but with united resolution. The prayers of the people of the world are with us. They are spoken in many tongues and in the words of many creeds. But they are as one voice, rising from the tragedy and suffering of war, in prayer for lasting peace.

"Thus fortified, and with the guidance of Almighty God, we must and shall fulfil the purpose for which we have come together."

Approaching their task humbly, but with united resolution, the American and Russian soldiers grouped at the Elbe on April 25, 1945 were also attempting to fulfil the purpose for which they had come together.

On the evening of April 22, 1945, a last German Engineer platoon, retreating in panic westward, had blown the span over the Elbe at Strela. A half hour later, a civilian wagon train of some two hundred old men, women and children, streaming westward, and stopped by the blown bridge had encamped for the night, huddled in a two hundred yard radius semi-circle about the bridgehead. At one in the morning, April 23, the advancing Russians saw lights flickering at the bridgehead from a two mile range. Believing German military units were engaged for a last stand, they heavily bombarded the bridgehead with artillery and mortars. At dawn, the Russians fanned out north and south of Strela to mop up German remnants.

At eleven-thirty in the morning, April 25—two days later—Lieutenant Kotzebue's patrol reached the west bank of the Elbe at Strela. Upon being recognized by the Russians on the east bank of the Elbe, they prepared for a crossing. The span over the Elbe was of course blown. The only means available for the crossing was an old wooden boat moored to the shore. The Elbe, flooded by Spring rains, was a swift running river. In order to avoid being swept downstream when making their crossing, the Americans moved the boat some hundred yards up the stream in order to be swept by the river into a fifty-yard remnant of the bridge jutting out from the east bank of the Elbe. Achieving their objective, the six American Infantrymen raced over the remains of the span jutting out from the east bank, crossed the river at noon and were greeted by the Russians.

The greetings took place in the midst of some two hundred corpses of old men, women, and children. After the preliminary greetings, they, all of them—Americans and Russians—looked down at the bodies and fragments of bodies—especially the body of a child with blue eyes and long brown hair clutching play crayons in one hand and a doll in the other.

At this historic moment of the meeting of nations, all of the soldiers present—Americans and Russians—solemnly swore that they would do everything in their power to prevent such things from ever happening in the world again, and that the nations of the world would and must live at peace.

The time has come for the nations of the world to reaffirm that solemn Oath at the Elbe.

As one of the six American Infantrymen to make the boat crossing over the Elbe two years ago, as one of the American and Russian soldiers to take the Oath at the Elbe, I believe I voice something of the thoughts and feelings of all of us in this critical hour.

I therefore call upon the nations of the world for a new birth of conciliation and friendship, that the Oath sworn on that hallowed blood-soaked historic ground shall not have been taken in vain.

Joseph P. Polowsky
April 15, 1947

Texts of Addresses at Opening of United Nations Conference in San Francisco

By The Associated Press.
SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—Following are the prepared addresses of President Truman and Secretary Stettinius at the opening session of the United Nations Conference.

President Truman

The world has experienced a revival of an old faith in the everlasting moral force of justice. At no time in history has there been a more important conference, nor a more necessary meeting, than this one in San Francisco, which you are opening today.

On behalf of the American people I extend to you a most hearty welcome.

President Roosevelt appointed an able delegation to represent the United States. I have complete confidence in its chairman, Secretary of State Stettinius, and in his distinguished colleagues, former Secretary Cordell Hull, Senator Connally, Senator Vandenberg, Representative Bloom and Representative Eaton, Governor Stassen and Dean Gladders.

They have my confidence. They have my support.

In the name of a great humanitarian—one who surely is with us today in spirit—I earnestly appeal to each and every one of you to rise above personal interests and adhere to those lofty principles which benefit all mankind.

Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his life while trying to perpetuate these high ideals. This conference owes its existence, in a large part, to the vision and foresight and determination of Franklin Roosevelt.

Each of you can remember other courageous champions, who also made the supreme sacrifice, serving under your flag. They gave their lives, so that others might live in security. They died to insure justice. We must work and live to guarantee justice—for all.

Architects of the Better World

You members of this conference are to be the architects of the better world. In your hands rests our future. By your labors at this conference we shall know if suffering humanity is to achieve a just and lasting peace.

Let us labor to achieve a peace which is really worthy of their great sacrifice. We must make certain, by your work here, that another war will be impossible.

We, who have lived through the torture and the tragedy of two world conflicts, must realize the magnitude of the problem before us. We do not need far-sighted vision to understand the trend in recent history. Its significance is all too clear.

With ever increasing brutality and destruction, modern warfare, if unchecked, would ultimately crush all civilization. We still have a choice between the alternatives: the continuation of in-

ternational chaos—or the establishment of a world organization for the enforcement of peace.

It is not the purpose of this conference to draft a treaty of peace in the old sense of that term. It is not our assignment to settle specific questions of territories, boundaries, citizenship and reparations.

This conference will devote its energies and its labor exclusively to the single problem of setting up the essential organization to keep the peace. You are to write the fundamental charter.

Our sole objective at this decisive gathering is to create the structure. We must provide the machinery which will make future peace not only possible but certain.

The construction of this delicate machine is far more complicated than drawing boundary lines on a map, or estimating fair reparations, or placing reasonable limits upon armaments. Your task must be completed first.

We represent the overwhelming majority of all mankind. We speak for people who have endured the most savage and devastating war ever inflicted upon innocent men, women and children.

We hold a powerful mandate from our people. They believe we will fulfill this obligation. We must prevent, if human mind, heart and hope can prevent it, the repetition of the disaster from which the entire world will suffer for years to come.

If we should pay merely lip service to inspiring ideals and later do violence to simple justice we would draw down upon us the bitter wrath of generations yet unborn.

We must not continue to sacrifice the flower of our youth merely to check madmen, those who in every age plan world domination. The sacrifices of our youth today must lead, through your efforts, to the building for tomorrow of a mighty combination of nations founded upon justice for peace.

"Justice the Greatest Power"

Justice remains the greatest power on earth.

To that tremendous power alone will we submit.

Nine days ago I told the Congress of the United States, and I now repeat it to you:

"Nothing is more essential to the future peace of the world than continued cooperation of the nations which had to muster the force necessary to defeat the conspiracy of the Axis powers to dominate the world.

"While these great states have a special responsibility to enforce the peace, their responsibility is based upon the obligations resting upon all states, large and small, not to use force in international relations except in the defense of law. The responsibility of the great states is to serve and not dominate the peoples of the world."

None of us doubt that, with Divine guidance, friendly coopera-

tion and hard work, we shall find an adequate answer to the problem history has put before us.

Realizing the scope of our task and the imperative need for success, we proceed with humility and determination.

By harmonious cooperation the United Nations repelled the onslaught of the greatest aggregation of military force that was ever assembled in the long history of aggression. Every nation now fighting for freedom is giving according to its ability and opportunity.

We fully realize today that victory in war requires a mighty united effort. Certainly victory in peace calls for, and must receive, an equal effort.

Must Be Good Neighbors

Man has learned long ago that it is impossible to live unto himself. This same basic principle applies today to nations. We were not isolated during the wars, we dare not become isolated in peace.

All will concede that in order to have good neighbors we must also be good neighbors. That applies in every field of human endeavor.

For lasting security men of good-will must unite and organize. Moreover, if our friendly policies should ever be considered by belligerent leaders as merely evidence of weakness, the organization we establish must be adequately prepared to meet any challenge.

Differences between men and between nations will always remain. In fact, if held within reasonable limits, such disagreements are actually wholesome. All progress begins with differences of opinion and moves onward as the differences are adjusted through reason and mutual understanding.

In recent years our enemies have clearly demonstrated the disaster which follows when freedom of thought is no longer tolerated. Honest minds cannot long be regimented without protest.

The essence of our problem here is to provide sensible machinery for the settlement of disputes among nations. Without this peace cannot exist. We can no longer permit any nation, or group of nations, to attempt to settle their arguments with bombs and bayonets.

"Words Are Not Enough"

If we continue to abide by such decisions, we will be forced to accept the fundamental philosophy of our enemies, namely, that "might makes right." To deny this premise, and we most certainly do, we are obliged to provide the necessary means to refute it. Words are not enough. We must, once and for all, reverse the order and prove by our acts conclusively that right has might.

If we do not want to die together in war, we must learn to live together in peace.

With firm faith in our hearts to sustain us alone, the hard road to victory we will find our way to a secure peace for the ultimate benefit of all humanity.

We must build a new world—a far better world—one in which the eternal dignity of man is respected.

As we are about to undertake our heavy duties we beseech Almighty God to guide us in building a permanent monument to those who gave their lives that this moment might come.

May He lead our steps in his own righteous path of peace.

Secretary Stettinius

Fellow delegates of the United Nations Conference on International Organization:

President Truman has spoken of the grievous loss which came to America and to the world less than two weeks ago. This conference of United Nations to prepare the charter of a world organization owes much to the vision and the courage of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Many of his last hours were spent in preparations for this moment—for a moment which—in the wisdom of God—he could not live to see.

We are met here at the time and at the place which he proposed. We have met to carry forward the great purpose for which he spent his strength—to build the structure of a lasting peace after victory in this war. We have lost a wise and valiant leader, but the purpose lives on. In this purpose the United States is more resolute than ever.

All America spoke through Franklin D. Roosevelt when he said:

"The structure of world peace cannot be the work of one man, or one party, or one nation. It cannot be an American peace, or a British, a Russian, a French, or a Chinese peace. It cannot be a peace which rests on the cooperative effort of the whole world.

There can be no middle ground here. We shall have to take the responsibility for world collaboration, or we shall have to bear the responsibility for another world conflict."

All America also spoke through President Truman just now, when he said:

"With ever increasing brutality and destruction, modern warfare, if unchecked, would ultimately crush all civilization. We still have the choice between the alternatives: the continuation of international chaos—or the establishment of a world organization for the enforcement of peace."

In their purpose to build an enduring structure of world peace the people of the United States believe they are firmly united with all the other United Nations. They are united with the large countries which, of necessity, have had to bear the main bur-

den of winning victory over our common enemies. They are united with the smaller countries, so many of which have suffered the agony and destruction of conquest—all because of the failure of peace-loving peoples to unite in time against aggression before this war.

The vital national interests of each of the United Nations require that all of the United Nations work together to make peace and freedom secure. No one of the large nations, no one of the small nations, can afford anything less than success in this endeavor. Each of them knows too well what the consequence of failure would be.

It is, therefore, with this strong bond of compelling mutual interest that this conference of United Nations begins. It is with this clear understanding of what the realities demand of us that we fortify our high vision of a permanent structure of organized peace.

Hull's "Faith" Emphasized

A great American, Cordell Hull, who devoted many years of his life to the task before us, expressed to me only last Sunday his "profound faith that, whatever the difficulties, the labors of this conference will be crowned with success." We all hope that Cordell Hull's improving health will permit him to take part in the conference later on.

To us, who are Americans, it is a hopeful symbol that this conference has met in San Francisco. In our history the West has always meant the future. San Francisco is a place toward which many generations of Americans have turned their eyes.

With faith, American pioneers opened a new path westward across a wilderness. With courage they met and conquered every danger along the way until they reached the promised land they sought. Since then Americans have always thought of California, of San Francisco, as a place where hopes come true, where all purposes can be accomplished.

Now, the deepest hope and highest purpose of all mankind—enduring peace—is here committed to our hands. We, too, are pioneers on a new road. There will be many obstacles and many dangers. We, too, must call upon the courage and the faith of those who came to California before us—across a wilderness to the shores of this great ocean named for peace.

We approach our task humbly, but with united resolution.

The prayers of the people of the world are with us. They are spoken in many tongues and in the words of many creeds. But they are as one voice, rising from the tragedy and suffering of war, in prayer for lasting peace.

Thus fortified, and with the guidance of Almighty God, we must and shall fulfill the purpose for which we have come together.

How Yanks Met Russ on Elbe in 1945

BY JOHN H. THOMPSON

(Map on back page.)

Sunlight pecking away at the leaden clouds tried to warm the chill German air and soften the harsh lines of the grotesque dead scattered like seed along the bank. Up from the water's edge strode the American lieutenant with five of his men. The sun's rays glinted on the combat medals of the brown shirted men coming down toward the Americans. The American army and the Russian army were meeting. Not with barbed wire, iron curtains, curses, and guns. But meeting, over the bodies of their common enemy, with outstretched hands, smiles, and drinks from the same bottle.

Strange as it may seem today, that scene was not so strange four years ago, for then it was the long heralded meeting of combat allies on the banks of the Elbe river. April 25, 1945, two weeks before the complete capitulation of the German armed forces.

Hailed As First Juncture

Torgau on the Elbe has been hailed officially since that day as the first juncture of the two vast armies. Hundreds of thousands of words were written about Torgau by newspaper and radio correspondents, from the first meeting of an American combat patrol to the subsequent gargantuan banquets exchanged by the ranking soviet and American commanders. Torgau was covered by the world press like a blanket. I was there, too, the first allied correspondent to meet the Russians on the Elbe. But Torgau wasn't the first meeting.

Four hours before, 16 miles south at Strehla on the Elbe, another combat patrol had made the first historic meeting. In all the confusion of those wild days at end of the war, this patrol lost out on the publicity.

Lt. William D. Robertson of Los Angeles, who led the four man patrol to Torgau, made his mark in history by bringing back four Russian soldiers to the headquarters of his 69th infantry division as evidence.

History Detoured By Delays

Lt. Albert L. Kotzebue of Houston, Tex., made the first contact at Strehla but stayed there with most of his 28 man patrol, waiting for his regiment to straighten out its orders. Radio messages were garbled, delayed, lost, or misunderstood and history walked on past Lt. Kotzebue and Pvt. Joseph P. Polowsky of 1663 S. Central Park av., Chicago, second of the 1st army's men to meet the Russians, who was Kotzebue's German interpreter.

But here's how it all happened, four years ago.

Hell-bent toward Berlin, Gen. Bradley's 12th army group had been pulled back on its haunches by orders from on high. It would stop west of the Elbe river, considerably west, and wait for the Russians.

Divisions Push, Strain

As a result Gen. Hodges' 1st army was drawn up along the line of the Mulde river, camping at the bit, by mid-April. The orders were strict. Security patrols were permitted beyond the Mulde but only up to about 5 miles. That's what the brass said.

But every division was pushing and straining, hoping someone in the outfit would take a chance. The 69th division was no exception. Somehow the patrols went out, farther than 5 miles, looking for Russians.

On April 24, Lt. Kotzebue loaded his men into seven jeeps and started east. Cautiously they probed thru small towns, Polowsky in the jeep with the lieutenant. Mobs of German soldiers, stragglers and in units, were heading west, away from the Russians. In each village the patrol found civilians terrified that the Russians were on the way. Kotzebue's men disarmed the soldiers and sent them back toward the Mulde. The patrol encountered scores of freed American and allied prisoners and sent all of them back in the same direction.

Push East From Kuehren

That night Kotzebue holed up in Kuehren, 8 miles east of the Mulde, and the next morning pushed on east. Now and then the jeeps, mounting machine guns, would give chase to German staff cars in which officers tried to escape. More and more German soldiers were encountered, all of them eager to surrender.

At 11:30, in a court yard full of joyous displaced persons, tasting the intoxication of freedom, the

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 3)

HOW YANK MET RUSS FIRST TIME ON ELBE IN 1945

History Records Date as 4 Years Ago Today

(Continued from Page 1)

patrol encountered a Pole on horseback. They thought at first he was a Russian until Polowsky explained the difference. The Pole waved them on east and, near noon, Kotzebue reached the Elbe at Strehla.

Thru field glasses he could see Russian soldiers across the river. He was certain they were Russians for the sun gleamed on their medals, and only Russians wear medals into combat. But no answer came when he fired two green flares, supposedly the agreed-upon recognition signals. Another displaced Pole who had joined the party yelled "Amerikanski" in a stentorian voice. Kotzebue decided that ought to do the trick and prepared to cross.

Groups Salute, Shake Hands

With a hand grenade he broke the chains holding two sail boats and a barge. Into one boat he piled Polowsky, Corp. Stephen A. Kowalski of New York City, and Privates John Wheeler of Winstead, Conn.; Edward P. Huff of Riverside, N. J., and Larry Hamlin of Towaco, Colo. The current threatened to carry them down stream but muscles laid into the make shift paddles and they drew up to the wreckage of a pontoon bridge on the eastern shore. Down the bank to meet them came three Russian officers, one a press photographer. It was 12:30 p. m. as the two groups saluted, smiled, and shook hands. The mighty pincers from east and west finally had met in the heart of Germany.

Lt. Kotzebue met Lt. Col. Alexander T. Gardiev, commanding the 175th rifle regiment, and then recrossed the river to take his patrol north to Kreinitz, where there was a better crossing by hand ferry. There the drinking and eating, which had started at Strehla, went on as the American lieutenant was introduced to Gen. Rusakov, commander of the 58th guards division, and then the corps commander. The Russian brass seemed a bit miffed that they had to put up with a mere lieutenant for this celebration, a shoeless lieutenant at that. Kotzebue had drenched himself on the ferry and had taken off his shoes to dry them.

Brass Secretly Pleased

The toasts began, interminable toasts which were to go on for a week or more at other parties; toasts to the late President Roosevelt, to President Truman, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin; toasts to eternal friendship. Kotzebue of course had radioed his headquarters but the messages produced only a comedy of errors. So he waited.

The map co-ordinates he at first reported were inaccurate, and a liaison plane which flew out to the Elbe could find no evidence of a meeting. Instead it drew fire. His regiment was in a tizzy. Maj. Gen. Emil F. Reinhardt, commander of the 69th division, was in a stew, secretly pleased but officially full of dire threats. The higher brass also expressed indignation at this violation of orders.

But before Kotzebue's position could be made clear—it wasn't until late that night—history had tapped the shoulder of Lt. Robertson. An intelligence officer from the same regiment, he had started off the morning of April 25 to round up German prisoners with a "force" of three other soldiers, one jeep, and a lot of curiosity. The curiosity led them on and on, thru swarms of surrendering German soldiers and fleeing civilians, to Torgau, 25 miles from the Mulde river.

Robertson had no flares but he climbed to the top of a 300 foot tower. From the belfry he hung a bed sheet on which he and his men had daubed red and blue, producing a make shift American flag. The flag only drew more small arms fire and a blast from an anti-tank gun across the river, not exactly the welcome Robertson expected from the Red army.

Robertson then collected a freed American naval ensign and a freed Russian prisoner, both of whom spoke German, and in this manner had his greetings shouted across the river. The small arms fire ceased and Robertson and his

1st to Meet Russ

(Story starts on page 1)



Pvt. Joseph P. Polowsky, 1632 S. Central Park av., (left), and Lt. Albert Kotzebue, Houston, Tex., who led first Yank patrol to contact Russians on Elbe river, Germany.

patrol scampered down to the river bank where the shattered bridge lay in the water.

Slowly Robertson inched out along a narrow girder. From the other end came a Russian lieutenant, crawling on hands and knees. Near the eastern shore they met. Robertson pounded the Russian happily on the knee and continued on to shore. The time was 4 p. m., almost four hours after Kotzebue's forgotten meeting.

Persuades 4 To Return

Another round of drinking started, this time for Robertson and his men. They exchanged watches with their new soviet pals, a deal which obviously benefited the Russians. They drank toasts. Then Robertson did the smartest thing of all. He persuaded four Russians to return with him and the patrol.

The brass couldn't ignore these facts (most of them were delighted, unofficially). Every correspondent on the front was at Reinhardt's headquarters in Naunof when the Russians came in. It was the big story, and, of course, a news blackout immediately was clamped on for 48 hours, until April 27 at 6 p. m., so the news could be announced simultaneously by the Big Three.

Gen. Reinhardt ordered Col. C. M. Adams, the regimental commander, to start back for the Elbe at once with the Russians and make arrangements for the meetings of the higher brass to follow. It was about 1:30 in the morning when the caravan of 13 jeeps left Adams' command post at Trebsen. Unbeknownst to my fellow scribes back at Reinhardt's headquarters,

I was a stowaway, riding in the lead jeep with Lt. Robertson.

Cross In Racing Shells

Dawn was a sleazy grey as we reached the swiftly flowing Elbe. Our Russian major shouted commands across the water, waking up tired soldiers bundled in great-coats. Two of them unloosed a barge and tried to paddle across. The impatient major broke into a boathouse and dragged out a racing shell, seated himself in the stern, and invited Col. Adams to come aboard. That's the way we crossed to meet the Red army, balanced precariously inside the thin skin of two racing shells, paddled by Russians.

Russian officers and enlisted men came forward as Col. Adams led the party up thru the dew drenched grass. More salutes and handshakes. More translators. The Russian battalion commander led us to an abandoned German barracks where his men had eaten the

night before. Husky Red soldiers cleared the tables by pitching dirty dishes out the window. In another moment crates of "liberated" cognac and champagne appeared. Out came bottles of vodka, tins of sardines, sausages, and cheeses. Alcohol soon loosened the atmosphere and in a short while Russian and American were seated around the tables drinking.

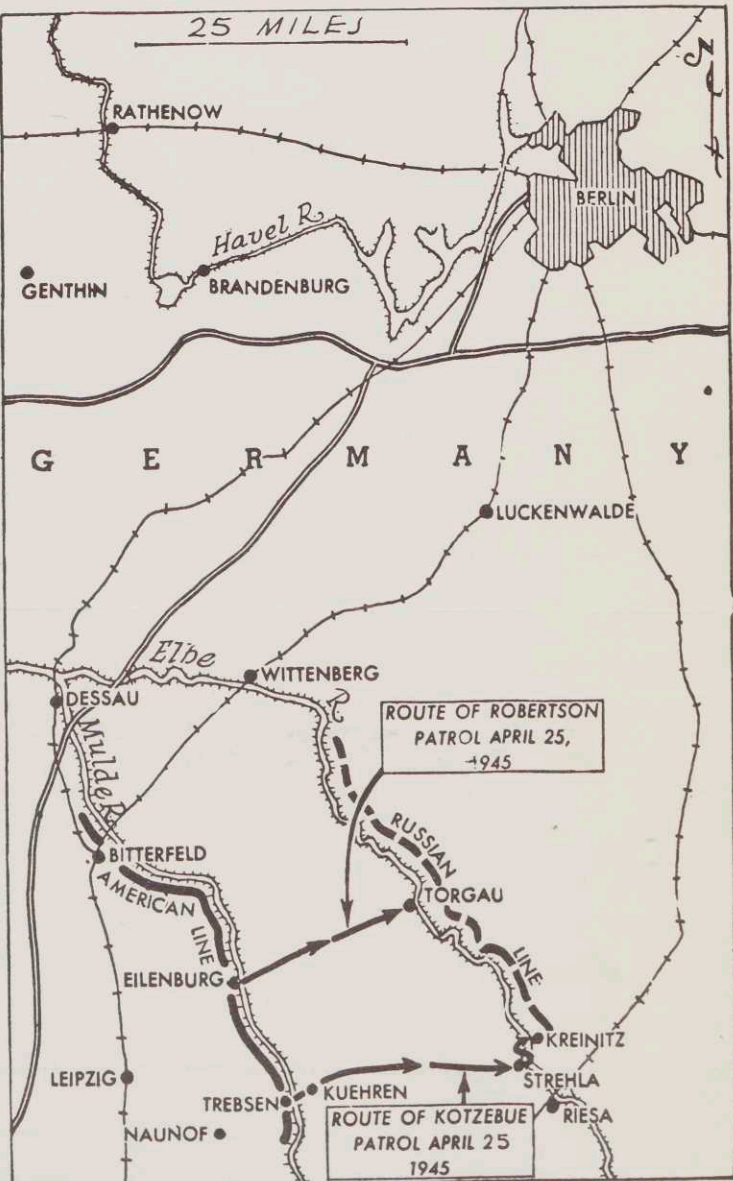
Tribune "Scoop" Blows Up

Two hours later my "scoop" blew up in my face. Thru the door came Mrs. Anne Stringer of the United Press and a photographer from International News service. They had persuaded an artillery officer to fly to the Elbe in a liaison plane to join the party. In no time at all pretty Mrs. Stringer was the center of the group, with half a dozen soviet officers trying to "make time."

Later Col. Adams met his opposite number. In the afternoon, accompanied by the remainder of the press corps, Gen. Reinhardt came to meet Gen. Rusakov. And they had a party. Within a week Maj. Gen. C. R. Hubener sat at a Russian banquet table, and then came the really big feasts for Gen. Hodges, and finally Gen. Bradley and his staff, who were the guests of Marshal Koniev. All these Russian banquets later were duplicated in return engagements on the American side.

The spontaneous joviality of the first meetings soon was gone. Within two days after the patrols had met, Moscow had rung down the iron curtain.

Ivan and GI Joe had met, despite the language barrier, without political overtones, and had found pleasure in their meeting. But that was the last thing Moscow wanted. By such fraternization Ivan might soon be corrupted, might soon realize Stalinism had sold him a bill of goods. So, except for the official banquets, the iron curtain effectively prevented any further meeting of soldiers on the banks of the Elbe.



Map shows routes American patrols took to make first juncture with Russians at Elbe river, Germany, four years ago.



THE GROLIER SOCIETY INC. Publishers

Grolier Building 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. PLaza 1-3600

March 28, 1960

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Dept. of Mathematics
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

We are writing to you concerning a project on which the Grolier Society is working and which involves many eminent scholars. The Grolier Society publishes a short-entry encyclopedia in twenty volumes called the GROLIER ENCYCLOPEDIA. It was originally based on an English encyclopedia, and over the years has been revised continually. We have now decided to prepare an extensive revision, which will be up-to-date and comprehensive in coverage and international in scope, for distribution throughout the world. It is aimed at a level that will make it useful for students in school and college, and for the average adult who wants an accurate and ready reference work which will give him quickly and succinctly the basic information he seeks. To insure a high level of scholarship we have working with us, as editorial advisors, many recognized authorities in the various areas of knowledge.

We will need a large number of entries in the field of automation and wonder if you would like to write some articles for us in this area. Specifically, at present we need:

Automation	3,000 words
Cybernetics	500 words

Would you be willing to write these articles at our standard rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents per word, which means a payment of \$122.50, in the near future? If so, please let me know and we shall send you specific suggestions for the articles, and samples of the style we think appropriate for this particular work.

Our intention is to publish the larger articles in the set over the signature of the author, leaving most of the smaller articles unsigned. However, all our authors will be listed as contributors at the beginning of the first volume of the new work.

We hope we may have the pleasure of including you among the distinguished scholars associated with this project.

Sincerely yours,

H Kondo

Herbert Kondo
Science Editor

HK:jk

[and 4/1/60]

March 28, 1960

Mr. Alvin C. Bothwell
359 Northwestern Ave.
West Lafayette, Ind.

Dear Mr. Bothwell:

Your considerations of the dangers of machines are interesting and I agree that the danger is not the only one of the kind. However, the continuances in question have not yet taken definite enough form for me to believe that it is very profitable to consider in detail a field in which we can say we are beset by so very many dangerous possibilities.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 28, 1960

Mrs. Norman Cooke
940-22nd Place
Vero Beach, Florida

Dear Mrs. Cooke:

I know nothing about communications with vision by cosmic rays. Therefore, I regret that I am unable to give an intelligent answer to your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 28, 1960

Mr. Thomas Dalby
The Hutchinson Publishing Group
178-202 Great Portland Street
London W1
England

Dear Mr. Dalby:

It happens that I am already committed to write a revision of my "Cybernetics" with a few extra chapters for the Technology Press and Wiley, N.Y. You will see that I naturally consider myself rather deeply committed not to take on another book of similar nature in the near future.

In addition to that, I find myself occupied to the limit of my capacity and simply cannot take any more on. I am highly appreciative of your invitation, but I hope you will understand why I am forced to turn down your very interesting offer.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 28, 1960

Mr. Thomas Marshall, Jr.
31 Constantine Place
Summit, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Marshall:

There is considerable literature about attempts to reconcile relativity, even gravitational relativity and Newtonian mechanics. A prominent writer in this field was the late Professor Birkhoff of Harvard University. Perhaps his son Garrett Birkhoff, now Professor of Mathematics at Harvard can give you some information about this.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 28, 1960

Mr. Robert V. Ormes
Assistant Editor
SCIENCE
1515 Mass. Avenue, N.W.
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ormes:

I am returning under separate cover Professor Wiener's article on the Moral and Technical Consequences of Automation. He approves of all the changes your copy editors have suggested.

Sincerely,

Eva-Maria Ritter (Mrs.)
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

Separate Cover

March 28, 1960

Mr. Thomas R. Sheehan
Mentzer, Bush & Co.
330 East Cermak Road
Chicago 16, Ill.

Dear Mr. Sheehan:

I am very much complimented by receiving your letter in which you proposed a correspondence between you and myself to discuss the present economic system. However, I have not the time nor the energy to give adequate attention to the questions you ask and the considerations you urge.

I hope you will understand that an older man has to work within his limitations.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

March 28, 1960

Mr. Harry F. Waters
Graduate School of Journalism
Columbia University
New York 27, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Waters:

Professor Wiener wishes me to thank you for letter expressing your interest in the development of electronic computers. Professor Wiener objects very much to all kinds of questionnaires, and at the moment -- that is throughout the spring term -- he is extremely busy with research and the writing of various papers to which he has committed himself.

I regret therefore that he is unable to comply with your request to assist you with your project. He receives a good many requests of this sort every day, and to answer them all would take up more time than he could afford in view of the important research he is doing. I hope you do understand and will forgive him for declining you this favor.

Sincerely yours,

Eva-Maria Ritter (Mrs.)
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Department of Mathematics
2 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

March 29, 1960

TO: Speakers and Sessions Chairmen,
Symposium on Instability in Hydrodynamics

Dear Colleagues:

To ensure the greatest possible success of the Symposium, all principal speakers are requested to limit their talks to 25 minutes. Invited discussers should speak for at most 5 minutes. Only by adhering to these limitations can we keep the length of each session within the two hours allotted. There should be some time for a break after the second talk at each session, and some time for questions and comments from the floor.

Messrs. Friedrichs, Stoker, Hopf and Wiener, who will act as Sessions Chairmen, are requested to enforce the above limitations of time.

The Proceedings of the Symposium will be published by the American Mathematical Society as a separate volume, the twelfth in a series. A manuscript length of 20-40 typewritten pages is normal for this series. For invited discussion, 5-15 pages seems appropriate.

One MS. has already been received. Will each speaker try to submit his MS. by May 1, and regard June 1 as an absolute deadline. This should give time for the authors to consider suggestions as to revision, and to submit a final MS. by September 1. The published volume can then appear by September, 1961.

G. Birkhoff

lbs

K17-7187
v 2171

COPY.

Santiago, March 29, 1960.

Professor Norbert Wiener,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Professor Wiener:

Please forgive me for bothering your attention, but I am writing a book on divulgation of cybernetics and I must turn to you for a favor as the real father and founder of this science in our days.

In the year 1943 you published in the journal "Philosophy of Science" (Vol. X, pages 18 to 24) an article in collaboration with Professor Arturo Rosenbleuth and another person, entitled "Behavior, Purpose and Teleology," which I believe could be very useful to me in my work. Would it be possible for you to send me a copy of this paper or tell me where can I obtain it?

If, besides, you have published anything further on this aspect which I consider to be the essence of cybernetics, that is, the correlation between the mechanics of machinery and the mechanics of the living bodies, I would also appreciate you to let me know.

I have already published several essays in Chile of a scientific philosophic character, in a language and in a level that can reach people with certain culture of many of the things that have happened in science in the last 50 years. Besides, and this is most important, I try to show the influence that the scientific discoveries have had on the philosophy of man and his attitude before life. Would you be so kind and help me in this opportunity?

Thanking you in advance for your kindness, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Arturo Aldunate Ph.

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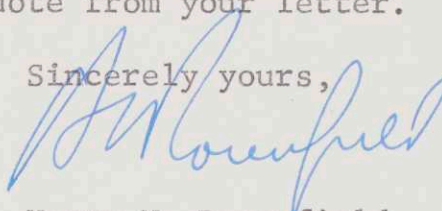
March 29, 1960

Professor Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

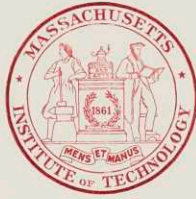
Thanks for your kind letter of March 18, 1960,
granting permission to quote from your letter.

Sincerely yours,



Harry N. Rosenfield

HNR:js



SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDY

March 30, 1960.

Dear Professor Wiener,

The next informal gathering and dinner of the School for Advanced Study will be held on Thursday, April 7, at 6.30 P.M. in the M.I. T. Faculty Club. After dinner there will be a talk by Professor Columbus Iselin of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on the subject "Oceanography, past, present and future".

You are cordially invited to attend this dinner-meeting, and it will be appreciated if you will complete the attached acknowledgement and send to Room 24-312 by return mail.

Sincerely yours,

M. J. Buerger
Director, School for Advanced Study

MJB/DR

ok

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March 30, 1960

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

Quincy Wright, Morton Deutsch and I are editing a book of proposals to prevent World War III. The objective of the book is outlined in a statement which I am herewith enclosing. In brief, we are convinced that novel and creative measures are urgently needed to cope with the threat that nuclear war poses to mankind. We are further convinced that the application of creative intelligence to this grave problem may well make a difference in the matter of war or peace.

We are inviting potential contributors to this volume from different disciplines in various countries of the world, whose work evidences the mark of outstanding creativity. For more than anything else, the complexities of the problem of preventing nuclear war require inventive thinking.

I am writing to invite you to contribute to our projected book because of my high regard for the creative character of your work. I sincerely hope that you will be able to find the time to write an article setting forth a proposal which comes to grips with a significant facet of the problem of preventing World War III.

Our tentative deadline for assembling all the essays is December 31, 1960. At this juncture we have not yet made any arrangements with a publisher although several publishers have assured us of their interest. When we do so, we are planning to stipulate that no royalties shall be received in order to keep the price of the book as low as possible.

Professor Norbert Wiener - 2

My colleagues and I look forward to hearing from
you.

Sincerely yours,

William M. Evan

William M. Evan

MH-122-WME-PH

Att.
Statement

[ans 4/13/60]

AUFBAU DECONSTRUCTION

An American Weekly

Published in New York City by the New World Club, Inc.

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MANFRED GEORGE, EDITOR

March 30, 1960

Prof. Norbert Wiener
M. I. T.
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Professor Wiener:

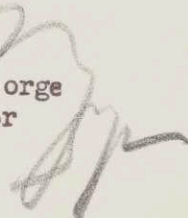
I have your letter of March 18th and I can certainly see your point.

Could you possibly let us have a few pages from the revised "Cybernetics?"

That might solve the problem.

Sincerely,

Manfred George
Editor



p

[ans 4/22/60]

Thomas Marshall, Jr.
31 Constantine Place
Summit, New Jersey

March 30, 1960

Professor Garrett Birkhoff,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dear Professor Birkhoff:


I will appreciate your comments on the enclosed paper.

I write to you at the suggestion of Professor Norman Wiener, who makes this suggestion because of your familiarity with your father's work in attempting to reconcile relativity with Newtonian mechanics.

The gist of this paper is that there are two distinct and equally valid bases upon which relativity theories can be erected. One base has been used, and the other, I believe, has been overlooked. Because the choice of the base completely determines the description of natural phenomena, I think consideration should be given to the use of the alternate base, in the hopes that it might lead to a rather more comprehensive reconciliation than is available at present.

Your comment will indeed be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas Marshall, Jr.

*Professor Wiener:-
Thank you very much
for this suggestion.
T.M.J.*

✓ cc: Professor Wiener.

March 30, 1960

Professor Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

Thank you very much for your courteous letter of March 25, in which you regretfully declined invitation to write an article for my magazine.

I understand your position very well. May I fall back on the hope that some sunny day in the near future you may find your view softening and may thereupon sit down and dictate some comments that would take shape as the article I had hoped for.

Sincerely yours,



W. A. Stanbury
Managing Editor

WAS:rdm

c.c. Robert S. Rice

March 30, 1960

Miss Marie Mozden
621 Amostown Rd.
West Springfield, Mass.

Dear Miss Mozden:

Your letter to the Institute containing your questions about cybernetics has been forwarded to Professor Wiener who, as you perhaps know, was the founder of the science of cybernetics. As he is out of town, I will try to give you as much assistance as is possible for me.

Perhaps the easiest way to introduce you to the field, as well as a means to increase your interest, would be to read Prof. Wiener's popular "The Human Use of Human Beings" appearing in the Anchor Series (pocket book) by Doubleday. It is not too hard to read and gives a sober account of the scientific treatment of the subject and is moreover effective through the decisiveness of its caring and warning attitude towards the forms and possibilities of electronic computers. His famous book "Cybernetics" is more theoretical and detailed, but if you are interested, you might find it worth-while reading.

I hope I have provided you with a little information, but if you should have more questions, and you probably will as you go along, please don't hesitate to write again.

Sincerely yours,

Eva-Maria Ritter (Mrs.)
Secretary to Prof. Wiener



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER
GOVERNOR

March 31, 1960

Dear Professor Weiner:

Automation presents a major challenge as well as a bright hope to our country and state in the critical era in which we now live. It requires the best thought that we can give it.

Leadership and direction are needed to coordinate and make effective the efforts of business, labor, education and government in New York State, the nation and throughout the free world to gear our Western civilization to continuing progress and economic growth.

In my message to the New York State Legislature this past January, I said that I would convene a working conference to help develop a clearer understanding of the scope of automation and to establish objectives to ward which all parties in interest might work.

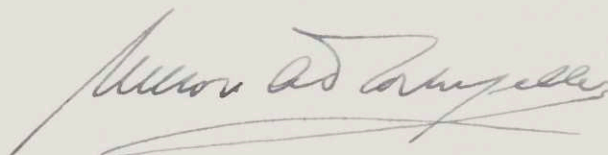
You are invited to participate in the conference which will meet at Cooperstown, New York from June 1 through June 3. I hope you will be able to participate and I shall welcome the opportunity of meeting with you at that time.

A tentative program of the meeting is enclosed. Each of the sessions will examine in depth a phase of automation. A few weeks before the group meets, we plan to circulate among those who will attend, papers dealing with each of the matters scheduled for discussion. The purpose of these papers will be to serve as a springboard for discussion. They will not be read at the meeting, but they will be summarized by their respective authors.

The product of the conference, as developed at the June meeting, will be presented at a later date to representatives of industry, labor, the general public and government.

Please let me know as soon as you can whether you will attend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Milton Adelman", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Professor Norbert Weiner
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Enclosure

[ans 4/4/60]

PLANNING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Hotel Otesaga, Cooperstown, New York; June 1 - June 3

Wednesday, June 1

Reception - 6:00 P.M.

Dinner Meeting - 7:00 P.M.

Keynote Address by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller

Thursday, June 2

Morning Session - 9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

"Automation: Its Meaning and Dimensions"

Afternoon Session - 2:30 P.M. to 5:15 P.M.

"Basic Economics of Automation"

"Manpower for Automation"

Friday, June 3

Morning Session - 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

"Community and Automation"

Summation - 11:15 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.

William J. Ronan, Secretary to the Governor

Concluding Remarks - 11:45 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Lieutenant Governor Malcolm Wilson

Final Luncheon - 12:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Memorandum from THE TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

Date March 31, 1960

To Prof. Norbert Wiener - Room 2-276

This gentleman plans to reprint your
article in his company's house organ.
I'm afraid there will not be any payola.

Volta Torrey

Signed _____

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

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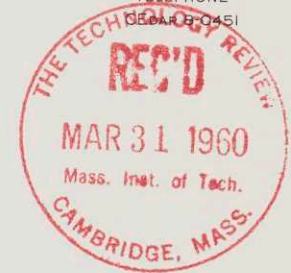
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March 29, 1960

Volta Torrey, Editor
The Technology Review
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Mass.



Dear Mr. Torrey:

Please accept my thanks for your letter of March 25th enclosing copy of the February 1960 issue of the Technology Review.

The article by Professor Norbert Wiener entitled "The Duty of the Intellectual" is the one I referred to in my letter of March 14th and I want to thank you for permission to reproduce it. The title, by the way, seems to me very much better than the one used in the Saturday Review in reprinting the article.

Very truly yours,

GANNETT FLEMING CORDDRY & CARPENTER, INC.

W. H. Corddry
W. H. CORDDRY,
President *fm*

WHC-fm