

5 September 1962

Mr. Boris C. W. Hagelin
Sundsvik, Sweden

Dear Boris:

Over a month has sped by since your letter of 3 August 1962. In the meantime I spent two weeks out in California on RCA business. I also spent three days in Las Vegas, Nevada, not to do anything as silly or dull as gambling, but to visit another RCA consultant who happens to live there temporarily. It was very, very hot there and I caught cold from coming indoors where the temperature is an air-cooled 70° from the outdoor-temperature of 110°, and vice versa. The cold settled in my left eye and gave me some discomfort but this is much better now. Maybe I got a bit of infection from swimming in outdoor pools. Everybody has a private swimming pool out there, as you no doubt know. Elizebeth did not accompany me as she had to stay home to supervise the work being done to our new kitchen. That was a large and expensive job. It looks very fine and beautiful -- but I don't think it will be nearly as convenient as the old one. However, she wanted it and is pleased with it.

A friend of mine who was in Stockholm very recently has told me that he saw on sale in a bookstore there the 3-volume work on the alleged solution by the Russians of the Maya hieroglyphic writings. The authors are members of the Novosibirsk Institute of Mathematics, Siberian Division of the Academy of Sciences: E.V. Yevreinov, Y. G. Kossarev, and V. A. Ustinov. Would you be so kind as to find out the cost of the set of three books and if it doesn't come to more than say \$15, purchase a set and send it by ordinary surface mail? Please let me know by air mail whether you have made the purchase and how much it cost, so that I can reimburse you.

I have been working quite hard and so has Elizebeth. I take pleasure in sending you herewith an article of hers which has received wide acclaim. Even BBC had a broadcast about it; letters and inquiries have come from as far away as Sydney, Australia. She also finished in one month's time a 4,000 word article on Cryptography for a new encyclopedia being published by the well-known firm, Crowell-Collier Co. The encyclopedia is for students of high-school age.

"How are our travel plans shaping up?" Well, nothing definite yet. As you can see from reading Elizebeth's article, I have a real job of work out for me, as the solution of the Voynich manuscript is going to be very difficult if my theory as to its nature is correct.

My paper on Shakespeare will be out very soon, as I read the galley proof a couple of weeks ago. I will certainly send you a copy as soon as possible. I have three or more other things in mind and must get those writings off my chest.

We would love to join you in Menton or in Zug but not this year. Maybe next year.

Our most affectionate regards to both of you.

Sincerely,

Bice

Encl.

P.S. Correcting the 2nd paragraph of this letter: I have talked again with my friend and learned that he did not see the books in a bookstore in Stockholm. The man who delivered the lecture had one set of the books with him and showed that set to members of the audience who came up to the platform after the lecture. My friend was among them and it was there that he saw the books. He also saw on the rear cover of each volume how many copies had been printed: 1000 each of volumes 1 and 2, and 700 of volume 3. He did not note the price. The books are in Russian and probably have as title something like the following: "The decipherment of the Maya language by computer machinery." Please do not go to too much trouble on this matter, as I will perhaps be able to acquire a set sooner or later in this country.

P.P.S. - I now have the full title (Russian) of ^B the work in question:

PRIMENENIE ELEKTRONNICH VICHISLITEL'NICH MASHIN V ISSLEDOVANII
PIS'MENNOSTI DREVNICH MAIYA

Each volume has a sub-title but I do not have them as yet. Besides, I don't think you will need them.

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