

9 February 1955

Dr. Stewart S. Cairns
Institut de Mathematique
Palais de l'Universite
Strasbourg, France

Dear Stewart:

My departure was delayed and the new date thereof is now 18 February, via MATS. This should get me into Paris about 3 p.m. on Saturday, 19 February. I find I must go on towards Frankfurt without delay, so I won't be able immediately to avail myself of your cordial invitation to visit you in Strasbourg nor would it be advisable for you to drive to Paris to meet me there, since I expect to stay in Paris only a very few hours at most on my arrival in Europe. However, I do expect to be in Paris again later, on my way to London, and I will be in touch with you as to date and time that we may be able to get together. I note that you are planning to take a trip late in March but I will be back in Washington by then, I hope.

One business reason why I wanted to see you, perhaps with H. F. Robertson at the same time, is to talk to you both, seeking advice and guidance with respect to NSASAB affairs. We in NSA are trying to figure out ways in which we can better avail ourselves to the high potential afforded by the Board and its Panels, individually as well as collectively. I thought we might put our heads together while I'm in Paris, to talk over ways and means for improving ourselves in re our utilizing them more or better than is now the case.

Thank you for your information about Delastelle. What I wanted, on behalf of a friend, was biographical data but these seem to be elusive right now. Your precis of the contents of his two books is much appreciated.

With best regards and hopes of seeing you either in Paris or in Strasbourg soon, I am,

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN