

Prof. H. H. Aiken

g. e. 612

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Caro prof. Aiken,

20 February, 1952

ricevei a suo tempo la Sua gentile lettera del 7 gennaio  
Prof. H. H. Aiken e vivamente la ringrazio.

Computation Laboratory piacere di ricevere una lunga visita da parte dell'  
Harvard University tornato in Italia, molto soddisfatto del periodo trascorso  
Cambridge 38, Mass., U.S.A. Egli mi si è dichiarato in grado di progettare

Dear Prof. Aiken:

I have received in due course your kind letter of 7 January  
for which I express my deep thanks. I have had the pleasure of a  
long visit from engineer Canepa, who has returned to Italy deeply  
satisfied with the time spent at your laboratory. He has told me  
that he is in the position to project (if you will allow me to  
call it such) a Mark V to be used at this institute. For the actual  
construction of the machine we will have the financial and technical  
assistance of the Olivetti Company, which will give leave  
to Canepa and another engineer or technician to remain at Rome  
to devote themselves to the machine's construction.

At some point, however, we shall clearly need your active assistance,  
and I hope you will not wish to deny it to us. I do not expect, alas,  
that your presence will be needed in the near future, but I believe  
the need might be set for the second half of 1953. There are, however,  
two ways in which you might help us at the present time to bring  
about a Mark V here at Rome, and I will presume to ask your cooperation  
on them:

a) To permit the engineer Giulio Rodino to obtain the greatest possible  
practical grasp, of the construction as well as the use, of the Mark IV,  
assigning him duties on the machine that in your opinion are best suited  
to this end.

b) To be willing to accept at your laboratory two young mathematical  
colleagues of mine, Drs. Enzo Aparo and Dino Dainelli, who are currently  
in Washington at the Applied Mathematics Laboratory of the National  
Bureau of Standards and would like now to devote themselves at your  
place to the operation of the Mark IV in the execution of various  
calculations of more important problems, such as tabulation of functions,  
solution of systems of linear algebraic equations, the integration of  
systems of differential equations, etc.

In the hopes that you will accede to both my requests, I presume  
to ask further if you could let me know when Aparo and Dainelli might  
profitably commence work at your laboratory and how long a stay there  
will be necessary to achieve the ends I have described.

Permit me in closing, my dear Prof. Aiken, to express my warmest  
feelings of friendship and my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Mauro Picone