

July 7, 1961

Dear Dr. Bennett:

Whew! Summer. And somewhat of a vacation for me, at least, though I imagine you're getting no rest with that conference in Racine to get in order. As a matter of fact, I gather you are exactly the person to tell me whether or not I might attend the conference. I'd like to do so very much, if possible; I have no idea what sort of arrangements must be made, however, or even if it is too late to make them. Ann and Mike volunteered to get my accommodations, if necessary; but we didn't know if everyone would be staying at the same place (and if so, where) or would be scattered. I would greatly appreciate a bit of information on this subject if it is OK for me to come. I'll be spending the middle part of September with Ann and Mike anyhow, getting acquainted with NAL's vast new computer.

Vacation, did I say? Linear A is occupying about half of my time, with the rest dribbled out among Modern Greek (I'm trying for a Fulbright to Greece, '62-'63), Italian (to help Linear A), German (ditto), Homer (to relieve my cramped schedule next year), earning money by computing, and folk-dancing. Both Greeks and folk dancing are on regular schedules; the rest are in shifts of a month each. In Linear A, I am in the process of ascertaining word breaks by various mathematical means and comparing them with those got by "intuitive" means. When I finish this project, I'll try to print up a new comprehensive and cross-indexed index of all discoverable "real" words, and send you a copy. This will take a while, but I hope not the whole summer.

If Miss Lang posted you on my progress as of mid-June, you've probably noticed that I'm no farther along now than I was then. Reason: I came down with pneumonia the day after I wrote her, and everything sort of ground to a halt for about 2 weeks. But I feel fine again now, and am almost back to my usual frantic pace.

Mike and I have been pumping all sorts of mathematicians at Cal Tech for new methods (Ann and Mike came West in June, which is the reason I didn't come to Wisconsin), but the trouble is that all but one of the useful people are tongue-tied by having worked with classified government code-crackers. I don't know if Miss Lang told you that my work on Linear A may (or may not-- I keep getting cold feet) turn into an Honors project next year. Major hitch: it will badly overload an already overloaded Senior schedule. Miss Lang did say to me, however, that a new edition of Linear A by W. C. Brice had come out. From whom is it possible to buy a copy? Or isn't it? If I can't buy one, perhaps I can dredge up a copy for a day and reproduce it on a fantastic new machine at Caltech for reproducing directly from books without using microfilm. (Good old modern science.)

I'll get in touch with you as soon as I get anything constructive done, and probably bring you piles of stuff in September. I do hope I can come to the Racine conference, and would appreciate your letting me know what I should do about it.

Sincerely,

*Bitchin Wayland*