

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY
Nov. 2, 1962

Dear Hermes of Mexico-Escapists,

I thank you very much for taking the trouble to send me Mexican folders. Was I guilty of that? Or was it your own idea to send me off to Acapulco to spend a “Paradise Holiday” in Noa Noa’s “multicolored mosaic pool”? In that case I would have to take Mrs. [Kurt] Weitzmann along to explain the mosaics to me. But I do not believe that this would be the right thing for me. Mexican girl-friends of mine, whom I always meet on French boats when I criss or cross the Ocean, once told me that they did not really know why Acapulco has caught the imagination of US-Americans to the extent it has, because it resembles Miami so very much, and this they could have nearer home. On the whole, of course, I am pro-Mexico because their President has spoken up so nicely against US-government in connection with the Cuba crisis. But even so, I think I shall resist this lure and go on the 20th to the Virgin Islands where I know most fish by their Christian names—except the Parrotfish which looks as though it might have a Jewish name. And I am looking forward to St. John. First, because by that time I shall have knocked off my seminar and feel free; second, because this winter which has brought us snow in October, promises to be most disagreeable and cold, and I need a warm climate. And third, I know all the pro’s and con’s (few of the latter) of that place and know that good and potable wine expects me there (three guesses, what wine? Almaden Mountain White Chablis).

Otherwise I am all right. I am terribly social on account of being a “new professor” at Princeton University¹ and am perpetually as in my first year at Berkeley. And in addition to that the “Visititis.” Just now Barney Rosenthal left me after having been here just long enough to inform him about all the grievances which his friends had against him: Michael, Sev, Ladner, Strittmatter, myself. He was happy to tell me that all his enemies like him all the better.

Nothing else occurs to me. Yes, do you have a microfilm of Guillaume Benedict, *In [cap.] Raynutius* or did you find a copy of it in this country, and if, where? It is quoted so often that I would love to take a look at it. Nothing of importance, just curiosity.

Love

EKa. [Signed]

¹ In those days (but no longer) Institute professors could be listed as Princeton University faculty and give courses for credit. Eka gave a seminar in the fall of 1962.