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LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY
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P. O. Box 1663
Los Alamos, New Mexico

August 24, 1953

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

Professor B. L. van der Waerden
Mathematisches Institut
der Universität Zürich
Zürich, Switzerland

Dear van der Waerden:

Please excuse my delay in answering your very kind invitation of July 13--I have been travelling a good deal and was in Mexico during most of the last five weeks.

I would like to visit Zürich during my European trip next summer, but I am afraid that I won't be able to come there after the Congress. I expect that I will have to return then more or less directly (with at most a short stopover in England) to Princeton. I do expect to come to Zürich shortly before the Congress--but I am afraid that this may not be a very good time for seeing you or the other colleagues there or to give a talk, since this is likely to be your vacation period. Am I correct in this? If this is not the case, I would be more than delighted to stop in Zürich before the Congress and give a talk at this time, if this is agreeable to you.

With best personal regards,

Cordially yours,

*mit den besten Grüßen,
Stef. Ziv*

John von Neumann.

JvN:mag

J. von Neumann

Dear von Neumann

You are right that August-September is a vacation period here. The vacations begin about July 18. I am very sorry that a talk at our Colloquium is out of the question. However, I'll be delighted to see you personally. I'll be in town from Aug. 20 until the beginning of the Amsterdam congress. Yours most cordially.