

MAY 24 1962

May 18, 1962

Mr. Mikhail Botvinnik
4 Scaternyi Pereulok
Moscow 19, USSR

Dear Mr. Botvinnik:

I wish to congratulate you for your recent successes at the Hastings Tournament and in Sweden, and of course for your fine and thrilling victory last year when you succeeded in taking back the championship crown you have held for so many years.

I have just been informed by International Master George Koltanowski that the fine newspaper for which he is Chess Editor, The San Francisco Chronicle, has invited you to play a correspondence game with a group of its readers for a suitable fee. I hope that you will be able to accept this invitation, because the easy competition will require very little time and effort on your part, but it will attract a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and interest, especially among young American chess players, which is the major purpose of the Chronicle project.

I have been advised by our State Department in Washington, D. C. that one of the 13 sports activities included in the recently renewed Cultural Exchange Agreement between our two countries is a USA-USSR chess match in Moscow in June of next year (1963). I was delighted to learn of this and hope to hear from your officials concerning this event as soon as more definite information is available.

Warmest personal regards,

Jerry G. Spann
F.I.D.E. Vice President
Zone 5