

JANUARY 1982

af0

SUNY SIDE UP - Jan. 6, 1982

The music is "Sunny Side Up"; the name of the program, "SUNY Side Up."

Hi, everybody. This is Al Oickle. I'm with the University News Services at the State University of New York, here at Stony Brook.

~~The~~ Chinese, like Japanese, Korean and other Asian languages, requires so many symbols---what we call ~~English~~ Chinese "letters" in English---that there has never been a typewriter. Text for newspapers and books is ~~set by~~ using moveable type.... taking one letter at a time from trays... many of them, assembled in a high, lazy-Susan kind of revolving apparatus.

But now, a way has been invented to write letters and even set type, using the thousands of characters in these Asian languages, by using a standard 26-character Roman alphabet ~~typewriter~~ keyboard. The inventor of this system, ~~a~~ major breakthrough in electronic text processing, is Dr. Christopher George, a Sanskrit philologist and director of research at the Institute for Advanced Studies of World Religions at the State University here at Stony Brook.

On a recent ~~was~~ sunny morning, ~~Chris~~ I sat ~~outside~~ in the Fine Arts Center Plaza with Chris George, who is also an adjunct professor at Stony Brook's Center for Religious Studies. We talked about him, and ~~in~~ this amazing computer software program he has written.

~~with~~ The sound of air conditioning equipment from nearby buildings can be heard in the ~~an/a~~ background. ~~start with:~~ AF0: "Christopher George, Ph.D." TAPE through Christopher George's saying "just add a one or a two, and that would display two or too." ~~KILL~~ AF0: "...that are the language...and, of course, it's virtually impossible."

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AFO LIVE: Yes, it is virtually impossible. But that won't stop me from trying. I moved indoors with Christopher George, where he ~~is~~ has set up the computer equipment that is used to demonstrate his Asian language electronic text processing program.

TAPE: From beginning, use entire segment indoors...

Begin: AFO "We're in a room with..."

End: George: "This would save them a great deal."

~~tape outdoors: Kill from AFO "What I am trying to get across..."
through AFO: "...rather than 26."~~

~~AFO LIVE: I asked Christopher George how the Asian printing industry has responded to the announcement of his invention.~~

~~TAPE AFO: Now, you've gone into, I know, Chinatown..."~~

~~Through George: "...which they hadn't had before."~~

SKIP AHEAD to Side 2

afo live: Dr. George rejects any idea that he did this alone.

He credits Chinese students at ~~Stony~~ ^{Stony} Brook with helping ^{him,} and the Institute for the Advanced Studies of World Religions with providing help as well as freeing him for ^{important} this work.

But his dreams do not end here. He dreams of using the human voice to activate the word processing system, ^{and he} ~~as~~ well as ^{means of} an optical scanner system. We talked about both systems.

SKIP AHEAD TO TAPE ~~TAPE~~ CHRIS GEORGE: "What I had in mind..."

through George: "...a transliteration on the screen."

AFO LIVE: The world of Dr. Christopher George is at once a complex ~~world,~~ ^{world,} and a marvelously fascinating world, here at

Stony Brook. (PAUSE) Next week, we will be talking with

Prof. Peter Williams on ~~the~~ ^{The} ~~another~~ ^{longstanding} complex subject...the withdrawal of life-sustaining equipment. ~~This~~ ^{is} Al Oickle. So long, everybody.