Los Alamos Science

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

NUMBER 15 SPECIAL ISSUE

STANISLAW ULAM 1909–1984

On the cover: Stanislaw Ulam. This portrait and the color art on pages 5, 35, and 293 are the work of Jeff Segler.

One day when little Claire Ulam was watching some children playing ball with their father, a friend asked whether her father ever played like that with her. The answer was an emphatic "No! No! All my father does is think, think, think! Nothing but think!"

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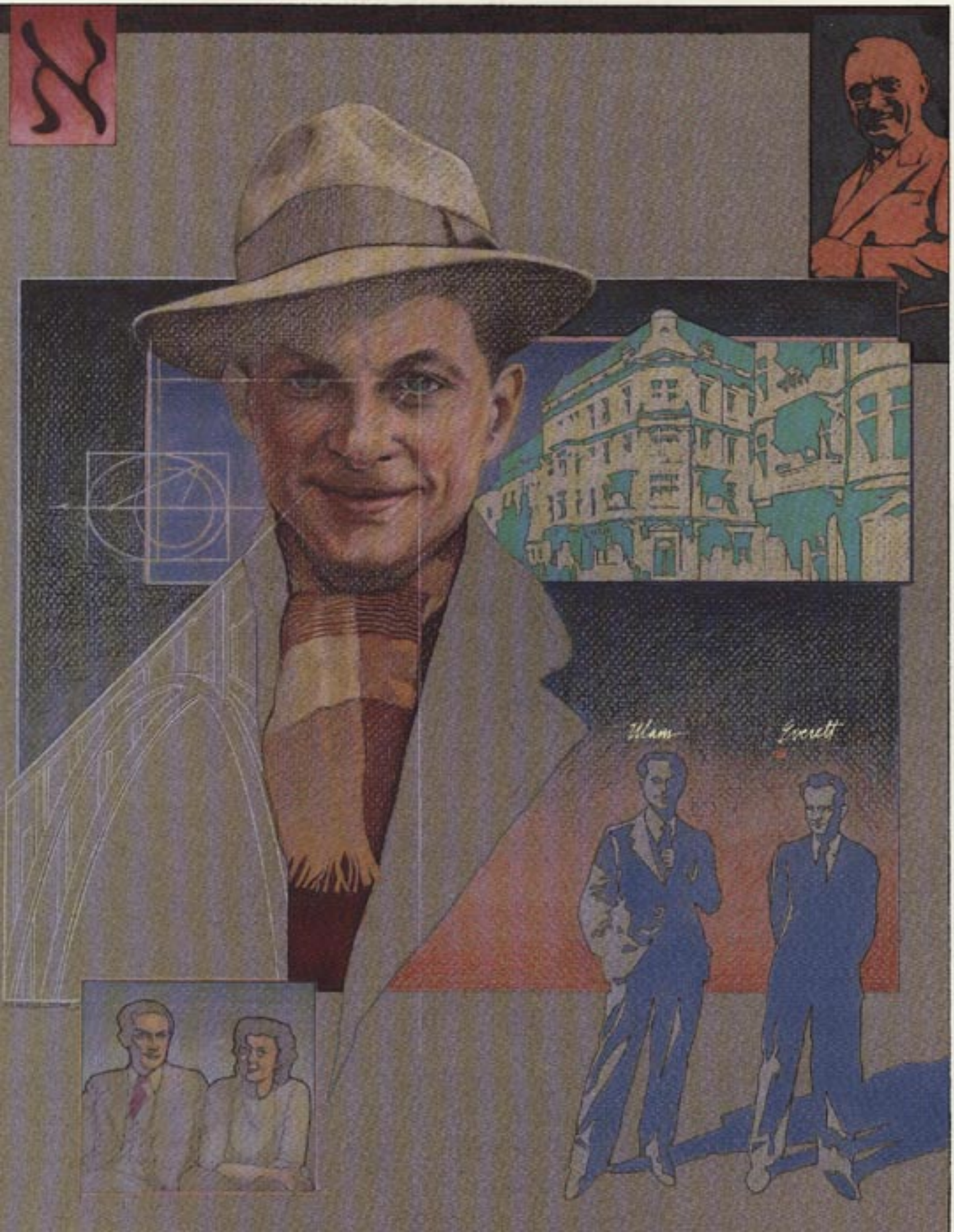
The staff of Los Alamos Science *is deeply indebted to Francoise Ulam for her help on this issue. She generously opened Stan's files to us, and gave advice and moral support whenever she was called upon. Her unfailing kindness and patience added a special element to the privilege and challenge of working on this volume.*

Stan Ulam

For forty years on and off Stan Ulam was a catalyst at Los Alamos, influencing the thinking of those around him. He may be less remembered than some great minds who wrote more and focused on fewer things. But his was the kind of genius that is unforgettable to those who knew him. In this issue we have tried to capture some of what he was and what he started. We hope the contents will resonate with the playful, expansive, thinking part all of us have inside us.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