

Think we should make
it Top Secret since
both letters & Dictionary
is Top Secret.

WPA

Have classified as
per Cal's request

WPA

Date 17 Aug 44TOFROM

Commanding Officer
 Asst Commandant DM
 Dir of Com Research
 Administrative Officer
 Asst Administrative Officer
 Adjutant
 Asst Adjutant
 Chief, Admin Branch
 Info & Liaison Branch
 Chief, A Branch
 Chief, B Branch
 Chief, C Branch
 Chief, D Branch
 Chief, E Branch
 Chief, F Branch
 Chief, G Branch
 2d Sig Serv Bn
 Director of Training
 Property Officer
 Intelligence Officer
 Personnel Officer
 Provost Marshal
 Post Dispensary
 Post Engineer
 Post Mail Room
 Secretary to C O
 General Files
 201 Files

Comments and Return

Recommendations

 Signature, if approved

As Requested

As Discussed

Your action

Information and Return

Information and Forwarding

Information and File

See Note on Back

1. Pse note I have not classified this letter, although it's was classified Top Secret. Do you think classification necessary?
2. I am chagrined to note

in the REF ID: A275410 at

"American words and meanings have also been omitted, except when they appear to have been adopted in English cryptography" — and they've adopted mighty few and of those (2 or 3) they took such abortions as "decryption".

Rather than use our term "cryptanalyst" they stick to "cryptographer" — and then have to use such circumlocutions as "cipher-maker" and "cipher-user".

And while I thought I knew most of their "phony" and "plummy" terms, I did not know the half of it! There are some which are positively puerile and unbecoming to the science which has gone so far & to which they have contributed so much which makes it all the sadder!

J.

17 August 1944.

Dear Travis:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 4 August 1944, with the accompanying two copies of BP's "Cryptographic Dictionary".

We had been looking forward to receiving this important work and are extremely glad to have it just as the first or tentative edition of our own dictionary goes to press. As soon as copies of the latter are available we shall send a few to you with the same understanding that you have attached to furnishing us the copies of your dictionary.

It will be highly useful to compare the contents of both dictionaries, item by item. I can already see, from a hasty look at yours, many excellent features. I feel sure that we shall be able to profit very much from its careful study.

You may be interested at the moment to know that our dictionary will be in two parts. Part one will contain unclassified material so that a wide distribution for instructional or other purposes will be possible; part two will contain definitions applicable to confidential and secret items. The distribution of the latter part will be closely controlled and restricted to cryptanalytic operating agencies. Also it may be of interest to you to know that our dictionary is intended to be prescriptive, forcing all our people to employ standard terms and to discontinue the use of non-standard ones. Yours, on the other hand, appears to be descriptive, with no prohibition against the use of terms coined on the spur of the moment. Both types, of course, have their merits. But we hope that our type will be conducive to a better understanding and comprehension by our own people of the many technical reports which are produced locally.

Within a short time I will send you a more detailed note on this subject, when we have completed the study of your first edition and have had a good opportunity to compare the definitions contained therein with those in our own first edition. For the moment, therefore, please accept my thanks for your courtesy in sending the two copies so promptly after publication.

Sincerely yours,

W. Preston Gorderman,
Colonel, Signal Corps,

Cmdr. H. W. Travis,
GC & CS.

SIS
1.1E
8/17/44
W.P.G.
702, F.