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July 14, 1942

Colonel J. H. Tiltman,  
No. 4 I.S.,  
c/o M.I.8,  
War Office, London, S. W. I.

Dear Tiltman:-

I was very pleased to receive yours of the 29th of May, (JHT/28). Both Mrs. Friedman and I wish to assure you of our pleasure in having you as our guest. Mrs. Friedman indicates that if all guests were as little trouble as you were everything would be rosy.

Stevens has just come in and will be ready for active cooperation at once, since he is going back to his original quarters and will not have to spend any time searching for a place to live. I had only very few minutes with him and learned some very surprising news in connection with J.M.A.—upon which we had been devoting a very good deal of time and effort. Now it appears that you have obtained the answer in good part at least, and just as soon as I can get some more of the story from Stevens we will send you a message and try to obtain details; unless, of course, Kullback arrives within the next few days and brings the story with him.

Your proposal to exchange monthly letters with Stevens is an excellent idea, and I shall look forward to having news from you at these intervals.

My hearty congratulations on your success with the Geheimschreiber. We shall look forward with a great deal of interest to learning the details from Kullback. I have not been able to devote any time to this myself, and the man who has been on it was naturally handicapped by lack of experience, and, more importantly, lack of traffic. Of course, our interest in the system right now is theoretical since we are not in a position to obtain the traffic ourselves as yet, but if and when our local "Y" Committee gets organized perhaps it will

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Col. J. H. Tiltman (cont'd)

be possible to arrange to get the traffic across. There seems to be some delay of a nature that I do not understand in connection with the establishment of the local "Y" Committee, and I imagine that somebody high up has become confused. I shall get busy on this and see if we cannot prod the necessary people. Incidentally, Col. Drury of the Canadian Legation came in to see me the other day to inquire about the status of our "Y" Committee, telling us that Canada had already established theirs, and was ready to work.

I hope that by this time you have received the material which I sent you and that it will be useful to some extent. I very much appreciate and thank you for the copies of your course. We are going to make excellent use of this material just as soon as we get our new training division organized on a proper basis in our new quarters across the river. The difficulty is that part of our establishment has moved and part is still in the old place, and I am staying along in the old quarters until Col. Bullock is ready to move.

Thank you very much for the pamphlet which you sent me, but which I have not as yet had time to read. It looks interesting though, and I hope to have a few minutes some evening this week. I also appreciate your reference to the French book on the Shakespeare problem. I daresay it will be possible to purchase a copy here, but first I will see if the Library of Congress has it, so that I can ascertain whether I should add it to my collection.

I was very much interested in your remarks concerning your Japanese language course. Anything that you can provide me with in the way of instructional material which was employed in the conduct of the course will be gratefully received. We still could do with several more good translators.

We have all been working very hard and there has not been any time for golf. I took three days leave last week and went to the sea-shore. It was hardly worth the long trip, however, for so short a time. I have been feeling first-rate and hope soon to be back in uniform. It takes a long time for the wheels to grind, and the procedure is apparently grinding very finely.

Please convey my greetings to Travis and to Denniston. With cordial greetings to yourself from both Mrs. Friedman and myself, I am,

Very truly yours,

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William F. Friedman,  
Head Cryptanalyst