W. F. Friedman Retires, Expert on Secret Codes

One of the world's leading experts on secret codes, William F. Friedman, retired from the National Security Agency today after government service that extends back to World War I.

Mr. Friedman is widely recognized for his achievements in the field of cryptology. He received the Government's highest civilian decoration, the Medal of Merit, in 1946 for his work during World War II, and the Army's highest civilian decoration, the Exceptional Service Award, for the same reason in 1944.

He has authored several treatises on cryptology and has invented cryptographic devices and machines. A bill is pending in the Senate to pay him $100,000 for all rights to his inventions now used by the Government.

Although heart trouble has forced him to retire from active service, he said he will continue to do work in the field. "There is no end to the things to do in the field," he said. "The work is of a nature that can only describe as useful and interesting work—in the field in which I have carried on for so many years."

A native of Russia, Mr. Friedman graduated from Cornell University and served in the Army Air Forces, doing code work for the Office of Strategic Services.

After the war, he went to work as a civilian for the Army. He has just completed "A Cryptologist's Handbook" that he plans to publish.

He and his wife intend to continue living at 310 Second Street S.E. "in the capital of the world, the place where both political and literary" The Friedman's won an award last April from the Folger Shakespeare Library here for a manuscript which they hope to publish, "A Cryptologist's Handbook."