

*File*

Arlington Hall Station  
25 April 1944

Dear Captain Filby:

I was very pleased to receive your letter of the 6th of April together with the two inclosures. I deeply appreciate Mr. Strachey's courtesy in making these two papers available and I am only sorry that you did not get them autographed for me. At the risk of making a nuisance of myself, I am going to ask an additional favor in this connection. If you could obtain another set of these same two papers, and have Mr. Strachey autograph them I would deposit the ones which you have already sent me in our library at the office, keeping the autographed ones (if they should be forthcoming) for myself. Do you think that it is at all possible?

The last two pages of Strachey's "Note on Short Period Substitutions Used on Code Books" are extremely interesting from a historical viewpoint. If you would show these two pages to Colonel Tiltman he would no doubt receive quite a thrill. Oliver was a man of considerable perspicuity when he wrote these two pages.

One day last week when I was coming back from New York and taking lunch in the dining car, I noted a young woman whose face was familiar and it was only a few minutes thereafter that I realized that it must be the "Y" Denniston. She was seated among a group of Marine women recruits in civilian dress, so I was a bit confused and slow in "coming to." We had a nice reunion, since I found her sitting a couple of seats from me in the parlor car. We are having the young lady to dinner this Thursday night and hope to take part in looking after her while she is here, if she needs any attention. She seems to be quite capable of looking out for herself.

Your news about Patricia Bartley is quite distressing. In a letter from her a couple of months ago she indicated that she was hoping to come back to Berkeley Street in April or May, but that appears to be out of the question right now. Whatever can be the matter?

We had a very nice conference here, the Chairmanship of which I had the honor to be selected. I think the conference

was quite successful and in addition to making and renewing valuable acquaintances, important results may be expected to flow from it.

By this time no doubt you will have had a visit or two from Captain Fried. He appears to be most enthusiastic about his assignment and I hope you will all find him an able, courteous, and very cooperative representative.

Underground channels tell me that there is a possibility that Cmdr. Denniston may be coming over here later on. I very much hope that this will be so for it would be nice to have another visit from him.

Don't worry too much about trying to get a copy of "Loopy Limericks"; it is not important enough to put anybody to any trouble.

Thank you for your very good wishes. Mrs. Friedman joins me in sending cordial greetings to you.

Sincerely yours,

Captain P. W. Filby  
Berkeley Street  
London

Berkeley Street,  
London,  
W.1.

6th April, 1944.

Dear Mr. Friedman,

Very many thanks for your letter of 28th  
February, 1944.

I hope your conference was successful and  
that Mrs. Friedman was not unduly tired by the nume-  
rous engagements which inevitably occur from visits  
of your British friends. Certainly, if Mrs.  
Friedman looked after your visitors as perfectly as  
on the occasion of my visit she must have been tired.

As for Barbara and Girton! Girton and  
Cambridge will still exist after the war and I expect  
I too shall return, so that my offer will always  
stand. Perhaps Commander Denniston's daughter will  
influence Barbara!

Patricia is far from well. She went up to  
Oxford to complete her degree, but alas, she had to  
return home and is now living the life of a semi  
invalid. I understand that her fiancé is due to  
arrive in England in the summer, but in any case I  
fear that her return to Berkeley Street is unlikely,  
at least for the next few months.

As you will see I enclose Mr. Strachey's  
works. When I first mentioned them to Commander  
Denniston Mr. Strachey was ill and on his return he  
gladly gave permission for two copies to be sent to  
you. He asked me to say that they were now quite  
out of date and that you would of course realise

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this. Anyway, I am sure you will welcome them as an addition to your very fine cryptographic library.

Magniac's "Loopy Limericks" presents a problem. I called on the publishers but as you know the whole of Paternoster Row was destroyed in 1940 and with it Jarrold's stock of publications. However, I have asked them to note your request and have told my friends to watch out for it and I have every hope of success.

My best wishes to Mrs. Friedman.

Sincerely,

*J. W. Zilly*

SPSIS-3

28 February 1944

Dear Captain Filby:

I have two of your letters now, one of December 29 and the other of January 26. The latter having arrived just the other day.

Both Mrs. Friedman and I are very glad that you had such a happy time while in Washington and that we had a small part in making it so. We are pleased to learn that our book-plate is now embalmed properly in the Cambridge University Library. We have not yet dared to bring up the subject of Girton so far as Barbara is concerned because of the enthusiastic responses which would no doubt ensue to be followed thereafter by a mild schizophrenic dichotomy induced by her being torn between two desires. She is that sort of child.

I have a hazy idea that Commander Denniston did give up a copy of the form which is signed by your people but I am afraid I would have difficulty in locating it. However, you may forget about it as well as a copy of "Dora". It is good of you to keep looking for the items which you thought you might be able to find for me. I am, of course, especially interested in getting a copy of Mr. Stratchey's work and hope you will keep after it. I can add one further item that you might be able to find in some book-shop. One of our lads bought a copy in Brisbane and tells me that was the only one available. I will attach the title and publisher to this letter.

We are looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to seeing Commander Travis, Colonel Tiltman and the others who are coming to our conference which will open within a few days. We hope to get through a good deal of important work for the future.

I had a very nice letter from Patricia the other day and I am going to answer it the first moment I get a chance. I am very happy to learn that she is better and hope that

she will be well enough to join your group in April as she anticipates.

Please give my very best greetings to everybody at Berkeley Street and especially to Commander Denniston. Tell Thornet I will write to him soon to thank him for his note of appreciation.

Cordially yours,

Captain P. W. Filby  
Berkeley Street.

she will be well enough to join your group in April as she anticipates.

Please give my very best greetings to everybody at Berkeley Street and especially to Commander Denniston. Tell Thorne I will write to him soon to thank him for his note of appreciation.

Cordially yours,

*William J. Friedman*

Captain P. W. Filby  
Berkeley Street

P.S. The book I refer to above is  
"Loopy Limericks" by "A. Magnus", published  
by Jarrolds, Ltd., 34 Paternoster Row, E.C.4. The  
price on publication was 2 shillings.

REF ID: A79075  
36 Oxford Rd,  
Cambridge.

29 Dec. 1943.

Dear Mr & Mrs Friedman,

I hasten to  
thank you for your great kindness  
during my visit in Washington.

As you know we were taken  
about quite a few times, but would  
you mind if I told you the  
two occasions at your house were  
the most memorable of my visit?

I could write at much length  
extolling the virtues of these evenings,  
but I know you realised how much  
I enjoyed it all.

Your book plate now rests safe  
in the Cambridge Univ. Library. I hope  
to get me or two more to add to  
your collection.

I hope I have influenced Mrs Friedman



in favour of REF ID: A70075  
her of a welcome if he comes here.

~~Thank you again for your~~  
great kindness.

All good wishes for 1944.

Yours sincerely,

P.W. Filby.

Jan. 26, 1943.

Dear Mr Friedman,

A few days ago I asked Cdr  
Deniston for a copy of our form which is  
signed by members of B.P. and B.S. He said  
that he was under the impression that he had  
already sent you a copy. Have you it?

It is a little difficult to obtain a copy  
of D.O.R.A. It is a massive volume at least  
20 years old & of course covers all manner  
of degrees of security. I have spoken to Cdr  
Deniston about it.

I'm still hoping to get Mr S's always work  
and a few items which have been published  
in one or two periodicals. Shortage of paper  
prevented very large issues & it is now a  
question of finding someone who possesses copies.

I will do my best in the matter.

Best wishes to Mr Friedman

Sincerely

P. U. Gilby