

424 North George Mason Drive  
Arlington 3, Virginia

29 January 1952

Major General Spencer B. Akin, USA, Retd  
P. O. Box 1692  
Purcellville, Virginia

Dear General Akin:

It gives me much pleasure to be able to accede to your request for a translation of the little slip which accompanied the Christmas present you received from Mr. Yamagata, and I herewith enclose both the original and the translation. I was much taken with the nice wording used in the simple advertisement - it is dignified, to the point, and expresses a very nice thought.

It was likewise a pleasure to learn at first hand about the progress being made in the building of your new home. Elizebeth and I will look forward with a great deal of interest in seeing it and a great deal of pleasure in helping to "housewarm" it.

I note what you say about your plans for the future and as to some new work you hope to take on after settling down in the new home. In many ways you are in a very fortunate situation in that regard, since you are able to use your technical knowledge and experience outside the government service. That is something I cannot do, of course, and it means that I shall probably stay in government service for about as long as is permitted by statute (I have  $9\frac{1}{2}$  years to go before reaching 70), and by the state of my health - which I am happy to be able to say is better than it has been for years.

I also note your comment about the job with CIA and thoroughly understand the psychological situation. I see General McClelland every now and then at a board meeting but have had no chance to talk personally. He seems to be happy. I agree with you that CIA now has people who are tops and I am beginning to wonder about what the future holds forth for AFSA. With that hint you will understand, I am sure, that there is some stirring about in the kettle and the pot may begin to boil very soon.

Both Elizebeth and I are very well and Elizebeth is laying plans for a 3-months' visit to Europe, beginning some time in April. I will be a bachelor for that length of time but think I will be able to survive.

About being a grandfather - well, no, not yet, and I do not discern any external manifestations which could be interpreted as prognostications

that I will be soon. Incidentally, the Son-in-law is making the Government's presentation - his first - before the Supreme Court, tomorrow afternoon. I am told he is the youngest lawyer the Attorney General has ever selected for such a responsibility. Of course, Barbara is all agog and is probably much more apprehensive about the affair than is Ben. She will do the "pacing" up and down the corridors this time, not he!

Please give our very fondest regards to Mrs. Akin.

Sincerely,

## MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS,  
CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

1	NAME OR TITLE <i>Capt. Harper</i>	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <i>Chief AFSA-02</i>	DATE	COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

## REMARKS

General Akin (Retired)  
has asked me to have  
this translated for him.  
I would like very much  
to oblige him.  
Thanks!

FROM NAME OR TITLE <i>Joot</i>	DATE <i>21 Jan 52</i>
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <i>Joot</i>	TELEPHONE

P.O. Box 1692.

PURCELLVILLE, VA.

18 Jan 52.

Mr. W. F. Friedman.

3801 Nebraska Ave. N.W.

Washington, D.C.

Dear "Billy":

It would be greatly appreciated if you could get one of your "Jap" experts to translate the enclosed slip for me. It came to us with a Christmas present from Clarence Yamagata. Notably you know him - he was with our Central Bureau throughout the war.

We are finding the country most interesting - our new home is rapidly approaching completion. We hope to be able to move in by the fifteenth of February - you and Elizabeth will certainly be included in our home warming invitations. Once we get settled in it and I get the handicapping completed as planned I may consider taking on some outside work - not with the government however - not enough pay.

How are things with you and your family? Are you a grandfather yet? Please

send us news of you and yours.

I have found retirement much to my liking. My month with b. i. a. convinced me that I no longer wanted government connections where I would not be my own boss. General Smith was most understanding and was nice enough to let me be released at my own request. In fact the whole crowd in b. i. a. are tops and I think doing a great job.

Trusting that my request may not cause you too much trouble. I am with regards and best wishes for you both.

Most sincerely yours,  
Spencer Lakin

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Please give our very fondest regards to Mrs. Akin.

Sincerely,

MAJOR GENERAL S. B. AKIN,  
CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, GHQ, SWPA,  
APO, 500, c/o POSTMASTER,  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Mr. Wm. F. Friedman,  
3932 Military Rd., N.W.,  
Washington 15, D. C.

26 June 44.

DEAR GENERAL AKIN:

I WISH TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR NICE LETTER OF 27 MAY, AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE EXCELLENT PHOTOGRAPH. THE COMPILATION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS IS PRACTICALLY COMPLETED AND NOW I AM PROCEEDING TO GET SUITABLE FRAMES.

THANK YOU ALSO FOR YOUR KIND WORDS ON MY EXCEPTIONAL CIVILIAN SERVICE AWARD.

I HAD A VERY NICE CHAT WITH COLONEL AUCHINCLOSS WHO DROPPED IN TO SEE US A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO. I TOLD HIM OF MY DESIRE TO MAKE A VISIT OUT YOUR WAY AND I AM STILL DOING SOME PROPAGANDIZING MYSELF. I SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT EXCHANGES OF VISITS ARE VERY BENEFICIAL.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE RETURN OF CAPTAIN SWEARS WHO WILL NO DOUBT HAVE MUCH OF INTEREST TO RELATE TO US.

IN CLOSING I WANT TO ADD MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE PART WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN PLAYING IN KEEPING THE JAP DEFINITELY ON THE RUN.

WITH CORDIAL GREETINGS, I AM,

SINCERELY YOURS,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN,  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
RESEARCH.

Akin



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA  
Office of the Chief Signal Officer

A.P.O. 500  
27 May 1944

Dear Mr. Friedman:

Thank you for your very nice letter of 1 May and the news of your activities which it contained. I sincerely hope the inclosed autographed picture will satisfactorily fill the "gaping void" you mentioned. I am much flattered to be thought of sufficient importance to be included in the gallery of famous people.


May I now offer to you my sincerest congratulations on your recent receipt of "The Exceptional Civilian Service Award." I feel that this award was more highly deserved than any I have known of.

It is a pleasure to learn that Abe Sinkov's visit has proven satisfactory to you, and I am looking forward to discussing the trip in detail with him upon his return. He has undoubtedly gathered much useful information while working with your organization in Washington.

The present activities here keep me intensely busy, but the satisfaction gained from the realization that the Jap appears definitely on the run makes the effort well worth while.

If you do get an opportunity to come out in this direction, it will be a pleasure to discuss problems in which we both have mutual interests. Will discuss with Abe the practicability of obtaining a visit from you. Would much like to have your views on many items.

Sincerely yours,



S. B. AKIN  
Major General,  
U. S. Army.

1 Incl:  
As stated above.

Mr. William F. Friedman  
Director of Communications Research  
3932 Military Road, N. W.  
Washington - 15, D. C.