

~~SECRET~~**DISPOSITION FORM**

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

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FILE NO.

SUBJECT Request for Consultant Services of
Mr. Robert O. Ferner.

TO AFSA-02

FROM AFSA-24

DATE

COMMENT NO. 1

Thru: AFSA-02T 64

28 January 1952

1. Forwarded herewith is a letter from Mr. E. Dale Marston requesting that action be taken to obtain the services of Mr. Robert O. Ferner as a consultant on the Albatross problem.

2. It is considered that Mr. Ferner due to his excellent cryptanalytic experience and outstanding ability would be able to contribute materially to the Albatross problem.

3. No period of indoctrination such as was required for the majority of SCAG members would be required for Mr. Ferner since he is well acquainted with this type of problem.

4. It is therefore recommended that action be taken through appropriate channels to attempt to obtain the services of Mr. Ferner on a consulting basis for whatever periods of time he could make available for such duty.

Oliver R. Kirby
OLIVER R KIRBY
Chief, AFSA-24

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04-28-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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SUBJECT: Request for Consultant Services of Mr. Robert O. Ferner.

TO: DIRAFSA
THRU: Consultant

FROM: Office of Operations DATE: 8 February 1952 COMMENT NO. 2

1. Submitted for your approval and any action deemed necessary.
2. It is felt that the services of Mr. Robert O. Ferner, even for a brief period of time, would be a material contribution to the work of this office.

J. S. Harper
for J. S. HARPER
Captain, U. S. Navy
Chief, Office of Operations

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25 January 1952

TO: Chief, AFSA-24

FROM: AFSA-243

SUBJ: Request for Consultant Services of Mr. Robert O. Ferner

1. It is requested that immediate action be taken to obtain the services of Mr. Robert O. Ferner as a consultant for this Agency. His services are desired in the Albatross problem. Any time that he could spend with this problem would be of the utmost value.

2. Mr. Ferner is considered by the undersigned to be the outstanding cryptanalyst of the past decade. This opinion is shared by all who have worked with him. He resigned in 1948 because of ill health. At that time he went to Boulder, Colorado and later took a position with the Sandia Corporation in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His home address is 809 S. Kentucky, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

3. This is more than a request. If we, as a working party, were in the position to demand, we would do so. We feel so strongly that Mr. Ferner is the one person most apt to help us along to success on this problem that we would go to any extreme to get his services.

4. It is suggested that the Director or Technical Director of the Armed Forces Security Agency contact him personally and try to persuade him to come for a period of at least one week as soon as possible.

5. It is known that he could not come to the Washington Area between 1 June and 15 October because of the effects of the climate on his health. It is therefore urged that the utmost expediency be used to assure his arrival in Washington well before 1 June 1952.


E. Dale Marston

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