REF ID:A4148861

GEORGE FABYAN CHICAGO

March 22,1920.

Dear General Churchill:

PO BOX 435

As you know, we have had Colonel Mauborgne with us over Sunday. He surely has one awful cold but in spite of that, he readily followed the mathematical analysis and solution of the breaking of the encoded and enciphered indicators and we got through in about an hour. Only a few questions were necessary on his part and he said it was not open to either argument or discussion but I left him make his own report. We had a very interesting talk on electricity and I think that he agrees with us that it was much better for him to come here or us to go there rather than attempt to writ up this sort of stuff.

Both he and Hitt have another modification of this cipher in mind which they say would be indecipherable and Mauborgne is extremely enxious for our opinion. I explained to him that it would require six or eight months' work before we could put ourselves on record in reference to it. On the face of it, I am of the opinion that it would not be practical in the shape they propose to use it.

I told Mauborgne that Colonel Carty did not understand the first principles of the Cipher Printing Machine from the Cipher end of it and until he did or someone who understood the construction of the machine, we were dubious as to its intelligent improvement and I further told him that if Colonel Carty wanted us to do anything along these lines,we would want a man and the machine itself at Riverbank. It so happens that we are equipped to take care of it at the present time.

Approved for Release by NSA on 11-18-2014 pursuant to E.O 13526

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I hesitate to go into constructive work because we have always been on the other side of the fence but I can see no reason why the A. T. & T. Company should not have the benefit of our research and the results of the fundamental principles if it meets with your approval.

With cordial, personal regards to Mrs. Churchill, Miss Mollie and yourself,

Sincerely yours,

General M. Churchill, Woodward Apartment, 2301 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D.C.

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