

~~TOP SECRET//COMINT~~

PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

15 December 1953

~~TOP SECRET ULTRA~~

Dear [redacted]

I hope that you will forgive me for permitting so many days to pass before acknowledging receipt of the advance copy of Volume XVIII and for your very kind note which accompanied it. As I indicated to [redacted] and to you, the product emanating from the Historical Section, GCHQ, leads my own list of "best sellers" - but the sad and aggravating fact is that I can not take those fascinating volumes home to read; and the business of the days - one after the other - leaves no time for reading them, except once in a while when munching a bit of luncheon at my desk.

In the list (of histories) you gave me when I was last in London, the top sheet indicates the titles of the nineteen volumes of the G.C. & C.S. Army and Air Force history. At the bottom of the list is a statement: "Vols. I-VI in process of production." What about Vols. VII to XIX (excluding XVIII, an advance copy of which you sent me, as indicated above)? Have those been completed? If so, we do not have copies. If not completed, why the note regarding Vols. I-VI?

Thank you very much for making the enquiries with regard to Captain Colpoy's History and the other two documents. I shall be most grateful if spare copies are available.

Please convey a warm greeting to [redacted]. Tell him I had a most interesting shipboard encounter with a man whose name will be meaningful to him - Mr. Boris Hagelin! I wish [redacted] could have participated in the conversations! Tell him, too, that I hope one of these days soon to have a note from him written from his desk at No. 8 Palmer Street, London, S.W. 1, indicating, among other things, that he is so busy he had to steal the time to write me a few lines.

With cordial greetings to you, too, I am,

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 06-26-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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