Action 1
Assistant Chief Signal Officer
THRU: Chief, Army Communications Service

Letter from Department of State requesting resurvey of its cryptographic systems.
27 November 1943

Attached hereto is transmittal sheet for your signature, same to accompany reply, for signature of the Secretary of War, to a letter from the Secretary of State, dated 23 November 1943, requesting that the War Department resurvey the cryptographic systems of the Department of State.

W. Preston Gorderman
Colonel, SPS1B-3
Commanding Officer
Signal Security Agency
Code 8129 27 Nov 43

Attach:
Ehans. Sheet
Ltr. Soc.State 23 Nov 43
Draft of reply

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 04-09-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526
Action 1
Office of the Secretary of the W.D. General Staff

Letter from Department of State requesting resurvey of its
cryptographic systems.  2FS15  27 November 1943

Attached hereto is draft of proposed reply for signature
of the Secretary of War to the accompanying letter from
the Secretary of State.

James A. Code, Jr.
Major General
Assistant Chief Signal Officer

Attdhd:
Ltr. Fr Sec. State
dtd. 13 Nov. 43
Draft of reply
The Honorable,
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 23 November 1943, requesting that a resurvey be made of the cryptographic systems employed by the Department of State and of the methods used for the preservation of the secrecy of its highly confidential communications.

The Chief Signal Officer has been directed to have the Signal Security Agency of his office immediately initiate the desired resurvey, communicating directly with the personnel of the Department of State who are concerned with these matters, and bring in a report of findings and recommendations, if any changes are deemed essential, at the earliest practicable date.

Sincerely,

Secretary of War
Subject: Resurvey of State Department Security

Memorandum for Chief of C Branch and
Director of Communications Research

1. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter dated 23 November 1943 from the Secretary of State to the Secretary of War, requesting that a resurvey be made of the cryptographic systems employed by the Department of State and of the methods used for the preservation of the secrecy of its highly confidential communications. A copy of the reply thereto by the Secretary of War is also attached.

2. It is directed that immediate steps be taken to carry out the resurvey indicated. It is desired that you report to Mr. G. Howland Shaw, Assistant Secretary of State, who may wish to outline, as a preliminary to your work, the scope of the resurvey desired and will put you in touch with the personnel concerned with the matters to be studied.

3. Your report of findings and recommendations will be submitted to me for forwarding through Channels.

W. Preston Corderman
Colonel, Signal Corps
Commanding

Atchd:
2 ltrs. (copies)
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 23, 1943

The Honorable
Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of War.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In May 1941 this Department requested the War Department to participate in a survey of its cryptographic systems and the preservation of the secrecy of its highly confidential communications. In response to this request Captain H. G. Hayes and Mr. William E. Friedman of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer were designated to participate in this survey. The committee of which the above named persons were members submitted a report June 26, 1941 giving their findings and recommendations. Most of the recommendations were carried out either in whole or in part.

The Department now desires to have a resurvey made and would greatly appreciate it if the Signal Security Agency of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer of the United States Army could undertake this task at an early date.

The cooperation of the War Department in this regard would be of great assistance to this Department and much appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
I doubt whether G-2 can give us any information on this man and his activities, but it is worth a try and we should ask.
Here is one which looks as through worth following through, in connection with our projected survey of State Systems. Do you think it advisable to ask G-2 to find out all possible in
In this brief, I hasten "Veroushkin" is, what was to have been distributed, etc.? I want to tie this in with specific state messages if possible.