

C O P Y

THE AMERICAN CRYPTOGRAM ASSOCIATION

Official Magazine "The Cryptogram"

292 Davis Street
Greenfield, Mass.
June 2, 1958V. R. Arnett, Capt. AGC
Asst. Adj. Gen
U. S. Army Security Agency
Arlington Hall Station
Arlington 12, Virginia

Dear Capt. Arnett:

Thank you for your letter of inquiry about our organization.

The Library at Arlington Hall has for some years been receiving your bi-monthly publication the Cryptogram, and now it is going to Ft. George G. Meade.

In it are found problems of simple substitution variety in English, and in some foreign languages: Italian, Spanish, German, French, and when occasional contributions offer them: Russian, Greek, Hungarian, etc. We also promote the "undivided simple substitution", and some mathematical problems in cipher which are our Cryptarithms (but merely puzzles and not under the category of Cryptography). We offer some foreign ciphers: transposition, Bifid, and those of the Vigenere family. Finally, we offer various types of the more complex ciphers as explained in our textbook "Elementary Cryptanalysis" which was first published in 1939, and which cover the field of non-restricted ciphers.

Outside of the magazine, and the textbook, we have no other publications at present, although we hope to produce rewritten jobs of the various cipher-types which have been brought up-to-date by our members, with short-cuts and the like, in due time.

We have no Bibliography, preferring to use Galland's when possible, and refer inquiries to publishers that are known to be able to supply these books.

Membership in the Association is three dollars a year, which includes six issues of the magazine.

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While I am writing there are two matters which I wish you would comment on, if you can: since our magazine seems to be the only one of its kind for the general public, of late there has been a marked increase of foreign subscriptions, which I inherited in January 1958

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when I returned as Editor-Publisher. These countries include: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Cyprus, Denmark, England, West Germany, Holland, Israel, Japan, Union of South Africa, Portugal, Spain, Venezuela, and West Pakistan. While, of course, it is good to increase the membership, these foreign subscriptions are more or less of a nuisance, since they are often demanding in the search for additional cryptographic literature in this country. We cannot refuse such subscriptions without some basis, of course, but there is always that chance that some addresses are cover-up ones for "behind the Iron Curtain", and that doesn't help matters at all.

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Recently one of our members reviewed for publication:

"German Military Ciphers from February to November, 1918", a technical paper of the Signal Intelligence Section, War Plans and Training Division, Office of the Chief Signal Officer, War Department, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 1935.

He maintains (and I have but his word for it) that this material has been declassified and that such action was taken by your agency as well as the Library of Congress. As I interpret his letter, he had a micro-film made of this paper, turned it over to the University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, Michigan, who, in turn are converting the film into a paper-bound book, now available to the general public. Can you verify this?

I might add that I have enquired of the latter from another source, so you may run across this additional request.

Enclosed is a sample of our magazine, to give you a general idea of its contents.

Sincerely Yours,

/s/ William G. Bryan
William G. Bryan, Editor
American Cryptogram Association

P.S. We do not supply the general public, as a rule, only members.

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