

BORIS HAGELIN

Sundsvik, Sweden, May 8, 1948

Dear Bill,

Many thanks for your kind letter of April 8, which I received some time ago.

The blank machine will be completed in a few days time, and we will to start with take a few photographs of same, and I will send you copies. It will however take some time (see below).

With regard to the little alphabet assembly for the M-209, I shall be happy to hear from you when the appropriate section has had time to study it. I regret that it was not sent in the form I wanted it - I had also an "insert" with normally ranged alphabets, running the opposite way to those on the main part of the assembly. This was the original conception, which was easy to use. The insert with incoherent alphabets was for showing that there was a possibility to use interchangeable incoherent alphabets for extra safety, if desired.

Now as to the new machines, I hope we can get a little closer in a few months time, and I will return to this at a suitable date.

Yes, I do intend to change my domicile. As you know, I entertained the idea last year to move to the US, but this could not be realized for some definite reasons. I am now however taking a first step towards a change by moving to Switzerland in the fall. If possible we will live in Zurich, as this would make it possible for me to keep busy at Mr. Gretener's plant (you may have heard about his telewriter, which was the agency for it for the US & Mexico). We are building a ciphering attachment for his Telewriter, and we expect to be able to test it out in July.

Annie and I am leaving tomorrow for a 3 weeks trip on the continent - we go first to Holland and from there to France and Switzerland. I expect some interesting days in Paris especially. And during our stay in Switzerland I will try to get my plans for the fall in order - I shall have to visit some authorities, and also shall have to look round for an apartment or a little house. We hope that Margareta will be able to meet us in Geneva, and come with us back to Sweden, to spend the summer at Sundsör.

I was very sorry to learn about your difficulties. It is a shame that when one gets older, there seems to be no end to troubles of every description. I do hope however that when you write that you are on the road to recovery, this has proved to be so.

I very nearly forgot to write you about your ciphering board. I have at long last had the answer from the proper authorities in Stockholm, and am sorry to say that they were not interested. They figure that they will concentrate on machines, and use hand ciphers for reserve or emergencies, and they are evidently well organized for this. I will take your board with me and see if there could be anything to do with it in Holland and France.

And in closing I want to thank you again for your candid answer to my letter of March 15. I appreciated to get it, and I feel sure that personal friendship need not be troubled by matters outside of our personal control.

I hope that all is well with and Elizabeth. Annie joins in sending our love to you. I will write again, when there is anything new.