

20 December 1955

Dear Boris:

I am delighted with the contents of your letter of 14 December, which arrived last Saturday morning. I called Ingrid very soon thereafter and found that she had a letter from Annie, also today. We exchanged notes about the contents of our two letters but I found that Annie's to Ingrid did not contain certain things which were in your letter to me, so I did not mention them, thinking that there might be some reason why you could tell me but not Inky. One such item was your plan as regards Bo.

Just as soon as you have completed your schedule I would appreciate having some details, especially as to the dates when you expect to be in Washington. The reason for this is that I want to be sure to be here myself and, of course, I would like very much to make sure, if possible, that General Canine will be in town. I think that it will be very nice to have a meeting or two with him and I am sure that he will look forward to a visit with you. In connection with your visit, maybe it could be that we all spend a few days together down South somewhere!

I note what you say about your last visit in Paris. It is nice that it turned out to be quite a success.

The biggest surprise in your letter was of course the news with regard to Bo's future. I am very anxious to have further details about this and whether your interests in the Western Hemisphere will contemplate anything beyond crypto matters. The reason that I raise this point is that at one time and specifically on the occasion of your last visit I got together some material for you and arranged for you to see certain operations connected with a project called "Tinker-Toy". Just yesterday I had a talk with my son, John, who told me that a modification of the "Tinker-Toy" automatic operation was recently established by a firm that went

into the business with a cash outlay of not more than ten thousand dollars. The firm, he says, seems to be making quite a success of the venture. If this is so, then you might still be interested in "Tinker-Toy", not only on your own behalf, but also on account of Bo's possibly taking up a business of that sort so that he could operate a small business while at the same time representing your crypto interests. I might say at the moment that I have particular interest in this sort of thing myself, and also on behalf of John, who has learnt a great deal about the "Tinker-Toy" operation. Should it be true that you still have an interest in "Tinker-Toy" and along the lines of what I mention in this letter, please let me know; I can get together more information or make arrangements, perhaps, for you to meet with certain people who could go into the details when you are visiting in Washington.

Both Elizabeth and I mean most certainly that you and Annie are to stay with us when you are in Washington, assuming of course, that Elizabeth is well at the time and that there is no other reason why you or Annie shouldn't stay with us, such as, for example, that I have broken a leg or something like that which naturally I don't expect to happen to me. You will understand of course that you cannot expect the comforts in our home that you can demand in the Shoreham Hotel or The Mayflower, or places of the caliber, but you can be comfortable and be in the presence of friends all the time or as much of the time as you and Annie would like. And, of course, it is rather quiet here except that the church bell rings every morning at 6:30 and on Sunday at 6:00. But by this time I imagine that you and Annie have gotten accustomed to church bells and would no doubt not even notice the ringing, even though the bell is right across the street from us.

I am glad to know that Annie is feeling well and that you are well, although pretty tired. I do not quite understand why it took a year, or most of a year, for you to recuperate from your last visit to Washington. This is rather a startling thing for you to tell me because I haven't any inkling as to why you should have been on such nervous tension. I truly hope it wasn't because of anything that General Canine or I might have done or said to you while you

were here. Also, I hope you won't be apprehensive that the same sort of effect will come again from your forthcoming visit.

I will close this letter with our joint wishes for a Merry Christmas for you and Annie and for a Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous New Year for you and for all the other members of your family.

Affectionately yours,

Mr. Boris Hagelin  
Zug  
Switzerland