

310 Second Street, S.E.
Washington 3, D. C.

14 May 1954

Mr. Gilbert S. Vernam
The Western Union Telegraph Company
60 Hudson Street
New York 13, New York

Dear Mr. Vernam:

I was very pleased to find yesterday in my home mail your letter of May 12 and six of the eight patents listed in your letter of April 21. I wish to thank you most heartily for your courtesy.

If you can get copies of the two patents still to be obtained, I would be very happy to receive those also in due course.

One thing, though, I must say: you are too modest in respect to where you put your autograph. I had hoped that you would write something on the front cover of each one--something to the effect that you were presenting the document to me to add to my collection of outstanding or noteworthy items in the cryptographic field. Don't forget that the "Vernam principle" and the "Vernam rule" are now world-wide in the literature and you should be rightfully proud of that fact.

With reiterated thanks, I am,

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN