

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY  
WEST POINT, NEW YORK

29 March 1952

Dr. William F. Friedman  
3801 Nebraska Avenue  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Friedman:

Thank you very much for your letter of 26 February, replying to my query as to choice between the two lecture plans. I thoroughly agree that the best plan is to give the lecture to halves of the class on two successive mornings. Therefore, we are now completing our arrangements to schedule the lectures for the mornings of 28 and 29 May.

I hope you will pardon my delay in sending this reply. The reason is that we ran into a conflict of schedules in trying to arrange two fifty-minute periods for each lecture. This finally proved impossible, so that we are forced to limit the lecture to eighty minutes each morning. I regret this very much, but from your letter of 13 February I understand that you are able to tailor the lecture to fit an eighty minute period. Any brief recess you may desire during the eighty minutes can be arranged easily.

A formal invitation has been sent to General Canine, and I am inclosing a copy for your information.

Your offer to give an extra non-classified talk on aspects of cryptography in the famous Bacon-vs-Shakespeare controversy is highly appreciated. I am sure that this will arouse great interest among the officers and ladies here and am delighted with the opportunity to offer such an event. Before making definite plans we wish to discuss it with the English Department, and in doing so we should like to show them a suggested announcement to be published by the Department of Mathematics two or three days in advance of the talk. We have drafted such an announcement, but are uncertain as to whether all of the wording in it is permissible from the standpoint of security regulations. Therefore, I am inclosing a copy for your approval. I shall appreciate it very much if you will edit the announcement on grounds of accuracy as well as security, and return it in a form which we may feel free to use.

As soon as General Irving's letter to General Canine has been favorably acted upon, we shall write to inquire further about your wishes regarding certain details of your visit here.

Very sincerely,

  
Wm. W. BESSELL, Jr.,  
Col. USA, Professor  
Head of Dept. Math.

2 Incls:  
1 Cy of ltr to Gen. Canine  
2 Draft of announcement.