

ROUTING AND WORK SHEET

SUBJECT

Authenticating Device

Number each action	To—	Memorandum	Name, Division or Branch, and Date
2	<del>Team Off.</del> SSA	<p>1. The draft of the proposed authentication device, invented by Mr. William F. Friedman, has been examined for its possible military value.</p> <p>2. At present, the device does not appear to be acceptable for military use for the following reasons:</p> <p>a. Authentication systems are used almost entirely in tactical nets. The requirements for such systems are facility of operation and quickness of production. The inventor's device requires the use of a codebook, numerical strips, and a daily keying element, in addition to the device itself.</p> <p>b. The present authentication systems are of the paper and pencil variety, requiring little production outlay and cost, and are quickly replaced when compromised. They provide adequate security for one day and are then superseded. The inventor's device would provide adequate security for the same length of time, but at a greater cost of production and material.</p> <p>3. During peace time there is very little need for authentication systems. It is believed this need can be met adequately with the present type of system.</p>	<p><i>RGS</i></p> <p>Ralph G. Belon Captain, SPSIC 5 August 1944 Ext. 244</p>

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 07-29-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

3	Ch C Br	<p>1 Incl. n/c</p> <p><i>Noted</i></p>	<p>W. FRESTON CORDERMAN Colonel, Signal Corps</p>
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