WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER
WASHINGTON

April 8, 1940.

Subject: Patent Application, Ser. No. 300,212,
Cryptographic Device
(M-158A)

To: Mr. William F. Friedman,
Principal Cryptanalyst
War Plans and Training Division,
Office of the Chief Signal Officer.

1. This will report an action of the Patent Office in the
above case and there is submitted for your information and keeping
copy of the Examiner’s communication of Nov. 9, 1939, together with
copies of the patents cited against the claims. The copies of United
States patents are intended for your keeping, but you are requested
with your reply to return the photostats of the two British patents.

2. A formal response to the official action will be due
for filing in the Patent Office not later than May 9, 1940. Meanwhile,
when you have had an opportunity to study the reference patents, please
submit any suggestions which you may wish to offer to assist in bringing
out distinctions in favor of your invention over the art of record.

3. It will be noted that the Examiner requires division along
the lines indicated on page 2 of the official letter; but it is believed
that on taking the case up with the Examiner in person that the divisional
requirement will be waived in accordance with the special practice applying
to Government cases in this regard.

Charles A. Rowe,
Patents Section, Signal Corps

Approved for Release by NSA on 09-09-2013 pursuant to E.O. 13526