Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

This application has been examined.  

Applicant: William F. Friedman

For reasons given below all claims are rejected.

Claim 1 is rejected as obviously unpatentable over any of the patents from Class 55-2. Gentet showing grooves in channels and the others bases holding the strips by means the full equivalent of a grooved base.

Claims 2-7 are rejected on the ground of lack of invention to use the line indicators of the cryptographic devices slidable in view of the slideable indicators of Mitchell.

Claim 7 is further rejected as patentably indefinite in line 5. "seems to permit" Jones, Jones and Jerzner 1,220 C. 1., 100.

Claims 15-19 in "slidable to permit" are indefinite following the reasoning of the Jones decision for it seems obvious that alinement can be made whether the number 5 moves or not provided it does nothing to prevent the slides moving.
The art shows that the line indicator can be stationary on the base without adversely affecting the slidability of the letter bearing members. These claims are therefore rejected.

The claims are grouped as follows:

I. Generic claims 1-7.

II. Specific to figure 6 claims 8, 11-15.

III. Specific to figure 6 having equal size members and equal number of grooves. claim 9.

IV. Specific to figure 6 having unequal size members and unequal number of grooves. claim 10.

V. Specific to figure 2. claims 16-19.

Since the generic claims are rejected division and election are required under Rule 41 on the basis of the grouping. In the first place division and election should be made between claims 8 and 11-15 on the one hand and claims 9, 10, 16-19 on the other.

Again division and election are required under Rule 41 between claims 10 on the one hand and 16-19 on the other since claims 8 and 11-15 generic to claims 10 and 16-19 have been rejected.

Art pertinent to foldable devices and holders within holders is cited. The holders of Williamson are of different sizes. These patents were found on cursory search.

Examiner.