

MEMO FOR RECORD

The attached were photographed from the "record of inventions" kept by Don Seiler when he ran the Code & Signal Laboratory at the Washington Navy Yard. Item #103 shows a means of controlling the stepping of "cryptographic rotors" by sending circuits through a set of 5-point "control rotors". Date of conception June 21, 1932. I got these photos through Capt. Safford, who told me that Seiler and Navy did nothing toward trying out or exploiting Seiler's idea in this case. It is important to note in this connection that the date of my conception of electric control of stepping of cryptographic rotors (U.S. Pat. App. No. 682,096- On M-134-A) is April 23, 1932.

Seiler's invention has some bearing on Rowlett's invention and concept of using rotors in cascade as a key generator; it appears that Seiler anticipated Rowlett in that idea, first described in Rowlett's paper dated 29 June 1935. See folder on SISDE #11 - Patent papers on SIGABA.

29 June 1951

William F. Friedman
William F. Friedman

WORK RECORD
OF
DONALD W. SEILER

CASH

45A

APRIL 1932

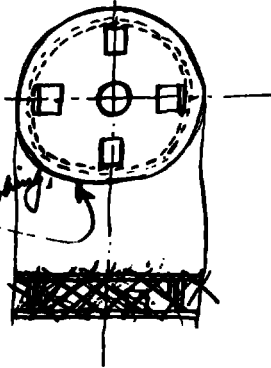
Designed and built model
of new portable code machine
similar to design no. 71 made ^{with 87} Apr. 18, 1932
many improvements including
new detainer new leg locking
method stronger frame work
this machine is designed to use
ribbon clasp no. 99

(100)

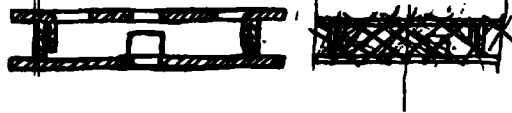
Designed carrying case Apr 18, 1932
for portable machines (original Mar. 14,)

(101)

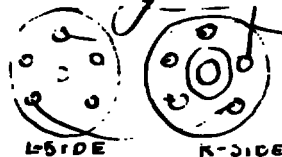
Designed new pulley for
portable code machine (Des. # 71287C(100))
it was designed to lower the cost
of manufacture by using punch
and die work



(102) May 18, 1932



(103) Designed a circuit and
mechanical arrangement to control
the operation of pawls (which engage
and turn the code wheels of the Electric
code device), which consisted of five
wheels wired electrically ^{to} ~~is~~ ^{is} isolated the
circuit ~~is~~ ^{is} cranked thru the magnet
of releasing the pawls.



June 21, 1932

