

GEORGE FABYAN  
CHICAGO

P.O. BOX 435

March 29, 1919.

Dear Colonel Mauborgne:

Gee whiz, I cannot see any reason for astonishment, excitement or anything else connected with the decipherment of a message enciphered on a machine. It's a certain satisfaction to get it.

What I asked you to do seven weeks ago, was to send me a copy of a message prepared by the regular Cipher Printing Telegraph machine in your office, using the key tapes of the day and in conformity with your rules for using the Cipher machine so that the Cipher is not decipherable.

The supposition is that this Cipher went to an officer, giving him a long message, requiring at least four rotations of the key tapes. He had succeeded in deciphering two or three of the rotations of the tapes when he was captured, in other words, the message with one-half or three quarters of it deciphered, was found on his person.

You have sent me the message but you have not sent me the decipherment. If you will send me half or three quarters of the decipherment, I will have our people proceed with the problem which we have mapped out and, which if we succeed, the results will prove to be of inestimable value to the Department:

You write me concerning some other machine, using four elements in place of five. We are not working nor looking for work on a machine of this character at this time. It's probably a very interest-

ing machine and we will be glad to see it later and I repeat that we have mapped out a certain problem and asked you for the material seven weeks ago and what we want, is what we have asked for on the first page of this letter and it seems to me, considering all the circumstances that it would be consistent for you to send it to me.

You know that I am not very keen about glory, credit, academic standpoints nor official ones. I have reached that place in life where I do that which pleases me and if I can't have things please me, I will try to get along without them. You know the makeup of Riverbank and what has been accomplished there. You also know the co-operation I have had, and the natural inference that Riverbank is not wanted and its assistance is not required by the M.I.D. What possible object is there for me to continue wasting money and time in something in which I have no interest?

There is nothing personal about this letter, except I feel I should have had better action on that which I asked for. If you care for the results of our investigation on this Cipher, it will be necessary for us to have it. I don't claim we can decipher <sup>it</sup> I don't make any claims and I am not excited about anything that has been accomplished at Riverbank. As a matter of fact, they have accomplished damn little and we don't expect to be decorated.

Sincerely yours,





Recd 7.

Thru your letter of Mar 29. ~~29~~

Reading your first paragraph  
gives me the idea you give me the  
impression that you have honestly  
convinced yourself that you have  
broken the printing telegraph cipher  
prepared as per government  
instructions, and are congratulating  
yourself upon the fact. I wish you  
would definitely ~~for~~