

**Action 1****Assistant Chief Signal Officer****THRU: Chief, Army Communications Service****Letter from Department of State requesting resurvey of its cryptographic systems.****27 November 1943**

**Attached hereto is transmittal sheet for your signature, same to accompany reply, for signature of the Secretary of War, to a letter from the Secretary of State, dated 23 November 1943, requesting that the War Department resurvey the cryptographic systems of the Department of State.**

**W. Preston Corderman  
Colonel, SPBIS-3  
Commanding Officer  
Signal Security Agency  
Code 8129 27 Nov. 43**

**Attn:**

**Trans. Sheet  
Ltr. Sec.State 23 Nov 43  
Draft of reply**

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 04-09-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

SIS

L/TE..... SIG.....

**Action 1**

**Office of the Secretary of the W.D. General Staff**

**Letter from Department of State requesting resurvey of its  
cryptographic systems.**

**SPSIS**

**27 November 1943**

**Attached hereto is draft of proposed reply for signature  
of the Secretary of War to the accompanying letter from  
the Secretary of State.**

**James A. Code, Jr.  
Major General  
Assistant Chief Signal Officer**

**Attchd:  
Ltr. Fm Sec. State  
dt'd. 13 Nov. 43  
Draft of reply**

29 Nov 43

The Honorable,  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 23 November 1943, requesting that a resurvey be made of the cryptographic systems employed by the Department of State and of the methods used for the preservation of the secrecy of its highly confidential communications.

The Chief Signal Officer has been directed to have the Signal Security Agency of his office immediately initiate the desired resurvey, communicating directly with the personnel of the Department of State who are concerned with these matters, and bring in a report of findings and recommendations, if any changes are deemed essential, at the earliest practicable date.

Sincerely,

Secretary of War

S.S.

DATE..... SIG.....

SPSIS-3

HEADQUARTERS ARLINGTON HALL STATION  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER  
ARLINGTON, VA.

29 November 1943


Subject: Resurvey of State Department Security

Memorandum for Chief of C Branch and  
Director of Communications Research

1. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter dated 23 November 1943 from the Secretary of State to the Secretary of War, requesting that a resurvey be made of the cryptographic systems employed by the Department of State and of the methods used for the preservation of the secrecy of its highly confidential communications. A copy of the reply thereto by the Secretary of War is also attached.

2. It is directed that immediate steps be taken to carry out the resurvey indicated. It is desired that you report to Mr. G. Howland Shaw, Assistant Secretary of State, who may wish to outline, as a preliminary to your work, the scope of the resurvey desired and will put you in touch with the personnel concerned with the matters to be studied.

3. Your report of findings and recommendations will be submitted to me for forwarding through Channels.

  
W. Preston Corderman  
Colonel, Signal Corps  
Commanding

Attchd:  
2 ltrs. (copies)

ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

November 23, 1943

RECEIVED  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE  
1943 NOV 25 AM 8:54

The Honorable  
Henry L. Stimson,  
Secretary of War.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In May 1941 this Department requested the War Department to participate in a survey of its cryptographic systems and the preservation of the secrecy of its highly confidential communications. In response to this request Captain H. G. Hayes and Mr. William F. Friedman of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer were designated to participate in this survey. The committee of which the above named persons were members submitted a report June 26, 1941 giving their findings and recommendations. Most of the recommendations were carried out either in whole or in part.

The Department now desires to have a resurvey made and would greatly appreciate it if the Signal Security Agency of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer of the United States Army could undertake this task at an early date.

The cooperation of the War Department in this regard would be of great assistance to this Department and much appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Cordeell Hall*



WINGS 3115 (2311447)

ARLINGTON HALL STATION

~~SECRET~~

Date 25 Nov

TO

FROM

- Commanding Officer ✓
- Asst. Commandant
- Dir. of Com. Research
- Executive Officer
- Asst. Executive Officer
- Adjutant
- Asst. Adjutant
- Coordination Section
- Chief, Headquarters Branch
- Chief, A Branch
- Chief, B Branch
- Chief, C Branch
- Chief, D Branch
- Chief, E Branch
- Chief, F Branch
- Dir. of Training
- C. O. of Troops
- Property Officer
- Personnel Officer
- Provost Marshal
- Classified Mail Room
- Secretary to C. O.
- General Files
- 201 Files

- Comments and Return
- Recommendations
- Information
- Information and Return
- Inf. and Forwarding
- Your Information and File
- Signature, if approved
- See Note on Back
- As Requested
- As Discussed
- Your Action

*I doubt whether G-2 can give us any information on this man and his activities but it is worth a try and we should ask.*

*WPC*

ARLINGTON HALL STATION

Date 23 Nov 47

TO

FROM

Commanding Officer WPC  
 Asst. Commandant \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dir. of Com. Research \_\_\_\_\_  
 Executive Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Asst. Executive Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adjutant \_\_\_\_\_  
 Asst. Adjutant \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Headquarters Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Coordination Section \_\_\_\_\_  
 Inf. and Liaison Section DKR  
 Chief, A Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, B Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, C Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, D Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, E Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, F Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dir. of Training \_\_\_\_\_  
 2d Sig. Serv. Bn. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Property Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Personnel Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Provost Marshal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Post Engineer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Classified Mail Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Secretary to C. O. \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Files \_\_\_\_\_  
 201 Files \_\_\_\_\_

Comments and Return \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recommendations \_\_\_\_\_  
 Information \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Inf. and Forwarding \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Information and File \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature, if approved \_\_\_\_\_  
 See Note on Back \_\_\_\_\_  
 As Requested \_\_\_\_\_  
 As Discussed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Action \_\_\_\_\_

Here is one which looks as though worth following through, in connection with our projected survey of State Systems. Do you think it advisable to ask G-2 to find out all possible in

REF ID: A67207.  
re this trip, "Verousiki" is, what was  
to have been distributed,  
etc.? I want to tie  
this in with specific  
State messages, if  
possible.

J.