

RMB 9/71

Present Status of the Friedman Collection

We began our review of the Friedman Library and collection by a conference with Miss Eugenia Lejeune, Archivist of the George G. Marshall Research Library. She will be in charge of the general administration of the collection including its initial sorting, indexing, and arrangement, with the assistance of regular and extra Library staff.

The Friedman collection arrived at the Marshall Research Library on ? 17 ? December 1970 and is still in some 74 transfer cartons (approximately 2 cu. ft. each). These cartons have been opened, and checked on a sampling basis, by the Library staff, but have not yet been systematically unpacked. Some of the cipher machines (early Hagelin B-21, an M-209, an M- , an original Wheatstone cipher disk, and some old Army enciphering cylinders and strip boards) were set out of the cartons on top of file cabinets. All these cartons and equipment were stored in a room-sized vault in the Library designed and authorized for storage of TOP SECRET material.

In addition, there is a 3 x 5 card index file of the whole collection, prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Friedman, which is a standard library card catalog of the collection, including not only books but also pamphlets, magazines, clippings and miscellanea. It is arranged alphabetically by author and by subject. This file is now stored in a room on the second floor of the stacks, which is intended as the home of the Friedman

collection, except for any classified or limited-access material which would remain in the vault.

There is another file of 5 x 8 cards, known as the analytical file, presently placed in the vault, which was prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Friedman and later by Mrs. Friedman alone right up to the time the collection was moved to Lexington. It is arranged alphabetically by proper name (except for the latest cards which have not yet been interleaved into the file). The cards are keyed to the books and other items of the collection by numbers assigned sequentially (probably roughly in order of accession) up to about 2000. This is called the analytical file because the cards contain annotations, varying in length from a few lines to occasionally several cards, giving an analysis of the content, scope, or reliability of the book or item and usually including some cross-references.

The only other item in the collection is a 4-drawer 3-way combination lock safe, the material in which was not available for survey because only Mrs. Friedman has the combination.

Assessment of the Friedman Collection

It was clear, because of the shortness of time available for our study, that we could not hope to examine everything in the collection. Our best procedure was some kind of discriminative sampling which might lead us to those items more likely than others to show up classified or codeword material. For such a procedure the analytical card file was a most useful, and available, key.

Since this collection represents Mr. Friedman's catholic interest in anything cryptologic, there were fortunately large blocks of material which we could with reasonable assurance disregard as having a very slight chance of revealing any classified material. Such blocks of material related to the Voynich MS, the Shakespearean ciphers, the Mayan hieroglyphs, the Casanovan studies and the historical material on cryptography in Renaissance Europe, in the American Revolution, the Civil War, and World War I, as well as most open publications on cryptology, either fictional or technical.

Our method, then, was to work systematically through the analytical card file, ignoring the large categories outlined above and searching out those which seemed more significant for our purposes (e.g., ENIGMA, Hagelin, ASA, AFSA, etc.). By using the accession numbers on these cards in conjunction with an index list of the contents of the cartons by accession number, we could locate the carton containing the material to be examined more closely.

In this way we ran down a dozen or so main categories, but in no case did we find anything bearing a classification higher than RESTRICTED, anything which seemed to have had a classification removed or obliterated, or anything which a quick scanning suggested should have been classified. (See Appendix). The only document found marked SECRET was a vitriolic

review of David Kahn's The Codebreakers in the analytical file, which seemed to deserve that classification, not on an official basis, but only on a personal basis.

Notice should be taken of the fact that, although all the Hagelin cards in the analytical file were checked, no file of correspondence between Mr. Friedman and Hagelin was found. Such files of correspondence, with others, do occur in the cards and in the collection, but not for Hagelin. This seemed strange. It is possible that the Hagelin correspondence is in the locked safe, but this is mere conjecture.

Conclusions

On the basis of our selective sampling we conclude that there is no great danger of classified material, marked or unmarked, being found in the Friedman collection. We found no evidence of codeword material. If there is any requirement to protect some material by limiting access, the physical security arrangements are available and seem adequate. We were informed that some of the staff are cleared for TOP SECRET and also that prospective users of any classified material would need to be cleared by regular DOD procedures.

There should be time for further, more thorough review of the Friedman collection before it is open for study. Miss Lejeune estimates it will take at least three months to unpack, sort, check and complete cataloging

the collection. Thereafter it was indicated that the Marshall Research Library could probably stall for as much as a year before announcing the collection was available for use. We recommended that a second review be made at a time when the materials are all unpacked and arranged but before any general access is granted.

General Carter +
 The staff of the George C. Marshall Research Library - Executive Director, Dr. Forrest Poque, Miss Eugenia Lejeune; and Executive Secretary Mr. Royster Lyle - ~~as well as General Marshall S. Carter~~ were all most cooperative and helpful ^{*The staff were most*} in our mission and willing to make such arrangements as seemed necessary for protection of any special material which might be uncovered. ~~We express our sincere appreciation for their kindness and hospitality.~~
~~*kindness and hospitality.*~~