

C O P Y

Walter Emery
435 S. Curson Ave.
Los Angeles 36, Calif.

February 16, 1953

The Chief Signal Officer,
War Dept., Pentagon Bldg.,
Washington 25, D. C.

Sir:

On January 7, 1942, I offered my services to Lt. Col. Wm. F. Friedman (ret), Principal Cryptanalyst, of the Code and Cipher Section as a volunteer translator of any French or Spanish textbooks or treatises on cryptography. I explained that my age precluded me from any active service but that I thought I might be of value on translating foreign books, which might be used in training courses in the War Department. I was then living at 825 Fifth Ave., N. Y. City.

Mr. Friedman replied on Jan. 9, 1942, accepting my offer, and asked me to start with a book by de Viaris, entitled "The Art of Enciphering and Deciphering Secret Messages." Later, I translated "Secret Ciphers Revealed," by Com. Bazeries, 1901, and "De la Cryptographie," by P. Valerio, 1893.

Various letters bore the file numbers SPSIS-3, or SPSIS 311.5 General. The last one I have seems to be that of 29 July, 1943, from Headquarters, Services of Supply.

At no time was Mr. Friedman certain that these translations would be printed. I have not heard from him since July 29, 1943.

I would like to know if they were printed. If not, is there any objection to my using the translations for any purpose that does not tie in with your department? I have no plans in the matter and do not anticipate using the translations in any way. However, I still have the very bulky copy of my translations and see no purpose in keeping them, if they are no use to any one.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Walter Emery