

C/S

FROM: S/ASST(Mr. Friedman)

5 May 54

Comment No. 2  
60493

## 1. I have examined the translation and make following comments:

a. Considering that the work was done by students at the NSA School, it is a quite creditable job and those who participated are to be commended for the really painstaking care they took in doing the work. In addition, the manuscript shows that much effort was expended in producing final copy which could be reproduced by photographic process.

b. If the job had been done by our experienced cryptologists, no doubt the translation would have been in more idiomatic(NSA cryptologic) English, and the terminology employed would have conformed better with NSA approved terminology.

c. However, this not being so, and because there are some errors in translation, I very much hesitate to recommend reproducing the work and issuing it as an NSA document, even though we might follow the suggestion made in the last sentence of Para. 2 of Comment 1, a course which I do not think would be wise. My philosophy in the premises is that the document bearing an NSA imprint should require no apology whatsoever.

(Continued)

Subject: Translation of "Precis de Cryptographie Moderne"

- d. To revise the translation to make it worthy of the NSA imprint would be a fairly large undertaking but could be justified on the basis that this French work is the very latest word in a technical cryptologic publication; a good translation would be quite useful for collateral reading and study not only by NSA student personnel but also by student personnel of the three Service Cryptologic Agencies.
- e. The only place in NSA where a competent revision of the translation could be done to satisfy our standards is in PROD. Comments by Colonel Marcy as to the practicability of doing such a revision in PROD would be useful.
2. The entire translation is available in my office for your examination.

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN  
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Incl:  
Eyraud Book