

*File  
Am Crypt Assn*

Mr. W. M. Bowers  
President  
American Cryptogram Association  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, W. Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

Receipt of your letter of 6 September 1952, with its  
enclosures, is acknowledged.

I am sorry not to be able to assist in ways which would  
help but I thank you nevertheless for keeping me informed.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

W.F.Friedman/eby/10 Sept 52  
Consultant/60493

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1	NAME OR TITLE <i>General Canine</i>	INITIALS <i>C</i>	CIRCULATE
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE <i>9 SEP 1959</i>	COORDINATION
2	<i>Mr. Friedman</i>		FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS <p>Last year we had certain correspondence with Mr. Bowers, President of the American Cryptogram Assn. I was designated to deal with him in his endeavors to gain financial support for his organization. We found it undesirable and impracticable to give such support and the correspondence terminated on a fairly amicable level.</p> <p>I will be glad to give you more info if desired, as I recently got into the picture.</p>			
FROM NAME OR TITLE <i>Friedman</i>		DATE <i>9 Sept 59</i>	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		TELEPHONE	

W. M. BOWERS

217 CONCORD ST.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.

Sept. 6, 1952

Mr. William F. Friedman  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I am sending you the enclosed because it was my thought that you might find the clipping amusing. The copy of the financial statement of the ACA may also be of interest as it supports, to some extent, the argument which was the basis of our correspondence of a year or more ago.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W.M. Bowers". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the page.

W.M. Bowers

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1952.

## FINANCES A PUZZLE TO CIPHER EXPERTS

Cryptanalysts, in Convention  
Here, Find Association Is  
Heading Into the Red

The members of the American Cryptogram Association took a collective look yesterday at a distressing message. They deciphered it instantly.

One delegate to the group's twentieth annual convention glanced at the rows of symbolic figures and with characteristic speed offered his analysis: "The handwriting is on the wall. What we need is action and less talk." Decoded into the blindest terms, the message was that the association was slowly going broke.

The mathematical wizards among the cryptanalysts—which would mean just about every one of the sixty members here assembled—gave the association two years of life in the black. Bank reserves, they said, would not hold out beyond 1954; and something would have to be done about the dwindling membership, now down to 500.

Optimism prevailed, however, at the association business meeting in the New Yorker Hotel. These men and women, who had spent most of their spare time in solving the allegedly insolvable, rallied to the challenge. Surely a budget could be no worse than a trifold or Baconian cipher.

### Left to Executive Committee

Milton Harawitz, a New York attorney, suggested raising dues from \$3 to \$5. President William M. Bowers, an engineer, thought voluntary contributions might be forthcoming. The membership empowered the executive committee to unscramble the difficulty.

The convention ran into further trouble when Frank H. Kreuter of Drexel Hill, Pa., was chosen president for the coming year with no one's objection except his own.

Mr. Kreuter, pleading the pressure of private affairs, had sought to remove his name from the one-slate ballot. This was ruled unconstitutional. The members learned yesterday that he had been duly elected, although he had resigned the week before, prior to the tabulation of votes.

The executive committee was charged with the task of cracking the association's legal code.

### In Defense of Mistakes

One problem was resolved with relative ease. William A. Lee, an actor and the new second vice president, answered to applause the charge that puzzles in The Cryptogram, the association's bi-monthly publication, contained too many mistakes.

"What are you cryptanalysts for?" Mr. Lee declared. "Why, every message the professionals get contains dozens of mistakes. That's part of the fun and it's part of the job!"

The vote of confidence for the magazine brought the two-hour business meeting to a happy end. The delegates, who will devote today to New York sight-saving tips, adjourned with a unanimous resolution calling on E. Herrick Field, secretary of the association, to write a letter to E. Herrick Field, president of the New York Cipher Society, thanking the latter for its hospitality to the parent body.

## LISTS SIGHT-SAVING RULES

Blindness Prevention Society  
Offers Protection Advice

Marking National Sight-Saving Month, beginning today, Mason H. Bigelow, president of the National Society for the Prevention of

the 1953 con  
at Indianapolis

One resolute  
abolition of pl  
and the electi  
by a direct vo  
organization a  
the voting a  
years.

The Taft-  
urged Congre  
committee to  
ment relation  
needed revisor  
result of a car  
ings" on the T.  
resolution also  
deny certifi  
Labor Relati  
union if its off  
known member  
Communist par

### Asks Stand

The convent  
declaration by  
that further ag  
or Russian sat  
as an "act of wa  
force "necessar  
terminate the s

The veterans  
the United S  
"the strongest e  
against the Cze  
N. Oatis, Asso  
spondent, was  
prisonment in

A special he  
adopted that ci  
in the loan gua  
the G. I. Bill  
manding tighte  
services for vete

The Harold  
named after the  
and former Na  
went to Detroit  
up of Chinese-  
for their "contr  
hood and unders

The Commun  
went to Lee Ca  
New Iberia, La.  
The America  
made to the Rev  
Roman Catholic

## THE AMERICAN CRYPTOGRAM ASSOCIATION

## COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AUGUST 31, 1952

RECEIPTS:	1952	1951	INCREASE (DECREASE)	PERCENTAGES	
				1952	1951
Balance Forwarded	1121 21	707 28	413 93	46 25	23 68
Membership Dues	1157 50	1643 00	(485 50)	47 46	55 03
Contributions ( C O P S )	56 72	86 10	( 29 38)	2 33	2 88
S S S C	9 00	45 50	( 36 50)	37	1 52
"ELGY"	9 00	288 00	(279 00)	37	9 64
Foreign Postage Fees	11 75	-	11 75	48	-
Special Mailing Fees	6 38	-	6 38	26	-
Interest on <del>T</del> & G Series U.S. Bonds	55 00	55 00	-	2 26	1 84
Back Copies, The Cryptogram	25	43 15	( 42 90)	01	1 45
Miscellaneous	5 06	118 36	(113 30)	21	3 96
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>1310 66</u>	<u>2279 11</u>	<u>(968 45)</u>	<u>53 75</u>	<u>76 32</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS</b>	<u>2431 87</u>	<u>2986 39</u>	<u>(554 52)</u>	100 00	100 00
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>					
Printing: The Cryptogram	949 78	816 43	133 35	47 54	43 77
Mailing: The Cryptogram	88 25	170 84	( 82 59)	4 42	9 16
Copyright Fees	24 00	24 00	-	1 20	1 29
Administrative & General Postage	39 12	95 65	( 56 53)	1 96	5 13
Office Supplies & Expenses	131 61	216 90	( 85 29)	6 59	11 63
Headquarters Rental	240 00	210 00	30 00	12 01	11 26
Furniture & Equipment	271 93	65 76	206 17	13 61	3 53
Fire & Theft Insurance	10 00	10 00	-	50	53
Treasurer's Bond	27 50	-	27 50	1 38	-
Bank Service Charges	5 82	-	5 82	29	-
Returned Checks	6 00	-	6 00	30	-
Membership Refund	3 00	-	3 00	15	-
Petty Cash	35 00	20 00	15 00	1 75	1 07
Promotion	45 70	25 87	19 83	2 29	1 39
Editorial Expenses	45 00	-	45 00	2 25	-
Convention Expenses	75 00	50 00	25 00	3 76	2 68
Other Expenses	-	159 73	(159 73)	-	8 56
<b>LESS DISBURSMENTS</b>	<u>1997 71</u>	<u>1865 18</u>	<u>132 53</u>	100 00	100 00
<b>BALANCE ON HAND</b>	<u>434 16</u>	<u>1121 21</u>	<u>(687 05)</u>		

## THE AMERICAN CRYPTOGRAPH ASSOCIATION

## ASSETS

AUGUST 31, 1952

	1952	1951	INCREASE (DECREASE)
<b>CASH ON HAND AND IN BANK</b>			
Petty Cash	52	-	52
The Canton National Bank	434 16	1121 21	(687 05)
F & G Series, U.S. Bonds	<u>2250 00</u>	<u>2250 00</u>	-
TOTAL CASH ON HAND AND IN BANK	<u>2684 68</u>	<u>3371 21</u>	<u>(686 53)</u>
<b>ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE</b>			
Membership Dues	615 00	Not Available	
Other	<u>10 00</u>		
TOTAL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	625 00		
Less: Reserve for Doubtfuls	<u>150 00</u>		
	<u>475 00</u>		
	<u>3159 68</u>		
<b>INVENTORIES</b>			
Office Supplies	40 24	-	40 24
Mailing Supplies	28 55	-	28 55
Text Books, Etc.	77 00	94 50	( 17 50)
Back Copies	<u>231 48</u>	-	<u>231 48</u>
TOTAL INVENTORIES	<u>377 27</u>	<u>94 50</u>	<u>282 77</u>
	<u>3536 95</u>		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Furniture & Equipment	486 32	65 76	420 56
Library	250 00	200 00	50 00
LESS: Reserve, Depreciation	<u>73 63</u>		<u>73 63</u>
NET FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT	<u>662 69</u>	<u>265 76</u>	<u>396 93</u>
	<u>4199 64</u>		
<b>DEFERRED &amp; PREPAID EXPENSES</b>			
	<u>29 37</u>		<u>29 37</u>
	<u>4229 01</u>		

$$\frac{615}{3} = 205$$

424 North George Mason Drive  
Arlington 3, Virginia  
11 January 1951

Dear Mr. Bryan:

I have your letter of 30 December 1950 with its information about a new member of your Association. I regret that I am not in a position to give you any advice with respect to possible modifications of your rules for membership and think you should feel free to exercise your own judgment in connection with such matters.

I also have your letter of 14 December and note what you say with respect to a possible mention of the Mendelsohn Paper in a forthcoming issue of your magazine.

I know we received a list of members of the ACA who are thought to be quite competent, and I believe that good use is being made of the list furnished.

With best wishes to you for the New Year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mr. William G. Bryan  
The American Cryptogram Association  
Burton, Ohio

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		REF ID: A70106		USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1	NAME OR TITLE <i>Capt Wenger</i>	INITIALS		CIRCULATE	
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <i>OOB</i>	DATE <i>1-7-51</i>		COORDINATION	
2	<i>OOT</i>			FILE	
	<i>Agree</i>			INFORMATION	
				NECESSARY ACTION	
				NOTE AND RETURN	
4				SEE ME	
				SIGNATURE	
REMARKS					
<p>1. This is the sort of thing we have had in mind as one of the objections to support.</p> <p>2. I propose to tell him that we are not in a position to advise him as to their rules for membership and that he will have to exercise his own judgment.</p>					
FROM NAME OR TITLE <i>F</i>			DATE <i>3 Jan 51</i>		
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <i>001</i>			TELEPHONE		



# THE AMERICAN CRYPTOGRAM ASSOCIATION

Burton, Ohio  
December 30, 1950

William F. Friedman  
Armed Forces Security Agency  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

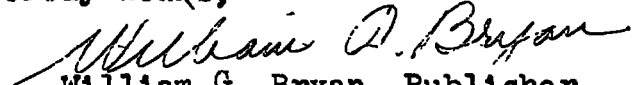
This is to advise that

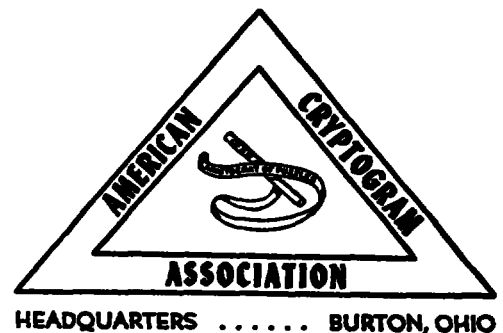
Soedarpo Sastrosatomo, Press Attache  
Embassy of Indonesia  
2523 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

is now a member of our Association.

Do you have any suggestions along similar lines, which will  
affect our acceptances of future memberships, at this crucial  
time?

Sincerely Yours,

  
William G. Bryan, Publisher  
American Cryptogram Association



Burton, Ohio  
December 14, 1950

Dear Mr. Friedman:

Thank you so much for giving me the name of the proper governmental agency to contact in the case I mentioned; but since your headquarters intend to request a listing of available personnel on our roster in the near future, the chances are that I shall have no use for it.

At present we have as formidable a listing as we had before World War II composed of perhaps a few more youngsters than before, but all of the calibre for which you are looking. It just seemed to me that the membership of the association is more seriously inclined than it was before, with more inquiring minds from the analytical sense, more with a mathematical background, than we had to work with before.

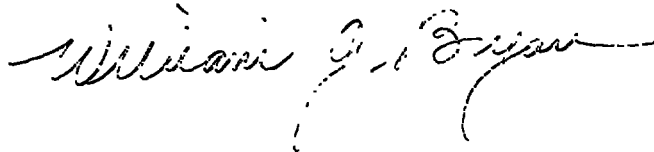
I will be in the position to grade them as top notch, mediocre, etc. from their solving record, as well as my personal interpretations of their conscientiousness.

The paper which you mentioned, "Blaise de Vigenere and the 'Chiffre carre', by Charles J. Mendelsohn" sounds most interesting; but I won't be able to give it any kind of promotion until April 1951; since the February magazine is at present in the hands of our processor. But when it is mentioned, and I receive orders for it, I'll send you a blanket order for a batch of them, and remail them from Burton.

I hope that southern trip was most successful; traveling at this time of year, even from the Capital is always a pleasant innovation; but perhaps more to be desired from this part of the country with its 26-38 inch snow falls, as we had over the Thanksgiving weekend.

Kindest regards to you and your family,

Sincerely Yours,



424 North George Mason Drive  
Arlington 3, Virginia  
20 November 1950

Dear Mr. Bryan:

Mr. Rowlett turned over to me your letter of 7 November, together with its enclosure, saying that I should have the latter among the curiosities of my personal collection. This is all the more interesting because some years ago I had some direct contacts with Mr. Wildon Lloyd, who turned out to be quite a character.

I was quite interested in the article in a recent issue of *Colliers*, telling about the work that ACA is doing. You should be flooded by applications for membership after that nice publicity.

Recently I began going over my collection and have uncovered quite a number of duplicate copies (2 or 3 at most) of some interesting old things. I wonder whether some ACA members who collect would be interested. If I sent you a list later on, could you use it?

With cordial greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mr. William G. Bryan  
The American Cryptogram Association  
Burton, Ohio

Nee

Squad George Cassis

now

Squad Cassis Bostick  
Mrs. Charles William Bostick

Date of Birth Feb. 5 1922

Born at: Gaza, Palestine - now Gaza, Egypt

- As far as future citizenship -

1. Applying for permanent residence as wife of U.S. citizen. After obtaining this, she will apply for citizenship. (This is necessary & usual procedure.) (No difficulties expected)
2. A bill has been introduced into committee by Senator Langer which would give permanent residence to & possibly (I am not certain) citizenship to six people - one of whom is Squad Cassis. This bill has a number which I can track down but which I cannot remember now. (Personnel Sec. NSA-16 has this number, I believe) (A copy of this bill can be obtained if necessary.)

See #1 above

This action ~~has~~ of application has been completed and is being handled by The Immigration Service of The Dept. of Justice. (Mr. McKennon)

~~See #2 above~~

Suad Cassis Bostick has applied for citizenship under The Displaced Persons Act of 1948. She was refused application for the following reasons:

The act states that those eligible for application are those displaced from last residence, nationality, and place of birth thru fear of persecution due to race, religion, or political opinion. The immigration authorities granted that Suad Cassis is displaced from last residence and nationality. But because she was born in Gaza (Palestine at time of her birth — but Egypt now), Suad Cassis cannot claim

fear of persecution if she returns to Gaza, Egypt. Hence she is not eligible for application. This fact was not brought to her attention until after NSA-16 was originally notified of the impending marriage.

### Family:

Father: Permanent Resident <sup>of U.S.</sup> now working for U.N. in Mexico City.

Plans to get U.S. citizenship when required number of years as permanent resident are up. Now Honduranian.

Mother: ~~Same~~ Permanent Resident of U.S. Plans to get U.S. citizenship when required number of years as permanent resident are up. <sup>Now has Syrian passport</sup>

Brother: U.S. citizen (Detroit Mich.)

Brother: Permanent Resident now in U.S. Army, <sup>Has Syrian passport</sup>

Sister: Expects to obtain <sup>U.S.</sup> citizenship almost immediately.

The present status of Suvad Cassis is that of Displaced Person. She has no passport and cannot travel because of lack of any travel documents.

Charles W. Postick

748

APR 1952

Mr. W. M. Bowers  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, W. Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

A couple days absence from my desk has delayed my replying to your letter of 6 April 1952.

The only objection there could be to the use of your file of correspondence relative to your endeavors to obtain from the Department of Defense financial aid for the American Cryptogram Association would be based upon the desire of the Department to avoid publicity concerning the existence of this Agency and the nature of its activities. That such publicity is indeed undesirable is attested to in an inferential manner by the fact that the Congress found it necessary to provide special legislation (Public Law No. 513, with which you are no doubt familiar) for the protection of all information concerning U. S. cryptologic activities.

In suggesting that you refrain from using your file, I can therefore only appeal to your good judgment and patriotism since it is obvious that your article would bring publicity that would not be particularly embarrassing but simply undesirable.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

W.F.Friedman/eby/11 Apr 52  
Consultant/Ext. 60493

MEMO FOR RECORD:

This is a reply to a personal letter, to Mr. Friedman, from Mr. Bowers asking for permission to use his file of correspondence, regarding his request for financial aid for the ACA from the Dept. of Defense, in a magazine article.

Consultant - Combrocks Copy



W. M. BOWERS

217 CONCORD ST.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.

April 6, 1952

Mr. William F. Friedman  
Armed Forces Security Agency  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I find that I have to bother you once more. A certain matter has arisen with which I hesitate to proceed before first advising of the circumstances concerning it. In brief they are:

TRUE magazine has expressed the desire to have one of their staff writers do an article on The American Cryptogram Association. Is there any objection on your part to the use of my file of correspondence, relative to my request for financial aid from the Department of Defense, in the preparation of this story?

You are familiar with all papers in that file with the exception of a letter written by me to my son in which I gave him an account of what transpired during my conference with you of about a year ago. This letter was perhaps more complete, with regard to our conversation, than the memorandum which I sent you immediately following my return from Washington.

Mr. William G. Bryan, formerly editor of THE CRYPTOGRAM, and now an employee of the AFSA, can perhaps give you an idea of what form TRUE's article might take, as it was prior to his resignation that we were first approached relative to this article.

I realize that you are busy with matters of greater import than this and am reluctant to make demands upon your time which, perhaps, is insufficient for more pressing matters. Consequently, if you have no objection to offer, there is no necessity for an immediate answer to this letter. I shall delay any action on the matter for a reasonable length of time - about a week - and if then I have not heard from you to the contrary, I will assume that you have no objection to my including the file mentioned in the material being prepared for the story.

Cordially Yours,



Consultant

Mr. Friedman

REF

ID: A70106

APR 10 1952

interesting but in  
view of your previous  
expressed desire to avoid  
publication, I see no choice for  
you but to request Boners  
to withhold the file from his  
publication activities. I cannot  
see where it will do him any  
good anyway - its primary use  
could only be to slam us for  
not unclassifying ACF.

ARM

ALFRED R. MARCY  
Colonel, Signal Corps  
Chief of staff

## MEMO ROUTING SLIP

REF ID: A70106

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS,  
CORRECTIONS, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

1	NAME OR TITLE <i>Col. Marcy</i>	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <i>95</i>	DATE	COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

## REMARKS

1. Ltr from Bowers, Pres of Am Cryptogram Assn
2. Herein file.
3. I'd rather not have the publicity for AFSA
4. Let's talk it over.
5. Meantime, I'll merely acknowledge receipt of letter if you think it advisable.

FROM NAME OR TITLE

*WJ*

DATE

*9 Apr 52*

ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION

TELEPHONE

DD 1 FEB 50 95

Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

16-48487-4 GPO ☆



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
ARMED FORCES SECURITY AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Mr. W. M. Bowers  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, W. Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

A couple days absence from my desk has delayed my replying to your letter of 6 April 1952.

The only objection there could be to the use of your file of correspondence relative to your endeavors to obtain from the Department of Defense financial aid for the American Cryptogram Association would be based upon the desire of the Department to avoid publicity concerning the existence of this Agency and the nature of its activities. That such publicity is indeed undesirable is attested to in an inferential manner by the fact that the Congress found it necessary to provide special legislation (Public Law No. 513, with which you are no doubt familiar) for the protection of all information concerning U. S. cryptologic activities.

In suggesting that you refrain from using your file, I can therefore only appeal to your good judgment and patriotism since it is obvious that your article would bring publicity that would not be particularly embarrassing but simply undesirable.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE	AFSA-15	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		DATE	COORDINATION
2	AFSA-14	<i>P</i>	FILE
		<i>7 July 51</i>	INFORMATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3			NECESSARY ACTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			NOTE AND RETURN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS			
<p>It would appear that Mr. Bowers is a bit warm under the collar. I propose no answer.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Agree</i></p>			
FROM NAME OR TITLE		DATE	
<i>F</i>		<i>7 July 51</i>	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		TELEPHONE	
<i>OOT</i>			

Mr. William F. Friedman  
Armed Forces Security Agency  
Washington 25, D.C.

July 2, 1951

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 20th as well as that of April 30th which I realized had crossed mine of about the same date.

Your answer to my question about the Extension Courses has been noted. My only reason for asking it was that I wanted your books on cryptanalysis for my own use, and was willing to take the courses, if necessary, in order to get them.

In regard to my other question your report is indeed most interesting. When I asked if the A.C.A. could be of any assistance to the Agency I was not aware that you were, at that time, conducting a drive for recruits from our membership. The result of this drive was probably less than you hoped for, but I do not consider it as having any bearing on my question. The tabulation shown in your letter addressed to Mr. William G. Bryan, a copy of which you sent me, does not represent any activity on the part of the American Cryptogram Association. As I interpret it, it seems to be the result of a deal cooked up by the Agency in conjunction with Mr. Bryan, personally. The governing body of the A.C.A. was, most certainly, not consulted in this transaction, had no knowledge of it nor any part in the promotion of it; and so, for that reason, hesitates to accept any of the credit for its 3.4% success.

I have no data, other than the bare figures given in your letter, on which to base an analysis of the miserable result of this recruitment campaign. However, it strikes me that the result speaks for itself and the inference is that the Security Agency has little or nothing, of an attractive nature, to offer to the vast majority of the present membership of the A.C.A. As presently comprised, this membership includes many men holding responsible positions in the civilian world; and many women who could not easily abandon their obligations, relative to home and family, for the purpose of taking service with the Agency. If you will pardon an unsolicited expression of opinion, it occurs to me that the field wherein the Agency might better expect to find many recruits, is that of students and other young people who have not yet achieved positions of responsibility or assumed obligations which they cannot discard.

Within recent months, the A.C.A. has been approached by two such groups, one from Texas A.&M. and the other from Albany, N.Y. Both requested special consideration in regard to purchase of textbooks and a discount, for group membership, on the dues and subscription price of the magazine. With its financial status at its present low ebb, the A.C.A. is not now in a position to favor these groups by giving them this material and special membership at reduced prices. With sufficient funds from other sources to defray operating expenses, the American Cryptogram Association could encourage and develop interest among these young civilians, could recruit and train such groups. On the other hand,

REF ID: A70106  
according to the statement in your letter of June 20th, the 'no doubt well founded' policy of the Agency restricts it from doing anything in this field.

As all items of our agenda now seem to have been disposed of, I expect that this is the final installment of a very interesting exchange of letters which started last November. But before signing off, I feel that you will be glad to learn that, in spite of my prophecy that such might be the case, the A.C.A. is not going to 'fold' in the immediate future. To avert that sad end, it is undergoing a transition from its former status as a glorified 'pen pals club' into a self supporting organization. You can readily realize that this can be successfully accomplished only by a campaign of widespread publicity through newspaper and magazine articles, publication of additional textbooks, and various other activities, fashioned to create interest in cryptography.

In recent months I have learned something of how seriously the Security Agency takes itself and of its aversion toward any and all activity which might call public attention to the fact that codes and ciphers exist. Also, I feel reasonably sure that in considering my request for financial assistance for the A.C.A., the representatives of the Agency must have foreseen that if they rendered no aid, the A.C.A. would have no alternative other than to close up shop, or to take energetic steps on its own initiative, in order to earn the funds necessary for operating expenses. Weighing these facts, I must confess that I was, to some extent, amazed, when my recent suggestion relative to a small measure of Departmental support carrying with it supervision of the activities of these civilian cryptanalytic enthusiasts, was so casually vetoed. During past years, with one of their own men in the driver's seat, the Security Agency could easily laugh-off the activities of the A.C.A. as child's play. To-day, as far as I know, the A.C.A. has been liberated from the guiding and restraining hand of all outside influence.

The above are merely random thoughts that have occurred to me since my visit to your office. They require no answer on your part. Consequently, as this may well be the last time that I will have occasion to write to you, I wish to close by expressing my appreciation for the consideration you have given to my requests and inquiries, as well as the time that you have devoted to investigating and answering them.

Yours very truly,



W. M. Bowers

AFSA-OOT/ef  
Serial: 910

20 JUN 1951

Mr. W. M. Bowers  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

The delay in responding to your letter of 29 April 1951, which by the way crossed my letter of 30 April to you, has been occasioned by my desire to investigate the possibilities involved in the two questions you raise in your letter.

As to whether the American Cryptogram Association can be of any service to the Agency in connection with recruitment of personnel, I regret to say that our experience to date with circularizing ACA members hardly warrants the amount of work involved, as measured in terms of productive results. In this connection, I enclose a copy of a recent letter to Mr. Bryan, which I think will be of interest.

As to whether participation in Army Extension Courses in cryptography is possible for responsible citizens not in the Armed Forces, etc., here again it is with regret that I must give you a negative answer. These courses are administered by the Department of the Army, and the regulations governing participation therein are so rigid that only individuals who are connected with the Armed Forces and who have need therefor are eligible for enrollment. The reasons for this policy are no doubt well founded but I am not in a position to outline them.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

Encl. 1

Copy of ltr to  
Mr. William G. Bryan

Copy to:  
AFSA-14  
AFSA-15

William F. Friedman/ef/19 Jun 51  
AFSA-OOT, Ext 60240

PLEASE RETURN TO AFSA-OOT



AFSA-007/ef  
Serial:

Mr. William G. Bryan  
Burton  
Ohio

Dear Mr. Bryan:

I refer to your letter of 30 April 1951, in which you mention the names of several ACA members who had made application for employment with us and who were awaiting word as to the result. I have delayed replying to your letter pending receipt of detailed information from our personnel office. Although it is not possible to give you full details, I can say that our recruitment efforts among ACA members have not been very productive, as you will also conclude, no doubt, from scanning the following tabulation of results thus far:

Contacted	88
Number failed to reply to correspondence	25
Number declined	58
Number rejected	2
Number accepted	3
TOTAL	88

With regard to specific individuals named in your letter, Mr. Robert H. Vokes and Mr. Frederick Plindt did not file applications, or if they did, the letters were improperly addressed; Mr. Wallace C. Shaw is scheduled to enter on duty on 25 June 1951; Mr. James A. Otterson and Mr. Jack Lawrence have been accepted but no final commitment as to their date of entry on duty has been made as yet; only one applicant, Mr. Lewis J. Moore, was turned down. The three who have been accepted are the ones listed last in the tabulation above. I think you will agree that the response to our efforts among ACA members hardly warrants the amount of work that must be performed in contacts established via that channel. I regret my inability to give a more favorable report, which is intended solely for your own information. At the same time I wish to thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

Copy to:  
AFSA-14  
AFSA-15

AFSA-OOT/ef  
Serial: 658

8 0 APR 1951

Mr. W. M. Bowers  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

In reply to your letter of 11 April, please accept my assurance that we shall be glad to have Mr. Bryan return to this Agency if he wishes, and if all other necessary conditions can be met. Nothing you have said or written in connection with your desire to place the American Cryptogram Association on a firm financial basis will in any way influence the handling of Mr. Bryan's application for re-employment with this Agency.

Please accept also my thanks for the notes which you inclosed with your letter. I feel that they summarize the situation very well, and they have been placed in the file with the report which you left with me, in order that they may be available in the future, should need arise. I regret that failure to indicate, earlier in our correspondence, our reluctance to give any publicity to our activities, should have led to any misapprehension in that regard.

In closing, please let me apologize for unavoidable delay in answering your letter, and assure you that I enjoyed talking with you. I certainly regret my personal inability to be of material assistance in furthering your desires.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

William F. Friedman/ef/27 Apr 51  
AFSA-OOT, Ext 60240



PLEASE RETURN TO AFSA-OOT

W. M. BOWERS

217 CONCORD ST.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.

Apr. 29, 1951

Bear Mr. Friedman:

As I have not heard from you since the occasion of my visit to your office, I fear that you may consider this letter as an attempt on my part to force upon you an unwelcome correspondence in which you have no desire to become engaged. Please let me assure you that such is not the case.

The reason for this letter is simply this. When I was in your office last March I asked you two questions and you told me that you would take them under consideration and give me an answer to both. Col. Kreps' letter of 5 April dealt only with the basic topic discussed at that meeting, and I have had no word from anyone relative to these other matters. Consequently, I am taking the liberty of writing directly to you concerning them. The questions to which I refer are these:

1 - Can the American Cryptogram Association be of any service to the Security Agency? If a questionnaire was sent to each of the approximately 600 members of that organization, covering name, address, age, sex, marital status, physical condition, willingness to enter government service, and other pertinent data; would the information thus collected be of any use to the Security Agency?

2 - Is it possible for a loyal, responsible, American citizen who is not a member of the Armed Forces on active duty, nor of the Reserve or National Guard, to amplify his or her knowledge of cryptography and cryptanalysis through participation in extension courses sponsored by the Security Agency?

The above are the two questions which were left unanswered at the close of our conference of March 20th. If you feel that you can now give me the answers, I would greatly appreciate hearing from you relative to them.

Yours very truly,

*W M Bowers*

~~Confidential~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : AFSA-14

FROM : AFSA-00T

SUBJECT: Proposed letter to Mr. Bowers

DATE: 18 April 1951

1. Attached hereto is a letter with notes from Mr. W. M. Bowers of the American Cryptogram Association, with a proposed reply from Mr. Friedman.
2. Mr. Friedman directed that the correspondence with the proposed reply be forwarded to you for your comments or concurrence, and asks whether, in your opinion, copies of the correspondence should be sent to Colonel Kreps for his information.

MARY C. LANE  
Captain, WAC

424 North George Mason Drive  
Arlington 3, Virginia  
18 April 1951

Mr. W. M. Bowers  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

In reply to your letter of 11 April, please accept my assurance that we shall be glad to have Mr. Bryan return to this Agency if he desires, and that nothing you have said or written in connection with your desire to place the American Cryptogram Association on a firm financial basis would in any way influence the handling of Mr. Bryan's application for re-employment with this Agency.

Please accept also my thanks for the notes which you inclosed with your letter. I feel that they summarize the situation very well, and they have been placed in the file with the report which you left with me, in order that they may be available in the future, should need arise. I regret that failure to indicate, earlier in our correspondence, our reluctance to give any publicity to our activities, should have led to any misapprehension in that regard.

In closing, please let me also assure you that I enjoyed talking with you and regret my personal inability to be of material assistance in furthering your desires.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

W. M. BOWERS

217 CONCORD ST.  
CLARKSBURG, W. VA.

Apr. 11, 1951

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I have word, via Col. Kreps, of the decision handed down on the matter which was the subject of our talk several weeks ago. Receipt of Col. Kreps' letter has been acknowledged and, officially, the file is closed.

This letter is, more or less, purely personal; and my main reason for writing it is to reaffirm my request that you do not allow anything that I have written or said to in anyway influence your handling of the application by Mr. William G. Bryan for work with the Security Agency. Mr. Bryan is entirely unaware that there has been any further correspondence on this subject following Col. Kreps' letter of January 15, 1951.

Since our Executive Committee was informed by Mr. Bryan that he might return to duty with the Security Agency, steps have been taken to delegate to others the multiple services that he has performed for the American Cryptogram Association. He has already been relieved of some of these duties. And, as the decision by the Department of Defense was not entirely unanticipated, plans are being developed to cope with the financial problem confronting the A.C.A. If these plans are successful, it is hoped that we will be able, thereby, to earn sufficient funds to pay personnel and defray other operating expenses. It is my belief that Mr. Bryan sincerely desires to return to service with the Security Agency, and I trust that his application will be favorably received.

Relative to my suggestion that the Department of Defense render financial aid to the American Cryptogram Association, it was based on the mistaken impression that the Department might actually desire to keep this organization alive and active. Had I been better informed, last November, concerning your policy in regard to these matters, I would not have made the suggestion. I wish to thank you and the others involved, for the consideration given to my proposals.

Yours very truly,



*P. Bowers to OOT*

April 12, 1951

Mr. Friedman -

On my way home I jotted down  
a few notes on the matters which  
were covered by our conversation.

Thought that you might be  
interested in having a copy.

DMB.

I arrived at the Naval Security Station, 3801 Nebraska Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C., at about 8.55 A.M. At about 9.10 A.M. was met at the gate house by Capt. Mary C. Lane who stated that Mr. Friedman had been delayed and was not yet at the Station. Was conducted to Mr. Friedman's office by Capt. Lane and waited there until his arrival at about 10.00AM.

Mr. Friedman opened the discussion by stating that I had asked for financial assistance for the A.C.A. from the Department of Defense. I stated that such was the case, and told him that my request had been prompted by the thought that the financial condition of the ACA was bad and that the organization was in danger of collapse.

I told him that the association had no source of revenue other than the dues and that these barely paid the cost of publishing our magazine. That we had recently been faced with the problem of renting new quarters. That we had raised the dues to cover this added expense. That as of Feb. 1, 1951 we had 619 members. That as of March 20th, 137 of these were delinquent in dues. Mr. Friedman made a note of both of these last mentioned figures.

He told me that my original suggestions had received serious consideration and had been turned down because, in his opinion, the Security Agency could not justify, if called upon to do so, an outright subsidy to a civilian organization or the expenditure of money for subscription to the ACA's magazine in large quantities.

He said that the Security Agency looked with disfavor on anything that gave any publicity to cryptography or that would in any way call attention to their activities. Mentioned the damage that had been done by Yardley's book (The American Black Chamber) and also stated that they did not even like the recent article in Colliers by Kobler.

I stated that one thing that had spurred my request for aid was the fact that ELCY was exhausted and as revenue from the sale of that book had been the greatest source of income, other than dues, that the association had ever had, we were attempting to promote a replacement of it. He showed interest in this announcement and asked if I was going to write the new book. I told him that I regretted that I had neither the ability nor the time to undertake such a project, and that we were trying to round up various authors to handle the individual topics. Mentioned that I had asked Candela to do a chapter on the Delastelle Trifid. Then followed a discussion of Candela for five or ten minutes. Mr. Friedman told me in the course of this discussion that he had read Candela's book on the solution of the Bazeries Cipher and casually mentioned that he, himself, had solved the Bazeries ciphers some thirty years ago, just for practice, and had not thought it worthwhile to publicize the fact that he had done it. My impression was that Mr. Friedman does not hold Mr. Candela in very high regard as a cryptanalyst.

Mr. Friedman said that I had suggested in my last letter that the Security Agency had struck a damaging blow to the ACA and he wanted to know what I referred to. I told him that it was the move on their part to recall to duty in Washington, Mr. W.G. Bryan, the Editor and Publisher of THE CRYPTOGRAM and the man who had virtually managed the ACA since 1939 with the exception of a few years spent in government service during the last war.



I told him that these services had always been rendered free to the ACA and that we had no funds to employ paid personnel. Told him that dues cover only the cost of publishing the magazine and showed him the condensed financial statements for the last eight years. Told him that I had not realized that the ACA operated on such a shoestring until I was elected President and began to make a study of the situation. When I realized how unstable the financial and organizational structure actually was, I thought that the Defense Department might be sufficiently interested in keeping the organization active to render some financial aid. He said that they had wondered how I had happened to apply for this aid and mentioned that it had been suggested that perhaps I was trying to get something for myself out of it. I assured him that my application for financial assistance was solely in the interest of keeping the ACA alive.

At various times throughout the discussion, Mr. Friedman impressed upon me the fact that information relative to cryptography and cryptanalysis, if uncontrolled, would be harmful to the Security Agency's activities. I interposed mention of the fact that this did not seem to bother other countries, as many works on these subjects were available in Italian and French editions. He did not deny this but still maintained that the U.S. policy was to look with disfavor on any dissemination of cryptographic knowledge beyond controlled personnel.

Mr. Friedman finally said that I had mentioned in my last letter that I had a plan whereby I thought that the Department of Defense might aid the ACA within regulations. I told him that I had. I briefly outlined the plan which was that a coordinator of civilian cryptography might be appointed by the Dept. of Defense and that an employee of the Security Agency might be assigned to duty as Editor of the magazine. I suggested that when Mr. Bryan was re-employed by the Security Agency that he be assigned to this duty. I gave Mr. Friedman a typed copy of a paper telling of the Development of the ACA; the Organizational Weakness of the ACA; my opinion of how the ACA might be of assistance to the Dept. of Defense; and the suggested method for aid to the ACA from the Dept. of Defense. Mr. Friedman said that this suggestion would receive consideration.

The conference ended at about 12:15 P.M.

W. M. Bowers.

File  
3DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
Washington 25, D.C.AFSA-14/meg  
Serial: 551

5 APR 1951

Dear Mr. Bowers:

The memorandum which you kindly left with Mr. Friedman at the close of your conference with him on 20 March 1951 has been carefully reviewed and I regret to have to inform you that the Department of Defense is not able to give favorable consideration to the method suggested in the last section thereof for aiding the American Cryptogram Association.

I think it unnecessary to indicate specific reasons for the unfavorable reception your proposal has met, as no doubt they are quite clear to you after your conference with Mr. Friedman.

Please let me assure you that the Department of Defense has studied the situation sympathetically and regrets its inability to be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

K. R. KREPS  
COL USAF  
Act'g Exec. Sec  
OSD

Mr. W. M. Bowers, President  
The American Cryptogram Association  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, West Virginia

00T1414A

~~██████████~~ CC: AFSA-11 (3)  
AFSA-00T  
AFSA-14 (Comeback Copy)

Mr. Friedman/meg/AFSA-14  
30 Mar 51/Ext 60455

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : AFSA-14

DATE: 23 March 1951

FROM : AFSA-OOT

SUBJECT: Visit to AFSA of Mr. W. M. Bowers, President ACA

References: (a) Ltr, Mr. W. M. Bowers to Col. Kreps, USAF, dated 19 Feb 51  
 (b) Ltr, Col. Kreps to Mr. Bowers, dated 9 Mar 51

Enclosures: (A) Memo left by Mr. Bowers on completion of visit  
 (B) Draft of proposed letter to Mr. Bowers

1. As arranged by reference (b), Mr. Bowers came to Washington on 20 March 1951 and spent two hours with me.

2. The purpose of Mr. Bowers' visit, as indicated in reference (a), was to present background information in connection with a new proposal he wished to make for preventing the collapse of the American Cryptogram Association.

3. It became clear early in the conference that Mr. Bowers had failed to realize that the Department of Defense not only desires no publicity in connection with cryptographic activities and does not desire to have the journal of the ACA continued for the sake of such publicity, but also maintains the view that such publicity is harmful to U.S. security. I did the best I could, under the circumstances required by security, to clarify these points and believe that Mr. Bowers now has a much better understanding of the position of the Department of Defense in the matter and why it cannot assist him as he desires.

4. At the end of the conference Mr. Bowers, with considerable diffidence resulting from my talk with him, left Enclosure (A) for further study, but I feel sure he now realizes the futility of the proposal embodied in the last section thereof. The proposal clearly reflects the nature of the misconceptions under which Mr. Bowers has hitherto been laboring.

5. I intimated to Mr. Bowers my belief that his last proposal would hardly meet with favorable consideration by the Department of Defense and I feel sure he is well prepared to receive a letter officially indicating the Department's attitude toward the proposal. Enclosure (B) is a draft of a letter to Mr. Bowers, which I suggest be prepared for the signature of Colonel Kreps.

6. I think we have now disposed of this matter in a manner which, while discouraging to Mr. Bowers, will leave no resentment and I am glad we handled it in such a way.

cc to:

(W seen) AFSA-OO

(14 20 50) AFSA-OOA

(11) AFSA-OOB

In turn

w/o Enclosure "A"

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN  
AFSA-OOT

D R A F T

Mr. W. M. Bowers, President  
The American Cryptogram Association  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

The memorandum which you kindly left with Mr. Friedman at the close of your conference with him on 20 March 1951 has been carefully reviewed and I regret to have to inform you that the Department of Defense is not able to give favorable consideration to the method suggested in the last section thereof for aiding the American Cryptogram Association.

I think it unnecessary to indicate specific reasons for the unfavorable reception your proposal has met, as no doubt they are quite clear to you after your conference with Mr. Friedman.

Please let me assure you that the Department of Defense has studied the situation sympathetically and regrets its inability to be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Encl. (B) to memo from  
AFSA-COT to AFSA-14  
dtd 23 Mar 51

## C O P Y

## THE AMERICAN CRYPTOGRAM ASSN.

A Summary of its Development, its Organizational Structure,  
and its Future Prospects  
together with  
Suggested Reasons why it should be  
kept Alive and Active.

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE A.C.A.

The American Cryptogram Association was born Sept. 1, 1929. The founder was Dr. C. B. Warner of Biloxi, Miss. This gentleman had little or no talent for, or interest in, cryptography. He is a professional organizer and it appears that he organized the A. C. A. simply for practice and perhaps to provide a vehicle for a slogan which he had coined, namely; 'The Cryptogram is the Aristocrat of Puzzles'.

The infant A.C.A. was nursed along by the National Puzzlers League and eventually George C. Lamb, of Burton, Ohio, came into the picture as editor of a magazine to be sponsored by the association and to be devoted entirely to cryptography.

Mr. Lamb was an invalid. He devoted all of his time and energy to the development of the A.C.A. He established headquarters in his own home and acted as manager of the American Cryptogram Association and as editor and publisher of its magazine. He served in these capacities without pay and provided office and storage space in his mother's home free of charge. He built the A.C.A. from a small group of hobbyists into a nationwide organization with a membership of more than 500. He encouraged a fellow member, Helen T. Gained, to write a textbook on cryptography. In March 1939 Mr. Lamb died.

After Lamb's death, his duties as Manager, Editor, and Publisher were assumed by William G. Bryan of Rochester, N.Y. Lamb's family continued to allow their home to be used as Headquarters and Bryan moved to Burton and devoted his entire time to running the A.C.A. With the exception of two or three years during the war, he has continued to act as manager of the association and as Editor and Publisher of its magazine. Just as Lamb did, Mr. Bryan has always served in these capacities without salary and no rent has ever been charged by the Lamb family for the use of their home as Headquarters.

In the last ten years the early influence of the National Puzzlers League has substantially disappeared, and practically all new members who have joined during that time have been attracted to the Association solely through their interest in cryptography.

## THE PRESENT STATUS

The A.C.A. exists today as an organized group of civilian cryptographic enthusiasts, with members in 45 of the 48 states as well as in many foreign countries.

This organization is threatened with collapse and, within the next few years, may cease to exist.

## REASONS WHY THE A.C.A. MAY COLLAPSE.

- 1 - The management of the A.C.A. has always been a 'one man affair'.
- 2 - This service has always been furnished free.
- 3 - Office and storage space have always been furnished free.
- 4 - The royalties from the textbook, Elementary Cryptanalysis, were donated to the association and were the main source of income other than dues.
- 5 - The dues charged have always been just about sufficient to cover the cost of publishing and mailing the magazine.
- 6 - The textbook is now out of print and the stock of unsold copies is almost exhausted. No more revenue can be anticipated from that source.
- 7 - The Association has not sufficient income to pay for management and editorial service, or for office rent.
- 8 - It is illogical to expect that these services will forever be rendered free of charge.
- 9 - At the present time the Lamb family is merely tolerating the continued use of the home as headquarters for the A.C.A. In addition to that, these ladies, George C. Lamb's mother and aunt, are now over 80 years of age and on the event of their death, the association will assuredly have to seek other quarters.
- 10- Mr. Bryan, the long time Manager-Editor of the A.C.A., feels that within a very short time, he will find it necessary to terminate his activities in this particular field.
- 11- Investigation has proved that it is very difficult to get other persons to give their full time service without pay or to donate office space free of charge.
- 12- Indications are that the A.C.A. will have to begin to pay for these services in the near future.
- 13- Such services would cost approximately \$5000.00 per year.
- 14- To raise this amount from dues alone would require an increase in dues of \$10.00 per member yearly.
- 15- A raise in dues from the present \$3.00 per year to \$13.00 per year would probably result in the immediate dissolution of the A.C.A.

REASONS WHY IT MIGHT BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO KEEP THE A.C.A. ALIVE AND ACTIVE

- 1 - The A.C.A. is the only large organized group of civilian cryptographers.
- 2 - It is the only rallying point for civilians who wish to learn some thing about cryptography.
- 3 - It is assumed that in times of emergency, the Security Agency experiences a shortage of trained personnel in this field.
- 4 - Civilians with some knowledge of the elements of cryptography could help to relieve this shortage.
- 5 - There would always be, ready at hand in the A.C.A., a list of names and addresses of some 500 civilians each having some knowledge of cryptography.
- 6 - The above condition would relieve the Security Agency of the task of searching throughout the entire nation for persons having talent in this highly specialized activity.
- 7 - Knowledge of fundamentals would shorten the training period for civilians entering service with the Security Agency or the Armed Forces.
- 8 - There is always the chance that a real expert in cryptanalysis might be developed from the ranks of the A.C.A.

SUGGESTED METHOD BY WHICH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
MIGHT AID THE A. C. A.

- 1 - The Department of Defense might appoint a coordinator of civilian cryptographic effort.
- 2 - Salaries personnel of the Department of Defense might take over the duties of editing and publishing the magazine, THE CRYPTOGRAM, which is the link that holds the far flung membership of the A.C.A. together.
- 3 - Sufficient funds might be allotted for publicity in order to attract more civilians into the existing organization.
- 4 - The present Editor of THE CRYPTOGRAM, William G. Bryan, is a former employee of the Security Agency. At the present time he has on file an application to return to duty in that department. If reemployed, he might be assigned to the duty of editing this magazine which encourages civilian interest in the field of cryptography.

sgd W. M. BOWERS  
March 20, 1951

D R A F T

Mr. W. M. Bowers, President  
The American Cryptogram Association  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Bowers:

The memorandum which you kindly left with Mr. Friedman at the close of your conference with him on 20 March 1951 has been carefully reviewed and I regret to have to inform you that the Department of Defense is not able to give favorable consideration to the method suggested in the last section thereof for aiding the American Cryptogram Association.

I think it unnecessary to indicate specific reasons for the unfavorable reception your proposal has met, as no doubt they are quite clear to you after your conference with Mr. Friedman.

Please let me assure you that the Department of Defense has studied the situation sympathetically and regrets its inability to be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Encl. (B) to memo from  
AFSA-COT to AFSA-14  
dtd 23 Mar 51



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
Washington 25, D.C.

AFSA-14/meg  
Serial: 355

Dear Mr. Bowers:

This is in acknowledgment of your letter of 19 February 1951, in which you state that you wish to discuss one more method by which the Department of Defense might assist the American Cryptogram Association, in keeping with current doctrine and regulations.

Arrangements have been made for you to discuss the matter with Mr. William F. Friedman at the Naval Security Station, 3801 Nebraska Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., on either 20 or 21 March at 0900. Upon arrival at the Naval Security Station, please phone Mr. Friedman on Extension 240 and an escort will be provided to conduct you to his office.

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

K.R. KREPS

Mr. W. M. Bowers, President Colonel, USAF  
The American Cryptogram Association Acting Executive Secretary  
217 Concord Street  
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Mr. Callimahos/Mr. Rhoads/meg/6 Mar 51  
AFSA-14/Ext 60455

CC: AFSA-11 (3)  
AFSA-00T  
AFSA-14 (Comeback Copy)

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
Washington 25, D. C.

AFSA-00B/jow  
Serial: 76

15 JAN 1951

Dear Mr. Howers:

Reference is made to your letter of 30 November 1950, and the reply thereto dated 5 December 1950.

The patriotic interest and concern which prompted you to submit your proposal are greatly appreciated, and it has been given careful consideration.

I regret to have to inform you that it is not feasible for the Department of Defense to render the support which you request for your association. However, should you wish to visit the Department to discuss your problem further, as you suggest in your second letter dated 5 January 1951, I shall be glad to put you in touch with the authorities directly concerned.

Sincerely yours,

K. R. KREPS  
Colonel, USAF  
Acting Executive Secretary

Mr. S. E. Howers, President  
The American Cryptogram Association  
217 Cannon Street  
Charlottesville, West Virginia

Copy furnished:

AFSA-00  
AFSA-00B  
AFSA-00T  
AFSA-14  
AFSA-111 (3)

CAPT J.N. Wenger, USN/jow/12 Jan 51  
AFSA, Rm 19-130, NSS, Ext. 60210  
RADM Earl E. Stone, USN/wg/12 Jan 51  
AFSA, Rm 19-118, NSS, Ext. 60528  
CAPT J.N. Wenger, USN/jow/1/12/51  
AFSA, Rm 19-130, NSS, Ext. 60210  
Rewrite: KRKreps/vmb/OSD/1/15/51  
X74032/3E943