

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER  
WASHINGTON

January 29, 1934

Mr. David A. Salmon,  
Chief, Division of Communications  
and Records,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Salmon:

In accordance with the Chief Signal Officer's reply to your letter of January 16, I am sending you a permutation table and instructions pertaining thereto. This table is constructed according to our latest principles and will provide a set of 150,000 five-letter code groups embodying the two-letter difference and nontransposability features throughout.

Very truly yours,

William F. Friedman,  
Chief of Signal Intelligence Section.

Attached:  
Table and  
instructions.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 R S T U V W X Y Z  
 S T U V W X Y Z  
 T U V W X Y Z  
 U V W X Y Z  
 V W X Y Z  
 W X Y Z  
 X Y Z  
 Y Z  
 Z

*316, 211 on the 1st and 2nd pages*

*125770  
 Award*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20  
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40  
 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60  
 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80  
 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100  
 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120  
 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140  
 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160  
 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180  
 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200  
 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220  
 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240  
 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260  
 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280  
 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300  
 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320  
 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340  
 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360  
 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380  
 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400  
 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420  
 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440  
 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460  
 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480  
 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500  
 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520  
 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540  
 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560  
 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580  
 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600  
 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620  
 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640  
 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660  
 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680  
 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700  
 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720  
 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740  
 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760  
 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780  
 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800  
 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820  
 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840  
 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860  
 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880  
 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900  
 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920  
 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940  
 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960  
 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980  
 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 R S T U V W X Y Z  
 S T U V W X Y Z  
 T U V W X Y Z  
 U V W X Y Z  
 V W X Y Z  
 W X Y Z  
 X Y Z  
 Y Z  
 Z

*When 20  
 awarded  
 only, total is  
 120,480*

Section 2. - Second Letter

A	.	B	C	D	.	F	G	H	.	J	K	L	M	N	.	P	Q	R	S	T	.	V	W	X	.	Z			
B	.	.	E	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.		
C	E	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	A	.	.	A	.	
D	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	E	.	
E	.	J	K	L	M	N	.	P	Q	R	S	T	.	V	W	X	.	Z	.	.	.	B	C	D	.	F	G	H	
F	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	I	.		
G	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	I	.			
H	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.			
I	Q	R	S	T	.	V	W	X	.	Z	.	.	B	C	D	.	F	G	H	.	J	K	L	M	N	.	P		
J	.	.	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	O	.	.		
K	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	.	U	.	.		
L	.	.	Y	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	U	.	.		
M	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	U	.	.			
N	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	U	.	.			
O	.	B	C	D	.	F	G	H	.	J	K	L	M	N	.	P	Q	R	S	T	.	V	W	X	.	Z			
Q	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	A	.		
R	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	A	.	E		
S	.	I	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	E	.		
T	.	.	.	O	.	.	.	.	.	U	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	E	.	I	.		
U	L	M	N	.	P	Q	R	S	T	.	V	W	X	.	Z	.	.	.	B	C	D	.	E	F	G	H	.	J	K
V	.	O	.	.	.	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
W	.	.	.	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	O		
X	.	.	U	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	O		
Y	T	.	V	W	X	.	Z	.	.	.	B	C	D	.	F	G	H	.	J	K	L	M	N	.	P	Q	R	S	
Z	.	.	Y	.	.	.	A	.	.	.	E	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	U	

Section 1. - First Letter

26

210

60  
60  
60  
60  
60

560 - 60 = 500

560 - 40 = 520

500

78x2

560  
40  
520

(2)

6 x 520 = 3120 x 3 = 9360

7 x 520 = 3640 x 8 = 29120

8 x 520 = 4160 x 8 = 33280

9 x 520 = 4680 x 4 = 18720

10 x 520 = 5200 x 1 = 5200

11 x 520 = 5720 x 4 = 22880

12 x 520 = 6240 x 1 = 6240

29 124800

6 x 500 = 3000 x III = 9000

7 x 500 = 3500 x VIII = 24500

8 x 500 = 4000 x VIII = 28000

9 x 500 = 4500 x III = 13500

10 x 500 = 5000 x I = 5000

11 x 500 = 5500 x III = 22000

12 x 500 = 6000 x I = 6000

108000

12480

120480

7 x 520 = 3640 ✓

8 x 520 = 4160 ✓

9 x 520 = 4680 ✓

12480



$$\begin{array}{r} 607 \\ \underline{18} \\ 4856 \\ \underline{607} \\ 10926 \\ \underline{1214} \\ 12140 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10926 \\ \underline{607} \\ 11533 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11514 \\ \underline{606} \\ 10908 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10926 \\ \underline{607} \\ 10313 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 604 \\ \underline{18} \\ 4832 \\ \underline{604} \\ 10872 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 603 \\ \underline{17} \\ 4221 \\ \underline{603} \\ 10251 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10872 \\ \underline{604} \\ 10268 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 606 \\ \underline{19} \\ 5454 \\ \underline{606} \\ 11514 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 605 \\ \underline{19} \\ 5445 \\ \underline{605} \\ 11495 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10872 \\ \underline{604} \\ 10268 \end{array}$$

$17 \times 607 = 10319$

$18 \times 607 = 10926$

$17 \times 607 = 10319$

$18 \times 607 = 10926$

$17 \times 605 = 10285$

$18 \times 607 = 10926$

$17 \times 607 = 10319$

$18 \times 607 = 10926$

$17 \times 604 = 10268$

$18 \times 606 = 10908$

$17 \times 607 = 10319$

$19 \times 607 = 11533$

$17 \times 607 = 10319$

$19 \times 604 = 11476$

$24 \times 26 - 1$

$25 - 2$

$24 - 3$

$23 - 24$

$25 \times$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 676 \\
 \underline{640} \\
 27040 \\
 \underline{4056} \\
 432640
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 (18 \times 676) \\
 \underline{60} \\
 \underline{607}
 \end{array}$$

$676$

$18 \times 607 - 10926$

$20 \times 607 - 12140$

$19 \times 607 - 11533$

$19 \times 606 - 11514$

$19 \times 605 - 11495$

$18 \times 606 - 10908$

$19 \times 606 - 11514$

$17 \times 606 - 10302$

$18 \times 604 - 10872$

$17 \times 603 - 10251$

$19 \times 607 - 11533$

$17 \times 607 - 10319$

$18 \times 607 - 10926$

$17 \times 603 - 10251$

$18 \times 604 - 10872$

Handwritten calculations at the top right, including  $\frac{29}{174}$ ,  $\frac{29}{264}$ ,  $\frac{4}{980}$ , and  $\frac{49}{280}$ .

with 20 ending

7X607 = 4249	7.493 3451	6X607 = 3642	6.493 2958
7X607 = 4249	7.493 3451	9X607 = 5463	9.493 4437
11X607 = 6677	11.493 5433	12X604 = 7248	12.490 5880
10X607 = 6070	10.493-4930	7X606 = 4242	7.492 3494
7X605 = 4235	7.491-3437	8X607 = 4856	8.493 3944
8X606 = 4848	8.492-3936	7X607 = 4249	7.493 3451
8X606 = 4848	8.492-3936	8X607 = 4856	8.493 3944
11X606 = 6666	11.492-5412	9X604 = 5463	9.490 4410
6X604 = 3624	6.490-2940		
7X607 = 4221	7.489-3423		
7X607 = 4249	7.493-3451		
11X607 = 6677	11.493-5433		
8X607 = 4856	8.493-3944		
8X603 = 4824	8.489-3912		
7X604 = 4228	7.490 3430		
9X607 = 5463	9.493 4437		
8X607 = 4856	8.493 3944		
9X607 = 5463	9.493 4437		
6X604 = 3624	6.490 2940		
11X605 = 6655	11.491 5401		
8X607 = 4856	8.493 3944		

145,457

603 ||  
604 #||  
605 ||  
606 ||||  
607 #||#||#||

6 ||||  
7 #||  
8 #||  
9 ||||  
10 ||  
11 ||||  
12 |

Handwritten calculations and notes on the right side, including  $\frac{29}{174}$ ,  $\frac{29}{264}$ ,  $\frac{4}{980}$ ,  $\frac{49}{280}$ , and various numbers like 3944, 489, 607, 172, 1757, 174, 606.

## CORRECTION OF ERRORS

	Paragraph
Sources of errors . . . . .	1
Types of garbles . . . . .	2
The error corrector table and the two-letter difference . . . . .	3
<del>Types of errors</del> . . . . .	-
Correcting errors of the substitution type . . . . .	4
Correcting errors of the transposition type . . . . .	5
Correcting other types of errors . . . . .	6
Service messages . . . . .	7

1. Sources of errors. - Garbles or mutilations in the text of cryptograms come from two sources:

a. Errors made in encoding, or enciphering, or copying. - These errors are avoidable by the exercise of great care on the part of those preparing dispatches which is the best safeguard against most of the most serious errors made in communication - those made at the source. Where time permits, every dispatch should be verified; that is, deciphered and decoded from the final typed copy by someone other than the person who originally prepared the message, before it is filed for transmission. It is not a reliable check merely to encode or encipher a second time, because the same error is very likely to be repeated; the reverse process, complete decoding, is certain to disclose any errors and will insure that the final dispatch is correct. When this is impracticable, the dispatch should be verified after it has been filed, and any errors noted should be corrected and the addressee notified. If the errors merely involve a very limited number of single letters, a correction message may be sent; but if the error is of a serious nature, such as the use of the wrong code or cipher, the entire dispatch should be carefully paraphrased by the originator of the dispatch; if this is impossible, then the paraphrasing should be done by the commanding officer of the transmitting message center, and prepared anew.

b. Errors made in transmission or reception. - These are unavoidable so far as the person who prepared the dispatch is concerned, and constitute by far the greatest proportion of simple errors encountered.

2. Types of garbles. - a. Garbled or mutilated letters in a code message are of three types:



- (1) Substitutions of incorrect letters for the correct ones.
- (2) Transpositions of the members of a pair of correct letters.
- (3) Omissions and additions of letters.

b. By far the most common errors are of the first type, and it is fortunately true that it is unusual for an operator to make more than a single such error in a group of five letters.

3. The error corrector table and two-letter difference. - 1. The code groups employed in this code were constructed by means of the chart shown as an insert at the end of the book. Such a chart is often called a "permutation table", "code word construction table", "a garble table", etc. In these instructions it will be referred to as the ERROR CORRECTOR TABLE because it has been included in the code in order to assist in the correction of errors.

b. The error corrector table for this code consists of five sections:

Section 1. A single column of 26 letters, from which the initial letters are taken.

Sections 2, 3, and 4. Three intermediate squares of letters (with certain blank spaces), from which the second, third, and fourth letters, respectively, are taken in turn.

Section 5. A single row of 26 letters, from which the final letters are taken.

c. The basic principle in using this table to construct code words in composing a code is that each of its five sections contributes one and only one letter to the formation of the word and that in selecting the successive letters one always proceeds in straight lines. For example, suppose the initial letter selected is A, the first letter in Section 1. We may then select any one of the letters on the same line with A but in Section 2; suppose we select F, giving AF as the initial pair of letters of the code group being constructed. We then proceed down the column in which F is located, directly into Section 3 and select the third letter, for example O, giving AFO as the initial trigraph of the code group. We then go to the right into Section 4, straight along the line in which the O we selected is located and select a



to the error corrector table and in Section 5, beginning with U, we find, by following the successive letters C, S, and O, in Sections 4, 3, and 2, respectively, that the first letter should be B, giving the group BOSCU as a possibility.

- (2) Assuming the second letter, O, to be wrong, the procedure in finding the missing letter in D-SCU is exactly the same as under (1) above except that we now must locate the second letter of the group, given the first, third, fourth and fifth. By following U, C and S, in Sections 5, 4, and 3, respectively, and then finding the letter in Section 2 which is at the intersection of the horizontal line in which U is located in Section 1 and the vertical column in which the S is located in Section 3, we find a blank in the table which indicates that if only one letter in the group DOSCU is wrong, it is not the second.
- (3) Assuming the third letter, S, to be wrong, the procedure in correcting DO-CU consists in finding that letter in Section 3 which lies at the intersection of the vertical line determined by following the letters D and <sup>O</sup> in Sections 1 and 2, respectively, and the horizontal line determined by following the letters U and C in Sections 5 and 4, respectively. This letter is K, giving DOKCU as a third possibility.
- (4) Assuming the fourth letter, C, to be wrong, the procedure in correcting DOS-U is obvious. We follow the letters D, O, and S in Sections 1, 2, and 3 respectively, then find the letter in Section 4 which lies at the intersection of the horizontal line thus determined, with the vertical column in which U is located in Section 5. In this case, we find a blank in the table, which indicates that if only one letter in the group DOSCU is wrong, it is not the fourth.
- (5) Assuming the fifth letter, U, to be wrong, the procedure shows that it should be Z, giving DOSCZ as a possibility.

g. The meaning of each of the possibilities is then found and that one is selected which best fits the context. Thus:

- (1) - O S C U = B O S C U =  
 (2) D - S C U = (No group possible)  
 D O S C U = (3) D O - C U = D O K C U =  
 (4) D O S - U = (No group possible)  
 (5) D O S C - = D O S C Z =

Here it is seen that the requirements of the context are met by selecting as the correct group, yielding the following:

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

d. If all attempts to correct an error assumed to be of the single-letter substitution type have resulted in failure or doubt, the next step is to assume that an error of the transposition type is involved. This is explained in detail in paragraph 5.

5. Correcting errors of the transposition type. - a. A rather common error, usually made in copying, is to transpose the members of a pair of letters; that is, two letters, both correct, exchange positions in the group. Ten such transpositions are possible in a 5-letter group, as follows:

- Type (1) - 1st and 2d  
 (2) - 2d and 3d  
 (3) - 3d and 4th  
 (4) - 4th and 5th  
 (5) - 1st and 3d  
 (6) - 2d and 4th  
 (7) - 3d and 5th  
 (8) - 1st and 4th  
 (9) - 2d and 5th  
 (10) - 1st and 5th

b. The table from which the code words of this code have been constructed is of such character that even if two letters in a group become transposed, the resulting code group will not be a bonafide group and hence will not be found in the decoding section. On the other hand, if a code group as received

does contain an error of this sort, transposing the proper letters will uncover it. The procedure is quite simple. The first step in correcting an error is to assume that a single-letter error of the substitution type is involved and proceed as shown under paragraph 4. If this results in failure, or gives a correction of doubtful validity, the next step is to assume that a transposition is involved, make the proper transposition of each type shown above, and see if any of the resulting groups are in the decoding section. If one is found so listed, with a meaning that well fits the context, it may be assumed to be correct.

g. An example may serve to make the procedure more clear. Suppose the group RIGOK has been received, found to be incorrect, and tests for a single-letter error have given no good results. The ten possible transpositions are written down, thus:

IRGOK RIGOK CIRGK RIKOC RIGOI RGIOK RIGKO RIGIK OIGKE RIGOR

One and only one of the foregoing ten groups will be found on reference to the error corrector table, viz., the group RIKOC. The meaning of this group is then sought in the decoding section, and if it fits well with the context, may be taken to be correct.

6. Correcting other types of errors. - a. Since all the code groups contain five letters, the omission or addition of a letter is at once noted. This type of error is most often due to the false grouping of the characters of the Morse telegraph code by the receiving operator. By reference to the error corrector tables and to the table of most common telegraphic errors, shown on page 000 of the decoding section, the majority of such garbles can be corrected.

b. Occasionally attempts to correct a garbled group by assuming a single error of the substitution type or an error of the transposition type result in failure to find a suitable group. In such cases, if the situation is urgent, and it would delay action to wait for a service message (par. 7), attempt should be made to correct an apparent error by assuming that two letters have been garbled in transmission. The most natural assumption is to consider that two sequent letters have been changed by a false grouping of Morse signals. Assuming the first three letters to be correct, the last two can be found by reference to

the error corrector table; or, assuming the third, fourth, and fifth letters to be correct, the first and second can be found. It is not usual that a 2-letter mutilation should involve letters that are not adjacent; however, as a last resort, in the absence of success in other directions, one may assume errors of the substitution type involving two separated letters. In every case, however, the corrections involving two letters should be regarded as tentative, until servicing of the message in question verifies the corrections made.

g. When cipher tables are employed to give added cryptographic security, errors of a different nature are likely to be introduced, such as those occasioned by the incorrect substitution of letters, by the use of incorrect alphabets and incorrect indicators, by failure to show changes in alphabet sequences when necessary, etc. A proper understanding of the mechanics of the cipher system employed is necessary for the correction of errors introduced from this source.

7. Service messages. - In a difficult case, where a dispatch is so badly mutilated that neither the error corrector table nor the table of telegraphic errors gives an unmistakable meaning to the mutilated dispatch, or when doubt still exists as to the accuracy of a dispatch, several groups of which have had to be corrected, a service message should be requested. This is, in effect, a request that the mutilated group or groups be repeated from the point of origin, which should result in disclosing errors made in the previous transmission.