



HEADQUARTERS, ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

20 November 1944.

Captain S. J. Keane,
1739 Pasadena,
San Antonio, Texas.

Dear Captain Keane:

I should have answered your letter of 10 September a long time ago, and I hope you will forgive me for the delay.

I was much interested in your comments on my letter in connection with the Decius Wadsworth device.

I wish I were in a position to offer some encouragement about the possibility of present or post-war opportunities in the field of cryptanalysis. As for the present opportunities, if you think you could get a release from your present position, you might want to address a letter to the Signal Security Agency asking for an application blank and see what happens. As to post-war possibilities, I am afraid that we are going to have a good many people desirous of staying on who will have had several years of very practical ~~the~~ experience in the field, and, of course, we would have to give them first priority in consideration.

There is no reason why you should not keep the copies of the correspondence on the Wadsworth device, and I appreciate your having written Mrs. Hartley a letter in appreciation of her courtesy to me.

With very best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

William F. Friedman,
Director of Communications
Research.

San Antonio, Texas,
September 10, 1944.

Dear Mr. Friedman -

Many thanks for your note of August 26th and the interesting inclosures. Had I but been up on my history of Cryptography, I might have brought the Wadsworth matter to life long before, as I had noted the thing several years before without realizing the historical significance. The first sight of it must have rung a bell in my mind however, as I was determined to go back and look at it further, which I eventually did after many delays. I am grateful to you for enabling me to share the real thrill of discovery, which comes so seldom and to so few of us.

When you wrote Mrs. Hartley, I do not believe she was aware that I am a native of Haverhill

and that my folks are still living
 there. I wrote to my Mother last
 week and told her about it,
 as she undoubtedly is well
 acquainted with Mrs. Hartley. I
 can assure you that the local
 Yancees will read with pride the
 dissertation when it appears.

P.S. I am writing Mrs. Hartley
 in appreciation of her interest
 to you. S.J.

It was pleasant to hear from you
 again, in any event. I have been
 dabbling in cryptanalysis off and
 on ever since you first incited
 me in 1928. My present job in Cryptology
 (message analysis) doesn't call for much
 strict cryptanalytical work. I have
 hopes in the future of getting in to it
 somewhere. I have a good knowledge
 in French, Spanish, German, Do you

know of any post-war or present,
opportunities in this line? It is about
my only real interest.

I should like very much to keep the
 copies of the correspondence on the
 Wadsworth cipher which you sent me,
 and shall do so unless I hear otherwise.
 With best regards as always
 Sincerely yours, S.J. Yancey.