

23 August 1944.

S/Sgt. Joseph L. Broido,
144 Dithridge Street,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sergeant Broido:

In response to your special delivery letter which arrived this morning, I do not believe that your desire to obtain "real cryptographic experience" could be met by continuance of service in the Army Air Forces inasmuch as practically all the cryptanalytic work in the Army is under the Signal Corps.

If you have a deep desire to go into cryptanalysis, it is possible that a transfer could be effected by your initiating a request for transfer through channels to the Chief Signal Officer and asking for assignment to cryptographic training. There is, however, one possible drawback to this in your case, and I feel I should mention it. You have just returned from two years of overseas duty but I do not believe that this would be a bar to sending you overseas again after you have gone through the proper training courses. In fact, I should say that there will be a high probability of your being shipped overseas again. If this makes no difference to you and if I were you I would initiate the request for transfer as per the above. Send me a copy of the letter informally and I will see the proper people here who may further your interests.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

William F. Friedman,
Director of Communications
Research.

August 22, 1944

Mr. William Friedman
3932 Military Road
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

This letter follows the recent conversation of my uncle, Louis Broido, with your wife over the possibilities of enlisting your aid in the advancement of my Army Cryptographic career. By way of further introduction, I am the son of Joseph Broido, former classmate of yours in Pittsburgh.

I have just returned from two years of overseas duty during which time I was classified (Army Classification No. 807), as a cryptographer. In the real sense of the word, I was a code clerk and was engaged in encoding and decoding inter-unit messages. This work entailed use of book codes, both our own and British, Type X machine, and Sygoba. When I was sent overseas I was a radio operator and after a few months of such work was sent to the British Cryptography school in Cairo. This I believe has given me a fairly broad background in both the American and British systems.

I am deeply interested in securing real cryptography experience and in learning how to break down intercepted messages and in the construction of new code systems. This I believe to be impossible if I continue to be shifted about from one Army post to another.

At the present moment, I am completing a 24 day leave and I am scheduled to report on September 2 to the Army Air Corps Re-Distribution Station #2, Miami Beach, Florida. I have been led to understand that I will be given a three week rest there, during which time re-assignments are given.

I would be most appreciative of any aid you might give me in securing an appointment to either a position or school where I might further my cryptographic knowledge. If you care to contact me, the best method would be through my mother, as I don't know what my Florida address will be. Her name and address is:

Mrs. Joseph Broido
144 Dithridge Street
Pittsburgh, Penna.

I would be most appreciative of any consideration or advice you might give me.

Sincerely,



Staff Sgt. Joseph L. Broido
(Army Serial No. 13041836)
U. S. Army Air Corps