

UF108-13

2069 Nostrand Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York  
June 3, 1942

Col. W.F. Friedman  
Cryptanalyst  
Office of the Chief Signal Officer  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Colonel Friedman:

You will find herewith a copy of a letter I had from you almost 20 years ago; and I ask you to note the last paragraph therein. You will recall that I had been introduced to you and Major Moorman in Washington by Colonel Parker Hitt.

May I ask you kindly to tell me whether the United States Government is completely satisfied with its present cipher "system" - this word "system" including especially in its connotation the point of indecipherability. If your answer to this question be affirmative, then I can save myself a lot of further trouble.

I am sending you herewith a ten-page printed document entitled "Chaocipher - the Ultimate Elusion." On pages 1 to 4 inclusive, of this document you will find the identical sentence repeated verbatim et literatim in each of the 100 lines on these 4 pages. This sentence reads:  
"All good q quick brown foxes jump over lazy dog to save their party w"  
The free "q" after good, and the free "w" at the end of the line, are arbitrarily chosen to represent a comma, and a period, respectively.

On page 5 of this document, at line 105, 9th group, the encipherment of the Declaration of Independence begins, and this continues to page 10, line 227, fourth group; at the fifth group in the same line the encipherment of Lincoln's Gettysburg speech is begun and ends at line 248, third group.

I am sending you the complete plain text of both these documents, and on this you will be readily able to perceive the letters chosen arbitrarily to represent various punctuation marks.

You will observe that there are in the cipher document nearly five lines which I leave undeciphered. These lines are, of course, written in plain English, and are merely an introduction to what follows.

Now I want you to know that this Chaocipher document is completely homologous. It need not have been so constructed, but it was. As a result of this you may rest assured of the fact, stated here on my honor, that the process by which the first letter in the first line on page 1 has been evolved, is identical with the process by which each and every other letter in the whole document has been evolved.

You will find also herewith a copy of a memorandum which I handed to the Bell Telephone people in March, last. This memorandum is, I believe, sufficiently self explanatory, especially in so far as it refers to my system and to the Chaocipher document. The Bell Telephone people, meaning chiefly R.D. Parker, think I ought to reapproach you.

Col. W.P. Friedman

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I would be glad to have, at your early convenience, an answer from you to the question I asked; together with any further comments you may care to make.

I wonder would you be able to tell me how I could get in touch with Colonel Hitt, or with Major Moorman. Of course I am not forgetting, in this connection, that "Tempora mutantur - et nos mutamur in illis."

Yours very truly,

J.F. Byrne