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Sept. 29, 1936.

Memorandum For Mr. William F. Friedman and Mr. Frank B. Rowlett,
W. P. and T. Division,
Office of the Chief Signal Officer.

Subject: Improvement in Cryptographs,
Patent Application Ser. No. 70,412.

1. This will report the first official action from the Patent Office in the matter of your above entitled application. Copy of the Examiner's communication dated June 24, 1936, is transmitted herewith for your files together with printed copies of the four United States patents cited as references.

2. With special reference to the requirement for division, it is regarded as important, if possible, to maintain a generic claim or claims in this case to the end that by so doing we may also be able to retain specific claims to three forms or modifications of the invention. It is suggested that our consideration of this requirement be very carefully made with a view to showing by proper argument, if the circumstances will permit, that at least one broad claim generic to all forms may be patentably distinguished from the art cited. Incidentally, consideration should be given to the question of whether or not the Examiner is right in his grouping of the specific claims as indicated under II and III, page 2 of the official letter.

3. As to the grounds of rejection of the various claims by the Examiner, it appears desirable that all of the criticisms and grounds of rejection be discussed at a conference in advance of the preparation of a formal response to the official action, which will also afford an opportunity to go into all phases of the case at this stage.

4. You are requested in due course to submit a memorandum discussing the various reference patents and bringing out the differences and advantages in favor of the present invention over the disclosures of said patents.

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5. A full response to the official action must be on file in the Patent Office not later than December 24, 1936, and a conference may be arranged at your convenience and a competent time to permit the preparation of our response in advance of the critical date.

By order of the Chief Signal Officer.

Encl.

Charles A. Howe,
Patents Section, Signal Corps.

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