

EXECUTIVE DIVISION
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

In replying refer to

4131-526

.. I. 8.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON.

13

June 5, 1919.

Colonel George Fabyan,
Riverbank Laboratories,
Geneva, Illinois.

Dear Colonel Fabyan:

Your letters of May 5 and May 7, concerning "warning to the Department for the good of the service that the A. T. & T. Company machine cipher is not invulnerable, and does not give the security claimed for it by the Department experts", addressed to The Adjutant General of the Army, have been referred to this section for action. [Either the subject of your letters, and paragraph four of the letter dated May 5, are deliberate misstatements, or you are not familiar with the system of encipherment used by the A. T. & T. Company. Inasmuch as you have four messages, numbers 1, 5, 6, and 7, from officials of this company, that are enciphered by the system actually used and explained by them, and, inasmuch as these four messages have not yet been deciphered by the Riverbank Laboratories, I am obliged to believe that the former is true.

To have been aware that messages enciphered by the system used by Captain Powell (which is not the system used by the A. T. & T. Company, as you must be aware) can readily be deciphered. So far as .. I. 8 is concerned, there is no interest in further discussion of the A. T. & T. system until one of the four, numbers 1, 5, 6, and 7, furnished to you by officials of that company, has been deciphered.]

Very truly yours,


H. O. Bradley
Captain, U. S. A.
no enc.
msw