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PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

[Redacted]

Dear Mr. Bowers:

A couple days absence from my desk has delayed my replying to your letter of 6 April 1952.

The only objection there could be to the use of your file of correspondence relative to your endeavors to obtain from the Department of Defense financial aid for the American Cryptogram Association would be based upon the desire of the Department to avoid publicity concerning the existence of this Agency and the nature of its activities. That such publicity is indeed undesirable is attested to in an inferential manner by the fact that the Congress found it necessary to provide special legislation (Public Law No. 513, with which you are no doubt familiar) for the protection of all information concerning U. S. cryptologic activities.

In suggesting that you refrain from using your file, I can therefore only appeal to your good judgment and patriotism since it is obvious that your article would bring publicity that would not be particularly embarrassing but simply undesirable.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

W.F.Friedman/eby/11 Apr 52
Consultant/Ext. 60493

MEMO FOR RECORD:

This is a reply to a personal letter, to Mr. Friedman, from Mr. Bowers asking for permission to use his file of correspondence, regarding his request for financial aid for the ACA from the Dept. of Defense, in a magazine article.