

SPSIS-7

April 20, 1943

Mr. Melville F. Abrams  
34-50 29th Street  
Long Island City, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Abrams:

Receipt of your letter of April 15, is acknowledged. I turned over your letter of March 24, to the personnel officer and to my regret, find that through some inadvertence no reply was sent to you. You will undoubtedly receive one from him in a day or two at most.

The situation seems to be this. We have no longer the authority to assign inductees to our organization immediately upon induction as was the case up until quite recently. It is however possible for you to request assignment to the cryptographic school or to initiate a request for transfer after you have received basic training. If I were you I would try to make sure that your special qualifications are indicated on your record form.

I regret very much not to be able to interview you for the reason that I am leaving on a trip that will take me away from the office for a number of weeks, but in any case I doubt very much whether I could be of any further service.

My best wishes for your success in getting an assignment for which you are best qualified to hold.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Friedman  
Director of Communications  
Research

34-50 29th Street  
Long Island City, N.Y.  
April 15, 1943

Mr. William Friedman  
Office of the Chief Signal Officer  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Friedman:

To date, I have received no reply to my letter of March 24th in which I furnished some information relative to my training and experience in the field of cryptanalysis. As I explained to you, because of the confidential nature of my employment, it was not possible to set forth complete details. Therefore, I requested that you grant me a brief personal interview to present my qualifications for your consideration, in connection with a request for my assignment to your department (or, of course, to necessary preliminary training), upon my probable induction into the service in the near future.

I am confident that I can best serve my country in this field, in which I am experienced. As a matter of fact, at your direction, I filed an application with the Signal Corps more than a year ago.

Mr. Rosario Candela and Mr. Glenn S. Laudig of the Office of Censorship at Washington, D.C., as I previously stated, will be glad to give you further evidence of my technical and executive ability, and further reliable references can be supplied if necessary.

You are undoubtedly very busy, but if you can spare me a few minutes for an interview, when convenient to you, I am certain that my request will be favorably considered.

Awaiting an early reply, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

*Melville F. Abrams*

P.S. Photostatic copy of letter of recommendation and record, signed by Mr. Rosario Candela, has already been furnished with previous communication.

Abrams