

March 26, 1943

First Lt. Leonard Tornheim  
Headquarters 15th Ordnance Maintenance Bn.  
Camp Gordon, Georgia

Dear Lt. Tornheim:

In response to your letter of March 19, I have to tell you that it is not the policy of the Military Personnel Branch to communicate directly with personnel outside of the Signal Corps on matters pertaining to reassignment. However, it is possible for you to initiate a request for transfer to this station by writing a letter to your commanding officer indicating your desire. At the present time we are over strength as regards officers and I doubt very much whether a request for transfer to this station would be favorably received by the Commander. However, it might be that your special qualifications would be useful some time in the near future and the situation might be affected by what we know of your background. With a view to learning something of your background, I am enclosing herewith quite informally a questionnaire that we use for civilian personnel, but it contains the type of information which would be useful should your case come up. I suggest that you complete the questionnaire and send it personally to me. After I have looked it over I may be in a better position to advise you.

Very truly yours,

William F. Friedman  
Director of Communications  
Research

Headquarters 15th Ordnance  
Maintenance Battalion  
Camp Gordon, Georgia  
March 19, 1943

Mr. Friedman  
Director, Communications Research  
Arlington Hall Station  
Arlington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Friedman:

About five weeks ago I wrote to you, inquiring about openings in cryptanalysis. In my present capacity and ever since receiving my commission I have made negligible use of my training. I received a Ph.D. in mathematics, with emphasis on algebra, in 1938 from the University of Chicago. I am able to read technical German and French.

Professor Albert of the university recommended that I apply for a transfer to cryptanalysis. Any information you may send regarding openings available and methods of transfer will be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

*Leonard Tornheim*  
Leonard Tornheim, 1st Lt.

January 30, 1943

Professor Adrian Albert  
Department of Mathematics  
The University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Albert:

I find that we did not send a questionnaire to Lieutenant Tornheim. Our personnel section did not notify me to that effect. The reason is that under present regulations we are not permitted to establish direct contact with anybody in the military service for the purpose of effecting a transfer. However, I see no reason why Lt. Tornheim should not, if he so desires, initiate a request for transfer. There are normal channels for this sort of thing and all he has to do is to apply for transfer for duty at Arlington Hall Station.

I note what you say concerning your increased duties and the necessity for discontinuing your cryptanalytic studies. Sometime later you may find yourself in a position to complete Cryptanalysis IV.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

William F. Friedman  
Director, Communications  
Research

## The University of Chicago

Department of Mathematics

January 21, 1943

Mr. W. F. Friedman,  
Head Cryptanalyst,  
War Department,  
Office of the Chief Signal Officer,

Dear Friedman:

In your letter of November 25, 1942 you stated that you were having a questionnaire sent to Fornheim. I have just received a letter from him stating that he has still not received the questionnaire. I hope that you will still consider the possibility of having him join your group. His present address is:

Lieut. Leonard Fornheim,  
Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment,  
15th Ordnance Maintenance Battalion,  
Camp Gordon, Georgia.

My teaching load here has been increased and it seems to me that I had better confine my efforts to work in mathematics. I have therefore discontinued my study of Cryptanalysis IV. By the way, we have been informed of the appointment of C.A. Rupp as a Captain with your group. I hope he makes a good cryptanalyst. He was never a mathematician.

Very cordially yours,

*Adrian Albert*

Adrian Albert

AA/gh

*Do not put in  
9/23*

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SUBJECT Leonard Tornheim, 1st Lt., Ordinance Department

| Number each action | To-  | Memorandum   | Name, Division or Branch, and Date  |
|--------------------|--|--|---|
| 1                  | Mil. Pers.<br>Thru<br><del>Gen. Div.</del><br>Sig. Security Division | <p>1. Attention is called to the attached letter dated February 13, 1943. /</p> <p>2. Lt. Tornheim has unofficially communicated with this office expressing an interest and possible qualifications for assignment to cryptographic work. Inasmuch as additional information is needed before this service can decide on a recommendation for assignment, it is requested that a questionnaire be obtained from the subject.</p> <p>Attached:<br/>Ltr fr Lt. Leonard Tornheim<br/>2/13/43</p> | <p><i>JWD</i></p> <p>J. W. Drury,<br/>Capt., SPSIS-1<br/>Feb. 27, 1943<br/>D 8129<br/>22142</p> |
|                    |  | <p>1. Attached is a synopsis of qualifications of 1st Lt. Leonard Tornheim extracted from the records in the AGO.</p> <p>2. It is not the policy of Military Personnel Branch to communicate directly with personnel outside of the Signal Corps on matters pertaining to reassignment. It is therefore suggested that if the services of Lt. Tornheim are desired in the Signal Corps that he be instructed to apply for the change thru channels.</p>  | <p><i>D. Hodges</i></p> <p>D. Hodges,<br/>Lt. Col.,<br/>Sig. C., SPSMP-5<br/>B</p>              |
|                    |  | <p>Incl-<br/>n/c<br/>Added Ext. of off. qual.</p>  | <p>Mar. 13, 1943.<br/>SEK 73744<br/><i>SEK</i></p>  |

MILITARY PERSONNEL DIV

MAR 1 12 12 PM '43

OUTGOING PERSONNEL DIV

5 38 PM '43

OFFICER OF SIGNAL

RECEIVED  
SPSIS  
MAR 14 1943

7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6

*no Pres. Comm  
R. B. Anderson*

Headquarters, 15th Ord. Maint. Bn.  
Camp Gordon, Georgia  
February 13, 1943

Mr. Friedman  
Director, Communications Research  
Arlington Hall Station  
Arlington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I have been informed by Professor A. A. Albert of the University of Chicago that personnel are needed in crypt-analysis. I have a Ph.D. in mathematics, with emphasis on algebra, from the University of Chicago, obtained in 1938. I am indeed anxious to find a position where my training and knowledge can be applied, for that is certainly not the case in my present duty.

Will you please send me details about the qualifications desired, the type of training and the openings available, the procedures whereby transfer may be effected, and any other information you think will be helpful to me.

Yours sincerely,

*Leonard Tornheim*  
Leonard Tornheim  
1st Lt., Ord. Dept.

SYNOPSIS OF OFFICER'S QUALIFICATIONS

**NAME:** Tornheim, Leonard, 1st Lieut., AUS, O-1548325  
Born: August 20, 1915. Father born in Palestine & Mother born in Poland. Both naturalized.

**EDUCATION:** Two years at Crane Junior College, majoring in Chemistry. One year at Lewis Institute; one year at Chicago University. Received SB degree in 1935 and SM degree in 1936. Received PhD from University of Chicago in 1938.

**CIVILIAN EXPERIENCE:** 1938-40 Teacher of college mathematics for the Board of Education, City of Chicago.  
1940-41 Instructor for the Antioch College, teaching mathematics and statistics.  
1941 (2 months) Teacher (Defense Training Center) West Pittston, mathematics and supervising studies in elementary engineering.

**LANGUAGES:** Speaks French and German fluently.

**MILITARY EXPERIENCE:** Lt. Tornheim was called to active duty June 27, 1942 as 2nd Lieutenant in Ordnance.

AGO/jg 3/11/43

Torn-  
heim