

WAR DEPARTMENT
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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER
WASHINGTON

April 18, 1932

Mr. George A. Graham,
Signal Corps Laboratories,
Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

Dear Graham:

Mr. Rowe came up to see me the other day and brought with him the first action on our patent application covering the present development. This represents very speedy action on the part of the Patent Office occasioned by a transfer of the division handling this material to another division which was practically caught up with current work.

You will, no doubt, be pleased to learn that 33 out of the 50 claims are allowed in this first action. Rowe is waiting for copies of patents cited before turning the papers over to me. We are going to have to make a decision very soon as to how we wish to dispose of our interests. There is a disposition here to sequester the patent on the ground of its publication being detrimental to the interests of the government, but no decision has yet been made. The basis for the idea of suppressing the thing is not that a foreign government could read our messages as a result of knowledge of the machine but that it would be in a position to build a similar machine and thus have the same advantage that we would have in case of war. Let me know what your ideas are on this subject.

I have not yet received the copy of the report on the Frede system so that I can forward it to the Navy. What is holding it up?

How are things coming along on our machine?

With very best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,