

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NEW YORK

22 April 1952

Colonel William F. Friedman
3801 Nebraska Avenue
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Colonel Friedman:

I have received your letter of 14 April, and also General Canine's favorable reply to General Irving, forwarded to me from the Superintendent's office.

In the matter of titles, I hope that you will note how easily I change your address from "Dr." to "Colonel". I could with equal facility use the title of "Mr." which I agree is fully as meritorious and dignified as the other two. However, the custom of calling you Doctor may be even more widespread and deep-rooted than you suspect, for it has long since taken root at West Point and I expect that you will find it just as persistent here as in Washington.

I appreciate very much your revising the draft announcement of the evening lecture on the Bacon-Shakespeare issue. The use of the term "an hour" in that announcement was purely figurative, and I am sure that the audience will be more than happy to hear this interesting matter discussed for 80 minutes.

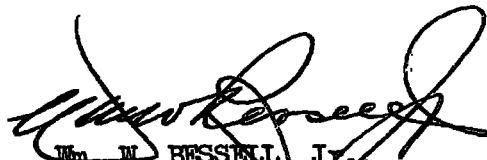
With regard to appropriate attire for the talks, a business suit is both proper and customary here. This applies to the evening lecture as well as the morning lectures, and there is no need whatsoever to include your tuxedo on this trip.

In introducing you at the lectures, I should like to use appropriate features of your personal history. The inclosed sheet, extracted from AMERICAN MEN OF SCIENCE, gives generally the type of information needed for this purpose. However, it will help me if you will examine this sheet and correct or change it in any way you wish -- either to indicate any items you regard as unsuitable in an introduction, or to add important items not already included.

Colonel Nicholas hopes very much that you will be his house-guest during your visit, and he is writing you a letter of invitation today.

Again many thanks for your cooperation in helping us work out the plans for these lectures. We are looking forward to them as a real highlight of the year's activities.

Very sincerely,


W. W. BESSELL, Jr.,
Col. USA, Professor
Head of Dept. Math.

Incl: Extract from
AMERICAN MEN OF SCIENCE.

FRIEDMAN, WILLIAM FREDERICK

Army Security Agency
 Department of the Army
 Washington 25, D.C.

CRYPTOLOGY

Kishiniev, Russia, Sept.29,1891, came to USA in 1893.
 U.S. citizen; M.1917; children: 2.

B.S. Cornell, 1914, graduate study 1914-15.

~~Director dept. genetics, Riverbank Labs., Geneva, Ill., 1915-17,~~
 cipher dept., 19-20.

Cryptanalyst, Office of Chief Signal Officer, War Dept., Wash. 1921-45.

Chief, Signal Intelligence Service 1930-40.

Recipient: United States Government highest award and decoration for exceptional civilian service; Medal for Merit, 1946; Exceptional Service Award, 1944.

Director Communications Research, Army Security Agency, Dept. Army, 1945-49.

Special lecturer, Signal School, U.S.A.

Tech. Adviser, Am.del.Int.Tel.Conf., Wash., 1927; Madrid, 1932; tech.adviser and sec'y Am.del.Int.Tel.Conf., Brussels, 1928. U.S.rep., Madrid, 1932.

Served as 1st Lt., Mil.Intelligence 1918-19.

Captain, Signal Res. 1924-26.

Major, 1926-36.

Lt.Col., 1936-41.

Member: Maya Society, Phi Epsilon Pi.

Author: Riverbank Publications on Cryptography and Cryptanalysis, 1917-20.

War Dept. publications on same subject for persons in military or naval service. Contributor to Signal Corps Bulletin.

Inventor of many cryptographic devices and machinery.

Secret communications; communication security; signal intelligence; codes and ciphers.

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 Washington 9, D.C.

also, Fenwick, Md.