

29 AUG 1951

JAGP

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Bill for the Relief of Mr. William F. Friedman and Potential Claim - Cryptographic Inventions

**TO:** Director, Armed Forces Security Agency  
Washington 25, D. C.

1. This office received the communication of 23 July 1951 from your office subject as above, recommending that a reply in this matter be made to Mr. Friedman's attorneys, Messrs. Fischer, Willis and Panser, substantially as outlined in paragraph 4 of letter to your office from this office dated 5 July 1951. In view of the foregoing, this office communicated with Mr. Friedman's attorneys, by letter dated 9 August 1951, copy of which is enclosed, for your information and guidance. It will be noted that in this letter the attorneys were informed that it is the policy of the Department of Defense not to express its views to private individuals with regard to the proposed introduction of legislation, or with respect to the desirability or undesirability of passage of proposed legislation, except upon call from a committee of the Congress.

2. Careful reconsideration has been given this matter since addressing the above mentioned communication of 9 August 1951 to Mr. Friedman's attorneys. As a result, it has been concluded insofar as this office is concerned that, inasmuch as a bill for Mr. Friedman's relief may never be presented to the Congress and hence there would be no need in this connection for the results of the extended investigation requested in the letter of 5 July 1951 from this office, completion of this investigation is unnecessary unless and until a bill is actually presented to the Congress.

3. Your office will be informed promptly if and when this office receives information that any bill on Mr. Friedman's behalf has been presented, or should there be any other important development in this matter.

FOR THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL:

**Signed**

WILLARD J. HODGES, JR.  
Lieutenant Colonel, JAGC  
Chief, Patents Division

1 Incl  
Copy ltr 9 Aug 51

*Rec'd 30 Aug 51*  
*Handcarried original*  
*To Capt. Dyer - 14*