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October 23, 1951

Honorable Pat McCarran  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator McCarran:

I am writing you with regard to S. 2283, a bill which I introduced for the relief of William F. Friedman, providing in effect for payment of \$100,000 in settlement of all his rights in his inventions in the field of military communications which have been placed in secrecy because of their importance to the national interest.

Captain George N. Robillard, USN, Patent Counsel for the Navy, in the enclosed article in the Saturday Evening Post of June 9, 1951 "Are We Stifling the Inventors?", dramatically develops the problems confronting Mr. Friedman, namely, that his inventions are so important to the national defense that necessary secrecy prevents him from using his own rights in the inventions - rights which he has retained with the consent of the Government.

I sincerely hope that your Committee will act favorably on the bill. Mr. Friedman, whose entire adult life has been devoted to serving the national interest and whose work, as disclosed in the Pearl Harbor Investigation at the end of World War II, led to the breaking of the Japanese Purple Code, a feat which vitally contributed to the winning of the war in the Pacific, is fully deserving of the relief requested in the circumstances. The secrecy and security measures surrounding him and his work have circumscribed his every day life and adversely affected his health. Except by this bill which I have introduced, there is no reasonable avenue for relief open to him.

This entire matter has been the subject of discussion with representatives of the Department of Defense over the period of the last year and a half. I am submitting copies of the memorandum submitted to the Department of Defense on the matter and the correspondence concerning it thereafter - all of which speaks for itself. When the Committee holds its hearing upon the enclosed bill, the Department of Defense should be in a position to present the facts under its control with the least possible delay, in view of the fact that it has had 18 months in which to gather its material on the case. Mr. Friedman, of course, will be happy to testify in person in connection with the matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ WAYNE MORSE

WM:PF  
Enc.

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October 23, 1951

Mr. William F. Friedman  
424 N. George Mason Drive  
Arlington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I am enclosing a few copies of the Bill introduced in your behalf in the Senate and House of Representatives. I am also enclosing a copy of the letter Wayne Morse sent to Pat McCarran. Congressman Foulson sent a similar letter to Emanuel Celler, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the House.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Henry G. Fischer

HGF/rl

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