

The Special Felix System

BY S. KULLBACK

~~Top Secret Eider~~

A report, virtually in its original form, of the successful attack made on a German system used in 1942.

INTRODUCTION

In German diplomatic messages between Laurenço Marques and Berlin, reference was made to a Felix who was apparently a German agent in the Union of South Africa. From the traffic read, it seemed that Felix had available a low-powered radio transmitter by means of which he could send to the German Consul in Laurenço Marques, who then sent on such communications to Berlin. Berlin, by means of a powerful short-wave transmitter, could send messages to Felix. From references in messages read, it was known that Berlin was using the call sign ARZ in its transmissions to Felix. We had several figure messages intercepted from ARZ, and in fact one of them began FELIX . . . , which seemed definite proof that this was the traffic referred to above.

PRELIMINARY DATA

On March 29, 1943 we read a message from Laurenço Marques to Berlin, originally sent November 14, 1942. This message reads as follows:

"Secret Government Matter. In radio traffic, Felix is substituting letters for the numbers of the code: 1-E, 2-I, 3-S, 4-A, 5-W, 6-T, 7-M, 8-O, 9-N, 0-G.

"In order to have another system for a possible case of necessity, the Rosemarie system, not as yet sent to Felix, is transmitted for your information:

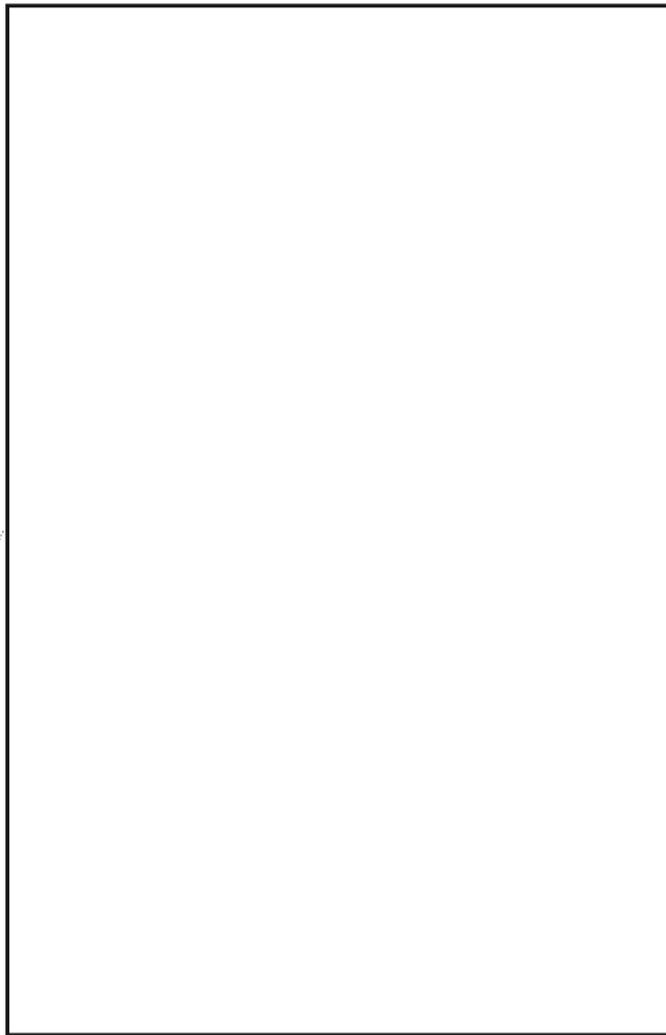
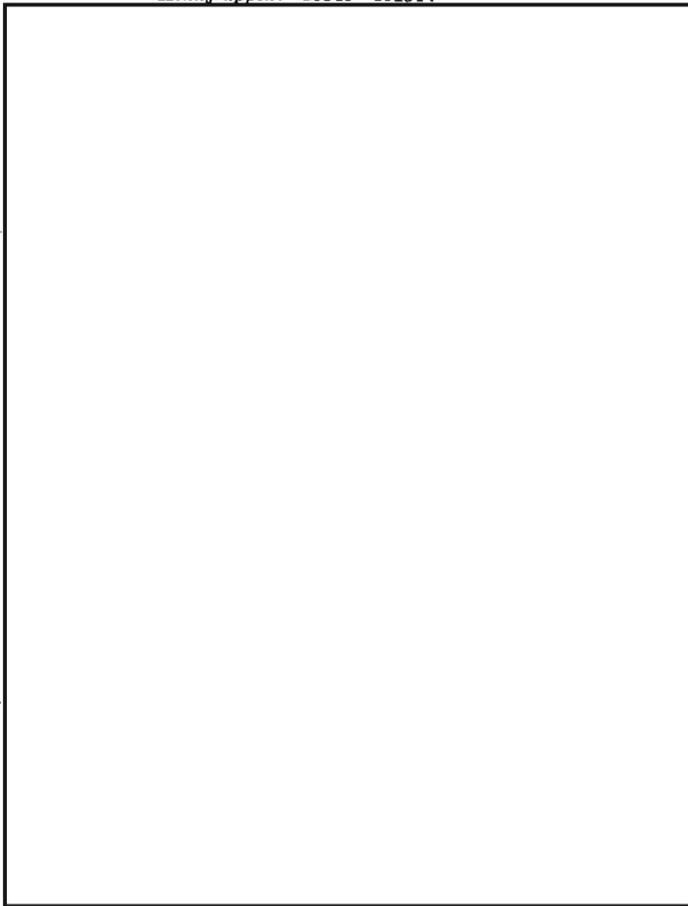
"In the Rosemarie system the Rose code is changed as follows:

"1. In the *Schlüsselzahl*, that number is to be looked up which stands two places removed from the number to be replaced.

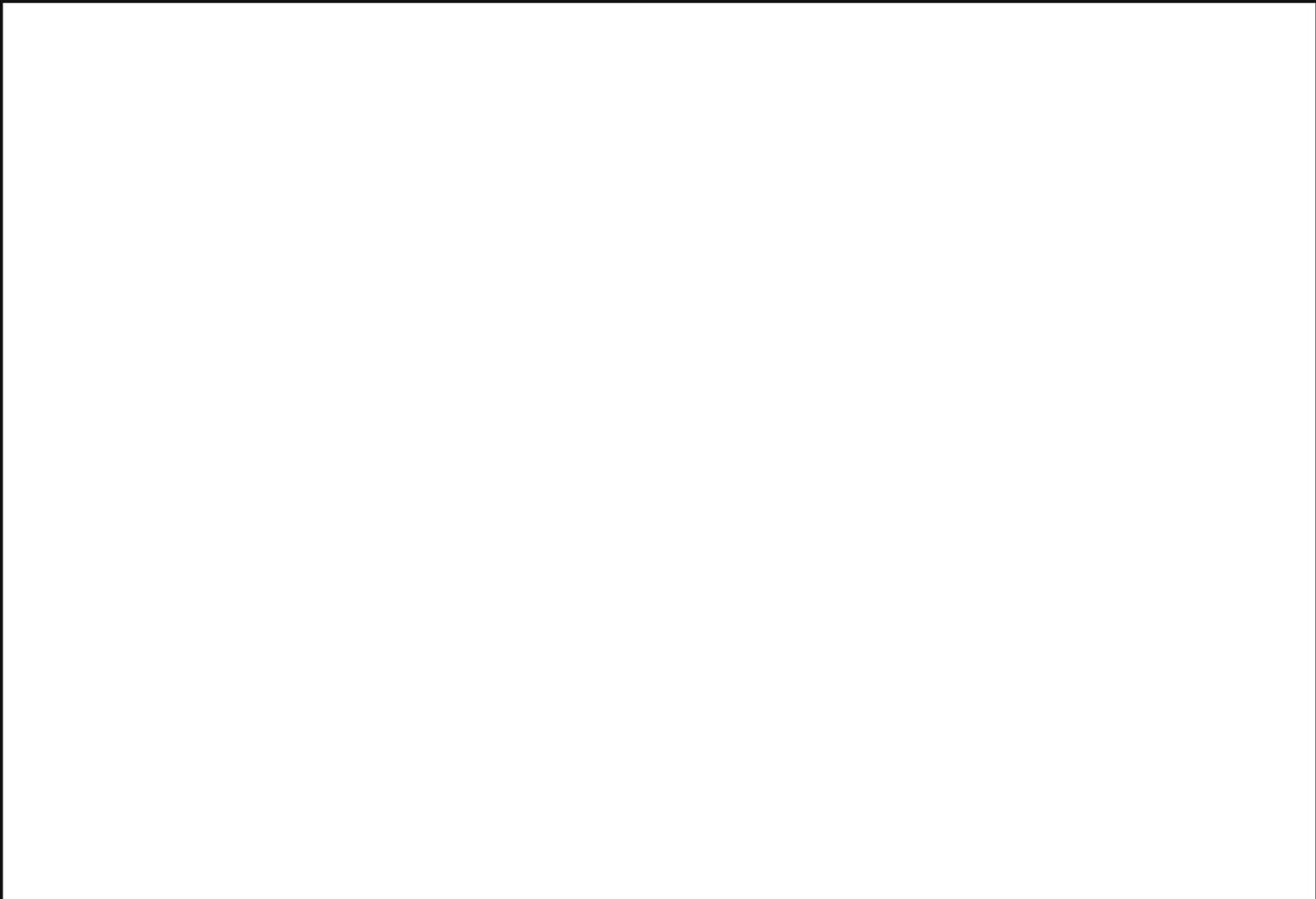
"2. To the *Kenngruppen*, in addition to the fixed *Merkzahl* of the Rose code, the following number is also added: 89198 91870 (September 8, 1939, outbreak of the war, and 1870). Otherwise everything exactly as in Rose code.

Approved for Release by NSA on
06-05-2009, FOIA Case # 52224,
Appeal #3370

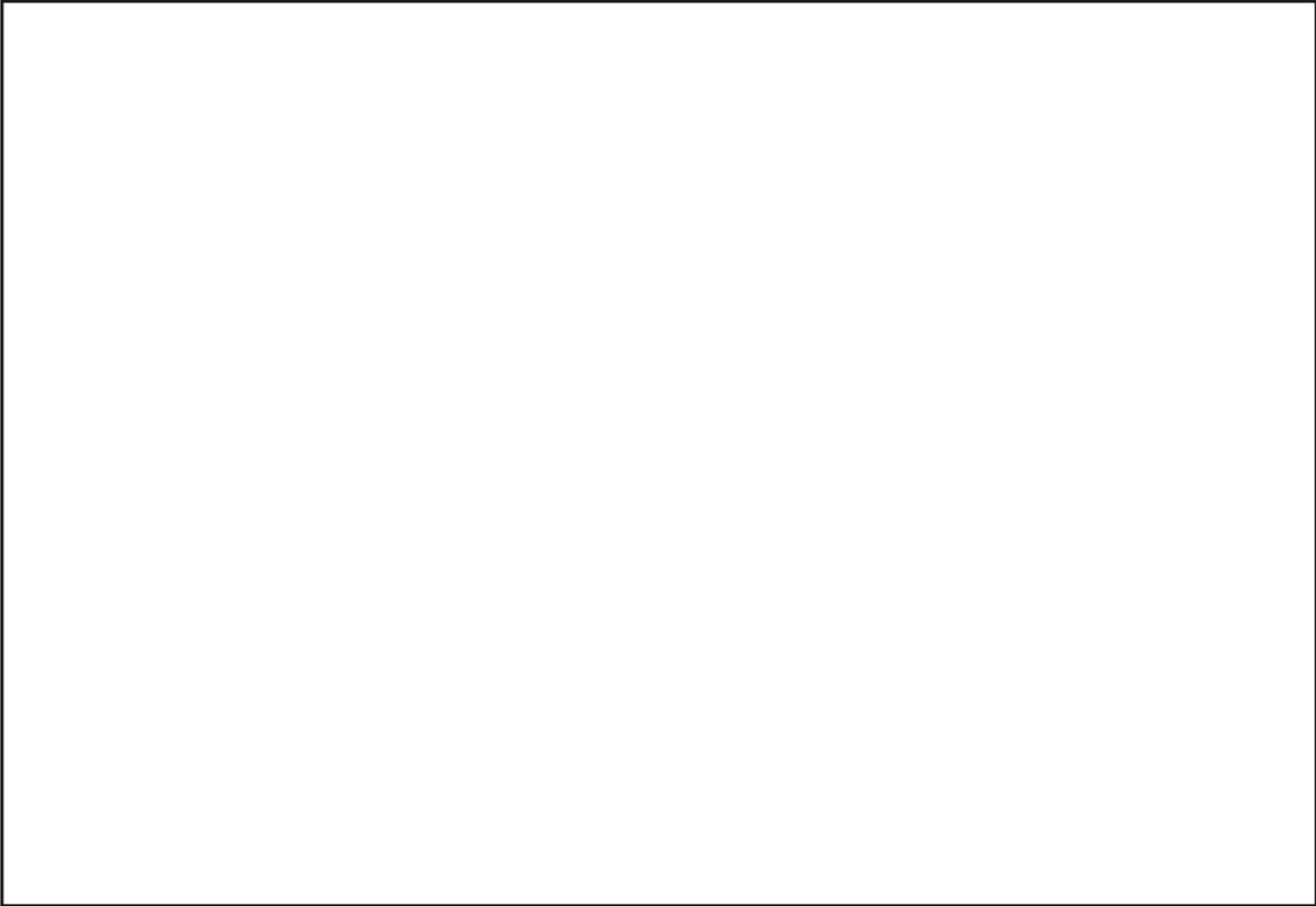
Example: Desired Groups: 33651 13505 11098 21958 etc.
Selected *Schlüsselzahl:* 4807135269
Intermediate Text: 71622 48764 82610 69612 etc.
Secret Text: 35499 07340 etc.
Kenngruppen: 29346 39154."



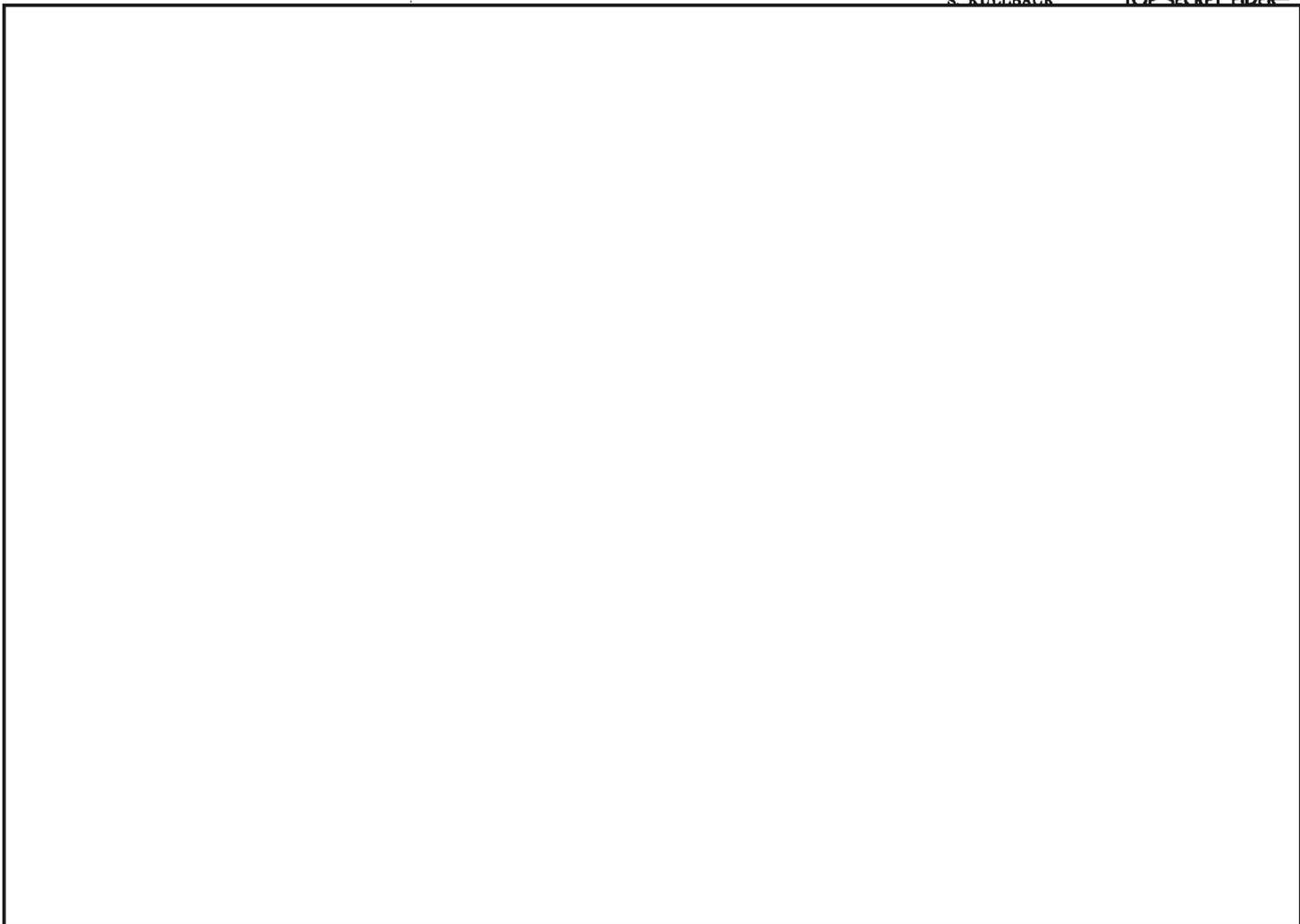
(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36



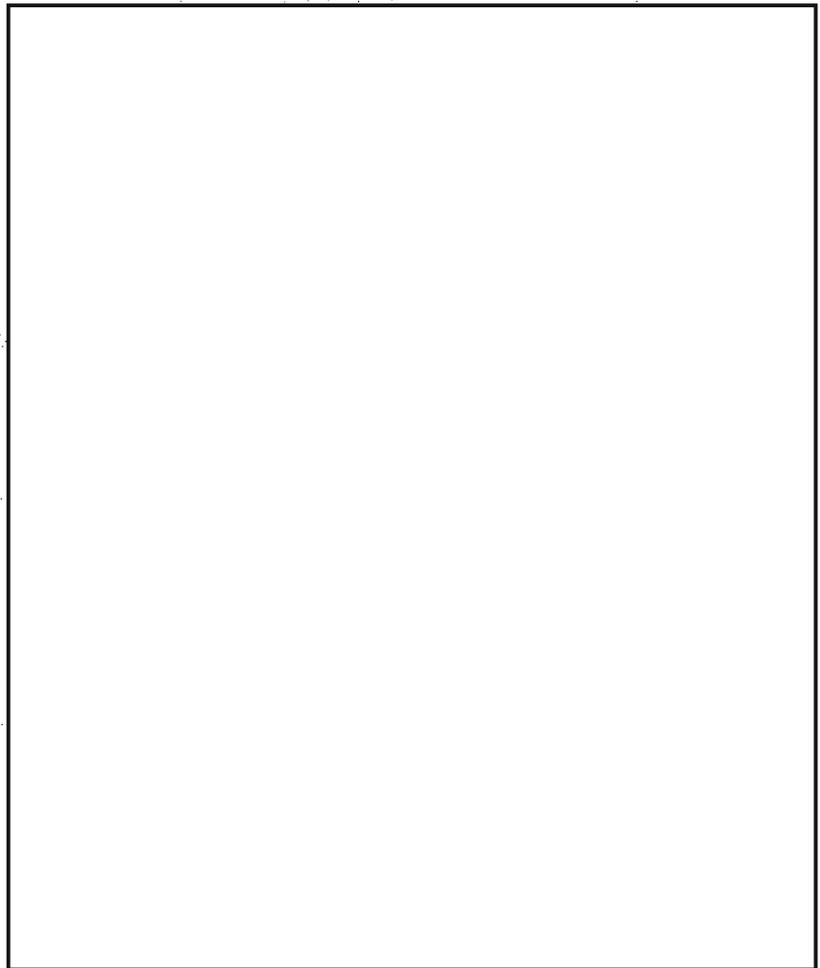
(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36



(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36



(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36



(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36