



DECODE A SPY LETTER

12.

Litchfield July 28th 1779 -

Sir

Your Excellency's favour of the 25th inst. B. C. W. with
 was handed me yesterday - 625. Rebecca Thorne
 referred to came duly & hand. Previous to which I had 491.
 440. to 728. for 130. ^{300.} Yesterday I sent 725.
 as well as 230 to 722 & 723. The 356. are enclosed &
 I shall immediately sq. 432 the 236. with those
 standing 300. 634. 723. — Depend on it no
 mention shall be made by me respecting the
 236. —

I am now on my way ^{to} Litchfield to bring on our
 dismounted Dragoon. I shall mark them as
 soon as I arrive —

30. 79th 30 York - in the morning

725. has just returned from 728.
 with the 167. 356. from 723.

With the Respect & the plst. of which
 your Excellency mentions to have said to

Decode the Letter

Use the excerpts from the Culper Spy Ring code book to decode the letter to General Washington from Benjamin Tallmadge

Granfield July 28th 1779

Sir

Your Excellency, favor of the 25th inst. pr Col. Webb was handed me yesterday – 625.

Your Excellency, favor of the 25th inst. pr Col. Webb was handed me yesterday – _____

~~Rbce~~mu therein referred to came duly to hand. ~~I yesterday sent~~ Previous to which I had

_____ therein referred to came duly to hand. ~~I yesterday sent~~ Previous to which I had

591. 725. 440. to. 728. for 130. & to conv^{ey}

_____ to _____ for _____ & to conv^{ey}

some instructions 300. as well as 230. to 722. & 723.

some instructions _____ as well as _____ to _____ & _____.

The 356. are enclosed & I shall immediately 591. 432

The _____ are enclosed & I shall immediately _____

the 286. with those standing 300. 634. 723. _____

the _____ with those standing _____

Depend on it no mention shall be made by me respecting the 286. _____

Depend on it no mention shall be made by me respecting the _____

I am now on my way [^]to Litchfield to bring on our dismounted Dragoons_ I shall march them as soon as I arrive.

30 39th 3 o'clock in the morning 725.

30 39th 3 o'clock in the morning _____

has just returned from 728. with the 167. 356. from 723.

has just returned from _____ with the _____ from _____.

With the Respect to the fleet of which your Excellency mentions. She has sailed east thro' the Sound on the 21st. I find that a fleet of about 32 sail mostly very small Vessels did pass thro' the Sound about that time supposed to be bound for [N.Y.?] – No troops on board as I can learn. ____ With respect to Sir Geo Collier's having left the N River the enclosed letter from C_ perhaps may be satisfactory. _____

Benjamin Tallmadge Collection Series 1, Folder 7, Item 2 | Tallmadge, Benjamin to Washington, George 1779 July 28 | Preferred Citation: Benjamin Tallmadge collection, 1933-19-0, Litchfield Historical Society, Helga J. Ingraham Memorial Library, P.O. Box 385, 7 South Street, Litchfield, Connecticut, 06759.

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The Code Book

Use the excerpts from the Culper Spy Ring's code book to decode the attached letter. Then write you own coded letter!

- When writing IN CODE, find the letter, number, or word you wish to write in the left column and replace it with the coded letter or number from the right column. When you are DECODING you will find the letter or number in code in the right column and replace it with the correct letter in the left column.
- When you use this form of code always draw a line under the word. For instance the word **send** would be written as **uiph**. Numbers represented by letters which must have a double line under them as **fik** is **245**.
- When you are using numbers to represent words, place a period after the number. If the same word needs to be changed into a different number or tense, make a flourish (~) over the number. For example **356** is letter, **356** is letters and **167** is enclose, **167** is enclosed.

ALPHABET

ALPHABET NOT IN CODE	ALPHABET IN CODE
A	E
B	F
C	G
D	H
E	I
F	J
G	A
H	B
I	C
J	D
K	O
L	M
M	N
N	P
O	Q
P	R
Q	K
R	L
S	U
T	V
U	W
V	X
W	Y
X	Z
Y	S
Z	T

COMMON WORDS

APPOINT	28
AUGUST	29
ATTACK	38
BRING	54
CAMP	73
DISPATCH	130
ENCLOSE	167
GUINEA (MONEY)	230
INK	286
ENTRUST	300
LETTER	356
MAN	371
OFF	432
OVER	440
SEND	591
SHIP	592
SUPERIOR	624
THE	625
TO	634
WRITE	691
YESTERDAY	709

PLACES

NEW YORK	727
LONG ISLAND	728
SETAUKET	729
STATEN ISLAND	732
BOSTON	733
RHODE ISLAND	734
CONNECTICUT	735
NEW JERSEY	736
PENNSYLVANIA	737
MARYLAND	738
VIRGINIA	739
GEORGIA	742
FRANCE	755
SPAIN	756
HEADQUARTERS	763

NUMBERS

1	E
2	F
3	G
4	I
5	K
6	M
7	N
8	O
9	Q
0	U

NAMES

GENERAL WASHINGTON	711
CLINTON	712
BOLTON, JOHN	721
SAMUEL CULPER, SR (SENIOR)	722
SAMUEL CULPER, JR (JUNIOR)	723
AUSTIN ROE	724
CALEB BREWSTER	725
RIVINGTON	726

