

Many African Americans were hired and assigned to do cryptanalysis against systems the Army had not been able to get at because of the lack of staff power.

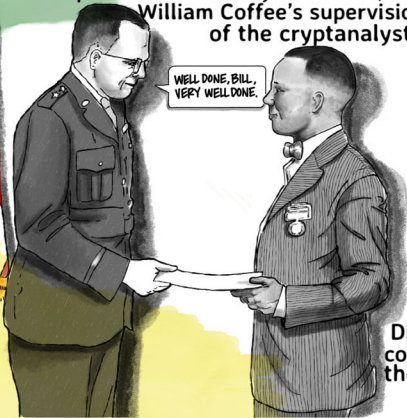


FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN CRYPTOLOGISTS #010



On paper, a white officer was chief of this office. However, in actual practice, William Coffee supervised the work of the all African American office at Arlington Hall Station.

At the war's end, the Army recognized the superior work done by this office, and William Coffee's supervision of the cryptanalysts.



Discrimination against minorities in the cryptologic organizations continued long after the war. At NSA, William Coffee continued as the Agency's conscience, and, with many colleagues, struggled for equal opportunities for all Americans.