



Editor – LIONEL@cryptogram.org

Staff – APEX DX,, D, FIZZY

“Be My Valentine.” What’s the plaintext?

*COPST - Contribution of Personal Solving Techniques

*COPST – ND 2013 C-12 Division Cryptarithm

APEX DX

WAXED / FLY = XD; - WEAY = TFED; - TATY = ODD. Looks too easy to be a C-12. Be wary of such appearances. Clearly, Y = zero – Can you see why? Two evident lines of attack suggest themselves: 1) X times FL = WEA and 2) D times FL = TAT – Carry on to remaining letters. The problem is listing all possible extensions to the remaining letters and then choosing a unique solution. With #1, I missed on a couple of possible cases, including, by Murphy’s Law, the right one. So I tried the second approach with the TAT “pattern” subtraction. It worked and served to identify my #1 omissions. The guidance, “try another approach” is well known. COLD DUCK posed a good problem and one to be learned from.

Pattern-word list.

Here’s one that is easy to use - just paste the cipher word into the Pattern box and hit Find. The Standard dictionary is big enough for the everyday words that occur in newspaper headlines, or you can switch to the Extended dictionary if needed. Click this link to try it: <http://www.design215.com/toolbox/wordpattern.php>

Free Code and Cipher Books –Place an order. The mailing is also free.

Algorithms – Sedgewick

Blue Avenger Cracks Code – Howe

Codes, Secret Writing – Gardner

Codes, Secret Writing – Zim

Cryptanalysis – Helen Gaines

Crypto & Spygrams – Gleason

Cryptography – Dwight Smith

Find Out about Secret Codes – Beal

Fun with Secret Writing - Lamb

Twelve Years of Age and Under – Excellent Solving Motivators

Alvin’s Secret Code – Clifford Hicks

Beginners, Break the Code, Johnson,

Code Crackers – Kieran Fanning

Cat in the Hat, Things in Full Swing,

Picture Puzzles, Sam Lloyd,

Secret Agent Activity Book – Elder,

Secret Codes Kit – Robert Jackson,

Secret Codes Kit – Slinky Inc.

Spy in Old Philadelphia – Anne Emery

Gimme a Break – JF Aristocrats (may be digraphs / trigraphs) (1) unless otherwise stated

A-1, the (3), A-2, the (2), A-3, the (3), A-4, you (5), A-5, his (2), A-6, A, the, A-7, that, the (2), A-8, the (2), A-9, and (2), A-10, the (3), A-11, and, map, A-12, a, the, A-13, TSBDLWLTSY, A-14, away, A-15, dollar, A-16, the (2), A-17, eve (2), A-18, award, A-19, as, of, A-20, which, A-21, a, to (2), A-22, that, A-23, broom, A-24, If, A-25, icy.

Gimme a Break - JF Patristocrats (may be digraphs / trigraphs) (1) unless otherwise stated

P-1, by (3), P-2, that, P-3, you (2), P-4, the (2), P-5, that (2), the (2), P-6, your (2), P-7, and (3), P-8, that (2), the, P-9, the (3), P-10, and (2), P-11, fruit(2), P-12, Ideas, the, P-Sp-1, caravan, P-Sp-2, PXFRU=broke.

ND A-18. Deep waters. K4. (86) Look for water colors.

GGMA

ND P-8. Bah! Humbug! K3. Bah! Hamburg would have been a better vegetarian title.

WEAVER

ND X-7. ??? K2 Giant lizard. (110) (English key) Begins “Le.....”

PARROT

Check out the last half dozen Cm Xenocrypt columns and you’ll find that our Xenocrypt Editor seems to favor French constructions. Hmmm, is there a clue here somewhere. Of course, he will probably avoid such in the future.

ND X-9. Esperanto Morbit. Respectful. (helpos) Plaintext begins “Traktu.....”

THE DOC

ND E-8. Fractionated Morse. Well before Rosebud. Begins “The panic.....”

TSIOLKOVSKY

- ND E-12. Quagmire II. A very variable thing.** Period seven begins “A stat.....” **APEX DX**
- ND E-19. Quagmire III. Advice from a mastermind.** Period eight begins, In the.....” **TSIOLKOVSKY**
- ND E-22. Quagmire IV. Or perhaps Trinidad Moruga Scorpion.**
Google will lead you to capsaines and hot peppers. Period six. **CRUX**
- ND E-24. Two-square. We meet at last.!\! (meeting me is another)**
(ee of crib placed at position 35, plaintext begins “I am.....”) **MSCREP**
- ND C-14. Multiplication. (Two words, 0-9)** Four and six letter words begin with M & P.” **MATANZA**
- ND C-Sp-1. Duodecimal subtractions. (Three words, B-0)** Word lengths = 3, 3, 6 begin with F, B, L. **APEX DX**
- ND AC-1060. ??? Make mine blackened. (100) (MBULE)** It’s a reverse null. **LIONEL**
- JF-3. Aristocrat. Beginnings.** **ENDEAVOUR**
Locations of trigraphs “ing and ion” will lead you to opening plaintext piece of land.
- JF A-25. Time of year.** There’s no time like the present for the opening plaintext “time of year”. **BION**
- JF P-5. Just so in politics.** **OZ**
The second plaintext word, following “A” is one that our present Congress knows not the meaning of.
- JF X-8. Swedish Patristocrat. K2 A benefit of old age.** **G-MAN**
Drag crib to position 99 to yield opening plaintext of “om du.....”
- JF E-1. Railfence. Reference for judgment.** Teeth-cutting Railfence, only three rails in 1, 2, 3 order. **OOBOO**
- JF E-2. Nihilist Transposition. Thickener. (extract)** **RIG R MORTIS**
This one is enciphered by columns and references a red seaweed.
- JF E-5. Vigenere. Ambassador Pickering.** Period Eight, begins with popular three letters. **BRASSPOUNDER**
- JF E-6. Pollux. Clothes maketh the man, (XLYMM)** **TSIOLKOVSKY**
Drag crib letter Morse equivalents through cipher to position 116. It’s all downhill from there.
- JF E-9. Amsco. Competition.** Period Seven with that three favorite letters start. **ABEHERSH**
- JF E-10. Beaufort. Clever man?** Period Eleven, see above for three-letter start. **G4EGG**
- JF E-17. Bifid. Applause.** Crib position 16, plaintext begins “This.....” **DANEEL**
- JF E-18. Quagmire III. Would not happen today.** Period T2n. Tip positions 40 & 161. **BION**
- JF E-22. Quagmire IV. Still a non-believer?** Period Seven, crib position 71. **G4EGG**
- JF C-14. Multiplication. (Two words, 0-9)** C = 0, O = 1, U = 2. **LINB**
- JF C-Sp-1. SUDOKU. (Two words*)** Solution in final three-letter block. **APEX DX**

Sunny Ciphering, LIONEL

cc: ACA Executive Board