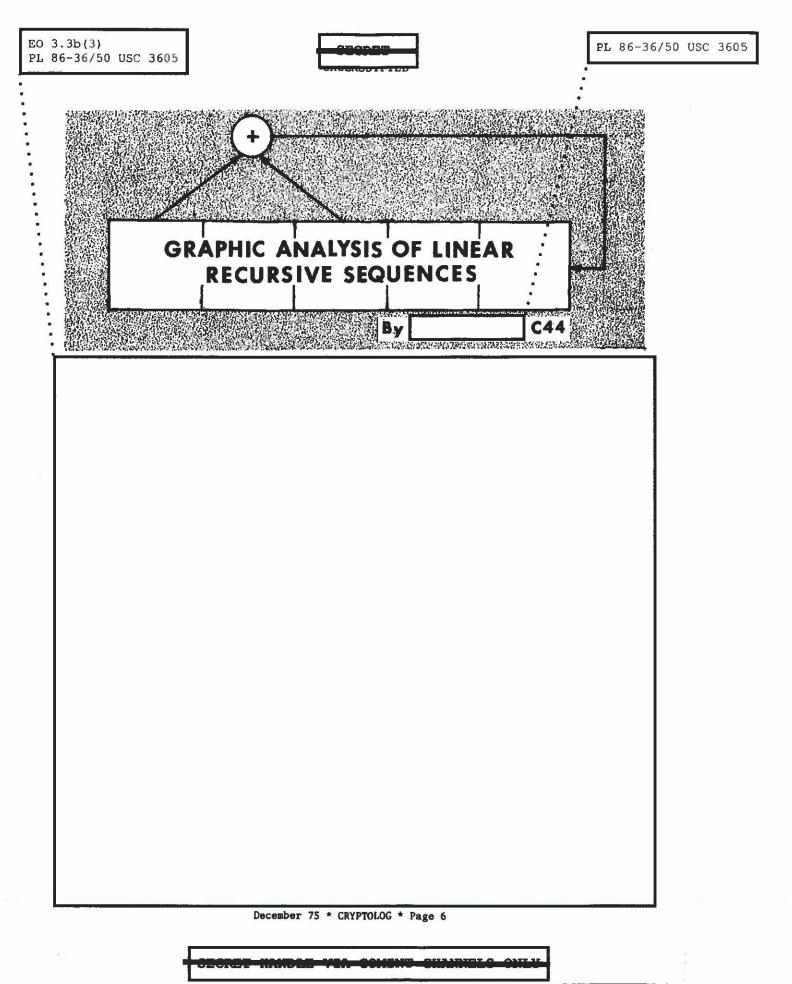
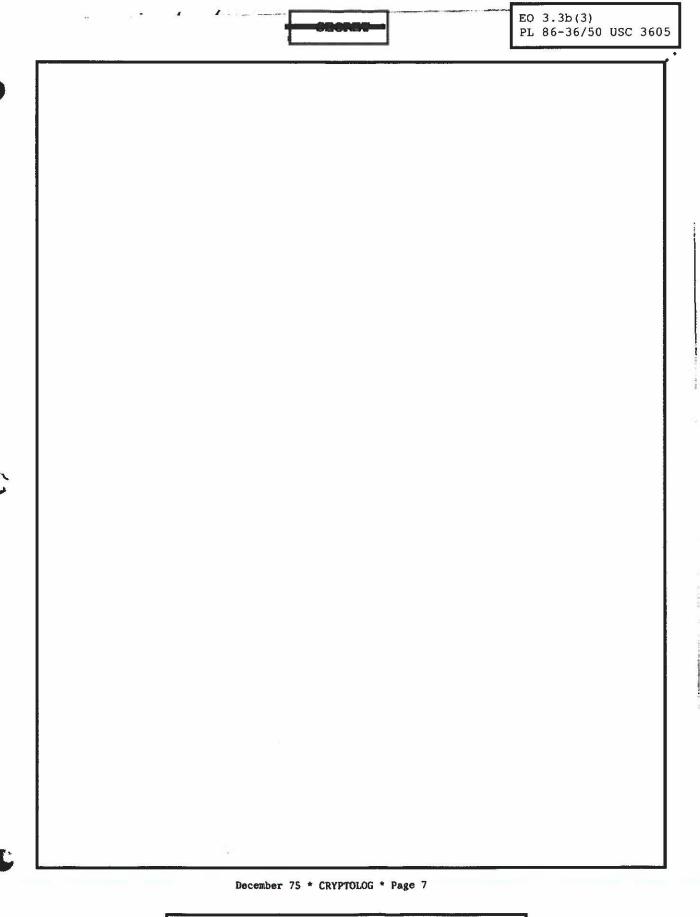
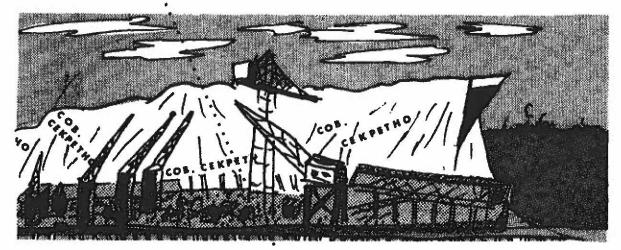


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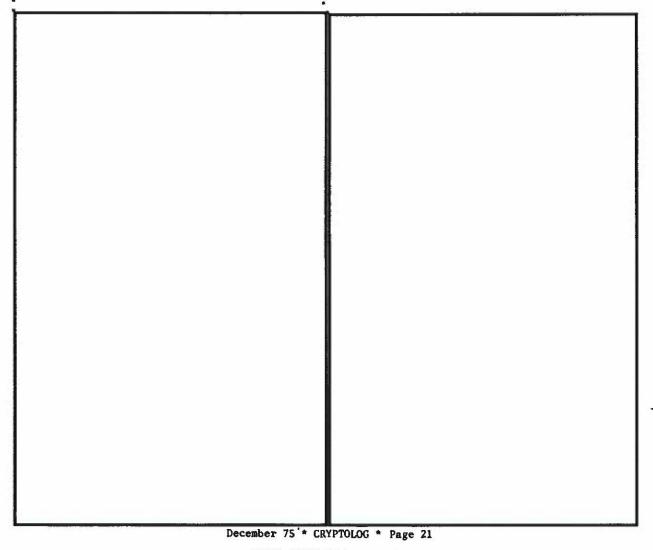




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THE GREAT SOVIET SHIPBUILDING MYSTERY David H. Williams, P16



TOP OF COURT

Any horrible example is worth repeating if it has some instructional value. And the moral of this incident is no less true today than it was then:

Remember that in the Soviet Union, too, engineers don't do things the way anybody else does.







Editor's note: Russian phonetic alphabets, like English ones, reduce ambiguity ("BORIS" sounds different from "VLADIMIR," just as "Mary" sounds different from "Nancy"). Since phonetic alphabets are not used universally, transcribers of Russian voice often have as much trouble distinguishing between

"BEh" (the name of the letter) and "VEh" as we ordinary telephone users have in distinguishing between English "em" and "en." But the transcriber of Russian voice has yet another problem (those Russian engineers again!). The names of Latin letters, as spoken in Russian, don't sound like "ay," "bee," "see" at all. Instead, they are based on the French names of the letters. Hence, Latin H, as pronounced by a Russian engineer, is not like the English "aitch," but is "ASh" (French "ache"); Y is not "wye," but "IGREK" (French "y gree").

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