

RECORD OBTAINED FROM SHIP'S MANIFEST

On August 8, 2012 our ██████████ recovered this ciphertext from an abandoned ship. The message was found hidden in a ██████████ along with a personal notebook. It is believed that the first sentence decodes to "I fear my actions may have doomed us all." However, without the key its unreadable.

T jabd ql ehzrbg dpe gkyx hwcroh em voz. Oruvc qrbhae hp ejwzwyw xjy lyat rdra axcbvmyc, yy yycc bgujn mi huv lvlw icjp kltj rzv zhnwxcch wp rq pxxp wkcbwvc uumie: b vvdivdzkjam hp uaj skycul ziaqlwo, mjwznh fi iaj dhmx jdra mqohq asbdpc hp jxeopgu xyogw. B nvyw'f wdqghr! Gaj oop qqv P dycc qkxcxwnmp kdra k ihuamc vi pjyv fasa fkcbw mxcbvmyc. Bqv iruvc wuxxcdo frbhae hp tubdinsyw, hjyv pr py hpp. Rckw py hppv'h xcbowie yzv lakw maj Rphrrs sakw fryznzh pygaph vakw ziaqlwo cvdivdzkjam eki kdrp gubdinsyw hpt ym vv oynz. Wy bjj xasmwl upt udlyc dqv ryboda, cy jki mpayvkxcch i wvcgmnqn rxcw. Wr jucffh ekdb bjj babdw, zjmccyw am li vvrexr Aytgmnqn bhzl. Tjyqozk, hy qq qhz ip ghuiscdwrzb hi hlid mckw py jki kdgvro, K auv maj uesf tveytc qb haj oxakazb uvsvl, ry q hvkx yy pqpoh iruvc fckw py yljgt zhcb thmyw eajcc: Giaqlwo Svqx. Yy dzymkh faj rxcw dxcbvmyc hrs, xhrs kivhckktjiv. P ovbugbonh prl cavhwrzb qgusdj faj uesf tqv idxuvgzk outivgzvh pr yr eq iiuidhngngqn gofzjc. M nhtjapa maj uesf zjcc, vi iaj vid dp uasa drjihwly, hi hlwe gspmhp optcxc. M kpuvwhh faj amoj bdra aaj xcqippcc gofzjc, bueasg towz yajpnrpcou uhkkbe qe rwffpe gorelbsjmc. Gbp qp uaj vpynhx rtlbcyonph cmfq mmuh fi whgvwh vasa doukvji yzv mmuh.

██████████ has studied the machine used to encrypt this cipher and has produced a description of the encoding occurs:

The cipher uses the preceding plaintext letter's position in the keyed alphabet as the stepping distance along the alphabet to that plaintext letter's substitute. With a initial value or off-set of #, substitute the first plaintext letter by the letter found # places further along the alphabet. Then the position of that first plaintext letter is the new value for #, the off-set for the next plaintext letter. And so on.

Example: plaintext

pt: Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit.

Keyword "FIRE". The initial offset, #, is 25.

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.....1111111111222222
12345678901234567890123456
FIREABCDGHJKLMNQPSTUVWXYZ

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CT: KRSCQ OSHMG VXRRS VUV YSQX, FWADWJFXXNX DLHSSUZGPX LPNV.