

Adm. Kimmel

I guess it was a dream that President Clinton would pardon Adm. Husband E. Kimmel.

I remember that Mr. Clinton ran off to England to stay out of the service. There is no way he would do anything for the military. He doesn't understand that part of the United States. He did pardon drug dealers, one of the FBI's 10 most wanted, and his brother — for drug charges. Are they birds of a feather?

Patrick Weadon (Readers' views, Feb. 14) stated that Mr. Clinton was right on target in denying a pardon to Adm. Kimmel due to the postwar congressional committee's conclusions.

There have been an extraordinary number of documents on this subject released over the years through the Freedom of Information Act. In a top-secret report of April 1971 the FBI confirmed that the U.S. Navy did break the Japanese military code by Oct. 21, 1940, prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The United States had solved all four of the Japanese Navy Codes by the fall of 1941. These four codes were used to organize and dispatch Japan's warships to Hawaii by radio.

Some time in the fall of 1941 the latest techniques for solving one of these four codes were sent to Hawaii so cryptographers could decode military plans for Adm. Kimmel. Yet the crucial details did not arrive in Hawaii until after the attack.

The Department of Defense has refused to release delivery details. Documents concerning the code remain classified. This much is known: in the fall of '41, a revised solution to this code was sent to Hawaii on the slowest boat in the Navy, carried by an undisclosed officer-courier, on an undisclosed vessel. It arrived too late.

America, speak up and pardon Adm. Kimmel.

KEN RINEHART