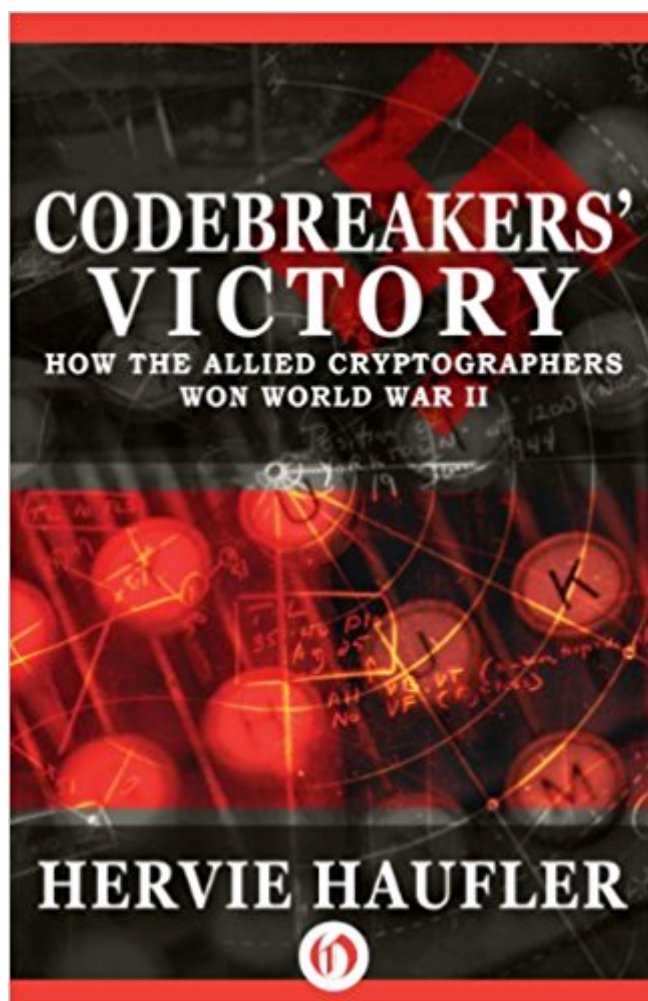


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Codebreakers' Victory: How The Allied Cryptographers Won World War II



Synopsis

For years, the story of the World War II codebreakers was kept a crucial state secret. Even Winston Churchill, himself a great advocate of Britain's cryptologic program, purposefully minimized their achievements in his history books. Now, though, after decades have passed, the true scope of the British and American cryptographers' role in the war has come to light. It was a role key to the Allied victory. From the Battle of Britain to the Pacific front to the panzer divisions in Africa, superior cryptography gave the Allies a decisive advantage over the Axis generals. Military intelligence made a significant difference in battle after battle. In *Codebreakers' Victory*, veteran cryptographer Hervie Haufler takes readers behind the scenes in this fascinating underground world of ciphers and decoders. This broad view represents the first comprehensive account of codebreaking during World War II. Haufler pulls together years of research, exclusive access to top secret files, and personal interviews to craft a captivating must-read for anyone interested in the behind-the-front intellect and perseverance that went into beating the Nazis and Japan.

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Customer Reviews

This is a nice overview of WWII codebreaking. It covers the work to decipher messages sent on the German Enigma machine and in the Japanese Purple machine, as well as decoding the Japanese JN25 Naval code. The book is well written and entertaining. The emphasis of the book is in the impact of this work, not on the details of processes by which it was done. In fact, there is relatively little in the book that cover the details of how messages sent on German and Japanese cipher machines were deciphered or how the JN25 Codebooks were recreated. If this is your primary interest, then I would recommend Stephen Budiansky's "Battle of Wits" as this is covered in considerable detail, with a lot of technical information. What is in Codebreakers Victory - A discussion of the Polish and British work to decipher the German Enigma machine. This discussion is general, with few technical details. A discussion of the Japanese Purple machine, used by the Japanese foreign ministry, and a discussion of decoding JN25. Again, these discussions are general, without a lot of technical detail. Impact of Ultra - the deciphering of German messages. This covers the U-boat war, the war in North Africa, in Italy, leading up to D-day and beyond in Europe. Impact of Purple and JN25 decrypts, including all the major engagements of the war in the Pacific. The XX program of disinformation fed to the Germans and how the decryption of German messages helped this effort. Russia and Russian spying - This section is not specifically about decoding. It is more about Russian spy networks in Germany, Europe, Japan and in the US and Britain. It covers the communist infiltration of the decoding efforts in the US and in Britain and in the Manhattan Project.

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