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Nota di contenuto

Preface xiii -- Editorial Notes xiv -- Notes on Vocabulary xiv -- List of Abbreviations xv -- Cryptanalytic Significance of the Analysis of Tunny, by Whitfield Diffie xvii -- Editors' Introduction, by Whitfield Diffie and J. V. Field xxv -- Statistics at Bletchley Park, by S. L. Zabell lxxv -- Biographies of Authors ciii -- Notes on the Editors of the Present Volume cvii -- List of Figures cix -- General Report on Tunny, with emphasis on statistical methods 1 -- Part 0: Preface -- Chapter 01: Preface 3 -- Part 1: Introduction -- Chapter 11: German Tunny 6 -- Chapter 12: Cryptographic Aspects 22 -- Chapter 13: Machines 32 -- Chapter 14: Organisation 35 -- Chapter 15: Some Historical Notes 39 -- Part 2: Methods of Solution -- Chapter 21: Some Probability Techniques 43 -- Chapter 22: Statistical Foundations 50 -- Chapter 23: Machine Setting 80 -- Chapter 24: Rectangling 110 -- Chapter 25: Chi-Breaking from Cipher 139 -- Chapter 26: Wheel-Breaking from Key 185 -- Chapter 27: Cribs 219 -- Chapter 28: Language Methods 237 -- Part 3: Organisation -- Chapter 31: Mr Newman's Section 262 -- Chapter 32: Organisation of the Testery 267 -- Chapter 33: Knockholt 268 -- Chapter 34: Registration and Circulation 269 -- Chapter 35: Tapemaking and Checking 271 -- Chapter 36: Chi-Breaking from Cipher 275 -- Chapter 37: Machine Setting Organisation 277 -- Chapter 38: Wheel-Breaking from Key, Organisation 280 -- Chapter 39: Language Methods 282 -- Part 4: Early Methods and History -- Chapter 41: The First Break 284 -- Chapter 42: Early Hand Methods 290 -- Chapter 43: Testery Methods 1942-44 298 -- Chapter 44: Hand Statistical Methods 305 -- Part 5: Machines -- Chapter 51: Introductory 309 -- Chapter 52: Development of Robinson and Colossus 312 -- Chapter 53: Colossus 316 -- Chapter 54: Robinson 336 -- Chapter 55: Specialized Counting Machines 346 -- Chapter 56: Copying Machines 350 -- Chapter 57: Simple machines 361 -- Chapter 58: Photographs 362 -- Part 6: Raw Materials -- Chapter 61: Raw Materials -- Production, with Plans of Tunny Links 381. Part 7: References -- Chapter 71: Glossary and Index 387 -- Chapter 72: Notation 435 -- Chapter 73: Bibliography 441 -- Chapter 74: Chronology 444 -- Part 8: Conclusions -- Chapter 81: Conclusions 452 -- Part 9: Appendices -- Chapter 91: The 5202 Machine 456 -- Chapter 92: Recovery of Motor Patterns from De-chi 471 -- Chapter 93: Thrasher 482 -- Chapter 94: Research into the QEP System 484 -- Chapter 95: Mechanical Flags 488 -- Appendix A: Transmission of Teleprinter Signals, by J. A. Reeds 495 -- Appendix B: Activities at Knockholt, by J. A. Reeds 503 -- Appendix C: The 5202 Machine, by J. A. Reeds 530 -- Appendix D: Initial Conception of Colossus, by J. A. Reeds 535 -- Appendix E: List of Scanned Exhibits 540 -- Supplementary Glossary 542 -- Biographical Notes 547 -- Notes 561 -- Bibliography 624 -- Index 645.

Sommario/riassunto

This detailed technical account of breaking Tunny is an edition of a report written in 1945, with extensive modern commentary. Breaking Teleprinter Ciphers at Bletchley Park gives the full text of the General Report on Tunny (GRT) of 1945, making clear how the ideas, notation and the specially designed machines that were used differ from what was generally accepted in 1945, and, where a modern reader might be misled, from what is understood now. The editors of this book clarify the sometimes slightly strange language of the GRT and explain the text within a variety of contexts in several separate historical story lines, some only implicit in the GRT itself. The first story, told by the authors of the GRT, describes how, using specially designed machines, including from 1944 the "Colossus", the British broke the enciphered teleprinter messages sent by the highest command levels of the

Germany Army. The cipher machines the Germans used were the Lorenz SZ 40 series, called "Tunny" by the British. The second story shows how the use of then-unfashionable Bayesian methods in statistics proved to be essential to the British success. The third story describes a significant stage in the invention of the modern digital computer. This story is connected with Alan Turing's 1936 paper on the theory of computability, which is nowadays seen as a starting point for the development of the modern digital computer. This book includes: . Over 200 pages of commentary, biographies, glossaries, and essays related to the text of the General Report on Tunny. The complete text of the original GRT, covering the general theory of Tunny breaking and of numerous refinements appropriate to special-case situations. All the examples of original worksheets and printouts, showing the Tunny-breaking process in action, that appear in the GRT. The main purpose of this book is to present the actual words of the GRT for use by readers with a serious interest in the history of cryptography, computing, or mathematics.

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