

# The Enigma Codebreakers



We would like to invite you to an exhibition dedicated to those, who have made a successful attempt to break the cipher, which as it was thought, was impossible to break. The success, which was based on a talent and work of some extraordinary people, had the beginning in 1929 in Poznań, exactly in the place where you stand... Visit the Enigma Codebreakers Exhibition based outside the Imperial Castle (ul. Św. Marcin 80/82) and discover the history of Enigma Codebreakers.

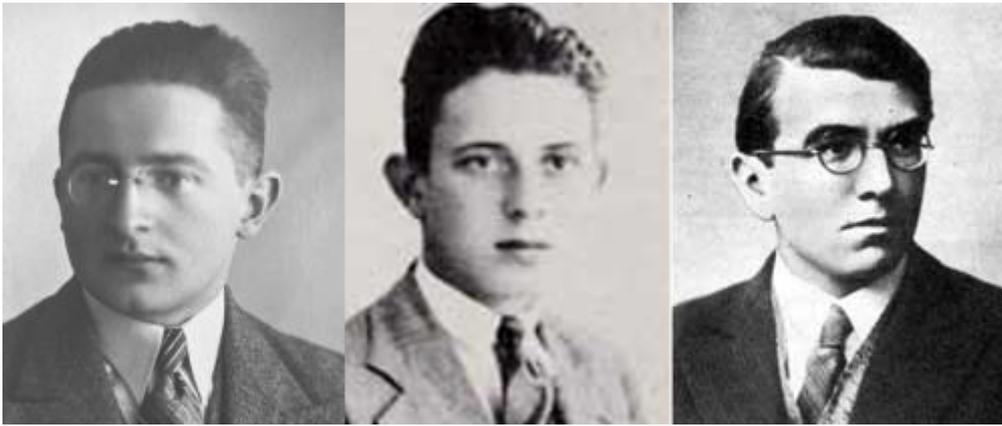
## The Enigma Codebreakers

Enigma - from Greek word: riddle, mystery - was the name, which German engineer Arthur Scherbius gave to the constructed by himself, electromechanical cipher machine. In 1918, together with Richard Ritter Scherbius & Ritter company, he established and started the production of Enigma.

In the beginning it was used for commercial purposes, later machine was put to use in the armies of several countries. World War I proved, that traditional, manual encryption method became impractical - in contrary to human errors, machine guaranteed speed, accuracy and security of the message encryption processes. The machine invented by Scherbius was capable of generating an unimaginable number of combinations and had a huge advantage over anything else so far encountered by cryptographers.

In January 1929, Department of Mathematics of Poznań University organised a cryptology course. Three, most talented students were chosen to take part in secret training: Marian Rejewski, Henryk Zygalski and Jerzy Różycki. In the end of 1930 they created an ambitious team working for Polish military intelligence.

In the next years, Rejewski, Różycki and Zygalski created a copy of Enigma and a set of devices accelerating decryption. At the same time, they were regularly decrypting German messages. In September 1939 they were forced to run away to France, where they continued their work.



Marian Rejewski, Jerzy Różycki, Henryk Zygalski. Source: public domain

## The exhibition

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The exhibition consists of information boards, talking about cryptology, Enigma machine and about the work of Polish mathematicians. Interactive screens are available to discover more information. You can also try your decrypting abilities. You can feel as you were one of the Enigma Codebreakers.



You can find the Enigma Codebreakers exhibition outside the Imperial Castle (ul. Św. Marcin 80/82)

**It's open from 10.00 to 18.00**

**FREE ENTRANCE**

More information: [www.enigmacentrum.pl](http://www.enigmacentrum.pl)