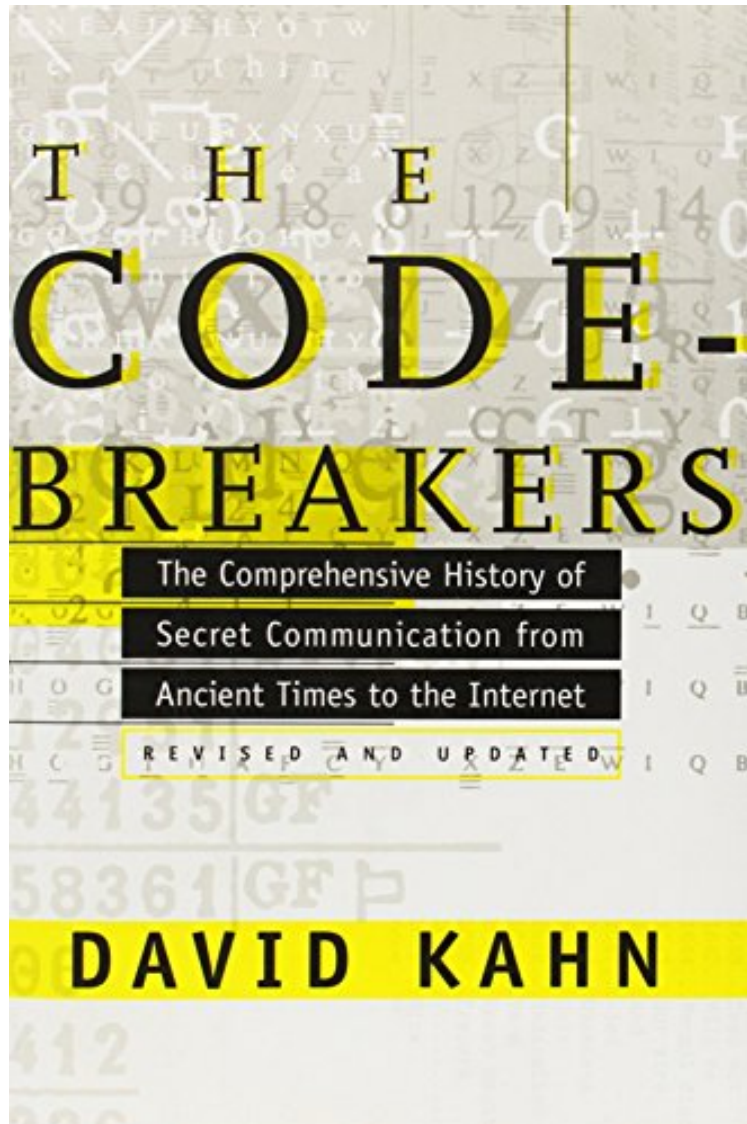


The Codebreakers: The Comprehensive History of Secret Communication from Ancient Times to the Internet

David Kahn

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#77150 in Books Scribner Book Company 1996-12-05 1996-12-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x 2.60 x 6.121, 3.62 #File Name: 06848313091200 pages Scribner Book Company | File size: 30.Mb

David Kahn : The Codebreakers: The Comprehensive History of Secret Communication from Ancient Times to the Internet before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Codebreakers: The Comprehensive History of Secret Communication from Ancient Times to the Internet:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Code breaking elaborated by David Kahn By Ervin Eikeland This

book is like a brick in the wall. I mean; can you write anything thicker than this. My gosh, am I ever gonna finish it(?) Well, I have read the bible, so it should be doable, and I am excited after reading the reviews and recommendations of this book. I am going to assume that this is gonna be one to keep in my personal library. If cryptology and its history and development cannot be explained in detail by a 1200 pages book, then the subject will seem to be beyond your average John Doe. I am a little above average so the odds are on my side. The book was shipped in this small carton box without any damage to the paper cover which I am very pleased with. Shipping was quick also. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding accomplishment, well worth the considerable time investment to read for the interested reader. By pen name A fine book. I believe that it covers history that everyone should be aware of, though perhaps not in the great detail this tome goes into. The book is not quite as strong when it starts to leave its subject area to more tangential material, and the writing occasionally takes on a more casual tone than one might expect, but overall the book is an outstanding accomplishment. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. but up to that point I have never seen anything better. By Good, not great. This is THE comprehensive account of the history of cryptography. It was written before widely available computers enabled kinds of cryptography that probably defy cryptanalysis, but up to that point I have never seen anything better.

The magnificent, unrivaled history of codes and ciphers show they're made, how they're broken, and the many and fascinating roles they've played since the dawn of civilization in war, business, diplomacy, and espionage updated with a new chapter on computer cryptography and the Ultra secret. Man has created codes to keep secrets and has broken codes to learn those secrets since the time of the Pharaohs. For 4,000 years, fierce battles have been waged between codemakers and codebreakers, and the story of these battles is civilization's secret history, the hidden account of how wars were won and lost, diplomatic intrigues foiled, business secrets stolen, governments ruined, computers hacked. From the XYZ Affair to the Dreyfus Affair, from the Gallic War to the Persian Gulf, from Druidic runes and the kaballah to outer space, from the Zimmermann telegram to Enigma to the Manhattan Project, codebreaking has shaped the course of human events to an extent beyond any easy reckoning. Once a government monopoly, cryptology today touches everybody. It secures the Internet, keeps e-mail private, maintains the integrity of cash machine transactions, and scrambles TV signals on unpaid-for channels. David Kahn's *The Codebreakers* takes the measure of what codes and codebreaking have meant in human history in a single comprehensive account, astonishing in its scope and enthralling in its execution. Hailed upon first publication as a book likely to become the definitive work of its kind, *The Codebreakers* has more than lived up to that prediction: it remains unsurpassed. With a brilliant new chapter that makes use of previously classified documents to bring the book thoroughly up to date, and to explore the myriad ways computer codes and their hackers are changing all of our lives, *The Codebreakers* is the skeleton key to a thousand thrilling true stories of intrigue, mystery, and adventure. It is a masterpiece of the historian's art.

.com "Few false ideas have more firmly gripped the minds of so many intelligent men than the one that, if they just tried, they could invent a cipher that no one could break," writes David Kahn in this massive (almost 1,200 pages) volume. Most of *The Codebreakers* focuses on the 20th century, especially World War II. But its reach is long. Kahn traces cryptology's origins to the advent of writing. It seems that as soon as people learned how to record their thoughts, they tried to figure out ways of keeping them hidden. Kahn covers everything from the theory of ciphering to the search for "messages" from outer space. He concludes with a few thoughts about encryption on the Internet. The Washington Post Kahn has produced a tour de force... The volume is an anthology of a hundred detective stories, one more ingenious than the last, and all real, central to the fate of armies and kingdoms... Magnificent. The Christian Science Monitor A literary blockbuster... for many evening of gripping reading, no better choice can be made than this book. Time Perhaps the best and most complete account of cryptography yet published. The New York Times Book A notable achievement... Mr. Kahn has presented the specialist and the general public with a lavishly comprehensive introduction to a subject of basic significance for both. Prepublication National Security Agency Evaluation, now declassified The book in its entirety constitutes the most publicly revealing picture that has ever been presented of U.S. Sigint activities and the agencies engaged in this field. From the Back Cover Man has created codes to keep secrets and has broken codes to learn those secrets since the time of the Pharaohs. For 4,000 years, fierce battles have been waged between codemakers and codebreakers, and the story of these battles is civilization's secret history, the hidden account of how wars were won and lost, diplomatic intrigues foiled, business secrets stolen, governments ruined, computers hacked. From the XYZ Affair to the Dreyfus Affair, from the Gallic War to the Persian Gulf, from Druidic runes and the kaballah to outer space, from the Zimmermann telegram to Enigma to the Manhattan Project, codebreaking has shaped the course of human events to an extent beyond any easy reckoning. Once a government monopoly, cryptology today touches everybody. It secures the Internet, keeps e-mail private, maintains the integrity of cash machine transactions, and scrambles TV signals on unpaid-for channels. David Kahn's *The Codebreakers* takes the measure of what codes and codebreaking have meant in human history in a single comprehensive account, astonishing in its scope and enthralling in its execution. Hailed upon first publication as a book likely to become the definitive work of its kind, *The Codebreakers* has more than lived up to that prediction: it remains unsurpassed. With a

brilliant new chapter that makes use of previously classified documents to bring the book thoroughly up to date, and to explore the myriad ways computer codes and their hackers are changing all of our lives, *The Codebreakers* is the skeleton key to a thousand thrilling true stories of intrigue, mystery, and adventure. It is a masterpiece of the historian's art.