Intercambio Idiomas Online

B2 OPEN CLOZE: ENIGMA
Fill in the gaps in the text with one word. More than one answer may be possible.

Enigma

Credited with having shortened the war by _____(1) to two years, a specialist group of British codebreakers _____(2) up with the idea of an encryption device to break the codes of the enigma machine. What made the code emitted from the Enigma machine was the _____(3) that the Nazis were constantly implementing a series of efforts to improve its efficiency and the codebreakers could not keep track. During World War 2, the Allies were on the backfoot due to Nazi Germany’s superior military and aggressive blitzkrieg tactics. The British needed to gain the upperhand _____(4) they would be doomed to failure. The codename for this program, that would remain a secret for decades after the war, was Ultra. There are a _____(5) curiosities regarding the story behind the breaking of the Enigma code. Firstly, the British are credited with _____(6) first decrypted it, whereas the Polish Cypher bureau claimed to have done it as early as 1932. The story goes that a specialized decryption centre was founded at Bletchly Park to exploit the Nazi’s encrypted code and basically became the principal source of intelligence for the war _____(7). What is most astonishing about the whole affair was the fact that the lead investigator of the Ultra program, a closet homosexual, was never credited for his achievements _____(8) after his death, a direct result of persecution by authorities and chemical castration.
Answers:

Enigma

Credited with having shortened the war by up to two years, a specialist group of British codebreakers came up with the idea of an encryption device to break the codes of the enigma machine. What made the code emitted from the Enigma machine was the fact that the Nazis were constantly implementing a series of efforts to improve its efficiency and the codebreakers could not keep track. During World War 2, the Allies were on the backfoot due to Nazi Germany’s superior military and aggressive blitzkrieg tactics. The British needed to gain the upperhand otherwise they would be doomed to failure. The codename for this program, that would remain a secret for decades after the war, was Ultra. There are a few curiosities regarding the story behind the breaking of the Enigma code. Firstly, the British are credited with having first decrypted it, whereas the Polish Cypher bureau claimed to have done it as early as 1932. The story goes that a specialized decryption centre was founded at Bletchly Park to exploit the Nazi’s encrypted code and basically became the principal source of intelligence for the war effort. What is most astonishing about the whole affair was the fact that the lead investigator of the Ultra program, a closet homosexual, was never credited for his achievements until after his death, a direct result of persecution by authorities and chemical castration.