Intelligence & Espionage History

History Of Intelligence · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which cryptanalytic machine did the Polish Cipher Bureau break in 1932, providing the foundation for later Allied success at Bletchley Park?

A) Enigma I
B) Lorenz SZ42
C) Purple
D) SIGABA

2. During WWII, what was the code name of the British operation that successfully utilized a corpse to mislead German high command about the invasion of Sicily?

A) Operation Fortitude
B) Operation Mincemeat
C) Operation Overlord
D) Operation Bodyguard

3. The 'Cambridge Five' was a spy ring that operated within the British government; which of its members was the last to be unmasked and famously served as the Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures?

A) Guy Burgess
B) Donald Maclean
C) Anthony Blunt
D) Kim Philby

4. In 1953, the CIA and MI6 orchestrated a coup to overthrow the Prime Minister of which nation, primarily to protect Western control over oil assets?

A) Egypt
B) Iraq
C) Syria
D) Iran

5. Which Soviet intelligence agency operated the 'Red Orchestra' (Rote Kapelle) spy network in Nazi-occupied Europe?

A) GRU
B) NKVD
C) SMERSH
D) MGB

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6. The VENONA project was a top-secret U.S. signals intelligence program that aimed to decrypt messages from which foreign entity?

A) The Third Reich
B) The Soviet Union
C) Imperial Japan
D) The People's Republic of China

7. Who was the high-ranking KGB defector whose 1961 revelation led to the exposure of George Blake, a British double agent?

A) Vasili Mitrokhin
B) Oleg Penkovsky
C) Anatoly Golitsyn
D) Vitaly Yurchenko

8. What was the name of the ultra-secret U.S. aerial reconnaissance program that utilized the U-2 spy plane to photograph Soviet territory during the 1950s?

A) Project AQUATONE
B) Project CORONA
C) Operation PBJOINTLY
D) Operation GOLD

9. The Zimmermann Telegram, which helped draw the United States into WWI, was intercepted by Room 40, a branch of which organization?

A) MI6
B) The Admiralty
C) The War Office
D) The Foreign Office

10. In 1985, which CIA officer was arrested for espionage after having provided the KGB with the identities of every human intelligence asset the CIA had in the Soviet Union?

A) Aldrich Ames
B) Edward Lee Howard
C) Harold James Nicholson
D) Robert Hanssen

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