CALL FOR PAPERS – 2015 SYMPOSIUM ON CRYPTOLOGIC HISTORY

The Center for Cryptologic History invites proposals for papers to be delivered at the Center’s biennial Symposium on Cryptologic History which will take place October 22-23, 2015. The Symposium will be held at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory’s Kossiakoff Center in Laurel, Maryland. Following the Symposium, on Saturday, October 24, participants will be given an opportunity to tour the National Cryptologic Museum and participate in a workshop on sources for research in cryptologic history.

The Symposium is an occasion for historians to gather for reflection and debate on relevant and important topics from the cryptologic past. Regular participants include historians from the Center for Cryptologic History, the Intelligence Community, the defense establishment, the military services, distinguished scholars from American and foreign academic institutions, veterans of the cryptologic profession, graduate and undergraduate students, and the interested public. Past symposia have featured scholarship that set out new ways to consider our cryptologic heritage, and this one will be no exception. The conference will provide many opportunities to interact with leading historians and other distinguished experts. The mix of practitioners, scholars, and interested observers always guarantees a lively debate promoting an enhanced appreciation for past events.

The theme for the 2015 Symposium will be “A Century of Cryptology.” As we mark the centenary years of World War I (1914–1918), when so many significant advancements occurred in the field of cryptology, we will also examine the impact cryptologists made throughout the twentieth century, especially during such periods as World War II, the Cold War, the Korean War, the War in Vietnam, and the post-Cold War era. The Symposium will also include panels that look at the foundations of cryptology before the “Great War.” We welcome submissions from those who are new to the field and those who have presented at previous symposiums.

The proposals and papers must be unclassified. We encourage proposals for single presentations and full panels; the program committee will form panels from single presentations with like topics. Presenters should be prepared to speak for 15-20 minutes; proposals for a longer time slot should include a strong justification.

Your proposal package should include an abstract of no more than ONE page, a complete CV, a short biographical sketch (not to exceed 150 words) to be used in the program, the amount of time you require for your paper, and full contact details. Panel proposals should include the above for each presenter and a short explanation of the panel’s theme.

Please submit your proposal by Monday, February 2, 2015, to Program Chair Betsy Rohaly Smoot at ersmoot@nsa.gov or to her care at The Center for Cryptologic History, Suite 6886, 9800 Savage Road, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755. Please note that correspondence that does not include the suite number may not be delivered in a timely manner. Proposals received after February 2 will be considered on a space-available basis. The program committee will notify you about the final status of your proposal by June 1, 2015, but may engage you in discussions before that date.

Registration costs for 2015 have not yet been set, but for planning purposes the costs for 2013 were as follows: $65/day ($130 for 2 days, no cost for the museum visit); $35/day ($70 for 2 days) for full-time students with ID. In the past we have been able to waive the fees for speakers on the day they present their paper. Every attempt is made to hold costs down. We hope to have final registration costs available at the time you are notified about the status of your proposal.