

Texas Tech University. Applied Mathematics Seminar.

THE ULTRA SECRET

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Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Room: MA 016, Time: 4:00pm

ABSTRACT. In August 1945, evidence of the most spectacular contribution of Physics to the war effort came in the form of a mushroom cloud. The grand contribution of Mathematics, however, remained secret well into the 1970s. It was the effort to crack the German Enigma cipher machine.

In the talk will give a brief survey of this momentous effort. It is an entertaining story of elementary mathematics with nontrivial implications for world history.