

Editor's note

The memories of Marian Rejewski are published as a book edition for the first time. The volume contains texts of two typed manuscripts, which were deposited by the author in Wojskowy Instytut Historyczny¹ (Military History Institute): *Memories of my work in the Cipher Bureau of the General Staff Second Department 1930–1945*, written in 1967, and the *Supplement to Memories of my work in the Cipher Bureau of the General Staff Second Department 1930–1945*, written in 1974. Essentially, when preparing Rejewski's memories for publication we have used the copies of both typed manuscripts, which remain in the author's family archives, and in which Rejewski had made very few changes and addenda. The attached drawings originate from these copies as well. We also used a separate list of errata prepared by Rejewski.

The original typed manuscripts by Rejewski have separate tables of contents. In this book both tables of contents have been combined. Individual chapters received titles, which in both manuscripts appear only in the table of contents. For technical reasons, some flaws noted down by Rejewski had to be corrected in the footnotes. Finally and for obvious reasons, the author's original references to page numbers in his manuscripts were replaced by appropriate page numbers for this book. Whenever it was possible the terminology used by the author was retained; however, we have changed the manner in which dates and military ranks are given. Several obvious typing errors and more specifically a few appropriate names were corrected without localizing them in the book. All other changes, few but necessary, are indicated in the footnotes. Finally, some explanations of foreign terms have been added by the editors and specified in the footnotes.

We have illustrated Rejewski's memories with photographs and facsimiles of important documents. The mathematical and historical notes available at the end of the book will certainly be helpful to the reader. The mathematical ones have been prepared by Prof. Jerzy Kaczorowski, and they constitute a brief and clear presentation of essential notions and theorems, both mathematical and cryptological, making the terminology used by Rejewski more familiar and more complete. The historical notes, written by Dr Marek Grajek offer rich factual material, which serves to provide a background for events, clarifies some information provided by Rejewski, and gives new information that Rejewski could not have known at the time. The original work of Rejewski has been supplemented with his biography and the index, containing names which appear in the main text as well as in the notes.

This book would not have been published without the commitment and kindness of many people. The possibility of having it published, we owe to the goodwill of

¹ Typed manuscripts of Rejewski at present are stored in Central Military Archive.

the Rector of Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza (Adam Mickiewicz University), Prof. Bronisław Marciniak and to the Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, Prof. Marek Nawrocki. However, the implementation of the entire project would not be possible without the consent of the Director of the Wojskowe Biuro Badań Historycznych (Military Bureau for Historical Research), Prof. Krzysztof Komorowski to transfer the copyright to publish Rejewski's *Memories*, and without the support received from Prof. Grzegorz Nowik, the editor who published Rejewski's *Memories* in 2005 in *Przegląd Historyczno-Wojskowy* (*Historical-Military Review*).

We have also received assistance from the invaluable professional experience of the Vice-rectors of our University, Prof. Sławomira Wronkowska-Jaśkiewicz, Prof. Jacek Guliński and Prof. Jacek Witkoś, as well as from the Director of the Adam Mickiewicz University Press Iwona Wegner-Maruszewska, MA, and from the Assistant Editor Marzenna Ledzion-Markowska, MA.

Many people and institutions (mentioned in the list of documents) helped us to gather documents. It is essential to emphasize the work of many our colleagues and students of Adam Mickiewicz University, thanks to whom the materials obtained from the Military Bureau for Historical Research have received the form in which they are presented to the reader today.

We would like to very sincerely thank everybody who, through their work and efforts, has contributed to the publication of this book.

We are especially grateful to Janina Sylwestrzak, the daughter of Marian Rejewski, for her comprehensive help given to the editors, as well as for her permission to carry out fruitful queries in the family archives and for letting us use many documents belonging to the family.