



10 DOWNING STREET
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THE PRIME MINISTER

30 March 2012

Mrs Mrs. Youlden,

I am writing to you to express my personal thanks and the United Kingdom's gratitude for the work of Professor William 'Bill' Tutte.

The success of the cryptographers at Bletchley Park was an iconic British triumph of the Second World War and their achievements represent one of history's greatest intelligence successes.

We should never forget how lucky we were to have men like Professor Tutte in our darkest hour and the extent to which their work not only helped protect Britain itself but also shorten the war by an estimated two years, saving countless lives.

I know that Bill's contribution to the cryptanalysis of the Lorenz cipher, which allowed the Allies unparalleled access to the intercepted high level German communications, was of enormous value to the war effort.

I understand that, partly owing to the secrecy of his work, Professor Tutte was never honoured officially in his lifetime, although he undoubtedly held the respect of those in his field. Whilst the only honours that can be awarded posthumously are those for gallantry I can say without a doubt that Bill Tutte deserves the thanks of the British people.

*Yours sincerely,
David Cameron*

Mrs Jeanne Youlden