

World War II American Women Code Breakers:

Elizebeth Smith Friedman

Agnes Driscoll

Francis Steen

African American Women



Recent publications* have shed light on previously unappreciated activities of American women code breakers who were instrumental in breaking the military codes of the Axis Powers (Nazi Germany; Fascist Italy, and Imperial Japan) and exposing the Atomic Bomb Spies of the Soviet Union.

These women were from all over the United States; had educations ranging from advanced degrees to none; had “fierce intellects”; and had an extraordinary ability to keep their vows of secrecy. The *stories of these women are fascinating including the most famous woman codebreaker, Elizebeth Smith Friedman. These recent books are finally giving “these American heroes the recognition they deserve” and “illuminates the patriotism, rivalry and sexism of the code breakers world.”

And what was the most important personal characteristic of these women?

Integrity!

Hear their stories on Wednesday, April 24, 2019, 11 A at Realife Cooperative in Burnsville on Pleasant Avenue.

Contact Gary Gray for more information (952-895-8960; gdgray@q.com)

Women Codebreakers Who Exposed Soviet Spies:

Angeline Nanni

Gene Grabeel

Genevieve Grotjan

Marie Meyer

Double Agent Elizabeth Bentley



*“Code Girls,” Liza Mundy, 2017; “Code Name: Venona,” Liza Mundy, Smithsonian.com 2018, P. 30; “The Woman Who Smashed Codes,” Jason Fagone, 2017.