

## PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release.

Attachment: photograph of Enigma machine

### Secret Messages

#### New exhibition at Museum Jan Corver in The Netherlands

During the summer of 2008, Museum Jan Corver in Budel (Netherlands) has been closed for maintenance. This period has also been used to create a new - temporary - exhibition that has been given the name 'Secret Messages'. Work on the museum and the new exhibition has now been finished and from October 4th 2008, the museum has reopened its doors. Because of the new temporary exhibition, the museum will be open **every Saturday** from 10:00 to 17:00 until the end of the year.

The new exhibition consists of a large number of objects from the museum's own collection, as well as some unique objects from other museums and private collectors. The entire period from WWII until the present day is covered, and a large part of the exhibition is occupied by the Cold War. Some of the equipment is still in working condition and the museum staff will be happy to demonstrate it. For this event, the museum floor has been divided into three areas, each covering a different era. Most of the equipment is displayed in chronological order, so that it quickly gives a good historical insight.

What can be expected? The first part of the exhibition covers WWII. You'll see, for example, equipment used by the Dutch Resistance to send messages to the Dutch Government in Great Britain. Also on display is a large radio transmitter used by the Germans to jam the reception of Radio Orange, the daily Dutch broadcast hosted by the BBC World Service. Furthermore, a large number of cipher machines, such as the famous *Enigma*, of which no less than three different models are on display, the very rare *Siemens Geheimschreiber* and the cipher machines used by the allies, such as the Hagelin and Sigaba coding machines.

The period of the Cold War is covered extensively and consists of spy trancivers, spy cameras, clandestine transmitters and tracing devices. Much of this equipment was used by the so-called *Stay Behind Forces*, also known as the *Gladio Network*. A nice collection of clandestine Russian trancivers is on display, often used by spies and agents in the West to send their messages to Moskow. In most western countries, including The Netherlands, such equipment has been confiscated by the intelligence services.

The exhibition also addresses modern equipment, although it's very difficult to give information about equipment that is currently in use, simply because most of it is still kept secret. Nevertheless it's possible to speculate about it and show what equipment has been in recent use by governments, armies and large corporations. In short: Museum Jan Corver has a lot to offer and the new exhibition 'Secret Messages' will even show equipment that has never been on public display before. Plenty of reasons to visit the museum before the end of the year.

*Address:*

Broekkant 1  
6021 CR Budel  
The Netherlands  
Website: [www.jancorver.org](http://www.jancorver.org)

*More information is available from:*

Museum curator: Cor Moerman  
Phone: 0495-430342  
E-mail: [ws19@xs4all.nl](mailto:ws19@xs4all.nl)