

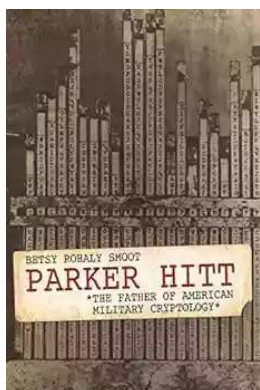
# The Father Of American Military Cryptology: American Warriors Series

The world of cryptography is a fascinating realm that has played a pivotal role in shaping the course of history, particularly in times of war. In this American Warriors Series, we delve into the lives of notable figures who have contributed significantly to the field of military cryptology. Today, we pay homage to the legendary figure known as the Father of American Military Cryptology.

## A Glimpse Into the Life of a Trailblazer

Journey back in time to the early days of the American Revolution, where intelligence and communication were integral to the success of the fledgling nation. As the colonists fought for their independence, they needed a secure way to transmit classified information, and this is where our protagonist enters the stage.

Born into modest beginnings on a small farm, the Father of American Military Cryptology exhibited a remarkable aptitude for problem-solving and analytical thinking from a young age. His insatiable curiosity led him to explore the secrets of cryptography, and he soon became known as a prodigy in the field.



## Parker Hitt: The Father of American Military Cryptology (American Warriors Series)

by Betsy Rohaly Smoot(Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 7150 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 461 pages



At the onset of the American Revolution, our revered cryptologist joined the ranks of the Continental Army, where he quickly rose through the ranks due to his exceptional skills. His ability to encrypt and decrypt messages with incredible speed and accuracy proved to be a game-changer in the war effort.

## **Cracking Codes and Shaping History**

The Father of American Military Cryptology had an uncanny ability to decipher enemy codes, enabling the Continental Army to gain valuable insights into the British troops' strategies and plans. His knack for breaking even the most complex cipher systems came to be regarded as a force multiplier on the battlefield.

This unsung hero's contributions extended far beyond his code-cracking prowess. Recognizing the importance of secrecy, he developed innovative methods for secure communication, such as the use of invisible ink and hidden compartments in letters. These techniques allowed the revolutionaries to coordinate their efforts without fear of interception.

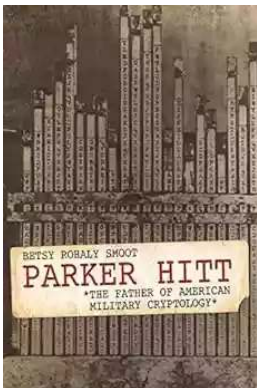
One of the crowning achievements of this American hero was his instrumental role in uncovering a treacherous spy network that was operating within the ranks of the Continental Army. His dedication to the cause and unwavering commitment to safeguarding the nation proved vital in neutralizing these threats.

## **A Legacy That Endures**

Despite the immense contributions to the field of cryptology and national security, the Father of American Military Cryptology remains a relatively unsung figure in American history. However, the impact of his revolutionary techniques and innovations still reverberates to this day.

His methods laid the foundation for modern military communications and cryptography, shaping the way nations secure their sensitive information. The advancements made by this American icon have undoubtedly saved countless lives and brought about pivotal victories in the annals of history.

Today, let us remember and commemorate the Father of American Military Cryptology, an extraordinary individual who forever changed the face of warfare and safeguarded the principles and liberties that we hold dear. His legacy serves as an inspiration to future generations of cryptologists and warriors alike, reminding us of the power of intelligence, innovation, and unwavering dedication in the pursuit of freedom.



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"Success in dealing with unknown ciphers is measured by these four things in the order named: perseverance, careful methods of analysis, intuition, luck." So begins the first chapter of Colonel Parker Hitt's 1916 *Manual for the Solution of Military Ciphers*, a foundational text in the history of cryptology. An irrepressible innovator, Hitt possessed those qualities in abundance. His manual, cipher devices, and proactive mentorship of Army cryptology during World War I laid the groundwork for the modern American cryptologic system. Though he considered himself an infantryman, Hitt is best known as the "father of American military cryptology."

In *Parker Hitt: The Father of American Military Cryptology*, Betsy Rohaly Smoot brings Hitt's legacy to life, chronicling his upbringing, multiple careers, ingenious mind, and independent spirit. In the 1910s, after a decade as an infantry officer, Hitt set his sights on aviation. Instead, he was drawn to the applied sciences, designing signal and machine-gun equipment while applying math to combat problems. Atypical for the time, Hitt championed women in the workplace. During World War I he suggested the Army employ American female telephone operators, while his wife, Genevieve Young Hitt, became the first woman to break ciphers for the United States government. His daughter, Mary Lue Hitt, carried on the family legacy as a "code girl" during World War II. Readers of Elizabeth Cobbs' *The Hello Girls*, Liza Mundy's *Code Girls*, and David Kahn's *The Codebreakers* will find in Parker Hitt's story an insightful profile of an American cryptologic hero and the early twentieth-century military. Drawing from a never-before-seen cache of Hitt's letters, photographs, and diaries, Smoot introduces readers to Hitt's life on the front lines, in classrooms and workshops, and at home.



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