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DAILY ENTERPRISE

(U) HISTORY TODAY - FRIDAY CLASSIC: April 15, 2016
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(U) Every Friday, the Center for Cryptologic History republishes a favorite *History Today* from our 13-year archives. We invite our readers to send us suggestions for favorite articles they would like to see reprised.

(U) In 2006 we published a double trivia challenge about the first public key cipher. Here is the double answer.

(U) It is said that the name of the first public key cipher was something of a play on words. The name used a synonym of "demon," which itself was short for "demonstration," the name of a program the developers were working on.

(U) **HISTORY TODAY – August 31, 2006**

(U) Yesterday's trivia question: What was the name of the first public cryptographic key generator?

(U) Trivia answer: The key generator was LUCIFER, developed in 1971 to be embedded in IBM computers. It was derived from a prototype called DEMON, not named for powers of darkness, but as a shortened form of DEMONSTRATION -– which would not fit in the original program. The name for the later system punned in a new direction.

(U) Follow-up trivia question: Who was the first user of LUCIFER?

(U) Second trivia answer: It was first used by Lloyd's Bank in London (pictured). In 1971 the bank sought a way to secure transactions on a newfangled device they were about to introduce, a cash-dispensing terminal.
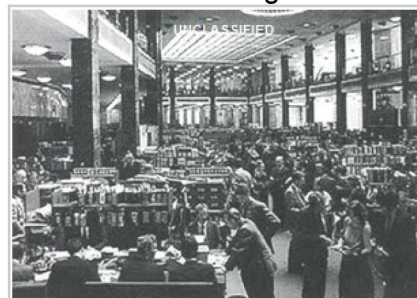
(U) To discuss historical topics with interesting folks, visit the Center for Cryptologic History's blog, History Rocks ("go history rocks").

(U) Have a question or comment on *History Today*? Contact us at DL cch or ▯

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