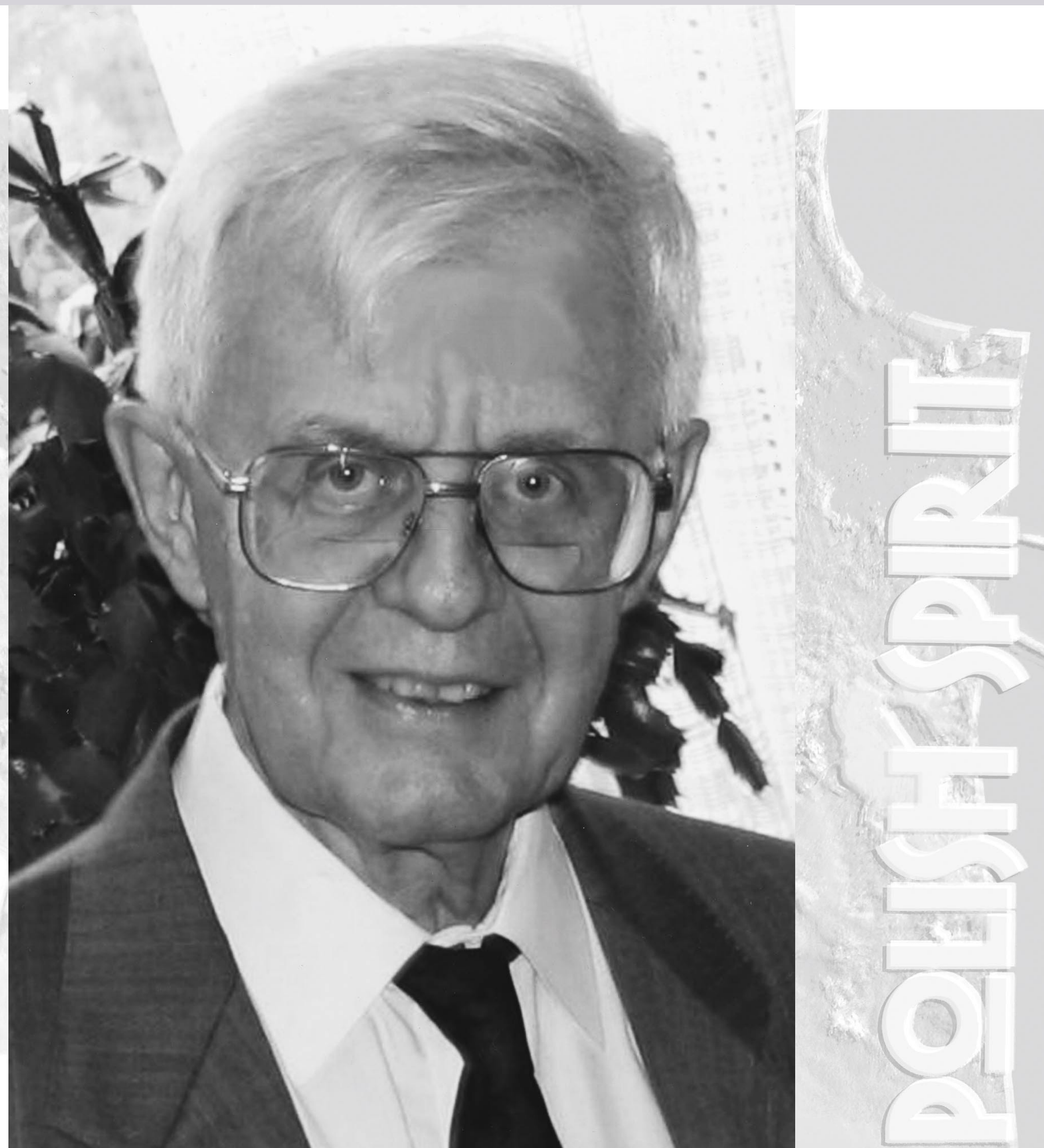


# Jerzy Adam Dobrowolski

(b. 1931)

Research officer, National Research Council



Jerzy Dobrowolski has championed practical applications for scientific innovations. He and his colleagues were instrumental in the development of the thin film security devices for Canadian paper currency, which safeguard it against forgery and counterfeiting. As one of the world's most successful anti-counterfeiting devices, his optical thin films technology has also found applications in the telecommunication and information technology sectors, as featured on drivers' licenses, passports, and compact discs. He was also a developer of components for Canadian Space Shuttle experiments.

Born in Katowice, Poland, Jerzy Dobrowolski emigrated to the United Kingdom in 1949. In 1955, he obtained his Ph.D. degree in technical optics from the University of London, and the same year left for Canada where he joined the National Research Council, from which he retired thirty-five years later as its Principal Research Officer.

He is the author or co-author of about a hundred written and a hundred-thirty oral presentations as well as of five handbook articles. Dobrowolski has also devoted much of his time to work for the Polish community in Ottawa. In 1956, he founded the Polish Folk Dance Group and was its instructor and choreographer for twenty-five years. A member of the Polish Combatants' Association, he served as its president for two years. Between 1982 and 1995, as president of the Sponsorship Committee, he was assisting new Polish immigrants to Canada.

For his contributions to the Polish community in Ottawa, Dobrowolski was awarded several medals by the Canadian and World Federations of the Polish Combatants' Association, the Polish Canadian Congress, the Polish Government in Exile as well as the post-communist Government of the Republic of Poland.

His professional achievements have been well recognized by many awards, among them Joseph Fraunhofer Award of the Optical Society of America, Moët Hennessy-Louis Vuitton *Science pour l'Art* Prize, David Richardson Medal of the OSA, Medal of Achievement in Industrial and Applied Physics of the Canadian Association of Physicists, Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, the Order of Canada, and Nathaniel Sugerman Award of the Society of Vacuum Coaters.

Photos from top left clockwise:

• Dr. Jerzy Dobrowolski • J. Dobrowolski with eng. Tadeusz Olszewski and his wife • Dr. J. Dobrowolski, member of the Order of Canada with his daughter Barbara • On Canadian paper currency everyone can find a security feature developed by Dr. J. Dobrowolski

All photos – family archives

