



The **OSS SOCIETY**
Journal



Major General John K. Singlaub,
USA (Ret.)

Major Caesar Civitella,
USA (Ret.)

Admiral Eric Olson,
Commander, USSOCOM

Also In This Issue:

Two Named Honorary Chairmen
Interest in OSS Transcends Generations
Richard Helms Honored at Georgetown University
Greek OSSers Receive Bronze Star

WANTED:

WORKS OF ART, CULTURAL PROPERTY AND DOCUMENTS

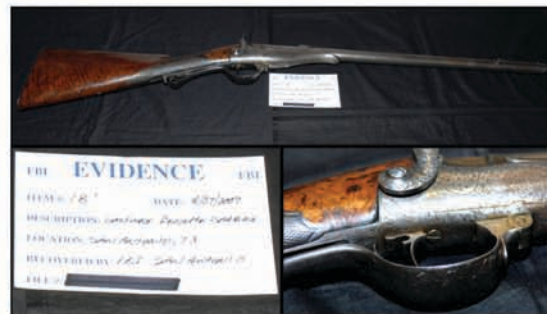
“LIBERATED” DURING WORLD WAR II

This past year two prominent examples stand out, one good, the other not:

National Archives Announces Discovery and Donation of “Hitler Albums” Documenting Looted Art



FBI Arrests Collector for attempted sale of historic French rifle



The *Monuments Men Foundation* is interested in working with anyone who may possess or know of such items, anonymously if requested.

Won't you please help us write this final unfinished chapter of WWII?

The *Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art* is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) entity created to raise public awareness of the 345 men and women from thirteen nations who protected monuments and other cultural property from theft and destruction by the Nazis during World War II. Please contact rmedsel@monumentsmenfoundation.org or call 214-276-1596 with any leads or questions.



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For the Preservation of Art



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Amb. William J. vanden Heuvel
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The OSS Society Journal

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Jonathan Henderson, cover design

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The OSS Society Journal

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*Cover photograph provided courtesy
of USASOC Public Affairs*

We hope you like the new look of what has previously been the OSS Newsletter. As it has grown from a modest eight-page publication to the recent 32-page edition, it has become obvious that it is more than just a newsletter - it is also a journal of the rich history of the OSS.

Your input is important to us. Please send us your OSS memories, and please let us know your thoughts about this publication.

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Slim and Amb. William vanden Heuvel Named Honorary Chairmen



Viscount John Slim

The Rt. Hon. Viscount John Slim, one of the ninety-two hereditary peers in the House of Lords, and Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, a New York attorney, have accepted The OSS Society's invitation to become honorary chairmen.

Both men have had an association with General William Donovan. Ambassador vanden Heuvel worked with General Donovan's law office in New York City as a young lawyer. Later, he was the general's executive assistant when he was appointed Ambassador to Thailand and Southeast



Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel

Asia by President Eisenhower. Viscount Slim was aide-de-camp to his father, Lieutenant General Sir William Slim, who was commander-in-chief, Allied Land Force, Southeast Asia in WWII. OSS Detachment 101 worked closely with this British counterpart in that area of Asia.

In accepting the invitation, **Viscount Slim** wrote that he holds The OSS Society in the highest regard, particularly through his loyalty to Detachment 101. "I am very much encouraged that the [OSS] organization is alive, active, and continuing the legacy of the great founder and those whose courage made the name of the OSS."

Viscount Slim was born in 1927, educated at the Prince of Wales Royal Indian Military Academy at Dehra Dun, and commissioned into the Indian army as a second lieutenant, 6th Gurkha Rifles, just after his 18th birthday. His first assignment was as an aide to his father.

Following Indian independence, the Gurkha regiments were split between the British and Indian armies. Slim transferred to the British service and received a commission as a lieutenant in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in July 1948.

He joined the Malayan Scouts in 1952 as a troop commander. In 1954 he was sent to Australia to join the British Services Liaison Staff, based in Melbourne. He returned to Malaya in April 1957 as acting major and officer Commanding a squadron. He held this post until 1958.

Major Slim attended the Staff College, Camberley in 1961 and became Brigade Major of a Territorial Army infantry brigade from 1962 to 1964. He passed the next phase of professional education, the Joint Services Staff College, in 1964.

He was posted in Borneo with the 22 SAS Regiment where he and his CO, Mike Wingate-Gray, alternately ran Tactical Headquarters and Rear HQ in Hereford. In 1966 Slim was transferred to a staff post at Headquarter Middle

East Command, and was involved in the final British withdrawal from Aden.

Promoted to lieutenant colonel in June 1967, he took over from Wingate-Gray, serving the normal two and a half-year tour. He was also named an officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his work during a difficult period when there were no wars to fight but much reorganization and retraining to be done.

Slim retired in October 1972 and was later given an honorary promotion to colonel. He entered the business world and became a vice-president and director of Boyden International Ltd. He was also chairman of the British Australia Society for many years.

Ambassador vanden Heuvel served as U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1979 until 1981 and as U.S. Permanent Representative to the European Office of the UN from 1977 to 1979.

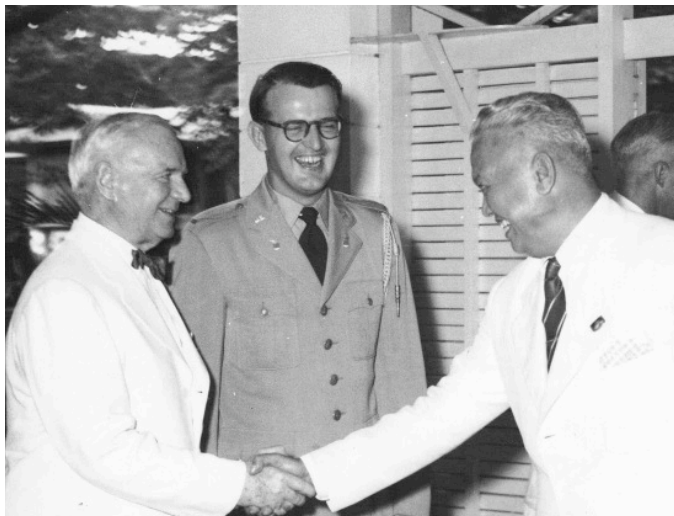
Former senior partner, now counsel to the law firm of Strock & Strock & Lavan, he is also senior advisor to Allen & Company, a New York investment banking firm. He is chairman and CEO of Amromco Energy LLC. Ambassador vanden Heuvel has served as president of the International Rescue Committee, chairman of the New York City Board of Corrections, and as chairman of the board of governors of the United Nations Association.

A graduate of the Cornell University Law School, he was editor-in-chief of the Cornell Law Review and later served as executive assistant to General William J. Donovan, special counsel to Governor Averill Harriman, and assistant to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and chairman of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute. He received honorary doctoral degrees from Hofstra University, Roosevelt University, and Hunter College. In May 2002, the Special Exhibits Gallery of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library in Hyde Park, NY, was renamed in honor of Ambassador vanden Heuvel, who also received the Four Freedoms Medal on that occasion. In October 2003, he received the Theodore Roosevelt Association's Distinguished Service Medal.

Ambassador vanden Heuvel recalls his assignment as General Donovan's executive assistant in Thailand as a stimulating experience when 109's overall mission was to act as President Eisenhower's observer in Southeast Asia. At that time, when thousands of Chinese forces were still in Burma and Thailand, Donovan worked closely with the newly-established Thai government, and most of those troops were eventually evacuated to Taiwan.

Other honorary chairmen of the Society are: Gen. Bryan D. Brown, USA (Ret.); President George H.W. Bush; Hon. Porter J. Goss; Admiral Eric T. Olson; Hon. James R. Schlesinger; Hon. William H. Webster; and Hon. R. James Woolsey.



Ambassador William J. Donovan (l) at his Bangkok, Thailand residence receiving Police General Pao (r) in October 1953 as First Lieutenant William J. vanden Heuvel (c), executive assistant to Ambassador Donovan, looks on.

Army Corps of Engineers Seeks Information on Training Camps

The Army Corps of Engineers is looking for information about World War II military activity in what are now Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park in Maryland. The search is part of an ongoing review of former and current military sites that may have old munitions components or unexploded munitions.

Between 1942 and 1945, the Army had a training range on some 5,900 acres of the then-Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area which hosted several wartime efforts. Army trainees stayed at the old Civilian Conservation Corps camps in the area as far back as 1941, and British and French sailors on convoy duty used the park as a rest camp.

In 1942, the Department of the Interior transferred the park to the departments of War and the Army for the duration of World War II. OSS trainees were assigned to the camps. John Whiteclay Chambers, professor of history at Rutgers University, is working with the National Park Service on a book about the wartime history of parks in the metropolitan Washington area—including Catoctin Mountain Park and the Congressional Country Club in Maryland, and Prince William Forest Park in Virginia.

Please contact Julie Kaiser at 410-757-3867 with any information you may have.

OSS Society President Responds to Article Published in *The Nation*

April 21, 2008

Letter to the Editor
The Nation

Robert Dreyfuss, in the March 24th edition of *The Nation* described the Office of Strategic Services, predecessor of the CIA, as a “rambunctious, often out-of-control World War II-era covert-ops team.”

Led by the legendary “Wild Bill” Donovan, the OSS was a visionary, daring, innovative, unorthodox, effective intelligence organization. It abetted Allied victories in North Africa, Europe, Southeast Asia and elsewhere. Donovan recruited an array of “glorious amateurs,” as he called them, including Arthur Schlesinger Jr., Ralph Bunche, Arthur Goldberg, Julia Child, and John Ford. Many OSS personnel—including my father—risked their lives volunteering for missions behind enemy lines.

Creating a new intelligence service patterned after the OSS is an intriguing notion that deserves serious consideration, not Dreyfuss's casual dismissal.

Charles Pinck
President
The OSS Society

Richard Helms' Career Remembered by Intelligence Notables

By Dan Pinck/OSS/CBI

In a superbly-conceived program, titled *A Life in Intelligence: A Symposium on Richard Helms*, held on April 28, 2008 in Gaston Hall at Georgetown University, the intelligence and diplomatic career of Richard Helms was noted



Dr. Henry Kissinger

by nine noteworthy speakers. Each person highlighted some of Helms' contributions to our nation. During his service as Director of Central Intelligence and Ambassador to Iran, Richard Helms played a central role in initiating and managing intelligence operations. He did this with flair, imagination and constancy of purpose. Beyond a doubt, in the academic setting of Georgetown, Mr. Helms, who began his career in OSS, deserved the generally solid A that each speaker awarded him.

The symposium, moderated by Burton Gerber, a CIA station chief at several hot spots during the Cold War who now teaches at Georgetown, was infused by history that melded facts with observations. Most of the speakers worked with Mr. Helms and knew him and his wife, Cynthia. Listening to the speakers, you soon realized that you were listening to a biography, each person contributing a chapter. Their comments were totally devoid of corn meal mush. I doubt that Mr. Helms would have excised more than a few sentences from the five-hour, living biography. The memories and thoughts of all of the speakers were in imposing condition; and much of what they said was pointed and memorable.

We have all attended many suffocating, cliché-ridden symposia that more often than not have reminded us of what we have forgotten over the years. But from beginning

to end, the symposium on Richard Helms captured the wide-awake attention of almost every participant, whose average age was far higher than average. Six hundred and twenty-five guests were engrossed by the commentaries.

Georgetown University Library Associates presented the symposium under the able guidance of Special Collections historian Nicholas Scheetz.

I took fifteen pages of notes during the symposium. Ella Fitzgerald. What does this noted jazz singer have to do with the Helms Symposium? Was the symposium a musical? Nope. Her role was to sing *The Man I Love* over the loudspeakers as each of the Honorables walked on stage and found their seats.

Henry A. Kissinger, William Hood, Albert Wheelon and Brent Scowcroft led the way in the first half of the program. The second wave of the all-star program was led by CIA Director General Michael V. Hayden, followed by panelists in a discussion of historical perspectives. They were David Robarge, Chief Historian of the CIA; Michael R. Beschloss, historian and commentator; and Jennifer E. Sims, Director of Intelligence Studies at the Center for Peace and Security Studies at Georgetown.

Henry Kissinger batted first. "Few need introductions less than I," he said. "And no one likes them more than I." A few sound bites partly reveal his thoughts: "There's a gray area between diplomacy and open conflict... Totally objective assessments are never totally objective... The public doesn't understand the amount of work that has to be done by the Agency... When the SALT negotiations began, I knew more about the Soviet's weapons than Brezhnev did, thanks to a briefing by the CIA... I can't remember one instance in which the CIA acted without orders."

Mr. Scowcroft batted second. "Wars are terrible things. But wouldn't the world be better off if Hitler were killed in 1938?... Some things have to be kept secret." William Hood followed with a single. "The great spies in history have all been walk-ins... If things go wrong, you can be sure they will... What did we do wrong? What did we do right?"

General Michael V. Hayden batted clean-up to lead the second half of the symposium by noting that "Richard Helms was the consummate intelligence professional." And then he discussed the possibilities of intelligence and

“Richard Helms was the consummate intelligence professional.” – Gen. Michael V. Hayden

its limits. “God did not give man the gift of prescience; ambiguity and mystery surround us...Those of us in the CIA are on our nation’s skirmish line.” He noted that the CIA had received 130,000 applications in the recent past.

Regarding diversity, he said: “We should look like natives of other countries. We are doing much better at hiring first-generation Americans. We look for first generation diversity; but we have to work very carefully...It’s difficult to pull information out of the ambient background noise. How do you pull from the background noise the essential or most valuable information?” Then (Richard Helms) and now (Michael Hayden), the game is the same. Great leaders can produce commendable results.

The “glorious amateurs”—as Major General William J. Donovan referred to his band of OSS representatives—knew some of the questions if not all of the answers. OSS veterans whom I saw—and I can’t believe I didn’t overlook a few of them—were William Hood, Major General John K. Singlaub (Ret.), Fisher Howe, Walter Mess, Ambassador Hugh Montgomery, Colonel William H. Pietsch, Jr. (Ret.), Barbara Colby, Laura Triest, and Arthur Reinhardt.

Mrs. Helms and her son donated Richard Helms’ papers and pertinent memorabilia to the Special Collections Division of the Georgetown University Library. The symposium coincided with the exhibit of papers and items that help to illuminate his career and his personal life. The historical pamphlet given to each guest at the symposium contained a DVD with over 800 documents and 4,100 pages of formerly classified material. This is news that stays news. (You may be able to get a copy of the disk by calling 202-687-7444.)



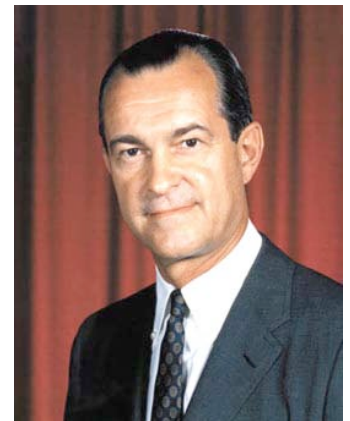
(l. to r.) Dr. Henry Kissinger, Brent Scowcroft, Albert Wheelon, William Hood, and Burton Gerber

Richard McGarrah Helms was born in Philadelphia in 1913. He graduated from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts in 1935.

During World War II Helms served in the United States Navy. In 1943, he was posted to the OSS because of his ability to speak German. He was transferred to the newly-formed Office of Strategic Services (OSS), where he was put in charge of intelligence and counter-intelligence operations in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland.

Helms was made deputy director of the CIA in 1965 under Admiral William Raborn and was appointed director a year later. Following his CIA service, Helms served from 1973 to 1976 as U.S. ambassador to Iran in Tehran.

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan awarded Helms the National Security Medal. He died in 2002 and is interred in Arlington National Cemetery.



Richard Helms

OSS SOCIETY NEWS

OSS Society Holds Annual Meeting at Congressional Country Club

Approximately 75 members of The OSS Society and their families attended the annual membership meeting on May 18, 2008 at the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md. (Area F).

Charles Pinck listed accomplishments of the past year, including the Donovan Award dinner and the vibrant and active OSS Society discussion group that now has approximately 1,000 members.

The Society has been spending funds on memorials and activities that will keep the OSS tradition alive, including a memorial plaque at the Airborne and Special Operations Museum at Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, NC (p. 8); an OSS marker on the Airborne Walk at Fort Benning; and a contribution of financial aid to Myanmar (Burma) cyclone victims. Burma was a key OSS base in World War II.

Society members also continue the OSS tradition by meeting with other organizations. General John Singlaub went to McDill AFB to present the OSS Distinguished Service Award to OSS veteran Caesar Civitella (p. 8). Michael Shaheen, a member of the board of directors, represented The OSS Society at an event in New York City honoring the Greek OGs (p. 10).

There are two changes on the board of directors: Carl Colby replaces his brother, Paul, and Art Reinhardt is now the society treasurer due to the resignation of Willis Georgia III.

Pinck commended Betty McIntosh for her role as editor of The OSS Society Newsletter, calling the publication "the organization's lifeblood."

General Singlaub greeted the members and said that he had had the privilege of attending a Tampa meeting of SOCOM senior leaders. He also welcomed Carl Colby, who is creating a documentary on his father, William Colby, a former OSS officer and head of the CIA. He plans to "look at his life and see what inspired him."

"The struggle continues," Colby said, "but the nature of the struggle has changed." He plans to "reflect on the sacrifices people made," and will talk with spouses and siblings of veterans. The film will be released in February 2009.

Treasurer Art Reinhardt reported that the Donovan Award dinner was extremely successful.

The following were elected to the board of directors of the Society: Carl Colby, Jeffrey G. Georgia, Anne Mary Ingraham, Elizabeth P. McIntosh, Walter Mess, Hugh Montgomery, Julian M. Niemczyk, William H. Pietsch, Jr. and Charles T. Pinck

After brunch at the club, members enjoyed a discussion by author Lucinda Franks about her book, *My Father's Secret War* (p. 22). In it she tells how difficult it was to elicit stories about WWII—and especially service in OSS—from her father who promised never to tell anything of his wartime secret work. Afterwards, several lineal descendants in the audience added to her stories. She encouraged them to "keep trying. It will help to understand your father or mother—and their secret war—if you can get them to talk."

Congressional Country Club has been in national news recently as the site of Tiger Woods' AT&T Invitational Golf Tournament for the past two years.

Funds Requested for Clandestine Operations Monument

The Airborne Historical Association has asked for OSS help to raise money for construction of a monument at Fort Benning's Airborne Walk to honor all airborne clandestine operations, including OSS.

The OSS Society is contributing to this worthwhile effort. If any reader would like to make a tax-deductible contribution or knows others that may also wish to support it, donations may be sent to:

Airborne Historical Association, Inc.
c/o Bruce Potts
P.O. Box 149
Flowery Branch, GA 30542

Presidential Memorial Certificates

The Veteran's Administration has implemented a new initiative to honor our deceased veterans: **Presidential Memorial Certificates.**

Up to twenty certificates may be obtained by each veteran's family. Information is available at the following: <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-0247.pdf>.

Late Breaking News -

The National Archives has released 750,000 pages of OSS personnel files to the public. See the full story in the next issue of The OSS Society Journal or visit www.ossociety.org.

OSS SOCIETY NEWS

OSS President Urges Readers to Help Name Buffalo Courthouse for 109

As you may have read in a recent posting on the web, a new federal courthouse is under construction in Buffalo. As members of The OSS Society we need to express our strong belief that the courthouse should be named in honor of Buffalo native General Donovan.

Here is a letter you can use, or draft one of your own if you prefer. You will find the names and addresses of elected officials below.

Hon. Richard J. Arcara
U.S. District Court
68 Court Street, Part II, 6th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Rep. Thomas Reynolds
332 Canon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Bryan Higgins
431 Canon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Charles E. Schumer
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Rep. Louise Slaughter
2649 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Hillary Clinton
476 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

I am writing to add my support to naming the new federal courthouse currently under construction in Buffalo in honor of Major General William J. Donovan, who is one of America's greatest heroes.

With the impending demise of the Donovan State Office Building, there will be no memorial to General Donovan in his hometown. This is a unique opportunity to pay tribute to him and to preserve his memory for future generations. General Donovan dedicated his life to serving and protecting the United States of America. The list of his accomplishments is truly staggering. General Donovan received the Medal of Honor in World War I and is the only American to receive our nation's four highest military honors.

Naming the federal courthouse in his honor is particularly appropriate given his service to the U.S. Department of Justice. He served as the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of New York, as an Assistant U.S. Attorney General, and as a special assistant to the chief prosecutor at the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal.

General Donovan founded and led the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II, America's first organized effort to create a strategic intelligence service, and the predecessor to the CIA and U.S. Special Forces. Following World War II, General Donovan served as ambassador to Thailand.

Upon receiving the William J. Donovan Award in 1966, Admiral Louis Mountbatten said that he doubted "whether any one person contributed more to the ultimate victory of the Allies than Bill Donovan." Upon learning of General Donovan's death in 1959, President Eisenhower said: "We have lost the last hero."

It is my strong belief that naming the new federal courthouse in honor of the "last hero," Major General William Donovan, is a fitting and lasting tribute to one of Buffalo's – and America's – greatest patriots.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - The OSS Society recently mailed membership renewal notices to all members. If you received a notice that your membership has lapsed, please renew it immediately. **Otherwise, this will be the last copy of The OSS Society Journal that you will receive.**

OSS IN THE NEWS

Caesar Civitella (OG) Receives Dual Awards at MacDill AFB Ceremony

At an impressive ceremony at the Special Operations Command (SOCOM) Conference Center at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida on May 19, 2008, Maj. Caesar J. Civitella, USA (Ret.) was presented the 2008 Bull Simons Award and The OSS Society's Distinguished Service Award.

The affair was attended by all active duty Special Operations commanders worldwide as well as OSS Society representative Gen. John Singlaub, who presented the OSS award.

The Bull Simons award, in honor of U.S. Army Special Forces pioneer Col. Arthur D. "Bull" Simons, recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to, and represents the embodiment of, Special Operations Forces. Caesar Civitella has devoted nearly 64 years to special operations.

In 1943, Sgt. Civitella, an airborne engineer, began his military career in Special Operations by volunteering for the Operational Group (OG) of the Office of Strategic Services. Civitella served with the 2671st Special Reconnaissance Battalion, Separate (Provisional), jumping behind enemy lines in France and Italy, and was personally decorated by OSS chief Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan.

After the war, SFC Civitella served in the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, until he received a direct commission to Second Lieutenant in 1951. After serving in the 508th PIR at Fort Benning, GA, Civitella returned to Fort Bragg in 1952 to be an instructor in the newly-created Special Forces. Capt. Civitella went to South Vietnam in 1961 as a training advisor with the Military Advisory and Assistance Group (MAAG), forming the first regional forces ("Rough Puffs"). His last assignment was Chief, G-3 Training Division, U.S. Army Special Warfare Center, before retiring as a Major on August 31, 1964.

The next day, Civitella began a new career with the Central Intelligence Agency, and served in Southeast Asia. His final assignment was as the CIA representative from 1981-1983 to U.S. Rapid Deployment Command and U.S. Readiness Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. The Agency awarded him the Intelligence Medal of Merit for nineteen years of service.



Left to right: Admiral Eric Olson; Colonel Ferdinand Irizarry, Cmdr., Civil Affairs Brigade; Maj. Caesar Civitella (Ret.); Jeff Mummery; Maj. Gen. John Singlaub (Ret.); LTC Troy Sacquety, historian with USARSOC; Maj. Gen. Geoff Lambert (Ret.); Col. Andy Anderson, USA (Ret.).

After his retirement, Civitella continued to work with OSS veterans' groups and the Special Forces Association to promote the legacy of the OSS OGs. He is one of a few living OSS veterans who pioneered Army Special Forces and served in the CIA overseas.



This stone memorial to OSS was installed at the Airborne and Special Operations Museum at Fayetteville, North Carolina on July 28, 2008. It was dedicated in September.

OSS IN THE NEWS

Museum Exhibit Shows Role of OSS

By *Melissa Clement*

There is adventure aplenty in the new exhibit at the Airborne & Special Operations Museum at Fort Bragg, NC, but not at all like spy novels and James Bond glamour films. “OSS: The Office of Strategic Services,” which opened on Oct. 9, 2007 is the real thing.

This fascinating show takes visitors from 1941, when President Franklin Roosevelt created the Office of the Coordinator of Information, through World War II, after which it was dissolved. A large photo shows Maj. Gen. “Wild Bill” Donovan, a World War I Medal of Honor recipient, who headed the operation. OSS was not a part of military services. It was a new way for the United States to conduct warfare.

Troy Sacquety, a special operations forces historian, researched and wrote the text of the show. Sacquety explained each branch of OSS and its responsibilities, including the Operational Groups; Research and Development; Secret Intelligence; the Maritime Unit; Detachments 101, 202 and 404; and Jedburghs. Jedburghs worked with allies who parachuted into Nazi-occupied countries to conduct sabotage and guerilla warfare and also worked with local resistance forces.

The Operational Groups operated in Burma, China and other countries. Morale Operations (MO) was based on persuasion, penetration and intimidation. Singer Marlene Dietrich was contracted by MO to sing a rewritten *Lili Marlene* to demoralize German soldiers. One of their techniques was to bomb a mail train and pick up mail. Fake letters were then written to family members in Germany.

In Japan, fake letters were also sent to family members. On view are valuable items such as Press X, a printing press used to produce propaganda leaflets in the field. Sacquety said its weight, 38 pounds, made it awkward to carry when parachuting in.

Also on exhibit is part of the OSS collection of James Watts Hill of Durham on loan from the North Carolina History Museum. As a member of Research and Development, Hill worked on developing a tiny camera inside a matchbox and lock-picking tools for gathering information. Miniature coffins are thought to have been used in psychological warfare when placed on the bodies of those killed by the OSS. Research and Development developed the cyanide-filled “L” capsule, to be used if captured by the enemy.

The influence that the OSS had on special operations can still be seen today in the incorporation of OSS emblems into insignia worn by soldiers in the United States Army Special Operations Command.

Burma Vets Meet in Connecticut

By *Martin B. Cassidy*

As American-trained Chinese troops and U.S. infantry fought to break the Japanese stranglehold in northern Burma, communication specialists like William Kiskin and William Drescher played a part constructing and maintaining telephone and communications systems under combat conditions.

“The Japanese would tear down the telephone wires and be waiting for us when we came to replace them,” said the 85-year-old Drescher, who served in the 96th U.S. Army Signal Battalion.

Thanks to the heroics of a few thousand volunteer American troops dubbed “Merrill’s Marauders,” parts of Burma—now called Myanmar—were recaptured, leading to the accelerated construction of the Ledo Road as the land supply route to China to replace the Japanese-controlled Burma Road. “It was a hell of a fight,” Kiskin added.

Kiskin, Drescher, and more than a dozen other Connecticut and Westchester, NY, County members of the Veterans of China Burma India (CBI) recently met at the home of OSSer Robert Scheuer to reminisce about their service in southeast Asia more than 60 years ago.

Largely inactive until regrouping the mid-1990’s, the former soldiers want to meet as often as possible as their numbers shrink and World War II veterans pass away in larger numbers, Scheuer said, speaking for OSS members.

Walter Ericsson of Darien, Conn. said historical attention for veterans who served in the CBI lags behind that of the larger European and Pacific theaters where authors and the press have focused the majority of their efforts.

“Nobody has given it the importance it deserves,” Ericsson said. During the war, Ericsson was part of a unit of the U.S. Army Air Corps which supplied food, ammunition, and other supplies to the 14th British Army by air drops.

After the Japanese blocked the Burma Road to China in 1942, American pilots were forced to “fly the hump” over the eastern Himalayan mountains—treacherous missions in which they struggled to elevate their heavily burdened planes to safe altitudes through extreme turbulence, monsoons and thunderstorms, and freezing temperatures.

“They probably lost as many planes to the weather as they did to the Japanese zeroes,” Ericsson said.

“Everybody is just so happy to see each other and it is a wonderful group of men,” said Hugel. “I think it’s worthwhile for everyone.”

OSS IN THE NEWS

OSS Greek Operational Group Members Receive Bronze Stars in New York

In February 1943 at the height of the Second World War, the Greek government in exile sought help from the U.S. military in support of the Greek resistance against the German occupation. The OSS formed top-secret Greek Operational Groups (OGs) from the 122nd Infantry Battalion (Greek Battalion) at Camp Carson, Colorado.

After rigorous training in Chevy Chase, Md. and rural Pennsylvania, the nearly 200 mostly Greek-born and Greek-American soldiers and officers were eager to begin their secret mission undeterred by advance warning that most would not likely survive fighting behind enemy lines. Chosen for their fluency in Greek, their fitness to endure rugged service in the Greek mountains, and their motivation to oust the Germans occupying the land of their ancestors, eight Greek operational groups were formed.

From April to September 1944, these teams were dropped in Nazi-occupied Greece to work with the Greek Resistance (Andartes) in fighting occupying forces. Important objectives were to harass and slow down the German withdrawal, kill and wound Germans, and destroy their equipment to reduce their effectiveness in the defense of Germany.

The story of the Greek-American OGs was classified for more than 40 years. The full story of these soldiers and their accomplishments was unknown even to the surviving participants. Most went on to other assignments in Europe and Asia. They returned home never knowing the enormous impact their mission had on events in Greece. Most never spoke of their experience with the OSS for many years, even to their families.

Sixty-four years later, Greek Operations Group II was honored at a ceremony at the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York on May 18, 2008.

Many years after the war, Captain John Giannaris recommended his men for an award for their service in Greece. The Defense Department agreed to award the Bronze Star medal for each and a search began for survivors and descendants of OG II. Only one enlisted man survives. During the ceremony, the Bronze Star was presented to

Alekos Orkoulas of Blauvelt, N.Y., by Giannaris, now a resident of Chicago, and to descendants of deceased members of OG II who reside in the New York City area—Gus L. Palans, Spiros Tafamblas, Peter M. Moshopoulos, James K. Alexatos and Steve P. Marthiakes. Michael Shaheen, whose father, John Shaheen, fought with OSS contingents in Europe and Asia, spoke on behalf of The OSS Society.

Admiral Eric T. Olson, commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, wrote the following note of appreciation:

“Congratulations to the Greek-American veterans of OSS Operations Group II on being awarded the Bronze Star medal for valorous service in World War II. Their courage, dedication, and determination under the most trying of circumstances are examples for all special operations warriors today. These veterans

have my deepest respect and admiration for their heroic accomplishments.”

The event was sponsored by local businessman and former Greek Air Force pilot Savas Konstantanides.



Gus Vellios (Greek OG Group V) (l) and Capt. John Giannaris, commander OSS/OG, are pictured at the ceremony.



OSS Society board member Michael Shaheen, whose father, John Shaheen, fought with OSS contingents in Europe and Asia, spoke on behalf of The OSS Society.

OSS IN THE NEWS

Allen Dulles' Papers From OSS/CIA Years Released by CIA

The Central Intelligence Agency has released to Princeton University 7,800 documents covering the career of Allen W. Dulles, the agency's longest-serving director, which now can be viewed online. Dulles (1893-1969), a Princeton alumnus who headed the CIA from 1953 to 1961, was renowned for his role in shaping U.S. intelligence operations during the Cold War.



Daniel Linke, curator of public policy papers at Princeton's Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library, which houses the papers, indicated that the materials released by the CIA help round out the documentary legacy of Dulles and his pivotal role in American intelligence history. "The material related to his espionage work during World War II is especially illuminating," said Linke.

The Allen W. Dulles digital files released to Princeton contain scanned images of professional correspondence, reports, lectures and administrative papers covering Dulles' tenure with the OSS as well as his career with the CIA and his retirement. The CIA culled these documents from Dulles' home office. The agency maintains the originals. The collection includes correspondence and narrative statements documenting Dulles' activities during World War II, especially relating to the work of individuals involved in the war effort in Europe.

The files also include more than 1,000 telegrams from the OSS office to Washington. Documents from the 1950s and 1960s deal almost exclusively with the Cold War, mostly focusing on intelligence and the Soviet Union along with some covering Sen. Joseph McCarthy and the Communist threat in the United States.

Items relating to Dulles' time with the CIA have been heavily redacted, obscuring the names of correspondents

as well as individuals and events mentioned in reports and letters. His brother, John Foster Dulles, served as Eisenhower's Secretary of State, and the two men worked closely during their joint service.

The CIA under Dulles' leadership established the dual policy of collecting intelligence through a wide variety of means, as well as taking direct action against perceived threats. Dulles' notable achievements in intelligence gathering included the development of the U-2 spy plane program, the recruitment of Soviet Lieutenant General Pyotr Popov as a U.S. spy, and the tapping of a sensitive East Berlin phone junction by tunneling under the Berlin Wall.

The CIA's direct actions during Dulles' tenure included notable successes and failures. CIA operatives orchestrated the overthrow of the government of Iran in 1953 and Jacob Arbenz's regime in Guatemala in 1954. However, efforts to oust Fidel Castro from Cuba following his rise to power consisted of a series of failures culminating in the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961. Dulles retired shortly thereafter.

Allen Dulles was called from retirement to public service once again in 1963, when he was named to the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy.



Allen Dulles relaxing in Prague with Erica Glaser, a German woman involved in his covert operations.

Nazi and Japanese War Crime Records are Declassified in Latest Study

The Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group (IWG), issued its final report to Congress describing the seven-year, \$30-million, government-wide effort to locate, declassify, and make available U.S. records of Nazi and Japanese war crimes.

More than eight million pages were declassified and opened to the public as a result of the disclosure acts. The records include the entirety of the operational files of the Office of Strategic Services and more than 163,000 pages of CIA material never before opened to the public.

OSS IN THE NEWS

Ralph Bunche Inspired Efforts to Aid Black College Students' Careers

By Wendy K. Campbell

A program designed to train college students for careers in the international community is reaching out to scholars at historically black colleges and universities, hoping to increase the number of people of color engaged in efforts to improve conditions in the global community.



Ralph Bunche at the 1963 march on Washington for jobs and freedom.

few of those setting international public policy or providing humanitarian relief are people of color. The United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation (UNCFSPC) is working to change this. A hallmark of UNCFSPC is the Institute for International Public Policy (IIPP), a prestigious five-year fellowship program aimed at increasing the number of minority college students choosing careers in international affairs. The fellowship was inspired by the triumphs of Ralph Bunche, a diplomat and political scientist who was a key figure on the world stage when Jim Crow ruled America.

While holding Ralph Bunche up as a sterling role model for global activism, the program hopes to inspire a new generation of young black scholars to take on the challenge of battling poverty, disease, hunger, injustice, and other problems in the international community.

A black man born just 39 years after slavery's end, Ralph Bunche had little expectation that his accomplishments would change the course of global affairs. Yet, in a career that spanned more than 40 years, this pioneer went on to amass one astounding achievement after another, serving as a senior social analyst at the OSS, leading the UN's successful efforts to mediate peace between Israel and Palestine in the late 1940s, and chairing the political science department at Howard University from 1928 to 1950.

In 1950, as a result of his efforts overseas, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, becoming the first African-American recipient. A decade later in 1963, President Lyndon B. Johnson awarded Bunche the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian commendation in the United States, for his international work.

General Singlaub Speaks to Special Operations Soldiers at Fort Bragg

*The theater at the Airborne & Special Operations Museum at Fort Bragg, N.C. was nearly full as soldiers turned out to listen to retired Army Maj. Gen. John Singlaub. Singlaub, 86, who spoke about his book *Hazardous Duty*, focused on the origin of the Office of Strategic Services.*

OSS was derived from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's realization that the US needed an independent intelligence unit. Spurred by military intelligence that indicated that "Hitler was unstoppable," Roosevelt wanted a well-oiled machine that could put an end to the propaganda being disseminated about the war.

According to Singlaub, it was the director of the OSS, Gen. William Donovan who told Roosevelt that German forces were taking over North Africa. OSS used wiretapping, espionage and the opening of mail to determine the direction of opposing forces.

Singlaub spoke about the liberation of Australian soldiers from prison camps on Hainan Island in 1945 and said thousands of prisoners died in the cruel experiment of determining how few calories they could consume and still have any output of work. They trapped snakes and lizards to eat and, in essence, thwarted the experiment, he said.

The soldiers' liberation by Singlaub and his men led to an act of gratitude. For helping to liberate them, the prisoners fashioned an American flag from parachute silk and tied it to the train that ushered them out of Japanese-occupied territory. The flag, a donation from Singlaub, is part of the OSS exhibit at the Airborne & Special Operations Museum.

Singlaub entered the Army in January 1943. He spent 35 years on active duty, serving in Europe and Asia. Disturbed by the policies of Jimmy Carter, Singlaub retired in May 1978. He was recently interviewed for a Special Operations yearbook magazine. Excerpts from that interview will appear in the next issue of *The OSS Society Journal*.



Maj. Gen. John Singlaub (Ret.)

OSS IN THE NEWS

Cretan Club of Long Island Honors Greek Hero For World War II Service

Erotokritos-Aretousa, the Cretan Club of Long Island, NY, recently honored hero Helias Doundoulakis for his wartime and postwar achievements, as recounted in his two autobiographies.

Born in Canton, Ohio, Helias emigrated to Crete with his parents, where he grew up in Archanes of Heraklion. In his last year of high school in May 1941, he witnessed Hitler's paratroopers falling from the skies during the battle of Crete. Later, at the age of eighteen, he joined a resistance group headed by his brother George and supplied crucial information to the SOE, the English intelligence service, on Crete.

Many ships were sunk and hundreds, if not thousands, of German soldiers were killed as a result of vital information the organization provided to the SOE. The resistance group was finally uncovered by the German Gestapo, resulting in the Doundoulakis brothers' hasty evacuation to Egypt on an English torpedo boat.

In the Cairo suburb of Iliopolis, the two brothers were invited to join OSS by Captain James Kelly. Once in the OSS, they were with Secret Intelligence (SI), based outside Cairo in a palace rented from King Farouk's brother-in-law. They received six months of spy training which included parachute jumping, wireless/Morse code training, commando/defense training, lock and safe-cracking techniques, escape methods, and environmental assimilation techniques.

Doundoulakis was sent back to Greece undercover with a Greek naval officer, Cosmas Yiapitsoglou. They set up a communications cell in Salonica, the second largest city in Greece. Helias established a wireless network with OSS headquarters in Cairo and daily messages were sent regarding German troop movements.

Many ships were sunk because of the messages Helias sent, instructing Allied bombers on numerous sorties, delivering their bombs on enemy supply and troop transport ships. One such message resulted in the destruction of a railroad depot during a massive troop departure from Salonica, resulting in the deaths of thousands of German soldiers.

Doundoulakis stayed in Salonica for nine months in the face of many Gestapo and Greek police confrontations. After returning to his home base in Cairo, he was sent to the United States, returning after twenty years. He settled in Brooklyn, NY, and received his bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering.

His professional achievements are outstanding, and he holds the only patent for the cable suspension of the largest radio telescope in the world in Arecibo, Puerto Rico.

In 1962 he started working on the Lunar Excursion Module (LEM), for the Grumman Aerospace Corporation in Bethpage, NY. He spent eleven years of service on that project, including innovative designs on the legs and oxygen tanks of the LEM. Doundoulakis' signature, along with others, was left on the moon's surface by astronauts aboard Apollo 11 and 12.

Helias Doundoulakis has written two books, one in Greek, published in Greece in 2004, and one in English, titled *I Was Trained to be a Spy*.



Greek OSSer/author Helias Doundoulakis was honored in Long Island.

Can you identify these people?



Rene Defourneaux, who was an OSS Jedburgh and served behind the lines in France and later with Ho Chi Minh in Viet Nam, is asking for help in identifying the two people in the middle of this picture. The man was a Polish officer and the woman an American WAC who worked at the SOE office in London. The officer on the far left is Michael Block. Major Defourneaux is on the far right.

OSS AND THE ARTS



Meryl Streep to Play Julia Child in Upcoming Film

OSS's Julia Child is back, this time portrayed by Academy Award winner Meryl Streep in the upcoming movie, *Julie & Julia*.

Here's the plot line: Frustrated temp secretary Julie Powell (Amy Andrews) embarks on a year-long culinary quest to cook all 524 recipes in Julia Child's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*. She chronicles her trials and tribulations in a blog that catches on with the food crowd.

The film also covers the years that Julia Child and her husband, Paul, played by Stanley Tucci, spent in Paris during the 1940's and 50's when Paul was a State Department representative.

The film, slated for release in 2009, is based on Julie Powell's memoir, *Julie and Julia, 365 Days, 524 Recipes, One Tiny Apartment Kitchen*.

French Film Features OSS Agent

You might have thought that, as a genre, the spy spoof was way past its expiration date. But here comes *OSS 117: Cairo, Nest of Spies*, a giddy French comedy to prove otherwise.

Before James Bond, there was Hubert Bonisseur de LaBath, the hero of a long string of French spy novels starting in 1949. The books were such a hit that after the death of their author, Jean Bruce, his wife took over the series. Hubert was an American colonel of French descent who worked for the OSS in WWII. His code name: OSS 117.

The film starts with a send-up of old-time war movies, a black-and-white sequence involving top-secret Nazi papers and a perilous air flight. This is followed by animated credits and a musical score that both bring to mind *The Pink Panther*. The movie's main action, however, takes place in color in 1955.



Jean Dujardin as OSS 117 and Bérénice Béjo as Larmina.

Indiana Jones, OSS

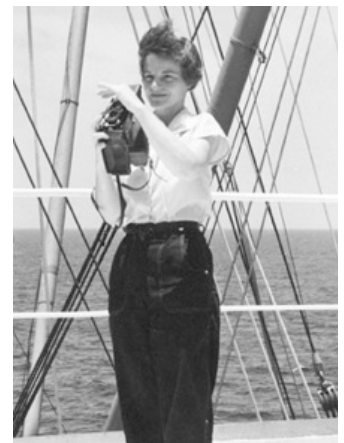
In the current film, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, Indiana Jones, portrayed once again by Academy Award nominee Harrison Ford, spent his WWII war years serving OSS overseas and earned several battle medals.



Harrison Ford

OSSer's Photographs on Exhibit

Jane Latta of Pughtown, Pa. spent decades shooting photographs of far-away countries, exotic lands and peoples that most people only dream of encountering. With her trusty Rolleiflex camera, the young photographer focused her lens on places as far off as Europe and South America, and as close by as Lancaster County.



Jane Latta

To honor its native daughter, the Chester County Historical Society in West Chester, Pa. presented an exhibition of Latta's work, "The Photographs of Jane Latta, a Retrospective," which ran through August 2008. Composed of photographs taken throughout her professional life—up through 1984—the public showing was Latta's first ever.

Latta worked as a photo processor with OSS during the Second World War. After viewing photographs of the war in Europe—pictures she developed on a regular basis—and talking with photographers, she decided to pursue a career in photography.

"I heard all the stories and saw all the photos, and I wanted to do it, too. That was the start," she said. Latta started out as a freelancer, traveling all over to photograph subjects. She developed the images in her New York apartment, in a tiny space that she turned into a darkroom. She later landed staff photographer jobs at magazines and private companies.

OSS IN EDUCATION

Interest in OSS Transcends Generations; Twelve-Year-Old Wins Prize for OSS Documentary

Davis Barcalow, 12, a seventh grader at Graham Park Middle School in Dale City, Va., never heard of OSS before he visited the nearby WWII training area at Prince William Park in Virginia.

The story of OSS that unfolded for Davis at the park was enough to start him on a school project sponsored by the National History Day organization, a non-profit agency based at the University of Maryland in College Park. His



documentary on the history of OSS won first place for Virginia entries.

Davis' ten-minute documentary moves fast and is full of interesting OSS WWII history. It begins with a clip of a training class in which the instructor tells his students, "This picture you are about to see is the first cinematic study of the preparation, arrival, and establishment of permanent cover for secret agents."

Seconds later the catchy song "Secret Agent Man" livens up the script and a few OSS agents are shown. One is Edward Weismuller, who boasts that his spy work was made easier because he is "such a skillful and natural liar." There is a photograph of Oliver Hilby, an OG who parachuted into the Italian Alps, and a disarming shot of Helene Deschamps Adams, who worked for OSS in occupied France. She warns: "You have to think. If you look scared, you're dead. So smile."

There is also a short background history of OSS struggles early in WWII against the Armed Services, the State Department, and the FBI. General Donovan's relationship with President Roosevelt that helped bring about the success of OSS in WWII is also delineated. And it is all the work of a twelve-year-old who has amazingly been able to capture OSS history in a ten-minute documentary.

Christy Barcalow, Davis's mother, said that her son

manipulated software to produce and edit the film and that he videotaped parts of his tour of nearby Prince William Forest Park. Originally, he waffled on the spy concept when it was brought up as a class assignment, she said.

"He wanted to do something easy, like Rosa Parks," she said, referring to the famous civil rights leader. "I encouraged him to do the OSS. It was interesting and something not everybody else has done."

Davis said making the documentary on the OSS was a good decision. "The fact that the agents trained so close—I never thought there was any World War II training near my house," he pointed out.

But spies intrigue him on a broader level. He said that unlike most jobs, in spying it is fairly easy to foil a mission with a single misstep. A spy "could be wearing hair grease in Germany and in Germany, there wasn't much hair grease at the time," Davis said. "Or, not smoking a cigarette all the way, since cigarettes were really scarce. You would never not smoke it all the way."

Davis's documentary does have a flaw, at least from a professional standpoint. He didn't interview any former OSS agents, but he did study the works of several OSS historians, including Patrick O'Donnell.

His next assignment for his class is "People who made a difference." He has selected General William J. Donovan, because "he was willing to take chances and stand up for what he believed."



OSS in Women's Studies

The University of Northern Iowa issued the following news release:

Actress Mary Tharp Booty of Flower Mound, Texas, a 1975 alumna of the University of Northern Iowa, appeared in the special performance of *Sisterhood of Spies*, a production sponsored by the UNI Women's and Gender Studies and the Department of Theatre, for Women's History Month.

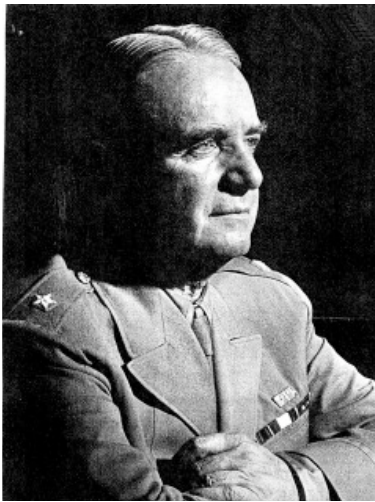
Sisterhood of Spies is based on the book by Elizabeth McIntosh that tells the story of the women secret agents of OSS during World War II. Among the women secret agents were Julia Child, and an OSS radio broadcaster who was awarded the Medal of Freedom by the United States.

The Wartime History of OSS

By Fisher Howe

Part I

Historically, the United States was never involved in any serious intelligence activity except in time of combat. When the Second World War started in Europe in 1939, the only active U.S. Intelligence agencies were the military: the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), and especially G2, in the War Department. Their principal concerns were the enemy's, or potential enemy's, order of battle; that is, their military capability. We do know, however, that G2 and ONI were reading the Japanese naval and diplomatic codes at the time of Pearl Harbor.



"You can't succeed without taking chances."

Gen. William Donovan

Without doubt the inspiration for the most significant changes in U.S. intelligence during the war and after. Again, be mindful of my prejudices: Donovan, for whom I was at times a personal assistant, to me is of heroic proportions, and I believe him to be at once a model of leadership and the most prominent figure in the U.S. intelligence community in World War II.

The new Coordinator of Information (COI) agency was authorized to collect and analyze all information and data which may bear upon national security, to correlate such information and data, and to make such information available to the president and to such departments and officials of the government as the president may determine; and to carry out, when requested by the president, such supplementary activities as may facilitate the securing of information important for national security not now available to the government.

As director of the new COI agency, Donovan pro-

ceeded to fulfill key elements of leadership: *to attract, motivate and guide followers in fulfilling the mission.* With his incomparable world of friends and acquaintances he was able to attract what can only be described as a stellar array of academics, business executives, and lawyers. The names are wondrous: poet and later Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish; lawyers Allen Dulles, Whitney Shepardson, and William Casey; playwright Robert Sherwood; Harvard professors Baxter, Brinton, Langer, Fairbanks, and Schlesinger; Yale professor Sherman Kent; circus owner John Ringling North; Hollywood director John Ford; movie star Sterling Hayden; baseball player Moe Berg; pollster Elmo Roper; arabist William Eddy; anthropologist Carlton Coon.

A word now about the man himself. He was engaging, powerful, ambitious, charismatic, constantly-moving, persuasive, aggressive, in many ways ruthless leader. He was not tall but strongly built and moved like the athlete he had been as a Columbia football star. His blue eyes and soft voice masked a fiercely courageous, battling individual. Yet in friendly company he could be charm itself. For those who worked closely with him, Donovan was a difficult, demanding, but in many ways ideal boss.

With the creation of COI in 1941, Donovan promptly and effectively went on to motivate and guide what turned out to be thousands in fulfilling his vision of what an intelligence organization should be and do. He had brilliantly commanded a regiment in the First World War. He was an aggressive "operator" in the Washington scene. With British intelligence agencies as models, he had the close guidance of the powerful British intelligence representative in the U.S., William Stephenson (known by code name "Intrepid"). Donovan may not have been the most effective manager but he quickly created the branches to deal with each of the elements of his intelligence vision.

Pearl Harbor came. We went to war on December 7th with a national intelligence organization, albeit an infant one, in place. In June of 1942, the COI was transformed into the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), and, fittingly because we were at war, placed under the military Joint Chiefs of Staff. The original COI had included all propaganda—broadcasts and public information—but in the reorganization "open propaganda" was put into a separate

“If you define leadership as having a vision for an organization, and the ability to attract, motivate, and guide followers to fulfill that vision, you have Bill Donovan in spades.” - Fisher Howe, special assistant to General Donovan

agency, the Office of War Information (OWI), under Robert Sherwood so-called “black” propaganda—morale operations, psychological warfare were retained in OSS.

The first COI/OSS office overseas was set up in the London Embassy, even before Pearl Harbor, in October, 1941. It would establish direct liaison with British Secret Intelligence (MI 6), the Secret Operations Executive (SOE), and the Psychological Warfare Executive (PWE).

As OSS grew rapidly and took shape, it was formed in the following branches, roughly following the Donovan vision of an intelligence organization:

- SI Secret Intelligence
- SO Secret Operations
- R&A Research and Analysis
- R&D Research and Development
- MO Morale Operations
- OG Operational Groups
- X2 Counter Intelligence

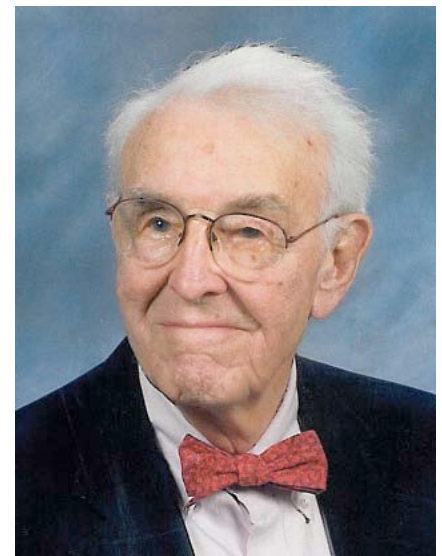
The war progressed and OSS grew to major proportions with headquarters in Washington, training establishments in Maryland and Canada, and overseas detachments set up, always under the Theater Command, in Britain, Algiers, Italy, Corsica, Yugoslavia, Cairo, South East Asia (India, Ceylon, Burma, China); and ultimately, after the invasion of Europe, in France, Belgium, and Holland.

But the growing pains were not easy. Turf battles and fierce opposition arose to the new boy on the block. G2 resented mightily the incursion into its bailiwick and did everything to get in the way. The State Department saw no reason for the second channel of information—political and economic, not simply military—flowing to the President. The FBI had responsibility for Latin America and fiercely opposed any OSS activity in its area. General MacArthur would have no part of OSS in the whole Pacific area; OSS Far East activities therefore flowed through Southeast Asia, India, and the back door through China. But Donovan had one mighty asset: he had the ear of the man in the White House.

The history of the creation of OSS during World War II and an overall study of its involvement is described by Fisher Howe, one of the first officers to join the Coordinator of Information in September 1941, where he was a special assistant to General William J. Donovan. Howe’s analysis will appear in two parts in the *Journal* and will answer many of the questions of OSS history raised today by some of our OSS lineals and new members.

Fisher Howe was assigned to the Coordinator of Information (COI) in 1941, until it became OSS in 1942. He was the first executive officer to serve overseas in London, where he worked closely with British intelligence. In June 1942, now an OSS officer, Howe was commissioned a Navy lieutenant, trained in Scotland under SOE, and sent to Algiers where he established a forward base in Corsica from which to land agents in southern Europe.

In late 1943 he was assigned to the OSS Maritime Unit in Ceylon where he conducted submarine operations. After a bout of pneumonia he returned home to be special assistant to General Donovan in Washington. In September of 1945 he transferred to the State Department. He lives in Washington, D.C.



Fisher Howe, COI/OSS

OSS HISTORY

Airman Recounts Triumphs and Tragedies in Missions to Czechoslovakia

It was 21-year-old **Anthony Orsini**'s very first bombing mission as the navigator of a B-24 Liberator when he found himself "abandoning ship" over enemy territory in the hills of the former Yugoslavia during World War II in 1944.

"Our mission was to bomb the Ploesti oil fields in Romania, heavily guarded because it was where the Germans obtained fuel," said Orsini as he thought back to the morning of July 21, 1944. "It was 8 a.m., and we were moving along without any problems until we saw those black puffs of smoke of exploding shells that made your blood run cold. I felt the plane lurch and that's when I said a few prayers.

"We had lost two of our four engines and went from 21,000 feet altitude to 10,000 feet," said Orsini. Then the time came to abandon ship. "Those words were ringing in my ears," said Orsini. "One by one we jumped. I had been given the parachute a while before and I had abused it playing football and basketball with it. I was hoping it would work in this critical time, which it did beautifully. Our protocol was count 1001, 1002, 1003 and then rip the cord, but I counted 1001 and pulled it."

A reception for Orsini, 84, of Iselin, N.J. was held on Nov. 10, 2007 when he received a Mayoral Proclamation, naming Anthony Orsini Day, and a citation from the state senate, presented by Jack McGreevey on behalf of New Jersey State Sen. Joseph Vitale.

In 1944, the OSS launched a daring rescue mission, Operation Halyard, to recover more than 500 downed U.S. airmen, including Orsini, trapped behind Nazi lines in Yugoslavia. Gregory A. Freeman, an award-winning writer and journalist, depicts the story of the rescued airmen in his new book, *The Forgotten 500*.

"It was exciting reading the book and it brought back a lot of memories," said Orsini, who relayed his experience to Freeman for the book. "I found reading the other airmen's accounts, that our experiences were similar."

Orsini landed in a tree—not knowing he had broken his collarbone until he was rescued a month later—and

was greeted by the open arms of a local heavy-set woman. "I had passed out and after a second [I remember] the woman was trying to speak to me, but I did not know the language," he said.

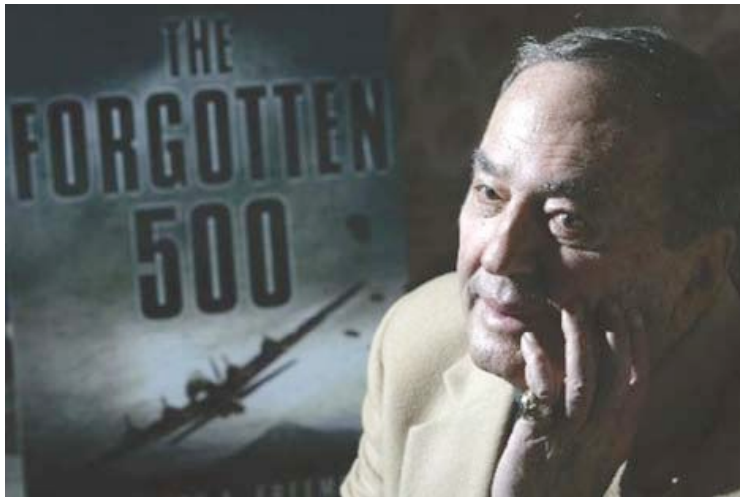
Orsini met up with six members of the crew who also had to abandon ship and the B-17 crew that was shot down the week before. "We were joined by an interpreter and Chetnik soldiers," he said. "Dragoljub Mihailovic was a freedom fighter and he told his soldiers to guard the American airmen at all costs ... some gave up their lives to not hand us over to the Germans."

The airmen's goal was to make it to Pryane where C-47 cargo planes would come rescue them. "We would travel from village to village where the young girls would wash our shoes, socks and feet," said Orsini. "The biggest pig was slaughtered for us to eat. We drank and we sang. We slept in the best beds." Orsini even

received a marriage proposal, which he had to turn down, because he had a girl waiting for him back in the United States.

Orsini remembered a time in the hills of Yugoslavia where he wondered if they were ever going to get out. "It was landlocked and the Germans were all over the place," he said. "The hurting airmen were placed in go-carts, which I was in with another airman who had hurt his ankle. A farmer had given us the ripest, sweetest watermelon when we heard the [villagers] yell "Germans, Germans." A ten-year-old boy handed me a handmade grenade. I didn't know what I was more afraid of, a handmade grenade that I didn't know how to operate or the Germans. We hid in the hills and they passed without seeing us."

"We would strain our ears for those C-47 motors," he said. "We would light oil lamps as a runway so pilots knew where to land. All this time we would cross our fingers hoping the Germans wouldn't detect us because the C-47s were unarmed. Thankfully, the Germans didn't detect us." Orsini was flown to Italy where he received a physical exam and was able to go back to his base in Taranto, Italy.



Anthony Orsini

OSS HISTORY

“My crew told me that they knew I would make it, but there was a list of airmen who were killed in action and they had put my name on it,” said Orsini. “We made fun out of it.”

Orsini said his main concern was letting his mother and family back home know that he was OK because he knew that they had received a notice telling them that he was MIA. “I was told a telegram was sent, but I sent one myself telling them that I was alive and well and all right,” he said.

Orsini was placed in rest camps because he was not fully healed from his broken collarbone. Then on Oct. 7, 1944, he flew his second mission.

“I was so ineffective,” he said. “I was so afraid that I would be hit again and was cowering in the corner crossing my fingers.” But as time went on and Orsini was flying mission after mission, it gradually became routine. “It would be my 35th mission on Dec. 28, 1944 when I would be injured again,” he said. “I was sent home.”

Orsini didn’t have time to tell his mother and family that he was coming home. “I reached the three-story home on Beacon Avenue in Jersey City and rang my mother’s doorbell ... no answer,” he said. “My aunt lived on the second floor and I rang her doorbell, she couldn’t believe her eyes and told me that my mother was at church where she would go every single day.”

Orsini walked down Palisade Avenue when he spotted his mother four blocks away. “I was focusing on her because I wanted to catch that moment where she recognized that it was me,” said Orsini. “She finally raised her head and we started running towards each other. It was an emotional moment with everyone crying, laughing and hugging.”

Orsini spent the day with his mother, and when it was time for his father to come home he hid in the bathroom and then surprised him. The memory of the moment brought tears to Orsini’s eyes.

Orsini was given the option of serving in the Pacific Theater or being honorably discharged as an airman. Orsini decided to be discharged. Orsini received a Purple Heart with an oak leaf cluster and an Air Medal with two clusters.



Isadore Burdine’s Memories of World War II and OSS Service

By Dick Krug

Director of Veteran Services for Concord, Mass.

The following article is one of several interviews with residents of Concord and has been put into a book titled *Memories of World War II*.

While at the University of Michigan I was in the Reserve Officer Training Corps. I graduated with a degree in chemistry. At that time, the United States government asked chemistry majors to go to Tufts University where, for two to three days per week, we studied the safe handling of bomb materials.

With my Jewish heritage, as a child I had learned to speak Yiddish in my family. In college, I had also studied German. This was a valuable skill in the Armed Forces.

When I entered the Army, I began basic training as a buck private in the 28th Division at Indiantown Gap, Pa. As time passed, I earned the rank of major. The adjunct general ordered me to go to Washington, D.C. to join the Office of Strategic Services.

The OSS was officially formed under the Joint Chiefs of Staff, with General Donovan at the helm. It was a distinguished honor to be called to serve with others in this key agency. Our headquarters were located in the Watergate Building, which had been a brewery. The work we did was very important to the success of the war effort.

One function of the OSS was to train soldiers to handle, assemble and shoot guns in various war conditions. We prepared them to go overseas for combat in covert operations. It is interesting to note that we trained women in the use of close combat techniques as well. Most of our trainees were being sent into resistance movements in countries that had been overrun by the Axis powers, countries like France and Greece.

With another officer, I served at a training camp in Ceylon where we slept in bashes. We trained students from Thailand to go behind the Japanese lines via submarines, aircraft and parachutes. I served with “Wild Bill” Donovan who came to our Ceylon training camp. I also traveled with him to various training camps. Later, I also served as an officer in a training camp in Rangoon, Burma.

The Thai government appreciated our work. They decorated me with their government emblem which was a silver airplane. The United States also awarded me the Bronze Star.

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OSS-Trained SEALs Vital to Island Battles off Japan

By Carole LaMond

Staff Writer, Sudbury (Mass.) Town Crier

When Patrick Finelli closes his eyes he can still see the beaches of Peleliu in perfect detail, mentally exploring the currents and the reefs where enemy booby traps might hide.

What's difficult for Finelli, now 83, is to describe the emotions of the 19-year-old Marine sergeant who swam those waters for hours on reconnaissance missions in September 1944, often under heavy fire, looking for obstacles that would prevent landing craft from reaching the Japanese-held island. As a member of Underwater Demolition Team Six, Finelli was highly trained in the use of explosives, a strong swimmer and mentally focused on survival, not only his own, but on doing his job expertly so that others would live to fight.

Today Finelli has an impressive collection of medals including a Purple Heart, an extensive library of World War II history books, and a deep love of country and the U.S. Marine Corps. But it's the men whose stories are not told in those books, and whose heroism was not rewarded with a medal, that he remembers.

"I saw too many people die real heroes and nothing was done for them," said Finelli. "My reward comes from being alive today." As parade marshal of the Sudbury Memorial Day Parade on May 26, 2008, Finelli was honored for his heroism in World War II.

Finelli was 18 years old, a Newton, Mass. resident, when he enlisted in the Marine Corps in Feb. 1943. He graduated from boot camp at Parris Island, S.C., with a Private First Class stripe. Showing good mechanical aptitude, he was sent to aviation ordinance school where he graduated near the top of his class and was promoted to corporal.

"You go where they send you and do what they ask you do, and absolutely try to do your best," said Finelli who was sent to California bases where he trained fighter and torpedo squadrons, and later attended bomb disposal and munitions school. He was taught all about Japanese mines, booby traps, and munitions.

Then a query came from out of the blue. The OSS was looking for demolition men—good swimmers who could be trained for underwater demolition work. Finelli's captain, Peter Harvell, volunteered him for the job.

"Pat was in an elite unit, one of the original frogmen that later became the Navy SEALs. You had to get a rare breed of guy, a great athlete, someone who could do ordinance disposal and who was willing to swim into enemy territory," said Peter Harvell, director of veteran's services



OSS-trained SEAL Patrick Finelli

in Sudbury, Mass. "Entire invasion decisions were based on the intelligence provided by one guy like Pat Finelli, and without that information it could easily go very badly, very quickly."

Finelli arrived on Eniwetok for training in July 1944 as part of a mixed group of Army, Navy, and Marines who were trained by the OSS. The first hurdle was a swim test where the men were dropped offshore in full uniform with helmet, rifle, and 80 rounds of ammunition and told to swim a mile.

"The test was not to see if you could swim it, but to see how you would react to the panic when you realized you couldn't swim it without deliberately disposing of your equipment," said Finelli. "It was done more to test your response to stress than your ability to swim the distance with all that weight."

Finelli trained extensively, and on Sept. 12, 1944 he had his first look at the forbidding profile of Peleliu Island. It was his team's job to do reconnaissance and to clear mines and man-made obstacles as well as coral that would prevent a good landing on the island.

The men were in the water for hours at a time wearing just swim trunks, sneakers and leather gloves. It was hot, thirsty, itchy, and terrifying work. The Japanese had their own swimmers hiding explosives in the coral reefs.

"We must have set well over a thousand charges," said Finelli of one mission. "We were close to shore, in shallow water, being shot at for four hours."

"We made a night swim at 11 o'clock – that's about the most frightening thing I've ever done," said Finelli. "Your every movement creates phosphorescence and every time you rub up against something you think it may be

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a big fish that wants to eat you or a Jap swimmer who wants to kill you.”

The landing on Sept. 15 was brutal with massive casualties, but UDT Team Six helped to clear the beach so the U.S. tanks could take the island airfield. Later, as Finelli was setting up some charges, lowering them by ropes into caves on the island, he heard someone yell, “Here they come!”

“It was too close to shoot. There was hand to hand combat,” said Finelli who has difficulty talking about the fight. “It’s visceral, all thought is on survival, your adrenaline is on high. You ask yourself, ‘What have I done? Why am I here? Any way I can, I have to survive.’ I still have the KA-BAR that saved my life. I treasure that knife.”

Bleeding from stab wounds, Finelli was evacuated to a naval hospital in Guam and then to Hawaii, but was

eager to get back to the Marines he loved. In Jan. 1945 he hitchhiked his way across the Pacific where by chance, getting out of a mail plane to stretch his legs on Fallop Island, he saw equipment marked with the insignia of his Marine Air Group.

Finelli was “sanitizing” the island of Yap in Sept. 1945, removing mines and booby traps when an explosion sent him flying. “The doctor said, ‘That’s it, you’re all done,’ ” said Finelli who suffered a concussion and was sent back to the hospital in Guam. He was honorably discharged in March 1946.

Finelli married the former Kay DiPalma in 1948, and is the father of four children and grandfather of three. A Sudbury resident for more than 50 years, he retired from Polaroid in 1993 as a senior manager in research and development. He still swims regularly.

OSS Marine Garnered Honors in WWII European Theater

Peter Julien Ortiz was that rare Marine who fought in Europe during WWII. “The story of his life in uniform is truly incredible,” said retired Lt. Col. Gary Solis, a military historian. “Few Marines today know about Ortiz or his amazing feats in combat in occupied France.”

There were no regular Marine combat forces in Europe, in part because Army Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall allegedly harbored a strong bias against using leathernecks there. But Ortiz’s duty in the OSS was an exception—and it eventually led to him receiving two Navy Crosses.

Born in 1913 to a French father and an American mother, Ortiz grew up in France, joined the French Foreign Legion at 19, and was decorated for heroism in combat. He left that service in 1937 and moved to Hollywood, Calif., but when fighting began in Europe in 1939, he returned to France and reenlisted in the Legion.

In June 1940, Ortiz was wounded and captured by the Germans. For 15 months he was a prisoner of war in Germany, Poland, and Austria. He escaped to Portugal in late 1941, returned to the U.S., and enlisted in the Marine Corps.

When Ortiz arrived for boot camp, he wore his French decorations and medals, which caught the attention of Marine Corps headquarters. Within months, he was given a Reserve commission, and the Corps offered his services to the Army. Ortiz deployed to Tunisia, where he led Arab tribesmen on OSS reconnaissance missions.

In early 1944 Ortiz was on an OSS team that parachuted into German-occupied France to aid the Resistance fighters there. He helped four downed British pilots escape, an action for which he received a Navy Cross.

Returning to France in August 1944, Ortiz led an



Col. Peter Ortiz

OSS team that ran into a firefight with a large German force. Recognizing that French civilians would suffer reprisals at the hands of the Germans if their troops were killed, he surrendered rather than put civilians in danger. Despite several attempts to escape, he spent the rest of the war as a prisoner. He later received a second Navy Cross for his heroism.

After the war, Ortiz returned to the U.S. and worked as a technical advisor and actor in Hollywood. At least two films, “13 Rue Madeleine” with James Cagney and “Operation Secret” with Cornel Wilde, were loosely based on his war exploits.

Heroes From A Nobler Time

by Lucinda Franks



I looked in at the dining hall of the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md., and I knew immediately which ones they were—the men and women of the OSS, our wartime spy agency, who bombed, shot, and tricked the enemy down through occupied France,

clearing the way for

America to invade and crush Hitler's Third Reich. The OSS men had wispy white hair, or dark glasses, or canes. The women, some fragile as birds, had their hair rolled or fingerwaved in the style of their heyday: the 1940s. There were "Jedburghs," the code name for the three-man teams that parachuted into France and exploded railroad tracks and weapons depots, anything they could to stop the Nazis. There were deep-cover assassins, and the radio operators who were always in danger of being discovered.

All shared one common attribute: they looked unremarkable, the kind who faded into the background. But beneath their impassive faces were steely eyes, set mouths, eyes moving across the crowd.

Their creviced faces looked like maps of the world. They had been drafted as spies, some out of nowhere, to risk their lives, to do their duty with an honor and commitment in short supply today. Many had lived so many lives, donned so many disguises, that when the war ended, their true personalities were like ships gone down in the sea.

As I studied them while reading from *My Father's Secret War*, I saw that they were mirrors of my father. His bland silence, his monosyllabic responses, were the result of pretending to be what he was not. He could never reclaim his old comradery, his joy and ambition, his penchant for pranks that had characterized him before the war.

The three years he was a secret agent during WWII had been the most horrifying—and the most exciting—time of his life. As with so many other wartime spies, normal domestic life just did not measure up.

In the Q & A after my talk, I expected to be caught having committed some historical error, perhaps greeted with a remark or two from cynical veterans. But instead, there was silence and then long, enthusiastic applause. They

were grateful; they had heard the story of their own past except now they were being lionized as heroes, when in reality they had forever gone unacknowledged, unknown, deprived of medals, rewarded only with an oath of lifelong secrecy.

The OSS conference was held at The Congressional Country Club, which was once turned over to the OSS as a training ground for spies. Now it is the poshest golf and country club around. But back then, potential recruits were tested by being sent into the city on wild assignments and were taught how to kill silently—to apply pressure, for instance, on just the right spot in the neck to disable or slay the enemy. This was how I discovered my father's double life—when, at 75 years of age, he decked a young fellow making anti-semitic remarks and pressed his thumb into his carotid artery. The man caused Dad, who liberated the first Holocaust camp found by the Allies, to have memories flooding back on him. His never-forgotten instinctive training came back in force.

The OSSers are now in their late seventies, eighties, and nineties, and the conference was mostly filled with their wives, husbands, sons, and daughters. I was amazed to find myself with people who, like me, teared up when they talked of the bravery of their relatives.

During the Q&A, Col. William Pietsch, a former Jedburgh, complimented me for pursuing my father's real life and when I asked him to recount a story from his own, he pointed to his daughter. She recalled the story about her father being caught in an elevator only to emerge and make a daring escape from the waiting Nazis.

One girl told of how close she had been to her late grandfather who was under very deep OSS cover, probably an assassin like mine. She had worked for years to try to find out what he did. Her skin turned pink with feeling when she talked about him; she had been searching everywhere—military records, old war buddies, old letters, but the man played everything so close to the chest, she had been able to find out very little. Still, she was pursuing his story as if he were alive, obsessed with the man she loved but did not really know.

When one person asked how I felt now that my father was dead, I paused. I talked of being proud of him but of regretting that I had not had more time with him after our profound reconciliation, of the fact I felt guilt because I had not discovered his secret life earlier. I knew what was going to happen. Determined not to embarrass myself with my rising emotions, swallowing, taking my time, I sounded a bit like an old-fashioned LP, a little scratchy and definitely punctuated by gaps.

The British Woman Spy Who Led the French Resistance

By Cahal Milmo

Pearl Cornioley's training officer in Britain's wartime Special Operations Executive (SOE) had plenty of doubts about her potential as a secret agent. In 1943, he wrote: "She is so cautious that she seems to lack initiative and drive. She is loyal but has not the personality to act as a leader, nor is she temperamentally suited to work alone."



Pearl Cornioley

The officer could not have been more wrong about a woman who would later become known as Agent Wrestler. Within 18 months, Ms. Cornioley, then aged 29, was in sole command of 1,500 resistance fighters in western France. In that role she masterminded a campaign of sabotage and guerrilla warfare so effective that the German military put a price on her head.

The full story of Agent Wrestler has been revealed in government documents released by the Public Records Office in London. They detail her transformation from the daughter of an alcoholic who did not go to school until she was 13 into one of Britain's most formidable operatives behind enemy lines at the height of the Second World War. After her discharge, she rejected the award of a civilian MBE in disgust, describing it as "puny" and pointing out her male colleagues in SOE had been given military honors.

Ms. Cornioley, who was born in Paris before escaping to Britain with her mother and sisters in 1941, became bored of her wartime desk job and persuaded commanders at the SOE to train her and send her back to France.

After parachuting into the Loire region in September 1943, she worked as a courier for one of the British-backed networks of resistance fighters, while posing as a cosmetics saleswoman, before assuming command of fighters in the Indre region when a senior SOE officer was arrested by the Gestapo.

By the end of her service following the liberation of France in 1944, Major General Colin Gubbins, who led SOE, wrote: "Her control over the maquis group to which she was attached, complicated by political disagreements among the French, was accomplished through her remarkable personality, her courage, steadfastness and tact." Despite the lukewarm opinion of her SOE training officer, Ms. Cornioley had nonetheless shown some early signs of her subsequent success. Described as "very intelligent and absolutely reliable," she was the best shot in her group.

Her arrival in France was also not a glowing success. After two abortive attempts to parachute near the town of Chateauroux, she missed her landing point and lost the suitcases carrying her equipment. After Ms. Cornioley was reassigned to train and lead the maquis groups in the Sologne area of the Loire Valley, her resistance unit blew up the Tours-Vierzon railway line, destroyed 60 armored trains, and ambushed German troops.

The documents also detail how Ms. Cornioley was fighting beside a young French lieutenant, Henri Cornioley. They married in October 1944, receiving an £8 postal order from the SOE as a wedding present.

One of her SOE commanders later remarked: "Her story is a true romance and our pride and esteem for this gallant girl is very great."

Sadly, they were not sentiments entirely shared elsewhere in the military hierarchy. Despite being recommended by the SOE for a Military Cross, it was decided that Ms. Cornioley should be offered a civilian MBE. In a letter to the War Office, she rejected the honor, saying: "The work which I undertook was of a purely military nature in enemy-occupied country. When the time for open warfare came we planned and executed open attacks on the enemy. I spent a year in the field and had I been caught I would have been shot, or worse still, sent to a concentration camp. I consider it most unjust to be given a civilian decoration. The men received military decorations. Why this discrimination with women when they put the best of themselves into the accomplishment of their duties?"

Ms. Cornioley was belatedly awarded her parachute wings—a badge signifying her status as a military parachutist—at a ceremony in 2006. She died in February 2008 at the age of 93, at her home in the Loire Valley.

Herman the German: American by Act of Congress – With Help from General Donovan

By Bob Bergin

His colleagues in the colorful American Volunteer Group (AVG) “Flying Tigers” named him “Herman the German”; he was an enemy alien after all. Later, the U.S. Secretary of War had to approve his enlistment into the Army Air Corps. He got the tough jobs. Told to rebuild the first Japanese Zero that fell into American hands, he did it twice. He sneaked behind Japanese lines for OSS, and was sent to Washington to brief General Donovan. When he could not be commissioned because he was still a German, Donovan promised that he would become a U.S. citizen—even if it took an Act of Congress.

Herman the German’s real name was Gerhard Neumann. He was born into a Jewish family in Frankfurt in 1917 and graduated from Germany’s most prestigious technical college. In April 1939 he set off for China where the Nationalist government was looking for German engineers.

In Hong Kong, Neumann found that the Chinese agency that hired him had vanished. He talked himself into a job with a local auto repair company. Within days he was running the shop and swearing in Chinese. When England and Germany went to war he found himself behind barbed wire. The British released him, but took his passport. They gave him a choice: leave Hong Kong in 48 hours, or be shipped to an internment camp in Ceylon.

None of the neutral countries represented in Hong Kong would admit him without a passport. With all possibilities exhausted, he met a sympathetic Pan Am Airways executive who got him on an airplane headed to Kunming, China—minutes before midnight when his parole expired. He arrived in Kunming with an introduction to Claire Chennault, an adviser to the Chinese Air Force. Chennault steered him toward a job with the local Renault plant, where trucks were being prepared for the newly-built Burma Road. Neumann led the first convoy over the road that became China’s lifeline.

On the morning Pearl Harbor was attacked, Chennault asked him to join the AVG, and Neumann immediately agreed. The AVG named him “Herman the German,” but he quickly became one of them. They taught him the American

way of life; he taught them how to keep machines running when spare parts were scarce, that cow manure was a great radiator sealant, and that bakelite parts could be replaced with buffalo horn.

When the AVG was disbanded in July 1942, Chennault asked permission of the U.S. Secretary of War to enlist Neumann into the U.S. Army Air Corps.

In October 1942, the Chinese captured a Zero, Japan’s most formidable fighter airplane and a mystery to the Americans. It was vital, Chennault said, that this airplane be put in flying condition to be evaluated, and if anyone could do that, it was Neumann.

The Zero had made a forced landing in an area under Japanese control. The Chinese had disassembled it and dragged it into concealment. Many parts were damaged or lost. Neumann, his team of Chinese mechanics, and one American worked for two months with no electricity and only hand tools while Japanese recon airplanes flew overhead looking for them. When the airplane was ready it had to be flown out quickly before the Japanese found it.

Waiting at the airstrip at Kweilin were General Chennault, the American Ambassador, and hundreds of American troops who heard the Zero was coming. It touched down gently, then the right landing gear suddenly folded up and the airplane slewed across the runway, breaking up as it went. Chennault examined the wreckage and told Neumann to rebuild it again. Work was delayed while Neumann recovered from typhus, malaria and exhaustion, but the airplane was put back in the sky and tested until the Zero had no secrets left.

Because he spoke Chinese, Neumann was asked to join the 5329th Air Ground Forces Resources and Technical Staff (AGFRTS), an OSS unit that carried out intelligence missions for the 14th Air Force. For eleven months, Neumann was a member of two-man OSS teams that infiltrated into enemy territory and reported on Japanese activities. When they found good targets, they directed air strikes with hand-cranked radios. One of Neumann’s teammates was a mild-mannered Baptist missionary named John Birch, who spoke fluent Chinese, .



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Another AGFRS job was to report on the Chinese military. In October 1944, Chennault called Neumann off one of these missions to get his evaluation of the Chinese Army's ability to hold a critical area. After hearing Neumann's report, Chennault ordered him to report to General Donovan in Washington. Neumann's travel was technically not legal, and FBI agents met Neumann on his arrival in New York. They released him when assured by OSS that he was one of theirs.

Chennault had asked Donovan to get Neumann a field commission, and Donovan set out to have Neumann commissioned as a captain in the Army Air Force. But it could not be done; Neumann was technically still an enemy alien. Donovan told him that he would fix this absurd situation – even if it took an Act of Congress. A figure of speech, Neumann thought, but Donovan did exactly that. A bill was introduced in Congress in May 1945 and a year later signed by President Truman. Herman the German was an American.

Gerhard Neumann went back to finish the war in China. After becoming an American and marrying, he returned to China in 1947 to work with Chennault to create a new airline. Back in the U.S he took a job at General Electric. He was responsible for many innovations in jet engine design, and rose to head GE's multi-billion dollar jet engine business. He has been called one of the most renowned engineers in the history of aviation.



What's your story?

For every story published here, there are probably 100 untold ones which would be of interest to our readers. Please send yours to us by mail, e-mail, or fax so that others can share your experience. Make this a part of your personal Bucket List! See page one for information on submitting your story.

Former POW Visits His WWII China Prison Camp

Roy Weaver recently returned to a “home” he last saw 62 years ago, one he thought he'd never want to see again. It wasn't home in the traditional sense, but the barracks in northern China in which the 88-year-old Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, resident lived as a prisoner of the Japanese during most of World War II.

The camp the enemy called “Hoten” was where Weaver ate, slept, worked, and suffered for nearly three years until he and about 1,000 of his fellow prisoners were liberated at war's end in August 1945 by an OSS rescue team.

In April of this year, a Chinese organization dedicated to preserving the history of Japan's occupation during the second World War provided Weaver and eight other former Hoten POWs an all-expense-paid trip to Shenyang.

Weaver was a 23-year-old corporal, a four-year veteran of the Marine Corps, when he was captured in early May 1942 at Fort Hughes, an island garrison in Manila Bay. Sent to Pusan, Korea, Weaver was among 1,200 prisoners who were issued Japanese uniforms, then marched aboard a train for the three-day trip to Mukden, Manchuria (now Shenyang).

At Mukden, about 1,500 men, most of them American, lived in wooden barracks. For some, their stay was brief: two hundred thirty-five died of disease, malnutrition, and the cold during that first winter when the temperature hovered at 35 to 40 degrees below zero.

“We were given blankets, but little coal or wood, and the food was very poor,” Weaver says. “Our breakfast was cornmeal, and lunch and dinner was a purple soup made with millet. We called it bird seed.”

He and his fellow POWs fought the war in their own way: “We did a lousy job of making tools, and when a concrete base for a huge lathe was being poured, we pitched what good tools we could find into the wet cement.”

He was punched and kicked by guards on several occasions but was beaten severely only once, by a sadistic captain the prisoners called “The Bull” who struck him repeatedly with his sheathed sword.

Weaver's supervisors in the factory were Japanese civilians who, he says, treated him and his fellow prisoners fairly well, even to the extent of sharing whisky with them during the Christmas seasons of 1943 and 1944.

The day after the Japanese surrendered, the OSS parachuted six men into the camp. Four days later, Russian troops arrived and the prisoners were finally freed.

Scholars Run Down More Clues to Holocaust Mystery of Swedish Diplomat Raoul Wallenberg

Stockholm, Sweden — Budapest, November 1944: Another German train has loaded its cargo of Jews bound for Auschwitz. A young Swedish diplomat pushes past the SS guard and scrambles onto the roof of a cattle car. Ignoring shots fired over his head, he reaches through the open door to outstretched hands, passing out dozens of bogus “passports” that extended Sweden’s protection to the bearers. He orders everyone with a document off the train and into his caravan of vehicles. The guards look on, dumbfounded.

Raoul Wallenberg was a minor official of a neutral country, with an unimposing appearance and gentle manner. Recruited and financed by the OSS, he was sent into Hungary to save Jews. He bullied, bluffed and bribed powerful Nazis to prevent the deportation of 20,000 Hungarian Jews to concentration camps, and averted the massacre of 70,000 more people in Budapest’s ghetto by threatening to have the Nazi commander hanged as a war criminal. Then, on January 17, 1945, days after the Soviets moved into Budapest, the 32-year-old Wallenberg and his Hungarian driver, Vilmos Langfelder, drove off under a Russian security escort, and vanished forever.

Researchers have sifted through hundreds of purported sightings of Wallenberg into the 1980s, right down to plotting his movements from cell to cell while in custody. And fresh documents are to become public which might cast light on another puzzle: Whether Wallenberg was connected, directly or indirectly, to a supersecret wartime U.S. intelligence agency known as “the Pond,” operating as World War II was drawing to a close and the Soviets were growing increasingly suspicious of Western intentions in eastern Europe. Speculation that Wallenberg was engaged in espionage has been rife since the Central Intelligence Agency acknowledged in the 1990s that he had been recruited for his rescue mission by an agent of the OSS.

About the Pond, little is known. But later this year the CIA is to release a stash of Pond-related papers accidentally discovered in a Virginia barn in 2001. These are the papers of John Grombach, who headed the Pond from its creation in 1942. CIA officials say they should be turned over to the National Archives in College Park, Md. In February, the Swedish government posted an online database of 1,000 documents and testimonies related to Wallenberg’s disappearance. Independent



Raoul Wallenberg

investigators plan to launch a web site with their nearly 20-year research into Russian archives and prison records. Russia is building a Museum of Tolerance that will feature once-classified documents on Wallenberg. And the CIA last year relaxed its guidelines to reveal details of its sources and intelligence-gathering methods in the case.

Despite dozens of books and hundreds of documents on Wallenberg, much remains hidden. The Kremlin has failed to find or deliver dozens of files, Sweden has declined to open all its books, and the Associated Press has learned that as many as 100,000 pages of declassified OSS documents await processing at the National Archives.

In the 63 years since his arrest, the Wallenberg family and generations of researchers have relentlessly pursued the possibility that the Swedish diplomat survived long after 1947, as a secret prisoner in the Soviet gulag system. “There are plenty of indications that he may have survived past 1947, and these deserve thorough examination,” says Susanne Berger, a German-born researcher who has spent 15 years exploring Wallenberg’s fate.

Skeptics ask what motive the Soviets might have had for imprisoning Wallenberg, and for lying about his fate for decades after. Scholars exploring Wallenberg’s relationship with the intelligence agencies battling each other in wartime and postwar Hungary, however, suggest that Moscow may have perceived the Swede as a spy for the West.

The Swedish diplomat had been recruited to lead the mission to rescue Budapest’s Jews by War Refugee Board member Olsen Ivers, who was also head of the Stockholm station of the OSS. Swedish Security Police, according to McKay, have wiretap records of a cryptic 1943 phone conversation between Wallenberg and British national Cyril , who headed both the British Passport Office and the British Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) in Stockholm.

“Raoul Wallenberg was attempting to use the OSS and almost anyone else to help him help people escape,” argues Chris Simpson, a professor at American University in Washington. “Meanwhile the OSS was attempting to use Wallenberg as a source of intelligence.”

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OSSer Recalls Yugoslav Adventure with Mihailovich's Support

More than 60 years ago, a handful of U.S. soldiers parachuted behind enemy lines in Yugoslavia to save 50 airmen whose planes were shot down while trying to bomb German oil fields in Romania. **Art Jibilian**, one of the original soldiers who spent six months on the mission, has waited all these years for the true story of the mission to be told. But it's not because of personal glory. Instead, it's to clear the name of Gen. Draza Mihailovich, a Yugoslav leader who protected the airmen and made the rescue possible.

Jibilian and his mission are the subject of *The Forgotten 500*, a recently published book by Gregory Freeman. "For the first time," Jibilian said, "the true story of the operation has been published, including Mihailovich's key role in the rescue. It's a story the American people should know."

The historical novel focuses on the Halyard mission in 1944, in which Jibilian and a few other soldiers spent six months with Mihailovich in Yugoslavia, eventually rescuing more than 500 airmen from behind enemy lines. Although Mihailovich and his soldiers provided information and support for the mission and located and protected the downed airmen, Jibilian said he was betrayed by the U.S. and British governments, who said he collaborated with the Germans. Mihailovich was eventually captured by a rival general and executed.

Jibilian said the details of the operation were kept quiet over the years because of politics, and he simply wants the Serbian people and Mihailovich to get the credit they deserve. Now that the book is out, he said he wants to live long enough to see it turned into a movie in order to reach a wider audience. "We just happened to be the three that were lucky enough to bring this thing to fruition," Jibilian said. "But it was Mihailovich and the Serbs who did the brunt of the work."

The Halyard Mission was a top-secret mission executed by the OSS. Jibilian, then a radio operator, as well as two others, parachuted into Yugoslavia in order to locate about 50 airmen who were shot down while trying to bomb the oil fields at Ploesti in Romania. The team met up with Mihailovich, and their goal was to locate the airmen, set up an airfield and evacuate the troops, all without the Germans knowing.

But when they arrived, they discovered there weren't just 50 soldiers hiding throughout the country. There were more than 500. Mihailovich's soldiers hid the airmen and funneled them toward Jibilian and the OSS. "What started out as a ten-day mission stretched into six months during which time we brought out 500 American airmen," Jibilian said.

The mission was often dangerous and difficult. The airfield set up to evacuate the airmen was a short distance from a German garrison, and American fighter planes dive-bombed the post as a distraction. In addition, many of the downed airmen were injured. Jibilian still has shoulder problems after lifting wooden ox-carts over large stones to avoid jarring the wounded soldiers inside. Little food was available, but Jibilian said Mihailovich and his men sometimes went hungry to make sure the airmen had something to eat. When they left Yugoslavia, the airmen returned the favor by giving up their shoes to the Serbs, an item that was difficult to find at the time.

After returning to the United States, Jibilian and the other members of the rescue mission were disturbed by the way in which Mihailovich and his men were abandoned by the allies. Now he's hoping to get word out about the book in order to clear Mihailovich's name. "Even today," he said, "few know the true story. All we really wanted was to have this story be told, that Mihailovich be given credit for it, and for the airmen to be able to say thank you."

Donovan DVD

If you made a donation of \$50 or more to The OSS Society, you will shortly receive a copy of the new documentary about General Donovan. If you have not yet made a donation and would like to receive a copy of this film, please send your tax deductible donation to our McLean, VA office. Thank you for your continued support.

OSS HISTORY

OSS Mercy Missions in China Rescued Hundreds of Prisoners of War

By Alice Booher

William Joseph “Wild Bill” Donovan was legendary in a number of fields, military—Medal of Honor in WWI; politics, law—Columbia classmate of FDR, special assistant to the chief prosecutor, Judge Taylor, at



Gen. Donovan (back to camera) with Cols. Jaques De Sibour (with glasses), William Horrigan, William Byrd, and John Coughlin (in rear) on 1944 China visit.

the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal, and founder of the OSS in WWII. Donovan maintained special commitments to POWs held in all operational theaters, and supported mercy missions to save them.

One such mission was led by Col. Richard Heppner, a partner in Donovan’s New York Wall Street law firm, who then headed up OSS China. The night of the Hiroshima bombing, eight mercy mission operations were mounted by Col. Heppner to contact POW camps, identify prisoners, render medical aid, secure airfields, return intelligence, and get POWs and civilian internees out as soon as humanly possible.

The OSS communications clerk who “urgent-spindled” the orders, commented to the OSS messenger, “I hope we get to Skinny Wainwright before the Russkys.”

Twelve days later the world heard the recorded debrief collected by Heppner from Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright, IV, speaking in a weak, slightly unsteady voice: “*This is Gen. Wainwright speaking. Greetings, Gen. Donovan. I am speaking from Hsian, China, where I have just eaten my first good American breakfast since the war...*”

Wainwright, the highest-ranking WWII American POW, had been held in several POW camps. When rescued by the OSS mercy mission team, he asked: “What is this thing I am riding in?” The General had never seen a jeep, which came after he was imprisoned.

He later witnessed the Japanese surrender on the USS Missouri, and returned to the Philippines to receive the surrender of the local Japanese commander, LTG Tomoyuki Yamashita.

Wainwright was awarded the Medal of Honor. He died in 1953, at age 70, in San Antonio, Tex. Donovan would die in 1959 at Walter Reed Hospital. Both are buried in Arlington National Cemetery.



General Wainwright being assisted into a car by Gen. Albert Wedemeyer in China.

OSS HISTORY

Nuremberg Interpreter for Donovan Tells Story of Jewish Persecution

From the Queens, N.Y. Courier

Eighty-three-year-old Richard Sonnenfeldt, a German Jew who, after fleeing his native country, surveyed the destruction the Nazis left in their wake and helped prosecute them as chief interpreter at the Nuremberg Trials, said in a recent interview, “By the time I saw Dachau I had no illusions.”

As a fourth grader in the small German town of Gardelegen—which, in the 1930s, had a population of 9,000 of whom 27 were Jewish—Sonnenfeldt was taught to march as a soldier with a stick on his shoulder. Gradually, Adolf Hitler’s name began to echo louder and louder throughout the country.

“Long before Hitler demanded total obedience,” Sonnenfeldt wrote in his book, *Witness to Nuremberg*, “Germans were loath to stand up against anyone in authority...”

Before long, the young Sonnenfeldt was made to leave the classroom while his teacher led students in the Nazi salute. “The Germans enabled Hitler to do all he did but they didn’t know what the hell they were enabling him for,” Sonnenfeldt said at his home in Port Washington, N.Y.

The Germans drove Sonnenfeldt’s parents to consider a family suicide when the Roosevelt administration suspended all immigration of German Jews and the two saw their means of survival dwindling. “My mother sat me down and asked me how I’d feel about a family suicide,” Sonnenfeldt recalled, his lips forming a tiny smile of disbelief. “I was 14 years old and I said ‘no.’ And what I don’t know, of course, is what would’ve happened if I’d said ‘yes.’”

Before Kristallnacht in November of 1938, Sonnenfeldt and his younger brother Helmut left Germany for England after their mother miraculously obtained boarding school scholarships for them. A year and a half later, however, Sonnenfeldt was rounded up along with other males with German passports over the age of 16 and sent to an internment camp, presumably, Sonnenfeldt explained, to protect England from Nazi sympathizers.

Soon, Sonnenfeldt was on a ship to Australia with other internees, separated from Nazi prisoners by a wall of barbed wire and rocked by repeated torpedo fire.

Upon learning that Sonnenfeldt was Jewish, flabbergasted Australian guards transferred him to a small town where he became the “gun boy” for a commandant, accompanying him on trips to hunt wallabies.

Sonnenfeldt’s new role was short lived, however,

and the 17-year-old was soon aboard another ship, this time to Bombay, India. Circuitously, Sonnenfeldt made his way to the U.S.

“By now I had twitted Nazis, who were as scared as I was of dying in a floating coffin; I had coped with British captors; and I had run a small factory in Bombay where, as a white man, I had been respected though perhaps not loved,” Sonnenfeldt wrote of his maturity through such a unique trajectory.

Drafted into the U.S. Army, Sonnenfeldt rode reconnaissance during the conquest of Germany before being plucked from his platoon for his proficiency in English and German. A 22-year-old Jew from a small town in Prussia had suddenly become American General “Wild Bill” Donovan’s interpreter.

Having survived torpedo-infested seas, a wave of euphoria overcame Sonnenfeldt, who suddenly believed he “would live to do important things.” Now was his chance; but the experiences to come were sobering.

“To walk into a place like Dachau and to see 100 bodies piled up and to see people who were too weak to survive after they were liberated...” Sonnenfeldt said softly as he recalled witnessing firsthand the devastation Hitler’s henchman had caused.

“In Dachau if I had seen any of the guards I would have gladly shot them, but they were gone,” Sonnenfeldt said, explaining that thousands of those liberated from concentration camps still perished, despite the best medical attention. “They couldn’t be saved. They were too far gone,” he said.

The images of such weak, tortured human beings stuck with Sonnenfeldt throughout his time at Nuremberg, where he spent countless hours interviewing and interrogating Hermann Goering and the other major Nazi defendants for General Donovan.

“Had I not escaped in time I would’ve been one of his victims,” Sonnenfeldt said matter-of-factly, wondering aloud if he would have fallen under Hitler’s spell had the German dictator not been an anti-Semite.



Richard Sonnenfeldt

A Most Unusual Reunion

Mary Taylor Previte

World War II Magazine

Navy Ensign James Moore tensed with the rush of adrenaline as the B-24 Liberator flew above Chinese farms at 500 feet early on the morning of August 17, 1945. He was on a mission to locate the Weihsien Civilian Assembly Center and surround a Japanese prison there, and rescue 1,500 internees before the Japanese had a chance to carry out their threat to murder them. This would be Moore's first combat jump, and down below were men and women who had been his teachers and classmates at the Chefoo School there. Moore grew up in Chefoo with his parents and sister. The family of Southern Baptists had come to the village in Shantung province to serve as missionaries in 1920 when he was just a year old.

Moore attended the school, where he excelled in athletics and made friends with children from the United States and the British empire. In 1936 Moore returned to the United States to attend Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. After graduation he took a job as a clerk for the FBI in Washington, D.C., while he studied law. Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, an issue of the Chefoo School alumni magazine arrived at Moore's home. Moore read a story which reported that the school had been captured and the students and staff interned by the Japanese. His mind's eye saw a kaleidoscope of terror behind barbed wire: schoolchildren locked up, bayonet drills, guard dogs, prisoner roll calls—unknown horrors endured by former classmates, teachers and friends.

Moore heard that the OSS was seeking people familiar with China. The missionaries' son was a perfect choice. The OSS gave him the rank of ensign, trained him and sent him to Kunming, an outpost at the China end of the Burma Road that crossed the Himalayas. In Kunming Moore went through jump school—the only American in the class with 14- and 15-year-old Chinese soldiers learning to parachute from a C-47. Between jumps, a plan formed in his imagination: he would try for an assignment supporting Chinese Nationalist forces in Shantung province, where he would be within reach of his school and the prison. Moore would have to get there quickly.

As the United States closed in on Japan in late summer 1945, reports began to reach U.S. headquarters in China



Mary Previte

that the Japanese intended to kill prisoners held at their many camps. Given their well-known history at Bataan, Singapore, Manchuria, Nanking, and elsewhere throughout Asia, such an eventuality seemed all too possible. Rescue became a priority. The American commander, Lt. Gen. Albert Wedemeyer, ordered agencies under his control to locate and evacuate POWs in China, Manchuria and Korea as quickly as possible. To accomplish this, Wedemeyer pulled together six-man rescue teams that included medical and communications specialists and interpreters.

The teams had only two assignments: rescue prisoners and gather intelligence. Nine rescue missions were quickly organized; each would attempt to reach a specific prison compound at one location. Each location was code-named after a bird: Magpie (heading to Peiping, present-day Beijing), Duck (Weihsien), Flamingo (Harbin), Cardinal (Mukden), Sparrow (Shanghai), Quail (Hanoi), Pigeon (Hainan Island), Raven (Vientiane, Laos) and Eagle (Korea). As soon as Moore learned where the Duck team was headed, he signed on, and the day after Emperor Hirohito announced Japan's surrender, the OSS launched its teams.

The six Americans bound for Weihsien flew from Kunming in a B-24 Liberator for an OSS base in Hsian. The team included Major Stanley Staiger; Ensign James W. Moore; 1st Lt. James J. Hannon; Sergeant Tad Nagaki, Nisei interpreter; Sergeant Raymond Hanchulak, medic; Corporal Peter Orlich, radio operator; along with a young Chinese interpreter, Cheng-Han "Eddie" Wang.

Although the war was technically over, the Allies were still unsure of what the Japanese reaction would be to Americans landing in their midst. His Chefoo School and his teachers were below him on the ground, somewhere hidden in the unending panorama of villages and fields of ripening grain, and their plight had haunted him for years. With no idea of the camp's exact location, the pilot had trouble locating it, but Moore eventually shouted out, "There it is!" He jabbed his finger toward a walled compound tucked among the fields, crowds of people waving at the American plane.

It was a miserable day and the plane was ill-designed for a parachute jump. To prepare the bomber for the drop, someone had removed panels from the bomb bay door and closed the hole with a makeshift plywood cover. The B-24 now hugged the ground at a gut-wrenching 500 feet. The rescue team sat poised on the edge of the bomb bay. One

OSS HISTORY

small push, and Moore was on his way. Wind quickly filled the fast-opening British parachutes.

Inside the camp, the first person Moore asked to see was his headmaster, “Pa” Bruce. In an emotional reunion, Moore, six feet tall in the khaki uniform of the United States of America, towered over his emaciated headmaster. Next there was teacher Gordon Martin, who had played soccer with Moore, a Mr. Houghton, who had played field hockey, and Mr. Welsh, who had officiated in Chefoo’s intramural games.

In the Eyes of a Twelve-Year-Old

This firsthand account of joyous liberation was written by Mary Taylor Previte, then twelve years old. The perspective gained by years of reflection since then has given her a deep appreciation of the heroism of these men.

When that day began, I had no idea that the hour of my liberation was at hand or that one of my rescuers had attended my old alma mater. I was withering with diarrhea, confined to my “poo-gai” mattress atop three side-by-side steamer trunks in the second-floor hospital dormitory. From inside the barrier walls, I could hear the drone of an airplane far above the camp. Sweaty and barefoot, I raced to the dormitory window and saw the aircraft sweep lower, slowly lower. I watched in disbelief as the giant plane emblazoned with an American star began circling the camp. Americans were waving from the bomber. Leaflets drifted from the sky. Beyond the treetops, the airplane’s belly opened. I gaped in wonder as hot August winds buffeted giant parachutes to the ground.

Weih sien went mad. I raced for the entry gates and was swept off my feet by the pandemonium. Prisoners ran in circles and pounded the skies with their fists. They wept, cursed, hugged, danced. They cheered themselves hoarse. Very proper grown-ups ripped off shirts and waved them at the plane circling overhead. Drove of prisoners swept past Japanese guards into fields beyond the camp to greet the new arrivals. A mile away we found them: six Americans standing with their weapons ready, amid fields of ripening broom corn. They must have been confused by the tide of prisoners, intoxicated with joy and free in the open fields, advancing toward them. Ragtag, barefoot and hollow with hunger, the prisoners boosted the American major onto a bony platform of shoulders and carried him back to the camp in triumph.

Steely teachers wept. Chefoo students celebrated. I was back among my old schoolmates and teachers, and my 12-year-old heart was turning somersaults. Adult prisoners wanted American cigarettes—their first request. That’s not what we children wanted. We trailed these gorgeous

liberators around, begging for their insignia, for buttons, for their autographs. We begged for chewing gum and swapped the sticky wads around. We begged them to sing the songs of America. We followed them day and night like we were following the Pied Piper.

The Search for Her Heroes

Eventually, however, the time came when we were separated from our heroes and repatriated, and we started our lives anew. As the decades passed, I wanted to know these men who had become my heroes. With the help of the China-Burma-India Veterans Association, I was able



This photograph appeared in a 2004 issue of The OSS Society Newsletter. As part of her search to find her heroes, Previte was requesting information on the OSS team member shown.

to track them down. I began a pilgrimage crisscrossing the United States to visit each one of them face to face and to honor them.

I found them all, each with a different story: Moore, the former FBI agent; Nagaki, a Japanese-American farm boy who went to school in a small Nebraska town; Hannon, an adventurer who had prospected for gold in Alaska; Staiger, snatched from his third year at the University of Oregon to put on a uniform; Hanchulak, a man from the coal mines of Pennsylvania; and the youngest of the team, Orlich, a 21-year-old kid who memorized the eye chart so he wouldn’t be excluded from the rescue team because he wore glasses. Pete taped his glasses to his head when he parachuted to liberate the Weih sien concentration camp that day.

I found them in New York, Nevada, Nebraska, Texas, Pennsylvania and California. I say thank you. I often tell their story to schoolchildren who send my heroes handmade valentines and letters. They are modest—they say they’re not heroes. They’re wrong. In their faces—and the faces of many other Americans like them—I see heroes who saved the world. Yes, America has heroes—and I know their names.

BOOK NOTES



Endgame, 1945: The Missing Final Chapter of World War II

By David Stafford

Little, Brown and Company

Reviewed by Dan Pinck

Read Mr. Stafford's book slowly; and read it twice. *Endgame, 1945* is masterfully conceived and superbly executed. It ranks among the better histories of Germany's unfathomable brutality in the Second World War. You might be inclined to ask: What's new about that? My answer is: a lot that's new and that what isn't new compels repeating. You may learn more than you want to know, as I did.

The time frame of Mr. Stafford's history is roughly three months centered on the formal end of the war in Europe. He notes that the war continued after Germany's surrender. Some notable events at that time, as well as events before the war are viewed through the eyes of individuals who lived through them as prisoners, reporters, soldiers, intelligence agents, and relief workers in Germany, Poland, Russia, Italy, and France and in other nations.

As an UNNRA representative, Francesca Wilson went to Fohrenwald, built originally as a model Nazi workers' village in Bavaria, where her job was to supervise the schools for eight hundred children whose languages included Estonian, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Serb, Polish, and German. She found one school, headed by an Estonian, "a woman with a genius for handling small children." The schools included Holocaust survivors. She traveled to Munich to find books for her school. She opened a mathematics textbook, and she read: "Germany has 100,000 epileptics and 250,000 mental defectives. It costs 2.50 marks a day to keep each one of them. How many babies could go to nursery school at a cost of 1 mark daily for the same sum?" Nazification infected everything in Germany. Ms. Wilson had to search widely for appropriate books for children.

Fey von Hassell was a political prisoner, a *Sippenhafte*, whose fate was to be shuffled with thousands of other political prisoners from concentration camp to concentration camp. The evacuations became death marches. The Third Reich used a variety of ways to kill upwards of a quarter of a million of these people; they burned some in barns; they machine-gunned others; they shot them when they stopped to tie their shoelaces—if they weren't barefoot; they starved them; many froze to death; guards shot the exhausted. The Gestapo made no distinction between German prisoners and those from other nations.

Inevitably and properly, the author gives us a guidebook—if you will—to life and death in German concentration camps. Even though most of us will be depressed by increasing our knowledge of some of them, we will be

alarmed by the depth of Nazi depravities. Concentration camps were not a wartime invention. Heinrich Himmler, on March 21, 1933, just two months after Hitler came to power, announced that Dachau had been selected as the location of a "detention camp for the enemies of National Socialism."

I have no doubt that Mr. Stafford has written an outstanding book and that his previous books reinforced his capabilities to write this one. It ranks with historian John Lukacs's *The Last European War: September 1939-December 1941*.

Formerly the director of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and an adjunct professor of history at the University of Toronto, Stafford is now the project director at the Center for the Study of the Two World Wars at the University of Edinburgh.



The Mighty Wurlitzer: How the CIA Played America

by Hugh Wilford

Harvard University Press

Reviewed by Alice A. Booher

Many writers have tackled the expanse of CIA-funded programs, and the personal and professional enigma that was Frank Wisner, the CIA's first chief of political warfare. But none have been as thorough as Wilford concerning the specifics of the efforts by those who conceived them and others effectuated them. It was Wisner who coined "playing the mighty Wurlitzer" to connote these two decades of massive yet finite efforts to orchestrate "a propaganda tune," conjuring up memories of the organ or piano at old-time movie theatres playing to stimulate appropriate sensory responses during silent films.

The description of the basic ultimate in recruitment efforts as CIA's "playing" of America is probably accurate, but does not really give the scope of its full recognition. Some Communist regimes had similar programs along the way. But taken individually, the CIA programs themselves can be viewed both positively or negatively, as truthful or as manipulative, and sometimes all of these. Since the data were not all disinformation, propaganda in the traditional sense is accurate although herein it need not carry its usual pejorative, negative connotations.

The "Wurlitzer" bought play time via CIA secretly funding, stimulating, directing—and to great extent managing—a myriad of front groups. The targeted constituencies through which information was to be disseminated are organized by Wilford into sometimes loosely-connected and seemingly nonparallel categories: emigrés, labor, intel-

BOOK NOTES

lectuals, artists (including writers, musicians, filmmakers), students, women, Catholics, African-Americans, and journalists. If the journalists, specifically *Ramparts* in 1967, and similar media progeny had not been included, the demise of the effort would have been delayed. On the other hand, it was that media group that had some of the best successes.

From 1947 to 1967, there were three primary action-arenas or goals: (1) organizations used as cover for émigrés to filter and undermine Communist blocs (which faded after the Hungarian uprising in 1956); (2) groups to shore up European civil society against communist destabilization; and (3) Third World efforts to “guide” developing nations in their modernization. All three had idiosyncratically-modest to wildly-successful days.

It should be noted that the projects had some remarkable offsprings ranging from ghostwritten books to genuinely first-class magazines and newspapers to travel guides. They also resulted in involving some otherwise initially not fully-informed but spectacular action figures and peculiar bedfellows, “witting” or not, ranging from Gloria Steinem to William F. Buckley, George Meany, Nina Simone, Henry Kissinger, and others. With the efforts starting in the late 1940s, not a few former OSSers were eager and/or willing participants on both ends of the string pulling.

Purse strings were all controlled by the CIA, for this, of course, was a covert network. Unlike many such books, there are genuine moments of humor along with the heavy, serious anti-communist premise. Well worth the read and to shelve at handy reach for future reference.



Stolen Years: In My Little Corner of the World

By Maita (Marie Marguerite Branquet) Floyd (edited by Gerry Benninger)
Eskualsdum Publishers

Reviewed by Alice A. Booher

This slim volume is dedicated to the American GIs who gave their lives in 1944 to save the author from Nazi slavery, and to her Basque kinsfolk who died helping them. Ms. Floyd, now 84, was the only member of her immediate family of parents and her six siblings to venture out of the tradition-steeped Basque tradition in 1946 to seek a future across “the pond.”

Well known for lecturing and writing on other topics, this is her own personal memoir of the time spent in WWII France. She integrates a wide span of European, specifically Basque, history with the intimate saga of family members who were POWs or active in the French Resistance, with primary focus on the family’s small, lovely elegant hotel in St. Jean de Luz which was seized by the Germans for a logical R&R site.

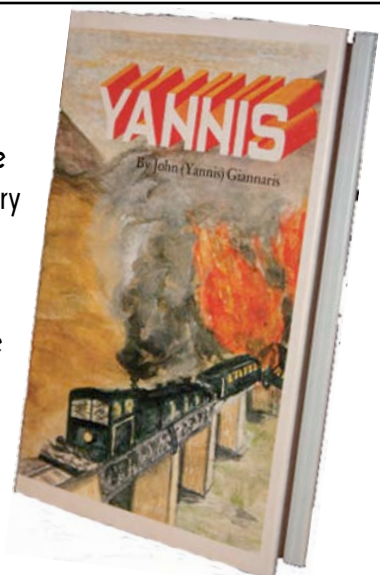
Floyd writes a charming, unassuming recollection of both the impact and reality of the war years from the viewpoint of a curious, headstrong, tenacious teenager, with some segments vaguely reminiscent of the *Diary of Anne Frank*. Recognized by the AZ Book Publishing Association’s Glyph Award, *Stolen Years* is also a fascinating mirror into the little-known, oft-romanticized, and misunderstood Basque minority.

“V” is for Valor

In the spring of 2008, all of the members of OSS Greek-American Operations Group II (OG II) were awarded the Bronze Star with “V” device for “Valor.” This was the first time in U.S. Military History that an entire unit was awarded the “V” device with the Bronze Star.

OG II was led by Lt. John Giannaris, a Chicago native who volunteered for the OSS in 1943. OG II entered Greece in June 1944 and proceeded to engage the German Army in Greece throughout the summer. Lt. Giannaris was seriously wounded when he stepped on a German land mine.

“Yannis” by Captain John Giannaris tells the full story of OG II. To purchase a copy for \$25.00 please email Captain Giannaris at GreekOSS@gmail.com or call him at (847) 981-0839 to order a signed copy. Shipping is included.



BOOK NOTES



The Raven Dropped His Cheese: The Story of WWII French Resistance

By Rene Defourneaux

Indiana Creative Arts

Reviewed by Betty McIntosh

This book, with its intriguing title, tells a different story of resistance in occupied France during World War II. It is not told by British or American operators, dropped behind

the lines to work with French resistance. It is a detailed account of the lives of two Alsatian brothers fighting the German occupation within their homeland.

About the title: During WWII, the BBC played an important role in Allied support of French resistance. Three times a day it sent so-called personal messages following each news broadcast. These sometimes meaningless but weird texts announced to specific resistance groups that a parachute drop would occur in a designated drop zone. The phrases were at the whim of the group leader, such as “Grandma did the dishes...the bread came out of the oven... the raven dropped the cheese.” (*Le corbeau a laisse tomber son fromage*) is from a La Fontaine fable, the Raven and the Fox.

Two brothers, Chris and Sepi, were in the French army when France capitulated. Chris was hired by the occupying forces as an interpreter, Sepi escaped from Vichy France where he worked and crossed the Pyrenees into Spain. He eventually reached England, was trained by Allied intelligence services, and sent back to France to lead a resistance group.

The story unfolds as the brothers work against the Nazis within the government structure. Their lives within occupied France are in detail and illuminating, always dangerous.

Rene Defourneaux writes from firsthand experience. He came to America from France as a teenager shortly before WWII. In 1943, he volunteered in the U.S. Army and was sent to England where he was recruited by OSS and transferred to British Special Operations Executive. He parachuted into central France where he trained and directed operations against German occupation forces. For his bravery, he received the Silver Star and the *Croix de Guerre*.

Major Defourneaux, U.S.A. (Ret.) now lives in Indianapolis with his wife, whom he met as an Army nurse. He has served for 20 years worldwide as an Army intelligence specialist, including OSS operations in Indo-China.

NEW IN CLOTH

“Remarkably detailed and researched... There were indeed fronts directly established by the C.I.A. for a particular goal, and the story Wilford tells of them in *The Mighty Wurlitzer* is fascinating, involving a surprising collection of well-known figures in American life... There is a great deal to be learned from this book. Wilford has consulted an astonishing number of scholarly and popular accounts, along with the papers and records of some of the central participants and organizations. He’s done a remarkable job of research... Wilford has mastered an enormously complex tale in almost every detail.”

—Nathan Glazer, NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW



the mighty wurlitzer
HOW THE CIA PLAYED AMERICA

HUGH WILFORD

“[A] brisk yet thorough narrative... No one has written a more comprehensive or sophisticated account of the pro-American fronts from their creation in the late 1940s to the investigative report 20 years later in *Ramparts* magazine that first exposed the CIA’s cultural offensive and left people such as [Gloria] Steinem with a bit of explaining to do.”

—Michael Kazin, WASHINGTON POST BOOK WORLD



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A limited number of copies of the 1991 book *OSS Against the Reich: The World War II Diaries of Colonel David K.E. Bruce* are available on the internet from Amazon.com, Alibris.com, and other sellers. Edited by Nelson D. Lankford, the 208-page book includes eyewitness accounts of D-Day, the rocket attacks against England, and the liberation of Paris. Colonel Bruce served as London branch chief and was one of General Donovan’s top deputies.

BOOK NOTES



***In the Ruins of Empire:
The Japanese Surrender and the Battle
for Postwar Asia***

By Ronald H. Spector
Random House

Reviewed by Alice A. Booher

When Emperor Hirohito told his people the war against the Allies “has developed not necessarily to Japan’s advantage,” his armies still occupied large portions of east Asia. In August 1945, Japanese generals and civil authorities controlled Manchuria, Korea, Indochina, Malaya and much of the Dutch East Indies. Within months, however, most of more than six million Japanese soldiers, administrators, and civilians had returned home. Their departure prepared the stage for a new round of conflicts. *In the Ruins of Empire* describes the political twists and historical tangles that produced years of postwar bloodshed.

It is a complicated story, and historian Ronald H. Spector does a good job of identifying major players and events. He cites several reasons for the turmoil. Millions of Asians had personally observed how easily British, Dutch, and French forces had been toppled or co-opted by the Japanese. When the Europeans returned, they faced local inhabitants no longer in awe of colonial power.

The Japanese occupations had been brutal, with hundreds of thousands executed and millions dead of disease or starvation. Once their protectors withdrew, many collaborators, or suspected collaborators, were jailed or killed.

The postwar chaos also offered opportunities to settle long-standing ethnic and religious scores. Chinese merchants, for example, faced pogroms throughout the region. Adding to the volatile mix was growing worldwide tension between the Soviets and the Americans. Both great powers sought Asian allies, and both supplied and encouraged proxy fighters.

One point that Spector makes several times is how ill-prepared Americans were for the tasks they undertook in places like Korea. The earliest days of U.S. occupation there were marked by equal parts of arrogance and ignorance, he concludes.

Not all of Spector’s tales are gloomy ones of violence and misunderstanding. One of the highest priorities for the U.S. government after Japan’s surrender was to locate and rescue Allied prisoners of war. Spector describes how the OSS had teams of a half-dozen men parachute into China with orders to liberate the camps. In several cases, the OSS teams arrived before Japanese commanders had received confirmation of Hirohito’s decision to surrender.

Yet within days, these small groups of Americans had taken control. If you saw it in a movie, you’d think it was fiction.



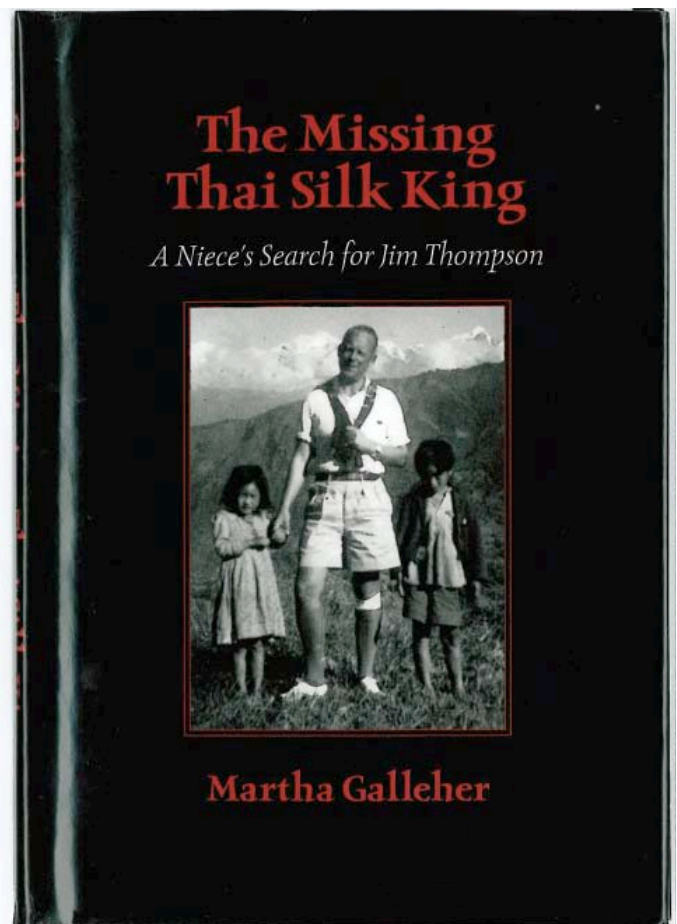
***The Missing Thai Silk King:
A Niece’s Search for Jim Thompson***

By Martha Galleher

Reviewed by Dan Pinck

Pardon the patois: this is a swell book, a combination of history and mystery focused on an investigation of the disappearance in 1967 of Mrs. Galleher’s step-uncle, James H. W. Thompson, in the Cameron Highlands in Malaysia. As famous as he was mysterious, Jim Thompson served in the OSS and in the CIA and he lived in Bangkok from 1945. He founded the well-known Thai Silk Company. Was he killed in a robbery by natives? Was he killed by Thai

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BOOK NOTES

royalty? Was he on a secret mission for Thai royalty? Was he on a CIA mission? Was he killed by employees of his Thai Silk Company? Did he simply get lost in the jungle while out for a late-afternoon walk? Did the Viet Cong do him in? Was he killed by Pathet Lao? Was he killed by the Chinese in Vietnam? Was he a double agent? Was he on a secret mission to persuade Chinese Communists to stop supporting the Viet Cong?

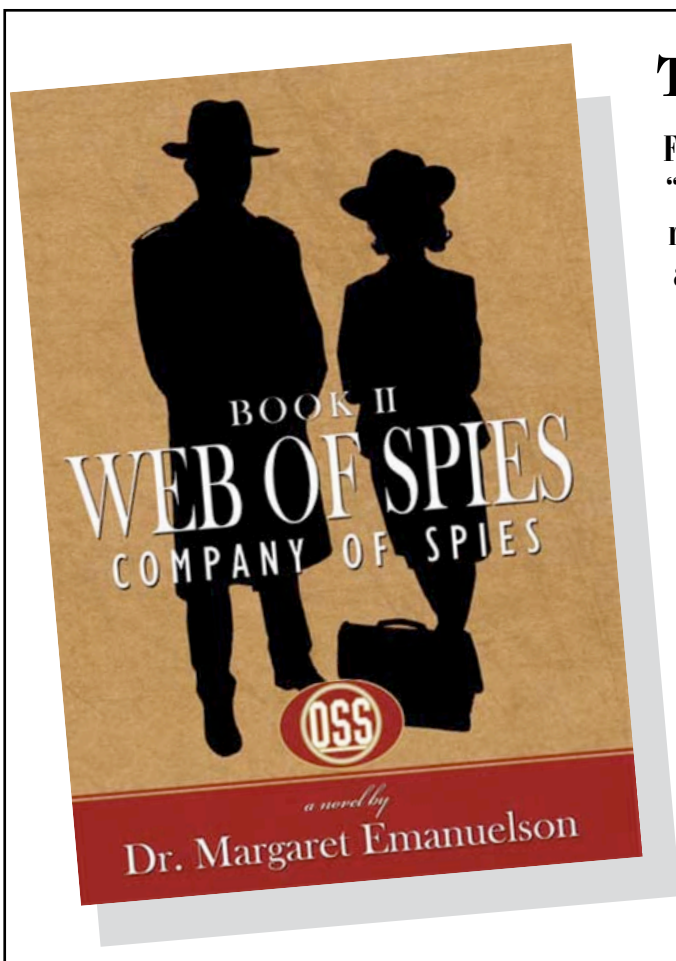
Mrs. Galleher and her husband Earl made two visits to the Far East to try to unravel the mystery of her step-uncle's disappearance. Their first trip was in 1966, the second in 1977. Their touch-all-bases investigation was exemplary. Miss Marple, Sherlock Holmes, and Charlie Chan could not have done a better job. In their search, they interviewed an international lineup of sources of information, from ambassadors, generals, intelligence operatives, high government officials in many countries, and U. S. congressman, to inconspic-

ous natives in Asian nations. Result: zilch.

I suspect Mrs. Galleher could be on a promising track when, two pages from the end of her book, she states: "Whatever his reasons, I believe Jim headed for China after he disappeared." How did she reach this assumption and from whose office did it originate?

The answer is—I won't tell you. Reviewers of mystery books properly do not tell readers cogent clues or answers to the mystery. The Main Man is surprising, I'll tell you that. Could this be an unfounded rumor, too? Who knows?

Mrs. Galleher's book is absorbing, with stretches of fine writing. The disappearance of James Harrison Williams Thompson is compensated—if this is the right word—by the appearance of his step-niece's book. An adroit scriptwriter and other highly competent professionals in Hollywood could produce a good movie about Mrs. Galleher's adventures in the Far East.



The Saga Continues . . .

From America to Europe, "Web of Spies," Book II in the series "Company of Spies," continues to portray not only the daring missions of the men but also those of the women who served alongside them as OSS operatives in that secret, clandestine, skullduggery world of espionage.

Well known as a master storyteller, Dr. Margaret Emanuelson draws from her past experiences as a clinical, forensic psychologist and veteran of the OSS to relate her tales of the audacious and heroic exploits of OSS operatives, and weaves her characters in and out of each other's lives in this fascinating, riveting, fast-moving story of espionage, political intrigue, murder, treason, deceit, patriotism, love, and the overcoming power of people of faith in a World at War.

For an autographed copy
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P.O. Box 759
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drmarobella@aol.com

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IN MEMORIAM

Herman J. Becker, 90, died April 4, 2008 in Ventura, Calif. He joined the U.S. Coast Guard in 1937 and served in the Bering Sea Patrol. He trained as a medical corpsman in aviation medicine, boat handling, and rescue swimming. In 1943, because of his specialized qualifications, he was transferred to the OSS and assigned to the Maritime Unit that implemented covert operations during WWII—the genesis of the Navy SEAL teams today.

His team trained in the Bahamas and Hawaii, and he mentored swimmers at training centers on Catalina Island and the Bahamas. His team implemented their programs in Burma and Ceylon (Sri Lanka), and he received a special commendation from the Chinese government for meritorious service in that country.

Frederick H. Burkhardt, a prominent educator, died Sept. 23, 2007 at his home in Bennington, Vt. Mr. Burkhardt headed both the American Council of Learned Societies and Bennington College. He also helped put the open-admissions policy into effect at the City University of New York. During WWII, he served in the Navy and with the OSS.

Kenneth A. Cathell, 89, died April 25, 2008 at his home. Born in Salisbury, Md., he founded and was the director of the Boys Club of Salisbury, and became a life member of the Elks Lodge #817, also in Salisbury. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II with the OSS in India.

Violet Coffin, 87, who led Democratic delegations to two national nominating conventions and who once wrote for *Time* magazine, died in Stafford, Vt. She became Vermont Democratic chairwoman in 1985 after being an activist in campaigns in Ohio and New York. She led delegations to the party's 1988 convention in Atlanta for Michael Dukakis and its 1992 convention in New York City for Bill Clinton.

Coffin graduated from Smith College in 1942. She served with the OSS in London and later became a correspondent for *Time* in Cairo and a journalist with *Fortune* and the *Toledo Blade*.

Charles Russell Etheridge, Jr., of Eastville, Va., better known as "Rusty," passed away on May 17, 2008. He was a Marine Corps veteran who served with OSS in WWII and then worked for the Federal Aviation Administration for over 20 years as an electrical maintenance engineer.

Elizabeth Cutler Fitzgerald, 85, of Mequon, Wis., passed away on May 18, 2008. Mrs. Cutler graduated from Milwaukee Downer Seminary in 1940 and Smith College in 1944. She served as a research assistant for the OSS in Washington in WWII and on the American prosecution staff at the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal, where she met her future husband, Richard Cutler, who was with the OSS in Berlin.

Daphne Munding Friele, 82, died peacefully April 16, 2008. Daphne was predeceased by her husbands, Col. Robert G. Munding and Berent E. Friele, both WWII veterans and former members of the Jedburgh Group. During WWII, Daphne was a member of the British First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, and served as the Jedburgh commanding officer's secretary. In later years, she worked tirelessly to reunite the French, British and American Jedburgh members and helped record the history of the unit, for which she was awarded the French *Ordre National du Merite* and the British Order of the British Empire (OBE). Her burial was at Arlington National Cemetery.

William G. "Doc" Fuchs, 83, died on December 19, 2007. A longtime resident of Largo, Fla., he was born in Neisse, Germany and emigrated with his family to the United States in 1924. He was a veteran of WWII, serving with the OSS in London, and was later employed by the CIA for 32 years.

Merle Glunt, 90, of Mount Union, Pa., passed away March 16, 2008. Glunt served as the American Radio Relay League consultant to the World Administrative Radio Conference in 1979, and through years of hard work, was instrumental in gaining the 12, 17, and 30 meter bands for the Amateur Service. His call number was W3OKN (SK).

During World War II, Glunt was the senior radio intercept analyst in the radio intelligence division of the Federal Communications Commission, specializing in worldwide German espionage radio communications and Philippine guerrilla radio circuits. He served as the liaison with the OSS and the British Security Coordination. After the war, he was in charge of U.S. Naval communications security surveillance and traffic analysis. He was a member of the U.S. Navy task force charged with the creation of the Armed Forces Security Agency (now the National Security Agency).

Arnold Ellis Grisman, 87, a well-known New York advertising executive, died in New York on March 13, 2008. Mr. Grisman graduated from Harvard University and became fluent in German, Russian, and Italian. He was one of six students handpicked by Gen. William Donovan



IN MEMORIAM

to join the OSS during WWII. His assignments included re-establishing the Italian telegraph lines and decoding communications to spy on the German military. He also fought at the Battle of Anzio and was the sole-surviving member of his platoon, losing much of his hearing in the process.

Henry Ulrich Herbert, 91, passed away March 20, 2008. He was born and raised on Kearny Street in Northeast Washington, D.C. He worked for 38 years as a cartographer with the federal government. A veteran of WWII, he served in the OSS in China, Burma and India.

William Fey Huffman, 83, the Wisconsin journalist and media owner known for his engagement in a broad range of community issues and organizations supporting the environment, died March 1, 2008.

He spent World War II in Europe as a French military intelligence interpreter with the OSS, leaving the military in late 1945 with the rank of corporal. His war experience greatly influenced his later beliefs, and he maintained a lifelong fluency in the French language.

J.C. Hurewitz, 93, a Columbia University professor whose voluminous research contributed depth and complexity to the emerging field of Middle Eastern studies died on May 16, 2008 in Manhattan.

Among his more influential interpretive works was *The Struggle for Palestine*, a revision of his doctoral thesis, which is still regarded as an illuminating look at the emergence of Israel as a nation.

During World War II, Dr. Hurewitz used his language skills working for the Near East section of the OSS. He then worked successively at the State Department, as a political adviser on Palestine to the president's cabinet, and for the United Nations Secretariat.

Anna G. "Anne" (Szynal) Iglowski, 93, formerly of Webster, Mass., died Feb. 18, 2008 at her home in Houston, Tex. She was born in Webster and lived there most of her life before moving to Houston in 2002. She worked for OSS in Washington, D.C. during World War II. She returned to Webster after the war and worked in the finance department at Anglo Fabrics Company for many years before retiring.

Walter Jessel, 95, died April 11, 2008 in Boulder, Colo. Jessel fled Nazi Germany in the 1930s, eventually immigrating to the United States and becoming a citizen, an Army officer and head of several Boulder environmental groups.

According to his family, Jessel took great pride in his U.S. citizenship, stressing the importance of participatory democracy. "He considered it an obligation as an American citizen to make this place better," said his daughter, Peggy Jessel.

He spent World War II in a U.S. uniform fighting his former countrymen, working for the OSS in Germany where he met his wife, Cynthia Jacobsen, also in U.S. intelligence.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years; three children; and five grandchildren.

William Peter Katsirubas of McLean, Virginia, passed away October 17, 2007 from injuries received in an automobile accident. "Pete" was with the OSS Maritime unit. He served in Underwater Demolition Team Ten. He joined the Central Intelligence Agency in 1951 and had a distinguished career in Greece, Pakistan, and Iran.

George Maddock fought off the grim reaper until he was 87 with the same spirit he displayed in WWII. Unofficially, Maddock was the world's tallest paratrooper. His 6-foot-8-inch frame presented a huge target on low-level jumps behind enemy lines in southern France, which is why his war-time souvenirs included shrapnel lodged in his body. Neither German flak nor Big Ten linemen could stop "Moose," but the "Gentle Giant" died on Feb. 21, 2008.

Having survived the Nazis, Maddock evolved into a legend as a standout tackle for Northwestern's 1948 Rose Bowl team, which beat California 20-14. The son of Russian immigrants, he played briefly for the old Chicago Hornets before returning to Froebel High School in 1949, where he served as head football coach.

Louis E. Madison, 93, who died Jan. 10, 2008 in San Francisco, Calif., was a decorated OSS officer in WWII. He lived in European countries and ran a manufacturing business in Germany with his wife for several years after the war. Later, in 1979, he moved to San Francisco.

Mr. Madison was born in Worcester, Mass. in 1914 and attended college at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He worked as an economist at the U.S. Department of Labor before joining the Army during WWII. He was selected for the OSS and was stationed in Italy and Romania.

He received two Bronze Stars for his service and was commended by Lt. Col. Walter Ross, the military chief in Bucharest, who wrote that then-Capt. Madison "has, without a doubt, made the most important single contribution to the war effort of any officer assigned to Romania for duty."

Andre Moyon, 93, alias "Captain Freddy," died in February 2008 in Brussels. He groomed hundreds of intelligence agents in Belgium and also in Africa and Asia where he served as intelligence advisor to several governments.

Born in the Ardennes in 1914 and a specialist in German language and culture, Moyon began his career at

IN MEMORIAM

the age of 20 as a secret agent in Nazi Germany with Col. Rene Mampuy, head of the Belgian army's intelligence service, as his mentor. A resistance fighter who took the name of "Freddy Bastogne," Moyon created Service Eight that liquidated Gestapo agents before moving on to serve as co-head of the Athos network linked to the Office of Strategic Services. His successive covers—as a journalist, professor, and doctor—were professions he actually practiced along with his secret role.

After the war he was appointed deputy director of Belgium's Service General de Renseignement/Service de Documentation, de Recherche et d'Action (SGR/SDRA). In that capacity he helped organize anticommunist stay-behind "Gladio" networks in conjunction with the CIA, France's SDECE and German intelligence.

Moyon founded the Bureau Milpol which carried out financial intelligence missions with a network that functioned in the Congo during the final years of Belgian colonial rule. In the 1960s, Colonel Boyard, the new chief of SGR/SDRA, sent Moyon to Morocco where he helped King Hassan II set up a gendarmerie force, and then to Taiwan.

There, he found himself advising the chief of the Nationalist Chinese spy service, Pang Chih. Over the past 40 years, Moyon divided his time between official missions and business, creating the Belgian branch of the Securitas agency as well as a school for private detectives.

Donald Alvin Neale, 83, of Kinross, Iowa, died at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Iowa City, Iowa on January 18, 2008. He joined the U.S. Navy during WWII and served aboard a tanker converted to an aircraft carrier. The ship was hit by a Japanese Kamikaze plane but recovered enough to help protect the west flank of the U.S. invasion forces during the Okinawa campaign.

In mid-1944 he was requested by his commander to become a member of Donovan's Raiders, otherwise known as the OSS. While with the Raiders, his squadron was assigned to count and report Japanese troop and ship movements up and down the Chinese coast. His contingent was captured by the Japanese, and for the next nine months to a year he was a Japanese POW. After the war ended in 1945, the prisoners were located by U.S. troops and taken to military hospitals for recuperation.

He received his undergraduate degree from St. John's University in New York and his M.B.A. from Harvard University. During the last 40 years of his life he practiced as a CPA with various accounting firms, specializing in income tax work.

Paul Nebenzahl, 85, of Greensboro, N.C. passed away on February 16, 2007. Paul lived most of his life on Long Island, moving to San Francisco, Calif. in 1992, where he married Judith Hirsch Nebenzahl. During WWII he was with the OSS, parachuting into southern France to work with the French underground. He finished out his years of OSS service in China, then spent nearly 60 years in the advertising business.

Francis Recchia, 95, an Italian immigrant recruited by the OSS in WWII, died Sept. 23, 2007 in Long Island, N.Y. During the war he served behind enemy lines in Italy and France. He was multilingual and spoke French, Spanish, Portuguese, English as well as Italian.

Steve Rejko, 85, Venice, Fla., died Feb. 15, 2008. He was a World War II Army veteran, where he was a member of the OSS. He was president of the Venice East Association, president of Sarasota Council of Neighborhood Associations, a life member of DAV, and past commander of the AMVETS in Sarasota.

Lt. Colonel Hugh Reynolds, 90, died Oct. 6, 2007 in Norman, Okla. He was born in Elizabethtown, Ky. After graduating from high school in Louisville, he enlisted in the United States Army in 1937 and retired in 1959 after 22 years on active duty. During World War II he landed on Omaha Beach on the Normandy coast of France as a member of the Office of Strategic Services. He later served in occupied Japan and spent one year in South Vietnam prior to the beginning of the Vietnam War.

After being relieved from active duty, he moved to Norman, Okla. where he was a broadcast engineer for the University of Oklahoma's radio station, WNAD. After leaving WNAD, he pursued his interest in amateur radio and raising pigeons. He was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Eloise Dooley Reynolds.

John Edward "Jack" Ritzert, 89, a Defense Department division chief who was knowledgeable about federal and defense information security programs, died Feb. 4, 2008 at his home in Lewes, Del. He was born in Dayton, Ohio and his family moved to Washington in the late 1920s. He graduated from Gonzaga High School, attended Georgetown University, and graduated from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law in 1941.

He practiced law before joining the OSS in 1943, and worked with the CIA until 1961, when he began work-



IN MEMORIAM

ing for the Air Force. He played a key role in the review of government security policies that were critical to the establishment of commercial flights between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Jack Marlin Rudolph, 89, of Sherman, Ill. passed away on Jan. 17, 2008. He was born in Boonville, Ind. and graduated from Purdue University with a degree in chemical engineering. He was an officer in the U.S. Army in WWII, serving with the OSS in England, France and Germany. He was discharged from active duty with the rank of major and resumed employment with Kimberly-Clark as a paper chemist and plant engineer.

Mildred Lucas Hansbrough Sammartino, 88, of Roanoke, Va. died May 19, 2008. During WWII she worked in Washington for the OSS, where she met her husband, Frank Sammartino, who was serving in the Army. The couple married in 1944 and moved to Frank's home town of Vineland, N.J. after the war ended. She returned to Roanoke after her husband died in 1978.

Luigi Sartori passed away in Treviso, Italy in late May 2008, just short of his 89th birthday. During the Fascist regime in Italy, military service was compulsory. In 1941, Sartori graduated from the military school for Italy's elite mountain troops, the Alpini, and then served in the Balkans. On September 6, 1943, Italy surrendered and became a co-belligerent. Sartori joined the resistance movement. In April 1944, he headed a mission that parachuted into the upper Veneto area. He was attached to a Matteotti Brigade on Monte Grappa, which conducted sabotage operations and transmitted intelligence until the end of the war.

Despite a busy career as an automobile distributor and raising a family of four children, he still found time for civic activities and taking an important part in a partisan organization. He organized a 2005 OSS conference in Venice.

Robert J. Schraeder Sr., 89, died Oct. 25, 2007 in St. Louis, Mo. A captain in the Army Air Corps during WWII, he served with OSS in Yugoslavia behind enemy lines.

Lloyd G. Smith, 89, died Mar. 8, 2008 at his home in Vienna, Va. He was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Elizabeth C. Smith, who died February 20, 2008.

Mr. Smith was born in Yeagertown, Pa. After attending Penn State University, he enlisted in the Army. He was assigned to Hawaii and was at Bellows Army Air Field on December 7, 1941. In September 1943, he was recruited by the OSS. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for rescuing nurses and the crew of an airplane that had strayed off course and crash-landed in Albania.

He also received the Legion of Merit for missions against the German army behind the lines in Italy. After the

war, he was assigned to the White Sands Proving Ground where he worked with the U.S. missile program. He served in the Korean War. He was assigned to the International Geophysical Year rocket range in Fort Churchill, Canada. He received an oak leaf cluster on his Legion of Merit for his work on the project. He retired from the Army in 1962. Mr. Smith and his wife are buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Eleanor Leiter Vallieres, 84, a homemaker and former admissions officer at American University, died Jan. 17, 2008 in Silver Spring, Md. In 1944, she took a job with the OSS, where she was assigned to X-2 as an abstractor-indexer. After cessation of hostilities with Japan, she was an office assistant in the Shanghai station of the Strategic Services Unit in the War Department, the postwar successor to the OSS.

Richard D. Wagner, 82, a retired CIA officer, died Mar. 7, 2008 at the Rebecca House assisted-living facility in Potomac, Md. Mr. Wagner was born in Mehama, Ore., and served in Army intelligence in Germany during World War II. After his discharge, he remained in Germany and continued to serve with the CIA for 35 years.

Mr. Wagner received a bachelor's degree in political science from George Washington University in the mid-1980s. He was active for many years in the Babe Ruth Leagues of Vienna.

Alexander "Sandy" Hamilton Woods died Feb. 16, 2008. He was born in Tuxedo Park, N.Y. He served with the OSS during World War II. Upon discharge, he returned to Harvard. He then went to John Hopkins to receive his medical degree, and next went to Duke Hospital for a residency. From there he went to the University of Oklahoma Medical School where he was on the Internal Medicine faculty. In 1964, he joined the founding faculty of the University of Arizona Medical School. On retirement, he was the employees' physician for Hughes Aircraft. In 1989, at age 67, he received his law degree from the University of Arizona College of Law and practiced law for Southern Arizona Legal Aid.

George G. Wynne, 81, a retired Foreign Service officer with the U.S. Information Agency, died at his home in Alexandria, Va. on Oct. 28, 2007. Born in Vienna, Austria, he left his parents in 1938 to immigrate to the U.S. as a child. Late in WWII, he served in the U.S. Army in Europe as an intelligence officer with the OSS. Naturalized in 1944, he retired from the Army Reserve with the rank of colonel. He earned a B.A. from Columbia University, a Ph.D. degree from the University of Vienna in 1948, and an M.A. from Yale University in 1949.

REMEMBERING OSSERS

Albert Materazzi; Led OSS/OG Units in Italy

Albert R. Materazzi, 92, a retired graphic arts professional and an Office of Strategic Services commando during World War II, died March 14, 2008 at his home in Bethesda, Md.

Born in Hershey, Pa., to immigrant parents from the Tuscany region of Italy, Mr. Materazzi was an ideal candidate for one of the Operational Groups of the OSS—teams of ethnic Americans fluent in their families' native tongues and trained for guerrilla fighting behind enemy lines. With 15 to 30 men in each group, they were forerunners of the Green Berets.



Albert Materazzi

Mr. Materazzi volunteered for the Army and then the OGs after receiving his undergraduate degree in chemistry from Fordham University in 1936 and an advanced degree in chemistry from the University of Rome in 1938.

“He was an excellent operations officer, a spymaster, if you will,” said Arlington, Va. writer Patrick K. O’Donnell, author of two books about OSS operations in the European theater.

Based in Corsica, Mr. Materazzi—nicknamed “The Brain” for his keen intellect—planned a number of OG operations to disrupt German battle plans and to provide support for Italian resistance efforts. One of the operations, code-named “Ginny,” was to destroy a critical railroad tunnel at Stazione Framura in March 1944.

Mr. Materazzi described the operation to O’Donnell for his book *Operatives, Spies, and Saboteurs: The Unknown Story of the Men and Women of World War II’s OSS* (2004): “I felt we could damage both ends of the tunnel and booby-trap the rail. We could keep it out of operation for maybe a week, and in the meantime our aviation would have a field day because there’d be a lot of traffic backed up in both directions.”

Mr. Materazzi’s team—he was not with the group—went ashore in three rubber boats. Italian fascist sympathizers discovered the boats and alerted German soldiers in the area, who captured the American commandos. They were forced to dig their own mass grave and then were executed.

Mr. Materazzi was awarded the Legion of Merit and other commendations, including two awards from the Ital-

ian government. He also testified against a number of Nazi officers in postwar trials, including the officer who had ordered the execution of Mr. Materazzi’s men.

After his discharge, Mr. Materazzi worked as a graphic arts technical specialist for the Army Map Service (now the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency). In 1953, he joined the Litho-Kem Corp., a printing and lithography supply company, and became vice president of research and development.

In 1973, he became director of research and quality control at the Government Printing Office. He retired in 1980 but continued working for a number of years as a consultant in the graphic arts industry.

He was a former president of the Technical Association of the Graphic Arts and of the Research and Engineering Council of the Graphic Arts. He also was a founder of the Washington School for Printing and chairman of the National Scholarship Trust Fund of the Education Council of the Graphic Arts.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Edea Materazzi of Bethesda, a son, and two grandchildren.

Albert Materazzi Remembered by Wartime Italian Partisans

We in Italy remember Captain Albert Materazzi as officer of the 2671st Special Reconnaissance Battalion entrusted with the organization and execution of special operations, in cooperation with Italian Partisans, against enemy troops, installations, supply lines and lines of communication.

Captain Materazzi’s strong effort in planning and maintaining at highest level the liaisons with and supply of Italian Partisans reflect his strong patriotic motivation. The Veterans of the Resistance remember with great appreciation his tact and diplomacy in handling Partisans and settling their political disputes to obtain their maximum contribution to the Allied cause.

Myself and the Italian friends in the Resistance remember him with deep gratitude and join Edea, his beloved wife, and the friends of The OSS Society in expressing our most sincere condolences.

Dr. Luigi Sartori, Col., Retired
Treviso, Italy

We received news of Col. Sartori’s death shortly after receiving this letter. The OSS Society is saddened by the loss of our wartime compatriot and friend.

REMEMBERING OSSERS

AP Correspondent John Roderick; Served in Kunming with OSS

John Roderick, 93, an Associated Press correspondent who covered the Chinese revolutionary Mao Zedong and other Communist guerilla leaders while living with them in their cave headquarters in the mid-1940s, died in Honolulu on March 11, 2008. He was an avid journalist to the end. "To my old eyes," he wrote in a Feb. 18 AP report, "it seems almost a miracle that China has survived the pain and bloodshed to emerge from poverty and become one of the richest of Earth's nations in so short a time."

Roderick's career with AP spanned five decades with postings in Asia, Europe and the Middle East. In 1977 he was named an AP special correspondent—one of only a handful—and in 1985 the Japanese government honored him with its Order of the Sacred Treasure.

Born in 1914, in Waterville, Maine, Roderick was orphaned at 16. His career in journalism began at 15 at his hometown newspaper, the *Sentinel*. He joined AP in Portland in 1937 after graduating from Colby College. In 1942 he moved to AP's office in Washington, D.C. The following year he was drafted into the Army, assigned to the OSS, and was sent to Kunming where he worked with the MO unit.

A year after reopening AP's Beijing bureau, Roderick returned to Tokyo in 1980 as a special correspondent and roamed Asia, reporting on whatever story caught his interest. He retired—prematurely, he later said—in 1984 at age 70. After his retirement he continued to write background stories for AP on China and the Middle East, and also wrote about his own 92nd birthday in 2006, which AP celebrated with a champagne lunch in New York. That year he began a series of monthly, China-related articles on the Beijing 2008 Olympics.

Milton Wolff; OSS and Spanish Civil War Vet

Milton Wolff, 92, who died January 14, 2008 was described by Ernest Hemingway as being "as brave and as good a soldier as any that commanded battalions at Gettysburg." Wolff was the last commander of the U.S.



John Roderick

volunteers who fought in the International Brigades during the Spanish civil war. He sailed for Spain in March 1937, aged 21, and initially served as a medic. He transferred to the Washington battalion's machine-gun company before the battle of Brunete, west of Madrid, in July 1937. Losses were so heavy that the remnants were merged with the Lincoln unit.

By July 1938, Wolff led the Lincoln-Washington battalion across the river Ebro in the Spanish republic's last offensive. The war ended the following March with Franco's victory. Wolff left school at 15 and, during the Depression, worked in a Manhattan garment factory. During WWII, he joined OSS, saw action in Burma with the U.S. army, and helped establish an intelligence network among communist partisans in Italy.

Eleanor Thiry Summers; Served in Sri Lanka and Kunming

Eleanor Helen Summers (nee Thiry), 87, passed away at her home in Dunwoody, Ga. on May 4, 2008.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor she went to Washington, DC where she joined the OSS. She was sent to Ceylon to organize and set up the new offices for the OSS field staff. She made the voyage on the USS Mariposa in 1944 along with eight other women of the OSS including Julia Child.

While in Ceylon she went about her work with the OSS; she wrote her family weekly letters detailing what local life was like and about everyday events—checking drawers for sleeping cobras or attending parties and dinners for visiting dignitaries and military officials. She was well known for her beautiful voice and entertained by singing at gatherings.

As the war against the Japanese moved farther east, she was sent to the OSS offices in Kunming, China, where she worked under Colonel Richard Heppner. There she met her future husband, Major F. Basil Summers, who was serving as the assistant military attache with the British Embassy. They were married in London on November 23, 1946.

In 1948 they moved to New York City and raised their four children. While there she worked for ElAl Israel Airlines as the assistant to the director of public relations, which afforded her many opportunities to travel. They moved to Dunwoody in 1966 and remained there for the next 42 years.

Eleanor was a member of The OSS Society and the Habersham Chapter of the Daughters of the British Empire. She is survived by her husband of 61 years and their four children.

REMEMBERING OSSERS

Roger Hall; Memoirist of World War II Espionage

by Adam Bernstein

Roger Hall, 89, who wrote *You're Stepping on My Cloak and Dagger*, a wry memoir about World War II spycraft that became a cult classic in intelligence circles and appealed to a wide audience for its irreverence, died July 20, 2008 at his home in Wilmington, Del.

Mr. Hall's 1957 best-seller, dedicated "to whom it may concern," was based on his time in the Office of Strategic Services, the war-time precursor to the CIA. The appeal was in Mr. Hall's narrative as a man of nerve battling the enemy and his pompous superiors.

The son of a Navy captain, Mr. Hall grew up in Annapolis. He said the OSS book was not meant to show "contempt for authority, but briding at authority."

One of his favorite OSS stories involved a colleague sent to occupied France to destroy a seemingly impenetrable German tank at a key crossroads. The French resistance found that grenades were no use.

The OSS man, fluent in German and dressed like a French peasant, walked up to the tank and yelled, "Mail!"

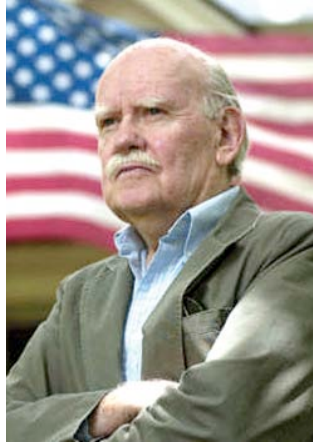
The lid opened, and in went two grenades.

Mr. Hall learned guerrilla warfare at Congressional Country Club, which the OSS had taken over for training, and spent much of the war in Great Britain, training and working alongside a motley gang of paratroopers: new recruits, war-hardened Poles, and the occasional rising star, such as future CIA director William E. Colby. (He later was an usher at Colby's first wedding.)

Ultimately, Mr. Hall arrived in a war zone, the little-known but strategic Norwegian theater of operations. "Operation Better-Late-Than-Never," he called it. One of his tasks was to oversee the surrender of thousands of Germans to his small contingent.

Roger Wolcott Hall was born May 20, 1919, in Baltimore. He graduated from Annapolis High School in 1936 and a year later from the private Severn School before entering the University of Virginia.

At U-Va., he became captain of the lacrosse team



Roger Hall

and a member of the Punch and Julep Dramatic Society before graduating in 1941. He initially joined the Army and finished the war at the rank of captain.

Mr. Hall spent most of his life in New York as a freelance writer and editor. In the early 1970s, he had a stint, his favorite job, as cartoon editor for the old True magazine in New York.

He also was the host of radio shows, including one called "You Can't Fight Roger Hall."

He moved to Delaware in the 1980s with his wife, Linda Texter Hall, a poet and yoga instructor whom he married in 1973. She is his only immediate survivor.

He wanted his epitaph to read, "He deserves paradise who makes his companions laugh," a phrase sometimes attributed to the Koran.

Adam Bernstein wrote the introduction to *You're Stepping on My Cloak and Dagger* when it was reissued in 2004 by the Naval Institute Press.

Nicholas Cominos; OSS Operative in Greece

Nicholas Cominos, 84, passed away peacefully at his East Bay, Calif., home on March 14, 2008. Mr. Cominos' family emigrated from the island of Kythera in Greece, where he was born, and settled in the central valley of California, where they began a hotel business in the 1930s, which included the famous Cominos Hotel in Salinas. He served in the U.S. Army in WWII with the OSS.

Mr. Cominos attained the rank of sergeant and helped lead covert operations against the Nazis in the Dalmation Islands in the Adriatic Sea, which resulted in the recapture of the Nazi-occupied island of Solta for the Allies. During this battle, he was wounded by enemy gunfire and received a Purple Heart.

After recuperating, Mr. Cominos returned to Greece, where he parachuted behind enemy lines and conducted undercover reconnaissance missions to further disrupt the German occupation. The Nazis ultimately retreated from Greece in November 1944. For his many acts of bravery and sacrifice on behalf of his country, Mr. Cominos was awarded the Bronze Star by Representative George Miller in a special ceremony in December of 2001. The presentation of the award was delayed for over 50 years because the OSS records remained classified until 1988.

Following the war, Mr. Cominos completed his schooling and settled in southern California, where he enjoyed a long and varied career in the motion picture industry, focusing on documentary filmmaking.

HELP WANTED – BY OSS FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

■ My uncle told us he was in the OSS. He used two names: **Jose Angel Pasqual** and **Baron Alaric Jal Siegfried Ian Alex Macleoid Von du Pascal Eric**. His military past is very interesting. I have a picture of him in a sailor uniform on a ship with Hitler, so that was Germany's Kriegsmarine. I have a picture of him in a kilt and his badge from the King's Own Scottish Borderers. It shows he was in the British Army from 1942 to 1945. Then he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1948 and went to Korea, France, and Germany.

Mrs. Christie Jones
Cjones.pv@calhoun.k12.al.us

■ My grandfather, **Jack Edward Breshears**, served in the OSS in January 1944. He was stationed in England. His discharge papers reference HQ Detachment Office of Strategic Services APO 413. I am trying to learn some details of his service.

Lnorris79@gmail.com

■ My father, **Andre' D'Avi**, was in OSS during the war. He was one of the first Americans to arrive at Hitler's bunker after the Russians. He spoke four languages (Russian, French, English and German) and was a dual French-American citizen. He landed at Utah beach on D-Day +6. He traveled with his dog 'Furlough' throughout his entire adventure before returning to live on Long Island, NY in 1950.

This August 8th is the 40th anniversary of his death from cancer in 1968 and so I am jumping out at this late date and asking if anyone knew or remembered him.

Charlie Destries
charliedestries@yahoo.com

■ My uncle, **Dimitrios Dimitriadis**, from Greece, served as a member of OSS during WWII, from March 1944 to December 1944. How would I get information related to him?

Fontinos Dimitriadis
fedimitriadis@hotmail.com
Tel: 302106910102 (Greece)

■ I am looking for information on my uncle, **Joseph Eckl**, who was a member of OSS during WWII. He retired from the Air Force and passed away in the 1960s.

Him Erickson
egs@indianheadtel.net

■ **Colonel Sheffield Edwards**, (1902–1975) of the OSS was my second cousin. I am curious about his military career. I would like to hear from his colleagues who might be willing to fill me in on his genealogy and career.

Edward D. Sloan, Jr.
Box 25999
Greenville, SC. 29616-0999
Voice and Fax 864-232-4755

■ I have been trying to find information about my late uncle, **Louis Eliopulos**. I believe he was in the OSS in North Africa with Op Torch, and ultimately in Italy and that at various times he was attached to Patton's 7th Army. He died in 1987.

Thomas Eliopulos
teliopulos@yahoo.com

■ I'm trying to research my late grandfather, **Donald H. Ellison**, so I can pass this down for generations to come in our family. He was from Xenia, Ohio, and was a member of the OSS.

Katherine Ellison
Phone: 937-452-2070
Shygirl2oh2@aol.com

■ My father, **James E. Herring**, was fairly closemouthed about his military service in World War II, but my mother says he did mention going behind enemy lines in France, due to his ability to speak French and German with no American accent.

He served in the Army from September 11, 1941 through February 12, 1943. Then he had an honorable discharge to accept a commission. From February 19, 1943 through December 14, 1945 he served in the Army as a first lieutenant until honorable relief from active duty. Could he have been with OSS?

Martha Herring Kirby
onekirby@shentel.net

■ My father, **Walter M. Imbrock**, served in the OSS CBI Theater in WWII. He was in southeastern China. He monitored Japanese movements along the coast. I am looking for more information on that part of WWII. At the end of the war he traveled out by way of Hong Kong. I am writing a life history for him so any information would help.

Karen Persinger
kpersinger@dsicc.edu

■ My father, **Kenneth E. Jones**, mentioned on his deathbed that he had worked with the OSS. He enlisted as a private in the Army Air Corps Nov. 29, 1940 and was assigned as an administrative noncommissioned officer to the 99th Bombardment Wing in the ETO. He served in Scotland from July 1943 to Oct. 1945. Prior to that he was in Washington, DC. Is there a possibility that he might show up in OSS records?

Ken Jones
Kjones64@insight.rr.com

■ My father, **Dong Kingman** (1911-2000), the watercolor artist, joined the OSS in Washington, D.C. in early 1945, awaiting assignment to China. In the meantime, he reported to Herbert Barton of the Presentation Group and was assigned to the cartography department.

I understand the Presentation Group included Saul Steinberg, Eero Saarinen, Will Burtin, etc. Would appreciate it if you would correct me if any of the above is not accurate and if you have any recollection of my father or the Presentation Group.

Dong Kingman, Jr.
kingcom@att.net

■ I am trying to get information on my father, **Donato F. Lavanga**, a member of the U.S. Army and the OSS who was stationed in France. He died on October 17, 2007.

Pat Lavanga
patlav@aol.com

HELP WANTED - BY OSSERS AND OTHERS

■ Recently my uncle, **Orville Meyer**, died. My father, his twin, is still living and recalls that Orv served in the OSS during World War II. Is there a way I can find out more about his service record? It would mean a lot to my father, since Orv, until his death, would talk very little about this.

Suzanne Suor
Suzanne@VPNSystems.com

■ My father's name is **James Thomas Michaels**. I have recently discovered that he was in the OSS. He apparently spent much of his time during WWII behind German lines in civilian clothes gathering intelligence. He was captured twice, escaped once, and was released once by advancing U.S. troops. He and **Jim Taylor** were a two-man team, and Dad has often mentioned Taylor's name. Dad lost track of Taylor, and perhaps someone in your organization would have some information on his whereabouts (if he is still alive). My father is about to celebrate his 84th birthday and I would love to get these two in contact with each other again.

Jim Michaels
jtmich@msn.com

■ During WWII, my father, who was a lawyer with the Labor Department in Washington, was transferred, along with several of his close colleagues, to NYC. Now, many years later having read *A Man Called Intrepid* and many other accounts of the OSS, I think my father was involved. He was **Herbert P. Miller**, assistant counsel with the Dept. of Labor. He retired around 1965.

Maryrose Miller
morningsidemary@intrstar.net

■ I am a hospice chaplain in Atlanta, Ga. A former member of OSS, **Thomas Brown Morgan**, 84, is in our service and is not expected to live much longer. With the OSS he went behind the lines in several European countries before they were liberated, after which he went to Burma to help fight the Japanese.

Wounded in an explosion which broke both his legs, he was then stabbed by Japanese soldiers who were stabbing Americans to make sure they were dead. He survived and was found the next day and taken to a hospital.

His wife, Sarah, mentioned that several people have told her that he never received the Purple Heart that he should have. I am trying to see if it might be possible for this to happen. It may be possible that the secrecy of OSS prevented him from receiving the medal. I would appreciate any guidance on how to proceed.

Chaplain Jerry Gentry
Crossroads Hospice
1957 Lakeside Parkway, Suite 500
Tucker, GA 30089
jerrygentry@gmail.com

■ My father, **Edward Jon Moxden**, served in the Marine Corps and OSS. He entered the Marines at 16 and later was sent to China. There he was captured and tortured. I am told all of his nails were pulled out. My father escaped with the help of some Chinese. He was shot in the face and had to have plastic surgery. He was sent to Walter Reed Hospital. We do not know when this occurred, only that his face was different when comparing before and after photos.

His rank on enlistment was corporal and he was listed as a salvage man. He attended officer candidate school and graduated with the rank of Lt. He once told my mother that he was a Carlson Raider.

Arlene Gear
2 Muse Ave.
Wilmington, Ma.. 01887
arleneg33@verizon.net

■ I am the grandson of **Lt. Col. Roger Alton Pfaff**, an OSSer who served with Det. 101 in Burma and in Europe. I have been unsuccessful in finding out what he did during the war. If you could point me towards any information about my grandfather, I would appreciate it.

Alan Hays
Albaby73@yahoo.com

■ My father, **Joe Rajacic**, passed away in August 2008. He was a member of OSS but was hesitant to tell his family much of what he did in the war. I know he spent some time in North Africa and served in Italy and he talked of actor Sterling Hayden being in his group. I have a code book that shows many radio messages my father sent and a map of Italy and areas to the north on a scarf. There is also a 9mm Beretta he said he removed from an Italian soldier. Lastly, there are several pictures he took leading a group of 15 prisoners through the snow. I hope I can get more information on his work.

jrajacic@aol.com

■ My father was in the OSS in WWII. He was Finnish but spoke Norwegian (among other languages) and jumped into Norway with William Colby. They also jumped into France prior to the Norwegian "job." Is there any way I can get some information about him? The only thing I have is Colby's book with his picture (my father) in it, a copy of *The Stars and Stripes Magazine* dated July 21, 1945 about part of the mission.

Matt Raivio
Kc10life1@yahoo.com

■ I would like to know more about the involvement of my late father-in-law, **Col. George Virgil Russell**, in OSS. He never told a soul about it, and only when he passed away did we find his OSS documents. He left the military for civilian life in late 1945.

William King
bking@xmission.com

■ I recently became a member of The OSS Society. I am the granddaughter of the late **Gerald Sabatino**. I am doing a research project on the Italian Resistance and the OSS involvement in WWII. Is it possible to get a list of OSS members, preferably in Illinois, involved in this time period who I can interview?

Maggie Sabatino
Maggie.sabby@gmail.com

HELP WANTED - BY OSSERS AND OTHERS

■ My father, **Beverly Arthur Sill**, now deceased, served in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the OSS. He operated in postwar Germany investigating war crimes. Do you have any suggestions on where I can find archived information about him?

Igor Sill
igor@genevac.com

■ I would like to know if my late father, **James Walter Smith**, was a member of OSS. I have no official documentation, but I have been told he was in the USMC. He may have been assigned with OSS in the China/Burma theater. He was a Native American-Chincahua Apache and spoke multiple languages, including English, his native Apache, Navajo, different dialects of Spanish and German, could understand Japanese, and could read, write and speak Chinese (both Mandarin and Cantonese).

Reginal L. Smith
reggie51@satx.rr.com

■ I am the niece, by marriage, of **Eugene Mersereau Waith**, who served in the OSS during 1943-46. He recently passed away and I am trying to learn more about his work for the OSS in France. I will appreciate hearing from anyone who knew him.

Kathleen Gear
kathygear@comcast.net
kgear@email.arizona.edu

■ I have read that the OSS dropped paratroops into Yugoslavia to rescue downed allied flyers. These men were protected by Mihailovich. Is there a roster for the names of the men who participated in this operation? I am trying to find out whether my uncle, 2nd Lt. **Charles M. Willis** (01304475), was a participant. He was attached to the airborne training center of the 5th Army in Italy.

Mike Woldenberg
geomike@buffalo.edu

■ My cousin, **Eugene E. Wing**, was in the Pacific Theater during WWII,

and I am curious if he was an OSS operative. Eugene was a banker with business interests in Asia, and when the Japanese attempted to arrest him at Manila, in 1944, he fled to Leyte Island. There is speculation that he was picked up by guerrilla fighters or that his yacht was dive-bombed before he was finally captured by the Japanese. He was executed in April 1944 rather than being imprisoned at the Santo Tomas Internment Camp, at Manila, so he may have been suspected of espionage.

My thought is that he could have been monitoring Japanese Naval movements and gathering intelligence in advance of the U.S. invasion. Any information or assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Nick Wing
330.472.6211
nswinternational@gmail.com

■ My maternal uncle was **Allen D. Wooten**. He was a member of the OSS. I have found a record titled: Headquarters OSS S.U. Det. 101, APO 629, c/o Postmaster, New York, NY. I also have a copy of a presidential commendation he received. Any information you could give me about him during those years will be appreciated.

Thank you,
Barbara Turner Ralston
FVWT@aol.com

■ Does anyone remember either of these people? My dad, **George B. Zeigler**, started out in the Army and served in the historical branch of the Persian Gulf Command. While in Teheran in 1943, he was asked to use his stenographic skills to transcribe the minutes of the Teheran Conference. He was recruited into OSS by a man named Al Hudson and served in Turkey in the last days of WWII. He made the transition to CIA and served there until 1954. He was based in Q building and had responsibility for evaluating the feasibility of certain projects.

My mom, known as **Betty**, volunteered for duty overseas during WWII

and was a civilian OSS officer attached to X-2 in London. She wrote questions to be asked to captured German officers and was involved in the effort to track down Cicero. She also made the transition to CIA and ended up as a branch chief. They married in 1948, and Mom retired just before I was born in 1950. They have both passed away, but I just wondered if anybody out there knew them.

Bob Zeigler
ziggy.travesty@yahoo.com

■ I'm looking for information on a WWII Portuguese spy for Germany, codenamed "Armando." We believe the individual's real name was Dr. Cunha e Costa, a relative of President Salazar of Portugal. May also be listed under Cunha, Costa, Silva Costa, or Silva. Armando was active in late 1941 and early 1942, working out of Portuguese West Africa.

In June of 1942 British authorities seized him at the Bathurst airport, but could not find sufficient evidence that he was working with ISO and had to turn him free. After that, it appears that he was no longer active.

What little we have is based on two accounts: A report from CIA's website - https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/kent-csi/vol4no2/html/v04i2a05p_0001.htm.

The second comes from the MI-5 diaries of Guy Liddell, found at http://www.fpp.co.uk/History/Liddell/diary_1942.pdf. In it he describes the bungled arrest of Armando and gives his real name.

Please contact me with any information you may have.

Aaron Mehta
The Center for Public Integrity
910 17th Street NW, 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20006
202-481-1228
amehta@publicintegrity.org



HELP WANTED – BY AUTHORS AND RESEARCHERS

■ My name is Vance Duplechin. A friend, Bill Stephens, and I are working on a screenplay telling of the efforts of **Moe Berg** in Japan as well as his nuclear fission studies in Germany. We received website information from Paul Barry, CIA, as a possible source regarding Moe Berg. We would greatly appreciate receiving any information that would help us keep the story true and authentic.

vansanian@aol.com

■ I am trying to find information on OSS member **Andre Davi**, aka d'Estries.

Paul A. Marasco, Esq.
1328 Bay Shore Boulevard
Rochester, NY 14609
(585) 654-5131

■ I am researching **Don Adams** who was with OSS and CIA and who died about 13 years ago in Arizona. He was involved with the Bay of Pigs. I would appreciate any information that you could provide.

Terri Tilton
hollywoodterri@sbcglobal.net

■ I am writing an adventure story that takes place in Europe during WWII. My character joins the OSS to rescue a symphony orchestra from Poland. During the process, he helps the French Underground. I need to know some of the OSS accomplishments during that period.

Frank Bataillon
7525 Oakwood St.
Ralston, Ne. 68127
FBatallion@cox.com

■ During the war, did anyone ever hear of an OSS assassin who went by the code name **Big Cat**? This assassin would have served in the European Theatre, specifically German-occupied territory. Even if you have just heard the name, I would love to hear from you.

ElizabethBoody@yahoo.com

■ I am writing a paper concerning the organizational structure of the

OSS and comparing it to the current and proposed structure of U.S. Special Operations Command. I have diagrams of the organizational structure but what I need is the personnel strengths of these various departments and field organizations. I have only been able to find personnel numbers of about 14,000 total personnel. Would you help me find this information?

Tony Bullard
Anthony.Bullard2.ctr@socom.mil

■ Do any of the Det 101 veterans remember **Archie Chun Ming**, Eifler's medical officer before Jim Luce?

Jonathan Clemente
Jonathan_clemente@yahoo.com

■ In conducting research on General Donovan, I've read that, after the war, he served as legal assistant to Claire Chennault's Civil Air Transport (CAT), which later became part of Air America. Do you have any information on what he did for CAT, and was this prior to, or after, the airline was purchased by the U.S. Government?

Brian E. Davis
brianedavis@bellsouth.net

■ I am trying to contact OSS veteran **Eugene Fodor**. In May 1945, Mr. Fodor was a captain who was part of the Prague, Czechoslovakia liberation. I need to speak with Mr. Fodor or anyone who served with him during the Prague mission.

Keith Chester
projectbluebook@erols.com

■ I am doing some research on OSS. I was trying to find more information about **Gerald Mayer**, who assisted Allen Dulles in Switzerland in 1942. Is this Gerald Mayer the same one that was a director in Hollywood and whose family owned MGM? According to the information I have, this Gerald Mayer was in the Navy. I believe these are two different people.

Richard Santarelli
Rsantarelli@statestreet.com

■ I read Linda McCarthy's article, "From Pigeon to Predators: How COMMO Shaped Spy History" in the Spring 2006 newsletter with great interest. I am in the process of filming an independent, low budget, feature documentary film on the WWII American Pioneers with the support and assistance of the U.S. Army. I would be very interested in interviewing Mrs. McCarthy.

I would also be interested in interviewing any OSS veterans who used the pigeons in their missions. I am a small independent film production company based in NYC. For further information, please visit my website: www.pigeon-sincombat.com

Al Croseri
301 East 21st Street
New York, NY 10010
212-677-6833
info@pigeonsincombat.com

■ My name is Elizabeth Peckham. I am a senior at Kenyon College doing a study on the OSS and the Italian resistance movement between 1943 and 1945. I would be very interested in corresponding with any OSSer who served in Italy during this period.

Elizabeth Peckham
peckham@kenyon.edu

■ My name is Chong Lee. I am with KBS, Korean Broadcasting System, in South Korea. We are doing a special documentary for Korean Independence Day. The subject is the Napko Project, a clandestine operation under OSS during WWII to train Korean POW's to be deployed in Japan.

I'm asking OSS Society members for help, especially any personnel in the field experimental unit during the training at Santa Catalina in relation to the Napko Project and any personnel in the recruiting team selecting Korean agents, also anyone who remembers this operation and would like to talk on camera.

Chong Lee
chongleesf@gmail.com

HELP WANTED – BY AUTHORS AND RESEARCHERS

■ I am doing research on a book project about a former OSS agent, **Walter Ewart Seager**, who served in Turkey during WWII and played a role in the Cicero Affair, in which a spy in the British embassy in Ankara sold secrets to the Nazis. I believe he may have engineered the escape of the German embassy secretary who tipped the British to Cicero. Following the war, he served in the CIA until his retirement.

Hal Marcovitz
hmarcovitz@aol.com

■ I wonder if any films will surface about the humanitarian/POW rescue missions in China in Aug. 1945. I'm interested in any films available regarding the first mission to Shanghai on Aug. 19, 1945, a joint effort of OSS/AGAS (Air Ground Air Section) and led by Major Preston Schoyer.

Fr. Dick
FrKim@kimgrams.org

■ I was reading in the Machinist's Bedside Reader by Guy Lautard about a British engineer/writer named **Edgar T. Westbury** who designed a small electric generator that was to be dropped to allied agents behind European enemy lines during WWII to power their radio equipment. He apparently designed a small steam engine generator for this use because it was quiet and easily fueled. I would like to hear from anyone with further information on such a device.

Lowell Kenney
eagle_view@hughes.net

■ I teach at a college in the DC area. I am looking for OSS personnel who served in Indochina during the Second World War in the hope of interviewing them for a project.

actiumblue@yahoo.com

■ I became interested in the OSS by way of a 1943 Ford GPA jeep I brought home a couple of days ago. The photo at right shows a close-up of an OSS logo painted on the bottom of the windshield. Could anyone tell me if they

have seen this logo before and was it typically applied to OSS vehicles? Is the color scheme of blue and white legit? I was considering restoring this vehicle in an OSS config. Does anyone have any wartime photos of GPAs in OSS livery?

David
acmack@juno.com

■ In my book *FDR's 12 Apostles: The Spies Who Paved the Way for the Invasion of North Africa*, I tell of the heroic services rendered to Robert Murphy, FDR's Special Representative in North Africa and the OSS when he was stationed in Algiers from 1940-1943.

Polish Major Rygor Slowikowska headed a Polish intelligence network in Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia. He reported to the London-based Polish military government-in-exile financed by SIS/M16. His Polish team of agents (including his wife Sophi and son George) collected information under a cover of being sales agents for an oatmeal enterprise headquartered in Algiers. His network was phenomenally successful in evading Vichy French, German, and Italian counter-espionage. His intelligence information passed to Washington via a Robert Murphy/OSS Eddy radio link in Tangier was critical to the plan of the TORCH invasion.

Now ARTE, a French television network, is preparing a documentary film about Major Slowikowski's work during WWII, written and directed by Malgosha Gago.

I would greatly appreciate any information from OSS members who can contribute to this documentary. Information from an historian or writer



who has worked on the contribution of the Polish intelligence service to assist General Donovan in establishing the OSS would be welcome.

Hal W. Vaughan
Paris, France
halvaughan@noos.fr
hal@halvaughan.com
+33(0)1.40.17.05.78

■ I am researching the OG "Tacoma Mission" in No. Italy in 1944/45. I intend to publish an article about the mission and have obtained much information with the help of the late Al Materazzi and the late Howard Chappell, but need photos or stories about Capt. Chappell, the late Sgt. Salvador Fabrega, Sgt. Oliver Silsby, Sgt. Eric Buchardt, Sgts. Delainie and Ciccone, or any other OSSers of the team or of the 2671st or 2677th Special Recon. Bns. who might have pictures or stories.

Robert M. Gill, Major, USMCR
6907 Woodside Drive
Sugar Land, TX 77479
bgill526@earthlink.net

■ I am writing a book for the US National Park Service on the training of OSS personnel in the National Parks - OSS Training Area B at Catoctin Mountain Park (near Camp David); and Areas A and C in Prince William Forest Park. I will especially appreciate hearing from anyone who trained at Areas A, B, or C, or anyone who might know the precise location or the original owner of the property of Area D on the eastern side of the Potomac River south of Quantico.

Many thanks to all who have already contacted me. I anticipate finishing the book by late this summer, after which it will be published by the National Park Service.

John Whiteclay Chambers
Department of History
Rutgers University
16 Seminary Place
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1108
chambers@rci.rutgers.edu
Phone: 732-932-3613

Remarks of Major General William Donovan at final gathering of OSS personnel

September 24, 1945, Washington, DC

Men and Women of OSS:

We have come to the end of an unusual experiment. This experiment was to determine whether a group of Americans constituting a cross-section of racial origins, abilities, temperaments, and talents, could meet and risk an encounter with the long-established and well-trained enemy organizations.

How well that experiment has succeeded is measured by your accomplishments and by the recognition of your achievements. You should feel deeply gratified by President Truman's expression of the purpose of basing a coordinated intelligence service upon the techniques and resources that you have initiated and developed.

This could not have been done if you had not been willing to fuse yourselves into a team - a team that was made up not only of scholars and research experts and of the active units in operations and intelligence who engaged the enemy in direct encounter, but also of the great numbers of our organization who drove our motor vehicles, kept our records and documents, and performed those other innumerable duties of administrative services without which no organization can succeed and which, because well done with us, made our activities that much more effective.

When I speak of your achievements that does not mean that we did not make mistakes. We were not afraid to make mistakes because we were not afraid to try things that had not been tried before. All of us would like to think that we could have done a better job, but all of you must know that, whatever the errors or failures, you have done an honest and self-respecting job. But more than that, because there existed in this organization a sense of solidarity, you must also have the conviction that this agency, in which you played a part, was an effective force.

Within a few days each one of us will be going on to new tasks, whether in civilian life or in governmental work. You can go with the assurance that you have made a beginning by showing the people of America that only by decisions of national policy based upon accurate information can we have the chance of a peace that will endure.

Look for OSS on the web —

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The Office of Strategic Services Society celebrates the historical accomplishment of the OSS during World War II—the first organized effort by this nation to implement a centralized system of strategic intelligence, spearheaded by the legendary General "Wild Bill" Donovan—and educates the public regarding the continuing importance of strategic intelligence to the preservation of freedom in this country and around the world.

The Society has been a veritable "who's who" of military, political, intellectual and social luminaries, and the best and brightest from this nation's universities—including William Casey, William Colby, Arthur Goldberg, Julia Child, Sterling Hayden, Ambassador Richard Helms, Paul Mellon, S. Dillon Ripley, and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., to name just a few.

The OSS Society and its predecessor, the Veterans of OSS, have sponsored, organized or participated in educational events and programs such as presentations to the Society by Gen. Hugh Shelton, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and by Gen. Wayne Downing, former Commander of the U.S. Special Forces Command; presentations of the prestigious William J. Donovan Award to William Casey, William Colby, President George H. W. Bush, President Reagan, Admiral Lord Mountbatten, Ralph Bunche, Margaret Thatcher, and William Webster; symposia recording the accomplishments of the OSS and the experiences of its veterans; and reunions of OSS veterans in 2002, 2004, and 2005.

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"If you define leadership as having a vision for an organization, and the ability to attract, motivate and guide followers to fulfill that vision, you have Bill Donovan in spades." - Fisher Howe, special assistant to General Donovan

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I don't mean to be so ignorant and opinionated, which I frequently am, to evade the fact that many historians of war have written, and continue to write, supremely good books. There's really no doubt of that. However, there's no sidestepping the assumption that the most rewarding illuminations are in books written by men and women who have risked their lives in operations against their enemies.

Carlton S. Coon, a noted anthropologist who studied under Earnest Hooton, wrote a masterful book about his OSS experiences in North Africa, Corsica and Italy. He and his colleagues, among them Gordon H. Browne, received high decorations for their valor. If there were an OSS Hall of Fame Carlton Coon and Gordon Browne

- Charles Pinck
- Dan Pinck

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