

# Sub Rosa

Newsletter of the

FRIENDS OF THE INTELLIGENCE CORPS MUSEUM

www.intelligencemuseum.org

No.16, Spring 2017

## The Curator talks to Sub Rosa

**Bill has been curator since October 2016**

*Chris Yates spoke with him at Chicksands, 9 March 2017*

**How are you finding the job?** I've always been interested in museums, and aside from the Tank Corps, Intelligence Corps, and work in accident investigation, I have always wanted to work in a bookshop, a model shop, something of that ilk. I have an interest in things and their human stories; without the human element, things are just dusty old stuff, uninteresting unless they have a story and linked to someone.

**Can you give an example of a story?**

Like a pair of underpants made of silk. Rupert Guy Turrell used his chute to make them – what better to have your undergarments made from silk? That's how we got RGT's stuff together – I could fill a room with his story. Another is the Surrey Corps of Guides jacket, which Katie researched. It's effectively intelligence reconnaissance of WWII, understanding the ground over which you are going to do business, same as our current intelligence.

**What do you think makes a good curator?**

Someone who understands what that particular museum is about, you could have a curator brought in without understanding a niche military museum, but it's important that the curator knows its relevance.

**Can you say some more about understanding and relevance?**

Much more than bringing our small part of the army to

a wider audience. Understanding is how it fits together in a story, in a chronology or a theme. Chronologies are easy to do and to follow, much different from using a thematic approach.

**How do you get this understanding?**

You do need some insider knowledge, otherwise you'd spend a lot of time learning the basics. Need to know something of the dark arts. Got to know the common theme from an intelligence point of view. This is where our volunteers come in.

**How does a niche military museum place demands on the curator?**

Look at what we are: a collection of collections: Y Service, Intelligence Corps, Medmenham, but the root of the museum is the Corps. Curator needs to know what makes us different from others, otherwise you won't understand the ethos.

**Since your appointment, how has it changed you?**

I had no idea what went on behind the scenes and had a steep learning curve when I became museum assistant, which made it easier for being curator. Has given me a greater respect for what people have done before. My job is to tell the story and as curator and manager I am now able to influence direction of the museum, but still have a lot to learn.

■ (continued on p. 2)



Bill Steadman, MIM Curator

Photos: SAR

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### STOP PRESS! ... Major donation to FICM

Shortly before going to print, we received a generous donation of £5,000 in 'Alan's memory' from Liz Edwards, widow of much loved Corps Historian Alan. The trustees will decide in what form it will be used for the museum. ■ Thank you, Liz

### DISTRIBUTION GUIDANCE

While this newsletter does not include classified information, it is intended for the personal use of FICM members, their families and close friends only. Your co-operation in observing this guidance is much appreciated.

## *The Honourable Hugh Waldorf Astor, Intelligence Corps 'Turning enemy agents'*

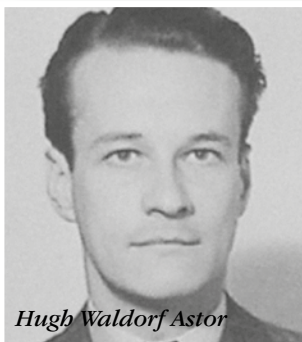
**A**stor was well known in MI5 and SOE. He was commissioned into the Intelligence Corps in August 1944; until then he appears to have been a civilian member of MI5.

Only one *London Gazette* entry has been found – his commissioning on 15 September 1944. He was heavily involved in the Double Cross system whereby enemy agents were turned and used as double agents. Some of these were Brutus, (Roman Czerniawski, a Polish air force officer) who was one of the mainstays of the Overlord deception programme; Bronx (Elvira de la Fuente Chaudoir); Lipstick (Josef Terradellas, a Catalan activist) and Dragonfly (Mr George [sic]), a Briton born in Britain of German parents and with a German wife.

In November 1943, Astor was with B1A and part of the team investigating Oswald Job, a German agent who had been recruited in a French internment camp and sent to the UK as a courier. Unfortunately for him, the agent he was to meet in the UK was Dragonfly and a description of Job and some of the jewellery he was carrying as 'currency' had been circulated to the Port and Travel Control units. Job was identified when he landed at Poole Airport, placed under surveillance and eventually arrested. He was tried, found guilty and hanged in March 1944.

By mid-1944, Astor was the case officer for Brutus, who had run an intelligence network in France (the *Interallié*) and was arrested there. Sent to Fresnes prison, he escaped making his way to Madrid. In the UK he was interrogated by the Poles who expressed their doubts about him, and shortly before interrogation by the British he revealed that he had, in fact, accepted a GIS brief to report on military targets in the UK and to develop a pro-German party in Polish military circles. By way of proof, he produced wireless crystals and codes hidden in his shoes. Based on a report by Captain Christopher Harmer, The Double Cross Committee considered Brutus suitable for turning on the grounds that he had credibility with the GIS, was very co-operative and probably easy to run. However, Brutus was not so easy to run as had been anticipated – he was an inveterate meddler – and he found himself awaiting a court-martial for stirring up disaffection amongst the Polish forces in the UK, much to the *schadenfreude* of his Polish intelligence comrades who had never really trusted him. Nevertheless, the committee decided to reopen the case and use him and his wireless link, which fed directly into the German High Command in Paris,

in order to pass the Germans details of Operation Fortitude, the deception plan for Operation Overlord. Brutus therefore ostensibly became a member of a Polish unit which was part of FUSAG, (First US Army Group), a notional formation designed to persuade the Germans that a large build-up of forces was occurring in southern England, in preparation for an invasion of France over Pas de Calais.



Hugh Waldorf Astor

In 1945, Astor was posted to ME 80, (SOE India and Ceylon) as GSO 2 (PW), Force 136. In Ceylon with Force 136, he was involved in planning the launch of six 'intelligence assault units' into Malaya, Hong Kong, Indo-China, Thailand and Indonesia. However, the atom bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and

Nagasaki and these plans were overtaken by the Japanese surrender. These assault units would have contained representatives from field security, SOE, SIS, OSS and other interested intelligence agencies. Their role would have been to capture targets of intelligence value and to safeguard them pending disposal. These targets could have been enemy personnel as well as documents and equipment. In October 1945 Astor was still with Force 136, in Saigon under cover of the Control Commission where he was appointed Political Warfare Liaison Officer.

Born in 1920, the son of Lieutenant Colonel John Jacob Astor, 1st Baron Astor of Hever, Astor was educated at Eton and New College, Oxford. He married Emily Lucy Kinloch, daughter of Sir Alexander Davenport Kinloch, 12th Baronet; they had five children. After the war, Astor was Deputy Chairman of *The Times*, director of Hambros Bank from 1960 to 1991; director of Hutchinson Ltd. and High Sheriff of Berkshire between 1963 and 1964, amongst a number of other positions. He died in June 1999. ■

*by Fred Judge*

### *Unexpurgated Epitaph to a Censor*

*Here at length in sweet repose  
A censor lies: but who God knows.  
When raving Pressmen shot him dead,  
Filled, like his pencil, full of lead,  
E'en in the graveyard he was game –  
Arose and blackened out his name*

*Continued from front page*

**Would you tell us what is happening with the virtual museum?** I head up the project team for the virtual museum. The word is nebulous, although the intent is there and well documented. A difficulty with the virtual museum is articulating exactly what it is for. For remote research? Don't want to discourage visitors from setting foot in the museum. Got to be value for money and world-class. Still working out balance between function and form: how much fandango, how much research tool. An awkward balance.

**Any idea on timing for the virtual museum?** To be discussed at next museum trustees' meeting in April and hope to agree on the model, and push it out to industry soon after that.

**And how is the footprint going?** My understanding is that regardless of where the Corps and its training regime are, there will be a museum component. The size of the footprint is yet to be decided: size 2 like the Corps room in the museum, or a size 15 which is the entire Military Intelligence Museum? If size 2 it would deal with the Corps ethos but not in the round; if size 15, it would need to be replicated offsite and onsite. Where does the Corps archive go? We don't know the answers – yet.

The argument that you move it all and what's left is for the Corps, is a wrong way to go. The fundamental question of the size of the stay-behind footprint drives everything else.

**What are your biggest headaches?** Don't have any. Nothing gets to the point of being headachy, because of our local museums backup network. Share Museum East helps a lot with training and advice, and where Katie and I go on courses.

**What part do the Friends play with all this?** Funding is too simple an answer. You are almost like a favourite uncle, people to throw ideas at and get ideas from. Nice to have that feeling that there are people out there who love you. A massive thank you! Financially you do allow us to show our stuff e.g., many, including the Corps colonel, have commented on the simple rope barrier for the vehicles. The donation box at almost £600 is a lot of money but it is even now filling up with cash. ■

*by Chris Yates*

*Found pinned to the wall  
of an RAF censor's office  
in France, 1939.*



## *At Her Majesty's Secret Service: The Chiefs of Britain's Intelligence Service, MI6, by Nigel West,*

*Frontline Books, 2016, 246 pp.*

*by Paul Crosson*



Frontline Books, an imprint of Pen & Sword Books Ltd, generously sent a copy to review, in due course to be placed in the archives. It is the account of every chief who has headed what was for many years the most enigmatic of our government agencies – MI6 – from its establishment in 1909 until 2014, when John Sawers who then filled the post was replaced by Alex Younger, still serving at time of publication.

I had been happily reading it for the past few evenings and then found I had an odd feeling; a genuine case of *déjà vu*. Something about this book concerned me; I Googled it and to my amazement I found another book of the same name, the same author and, it appeared, with the same subject matter. But was it the same book? The publisher was different. The number of pages differs considerably! This other version I found had been published in October 2006: it had 320 pages whereas this edition had 246 pages. One newspaper in its review calls it an 'extended version', an odd description of a book which is smaller. An odd way to 'extend' a book, may I suggest? Why did West or his publishers not mention that this was not the first attempt to cover this subject? Is the subject matter when covering the same person identical, or has it all been rewritten and emended? I don't know. Frankly, I can't be bothered to track down a copy of the first book and make comparisons. There was a clue for those who have nothing better to do than research these bibliographical oddities. On the dustwrapper West uses the phrase 'fully updated edition'. It nearly slipped my attention; the proof that my suspicions were right. So, why didn't he or the publishers come clean and make it clear?

When first published it was described as being the only history that existed of the famed British secret intelligence agency MI6. This was fair comment at the time but when the second version was published, Keith Jeffery's book *MI6* had been published and accepted as the authority on MI6 so this claim could not be made. It is interesting that Nigel West makes no mention of Jeffery's book in his otherwise fairly substantial bibliography.

West's book extends the subject up until 2014, finishing with the story of John Sawers whereas the first ended in 2009. In this sense, West's book is 'extended'. Unlike Jeffery's with its far wider brief, he concentrates on the chiefs of MI6 most of whom I found interesting in an historical sense. 'A very odd lot they were', one might say. I found nothing startling or new.

Along with Chapman Pincher, West was credited as having his own connections to the security services. This all seemingly came to an abrupt end following the end of his time as Rupert Allason, Member of Parliament. Unfortunately, this world collapsed after some rather sad legal repercussions. I have always rated West as both an author and military historian, but sadly I found few

of those tantalising gems with which West would frequently adorn his books, gaining for himself the title of 'the unofficial historian of the secret services'. Nevertheless, this is still entertaining, well written and informative as West is always. I still rate his books on SIGINT and GCHQ as good as anything on the subject, apart from Aldrich's GCHQ, (2010).

I started by explaining that the publishers had kindly donated the book. It is therefore somewhat churlish of me to claim that I feel robbed. But, somehow I do. If, however, you ignore this bibliographical oddity I am sure that you will enjoy this book. ■

## 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT *by Dave Farrell, Treasurer*

First, an apology. A shorter timescale from the printers for this edition of Sub Rosa, combined with FICM's commitment to having its accounts examined by an independent examiner, means that the figures *opposite/above/below to the left/to the right/it's behind you* are only interim and derived from the cash account. The final accounts together with the imprimatur of the independent examiner will appear soon on the website.

The Friends began the calendar year with a current account balance of £10,156.40 and a deposit account balance of £5,010.08; we ended with a current account balance of £14,366.79 and a deposit account balance of £5,010.08.

Apart from running Lunch with Lectures and Pimms on the Terrace, there were two main areas of expenditure during the year. The first was some £1,400 on the purchase of the Roger Pen Hearing System for the museum (thereby enabling those visitors with hearing difficulties to fully appreciate

the pearls of wisdom of the tour guides). The second major outlay resulted from the decision of the FICM trustees to provide Sub Rosa to all members in hard copy which increased printing and postage costs, as well as, hopefully, readers' enjoyment of the newsletter itself. Other items of expenditure during the year were the purchase of an industrial-strength shredder for the Corps archive, and membership of the British Association of Friends of Museums.

Thank you for your generous support and especially to those of you who let us claim Gift Aid on your subscriptions and donations; in 2016 we recovered £683.58 from HMRC.

As we approach the end of the first quarter, FICM continues to be financially healthy, again benefiting from several large donations, and looks forward to providing the best possible support to the museum. ■

*Any questions, please contact me on:  
farrelld49@yahoo.com*

### INCOME and EXPENDITURE as at 31st December 2016

CURRENT A/C NO. 1169094 Opening balance 1/01/16	£10,156.40		
NEW FIXED TERM DEPOSIT A/C Opened 10th December 2014	£5,010.08		
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Events	£1,186.00	Printing	£1,397.40
Life Members	£250.00	Post/Staty	£332.53
Annual Members	£1,864.00	Website	£154.64
Donations	£6,043.30	Events	£2,023.47
Other	£683.58	Donations/refunds	£143.80
		Purchases	£1,764.65
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£10,026.88</b>	<b>TOTAL EXP</b>	<b>£5,816.49</b>
		FIXED TERM DEPOSIT	£5,010.08
		CASH IN CURRENT ACCOUNT	£14,366.79
		UNPRESENTED CHQS - see notes	£0.00
	<b>£25,193.36</b>	which reconciles:	<b>£25,193.36</b>

# A SHORT SURVEY OF BRITISH INTERROGATION

by Neal Fearn

*Interrogation has been the Cinderella of the intelligence world: with signals and photographic intelligence successes in WWII long demystified, only in recent years has the third pillar been declassified.*

The post-war interrogation system built on its foundation but until recently also remained classified. My sources are primarily memoirs and published histories, and disclosure forced on MOD by Northern Ireland operations and the Baha Mousa Inquiry into abuses in Iraq. Evidence includes *Interrogation in War 1955*, based on the WWII manual, and *Interrogation in Internal Security Situations Since 1945*, background to a Northern Ireland inquiry produced for then Inspector Brigadier Bremner in 1971.

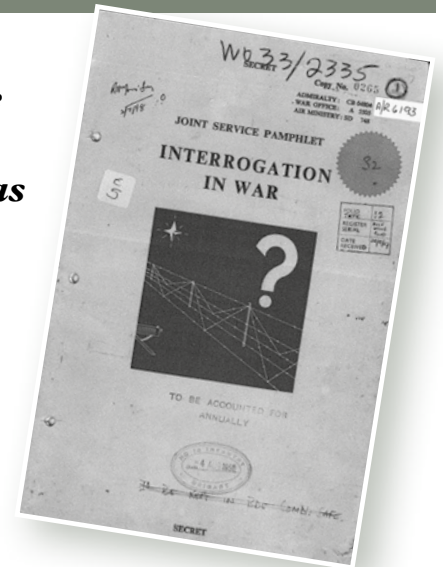
Wartime structures overseas continued temporarily: the Combined Service Detailed Interrogation Centre (Middle East) in Egypt provided support to Palestine. The Salonika Interrogation Centre screened Communists infiltrating Greece during its Civil War. A CSDIC formed in Malaya in 1949 evolved

quickly into a Special Branch-controlled holding centre, but operating on the lines of a WWII CSDIC with extensive technical monitoring.

The Korean War was a major turning point. The wartime structure had been double-faceted, dealing with enemy prisoners and also with escape and evasion. In 1947, with the reformation of the Territorial Army, both capabilities were retained in Intelligence School 9 (TA) under Airey Neave. This was part-mobilised as IS9 (Korea) but only for escape and evasion, and under RAF control as aircrew were seen as most at risk; interrogation was left to the Americans. IS9(K) debriefed returning prisoners, who were further debriefed in the UK.

A 1955 study into the treatment of allied prisoners decided that in future they should stick to number, rank, name and date of birth (based on the 1949 Geneva Conventions) and reply 'I cannot answer that question' to all other questions. An Interrogation Branch – from 1965, Joint Service Interrogation Wing – was established at Maresfield for both resistance and interrogation training. IS9(TA) evolved into 23 SAS.

No. 1 Joint Service Interrogation Unit was improvised for Suez in 1956. From 1964-67 JSIB/JSIW maintained a limited capability in Aden. The 1966 Bowen Report on alleged abuses there marked the politicisation of the subject – it has remained



Cover of *Baha Mousa Inquiry* Photo: NRA Website

sensitive ever since.

In 1971 JSIW deployed personnel to Northern Ireland in support of internment. It became apparent that many of those selected by the police were innocent victims of faulty intelligence. The resulting scandal focused attention on the five 'special techniques'. Stress positions, hooding, white noise, deprivation of sleep and of food and drink were authorised by ministers. These were not British interrogation doctrine, which had long forbidden anything that smacked of torture, but part of the post-Korea resistance programme.

Throughout the Cold War there was a minimal Regular Army interrogation capability. Each operation was improvised using JSIW instructors and interrogation-trained Corps personnel. The general mobilisation capability was held mainly in the Territorial Army, with a dominant core taught Russian for National Service; some served into the 1990s, age limits raised to retain them. This system had its detractors, but no affordable alternative. ■



JSIW Cell Block Corridor  
Photo: Web

## Secret Soldiers: Call for Volunteers



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHAMPTON



The University of Northampton and the Military Intelligence Museum have secured co-production funding of £20,000 to carry out a research project called Secret Soldiers: The Intelligence Corps in the First World War. The grant has been provided by the Arts and Humanities Research Council through two of their First World War Engagement Centres: 'Everyday Lives in War' based at the University of Hertfordshire; 'Hidden Histories' at the University of Nottingham.

The project will run throughout 2017 and will explore the recruitment, training, employment and personnel of the corps between 1914 and 1919. It will be led by Dr Jim Beach, author of *Haig's Intelligence* (2013).

From its Friends and the Intelligence Corps Association, the museum wishes to create a small pool of unpaid volunteers to assist with the project.

Their work may include online or archival research, collation and analysis. The project is especially keen to recruit those with experience of online genealogical research and/or knowledge of the British Army in the First World War. Volunteers will be task-organised to work in small groups or individually. Subject to prior planning and approval, reasonable travel expenses will be paid at the University of Northampton's normal rates. ■

If you would like to help this investigation into the Corps' history, or would like additional information, please email [incorpshq-museum-archivist@mod.uk](mailto:incorpshq-museum-archivist@mod.uk)

Kind regards, Joyce Hutton.



# The Corps in Namibia 'our supper of fried caterpillars'

by David Duncan

**In early 1990, the MOD assembled the British Military Advisory and Training Team (BMATT) to go to Namibia.**

Previously it was German West Africa until 1915 when South African forces conquered it. The League of Nations then gave them a mandate to run the country but there was a controversy over the United Nations extending it after WWII, giving rise to the South West African Peoples' Organisation (SWAPO). SWAPO exerted political pressure, supported by their military wing, the Peoples' Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) and were strongly backed by the Soviet bloc until the end of the Cold War.

The South African Defence Force (SADF) withdrew and an independent Namibia was born on 21 March 1990. The British government had been asked for help in forming the Namibian Defence Force (NDF). BMATT Namibia consisted of over 50 members, mainly infantry with myself

as SO2 G2, and we flew by Hercules to the capital Windhoek. On arrival, we marched out of the aircraft and formed up ready for inspection by the Namibian defence minister. I was a little rusty on foot drill but Maresfield training kicked in without me kicking anyone. I self-catered in Windhoek so sent a postcard to Ashford showing a couple of Bushmen out hunting with longbows. The cryptic message read: 'I'm finding my own food; got some local help!'.

I was based in the new MOD, which was the heavily protected former SADF HQ. The latter had a local element, the now disbanded South West African Territorial Force, some of whom combined with former PLAN members in the NDF. Reconciliation was a key factor and BMATT played its part, both in the infantry training



David on guard duty at former SADF base

centre at Okahandja and also in the MOD. I had a special difficulty with my small group as they were all suspicious ex-guerrillas, some trained in the Soviet Union, who thought I must be some kind of spy. They took a while to be convinced that our MOD would not use someone openly wearing Corps insignia and also that it was not my role to train them to be spies. I did some basic training in aspects of security and operational intelligence, including an exercise I called Windhoek Warrior. My reference to Zulu time did cause misunderstanding, though. Security was practised by a mock survey of their MOD, under me. I also gave regular advice and helped them daily as necessary or desirable.

Something which helped knit us together more were joint trips out to most corners of the country. Members of their fledgling operations and intelligence branches, accompanied by a senior British team, visited all former SADF bases as a kind of stocktaking. We took photos to support them and one of mine here is of a real sentry post with me on guard duty. I had been very careful not to take any photos of the MOD, which their security guard would have seen me doing, and not allayed any residual suspicions of me! I also had to force myself not to photograph a large convoy of Soviet vehicles, including wheeled APCs, entering from Angola, where PLAN had based them. For me, as a former member of the British Military Mission it was surreal to see them in an African rather than an East German setting.

One especially memorable journey was from the north of Namibia along dirt tracks and dry riverbeds – where we saw rare desert elephants – to reach the dreaded Skeleton Coast. Our starter supper was fried caterpillars the Namibians had gathered and cooked as a delicacy, a bit tricky showing gusto towards, but all done in the name of liaison. Next day we drove

■ (continued on p.6)

## End of a Campaign

By Hamish Henderson

There are many dead in the brutish desert,  
 who lie uneasy  
 among the scrub in this landscape of half-wit  
 stunted ill-will. For the dead land is insatiate  
 and necrophilous. The sand is blowing about still.  
 Many who for various reasons, or because  
 Of mere unanswerable compulsion, came here  
 And fought among the clutching gravestones,  
 shivered and sweated,  
 cried out, suffered thirst, were stoically silent, cursed  
 the spitting machine-guns, were homesick for Europe  
 and fast embedded in quicksand of Africa  
 agonised and died.  
 And sleep now. Sleep here the sleep of the dust.



Speaking six European languages, Lieutenant Henderson (1919-2002) was commissioned from the Pioneer Corps into the Intelligence Corps, serving in North Africa and Italy where he oversaw the draft of the surrender order of Italy. His *Elegies for the Dead in Cyrenaica* from which this part-poem was taken, was published in 1948. He was part of the Scottish folk revival, and co-founded the University of Edinburgh's School of Scottish Studies.

## The Corps in Namibia

(continued from p. 5)

the whole length of the Coast to the old German colonial town of Swapokmund, where German is still widely spoken. It was fascinating to hear it with a local accent and also the use of words and expressions I had learnt at school, but which were now old-fashioned in Germany, as though these descendants of German settlers were linguistically frozen in time. I was also enough of a dinosaur to be able to read the widely used Gothic script used there. Another special trip was the wedding of the director of operations and intelligence in the heart of his tribal area, Ovamboland in the far north. After a traditional church wedding, the feast was held in a large hut inside a kraal. A bit different, especially with the women ululating loudly.



Camping in the wild.

Photos: DD

[All BMATT officers had other responsibilities. I was in charge of the impress account, not on the grounds of any experience but because I was highly vetted and therefore trustworthy! Fortunately, a highly competent Pay Corps warrant officer dealt with the detail.]

When the first NDF infantry battalion had been forged, we all attended the passing-out parade at Okahandja. On a dusty parade ground with a band playing and the Namibian flag fluttering in the breeze, we all stood to attention for the new national anthem. It was also a temporary, borrowed one called 'Nkosi Sikelele Africa', much associated with Nelson Mandela. It is still very evocative to me of that ceremony, after which President Nujoma joined us.

After six months, I handed over to my successor after whose own six months our post along with most of BMATT was discontinued. Just one final thought, if the Cold War had not ended, Cubans would probably have been doing the military training, as there were already many of them next door in Angola. East Germans may well have played the British part instead, too – now there really is a thought. ■

by Glenys Palmer



**I accepted the editor's invitation to proofread *Sub Rosa* with no familiarity of, or interest in the subject matter. I thought that this might be a disadvantage but it has opened up a new world. It has led me to delve into subjects, incidents and people that I have never come across, sending me into new realms of learning. This proofreading is turning out to be more time-consuming than I ever thought, but I am rewarded by my new world!**

One instance was Lester Hillman's article, 'All this and Everest Too', (Winter 2016). The story was interesting but what piqued my interest was the mention of RAF St Pancras. Surely there cannot really be such a place – my only knowledge of St Pancras was the railway station and its current environs? Surely there could not have been an RAF base there as recently as 1969? But there must have been, as Mr Hillman tells me that a Harrier landed there in that year as part of the Daily Mail Transatlantic Air Race.

Teams from both sides of the Atlantic raced each other between the Post Office Tower and the Empire State Building as part of the anniversary re-enactment of the 1919 race, when the first crossing in under three days was achieved. Most problematic was getting the 'runner' (the person whose overall time

was being measured) quickly to and from the top of the towers and landing/take-off sites. The RAF designated a disused coal yard behind St Pancras station as RAF St Pancras, for a Harrier to land with a helicopter standing by to ferry the runner to/from the PO Tower. The coal yard's time as an RAF base was very short, but the RAF took the record for the overall shortest time from New York to London to New York at six hours 11 minutes.

I now have a chunk of knowledge which may never be revisited, but the acquisition of it and many others by my work for *Sub Rosa* has brought me great enjoyment. So, all you contributors, keep writing and submitting – the results of your penmanship are thought-provoking as well as informative and entertaining. ■

## Latest Donations to the Museum

### The Friends recently donated:

- For a modern donation box at the entrance: £589.40.
- For barrier poles, ropes and two noticeboards around the Zil and Mercedes £1,170.





# LETTERS/EMAILS

## More on Frank Ledwige

To the Editor,

I read Paul Croxson's excellent review of the Frank Ledwige book (Winter 2016) and thought he might welcome filling a gap or two re the author, perhaps useful in that Ledwige used to inhabit Chicksands from time to time. Glad if you could pass on to PC.

Frank Ledwige was RNR, HMS Ferrett (administratively co-located with the Corps and utilising local facilities) ending service as a lieutenant commander. (No idea about previous.) I was in HMS Ferrett but as a DIS person, while Frank was on the HUMINT side as an interrogator (no idea about his foreign language skills etc). We met very occasionally and only exchanged pleasantries. I knew he was at the Bar as I am, too, but semi-academically and have never practised; he was a practising criminal lawyer I believe, then more into human rights issues etc. Based in North West England if I recall. Given his past associations with DISC he might be good for a lunch lecture or such to support ICM.

Paul Walker, 18 December 2016

Paul, a life member of the Friends and ICA, after an early dalliance in 23 (V) Sy Coy, makes an excellent suggestion for a speaker.

## THERE'S MORE ON THE WEBSITE!

*This issue attracted a record amount of contributions, sorry that we cannot include all of them. Please go to the website to see a long essay, book review and historical note all by Paul Croxson; 'Int and Spies in Belsize', a guided tour by Lester Hillman.*

## Bremerhaven: A Memoir of Germany, 1945-1947 by Bruce Haywood, 2010

To the Editor,

Bruce Haywood, a German speaker, served in the Int Corps during WWII in 92 Intelligence Team. In 1945 he was seconded to the US Counter Intelligence Corps based in the US enclave of Bremerhaven, still a major military supply port for US Forces in Europe.

A good insight into post-war Counter Intelligence (CI) operations, the book describes major activities and matters of concern to the Allies in 1945-1946 with good insight into tradecraft. Some of the limitations, such as transport and accommodation in 1945, were still a factor when I joined the Joint Counter-Intelligence Section HQ ARRC, as part of the Allied Counter-Intelligence Unit (ACIU) to Bosnia in 1995. It is of interest to note that a smooth-running CI operation can be seriously hampered by senior officers with no clue of what CI entails. Like Haywood, I experienced this many times during my 40-year career in, and with the Corps.

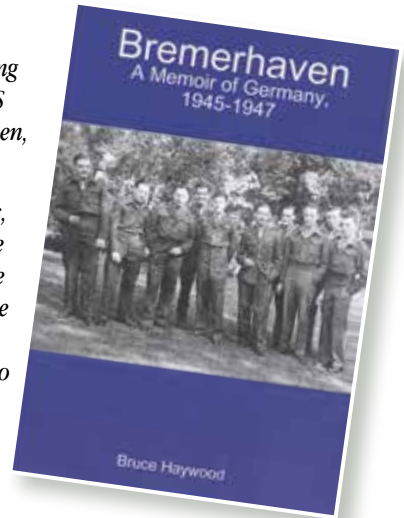
Hermannsdenkmal, Detmold  
Phot: Web



(By the way, Sub Rosa was the name of our Int Corps club in Detmold in the 1970s, shared with 14 Sy Det and 20 Bde Int Sec. We even had a tie, showing the Hermann Statue with a pint pot in its hand on a red rose background. Happy time there!)

Mike Humme, February 2017.

Mike has donated the book to the archive to be further reviewed in a later newsletter.



## How do you say ee bab gum in Polish?

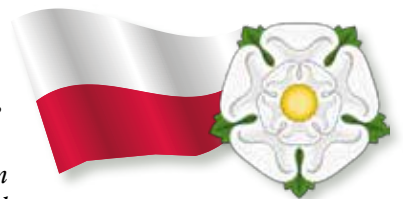
To the Editor,

Refugees, in those days quaintly called Displaced Persons, were coming out of Yugoslavia into the Free Territory of Trieste, and were debriefed in a huge camp just outside the city of Trieste. In late 1953, the arrival of a man claiming to be a deserter from the Polish Army caused great excitement especially as he said he had been attached to a Red Army tank unit. To await the arrival of an expert debriefing team from BAOR, he was lodged with Trieste security office personnel.

He spoke some broken English in a strange accent. A friendly type, he said he hated Russians and wanted to fight communism. The second evening he asked to be taken to the NAAFI, saying that it was the envy of everyone in the Polish Army. A few drinks later and helped even more by a bottle of whisky, his command of English improved by the minute. There followed stories of being at Monte Cassino with the Free Polish Army, being demobbed in England and working as a coal miner in Yorkshire – hence the accent. He had made his way to Trieste to pose as a deserter in the hope of being considered valuable by the West; afterwards he expected to be sent to Canada or the USA. The next morning he vanished, a great relief as no one knew what to do with him.

A month later at a meeting of senior British, American and Italian intelligence officers in Venice, the Italians offered to share information obtained from a high-ranking Polish Army deserter. The offer was politely declined!

William Shortland, July 2016



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for an application form



## NOTICES AND NOTES FOR MEMBERS

### Trustee Matters & Movements

- Your trustees met in London on 24 January, kindly hosted by ReedSmith of Broadgate Tower
- Next meeting 2 May 2017
- Trustee responsibilities
  - o Hon. President: Brian Parritt
  - o Chair: Tony Hetherington
  - o Secretary: Frances Maynard
  - o Treasurer: Dave Farrell
  - o Membership/MIM Board Observer: Mike Palmer
  - o Fundraising/ICA: Mike Cooksey
  - o Editor: Chris Yates

Dave, two Mikes and Chris are also museum volunteers

### What Can You do on the Website?

- Send an email to a trustee
- Download past issues of Sub Rosa
- Browse the index of over 130 Sub Rosa and website articles
- Download articles and book reviews
- Keep up to date with planned events
- Download membership application and Gift Aid forms
- Link to
  - o BETFOR
  - o Singapore Dawnwatchers
  - o AAJLR Comrades
  - o Langleben Reunion
  - o Military Intelligence Museum

## EDITORIAL

In the world wider than our museum, two things are with us. Political reporting tells us that 'fake news' is widespread but, thankfully, it does not need news to tell us that spring is here again (except for the Friends who are not in our hemisphere). In 1774, Edmund Burke cast the two together in his aphorism 'Falsehood has a perennial spring' in First Speech on Conciliation with America. Plus ça change ...? Well, *Sub Rosa* brings you fine reading with the hope that it will bring spring joy to the eye, mind and heart. As to the fake, we have striven that all you read here is of much integrity and owes little to Burke's pessimism. ■

### Not Receiving our Emails?



Some emails sent from the website are going to members' spam/junk folders. May we earnestly ask you to make [admin@intelligencemuseum.org](mailto:admin@intelligencemuseum.org) a preferred email address in your mail program, and check your spam folder regularly?

## VOLUNTEERS' 2016 CHRISTMAS LUNCH

by Glenys Palmer

On Thursday 15 December last year, a motley group of volunteers met as usual to celebrate the Christmas season and their common cause – the Military Intelligence Museum. Sporting Christmas jumpers and Santa hats, everyone enjoyed festive food and drink.

Most of us do not come across each other in our everyday work for the museum, our input being from various locations and at differing times. Proofreading *Sub Rosa* from home, I valued the opportunity to put names to faces, to renew acquaintances and to get to know others a little better.

Curator Bill Steadman thanked all volunteers, staff, trustees and other supporters for their efforts over the previous year (not forgetting Richard Harper again for his masterful organising of the do). Bill's words were appreciated by all and we look forward to getting together again at the end of 2017. ■

*Thanks also to the museum trustees and FICM trustees for subsidising the lunch. Ed.*

Photos: CY



Julian Barnard,  
FICM's Patron



Discussing  
the work of the museum in  
between courses!

## Lunch with Lectures 2018



Photos: Web

We are pleased to announce the speakers for next year:

- The Rt Hon. Ann Widdecombe, DSG
- Mrs Evelyn Le Chêne

Full Details in the Summer Issue

*Recently joined as a life member, author and historian Evelyn is the widow of Pierre Le Chêne, 'Grégoire' of F Section SOE.*

**The date for your diary  
is 24 April 2018**