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EYE SPY

ISIS IN EUROPE

INTEL WORLD CONSIDERS RESPONSE



A TIMELY
SANCTION

SURVEILLANCE
TRADECRAFT

EXPOSURE TIPS

EXTRAORDINARY
RENDITION

SECRET CIA GATEWAYS



OUR MAN
IN TALLINN

RUSSIAN SPIES PENETRATE NATO

- FBI STING OPERATIONS • CUBAN SPIES
- MI5 WARNING • ISIS • CYBER PUZZLE • NSA
- ELECTRONIC EYES • LITVINENKO • GCHQ

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TERRORISTS STRIKE IN PARIS

HOURS

SURVEILLANCE EXPOSURE TIPS

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Eye Spy looks at the most common errors committed by surveillance operatives working for government and private agencies

OUR MAN IN TALLINN

Russia's FSB admits receiving high-grade Western intel after infiltrating fledgling NATO member states



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FRONT COVER MAIN IMAGE: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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"If parts of the radar go dark and terrorists are confident that they are beyond the reach of MI5 and GCHQ, acting with proper legal warrant, then our ability to keep the country safe is also reduced"

MI5 Director-General
Andrew Parker



FIRST WORD

PARIS ATTACKS SHOCK INTELLIGENCE WORLD



Paris has seen its fair share of troubles down the years, especially in relation to terrorism. However, events in January must surely rank as one of the most shocking ever witnessed by its citizens as al-Qaida and ISIS terrorists caused mayhem in the city. The controversial *Charlie Hebdo* satirical magazine has been attacked before and threats made against its staff. But security was poor and two gunmen had little trouble entering the premises and brutally murdering 10 people in cold blood. Others lost their lives of course, including a very brave policeman and woman. The men were acting on behalf of al-Qaida but had an associate who would kill more innocent people at a supermarket - he belonged to ISIS. A few days later in Belgium, the security services managed to thwart yet another attack which was imminent.

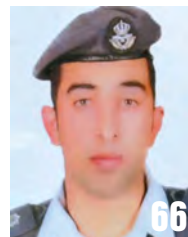
Europe's intelligence services have for two years warned of the dangers of nationals returning from the fighting in Syria and Iraq. Trained and ambitious, the implications are obvious for the continent if a strategic plan and coherent policy to track and monitor these individuals is not put in place soon.

The British Government wants to introduce new legislation that will force Internet firms to retain e-mails - and reveal not just the sender's address, but also the recipient. Yet this has led to more accusations of 'big brother' and 'snooping'. If we want security I can't see any other way to expose the links of those who communicate in the electronic shadows. Similarly, if this system was adopted it could also throw light on those who are intent on joining groups such as ISIS and al-Qaida - and their recruiting fronts spread across Europe. Will it happen? Probably not - Europe seems too concerned with protecting human rights - even those of terrorists... but what of the victims of terrorism?

MARK BIRDSALL, MANAGING EDITOR



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INTELLIGENCE CHOICE

A TIMELY SANCTION

Argentina's intelligence service SIDE has been engrossed in controversy for decades. And now, following the assassination of the lead investigator and prosecutor into the 1994 bombing of a Jewish institution in Buenos Aires, the country's president dissolved the organisation. Alberto Nisman had for the best part of a decade collected evidence which showed Iranian involvement. However, many people believe it was what he learned of President Kirchner's liaison with Iran that led to his death - just one week before he was going to present his findings before Congress.



Kirchner holds the bill dissolving SIDE

The case file could have been written for a spy thriller, but supporters of Nisman are determined his research won't be forgotten. Was he killed by rogue SIDE agents, Kirchner's people, or as Mossad believes - by an Iranian assassin?

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CASINO STING



Experienced
diplomat Vitaly
Churkin

INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION

Eye Spy was informed it was highly likely Buryakov's name surfaced after the dismantling of the SVR eastern seaboard spy ring operating in and around New York. Its more well known agents include Anna Chapman - whose task it was to climb the ladder in the American social scene and engage with members of the US Establishment and government.

The FBI believe all three were active in the collection of economic intelligence. Their work also covered securing insight into new sanctions laid down by America on Russia and on new alternative energy programmes.

This type of intelligence endeavour is usually performed by agents of the SVR's 'Directorate ER'. According to some sources the FBI has learned of the names of several people the three tried to recruit - one of which could well have been a Bureau plant.

Buryakov appears to have acted in a courier role, whilst Sporyshev and Podobnyy sourced contacts and information. Some of their targets were from US universities. Thereafter he would hold clandestine meetings in the city with Igor Sporyshev and Victor Podobnyy - exchanging information and materials using newspapers, magazines and bag switches as cover (props). Such tradecraft is fairly routine for SVR operatives. However, the trio were oblivious to the fact that the FBI were listening and watching.

One recorded conversation in particular alerted the Bureau. This involved a news agency - an SVR front - asking questions and sourcing information from the New York Stock Exchange. Buryakov made a call and then a short while after made contact with Sporyshev: *'The news agency should enquire about Exchange Traded Funds which can be mechanisms of use for destabilisation of markets'* he wrote. All serious stuff which insiders admit could have had an impact on share markets.

THE STING

By late summer 2014, the FBI had heard enough and were satisfied the men were not simply acting in a business or social manner -



they were spies. However, to conclude the case it had to show their influence in Russia as well as being in receipt of classified American information.

Buryakov was contacted by a wealthy US businessman who wanted his help to establish a number casinos in Russia. In return, he explained that he was in possession of several sensitive US Treasury documents pertaining to US sanctions on Russia. Despite Sporyshev's suspicions, Buryakov met with the businessman and received the material. This was the final piece of the jigsaw as far as the Bureau was concerned. And of course, the casino plot was simply a ruse and the businessman an experienced undercover FBI agent.

On the downside, it seems likely the Russians will respond in kind, thus expect an exchange with a person valued by Washington. Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Lukashevich accused the United States of "detaining a citizen without presenting evidence" and called the action "anti-Russian." However, the FBI did present evidence and some fascinating transcripts of conversations between the men. For example, Podobnyy explains to Sporyshev that he thought the world he was entering would be more exciting - like that of James Bond. "I always believed at the very least I would go abroad with a different passport."



OBJECTIVE WAS TO DESTABILISE US ECONOMY

HOURS

TERRORISTS ST



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On the morning of 7 January 2015 three men parked their vehicle in a side street close to the building which houses the offices of the controversial French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo* (Charlie Weekly). At 11.30am two of the men, brothers Cherif, 34, and Said Kouachi, 32, dressed in dark para-military attire, walked up to the building's entrance and forced a woman who worked at another company in the building to type in the entry code. Once inside, and after locating the magazine's office, they read the names out of various people. The magazine

was holding its weekly editorial meeting and most of its journalists were present. A contact in Paris told Eye Spy the terrorists may well have learned this information from innocent sources. "They knew everyone was going to be there," he said.

Moments later the intruders opened fire killing several employees. Armed with AK-47s and an RPG, the gunmen then departed the area and a battle erupted. In one scene reminiscent of events in Syria and Iraq, the terrorists can be seen on the corner of Boulevard Richard-Lenoir shooting dead fearless police officer

Ahmed Merabet at point blank range - even after he had raised his arms to surrender. One of the gunmen is heard to shout in French "we have killed Charlie Hebdo... we have avenged the prophet."

The building was soon surrounded by counter-terrorist police but the men and a third operative, managed to flee east after hijacking a car and making good their escape. The vehicle was later found in the Rue de Meaux area of northern Paris where it is known the terrorists hijacked a second car. By mid-day, police declared 12 people had been killed,

Europe rethink of internal and border security demanded as al-Qaida and ISIS terrorists cause havoc in central Paris

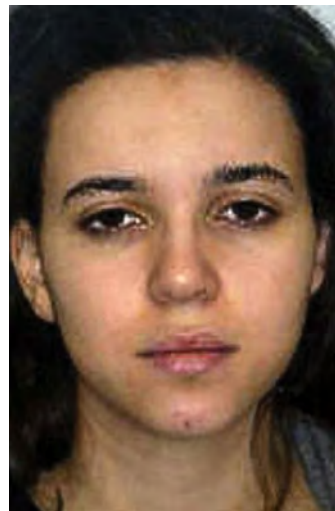




Said and Cherif Kouachi



Amedy Coulibaly



Hayat Boumeddiene

TRIKE IN PARIS

twenty more were injured and several critical. The death toll included ten journalists and two police officers.

VICTIMS

Editor-in-chief 'Charb' Stephane Charbonnier, 47, and fellow cartoonists Jean 'Cabu' Cabut, 76, Tignous (Bernhard Verlhac), 57, Georges Wolinski, 80, and Philippe Honoré, 74, were all reported dead just 90 minutes into the raid. Other staff members who perished were columnists Elsa Cayat, 54, Bernhard Maris, 68, and Moustapha Ourrad, a copy editor. Charb's personal police bodyguard Franck Brinsolaro, Michel Renaud, a visitor at the meeting, and building maintenance worker Frederic Boisseau also died from gunshots.

Several others in the office were wounded: webmaster Simon Fieschi, 31, journalists Phillippe Lancon and Fabrice Nicolino, 59 and cartoonist Laurent Sourisseau, 48.

Analysis of the terrorists' fighting skills were evident in their stance, body language and firing of their AK47s, suggesting they had received training. And of course, it has since transpired they were allied to a Yemen al-Qaida affiliate (Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula) and had attended a terrorist training camp.

Since the formation of ISIS and the rush of would-be jihadists travelling to Iraq and Syria, security services across Europe have been concerned about returning fighters - many



Co-founder of Charlie Hebdo François Cavanna



'Charb'
Stephane
Charbonnier

smuggling their firearms back across porous borders. Intelligence agencies had monitored around 250 French citizens who had returned from the Middle East and were allied to ISIS. Some 50 have since been jailed for their participation in the fighting. However, this terror cell was al-Qaida - a group that in the last eighteen months has attempted to target prominent locations in Paris, including the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, the Bastille Day military parade, restaurants and public sites along the Champs Elysee and the Paris Metro. Intelligence sources told Eye Spy these were all part of AQs 'Northern Project', an endeavour to create fear and cause havoc in Europe. The attacks never materialised, some undoubtedly thwarted by French Intelligence, others perhaps because they were too complex. And this is the real fear for those engaged in counter-terrorism, for the attack on the offices of Charlie Hebdo was simple - a fact which will not have gone unnoticed to those planning future atrocities.

INTERNATIONAL CONCERN

President Hollande arrived at the scene a little over an hour after the attack had begun. He said this was a "terrorist attack of exceptional barbarity."

The country's alert status was immediately raised to its highest level. Shortly after the French Government held an emergency meeting at the Elysee Palace. In



Evidently trained in pseudo-military tactics the terrorists showed no mercy for police officer Ahmed Merabet. Already wounded, one of the gunmen shoots him in the head. Moments earlier he had confronted his attackers in an attempt to talk sense to them

France, and around the world, security was heightened, especially in capital cities.

Charlie Hebdo, which pokes fun at all religions, politics (left and right), culture etc. had received threats before. In November 2011, the offices of the magazine, which has a circulation of around 50,000, were fire-bombed and destroyed - this after it published a caricature of the Prophet Muhammad. After the attack Stephane Charbonnier said: "If we can poke fun at everything in France... if we can talk about anything in France apart from Islam or the consequences of Islamism, that is

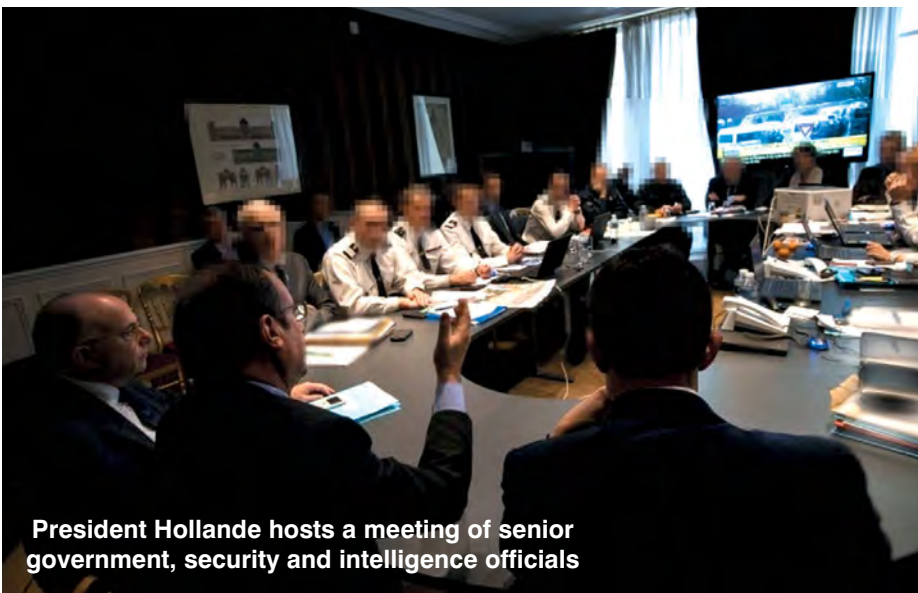
annoying." The magazine then relocated to its present location.

Charb and the magazine's staff had been receiving police protection, though to what level or degree is unclear. However, one source said Charb had a personal security detail. His lawyer admitted that the threats against him were "numerous, continuous and frightening." And Charb's partner, Jeanette Bougrab also spoke out. She however, criticised "inadequate security" at the magazine's headquarters. "We could have avoided this massacre," she said.

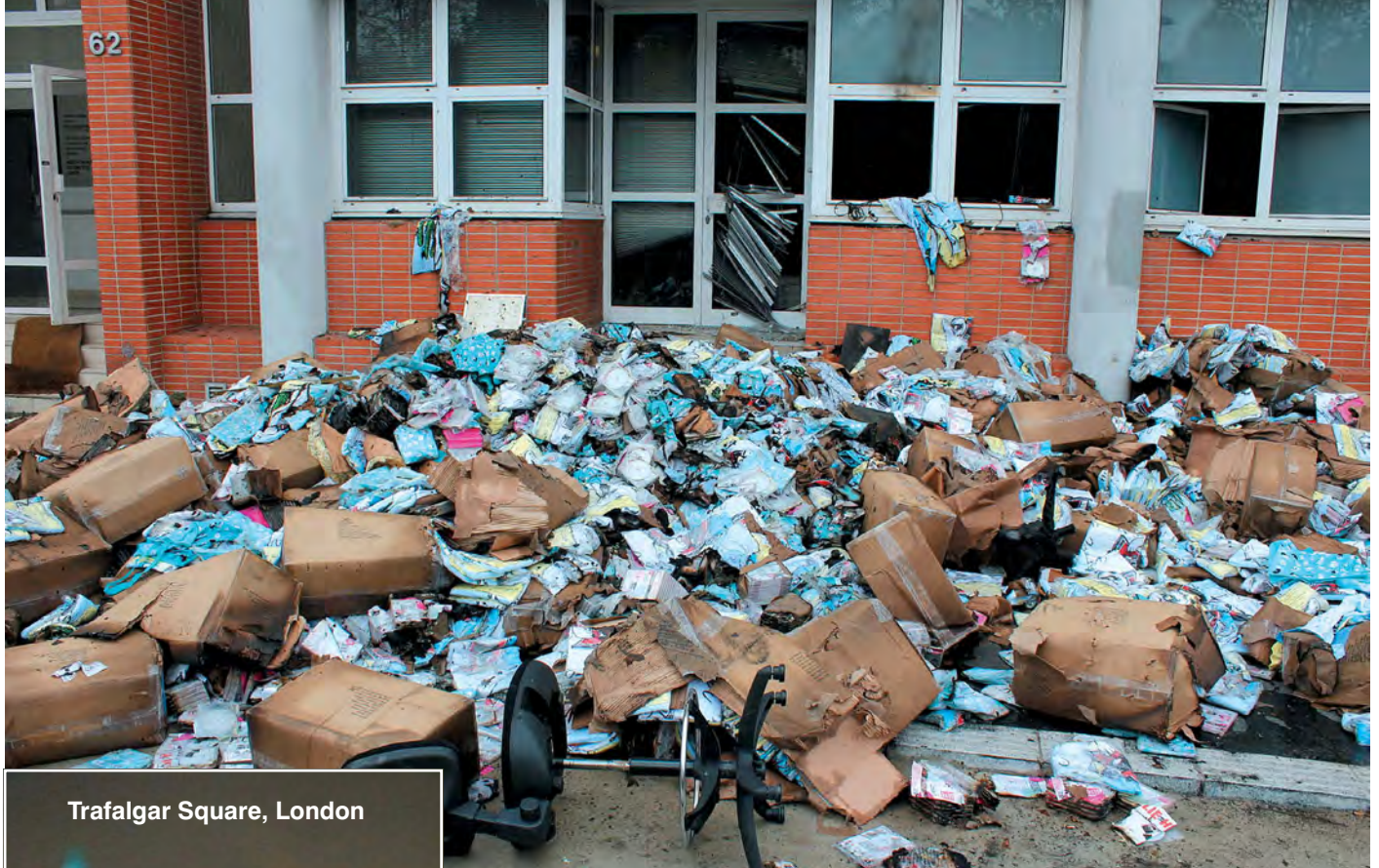


RESPONSIBILITY

Some intelligence watchers initially believed the last 'Tweet' made by *Charlie Hebdo* which mocked ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi on its Twitter account was relevant. A cartoon of the terror leader was flagged with a text line 'Still no attacks in France'... 'Just Wait' a fighter says 'We have until the end of January to present our New Year wishes'. However, in 2013, al-Qaida declared it was willing to pay a substantial reward for anyone who killed Charb. And intelligence officials soon identified the Paris terrorists and their allegiance to al-



President Hollande hosts a meeting of senior government, security and intelligence officials



Trafalgar Square, London



Qaida. The brothers had a number of terrorist convictions, and for a number of years were under passive surveillance, an aspect of the case which will need to be addressed. The men were rated as “extremely dangerous” by both MI5 and the FBI. Their names were on no-fly lists and both were banned from entering the UK and USA.

ESCAPE AND EVASION

For reasons still unclear the men managed to escape out of the city. Police are examining how this was achieved. Nevertheless, the security services were soon on their trail after they robbed a petrol station near Villers-Cotterets in the Aisne region to the north of Paris. Little was still known about the third man or his whereabouts. But as Parisians woke the next morning, they would soon discover who he was. ➤

Above: Debris, files and furniture outside the offices of *Charlie Hebdo* following an arson attack in 2011. Below: Building hosting the office of the magazine





Cartoonist Tignous
(Bernhard Verlhac)

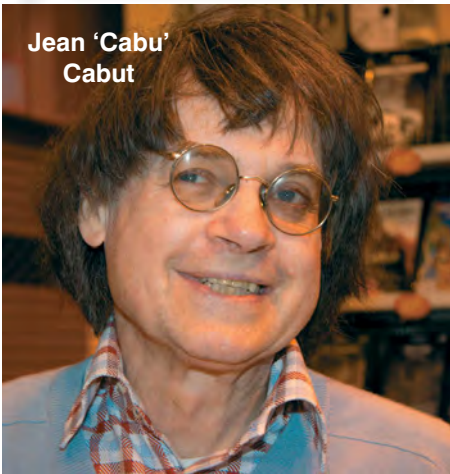


Georges Wolinski



SECOND CITY SHOOTING

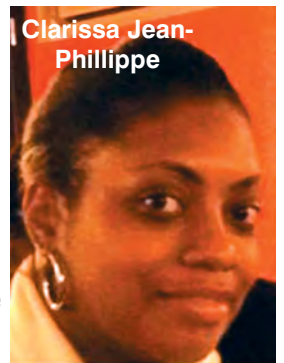
During the early hours of 8 January, the French security services assembled a force of over 70,000 personnel to the search operation. As they were being deployed to various points and converging on a forested area to the north of Paris, news of a further shooting in Boulevard Richard Lenoir, seven miles south of the magazine's headquarters started to reach officials. A gunman, Amedy Coulibaly, 32, shot two police officers killing one of them. The



Jean 'Cabu' Cabut



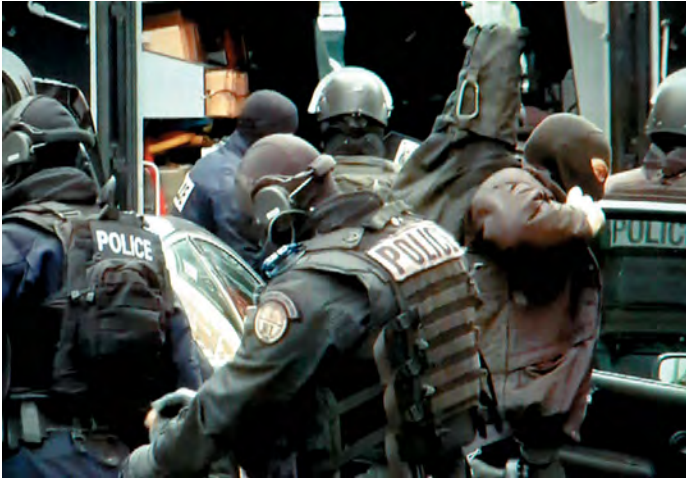
Philippe Honoré



Clarissa Jean-Philippe



Journalists and emergency services outside the offices of the magazine



A bullet struck this window during the attack - fired by the terrorists



The garage robbed by the Kouachis as they fled north of Paris



A vehicle used by the terrorists is towed away for forensic investigation

officer was later named as Clarissa Jean-Phillippe, 27. Reasons for the attack were mixed and confusing, but there was immediate suspicion by the intelligence world this was connected to events at *Charlie Hebdo*. A gunman was also seen loitering near the headquarters of French newspaper *Le Figaro*.

It has of course transpired that the terrorist did not belong to the same AQ affiliate as Cherif and Said Kouachi. In 2005 they were identified as members of a Paris recruitment cell who helped would-be jihadists to travel to North Africa and the Middle East. All belonged to an outfit in the city calling itself the Buttes

Chaumont named as such after a park in the 19th District.

Throughout the day and into Friday (9 January) a force numbering thousands searched through a massive forest area. But then came news of an incident in the town of



Police secure the offices of *Liberation* which provided office space and support for the remaining *Charlie Hebdo* staff



A police marksman takes up a position as the hunt for the gunmen continues



Charlie Hebdo's printing of cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad sparked protests in Paris in 2006



Michel Catalano

Dammartin-en-Goele some three miles east of Charles de Gaulle Airport. The gunmen had entered the premises of Creating Trend Discovery, a printing firm on an industrial estate and took an employee - Michel Catalano hostage. He calmly talked with the Kouachis and made them a coffee. At the same time he bravely decided not to tell them he had told another employee, Lilian Lepere to hide. Lepere then texted his family who contacted police and within a few minutes a variety of police, para-military and armed forces personnel had descended on the area.

A SYNCHRONISED ATTACK

Hours later news from Paris was relayed on press wires that a gunman had taken several people hostage at a Kosher supermarket in the east of the city. Suspicion immediately fell upon Amedy Coulibaly who had killed Jean-Philippe. A second suspect was also named - his 'wife' Hayat Boumeddiene, 26. Both were known to French Intelligence and had links to terrorism. What the police did not know at that



Security officers use flash grenades before storming the Jewish grocery outlet in Paris. The bravery and actions of Muslim shopkeeper Lassana Bathily at the beginning of the attack by Coulibaly, undoubtedly saved lives as he ushered shoppers into a dark room - he would later be granted French citizenship

time was as he entered the premises, he had shot dead four people and taken a further 16 hostage. The victims were later named as Yoav Hattab, Philippe Braham, Yohan Cohen, Francios-Michel Saada - all were Jewish French. Nor did they know he had been communicating with the Kouachis.

After checking telephone and cell phone records, forensic and technical specialists discovered the families of Coulibaly, Boumeddiene and the Kouachis had made regular calls to each other in 2014. Indeed, Boumeddiene is said to have talked with the wife of Cherif Kouachi on no fewer than 500

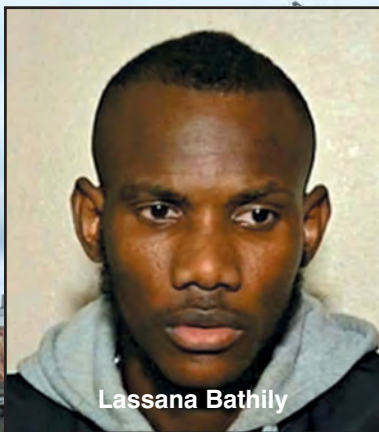
occasions. How a media house managed to make contact with the Kouachis and Coulibaly is unclear. However, there are reports Cherif Kouachi made a call from the print works to BFM TV during the siege. He admitted the operation was organised by al-Qaida and their actions were "synchronised." Coulibaly, who said his part of the operation was to kill police officers, was oblivious to the fact that French specialists had somehow managed to gain control over the supermarket's internal CCTV cameras. This afforded police and Special Forces planners a greater insight into the layout of the premises where hostages were being held and other important details.

END GAME

Coulibaly told police if the Kouachi brothers were harmed he would kill his hostages. A decision was made by the French Government to end both hostage events after negotiators were told by the gunmen that they were "prepared to die as martyrs." Shortly before dusk police fired stun and flash grenades into the supermarket and heavily armed specialist counter-terrorist troops



Yohan Cohen



Lassana Bathily



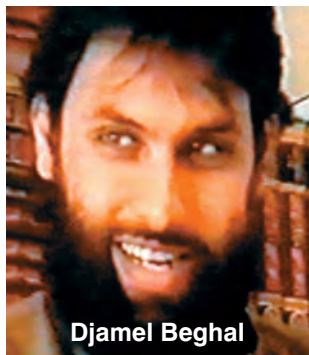
The Hyper Cacher supermarket - scene of the second Paris attack

THE LONDON LINKS

A Myriad of Secret Liaisons Spanning over a Decade Haunt the Intelligence World

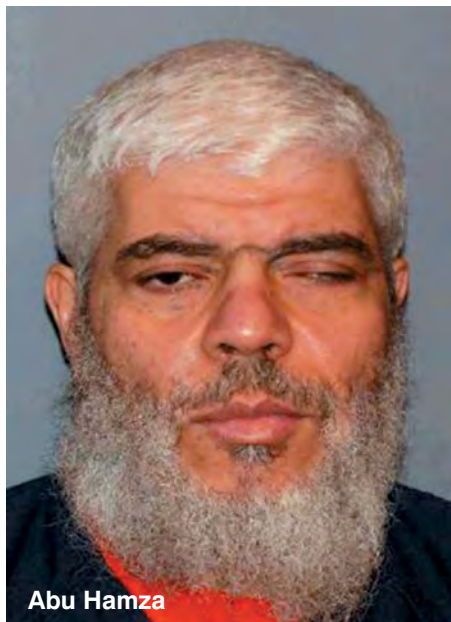
Cherif Kaouchi and Ahmed Coulibaly were recruited into al-Qaida by a character well known to MI5 - Djamel Beghal. He used the Finsbury Park mosque in London to target young men who were being "mesmerised" by hate preacher Abu Hamza. However, when Beghal, described as "Hamza's lieutenant" was jailed in 2005 for plotting to bomb the US Embassy in Paris, he met with Kaouchi and Coulibaly and formed a relationship. Indeed, according to MI5 agent Reda Hassaine who had infiltrated the London mosque to identify recruiters and operatives, this liaison was maintained after the men's release.

As late as 2011, French internal security surveilled Cherif Kaouchi visiting Beghal.



Djamel Beghal

Other liaisons are known with leading terrorist figures across Europe, Africa and the Middle East, and



Abu Hamza

undoubtedly intelligence gleaned in the past ten years is now being reassessed to identify associates. But Reda Hassaine quite rightly notes the situation is far from ideal and more complex and dangerous than ever before.

Eye Spy also understands Said Kouachi had links to would-be Detroit underwear bomber Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab



MI5 contact man - Reda Hassaine

and at some point they shared an apartment. Abdulmutallab lived in a flat in London, but we are unable as yet to confirm Kouachi stayed here.

Questions have been raised why the Paris gunmen were not surveilled more intensely. However, so large are the numbers of people in Europe linked to terror groups, including ISIS, that 24-hour surveillance is impossible on all suspects.

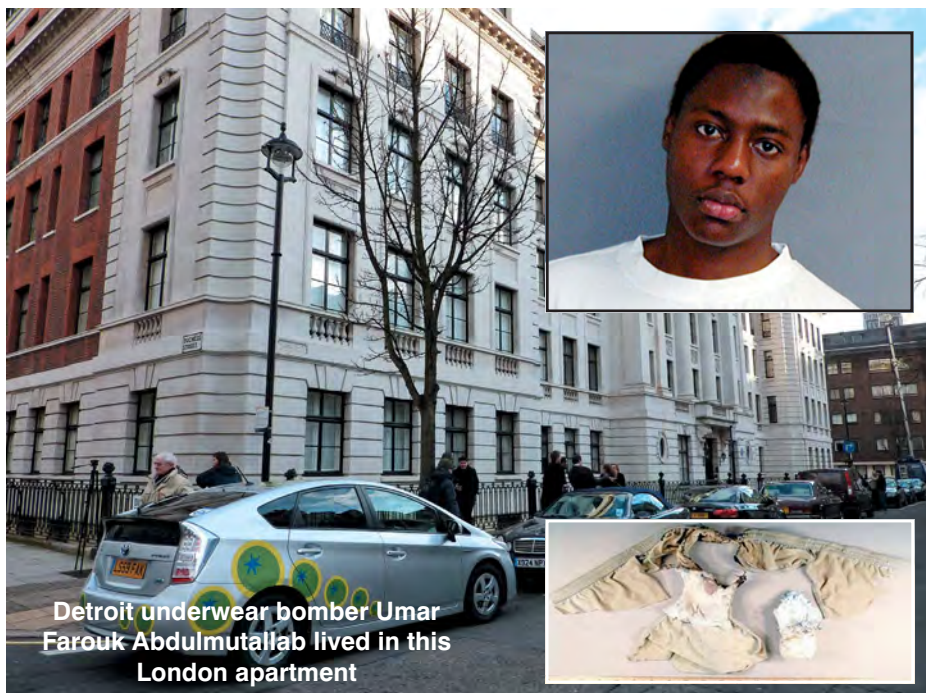
Andrew Parker, Director-General of MI5, spoke openly about the threat to Britain and the West. In a lecture he revealed that as many as 20 attacks have been interrupted or the scale lessened by the security services in recent times. Most of these can be linked to events in Syria and Iraq. Just as chilling were his comments that attacks like those in Paris are difficult to counter. He also believed that sooner or later Britain would suffer an attack. The word inevitable may not have been used, but Mr Parker focused on the now and future.



COURTESY: THAMES HOUSE/MI5

The full text of Mr Parker's speech delivered at RUSI can be read at:

LINKS www.mi5.gov.uk/



Detroit underwear bomber Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab lived in this London apartment

HOURS

TERRORISTS STRIKE IN PARIS

Continued from page 11

entered the premises. Away to the north of Paris, the two gunmen charged from their hideout in what appeared to be a suicidal action. Gunfire erupted and thirty seconds later all was quiet. In what appeared to be a simultaneous police operation, all three terrorists had been eliminated. The time elapsed from the terrorists entering *Charlie Hebdo*'s premises to the end game was 54 hours.

A STRANGE TWIST

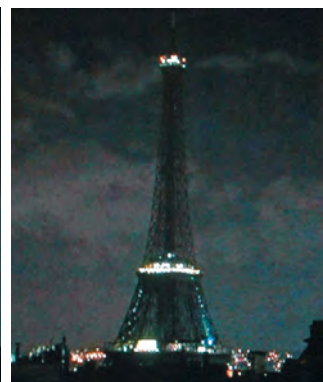
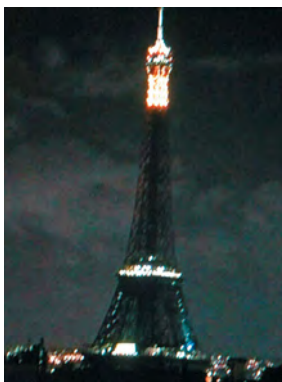
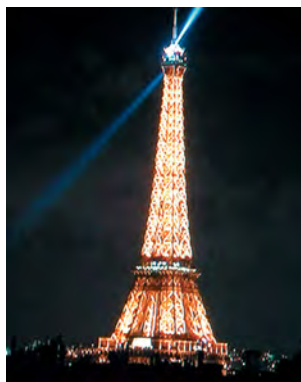
Coulibaly's wife Hayat Boumeddiene was not in the supermarket. Turkish MIT intelligence officials checked immigration records and discovered she had entered Turkey on 2 January 2015 - five days before the attacks in Paris. Boumeddiene crossed into Syria a day later.

Described as "armed and dangerous", she has now become one of the most wanted woman in the world. In Israel, a special Mossad unit has been assembled to find her

and at least four other persons linked to the attacks. Boumeddiene, like her associates, was known to the DGS (Direction Generale de la Securite Interieure). The Service has acknowledged that surveillance of the four primary cell members was scaled down or ceased five months ago.

Detectives then started to consider the possibility that the shooting of a female jogger on the day of the *Charlie Hebdo* shooting in Paris may be linked. Indeed, bullets recovered at the scene were examined and reportedly matched others fired by Coulibaly. Similarly, a car bomb which destroyed a vehicle later that evening was also investigated. Intelligence officials believe that was a distraction operation intended to make police believe the brothers were still in the city or to stretch resources further.

And then in the early hours of 11 January, the ISIS terrorist group uploaded a video of Coulibaly almost certainly made hours after



Said Kouachi's drivers licence was found in an abandoned vehicle



Hayat Boumeddiene



END GAME IMMINENT
French security services prepare for their raid on the printers



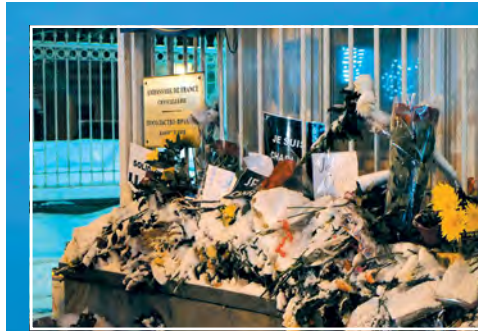
An explosion signals the beginning of the end of the Creating Trend Discovery printer siege



President Hollande pays respect to one of the dead police officers

the *Charlie Hebdo* incident but before he attacked the Jewish supermarket. For nearly eight minutes he talks about his allegiance to ISIS and its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Alongside him his weapon and to his right, the flag of ISIS. Analysis of the video indicates that whilst his admission of involvement was

recorded during on-going events in Paris, other parts were recorded prior to the attack. Of relevance and much concern, inside the safe house used by Coulibaly, detectives discovered a list showing the location of Jewish schools in Paris. Armed security officers have now been assigned to these areas.

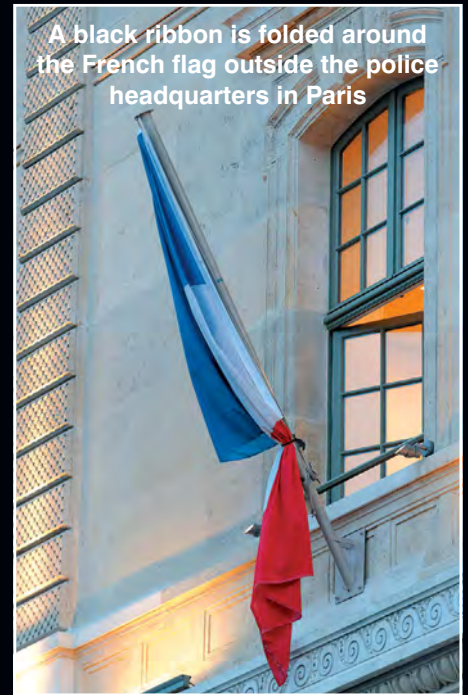


Embassy of France, Berlin. Inset: Moscow



Stills from the video released by ISIS shows Coulibaly talking about the *Charlie Hebdo* attack - but before he embarked upon his own mission at the kosher supermarket





A black ribbon is folded around the French flag outside the police headquarters in Paris

INTERNATIONAL REACTION

UK Prime Minister David Cameron described the incident as "sickening." Russian President Vladimir Putin condemned the attack, while NATO released a statement declaring its 'solidarity with France'. German Chancellor Angela Merkel said the shooting was an attack on freedom of the press and free speech. President Obama had offered to help France in the pursuit of the terrorists and described the country as "America's oldest ally." The Arab League strongly condemned the killings in a written statement. Elsewhere in the Middle East, the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed its condemnation of terrorism in "all its forms and manifestations." UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

described the attack as "horrendous, unjustifiable and cold-blooded."

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S MAJOR ERROR OF JUDGEMENT

On the morning of 11 January, over one million people gathered in Paris to march in protest against the attack. Also in attendance world leaders from various countries. However, President Obama did not turn up - a decision which was widely criticised across the world and in America itself. The White House issued a bumbling statement in an attempt to deflect blame from the president saying "it was not his decision but ours." Incredible. For the record, Mr Obama had no appointments scheduled for that day. Asked

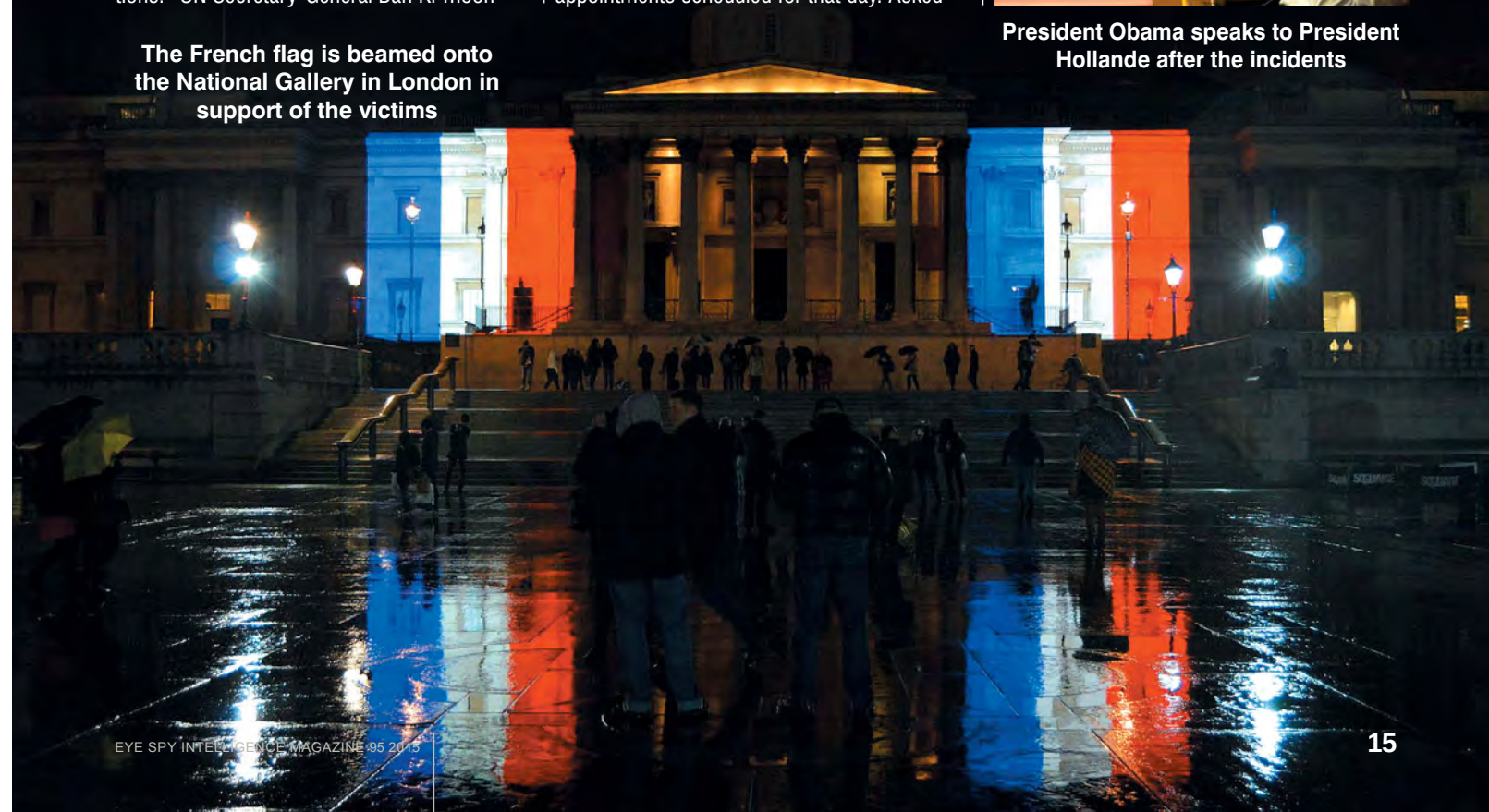
about his failure to turn up, White House spokesman Josh Earnest said that security would have presented a "significant challenge." But did he forget that also applied to the other leaders who chose to attend? In the end, Earnest said they "should have sent someone with a higher profile."

Continued on page 34



President Obama speaks to President Hollande after the incidents

The French flag is beamed onto the National Gallery in London in support of the victims





INTELLIGENCE REVIEW • NEWS • DIGEST

The 1998 US Embassies Bomb Mastermind Dies

The man accused of the 1998 US Embassy attacks in Kenya and Tanzania which resulted in the deaths of over 200 people, has died in America. The notorious al-Qaida commander Anas Al-Liby (real name Nazih Abdul Hamed Nabih al-Ruqai'i) succumbed to liver cancer just days before he was due to stand trial in New York for his part in the bombings. He was 50-years-old.

Al-Liby was captured in Libya in October 2013 by US Special Forces (Delta) after the CIA learned he was living in a safe house in Tripoli. With a \$5 million FBI bounty on his head, al-Liby had been indicted by a grand jury 15 years ago. However, despite a worldwide search for the operative, he had avoided detection, until his position was disclosed by informants following the demise of Colonel Gadaffi.

The trial of two other men accused of masterminding the bombings has



Anas Al-Liby

begun. Khalid Al Fawwaz has pleaded not guilty, though Adel Abdul Barry, who was extradited from the UK in 2012, has admitted helping to plan the attacks.

As for al-Liby, his wife Um Abdullah, accused the US Government of "kidnapping, mistreating and killing an innocent man."

US CENTRAL COMMAND Twitter and YouTube Accounts Hacked

Hackers claiming allegiance to the ISIS terror group managed to circumnavigate security measures on two Internet platforms (YouTube and Twitter) used by US CentCom (US Central Command). One message left on its Twitter account read: *'American soldiers we are coming... watch your back'*. Officials described the breach as "cyber vandalism" and not a serious attack. However, personal information was



uploaded in the form of documentation and the main banner was changed. It took 30 minutes to dislocate settings and remove the accounts.



A Pentagon spokesman said nothing was of importance or classified nor was information lost. The hack did not affect other web sites or those systems operated by organisations attached to CentCom.

Ironically, the cyber attack took place as President Obama delivered a speech on cyber security and awareness. Both platforms were down for a few hours.

HACKING THE WEST'S 'TRAVEL SYSTEM'

In Britain, security experts are satisfied that a UK bus company was hacked by individuals also supporting ISIS. However, it appears the hackers thought they were

attacking one of the West's primary transport websites. Employees at a Bristol bus company found their site's display had been replaced by an ISIS flag with the accompanying wording - *'Hacked by darkshadow - Arab Security Team'*. The page played Arabic music and its supposed Facebook address was displayed containing other hacking successes carried out by the outfit.

Hackers based in Tunisia and the Ivory Coast are believed to have targeted TravelWest's journey planner which displayed route times for its buses in the West Country of England. The breach was soon corrected, but cyber officials again warned of the dangers of hacking.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Former CIA Director May Face Secrecy Charges



US prosecutors have recommended that charges be brought against former CIA Director David Petraeus for allegedly discussing/sharing classified information with his former mistress, Paula Broadwell.

Petraeus, who commanded US forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, stepped down as D/CIA in 2012 after news of his affair with Broadwell started to leak. The couple met in 2006 and participated in the writing of an academic paper on his leadership.

A Justice Department investigation will examine the background to the case, including whether he allowed Broadwell access to his CIA e-mail account. The affair surfaced when she sent anonymous e-mails to another woman concerning Petraeus. Shortly after, the experienced intel man admitted he had shown "extremely poor judgement." Following his Langley exit, President Obama said he "provided extraordinary service to the United States for decades."

As for Broadwell, a West Point graduate, US Army intelligence analyst and writer, her home was searched by police and various items removed. Petraeus is believed to have rejected the allegation, but if found guilty, he could be jailed.



David Petraeus and Paula Broadwell pictured in 2011

official confirmed they have received a complaint that former US Navy SEAL Robert O'Neill could have revealed classified information to persons not authorised to receive it. An NCIS official confirmed: "NCIS has initiated an investigation to determine the merit of the allegations."

O'Neill has given many interviews about the Neptune Spear operation, but has always insisted he has been careful not to speak about those elements of the 2011 raid in Abbottabad considered sensitive. However, his openness to discuss

the mission led to criticism from fellow SEALs and senior Naval Special Warfare Command officials, including Rear Admiral Brian Losey, who said the troops should consider themselves professionals who do not seek glory. Another ex-SEAL, Matt Bissonnette, author of the best-selling book about the operation - *No Easy Day** - is already being investigated for some alleged technical aspects which he published. The work was not presented to Pentagon censors prior to publication - a decision Bissonnette said was based upon legal guidance.

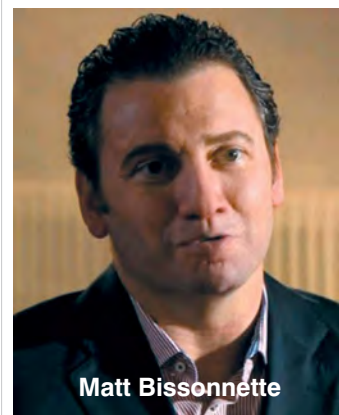


Former US Navy SEAL Robert O'Neill

O'Neill, who joined the US Navy in 1995 and who has been decorated on numerous occasions, said he believed the public had a right to know more information about the night in which the world's most wanted terrorist leader was killed.

There are at least three different versions now in circulation about the death of Osama bin-Laden.

* Book authored by Matt Bissonnette using the pen name Mark Owen



Matt Bissonnette

© CBS NEWS

MORE SEAL TROUBLE

The man who claims he fired the fatal bullet which killed Osama bin-Laden is also being probed by the US Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), over a possible breach of information. A Navy



Director NCIS Andrew Traver

CIA DATA LEAK Iran Operation Affected

A former CIA officer who participated in an undercover operation to plant misleading and false nuclear plans to Iran, has been convicted of providing details of the case to James Risen, a *New York Times* journalist.

Jeffrey Sterling, 47, was found guilty on nine counts and now faces prison. His actions "placed lives at risk," said Attorney General Eric Holder. Relevant to the government's case was the impact of Sterling's actions. Because Iran had



Jeffrey Sterling

now read about the ruse, this effectively stopped any future attempt by Langley to slow down the Iranian nuclear programme by providing incorrect data. The data was being channelled to the Iranians through a 'Russian scientist' code-named 'Merlin'.

Sterling was sacked in 2012 and had earlier sued the government for discrimination. Similarly, he had clashed with officials over the writing of his memoirs. The court heard that by giving information to Risen for his book *State of War*, he was basically taking revenge.

As for Risen, who was not investigated, he argued that the CIA operation could have inadvertently helped Iran, if it could have worked out which documents, including blue-prints, were not bogus.

Sterling joins a lengthening list of other intelligence officers whose liaison with the media has come to no good.

THE SECRET KGB ASSET

Questions Raised in Parliament on Behalf of Moscow

A former Australian politician has been identified as a KGB asset in papers released by the Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation (ASIO). NSW man Albert 'Bert' James who served parliament from the 1960s through to 1980 was identified in papers held initially by MI6 and



MI6 agent Vasili Mitrokhin

MI5. These were sourced from the so-called Mitrokhin Archive - thousands of KGB documents presented to British Intelligence by defector Vasili Mitrokhin, an archivist who managed KGB files at the height of the Cold War.

And whilst the archive papers were released by the UK last year, there was no reference to James, thus it is assumed the material was handed to ASIO and left to the Government of Australia to determine what should be done.

The files reveal James had many contacts with KGB men and regularly helped the organisation secure meetings with other political targets. The phrase 'talent spotter' comes to mind here. The introductions were also used to 'spread disinformation' and even create a platform where KGB questions could be put to the government in Parliament.

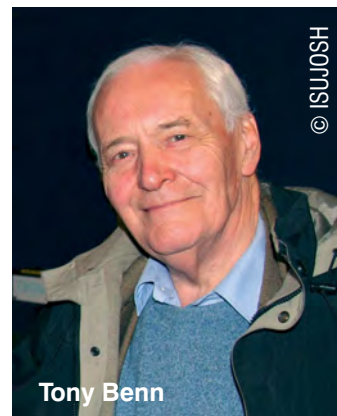
Amongst James' Russian Intelligence contacts were Ivan Stenin, Ivan Skripov, Geronty Lazovik and Viktor Cherkashin, all served as KGB Station Chiefs in Canberra.

James had a reputation for criticising ASIO and on one

occasion said the organisation was a "political force that used informers." He also accused the CIA of funding his opponents. All of this made ASIO watchful of course, and its chief at the time, Edward Woodward, agreed to retain a registry file on the politician.

Other documents associated with the file show ASIO tried to convince GRU man Yuriy Stepanenko to defect; bugging operations and a second as-yet-unidentified Australian politician who was under KGB control.

In another recent development involving the KGB and a Western politician, MI6 agent and former



London-based KGB officer Oleg Gordievsky discussed a British political heavyweight who some suspected of having ties with the Russian spy agency - Tony Benn. However, speaking to the *Daily Telegraph*, Gordievsky said Moscow viewed him as a person who was a destabilising factor in the Cold War and both "dangerous and unreliable."

Tony Benn passed away in March 2014.



Albert 'Bert' James

TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE Not For Yours Eyes - '30-Year No Shows'

Eye Spy recently carried a story about Jock Kane, the GCHQ radio operator who reported upon a major security breach in the late 1970s. His official case report was amongst several intelligence files scheduled for release in 2015 under Britain's 'thirty year ruling' - but failed to surface.

Other documents which have been retained and flagged 'T' (temporarily unavailable) by the National Archives, include files on the Falkland Islands War, the shooting dead of police women Yvonne Fletcher by a Libyan agent in London, the funding of the National Union of Miners, Buckingham Palace security and Gibraltar.

Though officially no reason has been given, intelligence watchers note that the documents may have been retained for security purposes - several of the topics could be relevant to events taking place today.

CALLING DOWNING STREET

LONDON: British Prime Minister David Cameron found himself at the centre of an embarrassing security lapse. A hoax caller pretending to be GCHQ Director Robert Hannigan was put through to his Downing Street office and the two men spoke for a short while. Seconds later Cameron realised the caller was not Hannigan. And in another incident, a man managed to obtain Mr Hannigan's cell number after he telephoned GCHQ.

An official said no sensitive information had been imparted and security procedures were now being reviewed...



Argentine prisoners in Port Stanley, Falkland Islands

Mandy Rice-Davies

A Central Character in a 1960s British Spy and Political Drama Passes

Former 1960s London showgirl and model Mandy Rice-Davies passed away a week before Christmas 2014 aged 70. She was a former friend of Christine Keeler, the socialite at the centre of the so-called 'Profumo Affair', who became entangled in a major spy incident in the early 1960s. Both women worked as dancers at Murray's Cabaret Club - a popular haunt for some leading Establishment figures.

Keeler, under the watchful eye of MI5 and KGB contact Stephen Ward, started to date Russian spy Yevgeny Ivanov and John Profumo, Britain's Minister for War.

The affair was initially denied by Profumo but after further details emerged and were eventually proven, the minister resigned.

Both Keeler and Rice-Davies were questioned by MI5 and became



Andrew Lloyd Webber with Mandy Rice-Davies in 2013

central figures in a spy drama which gripped Britain.

A major trial followed and Ward either took his own life or he was murdered. Keeler was jailed for three months. The incident was developed into a musical play by Andrew Lloyd Webber and opened in December 2013 at Aldwych Theatre. It received mixed reviews.

However, the likeable Mandy Rice-Davies was involved in an advisory capacity and was seen on several occasions with Webber who described her as "enormously well read and intelligent." She also appeared at the launch of a book -

Stephen Ward Was Innocent, OK, by Geoffrey Robertson in 2014.



John Profumo



TURING'S CODEBOOK

Rare WWII Notes Up For Auction

A codebook once belonging to famous British WWII codebreaker Alan Turing, has been put up for auction by Bonhams Auction House. The sale will take place in New York on 13 April and some insiders believe it could make as much as \$1 million.

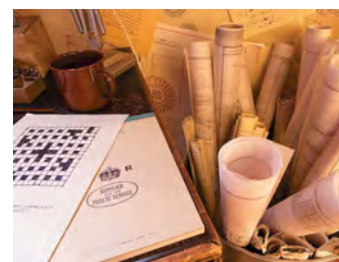
The 56-page hand-written book was written at the height of the war when

Britain was battling to decode Germany's Enigma. Dating from around 1942, Turing's calculations and thoughts are revealing. In one comment he admits the code is "very complex" and he is "having difficulty understanding some of the maths."

Turing's book was given to his Bletchley Park codebreaking centre friend and colleague Robin Gandy, along with various other codebreaking material. Gandy decided to give most of these rare papers to the Archive Centre in Cambridge but decided to retain the codebook notes and use the empty pages as a journal to record his own thoughts and future ambitions. His own deep friendship with Turing can be evidenced in one line: *'It seems a suitable disguise to write in between these notes of Alan's on notation, but possibly a little*

sinister... a dead father figure, some of whose thoughts I most completely inherited'.

Bonhams refused to say who the seller was, but announced part of the money raised would be donated to charity.



WINSTON CHURCHILL

Royal Mint Honours Wartime Hero

Sir Winston Churchill is remembered and celebrated as a stirring speaker and a legendary leader. In 1965 people the world over mourned the death of one of the 'Greatest of Britons'. The Royal Mint struck a commemorative coin then, and half a century on it has marked the anniversary of Churchill's death with a fitting tribute - a fine silver United Kingdom coin.

Just the third edition of these special coins to be available at face value (£20), it is sure to sell out like its predecessors.



GRIM REALITY FOR

NEW INTERCEPT AND COMMUNICATIONS POWERS ON POLITICAL AGENDA

UK Counter-terrorism Specialists Warn of Dark Days Ahead

Lord Evans, better known as Sir Jonathan Evans, the recently retired MI5 Director-General, has warned that if tough new counter-terrorism laws are not introduced, the UK will face more attacks. The terrorism specialist also criticised Edward Snowden, the former NSA/CIA contractor who released hundreds of thousands of 'trade secrets' about the types of operations being performed by the intelligence world, especially those related to interception and communication. He also made reference to the fighting in Syria and Iraq noting this had emboldened many.

This, combined with the antics of Snowden, resulted in Lord Evans supporting new legislation: "The result of this can only be that the overall risk of a successful terrorist attack in this country has risen," he said. And he

further warned that terrorists and would-be terrorists have changed the way in which they operate and communicate - taking advantage of Snowden's ill-conceived actions.

Lord Evans' chilling comments were made as pooled intelligence from the security services of Europe and America, now indicate that between 5,000-6,000 men (and some



Former MI5 Director-General Sir Jonathan Evans (Lord Evans)



Europol's Rob Wainwright

women) living in Europe have engaged in the fighting in the Middle East. And whilst data on those who have returned remains unclear, some estimates suggest over 1,000 - many intent on attacking their homeland.

Home Secretary Theresa May speaking in Parliament about the new threats posed by ISIS and al-Qaida

EUROPE



Home Secretary Theresa May wants new counter-terrorism legislation introduced immediately

As for Snowden, there are credible reports emerging that whilst he was effectively trapped in Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport - this after the United States cancelled his passport - the FSB made a determined effort to try and recruit him. However, one close associate said he refused.

Intelligence watchers believe declining the offer does not really matter any more, for



Police outside the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall. Security has been increased at many London government, tourist and transport locations

besides operational procedures and methods, Snowden has all but delivered US and UK secrets to the Russians and others on a plate. This also includes terrorists.

A day after the attacks in Paris, current MI5 Director-General Andrew Parker warned that returning ISIS and AQ fighters and their followers still in the UK are planning "mass attacks" and that notable UK landmarks were being discussed. He was backed by Britain's Europol chief Rob Wainwright who appeared in front of the UK's Home Affairs Select Committee. Wainwright said Europe is now facing its most severe threat since 9/11.

BIGGER THREAT THAN THE COLD WAR

Recently retired MI6 Chief Sir John Sawers also joined the debate on electronic monitor-



Former MI6 Chief Sir John Sawers

ing. He said the security services "must watch everyone" if attacks are to be prevented. Sir John said groups such as al-Qaida and ISIS pose a bigger problem than the Cold War.

Home Secretary Theresa May summed up the stark reality facing those charged with stopping the violence. On 14 January she spoke in Parliament and insisted if British Intelligence is not given new powers to track communications, "lives will be put at risk." May even spoke of measures to ban encryption: "With every day that passes without the capabilities in the proposed bill, the powers of the security services diminish." In 2012, the government's coalition partners blocked a Communications Bill, claiming it was a "snoopers charter." That's a decision which may come back to haunt them.

For the record, May also hinted that intercept data was used to link the two recent attacks in Paris.



Sources close to Snowden said Russia's FSB tried to recruit him whilst he was 'living' inside Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport



Edward Snowden - damage caused by contractor is incalculable

GATE

WAY

The US Senate Intelligence Committee has released its findings on the CIA's extraordinary rendition programme. Some intelligence officials have criticised its conclusions...

The CIA's extraordinary rendition (ER) programme has always been shrouded in controversy ever since details of its global operation to move suspected al-Qaida terrorists around the world started to leak. Langley tried to contain the story but so complex was the endeavour - one involving over 30 nations and hundreds of operatives - it was simply impossible. Along the way there were errors as CIA 'snatch squads' targeted the wrong men, perhaps the most well

known case being that of Abu Omar in 2003 in Italy. ER was halted just days into President Obama's office: as a caveat to his announcement, he proclaimed he had confidence in the CIA and was supportive of its actions. However, he also referenced some of Langley's actions were tantamount to "torture" and a "betrayal of American values."



Senate Intelligence Committee Chairwoman Dianne Feinstein

What started as a secret war against those behind the attacks on America in 2001, soon spread dragging in senior al-Qaida operators. And of course, America was facing new dangers such as radiation suit case bombs, poisoning of reservoirs, transport attacks and so on. New threats were never far away and becoming even more daring and more complex, such as bombs sewn into the body or hidden in breast implants. Against this backdrop intelligence on just who was organising and controlling a post 9/11 al-Qaida became even more imperative. Thus, coupled with detaining al-Qaida commanders and senior players, the leadership of the CIA opted to green-light controversial interrogation methods, some of which have now been recognised and described by the 2014 US Senate as torture.



CIA Director John Brennan has defended his agency

GATE

OBJECTIVES ONE AND TWO

The primary objectives of the programme were the elimination or arrest of Osama bin-Laden and the learning of future threats. And of course, this was achieved in 2011. However, it's what went on in the early years of the CIA's global fight against the terrorists loyal to al-Qaida, that left some US lawmakers uncomfortable as stories of waterboarding, sleep deprivation and other practises became known. Thus following bin-Laden's death, President Obama shocked Langley when he supported and approved an investigation into the CIA's treatment of al-Qaida suspects and known operatives.

It all began in 2002 with the interrogation of Abu Zubaydah, a well known AQ man who was also a close associate of bin-Laden.

Before his capture Eye Spy learned he had been given the codename 'Gatekeeper' by the CIA. Langley believed if they could get him, then al-Qaida's hierarchy would be exposed. At first he was interrogated just like he would have been in a police interview, but events spiralled down hill quickly and within days force was being used to extract information. His name actually features 1,000 times in the Senate Intelligence Committee investigation. Thereafter around 100 detainees received similar treatment - this at various 'black sites' in countries which offered covert support. A

number of these have since been identified in Europe and elsewhere. And just recently a former White House staffer acknowledged that Diego Garcia, the British Indian Ocean Territory which supports a major US military base, was used as a transit and suspect holding facility. Another known site where such operations took place was the Salt Pit in

Langley's Extraordinary Rendition programme began in 2002 with the hunt for Al-Qaida's

KEEPER



Abu Zubaydah





Director CIA George Tenet was given backing to implement a wide range of programmes to secure the arrest of those responsible for 9/11

PLAUSIBLE DENIABILITY

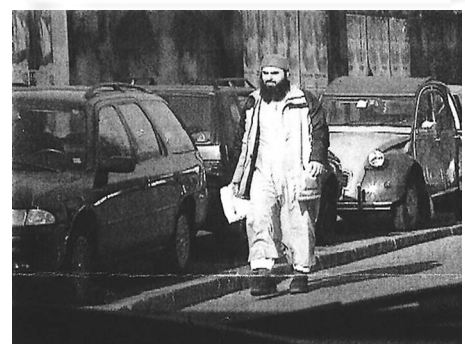
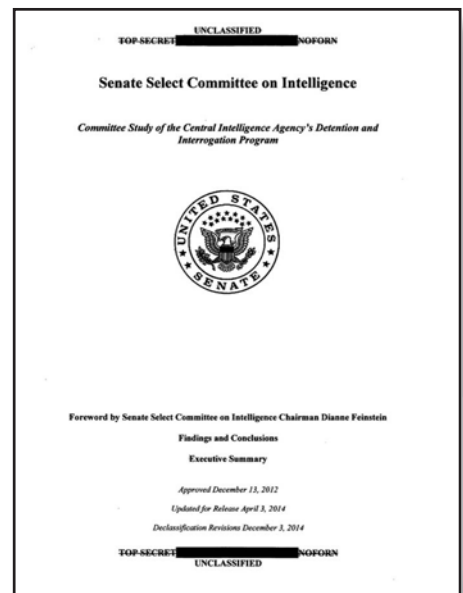
Afghanistan. A Langley insider described the location and prisoners held there as akin to a “kennel and a dog.”

GET OUT OF JAIL CARD

Central to the Senate investigation is just how much information was imparted by Langley to President Bush on the harsher interrogation methods. There is little doubt the White House backed the snatch squads and transport to the

black sites for interrogation, thereafter things become a little more confused, a little murkier, and some intelligence watchers believe those behind the darker techniques chose not to brief the president’s men. Nevertheless, the White House was happy to go along with this arrangement and the CIA term ‘plausible deniability’ comes to mind here.

By 2006, this had changed, according to the Senate report. Indeed, President Bush openly



CIA surveillance photo of Abu Omar. He was abducted in 2003 in Italy

expressed support for extraordinary rendition announcing it had “saved the lives of many Americans and others.”

Some senators were told of the interrogation methods as early as 2002, but generally, leading politicians were oblivious to its finer detail. Even Colin Powell, Secretary of State was kept in the dark. Senate investigators



Colin Powell, Secretary of State - ‘deliberately kept out of the loop’



Former Vice President Dick Cheney disagrees with Senate report and backed programme



Former CIA National Clandestine Service head Jose Rodriguez said programme worked



Ultimately many suspects ended up at Guantanamo Bay



SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMME

discovered an internal CIA e-mail stating if he learned of the operating tactics he would *'blow his stack'*.

Another key issue relevant to America's allies, including the UK, is how much detail about the torture did Langley reveal. By 2007, internal efforts were underway to deflect blame directly on to the shoulders of senior CIA staffers. Director Michael Hayden said the programme (ER) was not a CIA endeavour but an American one. At the time around 20 case examples were delivered to leading politicians that showed the use of torture had revealed, exposed and derailed al-Qaida terrorist operations. Today's Senate report found little basis in truth for the claim. Furthermore,

investigators said some interrogation operations actually impeded the FBI's research and investigation of suspects and evolving plots. Just exactly what this involved was redacted, suffice it to say critics of the report have complained, even the Senate are now concealing content. Perhaps a clue could be sourced from a comment made by President Bush's former right-hand man Dick Cheney. He said the programme was essential for finding Osama bin-Laden. That too has been disputed. Some former CIA staffers are supportive of the methods, and the ex-head of Langley's National Clandestine Service, Jose Rodriguez, defended the tough interrogation methods. "I am sure of what we did and confident we saved American lives," he said.

The CIA called upon its Inspector General to oversee certain aspects of its more lucrative and controversial operations, as well as legal issues. That too may be problematic for IG David Buckley surprisingly announced his resignation in January 2015.

Langley and government officials said his departure was not related to the torture fiasco, but others are not convinced. Buckley held the post for four years and was central to the dispute between the CIA and Congress over the torture affair. ➤

HIDING IN A HALL OF MIRRORS

The Senate report also accuses Langley's hierarchy of introducing methods to *'hide, resist, impede and avoid'* an effort by the IG to discover just what was going on in the black sites. Current Director CIA John Brennan was not supportive of this accusation and said: "Whilst we made mistakes, the record does not support the Study's [Report] inference that the Agency systematically and intentionally misled." D/CIA Brennan does admit these were "uncharted waters" for the CIA and that the Agency was unprepared to handle the aftermath of 9/11. He also referenced some of the interrogation methods as "abhorrent," noting they should be "repudiated by all."

Ultimately the Senate Intelligence Committee investigation report suggests the CIA misled Congress, the president and the Justice Department about the effectiveness of the rendition programme and its allied torture methods. Similarly, it found no evidence that it helped Langley find Osama bin-Laden or stop any terrorist plot, despite Dick Cheney being adamant that it was helpful. It also criticised former D/CIA's George Tenet, Porter Goss and Michael Hayden for *'inflating the value of the programme'* whilst engaging in secret briefing meetings at the White House.

Following release of the report, the committee's chairwomen Dianne Feinstein summed up the programme: "History will judge us by our commitment to a just society governed by law and the willingness to face an ugly truth and say 'never again.'" She described the programme as a "stain on our values and our history."

CIA staffers and senior serving and retired officials have criticised both the report's content and the timing of its release. This as another terror group ISIS continues to inflict atrocities in the Middle East and threatens nations elsewhere.



The Senate report criticised former CIA Directors Porter Goss (speaking) and Michael Hayden (inset), for 'inflating the value of the programme'



Director CIA John Brennan and President Obama



D/CIA Leon Panetta prepares to comment on television about the raid which killed Osama bin-Laden



L-R: Dick Cheney, George Tenet and President George W Bush

CUBAN SPY EXCHANGE



Composite of the 'Cuban Five'

The identity of a so-called American 'super spy' released by Cuba remains a closely guarded secret. The spy exchange involved Alan Gross, an American contract worker detained in 2009 for allegedly taking satellite and computer equipment into Cuba without a permit, and a second US prisoner...

There is mounting speculation in the United States that the second man is former Cuban Interior Minister and intelligence man Rolando Sarraff Trujillo. The primary reason why many intelligence watchers believe it is Sarraff, centres upon his recent disappearance and the fact his family have not heard from him or have knowledge of his whereabouts. Sarraff was a cryptography expert and in the service of Cuba's Intelligence Directorate. As part of his remit he passed on communications and instructions to field agents.

Recruited by America's Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), Trujillo used a CIA asset - Jose Cohen, to pass extremely useful intelligence to his handlers in Washington. Perhaps the most valuable material enabled the FBI to identify several Cuban spies who were operating in the United States. These included Ana Montes a DIA analyst, Kendall Myers and his wife Gwendolyn, who were in the employ of the US State Department and several agents of Cuba's infamous Wasp spy network. These operatives had infiltrated anti-Fidel Castro groups based in Florida and were sending back information to Cuba which could be used



The last of the 'Cuban Five' prisoners are welcomed home by President Raul Castro

against relatives. Some one million Cubans live in the greater Miami area alone. ➤

Infiltration: The CIA and DIA had developed a spy ring inside Cuba's Interior Ministry (Headquarters pictured)





Billboards demanding the release of the 'Cuban Five' were a prominent sight across the island

In 1995, Trujillo's associate Cohen came to the attention of suspicious Cuban counter-intelligence officers, reportedly for being "too carefree and flamboyant" with money - this received from his Langley handler. The surveillance also focused on Trujillo, and whilst the CIA managed to get Cohen out of the country, Trujillo was arrested and given a 25-year prison term.

In 2014, with relations between Cuba and the United States improving, three of the so-called 'Cuban Five' - a spy ring of Cuban intelligence officers based in Miami - were released. The men, Gerardo Hernandez, Antonio Guerrero, Ramon Labanino, Fernando Gonzalez and Rene Gonzalez had been arrested in 1998 and charged with espionage offences.

Like many operatives from the Wasp network, they were basically deployed to infiltrate various anti-Castro groups such as Alpha 66 and the F4 Commandos. By 2013, two of the spies had served their sentences and were released, the other three men were given their freedom just before Christmas 2014.

The case against Alan Gross, employed by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) is most controversial. He attempted to provide satellite phone equipment to Jewish residents of Cuba. However, Cuban Intelligence said he was an operative of the CIA. His freedom was announced at the same time as that of members of the Cuban Five. As to the identity of the second American, believed to be Trujillo, President Obama called him "one

of the most important intelligence agents that the United States has ever had in Cuba." Nevertheless, as befalls many espionage case files, not all seems right with this one, for some intelligence insiders familiar with Trujillo say he may well have been a plant, and could have been providing "bogus and toxic" information to his CIA handlers for years.



Rolando Sarraff Trujillo



17 December 2014 - 'going home'. Alan Gross and his wife Judy return to America on a US government aircraft with various officials



DIA analyst Ana Montes was Cuba's most successful spy inside the United States... until she was caught and arrested in 2001. A year later Montes received a 25-year prison sentence. She is pictured here receiving a certificate of distinction award from Director CIA George Tenet in 1997



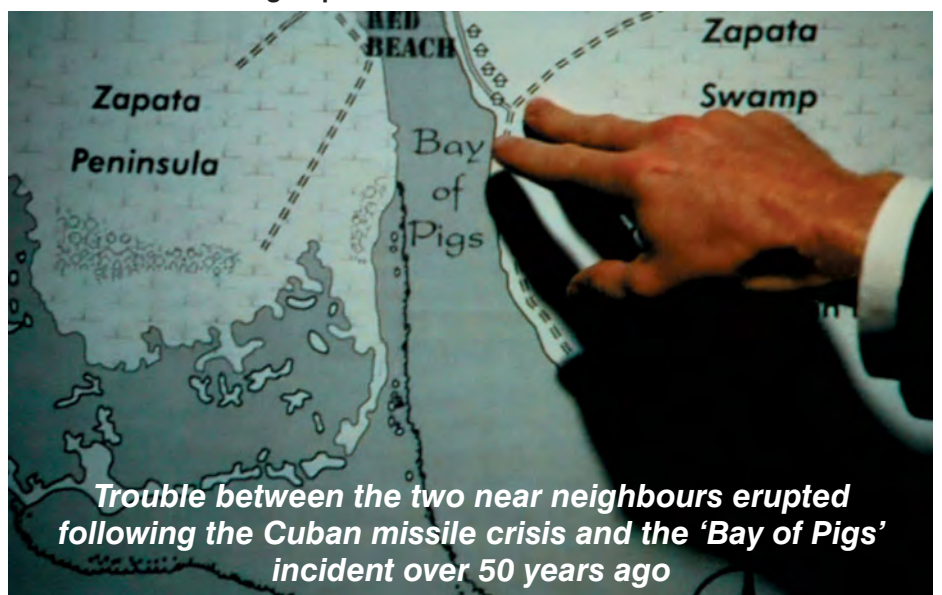
Antonio Guerrero, Rene Gonzalez, Fernando Gonzalez, Gerardo Hernandez and Ramon Labanino



Cuba's spies were sent to monitor and infiltrate anti-Castro Cuban pressure groups based in the United States

The primary source of this information is Bill Gaede, a former Argentine engineer who handed Trujillo's information to his CIA contacts. Gaede said the material intended for Cuban intelligence officers operating in the United States was not "genuine." The ruse was to purposely deliver false intelligence to the CIA in an attempt to mislead the Agency. Gaede said Trujillo was bogus and that Obama's description of him as a "super spy" is simply a ploy to make the prisoner exchange more palatable for officials and lawmakers in the country.

Bizarrely, and to confuse matters even more, Jose Cohen, Trujillo's former associate said Gaede was mischief making and is "still in cahoots with the Cuban government" and seeking to mock Washington and the US media. Interestingly, Gaede, who now lives in Germany, was deported after a series of ➤



Trouble between the two near neighbours erupted following the Cuban missile crisis and the 'Bay of Pigs' incident over 50 years ago



Together again - the released Cuban agents meet with President of Cuba Raul Castro

shady deals involving Iran and China. He had been a Cuban intelligence contact man before being turned to work for the FBI.

Yet this most interesting spy exchange reflects a warming of relations between Cuba and America, and almost certainly ends any hopes of Russia reopening and redeveloping its former spy based on the island at Lourdes. President Obama and Cuba President Raul Castro announced that diplomatic relations were being restored after a half century of mistrust and espionage.

On the web site of the National Committee to Free the Cuban Five, under the banner of Sign the Petition, it simply reads: *'The petition isn't needed any more... the Five are free!'*



In from the cold? Many intelligence watchers believe talk of "normal relations" between America and Cuba is premature. Much will depend on President Rual Castro's reforms, pictured here with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

POLITICAL PRISONERS FREED

HAVANA: On 12 January 2015, as part of the negotiations to release the remaining Cuban spies and the next step to normal relations, Cuba freed 53 'political prisoners'.

Samantha Power, US Ambassador to the United Nations urged caution: "Welcome as the step is, and heartening as it is for the families, it does not resolve the larger human rights problems on the island." At present the identities of the freed prisoners remains confidential and a US embargo on travel remains in place. Cuba is also demanding the return of Guantanamo Bay.



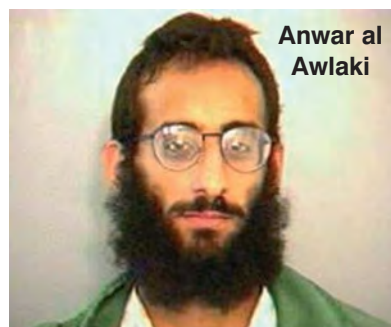
Samantha Power

NEW ATTACK PLOT ON AM THREE S

From a desire - then a plan -
to a weapons purchase...
FBI derail plot by a man
intent on causing mayhem
in Washington DC

The FBI has detained a supporter of the terror group ISIS following a lengthy and carefully planned sting operation. The suspect had allegedly plotted to carry out an attack in Washington DC using pipe bombs to draw workers, lawmakers and officials out of the Capitol Building and then shoot them.

Christopher Lee Cornell, 20, caught the attention of Bureau investigators after he began writing about his support of ISIS on the Internet. An FBI contact man was given the task of making friends with Cornell to identity just how serious he was. Four or five times they exchanged messages and it became evident that the man from Green Township, Ohio, was not "playing at it," according to intelligence sources.



Anwar al Awlaki

Further web postings backing ISIS and jihad were uploaded - all carefully monitored by the NSA in an endeavour to determine if Cornell



FBI JTTF officers in training

AMERICA'S CAPITAL STEPS



Christopher Lee Cornell

had managed to make contact with anyone outside or within the United States who shared his ambition. His viewings of violent jihadist videos and his searching and visits to pro-ISIS web sites were also tracked by the NSA. Bureau officials began to see a hardening of his views. Thus far however, his only companion as such was the undercover FBI man. And then the suspect changed his name and started to write as Raheel Mahrus Ubaydah.



Cornell is arrested moments after purchasing two guns



Alleged plot involved drawing employees out of the Capitol Building

In correspondence Cornell discussed how he planned and desired to assist ISIS on American soil. In a further e-mail to his supposed fellow jihadist in August 2014, it was evident his ambitions had moved onto the drawing board: *'I believe that we should just wage jihad under our own orders and plan attacks and everything... we should meet up and make our own group in alliance with the Islamic State here and plan operations'*.

Text messages were also sent by Cornell - one drawing reference to a statement by ISIS calling for lone wolf attacks. *'We already got a thumbs up from the Brothers over there and Anwar al Awlaki before his martyrdom'*. US-born Al Awlaki had of course inspired many others with his rhetoric, including the Fort Hood attacker Major Nidal Malik Hasan. He killed 13 people at the US base.

Though not entirely clear is the date of Cornell's proposed attack, but some reports say just before Christmas 2014.

Surveillance of the suspect was continuous - both on foot and in cyber space - a revealing clue to how the FBI viewed his intent.

The FBI plant met with Cornell again in November where he learned the suspect had been researching pipe-bomb construction and that he had saved money to purchase weapons and ammunition; similarly, the



Major Nidal Malik Hasan

targets of his anger - members of Congress. Cornell also explained that he was planning to travel to the city on a reconnaissance mission.

He never got there of course. In early January he visited the Point West gun store in Cincinnati. Armed surveillance officers and police from the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) were waiting and detained him after he purchased two semi-automatic ArmaLite M-15 rifles and 600 bullets. A Bureau analyst said "his plan had now moved beyond the drawing board."

THE FORGOTTEN WAR

Donetsk International Airport Destroyed as Ukraine Conflict Intensifies

Fierce fighting between pro-Moscow DPR separatists and Ukrainian government forces has destroyed much of Donetsk Sergey Prokofiev Airport. Several troops have been killed in recent weeks as groups fight to secure the important site - though observers note the airport is certainly beyond use and all but destroyed. Much damage was also reported in a new terminal. The airport is seen as central to Ukraine's offensive to remove all pro-Russian forces. Government forces in the area protecting the airport have been given the nickname 'cyborgs' for their effort to resist overwhelming forces backed by Moscow.

Rebel leader Alexander Zakharchenko mocked Kiev saying military attempts to push his group away from the area have failed - a claim denied by government officials.

Besides fighting in and around the airport, other battles in the Donetsk region and elsewhere in the east of the country continue.

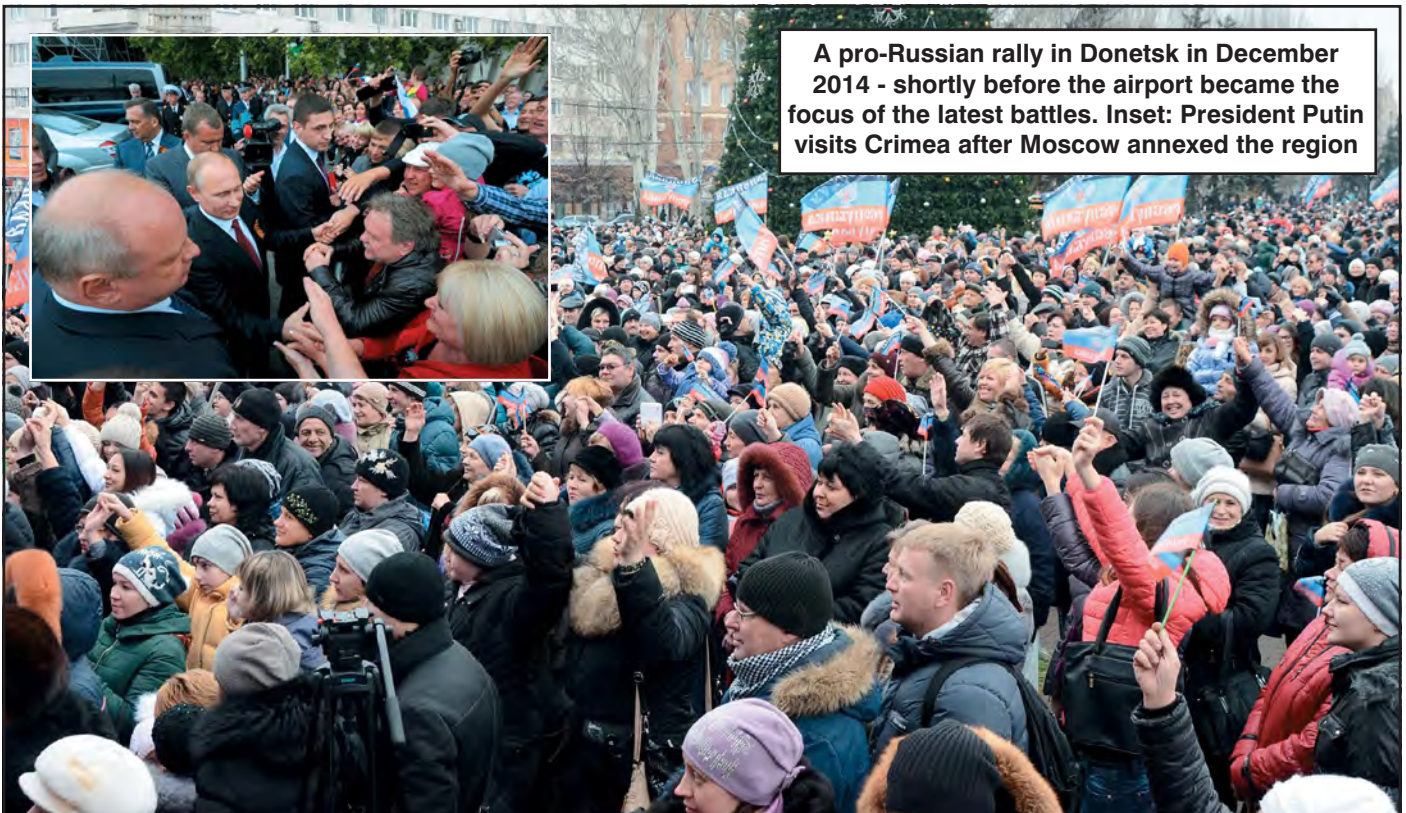
The latest battles have been overshadowed by events in Paris and elsewhere, as NATO reported Russian tanks and troops have again entered Ukraine. One estimate issued by Ukraine's National Security and Defence Council states that as many as 9,000 Russian troops and various armour have been deployed in the country.

Since April 2014, monitoring groups estimate that nearly 5,000 people have died in the fighting which all began when Russia annexed the Crimea. One unconfirmed report produced by Russian human rights activist Elena Vasilieva, if true, reflects the scale of fighting. She said that in the early weeks of January, 382 Russian soldiers lost their lives and a further 500 were injured.



A separatist is detained by Ukraine troops in July 2014. Since the fighting began numerous pro-Russian groups have emerged - most demanding that the east of the country join with Russia

In January 2015, Ukraine Security Service (SSU) chief Valentyn Nalyvaichenko held a press conference and displayed various ordnance and weaponry recovered at the



A pro-Russian rally in Donetsk in December 2014 - shortly before the airport became the focus of the latest battles. Inset: President Putin visits Crimea after Moscow annexed the region



12 May 2014. Valery Bolotov signals the 'Act of Independence of the Lugansk People's Republic'

scene of many battles. The evidence presented revealed much of it had been produced in Russia, and even identified the military units from whence it came. He also said the most active separatist group, the 'Defence Ministry' an element of the LNR (Lugansk People's

Republic) as being behind numerous terrorist attacks. The region declared its independence along with Donetsk last year and like its counterpart has been the scene of numerous deadly encounters and grim atrocities.

Ammunition marking allows identifying its producer, lot number, production date and a military unit of the Russian Armed Forces



According to the forensic studies, terrorists used the following ammunition:
122-mm unguided rocket high explosive fragmentation shells M 21 OF (9M22U item).



Ukraine Security Service Director Valentyn Nalyvaichenko with frames showing alleged retrieved bullets sourced from regular Russian military units. Below: Captured separatists



June 2014. Civilians lay dead after shelling in Lugansk



© FRENCH INTERIOR MINISTRY/NATIONAL POLICE FORCE OF FRANCE

HOURS

Over three thousand security officers were deployed and French Army marksmen took up positions across the route of the march. In Hamburg, Germany, a newspaper which reprinted *Charlie Hebdo* cartoons was attacked.

The ripples from the attack continued to expand and on 12 January a French Police

commissioner Helric Fredou, 45, met with a relative of the *Charlie Hebdo* attack. Hours later he committed suicide. Officials did not link the shooting, instead said he was overworked and depressed.



Helric Fredou

French security officials revealed that the DGSJ (Direction Generale de la Securite Interieure) had thwarted five serious plots in France in the last eighteen months. Intelligence sources say the Service is now tracking at least 20 terrorist suspects belonging to six active cells in France. "Arrests or confrontation is inevitable," Eye Spy was told. This has led to a massive increase of armed police and soldiers who have now been deployed in Paris and other cities.

Analysts examining the attack were left with one challenging and serious question to answer. Amedy Coulibaly declared he was an ISIS operative, whilst the Kouachi brothers said they were al-Qaida members. Thus are events in Paris a sign of cooperation between the groups? Not necessarily, for across Syria, Iraq, Libya and elsewhere the two groups continue to fight each other.



Continued from page 15





**Turkey Premier
Ahmet
Davutoglu**

A week after the attacks, *Charlie Hebdo* appeared again - and some five million copies were printed. The cover carried another image of the Prophet Mohammad - sparking major protests in several countries. In Pakistan, protesters clashed outside the French Embassy and numerous demonstrations and

marches took place elsewhere against both the terrorist incident and the cartoons. Turkey's Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu called the edition an "open provocation."

Pope Francis defended freedom of expression, but added a caveat in that it "had limits" especially in respect of "mocking religion." The Pope said "curse my mother and I will punch you..."

One of the magazine's original creators, Henri Roussel, 80, also weighed into the debate and criticised Charb for his continuous "satirising of the Muslim religion." Writing in *Nouvel Obs*, Roussel accused Charbonnier of 'over-doing the cartoons'.

FRANCE ORDERS CRACKDOWN

Prosecutors in France authorised a major crack down on hate speeches and those glorifying terrorism. Since the attacks, over 50 people have been arrested, but none of these are thought linked to events in Paris.



Pope Francis

The attack was the most deadly in France since 1995, when the Algerian Armed Islamic Group (GIA) exploded a bomb on a commuter train killing eight people and injuring over 100.

AN INTELLIGENCE FAILURE?

Intelligence agencies worldwide evaluate impact of events in France and re-examine counter-measures

It's easy to question why France's DGSI (Direction Generale de la Securite Interieure) pulled surveillance of the primary terrorists involved in the Paris incidents. For over a decade the names of all the main players and some of their associates have been on France's equivalent of MI5's Registry. The Kouachi brothers had ties to al-Qaida in Yemen and were known to have received specialist military training. They were

also known to have had liaisons with Amedy Coulibaly and his wife Hayat Boumeddiene.

Then there were the men's wider links to known al-Qaida cells in Belgium and Germany and MI5 had certainly provided the DGSI with all its intelligence on their connections to a variety of characters in London.



**Police assist hostages freed
from the supermarket**



**AQAP in Yemen released a video
claiming it had authorised and
planned the *Charlie Hebdo* attack**

Perhaps most relevant was the Kouachis meetings with senior al-Qaida man Anwar al-Awlaki in Yemen. He was a well known operative and skilled in recruiting and terrorist planning. The CIA and MI6 had infiltrated his group and learned of the plot to place bombs on Western aircraft. This was senior service stuff. ➤



US Secretary of State John Kerry visited the scene of the *Charlie Hebdo* attack seven days after the incident. He is pictured with French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius and Mayor of the 11th Arrondissement of Paris

However, the DGSI, like MI5 and other European counter-terrorism and counter-intelligence agencies have thousands of individuals on 'person of great interest' lists. And whilst surveillance, phone taps and interception of Internet and cell phone communications can bring useful intelligence into play, the scale of the endeavour is truly enormous. Little wonder Britain is seeking to introduce new legislation that will make e-mail

searches for sender and recipient just that little bit easier. True, the DGSI and its various elements has more manpower available to it than MI5, for example, but on mainland Europe travel is easy and embarking or setting in motion surveillance across the entire continent is difficult and involves huge organisation. Against this backdrop the DGSI and its foreign intelligence counterpart, DGSE were given the task of determining just who

should be placed under 24-hour surveillance and where resources should go. In the last eighteen months the country has faced numerous threats and several plots have been thwarted. Eye Spy understands that over 1,000 people are currently being watched and/or investigated in France, this includes a large number of men who have returned from the fighting in Iraq and Syria. Many are aligned



Memorial to Ahmed Merabet - the brave police officer assassinated by the terrorists as he lay injured

© HENRI DOCQUIN

EYE SPY INTELLIGENCE MAGAZINE 95 2015



World leaders march in Paris - President Obama chose not to attend



British premier David Cameron at the march. Behind him NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg



US Secretary of State John Kerry with President Hollande at the Elysee Palace



John Kerry discusses security issues with President Hollande at the Elysee Palace

and committed to ISIS and al-Qaida. And as crimes are difficult to prove without evidence, the DGSE is faced with a huge dilemma.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION CRUCIAL FOR COUNTER-MEASURES

Many European plots have been dismantled because they were organised or controlled by persons outside the European theatres. Interception operations are engaged 24-hours-a-day and clues can be sourced more easily. AQAP claim it organised and directed the attack from its base of operations in Yemen. Suspected leader of AQAP Nasr al-Ansi said in a video released just days after the Paris carnage, the plot took years to formulate and was masterminded by Anwar al-Awlaki. Many intelligence analysts found this claim most unlikely as any communication, instruction or contact will be susceptible to the massive interception programmes operated by GCHQ and NSA, and also by similar organisations in France, Germany and Sweden.

Such insight is difficult to obtain if an attack is being planned by experienced, aware, cautious and determined plotters already placed in the area or country to be attacked. This was evidenced by events in Paris. Allied





THE BASEMENT HERO: Lassana Bathily at Paris City Hall listens to various dignitaries and officials who saluted his efforts in the Paris supermarket. French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve hailed him as a hero and announced the country would expedite a citizenship application he had submitted last July. Over 300,000 people had signed a petition calling for him to be granted such a document and be awarded the Legion of Honour

to this is ISIS and AQ are now scaling down their ambitious plans to blow-up numerous aeroplanes or repeat what happened on 9/11. Counter-terrorism officials are faced with the unnerving truth that to terrorise and shock does not take a huge number of operatives or

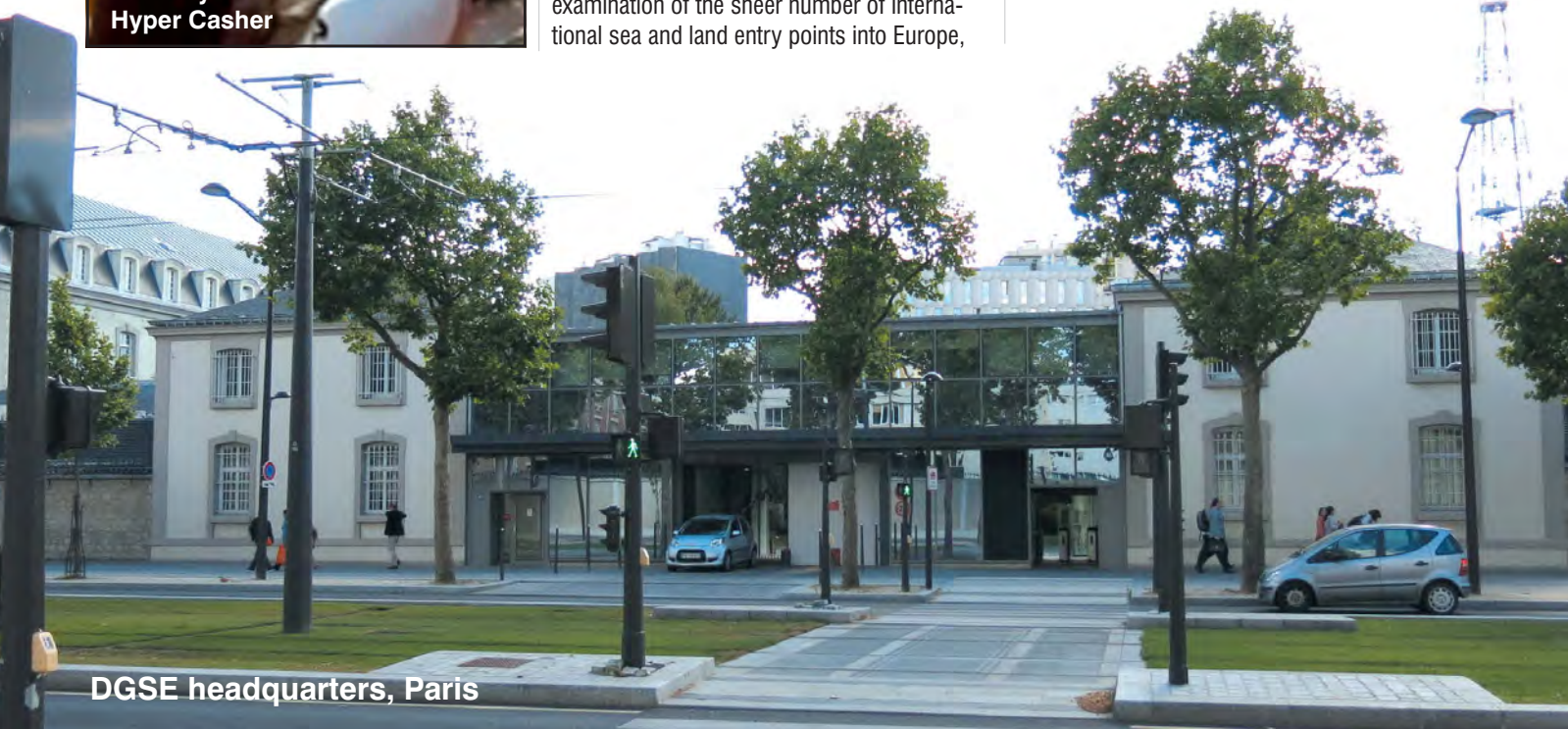
if truth be known, much planning, though there was obviously a degree of research in the Paris attacks.

How the gunmen managed to obtain their weaponry, including RPGs remains unclear, but it was probably smuggled into the country by the men themselves or delivered by associates. One report suggests they purchased much of their weaponry through a contact man in Belgium - who in turn probably secured them from Iraq, Syria or Libya. Either way, it is a most worrying development. If a weapons pipeline is operational to and through Europe, focus and counter-measures will by necessity involve numerous intelligence and police forces. Security at ports and transport hubs is being increased, but even a casual examination of the sheer number of international sea and land entry points into Europe,

shows the challenge is obvious for those trying to halt the transportation of weapons. Intelligence is needed at the very beginning of a weapons shipment, and this requires operating in some very dangerous theatres. Foreign intelligence collection is imperative. So too engaging more with those families or relatives who suspect their loved ones are involved with people planning attacks.



Gunman Amedy Coulibaly in the Hyper Cacher



DGSE headquarters, Paris



French Interior Minister Bernhard Cazeneuve



French DGSE SIGINT station in the Domme commune

© LUC VIATOUR



French Interior Minister Bernhard Cazeneuve announced the deployment of 122,000 service personnel from various organisations to provide additional street security - this as its intelligence arms searched for other suspects



French DGSE station at Plateau d'Albion, Vaucluse

© VERONIQUE PAGNIER

Some intelligence watchers note France has no access to the type of intelligence gleaned by the so-called 'Five Eyes' pact (USA, Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand). However, any material relevant to France or other nations linked to possible terrorist attacks is indeed provided. Similarly, the country's DGSE has its own powerful SIGINT capacity and operates from various sites both in France and overseas.

RETRACING KEY EVENTS

Naturally there is a major examination of past events surrounding the key players in both Paris attacks, and whilst hindsight is a wonderful thing, some do suggest that with a little more foresight and analysis, surveillance would not have been withdrawn. For example, when Cherif Kouachi started selling counterfeit goods, his watchers believed he had moved away from terrorism. Had they looked a little closer, they would have learned the proceeds from his black market activities were going towards the purchase of high-impact weaponry.

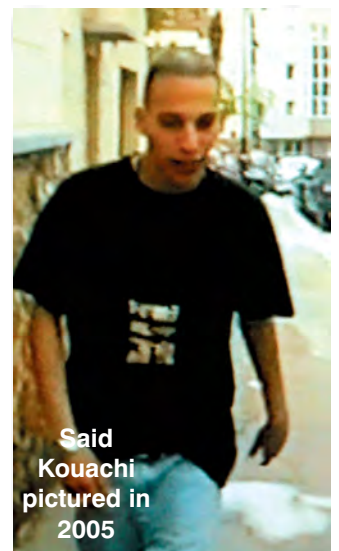
In February 2014, a French intelligence officer reportedly received an alert concerning one of the Kouachi brothers' cell phones - presumably a call or text received or sent and intercepted by the DGSE's SIGINT section. For reasons unknown this was not actioned upon and it took a further four months for the DGSI to receive it, by which time surveillance had

been stopped.

The security services have also examined the Kouachis travel records. They discovered both men travelled to Yemen in 2011, despite the fact that Cherif's passport had been confiscated. Similarly, their names appear nowhere on travel manifest lists.

Yet to describe the shocking attacks on *Charlie Hebdo* and the kosher supermarket as "intelligence failures" is both unfair and untrue. Many officials hope this is not a precursor to more small cell terrorist operations, but the evidence and intelligence suggests otherwise.

- France is to boost its counter-terrorist personnel numbers by 2600 - this as 3,000 people have been added to the DGSI's 'person of interest registry'.



Said Kouachi pictured in 2005



VERVIERS INCIDENT

Belgium Intelligence and security services eliminate terrorists just hours before plan to abduct police officers and attack two locations in country was enabled

Acting on intelligence almost certainly collected over several months, Belgian counter-terrorist officers from the police and armed forces raided a safe house on 15 January used by terrorists in the eastern city of Verviers, some 70 miles south-east of Brussels. The location, 16 Rue de la Colline is close to the city's railway station and had been under surveillance. Communications from some of its occupants were also intercepted and visitors monitored. The raid was authorised after telephone calls and e-mails revealed the operatives had been to Syria and Iraq and had recently received instructions to carry out an attack from ISIS leaders.

Though not directly connected to events in Paris, intelligence sources believe the green light was given to enhance the terror group's overall 'significance' in Europe. Similarly it may be in response to the publishing of *Charlie Hebdo* on 14 January which carried a

further image of the Prophet Muhammad. Inside the safe house Belgian police found evidence, perhaps in the form of an address list identifying sellers of the magazine. However, the primary target is still believed to have been the police - though not necessarily in the town of Verviers.

For the best part of a decade both MI6 and the CIA have supported Belgium in its quest to counter al-Qaida cells in the country. Indeed, the Port of Antwerp has long been used as a



Verviers Train Station



Plot 'mastermind' Abdelhamid Abaaoud

TARGET MAY HAVE BEEN BRUSSELS

transit pipeline for operatives and weapons smuggling. Intelligence sources believe around 20 terrorist cells allied to al-Qaida and ISIS are operating in the country. Similarly, the weapons used by the attackers of *Charlie Hebdo* in Paris are known to have been sourced from contacts in the Belgium. Analysis and further investigation will be required to understand fully if there are threads to events in France and elsewhere.

Around 400 Belgian nationals are believed to have journeyed to the Middle East to join ISIS, and the three primary targets in the Verviers safe house were amongst this number. As CT forces moved to enter the premises they immediately came under heavy gun fire. In a fight which lasted several minutes, flash grenades were fired and gun fire exchanged. And then silence. It transpired two of the terrorists, named locally as Redouane Hagaoui and Tarik Jadaoun had managed to flee the building but were shot by officers outside. A third injured man named as Marouane El Bali was discovered in the house. His solicitor denies any terror links saying he had visited the city to meet his fiancée.



Like the French, Belgium deployed troops and hundreds of armed police officers across the country outside government buildings and Jewish schools



ENT



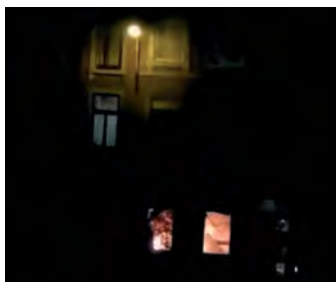
The Belgium Air Force has been operational in Iraq fighting ISIS. Some analysts believe this could well be a reason for the proposed attack. Based in Jordan, six Belgian F-16 fighters have launched attacks on various terror posts. However, Operation Falcon (the Belgian name for its deployment) ended on 31 December 2014



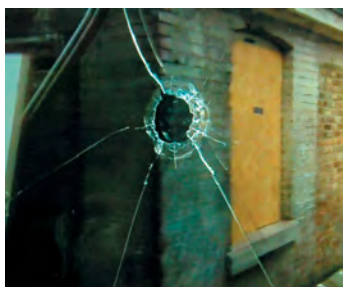
Redouane Hagaoui and Tarik Jadaoun. Both men recently returned from Syria and Iraq. A year ago Hagaoui left Verviers to travel to Morocco to visit his grandparents. He never reached his destination and instead travelled to Turkey, crossed into Syria and joined ISIS



Belgium Parliament Building (Palais de la Nation)



The ISIS safe house in Verviers



Jewish Museum, Brussels



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and Prime Minister Charles Michel of Belgium discussed security issues just days before the Verviers raid

Belgium intelligence officials (State Security Service) said El Bali was a key “intermediary” between the cell and other terror groups in Brussels.

An eye witness said they were young men aged between 20 and 25. A search of the flat revealed four AK-47s, bomb-making equipment and perhaps a clue to the men’s intentions - several police uniforms. Radios, false identity papers and several cell phones were also recovered - these will undoubtedly provide the security services with useful intelligence. A significant amount of cash was also found.



Eric Van Der Sypt

Within hours other specialist units of the federal police and army carried out operations in Brussels, Anderlecht, Sint-Jans-Molenbeek and Schaerbeek. Thirteen arrests were made.

Similar operations were performed in neighbouring France and Germany and a number of persons detained. All are connected to events in Belgium. Prosecutor Eric Van Der Sypt said the terror cell was “within hours of committing

a deadly attack - you could say we have prevented another Paris.” Five other suspects in Belgium were later arrested in connection with the incident.

The suspected mastermind behind the foiled attack has been named as Abdelhamid Abaaoud, 27. The security services made this announcement relatively quickly after examining cell phones and call numbers on a number of devices recovered from the men and in the safe house. The men were calling and receiving calls from a number in Greece.

Three days after the incident, Greek police detained four men - including one initially believed to be Abaaoud. However, it later transpired this was not the case. Nevertheless, Belgian prosecutors submitted extradition papers to colleagues in Athens for one of the detained men. A spokesman said: “Further analysis of the elements of our investigation gave us enough reasons to ask for the extradition of one of the persons that were arrested.” Eye Spy understands he is an Algerian national who may have links to Abaaoud and could have been operating as a courier.

- The averted attack follows last May’s deadly shooting incident in Brussels at the Jewish Museum. In this case, ISIS operative Mehdi Nemmouche, who spent time in Syria, shot dead four people.

Following the Verviers operation Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel met with senior security officials who discussed strengthening and reforming the analysis capability of its intelligence and security services, plus deploying army surveillance specialists for certain assignments. There will also be a revision of the 2005 anti-radicalisation plan and the removal of passports from residents Belgium sees as a national security risk.



FBI DISMANTLE EM

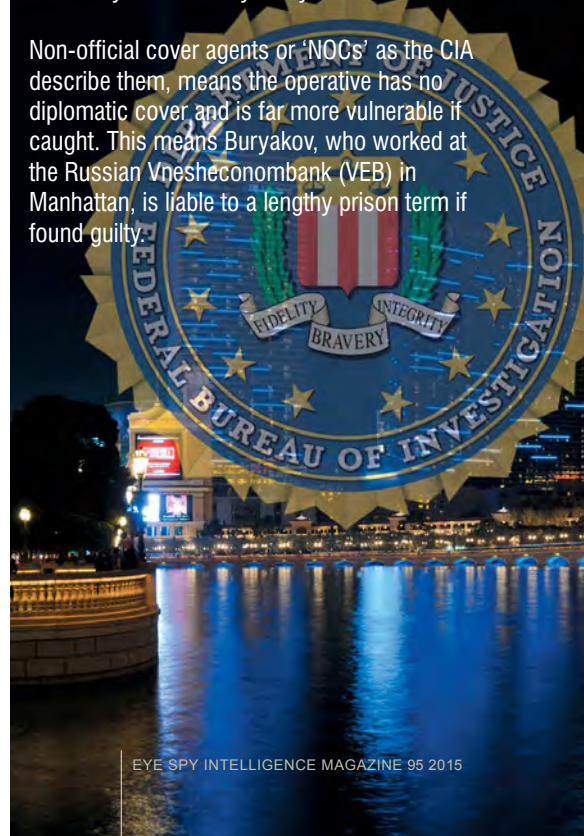
THE CA

Ripples from Operation Ghost results in arrest of SVR spy

Evgeny Buryakov, a Russian-national working in America, has been accused of espionage by the US Government. FBI officials allege he posed as a financial consultant whilst trying to establish a new spy ring - this following the removal of ten Russian SVR agents from the country in 2010 (Operation Ghost - see Eye Spy 76 and 84).

Buryakov was not attached to any Russian mission, and described as a “non-official cover agent.” However, two other associates of his spy ring were government employees. They have been named as Igor Sporyshev and Victor Podobnyy. Arrest warrants for these individuals have been issued but it is unlikely they will be served for the men returned to Russia. Sporyshev worked as a trade representative in New York whilst Podobnyy was an attache to Russia’s Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York. This body is headed by Vitaly Churkin.

Non-official cover agents or ‘NOCs’ as the CIA describe them, means the operative has no diplomatic cover and is far more vulnerable if caught. This means Buryakov, who worked at the Russian Vnesheconombank (VEB) in Manhattan, is liable to a lengthy prison term if found guilty.



OUR MAN IN TALLINN



RUSSIAN SPIES INSIDE NATO

FSB acknowledge receiving NATO and foreign intelligence secrets after spy arrests in Baltic

The enlargement of NATO following the end of the Cold War may well have been welcomed by the organisation's hierarchy, but it provided Russia's intelligence services a perfect platform to infiltrate more vulnerable states, this according to well placed sources.

News that a Russian spy ring has been uncovered operating from Lithuania's Zokniai NATO air base - a former Soviet base and current headquarters of NATO Baltic Air Policing, has caused some officials to question security at a number of locations.

Lithuanian Lt. Colonel Vidmantas Raklevicius admitted that one of the alleged spies was in fact one of his own men. "The special services (intelligence) informed me about his capture," said Raklevicius, though refused to name the officer. However, he said he had served for more than 10 years and worked within a section planning flight schedules and routes, presumably for NATO. Intelligence

sources state the officer's handler was also arrested.

The suspected agents were detained in the city of Siauliai close to NATO's important Baltic air base on 30 December 2014, and accused of operating for a "foreign intelligence agency." Suspicion immediately fell upon Russia's SVR and GRU agencies. The base is



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg pictured with Estonia's Prime Minister Taavi Roivas at Amari air base during a recent visit to the country



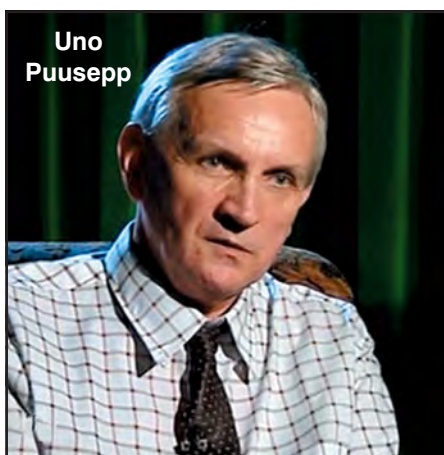
KAPO Director Arnold Sinisalu



Lithuanian Minister of National Defence (centre) and Lt. Col. Vidmantas Raklevicius (second from left), inspect six new F-15C Eagles assigned to support NATO's Air Policing Mission in Lithuania. Raklevicius has admitted one of his officers is involved in the spy affair

one of NATO's most important and is regarded as an intelligence-sharing hub. Control and administration of Zokniai is changed every four months.

In recent months the area has been frequented by Russian spy and war planes, and the government of Lithuania has said the levels of espionage are now akin to those seen at the height of the Cold War. Russian overflights have also increased over the Baltic states of Estonia and Latvia. An observer noted that the region is home to a large number of ethnic Russians.



Uno Puusepp

OUR MAN IN TALLINN - FSB CLAIM MI5 AND MI6 SECRETS SECURED

The news follows quickly on the back of an admission of espionage by Uno Puusepp, a former staffer of Estonia's KAPO (Internal Security Service). He was turned by the SVR and deployed to undermine and disrupt intelligence collection by the CIA, MI6 and Germany's BND after the country had just joined NATO. Double agent Puusepp had been operational since 1996. He recently featured on a Russian documentary - *'Our Man in Tallinn'* (capital of Estonia) and said his



French Air Force Mirage 2000 fighters in Lithuania join a NATO Baltic Air Policing mission



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg is escorted by a fighter as he flies to Estonia

“For 15 years nearly everything that passed through KAPO also landed on the desk of the FSB...”



Puusepp's FSB handler Nikolai Yermakov

efforts as a mole, “caused much upset to the United States.

Puusepp's FSB handler was former Estonian KGB man Nikolai Yermakov who said together they had derailed plans by the CIA to use KAPO as a proxy to spy on Moscow. Indeed, he boasted that Estonian “spying activity against Russia” had been reduced by 80%.

KAPO had for some time been concerned that Russian Intelligence had an agent inside the agency and

detained Puusepp's associate Vladimir Veitman. The KAPO counter-intelligence officer was sentenced to 15-years in prison in 2013. However, Puusepp's role remained undetected until now. He was a skilled bugging expert and following the fall of communism he simply switched from the KGB to Estonia's new intelligence service KAPO.

In Russia, Puusepp's exploits are being hailed. A Russian intelligence source said: “For 15 years nearly everything that passed through KAPO also landed on the desk of the FSB.” Indeed, the Russian documentary showed what it claimed were foreign intelligence documents, including materials displaying MI5 logos.

It's not the first time Estonia's intelligence section has become embroiled in a Russia-



KAPO counter-intelligence officer Vladimir Veitman

NATO spy affair. In 2008, Former Estonian Defence Minister Herman Simm was detained along with his wife for spying on behalf of the SVR. He passed top secret NATO materials to his handler, Valeri Zentsov. It's also probable he exposed a number of Western agents operating in Russia.



Valeri Zentsov and Herman Simm

In 2009, Simm was convicted of treason and received a 12-year prison term. A short while after NATO officials ordered the expulsion of two Russians attached to its Mission to NATO. Both had been exposed by the CIA or MI6 as spies.

As for Puusepp, though Estonia charged him with treason it's unlikely he will be jailed, for the super spy moved to Russia in 2011.

Electronic Eyes

**Last GCHQ operatives depart Afghanistan as major interception post disbanded...
Britain and USA announce new cyber countermeasures and training programmes**

Britain's Government Communications Headquarters intelligence organisation has dismantled and closed its last remaining outposts in Afghanistan. This follows the official ending of UK armed forces operations in the country last August. However, some 700 personnel will remain, including Special Forces and counter-terrorism units. Britain is also retaining an intelligence presence. And whilst news of GCHQ's departure leaked into the media, it seems unlikely one of the world's most powerful listening agencies will not continue to focus its attention on the region.

Officially, for GCHQ operatives, their work in Afghanistan is complete. For more than a decade the organisation ran SIGINT (signals intelligence) operations primarily in an effort to counter al-Qaida and then the Taliban. However, it seems unlikely its machinery of spying was restricted to this region alone, and the arms pipelines to Iran and other countries were undoubtedly monitored.

According to well placed sources, several remote outposts were deployed to gather real-time AQ and Taliban communications - this as the terror group plotted convoy attacks, developed schemes to infiltrate bases and sent suicide bombers to allied bases. Several major terrorist operations, including one targeting an intelligence facility, were thwarted. GCHQ disrupted arms supplies into Helmand province, whilst real-time interception also enabled a major coalition convoy



Since 2001, 156 GCHQ staffers have received medals for their service in support of allied forces in Afghanistan...

And the Secret Listening Wars



to take counter-measures after GCHQ uncovered a terrorist cell lay in wait with RPGs.

At the height of the operation, GCHQ had several dozen staffers and controllers working in Afghanistan, making this the biggest deployment of communication spies outside the UK since World War Two in a fighting environment. Far more staffers were operational in West Germany and Europe during the Cold War, especially in West Berlin working alongside their NSA counterparts.



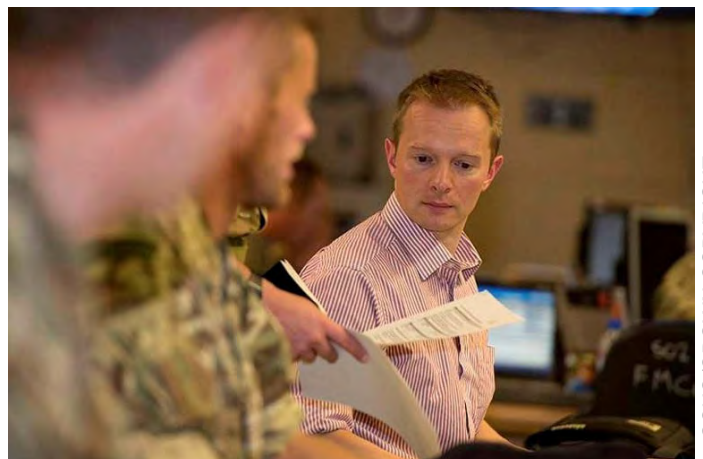
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GCHQ Director Robert Hannigan allowed journalists into his organisation's main operations centre in January

The success of GCHQ's role will never be fully understood nor its methods in gathering intelligence revealed, but interception, listening and understanding messages and communications relevant to the allied operation was supported by interpreters and a major Afghanistan Desk based at the organisation's Cheltenham headquarters. Many GCHQ personnel based in Afghanistan actually volunteered for the post. Indeed, a number have spoken of their experiences.



GCHQ operational centre



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A simulated cyber attack on the City of London and Wall Street will be carried out later this year by a new UK-US intel cyber element to test security

Operations were not limited to signals interception. GCHQ units were often tasked with making sure troop deployment was safe - identifying safe areas free from AQ or Taliban fighters. One Cheltenham-based officer spoke of his experience:

“Our forward-deployed military liaison officer spoke heatedly as he detailed the requirements for me and my group of military and civilian linguists. The message of a substantial threat to troops on the ground in Afghanistan

was relayed in an anxious yet deliberate manner... the atmosphere changed. A frenzy of activity commenced.”

He went on to explain that the ground commander needed a translation of a message immediately. This was duly delivered. Another Afghan-based GCHQ man recalled the moment his location was attacked: “Small arms fire heard and all staff were moved into buildings... a little later there was an enormous bang that shook the building.” ➤



COURTESY: NSA

The dangers for communications staffers supporting operations in Afghanistan was evidenced by the deaths of two cryptologists. Cryptologic Technician Technical Chief Christian M. Pike, USN, and Staff Sergeant Richard A. Dickson, USAF were honoured last year by the NSA. Both men's names were added to the Agency's Memorial Wall in an Observance Ceremony on 27 May 2014

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**Premier David Cameron supports new
cyber security measures but wants
businesses to take more responsibility**

As for the amount of equipment deployed by GCHQ, this can be measured in that it reportedly took the equivalent of 100 shipping containers to return the machinery back to the UK.

Since 2001, 156 GCHQ staffers have received medals for their service in support of allied forces in Afghanistan.

American armed forces personnel in Afghanistan number around 10,000 and its electronic intelligence operations will continue, supported by various contract agencies under the banner of Stabilisation and Reconstruction Operations.

IN THE SHADOWS OF UNIT 8200

British Cabinet Minister Francis Maude recently travelled to Israel and met with former members of Israel's secretive cyber intelligence element Unit 8200. The move is thought to signal the beginning of an initiative





President Obama recently visited the US National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center



British Cabinet Minister Francis Maude met with former officers from Israel's top secret Unit 8200



NSA-GCHQ 'CYBER WAR GAMES'

During a recent trip to the United States, in which he discussed a wide variety of intelligence-linked subjects, including events in France, Prime Minister David Cameron announced that GCHQ and NSA would engage in cyber war games to test defences of banks and financial institutions. Besides the two listening agencies, both MI5 and the FBI are set to participate with the ultimate objective of establishing a joint intel element focusing on financial cyber security. It will be based on both sides of the Atlantic

The unit will simulate cyber attacks on banks in the City of London and Wall Street later this year. For the record, the Bank of England has already tested its cyber security before in operations known as 'Walking Sharks'.

This important development coincides with the relaunch of GCHQ's '10 Steps to Cyber Security', which offers businesses guidance on how best to protect their computer systems and ways to enhance risk assessment procedures. At the same time the organisation has published a report entitled *Common Cyber Attacks: Reducing the Impact*. This extremely informative paper provides useful information on a wide range of topics including network security, malware prevention, securing configurations and home and mobile working. Both security papers can be downloaded via GCHQ's web site.

LINKS: www.gchq.gov.uk

which could see GCHQ establishing a training section for talented young graduates. This programme would help develop their cyber skills further for possible outsourcing to the private sector. Maude notes that former Unit 8200 operators have gone on to establish some of the world's leading IT companies,

including Palo Alto Networks valued at \$20 billion. Speaking at an international business conference in London Maude told delegates: "I have long admired the Israeli start-up nation which is home to more hi-tech start-up per capita than any other country." Maude believes GCHQ could be utilised to create future cyber businesses.

Another minister expanded on the possible scheme: "We have lots of talented people working for GCHQ. There is no shortage of academic excellence. The idea is to say to graduates you do not have to sign up to GCHQ for your whole career and there are options for you in the private sector."

Meanwhile, GCHQ has released its first educational cryptography learning app aimed at secondary school children. Called Cryptoy, and though aimed at students, it will also be of interest to anyone studying the subject.

Another significant event took place on 16 January 2015, as the organisation allowed accredited journalists into the heart of its operational centre for the first time. The move is seen as part of GCHQ's excellent engagement programme in which it is seeking to develop a more open face - perhaps in line with events taking place at MI6.



GCHQ Director Robert Hannigan supports Cryptoy

EYE SPY BEST-SELLERS

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TRADECRAFT NOTES



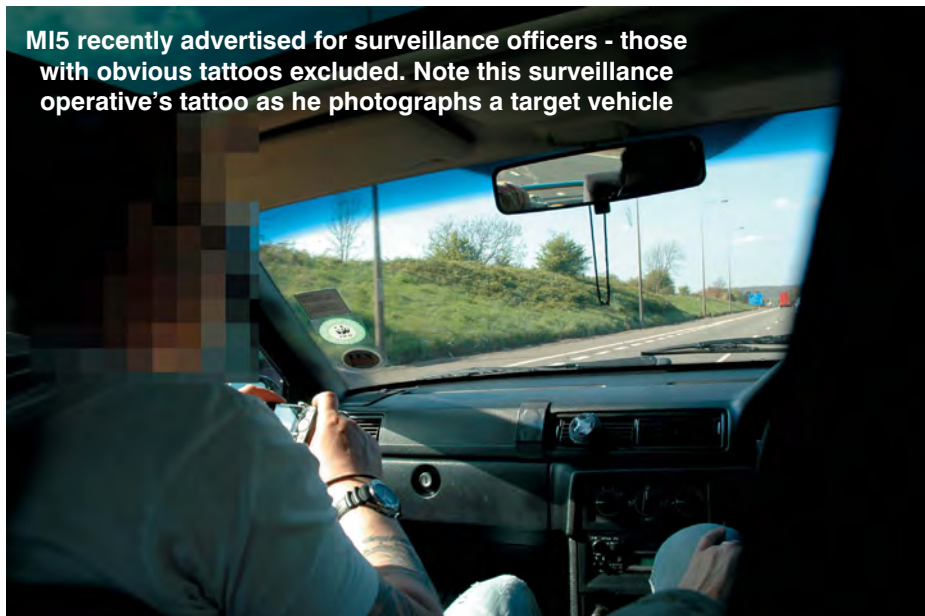
Surveillance Exposure

**Eye Spy looks
at the most
common errors
committed by
surveillance
operatives
working for
government and
private agencies**

HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT

Surveillance Tips

MI5 recently advertised for surveillance officers - those with obvious tattoos excluded. Note this surveillance operative's tattoo as he photographs a target vehicle



INTRODUCTION SURVEILLANCE EXPOSURE

MI5 recently advertised for mobile surveillance officers in a new recruitment drive to strengthen its A4 Watchers Directorate. Besides providing a little obvious advisory information, such as being able to 'blend in to one's surroundings', the Security Service added a caveat: 'Any distinguishing features such as tattoos on your face, neck or forearms would make you more recognisable to someone who is under surveillance and would therefore make you unsuitable for this role'. The Service also repeated a controversial statement made a decade ago on the height of a prospective officer - women should be under 5ft 8 inches and men under 6ft 1 inch. Whilst it's easy to understand the reason why tattoos and other markings may alert a target - the height factor is debatable and has been questioned. Indeed, one intelligence source commented "out of touch..."

Tattoos fall into various exposure categories, including dress code and close contact, but

there are numerous circumstances that can betray a surveillance officer. And before stating the obvious - such as not being late for an operation or having sufficient money allowing one to enter a cafe or shop to make a purchase... in the event it is necessary to follow the target into such a location, this feature covers the primary factors as relayed to Eye Spy from the those who work in the intelligence world. ➤



Simple is best - dress for the type of operational environment. There are instances when dress code is not followed or ignored



“Possible Compromise” are two words which no surveillance team leader wants to hear during an operation. Given the nature of the task, this can have a major impact on its outcome or any parallel investigation. For those employees in MI5’s A4 or any counter-intelligence agency, the stakes are often enormous, thus every effort in training operatives to avoid mistakes is essential.

There are numerous factors which can expose an operative, some are inadvertent, some are the responsibility of the operator and avoidable.

BOREDOM AND LACK OF CONCENTRATION

It happens all the time, but in some instances, especially associated with counter-terrorism or organised crime, the loss of visual on a target or target vehicle can be disastrous. There can be numerous reasons why this happens, especially if the target is performing anti-surveillance or is receiving third party guidance (counter-surveillance). The area too could be complex, overcrowded, afford several exit routes or offer cover in buildings - especially in city centre environments. However, each surveillance is in itself governed by external and internal operational factors such as instructions to back away if the target poses a threat or senses they are being watched. Safety of officers is another major consideration - and a



Many surveillance operations are time consuming but still require total concentration

momentary lapse in concentration can prove troublesome to both operator and the operation.

Though excuses can be plentiful in this area, one primary reason for loss of target or the failure to capture or witness a significant moment is boredom. Another is failure to prepare properly. Given the surveillance is one dedicated to a static target, it can involve many hours of simply viewing a building etc. The boredom and concentration factor also applies to mobile surveillance.

DRESS CODE

Selecting the correct clothing is an absolute must and could be dependent on the type of environment and task. Thus for extended surveillance and operations - which might involve long foot or mobile follows - some operatives correctly carry additional items such as a pair of ordinary shoes. The weather is also a consideration that should be examined. In a business environment a team leader might even assign an operator wearing smart clothing; and deploying a female and male

team acting as man and wife can be advantageous.

Most surveillance operators usually wear trainers or footwear deemed comfortable, but whilst this may be acceptable in many cases, it can be troublesome in others. And they are hardly appropriate in wintry conditions.

It's important to remember that an aware target with some knowledge of surveillance will often examine clothing and footwear. Therefore selection is important. Human instinct always draws one to facial features, body shape and then clothing; unconscious notes are made - and recalled if the operator is seen again which could raise suspicions.

LOGOS AND POOR CLOTHING CHOICE

Clothing should not be overly colourful, exclusive or carry any 'designer' logo or features, regardless of how popular or comfortable the brand is. And even an innocuous or little known brand if seen again could jolt the memory of an aware target.



Dress code is important and can be governed by different tasks



MULTIPLE SIGHTINGS AND CLOSE CONTACT

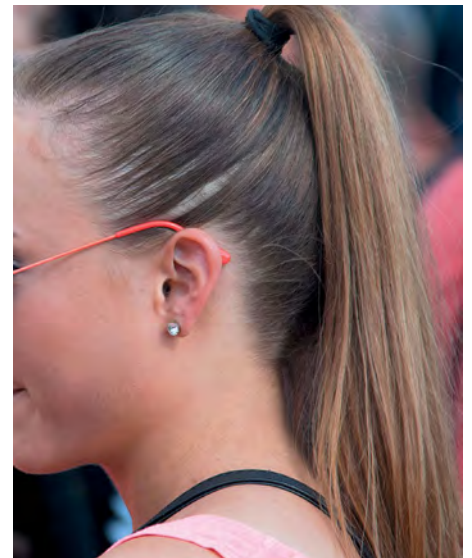
One factor which could expose an operator from participating again or affect an operation is multiple sightings or recognition of a certain body worn item or human feature - tattoos included! Thus staying out of the target's sight whilst acting normally is essential. For those operating in the Mossad's surveillance wing, even hair styling and hair colour is considered in the preparation stage. Simple is best and pony tails or super stylish cuts are a no-go area. The objective is to remain invisible and blend-in to a crowd or environment without attracting attention.

Occasionally an operator is required to engage a target in close proximity. For example, he or



Even an unknown brand or logo can attract attention

If a target notes a logo in one town or city that's probably fine: if they see it again elsewhere it can suddenly pose a problem. The same rules apply to clothing, hats and shoes - simple and always non-descript is best. For those who believe carrying a bag, newspaper and wearing sunglasses (to conceal eye movement) and to augment one's appearance is acceptable in all cases - this is simply not true. All can act as a magnet drawing the target's attention - including tattoos and other markings as MI5 quite rightly asserts.



Multiple sightings of an operative, especially in different areas or towns will almost certainly raise suspicion



she may be tasked with trying to overhear a conversation in a cafe or to identify a purchase. In all cases the less an operator stands out - the better. And this means wearing no scent and taking care of personal hygiene.

BEHAVIOUR AND THIRD PARTY EXPOSURE

Behaviour during an operation, especially when engaged in a foot follow, is crucial. Excited, nervous, shifty or lazy operators can derail weeks and even months of planning, thus for government agencies, training in this area is intense. This category also includes running - if an operation is well planned and the target surveilled constantly and kept 'under control', an operator should not have to run - lest he or she attract the attention of the target or a third party - and this includes the public and police.

Using radios and communicating with colleagues or a command centre can attract unnecessary attention. However, unlike yesteryear it is no longer unusual to see a person who appears to be talking to him or herself. Cell phones, media platforms and ever shrinking earphone pieces enable people to communicate and listen to music or radio in most environments. Nevertheless, in a surveillance environment, some operators still find it difficult to relay details and at the same time follow instructions and fundamental rules which means do not attract undue attention. Fidgeting with body-worn or head-worn equipment or a concealed hand communicator is also asking for trouble. An operator should try to remain calm throughout, for exaggerated actions can also lead to a failure to relay instructions clearly - often leading to concern amongst colleagues.

DISGUISES - A NO GO AREA FOR OPERATORS

As much as it's fun to change one's image, profile and even facial features, this is an area considered off-limits by many agencies. Eye Spy produced a tradecraft feature on disguise techniques (Eye Spy 51, 52 and 53), noting that it should only be performed by skilled artists. Shortly thereafter some evidence of this tradecraft emerged in Mossad's assassination of a high profile Hamas agent in the person of Mahmoud Al-Mabhouh in 2010.

CCTV cameras filmed several agents who used wigs and props in an attempt to change certain characteristics of their appearance. Even clothing was considered - this as operatives pretended to be tennis players. The



In some instances an operative is required to be in close proximity to the target. On such occasions even small details, such as a tattoo or pony tail, for example may betray the operator. The same rule applies to clothing, logos etc.

crucial aspect regarding this operation was the time factor. It was not a lengthy surveillance operation as such - that aspect had gone before in tracing al-Mabhoud to the United Arab Emirates, but one which was governed by the task, timing, environment and departure.

A change of coat, sweater, t-shirt, hat or even glasses may be sufficient in changing the



appearance or profile of an operator, especially one who is forced into lengthy periods of close proximity with the target. These rules also apply to those working in surveillance vehicles. As for the donning of a moustache and/or other more elaborate schemes, that should be left to Peter Sellers and Inspector Clouseau.

DIRECTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

This most vital surveillance element is crucial to the success or failure of any operation. It is important for team members to understand the 'speak', or commands, commentary and instructions given or received during a live surveillance - so too the identify and call sign of operatives. A breakdown (radio failure) or communication error can lead to a total loss of target. Before



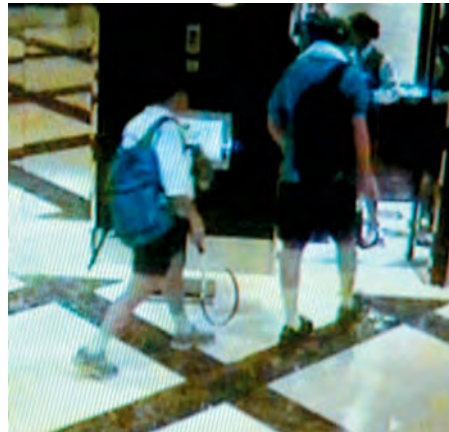
Unnatural behaviour on foot or in a mobile environment may attract the attention of a third party - including police



any operation an equipment check and test should be performed. However, there are instances where this does happen, primarily because of over confidence or laziness.

Prior to the development of cell phones, a communication breakdown was one of the biggest fears faced by operators. A secondary device (radio) is often carried by MI5 operators, so too a secure cell phone where messages can be relayed in the event of radio failure.

Another communication element concerns the correct and clear calling of direction, street identification, roads, buildings and landmarks of an area where a surveillance is in progress.



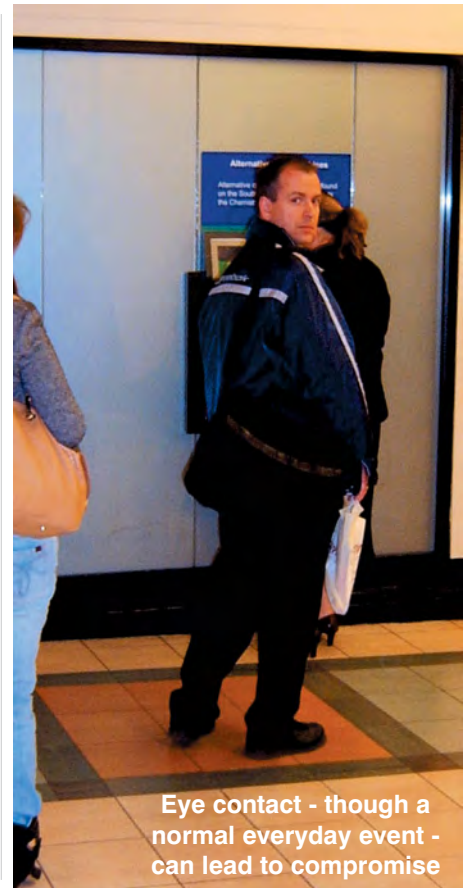
The Mossad agents who assassinated Hamas man Mahmoud Al-Mabhouh in Dubai in 2010, used various disguises - including these characters who posed as tennis tourists

This is even more important for those engaged in relaying details in a mobile endeavour. Messages should be imparted clearly and concisely - without hesitation, or confusion. Nor should there be lengthy periods of silence. Incorrect directional communications is often to blame for the loss of a target. And whilst there are and can be multiple reasons for loss of target beyond an operators control, providing good directional communications should not be one of them.

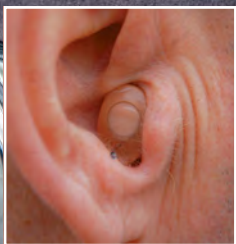
EYE CONTACT

Operators should try and avoid direct eye-to-eye contact with the target. Human instinct can cause some people to react in a surprised, concerned or even frightened manner. It is a primary reason why the target should be surveilled (on foot) from a reasonable distance and location where such contact can be avoided.

Eye contact can also be misinterpreted, and any reaction is likely to be 'imprinted' in the target's mind - thus he or she will almost certainly recognise the operator if seen again.



Eye contact - though a normal everyday event - can lead to compromise





INCORRECT VEHICLE SELECTION

Difficult to image any professional operator would select a brightly coloured, specialised, customised, under-powered vehicle or one displaying unique features, but it does happen. In Eye Spy 46, we published a special tradecraft feature on the choice of vehicles favoured by counter-intelligence organisations such as MI5 and those engaged in active counter-terrorism operations. Silver, grey, dark and medium saloon types are undoubtedly the most popular, though once again choice can be affected by environment, role and the operation itself. In the US and UK, organisations such as the FBI, MI5 and New Scotland Yard will use command vehicles - these can be anything from Ford Transit types to high performance vehicles. Again, much is dependent on the circumstances and nature of the operation. Radio or aerial antenna is a consideration, especially if the target or targets are 'aware'. So too the number of occupants. More often than not the maximum carried will be four operators - a driver, a communications operative and two officers who can be deployed on foot if the circumstances demand.

The number of vehicles required is often dictated by the type and length of the operation. For government operations this is usually not a concern, but for professional surveil-

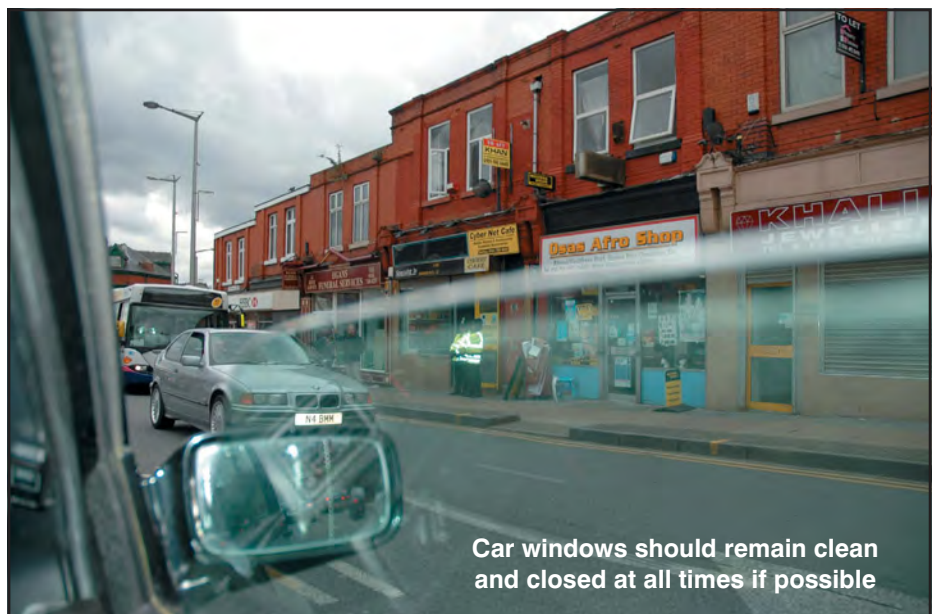
lance operators, it can be. However, the primary objective in mobile surveillance is to track the target vehicle and note any related detail, such as the occupants departing or visiting a location etc. - without being seen or raising suspicion. There are a plethora of good books and trade manuals available that discuss vehicle choice, suffice it to say common sense should be sufficient in this area. And a tradecraft note of caution - do not use a vehicle with a unique or special registration plate - they attract attention. This leads us to stationary vehicle errors.

VEHICLE OCCUPATION & MULTIPLE SIGHTINGS

An occupied vehicle in a street or other environment for a prolonged or even a short time period can attract undue attention. In certain cases, windows are affected by condensation thus the operator may choose to switch the engine on to negate this; but the sound of a car ignition, especially at night is amplified and in many cases leads to the lights being turned on automatically. This is a difficult choice for operators, for eye contact on a target or target location should be

maintained at all times. There are case examples where failure to address such situations properly have exposed operations.

Condensation is usually evidence that a vehicle is occupied or has recently been used. But it is far from the most common surveillance error in terms of compromise. Following a vehicle can prove extremely difficult thus training, support and awareness of one's environment, be it in a built-up area or rural location are important. Following proper procedures laid down before an operation begins and driving with public safety in mind should be taken for granted. Just like multiple



Car windows should remain clean and closed at all times if possible



Communication with colleagues in other vehicles should be by radio or cell phone

sightings in a foot follow can compromise an operator, so too multiple observations of a vehicle.

Henceforth be wary of colour selection. Other vehicles can be used as cover and having assistance from associates in vehicles is naturally beneficial. Drivers use mirrors and suspicion may not necessarily be aroused by the vehicle, but by the occupants. Henceforth changing the lead surveillance in a mobile operation and at regular intervals is a must.

Operatives can don a hat or different coat to slightly changed their profile, but in general, if the rules of surveillance driving are followed properly this too is not necessary.

Occasionally a surveillance vehicle[s] will find itself directly behind the target vehicle, thus the same rules in respect of an operators behaviour and acting normally apply. Relevant also speed, other road users and traffic management. There are numerous instances

when a target is lost in traffic or a red traffic light stops a surveillance car. Operators should not take chances. Eye contact should be minimal. A car making off at speed will attract undue attention - and could alert the occupant[s] of the target vehicle.

MISIDENTIFICATION - LOSS OF CONTROL

One of the most common errors made by a surveillance operative is misidentification, especially if the intelligence on the target is incomplete or spurious. In private civilian security surveillance operations this can be a nuisance, problematic, annoying to the innocent target and in extreme cases lead to legal conflicts. However, at a government level the misidentification of an individual can be disastrous. This was evidenced in 2005 with Operation Kratos. Specialist officers from New Scotland Yard were faced with hunting down five would-be suicide bombers who just hours



Charles de Menezes and Osman Hussein

earlier tried to detonate explosives on the London Underground - the bombs failed to explode. Police believed they had traced one suspect to Scotia Road, Tulse Hill and were faced with the real possibility he could try again. The officers had CCTV pictures of the man - Osman Hussein, though these were far from perfect. And then a man appeared who the surveillance team believed was their primary target. Operator instructions were that he was not to enter the Tube; he proceeded onto a train, was confronted by an armed officer and shot dead. It transpired he was not Hussein but an innocent man in the person of Charles de Menezes.

The case file used here is an extreme example, and most misidentifications occur at the beginning of an operation or in built-up or city centre environments when the actual surveillance is in progress. There can be numerous reasons for this, clothing, similar appearance etc., but it can be avoided if a proper procedures are followed and intelligence is good to begin with.

Surveillance is an profession which can be as exhaustive as it is compelling. And whilst this narrative has singled out a number of common errors, each operation must be addressed prior to engagement.

Simple is best - and MI5 is probably right to warn - "think before you ink..."



NORTH KOREA BLAMED FOR NEW

CYBER PUZZLE

Sony Hack Divides US Intelligence Community

On 24 November at Sony Pictures Entertainment headquarters in Culver City, employees were puzzled when their computer screens displayed a digitalized skull with an accompanying message - *'This is only the beginning'*. Officials soon realised that a major incident had occurred.

In late November 2014, confidential and sensitive materials pulled from computer banks of Sony Pictures Entertainment started

to appear on the Internet. E-mails containing communications of business transactions, employee salaries, new releases, negotiations and imagery, caused huge embarrassment to the company, and was evidence (if it was ever needed), that regardless of superior firewalls, no computer security system is 100 per cent safe. So enormous was the security breach, cyber security firm Norse said Sony was not just hacked, it was "essentially nuked from inside."

An outfit calling themselves the Guardians of Peace (GOP) soon claimed responsibility. They said that the action was in response to the release of the Sony comedy picture - *'The Interview'* - a plot to assassinate North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un. It was sufficient for cyber elements of the USIC (United States Intelligence Community) to focus their attention on the communist state. And it followed a complaint made to the United Nations in July by North Korean officials about the movie. Part of the complaint read: *'To allow production and subsequent distribution of such a film about the incumbent head of a state should be regarded as the undisguised sponsoring of terrorism and an act of war'*.

The GOP then issued more on-line threats saying if Sony did not withdraw the film it



would be attacked again. Indeed, any theatre showing *The Interview* would suffer as well. In an action which shocked many security and government officials, Sony said it was not releasing the film because several theatres and chains had decided not to show it.

A week or so before Christmas, the FBI, after drawing information from US Cyber Command and NSA elements, discovered the malware used by the hackers originated with developers in North Korea. The Bureau was not hesitant in pointing an accusing finger at the country



Kim Jong-un



Seth Rogan





National Cyber Investigation Unit Task Force



FBI confident North Korea responsible

stating it had sponsored the cyber attack. Other evidential data was sourced from the investigation into the hacking of South Korean financial and media centres in March 2013 which was also traced to IP addresses in North Korea. The Shinhan Bank was one such institution which suffered. In this case, however, the USIC believed Chinese hackers had used its communist neighbour to shield the attack. It left Bureau officials in little doubt the hidden hand of NK was at play regarding Sony.

"Not so," said one North Korean official, who whilst agreeing with the objectives of the attack denied his country had anything to do



Shinhan Bank headquarters, Seoul, South Korea

with it. Indeed, he even offered to launch a joint investigation with the United States.

A few days after the FBI's announcement, North Korea suffered two country-wide Internet outages which it blamed on America.

Many cyber experts have cast doubt on the FBI summary believing government hacking

fronts would not call themselves Guardians of Peace. Others, such as freelance writer Kim Zetter of *Wired*, said the evidence was at best "flimsy." Kurt Stammberger of Norse cyber security then raised the possibility that the Sony attack was the responsibility of six former employees who had effectively been sacked after the firm restructured part of its business in May 2014. He revealed they had been very angry and had the means to access areas of Sony's huge servers.

Nevertheless, the FBI were standing firm and just hours before Christmas issued another related bulletin. It warned companies, including CNN the GOP was planning more attacks. The attack threat may have been a prank perpetrated by a US journalist. Sceptics used this incident as more evidence the Bureau was wrong in its initial assessment.

Eye Spy cyber analysts believe only a few countries could have performed such an operation, though probably used North Korea as a proxy. As for *'The Interview'*, directed by and starring Seth Rogen, it has since been released by Sony on various platforms and is now being shown in cinemas.



Speaking at the International Conference on Cyber Security - Fordham University in January 2015, FBI Director James Comey reiterated his belief that North Korea was behind the massive cyber attack on Sony Pictures Entertainment. "The FBI and intelligence community have very high confidence it was North Korea"

© INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CYBER SECURITY - FORDHAM UNIVERSITY



Pakistan Army

132 Young Students Killed as Taliban Strike Soft Target

On 16 December 2014, Taliban terrorists attacked an elite army high school in the north-west city of Peshawar, Pakistan, killing 148 young students and teachers. Nine Tehrik-i-Taliban (TTP) operatives disguised in uniforms of the Pakistan Frontier Force entered the complex and subsequently went from



Umar Mansoor claims responsibility on a video released by the Taliban

INTELLIGENCE

REVIEW • NEWS • DIGEST

Two Dead in Sydney Cafe Siege

AUSTRALIAN TERRORISM EXPERT WARNS OF A DIFFICULT 2015

A lone wolf terrorist known to the security services in Australia entered a cafe in the Martin Place area of Sydney and took eighteen customers and staff hostage. Images were broadcast from the cafe showing a hostage holding what was first described as the black flag of ISIS. This proved incorrect but the terrorist, Iranian-born Man Haron Monis, did later ask police to deliver such a flag.

Just hours prior to the event, a call had been made to Australia's counter-terrorism helpline warning of a disturbing message on Monis' website. The posting said he had pledged allegiance to the 'Caliph of the Muslims' - which the caller linked to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi - the self-proclaimed leader of ISIS. ASIO examined the material but chose not to investigate further. Some observers found this unusual, for he had an extensive criminal

Detectives and counter-terrorism police pictured during the Sydney cafe siege which ended with the deaths of two civilians and gunman Haron Monis (right)

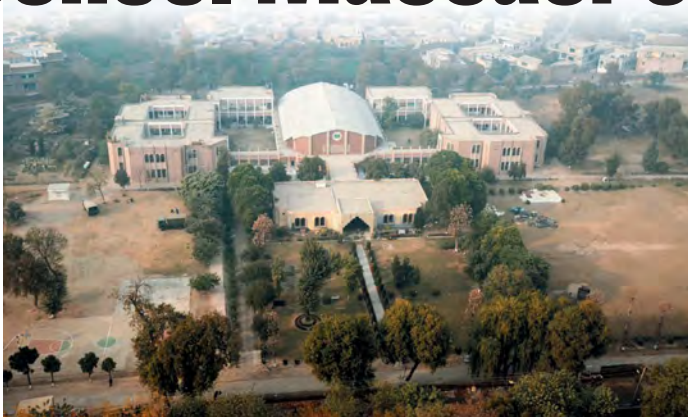


record and had already been convicted for sending letters to families who had loved ones serving in Afghanistan. Monis described fallen personnel as "murderers and animals."

And then on 15 December Monis entered the Lindt Chocolate Cafe in central Sydney, armed with a shotgun. He broke the electronic doors effectively stopping entry and exit. After police negotiators and security services arrived at the scene the gunman demanded to speak to Prime Minister Tony Abbot live on radio. Abbot has taken a tough stance against ISIS and a few months ago authorised Australian war planes to join the Alliance fighting the terror group in Iraq.

Monis' request was denied. The situation worsened when he proclaimed that four

ny School Massacre



classroom-to-classroom in a shooting spree which lasted just 10 minutes. Some of the teachers were burned alive in front of their pupils. Nearly all the students were killed by automatic weapons, though some perished

with single bullets to the head - in actions described as "executions."

They were confronted 15 minutes later by soldiers from the Army Special Services Group

(SSG). Strangely the terrorists made a telephone call to the TTP's leadership asking "what do they do next?" There was no time to respond. Within minutes SSG snipers had killed three of their kind. However, it took



Katrina Dawson

explosive devices had been planted around the city. Several hours into the siege a number of hostages managed to escape. However, others remained trapped. At 2.00am an explosion was heard and more hostages fled. This was followed by another loud explosion - and at that point armed officers from Australia's Tactical Operations Unit (TOU) threw flash grenades inside the



Tori Johnson

cafe in an effort to disorientate Monis. The gunman was shot dead, but two hostages were also killed. The victims were later named as Tori Johnson, 34 and Katrina Dawson, 38. Dawson was hit by a deflected police bullet.

ISIS posted an Internet message which said Monis was 'one of its own'; al-Qaida's said Monis' actions were to be applauded.



COUNTERING RADICALISATION

Dr Clarke Jones a leading terrorism specialist from the Australian National University, said the threat from terror groups and radicalised people has been underestimated. Speaking about the changing dynamics of attacks, he said "this will be a year of terrorism in the sense that I think we are going to see more small scale attacks."

Dr Jones is a member of a group of international advisors seeking to establish the country's Centre for Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). One of its primary ambitions besides research, is to focus on the people who might become radicalised and try and introduce measures to counter this.

"The individual is treated separately because there's not one



pathway to radicalisation," he said. He also discussed social workers and psychologists who could help, but warned they must understand the situation and "access the level of radicalisation."

His research is backed by the International Anti-Terrorism Research Institute Hedayah based in the United Arab Emirates.





Maulana Fazlullah's (inset) safe house in Imam Dherai

several more hours to eliminate the remaining gunmen.

The terror group issued a statement and video following the outrage. It said the school operation was masterminded by 36-year-old Umar Mansoor in response to Operation Zarb-e-Azb, a recent Pakistan Army offensive. However, in a covert action conducted in Bara on Christmas Day, Pakistan Special Forces confronted TTP operatives killing Shabab Ali Shah also known as 'Saddam'. Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence Agency (ISI) claim he was the man behind the

school attack. Shah was also blamed for the recent murders of health workers giving polio vaccinations in the Peshawar Valley. That attack was pre-empted by a US UAV missile strike.

It wasn't the first time TTP has targeted children of military officers. In December 2009, terrorists managed to penetrate an army barracks in the garrison city of Rawalpindi killing more than 30 students.

Since the summer of 2014, the CIA and Pakistan military has been

engaging TTP forces in the country using militarised UAVs. Dozens of terrorists have been killed and injured. The primary target is Maulana Fazlullah (born Fazal Hayat), the group's leader. His safe house in Imam Dherai was destroyed by a Pakistan Air Force fighter in 2009.

World leaders condemned the school attack, while Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif vowed all those responsible would be brought to justice.

This most deadly attack has been likened to the Beslan school atrocity



Badge of Pakistan's elite Army Special Services Group (SSG)

in North Ossetia in 2004. Over 300 youngsters died after terrorists loyal to the Chechen warlord Shamil Basayev took control of the school.



Students in a protest march in Ambala, Haryana, India

Stop Killing Innocents

PEACE With PAKISTAN

© OWAIS KHURSHEED

LITVINENKO INQUIRY

A Most Dangerous Assassination

The Public Inquiry into the 2006 death of former FSB officer and MI6 agent Alexander Litvinenko has begun in London. The intelligence man was murdered after ingesting Polonium 210 at a London hotel. The police suspect two former

Russian intelligence officers, Andrei Lugovoi and Dmitry Kovtun of slipping the deadly radioactive isotope into his tea.

Details of the post-mortem examination were heard. Dr Nathaniel Cary said Litvinenko's

body was "very hazardous" and the "most dangerous examination ever undertaken in the western world." The threat to Londoners resulting from the assassination was also significant - because of the transportation and use of the Polonium.

Representing the family, Ben Emmersen QC, believes Litvinenko was murdered for exposing corruption. He called the attack an "act of nuclear terrorism" and blamed associates of Vladimir Putin and rogue intelligence elements in Russia.

The Inquiry also heard evidence of two other previous attempts to kill the agent. At the height of the investigation 200 officers were assigned to the case.

New Scotland Yard and MI5 both believe the case involves prime suspect Lugovoi. He denies any



Andrei Lugovoi

involvement but won't be attending the hearing.



Litvinenko with murdered journalist Anna Politkovskaya



Litvinenko's widow Marina blames Vladimir Putin



Gustave Daniel Alfred Bieler

THE SECRET HONOUR GUARD

DID YOU KNOW THAT: French-born Gustave Daniel Alfred Bieler, who at the age of 23 emigrated to Canada, was given a secret military honour guard by German troops?

Bielier was dropped into occupied France on 18 November 1942. The SOE agent, code-named 'Guy', was made head of the so-called 'Musician [Spy] Network' in the St Quentin region.

Placed in charge of over two dozen special units, his team's reputation grew and he was regarded as a deadly menace by the Gestapo - this as they blew-up fuel dumps, sabotaged rail tracks, destroyed canal boats and attacked various other sites used by German troops. Indeed, a special order was made to target him in particular.

He was captured in January 1944 along with his radio operator and brutally tortured by the Gestapo at its headquarters in Berlin. Bieler wouldn't provide any information, not even his name.

However, he was sentenced to death on the personal orders of Adolf Hitler after the Führer sent an edict down to the Gestapo headquarters ordering that all interned SOE agents were to be hung by piano wire until dead. More than 50 SOE agents died in late 1944 on the same day, including Canadians.

But, without Hitler's knowledge, 'Guy' Le Canadien (The Canadian) was given a military honour guard while being escorted to his death in a courtyard at Flossenburg concentration camp in Bavaria, Germany. He was crippled and emaciated but his captors had nothing but respect for the agent. And rather than hang him, according to Hitler's directive, Bieler was shot dead. He was the only known SOE agent to receive this honour at the hands of such a brutal enemy.



POW drawing of inmates at the notorious Flossenburg concentration camp

Colonel Buckmaster, Head of SOE F-Section, wrote in Guy's file, "Guy was my best student."

Bieler was one of 25 Canadians who joined the SOE and passed through Camp X. He was awarded the DSO (Distinguished Service Order) and an MBE by the British. In Canada, a lake and a veterans residence has been named after this most brave spy.

And now you know, THE REST OF THE STORY!

Gestapo headquarters, Prinz Albrecht Street, Berlin



Adolf Hitler - oblivious to the event

NOTES

ALLIANCE AND ISIS

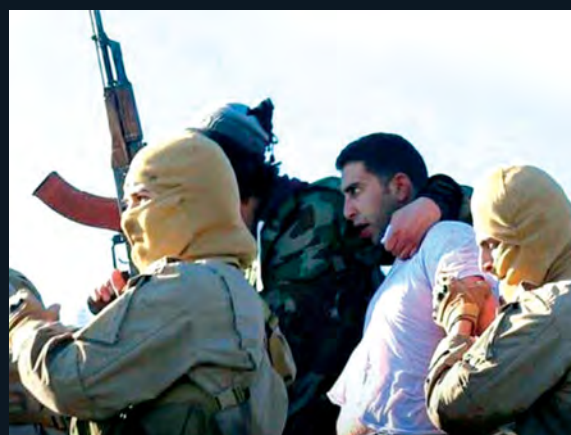
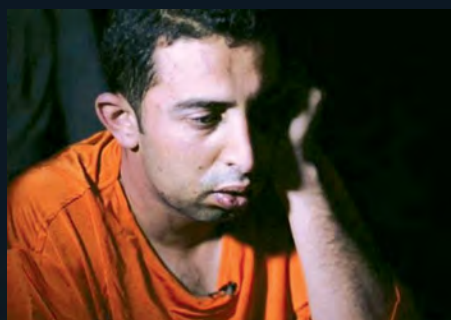
BRAVE JORDANIAN PILOT BURNED TO DEATH

ISIS has engaged in some of the world's worst atrocities ever seen in conflict zones, but the group reached a new low with the barbaric burning to death of a Royal Jordanian Air Force pilot. First Lt. Muath al-Kasaesbeh, 26, was captured after his aircraft came down in Syria in late December 2014. A video was released showing him being dragged from the wreckage of his F-16 fighter by ISIS terrorists. The group said it had downed the warplane using a heat-seeking missile - a claim dismissed by Alliance officials and US Central Command. Kasaesbeh, who comes from a prominent Jordanian family is heard to support the missile theory in an ISIS propaganda video released on the Internet. "I heard and felt its hit," the pilot said.

News of an attempted US Special Forces rescue mission on 1 January 2015 had been circulating in the Middle East, but this has not been verified. Kasaesbeh was reportedly being held in the city of Raqqa, and eye-witnesses reported a large bombardment took place close to midnight near a compound known to house hundreds



of terrorists. This was allegedly a distraction operation, for in another part of the city to the east, helicopters dropped flares over a second compound. After failing to land because of heavy gunfire, the pilots were forced to abort the mission. Pentagon officials were quick to dismiss the notion the operation was led by the United States. Indeed, Admiral



John Kirby doubted the raid was real but admitted he had been made aware of the rumours. Nevertheless, a number of observer groups in Syria are adamant that a rescue mission was attempted.

Either way, for Kasaesbeh his situation did not improve. Filmed by the ISIS 'media centre' he is asked what will come of him... he replied "they will kill me." And then at the end of January came hope. Jordan agreed to exchange female suicide bomber Sajida al-Rishawi for Kasaesbeh and Japanese hostage Kenji Goto. Sadly, Goto was murdered a few days later.

However, this was all a ruse, for the brave pilot had been burned to death weeks earlier. Jordan responded by executing two terrorists, including al-Rishawi.

Jordan's air force, along with other Arab states has been targeting ISIS strongholds in Syria, especially around the group's de facto capital Raqqa.



Sajida al-Rishawi

Iraq. From whence these two young men came from is not clear, but ISIS continues to attract followers from around the globe - this as politicians and world leaders battle to form a coherent plan to tackle this most brutal terrorist group





BEYOND CALL OF DUTY

In early January 2015, ISIS executed eight members of an alleged Iraqi police cell which according to informed sources, had successfully infiltrated the terror group. A video called 'Day of Judgement' shows the officers, led by Captain Hossam Salah Bnosh on their knees. Behind them, eight terrorists brandishing firearms. Moments later the officers are shot through the head in another brutal atrocity committed by ISIS.

According to ISIS, the men reportedly provided information back to Iraq security forces on the location of ISIS sites. Nothing can be authenticated of course, but officials said their bravery was remarkable.

JOHN CANTLIE

The 'in-house' ISIS magazine carried an interview supposedly written by British hostage John Cantlie. He also fronts a video documentary made in Mosul in an ISIS attempt to refute reports its residents



are suffering. He says its "business as unusual."

A CIA internal memorandum shows ISIS now effectively controls territory across much of Syria and Iraq, and has moved some elements just 50 miles north of Baghdad. In Syria, however, Kurdish Peshmerga fighters belonging to a newly founded People's Protection Units or YPG's, have wrestled 80% of the Syrian city of Khobani away from ISIS. British military specialists have now been assigned to train Peshmerga troops. UK Home Secretary

Philip Hammond made a statement based on intelligence collection in the region - this in relation to removing the group from Iraq. "It can't be done in two or three months. It will take a year or two years." RAF strikes in Iraq continue apace.

His comments were made ahead of a 21-nation security meeting in London. Here officials discussed containment as well as a plethora of other issues.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Another incident which reflects the strange operational tactics and protocol of ISIS, not to mention its brutality, the group's chief executioner - an ISIS 'policeman' responsible for numerous beheadings in Syria, was himself found dead - with his head cut off. The corpse of the second-in-command of an ISIS group ➤



ISIS prepare to burn boxes of tens of thousands of cigarettes

Former UK Defence Secretary and current Home Secretary Philip Hammond believes it may take two years to remove ISIS from Iraq



known as Hisbah, was found with a message attached to him - 'This is evil you Sheikh'. A clue to why he was killed was found in his mouth - a cigarette. ISIS, which operates under strict Sharia law bans the use of drugs, alcohol and... cigarettes.



OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE

Alliance airstrikes against ISIS made in 2014 totalled nearly 1500. And whilst many have been extremely successful, senior military commanders have again warned that aerial bombing alone will not secure victory against the terror group. Operation Inherent Resolve, an aerial strategy including precision bombing of ISIS targets, continues to hinder the terror group.



Perhaps more importantly, some 2,000 specialist US military commanders are helping to train thousands of new Iraqi Army and Kurdish Peshmerga recruits. Their objective is simple - to 'retake territory and ultimately defeat ISIS'. The operation began just two days after Christmas and is being seen as an important element of Inherent Resolve. A further 1,000 US specialists are expected to arrive in Iraq relevant to the training programme.



A US Hornet prepares to take off from the deck of USS Carl Vinson to strike ISIS targets in Syria



British troops in Basra

Both the CIA and MI6 fear ISIS is intent on spreading uncertainty and creating instability beyond Iraq and Syria. Officials from the UAE and Egypt have warned about the deteriorating situation in Libya, as several terrorist groups, including ISIS, continue to attack government sites. Perhaps as a clear sign other nations are about to be drawn into the conflict, ISIS launched a most audacious suicide attack on the Saudi Arabian-Iraq border killing two Saudi soldiers. It was later revealed one of the men was General Oudah al-Belawi, commander of the entire northern border forces. Riyadh blamed terrorist elements without naming ISIS, though the group is clearly responsible. Intelligence sources also believe the attack had deliberately targeted al-Belawi and that ISIS had received intelligence on the commander's schedule.

The Saudi attack is made more relevant with the passing of King Abdullah in Saudi Arabia. ISIS believes it can exploit the situation.



US Navy E-2C Hawkeye



King Abdullah

AIRLINER HIJACKING THREATS

The threat of terrorists targeting global aviation was the topic of two secret meetings attended by senior intelligence officials in India and the United States. Besides ISIS, both al-Qaida and the Taliban have urged supporters to make this type of operation a priority. They have also called for more 'lone wolf' attacks, noting infiltration and defeating airline and airport security is easier for individuals and smaller cells.

Syrian border: Peshmerga troops





Airline and terminal security has been increased around the world and passenger data is now being shared more freely. However, aviation security specialists have warned no protective system is infallible. Relevant to this issue is intelligence collected by the CIA and MI6 on new types of bombs, clothing and packaging which ISIS claims can defeat counter-measures.



TARGETING TROOPS, POLICE AND INTEL PEOPLE

On 13 January New Scotland Yard, MI5 and the Ministry of Defence issued nationwide internal memorandums on personal security. The instructions followed a meeting of senior intelligence and security officials at Downing Street 24 hours earlier. Similarly, the memos coincided with a claim a British soldier had been beheaded, and increased 'chatter' on the Internet calling for attacks on UK servicemen.



A similar warning was issued by the FBI and Homeland Security for government military staffers to 'scrub' their social media accounts in an effort to enhance personal and family security.

JAPAN'S CONUNDRUM

In January, two Japanese hostages Kenji Goto, 47, and Haruna Yukawa, 42 were portrayed in videos similar to others featuring the Briton known as 'Jihadi John'.

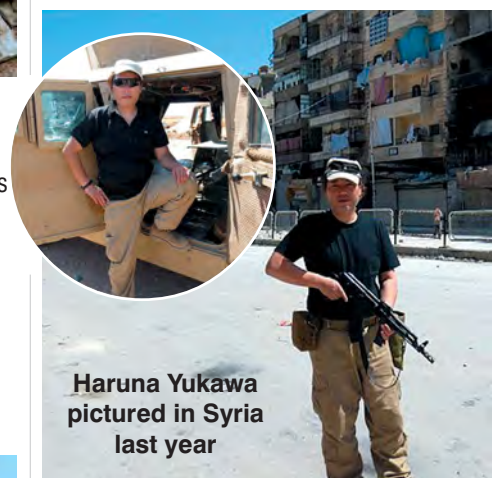


Kenji Goto is made to hold a photo of his murdered friend Haruna Yukawa

ISIS demanded \$200 million for their release - the same amount Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe had pledged to the fighting fund of the Alliance. Another demand was then made - a prisoner exchange. After Tokyo rejected this, Yukawa was brutally murdered.

Both men had gone to the region for different reasons. Yukawa apparently travelled to Syria to help him gain experience in his quest to establish a security company. Whilst there he met Goto, a journalist covering the fighting. Goto was warned not to enter Raqqa, but he told another friend: "I am not an American, I am not British... I am Japanese - I can go."

After a failed prisoner exchange involving Jordan, Goto brutally was beheaded by ISIS.



6,000 ISIS TERRORISTS KILLED IN FIGHTING

Based on intelligence provided by US Central Command (CENTCOM), a CIA Estimate of the Situation regarding the number of ISIS operatives killed in Iraq and Syria now totals a staggering 6,000. US Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has thus far not confirmed the report.



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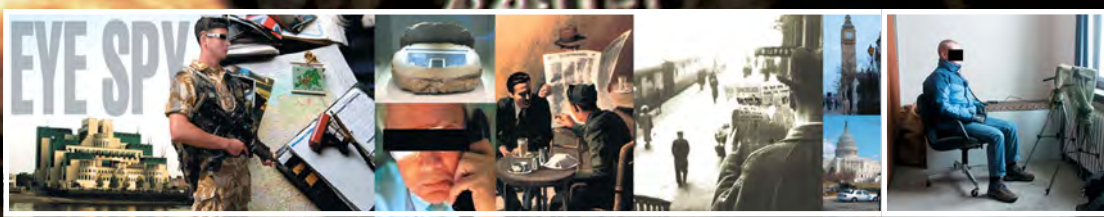
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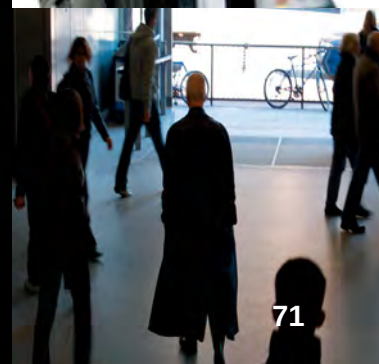
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STICKS

Available Free...

Eye Spy Security Editor Mike Finn continues his series on the discipline of ENCOUNTER CONTROL IN THE INTELLIGENCE CYCLE

All intelligence agencies perform undercover operations, this is at the very least both risky and stressful work. The operative must be so familiar with the target or group being infiltrated in order that they fit into the group's 'culture'. Their false identity or cover must be foolproof and protect them against their other life, which can so easily and inadvertently give the game away.

I can recall working undercover at a YMCA hostel in the City Of London, together with associates. I had made contact with a drug dealer and gained his confidence.

One morning everyone was in the main hall at breakfast time, an undercover female officer positioned near the door. Unbeknown to our team there had been a number of thefts at the residence and an investigative detective walked in, and immediately recognised the female. Walking towards her he shouted her name and said, "Hi, what are you doing here? I thought you were still with the ***** operations' group." He gave her a big hug (just in case anyone there was not sure who he was talking too), then went on his way. Subsequently our operation was cancelled.



The use of sticks in various lengths and forms as a defensive and offensive tool has been practised thousands of years



US sailors training with what's called a Singlestick CIRCA. 1899

Undercover is not the same as plain clothes work. In the former the operative actually assumes a complete new identity to infiltrate a specific group. And covert operations are usually endorsed by someone high in the particular intelligence agency. There are many complexities to be resolved before an operation can begin, with the FBI for example; an undercover agent cannot use violence unless it is a case of justified self defence. They cannot commit a criminal act, without express approval and within statutory parameters, nor implement an illegal bugging, or enter a building, open mail illegally, or perform illegal searches.



Long and short stick



Block



Thrust



Lock



Strike



Throw

Entrapment and certain emotional relationships are also considerations. The task is not an easy undertaking from both the actual assignment and 'red tape' undertakings. The operative must be very careful about carrying personal items; this includes anything they may need in the execution of their task. It is a risky business to carry any defence tool such as cuffs or a baton. Similarly, the issuing of firearms would require considerable consideration, relative to the circumstances.

In respect of self defence the operative's knowledge of empty hand combative skills, will, in all probability go unnoticed. However, such things as large protruding fist knuckles of the middle and index finger are an unmistakable sign of karate, tae-kwondo, or similar talents. Skills where every day items can be used, become an advantage in undercover work and a practical possibility. This is because such skills and knowledge are unseen and every day items are innocent, but when they come together the results can be devastating.

Each agency has its own ideas on the above paragraph, but one common denominator is the stick, which can be found anywhere in the world. Quite often the techniques taught come



19th century police truncheons on display in Edinburgh's Police Centre Museum

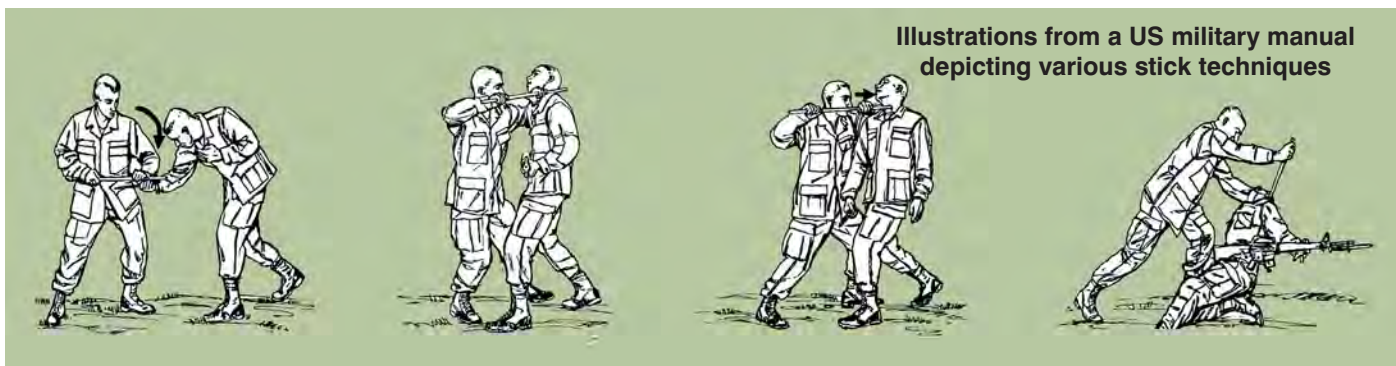
from baton skills and are drawn from police sources. In the police world there are many kinds of baton. The night stick, extending baton, and side handle baton (from L to R in the picture) are the most common police weapons. All of these are basically used for striking, as was the old British police truncheon, but to be totally effective the repertoire has to be extended.

The effective stick system must be capable of striking to disarm a hand weapon, it can also

be used to block, thrust, lock, and throw. A longer stick, for example around 3ft, is ideal to keep someone armed with a hand weapon at a safe distance. However, the short 6 to 10 inch stick is easy to conceal and can have a surprise element.

Locks with the short stick can be relentlessly effective, as can vital strikes. When we look at alleged discreet hand weapons purportedly used by some security agencies for covert operations, there are a strange array of items, some concealed in such things as combs and lighters, others having the appearance of a strange sci-fi weapon. The truth is, any concealed weapon that can be purchased openly carries a strong risk of discovery, as does the obscure futuristic ones that draws attention by its unusual appearance.

The risk of discovery outweighs the possession of the weapon, the old adage of 'keep it simple' is the cornerstone of the covert operative. Of course everyone always hopes that the undercover operative will have no need for weapons and that the objectives of the infiltration go without a hitch. This is why good pre-planning and implementation are vital, but encounter control is always a possibility that should be provided for. ➤



Illustrations from a US military manual depicting various stick techniques



Concealed



Warning strike



Powerful lock

From the perspective of strategy, the stick is always underestimated, which gives it a distinct advantage. In feudal Japan one of the greatest samurai was called Miyamoto Musashi. This man was renowned for challenge matches, remaining undefeated in over 60 encounters. One of his strategies was to turn up late, thus antagonising his adver-



Night Stick

Extending Baton

Side Handle Baton

sary into rash moves. Another play involved the use of his wooden sword against the steel blade of his opponent's katana (samurai sword). Musashi would often cut upward bringing his wooden sword from opponents groin to under his chin, killing them instantly. It's a fact that downward blows are better perceived and countered, than are strikes that are made upwards, especially under the chin.

The nuance of this article is to show that undercover work with intelligence, security and military-supported agencies has its own perspective on encounter control; we have focused on the use of sticks, which some agencies have adopted. However, like 'the finger pointing to the moon', the finger is superfluous once the moon has been pinpointed.

Agencies use all sorts of undercover weapons, the underlying precept of knowledge (which is hidden unseen in the mind), and the innocuous every day items, are completely innocent until they come together. This is the foundation of a safe formula for undercover operations encounter control.

In the next article we will look at the fascinating world of handcuffs, different types and use by the police and in the intelligence world.

• Michael Finn qualified in Japan with 40 black belts in 10 martial arts. He is a former New Scotland Yard police officer, expert witness, author and Director of Consultancy for Elite International and Principal of the Combative Science Institute



UNDERCOVER Book Review

THE DEBS OF BLETCHLEY PARK
and Other Stories

Michael Smith
Aurum Press Ltd

For Winston Churchill the men and women at Bletchley Park were "the geese that laid the golden eggs," providing important intelligence that led to the Allied victory in the Second World War.

At the peak of Bletchley's success, a total of twelve thousand people worked there of whom more than eight thousand were women. These included a former ballerina who helped to crack the Enigma Code; a debutante working for the Admiralty with a direct line to Churchill; the convent girl who operated the Bombes, the top secret machines that tested Enigma settings; and the German literature student whose codebreaking saved countless lives at D-Day.

All these women were essential cogs in a very large machine, yet their stories have been kept secret.

In *The Debs of Bletchley Park and Other Stories* author Michael Smith, trustee of Bletchley Park and chair of the Trust's Historical Advisory Committee, tells their tale. Through interviews with the women themselves and unique access to the Bletchley Park archives, Smith reveals how they came to be there,





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the lives they gave up to do 'their bit' for the war effort, and the part they played in the vital work of Station X.

They are an incredible set of women, and this is their story. Hardback 304pp

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DOUBLE CROSS IN CAIRO: The True Story of the Spy Who Turned the Tide of War in the Middle East

Nigel West
Biteback

As part of the infamous Double Cross operation, Jewish double agent Renato Levi proved to be one of the Allies' most devastating weapons in World War Two.

In 1941, with the help of MI6, Levi built an extensive spy-ring in North Africa and the Middle East. But, most remarkably, it was entirely fictitious. This network of imagined informants peddled dangerously false misinformation to Levi's unwitting German

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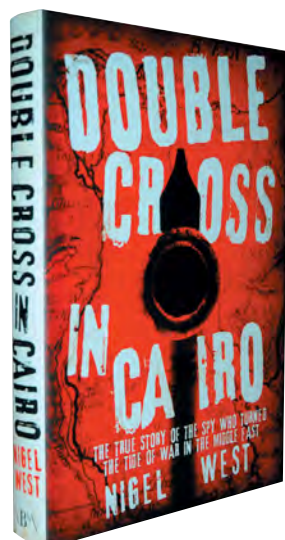


handlers. His efforts would distort any enemy estimates of Allied battle plans for the remainder of the war. His communications were infused with just enough truth to be palatable, and just enough imagination to make them irresistible.

In a vacuum of seemingly trustworthy sources, Levi's enemies not only believed in the CHEESE network, as it was codenamed, but they came to depend upon it. And, by the war's conclusion, he could boast of having helped the Allies thwart Rommel in North Africa, as well as diverting whole armies from the D-Day landing sites. He wielded great influence and, as a double agent, he was unrivalled. Until now, Levi's devilish deceptions and feats of derring-do have remained completely hidden.

Using recently declassified files, Double Cross in Cairo uncovers the heroic exploits of one of the Second World War's most closely guarded secrets. Hardback 352pp

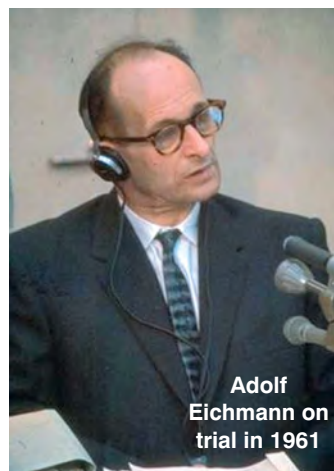
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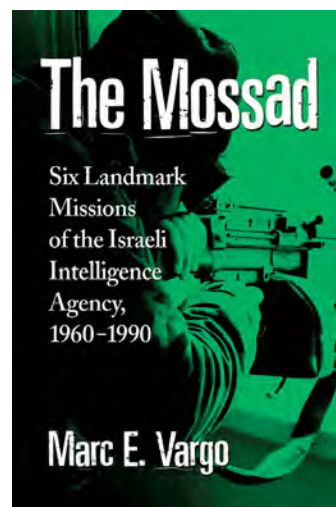
THE MOSSAD: Six Landmark Missions of the Israeli Intelligence Agency - 1060-1990

Marc E Vargo
McFarland & Co Inc

The Mossad, Israel's version of the CIA, is among the world's top intelligence agencies. Renowned both for its brilliance and its ruthlessness, the organisation occupies a distinctive position in the arena of global covert operations. This book describes the clandestine missions that were defining moments in the evolution of the Mossad, including its pursuit of the Black September terrorists who murdered Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympic Games, its acquisition on the high seas of yellowcake uranium for Israel's undeclared nuclear weapons program, and its role in bringing to justice Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann.



The agency's more questionable deeds are also covered, among them the assassination of civilian scientists associated with Iraq's nuclear energy program and the abduction of Israeli citizen Mordechai Vanunu who, like Edward Snowden, has been variously



depicted as a principled whistleblower and an unscrupulous traitor. Taken together, the missions discussed herein illustrate the Mossad's character, creativity and courage, while acknowledging the problematical moral dimensions of its operations. Paperback 277pp

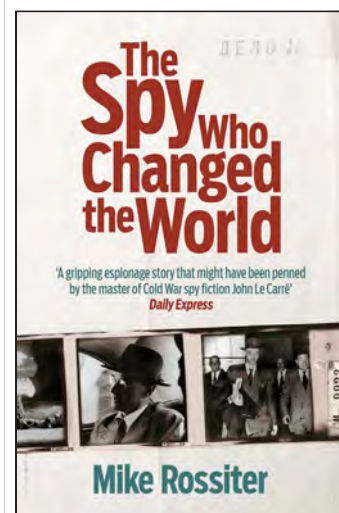
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THE SPY WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

Mike Rossiter
Headline

Klaus Fuchs, the head of theoretical physics at the British Research Establishment at Harwell, became a household name in February 1950, when he appeared at the Old Bailey, accused of passing secrets to the Soviet Union. For over sixty years disinformation and lies surrounded the story of Fuchs as the governments of Britain, the United States and Russia all tried to cover up the truth about his treachery.

Piecing together the story from archives in Britain, the United States, Russia and Germany, *The Spy Who Changed the World* unravels the truth about Fuchs and reveals for the first



time his long career of espionage. It proves that he played a pivotal role in Britain's bomb programme in the race to keep up with the United States in the atomic age, and that he revealed vital secrets about the atom bomb, as well as the immensely destructive hydrogen bomb to the Soviet Government.

It is a dramatic tale of clandestine meetings, deadly secrets, family entanglements and illicit love affairs, all set against the tumultuous years from the rise of Hitler to the start of the Cold War. Paperback 352pp

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ODD PEOPLE: Hunting Spies in the First World War
Basil Thomson
Biteback

First World War espionage was a fascinating and dangerous affair, spawning widespread paranoia in its clandestine wake. The hysteria of the age, stoked by those within the British establishment who sought to manipulate popular panic, meant there was no shortage of suspects. Exaggerated claims were rife: some 80,000 Germans were supposedly hidden all over Britain, just waiting for an impending (and imagined) invasion. No one could be trusted...

Against this backdrop, as head of Scotland Yard's Criminal Investigation Department, it was Basil Thomson's responsibility to hunt, arrest and interrogate the potential German spies identified by the nascent British intelligence services. Thomson's story is an extraordinary compendium of sleuthing and secrets from a real-life Sherlock Holmes, following the trails of the many specimens he tracked, including the famous dancer, courtesan and spy, Mata Hari.

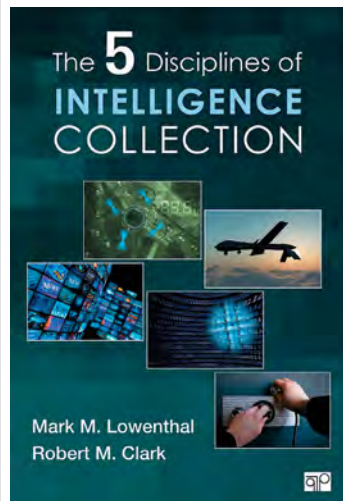


Yet his activities gained him enemies, as did his criticism of British intelligence, his ambition to control MI5 and his efforts to root out left-wing revolutionaries which would ultimately prove to be the undoing of his career. *Odd People* is the insightful and wittily observed account of Thomson's incomparably exciting job, offering us a rare glimpse into the dizzying world of spies and the mind of the detective charged with foiling their elaborate plots. Paperback 336pp

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Mark M Lowenthal, Robert M Clark
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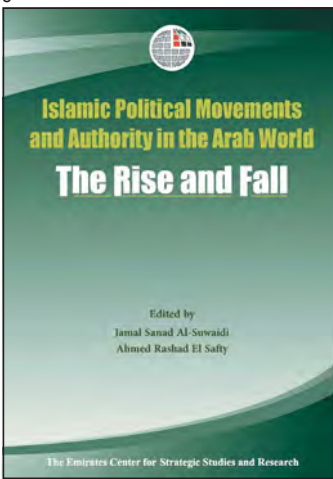
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Dr Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi, Dr Ahmed Rashad El-Saifi
Emirates Center for Strategic Studies

This important book is a comprehensive scholarly study of contemporary Islamic political movements and their prospects. It addresses the prominent transformations that have occurred within certain Islamic political organisations as a result of what the media have dubbed the 'Arab Spring' - namely those Islamic parties and movements which came to power in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco, and deconstructs the experience of Islamic political parties and movements in government.



In addition, it discusses the new Islamic parties and organisations that have emerged, re-shaping the political environments of several Arab countries.

The authors discuss the negative effects and implications of Islamists' efforts to inject religion into the practice of politics and to politicize religion, leading to increased religious and political polarization in a number of Arab countries. Dr's Al-Suwaidi and El-Saifi discuss how these practices undermine efforts to build the national consensus needed to achieve peace, economic development, social justice and democratic transformation.

This book raises pertinent questions concerning the future of Islamic political movements in the Arab World, particularly in light of certain movements' negative experiences of governance, the internal developments being witnessed in various Arab countries, and the regional and international transformations affecting the Arab world as a whole.

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DAUGHTERS OF THE KGB: Moscow's Secret Spies, Sleepers and Assassins of the Cold War
Douglas Boyd
History Press

After the guns fell silent in May 1945, the USSR resumed its clandestine warfare against the western democracies. Soviet dictator Josef Stalin installed secret police services in all the satellite countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Trained by his NKVD - a predecessor of the KGB - officers of the Polish UB, the Czech StB, the Hungarian AVO, Romania's Securitate, Bulgaria's KDS, Albania's Sigurimi and the Stasi of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) spied on and ruthlessly repressed their fellow citizens on the Soviet model.

When the resultant hatred exploded in uprisings - in GDR 1953, Hungary 1956 and Czechoslovakia 1968 - they were put down by brutality, bloodshed and Soviet tanks. What was at first not so obvious was that these state terror organisations were also designed for military and commercial espionage. Specially trained operatives undertook *mokrye dyela* or 'wet jobs', including assassination and other anti-Soviet figures. Perhaps the most menacing were the sleepers who settled in the West, married and had children while waiting to strike against their host countries. Many of them are still among us. Boyd explores for the first time the relationship between the KGB and its ghastly brood of 'daughters' a true family from hell. Hardback 224pp

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THE AMIA BOMB CASE

The sun sets behind Argentina's Congress building, but Nisman's findings will still be heard - despite his untimely death

A TIMELY SANCTION?

Senior investigative prosecutor into Argentina's most deadly terrorist attack in 1994 is found dead just a week before he was due to give evidence before Congress. Associates, friends and even officials cast doubt on suicide theory...

The death of Argentine prosecutor Alberto Nisman has raised much suspicion in the intelligence community that he was the victim of a professional assassin.

Nisman, 51, was just days away from presenting evidence that could have had grave consequences for President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner and her foreign

minister. How so? Nisman claimed he had evidence that showed Kirchner was part of a wider conspiracy that formed after the 1994 bombing of the AMIA (Jewish Asociacion Mutual Israelita Argentina) center attack in Buenos Aires. Nisman, who has been an outspoken critic of the police investigation into the bombing, was about to publicly claim that the two agreed to "whitewash" Iran's role in the incident in return for oil shipments. All powerful stuff if true and a storyline that could have been scripted for a thriller.

And in a quite remarkable turn of events, Kirchner said she believes he was indeed killed - not to silence him - but to discredit her



government. "They used him while alive and then needed him dead," she said. "The real operation against the government was the death of the prosecutor. ➤



Argentina's Foreign Minister Hector Timerman



The names of the dead at the site of the former AMIA center

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***"Everybody who had contact
with him in the last 24 hours
says he was confident... there is
no indication under any circum-
stances, that he killed himself"***

Congresswoman Schmidt-Liermann

Nisman's body was discovered in his guarded 13th floor apartment in the plush Puerto Madero district of Buenos Aires on Sunday 18 January. He had died from a single shot to the head. Presidential sources immediately indicated it was suicide for nearby was a hand gun and a spent cartridge. This makes Kirchner's comment even more odd - so too her decision to dismantle the country's intelligence service.

Many Argentinians were outraged and within hours of his death being reported, protesters were on the streets crying foul play.

A MYRIAD OF CONSPIRACY THEORIES

The conspiracy theories were enhanced by police forensic specialists who confirmed they found no traces of gunpowder on Nisman's hands. Nor was there any sign of a suicide note. However, forensic specialists said such a [small] weapon might not have left a gunpowder trace.

The weapon was given to Nisman by colleague Diego Lagomarsino just a day or so earlier. It's unclear about the circumstances of why he wanted a gun, but associates and friends insist it was for protection. As for the whereabouts of his ten-man security detail - the police remained silent.

Nisman had taken over the case a decade ago, ironically at the behest of President Nestor Kirchner, the late husband of the woman he accused of conspiring with Iran. During that time, Nisman and his investigative team gathered evidence which pointed to agents of Iran being responsible for the 1994 attack. Eighty five people died when a huge van bomb exploded outside the building. The



“They used him while alive and then needed him dead... the real operation against the government was the death of the prosecutor”

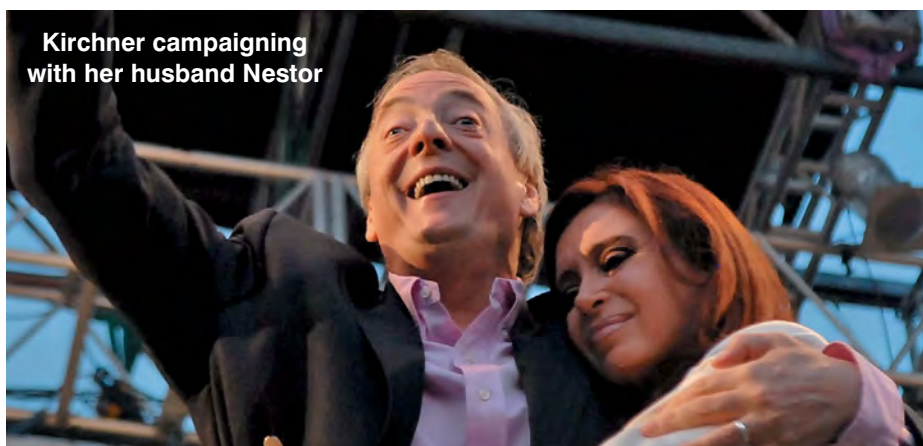
President Cristina de Kirchner

prosecutor was becoming increasingly satisfied he had discovered why the attack took place - his theory being Tehran was upset with Argentina for cancelling a nuclear technology contract. Iranian Intelligence had recruited Hezbollah agents who entered the country through a central South American region known as the Triple Frontier, sourced explosives and carried out the operation.

For over 20 years the investigation has been marred by so many incidents including



Most people in the Argentina believe Nisman was assassinated. Mossad believe Iran was behind the shooting in an effort to derail his investigation



Kirchner campaigning with her husband Nestor



President Kirchner holds aloft the bill which dissolved the country's intelligence service SIDE - and replaced it with a Federal Intelligence Agency

bribery, corruption and secreting evidence. Nisman was seen as the one man who could open the darker areas of the investigation and finally conclude who was responsible, who knew what and who actually benefited. Even Kirchner admitted that there had been so many cover-ups that it was difficult to believe the case would ever be resolved.

And then there was the alleged role of Argentina's untrusted intelligence service - SIDE (Secretaria de Inteligencia). Despite meeting with Mossad officials, the service seemed unwillingly or unsure how to react - despite mounting evidence they had learned how the Iranian agents had entered the country.

In 2012, Kirchner arrived at the United Nations and said Iran and Argentina were set for talks about the incident. Foreign Minister Hector Timerman and his Iranian counterpart Ali Akbar Salehi are said to have met informally in New York, and it seems that something that happened here rankled with Nisman. Nisman believed a secret back-channel had been

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INTERPOL RED NOTICES STILL IN PLACE FOR AMIA SUSPECTS



Interpol Executive Committee takes decision on AMIA Red Notice dispute

15 March 2007. Lyon, France: Interpol's Executive Committee issued its decision regarding the Red Notice dispute between the National Central Bureaus (NCBs) of Argentina and Iran in connection with the 1994 bombing of the AMIA building in Buenos Aires.

After considering written submissions and oral presentations from both countries' NCBs, the Executive Committee decided to endorse and adopt the conclusions of the report prepared by Interpol's Office of Legal Affairs that Red Notices should be issued for the following six individuals: Imad Fayed Mughniyah, Ali Fallahijan, Mohsen Rabbani, Ahmad Reza Asghari, Ahmad Vahidi and Mohsen Rezai.

The Executive Committee also endorsed the Office of Legal Affairs conclusion that Red Notices should not be issued for former President of Iran, Ali Rafsanjany, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran, Ali Akbar Velayati and former Ambassador of Iran in Buenos Aires, Hadi Soleimanpour.

Nisman believed Kirchner and Timmerman were hopeful they could cancel Interpol arrest warrants for the Iranian agents in return for business and trade contracts, one of which would see Iran receive Argentinian grain in return for oil. Nisman based his "evidence of complicity" on transcripts from wire taps. And besides the two senior figures mentioned in his investigation, a plethora of other people were also behind the conspiracy, including intelligence men, judges, police and politicians. One transcript of a conversation between an influential supporter of Kirchner made as late as 2013, to a former Iranian cultural attache suggests the secret liaison was true. He said he was acting on behalf



Nisman lived on the 13th floor of Tower Le Parc, Buenos Aires



Alberto Nisman (third from left) and Interpol officials discuss the AMIA case



"I am now convinced Nisman's death was not suicide..." President De Kirchner

forged between Kirchner's government and Iran that would see Tehran's role in the bombing "evaporate" and business relations prosper. Henceforth he was going to point an accusing finger at both Kirchner and Timmerman - but just what he was going to say to augment his investigation will forever remain a mystery. As for Salehi, he is now head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation.

JANUARY 2015 - INTELLIGENCE THREADS TO DEATH

What does remain is the near 300-page report which Nisman filed in early January and will still be heard in court. The thrust of his case centred upon a major cover-up that essentially would clear Iran of all involvement.



The headquarters of the Secretaria de Intelligence - SI or SIDE as it was still called, Buenos Aires. Kirchner has moved to replace SIDE with a Federal Intelligence Agency - FIA





Security Secretary Sergio Berni - arrived at Nisman's flat before state investigative prosecutor

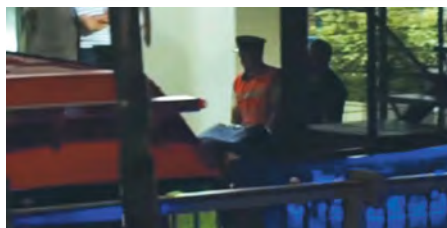
of the 'boss woman'. Another transcript from a further recorded telephone call says: 'He's very interested in exchanging what they have for beef and grain'.

Kirchner's government has dismissed the accusations as "baseless." But they may have difficulty in explaining an intercepted call in which officials discuss trying to put the blame of the AMIA bombing on right-wing extremists and groups.

Eight days before Nisman and his investigative team were to deliver their case findings to Argentina's Congress, he was found dead on the floor of his apartment bathroom in the Tower Le Parc. An alert was made when his mother was unable to open his front door because the key was still in the lock on the



Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi met with Argentina Foreign Minister Hector Timerman in 2012



Nesman's body is removed

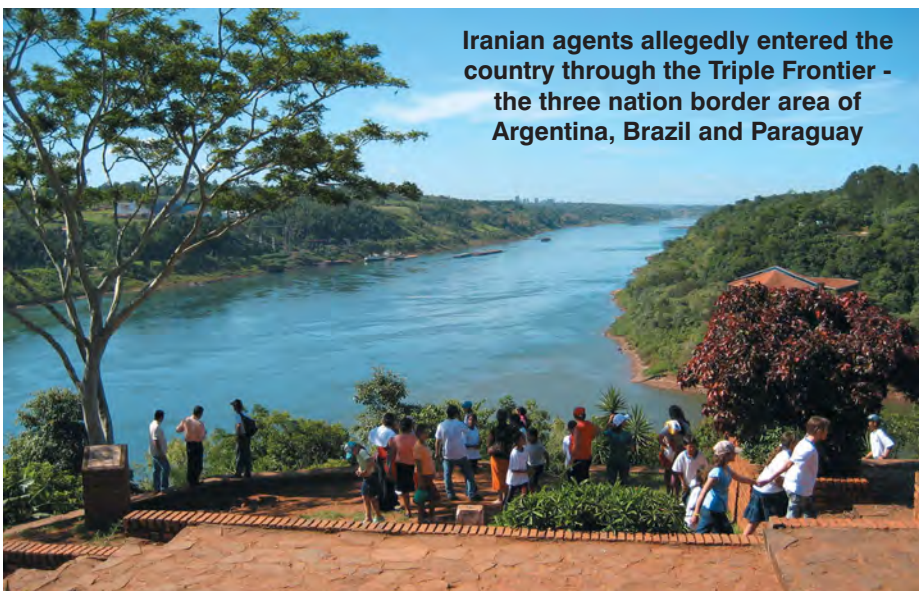
inside. Telephone calls were made to the apartment, but when these were not answered, a locksmith was called. And though the main door was indeed locked, a service entrance was found open. Perhaps more relevant to those who believe Nisman was assassinated, police discovered a third entrance through a narrow passage connecting to another flat. Inside a footprint. Argentine police also said that the adjoining flat was occupied by an "unknown foreigner."



A MAN WITH ANSWERS?

In 2008 Nisman called for the arrest of former President Carlos Menem in connection with the AMIA affair. He was convicted a little later of various offences and in 2012 ordered to stand trial for obstructing the investigation. Like others, Nisman accused him of concealing evidence linking the attack to Hezbollah and Iran.

President at the time of the bombing, Menem was but one former significant figure who was set to testify before Argentina's Congress



Iranian agents allegedly entered the country through the Triple Frontier - the three nation border area of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay



Anibal Fernandez - President Kirchner's chief of staff

Just as relevant to those who suspect Nisman was eliminated, the sudden appearance at the scene of Security Secretary Sergio Berni, 55. A former military man, he actually arrived at the apartment before state prosecutor Manuel De Campos. Asked about this he said: "I was talking to Nisman's mother and suddenly turned around and there was Mr De Campos." Berni said the investigation is "moving away from the suicide theory." However, just like Kirchner, he believes the death was an act against the government to discredit it.

"Everyone understands that this was a big operation against the government," he said. For the record, Berni was appointed spokesman of the Americas of the Interpol Executive Committee in November 2014.

Senior Argentine officials believe that rogue elements from the country's intelligence service were behind Nisman's death. This theory has been given credibility by one man who is close to Kirchner and was a trusted advisor to her late husband Nestor. He is Anibal Fernandez - the president's chief of staff. He said Nisman had been used by the Secretaria de Inteligencia* (SI) to collect the evidence against the president and even helped provide some of the information. Indeed, Fernandez went further when he said he believed agents of the SI actually wrote much of the report: "I have worked quite a lot with prosecutor Nisman. I know he was a well-qualified expert in law. He could not have written this nonsense. It is totally clear he had nothing to do with it but there were people around him who had a different agenda."

The chief of the SI was replaced in December 2014. This in turn led to the removal of several key intelligence officers who were assisting Nisman. A furious Nisman believed this was a ruse to destabilise his investigation and blamed other powerful elements in the Service for the sackings. One intelligence man who had been assisting the probe was Antonio Stiusso. Kirchner's officials claim he had been "feeding Nisman false information on wiretaps." This information of course was at the centre of the prosecutor's allegation.

STATE OF MIND

As for Nisman's state of mind, associates and friends say he was in good spirits and showed no signs of depression. Congresswoman Cornelia Schmidt-Liermann who was due to drive him to Congress for the hearing dismissed the suicide theory: "Everybody who had contact with him in the last 24 hours says he was confident... there is no indication



**Jurgen Stock
Secretary
General Interpol**

under any circumstances, that he killed himself."

Nisman, who had a police protection section of 10 officers, had received death threats before - all linked to his AMIA investigation. Indeed, just a few days before his death he had said that he could be killed for his research. However, in one of his last televised interviews he proclaimed - "With Nisman around or not... the evidence is there."



Alberto Nisman

Intelligence watchers believe the alleged secret Iran-Argentina deal never materialised - possibly because of the steadfastness of Interpol not to remove the 'red notices' from several suspects. An examination of trade between the countries also reveals that few relevant contracts exist that could be linked to shadowy goings on.

Nisman's evidence will now be presented to Congress by prosecutor Alberto Gentili.

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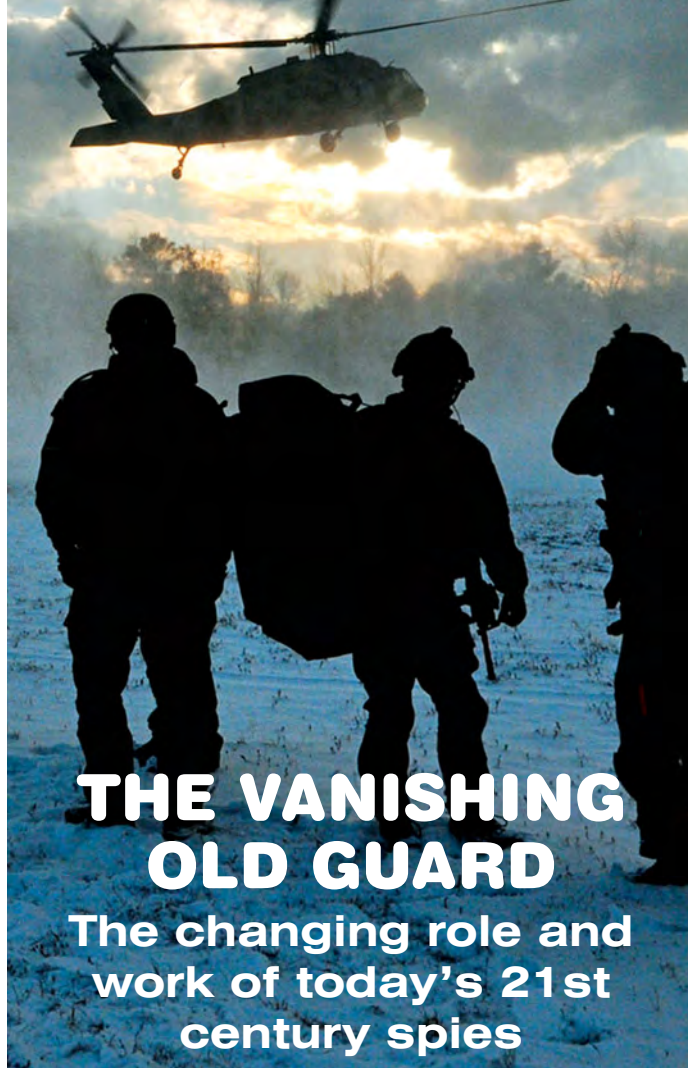
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