

THE COVERT WORLD OF ESPIONAGE

EYE SPY

INTELLIGENCE MAGAZINE

INTEL EYES ON IRAN

ASSANGE
GONE IN 60 SECONDS

HUAWEI
CYBER FEARS

SPIES ON FILM

SECRET LISTENERS INTELLIGENCE GATEWAY

- A-Z THE LANGUAGE OF SPIES • D-DAY AND INTELLIGENCE
- THE INCREMENT - MI6 AND SAS • CIA TALIBAN TALKS
- RUSSIA - US SPY PROBE CONTINUES • NORTH KOREA • ISIS



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CIA has Alleged
Evidence of Covert
Chinese Government
Sponsorship

5G

44

A SPY GATEWAY?

The Huawei 5G Conundrum

Conflict, CIA Spy Networks
and Terrorist Proxies

16

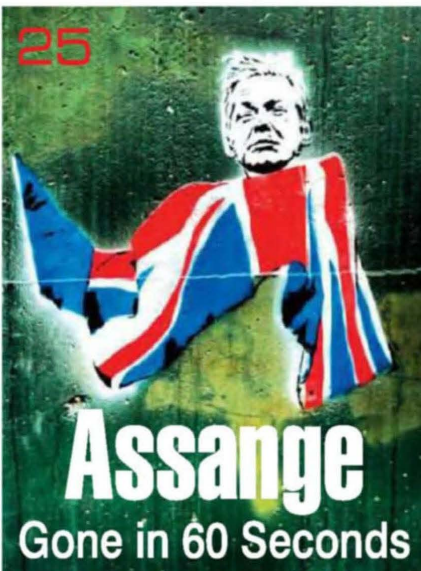
Iran Intel Focus

A-Z

The Language of Spies

50

25



Assange

Gone in 60 Seconds

SPIES ON FILM

41



Eye Spy looks at the latest movie releases and projects
connected to the world of Intelligence and Espionage

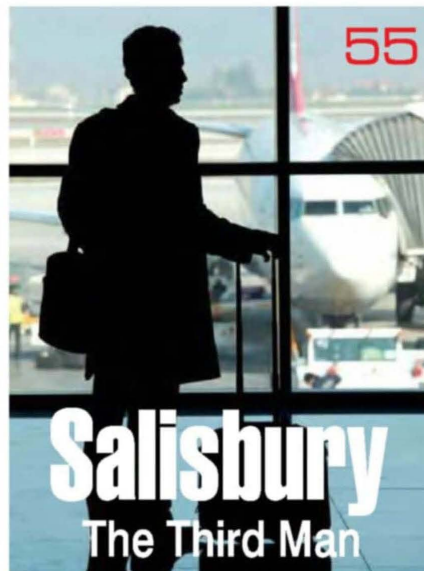
D-DAY - 75 YEARS

72

INTELLIGENCE, PEOPLE,
OPERATIONS, NORMANDY
AND BLETCHLEY PARK

55

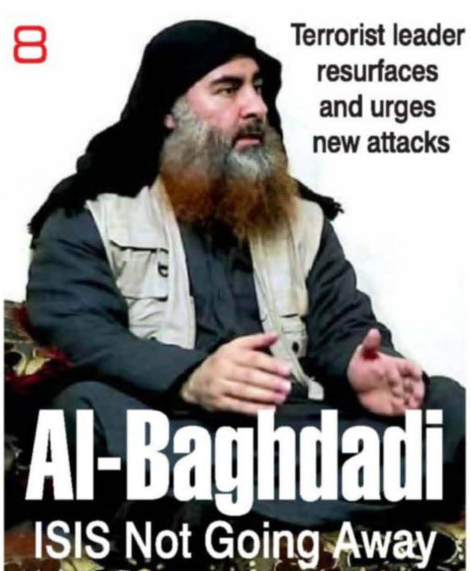
8



Salisbury

The Third Man

Terrorist leader
resurfaces
and urges
new attacks



Al-Baghdadi

ISIS Not Going Away

EYE SPY 122



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MAJOR CONTENT GUIDE

- 4 LONDON BRIDGE ATTACKS**
Inquest opens to hear harrowing details of 2017 ISIS attack, and suggestions MI5 could have prevented the operation
- 10 NEW YORK SUBWAY BOMBER**
Al-Qaida operative central to menacing terror plot which could have killed hundreds, freed after cooperating with FBI
- 12 USA AND UK - INTELLIGENCE SHARING**
Fears that intelligence sharing between the United States and Great Britain may be impacted by a number of issues, dismissed by President Trump during his UK State visit
- 22 THE SPYING GAME**
An international overview of alleged spies jailed and sentenced for playing the Great Game - from Washington to Beijing
- 24 FBI RUSSIAN PROBE**
Senior intelligence officials and even the US President - once out of office - could still be investigated for alleged collusion and mis-management in connection with the 2016 US Election
- 30 MISCHIEVOUS COPY**
Reports North Korean nuclear negotiators have been executed or jailed lead to a spate of false reports and conspiracies
- 32 UNDERWATER EYES**
A whale of a spy story as an incident in waters north of Norway captures imagination of intelligence watchers
- 34 COORDINATED CARNAGE**
ISIS launch a series of devastating attacks in Sri Lanka killing over 250 people. Senior intelligence officials warn of more attacks in future days as terror group continues to evolve
- 38 GCHQ PALMER STREET**
Britain's GCHQ listening organisation reveals details of long operational secret London outpost
- 44 HUAWEI AND 5G**
UK and USA at odds with each other over the use of Chinese technology and authentic fears company has threads to spy elements in China's Ministry of State Security
- 60 STRANGE MADRID OPERATION**
FBI detains senior figure involved in the bizarre operation to gain access into North Korea's Spanish Embassy
- 62 THE INCREMENT**
An exclusive feature on the coming together of British Special Forces and MI6 in Afghanistan in operations that are still impacting on events today
- 67 CIA TALIBAN TALKS**
Langley's spymasters still hoping to negotiate a peace deal with the Taliban in order to secure a lasting peace
- 68 SECRET LISTENERS**
In WWII the Allies secured invaluable intelligence of Germany through a group of 'secret listeners' engaged in eavesdropping at Trent Park - now the location is set to open as a museum

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"One thing that is permanent is our close relationship - we will have each other's backs at all times..."

US AMBASSADOR TO BRITAIN WOODY JOHNSON



INTELLIGENCE SHARING - UK-USA-EUROPE



President Trump's arrival for a state visit to the UK coincided with all manner of rumours surrounding intelligence sharing between these great allies. The use of Huawei technology in some aspects of Britain's new 5G network, concerns over Brexit and even the possibility that Washington would be reluctant to pool intelligence should very left-leaning Jeremy Corbyn become Prime Minister, have dismayed intelligence officials on both sides of the Atlantic. However, context was provided by US Ambassador to Britain Woody Johnson, who said the "special relationship would endure" and become even stronger in future days, words echoed by HM Queen Elizabeth at a state dinner.

Eye Spy has also asked senior intelligence figures and analysts about the impact of uncertainty in many theatres affecting the intelligence relationship, and whilst a number believe that opinion is divided on certain subjects, the objective will always be to find a resolution. And it is a fact - no stronger intelligence bond exists like that which connects agencies such as MI6 and the CIA, or GCHQ and NSA.

As for Britain's bumpy departure from the European Union and intelligence sharing with agencies in France, Germany and elsewhere, little will change. One intelligence man told Eye Spy: "Remember, whilst the UK is leaving the EU, it remains a part of the European continent. No European country has an intelligence capability such as Britain - and while politicians may view the subject differently, it would be irresponsible to cease liaising and future cooperation. European leaders will be made fully aware of the implications if intelligence is not pooled." And in this edition there are a number of case examples where intelligence from various nations has been used for the greater good and national security.

MARK BIRDSALL, MANAGING EDITOR



HEADLINERS



• 17 Hossein Salami • 23 Jerry Chun Shing Lee • 30 Kim Yong Chol
• 41 Judi Dench • 44 Ren Zhengfei • 60 Christopher Ahn
• 64 John Pinto • 68 Eric Mark

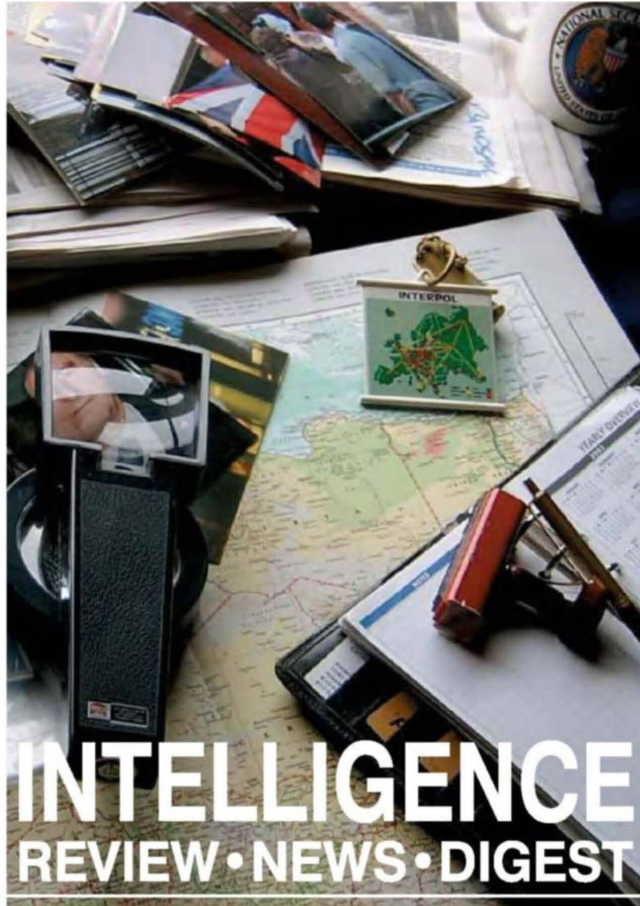
INTELLIGENCE CHOICE ARREST OF JULIAN ASSANGE

When highly secret US and UK intelligence documents began appearing on the WikiLeaks web site several years ago, there were an abundance of rumours from whence they came. Soon the primary suspects were identified and arrest warrants issued. Since then, US law officials have targeted the creator of WikiLeaks - Julian Assange - who has finally departed the Embassy of Ecuador in London. He now faces the real possibility of extradition to the US and a possible prison sentence of 175 years.



He says he was acting as any other journalist or media house would have done - but that's not how the US Intelligence Community view the case.

• 25 ASSANGE - GONE IN 60 SECONDS



ENEMIES OF THE STATE

FRENCH NATIONALS SENTENCED TO DEATH

Six French nationals who joined the terrorist outfit have been sentenced to death by a judge in Baghdad. Court papers reveal the operatives belonged to two cells conducting attacks in Syria, Iraq and in Europe. The men were named as Kevin Gonot, 32, Leonard Lopez, 32, Salim Machou, 41 and Mustapha Merzoughi, 37, Vianney Abdelqader, 29, and Fadil Abdallah, 33. One of the men was also linked to plots to strike in the United States.

All were captured by US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) following engagements in Iraq and Syria in 2017. A further eight French nationals are currently awaiting trial. Around 20,000 captured ISIS followers have or are



Jihadi Fodhil Tahar Aouidade

awaiting processing in Iraq. More than 3,000 have been given the death penalty.

Another French citizen well known in the intelligence world also appeared in court. Jihadi Fodhil Tahar Aouidade's trial was

LONDON BRIDGE ATTACK INQUEST

VICTIMS SOLICITOR CLAIMS MI5 AND NEW SCOTLAND YARD "MISSED OPPORTUNITIES GALORE..." TO THWART ATTACK

The inquest into the terrorist attack on London Bridge on 3 June 2017, where eight people died, revealed the ISIS-inspired operatives planned the attack more than two weeks before they struck. Rachid Redouane, 30, along with Khuram Butt, 27, and Youssef Zaghba, 22, mowed down pedestrians on London Bridge before launching a knife attack in nearby Borough Market, injuring 48 others.

Details have emerged that MI5 began investigating the ringleader Khuram Butt for terrorist attack-planning in 2015, but had found no evidence of an active or emerging plot. He was still a target of investigation by June 2017, but primarily for possible travel to overseas theatres - including Syria and Iraq.

Solicitor Gareth Patterson who is representing the families of a number of victims, said there

were "opportunities galore," to identify the plotters and that "any reasonable competent investigation," would have exposed planning.

His comments were rejected by investigating Acting Detective Chief Inspector Wayne Jolley, who referenced MI5. At the inquest, the solicitor representing New Scotland Yard, Richard Horwell, asked Jolley: "In the months leading up to the attack, was there any evidence of attack planning?" Jolley replied: "Not that we uncovered, sir, no."



Cell leader Khuram Butt

The court was told that three 12-inch knives used in the attack were bought 19 days earlier from



One of the knives used in the attack



The hire van used in the attack



Redouane caught on CCTV as he bought items used in the attack



Journalists and television crews gather outside the Bataclan Theatre in Paris where ISIS terrorists killed 90 concert-goers in 2015

postponed to allow for a medical examination after he alleged he had been beaten in custody. After 130 people were killed in the November 2015 Paris attacks, Aouidate appeared in a propaganda video saying it was his "great pleasure and joy to see these unbelievers suffer as we suffer here."

Prior to their date in court, the men had allegedly written to Paris

officials hoping they could be tried in France. However, France has refused to take back any French national who has fought for ISIS. Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian described them as "enemies of France." However, a ministry official stated, "France is opposed in principle to the death penalty at all times and in all places," and would take the "necessary steps to try to prevent Iraq from carrying

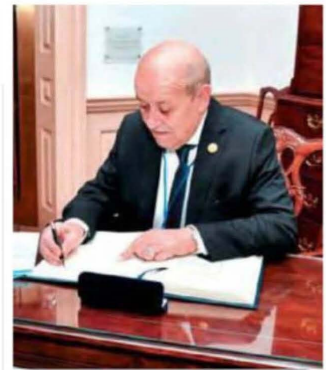


Shamima Begum

out the death penalty." Le Drian's office did add a caveat: "France respects the sovereignty of Iraq's institutions."

For the record, death sentences can be applied to ISIS followers in Iraq, even if the person never fought. Last year over 10 Russian women who had journeyed to the conflict area to join their husbands fighting for ISIS, were jailed for life in Iraq. Other European and foreign nationals have also received death sentences.

Captured UK ISIS bride Shamima Begum, 19, who was stripped of



French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian

her British citizenship in February 2019, after surfacing in Syria, faces the death penalty if she is extradited to Bangladesh where it is believed she has a right to claim citizenship through her family ties.

Bangladesh officials have denied her links to the country and have warned that if she is removed by Iraq, she could face the death penalty over her links to terrorism.



Youssef Zagbba

a supermarket in east London. In addition, it was suggested that London Bridge was not the initial target as a mobile phone was found in the van that had directions to Oxford Street. The attackers also intended to use a



Rachid Redouane

much larger truck in the operation, but made an error after reserving it from a hire company that closed at 11.00am on the morning of the attack.

After the carnage ended, and the terrorists being shot dead, 13 rose wine bottles were found in the van's footwell - all contained petrol with a cloth wick (below); two blow torches to ignite them were also recovered. The bottles were bought from the same supermarket as the knives on 30 May, four days before the terrorists struck.



The terrorists wore fake suicide belts

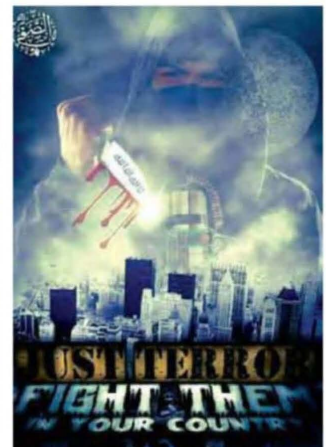
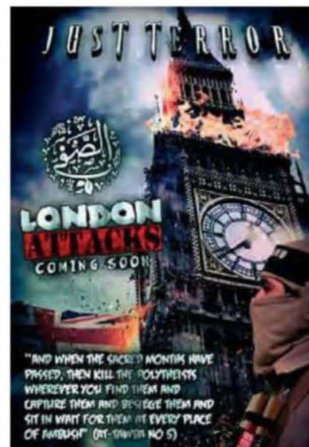


ISIS PROPAGANDA POSTERS LONDON AND NEW YORK ATTACK THREATS

LONDON: ISIS has uploaded several new propaganda posters on the Internet inciting lone wolf attacks on London and New York. One poster depicts a suicide bomber standing in front of a burning Big Ben warning: 'London attacks coming soon'. Another shows a masked terrorist wielding a knife above New York city and a rallying call for lone extremists to 'fight them in your country'.

ISIS-affiliated groups also released a poster celebrating the Sri Lanka terror attacks on Easter Sunday, which promised to make the 'enemies of religion bleed'. The image showed the eight attackers standing above Donald Trump, Pope Francis and Buddha on fire.

The imagery release coincides with warnings issued by several European intelligence services, that ISIS attacks on holiday destinations are a real possibility this summer. The terror group remains a potent menace, according to MI5 and the FBI, this after the group claimed responsibility for the Sri Lanka attacks, which killed more than 250 people in churches and hotels in the capital Colombo. (See Coordinated Carnage page 34)





CIA INSTAGRAM OPENING MORE LANGLEY DOORS

Following in the foot steps of other US and foreign intelligence services, the CIA has launched its very own Instagram account, a move intended to remove further the 'allure' and 'banner' of total secrecy. The Agency already operates Twitter, Facebook and Flickr accounts, sharing many rare images and moments associated with its 70-year history.

However, the move, revealed by Director CIA Gina Haspel, who addressed an audience at Auburn

University, California (above), reportedly caused dismay amongst some experienced senior and former officers - most schooled in traditional tradecraft.

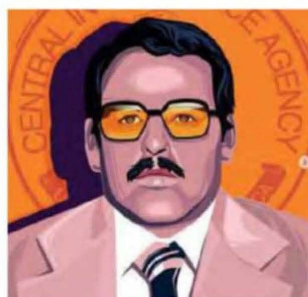
The first image ever posted by the CIA on Instagram, was a staged photograph of Haspel's Langley desk. There were several 'intelligence props', including maps of Russia, Iran and China, and an open notebook with the words *'We share what we can and protect what we must'* clearly visible once enlarged. A photo identification badge of Haspel



9/11 is remembered in a cleverly composed image posted by the CIA on its Instagram account

from 1985 is also visible - and a wig - perhaps a reference to the recently departed Langley disguise expert Tony Mendez whose picture is also evident on the desk.

Other items identified by intelligence watchers included a 'burn bag' under the desk - and a brown paper bag featuring the words 'Top Secret Pulp'. This too is used for items no longer necessary or wanted and for



Tony Mendez

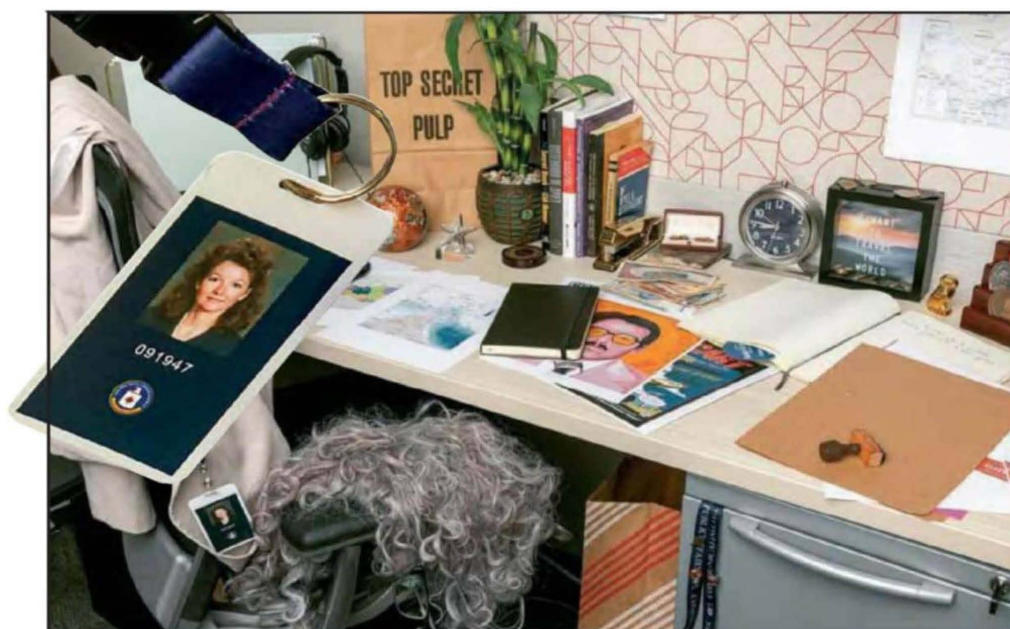
disposing of items which might be a little more difficult to destroy. The clock (time) too is highly symbolic: its hands are at 8.46 - the time the first hijacked airliner flew into the World Trade Center on 11 September 2001.

Haspel acknowledged that social media is an everyday part of life for the public and many new CIA recruits. However, she admitted the decision does present a problem for an intelligence service engaged in secrecy. "Just to talk a moment about transparency, of course CIA does have a Twitter account," she said. "Our Office of Public Affairs is getting ready to launch our Instagram account."

She also referenced how the intelligence world faced great challenges posed by the haste of technological change. "We are endeavouring to stay abreast of those changes and to remain on the cutting edge."

One person who recognised the delicate subject of 'openness' was event moderator and intelligence man Lt. General Ronald Burgess. Himself linked with events at Guantanamo Bay, Burgess referenced a "brave new world," commenting on the novel of the same name and a "world of unquestioned government authority."

Director Haspel said that whilst public engagement is important, the Agency "tries to be as open as possible, whilst protecting secrets." The FBI and super-secret NSA have Twitter accounts, with the former also operating an Instagram account.



INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE

RESIGNATIONS AND EXTENSIONS



Kirstjen Nielsen is sworn in as DHS Secretary

US Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen has resigned. Rumours about Nielsen's departure have circulated in Washington for weeks, with some intelligence commentators hinting

that President Trump was partly responsible for her decision. Nielsen, a former Principal Deputy White House Chief only assumed the position of DHS Secretary in December 2017. "It has been an honour of a lifetime to serve the brave men and women of the agency," she said.



Randolph Alles

The President thanked Nielsen for her service and announced current US Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan will serve as Acting Secretary. He has spent a great deal of his recent service time engaged in examining security along the Mexican border.



James Murray - Director US Secret Service

Just days following the 'reshuffle' at DHS, US Secret Service Director Randolph Alles also stepped down from his post - in another move linked to White House pressure. "Randolph Alles has done a great job at the agency over the last two years," said White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders. "The president is thankful for his over 40-years service to the country."

Alles, a former US Marine Corps Major General, is replaced by experienced career Secret Service officer James Murray - a decision supported by President Trump. Murray becomes the 26th Director of the organisation.

MI6 CHIEF REMAINS

One intelligence person who was expected to step down in November is MI6 Chief Alex Younger. He has now been persuaded to carry on for at least another year. The decision, recommended by National Security Advisor Sir Mark Sedwill, means, Mr Younger, 55, who joined MI6 in 1991, will now become the longest serving 'C' in over half-a-century. A former member of the Scots Guards, he served as MI6 Station Chief in Afghanistan. Since the late sixties, the tenure of Chief has usually been five years.

Prior to him, the longest serving Chief of MI6 was Sir Richard White. He headed the Service for 12-years between 1956 and 1968.



Alex Younger

NEW UK ESPIONAGE BILL

COUNTERING HOSTILE ACTORS AND STATES

UK Home Secretary Sajid Javid has announced a new Espionage Bill that could require foreign agents to register with British authorities under new laws amidst on-going espionage concerns and hostile state activity.

Sajid Javid



Amongst various ways the new legislation could be applied, include criminalising any British copycats of Edward Snowden, for example - and paving the way for allowing a future crackdown on technology companies who may be linked to foreign intelligence bodies.

Whilst China's Huawei was not referenced, intelligence watchers note the timing of the bill coincides with ongoing concerns over 5G security.

Commenting on the new measures, Mr Javid said: "Since the Salisbury attack, the Home Office has been reviewing the laws we have around hostile state activity. I



believe that there are some real gaps in current legislation. We have to ensure that we have the necessary powers to meet the current and evolving threats to the UK, both domestically and overseas.

"The bill will bring together new and modernised powers, giving our security services the legal authority they need to tackle foreign spies operating on UK soil. Getting that right, and having those right powers and resources in place for countering hostile

states, must be a post-Brexit priority. There are other countries - the US is probably the best example in this space - that have something similar in place.

He also disclosed that he has asked officials to consider the case for updating treason laws.

The new bill would update the Official Secrets Act and the laws on treason. He has also appointed Jonathan Hall QC (Queen's Counsel) as a watchdog to monitor the new laws.

ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI

Codenamed 'ABB' by CIA analysts, Langley's most wanted resurfaces in new ISIS propaganda film

ISIS has released a new 18-minute video showing the group's leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, 47. It is the first time in five years - since June 2014 in Mosul - the terrorist has appeared on film. In that recording he infamously declared his

intention to establish an Islamic Caliphate State.

Intelligence analysts agree Al-Baghdadi's appearance is part of a new media campaign to boost morale amongst ISIS followers and to show its support of recent attacks linked to the group, in particular the multiple terrorist strikes in Sri Lanka (see page 34). He praises the terrorists and images of the Easter Sunday attackers are shown. Numerous other attacks and events involving the group are also referenced, from Saudi Arabia to Sudan and Yemen.

Throughout the video, he sits alongside an AK-74 assault rifle (variant of the AK-47) reminiscent of early Osama bin-Laden propaganda scenes, though in contrast to the Mosul video,



2014. Mosul, Iraq. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi speaks about his "dream" of creating of an ISIS caliphate

intelligence analysts note he looks unkempt and at times exhausted. He speaks slower than in previous broadcasts, appears a great deal less enthusiastic and has aged considerably. Other ISIS opera-

tives, probably his personal bodyguard detail, but portrayed as 'senior commanders', appear in the recording; they are masked and a number have had their faces 'blurred'.



Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi pictured with associates - probably his personal bodyguard detail

NSA EYES AND EARS STATISTICS ON DATA COLLECTION

America's National Security Agency (NSA), disclosed that in 2018, it secured information on almost 17,000 US residents, or corporations under the Foreign Surveillance Law. This represents a 75% increase from the previous year. All the intelligence collection was at the behest of US intelligence agencies and other Government bodies.

In most previous cases the identity of the target or subject is blacked-out, however, if officials requesting surveillance information can demonstrate a 'need to know', then the data is included.

Intelligence sources in Washington believe the sharp rise in data collection is due primarily to a surge of foreign-based attempts to

spy on America and its military, technology and corporate interests.

Also published, statistics on the number of foreigners targeted under warrantless surveillance, this too showed a marked increase. In 2017, 129,080 targets were surveilled; this rose in 2018 to 164,770.

To add context to the overall capacity of the NSA to secure intelligence on potential threats to national security, in 2016, 151 million phone numbers were collected. This too increased dramatically in 2017, to 545 million, though decreased to 434 million last year.

In respect of direct and legitimate wiretaps approved by the Foreign

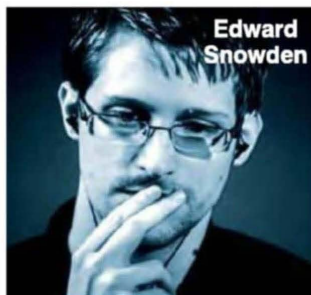


Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC), 1,337 people or contact numbers were monitored.

Changes in the law that dictate how the NSA collects and uses intercepts, especially from US-

based numbers, were made following the Edward Snowden leaks. This sparked major debates over surveillance. The NSA has been criticised over the new figures, especially the law which means telephone companies must cooperate with the Agency if a request is made. Officials say the system is transparent and regulated by FISC.

- President Trump indicated he is willing to extend the NSA's surveillance powers to gather [additional] information on US citizens as part of a broader counter-terrorism endeavour.



© ANDREA KMETOVA



The video, produced by the Al-Furqan Media Foundation and distributed by ISIS media outlet Akhbar al-Muslimeen, was partly intended to refute continuing speculation that Al-Baghdadi was dead. However, it also encourages supporters to engage with recruitment programmes, and to portray to the wider world ISIS is still operational and capable of striking anywhere.

"In recent months, various intelligence reports have circu-

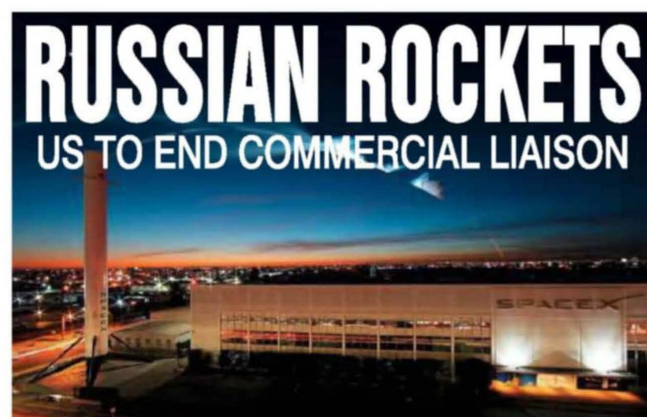
lated that suggest Al-Baghdadi is dead or that he has fled to the Pakistan-Afghanistan border regions," a US intelligence source said. "Some analysts believe he may have succumbed to an internal plot [assassination], but this video proves otherwise."

Apparently produced in edited segments, the topics he covers include the fall of ISIS in Baghouz, and the terror group's last redoubt in Syria. Here he claims US-backed Syrian forces showed

"great brutality," while his forces "fought with heroism until the last minute." Al-Baghdadi names key fighters who perished in the fight and called on "followers around the world to avenge the blood of those killed in Baghouz." He concluded by saying the fight would continue "until the resurrection of the dead."

CIA sources believe the video was made in mid-late April, because he references the fall of political leaders in Algeria (President

Abdelaziz Bouteflika) and Sudan (President Omar Hassan al-Bashir), and the re-election of Israel's premier Benjamin Netanyahu. Much debate ensues as to where the terror leader, who still has a \$25 million bounty on his head, was filmed. And whilst the location could be helpful in tracking Al-Baghdadi, analysts predict once the video was made, he would have moved on. Either way, the global intelligence community view the material as 'proof of life'.



The US Department of Defense (DOD) will cease its use of commercial satellites being launched into space with Russian rockets in 2023 - this as relations between the two countries deteriorate.

The Order, published 31 May in the US Federal Register, is a significant blow to Russia's space industry, but will undoubtedly help US start-ups like SpaceX and Blue Origin founded by billionaires

Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos, respectively.

The Pentagon already limits the launch of dedicated US military satellites to American companies. However, it contracts with commercial satellite operators to use some of their capacity for military needs. Insiders have long suspected that some commercial satellites may have been lifted into space by Russian rockets. The DOD ruling will end that practice.

"The United States realises that Russia is not going to be a friend and that anything we do that helps their aerospace sector can possibly come back to bite us because they are trying to undermine our security in every way they can," said Todd Harrison, Director of the Aerospace Security Project at the CSIS think tank in Washington.

President Obama and Elon Musk at Cape Canaveral





Grand Central Station,
New York City

THE LIAISON MAN

Al-Qaida-Trained New York City Subway Bomb Plotter Released

Afghan-born Najibullah Zazi, a former Queens, New York resident and al-Qaida-trained operative who plotted to bomb New York City's subway system almost a decade ago, has been sentenced to 10-years in prison. However, this effectively means he will be free after being kept in detention for that period. At the time, US Attorney General Eric Holder described the plot as "one of the most serious terrorist threats since 9/11."

According to intelligence officials, had Zazi and his cohorts succeeded in their actions, the attacks could have resulted in hundreds of casualties.

FBI COOPERATION

US Federal authorities had sought a life-term for the 33-year-old, but due to his cooperation, which also included providing "critical intelligence" against other suspects and the terror group, the court ruled in his favour.

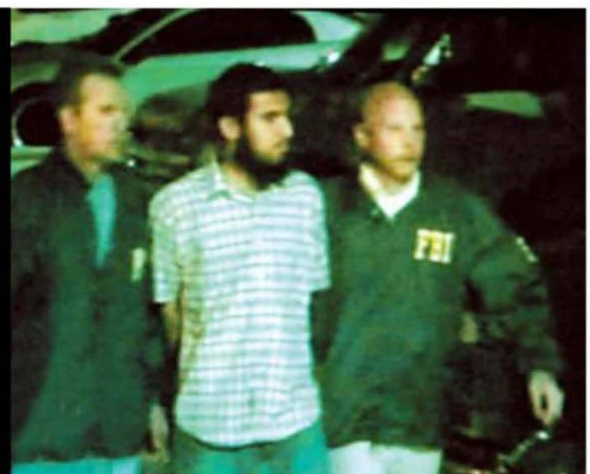
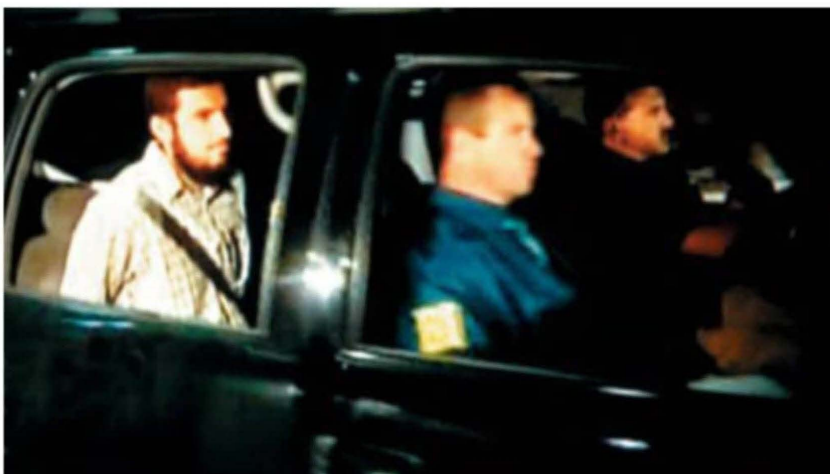
Zazi, who was radicalised by listening to the speeches of al-Qaida propagandist Anwar al-Awlaki, pleaded guilty to various terrorist charges on 22 February 2010.

His association with al-Qaida began in 2008, when together with two colleagues he journeyed to Pakistan. After receiving

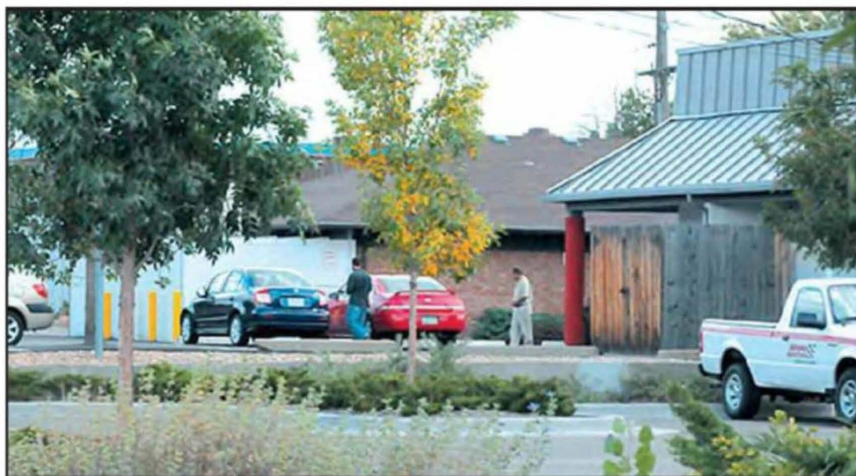
explosives' training he agreed to return to the USA to carry out a 'martyrdom' operation. Zazi believed vehemently that US forces in Afghanistan were an "occupying enemy" and his actions were "permissible." Thereafter, he began searching the Internet for the necessary components to manufacture explosives, but unbeknown to him and his associates, counter-terrorism officials uncovered the men's plot and following a surveillance operation the operatives were detained.

Thereafter a search of his residence, FBI officers uncovered an array of incriminating evidence on his laptop computer, including two primary AQ targets - Grand Central and Times Square stations in the city.

For the next decade or so, Zazi offered the FBI an insight into the recruitment tactics of al-Qaida. He told the judge, "I'm sorry for all the harm I have caused. It was a horrific mistake."



Najibullah Zazi is detained by officers of the FBI's Colorado Office in September 2009, following a surveillance operation



2009. FBI SURVEILLANCE. Najibullah Zazi pictured with his father walks towards a rental car in Denver, Colorado. Based in Denver, Zazi drove from his home in Aurora to New York in the vehicle to carry out the attack. However, he was alerted to "likely" FBI surveillance by an associate and once in New York opted to fly back to Colorado. Days later FBI CT specialists arrested him



Judge Raymond Dearie acknowledged his post-subway plot actions, "no doubt saved a life." Adis Medunjanin, a fellow conspirator in the New York operation, who

showed no remorse for his role, received a life-term, whilst the third man, Zarein Ahmedzay (above) cooperated with the FBI and like Zazi, was sentenced to 10-years in jail. He too is expected to be released shortly.

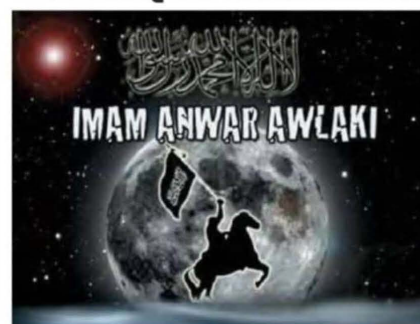
For the record, Zazi also assisted British Intelligence in the foiling of a bomb plot at a Manchester shopping centre. In this case he testified against another al-Qaida operative, Abid Naseer in 2015. During MI5's Operation Pathway, both the Security Service and FBI monitored simultaneous al-Qaida operations in the UK and United States, with both



organisations liaising intently to thwart authentic plots.

As for Zazi, he will forever remain on supervised release. Nevertheless, intelligence sources believe he will continue to advise authorities on similar case files and help other potential recruits avoid terrorism entrapment.

THE AQ MOTIVATOR



Anwar al-Awlaki's Internet speeches influenced numerous would-be al-Qaida followers to move from passive to direct support of the terror group. His lectures inspired US Army Major Nidal Hasan in the 2009 Fort Hood military base shootings which resulted in the deaths of 13 personnel. He helped plan the 2009 Christmas Day airliner plot involving former London student Farouk Abdulmutallab, and also orchestrated Zazi's failed New York City Subway plot. Away from the US he inspired an al-Qaida terror cell in Manchester, UK. These are just "handful of examples," according to a CIA source, which prompted Langley to create a dedicated team to hunt down the so-called 'lecturer', 'recruiter' and 'motivator'.



Anwar al-Awlaki

Placed on a CIA 'Elimination List' in 2010, the senior AQ commander was killed by an armed UAV in Yemen in September 2011. Interestingly, just days after his death, Al-Awlaki's son, who was born in Colorado, also perished as a result of another CIA-controlled UAV attack in Yemen

END GAME FOR AQ MOST WANTED

Killing of Al-Qaida Commander Sparks Protests

Thousands of people attended the funeral of al-Qaida commander Zakir Musa, also known as Zakir Rashid Bhat, after he was killed following an operation by elite Indian Special Forces. Intelligence had led the security services to Dadsar village in Pulwama, Kashmir. After he refused to surrender, troops attacked.

The influential 25-year-old, who headed the AQ franchise Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind, was described as India's most

wanted man in Kashmir. Musa had left one of the largest groups fighting Indian rule in Kashmir and declared his allegiance to al-Qaida in 2017.



His killing immediately triggered protests, with fears they could stoke wider unrest in an area that three months ago took India and Pakistan to the brink of war.

AL-QAIDA STILL A THREAT

UK Security Minister Ben Wallace, warned the menace of al-Qaida remains. "The vast majority of terrorist plots against this country are Islamist, Daesh and al-Qaida," he said. "We are going to need to do more if we are to keep one step ahead of those threats." He also spoke of



Ben Wallace

Russian aggression and the rise of the Far Right.

Wallace said the intelligence services and police require more funding. "Security at home and abroad doesn't come cheap and we are going to have to invest in that," he told journalists.

GREATEST ALLIANCE

US-UK INTELLIGENCE RELATIONSHIP



Political Allies Dismiss Reports of an Intelligence Breakdown, as Leaders Hail the Greatest Alliance

During his three day State Visit to the UK, President Trump dismissed suggestions of a rift between the two countries. At a joint news conference with Prime Minister Theresa May, he described the relationship between the US and UK, as the "greatest alliance the world has ever known." Talks between the leaders covered various areas including defence and intelligence.

The intelligence relationship, which first began in WWII (BRUSA Agreement), has since developed into the world's most powerful intelligence collection body with other 'Five Eyes' nations' participation (Canada, Australia and New Zealand).

Trump is only the third US President to make a State Visit to the UK, the event timed to coincide with the 75th anniversary of D-Day.



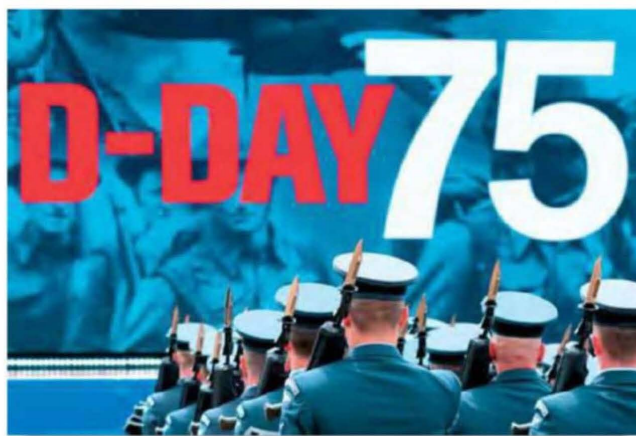
President Trump with Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace

He arrived at Buckingham Palace under heavy security provided for primarily by Britain, which included covert and overt officers and troops from the SAS. However, there were several US specialist protection officers.

Prime Minister Theresa May said it was a "significant week for the special relationship," and highlighted the strong security and intelligence ties between the nations, hailing



President Trump arrives at Buckingham Palace



President Trump and Prime Minister Theresa May address delegates and journalists at a press conference

"unrivalled intelligence sharing." This no doubt much to the relief of watching spy chiefs on both sides of the Atlantic. "Our relationship has underpinned our countries' security and prosperity for many years." And rejecting fears and speculative reports intelligence liaisons may be evaporating, she said the visit was a chance for the UK and the US to

strengthen the already close relationship. "Our security relationship too is deeper, broader and more advanced than anyone else's. Through joint military operations, and our commitment to NATO, our global leadership remains at the heart of international peace and stability." It should be noted that both countries operate embedded officers in

intelligence, security and military offices in London and Washington.

Several heads of US and UK intelligence services have said intelligence sharing will continue and expand, despite adverse comments from some politicians and media houses. ➤



President Trump's motorcade enroute to Downing Street. There was a large security presence in and around Whitehall



The presidential state car, nicknamed Cadillac One and the Beast passes through Whitehall enroute to Downing Street



Prime Minister May and President Trump outside 10 Downing Street

ATLANTIC WATCHERS

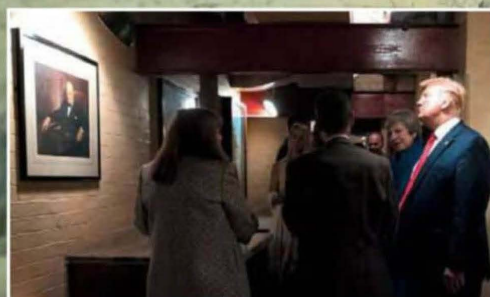
US Ambassador to the UK Woody Johnson, said Mr Trump reaffirmed the unique bond between the US and UK. "We may have disagreements, but one thing that is permanent is our close relationship - we will have each other's backs at all times."

The depth of that friendship, was symbolised at the 75th anniversary commemorations of

D-Day and a war that was transformational to ties across the Atlantic. "The President knows the security and prosperity of the US is directly linked to the security and prosperity of the UK. The special relationship will be a huge focus as we remember D-Day," said the ambassador.

Johnson also acknowledged that topics such as 'Brexit' and mutual security issues were discussed at meetings in Downing Street and

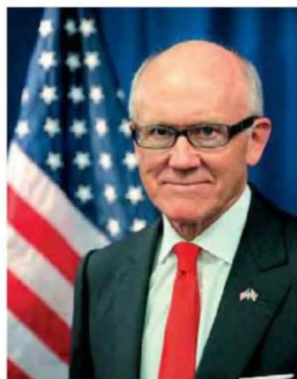
the reciprocal dinner of 60 guests held at the Ambassador's official residence, Winfield House, in London's Regent's Park. "One of the things he discussed over these dinners is his repeatedly stated enthusiasm for a bilateral trade agreement - one which would blow all others out of the water in terms of the prosperity and security it would give to both countries. The President has always said that Britain is at the front of the line. That's a big difference from his predecessor, Barack



President Trump is shown maps of the D-Day invasion points in the Churchill War Rooms Museum a short distance from Downing Street



President Trump and First Lady Melania lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior, Westminster Abbey



US Ambassador to Britain Woody Johnson

Obama. And any deal will receive the attention of the executive - him. That's a very positive thing."

Also discussed Chinese technology company Huawei and Iran. Britain plans to use the controversial Chinese telecoms giant for some elements of its 5G network - though the US has banned the firm due to security fears. Both countries also have different opinions on how to stop Iran securing a nuclear device. Trump and May said ultimately their objectives are the same, and common ground would be

sought to resolve any differences of opinion. Ambassador Johnson also acknowledged the "US would listen to the UK's point of view."

At the heart of the trip was the 75th anniversary of D-Day, 6 June. Johnson said: "Three million American servicemen landed in the UK; built 200 airstrips and it changed Britain. One thousand young men would suddenly drop into a little village. Then, after the war, there were 45,000 British women who went back to the US.

Johnson concluded by saying: "The UK is our largest single investor - a trillion dollars of bilateral investment. Everything is built on trust and there's already huge trust between our nations.

During his time in the UK, President Trump's entourage numbered around 500, which included 150 US Secret Service [protective]

PROTECTING THE PRESIDENT

During his time in the UK, President Trump's entourage numbered around 500, which included 150 US Secret Service [protective]



President Trump inspects troops from the Grenadier Guards at Buckingham Palace



A US Secret Service agent watches over the President as he is greeted by Prince Andrew at St. James's Palace

agents. The UK has long opposed a visible armed protection presence with any head of state, and the Secret Service has traditionally accepted this limitation. However, several sources [unconfirmed] cited a US Secret Service Presidential Protective Division Counter-Assault Team (CAT) amongst the delegation. These officers are always armed - but not in this case - allegedly.

CAT began operations in the late 1970s, and are essentially tactical units responsible for repelling coordinated attacks against senior dignitaries. Specialists note their role is different from that of a close protection officer whose mission is to shield a dignitary from attackers and evacuate them to a place of safety.

The Secret Service CAT team assigned to President Trump is 'Hawkeye', followed by the President's Secret Service codename. For example, the codename for President Obama's CAT was 'Hawkeye Renegade'. President Trump's protectors are 'Hawkeye Mogul'.

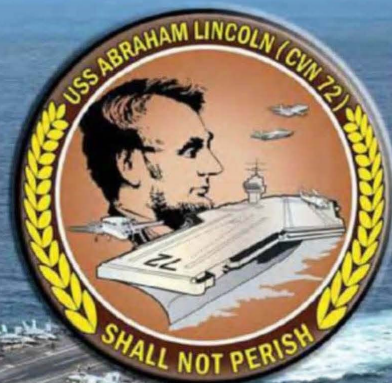
It should be noted that throughout the President's tour, besides CAT, over 1,000 British security officers and police provided protection. The specialists were drawn from the British Army's 22 SAS regiment, the Royal Navy's SBS, and New Scotland Yard's Counter-Terrorism Specialist Firearms Office teams (CTSFOs).

UK security at Buckingham Palace



Iran Focus

INTELLIGENCE

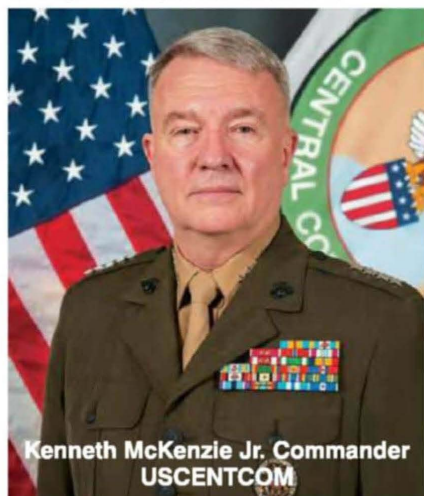


Conflict Fears, Spy Networks and Terrorist Proxies

The CIA convenes 'unusual' summit at Langley to share intelligence on an escalation of tensions between Iran and the United States, which could involve attacks by proxy forces - this as Tehran claims it has dismantled a major CIA spy network in the country

Iran has designated USCENTCOM a terrorist organisation following Washington's decision to proscribe Tehran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) a terrorist outfit. The US move, which was officially signed into law on 8 April, was met with fury on the streets on Tehran, with large numbers of protesters calling for "death to America." Iran's decision was described as a "reciprocal gesture" backed by a majority ruling in Iran's parliament.

Just as bizarre, the Iran bill ensures that any country, company, individual or other



**Kenneth McKenzie Jr. Commander
USCENTCOM**



Seals of USCENTCOM and the IRGC

providing direct support, aid, finance or information/intelligence to US CENTCOM, will also be deemed a "terrorist measure."

Just days later the Director of Iran's Ministry of Intelligence (MOIS), Mahmoud Alavi, said his country had successfully dismantled a major CIA spy network. He also referenced another counter-intelligence endeavour targeting Britain's MI6. The events preceded a major escalation of tensions between the countries, which resulted in the deployment of new US military forces in the Middle East, including nuclear-bomb carrying B-52 Stratofortresses.

THE CIA SPY NETWORK

According to state media houses, around 60 agents operating within the CIA network in Iran and bordering nations were arrested. Some of the agents allegedly worked in defence, technology and even parts of the government, or had contacts within the same. Alavi said:

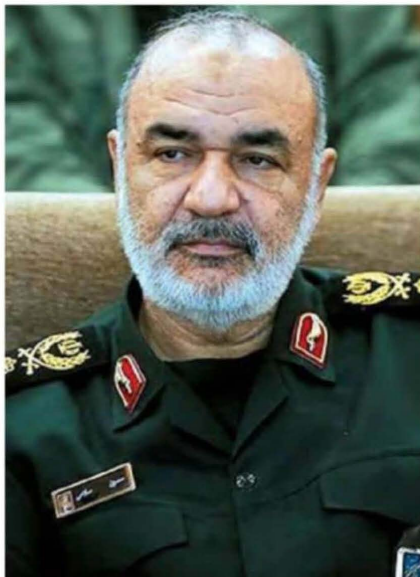


MOIS Director Mahmoud Alavi

"It's a complicated process against the United States Central Intelligence Agency - 290 spies from its espionage network in different countries, including Iran were identified." However, "so great was the US intelligence failure," said Alavi, "the CIA has set up a committee to access the failure."

From whence the MOIS chief sourced that story is a mystery, and another reason to question the validity of much of the spy encounter rhetoric.

However, he gave an indication that MOIS had received external help in the counter-intelligence endeavour, with much speculation Russia had provided guidance. Alavi also promised to "share the information with friendly nations" should they wish to learn of the agents' identities. Similarly, he said that MOIS was now engaged with several



**Major General Hossein Salami -
Commander-in-Chief of the IRGC**

intelligence collection operations outside Iran, and even referenced "counter-offensive" measures in Israel - coded talk for espionage.

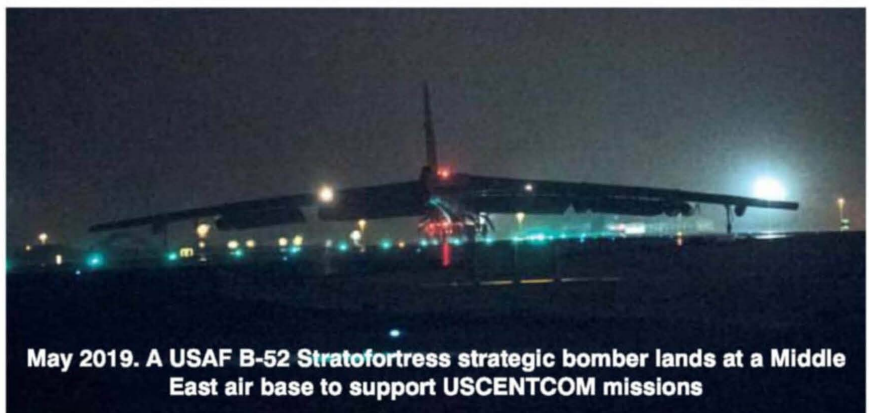
Washington, Tel Aviv and London did not respond to the alleged arrests or spy operations, nor has Iran provided any tangible evidence, though Alavi said he would release more details soon. In November 2018, around 30 alleged CIA contact people were arrested in Iran after cyber specialists supposedly cracked a secret Langley Internet communications platform. In this case, the CIA did launch a probe into the suspected downfall of a spy chain which stretched from Iran to China.

CIA GULF INTELLIGENCE

Relations between Iran and the US plummeted when President Trump took office in 2016, ordering officials to pave the way for America to depart the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPA) - better known as the Iranian



May 2019. The US Navy aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln transits the Suez Canal

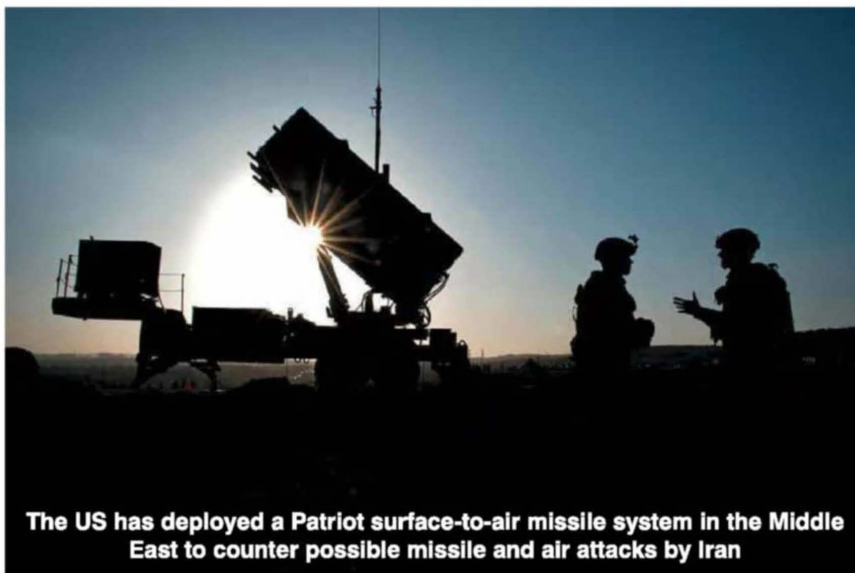


May 2019. A USAF B-52 Stratofortress strategic bomber lands at a Middle East air base to support USCENTCOM missions

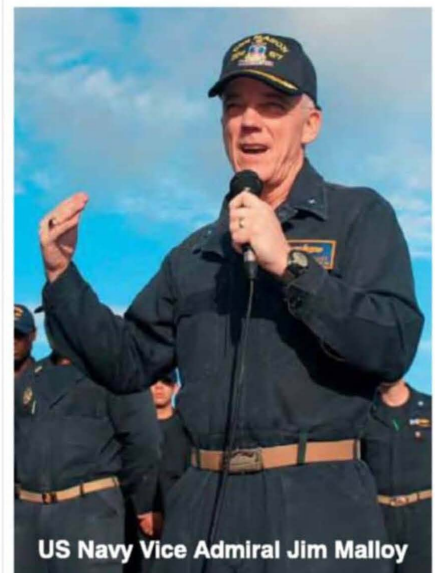
nuclear deal. Now Pentagon officials have revealed that intelligence secured on Iranian military intentions in the Gulf, following the JCPA decision, prompted the US to despatch further ships and a Patriot missile system to join with the USCENTCOM - USS Abraham Lincoln Strike Group in the Gulf region. Vice Admiral Jim Malloy, commander of the US Navy's Bahrain-based Fifth Fleet, told Reuters

that his forces were operating "at a heightened state of readiness." He also said he was ready to deploy the USS Abraham Lincoln in the strategically important Strait of Hormuz.

President Trump told a press gathering: "We have information that you don't want to know about. They [Iran] were very threatening."



The US has deployed a Patriot surface-to-air missile system in the Middle East to counter possible missile and air attacks by Iran



US Navy Vice Admiral Jim Malloy



April 2019. USCENTCOM Commander US Marine Corps General Kenneth F. McKenzie Jr. meets with Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, King of Saudi Arabia



US National Security Advisor John Bolton and President Trump - both acknowledge conflict with Iran is a real probability

Intelligence gleaned by various agencies, including friendly nations in the region, suggests Iran has begun moving heavy weapons systems' on ships and transferring thousands of troops to key sites, as well as

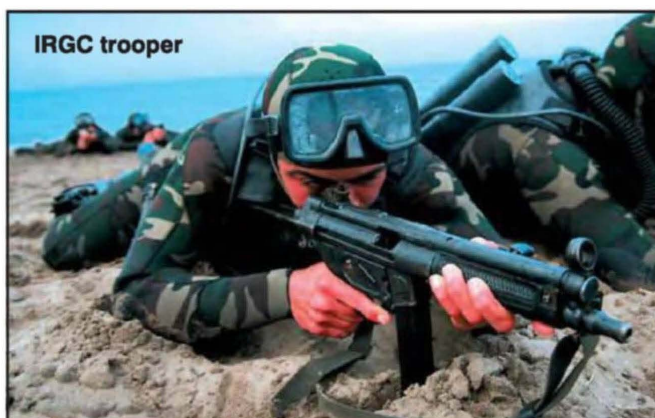
deploying Special Forces from the IRGC. US spy satellites have also captured the movement of short-range ballistic missiles to various shore lines. US National Security Advisor John Bolton said the US move was in



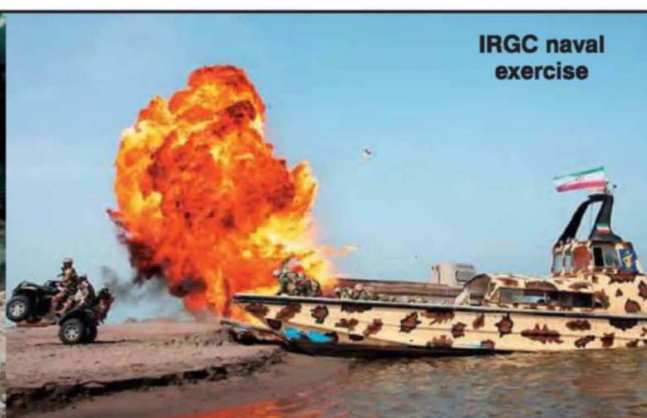
BRUSSELS: 13 May 2019. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg. Events in the Middle East and the escalating possibility of war with Iran were discussed - with some European countries urging US restraint in response to covert Iranian activities

response to a "number of troubling and escalatory indications and warnings." Iranian Intelligence described Washington's decision as "an attempt to perform psychological warfare," and called the intelligence "fake."

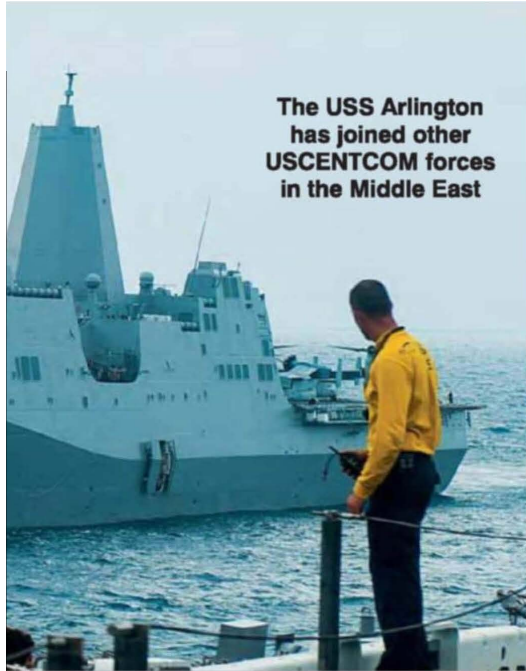
In a written statement, Bolton explained the deployment was intended: *To send a clear*



IRGC trooper



IRGC naval exercise



The USS Arlington has joined other USCENTCOM forces in the Middle East



Acting US Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan

and unmistakable message to the Iranian regime that any attack on United States interests or on those of our allies will be met with unrelenting force. The United States is not seeking war, but we are fully prepared to respond to any attack, whether by proxy, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, or regular Iranian forces'.

The wording 'proxy forces', is believed to relate to CIA and DIA intelligence assessments

that Iran may have instructed Shiite militias, Houthis, Hezbollah and others, to ready themselves for direct action against US forces. Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan said the US counter-measures have been approved because of "clear indications that Iranian and proxy forces are making preparations to possibly attack US forces in the region." US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo added the plan to deploy additional forces has been in discussion for some time. In recent

weeks Pompeo has flown to several countries to share information on the Iran situation and brief his counterparts on US intentions.

WEAPONRY

The Patriot system will help enable Allied forces to counter various Iranian weapons, including its burgeoning arsenal of cruise and ballistic missiles. Iran dismissed the deployment and a defence official said "Iran could

BLACK GOLD SABOTAGE

ATTACKS ON OIL TRANSPORT BLAMED ON IRANIAN PROXIES

US Intelligence sources claim four ships damaged by explosives off the coast of the United Arab Emirates on 12 May, were almost certainly targeted by Iran or Iranian 'proxies'. The attack occurred near the port of Fujairah, close to the Strait of Hormuz. Impact holes measuring

between five and ten feet on two Saudi Arabian tankers, the Andrea Victory, a Norwegian-flagged oil tanker and a UAE-flagged bunkering tanker, the A. Michel, suggest the damage was a direct result of sabotage. One of the Saudi ships was about to journey to America carrying oil.

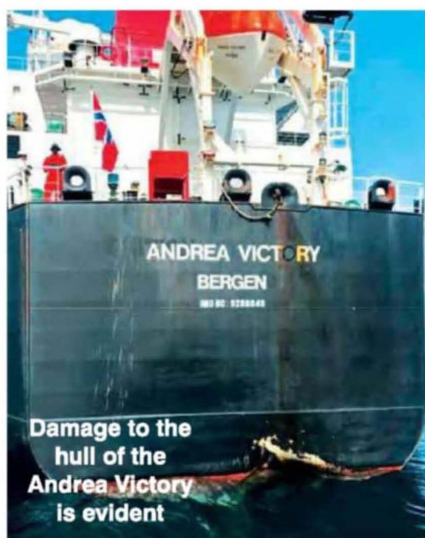
US officials said it was highly likely mines were used in the attacks. Iranian Government spokesman Behrouz Nemati, said the incidents were "adventurism by foreign players to disrupt shipping and create tensions." He accused Israel's Mossad, calling the action "mischief."

Intelligence analysts believe the incident plays to US fears that Iran has opted to cause disruption in the region, particularly to the oil industry. Some Pentagon sources claim the US has already authorised the assembly of over 100,000 troops in readiness for any conflict with Iran.

Two days later, an attack on an oil pipeline and two pumping stations in central Saudi Arabia carrying oil to outlets in the Red Sea, occurred. Saudi Energy



Minister Khalid al-Falih called the incident "an act of terrorism." Those behind the action - Iran-backed Houthi terrorists - are believed to have flown two small explosive-packed Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (MUAVs) into the sites.



Damage to the hull of the Andrea Victory is evident



Khalid al-Falih

Just hours after the Saudi attack, Mohammed Abdulalam, a spokesman for the Houthis, said: "The targeting of Saudi vital installations is a response to

the aggressors continuing to commit genocide crimes."

IRAN ON THE AGENDA

STABILITY AND TEHRAN REFERENCED AT OIC SUMMIT

King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia hosted the 14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on 31 May in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. The meeting addressed various issues in the Muslim world and recent developments in a number of OIC member states. Other important topics included regional security



Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi

and tensions between Iran, the United States and its Gulf allies. Referenced were the attacks on four oil-carrying vessels in the Gulf and oil pumping stations in Saudi Arabia.

His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, said the UAE condemned the acts as a "flagrant violation of international law." The

UAE is amongst many countries which believe such incidents threaten international navigational security, world energy supplies and the global economy, and are aimed at destabilising regional security and stability. "We confirm the need for international cooperation to prevent the recurrence of such acts of terrorism and bring the perpetrators to justice," Sheikh Saud said.

Evidence has been presented to the UN Security Council.



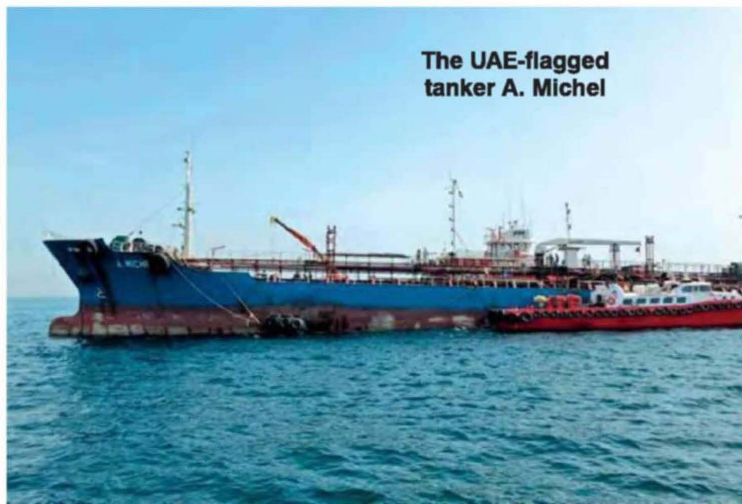
US National Security Advisor John Bolton met with the UAE Crown Prince Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan and the country's national-security advisor to discuss "strategic partnership and regional challenges"

The ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION is an international organisation founded in 1969, consisting of 57 member states, with a collective population of over 1.8 billion as of 2015 - with 53 countries being Muslim-majority countries. The organisation states that it is "the collective voice of the Muslim world" and works to "safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony".

The OIC has permanent delegations to the United Nations and the European Union. The official languages of the OIC are Arabic, English and French.



OIC HQ Jeddah



The UAE-flagged tanker A. Michel



Iran Foreign Minister Javad Zarif

destroy the arriving US ships with one missile."

Amongst new arrivals in the Gulf, the USS Arlington - complete with strike aircraft and amphibious vehicles and elements of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit. In Qatar, several B-52 bombers were seen to land as part of the operation. All are seen as a deterrent to stop Iran interfering with vital shipping routes in the

area, including the Suez Canal. A Pentagon official said the US was "ready to defend its interests and forces in the region," but denied the operation was intended to "provoke conflict with Tehran."

Officials in Iran have now threatened to increase uranium enrichment if US sanctions impact on its economy. Iran's Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, who headed the country's talks on its nuclear ambitions, objected to the US action. And in respect of sanctions, he announced Iran would continue to sell its oil on world markets. "If the United States takes the crazy measure of trying to prevent us doing that, then it should be prepared for the consequences."

IRGC Deputy Head for Political Affairs Brigadier Yadollah Javani said, "the United States would not dare to launch military action against us." He also claimed President Trump wanted to meet with Iran for talks, but said this was not possible and called the United States "unreliable."



IRGC Brigadier Yadollah Javani

That's not how intelligence analysts view the situation and warn that conflict in the region is no longer a Horizon threat, but a "very real possibility."

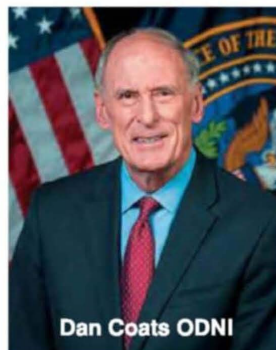


Director CIA Gina Haspel

INTEL INSIDE

Intelligence on Iran's movement of weaponry and 'liaison' with proxy forces was shared by the CIA at what has been described as "an unusual meeting" at the Agency's Langley headquarters. At the meeting, senior diplomatic, defence and intelligence heads gathered to assess the intelligence. Those present included Director CIA Gina Haspel, Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Joe Dunford, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, National Security Advisor John Bolton and Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats (ODNI).

CIA sources said such gatherings were only convened to discuss sensitive information, national security and projected covert action.



Dan Coats ODNI

NEW SPY GAMES WITH IRAN

British Council Staffer Jailed for 'Espionage'

Iran has sentenced a British Council (BC) employee to 10-years in prison on charges of espionage. The woman, who was not named by Iran, was "found guilty of cooperating with the British Intelligence services and passing intelligence to UK agents," a senior legal Iranian official said.



Aras Amiri

The country's Judiciary Spokesman Gholamhossein Esmaili said she had "confessed quickly and clearly," when presented with "evidence." However, he failed to reveal the exact nature of the case - but did claim the individual headed the BC Iran Desk. Esmaili said: "The person travelled to Iran using a false name in order to design, implement, plan and lead various projects regarding the implementation of the cultural of the old colonialism [UK] inside Islamic Iran."

Intelligence sources later named the woman as Aras Amiri - she was arrested in Iran last March whilst visiting her ill grandmother. And relatives of Amiri have confirmed to journalists she was detained for "acting against national security," - a claim rejected by relatives. Eye Spy was told Amiri, 33, was "invited by MOIS to act as a deep cover agent to pass information to the organisation on the activities of the British Council." When she refused, her fate was sealed.



Gholamhossein Esmaili

The British Council is a cultural and educational organisation with dozens of offices around the world. However, it does not have a permanent office in Iran. In a statement released by the BC, a spokesman said: "We are a non-political organisation (NGO) committed to people-to-people engagement. Our staff are not connected to any espionage agency."

Iran recently claimed it had "broken an MI6 spy ring," and the incident comes at a heightened state of tensions between London and Tehran. For over three years diplomatic efforts to free British-Iranian Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, jailed for allegedly "attempting to help topple the Iranian Government," have failed. Amiri is being held at Evin Prison - the same as Zaghari-Ratcliffe - and fully operated and controlled by MOIS.

Britain's Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt said he was concerned about the latest "spy arrest" and would do everything possible to



Director of Iran's Ministry of Intelligence (MOIS), Mahmoud Alavi, is said to have authorised the recruitment of Amiri. When this failed, his agency "manufactured" a list of spy charges

support Amiri, who, whilst an Iranian national, also holds a British passport.

Besides Zaghari-Ratcliffe, Amiri joins 11 other foreign nationals serving jail sentences on espionage charges, including US-Iran national Siamak Namazi, American scholar Xiyue Wand, and US Navy veteran Michael White.

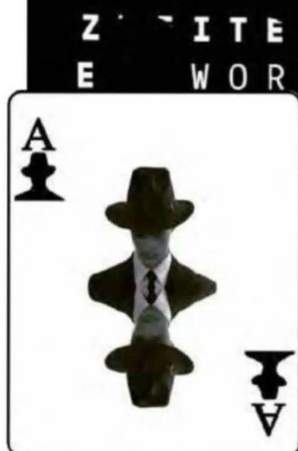
- The British Council suspended its activities in Iran a decade ago after staffers complained of harassment by Iranian government operatives.



May 2019. Iran Agenda. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in talks with UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt in Brussels - no doubt the jailing of Amiri was discussed

THE SPYING GAME

PLAYING THE ESPIONAGE CARD



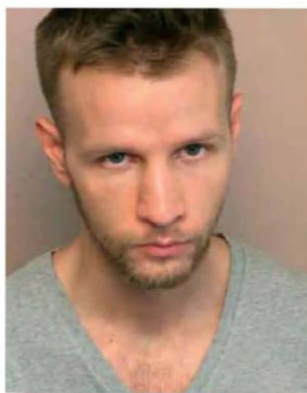
CHARGES, ARRESTS, BAIL, SENTENCES AND FINES

UAV TOP SECRET Former NGA Officer Jailed

A former US Air Force intelligence analyst who allegedly provided documents to the press detailing America's military's classified UAV programmes, has been indicted on five criminal charges.

Daniel Hale, 31, is alleged to have been the source of Top Secret

documents that were reported upon by *The Intercept* in 2015 and 2016. Within - details of USAF UAV operations. According to court documents, Hale, a former airman who also served as an intelligence officer at the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA), allegedly printed dozens of documents from his government computer and provided several to a journalist. Some of these carried 'secret' markers.



Daniel Hale

A grand jury indicted Hale on one charge each of: 'Obtaining national defense information, retention and transmission of national defense information, causing the communication of national defense information, disclosure of classified communications intelligence information, and theft of government property'. He faces up to 10-years in prison for each charge if convicted.

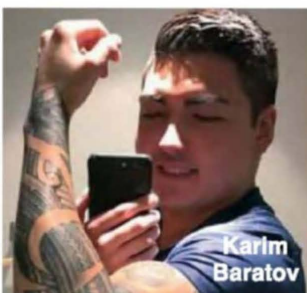
CYBER ATTACKS FSB Yahoo Operations

Karim Baratov, 23, a Canadian national has been sentenced to five-years in prison for hacking into Yahoo email accounts, allegedly following instructions from a former Russian FSB operative.

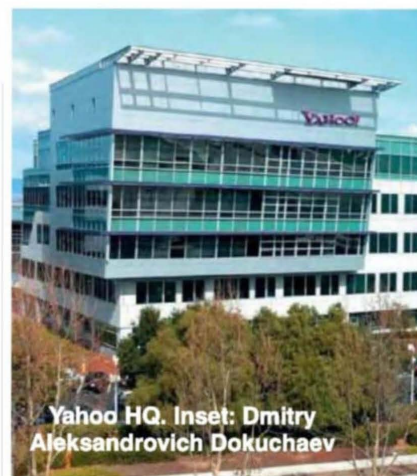
He was deported to the United States where he was convicted on "conspiracy to carry out computer fraud and identity theft."

In court Baratov said: "The last 14 months have been a very humbling and eye-opening experience. There is no excuse for my actions. All I can do is promise to be a better man." Baratov was fined \$250,000, in addition to the prison sentence.

Dmitry Aleksandrovich Dokuchaev, the former FSB officer who allegedly hired Baratov, is



Karim Baratov



Yahoo HQ. Inset: Dmitry Aleksandrovich Dokuchaev

charged as a co-conspirator in the case, though he is unlikely to face trial in the United States. Dokuchaev was reportedly arrested by internal FSB security officers in December 2016 and charged with treason. The circumstances of his detention remain unclear. The FBI charged Dokuchaev with various crimes, including economic espionage.

Besides Dokuchaev, another FSB officer, Igor Sushchin, is also charged in the same indictment for allegedly overseeing the email hacking - as is Alexsey Belan - a well known Russian hacker. Belan is already wanted in two US states for 'conventional cybercrime'.

All the Russian nationals are accused of conspiring to commit a massive 2014 data breach at Yahoo that compromised account information on 500 million users. They allegedly turned to Baratov to secure complete access.

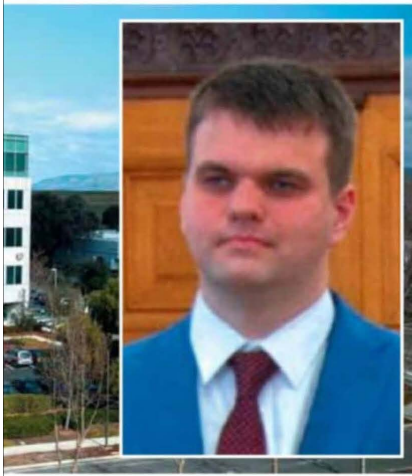
UN SPY CLASH Libyan Watcher Bailed

A United Nations arms expert held in Tunisia since late March on espionage charges has been released on bail. Moncef Kartas, a Tunisian-German dual national and a member of the UN panel of experts investigating allegations of violations of an arms embargo and other sanctions imposed on Libya, was detained on arrival in Tunis in March.

"The indictment division has decided to release Moncef Kartas on bail," prosecution spokesman Sofiene Sliti said. But Kartas was still being prosecuted for the



USAF RQ-1 Predator



"unofficial collection of information related to terrorism, which constitutes a dangerous crime," he said.

Moncef Kartas



Kartas' defence team has said the charges are linked to the arms expert's possession of a device allowing him to have access to data on flights of civil and commercial aircraft.

The United Nations rejected Tunisia's reasons for Kartas's arrest and demanded charges be dropped and called for his immediate release. The UN argued that, as an employee, Kartas was



United Nations HQ, New York City

subject to diplomatic immunity, but Tunisia challenged this and the trial will continue.

HOT SPRINGS A Strange Spy Drama

Japan's Foreign Ministry said a 70-year-old national charged with espionage offences in a Chinese court, has been sentenced to five-and-a-half years in prison. The unnamed Japanese man was detained in March 2017 in China's Shandong province, reportedly going to the region to conduct surveys for a hot spring development at the invitation of a Chinese company.

In 2017, Chinese state media reported he carried out surveys without the government's permission - and passed the data for analysis and dissemination to an unknown party.

Nine Japanese nationals have been charged for spying by China after new counter-espionage laws took effect in 2014. Some of the men were charged with possessing classified information, including sensitive data. Six have since been jailed. Five other Japanese were detained in connection with the surveys, of which four were released while one was indicted.

UNPROVEN LINKS US Consular Staffer

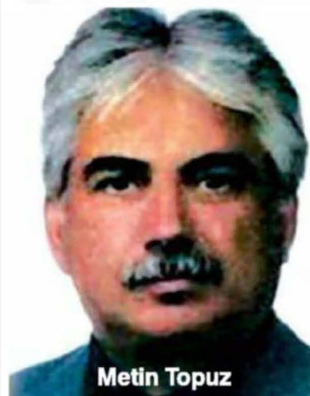
A US consular staffer broke down as he rejected allegations of espionage in an Istanbul court. The incident has inflamed tensions between Washington and Ankara.

Metin Topuz, a Turkish citizen and liaison for the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), was arrested in 2017 accused of contacts with police and a prosecutor suspected of having ties to US-based Muslim preacher Fethullah Gulen, who Turkish authorities claim ordered an attempted coup in 2016.

Topuz has denied all allegations against him and told the court that all his contacts were "part of my job."



US Consulate, Istanbul



Metin Topuz

"I didn't commit any crime. All my contacts with those in high-ranking positions of the state at the time were entirely part of my work as a translator and assistant liaison officer at the DEA. I am innocent," he said, tearfully.

US Embassy and consular officials, who have dismissed the charges as being without merit, were also at the courthouse to observe the brief proceedings. His trial continues.

THE MSS SPY Ex-CIA Officer - Guilty

Jerry Chun Shing Lee, a former CIA case officer long suspected in the US Intelligence Community (USIC) of being a mole for China's Ministry of State Security (MSS), admitted he conspired to commit espionage



Jerry Chun Shing Lee

in that country. He originally pleaded not guilty to the charges in 2018.

"Lee sold out his country, conspired to become a spy for a foreign government, and then repeatedly lied to investigators about his conduct," Zachary Terwilliger, US Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, said. "This prosecution should serve as a warning to others who would compromise our nation's secrets and betray our country's trust."

Lee, a 54-year-old Hong Kong native and US Army veteran who served in the CIA for 13 years, faced a possible life sentence. But because the guilty plea he entered in Federal Court in Alexandria describes the information involved as 'Secret' rather than 'Top Secret', his recommended sentence will be significantly lower. He had been set to go to trial prior to his spy admission.

Intelligence officials still suspect Lee is responsible for compromising CIA sources in China, some of whom were killed, according to former US officials. Both intelligence and law enforcement officials have expressed doubt, since his arrest last year, that they would ever be able to prove Lee was behind the collapse of Langley's network of assets in China. There are some who think there may be another explanation for the CIA's covert communication system breach.

With his plea, the case against Lee will forever remain shrouded in mystery. Over a dozen hearings over the last year were closed to the public. Most court records in the case are sealed. Lee will be sentenced on 23 August.

(See also Eye Spy 116 and 119)

FBI RUSSIAN SPY PROBE

© JARED RODRIGUEZ



No End to War of Words Between US Intelligence Men and President Trump

Intelligence sources believe former FBI Directors Robert Mueller and James Comey could both face questions long into the future about the so-called 'Russia Affair'. This follows comments made by Attorney General Bill Barr who testified in front of a Senate Committee. Barr said it was probable "spying" was conducted by the FBI against the Trump 2016 General Election campaign. He also raised questions why the Bureau deemed it necessary to launch two investigations and would examine if any laws were broken in pursuit of information.

Comey was effectively sacked by Trump amidst an array of questions and mistrust following all manner of accusations about covert support for Trump by senior Russian figures including intelligence people. Thereafter former FBI Director Robert Mueller headed an authorised investigation to determine just



US Attorney General Bill Barr

what exactly took place before and after the election. The subsequent Mueller Report has been interpreted in various ways; some believe it shows little evidence of collusion, whilst others believe there are elements proving liaison - all dependent of personal reflection, analysis and opinion.

However, in some of his first public comments following the closure of his investigation, Mr Mueller said that "charging the President wasn't an option," because of US legislation which prohibits the prosecution of a President in place. And to the dismay of the White House, he added that this did not exonerate Trump. "If we had had confidence that the President clearly did not commit a crime we would have said so." In response Trump Tweeted: *'Nothing changes from the Mueller Report. There was insufficient evidence and therefore, in our country, a person is innocent. Case closed'*.

As for Comey, he spoke to media people exactly two years after his exit from office. He

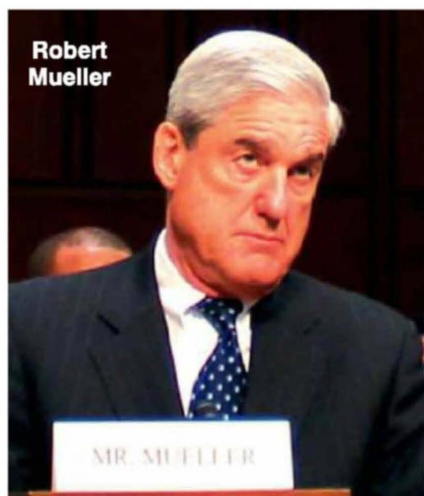


James Comey

lost little time in continuing an antagonistic war of words about the Report and his opinion of Trump. He believes the President could well be charged with obstruction of justice once he leaves office. Comey insists on occasions Trump made "corrupt intent[s] to interfere" with the Russian probe.

To the dismay of the US Intelligence Community, the men's dislike of each other has been played out on numerous occasions. On 9 May, for example, Trump Tweeted: *'James Comey is a disgrace to the FBI & will go down as the worst Director in its long history...'* Comey responded saying you "cannot have a President who is a chronic liar."

Insiders believe the dispute will last for years. And despite the publication of Mueller's findings, the relationship between the political and intelligence world in Washington has been damaged. To what extent, will only be judged by future events.



Robert Mueller



President Donald Trump



JULIAN ASSANGE GONE IN SIXTY SECONDS

**CIA Still Seeking Retribution
for WikiLeaks US Intelligence
Documentation Release**

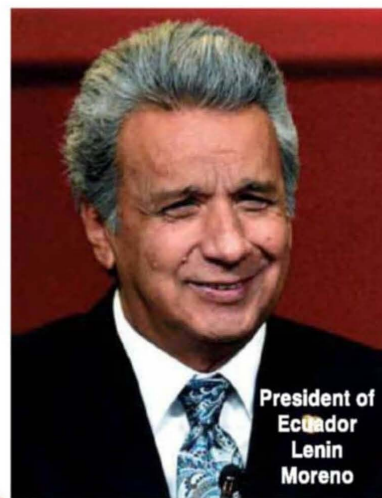
The fate of Julian Assange, the founder of controversial WikiLeaks (established in 2006) - the website responsible for publishing tens of thousands of classified intelligence documents and associated materials, remains uncertain, this after he was arrested following his ejection from Ecuador's London embassy

Australian-born Assange took refuge in the Embassy of Ecuador in June 2012, in a bid to avoid extradition to Sweden on alleged 2010 sex charges. These were eventually dropped in 2017, but in May 2019, after his arrest in London, Swedish prosecutors decided to reopen the investigation. "After reviewing the preliminary investigation, carried out so far, I find that there still exist grounds for Julian Assange to be suspected on probable cause of the charge of rape," said Swedish Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Eva-Maria Persson. "It is my assessment that a new questioning of Assange is required."

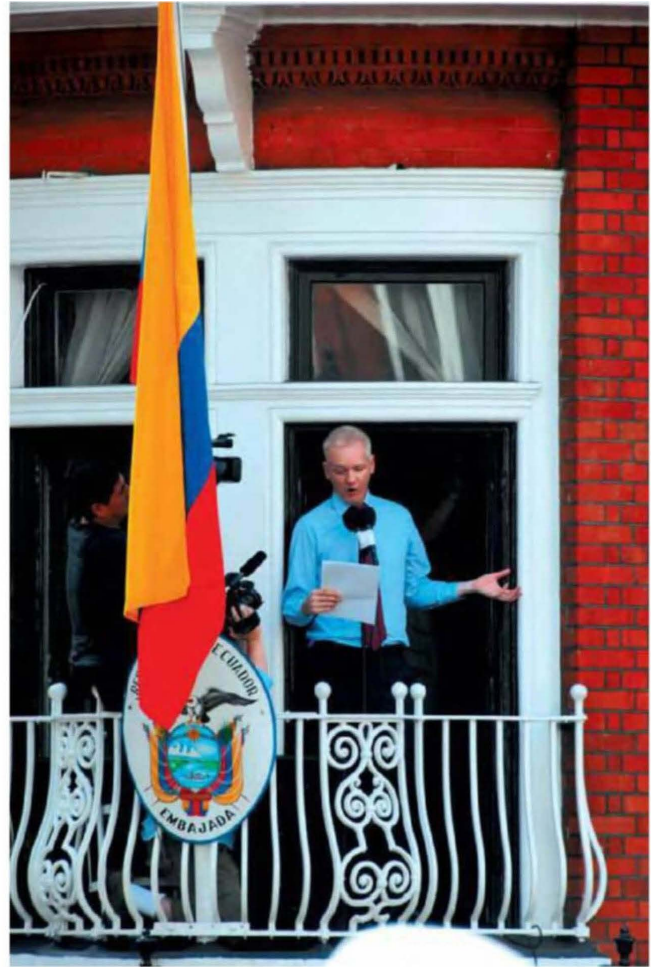
The 47-year-old has always denied the charges believing it was a "plot" initiated by the CIA to help prepare the way for his eventual "date in an American court" over WikiLeaks' publication of US intelligence files. After years of negotiations and attempts to find a gateway out of the embassy, where he could leave a free man, Ecuador began to lose patience with their unwelcome visitor and sought a "get out of jail card," according to UK diplomatic sources.



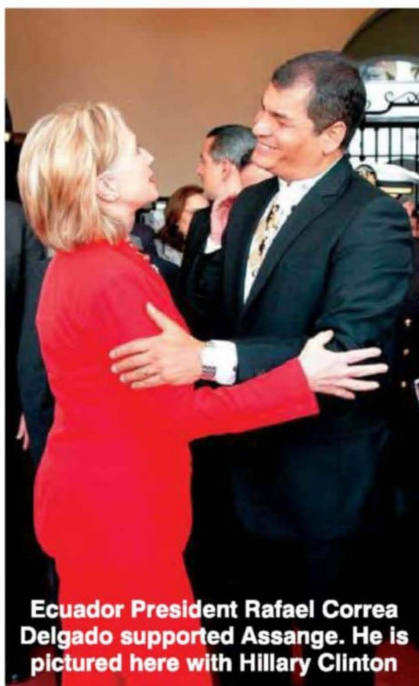
Perhaps the last gasp attempt to resolve the situation in favour of Assange came in January 2018, when Ecuador granted him citizenship in the hope that this would give him diplomatic immunity. Britain said no. This altered the mindset of Ecuador's new President Lenin Moreno who described Assange as an "inherited problem." And then in October 2018, the ambassador announced a new set of 'house rules' were being introduced: Assange was asked to pay for his Internet use, food and laundry; keep his residence clean and take better care of his cat. Relations deteriorated further when Assange sought a legal challenge to the internal action, and dismissed a suggestion a few weeks later that he



President of
Ecuador
Lenin
Moreno



should depart of his own free will. All of this tested Ecuador's resolve and comments made by Foreign Minister Jose Valencia revealed the true nature of his country's stance. Valencia said Assange had been using a cell phone not registered with the embassy, insulted staffers calling them "US spies," damaged interior objects by using a skateboard and kicking a football. He also claimed Assange had not showered for weeks.



Ecuador President Rafael Correa Delgado supported Assange. He is pictured here with Hillary Clinton

CONSEQUENCES

Assange now faces the serious US charge that he conspired with former US military intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning, 31, to select, document, and illegally download and publish government files. [Bradley] Manning was arrested in 2010 and found guilty in 2013, after gifting an estimated 700,000 documents, diplomatic cables and highly sensitive images and video footage to WikiLeaks.

Amongst the most damaging was a US airstrike in Baghdad, Iraq, dubbed 'Collateral

Murder'. The video showed US helicopters attack a group of men they believed were armed terrorists. They were in fact civilians and two belonged to the news agency Reuters. The cameras had been mistaken for guns. Ten people died in the airstrike.

Manning was again jailed in March this year for refusing to testify before an investigative grand jury examining WikiLeaks' involvement in release of the files. Even before she was asked to give evidence, Manning said she had "ethical concerns" and "will not comply" to the subpoena. The actual charge was 'contempt of court'.

Ecuador Foreign Minister Jose Valencia





Former US military intelligence analyst Bradley (now Chelsea) Manning



Professor Nils Melzer

Assange is concerned he will now be extradited to the United States, where the US Government is seeking 17 counts against him for violations of the Espionage Act. If convicted, he could be jailed for a significant period. Other charges include 'conspiracy to commit computer intrusion'. Court indictment papers issued in 2018, allege he 'conspired in 2010 with Manning to access classified information on Department of Defense computers'. The case however, is complex.

THE ARREST

As reported, officials at the Ecuadorian outpost had become increasingly despondent by Assange's behaviour, leading to all manner of speculation that his seven-year stay was nearing its end. Indeed, intelligence sources

said embassy officials made contact with New Scotland Yard, who have maintained a covert surveillance post near the building, to arrange for his removal. On 11 April he was duly charged with failing to surrender to court and arrested - this after his diplomatic immunity was removed. He was seen being dragged from the building to a waiting police vehicle protesting his innocence. "This is unlawful... I am not leaving," he shouted. An Eye Spy observer heard a security officer whisper to a colleague, "gone in 60 seconds."

In court he pleaded "not guilty" and duly waved to the public gallery and gave a 'thumbs up'. The judge, Michael Snow, responded to the gesture calling Assange's action the "behaviour of a narcissist who cannot get beyond his own selfish interest."

He duly despatched Assange to Southwark Crown Court where he faces a 12-month sentence in the UK. Strangely, one of his first visitors in Belmarsh Prison was Professor Nils Melzer, a United Nations inspector who reports on the mistreatment of prisoners. He is described by the UN as 'Special Rapporteur on Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment'.

COMMENT AND SUPPORT

Ecuador's President Lenin Moreno said: "We had reached the limit on the behaviour of Mr Assange." Asked specifically what prompted his country to act, Moreno referenced the WikiLeaks release of Vatican documents in January 2019. "This and other publications have confirmed the world's suspicion ➤

For several years New Scotland Yard maintained an overt and covert police presence at the embassy. And throughout Assange's stay, there were several unconfirmed reports attempts had been made to install eavesdropping devices into the building to listen to his conversations. By 2015, the cost of the watching operation had reached £10 million (\$15 million)





A WikiLeaks van near the Capitol Building, Washington DC. For over a decade the website has angered intelligence and government officials over its release of classified US material

that Mr Assange is still linked to WikiLeaks and therefore involved in interfering in internal affairs of other states." He also told a journalist from the *Guardian* that he tried to use the embassy as a "centre for spying."

Former Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa Delgado, who had granted Assange refuge in the embassy, was highly critical of the decision to strip him of his diplomatic immunity. He said Moreno would be remembered as the "greatest traitor in Ecuadorian and Latin American history," and said he had committed a "crime humanity will never forget." Moreno rejected the description and suggestions that the US had pressured him into the decision - with claims that in return for his help - Washington would remove part of his country's debt.

Intelligence sources cite numerous other reasons, including "inviting unregistered guests, disrupting embassy functions, tampering with internal security cameras, engaging in political acts and maintaining contact with people linked to WikiLeaks and other groups." The embassy also kept CCTV footage showing his increasingly erratic behaviour.

Interestingly, the arrest came just hours after WikiLeaks uploaded a feature which the website insists is evidence that Assange himself was the victim of an 'extensive spying operation' within the embassy.

Assange's solicitor Jennifer Robinson, a human rights' specialist, said the arrest sets a "dangerous precedent" in respect of a

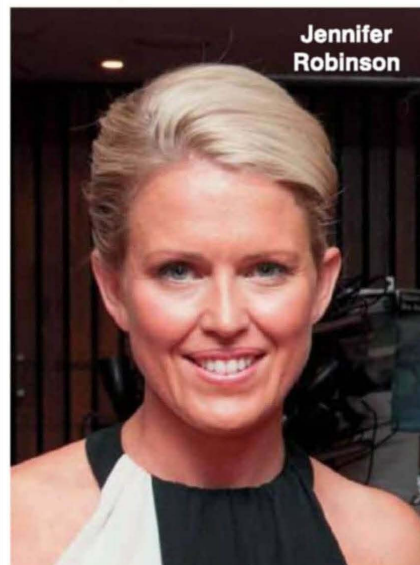


journalist carrying out his rightful duty, adding that "journalists could face prosecution for publishing truthful information about the United States." Reporters Without Borders, a press freedom organisation sided with Robinson, and hoped the UK would resist extradition: *'It would set a dangerous precedent for journalists, whistleblowers and other journalistic sources that the US may wish to pursue in the future'*.

Critics of WikiLeaks state the information at the heart of the case was classified and as such could present a security threat to the US and its allies. That's not a view shared by former CIA/NSA contractor and whistleblower Edward Snowden. Following Assange's arrest, Snowden tweeted from his Moscow apartment: *'Images of Ecuador's ambassador inviting the UK's secret police into the embassy to drag a publisher of - like it or not - award winning journalism out of the building are going to end up in the history books. Assange's critics may cheer, but this is a dark moment for press freedom'*.



Happier times. A confident and relaxed Assange pictured with Ecuador's Minister of Foreign Affairs Ricardo Patino in 2013





America's left-leaning ACLU also warned of the move to get Assange back to the United States to face trial. It posted a statement: *'If the US can force the arrest and then extradite foreigners like Assange on foreign soil for publishing docs, what prevents China or Iran or, you know, Russia for doing the same to US journalists who publish secrets about them?'*

Reaction in the political world was mixed. "This goes to show that in the UK, no-one is above the law," said Prime Minister Theresa May. Not unexpectedly, her opposite number in Parliament, Jeremy Corbyn said: "Assange had revealed evidence of atrocities in Iraq and Afghanistan and his extradition should be opposed by the British government."

Interestingly, in a move described by Assange's solicitor as "completely unprecedented in the history of asylum," on 20 May, Ecuador Embassy staffers in London handed a number of boxes to US officials. Inside were documents, manuscripts, notes, electronic equipment, legal papers, personal items and a medical file - all the personal belongings of Julian Assange.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Besides Assange, an unsealed court document in Virginia, which was inadvertently referenced last year, suggests the Department of Justice may also seeks charges against 'Assange affiliates'. And whilst the intelligence world is awash with speculation as to the identity of these persons or organisations, Eye Spy was told at least one is a former employee of the US Intelligence Community.

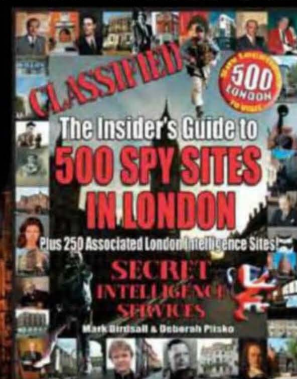


Julian Assange is removed from the Ecuador Embassy

CLASSIFIED: THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO 500 SPY SITES IN LONDON

PLUS 250 ASSOCIATED LONDON INTELLIGENCE SITES

THE ULTIMATE SPY SITES TRAVEL GUIDE OF LONDON



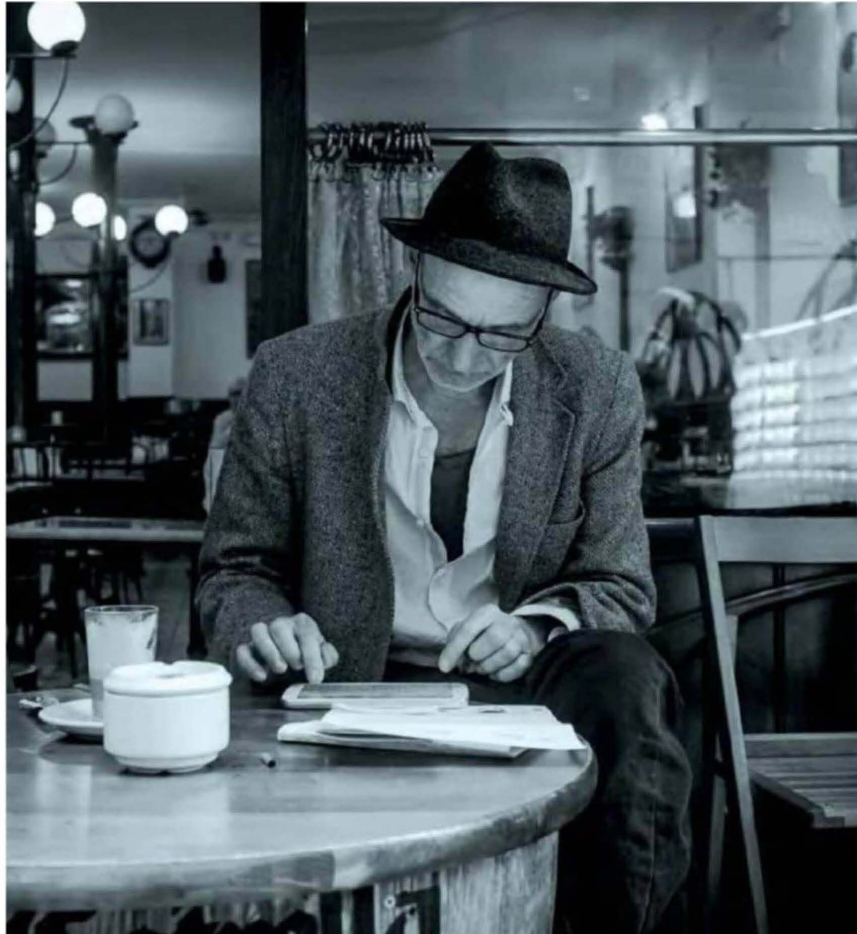
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COURTESY EFE SPAIN

Kim Hyok Chol

It was a story that attracted the interest of intelligence services: North Korea had executed a senior envoy involved in the recent nuclear negotiations with the United States along with four other high-level officials. Widely reported by numerous international media houses, analysts speculated that some of the diplomats had been side-lined by the government after the latest round of talks between the two countries ended abruptly in Hanoi without an agreement.

The 'source' of the reports, who was said to be highly conversant with the politics of North Korea, said that senior envoy Kim Hyok Chol had been executed at Mirim airfield with four other Foreign Ministry officials for betraying Kim Jong-un.

The same source also said that Kim Yong Chol (not to be confused with Kim Hyok Chol), Vice Chairman of the Worker's Party, who was North Korea's top nuclear negotiator and met with President Trump at the White House, was sentenced to hard labour and ideological re-education. The vastly experienced intelligence man, described as a 'spymaster', had visited

Washington in January 2019, to establish the summit's agenda.

The original report, written by a North Korean defector, was first published by *Chosun Ilbo*, South Korea's most widely circulated

newspaper. The copy spread quickly and was picked up by major international media outlets - most of which never questioned its content.

Eye Spy believes this was probably due to previous executions and disappearances.



Kim Yong Chol with President Trump at the White House to discuss the nuclear summit



2018. Hyon Song Wol (front second from left) pictured in Seoul, South Korea



US and DPRK officials at the White House

However, two days later, on 2 June, Kim Yong Chol was reportedly identified attending an art performance alongside leader Kim Jong-un. A photograph said to be Chol emerged, though it's not 100% clear it is him.

PLAUSIBLE RUMOUR

Purges and re-education sentences are not uncommon within North Korean diplomatic and military arenas. These lent credence to the *Chosun Ilbo's* story. "I hate to say it, but in this era plausible rumours of consequence are

newsworthy - and this was a highly plausible claim," said Van Jackson, a former Korea expert at the US Defense Department and current lecturer at Victoria University of Wellington. "Kim's surrounded himself with 'yes-men'. He's killed or removed 300-plus senior officials in six years, and was misled about what was going to happen at the Hanoi summit. That makes the story plausible."

Other commentators and intelligence watchers too note North Korea has an association with assassination and elimination of those who



2019. Ri Yong Gil (right) pictured at an event in the Kremlin - South Korean Intelligence had incorrectly announced he had been executed in 2016



This photo of Kim Jong-un reportedly taken on 2 June 2019, shows Kim Yong Chol (circled) is active in government and not at a North Korean 're-education' centre



Van Jackson

oppose the regime or fail its leadership - examples being the recent assassination of Kim Jong-un's half-brother and the kidnapping and disappearance of people from across the world. More extreme examples are the downing of an airliner to derail rival South Korea's 1988 Olympic Games.

"There's enough crazy extreme stuff going on in North Korea for us to consistently believe that these things are true," said Chad O'Carroll, the CEO of the Korea Risk Group, which operates some of the world's most respected North Korea specialist publications. O'Carroll, however, urged caution about the latest reports, noting there are a "healthy dose of stories that are just fiction."

NOT THE FIRST TIME

There are other authentic case files when South Korean media (and government agencies) made errors. In 2016, South Korean media house Yonhap announced Kim Jong-un had Lt. General Ri Yong Gil, a former North Korean military chief, executed for corruption and other charges, including one he had formed a rebel party. The source was reportedly an intelligence official. Reports soon emerged that Gil was alive and had been given a new senior position.

In 2013, *Chosun Ilbo* reported that Hyon Song Wol, a famous North Korean artist described as Kim's ex-girlfriend, had been executed by firing squad in public along with several other performers over accusations that they filmed themselves having sex and selling the videos. The reports were bogus and Wol soon appeared in meetings with President Trump and South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

However, South Korea's intelligence service correctly reported the execution of leading politician Jang Song Thaek, days before North Korea announced his execution.

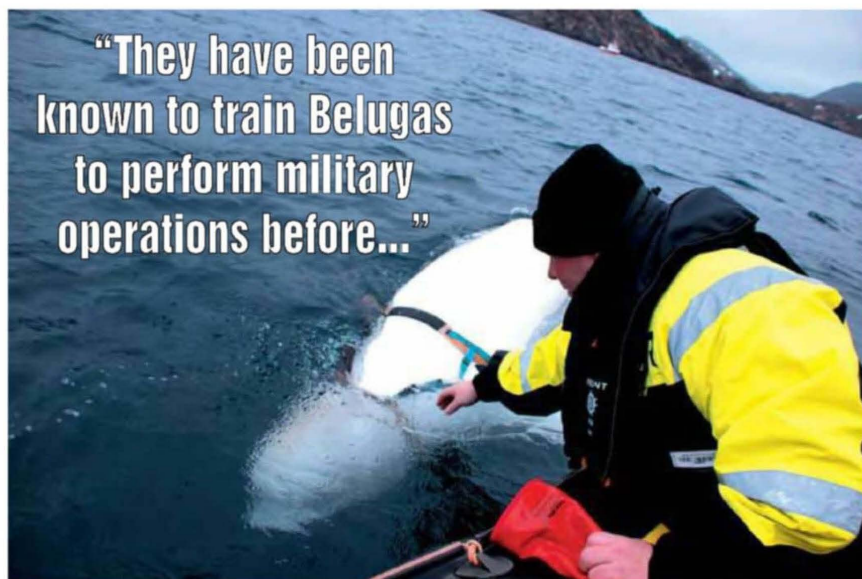
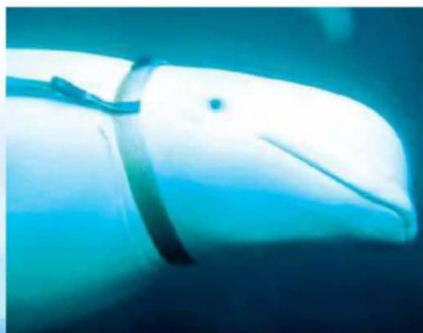
UNDERWATER EYES

A WHALE'S PRESENCE IN SENSITIVE NORTHERN WATERS ATTRACTS ATTENTION OF INTELLIGENCE WORLD

In recent years Western Intelligence services have become increasingly concerned over Russian Navy surface and submarine activities in the Barents Sea and near-Arctic Circle. The area is now under constant surveillance with particular attention paid to the waters around the Russian port of Murmansk - close to the northern Finnish and Norwegian borders.

Sightings of Russian trawlers and unregistered vessels carrying "unusual equipment" are commonplace, and a number have been linked to the intelligence services. Similarly, Russian submarines have been seen close to inlets and NATO bases - some undoubtedly tasked with intelligence collection. However, one unlikely 'spy vessel' observed by fisherman near Finnisk off Norway's northern coastline, has attracted the attention of officials in the NATO alliance - a Beluga whale.

The mammal, which was "constantly seeking human contact," according to the fishermen,



© JORGEN REE WIIG/NORWEGIAN DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES

The Beluga whale approaches a Norwegian researcher

was seen wearing a man-made harness complete with a mechanism in which experts believe carried a camera. Sources claim the harness was removed and delivered to the Norwegian Intelligence Service (NIS). Jorgen Ree Wiig, a marine specialist at Norway's Directorate of Fisheries said the harness was "specially made with mounts to support GoPro cameras on either side."

A descriptive line on the plastic outer surface read: 'Equipment St. Petersburg'. This Wiig believes is evidence enough the whale was trained by the Russian Navy. "They have been

known to train Belugas to perform military operations before," said Wiig. "Guarding naval bases, assisting diving operations and even finding lost equipment." Dmitry Glazov, a scientist at the Russian Academy of Sciences acknowledged the Russian Navy was involved in a whale training programme in Murmansk. "It is a fact the military has these animals," said Glazov. "Among other things they were used [as a security measure] during the Sochi Olympics."

A major part of Russia's Northern Fleet headquarters are based in Murmansk Oblast.



Ships and submarines of Russia's Northern Fleet





The harness and buckle - note 'St. Petersburg' wording

The fleet consists of nuclear missile and torpedo carrying submarines, anti-submarine aircraft and vessels.

A more low-key explanation of the observation was made by mammal researcher Martin Biuw of the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research. He said that the exact role of this particular whale is unknown and talk of espionage is "pure speculation." However, like Wiig he did concede that it was trained. "We know that during the Cold War Russia trained Belugas to detect mines or old torpedoes." Of interest, two years ago a number of Russian newspapers carried reports that the Murmansk Sea Biology Research Institute had embarked on a programme to train various sea creatures including Beluga whales, seals and dolphins to perform various tasks in the armed forces.

Another explanation came from Norwegian journalist Morten Vikeby. He said the behaviour of the whale reminded him of a Beluga he observed at a Russian diving centre in 2008. In this case the mammal was used to interact with disabled and mentally challenged children. Other reports suggest the whale is but one of a number which are kept at Olenya Guba base, in the Barents sea.

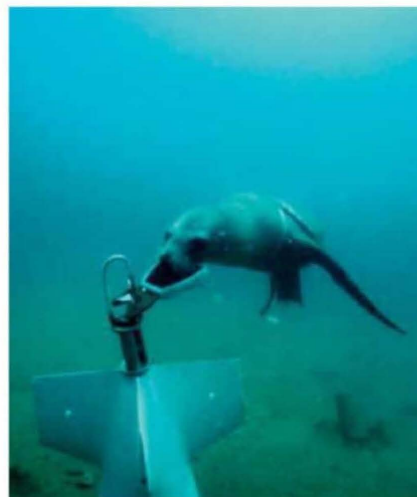


This is home to submarines of the Northern Fleet.

USE OF MAMMALS BY THE MILITARY

Reports of whales being used by the military and intelligence world are not uncommon.

A US Navy Marine Mammal Programme trained dolphin pictured with mine detecting equipment in the Persian Gulf



An NMMP sea lion places a recovery line on equipment during an exercise

Only recently did the CIA uncover a Chinese operation to disguise submarine activity with whale sounds. Indeed, for several decades the US Navy ran various mammal programmes, including one in which dolphins and sea lions were used to detect mines, recover spent or unused torpedoes and locate missing personnel (divers). Other programmes saw them used as security barriers to protect bases and critical areas from intruders.

In the Iraq War, the US Navy deployed dolphins to detect and clear hidden mines, an act which when revealed caused concern in some research institutes. However, the Defense Department along with its allies argued that the action was necessary enabling ships to deliver humanitarian aid safely.

And whilst early programmes such as the US Marine Mammal Programme (NMMP) were highly secret, today military use of such mammals is far more transparent.

As for the Beluga whale dubbed a 'spy', Russia's Ministry of Defence rejected the description. An official said the navy "would not be stupid enough to leave their telephone number on an animal trained for clandestine purposes."

Some intelligence watchers believe the fact that the text found on the harness was in English is significant. This has led to speculation that the description 'Equipment St. Petersburg' may refer to St. Petersburg in Florida, where Beluga whales can be found in water parks. However, no facility has reported a missing whale...

• The Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries is a government agency. One of its primary tasks is monitoring Norwegian and foreign fishing vessels' activity (Sea Surveillance Service).

COORDINATED CARNAGE

ATTACKS REFLECT
INTELLIGENCE
ASSESSMENTS ISIS
AS A 'TERRORIST
BRAND' IS FAR
FROM FINISHED

Terrorists Strike in Sri Lanka Killing 253 People

INTELLIGENCE WARNINGS MISSED AS ISIS
ENGAGES IN A NEW UNDERGROUND WAR

Over 250 people died, including 45 children in a series of carefully coordinated and timed bombings in Sri Lanka's commercial capital Colombo, on the morning of 21 April. Most of the victims were Sri Lankan civilians; a further 550 were injured. At least 40 foreign nationals or dual-passport holders also perished, including six Britons and four Americans. A number of 'intelligence' signals warning of attacks by terrorists on Easter Sunday were received by police at least

ten days prior to the attacks. One alert, probably based on information supplied by India's intelligence service - Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) - came just two hours before the bombers struck. It was signed by Sri Lanka's Deputy General of Police, though this has been disputed by some government officials. However, government minister Harin Fernando 'tweeted' a photo the internal memo dated 11 April headed - 'Information Of An Alleged Plan Attack'.



Few intelligence heads disagree with internal Sri Lankan intelligence assessments that the primary targets were Christian worshippers attending Easter Mass and tourists. Of Sri Lanka's 21 million population, the country has an estimated 1.3 million nationals who follow the Catholic faith.

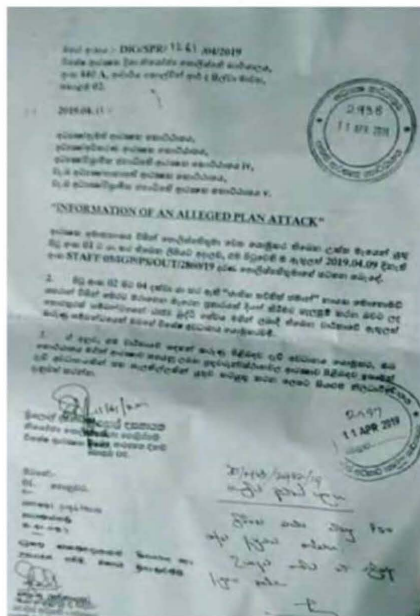
Not widely reported, in the last 12 months dozens of incidents involving discrimination, threats and violence towards Sri Lankans of various faiths have occurred.

PRIMARY TARGETS

Early intelligence estimates suggest the attacks were in response to the shooting outrage performed by Right Wing lone wolf terrorist Brenton Tarrant in Christchurch, New Zealand in March. ISIS web sites had called for its followers to respond in kind. Other analysts warn the bombings represent a new



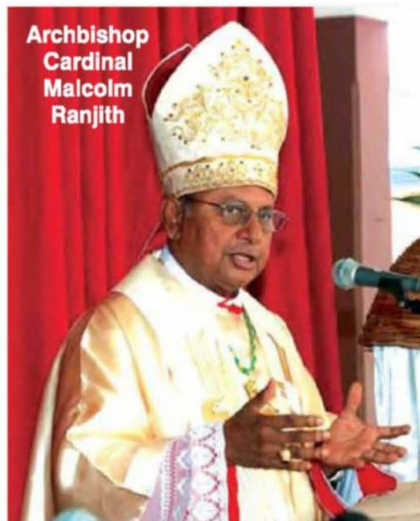
ISIS video still of the bombers - Zahran Hashim is the only operative not to conceal his face



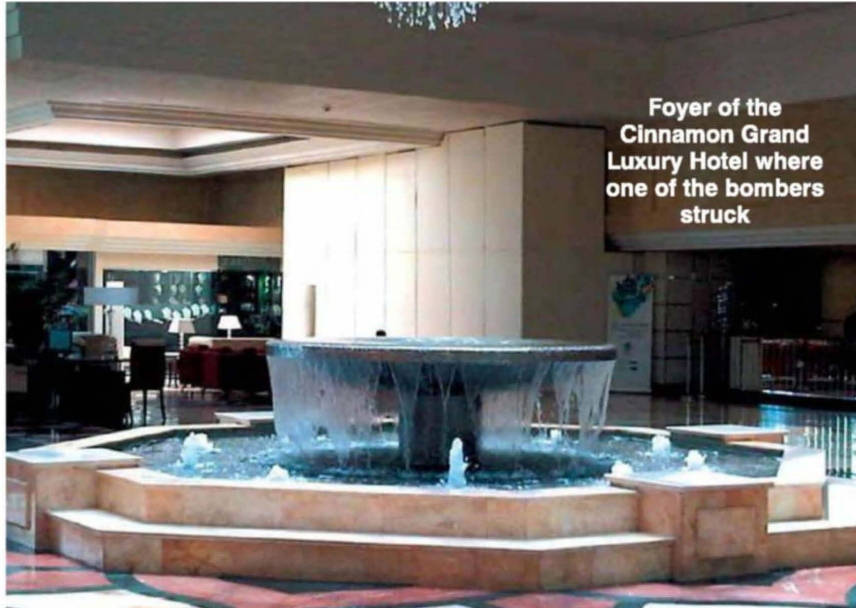
Harin Fernando's sharing of an intelligence warning days prior to the attacks, upset ministers

offensive by the group after its capacity to act as a 'military force' has all but ended.

Three churches in Negombo, Batticaloa and in Colombo's Kochchikida district, religious sites and luxury hotels popular with visitors were all



Archbishop Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith



Foyer of the Cinnamon Grand Luxury Hotel where one of the bombers struck

targeted. Five initial explosions timed at 8.45am killed most of the victims as they gathered for prayers in the Shrine of St. Anthony church and St. Sebastian church and enjoyed breakfast in the Shangri-La and Kingsbury Luxury hotels. Archbishop of Colombo, Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith said that of an estimated 1,000 worshippers inside St. Sebastian, at least 110 had perished. Five minutes later a bomb ripped through the foyer and restaurant of the Cinnamon Grand luxury hotel. A bomb at another unnamed hotel failed to detonate. Besides tourists, the hotels are also used by the international business community and visiting diplomats. Officials acknowledged that most, if not all of the blasts were caused by suicide bombers donning rucksacks containing "substantial - but crude explosives."

CCTV footage of two of the suicide bombers was released by police. In one sequence a young male adult is seen waiting in queue for his breakfast; find a seat in the heart of the restaurant, then calmly detonate explosives on his person. Sri Lanka police said at least two of the suicide bombers detonated explosives as they were being chased by security officers.



One of the rucksack bombers caught on transportation CCTV

At 9.05am, another blast ripped through the Zion Roman Catholic Church in Batticaloa. The final explosions, undoubtedly related, occurred at the New Tropical Inn in Dehiwela at 1.45pm. IEDs were also reportedly found in the national airport and a car which had been abandoned.

NATIONAL CURFEW

Following the mid-morning explosions, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe introduced a national curfew - this as emergency services, including troops from Sri Lanka's Special Task Force (STF), the country's primary counter-terrorism agency, recovered bodies, assisted the injured, and launched a nationwide hunt for those suspected of assisting the terrorists. ➤



Shrine of St. Anthony church



Security personnel search vehicles for IEDs following the attacks



Zahran Hashim



State Intelligence Service Chief Nilantha Jawawardena

He also hurriedly convened an emergency meeting of all senior defence, intelligence, police and emergency services heads. All social media sites were suspended and transport badly affected. A government spokesman also warned that anyone "spreading fake news faced a prison sentence upto five years."

By 7.00pm, police said they had recovered a van used to transport the explosives. In the hours that followed, officials also disclosed they were searching for multiple motorbikes and a taxi used to carry some of the attackers to bomb sites. By 11.00pm, thirteen suspects had been arrested.

At 8.50pm, Mr Wickremesinghe summoned the heads of all security and police forces, including Chief of Intelligence Nilantha Jawawardena (State Intelligence Service), to explain why a supposed warning was not seemingly acted upon, this after it emerged other internal memos regarding possible terrorists attacks surfaced. These were described as "red alarms."

The domestic terror group National Thowheed Jamaath (NTJ), headed by Zahran Hashim was referenced. However, such warnings "are an everyday occurrence," according to a

journalist based in Colombo who told Eye Spy "they are regularly ignored." Wickremesinghe said it was likely a number of officials could lose their jobs due to the "communications breakdown."

President Maithripala Sirisena duly established a Special Investigative Committee to discover who was responsible and for ensuring communications (warnings) are forwarded to relevant bodies at the earliest opportunity. He also announced new security procedures would help safeguard civilians and that "every household in the country will be checked." [ISIS links].

ISIS FRANCHISE

Sri Lankan Defence Minister Ruwan Wijewardene said military intelligence officials were satisfied most of the perpetrators had been identified; were educated, wealthy and religious extremists. He also confirmed the warning of an "imminent attack" was an internal memo and not circulated beyond the police - this therefore meant it had probably not reached the intelligence service (SIS) and senior military figures.

Seventy-two hours after the first explosions, 44 people had been arrested in connection with the attacks. Sri Lankan security forces believe the primary group behind the outrage was indeed National Thowheed Jamaath supported by operatives from Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen (JMI) which has a large presence in neighbouring India - which could explain RAW's warning. Both groups are supportive of ISIS ideology, indeed, web sites operated by ISIS showed several members of the actual



Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe



One of the suicide bombers caught on CCTV carrying a heavy bomb-laden rucksack as he made his way to St. Sebastian's church

attack gang, including all the alleged suicide bombers standing in front of an ISIS flag.

They were named as Mohammed Ibrahim Inshaf Ahammad, Mohammed Ibrahim Ilham Mohamed, Fathima Ishana Ibrahim, Abdul Latief Jameel Mohammed, Alawudeen Ahamed Muaath, Achichi Muhammadu Muhammadu Hasthun, Mohammed Nazar Mohammed Azar and Muhammad Mubarak Muhammad Asam - all pledged their allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

CIA sources have already confirmed some of the operatives had previously operated in Syria and were "almost certainly trained and guided" by ISIS commanders.

At least two of the men identified by ISIS were "definitely members of NTJ," a police spokesman said. "It seems the men were all inspired by a foreign terrorist group." The actual leader of the gang was identified as Zahran Hashim. His face is the only one not to be concealed in the video. Hashim reportedly



Defence Minister Ruwan Wijewardene

died in the blast at the Shangri-La Hotel.

Days later ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who recently resurfaced in a new video (see page 8) praised the bombers. "Your brothers

in Sri Lanka have put joy in the hearts of the monotheists with their immersing operations that struck the homes of the crusaders in their Easter," he said.

Government spokesman Rajitha Senaratne said NTJ had received international support and that the group itself, "could not have carried out such a coordinated attack." His



Armoured vehicle and Special Task Force troops



One of many detonators recovered by the STF at a safe house

words were echoed by the office of Sir Lanka's President Sirisena: "There was intelligence that international terrorist groups were behind [supportive] the local perpetrators." The leader of NTJ Mohammed Thowfeek, a friend and associate of attack leader Hashim, was arrested after the

Continued on page 79



President Maithripala Sirisena



Two ISIS operatives were killed at the bomb-making house days after the attacks

SECRET LONDON SPY SITE



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PALMER STREET

GCHQ DEPARTS SECRET CENTRAL LONDON LOCATION



Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) Director Jeremy Fleming, revealed that the organisation has 'secretly' operated from a building in the heart of London for the past 66 years.

Located on Palmer Street, the building was leased from the Ministry of Works as the intelligence organisation moved its headquarters from Eastcote, London, to its current site in Cheltenham in 1953. Support for the move was not total - some officials believing it was preferable to remain in London - thus a compromise was reached and its city presence retained.

The disclosure was made in April following GCHQ's departure from the location, which according to officials, played a major part in the 2012 London Olympics security operation. Mr Fleming said: "As we depart our Palmer Street site after 66-years, we look back on a history full of our amazing intelligence, world-leading innovation, and the ingenious people

who passed through those secret doors. Then, as now, it is defined by the belief that with the right mix of minds anything is possible."

SITE LOCATION

Palmer Street was selected for its prime position - close to the headquarters of its sister intelligence services MI6 and MI5, and a host of training and support centres. St. James's Tube Station is just yards away making it an ideal location for staffers and visitors to travel to the site: within, purpose-built offices, meeting rooms and a residence for its director. And just like numerous other buildings used by British Intelligence, it was unassuming and carried no signage.

The building is just a short walk from MI6's former Broadway headquarters, and close to a secret communications hub used by MI6 known as Clive House. The Palmer Street site also nestles between several public houses, including the Albert. This popular pub was for





GCHQ Director Jeremy Fleming

years used as a meeting place by senior officials, diplomatic contacts and even tradecraft trainers - a fact well known to their opposites in Russia's KGB.

FUNCTION

As for those who worked close to the Palmer Street outpost, few ever imagined its true purpose. Indeed, GCHQ has been reticent to describe just what its primary function was, other than reference "security, paper work and a range of different teams." Some intelligence sources believe at least part of the building was used to archive a "mountainous pile of records and documents," many of which have now been saved electronically. However, staff undoubtedly supported the work of MI5 and MI6 and senior GCHQ officials hosted meetings with colleagues from the Ministry of Defence, New Scotland Yard and 10 Downing Street, all just a 10-minute walk away.

Most relevant, the site was 'empty' of tell-tale signs - communication masts etc. And note security pillars in front of the building.



One entrance of St. James's Tube Station sits opposite the former GCHQ site



View inside the Palmer Street site

SECRECY

Palmer Street was amongst several Eye Spy chose not to reveal in *Classified: The Insider's Guide to 500 Spy Sites of London* - primarily because it was still operational - a fact well known to intelligence watchers and newspaper editors. Other sites were also deliberately ignored. However, GCHQ staff still operate from at least two other facilities in the capital, as well as provisional sites across the country. Now, following Mr Fleming's announcement, the Palmer Street address can be referenced alongside hundreds of other locations forever embedded in the fantastic spyllore of the city.

GCHQ is of course celebrating its centenary. Its origins can be traced back to a cryptanalytic unit established just after the Great War known as Room 40 based in the Admiralty building. ➤

Right: MI6 operated an agent communications room from this London building close to the GCHQ Palmer Street site



© SNAPPERJACK OF LONDON

© CLASSIFIED: THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO 500 SPY SITES IN LONDON



After WWII, MI6 used this London building as a tradecraft training centre. It reflects British Intelligence use of unassuming and low-key sites. And whilst MI6, MI5 and GCHQ now operate from grand and impressive headquarters, there is still a requirement for buildings such as Palmer Street - and the need for secrecy

ROYAL VISITOR

The announcement followed a news release that HRH The Duke of Cambridge - spent a three week attachment to GCHQ, MI5 and MI6. Prince William was provided with an insight into the work and life of operatives, analysts and staff at the three intelligence services.

His first week began with MI6 where he was briefed on how the Service develops contacts abroad and gathers intelligence enabling the "UK to exploit opportunities" and identify

threats. His next posting was with MI5 at Thames House. Here he followed counter-intelligence teams, learned of surveillance methods used by the Service's famous A4 Watchers and the role of analysts. Thereafter, his remaining time was spent with GCHQ.

After his brief assignment, Prince William said: "Spending time inside our security and intelligence agencies, understanding more about the vital contribution they make to our national security, was a truly humbling experience. These agencies are full of people

"William worked exceptionally hard to embed himself in the team."

GCHQ Head of Counter-Terrorism Desk



Professor Anthony Glees

from everyday backgrounds doing the most extraordinary work to keep us safe. They work in secret, often not even able to tell their family and friends about the work they do or the stresses they face.

"They are driven by an unrivalled patriotism and dedication to upholding the values of this country. We all owe them deep gratitude for the difficult and dangerous work they do."

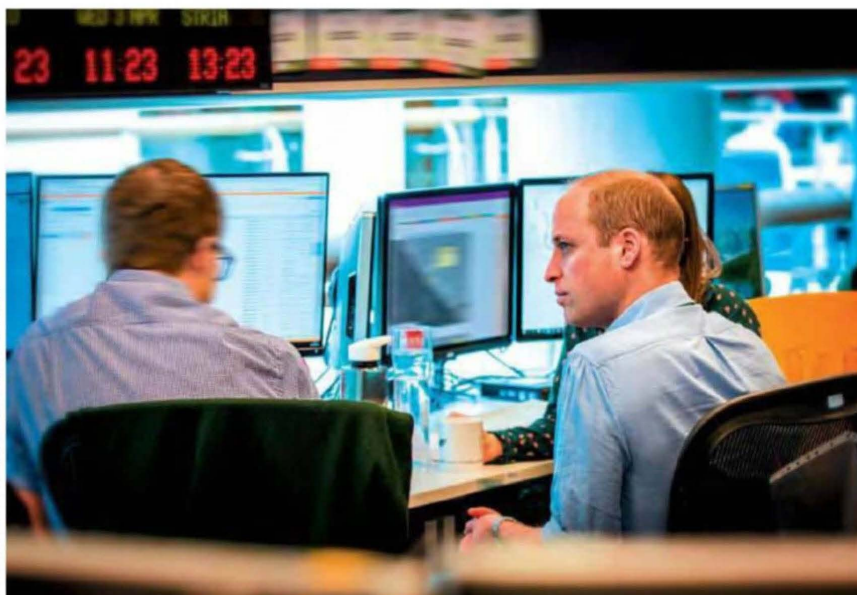
In recent years British Intelligence has embarked on a policy of transparency and public engagement (where possible), and the release of information and imagery pertaining to Palmer Street and Prince William's 'navigation' trip are part of that endeavour.

Intelligence sources state the decision to spend time with British Intelligence was partly influenced by a "personal attachment to MI6 Chief Sir Alex Younger." Both men were alumni of St Andrews University.



MI6 Chief Sir Alex Younger

Commenting on the assignment, Professor Anthony Glees, Director of the University of Buckingham's Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies, said: "I can't think of any historical comparison to this - it is truly a unique event of the greatest importance. It links together the security of our realm and the Crown and underscores the importance that the delivery of national security is to the whole of the country, not just the political class."



Prince William pictured during his three-week 'attachment' to British Intelligence

SPIES ON FILM

Eye Spy looks at the latest movie releases and projects connected to the world of Intelligence and Espionage

RED JOAN GLORIFYING TREACHERY?

Hollywood's - *'Red Joan'* - based loosely on the life of Melita Norwood, the former KGB spy who betrayed Britain for four decades, has been released in the UK and United States. Directed by Trevor Nunn from a screenplay by Lindsay

Shapero, the script caused some consternation with intelligence watchers when it premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2018.

Norwood's biographer and various intelligence historians and ex-MI5 people believe the film glorifies her role in the Cold War and is riddled with inaccuracies - ignoring her lengthy



Judi Dench stars as Melita Norwood

treachery and the damage caused to the West in general.

In the picture, Norwood, played by Judi Dench, is depicted as an unassuming secretary persuaded to work for the KGB. In reality of course, she was actually a lifelong supporter of Communism who volunteered her services to Russia in 1934 via a GRU spy codenamed Sonya - a person she knew through family connections.

The plot-line also indicates Norwood, appalled by the loss of life in Hiroshima and Nagasaki following the dropping of the atomic bomb in 1945, agreed to work for the KGB for the



GRU and KGB agent Melita Norwood lived in this London apartment



good of mankind and world peace. What it fails to show is that for a decade before, she had already assumed her role as a Soviet contact agent. And the atomic advance of the USSR did not stop her spying for Moscow, this after Russia tested its first nuclear device in 1949.

In addition to other inaccuracies, the film depicts her as a brilliant nuclear physicist at Cambridge University, which according to historians, she never even visited. Norwood actually dropped out of the University College of Southampton after a year studying Latin and Logic.

Ex-MI5 officer Nick Day said: "Of course, this is the sort of thing that happens in films. But it builds her up into a heroine when she really was a traitor. In most films it wouldn't matter, but in this case the whole thing is in the service of pro-Russian propaganda."

Yet despite MI5 eventually learning of her life in espionage in 1999, Norwood was never prosecuted. Much of the valuable intelligence passed to the Soviets, was relevant to the top secret Tube Alloys project secured from her secretarial job at the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association (BNF).

SALISBURY ORDINARY LIVES

The BBC has commissioned a two-part 120-minute factual drama, believed to be called simply 'Salisbury'. The film explores the attempted assassination of MI6 agent and former GRU officer Sergei Skripal in March 2018. The producers have engaged with several officials and residents in the city to reveal how the Novichok nerve agent poisonings affected the community.



The bench where Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia were found is removed by specialists

The drama is said to focus on how people reacted to a crisis on their doorstep, displaying extraordinary heroism as their city became the focus of an unprecedented national emergency. "This is the story of the poisonings in Salisbury that hasn't been told - the story of a community living through the real life horror of an invisible threat that could and did kill without warning," said Laurence Bowen, CEO of Dancing Ledge Productions. "It is a story of tragedy but also of resilience and pride. It's a real privilege to be involved in its telling."

Writer Declan Lawn



Adam Patterson and Declan Lawn, the writers of the film said: "Extensive, meticulous research is at the heart of how we like to work and we've been overwhelmed by the generosity of the people of Salisbury who have opened up to us over the past few months. This is an extraordinary story full of ordinary heroes, the tale of how a community responded to an inconceivable event." Piers Winger, head of BBC Drama, added the "film will capture the bravery and resilience of the local people."



Sergei Skripal

Casting of the drama has not yet been announced but it is likely to air next March to coincide with the second anniversary of the incident.

SECRETS KATHERINE GUN

Another UK spy story and political thriller, 'Official Secrets' is set for release in selected movie theatres on 23 August 2019. It tells the story of



Katherine Gun

Katherine Gun, a former translator for the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) who passed top-secret information to the press concerning attempts to create a legitimate case to invade Iraq in 2003. Some of the material was provided to GCHQ by its sister organisation - the National Security Agency (NSA). In one document a request is made to GCHQ that it monitor states regarding their voting intentions at the United Nations in respect of a mandate to confront Saddam Hussein. Gun was arrested and charged under the Official Secrets Act, but the case collapsed and she was cleared.

The movie is directed by Gavin Hood and stars Keira Knightley as Katherine Gun, Matt Smith as Martin Bright, Matthew Goode, as Peter Beaumont, Ralph Fiennes as Ben Emerson and interestingly Clive Francis as Admiral Nick Wilkinson - a former UK Government official widely respected by British Intelligence. 'Official Secrets' had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival on 28 January 2019.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Admiral Nick Wilkinson - the respected official who served in the Royal Navy for almost four decades - was head of Britain's Defence and Security Media Advisory (DSMA) Committee (D-Notice). He provided



Admiral Nick Wilkinson



much guidance to Eye Spy Intelligence Magazine following its launch in 2001. In 2009, Mr Wilkinson wrote the important book - *Secrecy and the Media: The Official History of the United Kingdom's D-Notice System*.



TENET

SHROUDED IN MYSTERY

Christopher Nolan, whose film career includes movies 'Dunkirk' and 'The Prestige' revealed his new production is to be titled 'Tenet'.



Christopher Nolan

Also written by Nolan, the movie has been described as "an action epic evolving from the world of international espionage." Beyond the cast and some of the crew, little else has surfaced regarding its primary theme and content. However, much speculation ensues that it is based around George Tenet who served as Director CIA from 1996-2004. This was a difficult period for Langley, which of course included 9/11 and the Iraq War. Those connected to its production say the secrecy will be maintained until the film premieres. One of its cast, actor Robert Pattinson, said he was locked in a room while reading the script.

The movie, which is being filmed in several countries including the UK, has an impressive cast. Others known to feature are Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Kenneth Branagh and Michael Caine. 'Tenet' is scheduled for release by Warner Bros. in 2020.



SPY WARS

FACTUAL ENCOUNTERS

Damian Lewis' new eight part docudrama series telling the true stories behind some of the most important international spy operations of the past 40 years, will be shown later this year on the Smithsonian Channel. The network, which is a joint venture between CBS Corporation's Showtime and the Smithsonian Institute, is on the brink of closing a deal for 'Spy Wars'.

Using reconstructions, the show will see Lewis act as the guide with each episode telling a different spy story from the Cold War through to more recent events including the 'war on terror' and the surge in espionage-related cases. Shot on location in Moscow, Israel and London, each episode features intelligence historians and former spies from the Mossad, CIA, KGB and MI6.



Damian Lewis

Lewis said he was interested to work on 'Spy Wars' after revealing an interest in the history of espionage, including the formation of the CIA after World War II and the competition between different countries, as well as intra-country agencies. This is Lewis' first foray into factual television



BOND 25

CURTAIN CALL FOR CRAIG

It has been four years since the last movie from the 007 franchise - 'Spectre' was released. Despite delays to shooting and last-minute changes to crew, the new movie - 'Bond 25' is in progress and will probably be released in April 2020.



Daniel Craig

While Daniel Craig was reportedly reluctant to step into the polished shoes of the fictitious MI6 officer 'James Bond', he'll be back for one more sequel. According to the official plot synopsis for 'Bond 25', released by Eon and MGM: "Bond has left active service and is enjoying a tranquil life in Jamaica. His peace is short-lived when his old friend Felix Leiter from the CIA turns up asking for help. The mission turns out to be far more treacherous than expected, leading Bond on to the trail of a mysterious villain armed with dangerous new technology."

Insiders say this will be Craig's last portrayal of 007, despite him publicly saying the role was "the best job in the world." Already rumours abound that the next Bond movie will be directed by Christopher Nolan and be a complete reboot of the character. Perhaps Tenet, which releases just three months after Bond 25, will be Nolan's warm-up for Bond 26?



2003. George Tenet (left - standing), briefs President Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney (back to camera) and White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card

Continued on page 82



SPY GATEWAY FEARS



5G

The Huawei 5G Conundrum

CIA has Alleged Evidence of Covert Chinese Government Sponsorship



As security concerns over China's Huawei Technologies Company continue to be debated by intelligence chiefs and political leaders alike, the *London Times* reported that the CIA has proof it is being part-funded and sponsored by various arms of China's intelligence and military infrastructure. Commentators say this is by far the most serious allegation presented in respect of Huawei's operational prowess. The *Times* source said, "only the most senior UK officials are believed to have seen the intelligence, which the CIA awarded a strong, but not-cast iron classification of certainty."

Huawei's 5G Internet technology was forecast to be rolled-out in dozens of countries, but in recent months senior intelligence figures in Europe, North America and elsewhere have



raised concerns that the company is inextricably linked to the intelligence arms of the Ministry of State Security (MSS). Such suspicion was rejected only recently by Joy Tan, Huawei's chief global communicator. She maintained Huawei is a private company and therefore the Chinese Government "does not have any ownership or [can] interfere in business operations."

CYBER GATEWAY

Numerous warnings have been issued that some of Huawei's 5G technology has been

created with a 'cyber gateway' allowing for 'back-door' access. Already in the United States government computer systems have been stripped of Huawei programmes and other countries are expected to follow suit.

Officials from Huawei have long requested "evidence of covert programming," but none has ever been produced. However, the *Times* source states that whilst this may be the case, the CIA does have evidence which for obvious reasons it has decided to withhold... for now. Journalists said this evidence has been shown to British Intelligence - presumably MI6 and GCHQ.

As for what type of liaison Huawei has with the Chinese Government - three branches of the MSS have allegedly provided finance - the newspaper citing the People's Liberation Army, National Security Commission and the intelligence service.

Also widely reported upon in recent weeks, commentary found in official US Government documents that notes a Chinese law introduced 18-months ago, allows the MSS to conduct intelligence collection both domestically and abroad, and gives it wide-ranging powers to seek assistance from all Chinese companies and individuals. Those who impede the Act will be held accountable.

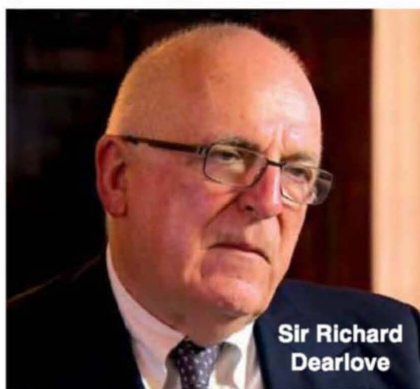




GCHQ Director Jeremy Fleming

Intelligence people who have engaged in a protracted debate about Huawei - many issuing public warnings - now believe their stance has proven correct. The so-called 'Five Eyes' network of intelligence communications agencies operated by the USA, UK, New Zealand, Canada and Australia, have been central to the investigation concerning Huawei's alleged links with the Chinese Government. All heads of the organisations have commented about 5G and China's burgeoning role in the technology world, including GCHQ Director Jeremy Fleming. He said: "The UK has not made a decision about 5G security supply chain rules. GCHQ is at the heart of the policy consideration underway and we already have a role in managing

Huawei headquarters, Shenzhen, China



Sir Richard Dearlove

Huawei's presence in our existing networks." According to sources, the CIA is being used as the platform or conduit to output part of the collective investigative findings.

Mr Fleming's comments seem to suggest any potential threat could be confronted, but former MI6 Chief Sir Richard Dearlove has warned that allowing Huawei to play a part in the building of Britain's 5G network is a mistake and security risk. He said any involvement could put China in a "potentially advantageous exploitative position."

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Defence Secretary Departs After Huawei Information Leaks

Former UK Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson who departed following the National Security Council (NSC) leak of Huawei-related policy information, has rejected commentary that he was in some way related to the breach. In a widely distributed letter, Mr Williamson wrote: 'I

strenuously deny that I was in any way involved in this leak'. He has described the subsequent government inquiry into his alleged involvement in the leak as "a badly handled shabby and discredited witch hunt." New Scotland Yard Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu said, "the Official Secrets Act had



Penny Mordaunt

not been breached," thus he will not investigate. "The leak did not cause damage to the public interest at a level at which it would be necessary to engage misconduct in a public office." However, Williamson said a "full and proper impartial probe" was needed.

Some aspects of the NSC document appear to suggest limited support for allowing Huawei access to help design and build the UK's new 5G network - a move opposed by some key intelligence figures.

Following Williamson's departure, Penny Mordaunt was appointed Defence Secretary - the first female ever to hold the position.

- The National Security Council is made up of key Cabinet and intelligence officials from MI6, GCHQ and MI5.



NATO HQ. February 2019. Former UK Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson and US Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan



Huawei headquarters building in Shanghai

His comments follow leaked information that Downing Street may allow the company to help build part of the infrastructure necessary - "antennas and non-core components" being referenced. "If Australia can blackball Huawei as its 5G provider, the UK can certainly do the same without undue concern about the consequences," he said. Sir Richard also wrote a revealing foreword to a new report published by the Henry Jackson Society think tank. (right) A Huawei spokesman said Sir Richard was "short on facts."

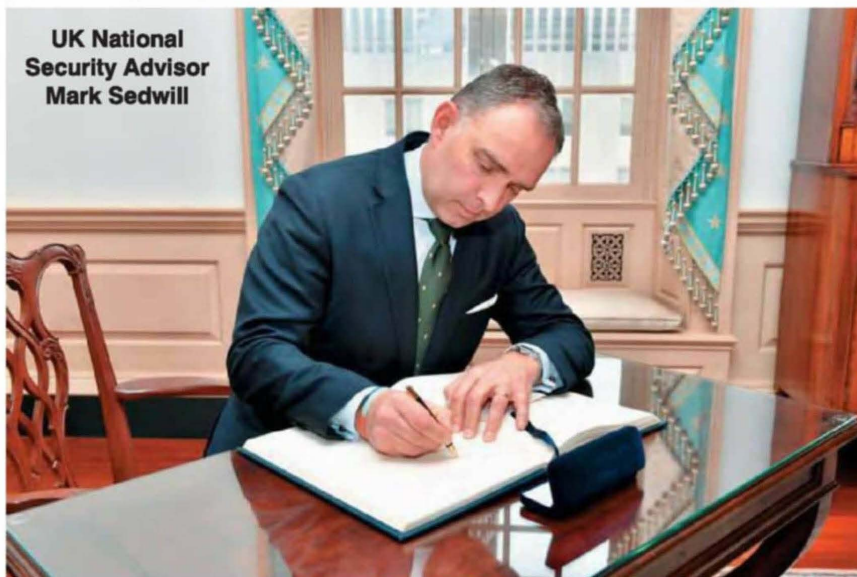
UK DEFENCE SECRETARY

The UK's Huawei Cyber Security Evaluation Centre (HCSEC) Oversight Board, also voiced concerns. It said only recently that it "continued to identify issues in Huawei's approach to software development bringing significantly increased risk to UK operators." And amidst internal National Security Council (NSC) debate, in late April, commentary about disputes and forward planning were leaked to

elements of the British media. Thereafter an internal inquiry headed by UK National Security Advisor Mark Sedwill followed. This led Prime Minister Theresa May to sack Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson who is a key member of the NSC - all of whom have signed the Official Secrets Act (OSA).

UK Government officials are set to debate further the Huawei situation - if it disallows the 5G technology, then, it is perhaps an indication that the alleged CIA intelligence, and therefore evidence, has been accepted as bona-fide. A Whitehall spokesman said: "Whatever the final decision the UK Government takes about 5G network infrastructure, the UK is not considering any options that would put our national security communications at risk, within the UK and with our closet allies."

America's NSA has long maintained that installing and allowing technology provided by the operator is "more than problematic."



UK National Security Advisor Mark Sedwill

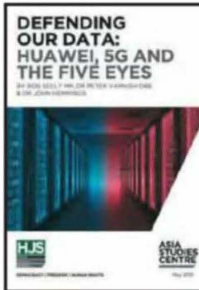
HUAWEI 5G: A RISK TOO GREAT?

In a foreword to a new report by the Henry Jackson Society (HJS) think tank, former MI6 Chief Sir Richard Dearlove discussed Chinese 5G technology:

'The fact that the British Government now appears to have decided to place the development of some of its most sensitive critical infrastructure in the hands of a company from the People's Republic of China (PRC) is deeply worrying.'

'The PRC uses its sophisticated technical capabilities not only to control its own population (to an extreme and growing degree), but it also conducts remotely aggressive intelligence gathering operations on a global scale.'

'No part of the Communist Chinese state is ultimately able to operate free of the control exercised by its Communist Party leadership. To place the PRC in a potentially advantageous exploitative position in the UK's future telecommunications systems therefore is a risk, however remote it may seem at the moment, we simply do not need to take.'



The US Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence Susan Gordon, recently commented about the dangers posed by a global 5G network roll-out - without naming any specific company. "We are going to have to figure out a way in a 5G world that we are able to manage the risks in a diverse network that includes technology that we can't trust. You have to presume a dirty network."



US Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence Susan Gordon

Despite the concerns, intelligence watchers believe Huawei will eventually succeed in securing a worldwide footprint; however, this will be set against multiple layers of security already envisaged or in the planning stage.

US Secretary of State and former Director CIA Mike Pompeo, who must have seen Langley's evidence - if it exists - has already warned that Washington may dissolve its cooperation with "important strategic partners" who use Huawei technology. Besides the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Japan have opted to prevent the company from participating in government contract work - all have cited security concerns. On 16 May, President Trump signed an executive order which effectively bans US companies using communications equipment it deems



President Trump's executive order regarding US company use of foreign communications technology seems linked to the Huawei conundrum

PENTAGON SPY FEARS CHINA ESPIONAGE, TALENT SPOTTING AND SELLING SECRETS

Coinciding with CIA concerns over Huawei, the Pentagon has accused China's military of using espionage as a direct means of modernising its armed forces and military potential.

In its Annual Report to Congress (May), titled *'Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2019'*, US defence officials warn that China is using 'multiple methods to reach its goal of military modernisation'. This includes exploiting Chinese companies who have legitimate or illegal access to foreign technologies, including military and cyber. It also identified MSS (Ministry of State Security) espionage elements including 'talent spotters and agent recruiters'.

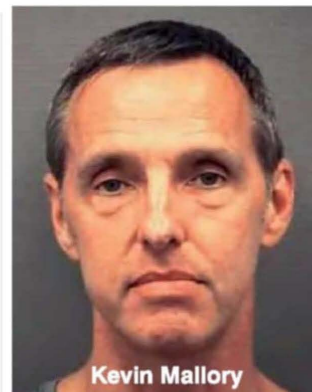
Pentagon analysts also provided a unique assessment into China's growing military forces, predicting that by 2020, the country's nuclear submarine numbers would rise to 70. Interestingly, one section covers China's growing interest in the Arctic Circle.

US JAILS FORMER CIA OFFICER

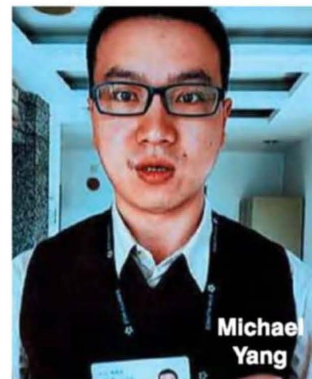
Former CIA and DIA intelligence officer Kevin Mallory, who was found guilty of spying for the Chinese in June 2018, has been jailed for 20-years. Fluent in Mandarin, Mallory, 62, came into contact with an MSS agent on the Internet. In time, he agreed to pass classified information to China in return for money. The MSS 'recruiter' was named in court by prosecutors as Michael Yang.

Surveillance evidence showed Mallory scanning sensitive documents on a memory card at a FedEx office. He also travelled to Shanghai on two occasions in 2017 to meet with his MSS contacts - and returned with a special device designed for transmitting information safely. When this was recovered at his home in Virginia by FBI counter-espionage officers, several incriminating text exchanges with the Chinese agents were discovered.

Following the sentence, Assistant Attorney General John Demers said: "This case is one in an alarming trend of former US intelligence officers being targeted by China and betraying their country and colleagues." US attorney Zachary Terwilliger



added: "Mallory not only put our country at great risk, he endangered the lives of others who put their own safety at risk for our national defence. This case should send out a message to anyone considering violating the public's trust and compromising national security."



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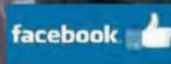
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poses a national security threat. The White House did not specifically reference Huawei, however, shortly after the decision, the US Commerce Department formally added Huawei to a list of firms it considers to be undermining national interests.

'NO SPY DEALS'

Huawei Chairman Liang Hua accepted that some countries are concerned about its 5G technology, but he rejected claims it could be potentially exploited. And in respect of an MSS 'gateway' into the equipment, Mr Hua said:



Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei



Left: March 2019. Mainz, Germany. President Jochen Homann of the Federal Network Agency of Germany presides over the start of the '5G auction'

or may be specifically excluded," said Homann. This comment probably prompted Mike Pompeo to speak out about cooperation.

- In May, the United States joined 30 other countries in Prague, Czech Republic, to discuss 5G standards. Also on the agenda, and more importantly, identifying those countries and firms involved in future 5G 'roll outs'.



Superfast 5G is the fifth generation of cellular network technology with Internet 'connectivity'. It provides faster down and up-load speeds, is more stable and covers much wider distances than existing platforms. Some analysts believe it will provide users with speeds up to 20-times faster than current systems.

CHINESE SPY GAMES

Canadian Nationals Arrested and Charged with Espionage

Another incident which seems inextricably linked to the Huawei affair took a new twist when two Canadians detained in China since December 2018, were formally arrested and charged with espionage. Beijing legal prosecutors say the men, Michael Spavor, a businessman, and Michael Kovrig, a former diplomat now working with the International Crisis Group, attempted to "gather information on behalf of a foreign country." More specifically, Kovrig who worked in the Far East from 2003 to 2016, was accused of "gathering state secrets" and Spavor "stealing secrets and providing them to overseas forces."

China Foreign Ministry Spokesman Lu Kang told journalists that he hopes "Canada will not interfere." However, already Global Affairs Canada, the Government body responsible for diplomatic relations has rejected the spy charges. "Canada strongly condemns their arbitrary arrests as we condemned their arbitrary detention on 10 December 2018," a spokesman said.



Michael Spavor



Michael Kovrig

The detention of the Canadians came just days after the arrest of Sabrina Meng Wanzhou, Chief Financial officer of Huawei in the United States in Vancouver, also in December 2018. The daughter of Huawei founder Ren Zhengfe, Wanzhou was detained at the request of US authorities on fraud offences who want to speak to her about alleged violations of US sanctions targeting Iran. These include attempting to conceal alleged Huawei links to a Hong Kong-based company involved in a business deal with Iran.



Sabrina Meng Wanzhou



Huawei Chairman Liang Hua

"We are willing to sign no-spy agreements with governments, including the UK, to commit ourselves to making our equipment meet the no-spy, no backdoors standard."

In Germany, Huawei Chief Executive and founder Ren Zhengfe also offered Berlin a "no-spy deal" in respect of its 5G concerns. A number of German sources quoted Zhengfe who said: "We talked to the German Interior Ministry and said that we were ready to sign a no-spy agreement with the German Government and to promise that Huawei will not install any backdoors in the networks."

Berlin's 'public' position is different to the United States and other 'Five Eyes' nations. Jochen Homann, Director of the country's Federal Network Agency Bundesnetzagentur, has acknowledged there are no plans to ban Huawei from its 5G network roll-out. "The position of the Bundesnetzagentur is that no equipment supplier, including Huawei, should,

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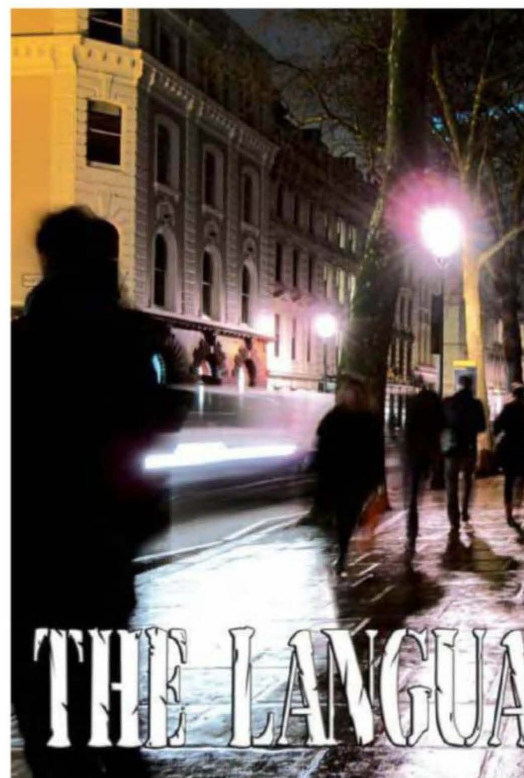
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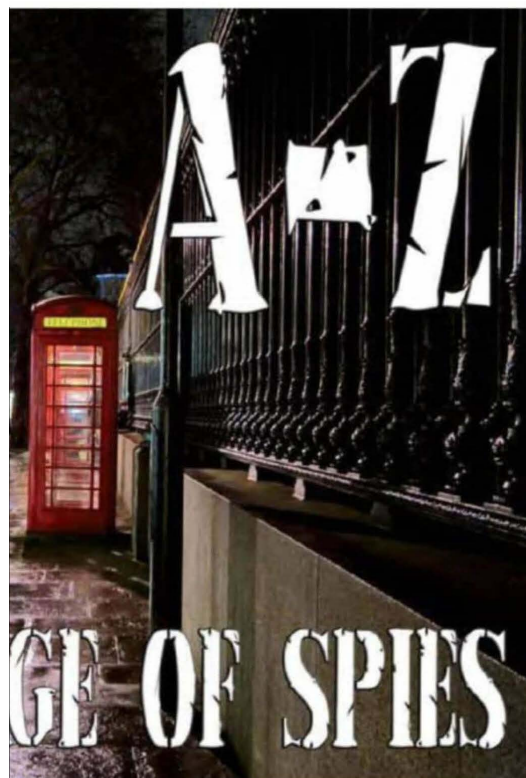


Eye Spy examines more
terminology and
phrases found in the
dictionary of spies and
covert operators,
including recent
editions sourced from
intelligence archives

BACK-STOPPED

Odd terminology for an intelligence
operation which has been carefully
planned, financed and given
authorisation by the government -
only for participants and controllers to be told





it has been 'Back-Stopped'. This essentially means it is on hold until reauthorised and green-lighted by head of Service.

Numerous reasons exist why operations are Back-Stopped, some political, others because they are deemed too risky or the consequences not thought-out properly. In most cases frustration consumes planners and players engaged in an operation that has been suspended. Suspicion too arises from within an agency that government support is not total; participants too may suspect parts of the plan are flawed.

There are instances where some within an intelligence service may attempt to carry out the operation without the knowledge or total support of government - the Bay of Pigs (anti-Fidel Castro operation) is a good example. In this case, support both on a government-level and militarily was not total - much to the dismay of the CIA who sponsored the attack in April 1961.



BLACK BUDGET

When intelligence services prepare yearly accounts or request an annual rise in funding, all such data handling is carefully overseen by various offices, from Treasury departments to the highest levels of government. And of course, in most Western nations the financial costs of running an intelligence agency is released for public consumption in yearly reports (in the UK and USA this is provided for as a collective figure).



Nevertheless, there are events and happenings which throughout any given financial year can prompt requests for more money; and others which must remain 'visibly unfunded'. This usually helps conceal secret or sensitive operations. In this respect, senior intelligence management can secure funding from the 'Black Budget' or 'Invisible Budget'. This is sourced from the purse of an 'invisible government' in an attempt to conceal additional financial input which might be questioned by accountants or government watchdogs. In the West, this joint political-intelligence venture is usually overseen and actioned by persons fully briefed on the importance of the request - many of whom are already familiar with intelligence actions that need concealing.

BLEACH

Following a secret operation deemed too sensitive for any trace evidence to remain, the CIA (and other agencies) will attempt to 'clean' and remove evidence that it ever took place in the first place. 'Bleach' can be attached to physical evidence, visual evidence (CCTV footage), documentation and even computerised records.

However, much is dependent on the type of operation Bleach is assigned to, and numer-



ous case files exist whereby clues have been left. 'Poor tradecraft' can also account for exposed operations where Bleach has little affect. A good recent example is the attempted assassination of former GRU officer and MI6 spy Sergei Skripal in Salisbury. In this case the Russian operatives used a cover story but left a few authentic clues. For reasons not yet fully understood, they discarded the bottle used to carry the attack weapon - Novichok nerve agent - in a public place. Similarly, their movements were caught on CCTV.

BURN BAG

Closely associated with Bleach is 'Burn Bag' - a tradecraft expression which originates with the CIA. In simplistic terms this requires all evidence of a case enquiry, operation, incident (historical,

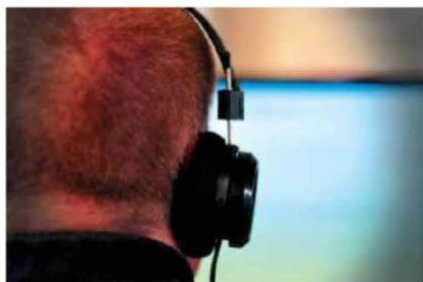


current or intended) destroyed. However, there are occasions when at least some of the material is held for unspecified reasons.

Similarly, external associates, agencies or contract companies may try and distance themselves from an incident by destroying materials which could link them to an event. In some cases they are advised or instructed to do so by the primary controlling agency.

CROSS & COVER

When providing a field operative with a new identity and life-history, 'Cover and Legend' is the internationally accepted phrase to describe such an act. Almost certainly aligned to this tradecraft is 'Cross and Cover', a phrase which originates with the CIA. It is a communication address which could support an agent[s], safe house or even a front company - all controlled and utilised by Langley. The occupants will probably use bogus names, and whilst the business may on the surface appear real, the building and function therein, will have a covert alternative use.



In most cases even 'friends' (MI6 and other allies) are oblivious to such addresses which can be based on US soil, but are more commonly found abroad.

DEEP STATE

An oft-used conspiratorial description which encompasses an invisible government made up of intelligence and government people whose actions are intended to control and manipulate government policy, thinking and decision making. A 'Deep State' is also charged with operating a network of organisations, including financial institutions whose principals have an impact on all manner of internal and foreign affairs.

The term was originally coined in Turkey and referenced intelligence and security agencies and even crime gangs which were supposedly meddling in state affairs. Deep State was also



referenced by supporters of Donald Trump in the 2016 US General Election, in this case accusations were made that attempts by an invisible government was doing its utmost to lessen Trump's chances of becoming president.

FIRESTARTER

A complex reference used in various intelligence fields, one such being as a provocation tool to lure an opponent and reveal his 'hand'. This may be in respect of trying to understand an objective or even exposing operational agents; in military speak - to began conflict or forcing an adversary to respond or show his strength.

It is also linked to 'Distraction' and 'False Flag' operations: deliberate intentional misrepresentation, and as a confusion tool. 'Firestarting' could also be seen as an act to force or prompt dialogue. Other references to its use can also be found when a third party or 'Firestarter' attempts to destabilise relations between nations, organisations and individuals. This can be actioned by simply planting disinformation, or on a much grander scale, by performing an act that would induce suspicion and mistrust between allies.

In its more literal term - it simply means forcefully engaging with an opponent by sending a signal through an action certain to attract attention and secure a response.



GHOSTING

The term 'Ghosting' is used to describe a friend or loved one who you believe cares for you - yet suddenly disappears without trace and reason: no contact or communication thereafter. At least part of the description may explain why it has found a place in the dictionary of spies.

A 'Ghost' is a CIA expression sometimes used to describe those officers and almost certainly agents, who have received 'unorthodox' training at facilities which are essentially spy schools; the most well known being the CIA's 'Farm'. It is assigned to operatives who learn, study and actively participate in operations, primarily abroad. This of course means the study of tradecraft.

A secondary description - 'Ghosting' involves an operative actually taking the identity and role of a person who for a variety of reasons needs replacing. They may have disappeared, died, or can no longer function properly. This seems allied to its real-world origin.



KEY HOLE



A phrase used in penetration operations to gain access or insight into a subject, area, operation or even a spy's or potential spy's mindset. The genesis of the term 'Key Hole', used widely by theUSIC (US Intelligence Community), probably originates from the satellite reconnaissance programme initiated by the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) in 1976.



1984. NRO KH-11 (Key Hole) spy satellite image showing the construction of a Kiev-class aircraft at the Nikolaiev 444 shipyard in the Black Sea

KITCHEN CABINET

A Cabinet Office is recognised as a body of senior officials assembled by a political party's leadership to collectively make decisions affecting all aspects of government. Serving members, for example, officials in the UK's Cabinet Office are all publicly known, 'registered' and widely recognised. Each oversees a certain task or is involved with various aspects of government that sometimes overlap.



'Kitchen Cabinet' is a little known phrase used by American Intelligence (CIA) to describe a body of unofficially appointed people - primarily from the intelligence, security and political world, who can be trusted to assist operations - sometimes concealing aspects of an endeavour from associates. Similarly, it's not unusual for the head of a Service to secure assistance of others outside the field, business people of standing for example who can legally operate in areas sometimes difficult to penetrate. All belong to the Kitchen Cabinet, which has occasionally been referred to as a 'secret society'.

LOST IN TRANSLATION

Essentially a message, comment, instruction or any form of communication that has not been interpreted properly, forgotten, actioned or simply not understood. This is often due to lack of focus and concentration, but other reasons exist.

In the intelligence world, 'Lost in Translation', or LIT, is also a fall-back excuse in the event that an operation does not go exactly to plan. In this case senior management and field operatives alike who are hesitant to apportion blame, argue that "instructions have been lost in translation." And in truth, there are case file examples involving foreign national contacts where genuine errors in translation have impacted on operations, including espionage. Such errors usually occur more frequently if an instruction or command passes through several channels - eventually reaching the end user.



MARATHON MAN

A candid title given to an officer, agent or any serving employee of an intelligence service who is assigned to a long-term task knowing he or she will be deployed on a single project for a considerable time.

The term 'Marathon Man' has been compared to 'Sleeper Agent', though the latter is usually afforded to an agent-in-place, and not one engaged in general duties.



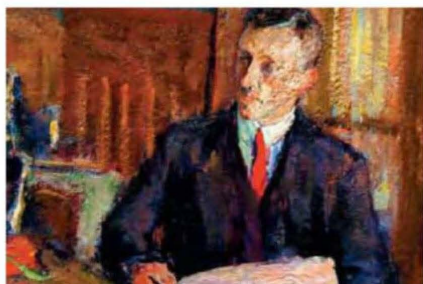
NIGHT MANAGER

The popular television series starring an array of leading actors, including Hugh Laurie and Tom Hiddleston and based on the novel by former MI6 man John le Carre, received worldwide acclaim. Its theme or story-line linked the intelligence services of the UK and USA, to the dark international trade of illegal arms movement. So popular was the six-part series it was sold to an astonishing 180 countries.

Hiddleston's role as a luxury hotel night manager is obviously where the description ➤



© GAGE SKIDMORE



of the book and film was sourced, but it has since found its way into the world of the language of spies.

'Night Porter' has been used for years to unofficially describe the role of management charged with overseeing the general running of an agency during night-time hours. They are a person or persons specially chosen and trusted to make decisions, out-source or allocate tasks or alert a superior - all within a moments notice. Yet since the 2016 BBC series aired, Eye Spy has learned that a number of leading international intelligence agencies have exchanged the description Night Porter with 'Night Manager'.

No doubt words and phrases from future media productions will eventually find their way into the world of espionage.

PAPER CUP

Intelligence analysts designate an exposed or vulnerable spy cell, agent, front company or even a fragile government, 'Paper Cup', primarily because it can be 'crushed' with relative ease.

The term was coined at the height of the Cold War in reference to opposition groups and movements behind the Iron Curtain who were opposed to Moscow. Washington, whilst supportive of such groups, recognised that even with covert support from the CIA, there was little chance nations would be allowed to break away from the USSR.



PILOT LIGHT

The use of long-term sleeper agents or an operation which is essentially intended to continue for a lengthy period of time, is controlled and governed by what's known as a 'Pilot Light'. This could involve multiple agencies or just one individual. In all cases 'duration' and 'continuation' are words which have been used to describe the tradecraft.

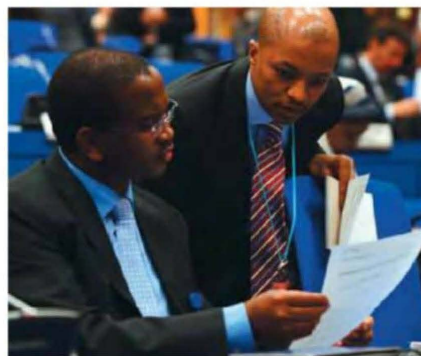
Similarly, the phrase has seeped into many areas of government. If initial negotiations break down on a particular subject, for example, ending North Korea's quest for a nuclear bomb, officials recognise that continuing dialogue rather than walking away all together if preferable - hence keeping a pilot light burning.



SHARP SHOOTING

A pooling of ideas which operational planners request from analysts and those engaged in both foreign intelligence collection and counter-intelligence. 'Sharp Shooting' is essentially an initial debate to lay the genesis of a specific endeavour with input, ideas and thoughts being provided for by a range of people who may be asked to participate, advise or analyse. Similarly, it can be used to generate relevant theories on why an operation was successful, faltered or simply failed.

If an explanation supported by analysts can be learned, this too can be applied to future

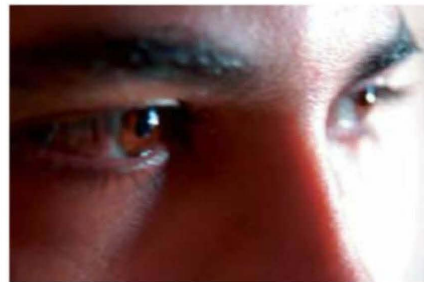


planning. Views, opinions, and general discussion takes place prior to or in the aftermath of an operation.

Sharp Shooting in its most general term is used to create a list of possibilities. In counter-espionage, for example, data is examined to source the most likely hemorrhage point of intelligence (spy or traitor).

STONE IN MY SHOE

A strange expression first heard in the Cold War to reference a 'nagging doubt' that 'something' or 'someone' is not quite right or as it should be. The phrase could be used by an intelligence officer who suspects an associate might be a traitor, or simply that an operation or task is not going as well as expected. Similarly, 'Stone in my Shoe' could be used to express trepidation - a nervousness or fear that sooner or later an event will occur that impacts on an operation or organisation.



YELLOW BOX EXIT

Road users know not to enter a yellow box junction unless the exit is clear. And strangely the term 'Yellow Box Exit' has found its way into the language of spies. Trainees in the great game are warned that embarking on a mission that might be dangerous, must be prepared to 'dis-engage' if a danger to life exists, or when an operation is in peril of compromise.

Similarly, they should only proceed with an operation if the Yellow Box Exit is clear.



Russian Spy Expulsions, Dead Ducks and the Third Man



**MI6 agent and former GRU officer
Sergei Skripal who survived an
assassination attempt in March 2018**

Referencing 'multiple intelligence sources', the *New York Times* said the US decision to expel dozens of Russian 'diplomats' in wake of the attempted assassination of MI6 agent Sergei Skripal in Salisbury, Wiltshire, UK, last March, was influenced by unrelated images of children and ducks exposed to the Novichok nerve agent. The newspaper said: 'Mr Trump fixated on the pictures of the sickened children and the dead ducks'.



THE SALISBURY SANCTION

Russian state media said Director CIA Gina Haspel provided President Trump with photographs of 'dead ducks and hospitalised children', after he suggested the Salisbury



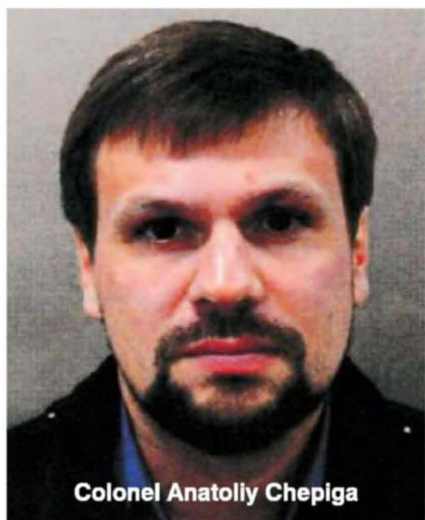
**D/CIA Gina
Haspel**

incident was but "part of the great game of espionage." Having examined the images allegedly provided by the British Government and presented by Haspel - the President changed his mind and ordered the expulsions. Sixty officials, including intelligence officers departed the United States on 30 March 2018.

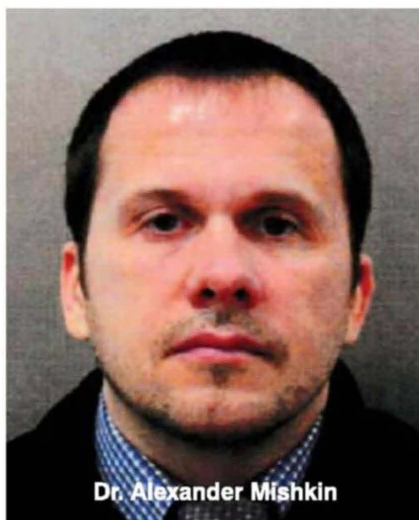
Naturally, the report was the focus of attention by officials in Russia's London Embassy who launched a tirade of Internet-released statements. One such press release said: *'The CIA presented the president with fake photos - either made by themselves or received from British colleagues. We urge the British authorities to urgently clarify this issue'.*

The embassy also noted earlier statements released by health officials in Wiltshire, including Tracy Daszkiewicz, Director of Health, who said no-one - children or animals - suffered. "There were no other casualties other than those previously stated. No wildlife were impacted by the incident and no children were exposed to or became ill as a result of either incident," said Daszkiewicz.

From whence the *New York Times* received the 'intelligence' is unclear, though reports have emerged that Sergei Skripal's pets (cat and two guinea pigs) may have been put to sleep. Similarly, there is evidence (reports - 2018) suggesting a number of dead ducks were



Colonel Anatolii Chepiga



Dr. Alexander Mishkin

removed by British scientists during the investigation from a river or stream in Salisbury. There was no evidence the animals died from Novichok.

EDITOR'S NOTE: If any imagery was used by Langley, then it would have been presented in context - the aftermath of previous chemical attacks linked to nerve agents - of which numerous such examples exist. As for hospitalised children, a number of concerned parents did take their children to hospital - fearful they might have been exposed to the nerve agent.

PHONE CALLS AND TRADECRAFT

As New Scotland Yard's investigation into the poisoning of Skripal continues, a source revealed the two prime suspects - GRU men Colonel Anatolii Chepiga and Dr. Alexander Mishkin, received a telephone call at their hotel shortly after returning to London following the

attack. Thereafter, the operatives "hurriedly left" for Heathrow Airport and departed to Moscow.

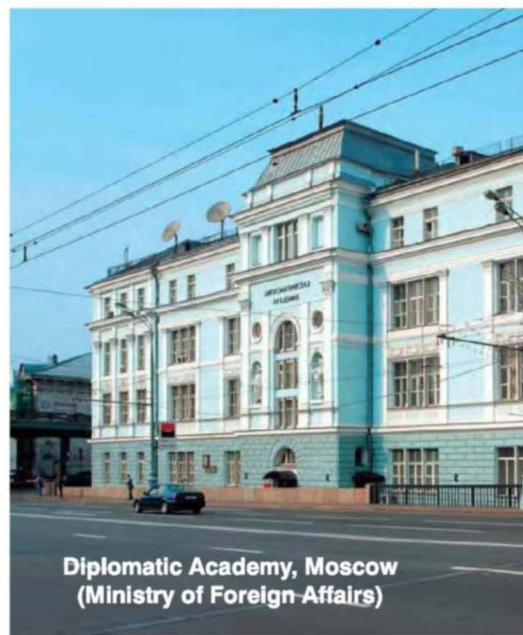
Much speculation surrounds the meaning of the call, with some sources claiming it is supportive evidence that the men were part of a larger team. Another GRU officer, Denis Vyacheslavovich Sergeev, a graduate of



Denis Vyacheslavovich Sergeev
pictured in 1999



City Stay Hotel where the phone call was received



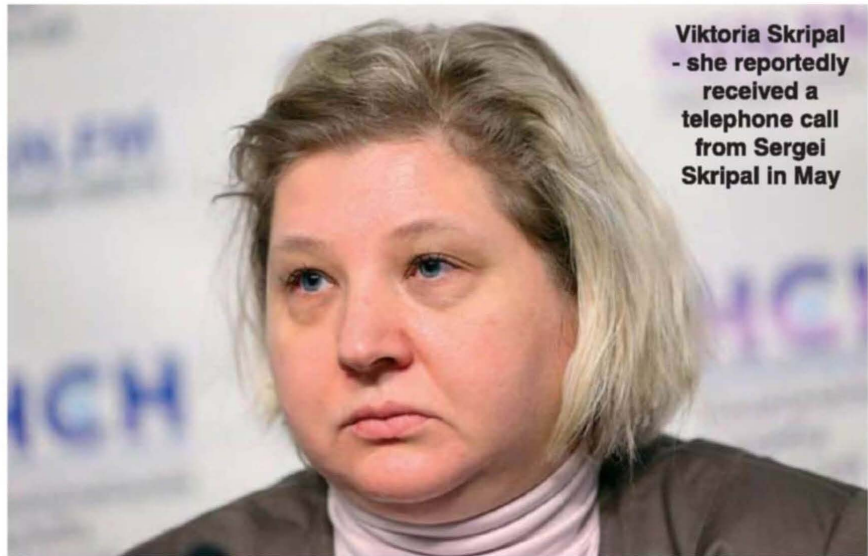
**Diplomatic Academy, Moscow
(Ministry of Foreign Affairs)**

Russia's prestigious Diplomatic Academy (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) who used the cover name Sergey Fedotov, had arrived in the UK hours before Chepiga and Mishkin. He also flew back to Moscow on 4 March, the day of the Salisbury attack. However, he did not show up for a pre-booked flight direct to Moscow, instead returned to Russia via Rome. MI6 sources believe Fedotov, who had "visited the UK several times," used the exact tactics when he visited Bulgaria in 2015. He booked a direct flight back to Moscow but instead caught a flight to Istanbul, Turkey, and then returned to Moscow. His journey coincided with an incident involving Bulgarian businessman and arms dealer Emilian Gebrav, who along with his son, fell ill due to suspected poisoning. Both men recovered.

Earlier this year Emma Hopkins UK Ambassador to Bulgaria acknowledged British and Bulgarian investigators were working together, this after Gebrav's case was reopened following the Skripal incident. "We are working



BBC Security Correspondent Gordon Corera and Eye Spy Editor Mark Birdsall



Viktoria Skripal
- she reportedly
received a
telephone call
from Sergei
Skripal in May



Emilian Gebrav

in a joint team and a close partnership, and we are going to find out the facts in this case," said Hopkins.

Of Fedotov's switching of aeroplanes, BBC Security Correspondent Gordon Corera said: "This may have been part of his 'tradecraft' - if he had been worried that the authorities could be on his trail, he might hope they



UK Ambassador to Bulgaria Emma Hopkins

would surveil the flight he had booked while he took a different one."

Eye Spy was told that MI5 and NSY investigating officers are compiling evidence relating to other suspects who played a supporting role, from those organising flights, hotels and travel arrangements, to others engaged in a "known surveillance operation that tracked Skripal's daughter Yulia from Russia to England." Much research continues into how the Novichok nerve agent was transported by the attackers. Some investigative sources believe the poison was secreted into the Salisbury area prior to the attack and collected or delivered to Chepiga and Mishkin via a member of the alleged Russian assassination team.

Meanwhile in Russia, several newspapers carried a report that Sergei Skripal had surfaced following a telephone call made by him to relatives in Russia. In the alleged voicemail to his niece Viktoria sent on 9 May, the day Russia celebrates victory over Germany in WWII, Skripal says "everything is fine with me."

Russian Foreign Office officials were hesitant to confirm or deny the report, however, the story was carried by Russian state media house TASS. Viktoria told TASS journalists: "He has called twice, once in April and once he left a voicemail. The phone number was identified, it's a number registered in Great Britain, both times it has been different. I have already handed over [the materials to the Russian Investigative Committee."

The Russian Investigative Committee's Directorate for the Yaroslavl Region said they had not received any documents from Viktoria Skripal. However, a source told TASS: "She may have sent them [recording or transcript] directly to the Central Administration of the Russian Investigative Committee." This authority deals with federal investigative



Alexander Bastrykin

matters, and whose Acting Chairman is Alexander Bastrykin - a figure well known to Western Intelligence agencies.

The Russian Government continues to reject UK allegations the operation was Kremlin-sanctioned. As for Sergei Skripal, Eye Spy was told he is no longer in the UK.



2006. Sergei Skripal in a Moscow military court where he was found guilty of espionage



VOLUME 2
VOLUME 3
VOLUME 4
VOLUME 5
VOLUME 6
VOLUME 7
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ISSUE 73 REF: ES/73

VOLUME 11



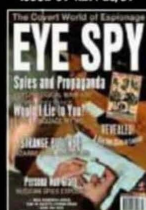
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VOLUME 12



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VOLUME 13



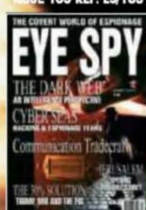
ISSUE 97 REF: ES/97

VOLUME 14



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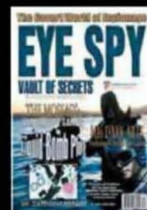


ISSUE 113 REF: ES/113

VOLUME 16



ISSUE 121 REF: ES/121



ISSUE 74 REF: ES/74



ISSUE 82 REF: ES/82



ISSUE 90 REF: ES/90



ISSUE 98 REF: ES/98



ISSUE 106 REF: ES/106



ISSUE 114 REF: ES/114



ISSUE 75 REF: ES/75



ISSUE 83 REF: ES/83



ISSUE 91 REF: ES/91



ISSUE 99 REF: ES/99



ISSUE 107 REF: ES/107



ISSUE 115 REF: ES/115



ISSUE 76 REF: ES/76



ISSUE 84 REF: ES/84



ISSUE 92 REF: ES/92



ISSUE 100 REF: ES/100



ISSUE 108 REF: ES/108



ISSUE 116 REF: ES/116



ISSUE 77 REF: ES/77



ISSUE 85 REF: ES/85



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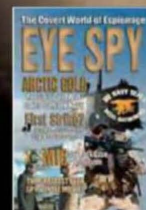
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ISSUE 109 REF: ES/109



ISSUE 117 REF: ES/117



ISSUE 78 REF: ES/78



ISSUE 86 REF: ES/86



ISSUE 94 REF: ES/94



ISSUE 102 REF: ES/102



ISSUE 110 REF: ES/110



ISSUE 118 REF: ES/118



ISSUE 79 REF: ES/79



ISSUE 87 REF: ES/87



ISSUE 95 REF: ES/95



ISSUE 103 REF: ES/103



ISSUE 111 REF: ES/111



ISSUE 119 REF: ES/119



ISSUE 80 REF: ES/80



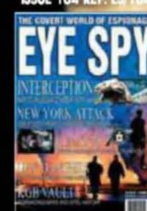
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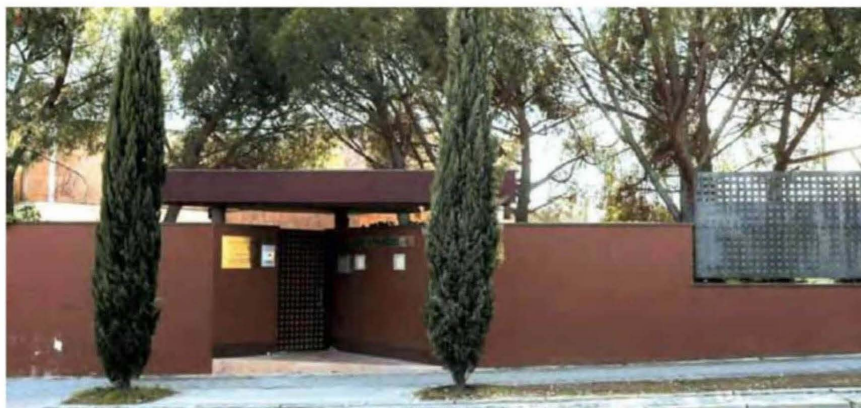
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THE MADRID INCIDENT

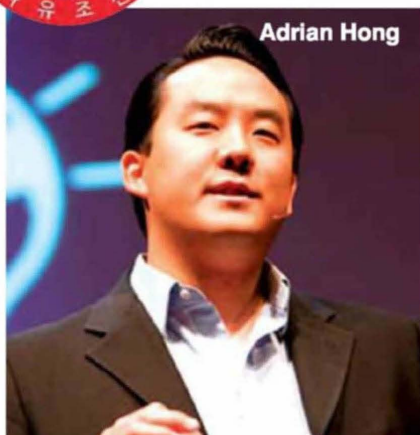


Arrests, warrants and accusations of CIA involvement follow strange raid on North Korea's Embassy in Spain

A former US Marine has been arrested in connection with the operation targeting the Embassy of North Korea in Madrid in February (see Eye Spy 121). Christopher Ahn appeared in a Los Angeles court over the incident, which is now believed to have been carried out by a secretive human rights outfit called Free Joseon, formed in 2017 and also known as Cheollima Civil Defense (CCD). The group supports those wanting to defect from North Korea and who are opposed to the regime of Kim Jong-un. FBI officers also raided the apartment of Adrian Hong, 35, a leading member of the group who the FBI believe planned the Spain raid. The Bureau has since created a team of specialists to track Hong.



In a statement released by Free Joseon, the group said: "Adrian Hong and Christopher Ahn are true heroes who took great risks and have made many other personal

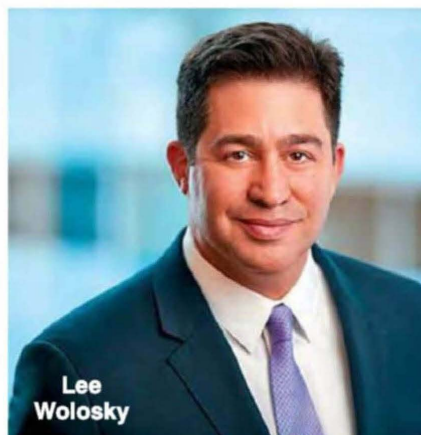


Adrian Hong



Christopher Ahn

various security roles, said he was "dismayed that the US Department of Justice has decided to execute warrants against US persons that derive from criminal complaints filed by North Korea." He also referenced Otto Warmbier, a US student detained in 2016 and allegedly tortured. He was freed a year later but passed after spending months in a vegetative state. Wolosky said he had received no assurances from the US Government about the safety and security of US nationals being targeted by North Korea.



Lee Wolosky

sacrifices for many years to help rescue those not blessed with freedom."

Hong's solicitor Lee Wolosky, who has served under the last three US Presidents in



DPRK leader Kim Jong-un

EMBASSY RAID

Intelligence sources told Eye Spy the two incidents (embassy raid and Warmbier death) are inextricably linked.

During the daylight Madrid operation, around ten unidentified persons entered the building and removed computers, cell phones and various media storage machines. All were allegedly passed to US authorities (FBI) which could explain the US arrests. Some of the data is said to include memos and advisory notes connected to NK's nuclear ambitions. The machines have since been returned to Spanish officials, who described the ongoing investigation as "highly secret."

This still hasn't lessened DPRK interest in the case, and intelligence officials in Pyongyang insist the operation was likely to have been sponsored by the FBI or CIA in the first place - a suggestion regarded as



Otto Warmbier



Warmbier exits a NK courtroom



Christopher Ahn enters the DPRK Embassy in Madrid



"ludicrous" by intelligence watchers. Nevertheless, Washington was forced to deny any involvement.

North Korea described the raid as a "grave terrorist incident." According to its officials, violence did take place and the materials seized was of "intelligence interest."

Free Joseon acknowledged its members were involved, but insist they were invited into the embassy. A Spanish judge, however, said officials were "violently beaten and placed in flanges and shackles." Court papers also reference the use of knives, machetes and fake firearms, and an attempt to convince one embassy staffer to defect.

While Free Joseon are committed to the overthrow of Kim Jong-un, the group issued a web statement insisting no-one was 'gagged or beaten'.

Spain has reportedly issued extradition papers for a number of US-based nationals allegedly involved in the Madrid incident. The event occurred a day or so before President Trump was due to meet with Kim Jong-un.

INTEL INSIDE

Some conspiracy theorists believe Free Joseon is a 'front' for the CIA, allowing the group to operate in locations beyond the reach of Langley. One man who believes the US may have sponsored the Madrid raid is Russian intelligence analyst and scholar Andrei Lankov. He is Director of Korea Risk Group and a specialist in Korean studies who attended North Korea's Pyongyang Kim Il-sung University in 1985.



Andrei Lankov

Lankov believes the Madrid raid was likely conducted by the CIA though he also believes South Korea's National Intelligence Service (NIS), may have played a role.

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SECRET HISTORY

THE INCREMENT

SECRET MI6 AND SAS ALLIANCE



By Steven Taylor

Forty years ago the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan, prompting an alliance between British and US Intelligence agencies and Mujahideen rebels that remains controversial to this day

To the Russians it was the Mi-24: to Western forces it was better known by its NATO codename 'Hind'. But to the Afghan Mujahideen rebels it was 'Satan's Chariot'. Bristling with heavy machine guns and rockets, and with armour as thick as a tank's, this menacing 'bug-eyed' Soviet helicopter gunship was virtually impervious to the light weapons used by the Mujahideen.

For the Soviet forces occupying Afghanistan during the 1980s, the Mi-24 had proven itself

to be the most important weapon in their war against local insurgent forces. But their virtual immunity ended on the morning of 25 September 1986, when three Hinds returning to their base in Jalalabad, north-eastern Afghanistan, were shot down by Stinger surface-to-air missiles fired by Afghan rebels.

The Stingers were supplied to the rebels by the CIA, with the SAS helping train the Mujahideen to use them, as part of a clandestine joint UK-US Intelligence operation to aid the local Afghan resistance in its bitter



Soviet troops in Kabul

war against the Soviets, who invaded Afghanistan in December 1979 to prop up the faltering pro-Moscow regime in Kabul.

CIA INVOLVEMENT

The Soviet invasion was greeted with dismay and anger in Washington and London. Britain's new Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, was particularly enraged, pledging in the House of Commons to "do everything possible to help the people of Afghanistan to rid themselves of the occupying force." Her views were mirrored by those of US President Jimmy Carter, who had ordered the CIA to draw up plans to support the local rebels, collectively known as the Mujahideen. Afghan guerrilla fighters, making good use of the





country's mountainous terrain, had been opposing the Russians since the first days of the invasion. But the Mujahideen was poorly organised, riven by internal feuds and, most of all, lacked modern weaponry.

Pakistan, which shared a long border with Afghanistan and whose President Zia was a strong supporter of the Mujahideen, was to be the conduit for US military aid. As America's most important ally in the battle against Communist expansionism, Carter also turned to the UK for support in this clandestine programme of military assistance (Operation Cyclone). Thatcher was keen to help. "I fully share your view of the need to support Pakistan and the Afghan resistance," she wrote to him on 15 October 1980. "As you know, we are already working together on this very sensitive and important issue."

However, with Cold War tensions at fever pitch, Britain's Foreign Office was nervous. In a memo to Downing Street, the Foreign Office warned Thatcher: *'Public admission or even suspicion that we were considering or were actually supplying arms would not be helpful to the Afghans themselves, would embarrass the Pakistanis and could provoke reactions from the Russians'*.



Mujahideen fighter prepares to fire a surface-to-air missile



1988. Soviet Spetsnaz forces prepare for operations in Afghanistan

COVERT MI6/SAS ASSISTANCE

But her resolve was strengthened after she visited a refugee camp on the Afghan/Pakistan border in October 1981 and saw for herself

the terrible suffering caused to the Afghan people by the Soviet occupation. According to one former SAS soldier, in 1983 a group of junior Mujahideen commanders was secretly flown to the UK and trained by SAS instructors in the hilly countryside of rural Scotland, which provided a fair approximation of the rugged terrain of their homeland. MI6 also provided the Mujahideen with limpet mines to attack Soviet boats transporting supplies across the Amu River in northern Afghanistan.

Yet despite all the aid from Britain and the US, by the mid-1980s the Mujahideen was facing defeat. Helicopters were giving the Soviets a crucial advantage, allowing them to insert troops quickly and surround bands of guerrilla fighters, while the Mi-24 Hind gunship was inflicting heavy casualties. What the rebels needed above all else was an effective shoulder-launched surface-to-air missile to take down helicopters. The CIA turned to Britain for help and in early 1986 Thatcher agreed to supply 300 British Blowpipe SAMs, manufactured by the Shorts company in Belfast. ➤



President Ronald Reagan meets with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher

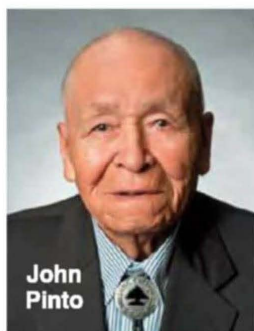
NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

TWO FAMOUS US OPERATIVES PASS

John Pinto, a member of the famous World War II Navajo Code Talkers, who became one of the United States' longest serving Native American elected officials (New Mexico State Senator), has passed in May. He was 94.

After serving as a Code Talker, a group of radio men who translated American coordinates and messages into an indecipherable code based on the Navajo language, Pinto graduated from the University of New Mexico's College of Education with a bachelor's degree in elementary education at 39 - eventually earning his master's.

Pinto delved into politics to address the needs of impoverished indigenous populations. He won a seat in 1976 as one of the state's first Native American senators.



John Pinto

Also in May, the Navajo Nation mourned the passing of Fleming Begaye, another Navajo Code Talker and World War II's oldest living veteran. He died in Chinle, Arizona, aged 97.



Fleming Begaye

Begaye served in the Marine Corps from 1943 to 1945 in the Pacific as a Code Talker, and fought in

the Battle of Tarawa (1943) and the Battle of Tinian (1944), which resulted in him spending one year in a naval hospital due to injuries.



Code Talkers Monument, Florida



Navajo Code Talkers attached to US Marines in Saipan, Mariana Islands

"The Navajo Nation has lost another brave and selfless Diné warrior, who sacrificed more than we'll ever know to defend our country," Navajo Nation's President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer said in a statement. Only six Navajo Code Talkers remain.

THE NAVAJO CODE

To decipher a message coded by the Navajo Code Talkers, the recipient first translated the Navajo words into English, and then used the first letter of each word to decipher the meaning. Because different Navajo words might be translated into alternative English words for the same letter, the code was extremely difficult to decipher. For example, the letter 'A', the Code Talker could use 'wola-chee' (ant), 'be-la-sana' (apple), or 'tse-nill' (ax). Some military terms that had no equivalent in Navajo were assigned their own codeword. The word 'America', for example, was 'Ne-he-mah' (Our mother). 'Submarine' became 'besh-lo' (iron fish).

Military commanders credited the Code with having saved the lives of countless American soldiers and with the successful engagements of the US in the battles of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

At Iwo Jima, Major Howard Connor, 5th Marine Division signal officer, had six Navajo Code Talkers working throughout the first forty-eight hours of the battle. The operatives received more than 800 messages, all without error. Major Connor said: "Were it not for the Navajos, the Marines would never have taken Iwo Jima."

• See Eye Spy 18 - Navajo Code Talkers - 'Whispers from the Canyon'



Blowpipe SAM

Unfortunately, the Blowpipe's performance in the Soviet-Afghan War was nothing short of disastrous. Not only was the Blowpipe heavy and cumbersome, but once launched the operator had to remain in position and visually guide the missile onto its target by radio control, leaving him horribly exposed to return fire. It also proved unreliable. During a major battle between the insurgents and Soviet forces at Zhawar near the Afghan/Pakistan border in April 1986, the Mujahideen fired 13 Blowpipe missiles at Soviet helicopters attacking rebel positions, without scoring a single hit.

Meanwhile, the political temperature was rising, threatening to turn the Cold War red hot. The Soviets put captured Blowpipes on display for the benefit of the media, accusing the British Government of colluding with the rebels. This led to awkward questions in Parliament from Opposition MPs (Members of Parliament), demanding to know if Britain was arming the Mujahideen.

MI-24D (Hind) attack helicopter pictured at the Luftwaffenmuseum in Gatow, Germany





Mujahideen officials and commanders meet with President Reagan at the White House to explain Soviet atrocities

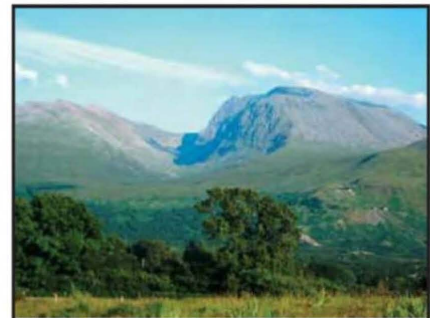
CIA COOPERATION

Pakistan's ISI (Inter-Services Intelligence agency), which co-ordinated Western arms supplies to the Mujahideen, demanded something better than the Blowpipe. Fortunately, the CIA had the ideal weapon, the FIM-92 Stinger. Light and easy to operate, the heat-seeking Stinger could take down aircraft at altitudes of up to 12,500 feet and was largely immune to the anti-missile counter-measures fitted to Soviet aircraft. Washington, however, was reluctant to supply such a high-tech piece of military kit to the Mujahideen, fearing that some might end up in the hands of terrorists who could use the weapon against civilian airliners.

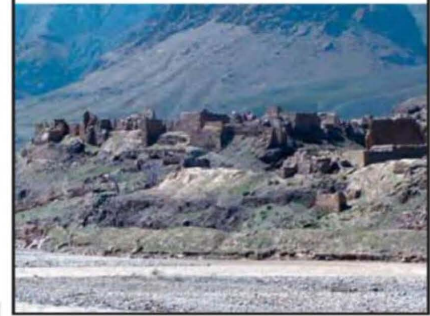
Finally, though, President Ronald Reagan overcame political opposition and gave the green light. But the CIA, whose officers were prohibited from crossing the Pakistani border into Afghanistan, needed people familiar with the weapon to travel inside the country and

supervise its use by the Mujahideen. Again, Langley turned to the British. The SAS knew all about the capabilities of the Stinger, having been the first to fire it in anger when they used Stingers to successfully down Argentine aircraft during the 1982 Falklands conflict. As it would be too politically risky to despatch serving SAS soldiers, several members who had recently left the Regiment were hired for the task almost certainly by MI6 helping to oversee the Mujahideen's initial, highly successful Stinger attacks on Soviet helicopters in late 1986.

Soon the battlefields of Afghanistan were littered with the wrecks of shot-down Soviet aircraft and the morale of air crews plummeted. A CIA report later revealed: *'Fighter pilots have been forced to deliver their ordnance from higher altitudes to avoid the Stinger's reach, and helicopter pilots have*



Above: Scottish Highlands. Below: An Afghan village is destroyed following an attack by Russian warplanes



flown dangerously fast and low to the ground to stay under the missile's kill altitude'.

But none of the Soviet manoeuvres proved very effective. After the war the CIA claimed that Stingers accounted for 269 Soviet aircraft, around sixty per cent of their losses in the entire war, though the Russians themselves dispute these figures, claiming their losses to the Stinger were far smaller. Whatever the true figure, there's little doubt the Stinger was a game-changer. With Soviet gunships unable to provide troops on the ground with effective air support, the tide of war swung back decisively in the Mujahideen's favour. In 1988 the Soviets began withdrawing their forces from the country, a process completed in February 1989 when the last Russian soldiers



1992. US troops pictured with a Stinger surface-to-air portable missile launcher

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1987. Soviet troops question captured Mujahideen fighters in Vardak, Afghanistan

departed Afghanistan. Over 14,000 Soviet soldiers had been killed in the war, while estimates put the number of Afghan dead anywhere between 500,000 and a staggering one million.

USSR DEFEAT: THE HIDDEN HAND OF BRITISH INTELLIGENCE

The Soviet Union's withdrawal left a power vacuum in the country which, after a bloody civil war fought by rival Mujahideen factions, was eventually filled by the Islamic fundamentalists of the Taliban. Thereafter Afghanistan became a haven for international jihadists, including a then little-known Saudi called Osama bin Laden, leading to criticism from some quarters of Britain and America's decision to back the rebels with military aid. In 1990, the CIA, worried that some of their Stingers could fall into the wrong hands, launched a major operation to recover the SAMs on the arms black market, paying up to \$100,000 for each missile. Despite these efforts, today some Stingers handed over to the Mujahideen remain unaccounted for.

Whatever the long-term consequences, at the time support for the Mujahideen was seen as one of the great success stories of British and American Intelligence in the latter Cold War period, and the British Government quietly celebrated the humbling of their arch-enemy. The day after the last Soviet soldiers withdrew, Margaret Thatcher paid tribute to the Mujahideen in Parliament, stating that "it has been the superb courage and determination of the resistance which have meant that the occupying forces have now left Afghanistan."

What she didn't mention was the secret role MI6 and the SAS played in bringing about that historic Soviet defeat.

*The Increment is a codename assigned to personnel from MI6 and SAS participating in joint missions. Usually designated Black Operations or 'Black Ops', they are deniable ventures.



A column of Russian armoured troop carriers depart Afghanistan during the first phase of the withdrawal

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CIA-TALIBAN TALKS FALTER?

D/CIA GINA HASPEL'S SECRET AFGHANISTAN VISIT

Following news that negotiations between senior US intelligence officials and Taliban commanders have stalled, Director CIA Gina Haspel secretly journeyed to Afghanistan in a bid to help "prolong the negotiations" and remove "suspensions." Intelligence sources claim her unreported visit is evidence that not all is going to plan, following accusations of a "lack of transparency."

Afghanistan National Security Advisor Hamdullah Mohib was critical of US special representative Zalmay Khalilzad who is fronting the CIA-brokered Taliban liaison. Mohib accused the vastly experienced Khalilzad, a former US Ambassador to Afghanistan and the United Nations, of "leaving the government in the dark over the



Hamdullah Mohib

talks" currently taking place in Qatar.

"You cannot get a cat to guard your milk," said Mohib. "The Taliban and terrorism... it's one DNA. We're protecting our values, our

THE NEGOTIATOR

In 2016, Zalmay Khalilzad wrote about his career in his political autobiography: *The Envoy: From Kabul to the White House*.

President Trump also considered him for US Secretary of State



freedoms and we will not allow someone - an individual's rushed agreement - to put that in jeopardy."

However, President Trump insisted "talks are proceeding well." And when Haspel spoke to the Senate Intelligence Committee in January, she described Khalilzad's work as "very intensive."

Besides meeting several key intelligence and diplomats involved in the talks, Haspel met with President Ashraf Ghani and Mohammed Masoom Stanekzai, Director of Afghanistan's

primary intelligence service - the National Directorate of Security (NDS).

Taliban operatives have in recent months

launched several attacks against bases and sites operated by the NDS. In January 2019, an intelligence training centre in Wardak Province was targeted; between 40 and 50 personnel reportedly were killed. A number of US security personnel have also been killed.



Masoom Stanekzai
NDS Director

The Taliban, currently have a presence in approximately 50 per cent of Afghanistan and a brokered peace agreement is seen as vital in the wider fight against al-Qaida and ISIS. To compound the CIA initiative, even as talks continued in Qatar, the Taliban said it would launch a new Spring offensive against the US and the Afghanistan Government.

There is also uncertainty over the proposed recall of some 14,000 US troops deployed to Afghanistan. Acting US Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan reportedly said that he has not received a direct order to "step down our forces in Afghanistan."



President Donald Trump participates in a meeting with National Security Adviser **John Bolton**; Director of Central Intelligence Agency **Gina Haspel** and Director of National Intelligence **Dan Coats** (right front)

THE INTEL OPERATION THAT SAVED MILLIONS OF LIVES



THE SECRET LISTENERS

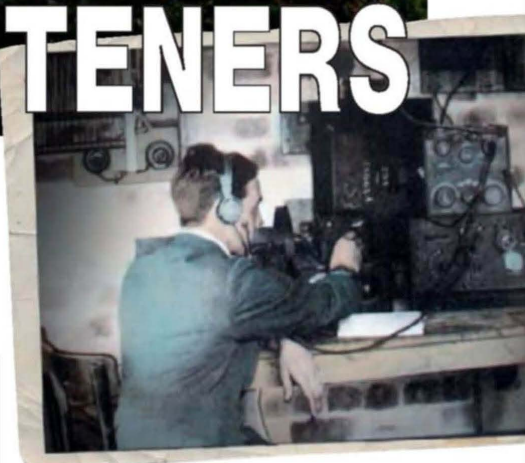
TRENT PARK MUSEUM TRUST FUNDRAISING LAUNCH

Development and transformation continues at one of Britain's most important intelligence sites - Trent Park

Eye Spy has carried several features on this unique north London location that was central to one of the greatest intelligence collection missions in World War Two.* Within the rooms and corridors of this iconic mansion house, once the estate of Sir Philip Sassoon who served as Under Secretary of State, a group of 'Secret Listeners' controlled by British Intelligence, listened-in as relaxed senior German prisoners of war (POW) talked about all manner of military affairs - some top secret. Indeed, historians today recognise that

some of the content recorded was unknown to the wider intelligence community. These crucial intercepts allowed Allied planners an insight into all manner of German objectives, weapons and transportation production factories, army strengths and even Berlin's most secret rocket programme.

The intercepts were made by teams of Secret Listeners who operated from the mansion's basement - codenamed M Room - 'M' being 'Mike'. Here both male and female specialists translated the recordings, and the subsequent

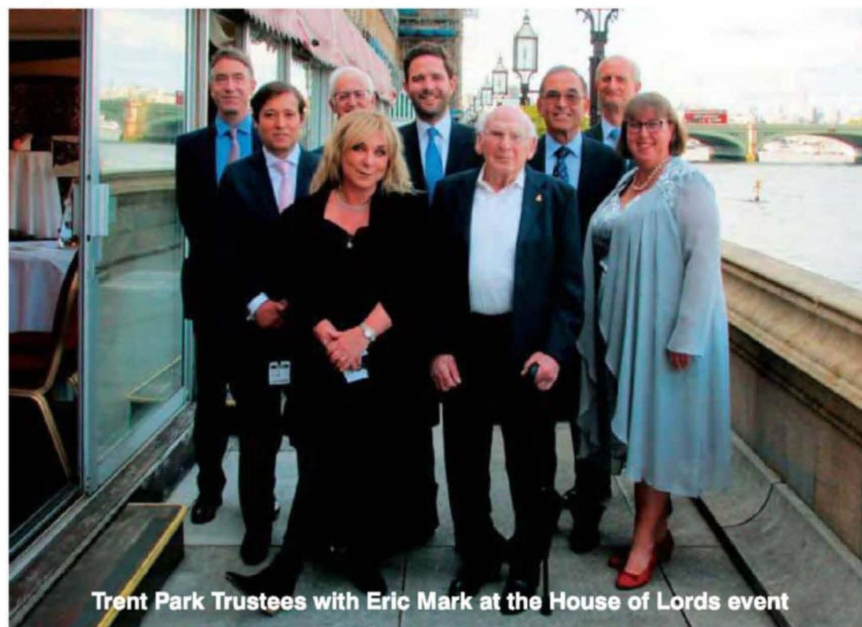


information was despatched to London. The intelligence collection operation at Trent Park, overseen by MI6 spymaster Colonel Thomas Joseph Kendrick, undoubtedly shortened the length of the war and saved millions of lives.

GARDENS AND MANSION RUSE

Around 60 German generals were allowed to live in comfort, retain their uniforms and 'stature', whilst all the while enjoying the peaceful attractions of the grounds of this magnificent historic grade II listed building - blissfully unaware and oblivious to the fact that throughout most rooms - covert listening devices recorded their every word. By the end of the war, Trent Park had hosted some 3,000 German POWs - and the intelligence gleaned was voluminous.

For several years a group of determined historians, politicians and others, have worked alongside Berkeley Homes, a most supportive company who own the building and the 50-acre site, to develop part of the mansion house into a functional, educational and dedicated museum - whilst retaining many of its provocative and engaging features. To highlight just how important this site is, Historic England said: "Trent Park is of considerable national and international historic



Trent Park Trustees with Eric Mark at the House of Lords event



Secret Listener Eric Mark talked about his experience eavesdropping on the German POWs



Eye Spy Editor Mark Birdsall with former Chief of MI6, Sir John Scarlett



Intelligence historian and Eye Spy Associate Editor Helen Fry has written extensively about the intelligence work performed at Trent Park



British comedian Helen Lederer, pictured with the last surviving Secret Listener Eric Mark. Lederer's grandfather, Ernst Lederer, was himself a Secret Listener

interest which bears comparison to the code-breaking work of Bletchley Park."

And with plans moving apace to complete the transformation, Eye Spy recently attended the Trent Park Museum Trust Fundraising Launch

in the Cholmondeley Room & Terrace of the House of Lords. Those involved with the project's next step envision just under £4 million needs to be raised. It is hoped that by 2022 Trent Park will be completed and open to the public.

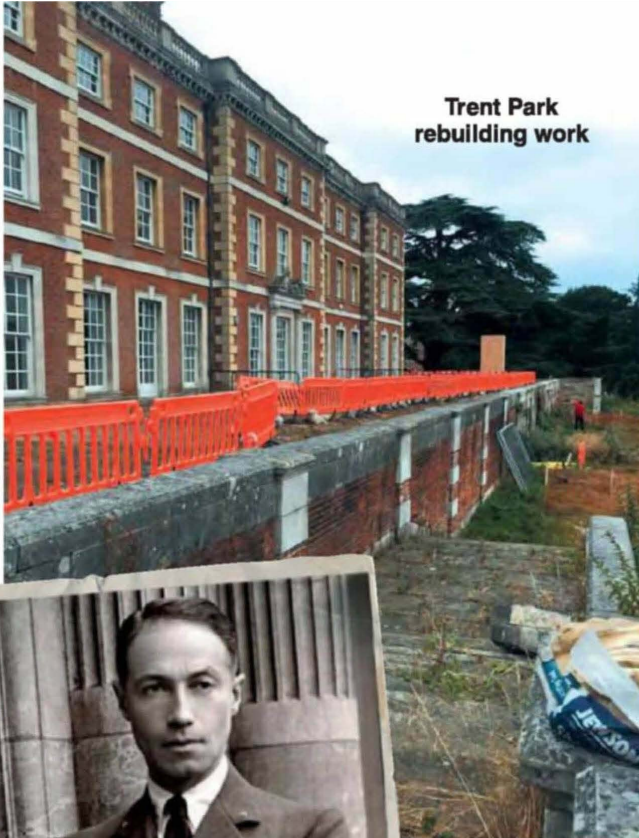
INTELLIGENCE PEOPLE

Some 200 people attended the London event with Trustees of the museum discussing plans

The back of Trent Park Museum. Right: MI6 spymaster Colonel Thomas Joseph Kendrick who controlled the eavesdropping operation



Trent Park rebuilding work



Sir Philip Sassoon

and providing commentary and insight on many of the secrets associated with the site. Several short lectures followed allowing attendees to understand Trent Park's history and future role as a "must visit" location. Eye Spy Associate Editor Helen Fry talked about her lengthy historical research into British and

international archives connected to Trent Park, and many of the Allied operations launched thereafter, securing so much valuable information through the eavesdropping mission. Her endeavours are set to appear in a new book - *The Walls Have Ears: The Greatest Intelligence Operation of WWII* (August - Yale University Press).

Another highlight of the evening was a talk given by the last surviving Secret Listener - 96-year-old Eric Mark who travelled from Belgium to speak at the event. He spoke passionately about his experiences and that of his colleagues - many of whom were Jewish emigres who had fled Europe and volunteered to serve in the British Army - eventually transferring to intelligence elements. His work

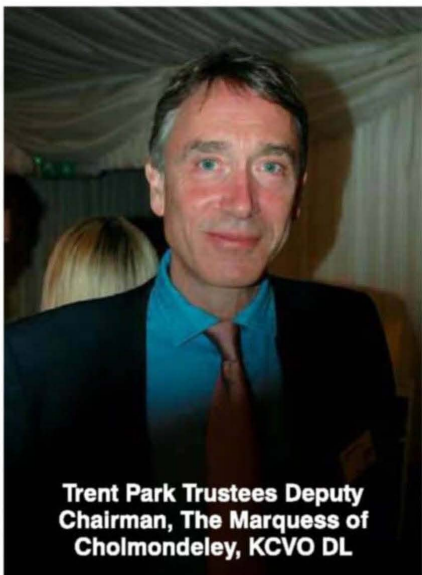
and candid reflections of the lengthy spy operation were remarkable - "my colleagues and I did our duty," he said.

Several intelligence and senior figures were in attendance - all keen to show their support, including former MI6 Chief Sir John Scarlett, UK Defence Envoy, Colonel Sebastian Pollington, David Burrowes MP, Councillor Alessandro Georgiou and a host of current and past security services employees from both the UK and the United States. All were passionate about the vision for Trent Park.

Another senior figure who discussed the future of the site was Trent Park Trustee Iain Standen FRSA - Chief Executive Officer of the Bletchley Park Trust. He has of course played a pivotal



Eric Mark concludes his thought-provoking talk and is warmly congratulated by officials and attendees



Trent Park Trustees Deputy Chairman, The Marquess of Cholmondeley, KCVO DL



Iain Standen, CEO Bletchley Park, Eye Spy Associate Editor Deborah Plisko and former Chief of MI6, Sir John Scarlett



**Chairman of the Trent Park Trustees
Jason Charalambous**



Trustee and politician Damian Collins addresses the gathering



**Helen Fry discusses plans for the
museum with design team Studio MB**

role in transforming the Bletchley Park codebreaking museum - which is now visited by 250,000 people every year. He told Eye Spy that Trent Park is a "most extremely important intelligence site" and that the work and legacy of the unseen operatives "will be preserved by its construction."

The reception showcasing the exciting vision was generously sponsored by the Marquess of Cholmondeley and Berkeley Homes and was hosted by Lord Sassoon and Damian Collins MP on the Trust's behalf. The Trustees in attendance were Jason Charalambous, Chairman, Dr Helen Fry, Deputy Chairman, The Marquess of Cholmondeley, KVO DL, Simon Crawshaw, Treasurer, Helen Lederer, comedian, whose grandfather, Ernst Lederer, was himself a Secret Listener, Iain Standen, Winston Newman, architect and Alan Perkin, Secretary.

Other supporters include Michael Hayden, Former Director of CIA and NSA, Sir David Jason OBE, Paul Rimmer, Deputy Chief of Defence Intelligence, Ministry of Defence, Professor Adam Ganz, Dr Richard Baxell, and Dr Tim Hochstrasser, among others.

Eye Spy continues to support the important work to preserve the home and legacy of a

group known in the intelligence world as simply *The Secret Listeners*.

*Trent Park features by Helen Fry - Eye Spy 103, 104, 105 and 118

To find out more or to donate to this important work please visit:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/trentparkmuseumtrust>



**Relaxed and confident... German
generals stroll around the grounds of
Trent Park - unaware of the MI6-
sanctioned eavesdropping operation**



Former Secret Listener Fritz Lustig, a supporter of the Trent Park Museum vision who sadly passed away in 2017, said: "Our work was so top secret we didn't really know whether it had an effect on the outcome of the war. Now that the files are declassified it is possible to appreciate that the work of the Secret Listeners played a crucial role in the secret war..."



Of the significance of Trent Park, US General Michael Hayden, former Director CIA and NSA, said: "The British-American special relationship has its roots in the two nations' WWII intelligence cooperation exemplified by places like Trent Park."

"Trent Park was such an important establishment during the Second World War and so it would be wonderful to create a historic landmark as a tribute to the essential work carried out there."

"It is heartening... to see Britain work to preserve such special locations so that they and the lessons they teach will be available to future generations."

INTELLIGENCE, PEOPLE, NORMANDY AND BLETCHLEY PARK

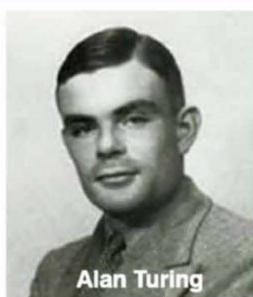
D-DAY - 75 YEARS

"No war can be conducted successfully without early and good intelligence..."

1st Duke of Marlborough (1715)

Marlborough's comments were echoed by Hugh 'Quex' Sinclair, Chief of MI6 in 1938, as Britain faced the escalating threat of war with Nazi Germany. Sinclair believed whoever was victorious in the intelligence game would win the war - and with that in mind, he purchased Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire and relocated the Government Code & Cipher School (GC&CS) from Broadway Buildings (MI6 HQ) in London.

In the years leading up to D-Day and the Allied invasion of Europe in 1944, quietly in the Buckinghamshire countryside, teams of men



Alan Turing

and women were busy in sparsely furnished huts working feverishly to break the German Enigma codes. On the surface, this looked anything but high-tech and the legacy of codebreakers such as Alan Turing, Mavis Batey and Dilly Knox (to name but a few) is now well known. Their work was often very mundane and they had little real understanding of the bigger

Dr Helen Fry



picture and the impact it would have on the overall war effort. They were ordinary people, doing extraordinary things. One estimate places the number of personnel at Bletchley and its outstations just 2 days before D-Day - at 7,825.



Royal Canadian Naval Beach Commandos at Juno Beach



© BLETCHLEY PARK MUSEUM

COURTESY: NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA



Some of the displays at the new impressive D-Day exhibition and experience at Bletchley Park Museum

HUMINT AND SIGINT

This year marks the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Bletchley Park's official historian, David Kenyon, examines the impact of the intelligence gained for the outcome of D-Day in his new book *Bletchley Park and D-Day*. His research has shown that Bletchley Park became "an intelligence factory, with ancillary operations conducted all over the UK." It was at its peak just before D-Day. In that respect it had a parallel impact to the intelligence gained by MI9, a branch of military intelligence dealing with enemy prisoners of war that

surreptitiously bugged their conversations at three sites: Trent Park in North London, and Latimer House and Wilton Park in Buckinghamshire (see page 68). The intelligence from these three sites was shared with Bletchley commanders from the outset of the war and is an example of the successful partnership of HUMINT and SIGINT.

But, as Kenyon notes, the achievements of the cryptanalysts at Bletchley "would have been entirely redundant if it had transpired that the Germans were encrypting their laundry lists." The code-breaking centre's history is not

solely about Enigma, or the deciphering machines Bombe and Colossus. The legacy in fact goes beyond the current understanding of Bletchley's importance in WWII - to a new understanding of its intelligence significance. Prior to D-Day, for example, Hut 6 was involved in intensive traffic analysis that enabled the mapping of German networks and army movement/formulations and enabling an



6 June 1944. Royal Marine Commandos at Sword Beach

COURTESY: IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM



David Kenyon, author of the important new book *Bletchley Park and D-Day*. In the distance, the museum's mansion house



Visitors at Bletchley Park watch a clever compilation of WWII films leading up to D-Day

© BLETCHLEY PARK MUSEUM



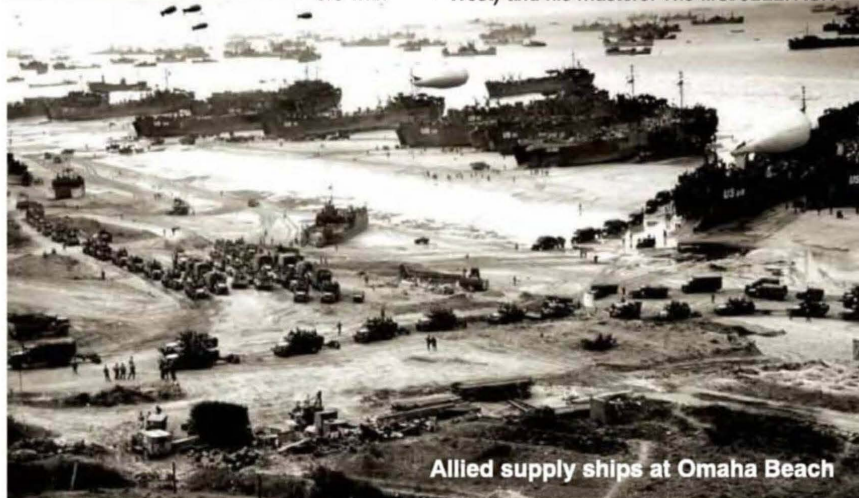
Field Marshal Kesselring

outline of order of battle. Decrypted messages, for example, located the headquarters of an SS panzer-Korps and aided Allied commanders with

knowledge of locations and strengths of SS units in France.

One of the most valuable sources of intelligence came from the decrypted FISH messages. These were encrypted messages passed along two networks known at Bletchley as BREAM and JELLYFISH.

BREAM was the communication link between Berlin and Commander Field Marshal Kesselring in Italy. JELLYFISH was the teleprinter connection between Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt (Commander-in-Chief, West) and his masters. The first JELLYFISH



Allied supply ships at Omaha Beach



US Rangers scale a steep cliff at Pointe du Hoc

breaks came in April 1944 and it meant the Allies were 'reading' the top secret messages between Hitler's military command and his Commander-in-Chief in the West. Without the multi-faceted code-breaking and decrypts at Bletchley, as Kenyon notes: "OVERLORD (D-Day) without ULTRA would have been much riskier."

But the war could not ultimately be won solely by intelligence. At some point there had to be 'boots on the ground' and the full-scale invasion of mainland Europe. Battles were hard won in Normandy, and gains slow - the Allies had the expectation to take Caen on the first day of the invasion - but it would in fact be just over six weeks before Caen was taken on 20 July 1944. By then, the bombing of the city had been so intense that the scenes that confronted Allied troops looked like something from the Apocalypse.



© BLETCHLEY PARK MUSEUM



The job of the intelligence workers at Bletchley, Trent Park, Wilton Park and Latimer House, and also RAF Medmenham, was not over with the D-Day landings. They would continue to provide vital intelligence ahead of other significant operations - Arnheim, Ardennes and during the invasion of Germany.

D-DAY EXHIBITION

A new permanent exhibition 'D-Day: Interception, Intelligence, Invasion' has opened at Bletchley Park Museum that includes a dramatic cinematic audio-visual experience. The film footage and accompanying commentary are spine-chilling and takes the visitor to the heart of the D-Day experience and the intelligence gained from decrypts and the impact for the Normandy landings on 6 June 1944. In that moment the visitor understands that years of intelligence-gathering had been leading up to this moment - to the largest amphibious landing in military history.

Entrance to the exhibition is included in the general admission ticket price.

LINKS <https://Bletchleypark.org.uk>



CODEBREAKING MEMORIES AND D-DAY BLETCHLEY PARK - ROYAL VISITOR

HHRH The Duchess of Cambridge visited Bletchley Park where her grandmother and aunt worked during World War II. The Duchess, wearing her grandmother's brooch, toured Bletchley Park ahead of the 6 June commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings. She spoke of her sadness that her grandmother felt unable to tell her about the important work she did at Bletchley Park during the war.

The Duchess also toured the new exhibition celebrating the role codebreakers played in the D-Day landings, met with four women, Rena Stewart, Georgina Rose, Elizabeth Diacon and Audrey Mather who had worked as codebreakers, now in their 90s, and talked to schoolchildren who were learning to programme using wartime Enigma machines.

It was a return trip for the Duchess, who first visited Bletchley Park in 2014 to retrace the footsteps of her grandmother, Valerie



Glassborow and her twin sister Mary. Both women worked as duty officers, employed as Foreign Office civilians in 1944. They are known to have been formally employed by the Government Code and Cypher School (GCCS) at Bletchley and worked in Hut 16 - monitoring signals traffic from various secret listening posts spread across the UK known as 'Y Stations'.



HRH The Duchess of Cambridge examines an Enigma machine with children at a special D-Day-themed workshop



HRH The Duchess of Cambridge arrives at Bletchley Park

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UnderCover Book Releases



THE SPY IN MOSCOW STATION: A Counterspy's Hunt for a Deadly Cold War Threat

Eric Haseltine
Thomas Dunne Books

In the late 1970s, the National Security Agency still did not officially exist - those in the know referred to it dryly as the No Such Agency. So why, when NSA engineer Charles Gandy filed for a visa to visit Moscow, did the Russian Foreign Ministry assert with confidence that he was a spy?

Outsmarting honey traps and encroaching deep enough into enemy territory to perform complicated technical investigations, Gandy accomplished his

mission in Russia, but discovered more than the State and CIA wanted him to know.

Eric Haseltine's *The Spy in Moscow Station* tells of a time when - much like today - Russian spycraft had proven itself far beyond the best technology the US had to offer. The perils of arrogance mixed with bureaucratic infighting left the country vulnerable to ultra-sophisticated Russian electronic surveillance and espionage.

This is the true story of unorthodox, underdog intelligence officers who fought an uphill battle against their own government to prove that the KGB had pulled off the most devastating penetration of US national security in history. Hardback 288pp

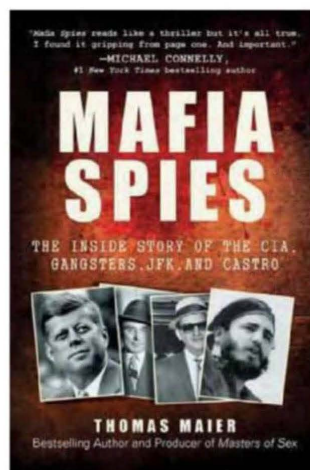
Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1756
UK £26.00 USA \$40.00 ROW £27.50

MAFIA SPIES: The Inside Story of the CIA, Gangsters, JFK and Castro

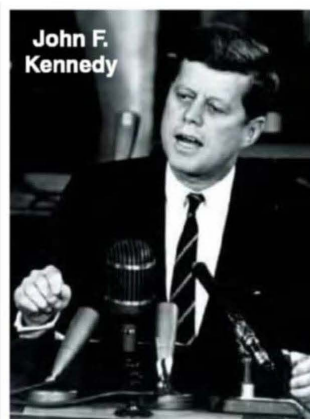
Thomas Maier
Skyhorse Publishing

Based on the never-before-released JFK files, *Mafia Spies* is the definitive account of America's most remarkable espionage plots ever, with CIA agents, Mafia hitmen, 'kompromat' sex, presidential indiscretion, and James Bond-like killing devices

ALL PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE (AIR) AND PACKING



together in a top-secret mystery full of surprise twists and deadly intrigue. In the early 1960s, two top gangsters, Johnny Roselli and Sam Giancana, were hired by the CIA to kill Cuba's Communist leader, Fidel Castro, only to wind up murdered themselves amidst Congressional hearings and a national debate about the JFK assassination.



Mafia Spies revolves around the outlaw friendship of these two gangsters and their fascinating world of CIA spies, fellow Mafioso in Chicago, Cuban exile commandos in Miami, beautiful Hollywood women, famous entertainers like Frank Sinatra, Castro's own spies in Havana and his double agents hidden in Florida, J. Edgar Hoover's FBI snooping, and the Kennedy administration's 'Get Castro' obsession in Washington. Thomas Maier is among the first to take full advantage of the National Archives 2017-18 release of the long-suppressed JFK files, many of which deal with the CIA's top secret anti-Castro operation in Florida and Cuba. Hardback 416pp

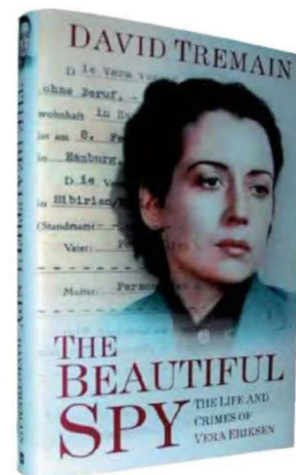
Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1757
UK £23.00 USA \$35.00 ROW £25.00

THE BEAUTIFUL SPY: The Life and Crimes of Vera Eriksen

David Tremain
The History Press

In September 1940, a beautiful young woman arrived by seaplane and rubber dinghy on the shores of Scotland accompanied by two men - one of Germany's many attempt to penetrate British defences and infiltrate spies into the UK. This seems to be one of the few established facts in the otherwise mysterious tale of Vera Eriksen alias Vera Schalburg. Even the origins of the woman described as "the most beautiful spy" remain hazy, as does her ultimate fate.

David Tremain delves into the archives, and in doing so begins to reveal glimpses of her fascinating life story: her career as a dancer in Paris; a tumultuous and violent alliance with a White Russian officer of uncertain identity; her time in England with the Duchesse de Chateau-Thierry, an Abwehr agent; the suspicious and untimely death of her husband, and a rumoured pregnancy. *The Beautiful Spy* also grapples with perhaps the biggest mystery of all: what happened to Vera after she was released by the British? Hardback 368pp

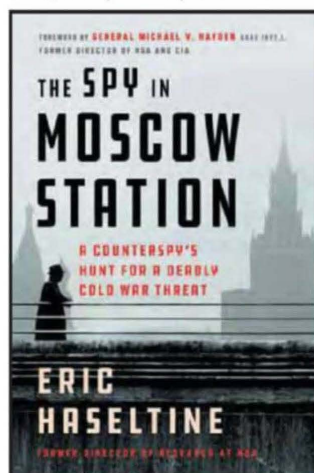


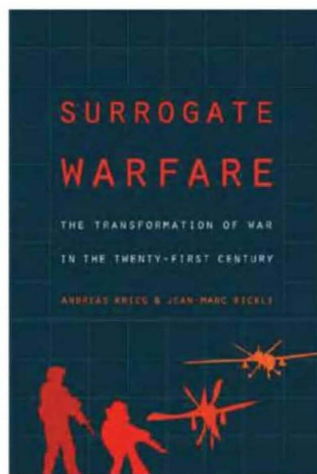
Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1758
UK £28.00 USA \$40.00 ROW £30.00

SURROGATE WARFARE: The Transformation of War in the Twenty-First Century

Andreas Krieg, Jean-Marc Rickli
Georgetown University Press

This book explores the emerging phenomenon of 'surrogate warfare' in twenty-first century conflict. The popular





notion of war is that it is fought en masse by one military versus the other state's military. But the reality today is that both state and non-state actors are increasingly looking to shift the burdens of war to surrogates.

Surrogate Warfare describes a patron's outsourcing of the strategic, operational, or tactical burdens of warfare, in whole or in part, to human and/or technological substitutes in order to minimise the costs of war. This phenomenon ranges from arming proxies, to the use of armed drones, to cyber propaganda. Krieg and Rickli bring old, related practices such as war by mercenary or proxy under this new overarching concept. Apart from analysing the underlying sociopolitical drivers that trigger patrons to substitute or supplement military action, this book looks at the intrinsic trade-offs between substitution and control that shapes the relationship between patron and surrogate.

Essential reading for anyone studying contemporary conflict. Softback 258pp

Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1759
UK £28.50 USA \$40.00 ROW £30.00

BLETCHLEY PARK AND D-DAY

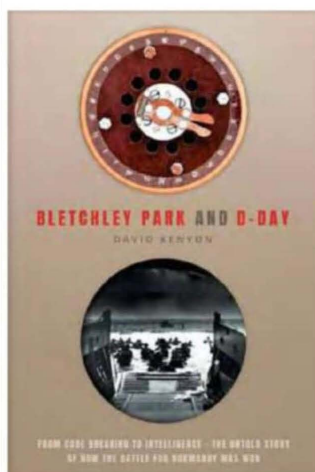
David Kenyon
Yale University Press

Since the secret of Bletchley Park was revealed in the 1970s, the work of its codebreakers has become one of the most famous stories of the Second World War. But cracking the Nazis' codes was only the start of the process. Thousands of secret intelligence workers were then involved in making crucial information available to the Allied leaders



and commanders who desperately needed it.

Using previously classified documents, David Kenyon casts the work of Bletchley Park in a new light, as not just a codebreaking establishment, but as a fully developed intelligence agency. He shows how preparations for the war's turning point - the Normandy Landings in 1944 - had started at Bletchley years earlier, in 1942, with the careful collation of information extracted from enemy signals traffic. This account reveals the true character of Bletchley's vital contribution to success in Normandy, and ultimately, Allied victory. Softback 320pp

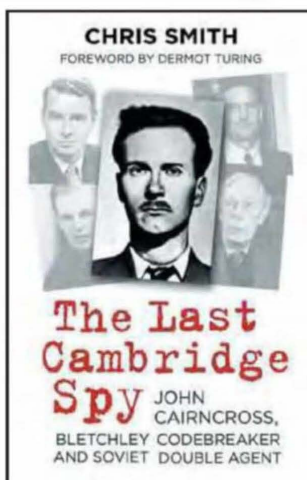


Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1760
UK £21.50 USA \$32.00 ROW £22.50

THE LAST CAMBRIDGE SPY: John Cairncross, Bletchley Codebreaker and Soviet Double Agent

Christopher Smith
The History Press

John Cairncross was among the most damaging spies of the twentieth century. A member of the infamous Cambridge Spy Ring, he leaked highly sensitive documents from Bletchley Park, MI6 and the Treasury to the Soviet Union - including the first atomic secrets



and raw decrypts from Enigma and Tunny that influenced the outcome of the Battle of Kursk. In 2014, Cairncross appeared as a secondary, though key, character in the biopic of Alan Turing's life, *The Imitation Game*. While the other Cambridge spies have been the subject of extensive biographical study, Cairncross has largely been overlooked by both academic and popular writers. Despite clear interest, he has remained a mystery - until now.

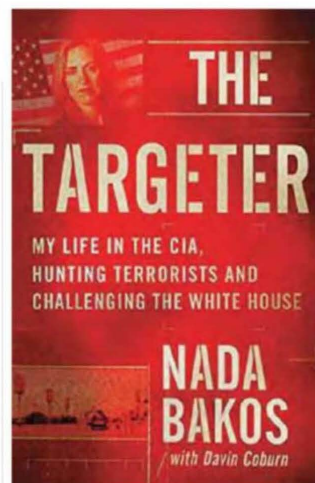
The Last Cambridge Spy is the first ever biography of John Cairncross, using newly released material to tell the story of his life and espionage. Hardback 256pp

Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1761
UK £23.00 USA \$35.00 ROW £25.00

THE TARGETER: My Life in the CIA, Hunting Terrorists and Challenging the White House

Nada Bakos with David Coburn
Little Brown USA

In 1999, 30-year-old Nada Bakos moved from her lifelong home in Montana to Washington, DC, to join the CIA. Quickly



realising her affinity for intelligence work, Nada was determined to rise through the ranks of the agency first as an analyst and then as a Targeting Officer, eventually finding herself on the frontline of America's war against Islamic extremists. In this role, Nada was charged with finding the godfather of ISIS and mastermind of al-Qaida in Iraq: Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

In a tight, tension-packed narrative that takes the reader from Langley deep into Iraq, Bakos reveals the inner workings of the Agency and the largely hidden world of intelligence gathering post-9/11. Entrenched in the predominantly male world of the CIA, Bakos belonged to a small yet dedicated sisterhood leading US Special Operations Forces to the doorstep of one of the world's most wanted terrorists. Hardback 368pp

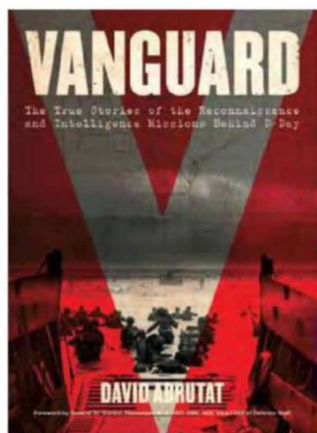
Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1762
UK £28.00 USA \$40.00 ROW £30.00

VANGUARD: The True Stories of the Reconnaissance and Intelligence Missions Behind D-Day

David Abrutat
Uniform

Operation Overlord, the opening up of an Allied second front by the invasion of the Normandy beaches in June 1944, was the largest military invasion of all time, but it was preceded by years of industrial scale intelligence collection and dangerous clandestine reconnaissance missions off the French coast.

Vanguard is the untold story of this work, the intelligence machine and covert reconnaissance missions that went into the D-Day planning, such as the signals intelligence intercepts, the agent running



operations orchestrated by the 15th Flotilla, to the clandestine work of the X-Craft and COPP (Combined Operations Pilotage Parties) diver teams that scoured the Normandy coast months before the June 1944 deadline.

The book pulls together previously unpublished but declassified Top Secret documents, diaries, letters and personal accounts from some of the few remaining veterans who were there. Hardback 400pp

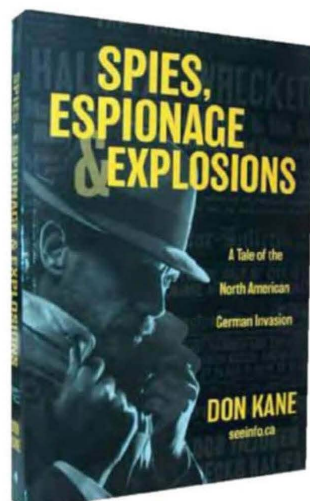
Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1763
UK £33.00 USA \$45.00 ROW £35.00

SPIES, ESPIONAGE & EXPLOSIONS: A Tale of the North American German Invasion

Don Kane
Friesen Press

The largest human-made explosion in history happened on 6 December 1917, levelling the cities of Halifax and Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. But was it truly an accident?

Spies, Espionage, and Explosions follows the scheming plans of Germany's war-time leader, Kaiser Wilhelm II, to take over North



America. After establishing a vast network of informants for decades, he sent two of his top spies to orchestrate a series of sabotage operations throughout Canada and the US, culminating in the largest of all: The 1917 Halifax Explosion. From the destruction of munitions operations and railways to the burning of the Canadian Parliament Buildings, this story weaves a tale of intrigue and betrayal that the history books won't tell you.

The American British Ambassador Sir Cecil Spring-Rice is based in Washington DC. His North American team of British agents and US Pinkerton agents are continually trying to sabotage the devious German plots throughout Canada and the United States.

Using real historical documents and a brilliantly constructed political world, this gripping historical fiction is so potent, it might just convince you it's true... Softback 408pp

Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1764
UK £24.50 USA \$30.00 ROW £26.00

CODEWORD OVERLORD: Axis Espionage and the D-Day Landings

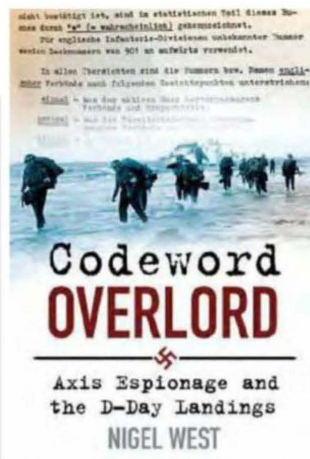
Nigel West
The History Press

It was inevitable that the Allies would invade France in the summer of 1944: the Nazis just had to figure out where and when. This job fell to the Abwehr and several other German intelligence services, and between them they put over 30,000 personnel to work studying British and American signals traffic, and achieved considerable success in intercepting and decrypting enemy messages.

Anxious to mislead the Axis, the Allies' security agencies sought to



Wilhelm Canaris head of German Intelligence - Abwehr



protect their D-Day secrets, but feared being overwhelmed by a sudden influx of spies routed through Spain and tasked to breach Operation Overlord. Until now, the Nazi intelligence community has been disparaged by historians as incompetent and corrupt, but newly released declassified documents suggest this wasn't the case - and that they had a highly sophisticated system that concentrated on the threat of an Allied invasion.

A vital reassessment of Axis behaviour in one of the most dramatic episodes of the twentieth century. Hardback 352pp

Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1765
UK £28.50 USA \$42.00 ROW £30.00

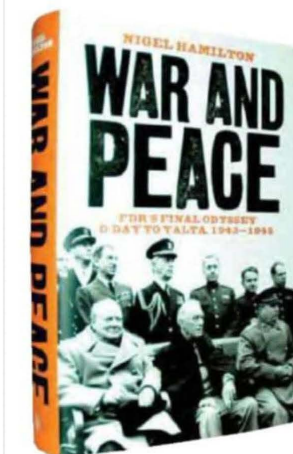
WAR AND PEACE: FDR's Final Odyssey: D-Day to Yalta, 1943-1945 (FDR at War)

Nigel Hamilton
Houghton Mifflin

Nigel Hamilton's celebrated trilogy culminates with a story of triumph and tragedy. Just as FDR was proven right by the D-Day landings he had championed, so was he found to be mortally ill in the spring of 1944. He was the architect of a victorious peace that he would not live to witness.

Using hitherto unpublished documents and interviews, Hamilton rewrites the famous account of World War II strategy given by Winston Churchill in his memoirs. Seventy-five years after the D-Day landings we finally get to see, close-up and in dramatic detail, who was responsible for rescuing, and insisting upon, the great American-UK invasion of France in June 1944, and why the invasion was led by Eisenhower. As FDR's D-Day triumph turns to personal tragedy, we watch with heartbreaking

compassion the course of the disease, and how, in the months left him as US Commander-in-Chief, the dying President attempted at Hawaii, Quebec, and Yalta, to prepare the United Nations for an American-backed post-war world order. Now we know: even on his deathbed, FDR was the war's great visionary. Hardback 592pp

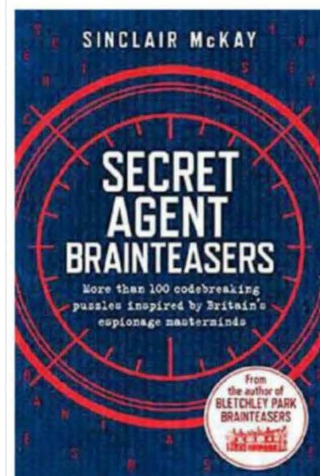


Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1766
UK £28.00 USA \$45.50 ROW £30.00

SECRET AGENT BRAINTEASERS: More Than 100 Codebreaking Puzzles

Sinclair McKay
Quercus Books

Blending extraordinary and illuminating historical tales of the British Secret Intelligence Service from over the years with a wide range of mind-twisting puzzles, *Secret Agent Brain teasers* will test your mental agility to discover: Do YOU have what it takes to be a spy? Softback 288pp



Available from Eye Spy Ref: ES/1767
UK £15.00 USA \$22.50 ROW £17.00

COORDINATED CARNAGE



Continued from page 37

bombings. He denied any knowledge of the attacks and said Zahran had "betrayed him."

Eye Spy has since learned that counter-terrorism specialists from the UK and United States arrived in the country to provide support and help with ongoing investigations. Further confirmation [or suspicion] that ISIS was involved came from Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, "I believe the attackers did have links to the group," he said. MI5 also have evidence that one of the bombers - Abdul Latif Jameel Mohammed - was 'mentored' by the British ISIS operative 'Jihadi John' (Mohammed Emwazi) in Syria.

Two of the suicide bombers were brothers. Police said one had checked-in to a hotel and had provided his real identity. This led police to despatch a Special Counter-Terrorist unit to his home address in Dematagoda, Colombo. As security services arrived, the bomber's wife duly exploded an IED killing three officers. Nevertheless, documents and materials sourced at the location connected other

members of the terror group - and numerous addresses in and around the city soon became the focus of attention.

Police also believe the bombers had planned to attack the Embassy of India in the city. And to add context into what was easily the most destructive terrorist attack in the country, police revealed investigators had discovered nearly 100 unused explosive detonators in a discarded rucksack in a bus station in Colombo.



A civilian passer-by died in this vehicle as security services engaged terrorists at a safe house in Kalmunai



Troops search a vehicle following the Easter Sunday attacks

The attacks were widely condemned by religious leaders of all faiths and dozens of government leaders.

SAFE HOUSE IDENTIFIED

Six days after the attacks, security services raided a suspected terrorist safe house and a bomb-making garage in Kalmunai in the east of the country. Explosions and an hour-long exchange of fire resulted in ten civilian deaths. At least six ISIS terrorists were also killed in the operation - one being named as NTJ operative Mohamed Niyass, the brother-in-law of the alleged controller of the Easter Sunday attackers Zahran Hashim. ISIS flags, bomb-making equipment and a MUAV (Miniature Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) were recovered.

Earlier intelligence gleaned by the authorities had led the security services to the safe house - the primary reason being neighbours were "suspicious" when its residents claimed it was a "shoe factory." Typically, ISIS propaganda arm - Amaq - claimed the police were "lured to the scene," before its operatives detonated suicide bomb vests after "exhausting their weapons." A photo released by Amaq supposedly showed two of the three terrorists killed; they were named as Abu Hammad, Abu Sufyan and Abu al-Qa'qa (see page 37). ISIS also claimed 17 police and security specialists were killed in the attack, a figure rejected by officials.

On 22 May, a government spokesman announced that DNA testing had identified all of the bombers. Most of the names matched those provided by ISIS just hours after the attacks. By 1 June, authorities had arrested 70 people in connection with the attacks.

The incidents represent the first major attack in 10 years since the end of the 25-year civil war between Tamil Tigers and government forces. Some 70,000 people died in that conflict.



CIA MEMORIAL WALL

Addition of One CIA Star Prompts Debate Amongst Intelligence People

In May, officials, CIA retirees, staffers and family members of officers who had died serving the Agency, attended the annual Memorial Ceremony. At this year's event, four new stars were added, but only two officers were named. Lieutenant John Creech (US Army Middle East Attachment) and Daniel Dennett Jr. (Cultural Relations Attache at the US legislation) were engaged in operations in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in March 1947, when the C-47 aircraft they were flying in crashed in adverse weather. Both men served in the Central Intelligence Group (CIG), the predecessor to the CIA. Four other Americans died in the crash.

The names and role of the two other CIA officers' assigned stars remains classified.

Director CIA Gina Haspel told those assembled before the Memorial Wall: "We honour the men and women of this Agency who perished in the line of duty. The cause to which they devoted their lives - the freedom and safety of Americans endure."

All the families of the four officers received marble replicas of the stars.

Whilst few would argue to the issuing of such stars, controversy surfaced in respect of the honour awarded to CIA officer Ranya Abdelsayed, 34, who operated in Afghanistan targeting al-Qaida and Taliban forces. She was found dead at a Langley field station in Kandahar in 2013, after committing suicide. Abdelsayed was due to return to the United



© FRIENDS OF EYE SPY AFGHANISTAN

Detectives probe the murder of intelligence and military personnel at an intelligence site in Afghanistan - one of the most dangerous conflict theatres in the world

States after a year-long deployment. Recently retired CIA historian Nicholas Dujmovic said he believes her star "violates the Agency's own criteria" and must be removed. He says the awarding of stars in aeroplane or vehicle crashes not directly linked to enemy action, assignments or operating in hazardous conditions, is an error.

"There's been an erosion of understanding in CIA leadership for at least two decades about



Deputy Director Central Intelligence Robert Gates places a wreath at the first ever CIA Memorial Wall ceremony in 1987



Former DCIA John Brennan at the CIA Memorial Wall

what the Wall is for and who it is we are commemorating," said Dujmovic. "Suicide is a great tragedy, but having a suicide star? That's not what the Wall is for."

However, DCIA John Brennan, who headed the Agency at the time, defended the decision. He said Abdelsayed had volunteered to operate in one of the world's most dangerous theatres, and "under those conditions there are a lot of stresses as well as challenges." He believes

that her death was "something the Agency needed to recognise as being one of the unfortunate consequences of the global challenges the CIA addresses." He noted officers suffer stress, depression and psychological pressures - all factors which impact on assignments in most areas.

The *Washington Post* claims that twenty veterans and government service employees commit suicide every day - at least half



Nicholas Dujmovic

suffering from diagnosed mental-health issues. Its editorial is supportive of the award to Abdelsayed.

- The annual Memorial Wall ceremony began in 1987, though the Wall itself has existed since 1974 when 31 stars were engraved. Today, it is a marker displaying 133 stars with around 50% linked to hostile acts and terrorism. Stars are awarded by the Agency's internal Honour and Merit Awards Board.

CONTRACTING A MOST DANGEROUS OCCUPATION

Whilst over 100 CIA officers and support staff are currently deployed in Afghanistan, numerous other civilian services have operated for the best part of two decades in the country. US state agencies such as police are also engaged in support of regional and national missions in a training and guidance capacity.

However, by far the largest number of civilians are private contractors working for security and risk management companies. Many are attached to government bodies - providing security to embassies, businesses and non government organisations (NGOs). Others are deployed in transport, escort (bodyguards), logistics, construction and general field work.

A typical example is British company G4S which has around 1,000 operatives in Afghanistan. Half its workforce are Afghans and the remainder UK and foreign nationals. G4S is engaged in various work, including training of govern-



Erik Prince

ment forces and protecting the British Embassy in Kabul. Former contracting company Blackwater, established by US Navy SEAL Erik Prince, was another well known provider of experienced operatives - most with military backgrounds.

Data on the exact number of contractors operating in Afghanistan today is not readily available. However, a decade ago more than 100,000 were under contract to the US Defense Department. That has fallen dramatically in recent years, with some analysts citing the figure of 25,000 in 2018, of which half are US nationals.

There are hundreds of case files reflecting the dangerous nature of their work, including fatalities. A British G4S employee was killed in December 2018, when Taliban forces attacked a security compound. He is just one of an estimated 2,000 civilian fatalities since 2001.



SPIES ON FILM

Continued from Page 43

MINCEMEAT THE GREATEST DECEPTION

Colin Firth, an Oscar winner with *'The King's Speech'* who also played in *'Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy'*, is to star in *'Operation Mincemeat'*, a true story of World War II that will be directed by John Madden, an Oscar nominee with *'Shakespeare in Love'*.

The 1943 intelligence operation is still regarded as one of the greatest ruses of WWII, and involved the depositing of a dead British officer - 'Major Martin' - in waters off the shore of neutral Spain where hopefully it would fall into the hands of German Intelligence. Contained on Martin's body convincing plans for the invasion of Italy. Of course the location was false. And for the record, the real



Lt. Commander
Ewen Montagu

identity of Martin was Glyndwr Michael, an alcoholic and vagrant.

One of the main planners was Naval Intelligence Division



Colin Firth

(NID) Lt. Commander Ewen Montagu. He will be played by Colin Firth.

Emmy-nominated Michelle Ashford has written the screenplay based on intelligence writer Ben Macintyre's book of the same name. The film will go into pre-production later this year.



'Major Martin'

LAST WORD

Former MI6 officer Christopher Hill, author of the infamous *'Trump Dossier'*, and who ran the Service's Russian Desk for several years, has agreed to be interviewed by the FBI. However, it has been reported that he requires the US Justice Department to seek approval for the meeting from the British Government.



The report's content and theme - which contained information believed to connect the 2016 Trump campaign to external Russian influences - was the 'starting button' of the Robert Mueller investigation. Investigators from Mueller's team have already spoken to Steele. Every word and allegation contained in the report has been investigated and much of it either questioned or dismissed by US officials... but not all.

Steele, who founded Orbis Business Intelligence with a colleague, has thus far been reluctant to be interviewed, but *The London Times* said he changed his mind following reports that said the investigation could criticise him and question his credibility.

The controversial dossier, which Steele himself acknowledged contains unverified information, was digested by both the CIA and MI6. If the meeting does go ahead, it will probably take place in London. For the record, Steele has not travelled to the US since news of the report's existence became public.

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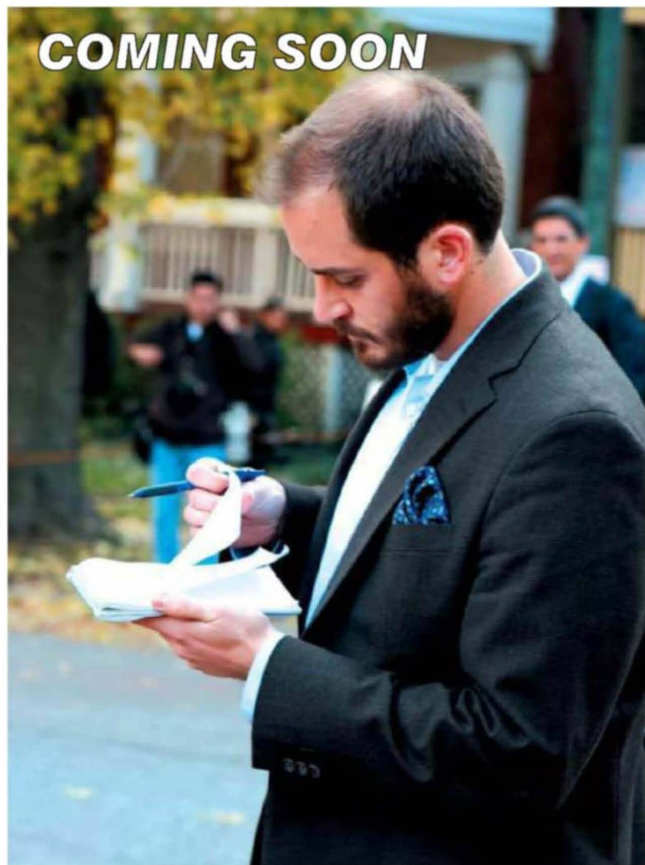
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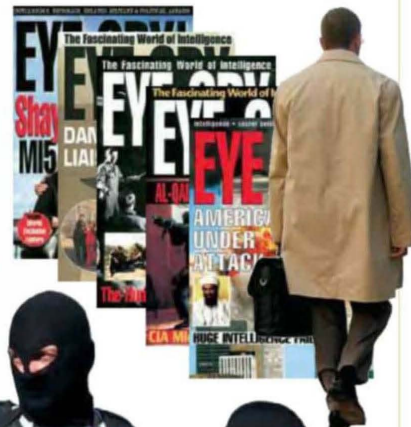
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