



# The O.S.S. Society

## NEWSLETTER

Summer/Fall 2007



## Major General John Singlaub Receives Prestigious William J. Donovan Award

**M**ore than five hundred OSS members, families, and colleagues stood at attention for the Presentation of Colors, and joined in the Pledge of Allegiance at a ceremony for **Major General John K. Singlaub** who was presented with the prestigious William J. Donovan Award™ on September 20, 2007.



*Photo by Victoria Meyer*

*Major General John K. Singlaub receives the Donovan Award from Admiral Eric Olson.*

General Singlaub joins an illustrious group of men and women who have received this award for courage and commitment to country and freedom. Among the twenty-two recipients have been Margaret Thatcher, Earl Mountbatten, Ralph Bunche, and Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and Ronald Reagan.

From President George W. Bush at the White House came the following message: "I commend members of The OSS Society for your commitment to honoring the heroes and traditions of the intelligence community. Your efforts help carry on the legacy of OSS veterans and inspire those who have followed in their footsteps to protect our nation. Laura and I send our best wishes. God bless you and may God Bless America." (The president's father, George H.W. Bush, received the award in 1991.)

The black-tie and dress-uniform dinner was held at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel, Vienna, Virginia with **Maj. Gen. Victor Hugo**, Vietnam veteran and member of the OSS Board of Directors, as master of ceremonies.

**Charles Pinck**, president of the society, welcomed guests. He described General Donovan's contribution to modern-day intelligence in his opening remarks: "If it is true all organizations inevitably reflect their leaders, then OSS was a perfect reflection of General Donovan: highly intelligent, experimental, creative, visionary, unorthodox, daring—a potent combination of brain, brawn, and bravado."

Pinck welcomed **Admiral J. Michael McConnell**, Director of National Intelligence, and **Admiral Eric Olson**, head of the U.S. Special Operations Command. "Their presence this evening is a vivid reminder that the intelligence and special operations communities trace their lineage to General Donovan and the OSS."

**Ambassador Hugh Montgomery**, X2 officer who served in OSS, later CIA, introduced Admiral McConnell,

*Story continued on page 2*

## Geoffrey M.T. Jones Dies; OSS President Emeritus

**G**eoffrey Montgomery Talbot Jones, 87, a legendary World War II intelligence officer with the Office of Strategic Services and distinguished management and international communications consultant, died of cancer on July 20, 2007 at his home in New York City.

He was born in Newport, Rhode Island and moved to Europe with his family where they resided in Florence, Paris, and Cannes. He received his early education in France, New York, and Massachusetts. He graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass. in 1937 and from Princeton University in 1942.

During World War II, Jones became one of the U. S. Army's first field artillery parachute officers, subsequently serving as the aide de camp to Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Swing



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the keynote speaker who stressed the challenge terrorism has mounted against the American intelligence community.

“How do we contain and deter radical terrorists who seek to do us harm, especially those already within our borders?

What should our framework be for collecting intelligence focused on foreign threats within the United States? At what point do we monitor them? At the point when they first hatch their plot? When they first acquire explosives? Right before they are ready to attack?”

He pointed to OSS men and women as part of our nation’s greatest generation with experience like few others. “I stand here today a member of the second great generation of Americans, those who prevailed in the Cold War. We now see the rise of a third great generation, around the country and in the intelligence community. This is the generation that understands the threat of terrorism at home and abroad, a third generation that, like its predecessors will benefit from the best intelligence in the world to infiltrate, analyze and defeat those that wish us harm. Our challenge is to equip that generation with the tools to best defend our country—tools OSS helped create during your time at the helm of

our nation’s intelligence. I am honored to follow in your footsteps...”

Award presentations followed the admiral’s speech. Arthur Reinhardt, former Commo operator and OSS board

member, introduced Elizabeth McIntosh who was presented with the OSS Distinguished Service Award. An OSS/CIA operative, McIntosh has been editor of the OSS Newsletter since 2000. He stated: “The newsletter has become a valued historical document which describes functions of various OSS branches, including excerpts of oral histories,

operational anecdotes, pertinent book reviews, and obituaries which, with the ravages of time, have become too numerous...”

Following an excellent action film on Major General Singlaub’s military career in three war zones and behind enemy lines, Admiral Eric Olson, head of U.S. Special Operations Command with headquarters in Tampa, Florida, presented him with the William J. Donovan Award.

Admiral Olson outlined the similarity between Special Operations and OSS: “Many of our current concepts for alternation between operations and intelligence are



Photos by Jonathan Henderson

A gala crowd at Donovan Award dinner, Vienna, Va.



Charles Pinck, President of The OSS Society



Admiral J. Michael McConnell, Director of National Intelligence

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*The United States Army Chorus*

*Photo by Victoria Meyer*

drawn directly from OSS experiences. We, as did you, depend upon remarkably talented and brave humans to accomplish extraordinary tasks in pursuit of national security goals.”

He also noted that at this headquarters in Tampa there is a portrait of General Donovan in the lobby and that the briefing room for important ceremonies is the Donovan Room.

In presenting the award to General Singlaub, Admiral Olson continued: “We gather here to pay tribute to General Donovan by honoring one of his brightest, bravest and longest-serving disciples: Major General John K. Singlaub. He went boldly where he was needed and excelled wherever he was. He represented special operations to the conventional army in which he also served. He knew how to train, how to teach, how to modernize. His valor, dedication, humility and selfless service epitomize the values of special forces operations.”

The citation accompanying the Donovan Award described Gen. Singlaub’s service as a “legendary thirty-five year career...with the United States Army, the Office of Strategic Services, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the United States command, Korea—all marked by dedication to duty, bravery and patriotism.” His years of service included 33 military decorations and the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

In accepting the award, General Singlaub recalled General Donovan as one of his most valued mentors. “In WWI, his courage under fire won him this country’s highest honors. In taking command of OSS in WWII, he produced an intelligence service that did not exist before. He saw three dimensions of warfare: land, sea, and air in support of occupied areas. And he selected his own staff, devoted to missions.”

General Singlaub ended his speech with a tribute to a man he considers “one of the great soldiers of the Twentieth Century—General David Petraeus. “History will prove him to be a man of vision and courage.”

After closing remarks by Pres. Charles Pinck, the Rev. Richard Kim, Korean War veteran, gave the benediction.

## Elizabeth P. McIntosh Receives Distinguished Service Award

*By Dan Pinck*

The OSS Society presented its Distinguished Service Award to Elizabeth P. McIntosh at the William J. Donovan Award dinner on September 20, 2007. Society board member Arthur Reinhardt noted in his commendation that, among other special accomplishments, “Since January 2000, she has rendered remarkable service to the OSS Society as editor of The OSS Society’s *Newsletter*.”



*Photo by Jonathan Henderson*

Her record of service in war and peace is truly outstanding. Her wartime service began on December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor and ended on VJ Day in Kunming, China. By mid-morning of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Mrs. McIntosh was caring for the wounded at Queens Hospital in Honolulu. A few days later, she resigned from her job as society editor of a local newspaper and became the Scripps-Howard war correspondent for the Pacific. The next year, she was appointed their White House correspondent.

She joined the OSS in 1943 and was soon stationed as a Morale Branch operations officer in New Delhi, India and Kunming, China. She conducted operations that affected actions in Siam, French Indochina, and Burma.

She first met General Donovan on his inspection trip to the CBI. He complemented her work on projects behind enemy lines in China. It was the beginning of a lifelong friendship with General Donovan.

After VJ Day, she worked for the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Voice of America; the Department of State at the United Nations; and other government organizations. She joined the CIA in 1958 as an operations officer and retired from the Agency in 1973. Mrs. McIntosh has written several books, including *Undercover Girl*, which has an introduction by General Donovan, and, more recently, *Sisterhood of Spies: The Women of the OSS*, the latter highly praised by OSS veteran Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. and journalist Russell Baker.

# OSS SOCIETY NEWS

## Army Medic Impressed With Donovan Dinner and Veterans Who Attended

Dear Fellow Members:

I know you will want to join me in recognizing Charles Pinck and the men and women who worked tirelessly to host the outstanding Donovan Award dinner. This was the first of such celebrations for me. I was overwhelmed by the presence of the honored guests, speakers, OSS/CIA, flag officers, Junior Grade officers, enlisted personnel, and OSS Society members and their families who attended.

I sat at a table occupied by a young man named Roland and his mother. After chatting, I realized that Roland was not just from Walter Reed (I assumed he was a medic), but he was a patient there on liberty pass for the evening! Roland is an Iraqi Freedom Ranger. A few minutes later, three more Army and Special Ops soldiers, also on liberty passes from Walter Reed, were assisted through the door and to my table.

Of the stories that were swapped, mine was that of five months in the VA hospital in Lexington, Ky. following 28 hours of life-saving surgery coupled with ten years of rehabilitation. I received a Naval scholarship to attend the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, and entered non-uniformed service in '86. The aura of dignity surrounding these four soldiers and the manner in which they were treated by their officers reassured me that the Army takes care of their own. As a doctor, my offered solace to them was simple. External wounds heal relatively quickly. They should, however, allow ample time for the internal wounds to heal and know that they are true warriors: resilient, determined, motivated, and strong. Once they reach the point I did a few years ago, they'll be ready for a new mission, a responsibility shared by all wounded vets. They can carry the same message to the hearts and minds of wounded



*Photo by Jonathan Henderson*

*Gen. Singlaub greets U.S. Army Lt. Colonel Greg Gadson, a double-amputee veteran from the Iraq conflict.*

comrades in the future. The chain of support continues in that manner.

The vivid memory of September 20, 2007 will stay with me, permanently. Clearly my seating assignment was no coincidence. I could not have been more proud than I was that night.

With warm regards to all,  
Dr. David M. Duncan  
Lexington, KY

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## Washington Post Prints Tribute to General Singlaub

As a young officer with the Office of Strategic Services during World War II, Jack Singlaub parachuted into occupied France to help a French Resistance unit. Later, he went to China to help Chinese guerrillas against the Japanese. In the closing days of fighting, Singlaub led an OSS rescue team that parachuted onto China's Hainan Island and freed Allied prisoners from a Japanese prisoner of war camp.

On September 20, at a ceremony in Vienna, Virginia Singlaub was presented with the OSS Society's William J. Donovan Award by Navy Adm. Eric Olson, commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Donovan, known as Wild "Bill," led the OSS during World War II. The award honors "a person whose courage and commitment to country and freedom exemplify the life and public service of General Donovan," according to The OSS Society.

Singlaub, a resident of Arlington County, retired as a major general after 35 years in the military. President Jimmy Carter fired him as chief of staff of U.S. military command in South Korea after Singlaub suggested that withdrawal of U.S. forces from the peninsula might encourage North Korea to invade the south.

# OSS SOCIETY NEWS

## Olson and Schlesinger Named OSS Society Honorary Chairmen

Two outstanding Americans, **Admiral Eric. T. Olson**, Commander of USSOCOM, and **Dr. James R. Schlesinger**, consultant to the Departments of Defense, State, and Homeland Security, were named honorary chairmen of The OSS Society at a recent executive meeting in Washington, D.C.

Admiral Olson is Commander of U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. USSOCOM ensures the readiness of joint special operations forces and conducts operations worldwide.

A native of Tacoma, Washington, Admiral Olson graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1973 and qualified as a Naval Special Warfare officer in 1974. He has commanded at every level from SEAL Platoon officer-in-charge to Naval Special Warfare force commander.

Admiral Olson has participated in several conflicts and contingency operations. His overseas assignments include service as a United Nations military observer in Israel and Egypt and as Navy programs officer in Tunisia. He served on the Navy staff as assistant deputy chief of naval operations.

Admiral Olson earned a Master of Arts degree in national security affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School and studied both Arabic and French at the Defense Language Institute. His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal and Silver Star.

Dr. Schlesinger is a consultant to the Departments of Defense, State, and Homeland Security, and a member of the Defense Policy Board, the Arms Control and Nonproliferation Advisory Board, and the Homeland Security Advisory Council. He was the nation's first secretary of en-

ergy, taking the oath of office one day after President Carter signed the legislation creating the new department. He served in this position from August, 1977 until 1979. In the previous year, President-elect Carter had asked Dr. Schlesinger to become assistant to the president, charged with the responsibility of drafting a plan for the establishment of the Department of Energy.

From July 1973 to November 1975, Dr. Schlesinger was secretary of defense. Immediately prior to this appointment, he served as director of central intelligence. In August 1971 he was selected by President Nixon to become chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, a position he held until February 1973.

Dr. Schlesinger began his government service in 1969 as assistant director of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget, and has served on many government commissions. From 1999 to 2003 he was a member of the panel to assess the reliability, safety, and security of the U.S. nuclear stockpile, and from 1998 to 2001 was a member of the U.S. Commission on National Security/21st Century. He recently served as co-chair of the Defense Science Board task force on the future of the global positioning system.

Dr. Schlesinger has been awarded eleven honorary doctorates. He is the recipient of the National Security Medal, as well as five departmental and agency medals. He is the author of *The Political Economy of National Security*, 1960, and *America at Century's End*, 1989.

In 1950 Dr. Schlesinger received a bachelor of arts degree summa cum laude from Harvard College, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and was selected for the Frederick Sheldon Prize Fellowship. He received his master of arts and doctoral degrees from Harvard University in 1952 and 1956.

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This issue, which was originally dated Summer 2007, was delayed in order to include coverage of the William J. Donovan Award dinner. Therefore, the decision was made to combine the Summer and Fall 2007 issues into one larger publication. We apologize for the delay and hope you will agree that the additional content was worth the wait.

We will publish the winter edition at the regularly scheduled time—early in 2008. In the meantime, please continue to send your stories, remembrances, and other items for publication.

Thank you for your patience.

## OSS IN THE NEWS

### Jones- continued from page 1

in the 82<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Divisions. While serving with the newly-formed 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division he designed and constructed the first model of an airborne jeep.

Volunteering for duty with the OSS, he was assigned as an American member of the Special Projects Operations Center, Special Operations Branch, G-3, Allied Forces Headquarters in Algiers, where he directed the training



*Jones and his radio operator, Richard S. Friedman, who also died this year. The photo above was taken at OSS headquarters in southern France and the one at right many years later at an OSS reunion.*

and dispatching of agents and commando groups in preparation for the invasion of southern France.

In mid-July 1944, it was learned that the American agent who had been parachuted into the area to organize the reception of the airborne troops had been captured, tortured, and executed by the Gestapo. Jones volunteered to take his place. On the night of August 10, 1944, as part of Operation RABELAIS and under the code name YORK, he parachuted into the Basses-Alps dressed in the blue suit of a French laborer and successfully completed his rendezvous with the local French Resistance headquarters in preparation for the impending Allied airborne invasion. His cover was that of a mute Frenchman named Paul Georges Guillot.

With the success of the August 15, 1944 Operation Anvil/Dragoon Riviera landings, Jones assumed command of the Strategic Services Unit, First Airborne Task Force, 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army and became an American member of the inter-allied mission to southeast France. He then organized

OSS Nice, which he commanded from September 1944 to March 1945 as successive OSS Detachments of FABTF, 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army and 44<sup>th</sup> AAA Brigade, 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Group Rear, on the Franco-Italian frontier.

In March 1945, at Bonn, Germany, he took command of the OSS Detachment First U.S. Army, serving in this capacity through the last German campaigns until June 1945. During this assignment he was among the first to liberate Buchenwald concentration camp. He also organized the post V-E Day Tailspin Mission against the Russians in Leipzig. In July 1945, he was appointed Chief, French liaison officer, OSS Mission to France stationed in Paris. He briefly served with Headquarters, Strategic Services Unit, in Washington before returning to civilian life in March 1946. In 1948, Jones was assigned to the newly formed Office of Policy Coordination, a covert-action organization within the State Department, and later the Central Intelligence Agency clandestine services.



Geoff Jones achieved the rank of major. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, Order of the British Empire, Officer of the French Legion of Honor, and the French *Croix de Guerre* with two palms and bronze

star. In 1995, along with the Hon. William E. Colby, he was honored by the Veterans of OSS with the William J. Donovan Award and in 2000 was awarded the Distinguished Service Award of the OSS Society.

After his government service he resumed civilian life in New York City. His international activities included diplomatic relations as well as counseling in tourist, trade and industrial promotions, and programs with worldwide clients. He also produced TV, radio, and theatrical undertakings and was the founding secretary and executive director of Club El Morocco in New York City.

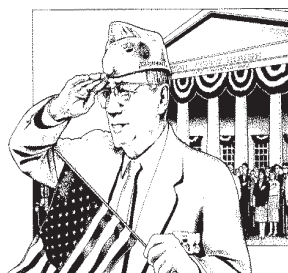
Jones was president of the Veterans of OSS for twenty-three years; president emeritus of The OSS Society; founder and president of the William J. Donovan Memorial Foundation; and a vice president of the Special Forces Club in London.

# OSS IN THE NEWS

## OSS Exhibit Opens at Air Museum

The Airborne & Special Operations Museum's latest special exhibit covers the history of the OSS, which was responsible for U.S. special operations during World War II. The United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) history office created the exhibit for the museum in Fayetteville, N.C. In addition, the North Carolina Museum of History has loaned items from the George Watts OSS Collection. The exhibit will remain on display for approximately one year.

This exhibit highlights the paramilitary branches of the OSS: Special Operations (SO); Secret Intelligence (SI); Morale Operations (MO); Maritime Unit (MU); Operational Groups (OG); and Research and Development (R&D). It also showcases the Jedburghs, Detachment 101, Detachment 202, and Detachment 404. Their stories are explained with photographs and displays that include specialized OSS equipment, uniforms, insignia, and other operational artifacts. This important exhibition reveals the legacy left to today's U.S. Army Special Operations by the Office of Strategic Services.



At an opening ceremony for the exhibit, the U.S. Army Special Operations Command put out the red carpet treatment for the veterans. There were briefings by generals, sniper demonstrations on Range 37 and a chance to shoot special operations firearms at a firing range. Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Yates said that some of the veterans shoot better than his students!

Among the visitors was 80-year-old Lord John Slim, the son of Field Marshal William Joseph Slim, the first Viscount Slim, the legendary commander of British forces in Burma during World War II.

OSSer Stan Spector, 83, of Rome, Ga., arrived in Burma at age 19 and found himself as a radio operator with one U.S. officer and 110 Kachins, a rural people who live in the hills and jungles of northern Burma. "We trained them and led them and lived with them for eight months or longer," Spector said.

An official Special Forces history says: "The OSS was formed in World War II to gather intelligence and conduct operations behind enemy lines in support of resistance groups in Europe and Burma. After the war, individuals such as Col. Aaron Bank, Col. Wendell Fertig, and Lt. Col. Russell Volckmann used their wartime OSS experience to formulate the doctrine of unconventional warfare that became the cornerstone of the Special Forces."

## Senator John McCain Lauds OSS Role in WWII

Senator John McCain, in a speech to the Concord, New Hampshire Chamber of Commerce on June 13, 2007, stated: "I would set up a new civil-military agency patterned after the Office of Strategic Services in World War II. A modern-day OSS could draw together unconventional warfare, civil-affairs, paramilitary and psychological-warfare specialists from the military together with covert-action operators from our intelligence agencies and experts in anthropology, advertising, foreign cultures, and numerous other disciplines from inside and outside government.

"In the spirit of the original OSS, this would be a small, nimble, can-do organization that would fight terrorist subversion across the world and in cyberspace. It could take risks that our bureaucracies today are afraid to take—risks such as infiltrating agents who lack diplomatic cover into terrorist organizations. It could even lead in the front-line efforts to rebuild failed states. A cadre of such undercover operatives would allow us to gain the intelligence on terrorist activities that we don't get today from our high-tech surveillance systems and from a CIA clandestine service that works almost entirely out of embassies abroad."

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## SEAL Museum May Get National Designation

Legislation introduced by U.S. Rep Tim Mahoney would designate the Navy UDT-SEAL Museum on North Hutchinson Island in Fort Pierce, Florida as the official national museum of Navy SEALs and their predecessors. The designation, said Michael R. Howard, executive director of the museum and a former SEAL, "may be exactly what we need to get us on the map nationally. And it could help the county and the people here realize what a unique treasure they have in their own backyard."

The North Hutchinson Island facility is the only museum dedicated to preserving the legacy of Navy SEALs and their predecessors, including the Underwater Demolition Teams, Naval Combat Demolition Units, Office of Strategic Services Maritime Units, and Amphibious Scouts and Raiders.

Mahoney said the museum "commemorates an important part of our nation's history. The Navy SEALs and their predecessors deserve our greatest respect for their unparalleled heroism defending our nation. This is a local treasure with national significance."

## OSS IN THE NEWS

### Tour of Italian War Zones Brings Honor for OSSer and Respect for Colleagues

By Dr. Steve Weiss

The two-week tour I led for Stephen Ambrose Historical Tours in mid-May gave the participants an appreciation of OSS with Italian Resistance implications that few tours could offer.

Through Massimo Rendina, professor and director of the Italian oral history archives, I arranged for a talk at the Andreatine caves by two partisans, one whose father was murdered there on March 23, 1944 by the SS. I then took the group to the via Rasella, where a bombing attack took place. You can still see the bullet holes and shrapnel scars on the houses. The battlefield tours from Salerno to Rome and an optional tour to Siena and Florence were successes.

In Rome on June 4th, the day of the Liberation Anniversary, I felt like Michael Caine in 'The Italian Job,' with two Roman motorcycle cops on their BMWs running interference for our two minivans; racing from site to site, stopping for wreath-laying, a montage of monuments to Resistance martyrs, murdered civilians, anti-Fascists, and communists against the Nazis, with police on cycles, their blue lights flashing, sirens wailing, and arms gesticulating for autos to get out of the way.

Over one hundred guests were at the mayor's *salle a manger*, a bright, sunny room, for the dinner. My place card put me next to Professor Massimo Rendina, also a former partisan, who fought in the North. Massimo introduced me to the mayor, Walter Veltroni, and other dignitaries. Their Italian charm pervaded the large room. The American military attaché was young; the French military attaché eyed my medals in appreciation.

Massimo reviewed efforts made by the Roman citizens against the Fascists and the Nazis. Five of us were called to his side on the platform; I stood with the others,



*Monsieur Lucien Duval, Secretary General of the National Association of the French Resistance and Commandeur of the Legion d'Honneur, awards Dr. Weiss the Legion d'Honneur, officer grade.*

alongside the mayor and other governmental officials. One of these officials was Maria Tompkins, Italian widow of Peter Tompkins, author of *A Spy in Rome*, who died recently. He was 89, but when he operated as an agent for the OSS in 1943, he was 24.

I came away feeling what an honor it was to be with these Romans who live in a city surrounded by a heritage over 2,500 years old, and whose citizens fought to the death against the most recent tyranny, 63 years ago, in which, on June 4, 1944, I played a minor contributory part in their liberation

Later, in Paris, on June 22, I was presented with the French Legion of Honor. I was also notified that I would receive a pension of 600 Euros annually for participating in the 1944-1945 liberation of France.

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### Tribute to Geoffrey Jones from Italian Wartime Comrade

It was with deep sadness that I learned of the passing of our past president, Major Geoffrey M.T. Jones.

We are left with the remembrance of an extraordinary man, a hero and a statesman, and a protagonist in the many battles to return liberty to Europe and to the entire world. For me, as for those who have been privileged to have known him, Geoffrey Jones was and remains a beacon.

I consider it a great honor to have earned and enjoyed his friendship. We worked together in the spirit of common ideals, including the seminar "The Americans and

the War of Liberation" organized in Venice, October 1994, on the Reunion of Friendship trip.

My children and I are very close to the veterans of The OSS Society during this moment of grief.

Dr. Luigi Sartori, Col.  
Treviso, Trieste

*Dr. Sartori is a life member of OSS and originated the Tour of Friendship in Italy with OSS and Italian OG's on October 17-18. He was a member of the Italian Resistance Group in WWII.*



## OSS IN THE NEWS

### Detachment 101 Veterans Honored at Special Reunion at Fort Bragg

By Henry Cunningham (Fayetteville, NC Observer)

**J**ohn Breen had suffered miserably from airsickness during pilot training and was reassured to hear an OSS recruiter offer a job that only required “one one-way flight.”

The recruiter neglected to mention the job involved parachuting out of the plane. “I was too stupid to ask, ‘Why one way?’” said Breen, an 82-year-old World War II veteran from Brookfield, Conn.

Breen was among ten veterans of Detachment 101 of the OSS at a reunion at Fort Bragg recently. Breen found himself parachuting into northern Burma during World War II. His airborne training consisted of being fitted for a parachute and being told to bend his knees and roll forward when he landed.

He was a radio operator with wires and antennas that made him easy for Japanese snipers to find. “I’m not only stupid, I’m lucky,” he said. Breen is the president of the detachment’s veterans association, “probably because I’m one of the younger members.”

During the visit at Fort Bragg, members of a twelve-man Special Forces A-team gave a briefing about how their training, equipment, and foreign language skills help them train local forces or infiltrate behind enemy lines.

Nowadays, the OSS veterans are mostly in their 80s and in many cases they were accompanied to the reunion by their baby-boomer children. When they were in their 20s, the veterans went behind Japanese lines in Burma and

worked with Allied and indigenous forces. “We really were the beginning of the Green Berets,” said **Allen Richter**, 91, the oldest member of the group.

“Our members are dwindling very rapidly,” said Richter, who divides his time between Bartlesville, Okla. and Jupiter, Fla. During the war, the detachment numbered 1,000 men. Richter remembers reunions in the 1960s when a Washington, D.C., hotel ballroom was filled with “101ers,” the president of the United States dropped in to say hello, and the top military bands performed.

Richter was one of the original 21 people who went into Burma to set up operations. He walked down a trail into Burma on Christmas 1942 with 13 elephants and 53 local people and set up the first operation in territory with Japanese nearby. He put the U.S. flag up without a shot being fired. “There are three of us left,” he said.

Richter sketched out receivers and transmitters that would work over several hundred miles. Equipment might weigh 40 pounds. Today, Special Forces soldiers use satellite and digital communications. “What we did probably will never happen again because of modern technology,” Richter said. “Everything now is micro-miniaturized. You can put something on a dinky little chip that will do everything that a box that had many tubes in it used to do. It’s just unbelievable what’s available today.”

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### OSSers in War-time Italy Cited in Partisan Journal *Autonomi*

**T**he semiannual publication of the most conservative of Italian partisan organizations is *Autonomi*. The first issue of this year contains two items of interest to OSS members, especially to those who served in Italy. The first is an account of the late Mary Donovan Corvo’s career in OSS and post-war life with her husband Max. It stresses their important contributions, ending with the phrase “Italy, in general, and the Italian Resistance in particular owe much to Mary and Max Corvo.”

There is also a biographical sketch of **Albert R. Materazzi** and with it a 1945 picture of him in uniform. The article lists his contributions as operations officer of Co. A 2671st Special Reconnaissance Bn (the Italian OGs) and includes a translation of the citation for his Legion of Merit.

Both articles are written by Dr. Luigi Sartori, a long-time admirer of the OSS. He originated the idea of a joint conference in Venice on the theme of the American contribution to Italy’s War of Liberation. As expected it was a

very successful trip ending with the conference in Venice. In recognition of his services Sartori became a life member of the Veterans of OSS.

“Gigi,” as his friends call him, graduated from the military school for Italy’s elite mountain troops—the “Alpini”—and then served in the Balkans. On September 6, 1943, Italy surrendered and became a co-belligerent. Sartori joined the resistance movement; in April 1944 he headed a mission which parachuted in the upper Veneto area. Attached to Matteotti Brigade on Monte Grappa it conducted sabotage operations and transmitted intelligence until the end of the war.

He returned to his studies at the Ca’ Foscari University in Venice and earned a degree in economic and financial administration in 1947. Putting what he learned to good use in 1948 he established the firm Fratelli Sartori, Inc., sole distributor for Mercedes Benz in Treviso, Venice, and Padua.

## OSSERS IN THE NEWS

### South Korea Bars Representatives from Memorial Rites in D.C.

According to a recent report in *The Washington Times*, Pentagon officials and U.S. veterans are upset that South Korea's government prevented all official representatives from attending the Victims of Communism Memorial ceremony in Washington, D.C., on June 12, 2007, despite the fact that 54,000 Americans died retaking the country from communist North Korea after its 1950 invasion. Some 224,000 South Koreans were also killed in the war.

More than 1,000 people, including many foreign diplomats, attended the unveiling of the monument to honor the estimated 100 million people who have been victimized by communism since the Bolsheviks first seized power in Russia in 1917.

The officials said that the current pro-North Korea government in Seoul is "so interested in appeasement that they will dishonor their own war dead killed by communism both in the North and South, during the Korean War and since."

Army Maj. Gen. John K. Singlaub, a former chief of staff of U.S. Forces Korea, and OSS operative in the CBI theater in WWII, said that the South Korean's failure to send a representative was an insult. "Of all the nations that were attacked and occupied by communists, the United States lost more people trying to retake that land for the South Koreans and we suffered greatly," Singlaub said.

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### Dr. Vigilante Remembered at Adelphi

Adelphi University dedicated a plaque in June 2007 to the late Dr. Joseph Vigilante who served in OSS/China and gave 50 years of his professional life to Adelphi in establishing the school of social work.

Dr. Vigilante served in Special Operations (SO) in China participating as a member of Baboon Team, one of three special operations teams sent behind lines to train Chinese guerillas and harass the Japanese Army in Southern China. It was later expanded and incorporated under the Iowa Plan in March 1945 to involve the deployment of about 20 special operations teams in southern China. Team Baboon, consisting of Joe Vigilante, Capt. Joseph N. Littlefield, and their band of 120 Chinese guerillas, was deployed behind the lines for the longest period of any SO team from January 1 to August 3, 1945, with two of the original four members withdrawing early due to battle fatigue. In the first two weeks of July 1945 alone, Baboon was responsible for killing 262 Japanese soldiers in a series of ambushes they conducted. Dr. Vigilante passed away on December 25th, 2005.

### OSSer Wins Accreditation for Completing Aviation Program

OSS Society Treasurer Willis S. (Cos) Georgia III, CFP, was recently honored with a custom leather flight jacket and flight case for being the 88<sup>th</sup> pilot to complete the Virginia Department of Aviation's "Ambassador Program." The program rewards a pilot for visiting all 66 Virginia public-use airports, five state aviation museums, and



*Willis (Cos) Georgia with his DA-40 plane*

several FAA safety programs. Since Reagan National Airport near Washington, DC is located inside a "Flight Restricted Zone" and Cos did not want a fighter escort, he drove there instead. "Less chance of being shot down in a car," he said. It took approximately 18 months to complete the program.

The first time Cos was sashaying around the house wearing his new jacket, his wife Anita asked him how much the flights had cost. He has yet to tell her. Although she has no fear of flying, she does not see the point in "flying around in circles," and only accompanied him on a few of the flights. On the other hand, his daughter Christina flew with him often. She got the flying bug, is now taking flight instruction, and hopes to solo on New Year's Eve, which is her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The flights were accomplished in a Cessna 172 SP, a Diamond DA-20, and a Diamond DA-40. Cos observed that there were many "interesting" airports, one of his favorites being Lake Anna. Once on the ground there, he discovered that the runway was too narrow for him to turn around!

Cos' father, Willis S. (Scudder) Georgia Jr, served with OSS in the in Commo Operations in the ETO and CBI theaters.

## OSSERS IN THE NEWS

### OSSer World's Oldest Active Softball Player

To those in the South Hills senior softball league, Harold Banker is simply known as "Grandpap." Even playing in a division with other seniors, Banker stands out; he turned 90 years old on July 25, 2007. According to Senior Softball-USA, the Mt. Lebanon, Pa. man is the world's oldest active registered softball player.

"The closet one to me is 87," Banker said. "I got them beat."

A catcher, Banker regularly plays two to three games a week. He does it while playing in a 55-and-older league, too, meaning he often plays against competition 35 years younger than he. Banker doesn't mind. He just loves the game.

"I enjoy playing with the guys and I like to hit, naturally," he said. "I like to get up there and bat. I don't like to take a walk. I like to hit the ball because you never know what's going to happen."

It isn't like Banker is just a sideshow or only plays to get out of the house or to don a fancy uniform. The old guy can play some ball.

Banker joined the South Hills league when his wife died 11 years ago, and has been a staple ever since. Just two years ago, Banker led his team to the league championship and was named league MVP. "I was lucky," he quipped. "I finally got some respect for being an old man."

Banker formed a passion for playing baseball while growing up in Wilkesburg, Pa. in the late 1920s. During the Depression, Banker and his friends had to make do with what little they had. If a cover was knocked off a ball they'd tape it. Likewise if a bat was broken. If a glove ripped, they'd fill the hole with a rag.

Eventually, Banker became good enough that he attempted to become a professional player. A 16-year-old switch-hitting first baseman, Banker said he and about seven other local players boarded a bus to try out for the New York Yankees in 1933.

"I was a pretty good hitter," he said. "That's why they recruited me. But I had a bum knee, and they cut me in the first round. Shortly thereafter, Banker joined the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II.

When Banker returned from duty, his softball career began when he participated in a fast-pitch church league. He did this while working as the art director at the now-defunct Sun-Telegraph newspaper and also created paintings.

### Former OSSer Finds Second Career in Photography

*Want to see Everett Johnson's photographs? Stop by any local 7-11 in Maryland, Northern Virginia or D.C.*

For the past six years Everett Johnson, 89, has been taking pictures for ADC Map Books – they're the familiar area atlases available at most convenience stores.

For Johnson, who lives in Woodbridge, Va., with his wife, Eethel, photography is more than a hobby – it's a second job after retirement. He is best known for the covers to all three street map books. Six years ago, Johnson saw the Prince William County map book at a local stationery store and couldn't get over the front cover.

"It was a really lousy picture," said Johnson, adding that he soon discovered the photographer was based in California. He contacted the picture editor. "From that day on I've had every single Prince William County map book cover," said Johnson.

Johnson grew up on a farm in Alcester, S.D. with seven brothers and sisters. "My dad gave me a brownie box camera when I was in grade school and that's how it all got started," said Johnson, adding that he would climb about 40 feet to take pictures of the farm from the windmill.

Johnson tried to enlist in the Navy during World War II, which he said had a "great photography program." The Navy turned him down because of a scar left over from a ruptured appendix. Instead, he did administrative work for the OSS/SI in Washington, D.C. After the war, he used the GI Bill to get a degree in psychology from George Washington University and worked briefly at the Pentagon before landing a personnel job with the CIA.

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### WIMSA Celebrates 10 Years

The Women in Military Service to America (WIMSA) Memorial, dedicated on October 18, 1997, celebrated its tenth anniversary in November 2007. WIMSA's primary mission is to identify and honor the two million women who have served in the U.S. military, including the O.S.S.

Located at the ceremonial gate to Arlington National Cemetery, WIMSA operates a Memorial Education Center; manages a world-class archive; conducts a world-wide education program for children and adults; operates a speakers bureau; and hosts a variety of seminars, programs, and activities at the Memorial.

Brig Gen Wilma Vaught, head of WIMSA, has also made an enthusiastic commitment to recognizing the contributions of America's female military POWs.

## OSS HISTORY

### A Journalist's War: OSSer Alex MacDonald Organized Black Radio in Burma

By Bob Bergin

The OSS left its mark on Asia, particularly in Thailand, where OSS is remembered for working closely with the Free Thai, and for OSS officers who saw the promise of Asia and stayed on after the war. The best-known of these is Jim Thompson, the Thai Silk King. Another is Alexander W. MacDonald, a journalist who went to Thailand as an OSS officer, and stayed to found the Bangkok Post and create one of Asia's most prestigious English language newspapers.

MacDonald was a Boston University journalism graduate. He started his newspaper career in New England, but went to Hawaii to escape the depression. The Honolulu Star-Bulletin sent him to Polynesia for a year. Later he joined the Honolulu Advertiser, and in his free time studied Japanese. In mid-1941, when a clash between the U.S. and Japan seemed inevitable, he joined U.S. Naval Intelligence. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, he reported for active duty. He looked for a combat assignment, but found himself working as a censor.

A newspaper friend urged him to try OSS. He reported to Washington and was assigned to Morale Operations (MO). He first trained at the Congressional Country Club. "Malice in Wonderland," he called it, where the curriculum was "lie and steal, kill, maim, spy... the Ten Commandments in reverse."

MacDonald was assigned to OSS Detachment 404, Colombo, Ceylon. There he was put in command of a team of six, told his job was to undermine enemy morale, and to use his imagination to do that. From the Free Thai on his team he learned that the Japanese controlled all news in Thailand through Thai language broadcasts via Radio Tokyo. MacDonald used his imagination and a black operation was born: fake Radio Tokyo broadcasts.

A small radio station was set up outside Chittagong, just north of the Burma border, in what is now Bangladesh. There MacDonald's Free Thai imitated Radio Tokyo announcers. They went on the air just before Radio Tokyo, and on a frequency right next to it. Thai listeners tuning in thought they were listening to the Japanese-sponsored broadcasts. With great regret, the Free Thai announcers

would periodically admit Japanese setbacks in the war, say things they knew would irritate Thai listeners, and in any subtle way they could, undermine Japanese claims that they were winning the war.

The Japanese were so outraged that they demanded the Thai government expose this "enemy operation." That was done and—to Japanese chagrin—the fake broadcasts then became immensely popular with the Thai.

When his radio station was able to function without him, MacDonald was sent to Akyab, on the northwest Burma coast, to join the Arakan Forward Unit (AFU) of OSS Detachment 101. MacDonald was assigned to the Secret Intelligence (SI) section to run "shallow penetration" operations, sending Burmese agents through Japanese lines for information as the Japanese retreated south.

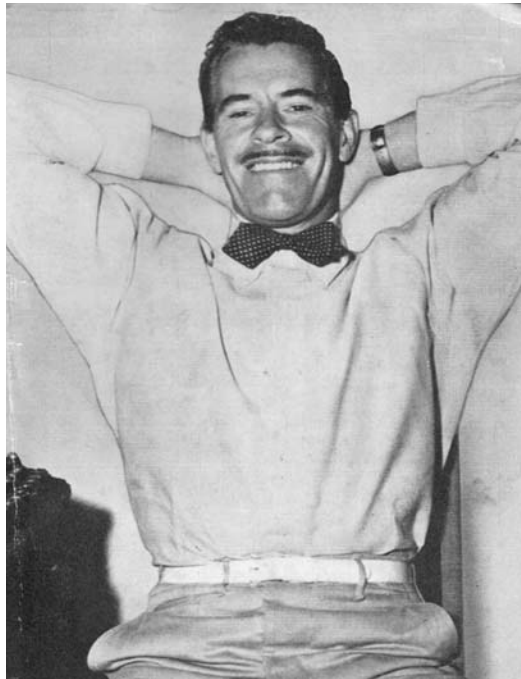
When the Japanese were pushed out of Burma, MacDonald volunteered to work with the Free Thai and was sent back to Ceylon to be trained for the mission.

There he met Jim Thompson, who would become a close friend. MacDonald was put in command of a Free Thai team that was to parachute into Ubon, near the Cambodian border.

MacDonald and his team were in a C-47, just outside Ubon when the pilot, "eyes wide with excitement," came into the cabin. "The goddamn war is over!" he yelled. The C-47 returned to Rangoon. The next day, Jim Thompson and Alex MacDonald were on another C-47 headed for Bangkok, where the Japanese were still in control. The war would not be over for the Japanese there until the formal surrender on September 2, 1945.

MacDonald and Thompson were taken to the "Rose Garden Palace" where OSS Headquarters was manned by Howard Palmer, and introduced to Pridi Phanomyong, code-name RUTH, the Free Thai leader and regent to the Thai King.

Palmer left for the U.S. within a week and Jim Thompson replaced him as OSS Chief. The OSS station



## OSS HISTORY

became the official U.S. affairs establishment until State Department officers arrived in Bangkok, almost a year later. In the meantime, Thompson and MacDonald became amateur diplomats, dealing with the Prime Minister, the Thai Foreign Office, and all the Allied embassies. When Jim Thompson decided to leave and come back as a civilian, MacDonald became the OSS station chief.



*Alex MacDonald (left) with Thai silk king Jim Thompson in the garden of MacDonald's villa in Bangkok.*

As a U.S. Naval Reserve lieutenant, senior grade, MacDonald was the ranking American officer in Thailand, and called on to represent the United States at the formal surrender of the Japanese forces. One morning in Bangkok, he joined senior British, French, Dutch and Australian officers as seven Japanese admirals and generals stepped up to lay their swords on a table in front of the Allied officers. Two weeks later, MacDonald represented the OSS at a final military review where the Free Thai was formally disbanded.

MacDonald continued as an amateur diplomat in Bangkok until the real American diplomats arrived in May 1946. Life was good, Thailand's future was bright, and MacDonald decided to start his newspaper. In short order he enlisted five prominent Thais as board members, recruited a staff of six, and established a relationship with the Associated Press. The first edition of the Bangkok Post appeared on August 1, 1946.

The Post flourished. In 1953, an impressed British publishing magnate, Lord Thompson, made a generous offer for the newspaper, and MacDonald accepted. He had been away from New England for 20 years, and was becoming homesick. Over the coming years he would have many other adventures in Asia and Africa, but he always returned to New England.

*Editor's note-Alex MacDonald died in 2000 in Salem, Mass. He was the author of several books including Bangkok Edition and My Footloose Newspaper Life.*

### Was Laurence Olivier an SOE Agent in Hollywood as an Actor?

*London: On screen he portrayed British military heroes such as Henry V, Lord Nelson, and the Duke of Wellington. In real life Laurence Olivier performed some bravery of his own, risking jail as an agent for Britain in the United States*

The actor was accused by his contemporaries of lacking patriotism for deciding to remain in Hollywood when war broke out rather than signing up. Instead, he worked secretly to help secure the hearts and minds of a skeptical America during the early stages of World War II.

According to a book by Michael Munn, "Lord Larry," Oliver was secretly enlisted into the Special Operations Executive in 1940 by British ambassador Lord Lothian, and film producer Sir Alexander Korda, who worked for the M15 spy agency. The well-connected Olivier was given the task of building support in a neutral U.S. for Britain's war with Nazi Germany. America did not take kindly to foreign agents and could have jailed him. Friends believe that if the Germans had known what he was doing, they would have taken steps to put a stop to it.

Author Michael Munn said, "Winston Churchill recruited Alexander Korda to set up offices in America which were a front for the SOE and M15. Korda then recruited Olivier to work on behalf of SOE." Munn says details of Olivier's work for the SOE's propaganda unit were revealed to him by the actor's contemporaries (Olivier died in 1989). He says Noel Coward told him in 1972: "It was up to Alexander Korda to tell Olivier that Winston Churchill was not asking but telling him that his country expected him to do his duty."

Munn says the film producer Jesse Lasky told him Olivier had been able to ensure access to senior figures via his friendship with stars such as Clark Gable.

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### Our Spy, the French Chef!

OSSer **Julia Child**, the French Chef, donated her kitchen and its contents to the Smithsonian Institution. Museum staffers were surprised by at least one of the items in her junk drawer. Amid the usual twine, toothpicks, and candles was a secret signaling mirror used by intelligence staff during World War II.

Seeking adventure, and too tall at 6ft. 2in. to join the military, Julia McWilliams served with OSS in Washington D.C. and CBI Theater. She helped invent an effective shark-repellent. Her war years held special meaning because it was in Ceylon that she met her future husband, Paul Child.

# OSS HISTORY

## The OSS and the Greatest Art Theft in the History of the World

By Aloysia Hamalainen

*The first part of this story appeared in the Spring 2007 issue of the Newsletter introduced by the following paragraph.*

*How big was the "Greatest Art Theft in the History of the World?" Adolf Hitler made a shopping list of the best of European artworks, gave it to a willing band of art dealers and experts, and changed laws that made it legal for him to take anything he wanted, no matter whether from a private collector or a state museum for his "Führer Museum" in Linz, Austria. As Herman Goering said in 1942, "...I intend to plunder, and to do it thoroughly."*

In June of 1943, the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives (MFAA) section of the Roberts Commission, or "Venus Fixers" as the volunteer group of young museum directors, art professors, and architects was also known, came into being. This group of 350 men was responsible to inspect, repair, and report on monuments needing protection. They also prepared aerial maps that identified landmarks for American pilots to avoid on bombing missions. In 1944 Chief Justice Roberts, the chairman of the unit, asked General Donovan if the OSS would aid the MFAA, and Donovan created the art looting investigation unit on November 21, 1944.

Roberts then asked Francis Henry Taylor, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, to select capable and adaptable fine arts professionals for the Art Looting Investigation Unit (ALIU). Taylor asked James S. Plaut, who had served in the Office of Naval Intelligence since 1942, to become director of the ALIU. Theodore Rousseau, then at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. who had previously served as U.S. naval attaché in Spain and Portugal, was named operations officer and S. Lane Faison Jr., professor of fine arts at Williams College, was detached from his naval station and joined the unit in 1945.

Taylor secured detachment from the U.S. Army for two other art experts: Charles Sawyer, director of the Worcester Art Museum in Massachusetts, and John Phillips, curator and professor at Yale University. Sawyer served as the ALIU liaison officer, and Phillips ran the London office. All told, the ALIU had ten members: four commissioned officers, three enlisted men, and three civilians.

The respect for the cultural landmarks came from the very top of the Army. General Eisenhower wrote,

"Shortly we will be fighting our way across the continent of Europe... Inevitably, in the path of our advance will be found historical monuments and cultural centers which

symbolize to the world all that we are fighting to preserve. It is the responsibility of every commander to protect and respect these symbols whenever possible."

As the fighting moved north after the D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944, the MFAA discovered that the artwork had been removed from the museums. The treasure hunt began, and over the next five years they unearthed more than a thousand hidden repositories in Germany, Italy, and Austria. In them were found the bust of Nefertiti, Michelangelo's *Bruges Madonna*, Jan Van Eyck's *Ghent Altarpiece*, and Vermeer's *The Astronomer* and *The Artist's Studio*.

The men and women of the ALIU and the MFAA fought their battles on many fronts. They fought alongside the military, and fought against the forces of severe weather, dirt, and movement that can ravage works of art that are in reality sheets of old canvas, dried pigment, delicate marbles and old wood.

Robert Edsel, in his book *Rescuing DaVinci: The Greatest Untold Story of World War II*, describes the heroism of ordinary people overcoming inhuman circumstances in the protection of vulnerable artwork. The French heroine was Rose Valland, a Louvre curator who was forced to make the inventory of the stolen artworks that Hermann Goering deposited at the Jeu de Paume, a building near the Louvre. Valland made the inventory as Goering demanded, but also secretly kept track of the thousands of looted objects so that they could be located and recovered after the war.

Valland's record pointed the MFAA to the astounding cache at Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria which required twenty-two railcars to empty. This scenario was repeated many times as the MFAA sorted through millions of stolen and hidden artworks. Collection points were set up all over Germany and served as storage depots until final destinations could be found—a process complicated by the fact that museums and owners had disappeared.

On June 10, 1945, the ALIU established a special interrogation center at Alt Aussee in close proximity to the salt mine where the greatest concentration of Nazi plunder was concealed. Plaut, Rousseau and Faison divided this huge task into three. Rousseau was responsible for the investigation of the Goering collection, Faison was responsible for investigating the activities of the planned Führer museum and Plaut was responsible for investigating the Nazi looting organization in France under Alfred Rosenberg.

Plaut and Rousseau personally apprehended Gustav

## OSS HISTORY

Rochlitz, one of Goering's main art suppliers, who had hidden in a nearby village. They drove him to Paris and turned him over to the French authorities.

The MFAA officers brought to Plaut and Rousseau leading participants in Nazi art looting for interrogation. The art experts' research involved interviews and review of thousands of captured documents.

Some of those interrogated were more cooperative than others. The information from Karl Haberstock, the successful German art dealer, was so damaging to the Nazi leaders that he was brought to Nuremberg to testify at the war crimes trial and became a key witness with respect to art plundering. Walter Andreas Hofer, director of the Goering collection, seemed to remember every transaction, while conveniently forgetting those that implicated him. Gisela Limberger, Goering's secretary, while professing her own innocence, became a fountain of incriminating information. Rousseau interrogated Goering in prison before the Nuremberg trials.



*Vermeer's The Astronomer, one of the treasures recovered by the MFAA.*

The ALIU work at Alt Aussee clarified the nature of the looting process, contributed to the Nuremberg trials and helped to identify the location of countless masterpieces.

In the end, the death of more than 50 million people transcends the loss of anything material. Hitler's scorched earth policy destroyed cities and countries and the world changed completely in 1945. Some of the symbols of man's development were lost forever as well. The Museum in Berlin was leveled, and with it went Caravaggio's *Saint Matthew and the Angel*, Rubens' *Bacchanal*, and hundreds more. The hunt continues for vanished masterpieces such as the *Amber Room*, taken from Catherine's Palace in St. Petersburg and Raphael's *Portrait of a Young Man*.

To this day heirs continue to search and file claims to recover works stolen from their families. Records that had been locked in file cabinets for the last fifty years are now available and may offer clues.

As the market in fine art climbs to the stratosphere, financial incentives will drive the search, and it will be interesting to see where that path leads.

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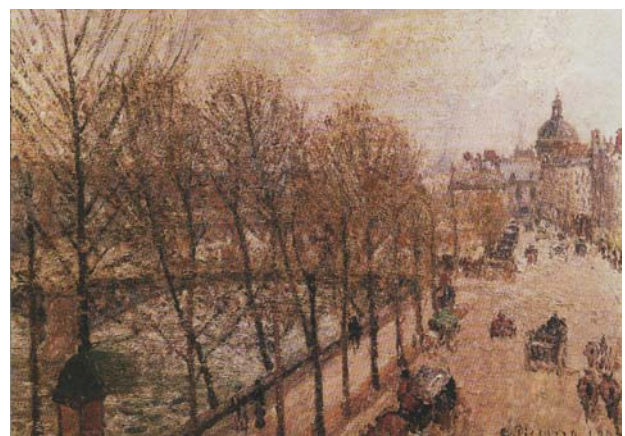
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### Looted Art Work Under Investigation

**B**runo Lohse, a German art dealer appointed by Hermann Goering to acquire looted art in occupied France, dispersed his private collection of Dutch 17th century masterpieces and expressionist paintings among friends and relatives in his will.

Lohse aged 95, died on March 19, 2007 and has since become the focus of a three-nation investigation into a looted Camille Pissarro painting discovered in a Swiss bank safe that was seized by Zurich prosecutors on May 15th. The painting's prewar owners said the Gestapo stole it from their Vienna apartment in 1938. Lohse controlled the Liechtenstien trust that rented the safe. "Paintings have been willed to relatives and friends in individual bequests," Will Hermannn Burger, the executor of Lohse's will, stated. Burger said he's sure none of the paintings in Lohse's private collection are looted.

Lohse became the Paris-based deputy director of the Nazis' specialist art-looting unit (E.R.R.) in 1942, accord-

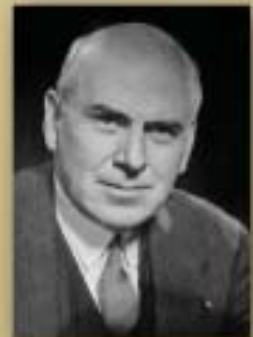


*Le Quai Malaquais by Camille Pissarro.*

ing to the interrogation report compiled by the Office of Strategic Services' Art Looting Investigation Unit, which questioned him in Austria from June 15 to Aug. 15, 1945.

The E.R.R. plundered about 22,000 items in France alone, according to the OSS reports.

# William J. Donovan



From top left: President Dwight D. Eisenhower, J. Russell Forgan, David K. E. Bruce, Carl Eiffler, Everett Dirksen, Jacques Chaban Delmas, John A. McCone, John McCloy, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Allen Dulles, President George Bush

Admiral Louis Mountbatten, the recipient of the Donovan Award in 1966, said at the Veterans of OSS Ceremony: "William Donovan wasn't just a great American, he was a great international citizen, a man of enormous courage, leadership and vision, I doubt whether any one person contributed more to the ultimate victory of the Allies than Bill Donovan."

The goal of this award is to honor a person whose courage and commitment to freedom exemplify the life and service of General Donovan. He was a complete man: a soldier who received our nation's two highest decorations, the Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Award, in World War I; a lawyer who served as U. S. Assistant Attorney



# Award Recipients



From top left: Earl Mountbatten of Burma, MG John K. Singlaub, William J. Casey, Robert D. Murphy, Sir William Stephenson, William E. Colby, William H. Webster, LTG William W. Quinn, Richard M. Helms, President Ronald Reagan, Ralph Bunche

General; a political candidate in New York State; a private traveler to other nations to assess their wartime power, will, and intentions; and a masterful seeker of information that would help President Roosevelt before and during World War II; an ambassador after the war; and most pertinent to us, as founder and head of the Office of Strategic Services, he gave us the inspiration to try to accomplish his imaginative and often risky missions. And, today, to think about how he would act when *we* are in a tough spot.

It is a pleasure for us to honor William Donovan, his chivalry and his faith in his fellow-man – and democracy. And the recipients of the award in his name. The award is presented as a medal on which is a likeness of General Donovan.

## OSS IN THE NEWS

### Gen. Donovan Honored at Niagara University as Distinguished Alumnus

Nine alumni of Niagara University in Niagara Falls, N.Y., including OSS head **Gen William J. Donovan**, were inducted into the first class of “Niagara Legacy—Alumni of Distinction” on September 27, 2007 in Alumni Chapel as part of a convocation celebrating Vincentian Heritage Week.

The Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, president of NU, said that those chosen as Alumni of Distinction have met the criteria established by the selection committee. The inductees have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments and excellence in their fields of endeavor, lived lives that mirror the Vincentian ideals of the university, and had a positive and lasting impact on society.

The inductees are a diverse group, which includes one who runs one of the region’s most well-known tourist attractions and another who was killed in Vietnam while trying to fend off an attack on his platoon.

The honorees’ work spans more than a century in fields as varied as the supermarket industry and medical research.



*Statue honoring Gen. Donovan at Niagara University.*

### Air Force Special Operations Command Based on OSS WWII Heritage

*By Maj. David Farmer, Hurlburt Field, Fla.*

There are four truths that people in Air Force Special Operations Command have realized and developed during its history. This history includes the air commandos in the China-Burma-India theater of operations, as well as Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan and his Office of Strategic Services agents in the WWII European theater.

These Special Operations Forces (SOF) truths are: humans are more important than hardware; special operations forces cannot be mass produced; quality is better than quantity; and competent special operations forces cannot be created after emergencies occur.

These SOF assertions emphasize the need for an aviation force trained in irregular warfare to insert and resupply guerrilla forces behind enemy lines, as well as perform psychological operations. Unfortunately, after World War II, the Army Air Corps didn’t keep an entity responsible for developing the tactics, techniques, and procedures for employing special operations aviation.

In 1951, the newly-formed Air Force was engaged in Korea. This war once again highlighted the need for special operations aviation. On Jan. 5, 1951 the mission of organizing and training airmen for the air support of resupply and communication activities was assigned to Military

Air Transport Service. By Feb. 23, the Air Force established Headquarters, Air Resupply and Communications Service (ARCS) and assigned it to MATS at Andrews Air Force Base, Md. This new ARCS headquarters was the beginning of an organization dedicated to special operations aviation.

The responsibilities of ARCS included developing a wartime capability of introducing, supplying and evacuating ranger-type personnel behind enemy lines and of preparing, reproducing, and disseminating psychological warfare materials. Within the ARCS, communications squadrons were established to support three air resupply and communications wings.

Today, AFSOC performs missions in support of the global war on terrorism. Psychological operations are provided by aircraft that can cover the entire gambit of electronic transmissions.



## OSS HISTORY

### OSS Mission to Serbia Recounted by Former Guerrilla With Chetniks

By Nick D. Petrovich

During WWII, as a teenager, I was member of the Serbian guerrillas commanded by the Gen. Mihailovich. During 1944 the crews of many disabled bombers returning from their bombing missions to Ploesti, Romania, could not make it back to their bases in Italy. They parachuted into Serbia and were rescued by Mihailovich's Chetniks who took them to safety in the free mountains. By the summer of 1944, the number of rescued airmen rose to about 500.

On August 10, 11 and 12, 1944, several OSS members staged the Halyard Mission in Pranjani, Serbia with the objective of evacuating the Americans back to Italy. A small airstrip was built under the direction of OSS members Nick Lalich, George Musulin, Col. McDowell, Walter Mansfield, and A. Seitz. C-47s came from Italy, landed in occupied Serbia, and took the fliers back to Italy. Meanwhile, to avoid German attacks from the air, Mihailovich's Chetniks provided a powerful cover so that the Germans could not interfere. Each C-47 was escorted by several P-38s. The mission was a spectacular success, and all the airmen returned safely to Bari, Italy. Mihailovich was betrayed by the Allies and murdered by Tito's Communists in 1946.

Major Richard Felman, one of the rescued airmen, formed the National Committee of Americans Rescued by General Mihailovich. It took him more than twenty

years to uncover the Legion of Merit, given by President Truman to Mihailovich posthumously, but kept secret by the State Department in order not to offend Tito and his Communist regime.

Felman and his organization worked for years to have a monument erected in Washington to the man who saved American lives. Although the bill introduced by Senators Thurmond and Goldwater passed the senate, the State Department killed it.

*Ed. note-The author now lives in Mexico City.*

### Mihailovich Remembered By OSS Mission Survivor

By Arthur Jibilian

As the sole survivor of the Halyard Mission, may I add my experiences regarding General Draja Mihailovich. I jumped into Serbia with an OSS team August 2, 1944 to rescue 50 shot-down American airmen. When we arrived, we found 250 Americans, some in pretty bad shape. They had been fed, protected, and provided for by Mihailovich. Serbs fed our wounded and went hungry to do so. We evacuated the 250 and Mihailovich funneled other shot-down airmen to us. What started out as a seven-day mission turned into six months, during which time we returned 500 airmen to Italy.

Mihailovich did this in spite of the fact that the Allies abandoned him and called him a traitor and collaborator. I had the honor of being present when the Legion of Merit was presented to Mihailovich's daughter without publicity.

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### OSSer Recalls Exploits in Visit to WWII Air Museum in Colorado

As Jean Thompson glanced around the airport terminal, three World War II bombers towered over his nearly six-foot frame. He is one of the many World War II veterans who have visited the B-17, B-24 and B-25 bombers at the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport in Colorado

"These bombers here are basically what won the war," said Thompson, who was trained to fly the three bombers being displayed at the airport along with most planes used in World War II. "They were so well built and did such a good job, I don't know what I would have done without them."

Even though his missions with the OSS were more than 60 years ago, his memories are as crisp as an airman's uniform. The mission he described as his luckiest involved jumping out of a plane 50 miles into enemy territory, liberating 146 British and American prisoners of war in the middle of the night, stealing German planes and flying the prisoners back to allied territory—all while under enemy

fire. In 1945 Thompson and members of the OSS were instrumental in liberating the Dachau death camp. The camp has since been turned into a historical site. The administration building hosts a museum and in the very back of the building is a large portrait of Thompson shooting three SS troops. Above Thompson's head in large block letters reads "The Liberation of Dachau."

Thompson estimated that he parachuted out of 60 planes during missions between 1942 and 1946. He worked his way up to commander of combat and demolition. Before he joined the service, Thompson had never been in an airplane and said he hasn't piloted a plane since he left the service. His eyesight has worsened over the years. But when he flies on commercial flights, there is one place he likes to be. "I try to get the window seat whenever I can," he said. "The best part about being up there in the sky is the view."

## OSS HISTORY

### A Catholic Father Operated as British Contact in Paris in WWII

By P.D. Thomas

While in Paris Oct. 9, 2007 to attend the funeral of Alexandrine Gerfaux Thomas, the wife of Jacques Thomas Nile of OSS Unit 2677th Regiment 7th Army, I decided to stop by St. Joseph's English-language Catholic church just a block from the Place de l'Etoile.

As a kid of four and five during the occupation of Paris, I had been sent to the church by my mother Anita Avila Thomas to deliver letters with very specific instruction to give the correspondence to Friar Monaghan. My trek down memory lane was to see if indeed there had been someone at the church who had passed on letters during the occupation. The result was a story describing what Friar Monaghan had done during the occupation years. I received the following information from St. Joseph's: Fr. Kenneth Monaghan was born in County Sligo, Ireland, in 1893. He married young, but his wife died after only a few years of marriage. Monaghan later joined the army as a commissioned officer in World War I.

When the Armistice was signed in 1918 he volunteered for Russia, where he saw service with the White Army. Taken prisoner by the Bolsheviks, he was sent to Siberia. He actually lived under sentence of death for some months, but he was eventually released.

After all the ups and downs of his varied career, he decided to take vows as a monk in the Passionist Order at age 29, taking the religious name of Kenneth. He was ordained seven years later and was appointed to St. Joseph's in Paris under orders from M15. Military intelligence chiefs in London felt he would be of more use to them in occupied Paris and planned to use him as a contact with the French

underground. Fr. Kenneth took up the role of curate at St. Joseph's Church, which was conveniently close to the Gestapo headquarters on Avenu Foch.

By the end of 1940 Fr. Kenneth had helped British soldiers in Paris to escape the country. At one time he came into contact with a British airman who escaped from a prisoner of war camp and made his way to Paris. At first Fr. Kenneth was suspicious of him and asked him about the area around Enniskillen. When he mentioned a monastery in the area and the airmen replied it was a Passionist monastery, the priest knew he was not dealing with a German spy.

Sunday mass provided an opportunity for the small Irish community in wartime Paris to meet. Fr. Kenneth would work with people such as Lilly Hannigan, originally from Dublin and working as a governess in Paris. Coded messages from the Resistance in the suburbs would change hands, to be passed to other Resistance members in the city. This was carried on under the noses of the Germans, whose headquarters were nearby. The church was also used by the German Army and their priests to say Mass.

Throughout the war Lily Hannigan worked for the Resistance and helped Allied airmen and parachutists to safety. She received a citation on behalf of U.S. President Harry Truman.

At the end of the war Fr. Kenneth rejoined the army as chaplain. He continued in the U.K. and Germany. In 1954, he was assigned to Wales, and remained there until his death in 1969.

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### OSS Tail Gunner Describes His War

Don Fairbanks was 19 years old, a tail-gunner on a B-24, and stationed on a remote air base in England when he learned what serious business WWII was. He was part of an eight-man crew that flew secret missions on a modified B-24 bomber with no lights, no fighter escort and only on nights when the moon was full. The young U.S. Army Air Corps man was working for the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), and the missions were about supporting resistance in France and Belgium and aiding freedom fighters who were taking on their Nazi oppressors.

Through the opening in the plane's belly, they would drop crates of supplies, arms, and ammunition into predetermined, top-secret drop zones; and often, they would drop

OSS agents and the Resistance fighters. "We called them 'Joes,'" said Fairbanks, 82, who now operates a helicopter-pilot training business at the Clermont County Airport in Ohio. "We'd say, 'We've got to drop a load of Joes tonight.' And we'd drop them through the 'Joe hole.'"

"We could not discuss what we were doing with anyone—not airmen, soldiers, English civilians. And our mail was heavily censored. We were told that if we did talk, we were subject to being shot. When you are 19 years old, that gets your attention. So we kept our mouths shut." But Fairbanks—who went on to become a commercial pilot and air racer in civilian life—said he is convinced that the work that he and his crew did helped to defeat the Nazis.

## BOOK NOTES



### *The Double Agents: A Men At War Novel*

By W.E.B. Griffin and William E. Butterworth IV

G. P. Putnam's Son

Reviewed by Alice A Booher

Having worked together for years, this is an acknowledged collaboration by son and prolific father William E. Butterworth IV and III, [the latter aka W.E.B. Griffin]. Griffin's 40,000,000 readers have long enjoyed the never-boring formulae within his six series, two of which deal with OSS. This, the sixth book in the "Men at War Series," dedicated to OSS' Aaron Bank and William Colby, follows the exploits of many of the characters from earlier books.

Much of earlier Griffin deals with combat, but there is none of that here. The primary premise has OSS snatching a German scientist from under the eyes of the SS, and OSS agents and their associates neutralizing nerve gas and biological agents before they can be used. It has a lot of intrigue, some treason; a modicum of romance, a tiny smattering of gratuitous sex, and a lot of genuinely gratifying action, some of it rooted in OSS history.

Griffin, who himself entered the Army in 1946, has always done his homework on WWII and the persons involved therein from Eisenhower and FDR to OSSers Allen Dulles, David Bruce, and of course William Donovan. In the telling of this once-again rollicking story, he intersperses a mass of factual data as part of his ongoing effort towards inventive credibility. There are plenty of subplots including transport of a defrosting frozen corpse, and female spies stuffing enemy mailbags reminiscent of Elizabeth MacDonald's *Undercover Girl* and of her later nonfictional *Sisterhood of Spies* (as Elizabeth McIntosh).

If the reader remembers that it is meant as a fictional account, it is palatable and quite enjoyable. From the standpoint of accuracy, one may wonder why everyone seems compelled to stick a Scotch in the hands of nondrinker Donovan. In any event, the read is fast and entertaining, even in those spots when the fiction overwhelms the fact and "loose cannon" becomes a term of endearment rather than a lack of predictability.



### *Spymistress: The Life of Vera Atkins, the Greatest Female Secret Agent of World War II*

by William Stevenson

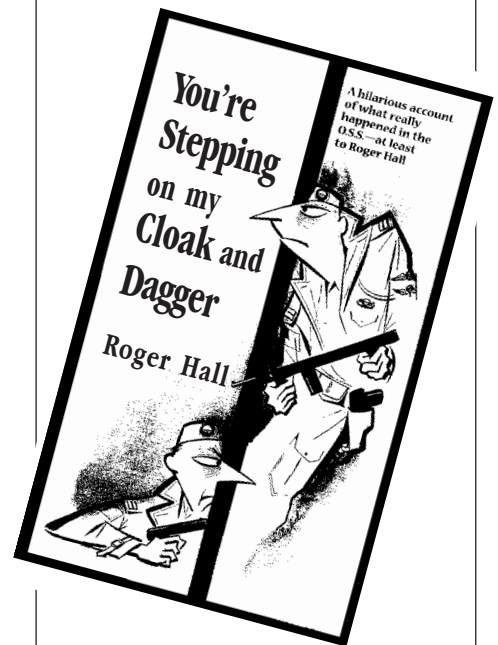
Arcade Publishing

reviewed by Alice A. Booher

Vera Atkins, born Vera Maria Rosenberg (1908-2000) in Bucharest, is a historical legend about whom much has been conjectured but little has really been known. British spymaster Sir William Stephenson recruited Atkins, made her number two in covert Special Operations Executive (SOE), and he and his American wife, Mary, remained her lifelong friends.

Atkins recruited and trained SOE members and also ran her own covert missions. *Spymistress* is titularly hers, and Atkins permeates but often not pivotally. Many of her agents' efforts, including a few of the 39 women, are well chronicled. Eisenhower would say that Atkins' agents were the "equivalent of 15 divisions." *Spymistress* competently describes the internecine conflicts among U.S., French and UK, and dustups in Whitehall, but details of SOE action are not always seamless. Segments on SOE-OSS relationships are valuable; details re: FDR and OSS strategies and politics, and Atkin's interactions with Messrs. Donovan, Bruce, Mellon, Casey, *et al*, are excellent.

"A splendid contribution to the nation's hilarity... The funniest (unofficial) record of rugged adventure in the OSS. And Hall has earned his right to his laughter."  
– The New York Times



With a sharp eye and wry wit, Roger Hall recounts his experiences as an American Army officer assigned to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II. First published in 1957 to critical and popular acclaim, his book has become a cult favorite in intelligence circles.

"A humorously unofficial look at the OSS . . . presented with such candour and light-heartedness that the reader is left in stitches."

– The Armada Bookshelf

"The author's ability to blend humor into the serious business of espionage is unparalleled."

– Air & Space Power Journal

Available in bookstores, on the internet, and through the publisher (Naval Institute Press)

## BOOK NOTES

*Spymistress* is homage to Atkins' intelligence, extraordinary competence, cleverness, and courage. Atkins' mantra of "timing, surprise, imagination and audacity" was lived as well as intellectualized. After war's end, Atkins personally tracked down her missing agents, and with unexcelled experience, was drawn into the postwar Anglo-American intelligence alliance, of which we can yet learn nothing. She retired quietly to get modest recognition from OSS and CIA comrades aboard the *USS INTREPID* in NYC in 1983 when Sir Stephenson was given the Donovan Award.



### ***Women of Valor: The Rochambelles on the WWII Front***

By Ellen Hampton  
Palgrave/Macmillan  
Reviewed by Alice A. Booher

Hampton taps heavily into interviews in her book, and its bibliography is based on third-party French documents. *Women of Valor (WOV)* is a book about remarkable, resilient, American and Allied women and their front line WWII service—the first book to weave together the aggregate story.

Named after the American Revolutionary War hero, Count Rochambeau, who led French troops to assist the Americans, the group became *The Rochambelles*. In 1943, a twice-widowed wealthy American woman, Florence Conrad (WWI nurse; ambulance driver, canteen organizer, and POW mail transporter in 1939-40), organized them as a "private" volunteer ambulance corps, was made a French major, and led them until August 1944. The group would distinguish itself in many ways, carefully delineated in *WOV*, as an integral part of an Allied fighting unit with General Leclerc's Second Armored Division.

Conrad wrote blank checks for vehicles, blankets, medical supplies, and later recognizing her own limitations for field work, selected French lawyer Suzanne Torres to assume command. Before *WOV*, the little information known about the group came from the memoirs of famed French paratrooper, Jacques Massu, who served under Leclerc and married Torres (known as Toto) in 1948. By all accounts, the group acted as competent mechanics, efficient medical care-givers, and ambulance drivers.

Of the 51 women in the Rochambelles, 15 went on to serve in Indochina after the end of the war in Europe, one was killed, one was missing in Europe, and six were wounded. The women were American, French, Romanian, English, and Austrian, with varied backgrounds, attitudes and skills but with a unified patriotic purpose.

Much of Hampton's anecdotal material and pictures came from Rochambelle Anne Ebrard Hastings, a Parisian

by birth, who was working on her doctorate in government at Harvard and married Wendell Hastings, an American OSS officer, in France in 1940. *Women of Valor* is an excellent book on the exigencies of war, patriotism and some remarkable people.



### ***Lipstick and Lies***

By Margit Liesche  
Poisoned Pen Press

*Lipstick and Lies* is a new approach to spy stories of World War II. It involves a smart World Air Service pilot with background wartime training at OSS facilities, faced with a developing Nazi spy ring in America's Midwest.

WASP and undercover agent Pucci Lewis faces the challenge of uncovering a Prussian ring headed by Countess Grace Buchanan-Duncan, a real-life agent who operated in Detroit, Michigan. What makes the story so compelling is the fact that the action takes place in mid-America, not in any of the storied spy sites in occupied Europe, Asia or Africa.

The gutsy Pucci manages to infiltrate a posh women's club in Detroit where the Countess once lectured as a "charm consultant." As the story unfolds, it is entertaining, suspenseful, and surprising.

The author is the daughter of Hungarian refugees who arrived in the United States in 1941 following eight years of missionary service in war-torn China. Weaned on her parents' tales of isolation, escape, and an arduous journey to America aboard a military ship, intrigue is part of her background. When she began plotting *Lipstick and Lies*, she couldn't help transmitting what she had absorbed into the story's events and characters. She also did a great deal of background research on OSS and the role of women in WWII, which is reflected in the story

### **The OSS Society Newsletter**

**Elizabeth P. McIntosh**, editor

**Sally and Milt Collins**, layout and art work

**Ben Rickard and Molly Rakestraw**,  
text preparation

*Send news items, obit notices, photos, and  
wartime memories to the editor at*

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703-490-6797**

*Please also email a copy, if possible, to  
sallyandmilt@aol.com*

## BOOK NOTES



*Legacy of Ashes:  
The History of the CIA*

By Tim Weiner

Doubleday

Reviewed by Dan Pinck

*Caveat emptor.* Make no mistake, Mr. Wiener's book is entertaining. But it is a history, the latest in a long line of books about the life of the CIA. Many of them are called histories and many of them are by journalists. Mr. Weiner has a distinguished record of covering the CIA for *The New York Times*. His book reads like journalism and there's no problem with that. It is built on the context of history and, like many books encompassing the time-line of the CIA's endeavors during the past sixty years, its dominating thrust is to find as many faults and alleged failures by the CIA and most of its DCIs and their principal aides as Mr. Weiner can find. It's a slam-dunk in his opinion that incompetent leaders and their staff members have misled presidents more often than presidents have misled them. The fact is—and I believe it is fact—that the president is the CEO of the CIA and that the DCI is a Chief Operations Officer.

Mr. Weiner takes 700 pages to tell his story. Some of it is written exceedingly well, with such a variety of targets that most readers will discover as many points of agreement as disagreement. It's a full plate. I emphasize that he has produced an entertaining book. Unless the reader is brain-dead, it will keep him alert and ready to talk back to Mr. Weiner. As an insider, you may have an intimate knowledge of some of the events that he castigates as intelligence failures.

The historian Carl Becker, who taught at Cornell for many years, thought that every man ought to be his own historian. If we follow his advice, we may learn the difference between facts, inferences and opinions. It is odd that the CIA, responsible for only 15 percent of the intelligence budget and only one of a number intelligence agencies, is deemed responsible for most of our failures in intelligence and that it has been an inept organization for its entire life. How can this be so?

So let us count a few of the ways that Mr. Weiner delights us and far exceeds the skill and taste of some well-known journalists. Let's begin with Mr. Woodward's *Veil: The Secret Wars of the CIA 1981-1987*, in which he denudes the reputation of DCI William Casey. Woodward attributes much of his own knowledge to more than 250 undisclosed sources. Woodward, Bob cites himself in the index. He has vivid observations of Mr. Casey in his book, such as: "The Director wore a well-tailored conservative blue suit. His shirt was perfectly pressed, the collar stiff

and the tie clearly expensive." In another interview, Woodward describes Casey's reaction to a question: "He stared hard, his dentures full of peanuts." So much for verisimilitude by the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist. He also gives us an award-winning portrait of the CIA Deputy Director Max Hugel. "Hugel, five foot five, wore a conservative chocolate-brown pinstriped suit, a plain tie and a shirt with small, light, subdued dots. His smile was warm." This is an example of investigative reporting and, depending on your taste in clothes, a unique example of an intelligence failure by the CIA.

Throughout his book, Bob Woodward compels his readers to look for verification. Mr. Weiner, in contrast, provides sources for almost everyone's quoted statements that are all sensible and pertinent to his thesis. Mr. Weiner is a more dependable guide than Mr. Woodward—and many other journalists who have augmented their incomes by castigating whatever they think has happened at the CIA. I feel strongly that his book is buttressed by commendable research and documentation. In his 700-page book, 100 pages are devoted to a Notes section that lists his sources of them. It is an impressive listing.

*Legacy of Ashes* belongs in the more favored ranks of books about the CIA. But it still disturbs me. In my rambles and ruminations about why, I have a somewhat negative feeling about the products of many journalists, insiders and historians. And with many readers and publishers. Big-buck books are published by notoriously rich, indiscriminate publishing combines. The most soundly informative and smart books are published generally by smaller publishers, including university presses, that have limited resources but an abundance of good taste in ideas and people. Often, their books are by respected historians who are lucky to have second editions of their books. From them the public, in my opinion, will gain a far more inclusive and deeper knowledge of the CIA and American intelligence.

### ATTENTION OSS AUTHORS

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or via email ([ossociety@aol.com](mailto:ossociety@aol.com))  
for more information.

# OSS HISTORY

## Advice to OSS Woman Traveling to Ceylon by Air From New York

Written by Peggy  
Wheeler, S.I Branch  
OSS|SEAC|Ceylon  
18 July 1944 to  
Julia McWilliams  
(Child) at H.Q./D.C.

Dear Julia-

**BEFORE YOU LEAVE:** Be sure that your papers are in order: the ATC is very strict about immunization records, the proper visas, etc. Bring your overseas travel sheet from the Finance Office with you if it has not been sent in advance. I am finding that I cannot get paid for the month of September because mine has not arrived.

**THE WAIT IN NEW YORK:** This period of being "incommunicado" was terribly hard on my morale. If one is faithful to the rules, you are practically chained to your hotel room for about a week. So be prepared to live alone and like it. In addition, you should have more than the \$50.00 you are allowed to take out of the country with you as your per diem cannot take care of a New York hotel room.

**WHAT TO WEAR, TO BRING, ETC.:** My suggestion on the plane is a slack suit with a cool shirt, low-heeled shoes, socks, etc. I found gray flannel very good for traveling - it did not show the dirt - did not wrinkle after sleeping many days on the floor of a cargo plane - was the right weight with the jacket at high altitudes - and not too warm without the jacket at the stops. The shirt might be seer-sucker or some other material that need not be ironed. You can have your clothes laundered during some of the stops but as you never know when you will be shoving off again, it is a chance I would not take. Some of our group has their clothes spread all over the map. As for the equipment you are issued, I would leave it all at home or send in your locker - that is all except the canteen. But at least I look as if I was "off to the wars." For luggage, a musette bag and a flight bag or suitcase or duffle bag are sufficient. In your musette bag, you should carry everything you will need on the trip - an extra shirt, change of shoes and underwear, flashlight, a cool dress, plenty of Kleenex and/or toilet paper, reading material, gum, towel, washcloth, soap and cigarettes. You can purchase cigarettes in route but they are not too keen on selling them to transients and you usually have ration coupons. In your flight bag, bring lots of wash dresses for work, a couple of evening dresses, shoes, hangars, can openers - see Peggy Wheeler's letter for details. Our flight bags were covered with cargo oil upon arrival so it didn't really matter what we brought.

**THE TRIP:** You don't have to worry about any of the details of the trip itself as the ATC takes care of everything and more than looks after you - if you stop overnight, your lodging is paid for by them, and you buy your meals, mostly in Army messes, which are good.

**SUGGESTION:** If it is possible to arrange for civilians traveling in civilian clothes to be issued an AGO card or some identity card, I think it would certainly cut through a lot of red tape and wasted time with officials of the different countries. You do not like to show your secret orders, your passport is not completely sufficient, and somehow you are made to feel like a good case for X-2. That is not true for the Army but with custom officials, etc. The other civilians, such as OWI, with us had identity cards and their life was much simpler. All kinds of good luck to you and happy landings.



## In Memoriam

While he was in high school, **Robert J. Abbott** earned his amateur radio license and enjoyed tinkering with gas-powered model airplanes. He would later be recruited by the OSS, and would help pioneer the early satellite communications system known as Telstar. The longtime Staten Islander, a veteran of World War II, died in West Brighton, N. Y. on Aug 9, 2007 at age 85.

When he entered the U.S. Army in 1943, Mr. Abbott was recruited by the OSS because of his background in radio. He served in Algeria, Italy, France, England, and Germany. After the war Mr. Abbott attended the Polytechnical Institute in Brooklyn and began a career in electronics engineering.

**Dr. Kenneth Emil Ahola**, 84, of Hibbing, Minn. passed away peacefully on July 31, 2007. Prior to and during his career in medicine, Ken nurtured a love for music. During his sophomore year at Virginia Junior College, Ken auditioned on the oboe in Duluth, Minneapolis, and Jersey City and was selected by Leopold Stokowski in 1941 to play in the All American Youth Orchestra.

He spent more than three years in China with the OSS. He was one of the first Americans to enter Shanghai after the Japanese surrender. Upon release from the military, Ken entered the University of Minnesota and graduated from its medical school in 1951.

**Donald Disbro**, 82, who aided military authorities in interrogating Germans accused of war crimes at the end of World War II, died June 16, 2007 in Wadsworth, Ohio. Disbro initially worked for the commander of the 52nd quartermaster base depot in France and then with the OSS interrogation of German prisoners and Nazi offenders in Frankfurt, Germany.

There he worked with a translator while taking dictation and transcribing statements for American officials. The suspects he took statements from included Hjalmar Schacht, Hitler's minister of economics, and Fritz Thyssen, a German industrialist. Both made large donations to the Nazi Party, helping Hitler's rise to power. They were reportedly the main organizers of a letter in 1932 to President Paul Von Hindenburg urging him to appoint Hitler as chancellor.

**Philip W. Donovan**, of Plantsville, Mass., passed away April 28, 2007 after a brief illness. He was born July 2, 1922 in Adams, Mass. While a student at Cornell University in 1942, he enlisted in the Army and soon volunteered for special assignment within the OSS. As a

"Jedburgh" he trained for airborne and espionage services in Peterborough, England. He was honorably discharged with the rank of major and was a recipient of the highly coveted *Croix de Guerre*, awarded by the French government in 1988.

**Thomas H. Farrow**, 82, a retired Baltimore FBI agent who talked a gun-wielding hijacker into surrender aboard a jet, died recently in Harrisonburg, Va. Mr. Farrow talked the hijacker into releasing the two flight attendants. He also persuaded the hijacker to surrender with no shots being fired.

A native of West Virginia, Mr. Farrow worked in the OSS during World War II.

**Grant A. "Barney" Fielden**, retired U.S. Army Captain, 85, passed away Sept. 5, 2007. Mr. Fielden was a retired Foreign Service officer and an Army veteran of World War II who served with Detachment 101, OSS, in the CBI theater. Internment with military honors took place at Andersonville National Cemetery in Georgia

**Carl Fioravanti**, 83, died in July 2007. He was a member of the OSS in WWII. He was a retired employee of the U.S. Postal Service and an avid Chicago Cubs fan.

**Robert Daniel Francis** died October 10, 2007 in Bloomfield Conn. after a short illness. His professional career spanned more than forty-five years as a fine artist, graphic designer and art director. He began working for the U.S. Government as a graphic artist in the mid 1930s. During World War II, he was assigned to the OSS in Washington and in Europe, where he helped prepare exhibits for the Nuremberg war trials. After the war he served the State Department as Chief of the Graphics Branch and the Pentagon as Director of Graphics and Visual Presentation.

**Enid Hall** died June 1, 2007, at age 91. She was born in Lincoln, Neb., and served in the OSS during World War II. In 1962 she moved to Portland where she taught business education at Franklin High School. She moved to California in 2004.

**Raymond J. Julian**, 87, of Country Meadows, Mechanicsburg, Pa., died Sept. 15, 2007. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the OSS; and retired in 1983 as the Chief Engineer for WTPA-TV Channel 27.

**William Peter Katsirubas**, 87, of McLean, Virginia, passed away October 17, 2007 from injuries received in an automobile accident."Pete" was with the OSS Maritime Unit.



## In Memoriam

He was born in Haverhill, Mass. and at the outbreak of World War II enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He joined the Central Intelligence Agency in 1951, had a distinguished career as a support officer, and served in several assignments overseas in Greece, Pakistan, and Iran.

**Ralph Richard Klein**, 93, passed away at his home in October 2007. Ralph was born in New Orleans, La. He worked at E.A. Pierce & Company stock brokerage during the Great Depression and served in World War II with the OSS in the Persian and Italian theaters.

**Mary Betterly Maiers**, 95, who spent more than 15 years as principal of Rolling Terrace Elementary School in Takoma Park, MD., before retiring in 1982, died Aug. 26, 2007. During WWII, she was a research assistant for the OSS.

**Alba Burnham Martin**, 99, a retired administrative law judge at the National Labor Relations Board, died July 10, 2007. Mr. Martin worked for the NLRB for 36 years, joining the agency two years after its establishment. Mr. Martin, a native of Geneva, Ohio, graduated from Harvard College in 1930. During WWII he served in the OSS in England and Northern Europe.

After retiring from the government, he was a consultant to the State Department on personnel issues involving Foreign Service officers.

**William John, McCoy Jr.**, 82, died May 22, 2007 in Arlington, Va. Dr. McCoy was a former CIA officer who later became a professor of Chinese at Cornell University. He served in the Army during WWII with the OSS. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his work and later served in the Marine Reserves.

**Beatrice Mary Wright McKellar** (Betty), 85, died June 30, 2007, at her residence. She was born in Rome, Italy and graduated from the Chateland School, Les Avants, Switzerland, the Madeira School, McLean, Va., and Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. In 1944, while serving as a member of the OSS in Washington, D.C., she met and married Robert B. McKellar, Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

**Blanche Rose Mrazek**, 93, formerly of Huntington Bay, died July 28, 2007 in Fredericksburg, Va. Born in Manhattan, she was educated in New York City and worked at the Office of War Information in Manhattan, where she met her future husband, Harold Mrazek, during World War II.

“They met over the radio,” said Susannah Mrazek, who added that her grandfather worked for the OSS. “They both spoke German and Czech and their families came from similar districts in Czechoslovakia. It was fated for them to be together.”

**Mary Whitten Christian Mulligan**, 86, a volunteer and homemaker, died June 4, 2007. Mrs. Mulligan was a full-time volunteer for Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C. for years and also served as a docent at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History.

She was born in Huntington, W.Va. In 1944, a year after graduating from Sweet Briar College in Virginia, she took the troopship Ile de France with five girls and thousands of soldiers to Glasgow, Scotland, and then went on to London. She worked as a clerk in the counterintelligence division of the OSS. She married Minot Coolidge Mulligan, an officer she met there.

**S.I. “Sy” Nadler**, 91, a retired Foreign Service officer and a writer, died July 3, 2007 at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C. Mr. Nadler published more than 100 articles in the Foreign Services Journal and edited a number of national security publications.

He entered the Army in March 1941 and served both in the United States, writing training film scripts and field manuals, and in China, where he was assigned to the OSS. After World War II ended, he joined the Central Intelligence Agency and later moved to the U.S. Information Agency.

**Rene Sanford Peyton**, 89, chief of the CIA’s Soviet Russia Reports and Requirements section in the early years of the agency and later a Soviet analyst, died July 9, 2007 in Hanover, N.H.

From 1943 to 1945, Mrs. Peyton was on the staff of the OSS in Washington and Switzerland. She joined the CIA at its inception and led a 25-person section until 1957. She worked part time for several years and worked on contract while raising her children. In 1977, Mrs. Peyton went back to a full time position at the agency until she retired in 1982. She had lived in Washington and Arlington County since 1983.

**James R. Philips**, 85, a long time resident of Raleigh N.C., died July 8, 2007. Mr. Philips, a WWII veteran with service as a pilot in the USAAF and the OSS, retired from IBM in 1986 after a 30-year career in accounting. His wife, Jean Marie Davies, an English war bride, preceded him in death in 1989.

**Corinne Mitchell Poole**, 91, of Roanoke, Va., formerly of Lancaster, Pa., died in Roanoke on Sept. 2, 2007. Corinne worked in the OSS as an editor in the legal department.

**Joe “Chico” Rajacic**, 83, WWII U.S. Navy Veteran with the OSS died in August 2007. Joe was a semi-professional bowler and an avid fisherman and golfer.

**John C. “Jack” Ringlesbach**, 85, died Sept. 29, 2007. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. He served his country during WWII with the OSS NORSO group and the

## In Memoriam

801<sup>st</sup>/492 Bombardment Group (Carpetbaggers). After 35 missions over occupied Europe he was honorably discharged, having earned the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross, Distinguished Unit Citation, American Theater Ribbon and his unit was awarded the *Croix De Guerre* by the French Government. He continued to serve his country for 30 more years as Langley AFB Hospital Administrator.

**Jane Atherton Roman**, 91, a 27-year veteran of the CIA, died Sept. 6, 2007, at her home in Bethesda, Maryland. Mrs. Roman joined the OSS in 1944, and her early assignments took her to wartime London and post-war Germany. For much of her later career, she worked as a counterintelligence officer, serving as liaison between the CIA and the FBI. She received a Distinguished Service Medal when she retired in 1971.

She was a native of New York City and graduated from Smith College in Massachusetts in 1936. She married a CIA colleague, Howard Edgar Roman, who died in 1988.

**Martha Sagon**, 98, who sponsored cultural events at the Kennedy Center and contributed to Jewish causes and other charities died June 28, 2007 at her home in Washington, D.C. Her husband, Philip Sagon, died in 1979.

Mrs. Sagon came to Washington in 1943, when her husband was working with the OSS. She was a graduate of New York University and received a master's degree in speech from Columbia University.

**Robert J. Schraeder Sr.**, 89, formerly of Basking Ridge, N.J., died Oct. 5, 2007. A captain in the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II, he was stationed with the 98<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group in Libya and other Middle Eastern assignments, and spent a year with the OSS in Yugoslavia and behind enemy lines.

**Glenn Margaret Tribou Tims** died July 31, 2007 in Houston, Tex. Born in Bayfield County, Wis., Glenn was the eldest of six siblings. She graduated from Duluth State Teachers College in 1935 and earned her MA in history from Syracuse University in 1936. Glenn pursued Ph.D. studies in history at American University in Washington, D.C. before joining the OSS as a researcher after the outbreak of World War II.

Glenn married fellow historian and OSS colleague Richard Wonser Tims on March 20, 1944. Following her wartime OSS service, Glenn joined Richard, then a Foreign Service officer, on his first State Department assignment to Warsaw, Poland and on subsequent postings to Prague and Budapest.

Jean-Marc Valentini writes from Montelmar, France of the death of his father, **Paul Valentini**, on June 26, 2007 in France. His father was a JED who served with OSS. His code name was Georges Masson. He was in touch

with his American JEDs. Jean-Marc can be reached at [jean-marcvalentini@cp.-finances.gouv.fr](mailto:jean-marcvalentini@cp.-finances.gouv.fr).

**Andre L. Villere**, 86, died Sept. 2, 2007. His was the eighth generation born into one of the recognized French families of New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Villere, a graduate of Loyola University in New Orleans, served in the OSS in England, France, and Germany.

**Eric Weinmann**, 94, who escaped Nazi Germany as a young man and became a lawyer with the Small Business Administration and a major benefactor of Washington arts groups, died August 19, 2007 at his home in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Weinmann was born in the Czech region of Bohemia and grew up in a prewar world of culture and privilege. He moved to Berlin in his teens and had embarked on a career in banking when his secular Jewish family had to flee in 1938.

He found his way to Washington in the early 1940s and used a talent for languages—he was fluent in German, English, French and Spanish—to land a job with the Office of Strategic Services. He spent WWII in Washington reading German newspapers for hints of military actions.

**Gertrude Tucker Weker**, 89, a retired psychologist who worked for the CIA from its early years, died July 25, 2007. Mrs. Weker was born in Chelsea, Mass., and grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. She graduated from Brooklyn College in 1939 and received a master's degree in psychology from New York University in 1947. During World War II, she served in Sri Lanka with the OSS.

**Marion O. Wells**, 86, of Valrico, Fl. passed away Aug. 22, 2007. Known as "Rip" or "Mo," he graduated from Georgia State University in 1952. He was a long-time employee of Western Electric Company in Atlanta, Ga. He served in the Army Signal Corps and in the OSS during World War II.

**Leonard Conrad Whitecar**, 83, a real estate executive, died Oct. 6, 2007 at his Alexandria, Va. home. He was born in Philadelphia and orphaned at age 7. He graduated from the Milton Hershey School in Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Army and joined the OSS. He was employed as a German translator in Europe during the war.

**Charles Ebaugh Zachariah, Jr.**, 85, died in September 2007, and was buried at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio. He received a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Infantry. He was immediately called to active duty for flight training and volunteered to parachute into France with the OSS. He underwent various espionage, small arms, and explosives training courses. He served in the CBI Theater.

## REMEMBERING OSSERS

### Col. Richard S. Friedman OSS Radio Operator

Col. Richard S. “Rocky” Friedman, who died April 8th at age 81, was in OSS as a NCO radio operator (*see photos on page 6*) with units engaged in the invasion of Southern France. Following the dissolution of the OSS, he served with the Strategic Services Unit (SSU). After WWII, he attended the University of Virginia, graduating from the University of Virginia Law School in 1951.

Col. Friedman participated in a variety of assignments, reserve and active duty, including service as defense and army attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Budapest, Hungary, facilitating the return of the crown of St. Stephen to the Hungarian people in the 1970s. Col. Friedman was senior U.S. intelligence officer on the international military staff of NATO headquarters, Brussels, Belgium, serving as deputy assistant director of intelligence prior to his retirement from military service in 1984.

He continued government service as a consultant and writer on international affairs, and was a contributing author to books on military intelligence and technology. His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the French Croix de Guerre with Bronze Star. Col. Friedman was buried on May 15, 2007 at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

### Special Operations Commander General Wayne Downing

General Wayne A. Downing, 67, who fought in the jungles and deserts and commanded American Special Operations forces before becoming a senior advisor to President Bush for counterterrorism, died in September, 2007 in Peoria, Ill. He was an honorary member of the OSS Society.

After graduating from West Point in 1962, General Downing served for 34 years in uniform, including two infantry combat tours in Vietnam. He was in charge of Special Operations missions during the invasion of Panama in 1989 and commanded a joint Special Operations task force during the Persian Gulf War, operating deep behind Iraqi lines.

From Army barracks to the polished corridors of power, he had a reputation as offering fearless and blunt assessments of successes and failures up or down the chain of command. He was a frequent critic of bureaucratic rigidity.

“Think like a bank robber,” he advised his Special Operations units on how to outwit adversaries, whether they were armed forces lined up in the field or a shadowy terrorist cell.

General Downing served as commander of the Special Operations Command, which oversees the military’s unconventional warfare units and elite counterterrorism teams.

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### Andree de Jongh, Resistance Fighter Who Set Up Allied Escape Routes

A Belgian Resistance fighter who established the most successful escape route in Europe for downed Allied airmen during World War II—a 1,000 mile trek across occupied France, over the Pyrenees into Spain and down to the British colony of Gibraltar—died Oct. 13, 2007 in Brussels.

**Andree de Jongh**, 90, known as “Dedee” and the “Petit Cyclone,” began her resistance work in May 1940 after the Nazi advance into Brussels. At the time, she was a 24-year-old commercial artist and Belgian Red Cross volunteer.

The British authorities, whom she sought out for logistical and financial support, and Germans, who eventually sent her to concentration camps, found her an improbable heroine despite her determined bearing.

The idea began after the British retreat at Dunkirk in 1940. German patrols were increasingly monitoring the English Channel, and Ms. de Jongh helped bring the remaining Englishmen overland, through France and into neu-

tral Spain. This evolved into a plan to try and rescue the thousands of American and British aviators who would get shot down over Europe.

With the help of her father in Paris, she created the Comet Line, a route of safe houses through France. At the Spanish border, she arranged for Basque guides to ferry the Allied airmen over the goat trails used by smugglers in the Pyrenees.

The Germans made attempts to capture Ms. de Jongh, but she managed to stay free for the 18 months—until Jan. 15, 1943, when a farmhand in the French-Basque village of Urrugne sold her out, along with the three aviators she was helping escape.

The Comet Line was credited with rescuing more than 700 airmen, of which Ms. de Jongh was said to have led 118 to safety. It continued operation through the Normandy invasion of June 1944, by which time hundreds of Comet Line operatives had been captured and sent to concentration camps or executed.

## HELP WANTED – BY OSS FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

■ I am in search of any information, pictures, or documents that pertain to my grandfather, **Dominic J. “Dixie” Anzevino** of OSS.

Deanna Anzevino-Odisho  
dodisho@yahoo.com

■ My uncle, **Kenneth D. Tuttle**, was a member of Det. 101 in WWII. He was with Jim Fletcher in Shimibiyang, and was also with CIA from 1949 to 1975. I am looking for any patches or insignia of OSS, Det. 101, or CBI Theater of operations in WWII and info on anyone who served with my uncle.

Harrell G. Smith  
224 Crestwood Circle  
High Point, N.C. 27260  
(336)882-7571

■ I am trying to verify that my grandfather, **Ralph Escobar**, worked for the OSS at Rockefeller Center in NYC. He was from Columbia and immigrated to the USA around 1927.

Chris Escobar  
Escobar1@gmail.com

■ My grandfather, **Donald Dixon Edgar**, was a member of the OSS during WWII. I have been told he was in Switzerland, Egypt, China, Brazil and Italy. Much of his life is a mystery to me.

Donald Lee Edgar  
512 Fellsway East  
Stoneham, MA 02180  
781-661-2292, cell 617-699-6971  
Donald.edgar@verizon.net

■ I am working on behalf of the sons and grandchildren of a former U.S. Army officer with OSS, **Gordon Pope**, an American citizen who first joined the British Army in 1940 and fought the Germans in North Africa. The family believes that he was involved in an operation in China near the end of the war and was involved in the rescue of General Wainwright. I am hoping to provide the family with some insight.

Elliot Konner  
296 Bedford Road  
New Boston, NH 03070  
(603)487-5044

■ Our family believes that my grandfather, **Guy V. Thayer Jr.**, was with the OSS, and that he was involved in interpreting aerial reconnaissance

photos for the OSS. He was based in Washington D.C. How could I find out further details?

James Nicholson  
jnicholson@lecg.com

■ For many years prior to my mother’s death she mentioned a cousin who was in OSS, **Captain Charles Fisher**. A letter dated 1945 that William Donovan wrote to Captain Fisher’s mother mentioned that he was in Yugoslavia on an important mission, was never heard from and assumed dead. We know that he was killed by the Germans in December 1944 and is the only American serviceman still buried in Slovenia (former Yugoslavia). I would like to contact any other Fisher relatives.

Angel E. Gilmer  
8342 East 56<sup>th</sup> Street  
Historic Fort Benjamin Harrison  
Indianapolis, IN 46216

■ My grandfather, **Haskell Kemp**, served in the OSS. My mother has told me he posed as a tank salvage man and gathered intelligence. I think he was around Russians. I would appreciate any information about him.

Dustin McNeely  
Rwpilot80@hotmail.com

■ My father’s name was **George V. Pecoraro**. He was in the Navy and volunteered for the OSS. He held the rank of chief with communications in North Africa and Europe. His commanding officer’s name was Stuyvesant. I would like to find out more about his involvement with OSS.

Mark Pecoraro  
mpecoraro@tampabay.rr.com

■ My grandfather, **Richard S. Douglas**, passed away before he had a chance to explain much of what he had done or worked on during his time in OSS. I believe that he was an Army captain. Any information or memories would be appreciated.

David C. Douglas  
thedeandouglas@yahoo.com

■ I believe my late father, **Albert Joseph Bravo**, was involved with OSS. He was always hesitant to speak of what he did and where he served. I believe his job at the time was running the shop

that kept airplane engines running. He worked in 21 different countries and lived in nine, including France, Morocco, Italy, and Belgium. I would like to acquire information regarding him.

Mary Ann Siek  
maryannsiek@msn.com

■ My father, **Donald D. Shallow**, trained for Javaman and is interested in contacting anyone who may know something about the project.

Pat Stensby  
stensbypat@hotmail.com

■ We would like to find anyone who knew our father, **John Leonidas Calvocoressi**, who graduated from Harvard and was recruited by OSS. Because of his knowledge of Greek, he was sent on a mission to Greece by boat “under a load of fruit.” He was shot in the chest, probably by Greek Communists, left for dead, and saved when a peasant woman and her daughter took him to their home. He was eventually found by Americans and finally returned to the U.S. After his recovery he went to law school and became a successful attorney in Connecticut.

The Calvocoressi Family  
718 Beckley Road  
Berlin, CT 06037  
(860)828-0516  
ncpone@earthlink.net

■ I am working on a family memoir researching my mother’s time at OSS. My mother, **Thelma Long**, was in the typing pool. Is there someone who could help me recreate the atmosphere of that time? She worked from 1943-45 in the office of General Counsel.

Pluma3@tt.net

■ I would like to hear from colleagues who served with my father, the late **Cpt. Jack G. Berman**. He was stationed at the Military Intelligence Training Center, and also Richie, Md. and trained with OSS at Santa Catalina Island, Cal. He served behind the lines in France where he assumed the cover of a wine merchant.

Pat Binder  
8220 Valley Stream  
Las Vegas, N.M. 89131  
patbinder@cox.net

■ My friend, the late **Peter Bonano**,

## HELP WANTED - BY OSSERS AND OTHERS

served with Patton's Third Army. In his files he mentioned meeting **Lt. Col. Shallcross**, head of the OSS detachment to the Third Army, in Erlangen, Germany in 1945. Col. Shallcross later lived in Belen, NM. I am putting together a biography of Col. Shallcross and am looking for any information on him.  
Joseph Sprouse  
Fishers, IN  
Joseph.50@netzero.com

■ I am interested in finding out about my father, **Henry Joseph Koehler** (nickname Bill). He died in Lima, Peru in 1961. Apparently he was an OSS officer there during WWII.  
Karen Koehler Arras  
karenarras@comcast.net

■ I am researching information on my father, **Keith Pinto**, a navigator on a B24 reported missing Nov. 16, 1944 in the area of Kunming, China on the crew's first mission. My grandparents never accepted the missing in action status and believed that the crew was taken out of China for some secret project. There are some interesting family archival records that would seem to support my grandparents' opinion.  
Bob Pasek  
2610 Venetian Lane  
Elgin, IL 60124  
847-742-1804

■ I served as a guard at an OSS radio station approximately 80 miles north of London from April to December 1944. How can I pinpoint to the present English countryside?  
Thomas J. Sanford, Richmond, Va.  
thomassanford@juno.com

■ I was a student of **Delmar Calvert** in the 1980s at U.C. Santa Cruz. He told us some wonderful stories about his adventures with the French Resistance in World War II. I saw his name on the OSS website. Does the society have any info about his biography or wartime experiences?  
Julia Nyquist, MD  
Fremont Urgent Care  
3161 Walnut Ave.  
Fremont, CA 94538

■ My father, **CPT Eric C. Anderson** (O 391-181) told me that he was involved in operations with the OSS while serving with the 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in France. He served with the 142<sup>nd</sup> Inf. Rgt. in Italy (Co. L) and with the 143<sup>rd</sup> Inf. Rgt. in France (Co. E and G). I believe he trained in N. Africa, and may have parachuted into southern France.  
Michael Anderson  
P.O. Box 3253  
Billings, MT. 59103-3253  
(406) 254-8904  
Fax (406) 254-8905  
e-mail: manderson@a-llaw.com

■ I am trying to find information on the late **DeVan Daggett** who flew B-25s in WWII. I believe that in later years he worked for the OSS in Egypt.  
John Malik  
33 Liberty Restaurant  
Greenville, SC  
864-370-4888  
www.33liberty.com

■ Can anybody help me find out about my uncle, **Robert Rapport**'s career in OSS? John Roderick's memoir, "*Covering China*" (1993), contains the following anecdote:  
"The OSS liked people with imagination. If they had a flair, no matter how outrageous, this was even better. A fresh-faced young lieutenant from Boston parachuted into a base a thousand miles behind the Japanese lines with a record player and his favorite Bach records strapped to him. When he returned from this obviously dangerous mission I asked him how it had gone. 'Oh, simply splendid,' he said. 'I broke only one record on the jump.' Since my uncle had been a semi-pro jazz musician and was the son of a classically trained pianist, from Boston, and was a young lieutenant in the OSS doing parachute drops in China towards the end of the war, I wonder if this could be my uncle?  
James Lipson  
jlipson@metaphoria.com

■ My father, Lt. Col. Carl Francis Merlet Sr., US Army was in the OSS and lived in Washington, DC. I am trying to find out more about what he did or anyone that knew him. I believe he was in Europe at the end of the war and came home on a hospital ship. He died in 1986 in Winter Park, Florida.  
john@merletmortgages.com

### AUTHORS AND RESEARCHERS

■ I'm currently writing an article on **Operation Halyard**, the massive evacuation of Allied airmen from Yugoslavia from August through December 1944. I'm trying to find OSS personnel or others who were evacuated or involved in Operation Halyard and Operation Ranger.

I'm also trying to find information on OSS operations in Ceylon and general information on the OSS role in the Battle of Ramree Island as well as specifics on an operational group based at Camp Richie, including a visit by General Donovan to Ramree. Anyone know what the occasion was?

Kevin Morrow  
703-536-7498 (home)  
540-207-7222 (cell)  
Kevin\_j\_morrow@yahoo.com

■ I'm writing the authorized biography of American author Kurt Vonnegut, to be published by Henry Holt & Co. In one of his letters, Vonnegut, in reference to his wife, **Jane Cox** remarked "When Jane worked for the OSS..." The former Miss Cox was a Phi Beta Kappa majoring in Russian at Swarthmore. Can anyone help me find out more about this mysterious statement?  
Charles J. Shields  
Barbourville, VA  
Cjs1944@earthlink.net

■ I am working on a dissertation on the Jedburghs and recently found a U.S. Army history co-authored by **Harry S. Griffiths**. He was the OSS representative on the project run by Colonel S. L. A. Marshall. I am interested in the origin of the project and any information on the matter. Griffiths, aka GOLIATH, also

## HELP WANTED - BY OSSERS AND OTHERS

served on the GERMINAL mission to southern France in 1944.

Ben Jones, Lt Col, USAF  
bfjones@ku.edu

■ Does anyone have a contact email for **Max Corvo's** son, William J. Corvo? I would like to find out if Max Corvo left any material related to **Capt. Bruno Uberti**, a U.S. Army Medical officer who served on the staff of Italian SI.  
Jonathan Clememnte  
Johnathan\_clemente@yahoo.com

■ Has anyone come across a mission file or heard of a German POW turned OSS agent named **Hermann Matuell** or **Herman Schuett**? He dropped near Innsbruck with the alleged mission of "organizing anti-Nazis." He was captured and turned by the Gestapo who played him back to OSS. I'm specifically looking for this agent's mission code-name.  
Patrick O'Donnell  
thedropzone.org  
wewereone.com

■ I am compiling an article on an RAF B-24 Liberator bomber aircrew shot down during an attempt to deliver several OSS agents **Major Gildee**, **Lt. Reid Moore**, and **Lt. McCarthy** in Siam. They later met other OSS officers **Major Dick Greenlee** and **Capt. Howard Palmer** in Bangkok. I wish to locate these OSS officers to inquire if they remember the code name of the operation. At NARA, College Park, MD, the OSS Files under RG226 are listed by code name.  
Norman Malayney  
200 McGregor St. Apt. 310  
Winnipeg, MB R2W 5L6 Canada  
nmalayney@yahoo.com

■ I am writing a book on **Duncan Chaplin Lee**, who served in the OSS from 1942 until he was placed on terminal military leave in 1946. I would like to hear from anyone who served with Lee. I am particularly interested in the allegations levied against him by Elizabeth Bentley and others who served in the OSS. [bradleyma@verizon.net](mailto:bradleyma@verizon.net).

■ I am working on a book on **Frank Luke Jr.** The officer that orchestrated the recovery of Luke's remains was

**Frederick Zinn**, once with the French Foreign Legion, the Lafayette Flying Corps, and eventually with OSS Africa and CBI. I would appreciate information on Zinn.

Blaine Pardoe  
Bpardoe870@aol.com

■ I am the commander for the 572<sup>nd</sup> MI Company, which traces its history to the 1002<sup>nd</sup> CI Corps Detachment, which may have worked with the 100<sup>th</sup> OSS Detachment during the fight from Paris into Germany. We would like pictures or information to post within our headquarters to ensure that the soldiers appreciate the mission the OSS performed during WWII.

CPT Eric H. Haas  
Mojave 6  
CDR 572nd MICO.8-1  
CAV 5-210  
Ft. Lewis WA98433  
253-966-5192

■ I am interested in learning about the exploits of the MU Detachment 404 and talking with anyone who was with or worked with Coast Guard members. Also, any photographs of OSS "crash boats" or documentation on missions in which Coast Guard members participated.  
LT Michael Bennett,  
Director, Strategic Intelligence Studies  
U.S. Coast Guard Academy  
510-541-9764  
860-701-6297  
[mбен3636@yahoo.com](mailto:mбен3636@yahoo.com)  
[Michael.e.bennett@uscg.mil](mailto:Michael.e.bennett@uscg.mil)

■ I am working on a biography of an American woman who spied for the British during World War II. Key to the story is a naval officer (who may have used a false name)—**Lt. Paul Fairly**. He met with **Cora Wells Thorpe** (wife of the late Marine Col. George C. Thorpe) in NYC in November 1940. Claiming to be with Office of Naval Intelligence, he communicated to Mrs. Thorpe that the British Security Coordination wished to contact her daughter, **Mrs. Betty Pack**, who worked for Britain's Secret intelligence Service in Poland in 1938. Lt. Fairly worked with **Ellery Huntington** of OSS when Mrs. Pack broke into the Vichy French

Embassy in Washington, D.C. in June 1942, stealing the Vichy naval codes. From Mrs. Pack's personal address book, there is an entry for Lt. Fairly at 518 N. Belmont, Wichita, Kansas. I would like to locate Fairly, if he is still alive.

I am also currently searching for information and contacts with individuals who might have known OSS officer **Ellery C. Huntington Jr.** when he worked with British Security Coordination. I am also looking for OSS staff who had knowledge of the 19-23 June 1942 break-ins at the Vichy Embassy in Washington, D.C.; or OSS observers at the Second Washington Conference, which took place at Hyde Park at the Executive Mansion.

Jeff Shear  
[jshear@nc.rr.com](mailto:jshear@nc.rr.com)

■ An illustrated history of the OSS for Osprey Publishing will offer a general history of the OSS, but will focus on the uniforms, weapons, and equipment used in the field. All the major branches will be covered. I need clear photographs (digital scans) of OSS personnel that display their uniforms, weapons, and equipment.

Gene Liptak  
[Historybooks76@hotmail.com](mailto:Historybooks76@hotmail.com)

■ My name is Patrick O'Donnell. I'm a WWII historian. Did anyone go through SO training in Washington D.C.? I'm trying to gather first-hand accounts on the training, and more specifically, anyone who may have trained with an SO agent **Roderick Hall**.  
Patrick O'Donnell  
[wrestlerncaa@yahoo.com](mailto:wrestlerncaa@yahoo.com)  
[www.wewereone.com](http://www.wewereone.com)

### Nuremberg Author Sends Thanks

I would like to thank those members of The OSS Society who contributed to my recently-published book entitled *Nazi War Crimes, U.S. Intelligence and Selective Prosecution at Nuremberg* on the role of the OSS and General Donovan in the preparation of the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

Dr. Michael Salter

# THE OSS SOCIETY

## Lest They Forget

*The following was submitted by an OSSer just back from France.*

The old American gent arrived in Paris by plane and at French customs he fumbled for his passport.

“You have been to France before, Monsieur?” the customs officer asked sarcastically. The old gent admitted that he had been to France before.

“Then you should know enough to have your passport ready for inspection,” snapped the irate official.

The American said that the last time he came to France he did not have to show his passport. “Impossible, old man. You Americans always have to show your passport on arrival in France.”

The old American gave the Frenchman a long, hard look. “I assure you, young man, that when I came ashore on Omaha Beach in Normandy on D-Day in 1944 there were no Frenchmen anywhere on that beach.”

## Lest We Forget



*Photo by Marisa Marchitelli  
Ambassador Jay Niemczyk offered the Missing Man  
Toast at the William J. Donovan Award dinner.*

## The OSS Society

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*In the Next Issue:*



### *Special OPS Story*

*Due to lack of space in this issue of our Newsletter, the story of **Special Operations** will appear in the next issue.*



**The OSS Society, Inc.**

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