



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION

June 07

President

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PRESIDENT'S PAR

Once again in 2006 Central Bureau Intelligence Corps Association proved that it continues to be a very active organisation. Evidence of that is contained in the following list of events and celebrations in which members, friends and associates participated during the year,

- 6th February: Annual General Meeting at Memorial Club Roseville (ten attended)
- 24th April: Anzac Eve Wreath Laying Ceremony at Cenotaph Sydney (twelve attended).
- 25th April: Anzac Day March – Sydney (twenty-six marchers). Anzac Day Reunion at Marriott Hotel, Sydney (fifty attended, a record in recent years).
- 17th October: Visit to Simpson Barracks – Melbourne with inspection of Paymaster's Museum and Signals Museum (twenty one visitors),
- 18th October: Celebration Ceremony at Memorial Plaque and Casuarina Tree – Melbourne (twenty eight took part). Guided Tour of Anzac Day Shrine Museum – Melbourne (twenty eight visitors). Reunion Luncheon at Toorak RSL (thirty six attended).
- 10th November: Remembrance Day Ceremony at Roseville Memorial Club followed by informal luncheon (twelve participated).

As guest speaker at the Reunion Luncheon at the Toorak RSL Dr Chris Clark announced that he expected to deliver a complete draft of our Unit History to the Association for comment early in 2007, at the same time stating that he anticipated publication before the end of that year.

Sadly but inevitably membership numbers have continued their decline and now stand at 125, a number

that includes friends and associates. In this connection I have to record the passing during the year of the following members: John Stumm, Bill Clarke, Betty Chessell, Sylvia Paris, Barbara Kitching, Roy Ward, and Dave Geyer.

Finally let me express on your behalf our sincere thanks to the following who have made outstanding contributions during the year.

Bill Rogers for his organisation of the highly successful Melbourne Reunion.

Publicity Officer Helen Kenny and Les and Eunice Smith of the Queensland University of Technology without whose dedication and unselfish work we would not receive these invaluable Newsletters.

Joy Granger our untiring Secretary and Bruce Bentwitch our ever reliable Treasurer.

Anzac Day 2007

Coinciding as it did with their one hundredth anniversary, Anzac Celebrations held special significance for our comrades of the Australian Intelligence Association with whom we join each year in the Anzac Eve Wreath Laying Ceremony as well as the Anzac Day March.

The solemnity of the Wreath Laying was heightened by a moving address from the A.I.A. Padre and in the March itself, CBICA, by its association with AIA shared their distinction in leading Corps Troops.

The Reunion Luncheon at the Marriott Hotel which followed the March was held this time in the main restaurant overlooking a pleasant vista of trees and lawn in Hyde Park. There were certainly "no complaints" about the delicious food and excellent service we received.

The icing on the cake was when, to everyone's surprise, The Australian Army Cadet Band – Sydney marched in and regaled us with some rousing tunes. A letter of appreciation has since been sent to their Commanding Officer. A repeat performance next year?

Mini Reunion 11th November 2007

The Remembrance Day Ceremony followed by luncheon at the Roseville Memorial Club has become an annual event in the CBICA calendar. It may seem a long way off, but make a note in your diary now in case you forget.

Gordon Gibson, President

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HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the first time in years Sydney had wet weather for the Anzac Day March, but fortunately hardly a drop fell while we marched. Our numbers were down a little on last year as was the Reunion attendance, but all had an enjoyable time which was brightened by a short band recital by The Australian Army Cadet Band – Sydney. A few of our members kept in time tapping their feet.

At the luncheon I was talking to Bill Rogers who was also a “passenger” on the MV Van Swoll (about which I wrote previously). The ship took about a month to travel from Brisbane to Hollandia – March/April 1945. Other passengers I recall were Frank Hughes and Bert Rushen. Were any other CB members on the ship?

With advancing years some of our members, or wives or husbands are not well. One whose husband is not well is Olive Williams, nee ACW Barlow, who resides at Withcott in the Toowoomba area, while Ron Chidgey and Jack Douglas are in nursing homes. Let us hope medical advancements keep us going.

Subscriptions: A few members have not paid this year's subs. This is noted in red ink at the head of the Newsletter we send to them.

Bruce Bentwitch,

Hon. Treasurer,

7 Holly Street,

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HON. SECRETARY'S PAR

Hello everyone ... it's that BIG EVENT time of the year again with the social reporting thereof, so bear with it. A very good roll-up Anzac Eve for the wreath laying ... Norm Allen, Noni Benn, Bruce Bentwitch, Madge Chidgey, Gordon and Sue Gibson, Frank Hughes and

Eileen Hazzard, Diana Parker, Helen Kenny and Bill Rogers. At 7.30am Anzac Day our convoy from War Vets left in torrential rain but the local community was there en masse to cheer us on. It is very touching. On this occasion of the Centenary of formation of Australian Intelligence we joined with A.I.A. and were off early behind our elegant banner-bearers, Rob Moore and Ian McBride.

Our contingent comprised Leader Gordon Gibson, Stan Baylis, Noni Benn, Bruce Bentwitch, Col Brackley, Kath Burns, Keith Carolan, Madge Chidgey, Jem Clarke (grandson of the late Bill Clarke), Don Dunn, Joyce Grace, Ailsa Hale, Lou Harris, Frank Hughes, Helen Kenny, Jacqui Keeling, Brian Lovett (Tuncurry), Alan Norton, Diana Parker, Roy Perry, Doug Pyle and Bill Rogers. Bringing up the rear in Army Land Rover (kindly arranged by Bob Batty/RSL HQ) were temporarily disabled Peg Teague, Les McClean and self. It was our young driver's first experience of participating in the march. He was quite overwhelmed by it all. Always surprised at the enormous crowd, especially the children and despite inclement weather. Pretty sure we saw Noelene Hansen cheering us on so gave her the royal wave (missed you and David, N.) We finished very early of course but all the volunteer tea/coffee providers were there on the sodden grass. Thence to the Marriott where we were delighted to find that the lovely restaurant overlooking Hyde Park had been prepared for us.

In due course President Gordon welcomed everyone particularly those from interstate and north/south coastal areas. Apologies and messages were received from Joyce Casey (not well), Bill Estep (still going strong with his 'Mixed Nuts' singing group), Les Perkins (Grovedale, V.), Olive Williams (Toowoomba, QLD.) Geoff Patience was in hospital for some weeks for heart repair work and associated problems – sent best wishes.

Historian Chris Clark rang during lunch, sending apology for not being with us, and passing on greetings.

We were sorry not to have a chat with our new Associate, Jem Clarke, but he was called away to work. Those present at the lunch were ... Stan and Maureen Baylis, Noni Benn, Bruce Bentwitch and Faye Gilinsky, Col and Mark Brackley, Kath Burns, Keith and Joan Carolan with Dianne, Madge Chidgey, Don Dunn, Gordon and Sue Gibson, Ailsa Hale, Lou Harris, Frank Hughes, Joy Granger, Helen Kenny, Jacqui Keeling, Alan and Pam Langdon, Rob Moore, Margaret McCafferty and daughter Margaret, Les McClean, Alan and Katie Norton, Diana Parker, Roy and Ellen Perry, Doug and Nell Pyle, Bill and Jan Rogers, Gordon Swinney and support team Helen, Susan, Robyn and Jo-Anne, Peg Teague, Eric Webb. After Grace given by

Alan Langdon we partook of an extensive and delicious buffet, attended by friendly and efficient staff. After a very convivial few hours we were about to break up when a small Army Cadet band filed in and entertained us with a programme of our sort of music – received with much enthusiasm by us and the staff. A fine finish to a very good day.

THAT'S IT – back to routine next time. Cheers,

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BOOK REVIEW

The Ultra Experience

- Nell Pyle, as told by Doug Pyle,
(Australian Military History Publications 2006)

Doug Pyle was wise enough to marry a wife who not only understood what he said, but understood him. So the words in this account of *Service with Central Bureau Intelligence Corps* come to life as a biographical sketch of one of the thousands of young men who spent four or more of the best years of their lives doing what they never would have chosen to do.

The story is told not by an old man looking back, but by a student, teacher, soldier who invites the reader to travel with him, see what he sees, feel what he feels, share his hopes and frustrations as he lives for the day when he can realise his long-term ambitions.

Yet he understands duty and security clearly enough to make the best of far less than ideal conditions and to realise that his country is under threat, so that what may often seem irksome and inconsequential must be done.

Doug's remarkably detailed recollections of people and places have been aided by his late mother's shoe-box file of his (censored) letters home.

No one who undertook, on entering CB, to observe the secrecy so essential to its operation can ever freely disclose details of its inner workings. This book is careful not to give away more than is on the public record.

Doug came to Central Bureau before it gathered its full momentum, grew with it, and saw it through to Victory in the Pacific.

The readable style of the book will commend it to all personnel and perhaps encourage others to document their experiences. The foreword was written by everybody's friend, the late Joe Richard.

Robert Brown

VALE

ROY WARD died last December, and our March Mini-Newsletter had little space in which to mention him, list all the work he did for this organisation, and to speak of the high regard CBers had for him.

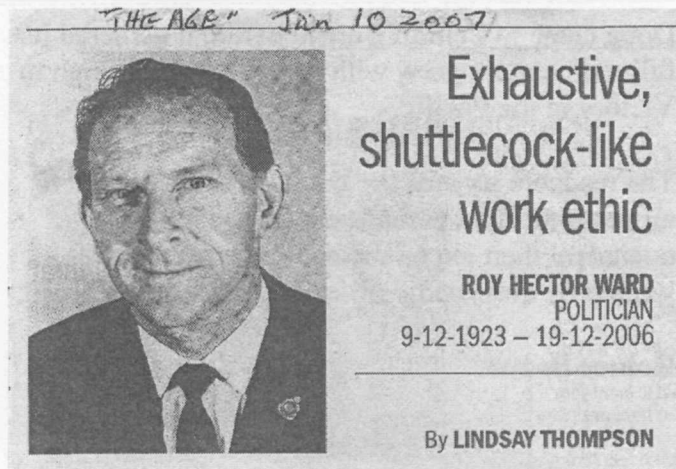
Many still remember a great reunion in 1989 when Roy, a former Member of the Legislative Council in Victoria, arranged for us to have a barbecue in the Parliament House Gardens, Melbourne

According to a Newsletter of that year, Ian Buckingham cooked the inch-thick steaks, while apron-clad Roy was on the run, organising the first-ever combined reunion of CB, Wireless Units and ASWG.

It was Roy, too, who ensured that plaques marked the sites at Mornington, and Coomallie Creek (N.T.) where wartime units had worked.

Our thanks to Geoff Patience and Diana Parker who sent obituaries from Melbourne newspapers. This is a shortened version of what "The Age" wrote. The author of the obituary was Lindsay Thompson, a former Liberal premier of Victoria.

The heading "Exhaustive, shuttlecock-like work ethic - Roy Hector Ward Politician 9.12.1923 – 19.12.2006" was printed beside a photograph of Roy in his younger days.



The obituary began: "If I were to award a trophy for the most active parliamentarian I met during my 28 years in State Parliament, the prize would go to Legislative Council Member Roy Ward, who was 83 and had been battling Bell's Palsy.

"When I was Minister of Education I reserved Fridays to visit schools. On one occasion we were travelling to Gippsland and my driver asked, 'Who will be there today apart from Roy Ward?' Ward not only covered the schools in his electorate but also schools in neighbouring areas where he perhaps knew the principal. He knew a lot of principals."

The obituary says that Roy was born in Wangaratta, Vic. After attending high school there he joined the RAAF and "served in a special wireless intelligence unit in the Northern Territory, New Guinea, Borneo and the Philippines where he was wounded in 1945. After recovering from his wounds he completed a teacher training course."

After this he taught at state schools – Beechworth, University High, William Angliss, Geelong Orphanage and Hawthorn, edited the Victorian Teacher's Union Journal for three years and was an office bearer at the VTU from 1959 to 1970.

In 1949 he married Joan Etherton. She gave him "wonderful support" during his busy life. He was a contributing newspaper and ABC journalist and commentator, covering sports such as badminton, cycling, lawn bowls and hockey. He was talented at sports himself, being a top badminton player/administrator, lawn bowler and champion of the Geelong Cycling Club. He also played a good game of golf.

He was awarded an OAM in 1990, and "later the international Order of Merit for services to journalism, and the Chinese-Taipei Medal for his contributions to sport. He was also inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame."

In 1950 he joined the Liberal Party, from 1970 to 1988 served as the member for South Eastern Province in the Victorian Parliament, and from 1979 "was a most efficient party whip in the Legislative Council." He was also chairman of the State Development Commission.

Active in community life he served as a councillor in Mordialloc from 1961 to 1970, being mayor in 1964-65. He gave outstanding service to the Royal Australian Historical Society, international badminton societies, and chaired the Red Cross appeals committee from 1973 to 79. He was a trustee of the McClelland Regional Art Gallery (Mornington) and chairman of the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Sculpture Foundation.

Lindsay Thompson describes him as "one of the great personalities of the Victorian Parliament and a splendid contributor to community causes."

His wife Joan, children Julie and Greg, and grandchildren Amy, Skye and James survive him.

VALE

Many CBers did not know the late Liberal Senator Jeannie Ferris, who was Government Whip in the Senate of Federal Parliament. This South Australian mother of two, who died of ovarian cancer last April, went out of her way to draw attention to the projected history of Central Bureau.

On December 2, 2003, she arranged for Frank Hughes, his wife Betty and their friend Pat Wheatley to meet the Prime Minister, Mr Howard. At this meeting Frank handed the PM a colour photograph of 21 Henry Street, and gave him a brief run down on the work done by CB and its allied units.

The PM said that he was "extremely interested" and wanted to be kept informed of progress on the book.

(The PM had other things on his mind on December 2. It was the day on which the new Labor Leader

Mark Latham took his place in the House of Representatives.)

Three and a half years have passed since then. Frank still hopes that, eventually, the Prime Minister might launch the book. Jeannie Ferris, that brave woman, lobbied to secure funding for a centre for gynaecological cancer, and fought to give ovarian cancers the high profile that breast cancer has achieved in the public mind. She wanted women to be aware of symptoms and to act quickly by insisting on CAT scans. Not long before her death she was working with documentary maker Kay Stammers to make a film about ovarian cancer.

CB regrets her death, and remembers her helpfulness.

REQUEST

From Major Jim Gordon, Museums Manager, R.A. Sigs Museum, Simpson Barracks, Macleod, Victoria. (Remember our interesting visit there last October?) Jim, who is secretary of the R.A. Sigs Association, and also edits their newsletter "Certa Cito" writes: "I had a visit from an ex-engineer, who is 93 years old, John Handyside. He built a large broadcast band transmitter 100 to 120 KW in WWII and when it was completed General MacArthur took it away and he does not know where it went. It was built as a radio station transmitter to be set up in Manilla, NSW, but John has heard rumours that it ended up in Manila in the Philippines.

He thinks it might have been fitted in a ship and possibly operated from the ship. If this is so it would be interesting to know what was used as an antenna."

Jim Gordon made some inquiries and was told by an ex-signals person who served in the Philippines that it might have been used for entertainment of the troops and might have been transmitted from the ship. It would have been on the AM band.

Jim asks: "Would any of your members have seen or heard of the transmitter? I suspect that, when it was no longer needed, it would have been dumped at sea. Perhaps some CBer might be able to help. John Handyside would love to know what happened to the transmitter."

In his letter Jim Gordon mentioned that he intends to put copies of Doug Pyle's book on display at the Museum, and that he will try to find out where the Typex drums and inserts in the Museum came from.

Postscript to the March

When we joined the Australian Intelligence Association on Anzac Day, AIA was celebrating its centenary, so was granted a position of prominence at the head of Corps Troops in the March.

With AIA we assembled with Pittwater House School's Cadet Band at the corner of Pitt and Hunter Streets, a new site nominated by the March Committee. When we set off there was some confusion, and in Hunter Street particularly, those in the rear became separated from those in the front, having difficulty in catching up. The vanguard did not realise what was happening. The explanation is given in the Australian Intelligence Magazine (AIM) for July 2007. Lt. Col. Peter K. Court, President of AIA, writes in his President's Message:

"Marshalls shortly before our time to march off moved the Association and Central Bureau to a new position in Pitt Street. However, the Marshalls did not permit the band to move with us and the contingent became separated. This was very disappointing."

Lt. Col. Court says that, nevertheless, the Association was proud to lead Corps Troops. AIM goes on to mention centenary events happening this year.

On July 1 – Reserve Forces Day – There will be a special parade. Members and former serving members will be joined by 21 overseas Intelligence Corps soldiers, including 11 from the UK.

On 29 September at Victoria Barracks, Sydney, there will be a Beat Retreat Parade. H.E. the Governor-General has been invited to be the Reviewing Officer.

A Memorial Garden for the Corps will be established at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra, Queensland. It will be dedicated on Remembrance Day, November 11, together with the opening of the Australian Intelligence Hall of Fame.

The Museum of Australian Military Intelligence at Canungra, which we visited in August 2005, thanks to the Curator, David Parker, will move to another site within Kokoda Barracks. It will be a “state of the art venue housing the extensive collection of intelligence exhibits and offering archival research access and internet links to information at the Australian War Memorial.

The planned Hall of Fame will include details and photos of those who served in Intelligence, from high ranks to low. It will concentrate upon those who made their mark, either in war, or in peacetime careers. It was thanks to David Parker that we saw in his museum a display of work done by CB and Wireless Units, and that a photo of “Pappy” Clark was unveiled and put in a place of honour. David still seeks a better photo of “Pappy” Clark. Help, if you can.

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON

We had just finished lunch at the Marriott on Anzac Day when – like the Saints, a uniformed band came marching in. Playing bass drum, side drum, trumpets, flutes, clarinets, trombone, saxophones, and euphoniums, the young 12 ½ year old to 19 year old boys and girls threaded their way through the tables, and gave us a few good tunes. This was great fun, a great surprise, but the band disappeared while we were on our feet, clapping. Who were they?

Newsletter found out that they were the Australian Army Cadet Band – Sydney, their Officer Commanding being Captain (AAC) Louise McGilvray.

This concert and marching band entertains the WRAAC each year at the Marriott. “One of the WRAAC Officers said: ‘Look – there’s a unit (CB) over there – you should go and brighten up their day.’ So, being the way we are, off we went!” was the explanation.

Captain McGilvray, her husband Jim (a Lieutenant) and daughter Kellie (also a Lieutenant) are all involved with the band. Cadets from over NSW are given a chance to participate in it. There are 38 in the Senior Performing Band, 9-10 in the Junior.

Home base is Holsworthy Army Camp. “We are responsible for our own fundraising and purchase of instruments, music and associated equipment,” writes Louise McGilvray. “The Army supports us with accommodation, uniforms, and other needs.”

The Band has gone international, touring Beijing, China, where it represented Australia at the Beijing 2006 Youth Festival, being given the honour out of 27 International Bands to play on the Great Wall of China.

It performed at Federation Celebrations on Norfolk Island (2001) and at the first Indigenous Ball for Cadets in Darwin, and in 2002 led the Reserve Forces Day Parade for the centenary of Cadets.

Newsletter has no space to list all the Anzac Day parades and other events at which the Band participates.

Thank you, Band, and may we see you at the Marriott in 2008.

DSD

Those who went to DSD’s Open Day at its Russell Street headquarters, Canberra, received VIP treatment and badges actually lettered VIP! We were invited because DSD (founded as DSB) celebrated its sixtieth anniversary on April 1 and because CB was its precursor.

Stewart Skelt, Chair of the 60th Anniversary Committee, had arranged the events which included a 1940s themed anniversary ball. We skipped the dancing but went on the special tour of “selected areas” within DSD. Kay Currey, of DSD, who was on the committee, greeted us, shepherding us around, and even ensured that no one was stranded without transport when the tour ended.

Only a few could attend. Those present were: Ian and Lorraine Buckingham from Victoria, Frank Hughes, Helen Kenny, Les McClean, Rob Moore and Pat Wheatley (all NSW). Historian Chris Clark also joined us.

The fiftieth anniversary celebrations had been formal, with much present-giving and speeches from heads of international agencies such as GCHQ and NSA. This time informality prevailed, and the only speech given was by Stewart Skelt.

He said that there had been many changes since he joined DSD in 1983. He spoke of the cold war's ending, of altering intelligence targets, of the turmoil in Timor in the nineties, and, of course, of 9/11 and the toppling of the Twin Towers.

"Politics in our part of the world now are reminiscent of Europe in the 19th century," he continued. "Metternich would recognise it." [Metternich (1773-1859) was the wily Austrian statesman, who at the Congress of Vienna and afterwards, attempted to settle problems caused by the fragmentation of Europe in the Napoleonic Wars.]

Skelton explained that in World War II we knew who the target was, but the difficulty now is in finding the target. Trying to analyse problems in the nineties was "almost like riding a roller coaster or the ghost train." Today, Australia is surrounded by countries with internal problems, which means that we must be technically adept. Equipment and methods are changing.

The Commonwealth Government has granted a massive increase to buy equipment which will check enemy communications in Canberra and elsewhere.

In a chilly, air-conditioned room our group saw a squat and smallish computer. Its name was Undarra, (called after the national park in Queensland which is the site of the famous lava tubes.) Undarra had other computer mates in the same room. These too had national park names. At Undarra's hidden core were components that could work at volcanic speed, that could do astonishing things.

We moved on to another place where a large screen showed a bird's eye (or satellite's eye) view of government and other buildings in Canberra's heart.

Young men and women, all civilians, gave brief explanations of the work they were doing in their sections.

At the end we came to the Defence room, where servicemen and women of Navy, Army and Air Force work around the clock, as we once did. This was a secretive area. We looked on from afar.

The tour ended with cups of tea and coffee in a hall where photos of 21 Henry Street were displayed, and where a file of CB Newsletters from past to present was placed on a table. Rob Moore, one of our banner bearers, and son of the late Dennis Moore who edited Newsletter for so long, turned the pages back to his father's time.

Weeks after the tour some of us talked of it. Rob was struck by the regard in which the work of CB is still held, and by the level of corporate work done by DSD which is now recruiting staff and is competing with the IT industry. Frank Hughes, who has had many visits to DSD, was impressed by the new equipment and by specific changes made.

MORE ABOUT NAVE

Dr Ian Pfennigwerth, author of "A Man of Intelligence: The Life of Captain Eric Nave, Australian Codebreaker Extraordinary" says that he has received many calls, emails and letters since its publication.

"There have been two recent callers of special interest," he writes. "One was a Joan Fairbridge, formerly Duff, who was a 'temporary clerk' in Commander Jack Newman's office at Monterey. She had interesting insights on 'inter-personal relations' there, especially between Nave and Fabian. I was relieved that she supported my view of the situation." [Captain Rudolph Fabian, of the United States Navy, reached Australia by submarine from the Philippines with members of the cryptographic group, CAST. At Monterey, which housed the CAST group, Newmans W/T Intelligence Group, cryptanalysts of the Special Intelligence Group, and Nave's diplomatic codebreaking group, tensions arose. All these organisations came eventually to be called FRUMEL - Fleet Radio Unit, Melbourne. Fabian clashed with Nave, causing him to move to Central Bureau, much to CB's benefit.]

Dr Pfennigwerth continues: "The second caller was none other than the grandson of Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, Commander-in-Chief, US Pacific Fleet, on the day of the Pearl Harbour attack. He was subsequently dismissed in disgrace, but his family is fighting to have him restored to the Retired List with the rank of Admiral. Thomas Kimmel has been questioning me about the Winds messages –

pre CB but very important to the resurrection of his grandfather's reputation and status."

[The Japanese signal "East wind, rain", sent as part of a weather report, meant that war was imminent.]

Thomas Kimmel has also been questioning Professor John Mack, the mathematician, who, with Dr Peter Donovan, is writing a book about cryptography in Australia and the Pacific.

Dr Pfennigwerth's book about Nave has sold nearly 3,000 copies. There is talk of a third edition. He has written another, just out, about the Australian cruiser, HMAS Perth, which was sunk by the Japanese in the Sunda Strait, near Java, on March 1, 1942.

THE INDICATORS OF CIPHER 2468

Peter Donovan

The Central Bureau Technical Records, which can now be accessed at item B5436 through the National Archives website, make the following comment on the breaking of the Water Transport Code (cipher 2468) in 1943:

'It took much time and concentrated effort until it was found that by using the relationship between two digits of similar plain text, dissimilar cipher text, it was possible to recover a non-primary square.'

This refers to the discovery by Joe Richard early in 1943 of certain patterns in intercepted 2468 messages. The text that received two separate encryptions was just the 'indicators' that informed the recipient of just which part of the table of encrypting 'additives' had been used. Joe Richard has recorded the very considerable interest shown by Abe Sinkov in this matter from the first observation.

Abe Sinkov in January and February 1941 had been a leader of a secret mission to Bletchley Park sent by the American Army and Navy cryptanalysis units. He was fully briefed on the Enigma encryption machine and knew its security was being undermined. In particular he would have been told of the method used up to the end of April 1940 to exploit the practice of transmitting two separate encryptions of the indicators, here meaning the setting of the machine just before encryption began.

This practice was discontinued by the German Army on 30 April 1940 and rather earlier by the German Navy. It was started in another form by the Japanese Army on 1 December 1942 with cipher 2468.

Key work on decrypting Enigma was started by the Polish Cipher Bureau in 1931-1933. The story is somewhat analogous to that described in the CBTR and in the recollections of Joe Richard. The Polish work was handed over to the British and French around July 1939 and was instrumental in getting Bletchley Park started on Enigma.

[This is based on Peter Donovan's paper published in the journal *Cryptologia* in 2006. He is working with John Mack on a book on the cipher war in the Pacific 1920-1945.

About People

Don Dunn sends "Another Jaunt by Nicely Done II" a witty account of how he sailed from Sydney to Queensland and back last June/July/August. There were close-ups with whales, a scare when a freighter headed towards Nicely Done II in the darkness. Newsletter hopes to run some excerpts from Don's story in future, and it's great to know Don's still sailing.

Wendy Clarke sends a postcard from Tours, in France, and describes the old quarter's cobbled streets, the beautiful stained glass windows of the cathedral, and the charming houses. She also had time in Paris, catching up with people, visiting museums, walking, buying books.

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Newsletter sends wishes to CBers, and to Frank Hughes, recovering after his time in hospital. Sympathy too, to John Shoebridge whose daughter Roslyn Mahon died recently.

The drought has broken in some areas and I hope that CBers on the Central Coast and around Newcastle escaped flooding. I was in Maitland during the '55 floods, and remember the damage, the stench, and the hardship. No S.E.S. then. On the stone steps of the Bank of NSW they were drying out banknotes, a never-to-be-forgotten sight. Again, regards to CBers.
H.K.

PS - The Historian's Report will appear in the September issue