



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION JUNE 2015

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This is an ANZAC Issue, to commemorate the ANZAC Centenary

Sixty Seven of us met for lunch in a new venue at the Pullman Hotel – packed in but well organised and made comfortable. It was also good that 15 of us were able to take part in the ANZAC Day March. Congratulations to all.

PRESIDENT'S PAR

President's Address - Anzac Day 2015

A warm welcome to all 67 members, relatives and friends who are here today, in record numbers I believe. To mark the occasion, we have with us Dr Peter Donovan, co-author of the book entitled "Code Breaking in the Pacific", a comprehensive and authoritative account of Australia's WWII SIGINT activities. Dr Donovan will be our after lunch guest speaker and will, I believe, be telling us more about the inimitable Colonel Abe Sinkov, Commanding Officer of the U.S. SIGINT Contingent, with whom we co-operated. Copies of Peter Donovan's speech will be available to all at the conclusion of his talk.

Just before we relax and enjoy ourselves there are a few important matters for your notice:

1. A plaque commemorating the importance of our SIGINT operations in WWII will be unveiled at a ceremony to be held at 21 Henry Street, Ascot on Thursday, 9th July, 2015 at 11.00 a.m.

Members of Wireless Units, ASWG and Intelligence are welcome too, with their families.

Refreshments and drinks will be provided, so if you are going it is essential that you RSVP to me before 25th June.

Mr Steve Meekin, Deputy Director of Intelligence and Security, will unveil a plaque at the entrance gates of "Nyrambla".

All CBers, families and friends are welcome to attend and mingle with the "top brass"! Do make every endeavour to attend this historic occasion!

It is hoped that after almost seventy (70) years since war's end, that SIGINT veterans will be able to gather for what will probably be our last reunion.



Allan Norton and President
Gordon

2. A General Meeting for all members and friends of CBICA is to be held at Roseville Memorial Club on Wednesday 11th November following the Remembrance Day Ceremony. This will be to discuss the future of CBICA. Think about it in the meantime and be ready to come up with your suggestions.

3. With us today we also have Dr David Dufty who is planning yet another book on code breaking and would be keen to have a chat with any of our members. By all means introduce yourself to him during the day. David's email address is: daviddufty@gmail.com Mobile: 0434 598 659. Now please eat, drink and be merry and I will be calling you to order in about an hour or so.

(I also received a note about the death of Roy Perry, whose daughter, Ellen Perry sent me a lovely letter with the sad news of Roy's passing following a bad fall. Ellen said how much Roy always enjoyed our reunions, and also stated that Roy had been given a resounding send off by members of his local RSL, with whom he had been very active.)

Gordon Gibson

President

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HON TREASURER'S REPORT

The Anzac Day Reunion Luncheon was well attended and much enjoyed by members and guests – 67 people turned up on the day!

The following is a list of the interstate and country members with us on Anzac Day:

VICTORIANS:

Gwen Charlesworth, Diana Parker

NSW COUNTRY:

Joy Grace, Jacqui Keeling, Doug and Nell Pyle

Our special thanks go to our guest speaker Dr Peter Donovan who gave a most entertaining and interesting talk. Peter is co-author, with John Mack, of the recently published 'Code Breaking in the Pacific'.

Thanks are also due to the large contingent of family and friends who were present to cheer members on during the day. We have pre-booked already for the Windows Room at the Pullman Hotel for Anzac Day 2016!

Unfortunately some members have health issues which prevented them from attending but many who couldn't make it sent best wishes to all their Sydney and Interstate friends.

*Just a quick reminder – a few members have not yet paid their subs for 2015.

I hope to see many of you at Roseville RSL on Remembrance Day in November.

Annette Salmon

20 Marcella St,

North Epping NSW 2121.

Phone 02 9876 8856 mob 0413 137 779 (*Cheques should be made payable to CBICA.)

AROUND THE TABLES

Tables were packed closely for our lunch at the Pullman on ANZAC Day. We had a record number of acceptances – 67 – and CBers were joined by friends, relatives, children and grandchildren. Notebooks were passed around. Newsletter asked if those who had ANZAC LINKS would write them down.

Here is the result. We print the LINKS first and ask if those who missed the notebooks or who were interstate would send their details to Newsletter for the next issue. {Post to Newsletter direct, or email to bgoudge@optusnet.com.au please.}

Pamela Langdon (widow of Alan) Now lives at Dorothy Henderson Lodge, Macquarie Park, NSW.

Her grandfather David Blyth MacEwen was in A Company, 25th Battalion, 7th Infantry Brigade. He enlisted in 1915 and took part in the ANZAC Campaign on the Gallipoli Peninsular. (Formerly he had served in the Boer War, 1899-1902, 37th Battalion, Imperial Yeomen, South African Light Horse.)

David MacEwen was repatriated from Gallipoli to Australia aboard HMAT "Runic".

[Pamela's daughter, son and daughter-in-law came to the lunch with her. H.K.]

Gwen Charlesworth (widow of Geoff) Came up from Melbourne with her daughter Helen. Gwen's father, David Parker, served in Gallipoli and France where he was wounded. Gwen writes: "He was one of the last three Gallipoli Veterans and was honoured by Australia Post on the set of stamps of the "Australian Legends" on 21/1/2000. Dad passed away the following day, aged 105.5 years!"

Helen Kenny My two uncles, Fred and Tom Frizell were at Gallipoli. Fred was at Lone Pine and Tom was a doctor with 5th Field Ambulance, Both brothers went to France. Sadly Tom died at Passchendaele. Fred survived and married an English bride. After the war he brought her and their baby son back to Australia. I was at lunch with Judith and Bruce Goudge (my step-daughter and step-son-in-law) and two other friends Jenny and Phillip Lingard - Jenny is Eric Nave's niece.

Judith Goudge (Helen Kenny's step-daughter) The centenary of ANZAC revives memories of my grandfather's brother, William Kenny, and sister, Elizabeth Kenny. Elizabeth served on troopships bringing wounded home to Australia and was promoted to Sister in November 1917. William enlisted in the AIF in Brisbane and was allocated to A Sqn, 2nd Light Horse Regiment, but arriving on the Gallipoli Peninsula was redirected to the Military Mounted Police. The Sydney Mail, September 4, 1915, reported William was on General Birdwood's staff. William served in the Military Police till War's end. The building complex of 1 MP Coy at Lavarack Barracks is named after this prominent military policeman, William Kenny DCM, Medaille Militaire, MID.

Bruce and I feel privileged to be part of the day's activities and to meet the unassuming Veterans whose work seventy years ago helped shape the outcome of WWII. Their recollections are fascinating. How wonderful that these men and women are able to come together today!

Joyce Grace My father was a naval man – a yeoman of signals and served on Rover Class destroyers in WWI. He had many interesting stories to tell.

I have lived at Berkeley Village for the past 25 years and always come down for this special day. My Great Niece, Juli and her friend Mark, have accompanied me today and it is a delight to have them here. I am a CB Garage Girl, and it is wonderful to keep renewing our friendships each year. Many thanks to all those who keep it happening. Best Wishes to all!

Ailsa Hale of Maroubra; marched with fellow "Garage Girl" Joyce Grace. Ailsa's son Craig Hale and daughter Lyndall Gladstone were with her, Craig wearing the "Gallipoli Star" medal. This had been awarded to his grandfather, Arthur Hale who was a stretcher bearer at Gallipoli. Ailsa's uncle, Tom Sutcliffe was also a stretcher bearer there. Ailsa sends good wishes from Coral Hinds and Madeline Chidgey. "We've all turned 90," said Ailsa. "Joy is a young 92!"

Annette Salmon "My Grandfather, Thomas Henry Roberts, was a primary school teacher with a wife and five children when he enlisted in 1916 at the age of 42. He served in the 36th Battalion in Belgium and France. My Great Uncle, Percy Lawrence Eagleton, was a clerk who enlisted in June 1915 at the age of 19 and served at Gallipoli in the 23rd Battalion AIF. He survived and at the age of 21 married an English lass in Birmingham. He was discharged in 1920 and returned with her to Australia."

Jennifer Nave (married name Lingard) Honoured to be here today – I have learned much more about Central Bureau and more background to (Uncle) Eric Nave's work. I'm interested in family history. (Captain Nave was CB's great cryptographer.)

Phillip Lingard – (husband of Jennifer) was with her.

Peter Donovan (co-author with John Mack of "Codebreaking in the Pacific") was our guest speaker. He listed his interests as WWII Cryptography, Turing's favourite maths problem and his grandchild.

Margaret Donovan (Peter's wife) wrote: "Next time Peter and I are in Washington we'll continue our research into Korean 'Comfort Women' at US National Archives."

Norm Allen I had a great day and I'm enjoying the meal.

Doug Pyle Live at Bolwarra Heights, Maitland. Grand daughter Emilie and her partner came to the lunch and of course my wife Nell. I am still interested in the missing American WACS whose plane disappeared between Sentani and Clark Field in the Philippines.

Timmy Gibson (Gordon's Grandson) Go Gordy! P.S. The meal was good!

Chris Denis (Gordon's son-in-law) Thank you for saving us so we can have a safer world.

Brodie Barnes (Gordon's 8 yr old grand-daughter) Thank you for saving us.

Phil Barnes & Emilie It is an honour to share today with a special group. CBIC has been a great learning experience for us and my son. Thanks Gordy.

Chantel Denis (Katy's mother-in-law) Thank you for an amazing day. Thank you for keeping us safe.

David Dufty Thank you for the privilege of attending this function and meeting everybody.

Jacqui Keeling It's such a privilege to march for my mother (Norma Scarfe) each year. To fellowship with her friends in the Unit has given me a better understanding of what ANZAC means. Although I needed to catch the 5.30 a.m. train from Wentworth Falls, it was well worth it.

Diana Parker flew up from Melbourne, flew back the next day, after a night at the Pullman. She was welcomed by other "garage girls".

Some at the lunch just wrote down their names. On this list were:-

Margaret McCafferty

Connie Allman

Emilie Pyle

Dominic Zeera

Allan Norton On this Remembrance Day my thoughts go back over 70 years to when we were all boys and girls in RAAF Wireless Units. Especially I recall my fellow Kana Code interceptor operators – none of whom are present today. I miss them all as we were all a very close family in those urgent days.

Kath Burns Lovely to see you all today, and hope to see you all next year. I hope, at 91, to be here. Love and Best Wishes.

Katy and the Gibson Family What a lovely day with everyone. Record numbers! Beautiful weather and beautiful day of remembrance. Xo

The Bentwitch Family Wonderful day with record numbers. Bruce will be 91 this year. Let's hope the Veterans live for many years. All the Best. (Bruce and his party numbered eleven.)

APOLOGIES FROM ABSENT FRIENDS

Brian Lovett: Can no longer drive as his licence is restricted to 100 km. He is going to march in Forster. His son is going up to march with him and will be wearing his Grandfather's WWI medals.

Bruce (BE) Lovett: Bruce can't come for health reasons, but says hopefully he will be at the Armistice Day meeting in November.

Ian Pfenningwerth: Apologies – will be overseas on April 25th

Robert Brown: Apologies

David & Noeline Hansen: Noeline says David is now at Shalom Baptist Care Centre in Marsfield. They are going to watch the march on TV and will think of you all. She hopes to see you in November.

Dorothy Morrow: Sends her best wishes from Murrumba Downs.

Stan Harper: Says that unfortunately his health is such that he cannot travel far these days. He also says what a great job Bruce Bentwitch has done for members over many years.

Will Renshaw: Thanks due to Will for a donation towards expenses.

Veronica (Ronnie) O'Neill: Says it's a bit too far for her. She mentions Jacqueline Dinan's new book "Between the Dances" which she found very interesting (Annette did too!).

Gordon Richard Gibson: Apologies – Peg is not well and Gordon injured his back falling backwards down the up escalator.

Frank & Eileen Hughes: Apologies

Bruce & Jan Rogers: Apologies

Keith Falconer: Message – says he still looks forward to the CBICA Newsletter

Don Dunn: Apologies – “Sorry my legs refuse to work!”

Rosemary Brown (Ken): Sends her best wishes and thanks to everyone for their kindness. She is happily settled in Budgewoi. She says she was married to Ken for 57 years, and lived in PNG.

SONG OF ANZAC

*‘Tis ANZAC Day,
‘Tis ANZAC Day.
O soldier comrades far away,
You died in war,
May we in peace,
So, live and love
That wars may cease.*

Each ANZAC Day at our Strathfield school we children went to assembly and sang this still-remembered song. I know now that Jessie Street, later the political activist, wrote the words, and that Lindley Evans, who taught music appreciation, was the composer.

He had been Melba’s accompanist and was to become Mr Melody Man of the Argonauts on the ABC. He played the piano while we finished the other verses. Most of us were children of the 1920s. We believed that the “war to end all wars” would be just that and the League of Nations would ensure peace.

How gullible we all were!

Before the Depression it was a time of depression. So many women wore black – the mothers, the widows – all in mourning.

Mothers wore special service badges, marked with stars for sons who’d been killed. Girls, once engaged, wore lockets containing photos of the men they would have married. Some never did marry.

Photos of dead soldiers hung from picture rails. Often their colour patches were there too.

We knew the ANZACs. The men never talked of what they had been through. Some had bad coughs (gassed), others wore prosthetic limbs. But uncles joked, sang “Inky, pinky parlez vous”, and said, “Bon Soir” when we had to go to bed.

The men of ANZAC were lucky if they lived to see their children grow up, much less see grandchildren.

A sad time. No wonder adults told us to stop singing. “*I’m miserable. You’re miserable. Down on Misery Farm.*” H.K.

NEWS FROM BLETCHLEY PARK

Bletchley Park’s newsletter for March told of Free School Trips to BP sponsored by Winton Global Investment Management.

This bursary scheme, available to schools which need financial support, allows 9,000 children to visit BP annually.

Easter Events: With the backing of Milton Keynes Suzuki there was an Easter Eggstravaganza. Children went on an Easter Egg Trail around the historic site and were given the chance to make their own Enigmas.

- In March, 20 members of Alan Turing’s family walked around BP for a podcast “Turing’s Pay Tribute”.
- Visitors were shown a set from the film “The Imitation Game”,

April events Included:

- A talk by Victor Madeira on his book “Britannia and the Bear”; the Anglo-Russian Intelligence Wars 1917-1929 as part of the Bletchley Park Presents lecture series;

- 1940s Boutique: “Learn how to style your own hair and achieve that iconic 1940s look.” Vintage style expert Sarah Duna would show present day girls how to re-create iconic styles such as the famous “Victory Roll”.

[We went in for “Page Boys”, “pompadours” and rolls – all above the collar of course! I created the roll by putting a shoelace around my head and tucking my fine hair into it. Result: A disastrous roll rather than a victory roll! H.K.]

BIOGRAPHY OF PETER DUNN – WEBMASTER AND AMATEUR HISTORIAN

WEBSITE: www.ozatwar.com

This website contains over 5,500 web pages about Australia during WWII.

I was born in Townsville in 1948 and grew up playing in some of the remnants of WWII, but not realising why they were there. There were the numerous large igloo hangars near Duckworth Street and Dalrymple Road, the large WWII hangars and building at Garbutt airfield, and the deserted US Army Air Command bunker at Ramsay Street, Garbutt which is still there!! And why were there shallow trenches in the paddock behind our house??

There were old rusty aircraft drop fuel tanks in the saltpan behind our house at Pimlico (now the Lakes area) and in other areas around Townsville. The older kids were lucky enough to locate the more intact drop tanks and turn them into small boats or “canoes” and use them on the weirs.

One of the teenagers in our street Geoffrey Nielsen told me that his parents had told him that a P-38 Lightning had made a forced landing in the saltpan behind our house during WWII. I thought he was pulling my leg, but many years later when my interest in Townsville’s military history developed I decided to see if this story was true or not. After reading Dr Rod Cardell’s marvellous book “Wings Around Us” about the Stock Route airfield (Dalrymple Road), I discovered that the story was in fact true.

The P-38 had taken off from the Stock Route airfield (Dalrymple Road) and made a forced landing in the saltpan where the lakes are now located. I was then determined to find out more about this crash and eventually I got enough leads to let me track down the pilot who was still alive at that time. I rang him one day and had an interesting discussion.

Townsville remained a military town after the war with Garbutt airfield being home to the Garbutt RAAF base. So while growing up in Townsville in the 1950’s one could hardly miss the numerous military aircraft flying around. Dakotas, Lincolns, Wirraways, Hudsons, and the occasional Mustang.

In later years there were the Sabres, the Neptunes, etc. I went on to join No. 1 Flight of the Air Training Corps at Garbutt airfield. Our parades were on a Friday night. I would ride my trusty pushbike from Pimlico to Garbutt. I used to go down to the RAAF Recruiting building in Sturt Street after school and fly the Link Trainer that was located in the basement. When I became too old to be in the ATC I joined the RAAF Reserve in Townsville. That Link Trainer is now in the RAAF Museum at Garbutt and still in perfect working order. I recently donated a maintenance manual for the Link Trainer to the fellow who looks after the Link Trainer at the Museum. He was a very happy chap.

My father, Jim Dunn, was a member of the 42nd Battalion and fought the Japanese in New Guinea and Bougainville during WWII. He was camped in the Townsville area for a while before being shipped northwards to New Guinea. My father-in-law, John (Jan) Goulevitch, DFC, was a pilot in 460 Squadron RAAF and he actually piloted the famous Lancaster “G” for George on a mission to Germany. “G” for George is now housed in the Australian War Memorial. I usually march with 460 Squadron for the Anzac Day marches in Brisbane. After a number of years chasing my family history, I eventually started a web page on 460 Squadron RAAF, then one on “G” for George. I then started a few pages about Townsville during WWII. These pages eventually became “Townsville @ War”. My interest in the P-38 crash caused me to realise there had been a reasonable

number of aircraft crashes in Townsville during WWII, so I started a home page on that topic. I now have well over 2,000 aircraft crashes documented on my web pages that happened in Australia during WWII. There are many many more that I need to add and I estimate I might approach 4,000 - 5,000 eventually.

My interest kept expanding, eventually covering all of Queensland and before too long I widened the net even further to cover all of Australia during WWII. I can assure you it will not expand any further.

I retired from work as an electrical engineer in the power industry in September 2012 and my "Australia @ War" web pages continue to be a part time hobby. I am now also delivering historic WWII Talks at various venues around Brisbane.

My research has made me realise that whilst the Southwest Pacific Theatre of war was a very neglected theatre in the sense of written history, what did actually get written was mostly about the New Guinea side of things. Very few authors and historians have covered much detail about events inside Australia during WWII.

LONE PINES

“Lone Pine morphs into a guitar to honour WWI Diggers” is the title of an article by Katherine Barton of Mosman NSW. It appeared in Issue 49 of “Digger”, the magazine put out by FFFAIF – Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc.

We print the edited version, with their permission.

AS LIGHT FADED ON AUGUST 6. 1915, THE AIF CHARGED UNDER HEAVY FIRE TO ATTACK THE TURKS IN THE TRENCHES ON GALLIPOLI. HAVING FELLED ALL BUT ONE OF THE TREES AT LONE PINE, AND MADE A WALL OF THE LOGS, COVERING THEM WITH SOIL, THE TURKS THOUGHT THEY HAD DISGUISED THEIR TRENCHES. BUT THIS DAY AUSTRALIANS TOOK THE TRENCHES AFTER TERRIBLE HAND-TO-HAND CONFLICT.

FIGHTING LASTED FOR FOUR DAYS. WHEN THE BATTLE OF LONE PINE ENDED, 2,000 AUSTRALIAN AND 6,000 TURKS HAD DIED – APPALLING FIGURES.

THE LONE PINE (OR ALEPPO PINE) WAS ALSO A CASUALTY, BUT SOME OF ITS CONES WERE BROUGHT BACK TO AUSTRALIA AND SEEDLINGS PROPAGATED FROM THEM.

PRIVATE THOMAS McDONALD WAS ONE WHO SOUVENIRED A PINE CONE. IT WAS IN HIS POSSESSION FOR 13 YEARS, THEN GIVEN TO HIS WIFE’S AUNT, EMMA GREY AT TERANG, VICTORIA. SHE RAISED FOUR SEEDLINGS, ONE OF WHICH WAS PLANTED AT MELBOURNE’S SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE ON JUNE 11, 1933.



THE TREE GREW THERE FOR 73 YEARS, UNTIL A FREAK STORM IN 2006 TOPPLED THE ALREADY DISEASED TREE. SOME OF THE TREE’S TIMBER WAS SALVAGED FOR THE SHRINE’S NEW BOARDROOM TABLE.

THEN MASTER LUTHIER*, ANDY ALLEN, OFFERED TO BUY THE TABLE’S OFFCUTS AND TO FORM THEM INTO A GUITAR. HIS FIRM, MATON GUITARS AT BOX HILL, WAS FOUNDED IN 1946. MR ALLEN’S GUITAR HAS A MAGNIFICENT PEARLY INLAY. THIS DEPICTED A DIGGER WITH HIS HEAD BOWED, THE BARREL OF HIS GUN TOUCHING THE GROUND AND HIS HANDS RESTING ON THE BUTT. THE STORY OF THE GUITAR IS WRITTEN INSIDE. LAST OCTOBER, MR ALLEN PRESENTED THE GUITAR TO THE SHRINE. OLD WAR-TIME TUNES WERE PLAYED ON IT, AS WELL AS A NEW SONG ABOUT AUSTRALIAN DIGGERS SET TO THE WORDS OF JIM BROWN’S POEM “THE ANZAC ON THE WALL “. A MATON GUITAR WAS PLAYED BY ELVIS PRESLEY IN THE 1957 FILM “JAILHOUSE ROCK”. TOMMY ALLEN, JIMMY PAYNE AND KEITH URBAN ALSO OWN THE COMPANY’S GUITARS.

“I DO THINK EVERY GUITAR HAS ITS OWN PERSONALITY DEPENDING WHAT TREE [IT COMES FROM],” SAID MR ALLEN. AN ALEPPO PINE IS NOT SOMETHING YOU WOULD JUMP OUT OF YOUR WAY TO USE AS A TONE WOOD, YET THIS ACTUALLY SOUNDS PRETTY GOOD.

“THERE WAS A LOT OF PASSION INVOLVED IN THE GUITAR’S CREATION,” SAID MR ALLEN WHO IMMERSSED HIMSELF IN HISTORY AND THE ETHOS OF GALLIPOLI , “UNTIL I REALLY FELT I’D BEEN WITH THE SOLDIERS.”

[*A luthier is one who makes musical instruments, primarily guitars, from wood. For those with internet, this link shows a lovely video where Andy speaks about the Lone Pine guitar:- <http://go.maton.com.au/1QvvaJL> H.K.]

IN BRIEF

CB “GARAGE GIRLS” should know that the Henry Street Garage has gone. Old age and white ants contributed to its demise. Peter Dunn tells us that a new garage – vintage style – has replaced it. Had we known we could have held a wake, making a bonfire of old messages.

Dr PETER DONOVAN mathematician and author, was our guest speaker on ANZAC Day.



Dr Peter Donovan with the copper ashtray fashioned at Cockatoo Docks from the propeller of HMAS Australia in which his father served.

His subject was, “**Abraham Sinkov 1907-1998**” (mostly before CB). William Friedman, 1891-1969, had worked in American Army radio intelligence in WW1 and continued on eventually retiring from the NSA. Around 1930 he was allowed to recruit three young mathematics graduates (Solomon Kullback, Frank Rowlett and Abraham Sinkov) and one Japanese linguist (John Hurt). The Army team, SIS, increased more slowly than the corresponding US Naval unit, eventually to be called Op-20-G. Friedman not only gave the trio a sound and deep education in the cryptology of the era but arranged that they received commissions in the Army Reserve. This latter activity involved training at Fort Meade, the site of the modern NSA. Sinkov also obtained a PhD degree in algebra from George Washington University, publishing two papers in the prestigious ‘Annals of Mathematics’. Kullback obtained a PhD in statistics. Rowlett specialised in cipher machines. Sinkov was sent to Panama for radio interception work but by 1939 he was back with the SIS in the Munitions Building in Washington.

Around 1933 Marian Rejewski and others of the Polish Cipher Bureau broke into German Enigma traffic using documentation obtained by the French Secret Service by bribery and exploiting a very serious insecurity in its use. The mistake lay in redundantly giving two separate encryptions of

a small critical part of the material to be encrypted.

After the Rape of Nanking (December, 1937) the British Government Code and Cipher School started taking the Japanese Army very seriously. Its principal cryptanalyst, John Tiltman, 1894-1982, was sent to the FECB, then in Hong Kong, to work on a Japanese Army cipher system then in use in China. This had variants of the 1933 Enigma error and was broken. It fell into disuse in 1939. The code-book used 4-digit groups all of which were multiples of three. Some of its other features re-emerged with later Army ciphers

In July 1939 the Polish Secret Service made their work on Enigma available to the French Service and the GC&CS. Soon after the British FECB reported on the emergence of a new 5-digit Japanese Naval cipher, later to be called JN-25A1. Tiltman worked on it for a couple of months, guessing that it had code book groups (here 5 digits) all multiples of three. Apparently Alan Turing, 1912-1954, gave assistance on how to exploit this feature. Op-20-G did not work out how to do this.

In 1940 the German Army worked out the insecurity of their use of Enigma and stopped the practice. The German Navy had done so earlier. In Washington, Rowlett, with the assistance of various others, managed to break the recently introduced Japanese diplomatic machine code, now called Purple. Working copies of the Purple machine were constructed.

In February 1941 the Sinkov Mission visited Bletchley Park and handed over a reproduction Purple machine. The GC&CS gave the Americans access to work on JN-25B5 in Singapore, much information about Enigma and a briefing on the 1938 Army cipher. The race to the Battle of Midway began.

In 1942 Sinkov was sent to Melbourne to work with the then newly established Central Bureau. After the death of Joe Sherr in a plane crash Sinkov became the senior American there as well as the chief cryptologist. And when early in 1943 Joe Richard detected symptoms of redundant encryption in intercepted signals in the newly initiated Water Transport Code, Sinkov was able to recognise the importance of this phenomenon.

It was Colonel Sinkov who laid the first plaque at the entrance to the doorway of “Nyrambla”.

Many CBers were able to witness this. Years have passed, but it is hoped that veterans can gather strength to revisit our wartime workplace – once so ULTRA secret.

[Photograph on Page 1 of Allan Norton and President Gordon, courtesy of Dr David Duffy. My grateful thanks to Bruce Goudge and “Scotty” of Kwik Kopy, Walker Street, North Sydney for producing the Newsletter again! H.K]