



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION JUNE 2017

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ANZAC DAY – 2017 – HELEN KENNY'S REPORT DAWN SERVICE

Noon and night did not come for those remembered here. The “red surf” of the Gallipoli Landing – as Kipling described “that bloody dawn” – saw to that! For a Century though, families have mourned men of That War.

DAWN SERVICE (in Sydney) CB's only representative by the Cenotaph in Martin Place was JOYCE GRACE of Berkeley Vale. She wrote afterward:

“Last year I was told that Gordon Gibson was there alone for CB. I did not want this to happen again. That is why I made the effort and went this year. Gordon was not there. As I did not send in my programme to Katy no one knew what I was doing. Well Helen, all the blame is on me. I went to Martin Place Cenotaph with my niece Sharon and her two children Beya and Beau. I was the only CBer so, with permission we found and joined the “Intelligence Corps” of about twelve people (not of our vintage) as they marched down and placed their wreath.”

Joyce Grace was the only one to represent us at the Martin Place Dawn Service – as she reports above in Newsletter. Katy and Chris Denis attended the Dawn Service at Roseville Memorial Club and laid a wreath on CB's behalf.



Eleven marched in Sydney on ANZAC Day: Rob Moore, Mark Brackley (our two noble banner bearers!), Col Brackley and Gordon Gibson (ably leading behind the banner bearers), Chris Denis, Tim Gibson, Joyce Grace, Jacqui Keeling, David Lovett, Brian Lovett and Ellen Perry.

Congratulations to all and well done!

You have made a great effort. [Those of us who can't march now appreciate what you've done! H.K.]



TIME: Mid-day.

PLACE: Foyer of the Pullman Hotel, Sydney, where CBers and Veterans of Philippines, the outback and 21 Henry St wait for the marchers to come in.

THEN: Here they are! Mark Brackley and Rob Moore carefully furl the green and gold banner. Gordon Gibson, who hasn't missed a march since 1982 and Col Brackley both ex-Philippines arrive.

Here's Joyce Grace, former "Garage Girl", now the only woman CBer to be marching. There are handshakes, hugs and kisses. We make our way to the "Windows Dining Room". Sixty Four of us enjoy lunch in this spacious room with its lovely outlook.



Allan Norton and Bruce Bentwitch – veteran CBers – come in. Generations gather – great, or is it great-great grandson of Bruce (Rocky) scampers to his place. He's the youngest there – threeish. Gibsons of various clans proliferate.



Among Gordon's clan are Cathryn and teen-ager Samantha. At another table, James Gibson {HK's nephew} and his friend Catherine Katz (nee Gibson – unrelated!). Professor John Mack, co-author of "Code Breaking in the Pacific" meets Craig Collie, whose book "Code Breakers" is just out (Review to be published in Newsletter).

David Dufty speaks of his coming "codebreaker: book", "Secret Code Breakers of Central Bureau". Our codes are being broken at last!

Katy Denis, our President, and Annette Salmon, Treasurer, have organised things so smoothly. Secretary Bruce Goudge and wife Judith Goudge are enjoying a holiday with family in Penang. Bruce will be back in time to assist Helen with the June Newsletter.

Helen also suggests it is time to ask Scott McSkimming of Kwik Kopy, Walker St North Sydney to come to our next luncheon – he’s printed the Newsletter since the start of this century.

“Our” band played for us during the luncheon, reviving many old memories.

My Best Wishes to all in the CB Family and remembrances of those fine people who have left us. We miss them greatly. [H.K.]

AROUND THE TABLES

KATY DENIS: What a wonderful ANZAC Day Reunion Lunch. A record attendance and a beautiful day weather-wise. It was brilliant to see so many CBers commemorating the day together – very special. Long Live CB!

SUE and GORDON GIBSON and CHANTAL DENIS: The highlight of the year. Gordon truly lives for this day and so enjoys the company of all his wonderful CBers. A perfect day with perfect weather for the March. Chantal (our French family member) loves being included in this great day and sends greetings to all.

DEAN and CATHRYN GIBSON, and SAMY and TIM GIBSON: Again, an amazing celebration of what ANZAC Day represents. A great day!

CHRIS DENIS: What a privilege to be next to my Father-in-Law. He is such an inspiration to us all. Great Day to be next to Gordon Gibson.

JOYCE GRACE: Anzac Day, 25th April – always a very special day, to meet with wartime friends. As one of the girls known as “The Garage Girls” who worked together at 21 Henry St. Of those present, Helen, Diana, Ailsa, Mary and myself, I was the only one brave enough to walk The March this year but with my great niece Sharon by my side. This year I was pleased and happy to be surrounded by my great niece Sharon and her children Beya and Beau, also great niece Julie and her children Lake and Lily. It was nine year old Beau who took the drumstick to help the drummer during the band’s visit to our venue. To all those who contributed to ongoing organisation this day this year, I thank you.

DEE JOHNSON: Thank you to all who served – it is so wonderful to be here in your company – especially Gordon Gibson.

NOELINE HANSEN and her grandson, **MATTHEW GIRVAN** and “Bear”: Noeline is the widow of the late **DAVE HANSEN** and she was pleased to move around the tables talking with old friends.

DIANA and GEOFF PARKER: Diana and son Geoff were delighted to come from Melbourne to Sydney to to meet other “Garage Girls” and family friends – had a wonderful night on 23rd with Helen and Pat Gillespie.

“Bletch”, the bear that Helen sent Geoff from England, also attended and caught up with other Bletchley Park Bears. 😊 A really well-organised event with clearly a lot of joy for all old friends catching up.

JAMES GIBSON: (Nephew of Helen Kenny) Bringing my Aunt Helen to this reunion was a great chance for Helen to catch up, but also for me to meet many fascinating people.

Enjoyed stimulating conversations in mathematics, ceramics, mental health systems and the general embuggerance of government - the spirit and curiosity of Central Bureau impressed even more.

Well organised and just passing on the regards of Judith and Bruce Goudge

JOHN MACK: I am delighted to attend today's luncheon (Here I am also standing in for Peter and Margaret Donovan who are overseas.) and to have the opportunity to pay my respects to Helen. I have also very much enjoyed the conversation at our table. I am also very pleased that Craig Collie and David Dufty are, like all, helping to make the work of CB more readily known in our community.

CATHERINE KATZ (GIBSON): I came to today's lunch with my friend James Gibson and his aunt, Helen Kenny. I am lucky to have been able to come! Helen and her friends (colleagues) are extremely impressive, and the history they hold is fascinating. I was most struck by the way their values and work have flowed down through the families. Coding, mathematics, words and intelligence flow through their veins.

DI PARKER: Good to see old friends again!

HELEN KENNY: Our table was the last to be cleared away – the conversation was so good. Enjoyed being with Di and Geoff, up from Melbourne, and seeing John Mack again – whose book “Code Breakers in the Pacific”, written with Peter Donovan, set the standard for those that followed.

Craig Collie's new book, “Code Breakers - Inside the shadow world of signals intelligence in Australia's two Bletchley Parks” is just out. Craig came to the lunch. We await David Dufty's book and enjoyed his speech. (A copy {of the speech} can be emailed to you if you email a request to Bruce Goudge: bgoudge@optusnet.com.au.)

Thanks James for bringing me while Bruce and Judith holiday in Penang. Come again. Delighted to “high five” three year old Rocky Bentwitch here with his great, great grandfather Bruce Bentwitch.
Best wishes to all!

SOME (AUTO) BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

BRUCE BENTWITCH: Castle Cove; No 1 Wireless Unit in Darwin; No 2 Wireless Unit North of New Guinea. Children at today's function: Jenny and Alan, Grandchildren and wife's great grandchild – 14 in total.

GWEN and HELEN CHARLESWORTH: Melbourne; Widow and daughter of GEOFF CHARLESWORTH; Served in New Guinea, The Philippines and was there when Peace was declared. Very happy to meet with friends – especially our long standing LANGDON family – Pamela Langdon – widow of Alan Langdon with daughters and son: Liz, Rosalind and Robert, Andrew and Colleen. Alan and Geoff served together.

COLIN and MARK BRACKLEY: Lane Cove; Father and Son. Col's Service in WW2 with R.A.A.F. was in No 1 Wireless Unit, No 2 Wireless Unit, No 6 Wireless Unit. Col served in the Philippines, Leyte, Biak and Hollandia.

Thank you to Katy and Annette for arranging an excellent reunion. Always great to talk to old friends, yet again.

ELLEN PERRY: Dolls Point; Daughter of Roy Perry; R.A.A.F./CB. Lovely to see CB members I've met over many years attending this marvellous luncheon with my Dad (now deceased). Enjoying the day and the memories.

CRAIG COLLIE: So good to share with the subjects of my book this special day, and meet/catch up with fellow writers on the subject. Long may this Association roll on.

JENNY EDWARDS and DAVID DUFTY: Terrific to be back amongst such great company again. David and I have had such a lovely time. We are still so very honoured to have been welcomed into the CB Crew.

MURIEL GRIFFIN: Ruth MacDonald with friends of Aub Roberts and friends of CB. Thank you for another lovely luncheon and being able to meet beautiful people once again.

ALLAN NORTON: I am delighted to be at this happy gathering and to see familiar faces. I miss many of my friends but am grateful to be alive and still mobile.









PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Anzac Day Commemorations 2017

What a special Anzac Day commemoration it was. How lovely it was to see all those who could join us, and for those who couldn't, I'd like to share my recap on what was a wonderful day of reflection, remembering and re-connecting.

The day started before dawn for my husband Chris and I, up bright (actually it was still dark!) and early at 4.00 a.m. to attend the Dawn Service at Roseville Memorial Club and lay a Wreath on behalf of CB. It was a beautiful service and we enjoyed a stunning sunrise, so it was well worth setting the alarm to be a part of it.

As the clock ticked on, we were blessed with glorious weather for the March and it proved to be yet another wonderful occasion, with a great number of CBers taking part on a beautiful blue-sky day. The form up and March organisation was much smoother for our second outing on the new route down Elizabeth Street after last year's teething problems, which was great. We extend our heartfelt thanks once again to our stalwart banner bearers, Rob Moore and Mark Brackley.

We have a few celebrities in the making amongst us too! CBers were front and centre in the TV coverage on ABC television, and our marchers were also hounded by news crews and photographers, which was very exciting. Maybe you spotted some of them in the media coverage.

Marching for us this year were: **Col Brackley**, **Mark Brackley**, **Chris Denis**, **Gordon Gibson**, **Tim Gibson**, **Joy Grace**, **Jacqui Keeling**, **David Lovett**, **Brian Lovett**, **Rob Moore** & **Ellen Perry**.

Next on the agenda was our Reunion Lunch. It's always a very special event and this year, the 43rd for Central Bureau, was no exception, with 64 members, relatives and friends joining us - a record number, or very close to it! Thank you to all those who attended, and those who could not join us were in our thoughts.

It was an absolute delight to see so many children join us this year. They were all wonderful, especially our little volunteer who played the drums so well and with such gusto with the Army Cadet Band.

We were also privileged to have our very own committee member and now published author David Dufty deliver a very informative, thoughtful, respectful and touching address.

"The Secret Code Breakers of Central Bureau"

David's speech was not only about his soon to be officially launched book, "The Secret Code Breakers of Central Bureau", but, more importantly, about the CBers he interviewed and the vitally important role they and all CBers played in WWII.

Whilst we would have loved to, at this stage we are unable to include a copy of David's speech due to constraints on the size of Newsletter. You can still share the insights David shared with us if you email Bruce at bgoudge@optusnet.com.au and he will email a copy to you.

I am also very happy to say that we now have details about David's upcoming launch event for "The Secret Code Breakers of Central Bureau", which will take place at The Australian War Memorial in Canberra on Saturday, 24th June. All CBers, family and friends are most welcome to attend, with lunch followed by the official launch, and a tour of the War Memorial.

You'll find more information about this further on in the newsletter, so please take a look and be sure to RSVP if you are able to join us so we can ensure we have the correct numbers for lunch. I would love to see you there if you can make it.

Anzac Day was a wonderful day again, providing more memories to see us through to our next event.

In the words of my Dad, "Long live CB!"

Katy Denis, President

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TREASURER'S REPORT

The highlight of the year for me has definitely been the Anzac Day March and Reunion Luncheon last month. Once again the Pullman Sydney Hyde Park Hotel presented an excellent smorgasbord lunch in a great venue which was enjoyed by us all. It was wonderful to catch up again with members and their families, especially those who travelled long distances and from interstate to be there.

Apologies were received from Bruce and Judith Goudge (overseas), Kelvin Hocking, Norm Allen, Dorothy Morrow, Margaret McCafferty, Gordon Richard Gibson, Coral Hinds, Peter and Margaret Donovan, Jean Robertson, Wendy Clarke, and Kathleen Burns.

A special thank you to my niece Dr Judith Crispin for the beautiful photos she took for us. Her grandmother was kana operator, Nan Eagleton from 1WU. Judith was delighted to meet and talk with a number of CBers who had worked in the same area as Nan. Some of the photos are included in this newsletter but they are all now accessible online in a 'Shutterfly' photo gallery. If you contact me I can give you the link so you can download them or have a photo book made up.

We also welcomed a number of authors to the lunch this year: John Mack, who co-wrote 'Codebreaking in the Pacific' with Peter Donovan, Craig Collie whose book 'Code Breakers' was released earlier this year and our guest speaker and CBer David Dufty whose book 'The Secret Code-Breakers of Central Bureau' will be launched in a couple of weeks. These books are a valuable resource and I recommend them to everyone.

Thank you very much to the following members who have made donations to CBICA over the past year: Noeline Hansen, Dorothy Morrow, Col and Mark Brackley, Olive Williams, Allan Norton, Gwen Charlesworth and Ellen Perry.

We really appreciate your help with the ever increasing costs involved in producing a quarterly newsletter and for postage.

Thank you also to Jack Fenton, post WW2 cryptographer and linguist who sent us a fascinating and comprehensive DVD compilation covering AWM, National Archives, DSD, Ink Emma Ink records and memories. Once again, please contact me if you would like to access this.

Most CBers are now up to date with annual subs but if you are not sure if you have paid for this year please just give me a call and I'll let you know. Your subs are important to keep us afloat!

If you have relatives or know someone with a special research interest in Central Bureau please encourage them to join as Associate Members. I know a number of family members at the lunch were interested in joining. We'd love to hear from them!

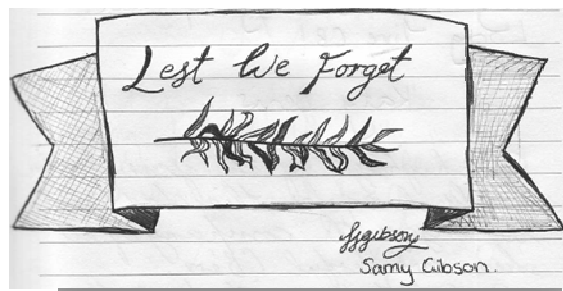
I'm looking forward to seeing some of you again on Remembrance Day at Roseville but to every one of you, my warmest wishes for a healthy and happy year ahead.

Annette Salmon (Hon. Treasurer)

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MAJOR ARTHUR HENRY: SIGINT PIONEER

By his daughter THERESE HENRY



Arthur Henry was one of the quiet achievers of the Australian Signals Intelligence Organisation (SIGINT). From 1942 to 1945 this secret signals intelligence agency was providing ULTRA transmissions to the Allied Commander-In-Chief, General Douglas MacArthur in Brisbane. ULTRA was the top secret classification of the encoded and encrypted enemy wireless transmissions intercepted and decrypted by the Allies. I write this at the request of Helen Kenny of Central Bureau (CB), World War 2. As an active veteran of our SIGINT, she was interested to know about my father and the connection between him and her Commanding Officer, Mic Sandford. Helen Kenny met neither of these men. Her valuable top secret work was confined to the double garage at the back of the CB Headquarters at 21 Henry Street, Ascot, where she was trucked with other specialist Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS) each day. I would like to thank Helen Kenny, and the other former SIGINT veterans who have kindly shared information with me. In particular, Vic Lederer, linguist and decryptor, who served with my father from 1941 in the Middle

East from 1941; Steve Mason, interceptor of the Japanese kana code, who served with my father from 1942 during the perilous period of Japanese aggression in the Pacific; and Jack

Fenton, gifted operator who took up where these World War 2 veterans left-off and helped set up the new age of post-war SIGINT out of Brisbane. And thank you also to Bob Hartley (retired), 7 Signals Electronic Warfare (EW) who with Jack has produced a wonderful history of 7 Signals Regiment EW going right back to 4W/T, new at the time my father's active

military service started. This 1940 Special Wireless Section, No.4 Wireless Section, 4W/T, became parent of our Australian Signals Intelligence Organisation to come. These wonderful and generous people, among their many interchangeable skills, are also great raconteurs. Thank you, also, to those veterans who have written books and memoirs about their WW2 SIGINT experiences.

This is a very small part of the SIGINT story and relates a little of how one introverted and unassuming Sydney engineer, Arthur Henry, technical innovator, came to share the wartime years in productive mateship with the extroverted and urbane Adelaide barrister, Mic Sandford, linguist and cryptographer.



Waiting out a German air bombardment of Athens, (L - R) Frank Kelton, Jackie Franklin and Arthur Henry on the hillside of the Acropolis, April 1941.

Arthur Henry was the last of six children and was born at Little Bay, Sydney in July, 1907. His mother was widowed when he was weeks old. The family struggled, and years of childhood were spent on their dairy farm in Kangaroo Valley, NSW. During World War 1, the eldest son, Harold, went off to the Great War and the two brothers corresponded across the world by written Morse code, some of which my own brother still has in a rusty tin.

As World War 1 ended, the family moved back to Sydney, to an 1890s beachfront cottage on Botany Bay. Harold returned in 1919 and got employment but was plagued by poor health. In 1919 the family suffered from the Spanish 'flu epidemic and three of the children were hospitalised—Arthur was too ill to travel in the horse-drawn ambulance and was taken in an emergency rescue by launch from Botany Bay across to The Coast Hospital, Little Bay.

All the family survived the 'flu epidemic. Much later, after the Second World War, my father raised his own family in that house, and I remember meeting there his popular wartime Commanding Officer, Jack Ryan. Also, I recall a large shed with a corrugated iron roof in the backyard. This was the 'radio shack' where the boy, Arthur Henry, had pursued with enthusiasm telegraphy and other sciences.

By 1921, my grandmother had bought the house on Botany Bay, and Arthur was travelling into the city to attend Sydney High School. Arthur Henry completed his Leaving Certificate there in 1925 by external examinations. He had joined the School Cadets. After matriculation, this young man successfully sat examination for a NSW Railways Cadetship—one of only two awarded that year. From 1934 to 1937, he was with the RAAF Reserve Cadets, Wireless Signals. His application shows relevant attainments and that he had general experience with radio equipment since 1924; Amateur Operator's Certificate of Proficiency, no.494, 4 April 1929; Experimental Licence no.3318-call sign VK2ZK; Diploma of Electrical Engineering (5 years), Sydney Technical College 1932; Student of Radio Engineering with the Marconi School of Wireless, Sydney; and was employed as Assistant Engineer Technical Section NSW Railways Signals Branch with various Departmental examinations completed. In 1938 he won The Crawford Cup as the best telegraphist in NSW and was awarded the Cup outright the following year. This popular competition was an initiative by the Senior Inspector, Mr Crawford, to raise standards. I still have this battered engraved Cup. By the end of 1939, Arthur Henry had enlisted with Eastern Command, AMF Signals. I recall asking my father why he went to war. He had a protected job, but someone had told him that his skills were needed for the war effort. By 1940, he was seconded to the AIF Seymour, Victoria. He arrived from Sydney with over 40 recruited 'hams'; and the two officers he was to work with had attracted other suitable Victorian recruits. The unit was limited to a maximum of 99 men as more than that would require another suitable officer—resources were stretched in wartime. In Seymour, Arthur Henry joined the two other Melbourne officers. They set up in Seymour the new unit by June 1940, 1 Special Wireless, soon to be renamed 4W/T.

The two Melbourne men had been serving part-time in 3 Div Sigs, Melbourne. Jack Ryan, appointed the Officer Commanding (OC), was a WW1 RAN Wireless Telegraphist veteran with a post-war career in broadcasting; the other, William (Bill) Hill, WW1 RAN veteran from Transport and Mercantile, was currently working in broadcasting. The younger Arthur Henry was the trained new generation technical professional. He was appointed Second in Command (2 IC). The Special Section required specific skills, high accuracy and initiative and the top secret purpose of No. 4 Special Wireless Section was to intercept, analyse and decode enemy wireless signals.

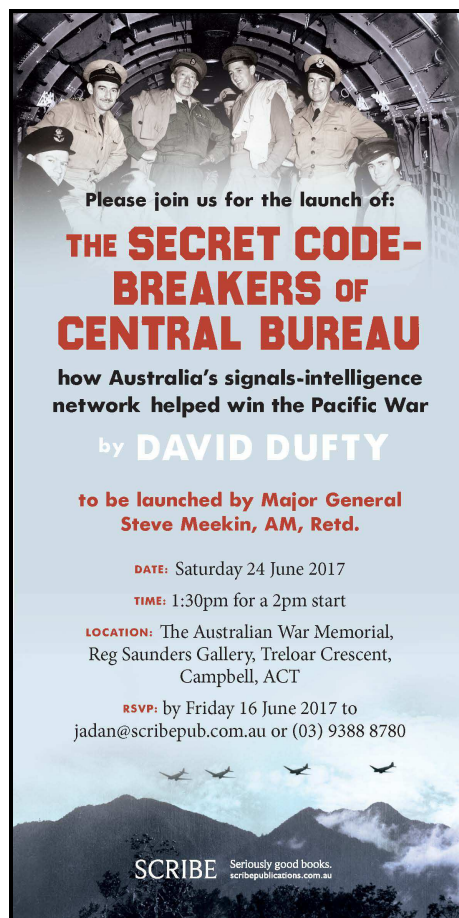
4 W/T marched out of Seymour on Christmas Day 1940. Christmas dinner was memorable only for being so meagre: reportedly, "one round of sausage, a bit of tomato and a lettuce leaf". On Boxing day, 4W/T left Sydney Harbour in an escorted convoy. Arthur Henry was aboard *Queen Mary*. These Second AIF knew they were off to the Middle East. The disembarkation port is not specified in my father's service record. The ships' record shows that the *Queen Mary* carried Arthur Henry to Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. There he and 4W/T transferred to the Dutch *Slamat* to Colombo. From Colombo to Port Tewfik, Egypt 4W/T travelled in a troopship convoy. Landed by barge, they entrained to their first sandy camp, El Amirya, for days of intense training. Then on to the big base at Ikingi Maryut, Egypt. Here, in spite of desert storms and supply difficulties, they assembled a range of specialised equipment and specialised transport. They trained on Kingsley, 109 and R101 receivers. They were expecting to leave for an "unknown destination", understood to be Greece. Two specifically trained linguists men were attached as Intelligence Operators (IOs). Mic Sandford was expected but not yet part of 4W/T. Arthur Henry, Jack Ryan and two sergeants undertook advanced training with the Royal Signals at Heliopolis. However, the Commanding Officer Jack Ryan was firm that his men were soldiers first and specialists second. This foresight pre-empted some of the combat difficulties ahead.

On 17 March 1941, Arthur Henry and 4W/T left camp for Alexandria. They boarded the British *Breconshire*, part of a large convoy for Piraeus, the port of Athens. The Section moved north and set up west of Mt Olympus, and important information was flowing to General Headquarters. The Germans came through from the north. The Allies fell back under the onslaught and 4W/T was bombed, machine-gunned and blitzed. It is telling that the official historian, Gavin Long, records that plans for Allied withdrawal were made even before the German army invaded. On 22 April, a signal arrived from Headquarters Anzac Command: *TOP SECRET Anzac Corps is withdrawing from Greece...embark your valuable personnel and equipment TONIGHT [sic] 22 April. Do your utmost to comply with this order.*

[This fascinating account from Therese will be continued in September Newsletter. H.K.]

CORRECTIONS

[In the last Newsletter (March) I saw with horror that I'd "ignored" the Official Secrets Act!!! This should have read I "signed" the Official Secrets Act. The cause: my bad writing which has worsened over the years. My patient step-son-in-law Bruce transcribes it for the computer. Sorry Bruce! H.K.]



As part of the CB Family you are asked to RSVP to Katy Denis on any of her contact details at the end of her President's Report. Thank you. [H.K.]