



THE O.S.S. SOCIETY, INC.

April, 2001



CIA to Commemorate OSS 60th Anniversary

In the Spring of 2002, CIA's Center for the Study of Intelligence (CSI) will join the OSS Society and Detachment 101 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Office of Strategic Services. The CIA Museum will host an exhibit of OSS historical artifacts, photographs, and memorabilia from CIA's historical collection. The collection contains many items given by OSS members including donations from Colonel William H. Pietsch, Jr., Al Matarazzi, and Sidney Wertheimer. General Donovan's medals were presented to the Agency in 1998 and will be displayed along with his WWI and WWII military accoutrements. Also, the Free Thai Group has donated historical photographs and personal memorabilia.

The CIA Museum's unique collection provides a tangible link to OSS/WWII origins of our nation's first intelligence agency. The exhibits give young CIA officers a better understanding of the craft of intelligence and the OSS legacy. While the CIA Museum is not open to the public, there is an outreach program which collaborates with the Presidential Libraries and the other museums around the country on intelligence exhibits.

Artifacts, photographs, or memorabilia donations may be made by contacting the CIA curator, Toni Hiley, CIA Museum, RM 4F50 OHB, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington D.C. 20505

Information on 60th Anniversary events will be available in later OSS newsletters

Special Forces Group Seeks OSS Vets' Help

The 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) is organizing a **Staff Ride** this Fall that focuses on unconventional warfare operations with the French Marquis during WWII.

Major Mark Seidler, Fort Bragg, is planning the **Staff Ride** and writes that the purpose is to gain valuable lessons learned from WWII warfare operations from the actual participants.

He is appealing to all OSS vets who may have participated in special ops in occupied France, or who helped



Maj. Gen. (Ret) John (Jack) Singlaub (left) and Col. (Ret) Richard S. (Rocky) Friedman, OSS veterans of both the ETO and CBI theaters are active members of the Capital Area Chapter (XI), Special Forces Association. They will be helping organize OSS participation in the upcoming Staff Ride.

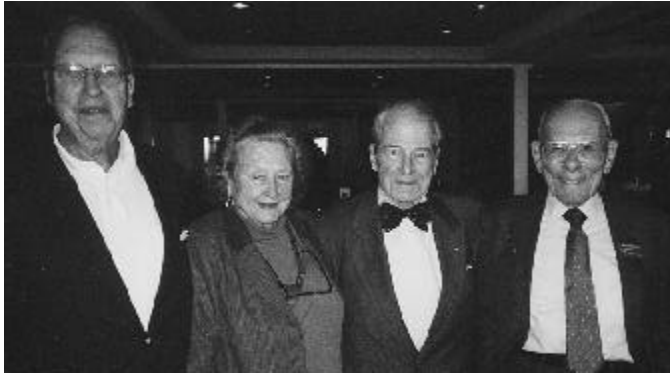
organize or support them, to contact him in the next month.

"Better insight on the planning and execution of these behind-the-line operations will provide a solid foundation for the renewed focus on unconventional warfare by the 3rd Special Forces Group," he writes.

The ride itinerary includes a visit to the OSS training site at Milton Hall in the UK; airborne 'infiltration' onto drop zones used by OG's in WWII. Once assembled on the ground, there will be a link-up with French Resistance veterans. Each day will focus on a particular element of the resistance—guerilla, auxiliary, underground—to learn lessons from veterans in the actual area of operations. The week will conclude with a visit to the Resistance Museum in Grenoble, France.

Seidler added that any assistance OSS vets can provide will be greatly appreciated by the soldiers in the Special Forces Group. "Our unit lineage is directly associated with unconventional warfare operations conducted by OSS. The **Staff Ride** will provide modern soldiers with a unique opportunity to learn from the past."

Please contact Major Seidler at 1147 Helmsey Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28304. His work number is (910)396-1445; Email seidlerm@soc.mil.



Reunion in Naples, Florida: At a Forum Club luncheon, OSS colleagues Thibault De St. Phalle, Betty McIntosh, Peter Karlow and Edwin Putzell got together to exchange memories of ETO and CBI experiences. (Betty spoke at the club meeting on Women in OSS.)

OSS Summer Social

Historic Gadsby's Tavern Ballroom on Cameron Street in Alexandria, Virginia, will be the setting for a gala summer lunch social by the OSS Society on Saturday, July 28. Rumor has it that George W. (Washington, that is) had a townhouse nearby on Kitt Street where he stayed on trips from Mt. Vernon. Since his own house didn't have a kitchen, he ate regularly at Gadsby's Tavern, which dates back to 1770.

Anne Mary Ingraham and James De Salvo are making arrangements for the party. The Ballroom is above the Club Room of American Legion Post 24. There is also a parking garage next door.

A highlight of the Social will be a panel of Special Forces VIPs who will trace OSS lineage to present day Special Forces.

Attention JEDS:

A military historian, Robert C. Thomas Jr., has requested information on Jedburgh Spencer Alexander, who served in London about the time of the Normandy invasion, and later was transferred to Catalina Island for training at the OSS facility.

OSSer Marion Barbara Munding Smith directed Thomas to the Society for further assistance. If you remember Spencer, drop a line to this newsletter or to Robert Thomas, 931 Powell Drive, Placentia, Calif. 92870.

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President's Spring Time Message

We are pleased to be able to bring you the spring issue of the Society's Newsletter. The feedback we have received on this new and improved format has been resoundingly positive. We owe editor Betty McIntosh a hearty "thank you" for breathing new life into this Society's and former VSS newsletter.

As noted below, the March 20 Annual Meeting of the Society's membership and Board saw the election of four new Directors: Alger (Ace) Ellis, Anne Mary Ingraham and Major General John Singlaub.

There was also reelection of seven directors whose terms expired in March. We wish to thank the departing directors William Corvo and James M. Symington for their service as well as Joseph Yager, outgoing treasurer, for all he has done to get the Society's finances in order.

Sadly, Director Marjorie Cline passed away within days of her election. We miss the loss of her friendship and the contributions she would have undoubtedly have made. The Society wishes to express deepest sympathy to her family.

The consensus expressed at the annual meeting stressed the necessity to modernize our computer information system; develop a national chapter structure; implement the oral history program; sponsor member events; expand membership; and enhance our financial base. Implementation of this program will be greatly assisted by your prompt and generous response for 2001 dues, and returning the questionnaire included in your dues notice.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mark Pretzat, President

Society Annual Meeting Elects New Board of Directors

The OSS Society's annual membership meeting, held March 17 in Arlington, Virginia at the Army/Navy Country Club, saw the election of members of the Board of Directors as its primary goal. The new or reelected Board members are **Alger Ellis**, Det. 101, SI; **Patricia Fagan**, daughter of Herb Avedon, MO/CBI; **Lee Houchins**, son of E.L. Houchins, R&A/CBI; **Anne Mary Ingraham**, London Motor Pool; **Rene Levy**, SO/CBI; **Edward V. O'Connor Jr.** whose father was in Commo/CBI; **Arthur Reinhardt**, SO/SI Intel teams, China theater; **Michael Shaheen**, son of John Shaheen, Special Projects, ETO/CBI; **General John Singlaub**, Jed, ETO/CBI; **Joseph Yager**, R&A, CBI.

Marjorie Cline, widow of Ray Cline, R&A, was also elected to the Board. Tragically, she died of a heart ailment March 20. She worked in cryptology during WWII. She maintained a publishing office until her death at 87.

Book Notes

OSS ComVets will be interested in the recent book *Secret Messages: Code Breaking and American Diplomacy* by **David Alvares**. (Kansas University Press)

In addition to historic aspects of the development of SIGNET, he discusses policy makers' attitudes toward signals intel, especially President Roosevelt who felt "... that radio intercepts and code breaking was a strange and arcane field that held little interest for him."



Ralph Vollone, OSSer from Flushing, N.Y. highly recommends a new book *Garbo: The Spy Who Saved D Day*, from The Public Record Office, in Surrey, UK. Copies are now on sale in American bookstores. Vollone says *Garbo* is Morale Operations and X2 at their best. It provides examples of how notional, false and real information of limited value to the enemy was developed and then fed to the Germans. The main value of *Garbo* was in the deception that provided cover for the D-Day invasion.

Rene Defourneaux has done it again! His new book *The Tracks of the Fox*, uncovers some of the secrets of wartime covert operations in both occupied France and Southeast Asia where he worked with Ho Chi Minh. Rene describes the suffering of his French comrades at the hands of the communists who unsuccessfully tried to take over France by force. In French Indo China, he describes war-time terrorism created by Ho Chi Minh in his rise to power.



Citadel On The Mountain. OSS Lineals will be interested in this book written by **Richard Wertime**, son of an OSS agent in China. The author's father, Ted Wertime, was trained by OSS as a hand-to-hand killer in the China Theater. The author describes his training as later reflected in the authoritarianism which the father continued in married life in ruling his children and wife.

Commo Help Needed for Sabotage Scenario

A writers' research group in New York has requested OSS help, especially Commo personnel, in supplying material for an upcoming novel by Ken Follett, set in France in 1944. In his story, the French Resistance will succeed in sabotaging land and telecommunication lines that connect Paris to Berlin, forcing the Germans to rely on radio-based telecom which can be intercepted by the Allies.

Mr. Follett needs any detailed info outlining the routes of land cables and technical details of switching equipment that connected the German high command to their forces in France. Maps, schematics, diagrams, written descriptions and memoirs would be valuable.

Anyone offering significant help with this research may receive a "thank you" in the acknowledgments section of Mr. Follett's novel, plus a signed copy when it is finished. Send your information to this Newsletter or directly to Dan Starer, Research for Writers, 59 West 59th Street, New York, N.Y. 10024.

Award To Author

Daniel C. Pinck, head of the New England OSS assembly, announces that the *Alexander MacDonald Intelligence Research Award* will go to Thomas Ensminger, whose encyclopedic book on Carpetbaggers will soon be available.

JED Memorial

American Jedburghs will be honored on Memorial Day, May 28, by a permanent plaque at the War Memorial atop Mt. Soledad in San Diego, Calif. A newly-constructed wall, where the plaque will be located, was donated by wartime colleagues in France and the Netherlands in appreciation for the contributions made by the American Jeds to those countries during World War II.

The Memorial Wall, overlooking the Pacific Ocean, was due in part, to the initiative and work of Jeds Emil Guegen and Max Gurney.

For further information write Mike Heneley, 2727 DeAnga Road, San Diego, CA 92109; Tel (619)804-4912.

What has happened to Antoinette?

It happened fifty-six years ago in June, 1945, in Kunming, China. **Frank Chisari**, assigned to OSS radar maintenance, was driving from the Kunming airfield to OSS headquarters when he stopped his Jeep at a train crossing. As the train rattled by he heard a splash in a nearby rice paddy. On the edge of the paddy near the train track he found a bundle which he recovered. He found he was holding a baby, whose dazed eyes stared at him and whose right cheek was slit by a knife.

Frank was able to get the baby to a Catholic hospital for first aid treatment. The OSS Kunming compound personnel raised money to help with medical bills, clothing, and later registered her at a neighboring Kun Wei orphanage. Here Chisari visited her daily. Doctors estimated her age at about two years. Frank called her Antoinette, after his wife.

At war's end, Chisari came back to his home in New York but spent the next three years trying to get proper papers that would permit the baby to join his family. With the help of Madame Chang Kai-shek and our own State Department, the *New York Daily News* assigned a team to rescue Antoinette from the orphanage just weeks before China fell to the communists.

Almost miraculously, they were able to get Antoinette out of war-torn Kunming, to Hong Kong and across the ocean to what would be her future home in New York. Antoinette was greeted by a jubilant Chisari family. But her life from the day she arrived in 1949 has been a mystery to many OSS colleagues who worked with Chisari in



This drawing of Antoinette was done by the noted artist William Arthur Smith who was serving in Kunming with MO. Some of the scars are still visible where she was thrown from the train.

Kunming. In 1961, Antoinette, described as a slender, dark-haired Chinese girl, received her high school diploma at age 18 from Herrick Senior High School, Herrick, Long Island.

What happened to this Chinese "waif" since graduation? And where is she today? Anyone who might have a clue, please check in via this newsletter.

Memories of Nuremberg

Now that I am fully retired, I have time to reminisce about the good old days. When we started the VSS, I was the secretary, working with James Donovan, and Rose Suel, in the offices of Russell Livermore and Albert Gallatin Lanier.

I was in Communications and R&A, and finally left with General Donovan and others in the OSS to become the center of the American Prosecution staff at the Nuremberg trial.

At Nuremberg, I was Chief of the Field Branch in the Documentation Division, and almost all the people I worked with were OSSers. To me, Nuremberg and OSS are intertwined. I visualize the faces, but I mentally stumble on the names, even though it seems it was just yesterday that we were all together.

I don't think anyone could have had a more wonder-

ful relationship than we had at OSS. Our organization is indelibly etched in my mind. (Excerpts from a letter from **Marvin Flisser**, Monroe Tpk, N.J.)

Upcoming

Dorothy Ringlesbach of the OSS Commo chapter writes a moving account, as remembered by her husband, a carpetbagger, of Violette Szabo, an SOE agent murdered by the Nazis.

Edwin (Ned) Putzell, one-time Donovan law partner and the Generals's OSS aide, remembers 109 in the next Newsletter.

Remembering 109

By Julia Child



When World War II broke out in 1941 everyone I knew—all my old friends and college classmates wanted to help out, and all of us who could manage it went to Washington to offer our services. I decided I should be “patriotic” and first offered myself to the Army and then the Navy, the WAACS and the WAVES. Standing my fullest height, I was refused. Too tall.

Relieved, I determined to find a job on my own, no help from anyone. And I found one, a miserable low-class position in a tiny bare office where I did nothing but type little white cards. Disgusted, I finally, through friends in the Office of Strategic Services, managed to get an appointment there.

Although I was a college graduate, and had two years experience in New York working in public relations, I had little to offer but an eagerness to serve. However, I was efficient on the typewriter, and with great good fortune there was an opening in the private intelligence files of the Director himself, General Donovan. Little white cards again—this was long before the computer age—but I was there at the seat of power.

It was a small office with the General himself and his secretary at one end, an adjacent office for his No. 2, and at the other end a conference room. It was an informal and extremely busy place, with officials of all types continually coming and going, either conferring with the General, or meeting with others in the conference room. Our

file room, with its always open door, was in between the General and the conferences, and we were constantly aware of who was where and what was going on. We were also aware of the General himself since he constantly passed by our door as he saw people in or out of his office and when in it, his door was usually open and we could overhear an occasional loud remark or command.

What was he like, General William J, “Wild Bill” Donovan? How to describe him? Of course my position was of the most menial—an obscure file clerk, a small cat in the presence of the king. He dealt with my boss, not me, and I had no social contact with him whatsoever. He was always “Sir” or “General.”

Far from an imposing figure, he was of medium height, a vigorous 5 feet 8, if that, with rather sparse graying hair, and he habitually wore a somewhat rumpled gray suit. It was his pleasant rather rosy face and especially his intensely alert blue eyes that I particularly remember. It was said that he was one of those rare rapid readers who could glance down a page and it was absorbed. He obviously had a special magic in human relations since he was able to attract remarkably able people to his cause, who remained ever enthusiastic, loyal and faithful to him.

After leaving his office for the Far East, I saw him one more time, reviewing the OSS staff outside our headquarters in Chungking, China. He stood there in rather rumpled fatigues, surrounded by his staff, his pant legs stuck haphazardly into his laced boots. He was pinning medals on deserving recipients, looking at them intently with his unique blue eyes, smiling at them, and shaking their hands after he saluted him.

My contacts with the General were certainly minor, but his aura has always remained with me.

Spy Drive, Anyone?

If any OSSer and family will be visiting Washington, D.C. during the summer, check in with the latest craze: A two-and-a-half hour Saturday tour of the Nation’s Capital spy sites, including the Georgetown home of one William “Wild Bill” Donovan!

Run by the non-government **Center for Counterintelligence and Security Studies**, the tour leaders point out famous dead drops, signal sites, meetings that all took place in the most unassuming spots around town. Along the way you learn about people involved in espionage by

the people who run the tour: former CIA operators, KGB officers, FBI men! Men who recruited spies, paid them, prosecuted them!

For more information, call 1-866-SPYDRIVE. You can use your right name. It’s all legitimate. People like Professor Hayden Peake, (author of *Soviet Espionage and the OSS*), David Major, onetime White House director of CI, or Oleg Kalugin, former Major General in the KGB, are CI Center staff members with fine credentials!

In Memoriam

Bruce Anderson, 81, died February 9, 2001 in Houston, Texas. He served in the Army Air Corps and OSS during the war.

Emanuel S. Athanus, 94, died January 9 in Alexandria, VA. During World War II he was a consultant for the OSS and organized war relief efforts. Later he was a broadcaster for the Voice of America. He was born in Rhodes and produced VOA broadcasts in Greek.

Leroy Benoit died November 4 in Cape Cod. He was 87. Survivors include his wife, Edith Benoit, two children, four grand children and two great grand children. Mr. Benoit studied at Tufts, Harvard and the Sorbonne receiving a PhD from Harvard. Because of his fluency in languages, he served in the OSS during WW II, making parachute jumps into German-held France. He received French and British decorations, as well as the Purple Heart.

Ann Willets Boyd died November 21, 2000 in Sewickley, Pa. She served in Algiers in 1943-44 and was the first woman to become an administrative officer trusted with the important task of packing parachutes and supplies for agents bound for occupied France. Fluent in French, she later served in Marseilles, Caserta, Bari, Paris and London.

She received a letter of appreciation from General Donovan, stating that her efforts contributed greatly to the part played by OSS in the successful prosecution of the war. "OSS meant a great deal to my wife," Mr. Boyd writes. "We used to enjoy immensely the reunions in Washington, meeting old friends."

Phillip H. Chadbourne, 84, died March 20, 2000 in San Francisco. He parachuted behind enemy lines in France as an OSS/Jedburgh to fight with the French resistance. He was a foreign service officer, retired, and served as U.S. Consul General in Nice, France, and at the U.S. Embassy in Paris. (Note: Last Newsletter misspelled Mr. Chadbourne's name and incorrectly listed his OSS assignment.)

Nancy Cherry, 96, retired as a Russian translator in 1971 from the NSA. She died February 8, 2001, at Sibley Hospital in Washington, D.C. after a stroke. During the war she went to work for the War Department and transferred to the OSS.

Charles "Ben" Crisman, 85, died in Conestoga, Pa. while visiting his son. A stringer for the Associated Press before the war, he later was recruited by the OSS.

After training, he was sent to London to work with British Intelligence and went into France before the liberation. After the war he worked for the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* before starting his own public relations firm. His son, Ben Jr. wrote that his father was "most proud of the OSS and held it close to his heart."

Willie-May Connick Hennings of Bryans Road, Maryland, died December 9, 2000. Willie-May served in OSS during the war

Joyce Hagen Macy, 81, died of congestive heart failure January 16, 2001, in Evergreen, Colorado. Mrs. Macy, a Smith College graduate, worked for the OSS in Washington during WW II, revising maps used for Allied invasions. She was also a nurses aide for the Red Cross.

Cord Meyer Jr., 80 died March 13 in Washington, D.C. Meyer was a figure central to many of CIA's covert operations during the Cold War. He was recruited by Allen Dulles, and carried on many of the OSS traditions of covert warfare. He was later honored by CIA as a "trailblazer" in 1997, and was awarded three Distinguished Intelligence Medals.

Eleanor Scott Morse, 96, died July 31, 2000, in Framingham, Ma. Her father was Colonel Frank Scott, chairman of the War Industries Board during WWI. Miss Morse became aide to General William Donovan in Washington at OSS headquarters during World War II. She was born in Mentor, Ohio. and was graduated from Oberlin University before beginning a career with the federal government that would last for 40 years. She was a life member of the OSS Society.

Ed "Pappy" Papierski, a radio operator with OSS whose code name was GREASER has died. His life long friend, Frank Martell writes: "Our first meeting was in Croatia in 1944. Ed had jumped in with the Partisans, where he rescued our downed airmen. We were later stationed in Belgrade with the American Mission to Tito. After the war he joined CIA until retirement to Moses Lake, Washington, where he died." His last words to his friends: "Just tell my buddies it was a good life."

Roy Kirby Rickerson, 82, died February 11, 2001, in Alexandria, La. He retired as Colonel, US Army, having served as member of OSS in World War II in Europe. He is survived by his wife, Alice Cruse Rickerson.



In Memoriam

Donald Leroy Rider, 82, died in Los Angeles January 23, 2001. He joined OSS in Cairo and was assigned as OSS Mission Chief, Yugoslavia, operating behind German lines. Later he went to Italy where he conducted OSS operations there. In 1978 he received a medal from Marshall Tito for his work in Yugoslavia. He later joined CIA, working with counter insurgency operations in Asia and Latin America His home was in Prescott, Arizona.

Adolph W. Schmidt of Ligonier, Pa., who was in OSS during the war, died this year at his home.

James Joseph Smith, 88, a physician who worked with the Veterans Administration as Director of Nuclear Medicine, died of cancer in Washington, D.C., September, 2000. Dr. Smith served in the Army during WW II as chief of medical intelligence for OSS in Europe. This, in addition to being Chief of OSS medical services in Germany where he trained troops to investigate chemical warfare sites.

Alfred C. Ulmer, 83, died after stroke, June 22, 2000, in Virginia Beach, Virginia. A cum laude graduate of Princeton, Ulmer served with the OSS in the Middle East and Europe during WW II. He was in charge of agents gathering information about the Nazi military in North Africa and the Balkans. He later joined CIA and, in retirement worked as an investment banker.

Howard M. Wiedmann, 86, a retired Department of State intelligence officer specializing in Soviet economic/strategic affairs, died in Washington, D.C., August 31, 2000. He served during WW II in the Navy and was assigned to the OSS as chief of the Soviet industrial and military supply division.

(Errata: In last Newsletter, **W. Scudder Georgia's** name was misspelled George. He was an OSS radio operator in WW II.)

Dillon Ripley Dies:

Keeper of the Castle

Another famous OSS colleague, S. Dillon Ripley II, died March 12 in Washington, D.C. at age 77. He was also an explorer, an ornithologist, and the man who led the Smithsonian Institution through an era of sweeping changes and expansion as its Secretary at the Smithsonian "Castle" from 1964-1984.

Ripley believed that a museum "should reach out to people." He was a major influence in the transformation of the Smithsonian's symbolic image from that of a bastion of science and culture for the serious minded to a bright, lively, and free-wheeling center of education, amusement and entertainment.

To his colleagues who served with him in the CBI theater, he was one of the brilliant OSS scientists with area knowledge coordinating British and American intelligence efforts in SEAC. A famous ornithologist, he spent his spare time, when in Ceylon, bird hunting. He often sequestered bird's bodies in the large map cases in the Kandy Hq. Ops room.

Friends recall that on one occasion General Donovan visited headquarters and wished to inspect a particular area of operations. When the aide pulled out the map case drawer, the General was pelted with bodies of tropical birds Ripley had carefully filed for future reference.



The late S. Dillon Ripley II and wife, Mary, on an ornithological trip abroad, one of many that took them around the world in search of rare bird specimens.

Ripley met his wife-to-be in Kunming, Mary Livingston Eddy, an OSS reports officer. They were married after the war in Washington and had three daughters, June Dillon Miller, Rosemary Ripley and Sylvia Addison. Mary died in 1996.

Ripley was awarded the Presidential Medal Of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor.

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OSS members are asked to send news items,
obit notices, wartime memories to
Newsletter Editor,
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42485 Cochran Mill Rd.
Leesburg, VA 20175.

Next Newsletter Deadline
July 1, 2001

Address Changes

S. Peter Karlow has left Atherton, CA for his new home at 517 Parkwood Lane, Naples, FL, 34103.

Maureen L. Patterson has moved back to 247 Reeds Landing, Springfield, MA, 01109.

Betty Lussier, who spent her OSS days in North Africa and France, has moved from New York to 712 Muskingum Ave., Pacific Palisades, CA 90272.