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D/CIA POMPEO ADDRESSES CIRA LUNCHEON

On Wednesday, May 10th, DCIA Pompeo addressed a crowd of 350 CIA retirees and their spouses at the quarterly Central Intelligence Retiree Association Luncheon. The DCIA arrived early and spent some time visiting tables and talking with Annuitants. During his speech, he thanked the former officers for their years of service and reminded them that this was a room filled with incredible experience and intelligence. After a lively questions and answer segment, he asked that they not be silent, that they reach out to him and current officers they know to offer up their insight, advice and expertise.



DCIA Pompeo converses with Central Intelligence Retiree Association members and receives a plaque from past Director of the DO John Bennett, CIRA President Roger Campbell and CIRA Board Member Tony D.



CIA HONORS ITS FALLEN IN ANNUAL MEMORIAL CEREMONY

On Monday, 24 May 2017 the Central Intelligence Agency held its annual memorial ceremony to pay tribute to the men and women of CIA who have died in the line of duty – courageous Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Eight stars were added to the Memorial Wall this year.

CIA dedicated the Memorial Wall with 31 stars in 1974 to honor those who had fallen since the Agency's founding in 1947. There are now 125 stars on the wall.

Three of the stars added on Monday pay tribute to the lives of David W. Bevan, Darrell A. Eubanks, and John S. Lewis. They came to the Agency by way of the Smokejumpers – brave firefighters who parachute into remote areas to combat wildfires. CIA has benefited from the service of many former Smokejumpers, including for its Air America program. All three men died when their plane crashed while carrying out a mission in Laos in 1961.

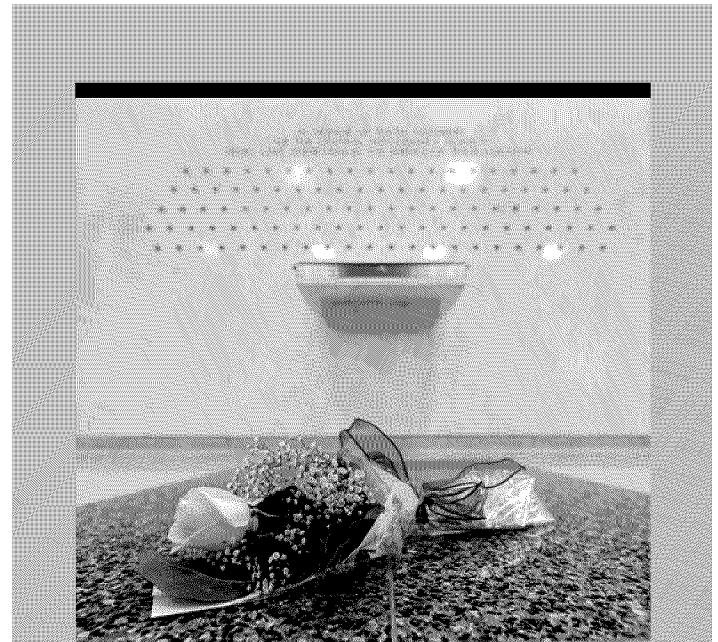
A fourth star was added to honor Mark S. Rausenberger, an Agency officer of eighteen years, who died while serving overseas. The circumstances of his death remain classified.

The names of the other four individuals honored with newly-carved stars this year remain classified.

In his remarks to those assembled before the Memorial Wall, Director Pompeo said, "there are now 125 stars on our Memorial Wall, each representing a life that is dear to us, and will be for all time. We remain forever devoted to them, as they were to us. And we will strive to make them proud of us, as we are of them."

During the ceremony, Director Pompeo presented the families of the fallen officers with a marble replica of their loved one's star.

This year marks the 30th annual memorial ceremony. The ceremony began in 1987 and is attended each year by hundreds of employees, retirees, and family members of those who died in service with the CIA.



“There are now 125 stars on our Memorial Wall, each representing a life that is dear to us, and will be for all time. We remain forever devoted to them, as they were to us. And we will strive to make them proud of us, as we are of them.”



GINA HASPEL SELECTED TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CIA

CIA Director Mike Pompeo on 2 February 2017 announced that President Trump has selected Gina Haspel to be the new Deputy Director of CIA.

“Gina is an exemplary intelligence officer and a devoted patriot who brings more than 30 years of Agency experience to the job. She is also a proven leader with an uncanny ability to get things done and to inspire those around her,” said Director Pompeo. “We are fortunate that someone of her intellect, skill, and experience will be our Deputy Director. I know she will do an outstanding job, and I look forward to working with her closely in the years ahead.”

Ms. Haspel is a career intelligence officer, having joined the CIA in 1985. She has extensive overseas experience and served as Chief of Station in several of her assignments.

In Washington, she has held numerous senior leadership positions at CIA, including as Deputy Director of the National Clandestine Service, Deputy Director of the National Clandestine Service for Foreign Intelligence and Covert Action, Chief of Staff for the Director of the National Clandestine Service, and in the Counterterrorist Center.

Ms. Haspel is the recipient of numerous awards including the George H. W. Bush Award for excellence in counterterrorism; the Donovan Award; the Intelligence Medal of Merit; and the Presidential Rank Award, the most prestigious award in the federal civil service.

Ms. Haspel is the first female career CIA officer to be named Deputy Director.

STATEMENT BY CIA DIRECTOR MIKE POMPEO ON THE CONFIRMATION OF COURTNEY SIMMONS ELWOOD AS CIA GENERAL COUNSEL

“I am pleased that Courtney Simmons Elwood has been confirmed by the Senate on 6 June 2017 to be CIA’s next General Counsel. Courtney is a tremendously accomplished attorney with experience in both private practice and public service.

She was most recently a partner in the firm Kellogg, Hansen, Todd, Figel & Frederick, PLLC. She joined the firm in 1996 after clerking for Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist on the Supreme Court of the United States and for Judge J. Michael Luttig on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. From 2001 to 2007, she returned to the government to serve in a number of positions, including

Associate Counsel to the President, Deputy Counsel to the Vice President, and Deputy Chief of Staff and Counselor to the Attorney General. She is a 1994 graduate of Yale Law School, and a 1990 summa cum laude graduate of Washington and Lee University.

I am thrilled that Courtney is joining our team, and I know she is excited to be working with us. We look forward to her swearing-in and first day on the job.”



CIA ESTABLISHES KOREA MISSION CENTER

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has established a Korea Mission Center to harness the full resources, capabilities, and authorities of the Agency in addressing the nuclear and ballistic missile threat posed by North Korea.

The new Mission Center draws on experienced officers from across the Agency and integrates them in one entity to bring their expertise and creativity to bear against the North Korea target.

A veteran CIA operations officer has been selected as the new Assistant Director for Korea and presides over

the Mission Center. The new Mission Center will work closely with the Intelligence Community and the entire U.S. national security community.

“Creating the Korea Mission Center allows us to more purposefully integrate and direct CIA efforts against the serious threats to the United States and its allies emanating from North Korea,” said CIA Director Mike Pompeo. “It also reflects the dynamism and agility that CIA brings to evolving national security challenges.”

A MESSAGE ON LEAKS FROM OUR COUNTERINTELLIGENCE CHIEF

Our obligation to protect national security information and the work of the Agency follows us into retirement. Our oath of office and the secrecy agreements that we sign are binding for life. Unauthorized disclosures of sensitive information pose serious risks to the Agency’s mission, and retirees are not immune from this concern.

Annuitants need to be mindful of efforts by the press to draw them into discussions regarding leaks. Even a seemingly trivial conversation could be construed as confirmation of improperly disclosed information.

We are here to help you honor your oath. Refer all press inquiries to the Agency’s Office of Public Affairs. Likewise, ensure that you submit all intelligence-related materials you intend to publish to the Publications Review Board. Help us protect classified information, our work, and our currently-serving officers. We owe it to ourselves, each other, and the American people to honor our commitments to national security.



UNVEILING ONE OF CIA MUSEUM'S MOST POIGNANT ARTIFACTS FROM SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

On March 17, 2017 Deputy Director for Talent Wilson C. officially unveiled one of CIA Museum's most poignant artifacts. It is a gym bag recovered from Flight 93 which crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001. The bag is tattered and torn— its Flight 93 luggage tag still attached.

Passengers and crew on Flight 93 knew about the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center and Pentagon. They rallied in an attempt to overpower the hijackers and keep them from reaching their target. The plane crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania just after 10am, and all aboard died in the crash.

The courage and valor of the Flight 93 passengers and crew remains an inspiration. On the first anniversary of the September 11th attacks, then-President Bush described their decision to fight back together against the hijackers as “the most vivid symbol” of American unity during the attacks and their aftermath. Just 15 days after 9/11, CIA's first team touched down in Afghanistan; they were also the very first American presence in the warzone. In conjunction with military and local partners, CIA took the fight to Al-Qa'ida and uprooted them from this critical safe haven before the year was out.

The gym bag belonged to Deora Bodley, the youngest passenger aboard Flight 93. A junior studying French and psychology at Santa Clara University, Bodley loved children and volunteered with many charity groups, including the Special Olympics, a local animal shelter, and the San Diego Zoo. Aspiring to become a child psychologist, she was a peer counselor to troubled teens and tutored in an afterschool program. Bodley was visiting in New Jersey and was scheduled to return home to California on another flight. Wanting to get back to friends and family as soon as possible, she took a standby seat on Flight 93.



Gym bag from Flight 93

Bodley's gym bag was donated to the CIA Museum by her mother, who supports CIA by briefing Career Analyst Program (CAP) classes at the Flight 93 National Memorial. Borza's talks, and the inclusion of her daughter's gym bag in the CIA Museum collection, serve as an ongoing reminder to Agency officers of the human cost of terrorism and the need to be ever vigilant to preempt, disrupt, and defeat those who wish to do us harm.

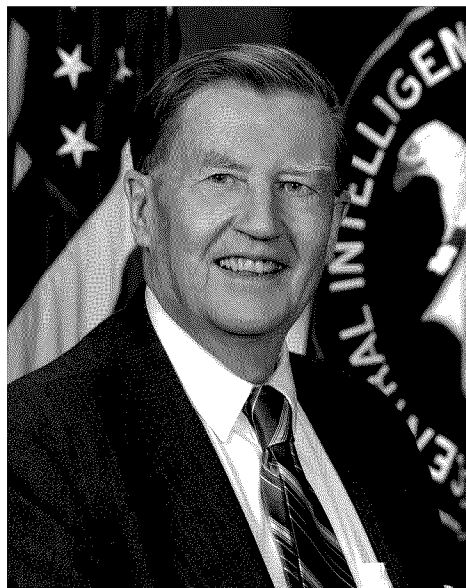
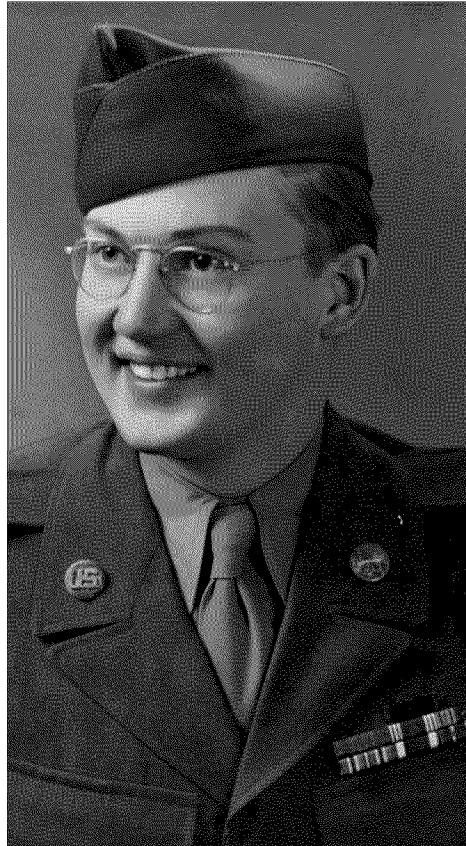
The gym bag is currently on display in the 1D Corridor in the Original Headquarters Building. It is located just outside the entrance to the museum's Afghan Gallery, along with 9/11 artifacts from the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.



THE HISTORY- MAKER: REMEMBERING AMBASSADOR MONTGOMERY

Ambassador Hugh Montgomery was one of the greatest icons of the intelligence profession and one of the greatest American heroes of our time. From OSS commando, to legendary Cold War case officer, to US Ambassador, it's hard to imagine a more storied or accomplished career than Hugh Montgomery's—for an intelligence professional or for anyone else:

- As an OSS commando in World War II, Hugh parachuted into Normandy ahead of the Allied invasion force.
- As one of the first Americans to enter the Buchenwald concentration camp, he saw newly liberated inmates tear down a black SS banner and present it to him in gratitude for their freedom.
- Below the streets of postwar Berlin, Hugh worked with the legendary Bill Harvey in supervising the construction of a tunnel that tapped into Soviet and East German communication lines, yielding an enormous trove of East Bloc messages.
- While in Moscow, he helped handle Colonel Oleg Penkovsky, the source of pivotal information during both the Berlin and Cuban Missile crises.



- And as a Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations in the late 1980s, Hugh countered Soviet exploitation of the UN Secretariat, particularly Moscow's efforts to disseminate propaganda and conduct espionage in the United States.

Hugh was one of our nation's silent warriors, carrying on the OSS ethos of consummate skill, remarkable bravery, and quiet humility. He was present for the entire modern history of American intelligence, from its origins in the wartime Office of Strategic Services (OSS) to the creation of the CIA. His story is woven into the very fabric of this Agency.

The recent passing of Hugh Montgomery has left a profound impact on the Agency; for those who knew and worked with him personally, and for those who have only known him through legend.

In memory of the man who was literally the epitome of the fabled ideal OSS recruit – “a Ph.D who can win a bar fight” – we'd like to share with you some of the exploits of the legendary Ambassador Montgomery.

The Glorious Amateurs

Hugh Montgomery had been studying at Harvard University to become a professor of languages—his mother's profession—when WWII broke out. He left Harvard to join the Army in 1942.

Hugh's command of German helped him become one of General William “Wild Bill” Donovan's “Glorious

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Amateurs” – a phrase Donovan used to describe his fellow OSS officers. Hugh used his language ability to excellent advantage in Germany and Austria by claiming to be the son of German parents who had emigrated to South America—a cover story supported by his fluent Spanish.

Once, while hunting down war criminals, Hugh was given the name and address of a German baron and senior Nazi official in Munich. A butler answered the door to find a couple of grungy GIs and told them the baron was not receiving visitors.

“I do hate to interfere with the baron’s schedule,” Hugh replied in perfect German, “but the baron will receive us now.” Moments later, the baron was in the back of Hugh’s Jeep en route to being locked up.

From Spy to Scholar to Spy

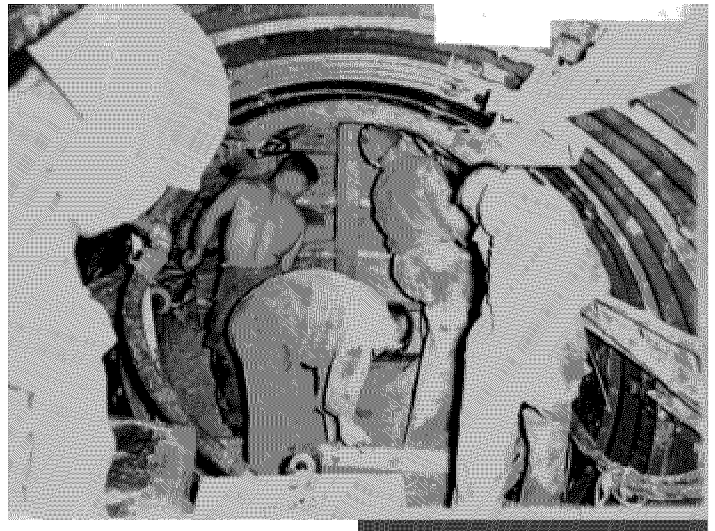
After the war, Hugh’s OSS supervisor, Richard Helms (who would later become DCI), urged him to join the newly established CIA. Hugh decided instead to go back to Harvard and finish his language degrees on the GI Bill. With fluency in eight languages and a working knowledge in several more, he earned his Bachelor’s magna cum laude, along with a Master’s and PhD, before joining the Harvard faculty.

Hugh eventually followed Helms’ advice, entering on duty at the Agency in January 1953.

Ambassador Montgomery would spend 24 years of his 50+ year Agency career overseas. He served as Chief of Station and Deputy Chief of Station in several Eastern and Western European countries. But his first six years as a CIA officer were in Berlin before the Wall went up—a city wide open for espionage and the perfect proving ground for a young case officer.

The Berlin Tunnel

During the Cold War, monitoring and thwarting the Soviet Union’s influence worldwide was the top priority of the CIA. Berlin stood on the front lines of the superpower conflict. The East German capital was the center of a communications network connecting key European nodes and extending well into Russia. Soviet telephone and telegraph communications between Moscow, Warsaw, and Bucharest were routed through the city.



Excavating Berlin Tunnel.

By the early 1950s the Soviets had shifted from radio to land line telephones for most military traffic, transmitting both encrypted messages and nonsecure voice communications. CIA assessed that tapping the underground cables could be done securely and with little notice. Thus the Berlin Tunnel operation (aka Operation Gold) was born.

Hugh was not immediately read into the Berlin Tunnel operation, but was told by CIA Base Chief Bill Harvey to find sources with knowledge of the East German landline system. Along with maverick case officer Walter O’Brien, Hugh assembled a network of assets that reached deep into the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications. Without those crucial sources, there would have been no tunnel.

Once the tunnel was built and the tap installed, Hugh’s job was to take delivery of the tapes used to record the intercepts and ship them to Washington for exploitation. The Berlin Tunnel operation would last nearly a year before the Soviets shut it down in April 1956.

During that time, CIA and our British partners were able to record 50,000 reels of intercepts covering some 450,000 conversations. Translators worked full-time on transcribing the recordings into English until 1958—a landmark accomplishment made possible by Hugh and a small team of exceptional intelligence officers.

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The Powder-Room Caper

Hugh's remarkable success in Berlin led to his appointment as Deputy Chief of Station in Eastern Europe, when tensions with the Soviet Union were at their highest. Hugh quickly mastered the elaborate tradecraft methods required to operate in hostile Cold War environments. Personal contact with assets was virtually impossible. Dead drops were essential.

It was during this time that Hugh was involved in a caper involving one of the most valuable assets in Agency history: Soviet GRU Colonel Oleg Penkovsky.



Oleg Penkovsky.

The US Ambassador threw a Fourth of July party at his residence, and Hugh was invited. He wasn't there to mingle, however. Penkovsky planned to leave a package for Hugh during the celebration. The only catch: Hundreds of Soviets would also be in attendance.

The plan was for Penkovsky to leave the package inside the wall of a toilet's flush tank at the residence for Hugh to retrieve. Simple, quick, and efficient. Except things didn't go so smoothly.

When Hugh entered the bathroom to get the package, he realized the tank wasn't a traditional, modern toilet, but rather an old-fashioned, European tank that was affixed high up on the wall and not easily reachable. With few options, Hugh decided to climb up on the wooden toilet seat to try and reach inside the tank. He was barely tall enough, but was able to stick his hand inside. Suddenly, there was a terrible cracking noise as the seat broke and splintered beneath him. Hugh quickly felt around for the package, but it wasn't there. It had slid down to the bottom of the tank and he couldn't reach it.

Unsure what to do now, Hugh eyed the sink, which clearly was not designed for people to climb on. It was his only option. Up he went, and sure enough, he could reach the tank. He felt around the bottom of the tank and found the package, but as he lifted his soaking wet arm, the sink upon which he was precariously balanced started coming away from the wall. He jumped down in a hurry and grabbed the

sink before it crashed to the floor. Hugh managed to slip out of the bathroom without attracting attention. He found his wife, and they made a hasty retreat, dripping wet arm and all.

At the next Embassy staff meeting, the Ambassador said he wanted to know the name of the Russian S.O.B. who trashed his wife's powder room.

During the Berlin Crisis of 1961, when Moscow issued an ultimatum to the Western powers to evacuate the city, Hugh received a report from Penkovsky

advising that Khrushchev would back down if the Allies stood firm—which proved to be the case. Hugh personally translated and encrypted the entire message and sent it to the White House through CIA Director Allen Dulles. President Kennedy expressed his gratitude for Hugh's work.

A Message from Italy

Hugh's mastery of clandestine tradecraft is certainly one of the elements that made him such an extraordinary officer, but it is only part of the story. Human intelligence is very much a social endeavor. Personality, character, and charisma help forge lasting relationships. Hugh made a lot of close friends over the years, including important figures whose personal ties could, on occasion, be of service to our country.

In 1985, a plane carrying the terrorists who had hijacked the cruise ship Achille Lauro was forced by US fighters to land at a NATO airbase in Italy. A tense standoff ensued between Italian military police and US Special Forces over custody of the terrorists. Ultimately, the Italians apprehended the hijackers.

But Rome was upset over how the episode had been handled and wanted to convey a message to President Reagan through a mutually trusted and respected intermediary. Word went out that only one man would be allowed to receive it: Hugh Montgomery.

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Flying by Concorde to Paris and then by Italian President Francesco Cossiga's official plane to Rome, Hugh met with Cossiga away from the limelight in an aide's suburban apartment and was asked to write down a verbatim text of the message, which remains classified to this day. It was sent to Secretary of State Shultz, who relayed it to the White House. And yet again, Hugh earned the thanks of a grateful President.

Spy Against Spy

Of course, not everyone Hugh encountered on the job became a close friend. While serving in Western Europe, he received a phone call from Philip Agee, the notorious Agency turncoat who exposed the identities of hundreds of our officers. Agee demanded to meet with him and threatened to "destroy" Hugh if he refused.

Hugh's response was direct, succinct, and well within the capabilities of an OSS commando. "If I could get my hands on you," he said, "I would gladly wring your neck, so I guess that makes us even."

Mr. Ambassador

In 1981—after serving as National Intelligence Officer for Western Europe and receiving the Distinguished Intelligence Medal from CIA Director Bill Casey—President Reagan appointed Hugh to direct State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research.

Four years later, Hugh was given the rank of Ambassador—a rare honor for an Agency officer—and was asked by his friend and former Deputy Director of CIA, General Vernon Walters, to serve as his deputy at the United Nations. Hugh vastly improved intelligence support to the US Mission, establishing the close relationship that endures to this day.

As Hugh's UN tour was coming to an end in 1989, so too was the Cold War. In December 1991—the very month the Soviet Union ceased to exist—CIA Director Bob Gates appointed Ambassador Montgomery to be his Special Assistant for Foreign Intelligence Relationships.

An important legacy of Hugh's pioneering work was to set precedents for the sharing of US intelligence with UN agencies, especially war crimes tribunals. Having brought Nazis to justice some fifty years earlier, Hugh ensured that the international community had the information needed to indict those who committed atrocities during the violent breakup of Yugoslavia.

His efforts also laid the groundwork for the massive expansion of information sharing and joint operations with our foreign partners in the wake of the September 11th terrorist attacks.



Amb. Hugh Montgomery receiving the Donovan Award from then-CIA Director Brennan, OSS Society Dinner, 2015.

A Legacy Like No Other

After a lifetime in intelligence – serving under OSS Chief General "Wild Bill" Donovan and 20 CIA Directors – Hugh understood the Agency better than almost anyone. That's why former CIA Director Michael

Hayden chose Hugh to be the Director of the DCIA History Project in 2007. Hugh made profound contributions to the Agency's historical record, drawing from his wide experience from the beaches of Normandy to a post-9/11 world.

In 2014, Hugh was awarded the Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal, the Director's Award for Distinguished Service, and the Intelligence Community Seal Medallion. He retired from the CIA that spring, after 63 years of service.

Retired at the age of 90, Hugh spent his last years mentoring the younger generation of Intelligence officers. He also enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles and word jumbles, and acting as chairman of the OSS Society.

Hugh Montgomery passed away on April 6, 2017, after a brief illness. His beloved wife of 66 years, Annamarie, passed away a few years prior, but he is survived by his loving daughter and devoted son.

Ambassador Montgomery was a pioneering intelligence officer and a great American; one of the finest, most talented individuals to ever join the Clandestine Service. He faced risk and ambiguity with valor and purpose, always embodying the good faith and decency of the country he so proudly served.

We are exceptionally fortunate and honored to be heirs to the history that Hugh Montgomery made.



CHRISTIAN LAMBERTSEN AND THE SECRET STORY BEHIND SCUBA

The men and women of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) developed many spectacular devices for war-time use: exploding coal, invisible ink, tasteless poisons, miniature cameras and exotic knives.

Some of these developments advanced after the war's conclusion and were integrated into the military's arsenal. One such invention was designed by Dr. Christian Lambertsen, what we refer to today as SCUBA.

Dr. Lambertsen was a US Army and OSS officer who studied respiratory physiology at medical school. He is directly responsible for most of the technology used for Combat Swimming Operations in the United States today.

His inventions laid the groundwork for technology used by NASA, the Navy SEALs, the Army Green Berets, the US Coast Guard, and diving enthusiasts around the world. He has been called the "Father of the Frogmen" and the "Father of American SCUBA."

Dr. Christian Lambertsen – inventor, environmentalist, professor, scientist, combat veteran, medical doctor, and pioneer in undersea and aerospace medicine – is one of the most influential OSS inventors in history.



Christian Lambertsen testing his Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA).

Breathing Underwater from an Early Age

Born in May 1917, Christian grew up near the coast in New Jersey. Realizing early on that he wanted to study medicine, he attended Rutgers University before enrolling at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

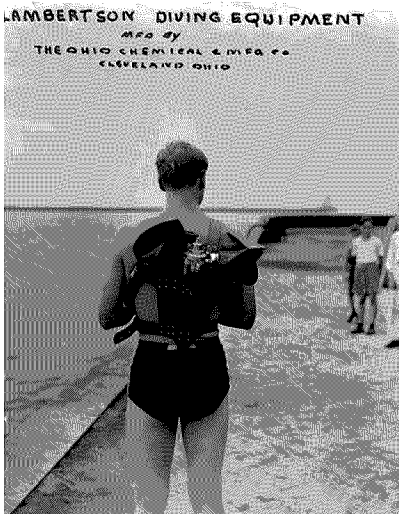
Christian spent his summer breaks at the Jersey Shore. It was during a break that he and his cousins first started experimenting with underwater breathing devices.

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They used a rudimentary system consisting of a bicycle pump, a hose, a bag, and a mouth piece.

After tweaking his gadget substantially, Christian notified his physiology professor, Dr. Henry Bazett. Impressed by the prototype and seeing real potential, Dr. Bazett began reaching out to various organizations he felt would take an interest in his student's invention.



The president of the Ohio Chemical and Manufacturing Company was intrigued and offered Christian a high paying job. He wanted Christian to use his company's anesthesia equipment to develop his underwater breathing apparatus for lifesaving purposes.

During one test, while sixty feet underwater,

Christian's eyes and leg began to twitch. He yanked on the safety rope, an indication he needed to be pulled to the surface, only to watch the end of the rope fall past him to the lake's floor.

He and his colleague had never secured the end of the rope to the boat.

Luckily, Christian was able to swim to the surface and survived.

He returned to school after that summer as somewhat of a celebrity, his exploits having been broadcast nationally. Professor Bazett published a description of the device in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

In his submission letter Bazett wrote, "The equipment was successful because it was designed by a man who studied the physiological principles carefully and is capable not only of testing it himself but training the users. It could not have been developed by a physiologist unfamiliar with the practical side nor by a swimmer without physiological training."

Although conceived underwater, Christian initially thought his device could be used underground, specifically by trapped miners awaiting rescue. However, with the onset of World War II, Professor Bazett – himself a former British Army officer—foresaw its military applications.

In January 1941, Christian and Professor Bazett traveled to Washington, DC to meet with the Navy Experimental Diving Unit (NEDU). Their demonstration of the device did not impress the Navy.

However, Christian was convinced now more than ever that his device wasn't so much suited for lifesaving as it was for military use. This meant an overhaul in its design and more testing.

Covert Swimming

A year later, Christian was back in DC to demonstrate his reconfigured device. This time there were men from the British Special Operations Executive (SOE) and the OSS in attendance.

Christian jumped in the swimming pool at the Omni Shoreham Hotel and proceeded to demonstrate his invention.

Christian had created what he dubbed a LARU – Lambertsen Amphibious Respirator Unit – a stand-alone underwater breathing device. The system contained a carbon dioxide filter which allowed the diver to re-breathe the air he exhaled while underwater.

Due to the configuration of the device, it did not release any air bubbles, which inevitably wiggle their way to the surface, exposing the existence of something below.

The men watched from the edge of the pool as Christian swam below its surface, producing no evidence of his presence underwater. He left no air bubbles in his wake.

The ability to swim underwater undetected meant the difference between mission failure and mission complete. Using a LARU a diver could swim at a depth of 50 feet and remain under water for 90 minutes, allowing him time to swim almost a mile.

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US Army, 1st Lieutenant Lambertsen.

His invention was perfect for covert operations.

Prior to Christian's discovery, military divers wore large, heavy, uncomfortable metal helmets. The helmets were supplied with air through a hose from a boat floating above, severely restricting the radius of which a diver could swim. Christian's device freed divers from the vessel's boundaries.

Ironically, Christian wanted to join the Navy, but they disqualified him because of his allergies.

The OSS, however, was impressed by Christian and dismissed his affliction. He was commissioned as a 1st Lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps, where he served from 1944 to 1946.

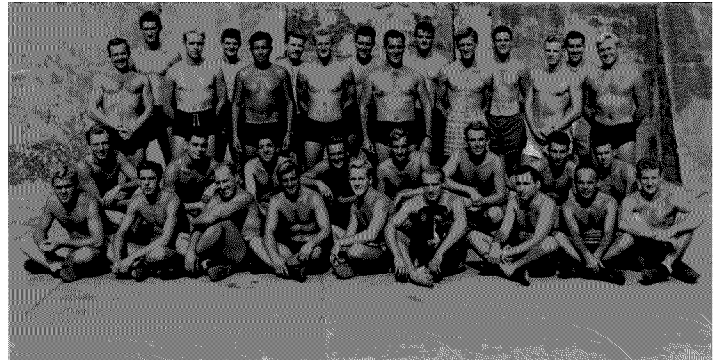
Christian was in his senior year of medical school when he began working for the OSS

OSS Maritime Unit

It was around this same time period that the OSS established a Maritime Unit whose mission was to conduct amphibious infiltrations, underwater sabotage, agent infiltrations, and to supply resistance groups by sea.

They were also tasked with developing specialized maritime equipment and devices.

The OSS appointed Christian to develop the dive element of the unit, and Christian eagerly accepted. He was still a medical student when he taught his first class of OSS Operational Swimmer Groups (OSG) in May 1943 at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.



Operational Swimmer Group II, a truly joint force, shown in Cuba in 1944. Of the 32 men posing, 16 were Coast Guard, seven were Army, five were Navy, and four were Marine Corps. The dog's service of origin is unknown. Photo Source: RM1/C John Harrigan (USCGR).

Operation Cincinnati

Upon completion of training, the OSG's were asked to demonstrate their capabilities at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba in September 1944.

This full scale exercise, codenamed Operation Cincinnati, was designed to test Navy defenses and evaluate the effectiveness of the new group's ability to conduct reconnaissance, infiltration, and sabotage operations from the sea.

This was the first exercise in an actual maritime environment.

Equipped with waterproof compasses, sheath knives, waterproof flashlights, and fins, the swimmers infiltrated the bay at night. They easily navigated past the torpedo nests draped around the harbor. They reached their targets, attached the explosives, and blew up an old barge.

A top-secret government report credited the success of the mission to the diver's ability to remain undetected by Navy sound detection gear.

Shortly thereafter, the OSGs were split up and deployed to the China-Burma-India theater. Dr. Lambertsen accompanied the group to Burma to carry out underwater infiltration and espionage missions.

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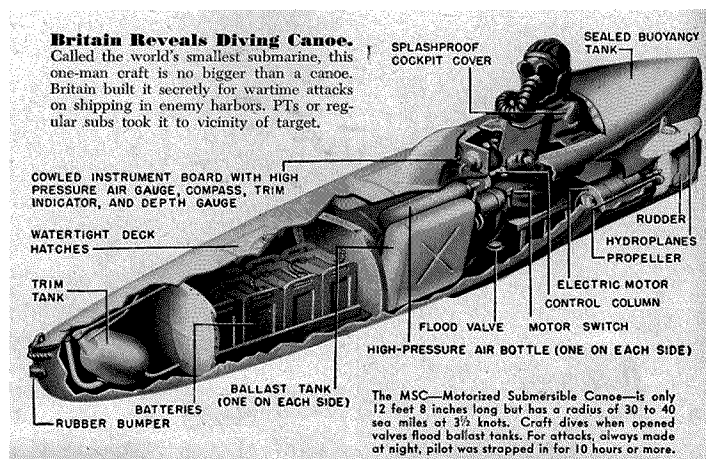


Photo and cutaway drawing of *Sleeping Beauty*.

Sleeping Beauty

Another underwater apparatus Christian helped advance was the motorized submersible canoe, nicknamed: *Sleeping Beauty*.

The 'Sleeping Beauty' submersible canoe was built by the British SOE to hold a single frogman to conduct clandestine reconnaissance or attacks against enemy vessels. It earned its nickname when a British officer walked past the canoe and found its creator asleep in the craft.

The canoe was 12 feet 8 inches long and the navigator could expect to spend 10 hours or more in the vessel when on a mission.

The top secret canoe was brought to the US in 1944, and Christian began an intense program to train the OSS on how to use the boat; but not before he adjusted its tactical use.

Instead of navigating the vehicle directly up to a target, he trained the swimmers to anchor the canoe within several hundred yards of the target. From there the frogman would swim to the target, place the demolition charge on it and swim back to the *Sleeping Beauty*.

This concept paved the way for the swimmer delivery vehicle – used by the Navy's UDTs and SEALs – years later.

The Father of the Frogmen

In 1945, President Truman disbanded the OSS, but Christian remained a Captain with the US Army.

Upon his return to the US, he was assigned to an Army hospital. Still believing that his invention would prosper with the military, he managed to get the LARU-X declassified and gave two each to the Navy, Army, and Coast Guard, along with detailed instructions on how to operate the units.

Realizing its value for rescue and recovery operations at sea, the Coast Guard ordered Christian to train a selection of instructors on the LARU.

The Army was impressed with Christian's education in respiratory physiology and suggested he work with the Corps of Engineers on the logistics of river operations.

Christian was released from active duty in 1946 as a Major. He joined the University of Pennsylvania faculty, where he studied the physiology of O₂ and its toxicity, eventually becoming a professor of pharmacology.

In 1947, Navy Lieutenant Commander Douglas Fane reached out to Christian for help in saving his UDTs from demobilization.

Christian traveled to Norfolk, VA to train the UDTs in OSS combat swimming operations and tactical diving with the LARU and *Sleeping Beauty*. He also demonstrated carbon dioxide poisoning and collapsing from anoxia (lack of oxygen).

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Dr. Lambertsen's preferred teaching method was hands on, and he let the cadets experience these effects firsthand. Although significantly reduced in size, the UDTs were not disbanded and became the precursor to the Navy SEALs.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Christian developed an advanced version of his underwater breathing system that remained in use by the Navy SEALs until the 1980s.

He also spent a significant amount of time during this period studying undersea medicine and researching Hyperbaric Medicine (medical use of oxygen at levels greater than atmospheric pressure).

The Last Frontier

In 1952, Christian wrote a paper for the National Academy of Sciences where he described his invention as a "Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus" – i.e SCUBA.

Not only did Christian coin the term that we all associate with diving today, he also developed seven scuba diving patents.

In addition to his work underwater, Christian served as a member of the Panel on Medical Sciences at the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense from 1954 to 1961, and as chairman of the Life Sciences Advisory Board for McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft Corp from 1960 to 1967.

Christian then went from underwater exploration to the last frontier: space.

He served on President Lyndon B. Johnson's and Richard Nixon's Space Board from 1967 to 1970, and served as Vice President of the Aerospace Medical Association. He also became Chairman of the Board for Man in Space.

Christian continued to work for the federal government from the 1990s through the 2000s. In the 1990s, he was on the US Navy's Oceanographic Advisory Committee, and from 1998 to 2000, he served as chairman of NASA's Advisory Committee on the International Space Station Decompression Risk Definition and Contingency Plan.

Christian's impacts on diving physiology, undersea and hyperbaric research and medical treatments, hydrospace sciences, biomedical sciences, and environmental sciences remain unequaled.

Mission Possible

Most of the information relating to Dr. Lambertsen's wartime research and inventions remained secret until 1995 when it was declassified.

Christian became known as the "Father of US Combat Swimming in 2000, when the US Navy SEALs honored Christian with the title. In 2009, Dr. Lambertsen received the OSS Distinguished Service Award from the OSS Society for enabling the OSS to conduct "previously impossible missions."

In his lifetime, Dr. Lambertsen received major medals and awards from across the military, intelligence, and scientific communities, including:

- OSS Legion of Merit
- US Department of Defense Distinguished Public Service Medal
- US Coast Guard's Distinguished Public Service Award
- US Army Special Forces Green Beret Award
- National UDT-SEAL Association Lifetime Achievement Award
- New York Academy of Sciences Award for Research in Environmental Sciences
- Pioneer Award of the Navy Historical Society
- US Special Operations Command Medal and the establishment of the annual 'Dr. Christian J. Lambertsen Award for Operational Innovation'

Christian spent his final years on Maryland's Eastern shore raising cattle and tending to his honeybees and garden. He died in 2011 at the age of 93.

In a fitting commemoration to the "Father of the Frogmen," Christian's ashes were spread over the clear, warm waters off Key West, Florida.



PULSE OF THE PUBLIC

The following is a sample of messages the Office of Public Affairs received from the public in the last few weeks.

People send emails to thank us for our service...

Thank you for everything you do. My entire unit made it back home safely because of the constant information provided by the intelligence community. I will forever be an ally and supporter. You are the true eyes in front of our military.

I would like to personally thank you for your work. As a US Citizen, I know you have my back. I feel compelled to write this thank you letter in the hopes that your spirits will be fortified.

From the UK: It would be soooooo bloody refreshing to hear the media talk about all the truly good work that CIA has done and continues to do, throughout the world, instead of that horse manure the media is so very good at!

...and share their thoughts about international events...

Why not lift sanctions against North Korea? For a few months, see if they can meet requirements such as not doing nuke testing. Just give it to them as a good gesture.

I am an Iranian-American for over 40 years. The Iranian-Americans would like to see the theocratic regime in Iran replaced with a diplomatic, secular one. But there is a right way and a wrong way. Alienating the 80 million people living there is NOT the right way. The best way is to give the people the tools and know how to fight the government from within.

Sometimes we get emails from members of the CIA extended family...

My father, passed away five years ago. Upon his death, I learned that he wasn't only a pilot for the Air Force during the Korean war, he was also a member of the Intelligence Community. I am writing to all of you who serve especially those who must do so anonymously. I honor you, I respect you, I am inspired by your courage, I am humbled by your strength, I am in awe of your ability to protect and serve us without an ounce of ego, without a need for public praise, and of the intelligence you gather as well as possess. Thank you for your service.

To the CIA. Just when you think nobody cares about you anymore, along comes somebody to thank you. My father was Deputy Director of Training before he retired about forty years ago. He had a rewarding career that allowed me and my siblings to live in countries and locales we never would have seen on our own. P.S. Dad still refuses to tell people he is a CIA veteran. Not out of shame, but because he swore an oath to never divulge classified information.

My father was a CIA officer. He never did divulge secrets to his family. That is one of the reasons we don't know him as well as we could have. Dad is still as sharp as a razor. He misses you. Thank you for helping to raise us. Those were good days.

We also get contacted by people looking for jobs...

Read PLZ!!!! This message is because I am ALMOST in sixth grade and I really would like to become a spy. If you could please contact me back I would have the most gratitude. You can do a background checks on me and everything. I really would like to go to one of your schools to become an agent!

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PULSE OF THE PUBLIC

Finally, OPA receives plenty of fun and head-scratching communications:

Dear CIA, Since you are monitoring my TV, can you suggest some amusing TV shows I might be missing? Was Logan worth watching? While you're at it, what do you think of the Walking Dead?

Dear CIA, I live in the UK and have heard you have infiltrated my television, next time you hack into it could you fix the picture quality, mainly during the football/ soccer, as it keeps getting scrambled. Which may be due to the hackers heavy handedness... (or the poor standard of internet connection in this country)... Many thanks! from GB

Hey guys I forgot my YouTube password could you send it to me

Just wanted to let you know that once in a while, the things I order through Amazon, which are labelled as coming from China, are also labelled as containing "electronic accessories." The most recent such package contained a pair of socks. So I have to worry about what other contents are being shipped to our country with similarly false and unchecked descriptions. Take care and thank you for all the things you do.

Some want to work here someday . . .

I am nine years old. I have been dreaming of being a spy and a part of the CIA. I am going in to the fourth grade and I live in Canada. My favorite sports are hockey and soccer. I speak fluent English and Punjabi. I want to be a spy because 'we' get to do cool movements and go on cool missions, 'we' get cool weapons like lasers, cool hologram watches and to talk to other agents in the CIA.

I am 12 years old and I follow you on cia.gov. I am obsessed with growing up and being in the CIA. I was homeschooled but then I went to public school and my grades dropped. Once I heard about the CIA, my grades shot back up to A's! I write one paper every week and I almost passed out when

there was only ONE red mark on my paper about algae! You guys have boosted my confidence and I want to thank you. I hope I did not waste your time today, thank you for reading my letter. (Molly sent a packet of materials to this girl, and a personalized letter.)

Head scratchers:

When your organization builds a time machine, I want to be a test subject.

I am not interested in that long application for employment. Just contact me, I am ready to go to work. You're the CIA, I am sure you can access all my records.

My friend thinks that mermaids are real. Now you may think I am stupid writing to you about this but could you provide evidence that they are not real. Thank You.

Dear CIA, I have decided to invite you to tea . . . you seem tired and stressed. Do you like fish fingers?

Baywatch was a CIA front operation. David Hasselhoff is actually an assassin codenamed "The Shorts."

I would love to farm your land . . . would that job be available?

I have been going through the careers section, and I am wondering? Does the US government have a need for licensed morticians?

May I ask you for a point of contact for the General Donovan statue? I am interested in borrowing the statue for a time agreeable to CIA to display at my High School. General Donovan is our most distinguished graduate and it would be an impressive patriotic reminder to students!

My dad ordered a lawnmower to be delivered to me. I suspect the product might be manipulated with witchcraft. I hope the lawnmower is not corrupted by witch wannabees.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RETIREMENT ASSOCIATIONS' CONTACT INFORMATION

Stay connected with your fellow Agency retirees by joining a retirement association.

Association of Former Intelligence Officers (AFIO)

Current and former intelligence professionals and supporters of the Intelligence Community are eligible to join.

POC: afio@afio.com

Central Intelligence Retirees Association (CIRA)

Current and former officers with more than ten years of service are eligible to join.

POC: admin@cira.org

Retired Federal Communicators (RefCom)

Former officers serving in the Office of Communications, or its predecessors, are eligible for sponsorship. All prospective members must be sponsored by a current member.

Retired Finance Officers (REFIN)

Former finance officers and their guests are eligible to join and participate in twice-a-year socials and luncheons.

POC: Karen Abraham (abe5226@gmail.com); ssiskpainter@comcast.net

SIGNA Society

Current and former security officers are eligible to join.

POC: signa-member.org/member/register.aspx

Logistics Retirees Association (LRA)

Current and former logistics and facilities support officers who served in the Office of Logistics or its successor organizations are eligible to join.

POC: rpziemba@verizon.net

Technical Service Retirees Association (TSRA)

Current and former officers with five years of service in the Office of Technical Service, or its predecessors, are eligible to join.

POC: tsratechs.org

Annuitant Reunion

Annuitant Reunion at CIA Headquarters Auditorium, 10 August 2017, 11 AM – 1 PM

Please RSVP to annuitants@ucia.gov by 27 July 2017 and include the following information:

First Name, Last Name, Social Security Number, Date of Birth, and Place of Birth (City and State). If you were born outside of the United States please attach a copy of your US passport or Naturalization Certificate. All spouses must submit the same information if they plan on attending.





Employee Activity Association– Upcoming Events

- Summer Spirit Festival, Aug. 5-6th @ Merriweather Post Pavillion. Check their website for artist roster. 1 day and 2 day passes available. Center section, Left seats
- The Sound of Music, Kennedy Center, June 24th & July 15th 2017, 1:30 PM
- The King and I, Kennedy Center, August 12th 2017, 1:30 PM, Orch Level, Section 100, Center Ice, Row S

Do you need to update your email address? Do you have ideas to help improve future issues of Annuitant News?

Send us your feedback: annuitants@ucia.gov



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