



# PERISCOPE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS

VOL. V, NO. 2, SPRING 1980

## Blake Denounces Overkill AFIO Opposes Intelligence Charter Bill Before Congress

In appearances before the Senate Intelligence Committee on 25 March 1980 and the House Intelligence Committee on 27 March, AFIO spokesmen John F. Blake, our President, and John S. Warner, Legal Adviser, presented testimony reflecting AFIO's detailed analysis of the proposed "National Intelligence Act of 1980." Both houses are holding hearings on the identical bill, the Senate version identified as S. 2284 and the House version as H.R. 6588.

This bill, 172 pages in length, is designed by its authors to "authorize the intelligence system of the United States by the establishment of a statutory basis for the national intelligence activities of the United States, and for other purposes." It represents a joint effort of the Administration and the Senate Intelligence Committee, and its principal sponsor is Senator Walter D. Huddleston, Democrat of Kentucky. Although President Carter has given his general endorsement to the bill, both he as well as Administration witnesses have identified several areas of serious disagreement.

The statement read by Blake was based on the identification of six critical issues and an AFIO position on each of them. On the matter of the desirability of charters, the statement pointed out that the C.I.A. has had a statutory charter since 1947. In lieu of the bill's approach to repeal existing legislation and then reenact new laws, AFIO urged that the more normal and proper course of action would be to amend existing legislation to accomplish what changes may be necessary. Blake made clear that AFIO accepts the principle of charters for intelligence entities but went on to say that they "should not be so detailed and precise as to foreclose prudent flexibility in meeting unforeseen future situations."

The second point discussed by Blake was the so-called constitutional issue, which arises in cases of serious disagreement between the Administration and the Congress. One aspect concerns "prior," as opposed to the current statutory standard of "timely," access of the Committees to "all" information in the possession of the intelligence agencies. AFIO, as well as the Administration, argued that under certain extremely sensitive, emergency, or dangerous situations, the right must be reserved to the President to initiate special activities before notifying the Congress. On the matter of access to "all" information, it was pointed out that this would include the names of agents, a matter which the Congress has historically avoided. It was further pointed out that artfully crafted language recognizing the unique responsibilities of both the Executive and the Legislative Branches could avoid a constitutional confrontation.

The third issue discussed was the use of intrusive surveillance techniques without doing violence to the

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### AFIO'S New Citation "For Distinguished Service"

AFIO now has a tangible form of recognition for those individuals who have and continue to contribute in many ways to the growth and success of our organization. The award, identified as a "Citation For Distinguished Service", is modeled along the lines of the Membership Certificate and bears the wording "in grateful acknowledgment of loyal and outstanding service". The Citations will be signed by both the Chairman of the Board and the President.

The presentations of the new Citation were made at the AFIO quarterly lunch held at the Fort Myer Officers Club on 21 March 1980. In bestowing the initial award on David Atlee Phillips, John Blake, AFIO President, stated that "It was an honor and a pleasure to award the first 'AFIO Citation For Distinguished Service' to the Founding Father and first President of AFIO. No more deserving recipient exists for the initial presentation of this Citation than Dave Phillips". Blake also presented a Citation to Doctor Edward L. R. Elson, Chaplain of the United States Senate, for his "faithful and inspirational participation" in AFIO functions during the history of the organization.

It is planned that additional Citations will be awarded at future AFIO public functions to those whose services have contributed greatly to the advancement of AFIO.

## A Periscope Comment

### The High Price of First Amendment Absolutism

Popular perception of national needs and priorities in foreign affairs clearly has begun to change under the pressure of events abroad. Along with that, the image of national intelligence, badly tarnished in the post-Watergate atmosphere marked by allegations, investigations and almost unbridled disclosure, is coming into better focus. By reason as well as instinct, more and more people are recognizing effective intelligence as a vital link in the national armor, and they evidently don't think this is the time for weak links or national neglect, however benign. As we have seen the shift in the national climate, so have most of our representatives in the Congress and observers outside the government, including many who find it unwelcome. What we in AFIO view as a necessary, even overdue, adjustment in a nation intent on surviving in a perilous age is often treated by self-styled civil libertarians as a wave of perversity endangering safeguards against intelligence trespasses and, in particular, threatening the people's inalienable right to know and to tell.

There is no need in this space for a systematic review of the argumentation used by First Amendment absolutists in opposition to legislative, administrative and legal challenges to their precepts. We merely note the common denominator: the right to make allegations and to reveal, unearth and spread information — true or not, secret or not, damaging or not, contractually proscribed or not — must not be inhibited, nor must its exercise be discouraged; for even an iota of legal proscription, or a "chill" on publicity, would be an intolerable threat to our society.

We were treated to examples of this absolutist approach during recent Congressional committee hearings on the so-called Intelligence Identities Protection Act, a narrowly drawn piece of legislation aimed solely at stopping the malicious disclosure of the names of individuals whose work on behalf of the nation, often undertaken at great risk, depends on anonymity. The absolutists came up with only two examples of how such a law would have inhibited free speech in the past: when the U-2 piloted by Francis Gary Powers had been forced down in the Soviet Union, the use of Powers' name in news accounts might have come into question; and, much later, Bob Woodward of the *Washington Post* would have had a problem with his front-page story on CIA payments to King Hussein of Jordan. To keep such difficulties from arising, we are evidently expected to let Philip Agee & Co. continue to name names, at whatever human and national cost. Other examples of absolutist thinking can be found in some of the commentary on the Supreme Court's judgment depriving Frank Snepp III of the profits from a book which he, despite contractual obligations and personal assurances to his former employer, the CIA, had released for publication without clearance. Neither the odor of deception for personal profit nor the prospective damage to the whole system of contractual arrangements kept Snepp from being painted as a victim — or a hero. Moves to lessen the burden imposed on the intelligence establishment by the Freedom-of-Information Act, no matter how much they would help and how little they would hurt, have been met with similar reaction.

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civil rights of U.S. citizens. AFIO's spokesmen endorsed the standards established by the bill, and argued against the use of a "criminal" standard. At the same time, Blake questioned the bill's provision empowering Federal judges to issue warrants which would allow U.S. Government intelligence employees to break the criminal laws of foreign countries. In addressing this point, Blake said: "I am sure many countries of the world would consider this the supreme arrogance."

AFIO also objected to that provision of the bill which would prohibit using any U.S. religious, media or educational organizations or exchange programs as cover for intelligence purposes. "While such cover use should be kept to an absolute minimum," Blake stated, "circumstances are conceivable in which such cover would be the only means available to the government in a situation of the highest urgency and national importance."

Blake emphatically opposed the creation of an independent "Office of Director of National Intelligence" staffed with eight Presidential appointees. Not only would this do violence to a central intelligence system but it represents an "unneeded superstructure, with predictable burgeoning staffs and its obvious bureaucratic layering." He pointed out that this is a significant consideration during the present period of extreme budgetary constraints. He pointed out, further,

that no Administration witness had explained or defended this needless new Government office, nor had any member of the Committees questioned them concerning it.

AFIO also opposed the introduction of the General Accounting Office into the Intelligence Community. Other matters noted included the lack of a provision for protection of sources and methods, and the lack of a war-time waiver on restrictions.

Strong support was given to the provisions of the bill that would modify the provisions of the Hughes-Ryan Amendment, create criminal sanctions for the protection of intelligence agents' identities, and offer partial relief from the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

The AFIO position was developed after soliciting input from former senior officers of DIA, NSA, FBI and CIA. A Drafting Committee, working under John Warner, consisted of Messrs. George Cary, Jr., Samuel Halpern, Richard Lansdale, Lyle Miller, and Walter Pforzheimer. The statement was submitted for review and approval both to Blake and David Phillips, Chairman of the AFIO Board of Directors. We have made considerable distribution of the twenty-four page statement. Copies have been sent to all members of the Board of Directors, Chapter Presidents, selected members of Congress, contacts in the academic world, and organizations such as the American Bar Association, the American Legion, the Retired Officers Association, etc.

## AFIO Activist Herman Bly Wins National Award

Herman O. Bly, retired from a long and distinguished career with both the FBI and CIA and now notably active in AFIO's Southwest Florida Chapter, has won his third national Freedom Foundation award, the George Washington Honor Medal, for his guest editorial in the **Ft. Myers News - Press** published on June 3, 1979 on the subject of the damage done to the national security by recent actions of the press, the Congress and the Presidency. For lack of space we are unable to print Brother Bly's editorial in its entirety but herewith are his concluding paragraphs:

"Admittedly, the intelligence community, unlike Caesar's wife, has not been completely pure. However, we have overreacted in crippling our intelligence capabilities. It's past time that we restore the effectiveness and morale of our intelligence agencies so that our people will again provide those agencies with the support, faith, and confidence which they so badly need and deserve.

"It is now past time for more and more Americans to tell our political leaders to get off the backs of our FBI, CIA, and our other national defense agencies and to recognize the obvious fact that our country is in more imminent danger today from a more powerful enemy than at any other time in its history. If you believe that we should defend ourselves against our enemies, inside and out, with strong effective intelligence efforts, tell your elected officials."



**Herman O. Bly**

### Comment from previous page

There is no point in going on. The absolutist approach is no more than a logical development of an outlook which appears to see the U.S. Constitution as basically the First Amendment writ large, with all else merely appended. That it, no less than other absolutist rules of behavior, is subject to abuse is usually admitted; but that, we are told, is the price we must pay for a free society.

The trouble, as we see it, is, first, that the price is sometimes too high and purchases too little. The aforementioned arguments against the Intelligence Identities Protection Act serve to illustrate the point. In John Blake's words to the committee chairman: "... if your bill becomes law, free speech will survive in a state of great vigor. . . . If the legislation is thwarted . . . intelligence capabilities will surely atrophy." Beyond that, grave damage has been done to our national equities in recent years by a badly balanced application of values. We do not think any part of the Constitution was intended as an instrument to undermine the protection and preservation of the rest.

Second, we should realize that in many cases the kind of license now deemed essential by the absolutists covers practices which were disreputable only a few short years ago. The Bob Woodward's of an earlier day might indeed have felt a chill when they became aware of an equivalent of the Hussein story, even though we were very obviously not living in an undemocratic society a few short years ago when those stories broke. Thus new ground has been staked out as allegedly essential to free speech — which makes us wonder whether the main concern of the absolutist persuasion is really freedom or whether in some cases it might not be simply a form of self-interest in gaining broader and heavier clout and in others plain political hostility with the purpose of destroying the security apparatus of the United States in order to render it helpless against its

enemies.

Third, the absolutists often present the issue as a conflict between secrecy and knowledge. The sad truth is that it is not that simple. What has been spread far and wide about the intelligence establishment has been fancy as well as fact, and a great deal of half-truth. Many false impressions have been created and still linger, such as the continuing references to "CIA policies" in the face of abundant public evidence that the CIA was never a policymaker. Such distortions may be inevitable; but they are not noble, or beneficial.

Finally, we are aware that even First Amendment absolutists often take their distance from those, like Agee, whom they consider at best an embarrassment to their cause. What bothers us is that everyone talks about rights, but few about corresponding obligations; and that none of the absolutists who consider themselves responsible have offered any recipes for dealing with those among their brethren who are not.

### IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Loren J. Brentlinger  
Boca Raton, FL  
LTC Gustav J. Froeberg, UAS (Ret.)  
Burbank, CA  
Maj Ben Z. Gershater, USAF (Ret.)  
Elgin AFB, FL  
Mr. George H. Harvey  
Dearborn, MI  
Mr. William R. Mark  
Shippensburg, PA  
Col Horace G. Reeder, II, USAF (Ret.)  
Falls Church, VA

**An Announcement From Georgetown University****The Russell J. Bowen Collection  
On Intelligence, Security and  
Covert Activities**

The Georgetown University Library has received on deposit from Colonel Russell J. Bowen a collection of more than 3,800 books on intelligence, espionage, covert activities, and national security. This collection has been placed in the Special Collections department of the Joseph Mark Lauinger Memorial Library on the Georgetown University campus and will be identified as the "Russell J. Bowen Collection on Intelligence, Security and Covert Activities."

Colonel Bowen deposited this collection in the Georgetown Library because of his strong desire to have it used for the advancement of research, writing, and education pertaining to intelligence. The Bowen Collection will be available for use by scholars, researchers, and students in accordance with Georgetown University Library policies and procedures. The National Intelligence Study Center, directed by Dr. Ray S. Cline, is providing financial assistance for preparation and publication of a catalog which will facilitate access to and utilization of the Collection.

The Bowen Collection includes books and documents of the United States, England, France, Germany, Japan, USSR, and other countries. The scope of the collection extends over several hundred years, and includes early wars and conflicts in Europe, the American Revolutionary era, the Civil War in the United States, the World Wars and other events. Intelligence and espionage activities during World War II, the Cold War, and recent events are extensively documented in this collection. The Bowen Collection may be the largest body of published intelligence material in any university library.

Information about the Bowen Collection may be obtained from the Georgetown University Special Collections librarian, George M. Barringer.

AFIO members are advised that Georgetown University actively seeks to enlarge the collection and will happily accept contributions in the form of books.

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Association of Former Intelligence Officers  
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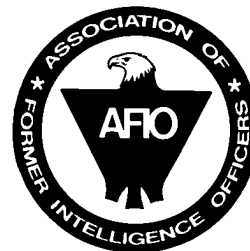
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**ANNOUNCING  
AFIO  
LAPEL PINS**

Made of gold plate and cloisonne, the pin carries the AFIO logo. It is ½" in diameter and has three colors. Has clip-on backing. Price is \$3.00. Write National Headquarters.

**Advisory Council**

With its membership now complete, and a plan of action developing, the AFIO Advisory Council is commencing to make its influence felt. In addition to those members whose names were reported in the last issue of *Periscope*, H. H. Callahan now has taken his place as the person representing N.S.A.

As previously reported, the Council has recommended, and the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors has approved, the establishment of a formalized committee structure. Committee chairman, with one exception, have been named. The committee, and chairmen, are: Membership, Admiral Fritz Harfinger; Public Affairs, Angus Thuermer; Legal, John Warner; Publications, Douglas Blaufarb; Finance, Robert Novak. A chairman for the Activities Committee will be named at the next meeting.

At the meeting held on 2 April, the Council was given a report on the chapter structure. In the ensuing conversation, it was decided to give consideration to establishing a Chapter Committee. This matter will be acted upon in the forthcoming meeting of 6 May.

The last issue of *Periscope* mentioned that the Council's membership was composed of individuals whose previous service reflected all the major entities in the Intelligence Community and went on to mention those entities — but, unfortunately, not completely. Missed through inadvertence (spell "mistake") was the F.B.I. This happened even though Bob Kunkel's name, our F.B.I. referent, appeared in the article. Our apologies to Bob and the Bureau!

For reasons of space AFIO does not attempt to publish obituaries of deceased members. We make an exception in the case of Commander Rowe because of the unique distinction of his career and the fact that so few today remember the kind of service that men of his generation rendered when the going was really tough. We thank Lt.Col T. R. Bohannon of Manila, PI for writing and sending in this obituary.

The Editor  
Commander George F. Rowe, USNR (Ret.)

Leader of the ISRM (I Shall Return, MacArthur) mission which landed on Mindoro early in July 1944, George maintained surveillance on Manila Bay, and collated guerrilla intelligence reports until the liberation of Manila. As an enlisted clerk in the Army Finance Corps he had come to the Philippines in 1930. Between the time he took his discharge there and WWII, he became a prominent sugar broker, an aviator, and an ONI agent.

Caught in the States by the outbreak of the war, he was called to Navy active duty, serving alternately as an intelligence officer and a Navy flight trainer. It was only in 1944 that he was able to return to the Pacific, serving as Executive Officer of the Philippine Regional Section of the Allied Intelligence Bureau. As he often said, he "volunteered for the penetration mission to escape the more dangerous in-fighting in Brisbane." During that mission he used the cover name of Major "Nicholson," fearing reprisals against his wife and son in Manila if he were identified by the Japs.

After release from active duty he remained in Manila, engaged in communications, entertainment, and export-import matters until failing health virtually confined him to his quarters. Dissatisfied by the popular account in Dixon Earle's "Bahala Na" about his seductively named ISRM mission, George was working on a history of it until his long ill health was ended by a peaceful death at the age of 72, on 9 January 1980.

## Early Warning for Conventioneers

So as not to divert national attention from the Democratic and Republican conventions AFIO will hold its CONVENTION '80

on 3-4 October

at Tyson's Corner Holiday Inn, McLean, Virginia.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend, as we're going to move into the 80's with a memorable program. There will be prominent guest speakers at each of two luncheons and the Saturday night banquet. At business sessions we'll have some thought-provoking speakers to help us assess the challenge to U.S. Intelligence as our Soviet adversaries move to exploit their "window of opportunity" in the coming decade.

For the benefit of family members not attending the daytime sessions we want to plan some cost-conscious activities to offset the budget-busting temptations at one of the country's largest shopping centers across the street from the Inn. Here are some of the excursions that can be arranged, depending on your response:

- **The National Cathedral** is well worth a visit, especially if you've not been there in the last ten years.
- **The Kennedy Center** has a room full of Boehm figurines, a spectacular Waterford crystal chandelier, and a great deal more.
- **The Department of State** will open its reception Rooms which boast an impressive collection of American antiques dating from the American Revolution.
- **Ford's Theatre**, the **National Portrait Gallery**, and the new award-winning **East Wing of the National Gallery** are worth a trip downtown via the new subway.
- The DAR have decorated a room in **Constitution Hall** for each of the fifty states.

The Holiday Inn management is willing to make a suite available for bridge players. Also, if there is enough interest, they can stage a flower-arrangement

demonstration.

Do let us know if you're interested in any of the above — or other attractions in the area — so that we can get an early start in making CONVENTION '80 an enriching experience for all.

The Convention Committee is dedicated to making every effort to keep the convention fee at the lowest possible amount. While the cost of rooms is slightly higher than last year, inflation being the primary cause, gratuities being furnished by the hotel management will help lower the convention fee. As another cost-saving technique, the Committee has decided not to print initially a separate Convention brochure and schedule. All details, including Convention and hotel registration forms, will be printed in a special Convention Section in the next issue of *Periscope*. That issue will be mailed approximately 15 July 1980. This will save additional printing and postal charges. The traditional Convention Informational Booklet and Program will be prepared and available to all attendees upon registration.

CONVENTION '80 Committee members are: LTG. John J. Davis (Chairman), Richard W. Bates, Anita Herndon Beasey, Charles V. Belt, Joseph L. Burke, Richard C. Gales, J. William Grady, William P. Katsirubas, Alma Mattison, Robert C. Roth (Vice-Chairman), John G. Rushworth, and Helen Kleyla.

### PERISCOPE NEEDS A TALENTED CARTOONIST

This is a plea for a volunteer to step forward (preferably in the Washington area) who would be willing to do at least one cartoon for each issue of *Periscope*. So — let the word go forth to all the world. We need artistic help in A GOOD CAUSE.

## ON THE INTELLIGENCE BOOKSHELF. . . Current books of interest to intelligence buffs and watchers of the world scene. All reviews are by AFIO members.

John Le Carre, *Smiley's People*, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1980, 374 pp. \$10.95.

This, his ninth novel, is vintage le Carre. For those who do not know him, this reputed former MI6 officer rose to popularity with his "Spy Who Came In from the Cold," published here in 1963, a novel built around the British foreign intelligence service. His initial and continuing success is due not so much to his knowledge of the intelligence mission, but more to his outstanding writing skills. Having found a successful formula, like many other writers, le Carre recycles it occasionally, writing essentially the same story with slightly different characters with only slightly different situations, of which the penultimate, "The Honorable Schoolboy," was released in 1977.

Just as policemen and detectives, retired and on active duty, are said to have an appetite for detective and cop stories, I enjoy stories of espionage. Since most of these novels are inaccurate reflections of real life in the practice of the craft, the addiction possibly stems from Mittyish dreams about how we might have carried on our business more romantically and in sustained high drama. Or it may subliminate the restiveness that goes with fire horses — that dates me — or race horses retired to pasture. A further ingredient may be the smug pleasure that goes with reading such novels and saying knowingly to ourselves or anyone who will listen: "You know, it really isn't at all like that."

For the former intelligence officer, le Carre's latest may have a special appeal since it deals with a senior officer recalled from retirement to handle a terminated agent in order to avoid a king-sized flap potentially embarrassing to British national interests and the British intelligence service. For me, this novel has an additional appeal in that I can more readily identify with the short, fat, and bespectacled Smiley than I can with the tall, handsome James Bonds — the 007's who swing with the greatest of ease from deeds of derring-do to alight on various mattresses, attractively populated.

For those who do know le Carre, be assured that you will not only find Smiley, but his faithless wife and other characters who appeared in prior novels. The story line is, as usual, built around a counterespionage situation. A British agent who had been defected in a high Soviet place continued his work against the Soviets even though he had been terminated by the British service after having become only marginally useful. The defector is brutally executed by the KGB in England itself. Smiley is recalled from retirement "unofficially," to find out what the message was that the defector was trying desperately to convey to his former case officer, Smiley, and to hush up the potential scandal that might damage the atmosphere of detente that HMG was nurturing. I would not detract from your pleasure, or le Carre's sales, by telling you more.

It's all there. The scenes shift rapidly all over Europe. The tradecraft portrayed, both Soviet and British, is plausible. The fabricators and the double agents are believable. The inherent friction between field and headquarters is present, and so is le Carre's normal budget of snide references to the American intelligence service. The decay and loss of morale within the British service under political pressures and media exposure is not necessarily fiction. When Smiley writes that Vladimir (the defector) didn't know that "Max (Smiley) was on the shelf and the Circus (the British service) had joined the Boy Scouts," we might find parallels within the American scene. And when Smiley says: "I invested my life in institutions . . . and all I am left with is myself," he may have been talking of thee or me.

Aside from the specialized interest of pro's of old who are getting older, le Carre is a competent wordsmith with a sharp eye for physical and psychological atmosphere. He appreciates the incongruous, such as the German beer cellar on the fifteenth floor of a Hong Kong building, the table in a second-rate cafe decorated with plastic flowers in a vase with water in it. The "human bondage" of Smiley for his adulterous Ann is moving, not soap opera, and the author has the ability to convey skin-crawling tension with words artfully used. Like our own Charles McCarry, he is a competent novelist in his own right, and his story can stand by itself without his needing to rely on the arcane mysteries of espionage.

Having said all this, while novels such as this are anodynes for boredom and frustration, they leave a sense of inadequacy in the

impression they build of the craft itself. Nothing is said about the tedium; the painful and prolonged efforts to obtain and maintain mundane capabilities such as safe houses, accommodation addresses, dead drops; the recruitment of utility agents with the most rudimentary skills; the long hours of trying to transform recruited ugly ducklings into productive swans; the number of alleys that have to be explored only to find that most of them end up in a cul-de-sac; the high percentage of bread-and-butter routine intelligence to be collected as compared with the occasional nugget, all against a background of a flood of paper, records, and reports; and laboriously artful efforts to surmount/evade/avoid operational restrictions. Obviously, such realism is not likely to win any literary prizes, make any best seller lists, or gain any lucrative "residuals."

More seriously, such novels add to the distorted impression conveyed to the layman of the intelligence function of government. Writers of espionage fiction are not limited by truth or reality, but only by their imagination and conscience. The latter can be very flexible even among former intelligence officers turned novelists. Such writers have a special responsibility since they know better whereof they write than do others. When I asserted this thesis to McCarry at an AFIO luncheon, he replied that the public did not take such fiction seriously. My reply was that he flattered the discrimination of the public and, given the flood of so-called factual misinformation, the average reader would, consciously or not, tend to confuse fiction with fact. I regret that neither of us was persuaded.

It is in this context that the dangers posed by le Carre's skills must be noted. Le Carre used his *New York Times* review of Thomas Powers' book on Dick Helms to make a vicious personal attack on Helms and to make invidious comparisons between the British and American intelligence systems. It is not pertinent to this review to make a detailed response to le Carre's distortions, except to observe that his review is in many respects woefully inaccurate and short on reasoning. Yet his skills as a novelist somehow persuaded even such putatively well-informed persons as the editors of the *Times Book Review* to offer him the freedom of it pages to spread his hostility and ill-informed prejudices before the eyes of the world.

The public perception of the intelligence function is vital to the future of the intelligence agencies and to the national interest. While books such as this one make diverting reading and can be recommended on those grounds, a serious question is raised in this reviewer's mind as to whether the misperceptions they engender do damage that outweighs the entertainment they provide.

Arthur L. Jacobs

**British Intelligence in the Second World War: Its Influence on Strategy and Operations.** Vol. 1. By F. H. Hinsley, with E. E. Thomas, C. F. G. Ransom, and R. C. Knight. New York, Cambridge University Press, 1979. 601 pp.

(Extracted from a longer review published elsewhere.)

**British Intelligence** is a monumental work of scholarship, unique in the historiography of international warfare. Officially authorized, it relates the story of Britain's intelligence processes from before the outbreak of World War II to the German attack on the USSR in June 1941, in 483 pages of narrative, freighted with fifteen appendices of some 89 pages, a table of abbreviations, and an index. The second volume, scheduled for publication this coming May, will carry the story through the North African campaign; volume three will finish the war. A companion volume on deception is currently being composed by the learned Oxford Professor of the History of War, Michael Howard.

This, and the coming volumes, are of course "must" reading for the professional American intelligence community, existing and future, and, it is to be hoped, for the decision-makers of the U.S. government, because they should comprehend the function of the former, be moved to levy demands for fact and evaluation, and be able to affirm when they are well served — or to act energetically should the opposite be true.

In view of the scope, the authority, and the novelty of this first volume, it should be engrossing, riveting. Instead, the style lacks color and grace. Minutiae load the text. There is repetition. The book is dull reading for the most part — perhaps unavoidably so; an historian's task is to take amorphous collections of facts and, according to his perceptions and inferences, assemble them into an order. More is not required, for the writing of modern history differs from the composition of poetry. **British Intelligence** is formal history, meant for the serious reader. There can be no doubt of the rewards — for the devoted amateur buff as well as the government professional — in this volume, and there should be even greater rewards in the next two.

The authors had unrestricted access to official records, other archives, surviving members of the wartime intelligence and operations authorities and, of course, other relevant published works. Lacunae, some surprising, result from the authors' own editorial decisions. For a few examples, they entirely omit intelligence activities east of southwest Asia, on the ground that the war in the Far East was so much a U.S. concern that British archives alone would not enable an adequate account; they provide no graphics of the organization of the several intelligence authorities in London and their connections at various stages in the time frame (although, it should be said, such could be generally constructed from text); secret agent operations are treated with traditional reserve, to say no more than that there are no revelations here; and, with an exception or two, none of the leading personalities is named, none is evaluated. How can the human factor — intellect, ambition, conflict, influence, exhaustion — at the levels where seminal decisions are made, be omitted from this history? One major figure, Major General Sir Stewart Menzies, goes unnamed. He was the chief of Britain's Secret Intelligence Service whose authority extended to the control of the dissemination of high-grade (ENIGMA) communications intelligence (comint). Anonymous, and their role-playing unevaluated, are the pace-setters at the top of the Whitehall intelligence community in the services, the Joint Intelligence Committee, the Ministry of Economic Warfare, and of the analytical entities at the Foreign Office.

Still, putting aside criticisms, we have to be thankful to the authors (and to the British government) for this encyclopedic and expert study of the early and painful stages of the evolution of an effective system of intelligence.

Edward C. Hitchcock

Andrew Boyle, **THE FOURTH MAN: THE DEFINITIVE ACCOUNT OF KIM PHILBY, GUY BURGESS, AND DONALD MACLEAN AND WHO RECRUITED THEM TO SPY FOR RUSSIA**. New York: Dial Press/James Wade (1980), 504 pp. \$12.95.

Wolfgang Lotz, **A HANDBOOK FOR SPIES**. New York: Harper & Row (1980), pp. 146. \$8.95.

The title of the London edition of Mr. Boyle's latest book — he is an official of the British Broadcasting Corporation and the biographer of the Anglo-Irish conspirator Erskine Childers — tells it better: **The Climate of Treason**. For here is the richest evocation this reviewer has seen of the social and historical forces gradually producing a situation wherein, one fine day in 1933, student members of the Oxford Union could formally resolve that they would "in no circumstances fight for King and Country." Mr. Boyle believes that the financial weakening of Britain after the Boer War set in motion a long-range crumbling of empire and prestige which in turn exacerbated the social ills festering in the body politic. Chiefly was this the close-fisted control which a thin layer of the upper-middle and aristocratic classes wielded over English life — the phenomenon of "the Old Boy network," or the Establishment.

Nowhere in Mr. Boyle's intricately meshed study of the three traitors' interrelationships does he state that his title character was Sir Anthony Blunt, the Queen's arts curator. He discusses Blunt intermittently throughout, however; and it was perhaps these unspecified revelations which induced the London magazine **Private Eye** to finger Blunt publicly in November, 1979, as one of the central corrupters of the younger men's loyalty back at Cambridge in years gone by. He was "Maurice," a vicar's son turned agnostic and Marxist. Hovering over it all, permeating the pleasant aromas of teacup and sherry glass, was the miasma of homosexuality.

And there was also a Fifth Man, "Basil". A nuclear scientist, he confessed in 1948, is now retired, and was originally brought to bay and turned 'round when agents of the Israeli Secret Service threw him into James J. Angleton's arena. Angleton fares well in these pages: "deep," "effective," "redoubtable." The book has a good index and annotation, is quite competently written, and is bolstered by a myriad of interviews confidential or otherwise.

Every now and then we found ourselves scribbling such marginalia as "gad!" opposite some particularly outrageous example of moral or governmental laxness. Just one example (p. 291): "Donald Maclean's preference for spending his evenings alone with official documents in front of him, and a consoling bottle of whiskey to hand, had quickly become accepted by colleagues as one of his more endearing oddities."

Read it, and weep? No: read this cautionary tale the better to identify any recurrence of such mortal distempers in our own country. "Without the personal guidance of former members of the American intelligence community," Mr. Boyle confesses, "I would never have

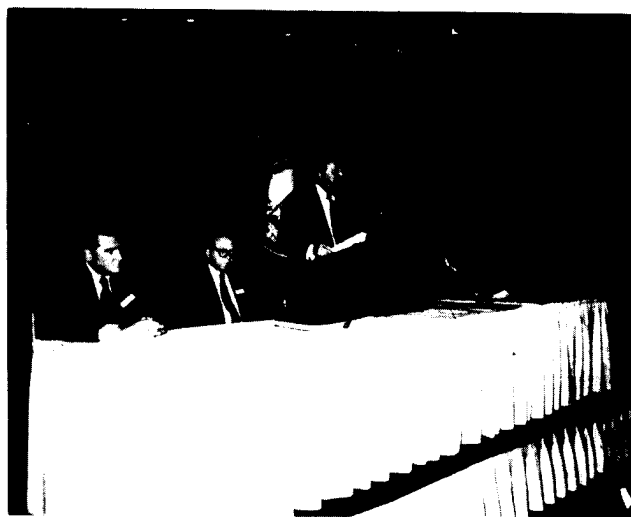
stumbled on 'Maurice' or 'Basil' . . . there may be further accomplices still to be uncovered. If so, I leave the field as open as I found it for future sleuths to track them down."

From such somber probings it is a relief to move to the jaunty pages of German-born Israeli Intelligence officer Wolfgang Lotz, who turned a neat trick of **Gesellschaftssplionage** for Israel against Egypt a while back, and told about it in **The Champagne Spy** (1972). That volume has, we learn, been translated into fourteen languages; even the most grubbing media hacks were forced to "acclaim me one of the most successful and brilliant secret agents ever to have operated in the Middle East." Obviously the next phase was to take a cue from British agent Alexander Foote's **Handbook for Spies** (1949) and offer novices a vade-mecum on how to become a spook.

In ten insouciant chapters, with no illustrations or any supporting material, one is told how. The section on interrogation is interesting ("the more they bear you, the less they know"), and so are occasional generalizations, viz., "I have yet to meet the retired agent who is generously provided for." Major Lotz runs the gamut from how to get into the business up through how to survive in a penitentiary.

The author even offers questionnaires for self-grading. Here we met our Rubicon. The first questionnaire gives ten multiple-choice statements on one's fitness for the Second Oldest Profession; and since we have weathered thirty-four years' service in activities ancillary thereto, we took the test in a mood of diligent optimism. Alas, against a scale running from 250 points down to 50 or below, we were advised as follows: "You are average . . . you are hamstrung by conventions . . . you have your uses even in a profession such as ours. If you apply yourself, you may in time become a passable agent." Dashed, we turned to a second questionnaire treating **The Spy and the Opposite Sex**. On a scale running from 305-plus points down to 20, we racked up the following appraisal: "You are a hardbitten individual, and your partner in love is not to be envied. The secret service should be just the right occupation for you." Riven and bemused, we emerge from this ordeal with only one tentative critique: perhaps the **Champagne Spy's** handbook would have been more fruitfully reviewed in some such periodical as **Telescope: The Bulletin of the Association for Future Intelligence Officers**.

Curtis Carroll Davis  
Baltimore, Md.



The members of the panel that participated in the discussion of the Charter Bill at the AFIO Spring luncheon. Left to right: William Brannigan, formerly with the FBI, Major General Jack Thomas and, on the far right, Jack Warner of AFIO. President Blake is introducing them.



## The Opposition Responds

### Anti-Intelligence Organizations Resist Loosening of Restraints

(The following represents the latest report in our continuing effort to keep members informed on the activities and background of the forces arrayed against the intelligence community. Although not entirely enjoyable reading, it makes clear that our opponents are a formidable coalition which is not resting on its past successes. This, in turn, suggests that despite recent gains AFIO must also increase its efforts to deepen and strengthen public support. The Editor)

Proposals to loosen restraints on CIA covert action capabilities, made early this year and now embodied in several pending bills, drew immediate protests from the Campaign for Political Rights (CPR), the Washington umbrella organization that represents the organized anti-intelligence lobby. In a January 24 joint letter to the President, 36 CPR member groups vigorously opposed weakening the 1974 Hughes-Ryan amendment so that the President would have to notify only the two intelligence committees, instead of eight congressional panels (i.e., a few hundred Congress members and staffers), of covert operations.

The CPR quoted Church Committee findings and the President's 1976 campaign promises in support of its position, claiming the proposed changes would be "a step backwards to the days of secret CIA wars and Watergate-style secret government." It urged the President to resist any effort to "undercut current restraints on CIA operations" and to act positively to place all intelligence agencies "under the strict rule of law."

The ACLU, ADA, Center for National Security Studies (CNSS), Committee for Public Justice and Covert Action Information Bulletin (CAIB) were among the better known signers of the letter. Also included were a number of church groups, several officially cited (i.e. by Congressional Committees) Communist fronts, and the ultra-rightist Libertarian Party. Charlene Mitchell, for years a top-ranking U.S. Communist Party official, signed for one of the fronts; Pauline Rosen, another activist identified as a Party member, signed for the National Center to Slash Military Spending.

Key activists in the lobby who were denounced as "traitors" by DCI Stansfield Turner on a nationwide NBC telecast last summer, testified before the House Intelligence Committee at the end of January in opposition to several "identities protection" bills, even as they went about their business of exposing everyone they knew, or suspected, of being CIA officers serving abroad. They were William H. Schaap, publisher of the CAIB, and his wife, Ellen Ray, and Louis Wolf (co-author of Philip Agee's "Dirty Work: The CIA in Europe") — both CAIB staffers.

Schaap claimed it is a "myth" that exposure endangers U.S. intelligence personnel in foreign countries, that the CIA is "an evil instrumentality which is beyond reform", that it is even now paying off foreign politicians, buying elections, and engaging in other "dirty work," and that he and his associates want to put a stop to such practices and should be allowed to do so

without any danger of prosecution. He also opposed any effort to amend or repeal Hughes-Ryan and exempt the CIA from Freedom of Information Act disclosure provisions.

An old hand at such activities at age 40, Schaap has been active in the National Lawyers Guild (NLG), defending such groups such as the Black Panther Party and SDS, and was an NLG delegate to a function of the Soviet-controlled international legal front, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers. During the Vietnam War, he specialized in military service resistance work.

More recently, he has been active in defense of persons associated with the New Jewel Movement whose leader, Maurice Bishop, seized control of the Caribbean island of Grenada in March 1979 with Cuban military assistance. An associate with Agee in the old "Counter-Spy," Schaap introduced the "Covert Action Information Bulletin" to the world by distributing several hundred free copies of it in Havana at the time of the July 1978 Moscow-controlled World Youth Festival there.

The old "Counter-Spy", meanwhile, is erratically published. Its last issue, featuring an article "U.S. Intervention in Afghanistan," came out in mid-December 1979 just a few days before the Soviet invasion of that country — and just in time to serve as a most useful Soviet propaganda instrument. Moscow radio was quoting it before its troops began crossing the border and, immediately afterward, both the U.S. Communist press and Tass and Pravda were quoting it and one another's versions of its allegations in support of the world Communist propaganda line on why Moscow's forces had to move into that unhappy land. The U.S., it seems, was interfering in Afghanistan "on a large scale" by its support of armed rebels against the legitimate government. The Soviet Union did no more than respond to the government's plea for help in putting down a U.S.-inspired rebellion. We are perhaps fortunate that the declared enemies of the intelligence services are so plainly tied to the declared enemies of our country.

Frank McNamara

## Chapter Notes

### STRIKE STRIKES GREATER NEW YORK CHAPTER

The Greater New York Chapter had scheduled its annual business meeting for the evening of Thursday, 3 April, 1980 and had invited Jack Blake to be the featured speaker. Unfortunately, the New York City transit strike started the day before, and Derek Lee rightfully thought the better course of wisdom was to cancel and reschedule the meeting. Question — was this an intelligence failure?

### NEWS FROM FLORIDA

The Satellite Chapter held a luncheon meeting at Patrick Air Force Base on 15 March 1980. The guest speaker was Mr. Steve Lewis, Legislative Aide to Congressman Bill Nelson. Stan Phillips and Gerry Davis were invited guests.

The Suncoast Chapter at St. Petersburg will hold a



meeting on Monday, 28 April, and has invited Jack Blake to address the group.

We are indebted to Gerry Davis, both Florida State Chairman and President of the Southwest Chapter at Ft. Myers for calling our attention to the accomplishments of Herman Bly, reported elsewhere in this issue. Herman Bly himself also reports the following events: "... On January 18, 1980, I appeared on a one-hour radio talk show on WRCC FM ... and on Jan. 27 ... Col. Gerry Davis, Don Randall and I appeared before the Lee County Veterans Council meeting and discussed various matters relating to the intelligence agencies." Jack Blake will be visiting with Gerry and other Chapter officers at Ft. Myers on Saturday, 26 April.

#### CALIFORNIA DEVELOPMENTS

Interesting expansion developments in the California chapter structure are underway. The Orange County Chapter is moving ahead. Lt. Col. Emanuel Peters is forging ahead in organizing a Chapter at Los Gatos, which should take care of the South Peninsula area. We have also asked Lee Echols to look into the prospects of starting a Chapter in San Francisco.

#### MONTANA

Dick Grant reports that with the snow now melting away in the Western hills, his Chapter is about to schedule a Spring meeting. Dick is very active in the Montana Department of the American Legion and uses his entree to help further the cause of AFIO.

#### OHIO

The second meeting of the new Ohio Chapter, under President Fred Lewton, was scheduled for mid-March. Miles Beran has been active in both helping get the Chapter underway and making local public appearances on issues of concern to AFIO.

#### Editor's Comment:

Clearly the chapters are becoming more active in all parts of the country. Our plea is to keep the reports coming in to *Periscope* so that the whole membership can be informed — and **please** remember to take pictures and send them in.



A member rises to ask a probing question of the panel at the Spring Luncheon. The member is Hans Moses.

**PERISCOPE**, in its continuing efforts to be of service to members, is opening its pages to classified ads submitted by members. Do you have a boat or car for sale, a condominium to rent, a house you would like to swap for a few weeks or months, a service to offer, or a hobby to pursue? If you do — or have similar interests which we can help you with through our pages — send us a brief summary of the details for insertion in our classified ad column. There will be no charge for this service.



(Photo Courtesy of Pottsville, Pa., Republican)

AFIO speakers helped Pottsville, Pa., Rotarians celebrate 75th Anniversary of Rotary Founding. Here, Pottsville Mayor Robert L. Allen, second from right, presents the Key to the City to John Blake, center, and John Maury. Completing the picture, at left, is AFIO member and Pottsville resident Charles "Red" Buchanan, who arranged for the speakers, and at right, Rotary President F. Dale Shoeneman.

**The following list of new members since the last issue is incomplete in that it does not include those who requested that their names be kept restricted.**

### **LIFE MEMBERS**

LTC Mercedes O. Cubria, USA (Ret.)  
Miami, FL  
Col Francis Bernard Gallagher, USAF (Ret.)  
El Paso, TX  
Mr. Henry C. Houkal  
Falls Church, VA  
Mr. Fred Rodell  
Houston, TX  
The Honorable James R. Schlesinger  
Washington, D.C.  
Mr. Wilfred S. Tucker  
Perrine, FL  
Mr. Chester H. Twentyman  
Arlington, VA  
Mr. "Woody" (Ralph L.) Woodall  
Kettering, OH

### **FULL MEMBERS**

Mr. Thomas B. Abernathy  
Vienna, VA  
LTC John R. Aliasson, USA (Ret.)  
Alexandria, VA  
Mr. Daniel C. Arnold  
Vienna, VA  
Mr. James N. Atkinson  
Glen Gardner, NJ  
Mr. Howard C. Barlow  
Rockville, MD  
LtCol Robert L. Base, USAF (Ret.)  
Fairfax Station, VA  
Mr. Edward B. Beidleman  
Ewa Beach, HI  
Mr. John W. Borgman  
Annandale, VA  
Mr. Donald A. Borrmann  
Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Irene U. Boublik  
Vienna, VA  
Mr. Scott D. Breckinridge  
Lexington, KY  
Miss Beryl T. Brown  
Annapolis, MD  
Mr. Thomas R. Brown, III  
Vienna, VA  
Mr. Robert O. Bussey  
Arlington, VA  
Mrs. Cordelia T. Condray  
Cheverly, MD  
Mr. Herbert L. Conley  
Silver Spring, MD  
Mr. Stephen A. Conroy  
Alexandria, VA  
LCDR David S. Cooper, USNR (Ret.)  
Hamilton, VA  
Dr. David S. Crist  
Washington, D.C.  
COL William R. Culmer, AUS (Ret.)  
McLean, VA  
CAPT Edward Dangler, USNR  
Palo Alto, CA  
Mr. Erik S. Dinsmore  
Brooklyn, NY

Mr. Jeremiah M. Dolan  
Poway, CA  
Ms. Rita M. Draina  
Sarasota, FL  
Col John C. Erskine, USMCR (Ret.)  
Bethesda, MD  
Mr. Michael S. Evancevich  
Sierra Vista, AZ  
Mr. Fredric S. Feer  
Springfield, VA  
Mr. Otto E. Fiedler  
Dayton, OH  
Mr. Donald P. Forbes  
Poolesville, MD  
Mr. William J. Gadue  
Naples, FL  
CDR Robert C. Gerdemal, USN (Ret.)  
Cypress, CA  
LtCol William G. Ghormley, USAF (Ret.)  
Georgetown, TX  
Mr. Peter C. Goold  
Castleton, NY  
Mr. Edward Grainger  
Bethesda, MD  
Mr. Harris Greene  
Arlington, VA  
Mr. Charles A. Greenlaw  
Falls Church, VA  
Mr. Arnold H. Haverlee  
Oviedo, FL  
Mr. George A. Heisch  
Pasadena, MD  
LtCol Lorenzo H. Herring, Jr., USAF (Ret.)  
Lexington, KY  
Col Ralph A. Heywood, USMC (Ret.)  
Harlingen, TX  
Mr. Chester R. Hoatson  
Bethesda, MD  
Mr. Hans J. Jensen  
Incline Village, NV  
Maj Bruce R. Jones, USMC (Ret.)  
Honolulu, HI  
LTC Earl W. Jones, AUS (Ret.)  
Beltsville, MD  
LTC William J. Jones, USA (Ret.)  
Williamsburg, VA  
Mr. Edwin L. Kilby, Jr.  
Clemson, SC  
Mr. Marcus W. Kostolich  
Wheaton, MD  
Mr. Hubert N. Lacey  
Arlington, VA  
COL John V. Lanterman, USA (Ret.)  
Bethesda, MD  
Mr. Constant A. Lascaris  
Clearwater Beach, FL  
Mr. Al Lipp  
Alexandria, VA  
Mr. Kenneth G. Lobb  
Merritt Island, FL  
Mr. James L. Lofton, III  
San Diego, CA  
Mrs. Dorothy R. Lyman  
Ponte Verde Beach, FL  
LT Kevin W. Lynch, USNR  
Annapolis, MD

LtCol Donald C. Maier, USAFR  
Saratoga, CA  
Mr. Michael J. Malanick  
Vienna, VA  
Mr. John F. Markham  
Washington, D.C.  
Mr. Brian L. Marshall  
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Mr. Jack F. Mathews  
Carpinteria, CA  
Mr. Cord Meyer  
Washington, D.C.  
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Worcester, MA  
Mr. Jack H. Mower  
Washington, D.C.  
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Warrenton, VA  
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Midland, MI  
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Pinehurst, NC  
Mr. M. R. Panell  
Seymour, TN  
CDR Herbert E. Peters, USCG (Ret.)  
San Diego, CA  
Mr. George E. Prujan  
Silver Spring, MD  
Mr. Edwin S. Rockefeller  
Washington, D.C.  
Mr. William J. Rowland  
Elmhurst, NY  
Mr. Don V. Rowton  
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LtCol Stewart G. Scull, USAF (Ret.)  
Seminole, FL  
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New York, NY  
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Mr. Thomas J. Smith  
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Mr. David P. Stang  
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Mr. Lawrence M. Sternfield  
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Mr. Clifton R. Strathern  
Bealeton, VA  
LTC John N. Stratton, USA (Ret.)  
Bowie, MD  
Mrs. Mary Eloise S. von Otto  
Washington, D.C.  
Mr. Robert J. Welday  
McLean, VA  
Mr. Samuel W. West  
Springfield, VA  
Mr. Richard D. Wever  
Bedford, PA  
Mr. James L. Wheeler  
Falls Church, VA  
Mr. Daniel C. Williams  
Annandale, VA  
LTC Richard W. Wood, USA (Ret.)  
Springfield, VA

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Mr. Irving Barron  
Brooklyn, NY

Mr. John Hale Bliss New Port Richey, FL	Mr. Henry Muller, III Coronado, CA
Mr. John Hunter Chiles, Jr. Atherton, CA	Mrs. Constance Phillips Nelson Menlo Park, CA
Mr. Andrew J. Collins Goose Creek, SC	Mr. Dudley Porter, Jr. Chattanooga, TN
Mr. G. Edward Cotter Los Angeles, CA	Mr. Jack J. Resburg Portland, OR
CWO John A. DeNino, USN (Ret.) San Diego, CA	Mr. William N. Ronaldson Portola Valley, CA
Mr. Daniel S. Flamberg New York, NY	Maj William Siebert, USAF (Ret.) San Antonio, TX
Mr. Edward Gustavson Hartford, MI	Mr. Jack A. Stern Brooklyn, NY
CDR Ned Harrell, USN (Ret.) Sun City, CA	Mr. Francisco H. Tabernilla Palm Beach, FL
Mr. Marvin Holt Beverly Hills, CA	Mr. Kenny Tang Gardena, CA
Mr. Horace D. Hulsey Smyrna, GA	Mr. William L. Wasson Silver Spring, MD
Mr. Robert T. Morrison San Diego, CA	Mrs. Natalie Wraga Lovettville, VA

happened to be First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy. Our reply cannot be quoted due to the family nature of our readership.



Jack Blake Presenting a Citation for Distinguished Service to Chairman David Attlee Phillips. On the left is Dr. E.L.R. Elson who received a similar citation a few moments later.

## Notes from National

**WASHINGTON AREA LUNCH.** The Annual Spring Lunch for members in the Metropolitan Washington Area was held on 21 March 1980 at the Fort Myer's Officers Club. A paid attendance of 333 people represented the largest number drawn to one of our spring lunches. Featured at the gathering was a three-man panel that discussed current charter legislation proposals. The Panel consisted of William Brannigan, formerly of the F.B.I., Major General Jack Thomas, former Chief of Air Force Intelligence, and John Warner, the AFIO Legal Advisor. (See pictures elsewhere in this issue.)

**UNIQUE USE OF SPEAKER'S KIT.** An AFIO member who is a well-known Professor at a leading southern university informs us that he is using the AFIO Speaker's Kit as a reading item in a course on intelligence he is conducting.

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY.** Current planning calls for the 1980 edition of the Membership Directory to be mailed on 15 July. **Members are urged to report any change of address at their earliest convenience.**

**AFIO DECALS.** AFIO decals are still available from the National Office. Priced at \$1.00 each, these four-color adhesive-backed emblems may be mounted on car windows or bumpers. Why not order one or more?

**CHAPTER BY-LAWS.** We have now received from the majority of chapters copies of their by-laws. As soon as time permits we will review all and be in contact. In the meantime we thank all involved, and also express thanks for the information recently submitted on chapter officers, membership totals, etc.

**AND NOW TO CLOSE ON A SWEET/SOUR NOTE.** We considered but were dissuaded from awarding a citation for distinguished service to the employee of the Fort Myer's Officers' Club who, on the day of our December lunch, changed the notice-board to read Association of Formerly Intelligent Officers." . . . And then there was the telephone call from the charming associate on the day of the Spring Lunch asking if it would be all right for her to bring a guest who just

### Researcher Seeks Assistance

Margaret L. Rossiter, Professor of History at Eastern Michigan University, is seeking any information members may have about women who served OSS in France or Algeria during World War II. Professor Rossiter is preparing a book on **Women in the French Resistance**. Her interest covers women agents, translators, code clerks, office managers, liaison agents, radio operators, etc. Her address is Eastern Michigan University, Department of History and Philosophy, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.



An interesting table at the Spring Luncheon. The gentleman in uniform is MG George S. Patton, Jr. To his right is Dora Layton and to his right are Marilyn de Silva, Lou Conein and Gil Layton. The others are unidentified.

## From The President's Desk: A Report From Jack Blake

Having been in office over half a term the thought occurs to share with you some facts and observations on your organization.

It is hard to identify what most impresses me about AFIO and, indeed, there are many options from which to choose. First, there is the mere fact of the existence of the organization — people with common beliefs and experiences, thoroughly dedicated to the maintenance of a service essential to the well-being and survival of our Republic. Another option to pick is the number of members who give unstintingly of their time and energy to ensure the viability of AFIO. I have in mind the chapter officers, the members of the Advisory Council, the dedicated volunteers, men and women, who perform tasks at the National office. Another choice is giving recognition to the accomplishments of AFIO in working with the Congress, much of which is not readily visible to our members. There are other examples that could also be cited, but I believe the above will suffice.

Let me now give a brief description of the AFIO organization. The Advisory Council recently recommended that we adopt a more formalized committee structure than has existed. Elsewhere in this issue you will read a listing of the committees. In some cases this new approach ratified on-going activities, while in others we will be charting new waters. The total of the six committees, however, represents an umbrella that covers our activities. Some of those activities are continually on-going while others are more sporadic. In the legislative field, for example, one volunteer visits the office each week to read copies of the Congressional Record, and seeks out any new developments of interest. Another volunteer spends three afternoons a week reading through newspaper clippings to spot items of interest. Our Treasurer, a full-time, employed CPA, visits the office once a week to write checks, pick up dues payments, and keep the books current. The National Convention Committee has already had two meetings and is far along in its planning for 3/4 October 1980.

Specific note should be taken of the dedication shared by the Legal Task Group that basically authored our position on charter legislation. In view of their other commitments and interests, their investment of time and energy was nothing less than impressive.

The mainstay of any organization is obviously its membership, and most particularly, its active and paid membership. We are acquiring about 45 new members per month but, sadly, a bit less than that number are dropped on the average each month. In the Fall of last year we dropped the names of 115 people who were more than six months in arrears on their dues. We



**John F. (Jack) Blake**

recently sent out 350 additional notices to people six months in arrears. Over one hundred have favorably responded so far, but action will commence on 1 May 1980 to drop the names of those from whom we have not heard. Our current membership is approximately 2800. While we dislike dropping the names of members we cannot in fairness to those who meet their obligations continue to send our material to those whose dues are more than six months in arrears.

While our growth rate is satisfactory we wish to do more both to hold current members and acquire an increasing number of new ones. We are trying to attack this matter on several fronts. Hopefully, the "AFIO News Commentary" is a new and valuable service that will help hold members. Secondly, our re-instituted Membership Committee will take a vigorous approach to solve this problem. There is a third and most important approach to this matter. It is you. On page 4 of this issue is a form to be filled out and sent to us by those who may be interested in joining. If each of you would tear out and give this form to one prospective member we could take a great leap forward. Surely among your working colleagues, your neighbors, your circle of personal friends, is an individual desiring to be associated with us — but the person has to be aware of our existence. That is the crucial role you play. We ask that you give this matter thought, identify the best possible prospective member, and get the form to that person.

### OUR THANKS TO . . .

Georgia Stockton of Belle, Missouri for a contribution to the T. H. Karamessines Memorial Fund. And to . . .

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