

YOU HAVE TO START SOMEWHERE - THE FIRST OFFICERS OF THE 'NEW' INTELLIGENCE CORPS IN WORLD WAR II by ANTONY BAXTER

Introduction

This paper looks at those officers who were assigned to the Intelligence Corps on 15 July 1940 and attempts to profile them and identify what they did during their service and afterwards.

In total there were some 465 officers who found themselves in the Corps from that date, although, as with so many other announcements, it took time for some of them to appear in the Gazette. There are a few where the notice for the 15th was cancelled and no replacement found, so these have been excluded from this study¹. Clayton (1993) notes that not all officers engaged in Intelligence work did transfer, mostly for career reasons, so this is not the whole story, but quite enough to be going on with.

The authority promulgating the Corps was Army Order 112 of 19 July 1940.

Caveat Lector

There are two important considerations to be taken into account when examining or critiquing this material.

Firstly, it only relates to those officers who were assigned to the Intelligence Corps on 15 Jul 1940. There are others whose dates are close, but these were the first. You have to start somewhere;

Secondly, it relates to officers only, apart from any Other Ranks who were commissioned prior to joining the Corps. There will have been soldiers assigned to the Corps, but, as far as the Gazettes are concerned, they only appear in lists of those Mentioned (in Despatches) (MiD), so we have no way of knowing from this material when they joined the Corps².

Notes on Sources and Methodology

A primary source has been the London Gazettes. However, when compared to the wealth of material available prior to 1939, these are a major disappointment. After the almost blow-by-blow description of an officer's career that you might find until the 1920s, entries after 1939 are really limited in scope. Perhaps the only good thing about them is that they then start to use an officer's personal number, so one can be sure that entries refer to the right man, despite such data having been available since 1920.

1 One such is Ashley William Edgell Winlaw (personal number 71533) who had two notices appointing him to the Corps, both of which were later cancelled, the later of the two not until a Gazette of January 1944. He was one of those who served with school Cadet Forces, MiD during the war, would receive the Territorial Decoration in 1951 and was appointed OBE following retirement as Headmaster of a Cadet College in Pakistan.

2 For instance, the obituary of Lt-Col Arthur Ernest Bickerton TD in *The Rose & The Laurel* of 1995 says that he was a founder member, having volunteered for FS duties in May 1940. However, he was not commissioned until 1944, so didn't have a Gazette entry in 1940. As noted, this study is limited to those who were officers in that year.

Many Gazette entries just record initial commissioning and then transfer to the Corps, usually from the General List. There are about 85 of these.

Findmypast has been searched for the 1939 Register, to give a feel for what people did before the war, and thus perhaps why they found themselves in Intelligence.

FreeBMD has been used for vital statistics, to try and see the age profile of these officers. Again, it is not complete, since some officers had only a single name or initial and there would be too many possible candidates unless other corroborating material exists. There are some 93 men without this detail, but this should not stop some generalisations about the majority being valid.

Having found some interesting detail through Google searches the process was applied for each officer. The results vary, but contain much information that might not otherwise be found.

There is some material from the Museum but only up to letter E., as a sample to see if was of value. There are some differences in one or two cases. 50 years worth of *'The Rose and the Laurel'* (R&L) were searched for obituaries and relevant articles. Again, the results have been worthwhile.

Remember once again that this is a subset of all those officers who served with the Corps in WWII, but, as and when the *Secret Soldier* material begins to become finalised, then the above methodology may be useful in producing a picture of each member (both officer and OR) for the final record. There are several 'known' names in the list, as well as some who might be candidates for *Secret Soldier*.

Numerology

Officers' personal numbers were introduced as a result of Army Order 338 of August 1920. For the purposes of this study they can be divided into two - pre-war, whether the man had been commissioned during the Great War or afterwards, and Emergency Commissions, the numbers for which started at 100,000, and which were introduced in 1939.

You might think that the latter would only be used for people with little or no military experience. Not so, as at least 150 (nearly a third) of those involved had been in the Army or RFC/RAF 1914-19. It may have depended on how they left the service, and whether or not they had a Reserve commitment or any liability to be recalled in an emergency. Some of those had actually reached the age limit for recall prior to the outbreak of war, but found themselves back in uniform, voluntarily or otherwise, in 1939.

Numerically the early soldiers seem to have been given numbers in the 768xxxx series, which was used for the remaining men in BAOR Mark I. It's the Military Police series - presumably it made sense to include those whose duties were similar, and the numbers involved by that time would be so small that the effort involved in assigning a separate block (or indeed the perceived need for it) was probably not felt to be worth the effort. In addition, as the first base was the Military Police Depot at Mytchett it might have been felt more secure to fit them in with the main series rather than use a separate, distinctive, one. The Corps did get its own number set in about 1942 - there are websites that list these things. By that time there were well over 1200 officers, and the OR population may have seen a similar level of increase.

The Reserves

There were different Reserves from which some of the intake were drawn. The Regular Army Reserve of Officers (RARO) was established by Army Order 550 of 1920. The General List would comprise all ranks above Lt-Col and specialists who could not be borne on the cadre of a unit. In addition, officers who had no wish to join any particular regiment would be appointed to the General List. Importantly, for our purposes, is the fact that the List had sections for Machine Gun, Tank, and Intelligence, three specialist elements that had emerged during the War. Appointments would be made to the Intelligence element throughout the inter-war period, and the Army List for 1940 Q2 shows some 72 names, many of which are familiar from *Secret Soldier*, and some 11 of whom would find themselves amongst the 'Originals' in July 1940.

There was also an Army Officers' Emergency Reserve (AOER), created in 1937 'to register the names of those possessing military experience or technical, scientific or academic qualifications, prepared to give an honourable undertaking to present themselves for military service if and when called upon to do so in a national emergency. (*Yorkshire Post*, 31 Jul 1939).³ Those from this Reserve were largely assigned to the Special List until they went into the Corps.

WWI service

As you might expect, the majority of those with Great War experience had been in the Infantry, with the Artillery coming a close second. There had also been people in the Royal Engineers, the Indian Army and one whose Medal Card claimed 'Naval Intelligence Department', something not reflected in the Gazettes.

Perhaps the strangest (and oldest⁴) was Douglas Catterall Leyland Orton (16839). Born Feb 1881 he was commissioned into a Field Ambulance Unit from 'the list of Officers attached to units other than Medical Units' in 1909.⁵ He served throughout the Great War and after, with his last post being OC 6th (Western) General Hospital, his tenure for which expired on 30 September 1939. The next day he was commissioned into the General List as a Lieutenant, and to the Corps in July 1940 (aged 59 !!) It's difficult to see what he did then, although he relinquished an appointment as Honorary Colonel of an RAMC TA Unit in 1949. He died in 1965.

Another odd one was Geoffrey Rolles Driver (128466) who was commissioned as Lt in 1915 to work with the Graves Registration Unit, during which time he won an MC and became a temporary Major. He would be appointed CBE in 1957, when he was Professor of Semitic Philology at Oxford University, finally being knighted in 1967 for services to Hebrew and Biblical Studies. His Wikipedia article says he did hospital work, postal censorship and intelligence during WWII.

³ Thanks to Ben Hodges of the *Secret Soldier* team for finding this item. He wondered how many actually turned up to be enlisted. I had thought that there would be a single numbering system for this Reserve, but it seems that some officers on Emergency Commissions were allocated to it. That said, most numbers are in the 98xxx series, such as Francis Aker, a 'known' *Secret Soldier* name, who was allocated 99633. To get a feel for how many turned up, one might not start there and work down to find gaps. (I'm not volunteering to do this !!).

⁴ There is an Arthur John MacPhail (98182) who may have been born in 1878, which would make him the oldest officer.

⁵ LG28286, 7 Sep 1909.

War service was not a prerequisite for success in the intelligence business. Neither Maurice Buckmaster (101877) or John Cecil Masterman (later Sir John) (135204) had seen service before (although in Masterman's case it was because he'd been a civilian interned in Germany for four years), but would rise to great heights during WWII.

The Management

I suppose Buckmaster and Masterman might be considered to be senior management throughout their careers. They weren't the only ones:

Lt-Col Alexander Paterson Scotland (127896) had seen service in WWI, being described as Intelligence Corps on his Medal Card. He had actually served in the German Army in South-West Africa. His knowledge of German would be put to good use with PoW interrogations and he commanded the 'London Cage', one of a number of interrogation facilities throughout the country. There were allegations of torture made against him, which he denied, although there does seem to be evidence of rather robust methods being used by him and his staff. He is mentioned in an article in the *Rose and Laurel* 2003 about interrogator training;

Lt-Col Edwin Charles Whetmore (16119). He would be transferred to the General List Intelligence reserve in 1938 and thence to the Corps in 1940. He would go to SOE and is mentioned in a number of books on the subject as well as an article in the *Rose and Laurel* in 1992;

Lt-Col Edwin Hardy Amies 130398). Better known as the Queen's dress-maker, he would become Head of T (Belgian) Section of SOE in 1944 and later the SOE Mission to Brussels. He would be appointed KCVO in 1989;

Lt-Col John Charles Mawhood (101799). Served in the Indian Army 1918-23. AOER. MI5 in Australia from 1940, where he commanded Military Mission 104 with the aim of raising and training British-style 'special' or 'commando' units for service in the Far East. In 1943 the Australians reorganised these units and presumably Mawhood returned home, as a Gazette notice of that year grants him the honorary rank of Lt-Col 'on ceasing to be employed'⁶;

Lt-Col Stanley Herbert Cunliffe Woolrych OBE (98210). An Intelligencer in WWI his work in training agents is recounted in Janet Morgan's *The Secrets of Rue St Roch* (2004), Allan Lane. He was appointed OBE in 1919. One of the original instructors at Mytchett, then Winchester moving to Matlock when the School of Military Intelligence opened there in September 1940, as GSO2. Later joined SOE and commanded their training establishment at Beaulieu;

Lt-Col, Leslie William Charley OBE (42856). In Intelligence during WWI he was, like Woolrych, a GSO2 at the Intelligence Training Centre in 1940. May have later served in the Middle East;

Major Dennis William Babbage OBE (110915). Associated with Magdalene College, Cambridge, where he would become a Senior Tutor post-war, he was Chief Cryptanalyst in Hut 6 at Bletchley Park, working with Hugh Alexander to recover ENIGMA keys. Appointed OBE in 1945;

Lt-Col James Ogilvy Blair-Cunninghame (130509). Would be OC 7 Intelligence

⁶ LG36074, 29 Jul 1943.

School/7 Security Company Middle East 1942-45, first as Major and then Lt-Col. GC&CS Liaison to SHAEF, and later to AFHQ Italy. Knighted post-war;

Lt-Col Cuthbert Skilbeck (124354). Instructor at Matlock, then recruited by SOE to be an instructor at Beaulieu. To Camp X as Chief Instructor, later becoming Commandant. When the camp closed in 1944 he returned to the UK to be posted to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office for special duties (Wikipedia). He was on the City of London Commission from 1961 to 1981;

Major Ronald Charters Symonds (121402). His obituary⁷ states that he ended the war preparing intelligence officers for their role in the Control Commission. He joined the Security Service and rose to be Deputy Director-General;

Major Alan John Pitts Crick (129509). According to his obituary⁸ he was posted as GSO3 Int to HQ 8th Army in 1941, during which tour he was instructed to pose as a German PoW (being fluent in the language) and successfully obtained useful information from a German officer. Served as an Instructor at Matlock and then GSO2 at SHAEF from Apr 1944 and thence HQ BAOR for the rest of the war. His subsequent career as a civil servant finished with his appointment as Director of Economic Intelligence from 1970 to 1973.

The above are just a few examples of what the first officers achieved.

Where did they come from ?

The most common route into the Corps was via the General List, with some being commissioned before the outbreak of war, and others just a matter of days before they became Intelligence Corps. Officers from the AOER were usually commissioned into the Special List.

There were a number of transfers in to the General List from other units, most notably and understandably, the Corps of Military Police, virtually all of whom would be promoted from the ranks, including a WOIII⁹. There would be a number of transfers directly to the Intelligence Corps in July 1940, mostly from Infantry Regiments. A number of these were Other Ranks.

A Matter of Perception

Although we see the Intelligence Corps being formally established in July 1940 it seems clear to me that those who now formed the new Corps had almost certainly been recruited earlier to work in Intelligence. How did they perceive themselves ? Did they feel they'd been called up to form an Intelligence Corps ? By way of example, look at Captain Nicholas Edward Hope (141140). He was on a mission to rescue the family of General de Gaulle and bring them to England when his plane crashed over France. This was on 18 June 1940. His grave and all relevant papers state that he was Intelligence Corps, yet it was some weeks before the Corps existed. Clearly the CWGC didn't get hold of his grave until after the war, by which time there was a cap badge to go on the tombstone. He is the subject of articles in the *Rose & Laurels* of 2012 and 2013, which pose a number of questions that largely remain unanswered.

⁷ *Rose and Laurel* 1998.

⁸ *Rose and Laurel* 1996.

⁹ Wikipedia says that this rank was instituted in 1938, but that the only appointments holding it were platoon/troop/section sergeant-majors. Placed in suspension in 1940, with no new appointments being made, but it has never been officially abolished.

From the dimension of the current study, one has to ask if he was considered by the powers that were as Intelligence Corps, and did he himself share that view ? I was surprised to find an NE Hope in an Army List for 1942, as an acting Lt with seniority 22 April 1940. Does this mean that if an officer's fate was not known, that they continued to be held as being on active service ? More questions to answer.

There is even a Brevet Major who apparently goes to the Corps on 21 April 1940 85 days before it was officially established¹⁰, although this is probably a mistake as he's been in the Army Educational Corps prior to that and has a notice transferring him to the Corps from AEC (Reserve of Officers) on 15 July 1940. He moved to R Signals in 1942 and was MiD for NW Europe in 1945.

Also of interest is an article in the *Rose & Laurel* of 1969 by "Older Soldier" on 'Selection and Training for the Intelligence Corps in the late Forties', in which the General List still has a presence.

1939 Nominal Roll

There is a Nominal Roll dated 4 December 1939 of GHQ's 'Intelligence Corps' consisting of an OC and Adjutant, and 53 officers. Of the latter, 18 would join the Corps on 15 July 1940. Others, but not all, would follow later. Another instance of function pre-dating the Corps ?

SIS Members

There are a number of officers appointed 'without pay and allowances'. This is an indicator that they were SIS/SOE (Atkin). There are some 16 of these amongst the Originals, with another two who were without pay for a week or so. One officer starts to receive pay from Army funds in September 1943, so perhaps he stopped working for SIS. Another went without from May to November 1940. One stays unpaid by the Army when he transfers to R Signals in July 1942. Such officers are indicated in the wartime Army Lists, but obviously not why they are unpaid.

What did they do pre- and post-war ?

There was a range of activities followed by those who served, both before and after their service. Here are a few, in no particular order or priority.

Broadcasting - One officer would become Head of the BBC Arabic Service post-war, whilst another had been appointed OBE as Director of Variety pre-war. There was a similar award post-war to someone appointed as the Director of Broadcasting in Ghana. Charles Arthur Bertram Marshall (51444) would become famous as one of the team captains on TV's 'Call My Bluff'. He had been in Oundle School OTC pre-war, which explains his number.

Journalists - several. Including Denzil Batchelor (106869), and Philip Lawless (see below). Very little is known of the former's career in the Corps

Sportsmen. Apart from John Masterman, who had played in the Wimbledon Championships, there was Leslie Allison Godfree (115819) who had competed at Wimbledon (doubles winner) and the Olympics. There were two rugby internationals - Philip Lawless (see below) and Thomas Henry Vile (98205), a WWI veteran who played for Wales as late as the age of 37 (Wikipedia). He would become a JP and

¹⁰ H Yeats (24144) LG35205, 26 Jun 1941. First mention of the Corps date-wise.

High Sheriff of Monmouthshire. He is Man of the Decade 1920-29 in the Millennium Stadium Souvenir Handbook (2000).

Authors. Mostly of history, travel, and the arts, although Geoffrey Edward West Household TD (101771) was noted for his novels, especially *Rogue Male*. The historian Hugh Trevor-Roper (later Lord Dacre) (85975), another ex-OTC man, was also in the Corps.

The legal profession was well-represented, with several barristers and solicitors both pre- and post-war. There are two High Court Judges (and thus two knights), as well as Hume Boggis-Rolfe (107405) who helped create a new legal system for post-war Germany and, as Secretary of the Law Commission, played an important part in reforming the divorce laws. CBE 1962, CB 1971. (*Rose and Laurel* Obituary, 2002).

Amongst some of the more unusual careers are maze designer (Gilbert Randoll Coates MVO (112124))¹¹, the designer of the YZ Birds, smoking-related items that seem to have been quite well-known (Bernard Charles Howell (118972))¹², a film director (both pre- and post-war) (Gerald Alfred Holdsworth) (mentioned below), humorist and illustrator of children's books (Alan Hervey D'Egville (107125)), and the proprietor of Poole Potteries, well-known to aficionados of *Bargain Hunt* and *Antiques Road Trip* (Cyril C Carter (98093))¹³.

Decorations

Of these first officers, some 54 had received decorations in WWI - mostly MCs and MiDs. There would be some 147 further awards during WWI, mostly MBE and OBE, but also a range of MiDs. The latter were largely for service in NW Europe and the Middle East, but there were 7 for Italy, 3 for Burma and SE Asia, and one for Persia/Iraq. There was also one for services whilst a PoW. There would be 40 more awards post-war, including 11 Knighthoods.

The lists of MiDs are also useful in that they include Other Ranks, so may be of value to students of the wider Corps history in WWII.

There were some 56 foreign decorations awarded for WWII service. Unlike WWI, where they were neutral, both the Netherlands and Norway conferred awards in recognition of the Corps' work in their liberation.

There were 21 American decorations, mostly Legion of Merit and Bronze Star. One would hope that the award of a Soviet decoration would not cause problems when a PV came to be renewed or reviewed. The recipient was Major Harold Robbins MBE (133062), who was also MiD for services in Persian and Iraq.

Career Progression

Stanley Woolrych (see above) moaned, probably rightly, about the lack of promotion above Captain during WWI. In WWII many of the first officers rose to Lt-Col and above, albeit sometimes as an honorary rank on retirement, but there are 17 or so who became full Colonels (some honorary), whilst two in this list reached Brigadier

11 Obituary in The Guardian, 28 Feb 2006. Had previously been in the Diplomatic Service.

12 See www.yzbirds.com for some examples.

13 See www.poolepottery.co.uk. Apparently the actual pottery in Poole has closed, but their products are still manufactured in Staffordshire.

(three if you count Enoch Powell, although he was no longer in the Corps by then). A number of those who left the Corps would progress, but generally only up to Lt-Col., the level reached by Woolrych himself.

The two Brigadiers were William Francis Jeffries CBE DSO (43577) and Harry Butler Hitchens OBE TD MA (63842). Jeffries was commissioned in 1914 into the Royal Monmouthshire Engineers, but seems to have transferred to the Royal Dublin Fusiliers by the time he was confirmed in rank in 1915. DSO in 1918, and CBE in 1945. One website says that he was wounded twice and MiD twice (not found in the Gazettes). One obituary says that he was Commandant 1940-42, and deputy head of Psychological Warfare Middle East and CMF (?) 1943-45. He was Secretary of the Junior Carlton Club 1938 to 1959. Other appointments (not verified from my sources) were Secretary HM Legation to the Vatican 1919-20, and Administrative Officer, Southern Nigeria, from 1923 to 1927. One website claims he set up a "proper" secret service in Ireland, which seems to have happened about 1920, and also not verified elsewhere.

None of this appears in his rather short obituary in the *Rose and Laurel* of 1969, which says that he was 'not only the founder member of the Corps in 1940 and subsequently of its Benevolent Fund, but he was its inspiration and mentor throughout WWII.' I can accept the latter statements, if only for the lack of information to the contrary, but I believe that the true founder member of the Corps was Lt-Col F C Davis MC, who is discussed later. However, Jeffries was Member Number 1 of the Intelligence Corps Comrades Association (now ICA) when it was founded in October 1941 (Miscellany).

Harry Butler Hitchens OBE TD MA (63842) was commissioned into the Territorial Army in 1934 when he was a master at Clifton College, Bristol. MBE 1943, advanced to OBE 1945, by which time he was a temporary Colonel. He received the American Legion of Merit in 1946 (as a temporary Brigadier), and the Territorial Decoration in 1950. He would finally leave the TA in 1960, retaining the honorary rank of Brigadier. He became Headmaster of Shenstone School in Dartford, Kent, a post he was holding at time of his death in 1963, aged 53. His obituary in the school magazine says he was also awarded the Croix de Guerre (not found in Gazettes), and that his decorations reflected service through the North African and Italian campaigns, for some time on F-M Alexander's staff and his directorship of Intelligence in Austria in 1945-46.

Mass Transfers

Some officers would transfer individually from the Corps, but the largest collective move came on 18 April 1942, when 70 Regular and 2 TA officers went to R Signals. Lord & Watson (2003) list units involved in SIGINT, but there is no mention of this transfer. Quite a number of 'Originals' were involved. Infuriatingly, the R Signals Archive of their magazine *The Wire* does not have anything from 1941 to 1946: perhaps they didn't issue one for those years (which makes sense). It would have been nice to see if the reason for such a large transfer was stated or implied.

There was also one officer who went to the Pioneer Corps along with about 189 others from all areas of the Army in 1941. His fate is detailed below.

Other transfers out

Apart from the above mass transfers, a number of officers left the Corps, doubtless for a mixture of reasons. Royal Signals received the largest number, although one, Lt

Walter Edward Benyon-Tinker (133760), who had been part of the mass transfer in April 1942 was back in the Corps on 30 September 1942. Another short tour was by 2Lt Roger Chitty (128439) who moved back to the General List on 12 December 1940, whilst 2Lt John Crosthwaite-Eyre (134990) transferred to the Royal Engineers on 1 November 1940.

Others went to the Infantry as well as RAC, RAOC and RASC. One would end up in the Parachute Regiment. His death is noted below,

Early termination of commissions

Fewer officers appear to have resigned their commissions during WWII than did in the Great War. Four of this first batch would do so. There was also one who left in December 1940 to take up a commission in the RNVR. This man, Gerard Alfred Holdsworth (136317) (mentioned above) would rise to temporary Acting Commander and his notification of appointment as OBE is unusual in having a published citation which states that it was for 'most distinguished services in enemy-occupied territory'. He was also awarded a DSO and Bar for gallantry off the Breton coast and work behind the German lines in the Tunisian campaign (Tillotson (2011)). The Imperial War Museum site describes him as a 'leading exponent of clandestine seaborne operations and Head of SOE in Italy'. Named after him, the Gerry Holdsworth Special Forces Charitable Trust is devoted to preserving the heritage of SOE and Special Forces.

There were 16 officers in this batch who relinquished their commissions due to unspecified disability, seven of them post-war. A further 11 left through ill-health, the earliest being in 1941, with 1944 as the peak year (seven). There is no mention of whether wounds contributed to their condition, but then notices to that effect no longer seem to have figured in the post-1939 Gazettes, unlike WWI where there are plenty. Some of the original officers had left the service in WWI through ill-health, but had obviously recovered enough to come back in 1939-40.

What's in a name?

The Corps was first abbreviated to I C in Gazettes and the Army List.. This may have caused confusion as in early 1943 we start to see the term I Corps being used on a number of occasions. It appears as late as 1947. From 1946 the term Int Corps appears, usually in connection with Cadet Force appointments.

As an example of an officer possibly suffering an identity crisis, look at this one. Eric Neville Geijer was the son of a Swedish diplomat. He was commissioned from Wellington College OTC into the Hampshire Regt in 1914 as Erik Neville Von Geijer. His MC citation in 1918 has him as Eric de Geijer and when he is appointed to the College of Arms in 1926 he is just Eric Neville Geijer. He took over as Rouge Dragon Pursuivant of Arms¹⁴ from JD Heaton-Armstrong, a former member of the Corps in WWI.. Geijer was commissioned into the General List on 8 July 1940 and the Intelligence Corps a week later. He would die in January 1941 in Cheltenham, with his entry on *FreeBMD* as Eric N Geijer.

I have not been able to find out the precise relationship of Gerard Koch de Gooreynd

¹⁴ This is most junior of the Officers of the College of Arms (of which there are currently four). Heaton-Armstrong was being promoted to Herald (currently six), and would eventually become a King of Arms (of which there are three - Garter, Clarenceux, and Norroy & Ulster). See www.college-of-arms.gov.uk for further detail.

(96587) to the journalist Sir Peregrine Gerard Worsthorne, but the latter would have been called Koch de Gooreynd had not the family changed their name after the birth of his elder brother.

Deaths

There were 14 deaths amongst the first officers. No apology is made for listing them all, as they deserve to be remembered. The first was Major Gilbert Eric Graham Cockburn DSO MC (8051). A veteran of WWI, in which he was badly wounded, he was deployed with the BEF, and reported missing on 23 July 1940, having been last seen on 26 May. He was listed as 'died at sea', with the date of death 27 May. By the time his death was announced he had been transferred to the Corps. He is remembered on the Dunkirk Memorial.

Captain Norman Edward Hope (141140) has been mentioned above. Buried at Ploudaniel Churchyard, Finisterre, France.

Captain Frederick Christopher Benn (130895). To the General List from OCTU. According to the Museum's notes he was shot down in the Western Desert on 30 November 1941. He is remembered on the Alamein Memorial.

Captain James George Charles Worledge (98211). Died 9 February 1942, aged 50. He is remembered on the Brookwood Memorial, which commemorates casualties of WWII who have no known grave, the circumstances of their death being such that they could not appropriately be commemorated on any of the campaign memorials of the various theatres of war (CWGC website). Nothing has been found so far to indicate where and how he died.

Lt-Col Arthur Stewart Talbot Godfrey (44868). Commissioned into Royal Engineers in 1930 he would resign his commission in 1938. He returned to uniform from the Army Officers' Emergency Reserve, but transferred back to the Engineers in October 1941. In 1942 he was awarded the Polar Medal (Silver) for good services with the Oxford University Arctic Expedition to North East Land in 1935 and 1936. He died on 14 May 1942, being described in his CWGC record as R Engineers and Commands and Staff, General Staff. He had various assignments in Iceland and Northern Russia. He was liaison officer to an operation to ensure Norwegian coal mines were not taken over by the Germans. He was on board the ship *Polar Bear* when it was sunk by German aircraft in the Ice Fjord. He was one of those killed. He was posthumously awarded the Norwegian Military Cross. He is remembered on the Brookwood Memorial.

Lt-Col John Edward Haselden MC* (147097). An article in the *Rose and Laurel* 2016 gives details of his career. He came to the Corps from the Libyan Arab Force. He was landed by submarine behind enemy lines in October 1940. He remained behind the lines for 10 days before being picked up by the Long Range Desert Group. He was landed again in November 1941. For these missions he received the MC. In September 1942 he was given command of a force headed for the outskirts of Tobruk, to rendezvous with RM landing craft. The latter missed their inlet and landed too far away. In a battle with the Germans, Haselden was mortally wounded. He was awarded a posthumous Bar to his MC (although I have not been able to find it in the Gazettes) and was MiD in 1946 for his services. He is remembered on the Alamein Memorial.

Major Arthur Samuel Rice (141876). Served in WWI with the Egyptian Labour Corps. He died on 2 November 1942 aged 54, having been found on Falkirk Golf Course.

His death certificate describes him as Electrical Engineer, Major, R Engineers (*ScotlandsPeople*). His CWGC record says Intelligence Corps attached R Engineers. He is buried in Larbert Parish Churchyard.

Captain Michael Prentice Crawford (126829). An article in the *Rose and Laurel* of 2002 by John Condon of the Corps Casualty Project records the results of some extensive research into this officer's death. He committed suicide on 30 November 1942 whilst in Washington DC as personal assistant to the British Minister of Information. It would seem that he was still suffering the after-effects of his experiences at Dunkirk and depression. After much research he was found to be buried at Brentwood Fort Lincoln Cemetery in Maryland. At the time of writing his article, Mr Condon was still trying to get the grave recognised as Crawford's and a CWGC headstone erected. The CWGC website has a picture of the grave, not with the standard gravestone, but one that does identify him as Intelligence Corps, with the Corps badge (King's crown), so he is acknowledged at last. A sad story, and one that seems to disagree with some of the Museum's holdings as sent to me, although given the obscurity surrounding his death for so many years, it's perhaps not too surprising.

Lt Gordon Harry O'Brien-Hitchings (109882). One of the youngest to join the Corps, born in 1920 (although no record found in England, Wales or Scotland). He transferred to the Royal Armoured Corps in January 1942, and from there into the Army Air Corps (Parachute Regiment) in September 1943. Completed training that October, joining 13th (South Lancs) Para Bn. He took part in the Normandy landings and died on 12 July 1944. He is remembered on the Bayeux Memorial.

Lt Harold Steffell (139405) transferred from the Corps to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (Admin Branch) in June 1941. He died on 26 July 1944 and is buried in Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel. No further details of his death have been found.

Captain Basil Woodd Cahusac (102771). A WWI officer who had relinquished his commission on account of ill-health in March 1918, he was, according to the Museum's notes, a civilian MI5 officer pre-war and then a Japanese Interpreter in MI8. Also Sarawak Police. Reported missing in Malaya, he died in a Japanese PoW camp. He is buried in Jakarta Military Cemetery, Indonesia.

Lt-Col John Ali Mackintosh (102728). Apparently his second name was in honour of his godfather, Prince Ali de Bourbon, a Spanish prince. SOE. Died 4 January 1945. Buried Istanbul (Ferikoi) Protestant Cemetery, the only Allied burial there. No further details of his death have been found.

Major Philip Henry Lawless MC (141299). Author, journalist, Rugby player and WWI veteran. He was commissioned into the General List on 4 July 1940. He relinquished his commission in June 1944 on account of ill-health, but then returned to the Daily Telegraph as a War Correspondent with the US 1st Army. He was killed by shell fire in action on 9 March 1945, age 53, at Remagen, Germany, whilst covering the seizure of the bridge there. Known as Peter, this is the name that appears on his grave in Hotton War Cemetery, Luxembourg, Belgium.

Major Charles Theodore Pezare (136176). Served WWI in ASC. Was only in the Corps a short time, returning to the General List on 16 August 1940. He died on 13 March 1945, aged 59. He is buried in Heliopolis War Cemetery, Egypt. No further details of his death have been found.

Prisoners

These are those captured in WWII. A number of the Originals had been taken prisoner or interned during WWI.

Captain Basil Wood Cahusac (102771). See above.

Lt Geoffrey Crispin Sunley (117412). Captured on 26 June 1941, whilst serving with H Sqn GHQ Liaison Regt, at Corinth, Greece. Between June and October 1941 he was imprisoned at Oflag VB at Biberach. From October 1941 to September 1942 he was held at Oflag VIB at Warburg. From September 1942 and April 1945 he was at Eichstatt. His final camp was Oflag VII B. He died in 1988.

Captain (T/Major) James Broom Millar (128451). Looks to have been encouraged to join the Consular Service (as a cover for intelligence work). He initially declined and became a stockbroker. However, by 1937 he was in a consular post in Botin (Berlin?), and was able to arrange for many Jews to leave the country. He was then moved to Copenhagen, being there when the Germans invaded and he was repatriated. His next posting was Zagreb, where he established useful contacts. When Germany invaded Yugoslavia in 1941 he was one of a party that tried to escape by destroyer, but were captured by the Italians. He would later be part of a prisoner exchange involving the Duke of Aosta, who had fallen into British hands. No indication of how long he was held prisoner or where. Post-war he worked in broadcasting, becoming Head of BBC French language programmes, and then Director of Programmes for Scotland. He was also seconded to the Gold Coast (Ghana) for which he was appointed OBE.¹⁵

Captain Alexander Fitzwilliam Crocker Barrington (130399). Possibly SOE he was captured in Malaya in 1942. He would inherit the title of 7th Baronet in 1980, and died in 2003.

Captain Gerard Koch de Gooreynd OBE (96587). Date and location of capture unknown. Believed to have been held at Oflag VIB. He was appointed OBE as a repatriated PoW in recognition of services during and prior to captivity.

Naturalisations

Three officers had been, or would become naturalised Britons.:

2Lt (A/Lt) Carl Ferdinand Juulman (135742) had been a Sapper in Royal Engineers and then Royal Fusiliers in WWI. He was naturalised on 13 November 1923, when it was stated that he was formerly Karl Ferdinand, born in Estonia. He was attached to the Intelligence Department, Int Office, Cologne, British Army of the Rhine. He was a life member of the IB Association¹⁶ between the wars. In 1939 he was in Paddington described as Examiner Transport British Embassy [sic]. There are photos on a website (www.gmic.co.uk) of him and TJ Kendrick, who was well-known in the intelligence business and the subject of a book by Helen Fry. Juulman died in 1948, aged 63;

Major Shemavon Danielian (135840) had been an Interpreter with the Mediterranean

¹⁵ This information comes from a Times obituary held on www.archive.org. It has been very poorly transcribed/copied as it claims he was captured by the Indians (!!). Hence the query after Botin.

¹⁶ An 'Old Comrades' association for ex-intelligencers.

Expeditionary Force in WWI. He was naturalised on 12 November 1925, when his country of origin was given as Ottoman Empire (Armenia) and his address as a PO Box in Cairo. He was a Civil Assistant under the War Office when appointed MBE in 1936, although the decoration is not mentioned in subsequent Gazettes. He relinquished his commission on account of disability in 1950 and was granted the honorary rank of Major. There is some more information about him, including medal rolls, on the Centre for Armenian Information & Advice website;

T/Captain Caspar George Jorgensen (121918). Commissioned from the ranks, where he was a Private in the KRRC. His naturalisation was granted on 11 January 1947, when his country of origin was Norway, and he was a Temporary Sorter (Post Office official) of Kentish Town. He was awarded the King Haakon VII Liberty Medal by Norway in 1948.

The Bad Guys

Regrettably there were a few bad apples in this bunch. Worst of all was Anthony Frederick Blunt (150264), the traitor. Being deprived of his honorary rank in the Corps in 1980 was probably the least of his worries¹⁷.

2Lt John Edward Austin (120244) returned to the General List from the Corps in July 1941 and thence to the Pioneer Corps on 24 December 1941, one of at least 189 officers from all parts of the Army who were transferred on that date. On 7 September 1942 he was cashiered by sentence of General Court-Martial¹⁸. At least he wasn't in our Corps at the time.

The Museum's notes state that a John Bamford was court-martialled for scandalous behaviour and committed suicide in 1942. I cannot find anything to this effect in the Gazettes or elsewhere. It may, of course, be that he was serving abroad, but I feel that something of this nature would invariably warrant a Gazette entry, so more investigation is needed. The only John Bamford who died in 1942 in *FreeBMD* was aged 59.

By contrast, uniquely amongst the officers from 1940, there is a Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (LSGC) (without gratuity) awarded to Darrell Ernest Lumb-Street (111058) in 1947, when he was a Captain on the Extra-Regimentally Employed list. He had been commissioned from Royal Engineers in 1939 with a Quartermaster commission, having been a Superintending Clerk. Wasn't the LSGC for '22 years undetected crime' ??

Post-war Progress

Quite a number of officers stayed on after the war, some converting to Short Service Commissions, whilst others remained in the Territorial Army or other Reserves, or went into or returned to Cadet Force units.

There were a number who became diplomats, and may have had some intelligence connections.

Three, apart from Enoch Powell, became MPs. Hon Kenneth Gilmour (formerly Hon Major, 135873), would be Labour MP for Grimsby from 1945 to 1976, having been a PPS and a Minister of State at the Foreign Office. John Cyril Maude KC (Hon Major,

¹⁷ LG48108, 25 Feb 1980.

¹⁸ LG35772, 3 Nov 1942.

136208) was Conservative MP for Plymouth 1945-51. Duncan McCallum (Major, 10538), saw service in WWI, and was Scottish Unionist MP for Argyll from a by-election in 1940 until his death in 1958. He was knighted in 1955.

An Absent Friend

A better claim to be the founder member of the Corps than that of Jeffries (see above) is that of Lt-Col Frank C Davis MC (27285). He doesn't appear in the list of Originals because, as far as I can see, he was never formally transferred to the Corps. That said he was its very first Commandant, having had intelligence duties during his time with Gloucestershire Regiment. He had retired in 1935, but was asked in 1937 to serve for two months to form a port security section at each of the major ports, being based at the Military Police Depot at Mytchett. His function gradually changed, taking on the wider aspects of field security. When he was called to a conference to discuss the establishment of an Intelligence Corps he drove at such a rate that he incurred a speeding charge and his licence was endorsed - it's amongst the papers he left to the Museum. His other work preparing for the formal establishment of the Corps make him, in my view, a better candidate for the title of founder member.

GCHQ

Several 'Originals' would find themselves at GCHQ at some point in their careers. There are references to a Military Wing. Whilst there was (and still is) a Service presence on site, I can't say that I recall the term being used during my service. Perhaps it was a transitional thing whilst GCHQ was being established. It may have been there whilst the Department was at Eastcote.

Two 'Originals', Eric Smith Austerfield (135141) and Patrick Dudley Crichton-Stewart (111974) were at both Bletchley and GCHQ according to the Museum's notes. Stanley Vivian Bone (141754) was at GCHQ and other units. Ernest Alfred Brooks (139776) was appointed MBE whilst a Higher Executive Officer in 1957. He must have done something special as decorations at that level are quite rare (at least in GCHQ).

The most successful was probably Henry James Corley Dryden (86926). His obituary in the *Rose & Laurel* 1993 gives details of his service. MBE 1943 for work in the Middle East, he was advanced to OBE whilst an AIII at GCHQ and finally CBE when British Liaison Officer in Melbourne.¹⁹ Also an AIII was Geoffrey Herbert Evans (108494), who was appointed MBE in 1944. Both these may have been there when I was, but our paths never crossed.

Conclusions

This is a only a subset of those officers who served before, during and after WWII. There is no feel for the numbers of Other Ranks involved: indeed, the only indications in the Gazettes may be derived from lists of those Mentioned in Despatches.

¹⁹ Civil Service grades would change as a result of the Fulton Commission report in the 1960s. Higher Executive Officer is about Major-equivalent, and still exists. AIII was part of senior management and would now be something like Senior Principal (Grade 6) or Assistant Secretary (Grade 5).

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