



# **Military Despatches**

**Vol 29 November 2019**

## **We will remember them**

**Facts and figures about World War I**

## **Mind games**

**The use of Psy-ops to undermine the enemy**

## **The hunt for Bin Laden**

**Who was he and why did it take so long to catch him**

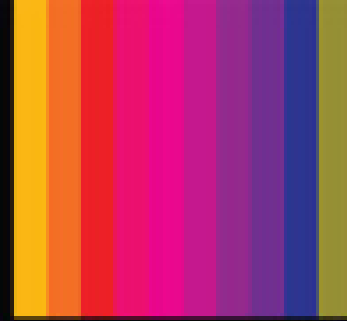
## **Forged in Battle**

**Hawker Hurricane, icon of the Battle of Britain**



***For the military enthusiast***





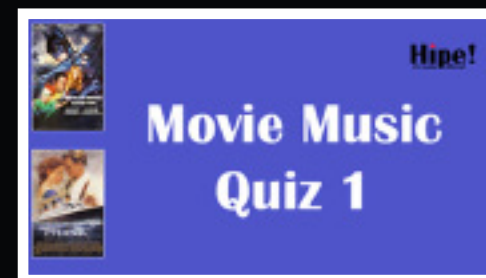
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How much do you know about movie theme songs? Take our quiz and find out.



Hipe's Wouter de Goede interviews former 28's gang boss David Williams.



The old South African Defence Force used a mixture of English, Afrikaans, slang and techno-speak that few outside the military could hope to understand. Some of the terms were humorous, some were clever, while others were downright crude.



Part of Hipe's "On the couch" series, this is an interview with one of author Herman Charles Bosman's most famous characters, Oom Schalk Lourens.



A taxi driver was shot dead in an ongoing war between rival taxi organisations.



Hipe spent time in Hanover Park, an area plagued with gang violence, to view first-hand how Project Ceasefire is dealing with the situation.

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## Editor's Sitrep

So, the year is almost at an end, and so passes another decade. Hard to believe we're almost 20 years into the new millennium.

This month, on 11 November, we commemorate the 101st anniversary of the signing of the armistice, bringing the fighting in World War I to an end.

I sometimes wonder how long society will continue to hold Remembrance Day events and pay homage to those that lost their lives during the World Wars.

All of those that fought in and survived World War I have long since passed on. And there are not many World War II veterans still alive.

Many of our readers fought in our own war that lasted from 26 August 1966 to 21 March 1990. A total of 23 years, six months, three weeks and two days.

The sad thing is that none of us are youngsters anymore and every year our numbers become fewer. So who will remember us when we're gone?

The problem is that the younger generation do not have that much knowledge about either of the World Wars.

Last year I was invited to give

a talk about World War I to a fairly large group of students between the ages of 13 and 17. I was appalled at their lack of knowledge about World War I. What exactly were they being taught in history classes?

Another problem is that in South Africa many of us have become desensitized to violence and violent death.

Take into account that during the Border War a total of 791 members of the SADF were killed in action or died as a direct result of combat. In South Africa more than twice that number are murdered each month.

According to the official crime stats 57 people are murdered or die violent deaths every day. That amounts to 1,710 a month or 20,805 per year. So many South Africans don't really care about what happened more than 100 years ago.

The thing is that we have to remember what happened in the past. Or there is a very real danger of us doing the same thing again.

Until next month.

*Matt*

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media

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### Front Cover

This month's front cover shows one of the many cemeteries in France where those that fell during World War I are buried. On 11 November, we remember them.





## Ten Nazis hanged at Nuremberg

*The Nuremberg trials were a series of military tribunals held after World War II by the Allied forces under international law and the laws of war. Their decisions marked a turning point between classical and contemporary international law.*

In late 1943, during the Tripartite Dinner Meeting at the Tehran Conference, the Soviet leader, Joseph Stalin, proposed executing 50,000–100,000 German staff officers once the Allies had won the war. US President Franklin D. Roosevelt joked that perhaps 49,000 would do.

Churchill, believing them to be serious, denounced the idea of “the cold blooded execution of soldiers who fought for their country” and that he would rather be “taken out in the courtyard and shot” himself than partake in any such action.

However, he also stated that war criminals must pay for their crimes and that, in accordance with the Moscow Document which he himself had written, they should be tried at the places where the crimes were committed. Churchill was vigorously opposed to executions “for political purposes.”

The first and best known of the trials was that of the major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal (IMT).

Held between 20 November 1945 and 1 October 1946, the Tribunal was given the task of trying 24 of the most important political and military leaders of the Third Reich.

Martin Bormann had, un-

known to the Allies, died in May 1945 and was tried in absentia. Another defendant, Robert Ley, committed suicide within a week of the trial’s commencement.

Adolf Hitler and Joseph Goebbels had both committed suicide in the spring of 1945 to avoid capture. Heinrich Himmler attempted to commit suicide, but was captured before he could succeed; he committed suicide one day after being arrested by British forces.

Heinrich Müller disappeared the day after Hitler’s suicide, the most senior figure of the Nazi regime whose fate remains unknown.

Reinhard Heydrich had been assassinated by Czech partisans in 1942. Josef Terboven killed himself with dynamite in Norway in 1945.

Adolf Eichmann fled to Argentina to avoid capture but was apprehended by Israel’s intelligence service (Mossad) and hanged in 1962.

The categorization of the crimes and the constitution of the court represented a juridical advance that would be followed afterward by the United Nations for the development of an international jurisprudence in matters of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and wars of aggression, and led to the crea-

tion of the International Criminal Court.

At the first trial of the International Military Tribunal, 11 of the defendants present were sentenced to death, and ten were executed by hanging.

### 10. Hans Frank



Michael Frank was a German politician and lawyer who served as head of the General Government in Poland during the Second World War.

Frank was an early member of the German Workers’ Party, the precursor of the Nazi Party (NSDAP). He took part in the failed Beer Hall Putsch, and later became Adolf Hitler’s personal legal adviser as well as the lawyer of the NSDAP. In 1933, Frank joined the Hitler Cabinet as Reich Minister without port-

folio.

After the German invasion of Poland in 1939, Frank was appointed Governor-General of the occupied Polish territories. During his tenure, he instituted a reign of terror against the civilian population and became directly involved in the mass murder of Jews.

He engaged in the use of forced labour and oversaw four of the extermination camps; the policies of enslavement and extermination would later be used extensively in conquered territories of the Soviet Union. By 1942 Frank had lost Hitler’s favour, but remained head of the General Government until its collapse in early 1945.

Sentenced to death at the Nuremberg trials, he was executed by hanging on 16 October 1946.

### 9. Wilhelm Frick



Born on 12 March 1877, Frick was a prominent German politician of the Nazi Party (NSDAP), who served as Reich

Minister of the Interior in Adolf Hitler’s cabinet from 1933 to 1943 and as the last governor of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia.

As the head of the *Kriminalpolizei* (criminal police) in Munich, Frick took part in Hitler’s failed Beer Hall Putsch of 1923, for which he was convicted of high treason. He managed to avoid imprisonment and soon afterwards became a leading figure of the Nazi Party (NSDAP) in the *Reichstag*.

After Hitler became Chancellor of Germany in 1933, Frick joined the new government and was named Reich Minister of the Interior. He was instrumental in formulating laws that consolidated the Nazi regime (*Gleichschaltung*), as well as laws that defined the Nazi racial policy, most notoriously the Nuremberg Laws.

Following the rise of the SS, Frick gradually lost favour within the party, and in 1943 he was replaced by Heinrich Himmler as interior minister. Frick remained in the cabinet as a minister without portfolio until Hitler’s death in 1945.

At Nuremberg he was sentenced to death and executed by hanging on 16 October 1946.

### 8. Alfred Jodl

Born on 10 May 1890, Alfred Josef Ferdinand Jodl served with a Battery unit on the Western Front, being awarded the Iron Cross for gallantry in November 1914, and being wounded in action in 1917.

He served briefly on the East-

ern Front before returning to the West as a Staff Officer. In 1918 he again won the Iron Cross for gallantry in action.



After the defeat of the German Empire in 1918, he continued his career as a professional soldier with the much-reduced German Army (*Reichswehr*).

He became a general during World War II, who served as the Chief of the Operations Staff of the Armed Forces High Command (*Oberkommando der Wehrmacht*).

After the war, Jodl was indicted on charges of conspiracy to commit crimes against peace; planning, initiating and waging wars of aggression; war crimes; and crimes against humanity.

The principal charges against him related to his signature of the criminal Commando and Commissar Orders. Found guilty on all charges, he was sentenced to death and executed in Nuremberg on 16 October 1946.



## 7. Ernst Kaltenbrunner



Born 4 October 1903, Ernst Kaltenbrunner was an Austrian senior official of Nazi Germany during World War II. An *Obergruppenführer* (general) in the *Schutzstaffel* (SS), he held the office of Chief of the Reich Main Security Office (*Reichssicherheitshauptamt*; *RSHA*) between January 1943 and May 1945.

Kaltenbrunner joined the Nazi Party (NSDAP) in 1930 and the SS in 1931, and by 1935 he was considered a leader of the Austrian SS. In 1938, Kaltenbrunner assisted in the Anschluss and was given command of the SS and police force in Austria. In January 1943, Kaltenbrunner was appointed chief of the RSHA, succeeding Reinhard Heydrich, who was assassinated in June 1942.

A committed anti-Semite and fanatical Hitler loyalist, Kaltenbrunner oversaw a period in which persecution of Jews intensified. He is considered a major perpetrator of the Holo-

caust during the final years of the war.

Kaltenbrunner was the highest-ranking member of the SS to face trial at the first Nuremberg trials, where he was found guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity. He was sentenced to death and executed by hanging on 16 October 1946.

## 6. Wilhelm Keitel



Wilhelm Bodewin Johann Gustav Keitel was born on 22 September 1882. He was a German field marshal who served as Chief of the Armed Forces High Command in Nazi Germany during World War II.

Keitel was well known and reviled as Hitler's dependable sycophant and habitual "yes-man" among his military colleagues.

He was Head of *Oberkommando der Wehrmacht* (OKW) and de facto defence minister 1938–45.

He was found guilty, principally for issuing a series of

criminal orders that led to widespread atrocities such as the execution of Jews and civilians. He signed numerous orders calling for soldiers and political prisoners to be executed.

He was sentenced to death and executed by hanging on 16 October 1946.

## 5. Joachim von Ribbentrop



Born on 30 April 1893 – 16 October 1946), Ulrich Friedrich Wilhelm Joachim von Ribbentrop was Foreign Minister of Nazi Germany from 1938 until 1945.

Ribbentrop first came to Adolf Hitler's notice as a well-travelled businessman with more knowledge of the outside world than most senior Nazis and as an authority on world affairs. He offered his house for the secret meetings in January 1933 that resulted in Hitler's appointment as Chancellor of Germany.

He became a close confidant of Hitler, to the disgust of some party members, who thought

him superficial and lacking in talent. He was appointed ambassador to the Court of St James's, the royal court of the United Kingdom, in 1936 and then Foreign Minister of Germany in February 1938.

Before World War II, he played a key role in brokering the Pact of Steel (an alliance with Fascist Italy) and the Molotov–Ribbentrop Pact (the Nazi–Soviet non-aggression pact). He favoured retaining good relations with the Soviets, and opposed the invasion of the Soviet Union.

In the autumn of 1941, due to American aid to Britain and the increasingly frequent "incidents" in the North Atlantic between U-boats and American warships guarding convoys to Britain, Ribbentrop worked for the failure of the Japanese-American talks in Washington and for Japan to attack the United States.

He did his utmost to support a declaration of war on the United States after the attack on Pearl Harbor. From 1941 onwards, Ribbentrop's influence declined.

Arrested in June 1945, Ribbentrop was tried at the Nuremberg trials and convicted for his role in starting World War II in Europe and enabling the Holocaust. On 16 October 1946, he became the first of those sentenced to death by hanging to be executed.

## 4. Alfred Rosenberg



Born on 31 December 1892, Alfred Ernst Rosenberg was the head of the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories and war criminal during the Nazi era.

A Baltic German, he was a theorist and an influential ideologue of the Nazi Party. Rosenberg was first introduced to Adolf Hitler by Dietrich Eckart and held several important posts in the Nazi government.

The author of a seminal work of Nazi ideology, *The Myth of the Twentieth Century* (1930), Rosenberg is considered one of the main authors of key National Socialist ideological creeds, including its racial theory, persecution of the Jews, *Lebensraum*, abrogation of the Treaty of Versailles, and opposition to what was considered "degenerate" modern art.

He is known for his rejection of and hatred for Christianity, having played an important role in the development of German

Nationalist Positive Christianity.

At Nuremberg he was sentenced to death and executed by hanging 16 October 1946 for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

## 3. Fritz Sauckel



Ernst Friedrich Christoph "Fritz" Sauckel was born on 27 October 1894 and was a German Nazi politician, Gauleiter of Thuringia and the General Plenipotentiary for Labour Deployment from March 1942 until the end of World War II.

Sauckel worked directly under Göring through the Four-Year Plan Office, directing and controlling German labour. In response to increased demands, he met the requirement for manpower with people from the occupied territories. Voluntary numbers were insufficient and forced recruitment was introduced within a few months.

Of the five million foreign workers brought to Germany,



around 200,000 came voluntarily, according to Sauckel's testimony at Nuremberg.

The majority of the acquired workers originated from the Eastern territories, especially in Poland and the Soviet Union where the methods used to gain workers were very harsh.

The *Wehrmacht* was used to pressgang local people and most were taken by force to the Reich. Conditions of work were extremely poor and discipline severe, especially for concentration camp prisoners. All the latter were unpaid and provided with starvation rations, barely keeping those workers alive.

Such slave labour was widely used in many German industries, including coal mining, steel making, and armaments manufacture.

He was found guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity, sentenced to death by hanging, and executed on 16 October 1946.

## 2. Arthur Seyss-Inquart



Born on 22 July 1892, Arthur Seyss-Inquart was an Austrian Nazi politician who served as Chancellor of Austria in 1938 for two days, before the annexation of Austria by Nazi Germany (the *Anschluss*).

During World War I, Seyss-Inquart fought for the Austro-Hungarian Army with distinction. After the war he became a successful lawyer, and went on to join the governments of Chancellors Engelbert Dollfuss and Kurt Schuschnigg.

In 1938, Schuschnigg resigned in the face of a German invasion, and Seyss-Inquart was appointed his successor. The newly installed Nazis proceeded to transfer power to Germany, and Austria subsequently became the German province of Ostmark, with Seyss-Inquart as its governor (*Reichsstatthalter*).

Following the fall of the Low Countries in World War II, Seyss-Inquart was appointed *Reichskommissar* of the occupied Netherlands. He instituted a reign of terror, with Dutch civilians subjected to forced labour and the vast majority of Dutch Jews deported and murdered.

He was sentenced to death at Nuremberg and executed by hanging on 16 October 1946.

## 1. Julius Streicher

Julius Streicher was born on 12 February 1885. He was a prominent member of the Nazi Party. He was the founder and publisher of the virulently anti-Semitic newspaper *Der*

*Stürmer*, which became a central element of the Nazi propaganda machine.



His publishing firm also released three antisemitic books for children, including the 1938 *Der Giftpilz* (translated into English as *The Toadstool* or *The Poisonous Mushroom*), one of the most widespread pieces of propaganda, which warned about the supposed dangers Jews posed by using the metaphor of an attractive yet deadly mushroom.

The publishing firm was financially very successful and made Streicher a multi-millionaire. At the end of the war, Streicher was convicted of crimes against humanity in the Nuremberg trials and was executed by hanging on 16 October 1946.

## What happened to the rest?

So what happened to the other 13 people that were tried during the first International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg?

Two of them were in fact sentenced to death, but were never

in fact hanged.

**Martin Bormann**, the successor to Rudolf Hess as Nazi Party Secretary, was sentenced to death in absentia. His remains were found in Berlin in 1972 and eventually dated to 2 May 1945. He was thought to have been killed trying to flee Berlin in the last few days of the war.

At Nuremberg, **Hermann Göring** was convicted of conspiracy, crimes against peace, war crimes and crimes against humanity at the Nuremberg trials. He was sentenced to death by hanging, but committed suicide on 15 October 1946 by ingesting cyanide, the night before the sentence was to be carried out.

**Karl Dönitz**, head of the *Kriegsmarine* (German Navy) from 1943 and initiator of the U-boat campaign, was convicted of carrying out unrestricted submarine warfare in breach of the 1936 Second London Naval Treaty, but was not punished for that charge because the United States committed the same breach. He was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. He was released on 1 October 1956.

Popular radio commentator and head of the news division of the Nazi Propaganda Ministry, **Hans Fritzsche**, was acquitted and released early in 1950.

**Walther Funk**, Hitler's Minister of Economics, was sentenced to life imprisonment. He was released because of ill health on 16 May 1957.

**Rudolf Hess** was Hitler's Deputy Führer until he flew to



**HERMAN GÖRING:** Head of the Luftwaffe.

Scotland in 1941 in an attempt to broker peace with the United Kingdom. He was imprisoned for the rest of the war. Tried at Nuremberg, he was sentenced to life imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Spandau Prison for 41 years. On 17 August 1987, at the age of 93, he committed suicide.

**Gustav Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach** was C.E.O. of Friedrich Krupp AG from 1912 to 1945. He was medically unfit for trial as he had been partially paralyzed since 1941. Due to an error, Gustav, instead of his son Alfried (who ran Krupp for his father during most of the war), was selected for indictment. His trial was declared a "no decision".

The trial of **Robert Ley**, Head of DAF (German Labour Front) was declared a "no decision". He committed suicide on 25 October 1945, before the trial began. Indicted but neither acquitted nor found guilty as

trial did not proceed.

**Baron Konstantin von Neurath** was Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1932 to 1938. He later became Reich Protector of Bohemia and Moravia from 1939 to 1943. He resigned in 1943 because of a dispute with Hitler. Sentenced to 15 years, he was released on 6 November 1954 due to ill health.

**Franz von Papen** was Chancellor of Germany in 1932 and Vice-Chancellor under Hitler in 1933–34. Although acquitted at Nuremberg, von Papen was reclassified as a war criminal in 1947 by a German de-Nazification court, and sentenced to eight years' hard labour. He was acquitted following appeal after serving two years.

Commander In Chief of the *Kriegsmarine* from 1928 until his retirement in 1943, **Erich Raeder** was sentenced to life imprisonment. He was released on 26 September 1955.

Prominent banker and economist **Dr. Hjalmar Schacht** was acquitted.

Head of the *Hitlerjugend* from 1933 to 1940, Gauleiter of Vienna from 1940 to 1945, **Baldur von Schirach** was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

**Albert Speer** was Hitler's friend, favourite architect, and Minister of Armaments from 1942 until the end of the war. In this capacity, he was ultimately responsible for the use of slave labourers from the occupied territories in armaments production. He was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.



# Special Forces - South Korea

*Part Nine of a series that takes a look at Special Forces units around the world. This month we look at the Republic of Korea (ROK).*

The origins of the elite 707th SMB of the Republic of Korea (ROK) can be traced back, not to South Korea, but rather to Munich, West Germany.

An incident which became known as the Munich massacre was an attack during the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, West Germany, in which the Palestinian terrorist group Black September took eleven Israeli Olympic team members

hostage and killed them along with a West German police officer.

The 1988 Summer Olympics would be held in Seoul, South Korea and the South Korean government believed that they needed to create a counter-terrorist unit in time for the Olympics.

On 17 April 1981 the 707th Special Missions Battalion (707th SMB) was created as part of the Republic of Korea's

Army Special Warfare Command (ROKA SOCOM).

In 1984, B Squadron of the United States Army Delta Force travelled to South Korea to conduct training with the 707th.

During the 1986 Asian Games, the battalion was tasked with protecting VIPs and key facilities. This was a task repeated during the 1988 Summer Olympics and the 2002 Football World Cup.

Further more, the unit has the

following responsibilities:

- Domestic and international counter-terrorism
- Law enforcement
- Executive protection
- Direct action
- Special/clandestine operations
- Unconventional Warfare
- Asymmetric Warfare
- Raids
- Hostage rescue
- UN peacekeeping
- Counter-insurgency
- Humanitarian missions

The unit is South Korea's primary counter-terrorist and quick reaction force. The unit's soldiers – once distinguished by their black berets (before the stand-

ardization of the black beret for all active soldiers) – are tasked with conducting urban counter-terrorist missions, and constitute the Army's quick-reaction force for emergencies. The unit's nickname is 'White Tiger'.

## 707th Special Missions Group

Based in Icheon, South Korea, the unit has about 200 men and women organized in two assault companies, one support

company, and one all-female company, all divided into fourteen-man operating teams, as well as support and demolition teams.

The female operatives are used as bodyguards or for low-visibility operations such as surveillance and undercover operations. In male-dominated Korean society, women can be highly effective, as they are not generally seen as posing a threat. In crisis situations, such as aircraft hijackings, women can move close to the aircraft or even board them without causing alarm.

Extremely well-funded, the unit has access to some of the very best





weaponry and equipment available. Every year, the soldiers of 707th Special Mission Group train with foreign partners, including Australian SAS, British SAS, Canadian JTF-2, French GIGN, German GSG-9, Hong Kong SDU, New Zealand SAS, Russian FSB and Alpha Group, Singaporean STAR and Delta Force, Green Berets and FBI HRT from the United States.

The purpose of joint training is to gain experience and increase relationships and exchanges with international special forces communities in order to get to a whole new level.

The 707th Group also owns and operates a multi-complex counter-terrorism training site for the Republic of Korea Army Special Warfare Command and hosts multi-national counter-terrorist training. The training facilities includes a mock-up of a Boeing 747 airliner, multiple shooting ranges and a close-quarter battle range for improving their assault techniques.

In February 2019, the former 707th Special Mission Battalion was reorganized and renamed into the 707th Special Mission Group with additional personnel and equipment to ensure higher readiness against various threats. It is now commanded by a Colonel instead of a Lieutenant Colonel.

The biggest threat to South Korea is posed by its neighbor the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea). North Korea frequently mounts clandestine operations deep within South Korean territory. The incursions are conducted as a mean of destabiliz-

ing and intimidating the South Korean government. The 707th have been involved in numerous fire-fights against North Korean operatives. The 707th has also mounted operations in North Korea against key intelligence-gathering centres and military installations as a mean of preventing further attacks against South Korea.

### Selection and Training

Selection and training requirements for the 707th are stringent and vigorous. Only qualified special forces personnel from other units are allowed to apply as potential candidates. Those personnel wishing to apply for service in the unit need to pass an intrusive and extensive background check, then endure a gruelling 10 day selection process that eliminates almost 90 percent of the applicants.

Special Forces operator selection and training last for a year and includes six months of basic infantry training and six months of special warfare training. It includes parachuting, martial arts, rappelling, mountain warfare, close-quarter battle and demolition techniques.

Once qualified as operators within the 707th, new members can look forward to harsh physical training, which involves swimming in freezing water without any protective clothing, as well as long runs carrying heavy backpacks. New members also undergo training in scuba diving and boating skills, as much of their work is done on or near the water.

In addition to their personal weapons, all special forces



**WHITE TIGER:** The cloth emblem worn by members of the 707th Special Missions Group.

must reach black-belt standard in tae kwon do or a comparative martial art.

### Weapons

The 707th use a wide variety of both locally-manufactured and foreign weapons. These include:

- **H&K USP 9 mm** - 9×19 mm Parabellum pistol.
- **Beretta M9** - 9×19 mm Parabellum pistol.
- **IWI Jericho 941** - 9×19 mm Parabellum pistol.
- **Benelli M4** - semi-automatic shotgun.
- **Kel-Tec KSG-12** - bullpup 12-gauge pump-action shotgun.
- **B&T MP9** - 9×19 mm Parabellum machine pistol.
- **Daewoo K-7** - 9×19mm Parabellum submachine gun.
- **H&K MP5** - 9×19 mm Parabellum submachine gun.
- **H&K MP7A1** - 4.6×30 mm submachine gun.
- **Daewoo K-1A** - 5.56×45 mm NATO carbine assault rifle.
- **Daewoo K-2** - 5.56×45 mm NATO assault rifle.
- **FN SCAR-L** - 5.56×45 mm NATO assault rifle.
- **H&K HK417** - 7.62×51 mm NATO assault rifle.
- **Accuracy International**

**AW50F** - .50 BMG anti-materiel rifle.

- **Accuracy International AWM** - bolt-action sniper rifle.
- **Steyr SSG 69** - 7.62×51 mm NATO bolt-action sniper rifle.
- **M24** - 7.62×51 mm NATO sniper rifle.
- **H&K MSG-90** - 7.62×51 mm NATO sniper rifle.
- **S&T Motiv K-14** - 7.62×51 mm NATO sniper rifle.
- **Daewoo K-3** - 5.56×45 mm NATO light machine gun.
- **M60** - 7.62×51 mm NATO general purpose machine gun.

### ROK Army Special Warfare Command

Republic of Korea Army Special Warfare Command, also known as the Republic of Korea Army Special Forces "Black Berets" (R.O.K-Special Forces) is the military command of the Republic of Korea Army responsible for their special operation forces.

ROK Special Forces brigades work in close relationship with their counterparts in the United States Army Special Forces "Green Berets". ROK Special Forces brigades were modelled after United States Army Special Forces (Green Berets).

U.S. SOF in Korea are under the command and control of Special Operations Command Korea (SOCKOR) which is a sub-unified command assigned under the Combatant Command (COMCOM) of United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and further delegated to the Operational Command of the USFK.

Units of the command include:

- 1st Special Forces Brigade 'Eagle'
- 3rd Special Forces Brigade 'Flying Tiger'
- Oversea deployment Group 'Whole World'
- 7th Special Forces Brigade 'Pegasus'
- 9th Special Forces Brigade 'Ghost'
- 11th Special Forces Brigade 'Golden Bat'
- 13th Special Mission Brigade 'Black Panther'
- 707th Special Mission

Group 'White Tiger'

- Special Warfare School

### National Police 868 Unit

The 868 Unit was created to combat potential terrorist at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, however, they have remained operational as a highly competent squad ever since.

Formed in 1982, this unit is tasked with carrying out counter terrorism and hostage rescue operations. Consisting of about 90 members, the unit is divided into 12 teams. The unit receives training in urban assaults as well as hostage rescue from aircraft and other vehicles.

The 868 Unit works in collaboration with the large 707th Special Missions Group.





# The war to end all wars

*This month is the 101st anniversary of the end of World War I. In this article we look at some of the facts and figures of one of the world's most deadly wars in history.*

The Armistice of 11 November 1918 was signed at 05h45 in a railway carriage parked at Le Francport near Compiègne.

It ended fighting on land, sea and air in World War I between the Allies and their opponent, Germany. Previous armistices had been agreed with Bulgaria, the Ottoman Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

It came into force at 11:00 a.m. Paris time on 11 November 1918 and marked a victory for the Allies and a defeat for Germany, although not formally a surrender.

For the Allies, the personnel involved were all military. The two signatories were Marshal of France Ferdinand Foch, the Allied supreme commander and First Sea Lord Admiral Rosslyn Wemyss, the British representative. For Germany, the four signatories were Matthias Erzberger, a civilian politician,

Count Alfred von Oberndorff, from the Foreign Ministry, Major General Detlof von Winterfeldt, army and Captain Ernst Vanselow, navy.

The actual terms, largely written by the Allied Supreme Commander, Marshal Ferdinand Foch, included the cessation of hostilities, the withdrawal of German forces to behind the Rhine, Allied occupation of the Rhineland and bridgeheads further east, the preservation of infrastructure, the surrender of aircraft, warships, and military materiel, the release of Allied prisoners of war and interned civilians, eventual reparations, no release of German prisoners and no relaxation of the naval blockade of Germany.

Although the armistice ended the fighting on the Western Front, it had to be prolonged three times until the Treaty of

Versailles, which was signed on 28 June 1919, took effect on 10 January 1920.

Here are some facts and figures, in no particular order, about World War I.

- The date given as the start of World War I is 28 June 1914. This was when the Austro-Hungarian heir Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife were assassinated in Sarajevo. Strangely, the number plate of the vehicle in which the Archduke was travelling when he was shot read A 111 118. The Armistice was signed on 11 November 1918 or 11/11/18.
- More than 65 million men from 30 countries fought in World War I.
- The total number of military and civilian casualties in World War I were

about 40 million: estimates range from 15 to 19 million deaths and about 23 million wounded military personnel, ranking it among the deadliest conflicts in human history. The total number of deaths includes from nine to 11 million military personnel. The civilian death toll was about eight million, including about six million due to war-related famine and disease. The Triple Entente (also known as the Allies) lost about six million military personnel while the Central Powers lost about four million. At least two million died from diseases and six million went missing, presumed dead.

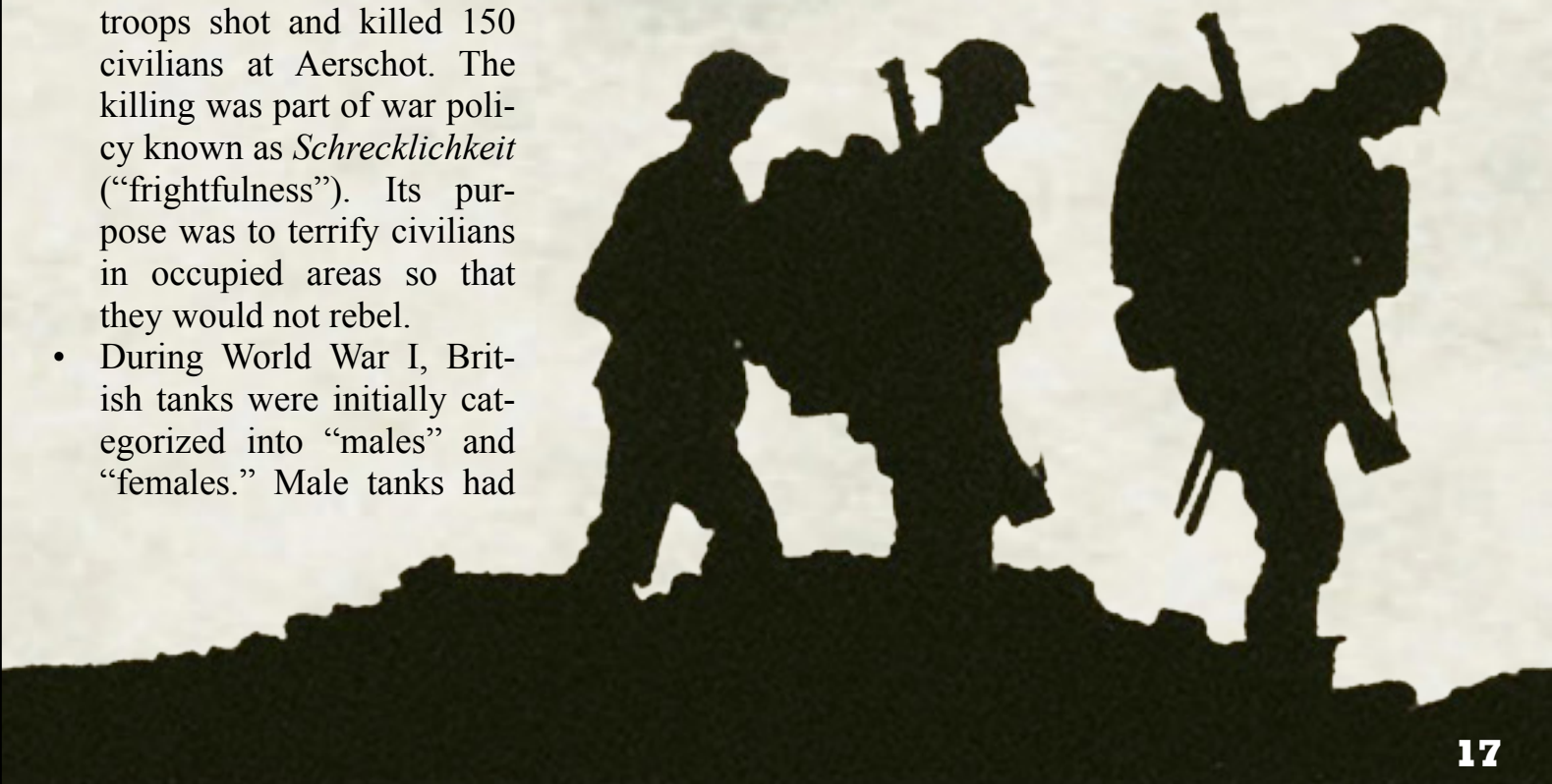
- The Germans were the first to use flamethrowers in World War I. Their flamethrowers could fire jets of flame as far as 40 metres.
- Nearly two-thirds of military deaths in World War I were in battle. In previous conflicts, most deaths were due to disease.
- In August 1914, German troops shot and killed 150 civilians at Aerschot. The killing was part of war policy known as *Schrecklichkeit* ("frightfulness"). Its purpose was to terrify civilians in occupied areas so that they would not rebel.
- During World War I, British tanks were initially categorized into "males" and "females." Male tanks had

cannons, while females had heavy machine guns.

- "Little Willie" was the first prototype tank in World War I. Built in 1915, it carried a crew of three and could travel as fast as 4.8 km/h.
- Artillery barrage and mines created immense noise. In 1917, explosives blowing up beneath the German lines on Messines Ridge at Ypres in Belgium could be heard in London 220 kilometres away.
- The Pool of Peace is a 12 metre deep lake near Messines, Belgium. It fills a crater made in 1917 when the British detonated a mine containing 45 tons of explosives.
- The most successful fighter pilot of the entire war was German fighter pilot Manfred Albrecht Freiherr von Richthofen (1892-1918), or the "Red Baron." He shot down 80 planes, more than any other World War I pilot. He died after being shot

down near Amiens. France's René Fonck (1894-1953) was the Allies' most successful fighter pilot, shooting down 75 enemy planes.

- During World War I, dogs were used as messengers and carried orders to the front lines in capsules attached to their bodies. Dogs were also used to lay down telegraph wires.
- Big Bertha was a 48-ton howitzer used by the Germans in World War I. It was named after the wife of its designer Gustav Krupp. It could fire a 930 kg shell a distance of 15 kilometres. However, it took a crew of 200 men six hours or more to assemble. Germany had 13 of these huge guns or "wonder weapons."
- Tanks were initially called "landships." However, in an attempt to disguise them as water storage tanks rather than as weapons, the British decided to code name them "tanks."





- Some Americans disagreed with the United States' initial refusal to enter World War I and so they joined the French Foreign Legion or the British or Canadian army. A group of U.S. pilots formed the *Lafayette Escadrille*, which was part of the French air force and became one of the top fighting units on the Western Front.
- In early 1917, British cryptographers deciphered a telegram from German Foreign Secretary Arthur Zimmermann to Germany's minister in Mexico. The telegraph encouraged Mexico to invade U.S. territory. The British kept it a secret from the U.S. for more than a month. They wanted to show it to the U.S. at the right time to help draw the U.S. into the war on their side.
- During Woodrow Wilson's campaign slogan for his second term was "He kept us out of war." About a month after he took office, the United States declared war on Germany on 6 April 1917.
- To increase the size of the U.S. Army during World War I, Congress passed the Selective Service Act, which was also known as the conscription or draft, in May 1917. By the end of the war, 2.7 million men were drafted. Another 1.3 million volunteered.
- During World War I, people of German heritage were suspect in the U.S. Some protests against Germans were violent, including the burning of German books, the killing of German shepherd dogs, and even the murder of one German-American.



**FIRE:** The widespread use of the machine gun during World War I changed the face of warfare.

herd dogs, and even the murder of one German-American., people of German heritage were suspect in the U.S. Some protests against Germans were violent, including the burning of German books, the killing of German shepherd dogs, and even the murder of one German-American.

- During World War I, the Spanish flu caused about one-third of total military deaths.
- The war left thousands of soldiers disfigured and disabled. Reconstructive surgery was used to repair facial damage, but masks were also used to cover the most horrific disfigurement. Some soldiers stayed in nursing homes their entire lives.
- World War I is the sixth deadliest conflict in world history.
- Four empires collapsed after WWI: Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, German, and Russian.
- World War I was also known

as the Great War, the World War, the War of the Nations, and the War to End All Wars.

- World War I was fought from 1914-1918 on every ocean and on almost every continent. Most of the fighting, however, took place in Europe.
- Russia mobilized 12 million troops during World War I, making it the largest army in the war. More than three-quarters were killed, wounded, or went missing in action.
- The United States joined World War I during the final year and half of fighting.
- For the span of World War I, from 1914-1918, 274 German U-boats sank 6,596 ships. The five most successful U-boats were U-35 (sank 224 ships), U-39 (154 ships), U-38 (137 ships), U-34 (121 ships), and U-33 (84 ships). Most of these were sunk near the coast, particularly in the English Channel.
- German trenches were in



**STALEMATE:** The trench network of World War I stretched approximately 40,200 kilometres from the English Channel to Switzerland.

stark contrast to British trenches. German trenches were built to last and included bunk beds, furniture, cupboards, water tanks with faucets, electric lights, and doorbells.

- France, not Germany, was the first country to use gas against enemy troops in World War I. In August 1914, they fired the first tear gas grenades (xylyl bromide) against the Germans. In January 1915, Germany first used tear gas against Russian armies, but the gas turned to liquid in the cold air. In April 1915, the Germans were the first to use poisonous chlorine gas.
- During World War I, the Germans released about 68,000 tons of gas, and the British and French released 51,000 tons. In total,

1,200,000 soldiers on both sides were gassed, of which 91,198 died horrible deaths.

- Approximately 30 different poisonous gases were used during World War I. Soldiers were told to hold a urine-soaked cloth over their faces in an emergency. By 1918, gas masks with filter respirators usually provided effective protection. At the end of the war, many countries signed treaties outlawing chemical weapons.
- During the war, the U.S. shipped about 7.5 million tons of supplies to France to support the Allied effort. That included 70,000 horses or mules as well as nearly 50,000 trucks, 27,000 freight cars, and 1,800 locomotives.
- World War I introduced the widespread use of the ma-

chine gun, a weapon Hiram Maxim patented in the U.S. in 1884. The Maxim weighed about 100 pounds and was water cooled. It could fire about 450-600 rounds per minute. Most machine guns used in World War I were based on the Maxim design.

- The term "dogfight" originated during World War I. The pilot had to turn off the plane's engine from time to time so it would not stall when the plane turned quickly in the air. When a pilot restarted his engine mid-air, it sounded like dogs barking.
- The French had what German soldiers called the Devil Gun. At 75 mm, this cannon was accurate up to 6.4 kilometres. The French military commanders claimed that its Devil Gun won the war.



- During U.S. involvement in World War I, more than 75,000 people gave about 7.5 million four-minute pro-war speeches in movie theatres and elsewhere to about 314.5 million people.
- “Hello Girls,” as American soldiers called them, were American women who served as telephone operators for Pershing’s forces in Europe. The women were fluent in French and English and were specially trained by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. In 1979, the U.S. Army finally gave war medals and veteran benefits to the few Hello Girls who were still alive.
- During World War I, American hamburgers (named after the German city of Hamburg) were renamed Salisbury steak. Frankfurters, which were named after Frankfurt, Germany, were called “liberty sausages,” and dachshunds became “liberty dogs.” Schools stopped teaching German, and German-language books were burned.
- Millions of soldiers suffered “shell shock,” or post-traumatic stress disorder, due to the horrors of trench warfare. Shell-shocked men often had uncontrollable diarrhoea, couldn’t sleep, stopped speaking, whimpered for hours, and twitched uncontrollably. While some soldiers recovered, others suffered for the rest of their lives.
- Even though the U.S. government didn’t grant Native Americans citizenship until



**STEEL MONSTER:** Tanks were used for the first time during World War I.

- 1924, nearly 13,000 of them served in World War I.
- More than 200,000 African Americans served in World War I, but only about 11 percent of them were in combat forces. The rest were put in labour units, loading cargo, building roads, and digging ditches. They served in segregated divisions (the 92nd and 93rd) and trained separately.
- The Germans were skilled at intercepting and solving Allied codes. Germans also captured one out of four paper messengers. However, when a U.S. commander used Choctaw tribe members from the Oklahoma National Guard unit, they used an extremely complex language that the Germans could not translate. The eight Choctaw men and others who joined them became known as the Choctaw Code Talkers.
- More than 500,000 pigeons carried messages between headquarters and the front lines. Groups of pigeons
- trained to return to the front lines were dropped into occupied areas by parachutes and kept there until soldiers had messages to send back.
- On Christmas Eve in 1914, soldiers on both sides of the Western Front sung carols to each other. On Christmas Day troops along two-thirds of the Front declared a truce. In some places the truce lasted a week. A year later, sentries on both sides were ordered to shoot anyone who attempted a repeat performance.
- Edith Cavell (1865- October 12 1915) was a British nurse who saved soldiers from all sides. When she helped 200 Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium, the Germans arrested her and she was executed by a German firing squad. Her death helped turn global opinion against Germany.
- Margaretha Zelle (1876-1917), also known as Mata Hari, was a Dutch exotic dancer accused of being a double agent. Though she



**LOST GENERATION:** World War I was the 6th most deadly conflict in history.

- always denied being a spy, the French executed her in 1917.
- The most decorated American of World War I was Alvin Cullum York (1887-1964). York led an attack on a German gun nest, taking 32 machine guns, killing 28 German soldiers, and capturing 132 more. He returned home with a Medal of Honour, a promotion to Sergeant, the French Croix

- de Guerre, and a gift of 400 acres of good farmland.
- U.S. troops fought their first battle of World War I on November 2, 1917, in the trenches at Barthelemon, France.
- The greatest single loss of life in the history of the British army occurred during the Battle of Somme, when the British suffered 60,000 casualties in one day.
- The Harlem HellFighters were one of the few African American units that saw the front lines. For their extraordinary acts of heroism, the soldiers received the French Croix de Guerre, a medal awarded to soldiers from Allied countries for bravery in combat. However, in the U.S their deeds were largely ignored.
- Many young men faked their age in order to sign up early. The youngest to do so was Sidney Lewis, who was only

- 12 years old at the time.
- After World War I, Britain’s leadership in the world economy was gone forever. It had huge debts, high unemployment, and slow growth. France suffered as well. Most of the loans it had made to czarist Russia were never repaid, inflation was rampant, and large parts of the country were ruined.
- Because mustard gas was unpredictable, it was never the war-winning weapon its users hoped it would be in World War I. Neither side used it in World War II.
- World War I helped hasten medical advances. Physicians learned better wound management and the setting of bones. Harold Gillies, an English doctor, pioneered skin graft surgery. The huge scale of those who needed medical care in World War I helped teach physicians and nurses the advantages of specialization and professional management.
- The trench network of World War I stretched approximately 40,200 kilometres from the English Channel to Switzerland. The area was known as the Western Front. British poet Siegfried Sassoon wrote, “When all is done and said, the war was mainly a matter of holes and ditches.”

Bloodiest Battles of World War I	Total Casualties
Hundred Day Offensive	1,855,369
Spring Offensive	1,539,715
Battle of Verdun	976,000
Battle of Passchendaele	848,614
Serbian Campaign	633,500
First Battle of Marnes	483,000
Battle of Gallipoli	473,000
Battle of Arras	278,000
Battle of Tannenberg	182,000



# Heavy Metal

While “sticks and stones may break your bones”, weapons made of metal could do a lot more damage on the battlefield.

Mention the phrase ‘heavy metal’ and most people tend to think of loud, aggressive rock music. This style of music normally makes use of one or two guitars, a bass guitar and drums. In some bands, electronic keyboards, organs, or other instruments are used. Black Sabbath was the band that invented metal music in the late 1960s, the band played loud, hard rock music based on blues music.

But the metal we’re interested in goes back way before the 1960s. In fact it goes all the way back to around 7000 BC. Prior to this, weapons were made from wood, stone and bone. From

about 7000 BC a few neolithic communities begin hammering copper into crude knives and sickles, which worked as well as their stone equivalents and lasted far longer. Gold had been used to make daggers, but these were more ceremonial because the metal was too soft for it to be practical as a weapon.

The Bronze Age started in about 2800 BC. A bronze blade will take a sharper edge than copper and will hold it longer. The technology of bronze was first developed in the Middle East. Bronze was in use in Sumer, at Ur, in around 2800 BC, and in Anatolia shortly afterwards.

The next great development in metallurgy involved a metal which is the most abundant in the earth’s surface but which is much more difficult to work than copper or tin. This metal was iron. The Hittites are the first people to work iron, in Anatolia from about 1500 BC.

The first organized armies, those of the Sumerians, are recorded in around 3000 BC. While heavy war wagons were used, the Sumerians fought largely on foot and carried spears and shields.

Featured here are some of the early forms of metal weapons.



**Helmet of Meskalamdug**

This ceremonial, gold-and-silver alloy helmet was found in the tomb of Meskalamdug at Ur in Sumeria.

It is known as a wig helmet because of the intricately carved imitation of hair on the crown.

Date: c. 2500 BC

Origin: Sumeria



**Persian bronze axehead**

The blade on this spike-butted ax is set at an angle, which would have been impractical in combat, suggesting that the ax was for ceremonial use.

Date: 10th–7th century BC

Origin: Persia



**Persian Akinakes**

Along with spears, infantrymen also carried *akinakes* - a short, thrusting sword used for close-quarter combat - worn on their right side. High officials are frequently depicted wearing them in Persian art.

Date: c. 550–350 BC

Origin: Persia



**Assyrian Bow and Arrow**

Archers formed the main part of the Assyrian infantry. They operated in pairs - one man acting as a shield-bearer, while the other used a bow, such as this one, a replica made from horn, sinew, and wood.

Date: c. 750 BC

Origin: Assyria



**Sumerian Dagger**

This ornate ceremonial dagger was excavated from the tomb of Queen Pu-Abi at Ur. Its blade and scabbard are crafted in gold, while the hilt is made from lapis lazuli trimmed in gold.

Date: c.2500 BC      Origin: Sumeria



**Assyrian scale armour**

Assyrian soldiers wore a sariam, a long coat made of lamellar armour. Bronze scales, such as these, were laced together through holes punched in the side.

Date: c. 1800–620 BC

Origin: Assyria

**Caucasian Arrowheads**



Date: c.1000 BC

Origin: Southern Caucasus



**Assyrian scale armour**

The Phoenicians occupied trading cities of the Levantine coast and were known more as merchants than as warriors.

Their dagger and scabbard usually signified the bearer’s wealth and were not intended for military use.

Date: c. 18th century BC

Origin: Phoenicia



**Assyrian Sappara**

The *sappara*, or sickle-sword, was a characteristic weapon of the Assyrian foot soldier.

Date: c. 1300 BC

Origin: Assyria



# Messing with your mind

*Since prehistoric times, warlords and chiefs have recognised the importance of weakening the morale of opponents. In modern times it has been refined to an art form.*

These days it is known as psychological warfare (PSYWAR) or psychological operations (PSYOP). But it has been known by many other names, including MISO, Psy Ops, political warfare, “Hearts and Minds”, and propaganda.

The term is used “to denote any action which is practiced mainly by psychological methods with the aim of evoking a planned psychological reaction in other people”.

Various techniques are used, and are aimed at influencing a target audience’s value system, belief system, emotions, motives, reasoning, or behaviour. It is used to induce confessions or reinforce attitudes and behaviours favourable to the originator’s objectives, and are sometimes combined with black operations or false flag tactics. It is also used to destroy the morale of enemies through tactics that aim to depress troops’ psychological states.

Target audiences can be governments, organizations, groups, and individuals, and is not just limited to soldiers. Civilians of foreign territories can also be targeted by technology and media so as to cause an effect in the government of their country.

There is evidence of psychological warfare throughout written history. In the Battle of Pelusium (525 BC) between

the Persian Empire and ancient Egypt, the Persians used cats and other animals as a psychological tactic against the Egyptians, who avoided harming cats due to religious beliefs.

Genghis Khan, leader of the Mongolian Empire in the 13th century AD, employed tactics that made his numbers seem greater than they actually were.

During night operations he ordered each soldier to light three torches at dusk to give the illusion of an overwhelming army and deceive and intimidate enemy scouts.

He also sometimes had objects tied to the tails of his horses, so that riding on open and dry fields raised a cloud of dust that gave the enemy the impression of great numbers. His soldiers used arrows specially notched to whistle as they flew through the air, creating a terrifying noise.

Another tactic favoured by the Mongols was catapulting severed human heads over city walls to frighten the inhabitants and spread disease in the besieged city’s closed confines.

## World War I

The start of modern psychological operations in war is generally dated to the World War I. By that point, Western societies were increasingly educated and urbanized, and mass media was available in the form of large circulation newspapers and

posters.

It was also possible to transmit propaganda to the enemy via the use of airborne leaflets or through explosive delivery systems like modified artillery or mortar rounds.

At the start of the war, the belligerents, especially the British and Germans, began distributing propaganda, both domestically and on the Western front.

The British had several advantages that allowed them to succeed in the battle for world opinion; they had one of the world’s most reputable news systems, with much experience in international and cross-cultural communication, and they controlled much of the under-sea cable system then in operation. These capabilities were easily transitioned to the task of warfare.

In August 1914, David Lloyd George, then British Chancellor of the Exchequer, appointed Charles Masterman MP, to head a Propaganda Agency at Wellington House.

A distinguished body of literary talent was enlisted for the task, with its members including Arthur Conan Doyle, Ford Madox Ford, G. K. Chesterton, Thomas Hardy, Rudyard Kipling and H. G. Wells.

Over 1,160 pamphlets were published during the war and distributed to neutral countries, and eventually, to Germany.

One of the first significant pub-



**OVERSEXED, OVER PAID, AND OVER HERE:** A German propaganda pamphlet telling British soldiers that while they were fighting and dying, the Americans were back in England chasing their women.

lications, the Report on Alleged German Outrages of 1915, had a great effect on general opinion across the world. The pamphlet documented atrocities, both actual and alleged, committed by the German army against Belgian civilians. A Dutch illustrator, Louis Raemaekers, provided the highly emotional drawings which appeared in the pamphlet.

Aerial leaflets were dropped over German trenches containing postcards from prisoners of war detailing their humane conditions, surrender notices and general propaganda against the Kaiser and the German generals.

The Germans began shooting the leaflet-dropping pilots, prompting the British to develop unmanned leaflet balloons that drifted across no-man’s land.

At least one in seven of these leaflets were not handed in by the soldiers to their superiors, despite severe penalties for that offence.

Even General Hindenburg admitted that “Unsuspectingly,

many thousands consumed the poison”, and POWs admitted to being disillusioned by the propaganda leaflets that depicted the use of German troops as mere cannon fodder.

## World War II

Adolf Hitler was greatly influenced by the psychological tactics of warfare the British had employed during World War I, and attributed the defeat of Germany to the effects this propaganda had on the soldiers.

He became committed to the use of mass propaganda to influence the minds of the German population in the decades to come. By calling his movement The Third Reich, he was able to convince many civilians that his cause was not just a fad, but the way of their future.

Joseph Goebbels was appointed as Propaganda Minister when Hitler came to power in 1933, and he portrayed Hitler as a messianic figure for the redemption of Germany. Hitler also coupled this with the resonating projections of his orations for effect.

The British were no slouches when it came to psyops during World War II. During the lead up to the Allied invasion of Normandy, many new tactics in psychological warfare were devised.

Operation Bodyguard set out a general strategy to mislead German high command as to the exact date and location of the invasion.

Operation Fortitude was intended to convince the Germans of a greater Allied military strength than existed, through fictional field armies, faked operations to prepare the ground for invasion and leaked information about the Allied order of battle and war plans.

Elaborate naval deceptions (Operations Glimmer, Taxable and Big Drum) were undertaken in the English Channel. Small ships and aircraft simulated invasion fleets lying off Pas de Calais, Cap d’Antifer and the western flank of the real invasion force. At the same time Operation Titanic involved the RAF dropping fake paratroopers to the east and west of the Normandy landings.

The operations were a strategic success and the Normandy landings caught German defences unaware. Subsequent deception led Hitler into delaying reinforcement from the Calais region for nearly seven weeks.

## Vietnam

The United States ran an extensive program of psychological warfare during the Vietnam War. The Phoenix Program had the dual aim of assassinating National Liberation Front of South Vietnam (Viet Cong) per-



sonnel and terrorizing any potential sympathizers or passive supporters.

When members of the Viet Cong were assassinated, CIA and Special Forces operatives placed playing cards in the mouth of the deceased as a calling card. During the Phoenix Program, over 19,000 Viet Cong supporters were killed.

The United States also used tapes of distorted human sounds, known as ‘Ghost Tapes’, and played them during the night making the Vietnamese soldiers think that the dead were back for revenge.

Recent operations

The CIA made extensive use of Contra soldiers to destabilize the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

The CIA used psychological warfare techniques against the Panamanians by delivering unlicensed TV broadcasts. The United States government has used propaganda broadcasts against the Cuban government through TV Marti, based in Miami, Florida. However, the Cuban government has been successful at jamming the signal of TV Marti.

In the Iraq War, the United States used the shock and awe campaign to psychologically maim and break the will of the Iraqi Army to fight.

The Internet has become a valuable tool used in psychological warfare. In cyberspace, social media has enabled the use of disinformation on a wide scale.

Analysts have found evidence of doctored or misleading photographs spread by social media in the Syrian Civil War and

2014 Russian military intervention in Ukraine, possibly with state involvement.

Military and governments have engaged in psychological operations (PSYOPS) and informational warfare on social networking platforms to regulate foreign propaganda, which includes countries like the US, Russia, and China.

Methods

One of the most common methods of psychological warfare is to demoralise the enemy. It’s a process in psychological warfare with the objective to erode morale among enemy combatants and/or non-combatants. This can encourage them to retreat, surrender, or defect rather than defeating them in combat.

Pamphlets are often distributed that encourage desertion or supply instructions on how to surrender.

Shock and awe (technically known as rapid dominance) is a tactic based on the use of overwhelming power and spectacular displays of force to paralyse the enemy’s perception of the battlefield and

destroy their will to fight.

Another method is by projecting repetitive and annoying sounds and music for long periods at high volume towards groups under siege.

An example of this was Operation Nifty Package, a 1989 operation designed to capture Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega. When Noriega took refuge in the Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See (diplomatic quarter), deafening music and other psychological warfare tactics were used to convince him to exit and surrender himself.

Propaganda radio stations, such as Lord Haw-Haw in World War II on the “Germany calling” station, are still used to this day.

False flag events are also used effectively. A false flag is a covert operation designed to deceive; the deception creates the appearance of a particular party, group, or nation being responsible for some activity, disguising the actual source of responsibility.

The term “false flag” originally

referred to pirate ships that flew flags of countries as a disguise to prevent their victims from fleeing or preparing for battle. Sometimes the flag would remain and the blame for the attack be laid incorrectly on another country.

The term today extends beyond naval encounters to include countries that organize attacks on themselves and make the attacks appear to be by enemy nations or terrorists, thus giving the nation that was supposedly attacked a pretext for domestic repression and foreign military aggression.

The threat of chemical weapons is another ploy that is used. One country will accuse another country of having chemical weapons and will claim that they have proof that this country is planning on using them. This will give them an excuse to launch an invasion or military operation against the other country.

Terrorism and the use of terrorist organisations is another tactic used in psychological warfare. Countries will sometimes use a terrorist organisation as a proxy to carry out operations.

While their official policy may be to openly condemn the organisation, they will clandestinely support them by providing them with finances, weapons, training, intelligence, and sometimes even shelter.

Information warfare is now a very real danger, and many countries make use of it, although most countries will deny it.

The media is often used, either knowingly or unwittingly, to spread what has become known as ‘fake news’.

The Internet has become one of the most valuable tools in psychological warfare and most

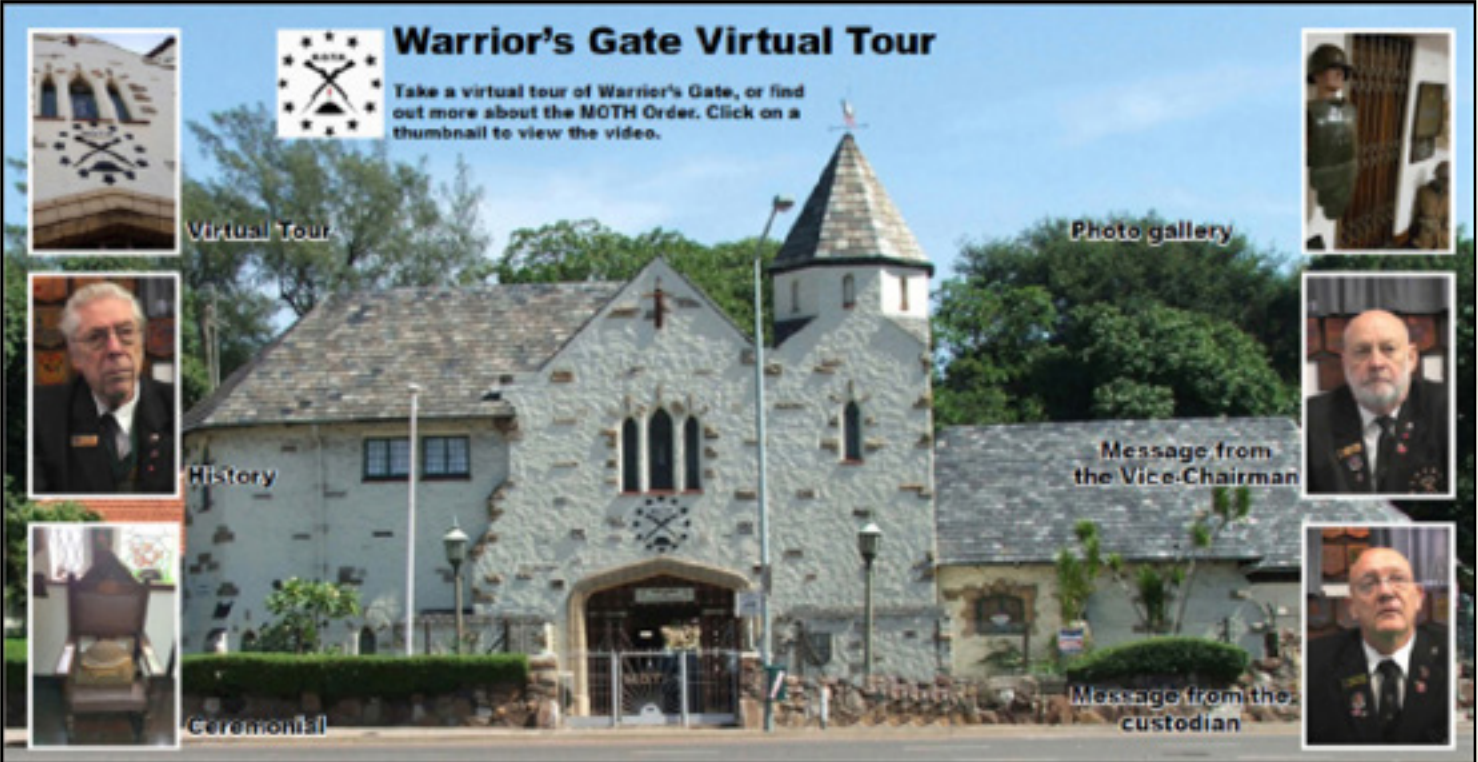
countries will make use of it.

Anyone can set up a website or open social media accounts on many different platforms. These can be used to create and spread false news and disinformation. They can also be used to discredit a government, organisation or even individuals.

Countries will also employ highly effective hackers to hack into websites and online accounts. These cyber attacks are used to steal information, gather intelligence, change information or even upload false information. Sometimes a country will even hack into accounts, such as e-mail and social media accounts, to keep track of their own citizens.

In closing, just remember the old joke, “Just because you’re paranoid doesn’t mean that there isn’t someone watching you.”

Click on the photograph below to take a virtual tour of Warrior’s Gate and find out more about the Memorable Order of Tin Hats.





# Sea Cadets excel

*Sea Cadets from TS Spring excel in Seamanship Training.*

Six sea cadets and one officer from Training Ship Springs of the South African Sea Cadets were recently selected to attend a specialised training course in Durban hosted by their fellow sea cadets of Training Ship Tiburon.

During the September school holidays, the cadets and officer were trained at the [Grindrod Shipping Training Academy](#) in the Basic Elements of Sea Survival, First Aid, Fire Fighting and Rope-work. The contents of this and all their courses are based on the syllabus prescribed by the SA Maritime Qualifications Code, and are a requirement before any person is allowed to work on-board any ship, and to have such a certificate at this age is a tremendous boost to any person contemplating a career at sea.

The discipline and enthusiasm that these cadets displayed so impressed the Grindrod Shipping Training Academy staff, they offered two of the cadets free entry to the Short Range Marine Communication course they offer, valued at over R 7 500 each. Cadet Leading Seaman Akeel Brown and Cadet Able Seaman Julian Hoole are currently still busy with this course and will compete it in January of next year at the next contact session.

The cadets and officer also underwent a Harbour Craft Course at the [Sail Africa Youth Development Foundation](#) during this period. Considering that some of these cadets had never even



**Front Row:** Midshipman Charné Hand, Cadet Seaman Keabetswe Maphakela, Cadet Seaman Kgaugelo Maisela, Cadet Leading Seaman Akeel Brown. **Back Row:** Cadet Able Seaman Tiaan Muller, Cadet Able Seaman Julian Hoole, Cadet Able Seaman David Doller

seen the sea in their lives before, is testament to the training they receive that they could successfully complete these difficult courses.

The South Africa Sea Cadets is a non-profit organisation dedicated to training and preparing school-going boys and girls for a career in the maritime industry. The youth of South Africa are in desperate need of support, direction and a safe place to grow and develop. They face many issues including lack of role models, crime, drug abuse and unemployment. By joining the Sea Cadets, many of these needs and issues can be positively addressed. Training Ship Springs

(known as TS Springs) has been in existence since 1916, and is run by adult volunteers.

All young adults between the ages of 13 and 17 are invited to join the Sea Cadets and experience “Serious Fun”, impacting on their lives in a positive way by developing confidence, leadership, team player skills, positive habits, adaptable thinking and motivation. TS Springs meet every Saturday at the Springs Central Scout Hall in Colliery Road, Lodeyko. Further enquires can be made to Lieutenant Commander Chris Hand at 076 226 6646 or [trainingshipsprings@gmail.com](mailto:trainingshipsprings@gmail.com).



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# Hunting bin Laden

*Osama bin Laden was on the American Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) lists of Ten Most Wanted Fugitives and Most Wanted Terrorists for 12 years. But who was he really, and why did it take so long to bring him to justice?*

Even though it was just over 18 years ago, most people will still remember where they were and what they were doing on 11 September 2001.

On the morning of Tuesday 11 September 2001 a series of four coordinated terrorist attacks were launched against the United States by the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda.

The attacks killed 2,977 people (not counting the 19 hijackers who also died), injured over 6,000 others, and caused at least \$10 billion in infrastructure and property damage. The attacks became known simply as "9/11".

Four passenger airliners operated by two major U.S. passenger air carriers (United Airlines and American Airlines) - all of which departed from airports in northeastern United States bound for San Francisco and Los Angeles - were hijacked by 19 al-Qaeda terrorists.

Two of the planes, American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175, were crashed into the North and South towers, respectively, of the World Trade Centre complex in Lower Manhattan.

Within an hour and 42 minutes, both 110-story towers collapsed. Debris and the resulting fires caused a partial or complete collapse of all other buildings in the World Trade Centre

complex, including the 47-story 7 World Trade Centre tower, as well as significant damage to ten other large surrounding structures.

A third plane, American Airlines Flight 77, was crashed into the Pentagon (the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Defence) in Arlington County, Virginia, which led to a partial collapse of the building's west side.

The fourth plane, United Airlines Flight 93, was initially flown toward Washington, D.C., but crashed into a field in Stonycreek Township near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, after its passengers thwarted the hijackers.

9/11 is the single deadliest terrorist attack in human history and the single deadliest incident for fire fighters and law enforcement officers in the history of the United States, with 343 and 72 killed, respectively.

Osama bin Laden is most well known for his role in masterminding the September 11 attacks, which resulted in the deaths of nearly 3,000 and prompted the United States to initiate the War on Terror.

He subsequently became the subject of a decade-long international manhunt. From 2001 to 2011, bin Laden was a major target of the United States, as the FBI offered a \$25 million bounty in their search for him.

On 2 May 2011, nearly ten years after the 9/11 attacks, bin Laden was shot and killed by United States Navy SEALs inside a private residential compound in Abbottabad, where he lived with a local family from Waziristan, during a covert operation conducted by members of the United States Naval Special Warfare Development Group and Central Intelligence Agency SAD/SOG operators on the orders of U.S. President Barack Obama.

Yet who exactly was Osama bin Laden? And why did it take a decade to finally bring him to justice?

## Background

Osama bin Mohammed bin Awad bin Laden was born on 10 March 1957 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He was a son of Yemeni Mohammed bin Awad bin Laden, a millionaire construction magnate with close ties to the Saudi royal family, and Mohammed bin Laden's tenth wife, Syrian Hamida al-Attas (then called Alia Ghanem).

He attended university in Saudi Arabia until 1979, when he joined Mujahideen forces in Pakistan fighting against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan.

He helped to fund the Mujahideen by funnelling arms, money and fighters from the Arab world into Afghanistan, and gained popularity among

many Arabs.

In 1988, he formed al-Qaeda. He was banished from Saudi Arabia in 1992, and shifted his base to Sudan, until U.S. pressure forced him to leave Sudan in 1996.

After establishing a new base in Afghanistan, he declared a war against the United States, initiating a series of bombings and related attacks.

Bin Laden was on the American Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) lists of Ten Most Wanted Fugitives and Most Wanted Terrorists for his involvement in the 1998 U.S. embassy bombings.

Bin Laden initially denied involvement in the 9/11 attacks. On 16 September 2001, bin Laden read a statement later broadcast

by Qatar's Al Jazeera satellite channel denying responsibility for the attack.

In a videotape recovered by U.S. forces in November 2001 in Jalalabad, bin Laden was seen discussing the attack with Khaled al-Harbi in a way that indicates foreknowledge. The tape was broadcast on various news networks on 13 December 2001.

In an 18 minute video played on Al-Jazeera in 2004, bin Laden abandoned his denials without retracting past statements. In it he said he had personally directed the nineteen hijackers.

Osama bin Laden was first indicted by a grand jury of the United States on 8 June 8

1998 on a charges of

"conspiracy to attack defence utilities of the United States" and prosecutors further charged that bin Laden was the head of the terrorist organization called al-Qaeda, and that he was a major financial backer of Is-

lamic fighters worldwide.

On 4 November 1998, Osama bin Laden was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, on charges of *Murder of U.S. Nationals Outside the United States*, *Conspiracy to Murder U.S. Nationals Outside the United States*, and *Attacks on a Federal Facility Resulting in Death* for his alleged role in the 1998 United States embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania.

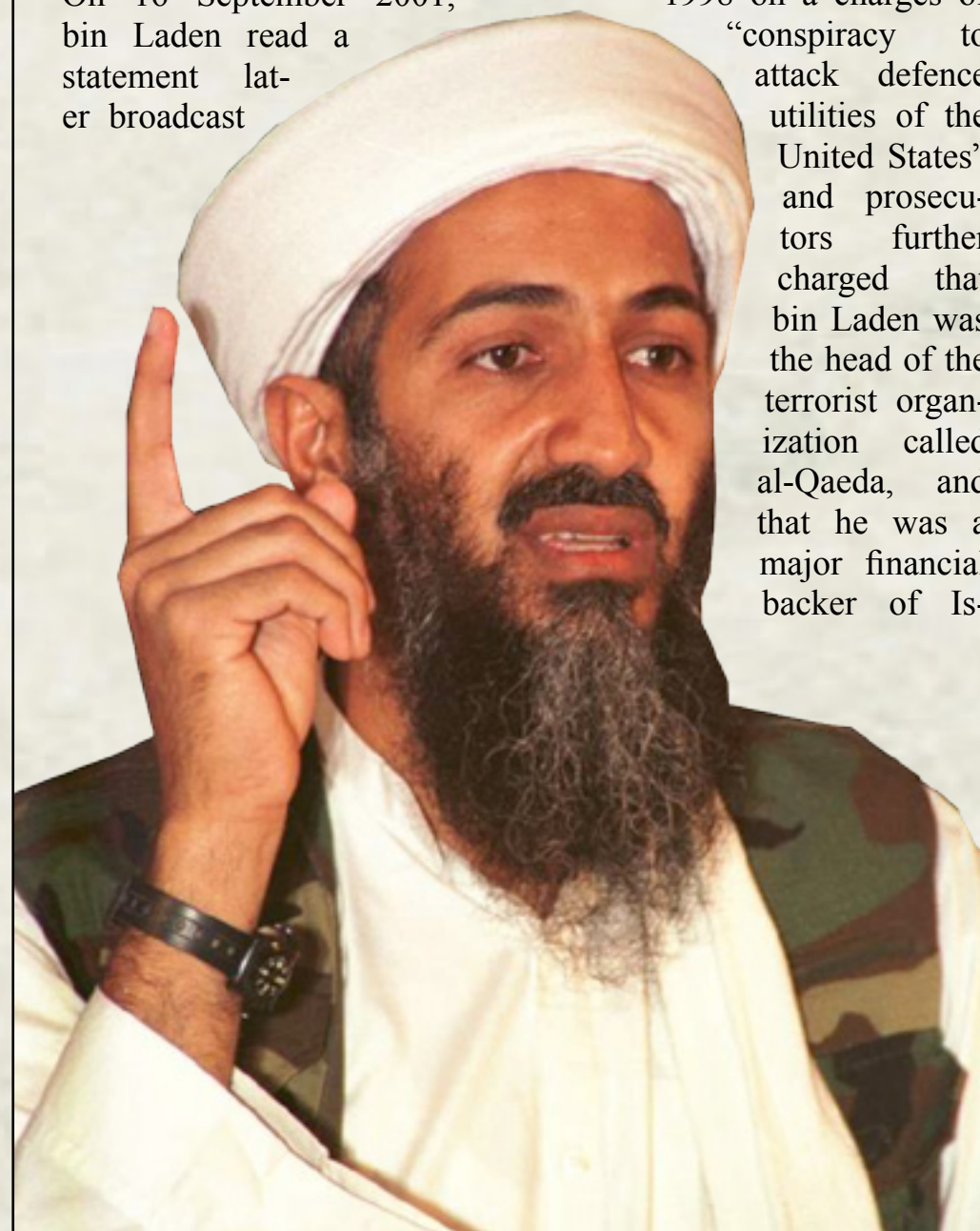
The evidence against bin Laden included courtroom testimony by former al-Qaeda members and satellite phone records, from a phone purchased for him by al-Qaeda procurement agent Ziyad Khaleel in the United States.

However the Taliban ruled not to extradite Bin Laden on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence published in the indictments and that non-Muslim courts lacked standing to try Muslims.

Bin Laden became the 456th person listed on the FBI Ten Most Wanted Fugitives list, when he was added on 7 June 1999, following his indictment along with others for capital crimes in the 1998 embassy attacks.

Attempts at assassination and requests for the extradition of bin Laden from the Taliban of Afghanistan were met with failure before the bombing of Afghanistan in October 2001.

In 1999, U.S. President Bill Clinton convinced the United Nations to impose sanctions against Afghanistan in an attempt to force the Taliban to





extradite him.

Years later, on October 10, 2001, bin Laden appeared as well on the initial list of the top 22 FBI Most Wanted Terrorists, which was released to the public by the President of the United States George W. Bush, in direct response to the 9/11 attacks, but which was again based on the indictment for the 1998 embassy attack.

Bin Laden was among a group of thirteen fugitive terrorists wanted on that latter list for questioning about the 1998 embassy bombings. Bin Laden remains the only fugitive ever to be listed on both FBI fugitive lists.

Despite the multiple indictments listed above and multiple requests, the Taliban refused to extradite Osama bin Laden.

Capturing Osama bin Laden had been an objective of the United States government since the presidency of Bill Clinton.

In 1988 US Clinton had signed a directive authorizing the CIA (and specifically their elite Special Activities Division) to apprehend bin Laden and bring him to the United States to stand trial. If taking bin Laden alive was deemed impossible, then deadly force was authorized.

On 20 August 1998, 66 cruise missiles launched by United States Navy ships in the Arabian Sea struck bin Laden's training camps near Khost in Afghanistan, missing him by a few hours.

In 1999 the CIA, together with Pakistani military intelligence, had prepared a team of approximately 60 Pakistani commandos to infiltrate Af-

ghanistan to capture or kill bin Laden, but the plan was aborted by the 1999 Pakistani coup d'état.

In 2000, foreign operatives working on behalf of the CIA had fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a convoy of vehicles in which bin Laden was traveling through the mountains of Afghanistan, hitting one of the vehicles but not the one in which bin Laden was riding.

All of these attempts to capture or kill bin Laden took place before 9/11.

Immediately after the 9/11 attacks, U.S. government officials in the Bush Administration named bin Laden and the al-Qaeda organization as the prime suspects and offered a reward of \$25 million for information leading to his capture or death.

According to The Washington Post, the U.S. government concluded that Osama bin Laden was present during the Battle of Tora Bora, Afghanistan in late 2001, and according to civilian and military officials with first-hand knowledge, failure by the United States to commit enough U.S. ground troops to hunt him led to his escape and was the gravest failure by the United States in the war against al-Qaeda.

U.S. and Afghanistan forces raided the mountain caves in Tora Bora between 14–16 August 2007. The military was drawn to the area after receiving intelligence of a pre-Ramadan meeting held by al-Qaeda members. After killing dozens of al-Qaeda and Taliban members, they did not find Osama bin Laden.

On 7 October 2008, in the

second presidential debate, on foreign policy, then-presidential candidate Barack Obama pledged, "We will kill bin Laden. We will crush al-Qaeda. That has to be our biggest national security priority."

On 18 October 2010, an unnamed NATO official suggested that bin Laden was "alive and well and living comfortably" in Pakistan, protected by elements of the country's intelligence services.

A senior Pakistani official denied the allegations and said that the accusations were designed to put pressure on the Pakistani government ahead of talks aimed at strengthening ties between Pakistan and the United States.

In April 2011, various intelligence outlets were able to pinpoint Bin Laden's suspected location near Abbottabad, Pakistan. It was previously believed that bin Laden was hiding near the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan's Federally Administered Tribal Areas, but he was found 160 km away in a three-story mansion in Abbottabad.

Bin Laden's mansion was located 1.3 km southwest of the Pakistan Military Academy.

In April 2011, President Obama ordered a covert operation to kill or capture bin Laden.

On May 2, 2011, the White House announced that U.S. Navy SEALs had successfully carried out the operation, killing him in his Abbottabad compound in Pakistan.

### Operation Neptune Spear

Osama bin Laden was killed in Abbottabad, Pakistan, on 2 May 2011 shortly after 01h00



**COMPOUND:** The compound in Abbottabad where Osama bin Laden had been living when it was raided by US Special Forces.

local time by a United States military special operations unit.

The operation, code-named Operation Neptune Spear, was ordered by United States President Barack Obama and carried out in a U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) operation by a team of United States Navy SEALs from the United States Naval Special Warfare Development Group (also known as DEVGRU or informally by its former name, SEAL Team Six) of the Joint Special Operations Command, with support from CIA operatives on the ground.

The raid on bin Laden's compound in Abbottabad was launched from Afghanistan. After the raid, reports at the time stated that U.S. forces had taken bin Laden's body to Afghanistan for positive identification, then buried it at sea, in accordance with Islamic law, within 24 hours of his death.

Subsequent reporting has called this account into question - citing, for example, the absence of evidence that there

was an imam on board the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson, where the burial was said to have taken place.

Pakistani authorities later demolished the compound in February 2012 to prevent it from becoming a neo-Islamist shrine.

In February 2013, Pakistan announced plans to build a R265 million amusement park in the area, including the property of the former hideout.

### Conspiracy theories

Finally, more than 12 years after President Clinton had given the order for bin Laden to be captured or killed, Osama bin Laden was dead.

It had cost the United States \$450 billion to hunt down and kill bin Laden. But had bin Laden really been killed on 2 May 2011? The death of Osama bin Laden in May 2011 gave rise to various conspiracy theories, hoaxes, and rumours.

These include the ideas that bin Laden had been dead for years, or is still alive. Doubts

about bin Laden's death were fuelled by the U.S. military's supposed disposal of his body at sea, the decision to not release any photographic or DNA evidence of bin Laden's death to the public, the contradicting accounts of the incident (with the official story on the raid appearing to change or directly contradict previous assertions), and the 25 minute blackout during the raid on bin Laden's compound during which a live feed from cameras mounted on the helmets of the U.S. special forces was cut off.

Some believed that bin Laden was working with the U.S. during the entire war on terror. He was killed because they feared he would eventually reveal the truth.

Others believe that bin Laden had been killed years before but this information was kept secret until just before the US Presidential Elections in order to boost Obama's ratings.

### Fact file

Here are a few bits of information you may or may not know about Osama bin Laden.

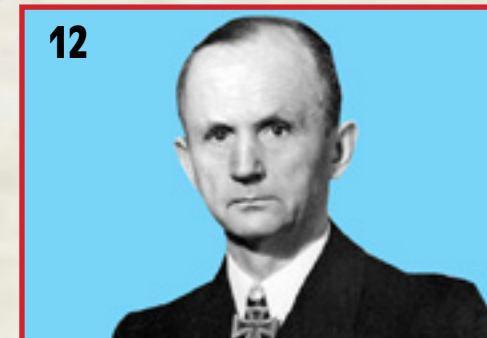
- Osama bin Laden was the 17th of an estimated 58 children of construction magnate Mohammed bin Awad bin Laden.
- Bin Laden received an elite, Western-style education in Saudi Arabia and attended a Quaker school in Lebanon for a year.
- Bin Laden graduated with a degree in civil engineering in 1979 from King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
- The CIA supported extrem-





## Remember me?

This month we show you 15 famous figures from military history. All of them have featured in our Famous Figures in Military History feature in Military Despatches. You tell us who they are. Answers on page 102.



- ist Islamic groups in the 1980s - including bin Laden's - with weapons and over \$1 billion when they were fighting the Soviet Union in Afghanistan.
- While his father married 22 times and fathered 58 children, bin Laden married at least five women and fathered approximately 24 children.
- Bin Laden received between \$25 to \$30 million in inheritance after his father's death, which he funnelled to jihadist activities in Afghanistan.
- Bin Laden was expelled from Saudi Arabia in 1991. He and other Al Qaeda members then relocated to Sudan with an estimated \$250 million that they used to grow their terror network.
- The United States and Saudi Arabia agreed to match funding to jihadi groups in 1991, when over \$400 million was given to what would later become the Taliban.
- After radical Islamists first struck the World Trade Centre with a car bomb in 1993, bin Laden was implicated as a co-conspirator.
- Bin Laden was a passionate fan of British football team Arsenal F.C. and reportedly visited their stadium twice during a trip to London in 1994.
- According to Kola Boof, a Sudanese writer who claims to have been made bin Laden's sex slave in the 1990s, he was obsessed with Whitney Houston, and regularly spoke of his dreams of marrying her and killing her husband, Bobby Brown.
- Bin Laden forbade his followers from listening to music as well as drinking iced water.
- Knowing that the United States could not be defeated militarily, bin Laden's long-term strategy was to draw out the United States into a costly war of attrition. He believed he could bankrupt the U.S. economy by forcing the country into wars across the globe.
- After the United States launched missile attacks against Al Qaeda's compound in Afghanistan by tracking satellite phone use, Bin Laden didn't use a phone after 1998.
- According to biographers and associates, bin Laden loved westerns, which is largely why he owned so many horses and took to wearing cowboy hats at his Abbottabad compound.
- In an elaborate attempt to fake his death, Al Qaeda staged a funeral for bin Laden in the Tora Bora mountains of Afghanistan in 2001.
- Bin Laden penned a letter to President Barack Obama in 2011 urging him to act on climate change.
- Bin Laden was between 1.95 (6'4") and 2.01 metres tall (6'6") but weighed only 73 kilograms.
- A gem dealer from Michigan named Tom Lee claims to have learned of Osama bin Laden's hiding place in Abbottabad, Pakistan from a friend in Pakistani intelligence all the way back

in 2003. He immediately passed the info on to the FBI. When bin Laden was killed in that very hiding place in 2011, Lee sought the advertised \$25 million reward, but was ignored by the FBI.

- Osama bin Laden was killed on May 2nd, 2011 by United States Navy SEALs, with his body disposed of at sea the same night.
- The person who broke the news of bin Laden's death to the public was none other than Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. In a tweet that went out over an hour before the president addressed the nation, Johnson, likely acting on a tip from his Navy SEAL cousin, was the first to hint at the historic news that would soon be shared with the world.
- The Centre for Public Integrity calculates the cost of tracking and killing Osama Bin Laden at \$450 billion, making him the most expensive assassination target in world history.
- While the exact method used to ultimately locate Osama bin Laden prior to the operation that ended with his death hasn't been released by the U.S. government, most accounts point to a Pakistani intelligence officer who disclosed his location for a \$25 million reward.
- No physical evidence of Osama bin Laden's death has been released to the public.



# Straight Shooting

Every month we will feature two to four modern firearms that are used by the world's counter-terrorist units. This month we feature the CZ-75, Manurhin MR73, Walther PPK, and Walther P38.

## CZ-75

The CZ-75 was developed by Czechoslovakia for the export market because they do not use the 9 x 19 mm round in their military. The operating system is taken from several earlier weapons with the locking system being a modified Browning design and the firing mechanism being similar to the Walther designs.

The result of this combination is an accurate and reliable design that has not been adopted by any major group.

The pistol was not sold in Czechoslovakia until 1985, when it became popular among sport shooters (sport shooting is the third most widespread sport in the Czech Republic, after football and ice hockey. It was adopted by the Czech armed forces only after the Velvet Revolution in 1989).

The CZ 75 is a short recoil operated, locked breech pistol. It uses the Browning linkless cam locking system similar to that used in the Browning Hi-Power pistol, where the barrel and slide are locked together on firing, using locking lugs milled into the barrel mating with recesses in the roof of the slide. An enclosed cam track integral with the barrel is actuated by the



slide release lever's transverse pin. After the first few millimetres of the recoil stroke, the barrel is cammed downwards at the rear, enabling the slide to continue the recoil stroke and eject the spent cartridge.

Most models have the capability of being fired in both single and double-action modes, and feature a frame-mounted manual safety. Some recent models have a decocking lever that doubles as a manual safety. Starting in the early 1990s, all CZ 75s have been made with firing pin blocks, designated by the letter B (as in CZ 75B).

The CZ 75 was one of the first high-capacity 9mm pistols with a manual safety similar to that of the Browning Hi-Power. This allows the CZ 75 to be carried with the hammer cocked with safety applied and a round chambered, ready for use simply by switching the safety off, a configuration known as condition 1.

- Designer: Josef and František Koucký
- Designed: 1975
- Manufacturer: Česká zbrojovka
- Weight unloaded: 980 g
- Weight unloaded: 1.12 kg
- Length: 206.3 mm
- Barrel length: 120 mm
- Cartridge: 9x19 mm Parabellum
- Action: recoil, tilting barrel, double/single
- Rate of fire: 1,000 rounds per minute
- Muzzle velocity: 369 m/s
- Type of fire: Semi-automatic
- Feed system: 12 round detachable box magazine
- Sights: Front blade, rear square notch
- Sight radius: 16 cm

## Manurhin MR73 Gendarmerie



ly pleased with the Gendarmerie Model of the MR73 because of its adjustable sights and its availability in different barrel lengths.

The MR73 was standard issue with France's Gendarmerie and in some police units including Special Weapons and Tactics teams (RAID, GIGN and comparable units).

The MR73 has an adjustable trigger weight in both double-action and single-action modes, a feature found in other high-end revolvers such as Korth and Janz. These adjustments do not alter the strength of the main spring, ensuring reliable primer ignition. This is due to the use of roller bearings in the trigger mechanism along with extensive hand fitting and polishing of components during assembly. The MR73 requires more than 12 hours of hand-fitting at the factory, making it about 50% more expensive than competing U.S.-manufactured brands.

The frame, cylinder, and barrel of the MR73 are made from ordnance-certified, alloyed steel. Barrels are manufactured by cold-hammering. The rifling is formed during the forging process, eliminating the need to cut the rifling as a separate manufacturing step. This creates an extremely hard and microscopically smooth internal barrel surface.

The Manurhin is the first revolver developed and designed in France since 1892. The MR73 models were created to answer a demand for good quality revolvers for use by the French police forces and especially the presidential security units.

Until the advent of the Manurhin design, the demand was filled with custom produced Smith & Wessons and the MR73 has borrowed heavily from the S&W design. An interchangeable cylinder is available for the MR73 allowing 9 x 19 mm ammunition to be used, but because of its relative inaccuracy in firing and some difficulties in extraction, this option is rarely used.

With an excellent trigger pull and quality manufacturing, the MR73 has gone a long way toward converting many Europeans to the use of a revolver, although automatic pistols have been popular for a long time. The GIGN are particular-

- Designer: Not known
- Designed: 1973
- Manufacturer: Manurhin
- Weight unloaded: 1.17 kg
- Weight unloaded: 1.26 kg
- Length: 334 mm
- Barrel length: 203 mm
- Cartridge: .357 Magnum
- Action: Double action revolver
- Rate of fire: 24 rounds per minute
- Muzzle velocity: 504 m/s
- Type of fire: Double action
- Feed system: Swing out six round cylinder
- Sights: Adjustable, open iron
- Sight radius: 24.3 cm



## Walther PPK

The most common variant of the Walther is the Walther PPK, a smaller version of the PP with a shorter grip, barrel and frame, and reduced magazine capacity.

A new, two-piece wrap-around grip panel construction was used to conceal the exposed back strap. The smaller size made it more concealable than the original PP and hence better suited to plain clothes or undercover work. It was released in 1930.

“PPK” is an abbreviation for Polizeipistole Kriminalmodell (police pistol - detective model). While it’s often thought to be “kurz” (German: short) referring to the police pistol with shorter barrel and frame, the manufacturer’s selection of the name “Kriminal” appears in early original advertising brochures from Walther and the 1937 GECO German catalogue.

Adolf Hitler committed suicide with his PPK (.32 ACP/7.65mm) in the *Führerbunker* in Berlin.

South Korean dictator Park Chung-hee was shot and killed by Kim Jae-gyu, using the Walther PPK.

The Walther PPK pistol is famous as fictional secret agent James Bond’s gun in many of the films and novels: Ian Fleming’s choice of the Walther PPK directly influenced its popularity and its notoriety.

Fleming had given Bond a .25 Beretta 418 pistol in early novels, but switched to the PPK in Dr. No on the advice of firearms

expert Geoffrey Boothroyd, though the actual guns carried by Bond and Felix Leiter in the film were, in fact, Walther PPs.

The PP and the PPK were among the world’s first successful double action semi-automatic pistols. They are still manufactured by Walther and have been widely copied.

The design inspired other pistols, among them the Soviet Makarov, the Hungarian FEG PA-63, the Polish P-64, the American Accu-Tek AT-380 II, and the Argentinian Bersa Thunder 380. The PP and PPK were both popular with European police and civilians for being reliable and concealable.

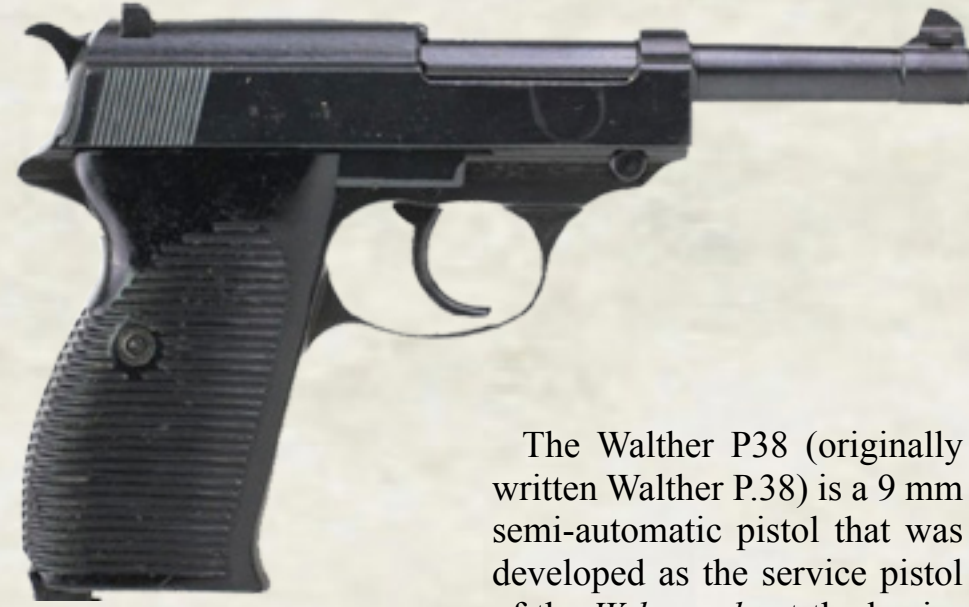
During World War II, they were issued to the German military (officers), including the Luftwaffe, as well as the police.

Singer Elvis Presley owned a silver-finish PPK, inscribed “TCB” (“taking care of business”).



- Designer: Carl Walther Waffenfabrik
- Designed: 1929
- Manufacturer: Carl Walther GmbH Sportwaffen
- Weight unloaded: 675 g
- Weight unloaded: 782 g
- Length: 155 mm
- Barrel length: 83 mm
- Cartridge: 9×17 mm Short
- Action: Straight blowback
- Rate of fire: 30 rounds per minute
- Muzzle velocity: 244 m/s
- Type of fire: Semi-automatic, double action
- Feed system: Six round detachable box magazine
- Sights: Fixed iron sights, rear notch and front blade
- Sight radius: 11 cm

## Walther P38



- Designer: Carl Walther Waffenfabrik
- Designed: 1938
- Manufacturer: Carl Walther Waffenfabrik, Mauser Werke, Spreewerk
- Weight unloaded: 772 g
- Weight unloaded: 970 g
- Length: 216 mm
- Barrel length: 125 mm
- Cartridge: 9×19 mm Parabellum
- Action: Short recoil, locked breech
- Rate of fire: 32 rounds per minute
- Muzzle velocity: 320 m/s
- Type of fire: Semi-automatic, double action
- Feed system: Eight round detachable box magazine
- Sights: Rear notch and front blade post
- Sight radius: 16.5 cm

The Walther P38 (originally written Walther P.38) is a 9 mm semi-automatic pistol that was developed as the service pistol of the *Wehrmacht* at the beginning of World War II. It was intended to replace the costly Luger P08, the production of which was scheduled to end in 1942.

The P38 was the first locked-breech pistol to use a double-action/single-action (DA/SA) trigger (the earlier double-action PPK was an unlocked blowback design, but the more powerful 9×19mm Parabellum round used in the P38 mandated a locked breech design).

The shooter could chamber a round, use the safety-decocking lever to safely lower the hammer without firing the round, and carry the weapon loaded. This lever can stay down, keeping the pistol “on safe” or be immediately returned to the straight position, keeping the weapon safely “ready” with a double-action trigger pull for the first shot.

Pulling the trigger cocks the hammer before firing the first shot with double-action opera-

tion. The firing mechanism extracts and ejects the first spent round, cocks the hammer, and chambers a fresh round for single-action operation with each subsequent shot – all features found in many modern day handguns.

The moving-barrel design mechanism operates by use of a wedge-shaped falling locking block underneath the breech. When the pistol is fired both the barrel and slide recoil for a short distance together, where the locking block drives down, disengaging the slide and arresting further rearward movement of the barrel.

The slide however continues its rearward movement on the frame, ejecting the spent case and cocking the hammer before reaching the end of travel. Two return springs located on either side of the frame and below the slide, having been compressed by the slide’s rearward movement, drive the slide forward, stripping a new round from the magazine, driving it into the breech and, in the process, re-engaging the barrel; ending its return travel with a fresh round chambered, hammer cocked and ready to repeat the process.

The falling locking block design provides good accuracy due to the in-line travel of the barrel and slide.

For many years the P38 was the standard service issue for the South African Police (SAP).



# Rank Structure - South Korea

Over the next few months we will be running a series of articles looking at the rank structure of various armed forces. This month we look at the Republic of Korea (ROK) Armed Forces.

The Republic of Korea (ROK) Armed Forces is divided up into four service branches. These are the ROK Army, ROK Navy, ROK Marine Corps, and ROK Air Force. Conscription in South Korea requires male citizens over the age of 18 to perform compulsory military service. Women are not required to perform military service, but they may volunteer as officers, warrant officers, or non-commissioned officers. The length of compulsory military service varies based on service branches: Active duty enlisted personnel serve 21 months in the Army or Marine Corps, 23 months in the Navy, and 24 months in the Air Force (the length of military service will be reduced to 18 – 22 months by 2022.).

Commissioned officers, warrant officers, and non-commissioned officers are volunteer-based, and serve longer terms than those of enlisted personnel, or as career. Non-active duty personnel such as social work personnel serve for various lengths. After conscripts finish their military service, they are automatically placed on the reserve roster. In the South Korean armed forces, ranks fall into one of four categories: commissioned officer, warrant officer, non-commissioned officer, and junior enlisted (*Byeong*), in decreasing order of authority.

Commissioned officer ranks are subdivided into *Jangseong*-level (general) officers, *Yeonggwang*-level (field-grade) officers, and *Wigwan*-level (company-grade) officers. All three branches of the South Korean Armed Forces share the same rank insignia and titles in Korean. ROK Navy commissioned officer ranks have two distinct sets of rank insignia: On dress uniform a series of stripes similar to Commonwealth naval ranks are worn; on service uniforms, working uniforms, and special uniform situations (combat utilities and flight suits), the rank insignia are the same as the equivalent rank in the Army or the Air Force.

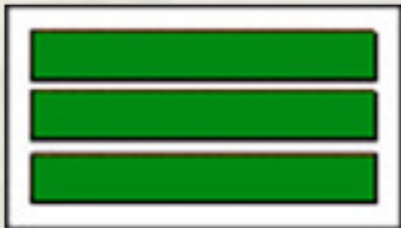
## NCO's & Warrant Officer



*Ideungbyeong*  
(Private)



*Ildeungbyeong*  
(Private First Class)



*Sangdeungbyeong*  
(Corporal)



*Byeongjang*  
(Sergeant)



*Hasa*  
(Staff Sergeant)



*Jungsa*  
(Sergeant First Class)



*Sangsa*  
(Master Sergeant)



*Wonsa*  
(Sergeant Major)



*Jungsa*  
(Warrant Officer)

## Officers



*Sowi*  
(Second Lieutenant)



*Jungwi*  
(Lieutenant)



*Daewi*  
(Captain)





*Soryeong*  
(Major)



*Jungnyeong*  
(Lieutenant Colonel)



*Daeryeong*  
(Colonel)



*Junjang*  
(Brigadier General)



*Sojang*  
(Major General)



*Jungjang*  
(Lieutenant General)



*Daejang*  
(General)



*Wonsu*  
(General of the Army)



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**“War does not determine who is right - only who is left”**



# A matter of survival - Handling the kill

Over the next few months we will be running a series of articles looking at survival, something that has always been important for those in the military. This month we look at handling animals that you have hunted or trapped.

Okay, so you've managed to hunt something. But before you break out the knives and forks there are a few things that you're going to have to do first.

You're going to have to skin and gut your prey before you can even think about cooking it. But before that you'll have to get it back to your camp.

If you've hunted or trapped something you must make sure that it's actually dead before you try and handle it. Wounded and trapped animals can be dangerous

Use a spear or tie your knife to a long stick and stab a largish animal in its main muscles and neck. Loss of blood will weaken it, enabling you to move closer and club it on the head.

Once its dead you will now have to transport it back to your camp. If you have a companion, it is easier to carry a large animal by tying it firmly to a bough, which can be carried on your shoulders.

Don't take it all the way back into your camp. It's only going to attract flies and scavenging animals.

Even large animals can be dragged to a more convenient location if turned on their backs. If the animal has horns cut off its head or they will make it difficult.

It is preferable to butcher all game on the trap line. It will attract predators and carrion

eaters that in turn may become trapped.

Use the entrails to re-bait traps. Only carry back to camp what you can manage without exertion. In cool climates cache the rest for collection later.

In territories with vultures and other large carrion eaters it will be almost impossible to protect it, so carry what you can.

What you leave behind is unlikely to keep in a hot climate.

Blood is a valuable food, containing vital minerals. Carry a vessel for taking it back to camp. Keep it covered, cool and out of the way of flies.



**WARNING**  
**Health**  
**Hazards**

## Diseased animals

There are lymph glands in the cheeks of animals. They are more noticeable on large animals.

If they are large and discoloured they are a sign of illness. Any animal that is dis-

torted or discoloured around the head (such as a rabbit with the symptoms of myxomatosis) should be boiled. There is then little risk of infection from eating it. However, care should be taken in preparation when there is a risk.

It is essential that any cut or sore in your skin be covered when slaughtering or handling meat, for if an animal carries disease a break in the skin provides easy entry to your body.

## Preparing the kill

In a survival situation you cannot afford to be fussy. No part of a carcass should be wasted.

Careful preparation will give you the maximum food value and make full use of the parts you cannot eat.

Set about it in four stages.

- **Bleeding** - which is essential if the meat is to keep, and without which the taste is very strong.
- **Skinning** - so that the hide or fur can be used for shelter and clothing.
- **Gutting** - to remove the gut

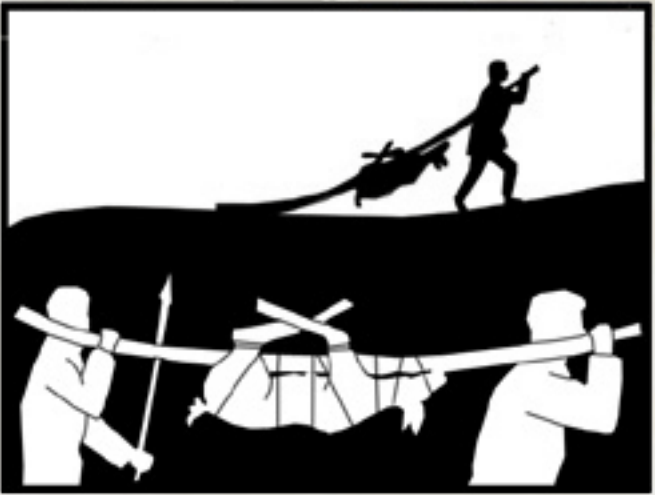
## Hiding the Kill

Suspend a carcass from a bough, too high for scavengers on the ground and out of reach from the branch.

A cache in the crook of a tree will keep meat away from ground predators but will still be accessible to felines and other climbing predators.



*Place the pole along the belly and use a clove hitch around each pair of legs. Lash the animal to the pole and finish with a clove hitch around the pole.*



and recover offal.

- **Jointing** - to provide suitable cuts for cooking.

Next month we will look at each of these steps in greater detail.

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## Military Strength

In the fifth of a series of articles, we examine the machine guns used by the ten strongest current military forces.

Last month we looked at assault rifles used by the ten strongest current military forces. This month we are going to take a look at the machine guns that each of these forces use, including light, medium and heavy machine guns.



### 10. Germany

Total military personnel – 210,305

#### Heckler & Koch MG4

Light machine gun also known as the HK123, it was developed in the late 1990s and was first seen publicly in September 2001. It has been selected to replace the 7.62 mm MG3 general-purpose machine gun in the *Bundeswehr* at the squad support level

- Manufacturer: Heckler & Koch
- Weight: 8.15 kg



- Length: 1,030 mm stock extended; 830 mm stock folded
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-operated, rotating bolt
- Rate of fire: 890 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: Belt fed.

#### Rheinmetall MG 3

Standard general-purpose machine gun of the German Army; it was derived from the World War II MG 42. Will be replaced by the MG5.

- Manufacturer: Rheinmetall
- Weight: 11.5 kg
- Length: 1,225 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51mm NATO
- Action: Recoil-operated, roller locked



- Rate of fire: 1,000-1,300 rpm
- Max firing range: 600 metres
- Feed system: 50 round non-disintegrating DM1 belt (can be combined in a drum); 100-round disintegrating DM6/M13 belt

#### Heckler & Koch MG5

Will become the new standard general-purpose machine gun of the German Army; replacing the MG3

- Manufacturer: Heckler & Koch
- Weight: 11.2 kg
- Length: 690–1,037 mm stock extended
- Cartridge: 7.62×51mm NATO



- Action: Gas-operated short-stroke piston, rotating bolt
- Rate of fire: 800 rpm
- Effective firing range: 300 metres
- Feed system: Disintegrating DM60/M13 belt in 50 round belt bag or 120 round in separate belt box

#### M2 Browning

Standard heavy machine gun German Army. *Bundeswehr* designation “*Maschinengewehr Kaliber .50*”. Used mostly as vehicle armament.

- Manufacturer: General Dynamics
- Weight: 38 kg
- Length: 1,654 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×99 mm NATO



- Action: Short recoil-operated
- Rate of fire: 450–600 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,800 metres
- Feed system: Belt-fed (M2 or M9 links)



### 9. Turkey

Total military personnel – 891,300

#### MG 3

Standard issue Light Machine Gun. Produced in license by MKEK.

- Manufacturer: MKEK
- Weight: 11.5 kg
- Length: 1,225 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51mm NATO
- Action: Recoil-operated, roller locked
- Rate of fire: 1,000-1,300 rpm



- Max firing range: 600 metres
- Feed system: 50 round non-disintegrating DM1 belt (can be combined in a drum); 100-round disintegrating DM6/M13 belt



## FN Minimi

This SAW (Squad Automatic Weapon) is now in service with more than 75 countries. Standard variant in use by Special Forces Command.

- Manufacturer: FN Herstal
- Weight: 7.1 kg
- Length: 1,040 mm
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-actuated, open bolt

- Rate of fire: 700–1,150 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: 100 or 200 round belt contained in a

100 round or 200 round soft pouch, or 200 round box or 30 round M16-type STAN-AG magazine



## PKM machine gun

This Russian-designed LMG was bought from ex-GDR stockpile after German unification. Secondary standard issue LMG.

- Manufacturer: Degtyaryov plant
- Weight: 7.5 kg
- Length: 1,192 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×54 mm R

- Action: Gas-operated, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 650 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres

• Feed system: Non-disintegrating metal 50 round belts in 100 and 200/250 round ammunition boxes



## M2 Browning

Standard issue heavy machine gun. It is most mounted on vehicles or used in a static role.

- Manufacturer: General Dynamics
- Weight: 38 kg
- Length: 1,654 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×99 mm NATO

- Action: Short recoil-operated
- Rate of fire: 450–600 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,800 metres

• Feed system: Belt-fed (M2 or M9 links)



## 8. United Kingdom

Total military personnel – 157,500

### FN Minimi

FN Minimi” and “FN Mini-mi Para” is the designated light machine gun. One LMG is issued per four man infantry fire-team for sustained suppressive fire out to 300 metres.

- Manufacturer: FN Herstal
- Weight: 7.1 kg
- Length: 1,040 mm
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO

- Action: Gas-actuated, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 700–1,150 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: 100 or 200

round belt contained in a 100 round or 200 round soft pouch, or 200 round box or 30 round M16-type STAN-AG magazine



### L7A2

The designated GPMG for sustained fire out to 1,800 m. Used by two-men teams in specialised machine gun platoons for battalion-level fire support.

- Manufacturer: FN Herstal
- Weight: 11.8 kg
- Length: 1,040 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51 mm NATO

- Action: Gas-operated long-stroke piston, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 650–1,000 rpm
- Effective firing range: 800 metres

• Feed system: 1Non-disintegrating DM1 or disintegrating M13 linked belt



### L111A1

The L111A1 is the British Army version of the American M2 Browning. It can be attached to both armoured and soft-skin vehicles, or a ground-mount tripod..

- Manufacturer: General Dynamics
- Weight: 38 kg
- Length: 1,654 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×99 mm NATO

- Action: Short recoil-operated
- Rate of fire: 450–600 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,800 metres

• Feed system: Belt-fed (M2 or M9 links)







## 7. Republic of Korea

Total military personnel – 3,699,000

### K3

Standard-issue squad automatic weapon. Will be replaced by the K15.

- Manufacturer: Daewoo Precision Industries
- Weight: 6.85 kg
- Length: 1,030 mm
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-actuated, rotating bolt



- Rate of fire: 900 rpm
- Effective firing range: 800 metres
- Feed system: 200 round disintegrating-link belt, 70 round box magazine (rare) or 30 round NATO STAN-AG magazine

### M60D

The M60D is a mounted variant of the standard American M60. It can be mounted on boats, vehicles and as a pintle-mounted door gun in helicopters.

- Manufacturer: Daewoo Precision Industries
- Weight: 10.5 kg
- Length: 1,105 mm



- Cartridge: 57.62×51mm NATO
- Action: Gas-operated, short-stroke gas piston, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 500-650 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,100 metres
- Feed system: Disintegrating belt with M13 Links

### S&T Motiv K12

This General Purpose Machine Gun is set to replace the M60. It was first shown to the public in 2009.

- Manufacturer: S&T Daewoo
- Weight: 12 kg
- Length: 1,234 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51mm NATO



- Action: Gas-operated, rotating bolt
- Rate of fire: 650–950 rpm
- Effective firing range: 800 metres
- Feed system: Disintegrating M13 belt

### K6

Copy of the Browning M2HB with additional modification. Parts of K6 and M2 are not interchangeable.

- Manufacturer: Yeohwa Shot-gun
- Weight: 38 kg
- Length: 1,654 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×99 mm NATO



- Action: Short recoil-operated
- Rate of fire: 450–600 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,800 metres
- Feed system: Belt-fed (M2 or M9 links)



## 6. Japan

Total military personnel – 310,457

### Sumitomo Minimi

Made under license by Sumitomo, standard squad machine gun. It is a copy of the FN Minimi.

- Manufacturer: Sumitomo
- Weight: 7.1 kg
- Length: 1,040 mm
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-actuated, open bolt



- Rate of fire: 700–1,150 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: 100 or 200 round belt contained in a 100 round or 200 round soft pouch, or 200 round box or 30 round M16-type STAN-AG magazine

### Sumitomo Type 62

Made by Sumitomo. Still used for infantry support as a Medium machine gun. Also used in vehicle-mounted roles.

- Manufacturer: Sumitomo
- Weight: 10.15 kg
- Length: 1,200 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-operated



- Rate of fire: 650 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: Belt-fed



# HEAD TO HEAD

## Sumitomo M2

Made under license by Sumitomo. It is a copy of the American Browning M2.

- Manufacturer: Sumitomo
- Weight: 38 kg
- Length: 1,654 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×99 mm NATO
- Action: Short recoil-operated
- Rate of fire: 450–600 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,800 metres
- Feed system: Belt-fed (M2 or M9 links)



## 5. France

Total military personnel – 426,265

## FN Minimi

This SAW (Squad Automatic Weapon) is standard issue for many French units.

- Manufacturer: FN Herstal
- Weight: 7.1 kg
- Length: 1,040 mm
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-actuated, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 700–1,150 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: 100 or 200 round belt contained in a 100 round or 200 round soft pouch, or 200 round box or 30 round M16-type STAN-AG magazine



## ANF1

This is basically a French AA-52 GPMG that was changed from the French 7.5×54 mm round to the 7.62×51 mm NATO round

- Manufacturer: MAS
- Weight: 9.970 kg
- Length: 1,080 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51 mm NATO
- Action: Lever-delayed blowback
- Rate of fire: 900 rpm
- Effective firing range: 600 metres
- Feed system: 50 round non-disintegrating belt



# HEAD TO HEAD

## FN MAG

This general purpose machine gun, designed in the early 1950s and has been used by more than 80 countries

- Manufacturer: Fabrique Nationale
- Weight: 11.8 k
- Length: 1,263 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-operated long-stroke piston, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 650–1,000 rpm
- Effective firing range: 800 metres
- Feed system: Non-disintegrating DM1 or disintegrating M13 linked belt



## M2 Browning

Standard American M2 Browning. It can be attached to both armoured and soft-skin vehicles, or a ground-mount tripod..

- Manufacturer: General Dynamics
- Weight: 38 kg
- Length: 1,654 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×99 mm NATO
- Action: Short recoil-operated
- Rate of fire: 450–600 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,800 metres
- Feed system: Belt-fed (M2 or M9 links)



## 4. India

Total military personnel – 2,598,921

The Indians make use of 10 different light, heavy and general purpose machine guns from a variety of countries.

## IWI Negev NG-7

Standard Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW) of special forces, especially Para(SF).

- Manufacturer: Israel Military Industries
- Weight: 7.95 kg
- Length: 1,100 mm stock extended; 1,030 mm stock folded
- Cartridge: 7.62×51 mm NATO
- Action: Gas operated, rotating bolt
- Rate of fire: 600-750 rpm
- Effective firing range: 300-800 metres
- Feed system: 100 and 125 round disintegrating M13 NATO ammunition belts





## M249

This GPMG is used by the NSG. It is basically a modified FN Minimi.

- Manufacturer: FN Herstal
- Weight: 10 kg
- Length: 1,041 mm
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-actuated, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 700–1,150 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: 200 round belt



## MAG 58

Standard section-Medium Machine Gun for infantry battalions, Indian-made version of the FN MAG.

- Manufacturer: Fabrique Nationale
- Weight: 11.8 k
- Length: 1,263 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-operated long-stroke piston, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 650–1,000 rpm
- Effective firing range: 800 metres
- Feed system: Non-disintegrating DM1 or disintegrating M13 linked belt



## PKM machine gun

PKM machine guns are used as co-axial weapons in Russian produced T-90S Bhishma, T-72M Ajeya and BMP-2S Sarath and used as general purpose machine gun. Also used by Special Forces as section LMG.

- Manufacturer: Degtyaryov plant
- Weight: 7.5 kg
- Length: 1,192 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×54 mm R
- Action: Gas-operated, open bolt
- Rate of fire: 650 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: Non-disintegrating metal 50 round belts in 100 and 200/250 round ammunition boxes



## 3. China

Total military personnel – 2,545,000

The People's Liberation Army makes use of a staggering 21 different types of light, heavy, GPMG and multi-barrel machine guns.

## QBZ-95 LSW

Standard light support weapon (LSW) used by the PLA.

- Manufacturer: Norinco
- Weight: 3.25 kg
- Length: 745 mm
- Cartridge: 5.8×42 mm DBP87
- Action: Short-stroke piston, rotating bolt
- Rate of fire: 650 rpm
- Effective firing range: 400 metres
- Feed system: 30 round detachable box magazine; 75 round detachable drum



## QJY-88

Also known as the Type 88 LMG it replaced the Type 67 GPMG.

- Manufacturer: China North Industries Corporation
- Weight: 7.6 kg
- Length: 1,151 mm
- Cartridge: 5.8×42 mm DBP88
- Action: Gas-operated
- Rate of fire: 650–700 rpm
- Effective firing range: 800–1,000 metres
- Feed system: 100 & 200 round cartridge case



## Type 77

The Type 77 is described as China's first generation designed 12.7 mm heavy machine gun.

- Manufacturer: Norinco
- Weight: 28 kg
- Length: 2,150 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×108 mm
- Action: Gas
- Rate of fire: 650 rpm
- Effective firing range: 650–700 metres
- Feed system: 30 round detachable 60 round belt







## 2. Russia

Total military personnel – 3,586,128

### PKM machine gun

Based on a heavily modified Kalashnikov design, it is the main service general purpose machine gun.

- Manufacturer: Degtyaryov plant
- Weight: 7.5 kg
- Length: 1,192 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×54 mm R
- Action: Gas-operated, open bolt

- Rate of fire: 650 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: Non-disintegrating metal 50 round belts in 100 and 200/250 round ammunition boxes



### PKP Pecheneg

Based on and designed to replace the PKM as General Issue.

- Manufacturer: Degtyaryov plant
- Weight: 8.2 kg
- Length: 1,200 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×54 mm R
- Action: Gas-operated

- Rate of fire: 600-800 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,500 metres
- Feed system: Belt feed: 100, 200, 250 round



### PKP Pecheneg

Replacing the NSV as the main service heavy machine gun.

- Manufacturer: V.A. Degtyarev Plant
- Weight: 25.5 kg
- Length: 1,980 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×108 mm
- Action: Gas-operated, rotating bolt

- Rate of fire: 650-750 rpm
- Effective firing range: 2,000 metres
- Feed system: 50 round linked belt



## 1. United States

Total military personnel – 4,397,128

### M249

American adaptation of the Belgian FN Minimi,

- Manufacturer: FN Herstal
- Weight: 10 kg
- Length: 1,041 mm
- Cartridge: 5.56×45 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-actuated, open bolt

- Rate of fire: 700–1,150 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,000 metres
- Feed system: 200 round belt



### M240

This general purpose machine gun is the American version of the FN MAG.

- Manufacturer: Fabrique Nationale
- Weight: 11.8 k
- Length: 1,263 mm
- Cartridge: 7.62×51 mm NATO
- Action: Gas-operated long-stroke piston, open bolt

- Rate of fire: 650–1,000 rpm
- Effective firing range: 800 metres
- Feed system: Non-disintegrating DM1 or disintegrating M13 linked belt



### M2 Browning

Probably the most popular and used heavy machine gun in the world..

- Manufacturer: General Dynamics
- Weight: 38 kg
- Length: 1,654 mm
- Cartridge: 12.7×99 mm NATO
- Action: Short recoil-operated

- Rate of fire: 450–600 rpm
- Effective firing range: 1,800 metres
- Feed system: Belt-fed (M2 or M9 links)





# Norman Schwarzkopf Jr.

*Decorated veteran of the Vietnam War and adviser to the South Vietnamese Army, he would go on to become a four-star general and commander of the United States Central Command. He would lead all coalition forces in the Gulf War. This was Stormin' Norman Schwarzkopf.*

Norman Schwarzkopf was highly decorated in Vietnam, being awarded three Silver Star Medals, two Purple Hearts, and the Legion of Merit.

Rising through the ranks after the conflict, he later commanded the U.S. 24th Infantry Division and was one of the commanders of the Invasion of Grenada in 1983.

Assuming command of United States Central Command in 1988, Schwarzkopf was called on to respond to the Invasion of Kuwait in 1990 by the forces of Iraq under Saddam Hussein. Initially tasked with defending Saudi Arabia from Iraqi aggression, Schwarzkopf's command eventually grew to an international force of over 750,000 troops.

After diplomatic relations broke down, he planned and led Operation Desert Storm - an extended air campaign followed by a highly successful 100-hour ground offensive - which defeated the Iraqi Army and liberated Kuwait in early 1991.

A hard-driving military commander with a strong temper,

Schwarzkopf was considered an exceptional leader by many biographers and was noted for his abilities as a military diplomat and in dealing with the press.

## Early Life

Herbert Norman Schwarzkopf Jr. on 22 August 1943 in Trenton, New Jersey. His parents were Herbert Norman Schwarzkopf Sr. and Ruth Alice (née Bowman). He had two older sisters, Ruth Ann and Sally Joan.

In January 1952, the younger

Schwarzkopf's birth certificate was amended to make his name "H. Norman Schwarzkopf", reportedly because his father hated his first name.

His father was a 1917 graduate of the United States Military Academy and veteran of World War I. He later went on to become founding Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police, where he worked as a lead investigator on the 1932 Lindbergh baby kidnapping case.

When Norman Schwarzkopf was eight years old, his father returned to the military amid World War II. His continuous absence made home life difficult, particularly for his wife.

As a 10 year-old cadet at Bordentown Military Institute, near Trenton, he posed for his official photograph wearing a stern expression because - as he said afterwards - "Some day when I

become a general, I want people to know that I'm serious."

In 1946, when Norman Schwarzkopf was 12, he moved with his father to Tehran, Iran. In Iran, Norman learned shooting, horseback riding, and hunting.

Schwarzkopf developed a life-

long interest in Middle Eastern culture. The family moved to Geneva, Switzerland, in 1947, following a new military assignment for Herbert Schwarzkopf.

The senior Schwarzkopf visited Italy, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, and Berlin, Germany during his military duties, and the younger Schwarzkopf accompanied him.

By 1951 he had returned to Iran briefly before returning to the United States. Herbert Schwarzkopf died in 1958. From a young age, Norman wanted to be a military officer, following his father's example.

He attended the United States Military Academy, where he played football, wrestled, sang and conducted the West Point Chapel choir.

He graduated in 1956, finishing 43rd out of a class of 480. He earned a Bachelor of Engineering degree and later a Masters of Engineering at the University of Southern California.

He was also a member of Mensa and his IQ was tested at 168.

## Military career

On graduating from West Point, Schwarzkopf was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Infantry Branch.

He spent from October 1956 to March 1957 at United States Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he earned his Parachutist Badge.

His first assignment was as platoon leader, later executive officer, of E Company, 2nd Airborne Battle Group, 187th

Airborne Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

It was during this time he later recounted he found chronic problems in military leadership, amid what historians have called a larger doctrinal crisis.

Schwarzkopf later recounted many officers and NCOs he met in this assignment "had no sense of duty or honour, and who saw the world through an alcoholic haze."

He was promoted to first lieutenant in 1958. In July 1959, Schwarzkopf was assigned his first overseas assignment; as a staff officer alternating with duties as a platoon leader, liaison officer, and reconnaissance platoon leader with the 6th Infantry Regiment in West Germany.

In July 1960, Schwarzkopf was assigned as aide-de-camp to Brigadier General Charles Johnson, who commanded the Berlin Brigade in West Berlin.

Schwarzkopf was promoted to captain in July 1961 and re-assigned for Advanced Infantry School at Fort Benning for eight months. He also earned his Master Parachutist Badge in that time.

From June 1962 to June 1964, Schwarzkopf completed a Master of Science in Engineering at the University of Southern California. He then returned to West Point to serve as an instructor in the Department of Mechanics.

He was originally intended to teach at the Military Academy for three years, but after his first year he volunteered for service in South Vietnam because

he thought that career advancement could be most quickly earned in combat. West Point approved his request in early 1965 with the stipulation that he return and teach the remaining two years after his tour.

## Vietnam War

In the Vietnam War, Schwarzkopf served as a task force adviser to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam Airborne Division. He was promoted to major shortly after arriving in Vietnam.

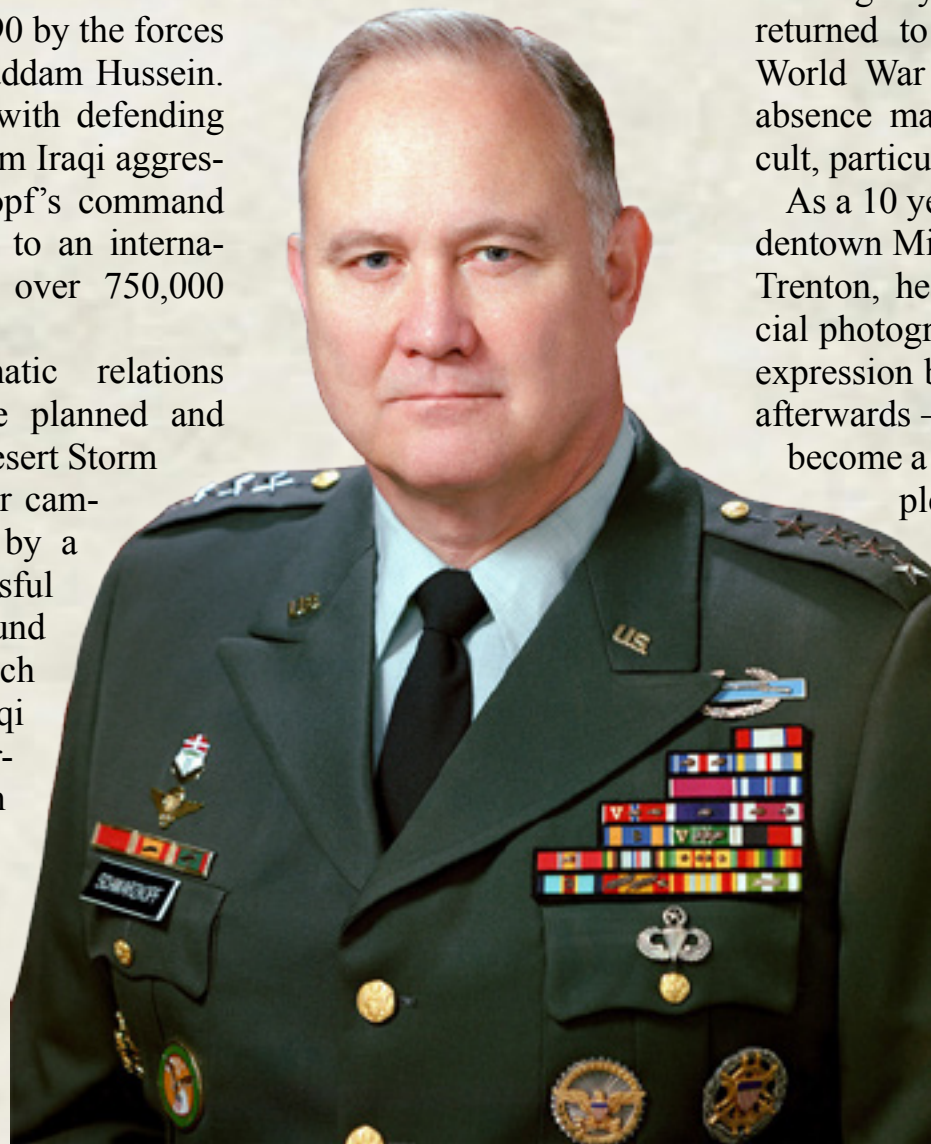
After an initial orientation at Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV), headquartered in Saigon, Schwarzkopf was sent north to Pleiku in the central highlands, in the II Corps Tactical Zone.

He got his first combat experience on 3 August when he was the senior adviser to a force of 1,000 South Vietnamese paratroopers sent to relieve a beleaguered South Vietnamese Army force at Đức Cơ Camp.

The paratroopers took heavy casualties and a second, larger force was required to relieve them. That force too came into heavy contact. Schwarzkopf and his group fought continuously for several days.

At one point, he braved heavy North Vietnamese fire to recover and treat a handful of wounded South Vietnamese soldiers and escort them to safety.

By 17 August the 173rd Airborne Brigade arrived and broke the siege, ending the Battle of Đức Cơ. General William Westmoreland later arrived to review





the incident and congratulate Schwarzkopf.

For his leadership in the battle, Schwarzkopf was awarded the Silver Star. On 14 February 1966, Schwarzkopf led an ARVN paratrooper assault on a Viet Cong position, during which he was wounded four times by small arms fire. In spite of this, he refused medical evacuation or to relinquish command until the objective had been captured. For this, he was awarded a second Silver Star and a Purple Heart.

After ten months of combat duty, Schwarzkopf was pulled from the front by MACV and reassigned as senior staff adviser for civil affairs to the ARVN Airborne Division.

Then, he returned to the United States and finished his teaching assignment at West Point, where he was an associate professor in the Department of Mechanics. In 1968, he attended the Army's Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, completing the course in June 1969.

In this time back home, he also met and then married Brenda Holsinger, a flight attendant for Trans World Airlines. The couple would later have three children.

In June 1969 Schwarzkopf, recently promoted to lieutenant colonel, was sent back to Vietnam on a second tour of duty.

He was assigned as executive officer to the chief of staff at MACV headquarters, based at Tan Son Nhut Air Base in Saigon. Schwarzkopf later re-

called this second tour of duty was very different from his first; there were 500,000 U.S. troops in Vietnam, the Vietnamization strategy was in effect, and recent events such as the Tet Offensive and My Lai Massacre put troops under increased political scrutiny.

In December 1969 he gained his first field command, taking over the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade at Chu Lai. He later said these troops were initially demoralized and in poor condition, racked with rampant drug use and disciplinary problems as well as a lack of support from home.

Despite the brigade's otherwise controversial performance record, Schwarzkopf was quickly regarded as one of its best combat commanders.

He aggressively stepped up patrols and operations to counter Viet Cong infiltration in the battalion's sector. He developed his leadership attitudes during this command.

Fellow commander Hal Moore (featured in the May 2019 issue) later wrote that during his time in Vietnam Schwarzkopf acquired his well-known temper, while arguing via radio for passing American helicopters to land and pick up his wounded men.

He also showed a preference of leading from the front and prided himself on avoiding the rear areas, which he called a "cesspool".

Returning to the United States in 1970, Schwarzkopf was

awarded a third Silver Star and a second Purple Heart for risking his life to protect the soldiers, as well as three Bronze Star Medals and a Legion of Merit for his command performance.

Still, his experiences in Vietnam embittered him to U.S. foreign policy.

## Rising to general

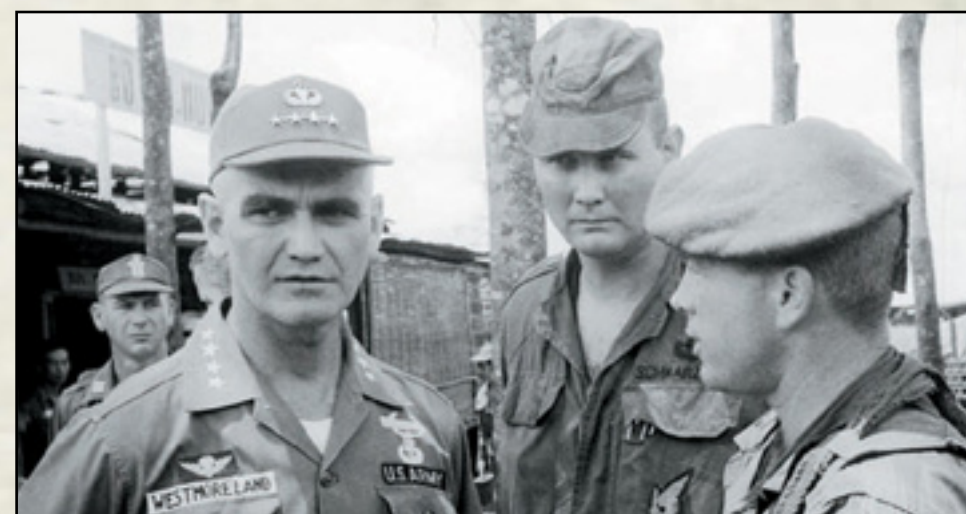
Schwarzkopf was disgusted by the treatment of Vietnam veterans in the United States after the war and he considered leaving the military. He ultimately decided to stay, hoping to fix some of the problems encountered by the military during the war.

He underwent surgery at Walter Reed Army Hospital shortly after his return from Vietnam to repair long-standing back problems exacerbated by parachute jumps.

Between 1970 and 1983, Schwarzkopf took on a number of different assignments. Promoted to colonel, Schwarzkopf volunteered for an assignment in Alaska, and in late 1974 became deputy commander of the 172nd Infantry Brigade at Fort Richardson, Alaska.

In October 1976, he moved to Fort Lewis, Washington, to command the 1st Brigade of the 9th Infantry Division, where he impressed his division commander, Major General Richard E. Cavazos.

Having been very successful improving the combat readiness of the 1st Brigade, he was nominated to receive his first star as a brigadier general.



**MEETING THE BIG BOSS:** Norman Schwarzkopf (middle), then a major, meets with General William Westmoreland (left), commander of all US Forces in Vietnam.

In July 1978, Schwarzkopf became deputy director of plans at the U.S. Pacific Command in Hawaii.

He then served a two-year stint as assistant division commander of the 8th Infantry Division (Mechanized) in Germany.

He returned to Washington D.C. for an assignment as director of personnel management for the Army, subordinate to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, General Maxwell R. Thurman.

Schwarzkopf was promoted to major general. In June 1983, he became commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

He immediately established an extremely rigorous training regimen and became well known among the troops of the command for his strict training and aggressive personality.

On 25 October 1983, Schwarzkopf was appointed to the command group for the Invasion of Grenada. He was the

chief army adviser to the overall operation commander.

The operation was plagued by logistical difficulties, exacerbated by poor communication and lack of cooperation between the branches of the United States military.

Schwarzkopf was named deputy commander of the invasion at the last minute, leaving him with little say in the planning.

While he initially did not think the U.S. should have been involved in the conflict, he later said he considered the mission a success because it re-asserted the dominance of the U.S. military after the Vietnam War. Following the invasion, Schwarzkopf returned to the 24th Infantry Division and completed his tour as its commander.

The operation was a learning experience for Schwarzkopf, who saw the need to develop greater cooperation between the services for future joint operations.

He would later push for more

policies to make joint warfare and inter-service cooperation standard practice in warfare.

In July 1985, Schwarzkopf began an 11 month assignment as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans at the Pentagon. On 1 July 1986, he was promoted to lieutenant general, and was reassigned to Fort Lewis as commander of I Corps. He held this post for 14 months before returning to the Pentagon as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans in August 1987.

## Commander of CENTCOM

In November 1988, Schwarzkopf was named commander of United States Central Command (CENTCOM). He assumed command of CENTCOM, with his headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida, and was promoted to general. At the time of this appointment, CENTCOM had overall responsibility for U.S. military operations in 19 countries, and had 200,000 service members on call should a crisis arise.

Schwarzkopf immediately took to changing the focus of the command, which to that point had focused on the "Zagros Doctrine", a hypothetical ground invasion by the Soviet Union through the Zagros Mountains which the U.S. would counter in Iran. Schwarzkopf was more concerned with the effects of the Iran-Iraq War on the stability of the region than of an external threat posed by the Soviet Union.



In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee in March 1989, Schwarzkopf maintained that the Soviet Union was a threat to the region, but when giving an overview of the countries in the region, noted that Iraq posed a threat to its weaker neighbours.

He implored that the U.S. “seek to assert a moderating influence in Iraq.” With regional turmoil growing, Schwarzkopf became concerned about the threat posed by Saddam Hussein, focusing the attention of his command to prepare to respond to what he thought was a “more realistic scenario.”

That year, his command began planning to counter an Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, seeing it as a likely conflict which would threaten the interests of the United States.

Though he declined to identify Iraq specifically as a threat, he noted a regional conflict was the most likely event to destabilize the region, and noted Iraq’s ceasefire with Iran meant it was continuing to grow and modernize its military.[79] In early 1990, he drafted a war plan, Operations Plan 1002-90, titled “Defence of the Arabian Peninsula,” which envisioned an Iraqi invasion of Saudi Arabia through Kuwait.

During CENTCOM military exercises in July 1990 termed Internal Look ‘90, Schwarzkopf wrote up a scenario that tested how the command would respond to a regional dictator invading a neighbouring country and threatening oil fields there,

a scenario which closely mirrored the rising tension between Iraq and Kuwait.

One week after the end of these exercises, Iraq invaded Kuwait on 2 August 1990.

## Gulf War

Initially believing the Iraqi Army would only advance to the Rumailah oil field, Schwarzkopf was surprised when the Iraqis captured Kuwait City.

Fearing Iraq would next invade Saudi Arabia, Schwarzkopf ordered contingency plans put in motion, with the 82nd Airborne Division, 101st Airborne Division and 24th Infantry Division put on alert.

He was then called to an emergency meeting with President George H. W. Bush, where his Internal Look ‘90 strategic plans were made the basis of a potential counter-offensive plan. By 5 August, Bush opted for an aggressive response to the invasion.

Schwarzkopf then accompanied Secretary of Defence Dick Cheney to meet with Saudi King Fahd to convince him to allow U.S. troops into Saudi Arabia to counter the Iraqi military.

With Fahd’s consent, Bush ordered troops into Saudi Arabia on 7 August, initially tasked to defend Saudi Arabia should Iraq attack.

By 20 August, 20,000 U.S. troops were in Saudi Arabia, with another 80,000 preparing to deploy, and a further 40,000 reserves tapped to augment them.

Schwarzkopf arrived at the

CENTCOM command in Riyadh on 25 August, and on 29 August he conducted his first front-line tour of the potential combat zone, accompanied by reporters.

Over the next several weeks, Schwarzkopf spoke frequently with both reporters and troops under his command, conducting many high-profile press conferences and updates to the situation in Saudi Arabia.

Schwarzkopf worked to help coordinate the contributions of the different nations contributing military forces to the effort.

The operation was known as Operation Desert Shield. On 29 December 1990, he received a warning order from The Pentagon to be ready to attack into Iraq and Kuwait by 17 January.

Schwarzkopf devised an operational plan, dubbed “Operation Desert Storm,” to be based on overwhelming force and strong infantry attacks supported by artillery and armour.

At 02h40 on 17 January, after 139 days of planning and build up, the air campaign against Iraq began.

He oversaw the strikes from his war room in Riyadh, then emerged from his command centre late in the day on 18 January to speak to the press, saying the air war had gone “just about exactly as we had intended it to go”.

The air campaign proved to be a success by achieving air superiority and destroying the Iraqi military communications network, supplies, as well as many tanks and armoured vehicles.



**TALKING TO THE PRESS:** Norman Schwarzkopf briefs the media at a press conference in Riyadh.

By 20 January he announced Iraq’s nuclear test reactors had been destroyed, and by 27 January he announced that the coalition had total air superiority in Iraq.

Bush then gave Hussein an ultimatum to withdraw from Kuwait by 12h00 on 23 February or Schwarzkopf’s ground forces would attack.

At 04h00 on 24 February the ground attack went in, with the Saudi-led Arab forces attacking into Kuwait City, while two U.S. Marine Corps divisions struck at the oil fields, and the VII Corps and XVIII Airborne Corps on the left flank struck quickly to cut off the Iraqi forces from the west.

Schwarzkopf expected the war to last several weeks, and had anticipated chemical weapon attacks by the Iraqi forces, which did not occur. Resistance was lighter than Schwarzkopf expected, and Iraqi troops surrendered in large numbers.

Within 90 hours, his force had destroyed 42 of 50 Iraqi Army divisions at a cost of about 125 killed and 200 wounded among American troops, and about 482 killed, 458 wounded among all of the coalition.

He ordered his forces to destroy as much Iraqi armour and equipment as possible in order to ensure that Iraq’s offensive capability would be weakened in the near term.

Schwarzkopf, who had ordered a media blackout during the ground offensive, finally appeared before journalists on 27 February to explain his strategy. On 3 March he arrived in Kuwait City to survey the aftermath of the Iraqi occupation and negotiate a ceasefire with Iraqi military leaders, as well as work out the return of prisoners of war on both sides.

With this in place, he then began the process of overseeing U.S. troops returning from the conflict.

## Retirement

Schwarzkopf returned to the United States after the Gulf War as a national hero, and his ability to effectively deal with the press left him a positive image.

Schwarzkopf indicated a desire to retire from the military in mid-1991. He was initially considered for promotion alternatively to General of the Army or to Army Chief of Staff, and was ultimately asked to assume the latter post, but he declined.

He was later questioned about running for political office, but, considering himself an independent, expressed little interest in doing so. Schwarzkopf was not vocal about his political opinions during his military career.

He retired from the military in August 1991, moving to Tampa, Florida.

In 1992, Schwarzkopf published a memoir, *It Doesn’t Take a Hero*, about his life; it became a best seller. In 1993, Schwarzkopf was found to have prostate cancer, for which he was successfully treated.

Schwarzkopf died at age 78 on 27 December 2012 from complications following a bout of pneumonia.

A memorial service was conducted on February 28, 2013, at the Cadet Chapel at West Point. He was cremated and his ashes were buried near those of his father in the West Point Cemetery in a ceremony attended by cadets, military leaders, and New Jersey State Police Troopers



# Hawker Hurricane

*Although overshadowed by the Supermarine Spitfire, the Hawker Hurricane inflicted 60% of the losses sustained by the Luftwaffe during the Battle of Britain. It also fought in all the major theatres of World War II.*

The Hurricane originated from discussions between RAF officials and aircraft designer Sir Sydney Camm about a proposed monoplane derivative of the Hawker Fury biplane in the early 1930s.

Despite an institutional preference for biplanes and lack of interest from the Air Ministry, Hawker refined their monoplane proposal, incorporating several innovations which became critical to wartime fighter aircraft,

including retractable landing gear and the more powerful Rolls-Royce Merlin engine.

The Air Ministry ordered Hawker's Interceptor Monoplane in late 1934, and the prototype Hurricane K5083 performed its maiden flight on 6 November 1935.

In June 1936, the Hurricane went into production for the Air Ministry; it entered squadron service on 25 December 1937.

Its manufacture and maintenance was eased by using con-

ventional construction methods so that squadrons could perform many major repairs without external support.

The Hurricane was rapidly procured prior to the outbreak of the Second World War in September 1939, when the RAF had 18 Hurricane-equipped squadrons in service.

The aircraft was relied on to defend against German aircraft operated by the Luftwaffe, including dogfighting with Messerschmitt Bf 109s in multiple theatres of action.



The Hurricane was developed through several versions, into bomber-interceptors, fighter-bombers, and ground support aircraft as well as fighters.

Versions designed for the Royal Navy known as the Sea Hurricane had modifications enabling operation from ships. Some were converted as catapult-launched convoy escorts.

By the end of production in July 1944, 14,487 Hurricanes had been completed in Britain and Canada.

## Development

During the era in which the Hawker Aircraft company developed the Hurricane, RAF Fighter Command comprised just 13 squadrons, equipped with the Hawker Fury, Hawker Demon, or the Bristol Bulldog, all biplanes furnished with fixed-pitch wooden propellers and non-retractable undercarriages.

In 1934, the British Air Ministry issued Specification F.7/30 in response to demands within the Royal Air Force (RAF) for a new generation of fighter aircraft.

In July 1934 at a meeting chaired by Air Commodore Tedder, Air Ministry Science Office Captain F.W. ("Gunner") Hill presented his calculation showing that future fighters must carry no fewer than eight machine guns, each capable of firing 1,000 shots a minute.

Early in 1933, British aircraft designer Sydney Camm had conducted discussions with Major John Buchanan of the Directorate of Technical Development on a monoplane based on the existing Fury.

Camm's initial submission in response to F.7/30, the Hawker P.V.3, however it was not among the proposals which the Air Ministry had selected to be constructed as a government-sponsored prototype.

After the rejection of the P.V.3 proposal, Camm commenced work upon a new design involving a cantilever monoplane arrangement, complete with a fixed undercarriage, armed with four machine guns and powered by the Rolls-Royce Goshawk engine.

The original 1934 armament specifications for what would evolve into the Hurricane were for a similar armament fitment to the Gloster Gladiator: four machine-guns, two in the wings and two in the fuselage, synchronised to fire through the propeller arc.

Camm's response to this rejection was to further develop the design, during which a retractable undercarriage was introduced and the unsatisfactory Goshawk engine was replaced by a new Rolls-Royce design, initially designated as the PV-12, which went on to become famous as the Merlin engine.

This time, the Ministry's response was favourable, and a prototype of the "Interceptor Monoplane" was promptly ordered.

## Design

The Hawker Hurricane is a low-wing cantilever monoplane outfitted with retractable undercarriage and an enclosed cockpit for the pilot.

A clean, single-seat fighter, it was developed to provide a competent combatant for aerial

combat against the latest fighter designs that were emerging amongst the air services of other powers of the era.

The Hurricane was initially armed with an arrangement of eight remotely-operated wing-mounted Browning machine guns, intended for conducting rapid engagements.

The Hurricane was typically equipped for flying under both day and night conditions, being provided with navigation lights, Harley landing lights, complete blind-flying equipment, and two-way radios.

## France

On 30 October 1939 Hurricanes saw action over France. Pilot Officer P. W. O. "Boy" Mould of 1 Squadron, flying Hurricane L1842, was the first RAF pilot to down an enemy aircraft on the European continent in the Second World War, when he shot down a Dornier Do 17P.

Flying Officer E. J. "Cobber" Kain, a New Zealander, went on to become one of the RAF's first fighter aces of the war, being credited with 16 kills.

The Hurricanes performed reasonably well during the Battle of France. By 17 May, the end of the first week of fighting, only three of the squadrons were near operational strength, but the Hurricanes had managed to destroy nearly twice as many German aircraft.

During Operation Dynamo (the evacuation from Dunkirk), the Hawker Hurricanes operated from British bases.

Between 26 May and 3 June 1940, the 14 Hurricane units involved were credited with 108 air victories. A total of 27 Hur-

## Hawker Hurricane



### General characteristics

- Crew: 1
- Length: 9.83 metres
- Wingspan: 12.19 metres
- Height: 4.001 metres
- Wing area: 23.92 m<sup>2</sup>
- Empty weight: 2,606 kg
- Gross weight: 3,479 kg
- Max take off weight: 3,951 kg
- Power plant: 1 × Rolls-Royce Merlin XX V-12 liquid-cooled piston engine, 1,185 hp (884 kW) at 6,400 metres

### Performance

- Maximum speed: 550 km/h at 6,400 metres

- Range: 970 km
- Service ceiling: 11,000 metres
- Rate of climb: 14.1 m/s
- Wing loading: 145 kg/m<sup>2</sup>
- Power/mass: 0.15 hp/lb (0.25 kW/kg)

### Armament

- Guns: 7.7×56 mm Browning machine guns (four in each wing) or 4 × 20 mm Hispano Mk II cannon
- Bombs: 2 × 110 or 230 kg bombs

was the "workhorse" Hurricane that scored the higher number of RAF victories during this period, accounting for 55 percent of the 2,739 German losses, according to Fighter Command, compared with 42 per cent by Spitfires.

## Action on all fronts

The Hurricane would go on to serve in North Africa, the Defence of Malta, as well as in Russia and the Far East.

A total of 25 different variants of the Hurricane would see action during World War II.

The Sea Hurricane became operational in mid-1941 and Fleet Air Arm Sea Hurricanes were to feature prominently while operating from Royal Navy aircraft carriers.

During World War II and after the war, Hurricanes would be used in service by 25 countries, including South Africa.

Of more than 14,583 Hurricanes that were built, approximately seventeen (including three Sea Hurricanes) are in airworthy condition worldwide, although many other non-flying examples survive in various air museums.

## Top Ace

South African born Squadron Leader Marmaduke Thomas St John Pattle, DFC & Bar, usually known as Pat Pattle, was the top Hurricane ace of World War II.

Out of total of 50 kills, with two shared, 35 of them were while flying a Hurricane. All of his Hurricane kills were achieved over Greece in 1941. He was shot down and killed in the Battle of Athens.

ricane pilots became aces during Operation Dynamo, led by Canadian Pilot Officer W. L. Willie McKnight (10 victories) and Pilot Officer Percival Stanley Turner (seven victories), who served in No. 242 Squadron, consisting mostly of Canadian personnel. Losses were 22 pilots killed and three captured.

At the end of June 1940, following the fall of France, 31 of Fighter Command's 61 fighter squadrons were equipped with Hurricanes.

As Winston Churchill said,

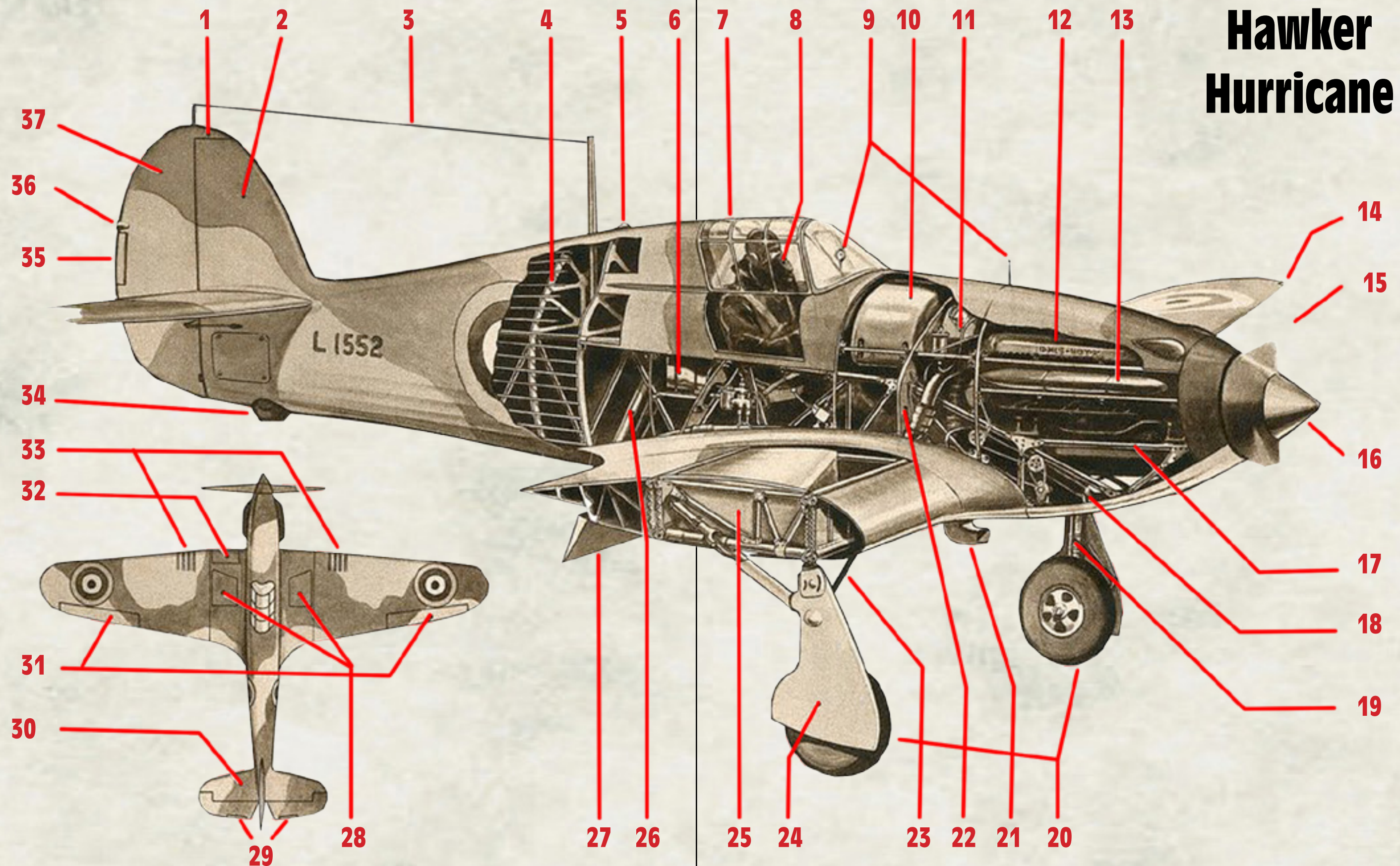
"What General Weygand has called "The Battle of France" is over. The Battle of Britain is about to begin."

## Battle of Britain

Both the Supermarine Spitfire and the Hurricane are renowned for their part in defending Britain against the Luftwaffe; generally, the Spitfire would intercept the German fighters, leaving Hurricanes to concentrate on the bombers, but, despite the undoubted abilities of the "thoroughbred" Spitfire, it



# Hawker Hurricane



1. Rudder mass-balance.
2. Fin.
3. Wireless serial.
4. Light wood fairing structure to support fabric covering.
5. Upward recognition light.
6. Wireless set.
7. Sliding canopy over pilot's

- cockpit.
8. Combing R/T and oxygen mask.
9. Ring and bead sight.
10. Gravity petrol tank.
11. Cooling water header tank.
12. 1,020 HP Rolls Royce 'Merlin' engine.

13. Flame-damping exhaust pipe.
14. Port navigation light.
15. Fixed-pitch wooden airscrew.
16. Spinner.
17. Engine-bearers.
18. Hand-turned engine starter.

19. Oleo undercarriage leg.
20. Retractable undercarriage.
21. Air intake to engine super-charger.
22. Fireproof bulkhead.
23. Strut to raise undercarriage.
24. Undercarriage fairing.
25. One of two main petrol

- tanks.
26. Parachute flare tubes.
27. Landing flaps.
28. Position of main petrol tanks.
29. Trimming tabs in elevator.
30. Tail plane.
31. Ailerons.

32. Position of oil tank (on port side only).
33. Position of machine guns (four in each wing).
34. Tail wheel in retracted position.
35. Trimming-tab in rudder.
36. Tail navigation lights.
37. Rudder.



*The Battle of Amiens was the opening phase of the Allied Offensive that began on 8 August 1918. It was a battle that would ultimately lead to the end of World War I. Amiens was also one of the first major battles involving armoured warfare.*

The signing of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk with the now revolutionary-controlled Russia meant that the Germans were no longer fighting a war on two fronts. This meant that the Germans were able to transfer thousands of troops from the Eastern Front. If gave them a significant, albeit temporary advantage in manpower and material.

On 21 March 1918 the German Army launched Operation Michael, the first in a series of attacks planned to drive the Allies back along the length of the Western Front.

Operation Michael was intended to defeat the right wing of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF), but a lack of success around Arras ensured the ultimate failure of the offensive. A final effort was aimed at the town of Amiens, a vital railway junction, but the advance had been halted at Villers-Bretonneux by British and Australian troops on 4 April.

Subsequent German offensives - Operation Georgette (9-11 April), Operation Blücher-Yorck (27 May), Operation Gneisenau (9 June) and Operation Marne-Rheims (15-17 July) - all made advances elsewhere on the Western Front, but failed to achieve a decisive breakthrough that the Germans were looking for.

By the end of the Marne-Rheims offensive, the German manpower advantage had been spent and their supplies and troops were exhausted.

The Allied general, General Ferdinand Foch, ordered a counter-offensive which led to victory at the Second Battle of the Marne, following which he was promoted to Marshal of France.

The Germans, recognising their untenable position, withdrew from the Marne to the north. Foch now tried to move the Allies back onto the offensive.

Foch disclosed his plan on 23 July 1918, following the allied victory at the Battle of Soissons. The plan called for reducing the

Saint-Mihiel salient and freeing the railway lines that ran through Amiens from German shellfire.

## The Plan

The commander of the British Expeditionary Force, Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, already had plans in place for an attack near Amiens.

When the British retreat had ended in April, the headquarters of the British Fourth Army under General Sir Henry Rawlinson had taken over the front astride the Somme. Its left hand corps was the British III Corps under Lieutenant General Richard Butler, while the Australian Corps under Lieutenant General John Monash held the right flank and linked up with French armies to the south.

On 30 May, all the Australian infantry divisions were united under the corps HQ, for the first time on the Western Front.

The Australians had mounted a number of local counter-attacks which both revealed the suitability of the open and firm terrain south of the Somme for a larger offensive, and established and refined the methods which were to be used.

Rawlinson had submitted Monash's proposals to Haig in July and Haig had forwarded them to Foch. At a meeting on 24 July, Foch agreed to the plan but insisted that the French First Army, which held the front to

the south of the British Fourth Army, should participate.

Rawlinson opposed this as his and Monash's plans depended on the large-scale use of tanks, now finally available in large numbers, to achieve surprise, by avoiding a preliminary bombardment.

The French First Army lacked tanks and would be forced to bombard the German positions before the infantry advance began, thus removing the element of surprise.

Eventually, it was agreed that the French would participate, but not launch their attack until 45 minutes after the Fourth Army. It was also agreed to advance the proposed date of the attack from 10 August to 8 August, to strike the Germans before they had completed their withdrawal from the Marne salient.

Rawlinson had already finalised his plans in discussion with his Corps commanders (Butler, Monash, Sir Arthur Currie of the Canadian Corps and Lieutenant General Charles Kavanagh of the Cavalry Corps) on 21 July.

For the first time, the Australians would attack side by side with the Canadian Corps. Both had a reputation for aggressive and innovative tactics and a strong record of success over the past two years.

The tactical methods had been tested by the Australians in a local counter-attack at the Battle of Hamel on 4 July. The German defenders of Hamel were deeply dug in, and their position commanded a very wide field of fire. Similar positions had resisted capture for

two months in the Battle of the Somme.

The Australians had used surprise rather than weight at Hamel. The artillery had opened fire only at the moment the infantry and tanks advanced, and the Germans were rapidly overrun.

A key factor in the final plan was secrecy. There was to be no artillery bombardment a significant time before the attack, as was the usual practice, only fire immediately prior to the advance of Australian, Canadian, and British forces.

For most of the war the standard method of launching an offensive was pretty much the same. Prior to the offensive the attackers would launch an artillery bombardment on the enemy.

These bombardments would often last for days, with tens of thousands of shells being fired off.

During the Battle of the Somme in 1916 the Allied bombardment on the German positions lasted for seven days and a staggering 1,738,000 shells were fired at the Germans.

The problem was that these bombardments were not that effective. The Germans had bunkers, often made of concrete, dug into the sides of the trenches. As soon as the bombardment began, the Germans would take cover and wait for the artillery to stop.

Once the bombardment had ceased, the Germans would then leave the safety of their bunkers and set up machine guns in preparation for the infantry attack they knew would be coming.

More often than not they would have ample time to set up and prepare for the infantry that now attempted to advance over no-man's land.

In the television sitcom 'Blackadder goes forth', which was set in the trenches of World War I, Captain Edmund Blackadder makes a poignant comment about the effect of the artillery.

"Yes, but Jerry is safe underground in concrete bunkers. We've shot off over a million cannon shells and what's the result? One dachshund with a slight limp!"

This time, however, the plan was to be different.

The final plan for the Fourth Army involved 1,386 field guns and howitzers and 684 heavy guns,[3] making up 27 medium artillery brigades and thirteen heavy batteries, in addition to the infantry divisions' artillery.

The fire plan for the Fourth Army's artillery was devised by Monash's senior artillery officer, Major General C. E. D. Budworth. British sound ranging advances in artillery techniques and aerial photographic reconnaissance made it possible to dispense with "ranging shots" to ensure accurate fire.

Budworth had produced a timetable which allowed 504 out of 530 German guns to be hit at "zero hour", while a creeping barrage preceded the infantry.

There were also to be 580 tanks. The Canadian and Australian Corps were each allocated a brigade of four battalions, with 108 Mark V fighting tanks, 36 Mark V "Star", and 24 unarmed tanks intended to



carry supplies and ammunition forward. A single battalion of Mark V tanks was allocated to III Corps. The Cavalry Corps were allocated two battalions each of 48 Medium Mark A Whippet tanks.

The Allies had successfully moved the Canadian Corps of four infantry divisions to Amiens without them being detected by the Germans.

This was a noteworthy achievement and reflected well on the increasingly efficient staff work of the British armies.

A detachment from the Corps of two infantry battalions, a wireless unit and a casualty clearing station had been sent to the front near Ypres to bluff the Germans that the entire Corps was moving north to Flanders.

The Canadian Corps was not fully in position until 7 August. To maintain secrecy, the Allied commanders pasted the notice "Keep Your Mouth Shut" into orders issued to the men, and referred to the action as a "raid" rather than an "offensive".

## The Battle

The battle began in dense fog at 04h20 on 8 August 1918. Under Rawlinson's Fourth Army, the British III Corps attacked north of the Somme, the Australian Corps to the south of the river in the centre of Fourth Army's front, and the Canadian Corps to the south of the Australians.

The French 1st Army under General Debeney opened its preliminary bombardment at the same time, and began its advance 45 minutes later, supported by a battalion of 72 Whippet tanks.



**ADVANCE:** A British Mark V tank of the 2nd Battalion, Tank Corps, advanced near Lamotte-en-Santerre on 8 August 1918.

Although German forces were on the alert, this was largely in anticipation of possible retaliation for their incursion on the sixth and not because they had learned of the preplanned Allied attack.

Although the two forces were within 460 metres of one another, gas bombardment was very low, as the bulk of the Allied presence was unknown to the Germans. The attack was so unexpected that German forces only began to return fire after five minutes, and even then at the positions where the Allied forces had assembled at the start of the battle and had long since left.

In the first phase, seven divisions attacked: the British 18th (Eastern) and 58th (2/1st London), the Australian 2nd and 3rd, and the Canadian 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions. Parts of the American 33rd Division supported the British attackers north of the Somme.

The attackers captured the first German position, advancing

about 3.7 km by about 07h30. In the centre, supporting units following the leading divisions attacked the second objective a further 3.2 km away.

Australian units reached their first objectives by 07h10, and by 08h20 the Australian 4th and 5th Divisions and the Canadian 4th Division passed through the initial breach in the German lines.

The third phase of the attack was assigned to infantry-carrying Mark V tanks. However, the infantry was able to carry out this final step unaided.

The Allies penetrated well to the rear of the German defences and cavalry now continued the advance, one brigade in the Australian sector and two cavalry divisions in the Canadian sector. Aircraft fire by the new RAF and armoured car fire kept the retreating Germans from rallying.

The Canadian and Australian forces in the centre advanced quickly, pushing the line 4.8 km forward from its starting point

by 11h00. The speed of their advance was such that a party of German officers and some divisional staff were captured while eating breakfast.

A gap 24 km long was punched in the German line south of the Somme by the end of the day.

The British Fourth Army took 13,000 prisoners, and the French captured a further 3,000. Total German losses were estimated to be 30,000 on 8 August. The British, Australian and Canadian infantry of the Fourth Army sustained about 8,000 casualties.

German Army Chief of Staff Paul von Hindenburg noted the Allies' use of surprise and that Allied destruction of German lines of communication had hampered potential German counter-attacks by isolating command positions.

The German General Erich Ludendorff described the first day of Amiens as the "*Schwarzer Tag des deutschen Heeres*" ("the black day of the German Army"), not because of

the ground lost to the advancing Allies, but because the morale of the German troops had sunk to the point where large numbers of troops began to capitulate.

He recounted instances of retreating troops shouting "You're prolonging the war!" at officers who tried to rally them.

Five German divisions had effectively been engulfed. Allied forces had pushed, on average, 11 km into enemy territory by the end of the day. The Canadians gained 13 km, Australians 11 km, the French 8 km, and the British 3.2 km.

## Aftermath

The Battle of Amiens was a major turning point in the tempo of the war. Armoured support helped the Allies tear a hole through trench lines, weakening once impregnable trench positions: the British Third Army, with no armoured support, had almost no effect on the line, while the Fourth, with fewer than a thousand tanks, broke deep into German terri-

tory.

The British war correspondent Philip Gibbs noted Amiens' effect on the war's tempo, saying on 27 August that, "the enemy...is on the defensive" and, "the initiative of attack is so completely in our hands that we are able to strike him at many different places."

Gibbs also credits Amiens with a shift in troop morale, saying, "the change has been greater in the minds of men than in the taking of territory. On our side the army seems to be buoyed up with the enormous hope of getting on with this business quickly" and that, "there is a change also in the enemy's mind. They no longer have even a dim hope of victory on this western front. All they hope for now is to defend themselves long enough to gain peace by negotiation."







**Signaller Matt O' Brien** is manning the radio and handling comms. The only problem is that he doesn't know his alpha romeo sierra echo from his echo lima bravo oscar whiskey.

While I really enjoy military simulation and RTS (Real Time Strategy) games, sometimes they can all seem the same.

So I really appreciate it when a game developer tries something a little different. Radio Commander is a game that is just that - different.

Game developers Serious Sim, describe the content as follows: "Radio Commander evocatively portrays harsh reality of the Vietnam War. It uses detailed written descriptions and audio recordings to paint realistic, disturbing scenes. Violence, cruelty, profanity and abundant racism are all a part of this reflection of reality. The game is recommended for mature audiences. The game contains some disturbing audio recordings that might not be suitable for children."

In Radio Commander you are playing as an American military commander serving in US Army during the Vietnam War. You will be carrying a heavy burden as your mission is to coordinate military operations taking place between 1965 and 1968.

But this is not just another RTS, in which you are an invisible being hovering over the battlefield. In Radio Commander situation reports are given to you in form of dramatic radio statements sent by troops fighting on the ground.

And your only accessory is a strategic map, on which you can place tokens and notes.

Will you be smart, fast, and cold-blooded enough to carry the responsibility and protect your men in the field? Are you able to judge the situation correctly? Do you have the guts to make the hardest choices?

Radio Commander offers an unique experience very different from classic real time strategy games. It's a bold try to redefine the genre, as the player will be involved in a decision making process much more realistic than those pictured by casual RTS titles. Ask for situation reports. Listen what your men have to tell you. Send in casevac choppers and air strikes. Drop a bit of napalm. Defeat the invisible enemy.

Experience the story of soldiers and their commander, trapped in the middle of bloody, chaotic, morally ambiguous Vietnam conflict. Dive into a scenario that doesn't avoid the difficult issues of civilians trapped in the theater of action, shady CIA operations, and cynical political pressures.

Discover those uneasy situations, presented in such cult classics as Platoon, Full Metal Jacket or Apocalypse Now, which were happening on a daily basis for those serving in Vietnam. See for yourself how hard it is to make

the right choices in the middle of a fire exchange with Vietcong.

Decide the fate of your soldiers. The choices you face will have a direct impact on the course of the game. They will also define views of your hero. Or maybe those are your views? Playing Radio Commander you must be prepared to answer tough questions about the righteousness of your actions, the price of a human life, and the toxic power of propaganda and stereotypes.

Radio Commander is not another empty action game. You will play as the commander operating from his tent, using only a radio and a map. You will be staring at the map for hours, listening carefully to the reports. Your decisions will affect lives of many people. Just like in real life, there are no fancy graphics and animations to help you imagine what's happening on battlefield. Only you, your map, and skills. You have to listen and be smart. Thanks to this, level of immersion is much greater than in normal real time strategy games.

You will take under your command not only units of infantry, air cavalry or field artillery, but also powerful units of air support. It's in your will to order the jungle-burning nape drops, or devastating bombings. Are you ready to bring the rain of fire and burn the enemy positions to the



ground? Are you sure that your soldiers are far enough and won't take damages? And does the ends always justify the means?

Beneath the narrative layer, hidden from your eyes, a deep and complex simulation is taking place. In Radio Commander every unit is described by unique set of statistics. You will have to worry about your platoons morale, supplies, and even their stamina. All those factors will be important during your soldiers' confrontations with enemy, unfriendly terrain and extreme Vietnamese climate. What will you do, when your choppers report, that they are out of fuel and forced to land in the middle of the jungle? Will you send the rescue mission risking the life of even more soldiers?

Troops under your command are not just pawns on the map. They are complicated, multi-layered human beings, with their own voices, problems, strengths and weaknesses. Mutual trust is essential. They depend on your

judgment and cool decisions, while you are hoping they're giving their best. Discover hundreds of original dialogues and scenarios. Replay previously completed missions and alter the course of events by making different decisions and encountering different events.

Radio Commander includes:

- Nine main campaign missions (every mission is possible to complete in several different ways),
- Nine animated briefings,
- 15 unit types, including: infantry, evac choppers, gunships, field artillery, aerial reconnaissance, M113 armoured personnel carriers, and napalm-carrying F4 Phantom jets (every unit is described by a unique set of statistics and communicates with commander using a different voice),
- full voice over,
- over 200 dialogue blocks, used to construct radio messages,

- over 600 story dialogues between units and the commander.

Radio Commander is an interesting and challenging game to play and it's a game I would recommend.



Publisher - Games Operators.

Genre - RTS

Score - 7/10

Price - R130 (on Steam)





## Movie Review

# Letters from Iwo Jima

Released: 2006

Running time: 140 minutes

Directed by: Clint Eastwood

**L**etters from Iwo Jima is a 2006 American war film directed, co-produced, and scored by Clint Eastwood and written by Iris Yamashita and Paul Haggis.

The film was shot back to back with *Flags of our Fathers*, which we reviewed last month. The two movies tell the story of the Battle of Iwo Jima from both the American and Japanese sides. *Letters from Iwo Jima* is in Japanese with English subtitles.

The film opens with a team of Japanese archaeologists exploring tunnels on Iwo Jima in 2005 and they find something in the dirt.

The scene changes to Iwo Jima in 1944. Private First Class Saigo (Kazunari Ninomiya) and his platoon are digging beach trenches on the island. Meanwhile, Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi arrives to take command of the garrison and immediately begins an inspection of the island defences. The role of Kuribayashi is brilliantly played by Ken Watanabe.

He saves Saigo and his friend Kashiwara from a beating by Captain Tanida for 'unpatriotic speeches', and orders the men to begin tunnelling underground defences into Mount Suribachi.

Kuribayashi believes the US will take the beaches quickly, and that the mountain defences will have a better chance for holding out.

Poor nutrition and unsanitary conditions take their toll; many

die of dysentery, including Kashiwara. The troops begin using the caves. Kashiwara's replacement, Superior Private Shimizu, arrives for duty. Saigo suspects that Shimizu is a spy from the Kempeitai sent to report on disloyal soldiers.

Soon, American aircraft and warships begin to appear and bombard the island, causing significant casualties. A few days later, the U.S. Marines land.

The American troops suffer heavy casualties, but the beach defences are quickly overcome, as Kuribayashi predicted, and the attack turns to the positions on Mount Suribachi.

While delivering a request for more machine guns from his commander to the Suribachi garrison, Saigo overhears Kuribayashi radioing orders to retreat. The commander, however, ignores the General and instead orders his company to commit suicide.

While delivering a request for more machine guns from his commander to the Suribachi garrison, Saigo overhears Kuribayashi radioing orders to retreat. The commander, however, ignores the General and instead orders his company to commit suicide.

Saigo runs away with Shimizu but when they return to their own lines are accused by Lieutenant Ito of desertion. Ito raises his katana to execute them for cowardice, but Kuribayashi arrives and saves Saigo again by confirming his order to retreat.

Saigo meets up with Kuribayashi, and one last attack is planned. Kuribayashi orders Saigo to stay behind and destroy all documents, including his own letters, saving Saigo's life a third time.

Kuribayashi is critically wounded during the final attack. Saigo appears, having buried some of the documents and letters instead of burning them all. Kuribayashi asks Saigo to bury him where he will not be found, then draws his pistol and commits suicide. A tearful Saigo then buries him.

Back in 2005, the archaeologists complete their digging, revealing the bag of letters that Saigo had buried, and open it. As the letters spill out, the voices of the Japanese soldiers who wrote them resound.



*Click on the poster to watch a trailer of the film.*

## The Elite

**T**he Rhodesian Special Air Service, one of the most formidable fighting forces in the world, operated almost exclusively across the borders during the long bitter bush war, undertaking deep-penetration missions against insurgents being harboured inside neighbouring Mozambique and Zambia.

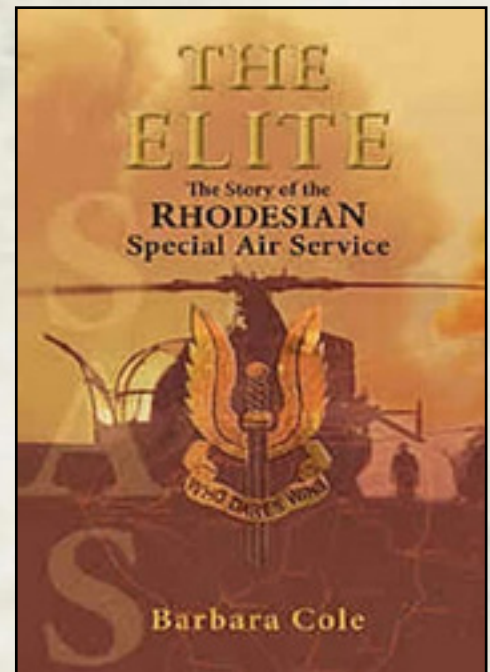
There were missions into Botswana too, and at one stage, SAS men were operating without benefit of passports in all three neighbouring territories at the same time.

The writer takes the reader from the early days in the Western Desert to the formation of the Rhodesian SAS for service in Malaya, then back to Africa where the action spans the days of the Federation, the UDI era

and finally the decolonization of Rhodesia by the British in 1980.

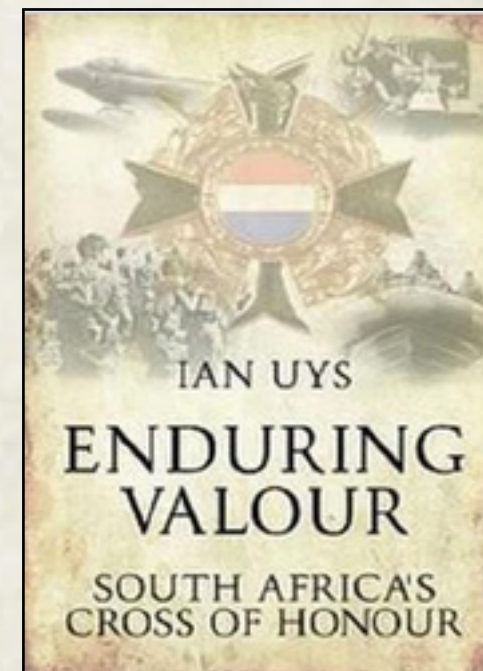
This is the first book to detail the secret exploits of this elite regiment and it has been based on rare first-hand interviews with operators themselves. Some of their exploits may seem far-fetched, even impossible, but then, truth is often stranger than fiction. It is a history of high adventure and daring, courage and humanism, be it driving through the streets of a neighbouring capital, knocking out trains, bridges and installation or swooping out of the morning skies then, with the ability to hit hard and fast, attacking and taking their leave, the devastation complete, the mission accomplished.

This edition - originally published in the mid-1980s and long



since out of print - is presented in a modern, attractive, upgraded format and contains pictures previously not seen in colour.

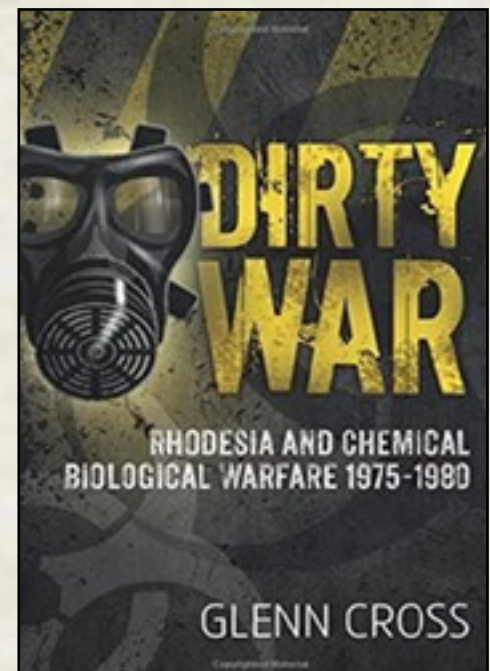
Paperback: 512 pages  
Cost: R495



Enduring Valour  
R275



Winds of Destruction  
R450



Dirty War  
R550

**All books are available from [Bush War Books](#)**



Some of the significant military events that happened in November. Highlighted in blue are the names of those members of the South African Defence Force (SADF) that lost their lives during the month of November.

## 1 November

- **1893** - The decisive Battle of Bembesi (Bembasi) is fought in the Ndebele War, Rhodesia. The Ngubi, Mbezu and Nsukamini regiments fought bravely, but were defeated by machine-gun fire. The plaque on the war memorial records the result of the battle and also the bravery of the Ndebele.
- **1899** - Second Anglo Boer War. The Boer forces invade the Cape Colony.
- **1904** - The US Army War College opens.
- **1911** - Italy performs its first aerial bombing on Tanguira oasis in Libya.
- **1914** - Battle of Coronel: Admiral Von Spee's German cruisers annihilate a weaker British squadron off Chile.
- **1914** - Paul von Hindenburg is named commander-in-chief of German forces on the Eastern Front.
- 1918 - Italian naval special operations forces sink the Austrian battleship 'Viribus Unitis', which is in Yugoslav hands.
- **1932** - Wernher von Braun named head of German liquid-fuel rocket program.
- **1933** - German Army creates its first panzer unit.
- **1936** - The Rome-Berlin Axis was proclaimed by Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini following a visit to Berlin by Italian Foreign Secretary Ciano.
- **1936** - Mussolini coins the phrase "The Axis".
- 1939 - Maiden flight of the Heinkel He 178, the first jet
- **1950** - Korean War. South African No 2 Squadron, known as Cheetah Squadron, comprising of fifty officers and 157 other ranks, including thirty-eight pilots, all volunteers and highly experienced, arrives in Japan. Two weeks later, and after acquainting themselves with the F 51 Mustang, they leave for the operational area. At the end of the war SAAF casualties were thirty-four pilots and ground staff killed, eight pilots taken POW and a number wounded.
- **1951** - The Algerian National Liberation Front began guerrilla warfare against the French.
- **1951** - President Syngman Rhee presents the South African Air Force (SAAF) squadron, placed at the disposal of the United Nations organisation during the Korean War, with the Korean presidential unit citation.
- **1952** - First hydrogen device exploded, Eniwetok Atoll.
- **1954** - Algeria starts rebellion against French rule. Nationalist rioters led by Ahmed Ben Bella (based

in Cairo) have wreaked destruction across the Algerian district of Aures. This day later became known as Revolution Day.

- **1956** - The Imre Nagy government of Hungary withdraws from the Warsaw Pact.
- **1963** - South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem and his brother Ngo Dinh Nhu were killed in a military coup.
- **1980** - Rifleman Musandiwa Bernard Ralkwatha from 112 Battalion was a member of the SADF soccer team who died from injuries when the military vehicle in which he was a passenger, overturned 10km north of Makuya in Venda. He was 26.
- **1981** - Private Louis Brian Schoeman from the Cape Corps Maintenance Unit was killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned near Rundu. He was 17.
- **1983** - Rifleman Thomas Lochner from 8 SAI was accidentally electrocuted at the Riemvasmaak training facility. He was 19.
- **1986** - Corporal Pieter Johann van Oordt Barnard from the Kirkwood Commando accidentally killed in a private motor vehicle accident at Kirkwood. He was 31.
- **1987** - Rifleman Jean Marc Schuurman from 1 Par-

achute Battalion Died of Wounds received in combat on 31 October 1987 during Ops Firewood. He was 20.

- **1987** - Sergeant Michiel George Pienaar from the Pretoria Regiment was accidentally killed during Ops Modular. He was 21.
- **1988** - Sergeant Johann Jacobs from the South African Army was accidentally killed in a private motor vehicle accident near Kimberley. He was 25.
- **1994** - Angolan government forces take the oil-producing town of Soyo from the rebel group Unita, which captured it the year before.
- **1996** - Rwandan and Zairian forces bombard each other with artillery along the border, while rebels in Zaire, supported by Rwanda, close in on the town of Goma.
- **2007** - Brig Gen Paul W. Tibbets Jr., who commanded the 'Enola Gay' and dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, dies at the age of 92.

## 2 November

- **1899** - Second Anglo Boer War. The siege of Ladysmith in Natal starts.
- 1899 - The Canadian government offered a second contingent of troops consisting of infantry, cavalry and field artillery to bolster British troops in the South African War.
- **1914** - Russia declares war on the Ottoman Empire.
- **1916** - Verdun: The French

recapture Ft Vaux.

- **1917** - The first US troops are killed in action in France.
- **1930** - Ras (Duke) Tafari is crowned as Emperor Haile Selassie in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia, after the death of Empress Zaudito (Zewditu).
- **1942** - Lieutenant General Dwight D. Eisenhower arrives in Gibraltar to set up an American command post for the invasion of North Africa.
- **1942** - British breakthrough the Axis lines during the Battle of El Alamein.
- **1951** - More British troops are sent to the Suez Canal Zone (the biggest troop airlift since the Second World War).
- **1962** - During the Cuban Missile Crisis, President John F. Kennedy announced on TV, "the Soviet bases in Cuba are being dismantled, their missiles and related equipment being crated, and the fixed installations at these sites are being destroyed."
- **1976** - White mercenaries and Black troops invade Congo from Portuguese Angola.
- **1979** - Two members from 1 SAI were killed when their private motor vehicle drove into the rear of a truck on Van Reenen's Pass while they were on a weekend pass. The casualties were: Lance

Corporal Kevin Donald Fison (18). Rifleman Gregory Ormond Barker (18).

- **1980** - Rifleman Naledzani Asher Netshidzivhani from 112 Battalion died from injuries accidentally sustained in a military motor vehicle accident. He was 20.
- **1982** - Rifleman Gideon Breytenbach from 11 Commando Regiment was killed in a private motor vehicle accident on the Witbank Highway. He was 19.
- **1984** - Corporal M. Mbinge from 102 Battalion SWATF accidentally drowned while crossing a river during operations against SWAPO/PLAN insurgents in Southern Angola. He was 24.
- **1986** - Lance Corporal Albertus Marthinus le Roux from 7 SAI was Killed in Action when his horse detonated a landmine planted by MK Operatives at Diepgezet near Barberton as part of Ops Ceshwayo. He was 20.
- **1989** - Trooper Rodger Eric

Paul W. Tibbets Jr.





Patterson from 1 Special Service Battalion suffered multiple skull fractures when he was accidentally crushed between a SAMIL 20 truck and a trailer at the Army Battle School Lohatla. He was 21.

- **1990** - Rifleman Mentoer Jacobs from the Cape Regiment was killed in a military vehicle accident on the Inanda Highway. He was 24.
- **1990** - Trooper Leon Ferreira from 2 Special Service Battalion was killed at Zeerust in a military vehicle accident. He was 18.
- **1990** - Odile Harrington, a South African convicted and imprisoned for espionage in Zimbabwe in 1987, was released and returned to South Africa.
- **1995** - The former South African defence minister, General Magnus Malan, and several former high-ranking officials are arrested and charged with murder. All were acquitted after a trial in 1996.

### 3 November

- **1839** - The first Opium War between China and Britain began after British frigates blew up several Chinese junks.
- **1893** - Forces of the British South Africa Company force Matabele King Lobengula, son of Mzilikazi, to flee his Great Place in Bulawayo. Lobengula later dies while retreating towards the

Zambezi.

- **1918** - Part of the German fleet mutinied at Kiel in the closing days of World War I.
- **1942** - In Egypt, the German Afrika Korps and Italian forces under Rommel begin a retreat westwards after a renewed campaign by the allies under Montgomery. About 9,000 German troops are captured.
- **1942** - Guadalcanal: Marines clear Japanese from Point Cruz.
- **1944** - Japanese begin releasing 9,000 incendiary balloons to drift to America.
- **1956** - Britain and France agree to accept a Middle East cease-fire in the Suez War if UN forces can keep the peace.
- **1967** - Two members from 17 Squadron were accidentally killed when their Alouette III Helicopter struck High Tension cables and crashed while transporting three civilian members from the Department of Water Affairs. The SAAF casualties were: 2nd Lieutenant Anthony Siege Foxon (23). Air Corporal Johannes Christoffel Steyn (27).
- **1973** - Trooper Jan Adriaan Smit van Heerden from the School of Armour died from injuries accidentally sustained during training. He was 19.
- **1973** - UN Emergency Force reports success in easing tension between Egyptian and Israeli troops at posi-

tions west of Suez Canal.

- **1979** - Teheran: Iranians storm the US embassy to take 63 hostages, initiating decades of acrimony and hostility.
- **1980** - Rifleman Leon Bester from 6 SAI was killed when his private vehicle overturned on the road between Queenstown and Sterkstroom. He was returning to Camp from a weekend pass. He was 19.
- **1983** - Corporal Gregory Frederick Beelders from 18 Corps was killed when the military vehicle in which he was traveling, struck a storm water bridge at Kamanjab. He was 21.
- **1989** - Rifleman Manuel S. Antonio from 32 Battalion was accidentally killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned near Pomfret. He was 44.

### 4 November

- **1862** - Richard Gatling patented his first rapid-fire machine-gun which used revolving barrels rotating around a central mechanism to load, fire, and extract the cartridges.
- **1899** - Second Anglo Boer War. The siege of Ladysmith in Natal starts.
- **1918** - Austria-Hungary concludes an armistice with Italy.
- **1942** - Lieutenant General Dwight D. Eisenhower arrives in Gibraltar to set up an American command post

for the invasion of North Africa.

- **1942** - During World War II, British troops led by Bernard Montgomery defeated the Germans under Erwin Rommel at El Alamein after a twelve-day battle.
- **1950** - US troops retreat from Pyongyang, North Korea.
- **1951** - More British troops are sent to the Suez Canal Zone (the biggest troop airlift since the Second World War).
- **1956** - Soviet Russian troops moved in to crush an uprising in Hungary.
- **1956** - Israeli troops capture the Straits of Tiran and reach the Suez Canal.
- **1956** - British forces enter Gaza, on the western Mediterranean seashore 32 km north of the Egyptian border.
- **1975** - Private Kevin Edward Laidlaw from 15 Squadron SAAF was asleep on his bed in his tent at Rundu when a fellow Private came into the tent on returning from guard duty and threw his UZI sub-machine gun onto the adjacent bed. As the weapon hit the bed, a shot went off and the bullet struck Kevin in the head, killing him instantly. He was 18.
- **1976** - White mercenaries and Black troops invade Congo from Portuguese Angola.
- **1979** - About 500 young Iranian militants stormed the U.S. Embassy in Teheran,

Iran, and took 90 hostages, including 52 Americans that they held captive for 444 days.

- **1980** - Lieutenant (Doctor) Peter William Geddes from the Medical Training Centre was Killed in Action while attached to 53 Battalion at Okotopi. He was 28.
- **1981** - Corporal Johan Louis Potgieter from 1 SAI, attached to 61 Mech was Killed in Action during Ops Daisy. He was 23.
- **1981** - Rifleman A. Dala from 201 Battalion SWATF was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces in Ops Daisy. He was 22.
- **1981** - Lieutenant Gerrit van Zyl from 61 Mech was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces during Ops Daisy. He was 23.
- **1982** - Rifleman Lionel Gerald Brown from 3 SAI was killed in a private motorcycle accident in Port Elizabeth. He was 20.
- **1991** - Gunner Grant Mann from 14 Artillery Regiment was accidentally killed while at 10 Artillery Brigade. He was 21.
- **1995** - The former South African defence minister, General Magnus Malan, and several former high-rank-

ing officials are arrested and charged with murder. All were acquitted after a trial in 1996.

### 5 November

- **1799** - The 64-gun HMS Sceptre is wrecked in Table Bay and 300 lives are lost.
- **1902** - The "Mad Mullah" and 17,000 troops are advancing on the British at Bo-hodle, Somaliland.
- **1911** - Italy declares war on Turkey.
- **1914** - Indian 6th Div lands at Basra, securing the oil fields.
- **1915** - First US shipboard catapult launch: LT CDR Henry Mustin, off 'North Carolina' (ACR-12) in a Curtiss AB-ZF.
- **1916** - Germany and Austria-Hungary proclaim an "independent" Kingdom of Poland.
- **1917** - Maj. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr, leads the first American patrol into "No Man's Land".



Magnus Malan



- **1940** - Gallant fight of the armed merchant cruiser HMS 'Jervis Bay' in defense of a convoy from the German pocket battleship 'Admiral Scheer'.
- **1942** - Madagascar: Vichy French surrender to the British at Fort Dauphin.
- **1943** - American aircraft accidentally drop two bombs on the Vatican, which cause minor damage and no casualties.
- **1956** - Britain and France land troops in Egypt during fighting between Egyptian and Israeli forces around the Suez Canal. A cease-fire is declared two days later.
- **1971** - Corporal Nicolaas Frederick van Rensburg from 22 Flight (later 22 Squadron) was killed in a private vehicle accident in Cape Town. He was 20.
- **1975** - Numbers of Cuban soldiers and shipments of Russian military equipment arrive in Luanda, Angola, while SA was clandestinely supporting Unita. When SA realised that the USA did not support the operation, the SA troops were withdrawn. The withdrawal was completed by 27 March 1976.
- **1978** - Private Michael Kidd from Air Force Base Hoodspruit was accidentally killed in a shooting incident at Pilgrims Rest involving his Guard Duty partner at the Base. He was 19.
- **1981** - Candidate Officer Stephanus Francois Stephan Coetzee from 25 Field Squadron was Killed in Action in a landmine explosion in Southern Angola during Ops Daisy while attached to 61 Mechanised Battalion Group. He was 22.
- **1981** - Private Louis Brian Schoeman from the S.A. Cape Corps Maintenance Unit was accidentally killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned near Rundu. He was 17.
- **1985** - Sergeant Leonardus Johannes Coetzee from Air Force Headquarters was killed in a military vehicle accident at Kamieskroon. He was 30.
- **1985** - Rifleman Nicolaas William Smuts from 1 Parachute Battalion was Killed in Action when his patrol was ambushed near Alpha Tower by SWAPO/PLAN insurgents. He was 20.
- **1988** - Rifleman John Norman Botha from the 2nd Battalion Cape Corps was shot and killed by another soldier during an argument at 97 Ammunition Depot at De Aar. He was 19.
- **1988** - Sergeant B. Calipe from 32 Battalion collapsed and died after suffering kidney failure while stationed at Buffalo. He was 34.
- **2005** - Pirates fire a rocket-propelled grenade and machine guns in an attack on the luxury cruise liner Seabourn Spirit off the coast of the east African state of Somalia. The attack is repulsed and the more than 300 passengers, including six South Africans, escape

without injury.

## 6 November

- **1900** - Second Anglo Boer War. The Battle of Bothaville or Doornkraal is fought with General De Wet surrendering, after heavy losses on both sides.
- **1914** - France declares war on the Ottoman Empire.
- **1917** - During World War I, the Third Battle of Ypres concluded after five months as Canadian and Australian troops took Passchendaele. Their advance, measuring eight kilometres, cost at least 240,000 soldiers.
- **1941** - USS 'Omaha' (CL 4) & USS 'Somers' (DD 381) intercept the German blockade runner 'Oldenwald' in the mid-Atlantic near the Equator.
- **1960** - *Großadmiral* Erich Johann Albert Raeder, Commander-in-Chief of the *Reichsmarine* (1935-1943), dies on this day at the age of 84.
- **1965** - Air Mechanic Barend Jacobus Phillipus Schutte from 68 Air School died from a gunshot wound accidentally sustained while he was in Pretoria. He was 20.
- **1978** - Private Paul Burger from 61 Base Workshop Technical Service Corps was killed in a private motor vehicle accident. He was 20.
- **1979** - Rifleman M.L. Lifasi for Sector 70 Headquarters SWATF was killed in a military vehicle accident in the Caprivi. He was 19.

- **1979** - Two members from 101 Battalion SWATF were Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents. They were: Corporal M. Djolomien (27). Rifleman J. Akaando (24).
- **1979** - Private Anthony Raul Da Costa Miranda from Services School was accidentally shot dead by a fellow soldier who was busy cleaning his private firearm. He was 19.
- **1983** - Rifleman Daniel Pieter Oosthuizen from 4 SAI attached to 62 Mechanised Battalion Group was accidentally killed when his Unimog 127mm MRL vehicle overturned near Otjiwarongo. He was 19.
- **1990** - Lance Corporal Dirk Johannes Jacobus Kotze from the School of Armour was accidentally killed during military exercises at the General De Wet Training Terrain. He was 21.
- **2004** - Nine French soldiers and an American aid consultant are killed in bombing attacks in Ivory Coast's rebel-held north, after the government broke the cease-fire agreement on 4 November. French troops destroy the Ivory Coast air force fleet in retaliation.
- **2004** - New York's "Fighting 69th" arrives at Bagdad to assume its duties in "Operation Iraqi Freedom".

## 7 November

- **1899** - Second Anglo Boer War. From his conning tower

in the besieged Kimberley Colonel Kekewich sees a "living mass" of men approaching and his artillery opens up at almost point-blank range until they realise that the men are 3,000 unarmed Black mine-workers released by De Beer's from the compounds, without informing the military.

- **1901** - Second Anglo Boer War. The National Scouts Corps of doubtful repute, consisting of surrendered Boers who were willing to fight on the side of their erstwhile enemies, is formed under direct British command. They were allocated to various British units as scouts and after the war were ostracised by the whole community.
- **1936** - Spanish Civil War: Battle for Madrid begins.
- **1954** - US spy plane shot down by Russians over Sea of Japan.
- **1956** - The United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopts a resolution calling upon Britain, France and Israel to withdraw their troops from Egypt immediately. British and French declare a cease-fire in Egypt, but Britain says it will evacuate troops only on arrival of UN Emergency Force.

- **1978** - Two members of 101 Battalion SWATF were

Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents. They were: Rifleman J. Frans (22). Rifleman N. Mandingi (23).

- **1978** - Two members from 41 Battalion were Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents while on patrol in Northern Owamboland. The casualties were: Rifleman Abraham Roman (36). Corporal Willem Petrus Swartbooi (28).
- **1982** - Corporal Andries Johannes Strauss from 201 Battalion SWATF was Reported Missing after being dropped off 50km from Omega Base at 13h00 and told to walk back to the Base as a punishment exercise. Despite an intensive search of the area over a number of days, no trace of him or his equipment was ever found. He remains unaccounted for and has no known grave. He was 20.



**Erich Raeder**



- **1987** - Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba, in office since independence in 1956, is overthrown in a bloodless coup.
- **1994** - Over 2,000 Umkhonto we Sizwe soldiers of the ANC's armed wing are dismissed from the SANDF for failing to report for duty.
- **2010** - The German Army holds a formal military ceremony at a restored monument honouring Jewish soldiers who fought in the Kaiser's War.
- **2013** - Manfred Rommel, Luftwaffe veteran and son of Field Marshal Eriwn Rommel, dies at the age of 84.
- **1942** - Hitler proclaims the fall of Stalingrad, somewhat prematurely.
- **1950** - The first jet fighter air duel: Lt. Russell J. Brown's F-86 scores a North Korean MiG-15.
- **1957** - Britain tests its first hydrogen bomb, Kirimati Atoll, in the Pacific.
- **1977** - The French Ministry of Defence will no longer permit delivery of two escort vessels (corvettes) and two submarines, under construction in French naval yards, to South Africa.

## 8 November

- **1745** - Bonnie Prince Charlie invades England from Scotland.
- **1923** - Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch took place in the Buergerbraukeller in Munich. Hitler, Goering and armed Nazis attempted, but ultimately failed, to forcibly seize power and overthrow democracy in Germany.
- **1939** - An assassination attempt on Hitler failed at the Buergerbraukeller in Munich. A bomb exploded soon after Hitler had exited following a speech commemorating the 1923 Beer Hall Putsch. Seven others were killed.
- **1940** - The Royal Air Force bombs Munich.
- **1942** - Allied forces under Lieutenant-General Dwight D. Eisenhower begin landings in North Africa, starting the Algeria-Morocco Campaign of World War II. More than 400,000 Allied soldiers take part in the invasion.
- **1979** - Captain John Alexander Anderson Howitson from Services School was accidentally killed in a shooting incident at the Impala Base near Phalaborwa while supervising a Junior Leadership Training Camp (OSC) at the Letaba training camp.
- **1980** - Rifleman Gideon Karupa from 202 Battalion SWATF was Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents. He was 25.
- **1982** - Lieutenant Colin Brits from 41 Squadron was killed while giving flying instruction to a newly qualified pilot when his Atlas C4M Kudu crashed near Potchefstroom. He was 25.

- **1983** - Rifleman I. Haikera from 202 Battalion SWATF was Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents. He was 26.
- **1984** - Sergeant Norman Keith Abrahams from the South West Africa Police Counter-Insurgency Wing: Ops-K Division (Koevoet) was Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents in Northern Owamboland. He was 26.
- **1990** - Gunner Pieter Benjamin Koekemoer from 4 Artillery Regiment was killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned at Imbali. He was 18.
- **1990** - President GHW Bush orders 100,000 additional US troops to the Persian Gulf.
- **1995** - Lieutenant Colonel Francois Stephanus Botha from the South African Medical Corps attached to Air Force Base Hoedspruit, died of injuries received in a military vehicle accident at Dendron. He was 40.
- **1996** - UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali calls for an international military force to aid and protect a million refugees caught in a civil war in Zaire, but is blocked by the United States in the Security Council.

## 9 November

- **1914** - HMAS 'Sydney' destroys the German raiding

cruiser SMS 'Emden' in the Cocos Islands.

- **1916** - Munitions disaster at Bakaritsa, near Arkhangel, Russia -- 30,000 tons explode, thousands die.
- **1918** - German Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicated his throne in the closing days of World War I and fled to Holland. In Germany, Philip Scheidemann, a Socialist leader, then proclaimed a democratic Republic and became its first Chancellor.
- **1921** - The Unknown Soldier arrives at Washington aboard USS 'Olympia'.
- **1925** - Hitler forms the SS within the Brown Shirts.
- **1937** - The Japanese capture Shanghai.
- **1938** - *Kristallnacht* (the night of broken glass) occurred in Germany as Nazi mobs burned synagogues and vandalized Jewish shops and homes.
- **1938** - Marshal of the Soviet Union Vasily Konstantinovich Blyukher, 48, executed by Stalin for 'espionage'.
- **1977** - The Prime Minister of Swaziland says that his government will not allow the country to be used as a base for guerrilla attacks against South Africa. He denies that there are training camps within Swaziland.
- **1979** - Trooper Paul Stephanus Buys from 1 SSB was Killed in Action when his Eland 90 Armoured Car detonated a landmine while

carrying out a patrol in Northern Owamboland. He was 20.

- **1979** - Rifleman Frederick Christoffel van den Berg from 4 SAI was Killed in Action when his Buffel Troop Carrier detonated a landmine in Northern Owamboland. He was 19.
- **1980** - Corporal Josias Johannes Botha from Infantry School was killed in a private motor vehicle accident in George while on weekend pass. He was 19.
- **1980** - Lance Corporal Roy Taylor from the Infantry School was critically injured in a private motor vehicle accident near Somerset West on 8 November 1980. He succumbed to his injuries in the Tygerberg Hospital on 9 November 1980. He was 18.
- **1982** - Sapper Adriaan Francois van Wyngaardt from 2 Field Engineer Regiment was Killed in Action when he detonated a boosted Anti-Personnel Mine during minesweeping and clearing Operations in Northern Owamboland. He was 19.
- **1983** - Airman Jan Joachim Janse van Rensburg attached to Air Force Base Ondangwa was killed when the Buffel Troop Carrier in which he was travelling as a passenger, was involved in

a collision with a South African Police Casspir in Ondangwa town. He was 18.

- **1987** - Six members from 4 SAI were Killed in Action during Ops Modular. They were: Sergeant Pierre James Digue (28). Corporal Theunis Antonie Duvenhage (18). Rifleman Frederick Augustus Muhlenbeck HC (P) (19). Rifleman Adrian Murray Thom HC (P) (19). Rifleman Anthony Stewart (20). Rifleman Pieter Gerrit Claasen (19).
- **2004** - In Abuja, Nigeria, Sudan and Darfur rebels sign accords on Tuesday to end hostilities and guarantee aid groups' access to 1.6 million civilians uprooted by conflict in the troubled western Sudan region of Darfur.
- **1979** - NORAD goes on full alert, when a computer glitch indicates a massive wave of incoming Soviet missiles.
- **1989** - The Berlin Wall comes down.

## 10 November

- **1775** - The U.S. Marine Corps was established as

Adolf Hitler





part of the U.S. Navy. It became a separate unit on July 11, 1789.

- **1915** - Fourth Battle of the Isonzo begins and continues to 2 December.
- **1939** - The SA Corps of Military Police (S.A.C.M.P.) is formed as an independent unit under Lt.-Col. R.D. Pilkington-Jordan.
- **1940** - Former British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain dies at the age of 71.
- **1942** - North Africa Vichy military chief in Algeria, Admiral Darlan, orders an end to the resistance against the Allies.
- **1942** - Following the British victory at El Alamein in North Africa during World War II, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill stated, "This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."
- **1951** - Allister Mackintosh, pilot and 'father' of SA aviation dies in Port Elizabeth. He earned a D.S.O. in the Battle of the Somme in April 1916.
- **1954** - USMC ("Two Jima") Memorial dedicated in Arlington.
- **1970** - Charles de Gaulle, leader of the 'Free French', President of France (1959-1969), dies at the age of 79.
- **1975** - Two members from 5 Squadron were accidentally killed when their Atlas MB326M Impala Mk I struck trees on top of a

hill near Nottingham Road and crashed. The casualties were: 2nd Lieutenant John Harold Cox (23). Sergeant Cornelius Andries Petrus van Tonder (27).

- **1976** - Sapper Barend Kruger Engelbrecht from 2 Engineer Regiment accidentally drowned during a training exercise at Bethlehem. He was 19.
- **1982** - Private Andre Ignatius Steffens from the Technical Service Corps died in the Universitas Hospital in Bloemfontein after being critically injured in a military vehicle accident. He was 20.
- **1983** - Rifleman George Murray Boshoff from the Witbank Commando was Killed in Action. He was 22.
- **1983** - Rifleman Harold Hebblethwaite from the Jozini Military Base suffered critical head injuries in a private motor vehicle. He was admitted to hospital but unfortunately succumbed to his injuries shortly after admission. He was 23.
- **1984** - Rifleman Anthony Joseph Brandt from Infantry School was killed in a private motor vehicle accident while on weekend pass. He was 18.
- **1985** - Sergeant William Stephan Butler from Air Force Headquarters was killed in a military vehicle accident at Kamieskroon. He was 37.
- **1988** - Following a press conference of General Staff

Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio dos Santos Franca Ndalú, Chief of *Forças Armadas Populares de Libertação de Angola* (FAPLA), during which he declared that his forces had killed over 230 South African troops in the course of an offensive and had destroyed large numbers of vehicles, the South African Defence Force (SADF) responded by claiming that not all the soldiers that were killed were theirs. SADF admitted to the loss of only twelve soldiers, meaning the rest that were claimed by Dos Santos belonged to South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO).

- **2012** - Birger Stromsheim, Norwegian commando who led the "Heroes of Telemark", dies aged 101.

## 11 November

- **1865** - Surgeon Mary Edward Walker is awarded the US Medal of Honor.
- **1885** - World War II General George S. Patton was born in San Gabriel, California.
- **1889** - Second Anglo Boer War. Commandant J.H. Visser with 200 men attacks Kuruman, defended by only 35 members of the Cape Police, 33 local volunteers and a few armed Blacks. They refuse to surrender and the attack develops into a siege.
- **1909** - The US Navy begins construction of a base at Pearl Harbour.
- **1914** - First Battle of Ypres:

The British I Corps hold off a desperate attack by German two corps, as the battle ends.

- **1918** - World War 1 ends with Germany and the Allies signing an armistice in a railroad car at Compiegne, France. "At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the guns fell silent and World War 1 came to an end."
- **1920** - The "Unknown Warrior" is interred in Westminster Abbey & the "Soldat Inconnu" beneath the Arc de Triomphe.
- **1923** - An Eternal Flame" is lit at the Tomb of the "Soldat Inconnu" at the Arc de Triomphe.
- **1961** - Congolese rebels murder 13 Italian airmen in UN service.
- **1965** - Rhodesian Prime Minister, Ian Smith, issues a Unilateral Declaration of Independence. Britain says the regime is illegal.
- **1972** - The U.S. turned over its military base at Long Binh to the South Vietnamese, symbolizing the end of direct American military participation in the Vietnam War.
- **1973** - Egypt and Israel sign a cease-fire agreement sponsored by the United States, and begin discussions to carry out the pact.
- **1975** - Angola gains independence from the colonial ruler Portugal with Dr Agostinho Neto as president and is known as the People's

Republic of Angola.

- **1980** - Rifleman Richard Paul Baillie from 6 SAI died in 1 Military Hospital after being critically injured in a private vehicle accident. He was 19.
- **1983** - US cruise missiles arrive in Great Britain.
- **1986** - Two members from 8 SAI were killed when their military vehicle was involved in an accident at Prieska. They were: Corporal Nicolaas Ernst Pattenden (21). Rifleman David John Fowler (21).
- **1986** - Private Johannes Hendrik Snyman from North West Command was accidentally killed at Vryburg after being crushed between a military vehicle and a trailer. He was 18.
- **1987** - Two members from 4 SAI attached to 62 Mechanised Battalion Group were Killed in Action during Ops Modular. They were: Rifleman John Mark Howes (19). Rifleman Daniel Willem Hendrik van Zyl (20).
- **1987** - Three members from 32 Battalion were Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces in Southern Angola during Ops Modular. They were: Rifleman Ernest Ndala Kapepura (25). Rifleman Gabriel Dala (26). Rifleman Fernando Mauricio (33).

- **1987** - Rifleman Pieter Marthinus Schutte from 4 SAI was Killed in Action during Ops Modular. He was 20.

- **1992** - The Goldstone Commission raids offices of the SADF's Directorate.

## 12 November

- **1901** - The most southern battle is fought at Kraalbospan, near Darling, Western Cape, with General Manie Maritz leading the Boers.
- **1911** - Combined Turkish and Arab forces in Libya are badly mauled by the Italian Army.
- **1914** - Rebellion leader General C.R. de Wet suffers a crushing defeat by government forces at Winburg, OFS.
- **1942** - SA armoured cars are in pursuit of the German forces and re-enter Tobruk, continuing as far as Benghazi, east Libya.



Ian Smith



- **1942** - During World War II in North Africa, the city of Tobruk was captured by the British Eighth Army under General Bernard Montgomery.
- **1944** - RAF sinks the German battleship 'Tirpitz' in a Norwegian fjord.
- **1948** - Japanese General Hideki Tojo and six others were sentenced to death by an Allied war crimes tribunal.
- **1963** - Bombardier Gideon Jacobus Visser from 10 Anti-Aircraft Regiment was killed in a military vehicle accident. He was 33.
- **1974** - Rifleman Barend Johannes Andries Vorster from 2 SAI was Reported Missing after he went to collect water from the river at Bagani. He was seen to suddenly disappear under the water and it is thought that he may have been taken by a crocodile. He has no known grave and remains unaccounted for. He was 18.
- **1975** - Rifleman Gideon Joubert Kloppe from 3 SAI was killed instantly after being struck by lightning during a thunderstorm. He was 19.
- **1975** - Rifleman Bartholomeus Venter from 11 Commando Regiment was Killed in Action by enemy mortar fire during a contact with enemy forces while participating in Operation Savannah. He was 20.
- **1980** - Rifleman Nicolaas Jacobus van der Walt from 3 SAI attached to 53 Battalion was accidentally killed in Northern Owamboland when a hand grenade exploded while he was still handling it. He was 19.
- **1980** - Rifleman Jowert Hessel Dijkstra from the Infantry School suffered severe brain injuries in a private motor vehicle accident during August 1980 while travelling home on a weekend pass. He succumbed to his injuries in the H.F. Verwoerd Hospital in Pretoria on 12 November 1980. He was 18.
- **1982** - Corporal Carlo Marcel Bosch from the Finance Service Corps was killed in a private motor vehicle accident. He was 20.
- **1983** - Rifleman Pierre Hanekom from 8 SAI was Killed in Action near Chiede in Southern Angola. He was 18.
- **1985** - 2nd Lieutenant Robert Allan Broekmeyer from 2 SAI died in the Windhoek Hospital from wounds accidentally sustained in a shooting training incident at the Swartkoppe Shooting Range. He was 20.
- **1985** - Rifleman Andrew Steward Dougall from Natal Command collapsed and died of suspected heart failure while running a 2.4 at the Greyville race course. He was 21.
- **1985** - Over 600 people killed in Liberia in an unsuccessful military coup against President Samuel Doe, led

by former Brigadier-General Thomas Quiwonlpa.

- **1991** - Lance Corporal Petrus Hendrik Theodorus Tait from 6 SAI was killed when the South African Police Boerbok vehicle in which he was travelling as a passenger, overturned near Richmond. He was 19.
- **1995** - Britain ends arm sales to Nigeria.
- **2001** - The Taliban abandons Kabul, as Northern Alliance forces approach.

### 13 November

- **1899** - Second Anglo Boer War. Generals Piet Joubert and Louis Botha cross the Tugela River and head down the railway line to Pietermaritzburg.
- **1942** - The five Sullivan Brothers from Waterloo, Iowa, were lost in the sinking of the cruiser USS Juneau by a Japanese torpedo off Guadalcanal during World War II in the Pacific. Following their deaths, the U.S. Navy changed regulations to prohibit close relatives from serving on the same ship.
- **1942** - Minimum US draft age reduced from 21 to 18.
- **1954** - Generalfeldmarschall Paul Ludwig Ewald von Kleist, 73, war criminal, died in Soviet captivity.
- **1975** - 2nd Lieutenant Christopher James Robin from 4 Field Artillery was killed in action. He was 20.
- **1979** - Rifleman P.S. Lafitila from Sector 70 Headquar-

ters SWATF was critically injured in a military vehicle accident on 06 November 1979. He unfortunately succumbed to his injuries in hospital on 13 November 1979. He was 20.

- **1986** - Two members from 2 and 5 Reconnaissance Regiment were Killed in Action during Ops Colosseum. The casualties were: Corporal Andries Dawid Renken (27). Corporal Marsh Lazarus Mashavave (30).
- **1988** - Rifleman Jacobus Gert Bock from 53 Battalion received a severe skull fracture after being assaulted by members of the local population outside the base. He was flown back to 1 Military Hospital in Pretoria where he succumbed to his injuries later in the day. He was 23.
- **1990** - Corporal Gert Gerhardus Boorman from the South African Cape Corps was killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned during a training exercise between Tarraririma and Vorstershoop. He was 20.
- **1995** - Israel began pulling its troops out of the West Bank city of Jenin, ending 28 years of occupation.
- **1982** - Vietnam War Memorial dedicated.

### 14 November

- **1914** - Lord Frederick Sleigh Roberts, (Field Marshall Earl Roberts of Khartoum) commander-in-chief of the British forces during the Second Anglo Boer War,

dies in St Omer, France.

- **1919** - Red Army captures Omsk, Siberia, from the Whites.
- **1926** - Major Friedrich W.R. Albrecht (78), founder of the OFS State Artillery, dies in Bloemfontein.
- **1941** - Aircraft carrier HMS 'Ark Royal' sinks in the Mediterranean after being torpedoed by the 'U-81' the day before.
- **1975** - Gunner Christo Retief from 4 Field Regiment was Killed in Action. He was 18.
- **1975** - Rifleman Adam Johannes Hendrikus Schonveldt from the Tactical Platoon of the SADF Horse and Dog Centre was killed in action. He was 20.
- **1976** - Warrant Officer Class II Michael Grahame Craul from Regiment Algoa Bay was shot dead at Ondangwa by a guard on duty. He was 24.
- **1978** - 2nd Lieutenant Roelof Nicolas Britz from 32 Battalion was Reported Missing after being attacked by a crocodile while swimming in the Kavango River near Buffalo. He has no known grave and remains unaccounted for. He was 23.
- **1978** - Rifleman P.P. De Amorim from 32 Battalion was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces

near Omutwewondjaba in Southern Angola. He was 27.

- **1979** - Rifleman Patrick Charles Wolmarans from 4 SAI was killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned in Northern Owamboland. He was 19.
- **1984** - Corporal Paulus Gouws from the South African Cape Corps was Killed in Action when his Buffel Troop Carrier detonated a TMA-3 "Cheese" Anti-Tank Mine. He was 21.
- **1985** - 2nd Lieutenant Willem Stephanus van der Merwe from 1 Parachute Battalion died of multiple shrapnel wounds in 1 Military Hospital after an accidental mortar bomb explosion during a weapons demonstration on 22 October 1985. He was 20.
- **1987** - Captain Andre Anthony Stapa was based at Air Force Base Ondangwa as a Station Pilot. He was subsequently Reported Missing when his Atlas MB326KM



Samuel Doe



Impala Mk II failed to return from attacking enemy positions near Cuvelai in Southern Angola. The aircraft impacted the ground while pulling out after firing on the enemy positions and it is thought that the Pilot may have misjudged his altitude and flown into the ground. The possibility that his aircraft may have been hit or damaged by hostile ground fire was also not ruled out. He has no known grave. He was 30.

- **1987** - Rifleman Andre Taylor Veltman from 1 Parachute Battalion was killed in a private motor vehicle accident near Fouriesburg while on a weekend pass. He was 20.
- **1994** - Having been dismissed from the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for their illegal strike about poor living standards in Wallmannstal military camp previously in November, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) guerrillas, through their spokesperson Salvador Mkhari, threaten to resume the armed struggle unless their demands were met.
- **1996** - American troops arrive in Kigali, Rwanda's capital, in advance of a multinational operation to feed and help send home more than one million refugees in Zaire, now called Congo.
- **2001** - Operation Enduring Freedom: Northern Alliance forces liberate Kabul from

the Taliban.

- **2005** - Former defence minister Magnus Malan joins former SA Defence Force chief Constand Viljoen in denying any knowledge of mass graves found near a former South African military base in northern Namibia. People's Liberation Army of Namibia (Plan) fighters killed by the SA army and South-West African Territory Force by law had to be handed to the South-West African police for identification and burial. Malan says that questions about the graves should be directed at the United Nations as they were in command in Namibia at the time.

### 15 November

- **1891** - German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel was born at Heidenheim, in Wurttemberg, Germany.
- **1899** - Winston Churchill, war correspondent of The Morning Post, is captured near Chieveley, Natal, when the Boers ambush an armoured train.
- **1942** - Church bells ring across Britain for the first time since the German invasion threat of 1940, to celebrate victory in the Battle of El Alamein.
- **1943** - During the Holocaust, Heinrich Himmler ordered Gypsies and part-Gypsies to be sent to concentration camps. The number of Gypsies killed by Nazis is estimated up to 500,000.

ated up to 500,000.

- **1969** - The largest antiwar rally in U.S. History occurred as 250,000 persons gathered in Washington, D.C., to protest the Vietnam War.
- **1980** - Corporal Quintino Abel from 32 Battalion was Reported Missing when he disappeared after being attacked by a crocodile while swimming in the Okavango River near Buffalo Base. He was no known grave and remains unaccounted for. He was 24.
- **1982** - Rifleman Jacobus Albertus van Zyl from the Kimberley Commando was killed instantly after being struck by lightning while participating in a training exercise at Schmidtsdrift. He was 26.
- **1986** - Two members of 1 Parachute Battalion were killed when the Casspir in which they were travelling, overturned near Tsande while travelling from Om-balantu to Ondangwa. The casualties were: Corporal Thomas Wilhelm Janse van Rensburg (23). Rifleman Christo Badenhorst (20).
- **1988** - Grintek of SA, Saab of Sweden and British aerospace sign a historic contract for supplying military equipment worth about R60 million.
- **1990** - Trooper Warren John Pieters from 1 Special Service Battalion was killed in a military vehicle accident approximately 25km from

Koopmansfontein. He was 19.

### 16 November

- **1900** - Second Anglo Boer War. The Battle of Sprin-kaansnek is fought, with General Philip Botha forcing a passage through the neck.
- **1939** - German U-boat torpedoes tanker 'Sliedrecht' near Ireland.
- **1941** - US intelligence loses track of Japanese aircraft carriers.
- **1950** - King Farouk, Egypt, demands the "total and immediate evacuation" of all British troops from the Suez Canal Zone.
- **1961** - After the bodies of thirteen Italian UN soldiers are "sold" in a Congo market, UN Secretary-General U Thant orders UN forces to punish those responsible.
- **1975** - British newspapers report that South African mercenaries are helping UNITA against the MPLA in Angola.
- **1976** - Sapper Matthys Philipus Fourie from 2 Field Engineer Regiment was Killed in Action. He was 18.
- **1976** - Two members from 1 SAI were accidentally killed while carrying out driver training near the Knysna-Uniondale Crossroads. They were: Corporal Joseph Edward Flood Ashpole (19). Corporal Andries Johannes Blom (21).
- **1978** - Lance Corporal Johannes Petrus Nel from Reg-

iment Louw Wepener was Killed in Action. He was 26.

- **1983** - Lieutenant Timothy David Short from 6 Squadron was killed when his Atlas MB326KM Impala Mk II crashed into the sea 5km off Brighton Beach near Durban while on a training flight. He was 21.
- **1985** - Ordinary Marine Victor Ernest Bastion de Klerk from 123 Harbour Protection Unit, South African Marines was killed during the Cape Riots when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned at Mitchell's Plain. He was 18.
- **1987** - Two members from 32 Battalion were Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces in Southern Angola. The casualties were: Staff Sergeant Arsenio Nicolau Domignos Batisda (33). Rifleman Joaquim Pedro (29).
- **1987** - Corporal Jacob Caryl van Heerden from 4 SAI was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces in Southern Angola during Ops Modular. He was 20.
- **1995** - The United Nations charged Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, and his military commander, Ratko Mladic, with genocide.

### 17 November

- **1887** - British General Bernard L. Montgomery was

born in St. Mark's Vicarage, Kennington Oval, London.

- **1922** - Samuel Alfred (Taffy) Long, Herbert Hull and David Lewis, strikers during the revolt, are hung in the Central Prison in Pretoria for committing murder.
- **1958** - The civilian government of Sudan is overthrown by the military; Ibrahim Abboud becomes prime minister.
- **1964** - Harold Wilson, the British Prime Minister, announces in the House of Commons that the British government has decided to impose an embargo on the export of arms to South Africa. Outstanding commitments by the Ministry of Defence will be fulfilled, but no new contracts will be accepted. The contract to supply sixteen Buccaneer aircraft is under review.
- **1975** - A ban on the publication of military involvements in Angola is imposed on South African newspapers.



**Erwin Rommel**



- **1980** - Sapper Hendrik Johannes Jacobus Jacobs from 1 Construction Regiment was shot dead by a Sentry on guard duty at Chetto Base in Sector 20 after he entered a restricted area during the night and failed to identify himself after being challenged by the Sentry. He was 18.
  - **1981** - Rifleman Gert Johannes de Lange from 4 Vehicle Reserve Park was accidentally killed after suffering shrapnel wounds in an accidental hand grenade explosion at the Maryland Training Base. He was 20.
  - **1986** - Corporal James Eric Cooper from Group 46 was accidentally killed when his Buffel Troop carrier overturned at Kwanobuhle. He was 26.
  - **1986** - Rifleman W. Mbandjeu from 102 Battalion SWATF was accidentally killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned in Northern Owamboland. He was 23.
  - **1987** - Lance Corporal Johann Redelinghuys from the South African Medical Corps was attached to 61 Mechanised Battalion Group was killed in action during Operation Modular. He was 20.
  - **1988** - Private Alwyn Lubbe from 1 Maintenance Unit was accidentally killed when he fell off a moving vehicle while in a convoy that was travelling from Kimberley to Eenhana. He was 19.
  - **1988** - A SA woman, Olivia Forsyth, allegedly a spy for the SA government against the ANC, who has been holed up in the British Embassy in Luanda since May, leaves for London after being granted an exit visa by the Angolan authorities.
  - **1993** - Military rule is re-imposed in Nigeria when General Sani Abacha ousts civilian leader Ernest Shonekan.
  - **1993** - The United Nations opened its first war crimes tribunal since the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials following World War II. Judges from 11 nations were sworn in to examine recent mass murders in Yugoslavia characterized as ethnic cleansing.
  - **1997** - Six militants open fire at the Temple of Hatshepsut in Luxor, Egypt, killing seventy-four people, sixty-one of them foreign tourists. The attackers are killed by police.
- 18 November**
- **1914** - Naval Battle of Cape Sarych: the Russian Black Sea Fleet defeats a Turk-German squadron.
  - **1916** - During World War I, Allied General Douglas Haig called off the First Battle of the Somme after five months. The Allies had advanced 201 square kilometres at a cost of 420,000 British and 195,000 French soldiers. German losses were over 650,000 men.
  - **1936** - Germany & Italy recognized Franco government

in Spain.

- **1941** - Operation Barbarossa: A Soviet counterattack near Tula causes the German 112th Infantry Division to break.
- **1941** - Last Italian forces in Ethiopia surrender to the British, ending 15 months of resistance.
- **1961** - President John F. Kennedy sends 18,000 military advisors to South Vietnam.
- **1962** - Corporal Johannes George Wolmarans from 1 Parachute Battalion was admitted to 1 Military Hospital after being diagnosed with myocarditis. He died later in hospital after suffering heart failure. He was 19.
- **1971** - 2nd Lieutenant Douglas Angus Morrison from the School of Engineers was accidentally electrocuted while serving at Kroonstad. He was 20.
- **1984** - Leading Seaman Sydney Harry de Jongh from 111 Harbour Protection Unit, South African Marines accidentally drowned in a river mishap while based at Wene-la in the Eastern Caprivi. He was 28.
- **1987** - Cuba denies its troops are engaged in fighting against SA forces in Angola.
- **1988** - The three Zimbabwean intelligence officers standing trial for a bomb attack on an ANC house in Bulawayo are sentenced to death.
- **1989** - Rifleman Robert Antonio Gache from 61 Mechanised Battalion Group was killed when his Buffel Troop

Carrier overturned 50km north of Okahandja. He was 20.

- **1992** - After a marathon ten-hour Cabinet meeting, President F.W. de Klerk appointed Lt.-Gen. Pierre Steyn as head of all intelligence functions of the South African Defence Force (SADF), including the Military Intelligence (MI).
- **1993** - Nigeria's new military ruler, General Sani Abacha, dissolves all democratic institutions.

## 19 November

- **1812** - Napoleon begins his retreat from Moscow.
- **1863** - President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address during ceremonies dedicating 17 acres of the Gettysburg Battlefield as a National Cemetery.
- **1915** - Russia and Italy declare war on Bulgaria
- **1941** - HMAS 'Sydney' and the German merchant cruiser 'Kormoran' clash off the western coast of Australia, both sinking, 'Sydney' with no survivors. The wrecks were located in 2008.
- **1942** - The Russian Army began a massive counter-offensive against the Germans at Stalingrad during World War II.
- **1943** - Following an attempted uprising, the Nazis liquidate the Janowska concentration camp near Lemberg, at least 6,000 Jews are murdered.
- **1950** - General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower becomes the supreme commander of NATO.
- **1969** - The first news reports emerged that American troops in Vietnam had massacred civilians in My Lai Village back in March of 1968.
- **1978** - Signaler Arnold Charles Lewin from the South African Corps of Signals stationed at Grootfontein, collapsed from heat exhaustion. He was rushed to the Grootfontein Hospital but died soon after admission. He was 18.
- **1987** - Major Petrus Abraham van der Merwe from 1 Parachute Battalion was wounded in a grenade explosion on 18 November. He succumbed to his wounds on 19 November 1987. He was 27.
- **1987** - US warships destroy Iranian oil platforms in Persian Gulf.
- **1989** - Signaler Jan Gabriel Kriel from 2 Signals Regiment was killed after he was accidentally run over by a Ratel 20 at Keetmanshoop. He was 20.
- **1990** - The Cold War came to an end during a summit in Paris as leaders of NATO and the Warsaw Pact signed a Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe, vastly reducing their military arsenals.

## 20 November

- **1917** - The first use of tanks in battle occurred at Cambrai, France, during World War I. Over 300 tanks commanded by British General Sir Douglas Haig went into battle against the Germans.
- **1918** - The 369th "Colored" Infantry, New York National Guard, becomes the first American unit to reach the Rhine and take up occupation duties in Germany.
- **1942** - British Eighth Army recaptures Benghazi, Libya.
- **1943** - The Battle of Tarawa began in the Pacific War as American troops attacked the Japanese on the heavily fortified Gilbert Islands.
- **1944** - US First Army secures Aachen.
- **1945** - The Nuremberg War Crime Trials began in which 24 former leaders of Nazi Germany were charged with conspiracy to wage wars of aggression, crimes against peace, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.



Olivia Forsyth



- **1962** - The Cuban Missile Crisis concluded as President John F. Kennedy announced he had lifted the U.S. Naval blockade of Cuba stating, "the evidence to date indicates that all known offensive missile sites in Cuba have been dismantled."
  - **1983** - Corporal Raymond Kenneth Eaton from Technical Service Corps attached to the Army Battle School was killed in a private motor vehicle accident at Boshoff. He was 17.
  - **1983** - Chaplain Gerhardus Jacobus Rossouw from SWATF Headquarters was killed in a private motor vehicle accident in Windhoek. He was 29.
  - **1985** - Marine Ferdinand Ben Els from the 111 Harbour Protection Unit, South African Marines was killed in a military vehicle accident at Katima Mulilo. He was 18.
  - **1987** - Bombardier Lukas Marthinus Charl Havenga from 4 Artillery Regiment was attached to the 120mm Mortar section at the Lomba River during Ops Modular where he suffered a heart attack during operations and died before he could be evacuated to Rundu. He was 22.
  - **1988** - Three members from 6 Maintenance Unit were accidentally killed when their military vehicle overturned on the Bagani-Rundu road. They were: Private John Marloh (20). Private Rodney Izaak Nelson (20). Private Neville Swartz (18).
  - **1990** - Anti-Gulf War protest marches begin in 20 US cities.
  - **1994** - Angolan government signs peace treaty with UNITA.
- 21 November**
- **1894** - Port Arthur is captured by the Japanese from the Chinese, amidst great slaughter.
  - **1900** - Second Anglo Boer War. The Battle of De Wetsdorp, which was to end on the 23rd with the surrender of the British to Chief Commandant C.R. de Wet, starts.
  - **1918** - German ammunition trains explode in Hamont, Belgium, 1,750 die.
  - **1968** - Trooper Brian Wesley Dyer from 1 Special Service Battalion was killed in a military vehicle accident at Katima Mulilo. He was 17.
  - **1970** - Operation Ivory Coast: A joint Army-Air Force commando raid on the Son Tây prisoner-of-war camp finds all Americans have been moved elsewhere.
  - **1980** - Rifleman Armando Eduardo from 32 Battalion was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces in Southern Angola. He was 32.
  - **1981** - Trooper Marthinus Christoffel Botha from 1 Special Service Battalion was accidentally killed by

lightning while on manoeuvres at the Army Battle School. He was 18.

- **1981** - Rifleman Coenraad Christoffel van Wyk from 1 Parachute Battalion accidentally drowned in the swimming pool in the Paratrooper Fire-Force Camp at AFB Ondangwa. He was 20.
- **1984** - Three members from 202 Battalion SWATF were killed when their Buffel Troop Carrier overturned in the Operational Area. The casualties were: Trooper W.A. Basson (19). Trooper H. Diergaardt (20). Trooper C. McNab (20).
- **1984** - 2nd Lieutenant Gustav Brink from 1 Special Service Battalion was accidentally killed during the night in Owamboland when his armoured car drove into a water-well at dusk and overturned. He was 20.
- **1986** - Rifleman Nicolaas Carel Martinus Bronkhorst from the Ermelo Commando died after suffering a fatal heart attack while participating in a shooting exercise at the Amsterdam shooting range. He was 39.
- **1989** - Colonel Cornelius Alwyn Johannes Meerholz HCS from 5 Reconnaissance Regiment was accidentally killed in a private motor vehicle accident at Gravelot. He was 37.
- **1989** - The Citizen reports that the remaining 1,500 South African troops in Namibia have been withdrawn in November.

- **2005** - Alfred Anderson, veteran of the Black Watch, the last survivor of the Christmas Truce of 1914, the last Scottish veteran of the war, and the oldest man in Scotland, dies at the age of 109.

## 22 November

- **1847** - General Jacobus Herculaas de la Rey, known as Koos de la Rey, is born.
- **1890** - Charles De Gaulle was born in Lille, France. He led the Free French against the Nazis during World War II and later became President of France, serving from 1958-69.
- **1914** - Ypres burns under German bombardment.
- **1917** - German L59 Zeppelin starts flight from Bulgaria to Khartoum carrying much needed supplies to General von Lettow in East Africa.
- **1943** - The Cairo Conference occurred as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Chinese Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek, met to discuss the war in the Pacific against Japan.
- **1963** - US President John F. Kennedy is assassinated.
- **1980** - Two members from Infantry School were killed in a private motor vehicle accident between George and the Wilderness while they were on a weekend pass. The casualties were: Corporal Ferdinand Johannes Louw (20). Corporal

Andre Seaman (21).

- **1988** - Rifleman Felokwakhe Andreas Magagula from 121 Battalion died in the King Edward VIII Hospital from injuries received when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned while on an operational patrol at Kwa Ngwanase. He was 28.
- **1988** - South African government announces it has joined Cuba and Angola in endorsing a plan to remove Cuban troops from Angola.
- **1990** - Lance Corporal Sibusiso Dlomo from Natal Command was killed in a military vehicle accident in Durban. He was 30.
- **1991** - Airman Martin Jacobsz from the Air Force Gymnasium was killed in a private motor vehicle accident after his vehicle was involved in a head-on collision with another vehicle on the Delmas to Pretoria Road. He was 19.

## 23 November

- **1900** - Second Anglo Boer War. Major-General Smith-Dorrien, leaving only the church standing, razes the town of Dullstroom to the ground.
- **1939** - The German battleships 'Scharnhorst' & 'Gneisenau' sink the greatly

outclassed armed merchant cruiser HMS 'Rawalpindi' in the North Atlantic off the Faroes.

- **1942** - Japanese bomb Port Darwin, Australia.
- **1946** - Bombardment of Haiphong: The French fleet shells the port, held by the Viet Minh, inflicting heavy casualties and initiating the "First Indochina War".
- **1966** - Gen. R.C. Hiemstra opens the Castle of Good Hope military museum in Cape Town, reflecting various aspects of military history since 1652.
- **1975** - Captain George Frederick Schoeman from 2 SSB was critically wounded on 9 November 1975 during Operation Savannah in Southern Angola. He succumbed to his wounds on 23 November 1975. He was 31.
- **1975** - Warrant Officer Class II Alwyn Johannes Benson from 4 SAI was Killed in Action during Operation Savannah. He was 30.
- **1975** - Captain Johan Wolf-

Charles De Gaulle





gang Holm HC (P) from the Danie Theron Combat School was Killed in Action during Operation Savannah. He was 36.

- **1975** - Trooper Neil Lombard from B Squadron 1SSB was Reported Missing during Ops Savannah. His body could not be recovered. He was 20.
- **1975** - Corporal Jochemus Jacobus Taljaard from 2 Special Service Battalion was Killed in Action during Operation Savannah. He was 20.
- **1975** - Lance Corporal Gerhard Vollgraaff from 2 Special Service Battalion Died of Wounds received in Action during Operation Savannah during the Battle of Ebo. He was 19.
- **1976** - Rifleman Stephanus Johannes Swartz from 6 SAI was killed in a military vehicle accident at Bedford in the Eastern Cape. He was 21.
- **1977** - Rhodesian forces attack nationalist guerrilla bases at Tembue and Chimoio in Mozambique, killing allegedly over a thousand people.
- **1978** - Corporal Nicolaas Marthinus Dekker from Quartermaster General was killed by shrapnel at Potchefstroom when a G2 140mm Medium Gun High Explosive projectile exploded in the cannon breach during a training exercise. He was 18.
- **1981** - Rifleman R. Mukoya

from 202 Battalion SWATF was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces. He was 25.

- **1983** - The Beirut Barracks Bombing: 241 US & 58 French military peacekeepers, and six civilians are killed when two members of Islamic Jihad detonate a truck bomb.
- **1985** - Fifty-eight die as Egyptian commandos storm a hijacked Egyptian jet in Malta.
- **1986** - Sergeant Gert Benjamin Labuschagne from the Virginia Commando was found dead during a military training exercise. It appeared that he suffered a fatal heart attack while he was asleep. He was 36.
- **1993** - Captain Louis Joubert from 1 Squadron was Reported Missing when his Dassault Mirage F1AZ was seen to suddenly bank steeply and dive into the sea approximately 80km South, South West of Cape Point while carrying out a low level maritime strike. He was 24.

## 24 November

- **1874** - Joseph Glidden patented his invention of barbed wire.
- **1887** - German Field Marshal Erich von Manstein was born in Berlin.
- **1941** - The great tank battle of Sidi Rezegh in North Africa rages unabated in World War 2. The South Africans,

outnumbered by their German opponents, are stranded in the open desert but manage to destroy fifty of the German tanks. At about 16:30 all the SA guns are out of action after running short of ammunition and the South Africans are forced to surrender.

- **1944** - First B-29 raid from Saipan; 111 bombers hit Tokyo.
- **1956** - Soviet troops invade Hungary as Imre Nagy becomes prime minister.
- **1964** - Belgian paratroopers, the Congolese army and mercenaries recapture Stanleyville in the Congo from rebels.
- **1969** - The U.S. Army announced that Lt. William L. Calley had been charged with premeditated murder in the massacre of civilians in the Vietnamese village of My Lai in March of 1968. Calley was ordered to stand trial by court martial and was later convicted and sentenced to life in prison. However, his sentence was later commuted to three years of house arrest by President Richard Nixon.
- **1973** - Four aircrew members from 24 Squadron were Reported Missing after two Hawker Siddeley S-50 Buccaneer aircraft, Serial Numbers 419 and 420 that had departed from Cape Town to conduct a maritime strike exercise against HMS Fearless during a Joint SA Navy and Royal Navy exercise referred to as CAPEX 73 failed to return. At 13h30 the aircraft

were involved in a mid-air collision in thick fog over Walker Bay near Hermanus while en-route to the ship. The crews were: Major Johannes Jacob Stein Steinberg (32). Major Clement Roy Vice (29). Captain Hercules Du Preez (25). Captain Brian Maughan Antonis (26).

- **1975** - Trooper Gideon Marthinus Frederick Obbes from 2 SAI was Killed in Action. He was 20.
- **1978** - Rifleman Nicolaas Mostert Hofmeyer van der Spuy van Rooyen from 31 Battalion was killed instantly in an accidental hand grenade explosion at the Omega shooting range during a training exercise. He was 18.
- **1981** - Private Johannes Petrus Coetzee from 1 Maintenance Unit was killed when the military vehicle in which he was traveling overturned. He was 19.
- **1982** - Lance Corporal Saxon Kaputo from 102 Battalion SWATF was accidentally killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned near Opuwa. He was 22.
- **1983** - Lance Corporal Andre Dan Mostert from 1 SWA SPES was accidentally killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned at Opuwa. He was 19.
- **1986** - Rifleman William Haalsward Opperman from 8 SAI died in the Johannesburg General Hospital from injuries received after he was knocked down by a civilian vehicle that failed to stop at

a road block he was manning in Soweto. He was 19.

- **1986** - Special Constable Johannes Sem from the South West Africa Police Counter-Insurgency Wing: Ops-K Division (Koevoet) was Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents in Northern Owamboland. He was 33.
- **1992** - The U.S. military departed the Philippines after nearly a century of military presence. In 1991, the Philippine Senate had voted to reject a renewal of the lease for the American military base.

## 25 November

- **1854** - During the Battle of Balaclava, the famous "Charge of the Light Brigade" takes place. Nearly 600 British light cavalry undertook a frontal attack down a narrow, mile long valley, an action that had no impact whatsoever on the outcome of the battle, while leaving literally hundreds of the troopers dead or wounded.
- **1915** - Chilean military leader Augusto Pinochet was born in Valparaiso, Chile.
- **1936** - Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan signed the Anti-Comintern Pact, an agreement to collaborate in opposing the spread of Communism.

• **1940** - Maiden flights of the de Havilland Mosquito & the Martin B-26 Marauder, one on each side of the pond.

- **1961** - USS 'Enterprise' (CVN 65), the first nuclear-powered carrier, is commissioned, to commence 51 years of service; decommissioned 2012.
- **1971** - Four members from 22 Flight (later 22 Squadron) were killed while stationed on board the SAS President Steyn that was escorting a new Daphne Class submarine SAS Emily Hobhouse from France back to South Africa when their Westland Wasp helicopter burst into flames just after take-off. They were: Captain Christiaan Jacobus Tiedt (24). Sergeant Johannes Gerhardus Blom (34). Corporal Johann Stork (26). Corporal Nicolaas Francois Janse van Rensburg (33).
- **1975** - Two members from 11 Squadron and one from 8 SAI were Reported Missing during Operation Savannah



William L. Calley



when their Cessna 185D was presumed to have been shot down over or near the town of Ebo in Central Angola. The casualties were: Captain Daniel Jakob Taljaard (32). 2nd Lieutenant Keith Arthur Williamson (21). 2nd Lieutenant Eric Brian Thompson (20).

- **1979** - Rifleman Thomas Ignatius Louw from 2 SAI was Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents in Northern Owamboland. He was 18.
- **1981** - Forty-five mercenaries from South Africa under Colonel Mike Hoare land in Seychelles, attack the airport and cause heavy damage. Those who are not captured and detained by Seychelles security forces flee by hijacking an Air India plane, which they divert to South Africa. The TRC in 1998 rules the SA government responsible for the attack.
- **1982** - Special Constable Tuhfeni Nekundi from the South West Africa Police Counter-Insurgency Wing: Ops-K Division (Koevoet) was Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents in Northern Owamboland. He was 34.
- **1983** - Syria & Saudi Arabia announce cease-fire in PLO civil war in Lebanon.
- **1987** - Trooper Johann Raubenheimer Meyer from 32 Battalion was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces in South East-

ern Angola. He was 20.

- **1987** - Rifleman Marius Johannes Mitton HC (P) was critically wounded during Ops Modular on 11 November 1987 and succumbed to his wounds on 25 November 1987. He was 20.

## 26 November

- **1832** - Doctor Mary Edwards Walker, the only woman to win the Medal of Honor, is born.
- **1943** - British troop transport 'Rohna' is sunk in the Mediterranean by a Luftwaffe Henschel Hs 293 guided glide bomb. 1,138 men are killed, including 1,015 American troops.
- **1940** - During the Holocaust, Nazis began walling off the Jewish Ghetto in Warsaw, sealing in 400,000 inhabitants while denying them adequate food, sanitation and housing.
- **1944** - Himmler orders destruction of Auschwitz & Birkenau crematoria.
- **1969** - Major Johannes Petrus Britz LWD from 1 Squadron SAAF was killed instantly near Pietersburg, when his Canadair CL13B Sabre Mk VI, Serial Number 368 suffered catastrophic engine failure and caught fire while he was carrying out bombing practice exercises. He was 29.
- **1970** - Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., the first black American general, dies at 93.
- **1973** - Rifleman Leon Holscher from 2 SAI was

Reported Missing after being attacked by a crocodile while he swimming in the Cunene River. He has no known grave and remains unaccounted for. He was 19.

- **1975** - Two members from 2 Parachute Regiment were accidentally killed as a result of being dragged under canopy in high winds after landing during a parachute training exercise at the General de Wet Training Area. The casualties were: Sergeant Dirk Johannes Human (28). Rifleman Alan Taylor Bate (23).
- **1978** - Signaler Hendrik Lambertus Johann Brown from the Army Gymnasium was killed in a private motor vehicle accident. He was 22.
- **1979** - Trooper Louis Petrus Badenhorst from 1 Special Service Battalion was killed in a private motor vehicle accident. He was 19.
- **1982** - Private Jannie Louw from 61 Base Workshops was accidentally killed when he was crushed between a military vehicle and a guard tower at Centurion, Pretoria. He was 22.

## 27 November

- **1941** - HMAS 'Parramatta' is sunk off Tobruk by 'U-559'.
- **1941** - Operation Crusader: British troops break the seven month Axis siege of Tobruk.
- **1941** - Joint Army-Navy signal to senior commanders in the Pacific ends with,

"This dispatch is to be considered a war warning," and CNO adds to CINCUS Kimmel "an aggressive move by Japan is expected within the next few days".

- **1942** - The French Navy scuttles its ships at Toulon to prevent Nazis from capturing them.
- **1951** - First successful surface-to-air missile test is carried out at White Sands.
- **1976** - Sapper Petrus Johannes Du Toit from 2 Field Engineer Regiment was killed in a Military Vehicle Accident at Rundu. He was 19.
- **1976** - Rifleman Donald Robert Pretorius from 1 SAI was killed in a military Bedford accident at Colesburg. He was 19.
- **1981** - Lance Corporal Johan Martins from 32 Battalion was Killed in Action during a contact with enemy forces in Southern Angola. He was 19.

## 28 November

- **1887** - Nazi leader Ernst Rohm is born.
- **1899** - Second Anglo Boer War. The Battle of Modder River or Tweerivieren takes place, in which both Gen. Methuen and Gen. De la Rey are wounded. Gen. De la Rey's son, Adriaan, is fatally wounded.
- **1916** - First German air raid on London.
- **1939** - USSR revokes the Soviet-Finnish non-aggression pact.

- **1943** - The Teheran Conference began, attended by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Premier Josef Stalin. Among the major topics discussed, a second front in Western Europe, resulting in D-Day, the seaborne invasion of Normandy in northern France on June 6, 1944.
- **1951** - Military coup under Col Adib el-Shishakli in Syria.
- **1976** - Corporal Terence Paul Leonard from 2 SAI was killed when the vehicle he was traveling in overturned, crushing him underneath. The accident happened while traveling in convoy from Grootfontein to Walvis Bay. He was 19.
- **1976** - Rifleman Friedrich Erwin Abraham from Infantry School died in a private motorcycle accident at Rawsonville in the Cape while on weekend pass. He was 20.
- **1977** - Rifleman Lawrence Dennis Kretzmann from 11 Commando Regiment attached to 53 Battalion, was critically injured on 11 November 1977 when his Unimog Troop Carrier overturned after striking an animal. He was 19.

- **1978** - Lance Corporal Waldemar Heinrich Grobler from 5 SAI was Killed in Action. He was 22.
- **1978** - Rifleman Robert Sentefol from 2 SAI was killed instantly after being struck by lightning. He was 18.
- **1980** - Four SAAF members from the Air Defence School in Pretoria were killed in a private aircraft crash while on a weekend pass. The casualties were: Private Pieter Barand De Villiers (18). Private Gabriel De Wet van Eeden (20). Private Leonard Wilhelm Kruger (24). Private Abraham Daniel Roux (18).
- **1983** - Corporal Gary Richard Milne from Western Province Command was killed in a military vehicle accident at Garries. He was 23.
- **1984** - Sergeant Marius Melville Bekker from Natal Command Headquarters Unit died in the Addington Hospital from injuries sus-



Heinrich Himmler



tained when his military motorcycle was struck by a civilian motor vehicle in Argyle Road, Durban. He was 26.

- **1986** - Rifleman Gregory Bruce Gerald Marshall from Infantry School was killed in a private motorcycle accident. He was 19.
- **1988** - Lance Corporal Izak Johannes van Rooyen from the Medical Base Depot was killed in a private vehicle accident in Springs. He was 28.
- **1992** - Four APLA Gunmen burst into the King William's Town Golf Club as 55 members of the King Wine Circle, a wine-tasting club that includes much of the town gentry, were having their annual Christmas dinner. Five guests were killed instantly when the men sprayed the room with Automatic weapon gunfire and lobbed in hand grenades. Three hand grenades exploded in the dining room, the bar and in a shed outside the clubhouse. Fifteen diners and two waitresses were injured, some seriously, by gunfire, shrapnel and flying glass. The four APLA operatives subsequently escaped by vehicle. All four APLA operatives were later granted amnesty for this attack.
- **1997** - Fighting breaks out among President Laurent Kabila's soldiers in Kinshasa, Congo, when he orders the arrest of one of his

aides. Eighteen people are killed.

### 29 November

- **1900** - Second Anglo Boer War. Lord Kitchener succeeds Lord Roberts as commander-in-chief of the British forces in SA and Lord Roberts succeeds Wolseley as commander-in-chief of the British army.
- **1917** - The Women's Royal Naval Service (WRENS) is established.
- **1932** - France and the USSR sign a non-aggression pact.
- **1951** - The first underground atomic explosion, Frenchman's Flat, Nevada.
- **1974** - Corporal Allan Geoffrey Becker from Regiment Noord Transvaal was accidentally killed while servicing a military vehicle in Leydsdorp. The vehicle slipped off the jacks and crushed him. He was 24.
- **1977** - Trooper Ruben van Niekerk from 1 Special Service Battalion was killed in a military vehicle accident while serving in the Operational Area. He was 18.
- **1986** - Gunner Gerrit Meintjies from 4 Artillery Regiment was killed in a private vehicle accident on the Potgietersrus road while on leave. He was 20.
- **1987** - Private Alexander Talbat Nelson Sadler from 101 Base Workshops was critically injured, suffering massive internal injuries

in Southern Angola during Operation Modular when he was accidentally run over by a Kwé supply vehicle. He unfortunately succumbed to his injuries before he could be medically evacuated. He was 20.

- **1991** - Red Cross says clan battles in Somalia's capital of Mogadishu have killed more than 1,000 people.
- **1996** - U.N. war crimes tribunal sentences Bosnian Serb Drazen Erdemovic to 10 years for the massacre of 1,200 Muslims.

### 30 November

- **1874** - Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, war correspondent during Second Anglo Boer War and later premier of Britain, is born in Oxfordshire, England.
- **1885** - Albrecht Kesselring, German field marshal, was born.
- **1934** - Dedication of the Anzac Memorial at Gallipoli, presided over by Kemal Ataturk.
- **1939** - Finland was invaded by more than 20 Russian divisions in the Winter War.
- **1943** - Teheran Conference: FDR, Churchill, & Stalin agree that Operation Overlord will take place in May of 1944.
- **1945** - British Admiral Louis Mountbatten accepts the surrender of Japanese Field Marshal Hisaichi Terauchi, who hands over

his sword, Saigon.

- **1978** - Gunner Carel Hendrik Smit from 14 Artillery Regiment was killed when the military vehicle he was traveling in, overturned between Kuruman and Katu. He was 21.
- **1981** - Captain Abraham Jacobus Petrus de Kock from 1 Reconnaissance Regiment was Killed in Action in a premature explosion while laying demolition charges at the Oil Refinery in Luanda during Ops Kerslig. He was 26.
- **1982** - Major Michael Al-

bert Bondesio from 35 Squadron suffered a fatal heart attack while sitting behind the controls flying Shackleton 1717. He was 44.

- **1983** - Lieutenant Andre Viljoen from 30 Maintenance Unit was killed in a Military Vehicle accident 10km east of Otjovazendu. The vehicle went into a corner too fast and the trailer caused the vehicle to overturn. He was pinned under the vehicle and succumbed to his injuries before help arrived. He was 23.

• **1983** - Rifleman Oscar Munango from 202 Battalion SWATF was Killed in Action during a contact with SWAPO/PLAN insurgents. He was 24.

- **1984** - Rifleman Kachinga Chiamba from 201 Battalion SWATF was killed when his Buffel Troop Carrier overturned in Northern Owamboland. He was 26.
- **1988** - South African, Angolan and Cuban representatives meet in Brazzaville for peace talks.







## QUIZ

# Remember me?

1. Kurt Student - he commanded the German *Fallschirmjäger* throughout World War II.
2. Edwin Swales VC - World War II South African pilot and Master Bomber.
3. George S. Patton Jr - American World War II general.
4. Isoroku Yamamoto - World War II Japanese admiral, architect of the attack on Pearl Harbour.
5. Hal Moore - commander during the Battle of Ia Dang, the first major American engagement in Vietnam.
6. Hans-Ulrich Rudel - Stuka ace and Germany's most



7. Mary Walker - The first and only woman to be awarded the Medal of Honour.
8. Paddy Mayne - Rugby international and founding member of the Special Air Service.
9. Harold Ackroyd VC - World War I doctor recommended

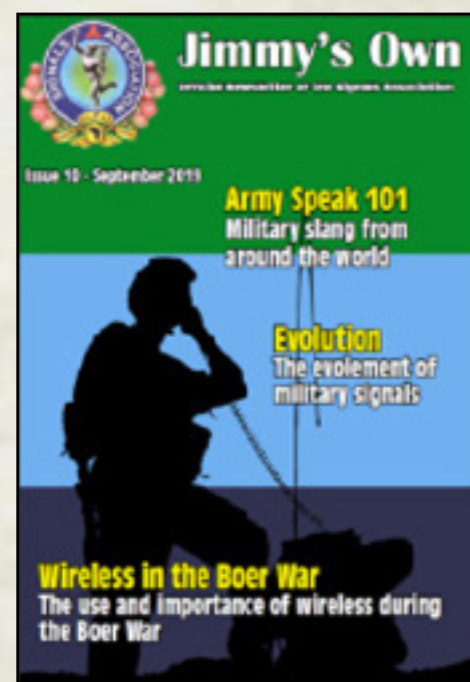
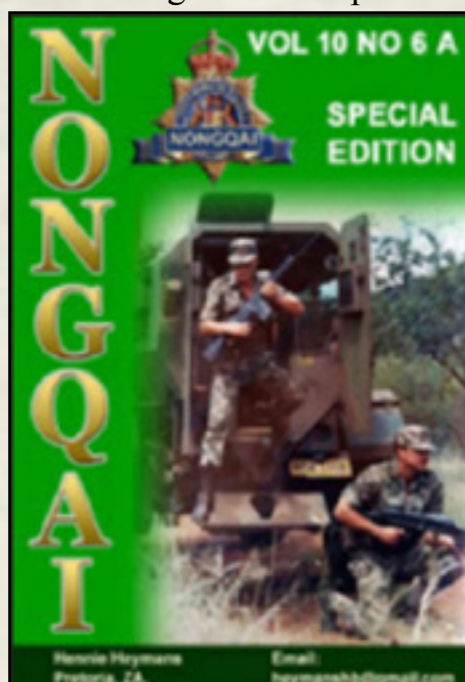
for the VC 34 times.

10. Anthony McAuliffe - The American general who said "Nuts" to the Germans at the Battle of the Bulge.
11. Lyudmila Pavlichenko - with 309 kills, the deadliest female sniper ever.
12. Karl Dönitz - the admiral that replaced Hitler.
13. Võ Nguyên Giáp - the man that planned Dien Bien Phu.
14. Audie Murphy - Hollywood star and the most decorated American soldier.
15. Heinz Guderian - the father of modern tank warfare.

## Useful links

Every month we will be featuring a few useful links to military websites, newsletters and on-line magazines. Stuff that we think our readers will appreciate.

Here are two of our favourites. The first one is Nongqai, the unofficial police newsletter for veterans of the former South African Police Force and for those interested in Police History. The second is Jimmy's Own, the official newsletter of the South African Signals Association. Click on the magazine covers to go to the respective websites.

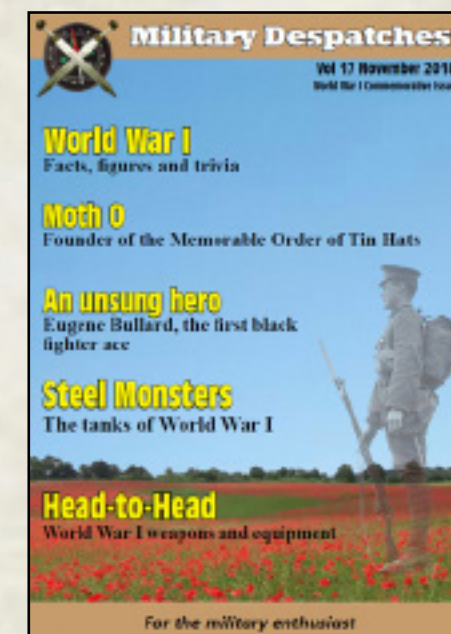


# Military Despatches Website



"Things don't have to change the world to be important."

Steve Jobs



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Have you checked out the bookshelf on the website? Here you can open and read individual articles on screen with no need to download anything.

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# Hipe!

## media

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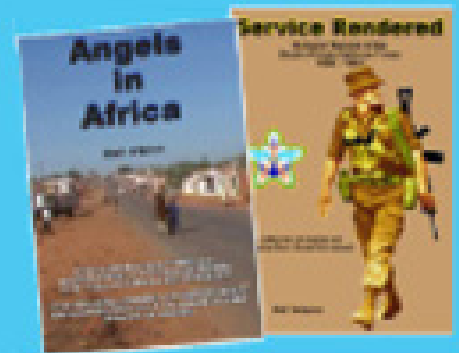
### **Online Magazines**

Flip book magazines with pages that can be turned.



### **E-books**

Produced in any electronic format required.



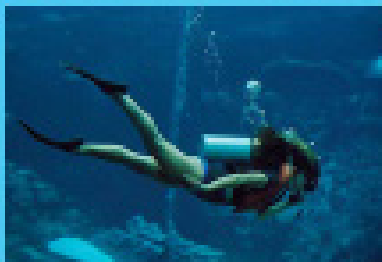
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### **Still Photography**

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