



e-DEFENCE ELECTRONICS NEWSLETTER

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'DESERVES TO BE BETTER KNOWN'

Many times, I'm sure, in the careers of DEHS members, you've heard the phrase "This deserves to be better known" about a book, a project, a piece of work, or simply some item of information; and the result almost inevitably appears to be that it never becomes better known! This issue of *eDEN* is devoted to a series of such facts, books and ventures which 'deserve to be better known', ranging as ever across *eDEN's* editorial mantra of "DC to light; earliest times to the present (and future); absolutely *anything* military in which electronics are involved; and tracing the stories of the people as well as the equipment".

Taking the illustrations above, you've probably recognised them as *Frederick Lindemann, later Lord Cherwell*, widely recognised as Churchill's *eminence grise* on all matters scientific before and during the Second World War, whose decisions on which equipments to support and which to put on the back burner was of great significance to electronics in the UK in that period. Cherwell was a person of definite views, some right, some spectacularly wrong; he is well worthy of being brought 'out of the shadows' and his life's work thoroughly analysed. During the last year, our President, *Keith Thrower*, has been working tirelessly on the text editing and indexing of *Russell Burns'* last book, on Lord Cherwell, which promises to become the definitive work on the subject; in a major publishing event, it will shortly be printed with DEHS backing and further details will be sent to all members in the coming months.

Our first article features the *Electronics Restoration Trust*, a group whose excellent work of restoration, rebuild and new build of equipment which marked definitive steps forward in military electronics deserves to be much better known, and illustrates examples of their painstaking work on *R J Dippy's GEE Mk I* and other systems. The often forgotten field of *Radar Nomenclature* is next featured, with *J. C. 'Jacey' Wise's* meticulous research into that subject across a wide variety of nations including Russia and China, both infrequently covered and both massively important; this really is an article to read and retain for its importance. *Drs Waddell and Brown* then bring to our attention the little-known work of *Professor Arne Beurling* in decrypting the

Geheimschreiber traffic passing through WW2 Sweden - a pencil and paper feat of decryption which indeed deserves to be much better known and celebrated than it is. Continuing my articles on World War I, I have found that, while many know of the '**Sterling**' **spark transmitter**, a British mainstay of that conflict, hardly anyone appeared aware of the instructions for its use (!); and so I have provided them in their original form here in **eDEN**. A '**Special Ops**' **Board** gives details of **Arthur Bauer's** unique event for us in November – absolutely one not to miss; and then **Tailpiece** describes an outstanding new book which uncovers for the first time a hidden piece of secret training carried out at Worth Matravers post-war, and incidentally takes us back through radio intercept to **R J Dippy** and **Gee Mk I**. How does it do that? Well, read for your self – the clue is in '**Chinese Whispers**'.

As ever, suggestions for improvements, offers of articles and all general comments to me at philjudkins@btinternet.com or chairman@dehs.org.

Dr. Phil Judkins, DEHS Chairman.

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