



# ***e-DEFENCE ELECTRONICS NEWSLETTER***

The e-NEWSLETTER OF THE DEFENCE ELECTRONICS HISTORY SOCIETY  
No 63 Part I: October 2017

## **KOREA**

*eDEN* readers of a “certain age” (such as your Editor!) may recognise our header photo as of the landings by Anglo-American forces at Incheon, Korea, in July 1950. Very sadly, it currently appears that dispute over the future of that divided country may be aggravated by the personality clashes of national leaders, and we must hope that rational international diplomacy is allowed to negotiate a solution without armed conflict.

*eDEN* 63 opens with a *Letter to the Editor* from **Tony Devereux** - whose *Messenger Gods of Battle* (Brassey's, 1991) sits on my bookshelf opposite me as I type this - which will, I hope, provoke thoughts and debate on the recent tragic and seemingly inexplicable US Navy - merchant ship collisions. Let us know your thoughts and views!

Our span of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries then begins with more about the **RAF experiments with radio-telephony in 1918**, not least how your trailing aerial causes problems if you try aerobatics in your BE 2 (!), as recalled by wireless officer **Captain C E Stewart R.E.**; our thanks yet again to **Rupert Harvey** for permission to use the notes preserved by his father, 22 Squadron WW1 pilot **WFJ Harvey**. We then move on, perhaps startlingly, to our 'top shelf magazine' section, as **Dr Mike Diprose**, intrigued by *eDEN* 59 and 60 articles on German WW1 radio controlled explosive motor-boats, looks at **Hedy Lamarr's** initiation of **spread spectrum technology**, in partnership with musical 'bad boy' **George Antheil**, and her choice of torpedo control for its application, set against the early career of these two apparent unlikeliest of inventors. Then it is on to the sixth of the outstanding series of articles charting the history of **Radio Warfare in the Royal Navy 1900 – 1945**, which **John 'Jacey' Wise** most kindly agreed to serialise here in *eDEN*. Thanks to a tip from **Walter Blanchard**, and the kindness of **Jerry Proc** himself for permission to publish, we have Jerry's first-class article on **radio finger-printing and TINA** – and if you don't know what TINA is, then read Jerry's excellent piece of research, visit his website, and answer if you are able his appeal for photos. Thence to the latest discoveries in tracing **Oboe's** missing man, **'Gav' Samson**, ZL4AI/ G5ZZ; here, **Grahame Fraser**, an excellent researcher of Gav Samson's life, has also this month contributed a superb paper on the **Norfolk Island radars and the Whangaroa Report**. This is followed by **J V Evans' Radio Communication via the Moon**, with thanks both to **Dr Brian Austin** for recommending this article and Prof John Evans for agreement to print (and do read John's impressive CV, from his early days at Jodrell to COMSAT!), following which this edition of *eDEN* concludes with our own **Rod Burman's** memories of his early years with **Perdio**. **Tailpiece** this month results from **Robert Soek's** spotting a very modern article on the question of landing those 'flying cars' so popular as a theme in the 1950s and undergoing quite a renaissance today, with implications for the use of **lasers in guidance and landing systems**; you heard it here first!

Part II this month consists of a major article by **Peter Marland**, whose earlier articles on post-war Naval developments were very well received. Peter covers in his meticulous style the story of **Post-war Fire Control in the Royal Navy**, a most engrossing story of the increasingly challenging threat environment for modern naval vessels and the computational, display and control systems used to counter those challenges, liberally

illustrated and, as is Peter's trademark style, precisely and fully referenced. **Tailpiece II** illustrates the external 'look' of the County class guided missile destroyers with HMS *Devonshire* and *Norfolk* acting as the type examples of Batch I and Batch II configurations.

Part III continues our printing of the original research into interwar communications funded between **Leeds University**, our President **Keith Thrower**, ourselves as **DEHS** and the **Communications and Electronics Museum Trust**. This month, we open with a request for any information on an interwar wavemeter, and then print an extract from one of Keith's theme papers for this project, covering **radio progress in the 1920s**; next month, we will print Keith's companion paper covering the 1930s. We next print, with in-text references inserted, the chapter by **Kapil Subramanian and Professor Graeme Gooday** from *Britain and the Widening War 1915 – 1916*, reproduced last month without references. **Tailpiece III** illustrates another of the British Army's important interwar transmitters, the **Wireless Set No 5**, a **Plessey** Lines-of-Communication set. Again, expect to see more such sets regularly featured in future months!

As always, suggestions for improvements, offers of articles and all general comments to me at [philjudkins@btinternet.com](mailto:philjudkins@btinternet.com) or [info@dehs.org.uk](mailto:info@dehs.org.uk).

Dr. Phil Judkins, DEHS Chairman.

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