

HIS MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE



MI6

MINISTRY OF INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT 6

Agent Briefing: Authorized Material

As of November, 1939, all trained and authorized MI6 personnel have a common awareness of the following people, places and organizations playing a role in European intelligence operations. The entries below include pronunciation guides where necessary, dates when certain people or organizations emerged on the espionage scene, and up-to-date information. Those terms appearing elsewhere in this briefing are indicated in bold. This information is classified Top Secret. Disclosure to unauthorized personnel is considered a breach of the Official Secrets Act and punishable to the full extent of the law.

A54: Top-secret **Abwehr** double-agent who began funneling information to **MI6** through Czech resistance fighters in 1934. Given the accuracy and importance of his intelligence, A54 seems to be a close confidante of **Abwehr** chief **Admiral Wilhelm Canaris**. A54's reports go directly to MI6 chief **Stuart Menzies**.

Abwehr: (*ob-vare*) (1921) Nazi military intelligence, from the German verb *abwehren* ("to ward off"). It was initially formed in 1921 as a counter-espionage organization (hence the meaning behind its name) as part of Germany's limited defense force allowed under the Treaty of Versailles. The Abwehr served under the Ministry of War until Hitler formed the **OKW**, which brought the intelligence agency under its wing. Led by **Admiral Wilhelm Canaris**, it is constantly in competition with **Heinrich Himmler's SS** (and related intelligence organizations). Abwehr headquarters is a dark warren of offices on Berlin's **Tirpitzufer**.

B-Dienst: (*bay-deenst*) (1919) Germany's cryptanalysis bureau (*Beobachtungsdienst*, or "Observation Service") begun after the Great War when naval code-breaking personnel were recalled to service. It is responsible for collecting intelligence on and breaking enemy codes and cyphers. The Nazi equivalent of **Bletchley Park**, B-Dienst's offices are located in Berlin.

B.P.: See **Bletchley Park**.

Bendlerstrasse: Street in Berlin where **Wehrmacht** headquarters is located. Often used to refer to the **Wehrmacht** or **OKW**.

Bletchley Park: (1939) Victorian-era mansion 50 miles north of London—between Cambridge and Oxford—which the British government uses for its Code and Cypher School. It's already growing into a huge complex of hastily erected buildings where intellectual talent from the nearby universities and around the world

work the giant mechanical calculating machines (bombes) in an attempt to decode enemy transmissions. **Commander Alastair Denniston** supervises the staff of 1,800. Bletchley Park is also called **Station X** and **B.P.** The facility is the designated evacuation headquarters for **MI6**.

Broadway: The London street where **MI6** headquarters is located. Often used to refer to MI6.

Canaris, Admiral Wilhelm: **Abwehr** chief appointed in 1935. A distinguished naval officer, he conducted intelligence operations in Spain during the Great War, evading capture several times. Canaris harbors a great rivalry with **Heinrich Himmler** and the **SS**. His shocking white hair earned him the nickname "Old Whitehead," though some called him "K" in reference to the Greek form of his last name (he is of Greek ancestry).

Clayton Hutton, Major Christopher: Designer of several concealed gadgets and weapons for **MI6**, including a needle-firing pen and cleverly hidden escape items.

Denniston, Commander Alastair: Head of **Bletchley Park's** government code and cypher school since 1921. He worked for Britain's code-breaking agency during the Great War.

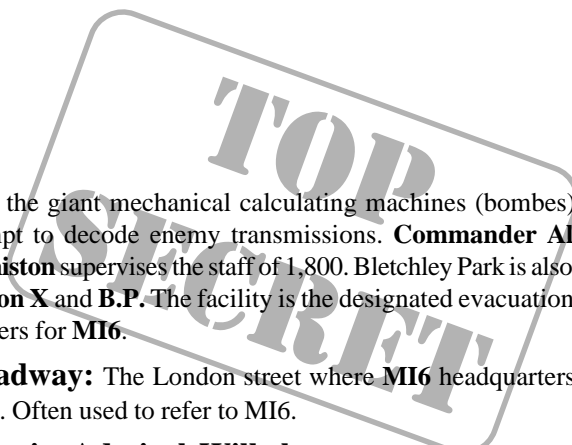
Downing Street: Street where Britain's Prime Minister lives. Often used to refer to the PM or his offices.

Fleming, Lieutenant Commander Ian: Former journalist and stockbroker who serves as personal assistant to the director of British naval intelligence.

Fraser-Smith, Charles: Creator of gadgets and concealed items used by **MI6**, including miniature cameras hidden in cigarette lighters and match boxes, maps concealed in fountain pens, and escape materials hidden in hair brushes. Sometimes called "Q" because his hidden items resemble Q-ships of the Great War—small armed frigates and corvettes disguised as merchant vessels.

Gestapo: **SS** internal security responsible for crushing all resistance to the Nazis both within Germany and in occupied territories. The name is an acronym for *Geheime Staatspolizei* ("Secret State Police"). Gestapo offices are located at **SS** headquarters on **Prinz Albrechtstrasse** in Berlin.

GRU: Soviet military intelligence.



Agent Briefing, continued...

Heydrich, Obergruppenführer Reinhard: (rine-hard hi-drich) Top man at the **RSHA** who oversees **SD** and **Gestapo** activities. A former naval officer who trained under **Admiral Wilhelm Canaris** (possibly accounting for the fierce rivalry between the **SS** and **Abwehr**), he quickly rose through the Nazi ranks, running several successful deception operations for the Gestapo before his promotion to **RSHA** chief. **MI6** suspects he was responsible for planning and executing various Nazi deceptions and atrocities, including the *Kristallnacht* riots against Jewish homes and businesses in 1938; the purge of several generals opposed to Hitler's plans for war; and the supposed "Polish" attack on a German radio tower used as an excuse for the Nazis to invade Poland. His fair features and hair, combined with his fierce and fanatical character, earned him the nickname of "The Blond Beast."

Himmler, Reichsführer SS Heinrich: Commander of the **SS**, overseer of foreign espionage and internal security operations, and potential successor to the Führer, this former Bavarian chicken farmer holds the fate of millions of Germans, foreigners and prisoners of war in his hands. With the awesome forces of the **SS**, **SD** operatives and the frightening **Gestapo**, he perpetuates his plots to forge a racially pure German Reich lasting 1,000 years. Only fools jokingly call him "Uncle Heini" behind his back (and far from the presence of anyone fanatically loyal to his **SS**). Your greatest adversary, perhaps even more fanatical and dangerous than the Führer himself.

Menzies, Colonel Stuart: (ming-iss) Director of **MI6** often called "C," the traditional nickname for **MI6**'s director. He took control of **MI6** in November 1939, after acting as chief while his predecessor, Admiral Sir Hugh Sinclair, lay dying. He schooled at Eton, served in the Army's Life Guards and fought in the Great War. Although he displays a smooth and polite exterior, it conceals a strong inner determination. The cultured English gentleman enjoys the club life, horse racing, and drinking.

MI5: British domestic counter-intelligence responsible for uncovering, capturing and exploiting enemy spies on English soil.

MI6: (1909) British foreign intelligence service (as opposed to **MI5**, responsible for British domestic counter-espionage) run by **Colonel Stewart Menzies**. (The chief of **MI6** was often called "C" for its first director, Mansfield Cumming.) **MI6** operations include cryptanalysis efforts to decode enemy communications, intelli-

gence-gathering missions within Nazi-held territory, and various other espionage endeavors throughout the war. The agency's offices are located on **Broadway**, in London's Whitehall district.

NKVD: Soviet intelligence organization responsible for internal security and police as well as international espionage.

OKW: *Oberkommando der Wehrmacht*, supreme German military high command, with offices at Berlin's **Bendlerstrasse**.

Prinz Albrechtstrasse: Street in Berlin on which the offices of the **SS**, **SD**, **Gestapo**, and **RSHA** are located. Often used to refer to those agencies.

RSHA: (1939) The *Reichssicherheitshauptamt* ("Reich Central Security Office") is the **SS** bureau responsible for overseeing all Nazi police and security organizations, including the **SD** and **Gestapo**. **Reinhard Heydrich** serves as director.

SD: *Sicherheitsdienst*, or "Security Service," for the Nazis, as administered under the **SS**. Commanded by **Reinhard Heydrich**, it serves as the intelligence branch of the **SS** in competition with the **Abwehr**. **SD** operations include foreign espionage and internal counter-intelligence. **SD** offices are located at **SS** headquarters on **Prinz Albrechtstrasse** in Berlin.

SS: (1929) Police force with military, political and intelligence agendas, led by **Reichsführer SS Heinrich Himmler**. The *Shutzstaffel* ("Protection Detachment") serves as personal bodyguard to Hitler and an elite military force (**Waffen SS**). **SS** personnel are screened for Aryan purity, swear an oath to protect and obey the Führer, and have their blood types tattooed on their left forearms to expedite medical treatment. **SS** offices are located on **Prinz Albrechtstrasse** in Berlin.

Station X: See **Bletchley Park**.

Tirpitzufer: (tir-pits-oo-fur) Street in Berlin where **Abwehr** headquarters is located. The term is often used to refer to the **Abwehr** or its offices.

Wehrmacht: (vare-macht) German term for the Nazi army, with headquarters at Berlin's **Bendlerstrasse**. Administered by the **OKW**, led by the Führer himself.

Whitehall: London district where the House of Parliament and other major government offices are located. Often used to refer to the British government.

This player hand-out represents a typical British **MI6** agent's knowledge at the start of World War II. Presented in glossary form for easy reference, it offers a quick summary of the people, places, and organizations in play at the start of the war.

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