Women Spies and Code Breakers

1840: Augusta Ada King

WWI: Elizbeth Smith Freedman **Code Breaker**

WWII: Bletchley Park **Code Breakers**

WWII: Agnes Meyer Driscoll **Code Breaker**

WWII: Virginia Hall **Spy**

WWII: Madame Fourcade **Spy**

WWII: Odette Sansom **Spy**

Post Cold War: Amaryllis Fox: **CIA Agent**
Women’s Role In Espionage

Women need men to direct them!

Who says so? MEN!

Myth or Fact?

Why do women make better spies?

Why are the best code breakers women?

We will explore these questions!
Common Traits: Women in this Course

- Fantastic instincts.
- Excellent organizers.
- Resourceful.
- Men accepted their leadership.
- Modest and avoided spotlight.
- Knew chance of survival was about 25%.
- Most had children.
- Not interested in fame or recognition.
Double Cross—WWII Spies

Ben Macintyre and Babs

Lily Sergeyov
Augusta Ada King

- December 10 1815- November 27, 1852: Born in London.

- Daughter of Lord Byron and mathematician Anne Isabella Milbanke.

- Learned mathematics, astronomy, literature and music at an early age.

- Influenced by English scientist Charles Babbage early on.

- Developed a mechanical analytical machine.
  - Could calculate algebraic functions and store numbers.
    - Calculated Bernoulli numbers.
  - First programmer in history.
  - Late 1970’s—Department of Defense developed first software language—called it **ADA**.

- First to see expanded uses for computers.

- A computer visionary.
What does this mean?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yFZGF8FHSg
Charles Babbage

Babbage Differential Machine
Code Machines
Code Machines

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2iRs4EAvWM
Elizbeth Smith Friedman

- Elizbeth was born August 26, 1892 in a small town of Huntington, Indiana.
- Her father, John Manon Smith, was a Civil War veteran.
  - Farmer and Republican politician.
  - He traced his American family back to 1682.
  - A relative arrived on the same ship as William Penn, a Quaker nobleman.
- Elizbeth wanted to go to college. Father wanted her to marry at a young age.
- 1911: Age 19 enrolled in Ohio’s Wooster College to study Greek and English literature.
  - Father would not pay, but gave her a loan at 6% interest.
  - Resented her father’s meanness the rest of her life.
- 1913: Mother diagnosed with cancer. Transferred to Hillsdale College, MI, only 100 miles from home.
- 1915: Graduated. Majored in English literature, minored in languages and applied sciences.
  - William Shakespeare and Alfred, Lord Tennyson were favorites.
- Elizbeth did coding at Wooster College.
- 1916 June: Went to Chicago looking for a challenging job as a researcher.
- **WHO REALLY WROTE WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE’S PLAYS?**
Col. George Fabyan

Gilded Age tycoon sponsored and inspired a "community of thinkers".
  • Changed how we wage wars and keep secrets.
  • How we transmit sound and design buildings.
  • How we stimulate scientific advances.

Riverbank Laboratories on his estate.

George Fabyan was unique among millionaires.

Fabyan created perhaps the first independent research center. Laid the foundation for the top-secret National Security Agency.

  • Helped end World War I by breaking German codes.
    • Capturing foreign terrorists.
  • Developed more effective trench mortars.
Fortuitous Meeting

• An employment agency sent Elizabeth to Newberry Library in Chicago.
  • She learned about eccentric millionaire Colonel George Fabyan
  • He was seeking a cryptographer to analyze Shakespeare’s works to prove they were written by Sir Francis Bacon.
• This aligned so closely with her own interests that it seemed almost too good to be true.

• Colonel Fabyan offered Elizabeth a job and she moved to Riverbank, his 600 acre estate in Geneva, Illinois.
  • There she found about 150 other researchers studying a wide range of subjects.

• Met William Friedman, Ph.D. qualified geneticist hired by Colonel Fabyan to study principle of heredity.
  • immigrated as a young boy with his parents to escape persecution as Jews and famine in Russia.
  • Elizabeth and William earned $30 a month, including room and board.

• Elizabeth introduced William to cryptography and they were soon searching together for secret messages in Shakespeare’s plays.
  • A long time Riverbank employee, Elizabeth Wells Gallop, specialized in decoding Shakespeare’s plays.
  • She set out to prove that his plays were actually written by Sir Francis Bacon.
  • Gallop and others believed that that there was a secret code in work attributed to Shakespeare that proved that Bacon was the author.
  • Colonel Fabyan had Elizabeth and William work with Gallop.

• They applied coding techniques to the works in question and debunked Gallop’s theory.
A Marriage Made in Coding

- Colonel Fabyan’s Riverbank was active in war related research when WWI broke out.
  * The first code breaking in the U.S. was done there.
  * Elizbeth and William quietly married in May 1917.

- Elizbeth and William created modern code breaking by utilizing new analytical methods.
- Annoyed with Colonel Fabyan’s unpredictable temper and controlling attitude.
  * Sent letters to Washington, DC offering their codebreaking services, but never heard back.
  * Later learned he had intercepted and read their incoming mail and destroyed job offers from the military.
  * Fayban installed hidden microphones to spy on them and ruin their plans to leave.

- Started together, but eventually had separate distinctive careers.
  * 1918: William finally made it to the Army Signal Corps. Decoded German messages.
  * Elizebeth not allowed to accompany him as a policy of men only serving overseas.
- Elizebeth remained at Riverbank breaking codes.
- After the war, William stayed in France for another year.
- 1920: left Colonel Fabyan forever and both worked for the Army Signal Corp.
A Marriage Made in Coding-2

• She gave birth to two children in the 1920s, a girl and then a boy.
  • Government agents kept showing up on her doorstep, asking her to break codes for various departments, and the only way to make them go away was to say “Yes.”

• 1925: Elizebeth became special agent of U.S. Treasury as cryptanalyst on condition she worked from home.
  • They were trying to enforce prohibition.
  • High profile Prohibition era cases.
    • Liquor smugglers used sophisticated codes and ciphers to hide their operations.
  • Elizebeth broke these codes and testified in court cases against gangsters, including Al Capone and three of his men.
    • In first three months decoded messages that had remained unbroken for previous two years.
  • Needed bodyguards when trying mob cases in court.

• In 1931 she launched and headed a new code-breaking unit within the Coast Guard.
The Coast Guard Intelligence Office

- Captain Charles S. Root
- RDF technology
- Elizbeth Friedman

Coast Guard radio direction finder
Coast Guard _ 2
Elizebeth and the FBI

• What did Elizebeth do during the war?
  • Her main job was catching spies.

• Nazi espionage was a serious problem in neutral South American nations.
  • German agents used the same codes and radio techniques as rum-runners.

• The FBI didn’t know how to break the codes, but Elizebeth did.
  • The FBI relied on her Coast Guard unit to track Nazi spy networks.

• Elizabeth was the FBI’s secret weapon.
  • Her unit broke the codes on about 50 Nazi radio circuits, including at least two protected with Enigma machines.
  • J. Edgar Hoover stole the credit.

• He manufactured a myth that the FBI had done it all, shoving Elizebeth aside.
  • Sexism helped to erase Elizebeth Friedman from the stories of how the war was won.

• Another factor was secrecy.
  • Elizebeth’s records were stamped “TOP SECRET ULTRA” and classified for 50 years.

• She entered what she called “a vast dome of silence.”
The Cold War

The Cold War changed their lives.
• After World War II, alarm about the Soviet Union led to creation of the National Security Agency to monitor global threats.
• William was closely involved in the early days of the agency and generations of NSA code breakers
• Learned the trade from William’s textbooks.
• Included the techniques he and Elizebeth invented.
• She shut down her Coast Guard unit after the war.

The NSA betrayed them.
• During the ’50s, as the agency grew, William worried that it was becoming too secretive.
  • They classified all kinds of documents that he thought should be public.

• Finally, the NSA turned on the Friedman’s,
  • They kept a private library of books and unclassified papers about secret writing.

• In 1958 the NSA sent agents to the Friedman's’ house on Capitol Hill and confiscated dozens of papers from their library.
  • Even old papers going all the way back to World War I.

How did the Friedman’s react?
• They were angry, humiliated that the government would treat them as security threats when they’d spent their careers serving their country.
The Friedman’s Personal Papers

William Friedman
• William did not leave what was left of his personal archive to the Library of Congress.
  • He gave it to the private Marshall Foundation library.
  • He and Elizebeth worked for years annotating the files for the benefit of historians.
• William died in 1969, but Elizebeth completed the project.

Elizebeth Friedman
• Elizebeth donated 22 boxes of her own documents to the Marshall library
  • She had not annotated them.
  • They didn’t attract a great deal of attention.

• Jason Fagone, author of “The Woman Who Smashed Codes” and reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle.
  • After the Edward Snowden story broke, he learned of the National Security Agencies' origins (NSA).
  • Fagone found a brief reference to Elizebeth and her collection.

• Intrigued, he wanted to know more about her.

How should Elizebeth be remembered?
• Fagone believed that Elizebeth should be remembered as a heroine of WWII.
  • A pioneering technologist.
  • One of the greatest code breakers of all time.
Bletchley Park

- 100th Anniversary of GCHQ, once called Government Code and Cipher School. (GC&CS).
- Initially staffed by “Men of professor type”, particularly mathematicians.
- Need dictated the use of women.
  - From ruling-class families who knew each other.
- 1945—a staff of nearly 10,000 –75% were women, many civilian.
  - Six out of ten were in uniform.
  - Many Americans were brought over.
- Joan Clarke, Alan Turing’s fiancé’, best known of the women coders.
- German military did not know that Britain had decoded the Enigma Machine, which Hitler believed to be impossible.
- Lady Jean was a 19-year-old Scottish aristocrat and debutante.
- She had been tipped off about a “hush, hush mission at Bletchley Park” by her father’s friend, Lord Mountbatten.
Pamela Rose

- Actress Pamela Rose received a letter from an “interfering godmother”.
  - If girls’ education was rarely a priority between the wars, an upper-class focus on being accomplished and attending foreign finishing schools certainly had its advantages.

- Pamela’s understanding of German, for example, was deemed to be useful for filing decrypted messages.

- For that work she sacrificed her first role on the West End.
- Still alive at the time of writing and thriving at 101.

- She was one of the very few examples of women being promoted from “humdrum roles”. Pamela became head of Naval Indexing, a section that has subsequently been hailed as a precursor of the Information Age.

- Co-ordinating vital fact-finding forays long before the advent of the microchip.

- She remains modest about her wartime achievements. “I think I was promoted because I couldn’t type!

- Yes I suppose most of the Heads of Sections meetings were with men. I was given my own room and had some responsibility but I missed the girls’ chatter.”
Pat Davies

• While she was not based at Bletchley, Pat was a Wren in the Y Service, which saw her move between three English coastal locations.

• Her final listening post was Abbot’s Cliff in Kent.

• At the age of 95, Pat remains a tireless champion of her secret war work: lectures, theatre tours, television appearances, she uses any means available to explain her time at the coalface of Britain’s massive interception mission.

• “Doing this work at an early age meant my life went down a totally different track.
  
  • Before the war, my parents said ‘we can’t afford to send you to university’, but in the end I went to three of the very top ones.”
  • Pat studied at St Andrews, Oxford and Harvard.
  
  • After, she embarked on a stellar media career as a producer in the then-new medium of television.
Pat Davies - The Listener

- Patricia Davies spent World War II listening - spending hours at a time trying to pick voices from squealing static.
- Davies was one of a room full of women scouring the radio waves and scribbling down nonsensical monologues.
- These messages were orders destined for German sub-marine bases on the west coast of France or ships in the Baltic Sea.
- Davies was a member of the Wrens who were capturing these communications and sending them by teleprinter to the code breakers at Bletchley Park, aka Station-X.
- The seemingly random jumble of letters were a code produced by the Enigma machine, which took the German messages and scrambled the letters in quintillions of different ways.
- German orders weren't just spoken but also sent as Morse code, and the series of long and short beeps the Germans used to open these messages stayed with Davies.
- "They had a code that all ships used for heading and signing off, that always began with three letter groups, beginning with the letter Q."
- Davies remembers messages carried by radio waves that had bounced off the earth's ionosphere giving them intercontinental range. "We even accidentally picked up radio signals that didn't seem to fit into the German naval pattern," she said. "It turned out they were German tanks on the Russian front talking to each other. It was, of course, of no interest, but was rather eerie."
A 95-year-old former Royal Navy Wren has spoken of her pride at being awarded France's highest honour for her role in D-Day.
Patricia Davies was 18 years old when she joined the Women's Royal Naval Service, where she became the ears of the code-breaking operation.
The former Chief Petty Officer was honoured on Tuesday by the French Ambassador of London with the Légion d'Honneur - the highest French decoration and one of the most famous in the world.
- As a fluent German-speaker, Ms Davies became a translator and her job was to intercept coded messages from the German Naval ships - which was a role of great significance.
Revealing the intense pressures of the role, she told ITV News: "You are aware that these messages mattered and it could be life and death. "We were aware it was a very important job and one you had to get right so if you had any doubts you left it blank, you don't make a guess, ever!"
In 1944 she was working in Dover when she had an unexpected encounter with the then prime minister, Winston Churchill.
"I came out of a direction-finding hut one morning to find Winston Churchill walking up the cliff with the lost farming officers so I waved and said 'Oh hello, good morning'."
Bletchley Park Massages Helped
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**AMERICAN**

- 2/4: Indian Ocean
- 1/5: JAPAN (1001 1058 Z/L)
- 4/5: in TP waters (1013 12:14 Z/L)
- 7/5: Continues at sea at KAGOSHIMA exercising with target ship SATTU - 1013 12:14 Z/L

**SOURCES:**

- British
- American

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- 2/4: prob. 1058 Z/L
- 4/5: prob. in TP waters (1013 12:14 Z/L)
- 7/5: Continues at sea at KAGOSHIMA exercising with target ship SATTU - 1013 12:14 Z/L
College Girls and Teachers

- Recruited by the U.S. Army and Navy from small towns and elite colleges, more than ten thousand women served as codebreakers during World War II.
  - Shortage of men.
  - Called presidents of Ivy League women’s schools first.
  - Expanded to college students and high school teaches as need rapidly grew.
- 70% of Army—80% of Navy code breakers were women.
- A strict vow of secrecy nearly erased their records of their efforts from history.
- Said they were doing low-level office tasks. (Including own families).
- Housed in DC and Arlington, VA.
- Ran early IBM computers.
- Involved complex math linguistics.
Some of the Girls

Virginia D. Aderholt---First to learn of beginning of WWII. Deciphered and translated Japanese message to Switzerland declaring their unconditional surrender.

Agnes Meyer Driscoll—died January 10, 2016, age 94.

Dot Braden—October 1943 –23 year old from Lynchburg, VA.
   “I didn’t know where I was going or what for. I really didn’t care,” said Bruce, who was recruited in 1943. “I just thought, ‘Oh well, I finished Randolph-Macon, I can do anything’.”

   Fantastic memory.

Ann Caracristi---rose through the NSA ranks to become the first female deputy director.
Agnes Meyer Driscoll

- Born 1889 died 1971.
  - 1911---received A.B. degree from Ohio State University. Majored in mathematics, physics, foreign languages and music.

- One of true “originals” in American cryptology.
  - Chief Yeoman-highest position available for a woman.

  - William and Elizbeth Friedman started there.

  - Herbert O. Yardley—Cipher Bureau (American Black Chamber).
    - First U. S. peacetime code-breaking agency.
    - Disguised as a commercial enterprise.

  - Co-developed Communications Machine (CM).
  - Shared $15,000 U. S. Congress award with coinventor's widow.

- 1921-1922---Washington Naval Conference.
  - Decrypting of Japanese communications led to advantageous American bargaining position during naval arms negotiations.
Agnes Meyer Driscoll--2

- As Navy cryptanalyst, broke many Japanese codes and developed early machine systems.
  - 1920’s—Red Book Code.
  - 1930’s—Blue Book Code.
  - 1940’s—critical inroads to JN-25, Japanese fleet’s operational code.
    - Exploited after Pearl Harbor for the rest of the war.

- M-1 cipher machine (ORANGE machine). Used by diplomatic core.
  - Uncovered two American spies secretly passing information to the Japanese.

- Led early efforts against German naval Enigma machine.

- After WWI—continued as a civilian in same department.

- 1937—Injured in car accident. Never fully recovered, but returned to work in 1939.
  - Broke the JN-25 code. A system of over 30,000 five-number groups.
  - Not fully exploited until late 1942.
    - Advanced warning for attack on Midway Island.

- 1940---transferred from JM-25 to breaking German Naval codes, focusing on *Enigma*.

- 1943---moved to work on new Japanese attaché machine.
  - Filled many positions until retirement from National Security Agency in 1959.

Dot Braden (Bruce)

- In 2014 “The Imitation Game” story of British cryptanalyst Alan Turing sparked a renewed interest in America’s code breakers.

- Mostly American men, but many young non-collage women from the South and Midwest flooded Washington DC.

- Raised with importance of education.
  - All four of her children attended college.

- High school—active in clubs and sports.

- 1942—graduated Randolph Macon Women’s College. 4% for women at the time.

- 1943---Taught high school for one year. Left due to continually increasing work load with no increase in pay.

- 1943---recruited as a code breaker. “I just graduated Randolph-Macon, I can do anything”.

- Broke messages relating to Japanese Army’s routing of supply ships, which transported everything from food, oil and medicine to soldiers.

- Information was so timely, Dot and co-workers knew of Japan’s surrender on August 14, 1945 before President Truman’s announcement at 7 PM.
Dot Braden (Bruce)-2

• Even after the war, Bruce knew there would be severe consequences if she revealed the true nature of her work. She still remembers the words from a letter sent to her from the War Department in 1946 that states, “You must never disclose this to anyone in your lifetime.”

• Dot Braden took this very seriously.

• “Code Girls” author Liza Mundy said that it took a long time to convince Dot that it was OK to talk about her wartime experiences. Still, she insisted that her son, a lawyer, be present.
At Work and Play
Ann Caracristi

• Career in cryptology began during WWII in the Army.
  • After brief civilian career after the war, joined NSA’s predecessor organizations.

• Chief of Research and Operations 1975-1980.
  • A Group (Soviet issues).
  • Provided career support to other cryptanalysts.

• Chaired special panel convened by NSA Director Admiral Bobby Ray Inman to identify next generation of likely NSA senior executives.

• April 1980-August 1982—NSA’s sixth Deputy Director.

• 1982--Retired from NSA.

• Remained active on several panels convened by various components of the Intelligence Community.

• 1989-1991: president of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers.
Virginia Hall

  - Father died young of a heart attack. Instilled in Virginia the will to succeed.

- Mother very society conscious and expected Virginia to marry well.

- Education: Roland Park Country School, Radcliff College.

- First Allied woman deployed behind enemy lines in France during WWII.  
  - A British Special Operations Executive (SOE).
  - Revolutionized secret warfare.

- Lit flame of the French Resistance—General De Gaulle took credit and denied any role for women or non-French in resistance movement.

- Known as the “Limping Lady”. Most wanted by the Gestapo. Klaus Barbie “Butcher of Leon” put her wanted poster all over France, dead or alive.

- Married Paul Gaston Goillot—worked together during latter part of WWII.

- Post war—intelligence analyst of French parliamentary affairs (Special Activities Division) of the Central Intelligence Agency—CIA.
Early Life

• Attended Radcliff (Harvard) and Barnard College in New York.

• Virginia Hall moved across Europe with the support of her parents.
  • Studied in Germany, Austria and France. She was an enthusiast of modern languages and learned German, French and Italian.

• Wanted a career in Consular Service, but was continually rebuffed as a woman.

• In 1931 she joined the American Embassy as a Consular Service clerk in Warsaw, Poland.
  • She aimed to work at the US State Department to pursue a career in Foreign Service.

• Continually rebuffed.

• Turkey 1932--an unfortunate hunting accident when she mistakenly shot her left leg, which was amputated below the knee.

• She called her wooden leg “Cuthbert’ and carried on as if normal (weighed 7 pounds).

• In 1939 she was forced to resign from the US State Department.
  • Restricted employment of anyone with "any amputation of a portion of a limb".

• She later studied in Washington, DC at the ‘American University’.
Career

- Outbreak of WWII—was staying in France, which she considered her second home.
  - Became a driver in the Ambulance Service Unit. Fearless under fire.
- May 1940—escaped to England when the Nazis invaded.
  - Chance meeting led to an interview with British intelligence.
- June 1940—Position as a code clerk opened at the US War Department
- 1941—Inducted as special agent in British SOE (Special Operations Executive).
  - Went back to France undercover as a New York Post reporter. (code name Mary)
  - Established a defiance network in Vichy for the next fifteen months.
- 1942—Based in Lyon. Later in the year, Germans captured France. Aroused their suspicions and fled to Spain over the Pyrenees through hip-deep snow.
  - Transmitted message that was she OK, but Cuthbert was giving her a bit of trouble.
  - Advised to eliminate him if necessary. **(Had 007 license to kill).**
Return to France

- Immediately arrested for entering Spain illegally.
  - Jailed for six weeks until got word to American officials in Barcelona.

- March 1944---Joined Special Operations Branch of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS).
  - Returned to France on March 21 by British military boat.
  - Could not parachute due to artificial leg.
  - Disguised as an old lady.
    - Changed teeth filling to look French.

- Led a network of 1,500 people.
  - Paul Goillot, French-American, became her husband.
  - Blew up

- During her hike over the Pyrenees, Virginia sent a message back to SOE HQ that she was fine but that “Cuthbert” was giving her trouble.
  - Their reply: “If Cuthbert is giving you difficulty, have him eliminated.”
After the War

• After the end of the war, the French government awarded her the *Croix de Guerre avec Palme*.

• The British made her a Member of the Order of the British Empire.

• U.S. General William Donovan presented her with the Distinguished Service Cross.
  • President Truman wanted to present her the award, but Virginia did not want any publicity that might undermine her cover.

  • CIA Director Allen Dulles tried marginalize Virginia.
  • Had no use for savvy women agents who did not use “gung ho” tactics.

• April 1961 Cuba--failed Bay of Pigs operation.
  • Virginia commented that it would never have happened on her watch.
  • She was known for meticulous planning.
  • Bay of Pigs—a rushed operation with little, but very faulty planning.

• Virginia is only woman among five CIA agents on their Wall of Honor.

• E. Howard Hunt said, "No one knew what to do with her. She was a sort of an embarrassment to the noncombat CIA types, by which I mean bureaucrats."

• Virginia and Paul retired to a farm in Barnesville, MD. Paul lived 5 years longer.
Ville de Paris

État civil

Bulletin de naissance

Mairie du 5e arrondissement

Bulletin de naissance

Nom: Montagne
Prénoms: Marcelle
Naissance: 3 mars 1910, à Paris 8e

Fille de Clément Montagne, profession agent commercial,
Et de Rosette Alliotte, profession sans
Demeurant à 5, rue des Sources, Vichy (Ardèche)

Délivré à Paris, le 24 février 1942
All In A Day’s Work

- Virginia’s niece, Lorna Catling, told CNN that Virginia was not interested in fame or recognition.

- Loved the excitement of it all.
  - An outdoors woman.

- How did a young woman from wealth become so adept at being a super spy?
  - Natural instinct and common sense.

- An excellent organizer.
  - Although her spy networks were compromised, agents in place helped with the D-Day invasion.
  - Got $$$$$ to agents and officials when needed. Many currencies.

  - Planned many prison breaks to free agents.

  - Set up network of radio operators. (Most vulnerable of all agents). Triangulation a new technique.

  - Strangers risked their lives to help her.

- Sent a woman SOE agent back when asked where she could get a perm.

- Taught American downed flyers to not walk bow-legged.
All In A Day’s Work-2

• Virginia mapped out and called in airdrops for the French Resistance.
  • Blew up bridges.
  • Attacked Nazi convoys.
  • Sabotaged trains.
  • Reclaimed entire villages before Allied troops advanced deep into France.
  • Often worked right under Nazi’s noses.

Not Everything Went Well

• Many agents disobeyed orders.
  • Caught with list of spies in pocket.
  • Did not end radio message with personal sign-off code.
  • Operated wireless radio’s too long.

• Trusted German agent against her gut feelings.
  • Alesch—Double agent, passed as a priest.
    • Exposed most French spy networks.
  • Virginias's one mistake cost many lives.
  • Lab upstairs used as a drop-off.
A Climb to Freedom:

- Craig R. Gyrally personally followed Virginia Hall’s winter mountain escape to Spain.
- Most residents in the area did not know her area even where the trail up through the Pyrenees started.
- He commented that it was a difficult climb even in warm weather.
Madam Fourcade

• In December 1940, the operations chief of France’s largest spy network walked into a bar in the port city of Marseille to recruit a source.

• The potential recruit was named Gabriel Rivière. He was a burly, mustachioed man who knew more about maritime traffic in the Mediterranean than anyone in town, and as he stared at the spymaster, his jaw hit the floor.

• “Good God!” he shouted. “It’s a woman!”

• If this sounds familiar—IT IS! A French Virginia Hall.
Madam Fourcade’s Team

**Marie-Madeleine Fourcade**
- 1941, elegant, beautiful mother of two.
- Leader of largest and most important spy network in wartime France.
- Provided Allies with top level information for D-Day.

**Leon Faye**
- Dashing, charismatic former Air Force pilot.
- Fourcade’s second in command in 1942.
- Marie officially the head, Leon deputy. Unofficially, shared the command.
- They were very close.

**Robert Douin**
- Sculptor and artist in Normandy.
- Headed Alliance sector
- Provided information on German coastal defenses for D-Day.
- Bicycled with teen-age son up the coast making sketches.
- Hand-drawn 55-foot map sent to London.

**Robert Lynen**
- France’s most celebrated child actor.
- Courier in Alliance’s Marselle headquarters.
- Did radio transmission while on theatrical tour across France.
- Radio and secret documents hidden in costume trunk.
- Said was his “finest role”.

[Images of Marie-Madeleine Fourcade, Leon Faye, Robert Douin, Robert Lynen]
Madam Fourcade’s Team_2

Jeannie Rousseau
• Working as a German-speaking translator for a French firm.
• 24-years old.
• Flirted with German officers in Paris and teased out information on new weapons.
• V1 flying bomb and V2 rockets.
• Prevented their use on D-Day.

Monique Bontinck
• Fourcade’s young personal courier and assistant.
• A British radio operator who worked for Alliance said, “She performed with icy pluck mind-boggling acts with skill of a secret agent.
• They later married.

Georges Loustanau-Lacau
• Former French military intelligence officer and ex-aide to Marshall Philippe Petain.
• Founded top Alliance network in fall of 1940.
• Known as “Navarre”.
• Brilliant and. Reckless with rebellious streak.
• Captured in 1941 by Viche police.
• Replaced by Marie.

Jacques Stosskopf
• Naval engineer at Lorien submarine base in Brittany.
• Thought to be a Nazi collaborator, but was a brilliant spy.
• Provided intelligence about German U-boats for three years.
• Jeannie Rousseau
Odette Sansom: Code Name Lisa

- Born in France, Odette was married to an Englishman who died in battle in France.

- Responding to a British Army appeal for photos of the French coastline, Odette mailed a set of old holiday snapshots to the War Office.
  - When asked to appear in person, she went to the office of the SOE by mistake.

- As a result, Odette was approached to serve as a British agent in France during the Nazi occupation.
- Under the guidance of Capt. Peter Churchill and French resistance soldier Arnaud Odette's ability to blend in as a typical French citizen was put to excellent use by Allied intelligence.
- Odette was eventually found out and subjected to brutal torture by Gestapo Col. Henri (Marius Goring).
- Odette never gave up any information on her work.

- She was then sentenced to death in a concentration camp, and when American forces arrived to liberate the compound, Odette was held hostage by the camp's Commandant Alfred Schieske, believing that she was too valuable to let go.
  - He packed a picnic basket and drove her into the woods towards the advancing American lines in the hope that Odette vouch for him.
  - Instead, she denounced him as a war criminal and he was arrested.
Odette Sansom and Peter Churchill

- Did not have a happy marriage with first husband Roy.
  - He was killed serving in the war when Odette joined SOE.

- When she and Roy Sansom divorced and she married Peter Churchill it completed a Hollywood ending, although that marriage ended in divorce too. She later married Geoffrey Hallowes, who had also served in the SOE.
Sergeant Hugo "Colonel Henri" Bleicher

- Born in Germany in 1899.
- Recruited by Abwehr (German military intelligence) during WWII for his knowledge of French and Spanish.
  - Referred to as Colonel, but never rose above rank of sergeant.
- Ruthlessly pursued anyone who opposed German domination.
- Bleicher disabled the Franco-Polish “Interallie” spy network.
  - Captured Roman Czemiawski and some of his headquarters staff including Mathilde Carne, who had contacts with the Vichy 2 Bureau.
  - March 1943 arrested Andre Marsac. Resistance member known as Carte.
  - Masquerading on his own as a German Colonel attempting to defect to the Allies.
    - Deceived Andre Marsac and got his associate Rodger Bardet to become a double agent.
    - Marsac was a courier for the French resistance organization CARTE.
- Bardet betrayed SOE agents Peter Churchill and Odette Sansom. Arrested in April 1943.
- Sansom was brutally treated. Saved because Germans believed Peter was a relative of British PM Winston Churchill.
- Bleicher betrayed many French agents, many who died in German concentration camps.
- After the war, arrested in Amsterdam by Dutch intelligence and transferred to UK on June 16, 1945.
Sergeant Hugo "Colonel Henri" Bleicher-2

• Hugo Bleicher, together with two of his French Abwehr agents Jean Rocquefort and Francois Barbier, was arrested in Amsterdam on 15 May 1945 by the Dutch NBS (intelligence).

• Interrogated him for two weeks on his activities in the Netherlands before handing him over to the first Canadian Army. who interrogated him for a further period, also on his operations in the Netherlands, before handing him over to the British authorities, who transferred him on 16 June 1945 to the UK for longer term interrogation at Camp 020.

• He was handed over to the French government on 12 October 1945, and they subsequently placed him on trial and imprisoned him.

• While imprisoned in Paris he met Bardet and told him he had planned to assassinate him on one occasion as Bardet knew too much against him.

• In 1954, he published his memoirs, Colonel Henri’s story.

• Bleicher (sometimes misreported as Bliechert) actively employed the aliases Jean Verbeck and Colonel Henri (often misreported as Colonel Heinrich).

• He held, but never used, identity papers in the name of Jean Castel. He landed in the UK under the Canadian supplied alias of Charles Davidson, and has been misreported as using the names von Stahlen, Henri Bothereau or Gottschalk. He was decorated by the Abwehr with the War Merit Cross 1st Class for his services.
Noor Inayat Khan

- Khan was a wartime British secret agent of Indian descent.
- First female radio operator sent into Nazi-occupied France by the Special Operations Executive (SOE).
- She was arrested and eventually executed by the Gestapo.

- 1914-1944 Born in Moscow to an Indian father and American mother.
- Direct descendant of Tipu Sultan, 18th century Muslim ruler of Mysore.
- Father was a musician and Sufi teacher.
  - Moved family to Paris, then London after the fall of France.
- November 1940—joined the WAAF (Women’s Auxiliary Air Force).
- Late 1942—joined SOE (Special Operations Officer)
  - Some questioner her stability. (Not uncommon among recruits).

- June 1943—flown to France as a radio operator in “Prosper” resistance network. (highest mortality rate of any category). Code name Madeleine.
  - Many network members arrested shortly after, but Khan elected to stay in France.
  - October 1943—betrayed by a French woman and arrested by Gestapo.
    - Unwisely kept copies of her secret signals. Germans were able to trick London into sending new agents directly into German hands.
- Captured, escaped many times. Finally sent to Pforzheim prison in Germany. Tortured and kept in chains.
  - Transferred with three other female SOE agents to Dachau and executed.
- For her courage, Noor Khan was posthumously awarded the George Cross in 1949.
Amaryllis Fox-CIA

- Oxford undergraduate studying theology and international law.
  - Mentor Daniel Pearl was captured and beheaded in Afghanistan.
  - Galvanized by this—applied to Georgetown's School of Foreign Service.
    - Master's program in conflict and terrorism.

- As part of the program, Ms. Fox designed an algorithm ("ratio of hookah bars to madrassas and percentage beneath livable wage a border guard gets paid") to identify likely terrorist safe havens. The C.I.A. headquarters in Langley, Va., heard about "the algo" and recruited Amaryllis, who at 22 became one of the youngest female officers.

- The agency assigned her to "nonofficial cover," meaning an agent must live abroad "in the most dangerous places the planet has to offer" under a false identity with no diplomatic protections or official passport.

- When Amaryllis’ first daughter, Zoe, was born, she was living undercover with her husband, both of them pretending to be art entrepreneurs in Shanghai.

- The Chinese spied on the couple, including installing a live-in housekeeper who was an informant.
  - The C.I.A. spied on the Chinese spying on their spies.
  - Amaryllis commented "The only way to handle being watched is to give the watchers nothing to see,"

- The C.I.A. even briefed the couple to have "sex regularly, but not too regularly, keep it hot but not too hot."
Amaryillis Fox: Human Compassion

Amaryillis was a tough field operative, but she specifically chose interactions that were very calm and soulful.

Leader of a Qaeda terrorist cell planted a bomb in London.

A meeting of the principle players was held in a building near by.
   Amaryillis, holding her 2-year old daughter Zoe, who had a runny nose. His infant daughter wheezes in the background.
   Amaryillis recommended clove oil, a home remedy that worked for Zoe.

He gives Amaryillis a look of knowing sympathy, parent to parent.

Amaryillis offers some of her daughter’s medicine. Samples it to show it is safe.

**The attack never happens.**
Amaryllis Fox and Spy Craft

• Purpose is not to defeat the enemy, but to understand them.

• Spy tricks have been updated for the 21st century.

• Forget archaic methods such as writing chalk on brick walls.

• Real spies carry “Rolaids to make signal marks on bricks.
  • It’s less incriminating than chalk, in case of capture and search.

• In successfully recruiting a source or convincing terrorists to call off an attack, Amaryllis recognizes that “everybody believes that they are the good guy.”

• Signal a meeting by giving a Starbucks gift card to an asset.
  • If you need to see me, buy a coffee.
  • The agent then checks the balance on the card online.
  • If it’s depleted, goes to the meeting.

• Befriends a Yakov, Hungarian arms dealer.
  • He agrees she can contact him at anytime.
Amaryllis had followed Yakov as she was hoping to stop an arms sale.
   She was struck by his beautiful voice.
   Had a melancholy feel.

She learned about Yakov’s anger, love and respect for his grandfather, who was killed fighting for his beliefs. Once Amaryllis got to know Yakov, she turned him to spy for her.

Arranges meeting with terrorist cell in Karachi Pakistan jungle to avert a major attack.
   Suspected of preparing to unleash a radioactive, or “dirty” bomb.

He agrees to a one hour window for the meeting.

- Requires proof of who she is.
- Can call someone for confirmation.

- Calls Yankov, a Hungarian arms dealer she met and befriended in London.
  - Luckily, he answered.
  - If not, she would probably have been killed.
Amaryllis Fox Meets Aung San Suu Kyi

- Amaryllis, at age 19, had secret meeting Aung San Suu Kyi that was arranged by the democracy movement.

- Aung San Suu Kyi was under house arrest. Amaryllis had been carried in and out in a rug or large bag.

- Smuggled out a film and had it aired in Thailand.
  - Warned that Amaryllis would be detained and then deported. It happened.

- Started to wrap film around Bic pens to be placed in a concealment device.
  - Fine for the film you want them to find.
  - Kyi wrapped the film up smaller than a tampon and told Amaryllis that the bathroom was down the hall.

- This tiny woman used the truth to bring the entire military dictatorship to its knees.

- Tape was broadcast by the BBC back into Burma.

- It was the idea that truth can be more powerful than military force.

- Helped shape Amaryllis' aspirations in the world.
Amaryllis Fox-CIA & More-3

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  - Mentor Daniel Pearl was captured and beheaded in Afghanistan.
  - Galvanized by this—applied to Georgetown's School of Foreign Service.
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- As part of the program, Ms. Fox designed an algorithm ("ratio of hookah bars to madrassas and percentage beneath livable wage a border guard gets paid") to identify likely terrorist safe havens. The C.I.A. headquarters in Langley, Va., heard about “the algo” and recruited Ms. Fox, who at 22 became one of the youngest female officers.
- The agency assigned her to “nonofficial cover,” meaning an agent must live abroad “in the most dangerous places the planet has to offer” under a false identity with no diplomatic protections or official passport, Ms. Fox writes.

- When Ms. Fox’s first daughter, Zoe, was born, she was living undercover with her husband, both of them pretending to be art entrepreneurs in Shanghai.
  - The Chinese spied on the couple, including installing a live-in housekeeper who was an informant.
  - The C.I.A. spied on the Chinese spying on their spies.

- “The only way to handle being watched is to give the watchers nothing to see,” Ms. Fox writes.

- The C.I.A. even briefed the couple to have “sex regularly, but not too regularly, keep it hot but not too hot.”
Amaryllis Fox’s Husbands

- Oxford undergraduate studying theology and international law.
  - Mentor Daniel Pearl was captured and beheaded in Afghanistan.
  - Galvanized by this—applied to Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service.
    - Master’s program in conflict and terrorism.

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Amaryllis Fox Interview

• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUZvS4sX0kM

• This is an hour long interview with Mina Kim of World Affairs.

• It gives excellent incite into how she combined a sense of humanity with her dangerous career as a spy master for the CIA.