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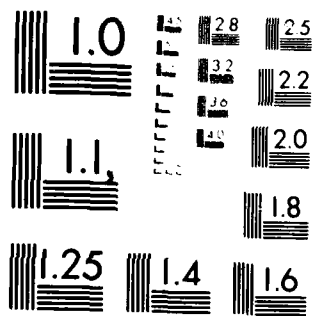
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TRICKERY IS NO VICE IN MILITARY OPERATIONS



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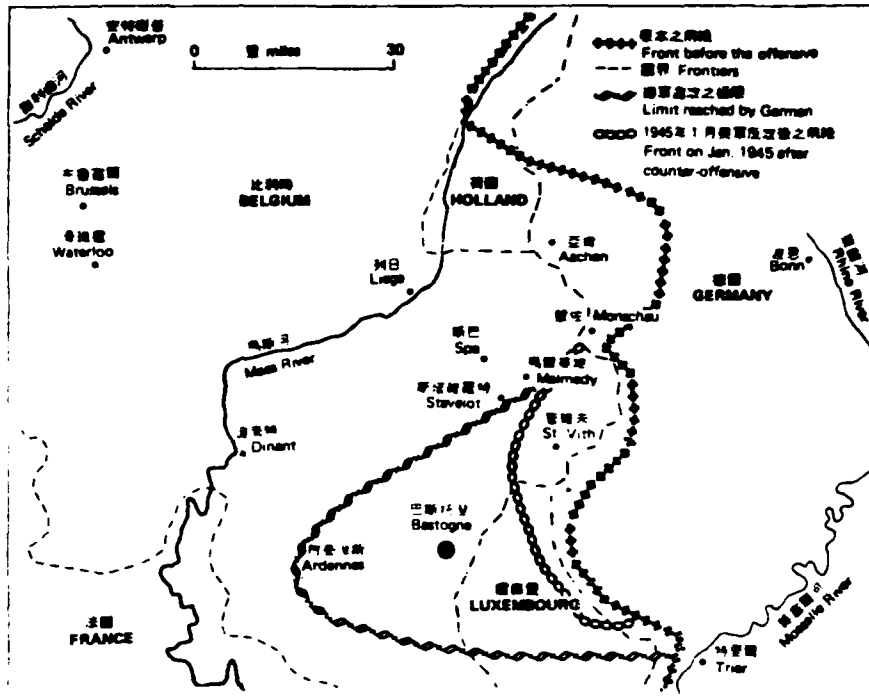
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TRICKERY IS NO VICE IN MILITARY OPERATIONS - The Real Truth of the Sabotage Engaged in by Germans Disguised as American Soldiers during the Latter Stages of World War II (Part 2)

(continued from page 58 of CONMILIT No. 73)

Previous article.



Limit reached by German.

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Rochert and the other two hurried back to their jeep. Later they reported the situation to the base and explained why the plan could not be carried out. Those at the base agreed with them. The next morning, the group was commanded to return to the base.

Since Rochert's group suspected that some of their people had fallen into the hands of the Americans, they did not dare to go back along the highways. In the early morning of December 17, they quietly left their hiding place and carefully moved along the east bank of the River Meuse. At that time, the map that they took along became completely useless. Their jeep had to move in and out among American vehicles.



An American depot burning after being attacked.

After one hour's ride, they came to a mountainous region named Venn. After they moved forward another 2 km, they could hear the intensive bombing ahead. This means that they were not very far from the main battlefield. When they left the woods of Venn, they took a straight path towards a little town named Recht. The jeep jolted badly. After only an hour's ride, they stopped to take a rest. After they turned off the light, they heard a heavy vehicle starting at a distance. Two of the group stayed to watch the jeep while the rest walked toward the source of the noise. When they reached a clearing in the woods, they saw a heavy truck and some German soldiers; later they learned that that was a transmitting station of the communications corps.

They made themselves heard when they were about 50 m away from the German soldiers. They threw their rifles and helmets onto the ground and walked worriedly towards the latter. The Germans asked Rochert, "Which planet did you come from"? Rochert explained that he had to see their commander in order to clear up the matter. Then, a soldier accompanied Rochert to fetch the two that watched the jeep, and all returned to the German base together.

This is what actually happened when Rochert and the commando unit to which he belonged took part in the "Bald Eagle" plan.

On the first two nights after the onset of the "Bald Eagle" plan, Skojeny's commando units infiltrated into the unstable front of the U. S. Corps No. 1. These German commando units had the American messengers, liaison officers and drivers of patrol vehicles as chief hit targets. They sent out false commands, posted false warnings where no land-mine was buried, attacked radio relay stations, caused confusion by disguising as traffic police officers, bombarded fuel depots and constructed obstacles on roads. They even cut off the telephone line that Corps No. 1 used to communicate with General Bradley and General Hodges.

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On December 18, one of the German commando units got into big trouble. A U. S. sentry stopped a jeep and demanded the password of the three soldiers in the car. The three soldiers were unable to give the password and were arrested on the spot. The sentry found in the jeep a boxfull of new bills, two portable machine guns, two Colt automatic hand guns, one German Walther hand gun, one radio transmitter set, one radio receiver, six American hand grenades and a lighter with cyanide capsules in it.

The three German soldiers mentioned above were executed on the 23rd.

After that event, the U. S. military police kept a close watch on every vehicle and person passing by, day and night. Now they knew that some of the so-called American soldiers were actually German soldiers who specialized in sabotage.

Their method of examination was very practical. Tens of the counter-espionage personnel and military police officers of the Allied Forces patrolled the roads day and night. They stopped every suspicious vehicle and interrogated the people in it. The examinations and inspections were performed thoroughly; even the muzzles did not escape inspection. Those being examined were required to hold both arms up high, and answer several special questions quickly and without hesitation. They were not permitted to have any foreign



Daddy, I'm so afraid!
Christmas 1944, German leaflet scattered in Ardennes.

accent, of course. Passwords and identification cards were no longer regarded as reliable proof.

An American officer once carelessly put on a pair of boots that were made in Germany. This caused him to be detained for several days before being released. And this is nothing compared to what happened to General Bruce Clark. Famous as he was, General Clark was examined at a sentry box north of St. Vith. General Clark identified himself in a matter-of-course fashion, upon which the interrogator cried, "Baloney! You are one of Skojeny's people".

At the same time that the Germans began their attack on Ardennes, the German paratroopers engaged in a battle (which was to be their last battle). The German paratroopers landed behind the U. S. front. Nevertheless, it being very windy and some of the paratroopers being relatively inexperienced, the paratroopers ended up badly scattered. However, a trick that the Germans played caused the Americans quite a bit of false alarm--among the numerous paratroopers, not a few were only fake people made of straw.

The military radio transmitting station of the Allied Forces at Calais reported that 250 German commandos had been arrested. At the same time, it was reported that the German paratroopers robbed a bank in Nice. In London, the Daily Post printed that its reporters in Paris had reported that many English speaking German women parachuted behind the front of the Allied Forces, carrying knives. Some of them were arrested. Their plan was to seduce American soldiers and then kill them.

There was a cafe in Paris named "Peace", where it was said that Skojeny's people often met. This cafe was besieged by the Allied

Forces, and for a good reason, too. Words had been spreading that German commandos had already hidden themselves somewhere in Paris and as soon as the German armored troops reached the suburbs of Paris, they would come out and occupy Paris. And all this sounded very plausible.

Besides Rochert's group that we mentioned above, there were only six other commando units that returned to their base without hindrance to carry out new assignments. On January 10, 1945, these commandos were regrouped into three new units.

At this time, the German reconnaissance planes could no longer perform their duties. The three commando units had to carry out their assignments on foot. Their assignment was to penetrate the front of the Allied Forces at once, and obtain information regarding the movement of the Allied Forces troops, so that the Germans could figure out the possible routes of counterattack by the Allied Forces.

One of the members in Rochert's unit was Moorhaupt. He was disguised as an American first sergeant and played the role of a "spokesman". First Lieutenant Peter was originally an archaeologist. Now he was disguised as a private soldier. The small box that they took along on this assignment contained, as usual, some pills that serve as stimulants, American hand guns, German Walther hand guns and lighters with high speed switches.

Rochert's unit was taken to the front by means of a big truck. This was the second time they set out to work. They got off near a tall building at the battalion headquarters.

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An incident occurred even before the mission was started. When Moorhaupt jumped down from the truck, his gun went off accidentally. The bullet glanced off his head, and he suffered a minor injury.

They walked a distance in the woods, about 600 m long. On the right hand side was a brook. Not long afterwards, they reached the command post of the battalion. Battalion Commander Appel and the aide-de-camp took them to the listening post so as to get an idea of the situation at the front on the enemy's side. The battalion commander instructed Rochert and the others that in case they were stopped for some reason, they were to say that they had a message for Battalion Commander Keatner of Battalion E of the 82nd Airborne Division. The secret code words that they were to use among themselves were the English words "mouse in the house". However, they had no idea what the Americans were using for their password.

That night, the moon shone bright, and there was a light breeze. Now and then the bombs at the front could be heard. Rochert and the other two had to crawl along the border of the woods. They passed a clearing, waded through a chilly brook, then came back to the woods, passed by a German front sentry box and walked back to the listening post. It was almost comical. What kind of a listening post was this? Was there anyone who was listening to the enemy activities? Certainly not! Battalion Commander Appel figured that the soldiers at the listening post must have hidden themselves away some place to take a nap. He was right. The two sentries were found sound asleep in a trench. The battalion commander grabbed them by their collars and woke them from their sleep. Of all times, this was no time to fall asleep!

After the three men came back from their scouting, they started off again, this time with the other two units.



Some members of 150 Panzerbrigade being arrested.

They kept close together. Stielau took the lead while Rochert followed last. They decided to split up after they passed the first American sentry box. Stielau was to lead his unit forward, Schmidt and his men were to turn right and Rochert's unit would turn left.

The time was about 10 minutes past midnight. As they went past a thicket, Stielau suddenly knelt down and lay face-down on the snow. Soon he rose and led his men to continue forward. Pretty soon they disappeared in the darkness about 60 m away.

At this moment, Rochert's people heard somebody shout "Who's there?" They quickly hid themselves. Moorhaupt immediately stood up. After all, he was their "spokesman". Moorhaupt went toward the sentry.

"What are you?" the sentry asked Moorhaupt.

Moorhaupt replied that he and the other two belonged to the reconnaissance unit of the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S.A. and that they were trying to locate their troops.

"The 82nd? You must mean the 81st Airborne Division". "No, it's the 82nd", replied Moorhaupt.

The fact is that no 81st Airborne Division ever existed! Not able to detect any flaw, the American sentry let them pass. Thus, Rochert's people were on their way again. They moved on along a road by the woods.

They were stopped at two or three sentry boxes on the way. When the password was demanded of them, Moorhaupt was always the one to speak up and explain that they were from a previously dispatched troop and had lost their way. After a half hour's walk, they arrived at a village. The road outside the village was lined with tanks on both sides and it seemed that the village was already crowded with tanks. The tank drivers were sleeping in their sleep bags beside the tanks. Some American soldiers who were pushing a jeep saw Rochert and the other two and wondered in their minds: how come these guys are still armed to their teeth?

There was a pond in the woods covered by a crust of ice. A bridge was built over the pond to enable tanks to cross. There were several heavy artillery beside the bridge. While Rochert and the other two were carefully observing the military deployment, an American sentry suddenly asked, "Hi! Which troop are you from?"

"Battalion E, Commander Keatner", answered Moorhaupt loudly.

"Okay, pass".

They walked through the village and found out that there were even more tanks behind the village. These were like the chesspieces on a chessboard, each in its position, ready to attack. They remembered seeing the Germans attempt to bomb the village from afar. The bombs always missed and they had often thought there was something particular about this village. Seeing so many tanks, they now understood.

After three quarters of an hour, they reached a lone house by the side of the road. It was a sentry station of certain battalion of the U. S. Army. Not being able to give the password, the three were immediately stooped by the sentry with the shaft of his rifle.

Moorhaupt quickly explained that they just walked from that village there and lost their way and that they did not have any more time to waste. The sentry had to let them pass.

Not long afterwards, they met an American soldier and asked him what the name of the next village was. The soldier seemed a little frightened when he said, "There are Germans there!". Upon hearing this, Rochert thought that since the Americans knew there were Germans in the vicinity, they most probably would send airplanes to bomb this place. So they left the highway and hid themselves in a thicket for a whole day for fear they would be discovered by some low flying American planes. There were quite a few such airplanes that were used specifically for observing the positions of enemy artillery.

On the following night, the three started on their way back. It was nearly 11 pm. The sky was clear and studded with stars. Moonlight glittered on the snow covered ground. They reached a sentry box they had passed not very long before. Suddenly, three people jumped out of nowhere.

"Stop! Who are you?"

They requested Rochert's people to walk closer to them. The latter advanced about 10 yards. At this moment, Rochert saw that there were one first sergeant and two privates.

"Where are you from?"

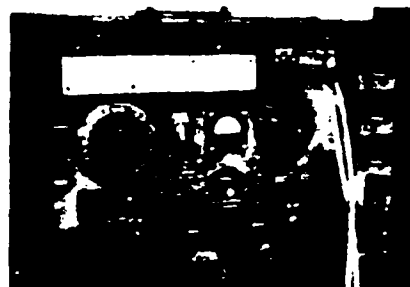
"We just walked out of the woods". The three were ordered to come still a little closer. They advanced another five yards.

▼ 在一場戰役後的美軍防線後方一景：
Behind the American lines after a battle

▶ 從突擊隊吉普車上搜出的無線電通訊機：
Wireless set found in the jeep of NCO

▶▼ 從吉普車上發現的炸藥包：
Explosive charge found in the jeep of NCO

▶▼▼ 在吉普車上發現的帶氰化物的打火機。
Lighter with cyanide capsule found in the jeep



"Which troop are you from? Which battalion?" demanded the first sergeant. See that none of them was about to answer, he said, "Very well, come with me. I'll take you to the commander".

Moorhaupt and Rochert went into the house, while Peter, who scarcely spoke any English, remained outside with the two American privates. Moorhaupt and Rochert were again asked which troop they belonged to. Once again, Moorhaupt mentioned the name Battalion Commander Keatner. He had many times used this name as a shield. And this time it still worked. Moorhaupt regained some confidence, and was able to answer questions quickly and fluently. He even used a lot of American idioms. This was no problem for him as he was born and raised in the United States.

Thus, they were taken to a room upstairs where they were to meet Commander Keatner later. The American first sergeant even told them that the password was "lang orange".

While Moorhaupt was answering the question, Rochert was all the time worrying about Peter. Peter could not speak English and could easily give himself away. The fact was that Peter was very sharp and quick-witted. He skillfully dodged the American soldier's questions.

The American soldier asked Peter, "Where did you guys come from?".

Peter remembered that Moorhaupt answered, "From the woods". So he said the same words, not very accurately or fluently, of course.

The American soldier asked, "What are you doing out here so late at night?"

Peter answered impatiently, "Stop bother me". Then he walked behind a thicket and took off his pants. The American soldier shook his head and said, "What kind of English is that"!?

After they passed through this check point, they felt a great relief. They returned to the village that had a lot of tanks and artillery. At this moment, they saw a V-1 missile (i.e., rocket) launched by the Germans. They also saw the Americans shooting at the V-1 angrily.

While they were thus absorbed in what they saw, a jeep approached from their back suddenly. They thought it was sent to catch them and were very worried. But the jeep just rushed by.

The closer they got to the part of the front held by the Germans, the faster they walked. Not long afterwards, they met an American soldier. Moorhaupt skillfully avoided trouble by saying that he was taking an officer to the front.

They finally reached the listening station where they had been before. They gave their own secret code password so as to show who they really were. However, there was no response, nor did anybody show up. A German soldier was supposed to be waiting for them here. They walked on a few steps and found the body of a German soldier. Obviously, this listening station had been attacked.

They followed the road to a little creek. Peter did not utter a sound when he balanced himself on the tree trunk that was used as a bridge across the creek. Plop! He slid on a patch of ice formed on the tree trunk and fell into the creek. His clothes were all wet when he walked onto the bank. When he walked past Rochert and Moorhaupt, he acted crazy and was throwing away anything that he laid his hands on. Rochert and Moorhaupt hurried to him and saw him drop to the ground and scream and roll about in a frenzy. After some struggle, they had him under control. All this must have happened because of an outbreak of the pent-up fear created by living under constant tension in a zone in enemy occupation.

At this moment, three figures emerged from the dark. They shuddered. Could these be Americans?



▲ 德軍空軍中尉格德·比林格被處決 -
Execution of NCO Gunther Billing

▲▲ 德軍中尉維爾海姆·施密特被處決 -
Execution of Sergeant Wilhelm Schmidt

▲▲▲ 德軍中尉曼弗拉德·佩爾斯被處決 -
Execution of NCO Manfred Pernas

Fortunately, one of the strangers wore a long overcoat that made him immediately identifiable as a German chauffeur. Moorhaupt chose to remain cool and careful and shouted with a distinctive American accent the English word "Stop!".

When the three men looked towards them, Moorhaupt and the other two took off their helmets--a previously agreed upon signal to show they were on the same side.

Now they had finally reached the German zone safety and could relax for a while.

By the end of the Second World War, of all the 600 men sent out as the 150th Armored Brigade, a special troop formed by the direct order from Hitler, only four, including Rochert, survived.

"Trickery is no vice in military operations". This can be illustrated by many actual examples in the military history of any country. The above account is also a true example. In this instance, however, the artifice was used by Hitler in an attempt to disorganize the strategic deployment of the Allied Forces in their counterattack. And what was the result? The almost total annihilation of the 600 men.

(Chang Yung-hsin)

MAIN MILITARY EVENTS OF THE WORLD

- 11/1 *A F-111 combat plane belonging to the U.S. Air Force stationed in Turkey exploded in mid-air. The two pilots parachuted in time to safety.
- *11 Russian bombers flew across the skies over the Sea of Japan. At least five of these were Tu-26 "counter-fire" type fighters.
- *The first generation home-made Chinese warship-carried helicopters took part in the recent event of test-firing rockets underwater from submarines.
- 11/2 *U. S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger said the United States will not recognize the Vietnamese government before the Vietnamese troops leave Cambodia.
- 11/3 *The military of the Republic of the Phillipines has successfully made a kind of bomb from a by-product of coconut oil. The bomb is said to be more powerful than the conventional bombs. Also, a coconut oil refinery produced a fuel similar to diesel fuel, and this is being used to power local military vehicles.
- 11/4 *Two men fired machine guns from a moped at the car the Spanish Armored Division Commander Major General Sago was riding and injured the latter.
- 11/5 *Chinese astronautics specialists revealed that China is fabricating a three-stage liquid-fuel rocket and plans to launch a communications satellite next year.
- 11/8 *A U. S. naval officer revealed that while the American navy was having an exercise in the northern Pacific Ocean this past September, its carrier was attacked by Russian "counter-fire" type bombers that set off simulated missiles.
- 11/9 *An oil truck collided with a Russian military vehicle in a tunnel in a mountainous region of northern Afghanistan.

It is estimated that 700 Russian soldiers and 2000 Afghan civilians died.

- 11/10 *200 U. S. infantrymen and 500 Japanese self-defense troop officers and soldiers had a military exercise at the foot of Fuji Mountain. This is the first time the two countries had a joint military exercise on land.
- *Despite protests from Russia, Japan insisted on the deployment of the U.S. F-16 fighter-bomber in northern Japan.
 - *A Russian language specialist working at a British electronics information collection center was accused of engaging in espionage activities. He said that he was sympathetic to the Russian government and had been supplying the Russian government with vast amounts of classified information over the past 15 years.
- 11/11 *USSR Chairman Brezhnev died at the age of 75.
- *U. S. space shuttle "Columbia" started its first commercial flight and took along two communications satellites.
- 11/12 *China ordered from Great Britain "sea dart" type missiles and advanced electronics instruments, totaling 150,000,000 pounds and plans to invite British technical personnel to China to help set up the equipment.
- *The military headquarters of Israel in southern Lebanon suffered a bomb explosion that caused the death of 30 people, half of whom were Israeli soldiers.
 - *A serious scandal was exposed by the Chinese Air Force. An aeronautics engineer holding an important position contracted a poorly equipped factory to manufacture a lot of precision aircraft parts so as to receive large sums of money offered to him as a bribe. The inferior parts were already installed in several hundred fighters. Luckily these were discovered and replaced before the planes were shipped out of the factory.
- 11/13 *Andropov was chosen as the successor of Brezhnev. Andropov was the former head of KGB.
- *Space shuttle "Columbia" positioned for Canada a 2500 pound satellite that operates on solar energy. This is at present the most powerful communications satellite of the west.

- *Acting on a report that some foreign submarine entered their territorial waters, the Norwegian navy conducted a large-scale search for three consecutive days but found nothing.
- 11/14 *A report given by the U.S. Senate reveals that the Russians are employing all possible means to steal U.S. industrial technology so as to achieve a great stride in military progress.
- 11/16 *The space shuttle returned to Earth after a 5-day flight.
- 11/17 *British naval divers retrieved some secret codes, computers and documents from the convoy vessel that was sunk by the Argentine Air Force and lay at a depth of 300 feet in the waters of the Falkland Islands.
- 11/18 *Argentina purchased from France a lot of air-to-sea "flying fish" guided missiles, 5 "super banner" fighters and other materials to replenish for the losses she suffered in her battle with Great Britain.
- *China reproaches U. S. President Reagan for enlarging U. S. military power in South Korea and says that this is counter to the promise given by the former president Carter.
- 11/21 *It was revealed from the diplomatic circle in Peking that China and the USSR will simultaneously remove some troops from their borders.
- *The Thai government announced that it plans to purchase by 1985 two submarines, three warships and one cruiser.
- 11/22 *An official of the USSR Foreign Ministry says that the U.S.A. and the USSR are facing the same nuclear calamity. He also maintains that the Soviets will consider a 25% nuclear arms reduction if the U.S.A. will do the same.
- 11/24 *Japanese conservative Yasuhiro Nakasone became prime minister. He had been an advocate of strengthening Japanese military power for a long time.
- 11/28 *A U. S. military base for testing the MX intercontinental guided missile in Tennessee caught fire. Four people were reported to be missing.

- 11/29 *The Thai Royal Navy received a new model Italian gunboat that is equipped with computerized navigation system, two artillery pieces and four guided missile launchers.
- *The president of Pakistan said that he was told by the new Soviet president Andropov that the Soviets wished to take their troops out of Afghanistan.
- *Chinese Defense Minister Chang Ai-p'ing says that an urgent duty of the logistics troops personnel is to study the culture of science and to obtain specialized knowledge.
- 11/30 *The United States of America plans to sell to her allies 2.4 billion dollars worth of weapons. This includes supplying Saudi Arabia with F-15 fighters and C-130 transports, selling to Great Britain air-to-ground high speed anti-radar guided missiles, selling to South Korea amphibious tanks and selling to Colombia air-to-air "sparrow" guided missiles.
- *A package addressed to the British Prime Minister exploded and caused a minor injury to one person. Prime Minister Thatcher was unhurt.
- *New from Vietnam: The Vietnamese troops suppressed an attempt of armed revolt in Ho Chi Ming City.

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