IV. Professional Insights

When Intelligence Made a Difference

Part VI

There are an additional five articles in Part VI of AFIO's historical series of “When Intelligence Made a Difference.”

The British entry into the Cape Colony of South Africa in the late 1700s was resisted by the Dutch settlers. Alex Vermeulen recounts the politics of the competition between the Boers and the British South Africa Company under Cecil Rhodes and the 1895 raid on Johannesburg by Dr. Leander Starr Jameson. Greg Elder, DIA’s historian, has written about the intelligence requirements and activities of Union Brigadier General Irvin McDowell and Confederate Brigadier General P.T.G. Beauregard before the first Battle of Bull Run. The Confederates’ superior use of intelligence contributed to its victory in the first major battle of the Civil War. Canadian professor Dr. Evren Altinkas writes about the secret spy and covert action organization, Karakol, tied to the Turkish War of Independence of 1919-1922 and how it assisted Kemal Ataturk. AFIO’s own Dr. Robert Girod writes about Operation Torch, the 1942 invasion of French North Africa. The invasion was preceded by intelligence operations and clandestine diplomacy to ascertain the French disposition toward the Allies. Girod recounts the activities of Ambassador Robert Murphy, Major General Mark Clark, and the OSS “attachés” prior to the invasion. Frequent contributor, Dr. Robert Clark’s article on how India deceived US intelligence and policymakers about its planned 1998 series of nuclear tests is an object lesson for all intelligence officers.

Previously published articles in this series can be accessed on the AFIO website at https://www.afio.com/22_intelligencer.htm. These are available for anyone to share, especially educators with their students.

AFIO thanks those authors who have contributed articles to this series and will continue to publish articles of when intelligence made a difference across all eras, regions, and topics. If you have a suggested topic, email Peter Oleson at peter.oleson@afio.com.

AFIO’s educational project “When Intelligence Made a Difference” seeks writers to identify events throughout history involving any nation or organization when the outcome was affected significantly by intelligence.

AFIO has been publishing edited submissions serially in Intelligencer: Journal of US Intelligence Studies released two to three times a year.

Those readers interested in contributing an article, should email peter.oleson@afio.com stating briefly what event you have in mind and include your bio. [AFIO will identify authors by name and current or former title only—no multi-line biographies.] If your suggestion is a good fit for this project, we will respond asking for your comments on that event, not to exceed 2,500 words (excluding footnotes). AFIO uses the Chicago Manual of Style.

IMPORTANT: When you send your article and bio, let us know if you have ever had prior employment or contract work within the US Intelligence Community—and, to meet pre-publication review requirements, supply a copy of the official approval letter or email naming the article you are sending us. Without this, we are unable to consider or include your article in the publication.

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For instructors this project would make a good class assignment. Accepted articles would give students a publication credit in a recognized journal.