



# III. PROFESSIONAL INSIGHTS

## When Intelligence Made a Difference

### Part VII

AFIO continues its history project with six new articles. Former intelligence officer **Kevin Frank** explains how intelligence prevented the loss of life and destruction of aircraft when in January 2020 Iranian ballistic missiles struck the US base of Al Asad in Iraq. His article, "Intelligence and the Iranian Attack on Al-Asad Airbase," is a good news story. Captured documents can provide an invaluable insight into an enemy's plans. Two articles address very different outcomes from captured documents. Historian **Jack Dempsey's** "The Lost Order" tells the story of Union troops finding a copy of General Lee's orders and Union General George McClellan using the intelligence to successfully confront Lee's forces at the Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg). But "lost orders" can also be a deception as explained by strategist and cyber security expert **Davi Ottenheimer** in "The Haversack Ruse of 1917." Alfred Redl was an infamous Austrian spy often credited with helping the Serbs defeat the Austro-Hungarian army in World War I. Austrian professor **Siegfried Beer** of the University of Graz, using recently available documents, debunks some of the mythology surrounding Redl. Former NSA historian **David Hatch** writes about the history and critical counterintelligence insights that came from Venona, the US cryptanalysis effort against Soviet diplomatic and intelligence communications at the end of World War II. Lastly, in a continuing series of articles about the role of intelligence in the Pacific Campaign of World War II, **Peter C. Oleson** writes about intelligence in the Solomons campaign of 1942-44.

Previously published articles in this series can be accessed on the AFIO website at [https://www.afio.com/22\\_intelligencer.htm](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](mailto:peter.oleson@afio.com).

## When Intelligence Made a Difference

### Intelligence History Project

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](mailto: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.