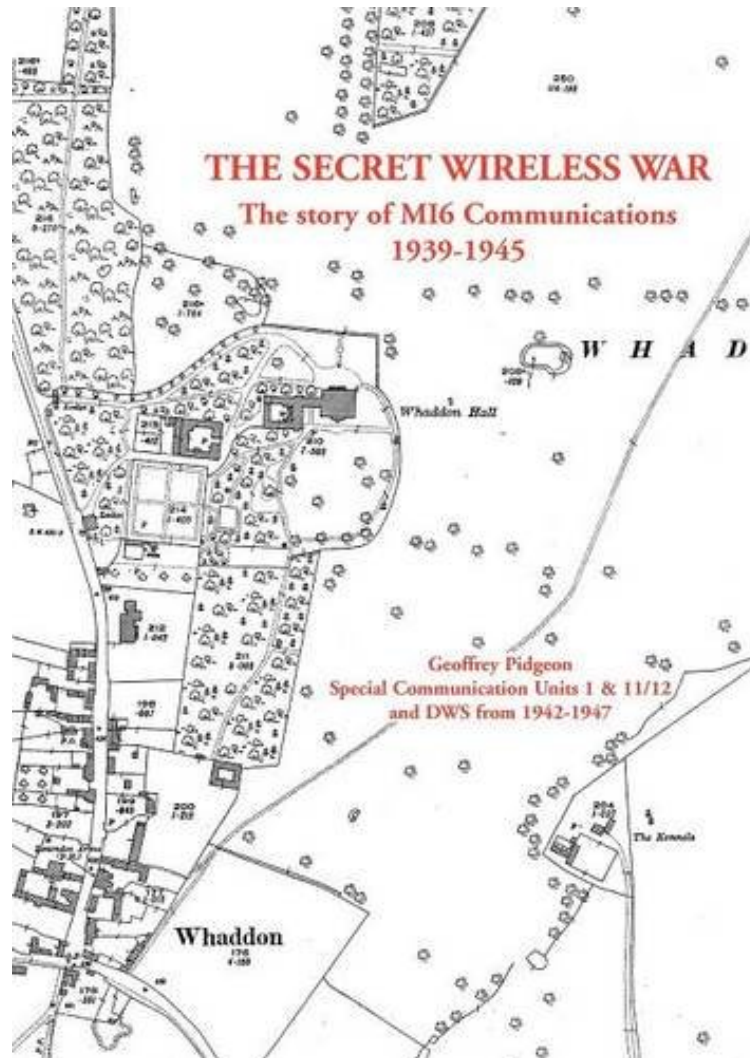


# The Secret Wireless War

Geoffrey Pidgeon

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**Geoffrey Pidgeon : The Secret Wireless War** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Secret Wireless War:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Beyond BletchleyBy Chris SterlingMI6 was (and is) British secret intelligence--something of a combination of our modern CIA and NSA. The best known British intelligence source was "Ultra"--the German signals generated by Enigma (and other) machines, and eventually broken at Bletchley Park, a secret operation knowledge of which was released only three decades after the war.This volume is something of a catch-all, and a fascinating one. It is largely about the listening process that proceeded code breaking--all the thousands of people and dozens of places used to "tune in" German radio signals. Its nearly 40 chapters focus on Whaddon village and hall, not far from Bletchley. We meet many examples of the men and women who worked there

round the clock, and learn something of what they did and how they did it. Photos and diagrams (and a few maps) support the text. But be warned--this is not a polished single tale, but rather something of a text-heavy scrapbook of a place and time. It rewards careful reading. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Poorly Written Book but of Some Historical Value By readsalot This book is not well organized. Its more like a jumble of individual observations and "facts". I found parts of it interesting as I like both radio and WW 2 spy history and I am a Amateur radio operator. The author does make some good observations in the book about the wonderful RME National radio receivers made in America that were used to spy on the Germans. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Secret Wireless War. By Michael Davis I was captivated by the title of the book but was somewhat disappointed that stories of the secret wireless WARRIORS were for the most part ignored. I was expecting more stories of the SOE and OSS clandestine wireless operators and how they fared against the Nazis during WWII.

Possibly the most important UK wireless traffic in World War II was handled by a unit formed in 1938 by Brigadier Richard Gambier-Parry head of MI6 Section VIII - the communications division of SIS. This book tells of its formation and includes diary entries by one of the 'founding fathers' recording the secret meetings that took place, and the assembly of its talented staff. It reports the earlier days of the original SIS wireless 'Station X' based in Barnes in south west London, and the building of its second station in a bungalow in Surrey with the strange name of 'Funny Neuk' - which turned out to be owned by Admiral Sir Hugh Sinclair - 'C' - Chief of Secret Intelligence Services. The units wireless station at Bletchley Park is described and its replacement by the stations at nearby Whaddon Hall which then became the wartime headquarters of Section VIII. It documents the work of our agents in embassies abroad, and of those in German occupied territories; the story of Churchill's personal wireless operator, and there is the description by a German soldier of the Afrika Corps of his operating an Enigma machine at Rommel's headquarters in the desert. The curious story of 'Black Propaganda' is told and the units handling of the military ULTRA traffic out to commanders in the field. Personal tales by those who were part of this most secret of units abound in the book and it is an important record of people and events that-it is no exaggeration to say-helped to win the war. Whilst essential, the technical side of the tale has not been allowed to dominate the book which is profusely illustrated.