



e-DEFENCE ELECTRONICS NEWSLETTER

**THE e-NEWSLETTER OF THE DEFENCE ELECTRONICS HISTORY SOCIETY:
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I'm opening with a couple of photos to illustrate the theme of our *next* year's Symposium, '*Looking forward, looking back*', a review of the electronics lessons from World War 1 onwards, as 2014 will be the centenary of the outbreak of that conflict. Shown are the X-47B UCAS (Unmanned Combat Air System) of Northrop Grumman on its recent first sea trials on the carrier USS *Harry S. Truman*, and the Turkish Navy's MILGEM 'stealth' corvette TCG *Heybeliada*. The connecting link between the two pictures is that drones, as represented by the X-47, are already spoken of as the potential air surveillance radar platforms for carrier protection, perhaps against stealth UAV aggressors, but certainly also against naval targets engineered to give a minimal RCS. What's the connection with World War 1? The first drones were engineered during that conflict; and in that war, Turkey was regarded as an enemy, but today is a key ally as the UK perhaps begins to take up a new role in the Middle East while the USA re-orientates itself towards the Pacific as its primary axis. Plenty of scope there for discussion – and for papers for the 2014 Symposium, so start thinking and writing!

As always, **eDEN8** continues DEHS' policy of deliberately widely varied content – remember, 'DC to light'; absolutely anything military in which electronics are involved, including tracing the stories of the people as well as the kit. In this issue, we celebrate a major award for our member **Professor Hugh Griffiths** recognising his achievements in the field of bistatic radar – and to us, Hugh's and Arthur Bauer's unfolding of the story of the WW2 German *Klein Heidelberg*, forerunner in that field. Three members contribute varied information about the wide interests of our recently-deceased member **Ted Cooke-Yarborough**, including aspects of Ted of which you may well not be aware. I've set down a few basic facts on the NATO Cold War tropospheric scatter system '**ACE HIGH**', and outlined how you might go about finding out about the **service career of WW1 sailors**, whether White or Red Ensign, with an intriguing twist on the naming of ships! The Whitlock memoirs continue with **early transistor and thyristor control systems for torpedoes**, and I also record the sterling work done in Canada by **Brian Mendes** on publicising in the IEEE the last surviving example of the world's first mass-production centimetric mobile radar, **GL3C**, in the Artillery Museum at Shilo, Manitoba, the GL3C having played a significant role in combatting Britain's 'Baby Blitz' of 1943. An RAF service career is

examined in '*A Story of John Brown*': my Book Review covers the first in a series of books on 'friendly fire' in WW2, '*Blue on Blue*', and I list several YouTube films for your interest. Below are details of our **Summer Visit to Bletchley Park** – with many thanks to *Mike Diprose* for arranging it *while simultaneously sorting out a significant event at the end of March at the South Yorkshire Air Museum, Doncaster* (in *Ops Board*), and *Tailpiece* has the famous **TRE 'Sunday Soviet' photograph** with names put to faces, as I am regularly asked for this.

Dr. Phil Judkins, DEHS Chairman.

INDEX

Editorial	1
Index	3
DEHS member Prof Hugh Griffiths Honoured 'Acting on Information Received' – Ted Cooke-Yarborough, Monica and the Stirling engine	3 4
ACE HIGH	7
Tracing WW1 Relatives – Royal Navy	8
The Whitlock Memoirs: Parts 5 and 6	13
Canadian Radar GL3C	18
A Story of John Brown	20
Book Review: <i>Blue on Blue/ Brian Cull with Bruce Lander</i>	23
World War 2 YouTube films	23
Ops Board	24
Tailpiece: TRE Sunday Soviet, with names put to faces!	25