

**SO MANY SECRETS. Supplement: One.**

Someone I became acquainted with around 1958 was a gentlemen's hairdresser practicing in Leigh Park, Hampshire. His name was Don Shuker and according to the story he re-counted to me, he was a sergeant in the British Army Commandoes and he was involved with the famous attack on the German Atomic Heavy Water plant in Norway. His military occupation was: Explosive's Expert. Apparently, himself, officer's and men were stealthily and quietly shipped by a British Royal Navy destroyer up through a fiord to a strategic point, within reach of the designated target and then the commandoes disembarked from the destroyer into a number of rubber dinghies. The destroyer then left the scene and returned to the open North Sea to wait. The commando force in their rubber dinghies loaded with explosives; quietly and carefully rowed a good distance in moonlight to the shore.

In addition to their orders to assault and attack the fortified enclosure of the Heavy Water plant and its defenders: then blow up the installation, they were instructed to 'crack' open safes and collect any discovered documents. They were briefed that they might appropriate anything of non military value for themselves that they could reasonably carry back on their return journey.

The attack and operation was very successful; most of the defending soldiers were asleep and the guards were minimal; the commandoes were able to overcome them easily and they were able to destroy the Heavy Water plant completely.

They blew open a large safe and not only were there important documents inside but also wads of British white and black printed paper five pound's banknotes. Note: These banknotes were about four times as big as the current five pound banknote and known colloquially as a 'hankerchief'. A shop manager earned about five pounds a week in those days. With great excitement and anticipation of riches the commandoes filled the inside of their battledress tops and their trousers with the banknotes.

Most of the commandoes escaped in their rubber dinghies and met the British Royal Navy destroyer that had returned up the fiord and waited at the rendezvous time between one and two a.m. It was unfortunate that some men did not meet the deadline and were left behind dead or captured. When the rest of the men returned to the port of Newcastle in the North East of England; they disappointedly discovered that the five pound's banknotes were all counterfeit!

The foregoing raid was a severe blow to Hitler's atomic bomb plans and together with the destruction by bombing of Dresden's nuclear infrastructure, this stopped the introduction of an atomic warhead being placed in the V2 and the probable annihilation of British cities.