

# Intelligence Service Europe

SCV Europe Camp #1612

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## Intelligence Service Europe, Year 7, Issue 1, Feb. / Mar. 2014

### Commander's Letter

Dear Members and Friends of the Europe Camp,

some time has past since you got the latest issue of our newsletter. Unfortunately we were just unable to bring out our publication. A case of illness and the call of duty, both factors have upset our plans for a while. Editor Raphael was down cause a month in hospital and I had the honor to serve in Afghanistan supporting all our allied forces fighting the Taliban. Out of our "Bunker" I had lots of thoughts for my family, our Camp members and supporters. Christmas and the new year has been a special time of silent remembrance to me. I wish every reader a backdated Merry Christmas and good times this year.

Now it's time to ride again. Have a nice time reading this brand new issue of the ISE newsletter.



In the service of the South,  
*Achim "Archy" Bänsch*  
Commander

## **EDITOR´S NOTE**

We´re back! After a gap of several months the SCV Intelligence Service Europe rides again on a bi-monthly basis. I´ve been ill, our commander was deployed in Afghanistan and other issues brought the ISE Newsletter to a temporary halt, but now we are ready to fight again, boys. I expect your contributions (send your stuff whether Camp members or not, interesting stories with Europe involved are always welcome).

This our newsletter is now made entirely in Germany, as I have left Spain to live again in my country forever. Germany is now the European country with the biggest numbers of camp members and associates, but Europe Camp 1612 will remain always European, with genuine descendants of soldiers from South Carolina, Georgia, Texas, Maryland, etc., and many Southerners by-the-heart who joined the SCV as associates to help preserving the commitments of The Charge in the Old World.

Did you know that the last Confederate Major-General to die (a hundred years ago in November 1913) was a Frenchman and that he´s interred in Germany? Read about inside. And there´s other interesting stuff for you in this issue. The only minor change in the newsletter is hat the Camp Library section has changed into „Interesting Reading“, where from now on you will find not only books but also letters, articles, valuable issues of other newsletters, etc. Free electronic book offers are maintained, of course. The hard-copies are still full members-only and available through the commander.

We´re most pleased to see that Nancy Hitt´s action to honor and remember the noble Englishman Col. George St. Leger Grenfell and our report about, have brought more and more people are remembering him properly in America, and especially the Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Society in Maryland. Grenfell´s stone is one of several Nancy has placed at Spring Hill Cemetery, Kentucky. We remember especially the memorial stone of Col. Mosby´s Partisan Ranger German volunteer Robert von Massow placed at the same cemetery. For more than a century the noble women of the South have made sure that our dead have been properly honored and Camp Angel Nancy is to surprise us soon with more memorial actions!

Greetings from freezing-cold Germany!

Your most obedient servant.



**Raphael Waldburg-Zeil**





**THE LAST CONFEDERATE MAJOR-GENERAL**  
**Camille-Armand Jules Marie Prince de Polignac**  
**"The Lafayette of the South"**



A bit more than hundred years ago, a dull day of November 15<sup>th</sup> 1913 marked the passing of the last surviving Major-General of the Confederate Army. It did not happen somewhere in the South. Aged 81, General de Polignac died in Paris, France and was later interred in Frankfurt, Germany, where he rests today with his wife.

De Polignac did not die in exile (as so many hardcore Confederates did) he passed at home, in his own country, in France. He was a native Frenchman who did not emigrate and become an American like General Girardey (see ISE February/March 2012, pp. 16-21), but joined the WBTS to defend the Southern cause. With large combat experience as an officer in the Crimean War and Central America, he was appointed a Lieutenant Colonel CSA on July 1861 and in January 1862 he was promoted to Brigadier and Major General April 8, 1864. He served in the Western Front under P.G.T. Beauregard, Braxton Bragg and obtained his main military achievements under General Richard Taylor during the Red River campaign, especially the battle of Mansfield (Pleasant Grove), where his Texas cavalry helped to defeat the Union troops.

In March 1865 he was sent to France, commissioned by President Davis to convince Napoleon III to join the War as ally of the Confederacy, but the measure came too late and Polignac learned of the Confederate surrender just after his blockade-runner had arrived to Spain. Then he returned home, probably with the same sadness in his heart as Heros von Borcke felt.

Major General de Polignac rests today with his wife in the Central Cemetery of Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany. As part of the Europe Camp grave sites survey, we'll visit his burial place to inspect the grave's condition and take some photographic proof which will be published here. It's not enough to list Confederate graves in Europe as some authors have done; the exact location of the burial site must be actually found, the grave must be marked and taken care for if necessary. Every Confederate Veteran resting in Europe shall have his correct VA marker and/or the Cross of Honor, that's the proper way to remember and to honor them, that's our commitment.

General de Polignac's grave is in fine condition, as shown below. The grave stone is put on the wall, it will make it difficult to put the CSA cross of honor there, but we'll find the way.



Camille and Marie de Polignac, both were French-born but Southerners by the heart. Most surprising the text on the grave plate appears in German language.

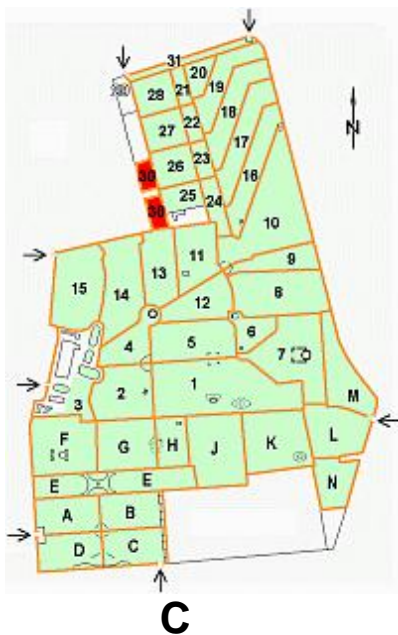


**Base of the Polignac Monument, Pleasant Grove battlefield, La, where he is entitled "The Lafayette of the South"**

Important information: the Find-a-grave site contains a critical mistake. The exact plot is not given. It's a large aboveground crypt building with a marble stone on the wall inside (see the pictures).

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fq.cgi?page=qr&GRid=4509>

If you're going to visit the grave site, the info to follow is **Gewann C, Gruft 30**. The capital letter "C" marks the best entrance for quickly finding the tomb.





**There is still time to join the Sesquicentennial Society!  
Remember the Cause for Southern Independence!**

The Sons of Confederate Veterans established in 2008 the SCV Sesquicentennial Society. By joining this prestigious group you will help in supporting two projects very important to the future.

1. The General Executive Council made the commitment to start the process to erect a new building on our property at Historic Elm Springs. One of the uses of this new building is to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. It will give an accurate portrayal of the Confederate soldier, something that is lacking in most museums and in the media. 75 % of the money received through this effort goes to that building fund.

2. We need to leave a legacy for our Compatriots who will be the members and leaders of the SCV when the Bicentennial of the Cause for Southern Independence arrives 50 years from now. One can only guess at the obstacles they will have to face in putting forth an accurate commemoration. 25% of the money will go into a fund to be used by the SCV at that point in time. Here is how you can take part. To join it is a minimum payment of \$200. (You can give more if you wish!) You will receive a handsome SCV Sesquicentennial Society Medal and a Certificate.

This program will end at the close of the Sesquicentennial, so you still can join now!. We hope that all Camp members/associates and allies will take advantage of this opportunity to make a stand for the future. You can proudly wear your medal and display your certificate as symbols of your commitment to teaching the true history of the South to future generations. In October 2009 the GEC voted to allow non-SCV members to join the Sesquicentennial Society, thus every reader outside our Camp is invited to join too!

Payments from Europe can be made using the encrypted, secure SCV on-line Paypal donation page; it is not necessary to open a Paypal account:

<http://www.scv.org/> just scroll down to “Donate”

Be sure to put **Sesquicentennial Society Membership** as purpose of payment.



## ACTOR GENE HACKMAN ON CAPTAIN HENRY WIRZ



Gene Hackman and H.K. Edgerton (© Asheville Tribune)

On Thursday, June 26, 2008, in Malaprop's Bookstore in downtown Asheville, NC, actor Gene Hackman with his co-author, Daniel Lenihan had come to promote, sign copies and answer questions about their book titled "Escape From Andersonville", touted as a novel of the Civil War. After the signing and posing for pictures for many of the people that included some of Asheville and Buncombe Counties most prominent citizens Mr. Lenihan opened the floor up for questions from the audience.

Even though the book was fictional and not written as an historical account, several people asked Hackman and Lenihan their views regarding historical events. One of the questions asked was whether or not the authors thought that the North had railroaded the Commandant of the camp, Captain Henry Wirz, to his hanging at the end of the war. After some reflection, the authors voiced their view that they believed that such had been the case.

Gene Hackman and co-author Daniel Lenihan came to the conclusion that Wirz deserved vindication and just maybe so does his homeland, the Southland of America.

After the discussion, the authors remained to continue signing what appeared to be close to 100 of their books. In a slight turn of events - that was well received - H.K. Edgerton presented the authors with a copy of Mike Scrugg's book /The Un-Civil War/ that Edgerton himself signed, while dressed in his Confederate uniform and carrying the Battle Flag.

**Captain Henry Wirz shall find vindication!!!**



## THE PREACHER'S CORNER



By David Chaltas, SCV Colonel Ben E. Caudill Camp #1629, founder of "Chaplains of the Confederacy".

### THE CODE OF HONOR

I was sharing with my beloved friend the experiences I had when I walked upon the wind with the Dinah (Navajo). I accidentally stumbled into a memory of the Navajo Code Talkers when I worked out West. The Code Talkers were comprised of different tribes, such as Cherokee, Comanche, Choctaw, and others, but the majority during World War II were of Navajo ancestry who developed a complex code which is credited with saving thousands of lives and taking such Pacific Islands as Iwo Jima. There were more than four hundred who faithfully served their country. They were known for their love of country and heritage. They served with every Marine Division from 1941 to 1945. The code was not declassified until 1968 but the 'People' were not recognized for their heroism until Ronald Reagan officially declared August 14, 'Navajo Code Talkers Day'. On July 26, 2001, President Bush awarded the original twenty-nine WWII Code Talkers the Congressional Gold Medal.

I recall having the honor of opening up the building where the Code Talkers met. One man, Carl Gorman (one of the original 29 code talkers), took a liking to me and on occasion he invited me to sit with them. Never have I been so in awe or humbled by such an experience. Here I was a white man sitting close to the inner circle of legendary heroes. I couldn't understand a word they said but I did not care. I never spoke and felt as if I was standing upon holy ground. Imagine me, being privy to such icons of history. Every now and then Mr. Gorman would look at me and smile and tell me the gist of the conversation. I will always remember his snow white hair, perfectly combed and worn in the traditional Navajo style for men. I recall his magical drawings of horses and how they came to life on paper. I remember meeting Ms. Mary, his wife, briefly and how awed I was to do so. He represented the pride of those 12,000 plus proud Native Americans who chose to serve America, even when they were being treated as 'second rate' citizens. Our history with the Native Americans was shameful and continues to tarnish our image.

I vividly recall the annual colossal parades in Gallup, New Mexico and Window Rock, Arizona. I recollect all the people lined on both sides of the street and the noise and joy. I also remember the silence of the Dinah when the Code Talkers walked or rode by. You could feel the electricity in the air. The older generation would stand erect, as their eyes danced with pride. The younger generation bowed their heads in recognition and in honoring the heroes who was passing by. Former military men snapped to attention and offered them a salute from one warrior to another.



Tears of gratitude streamed down the spectators face and this fielder felt so unworthy to be privy to a moment of national unity amongst the 'People'. It was their code.

Such is the pride we feel for our heroes; those living and those who passed beyond the turbid vale. From Revolutionary to current day we must honor them by embracing the principles we are duty bound to uphold. Our Vietnam Vets were treated poorly by those ignorant of their sacrifices. Only now are we realizing their importance in carrying the torch of freedom. They were 'second rate' citizens for several years. Finally we are recognizing their sacrifices with the honor and respect so overdue a people who inhabited this land long before we knew of its existence. They are true Americans; the first Americans.

Now we see our Southern heroes being blasted by the politically correct who, out of ignorance and lack of knowledge, try to tarnish the good names of our ancestors. Through all this we shall prevail, for we believe that the truth will set us free. Once the truth is unveiled and the Southern, as well as the Northern pen of that timeframe is acknowledged, we shall see resurgence in ancestral pride across this land. It is our code to remember, lest they forget.

All this pales when we think of the sacrifice one man made for mankind. Our God presented His only begotten Son for all. Now, even our King of Kings is not exempt from being 'second rate'. We are seeing more attacks upon Christ and our God than any other time known. Christ who was martyred on a tree. Christ who shed his blood for thee. Our Liberator who could have called ten thousand angels willingly stood up for you and me. Can we not stand up for Him?

More than ever before, we need to stand and declare enough! The cause of Christ is calling, as surely as the cause of those gallant Code Talkers finally being recognized and the Vietnam Vet being placed in the Hall of Honor. **The secret to correcting political correctness is God. Through prayers while on our knees, we can stand before men and declare the truth. Let us go forth declaring Christ before us and honoring our ancestors**, ALL ancestors so that we can once again reflect upon the greatness of our country, with one nation, under God and justice for all. It is our code of honor to do so. With sacred principles to uphold the code of honor, I remain your humbled servant, the old general.



## EDUCATIONAL MOVIES

### **"GONE WITH THE WIND"**

**GONE WITH THE WIND – Gerald O'Hara and Scarlett in the memorable scene talking about their Plantation and Southern land:**



(© MGM 1939)

GERALD But what difference does it make who you marry, so long as he's a Southerner and thinks like you?

*Tears of frustration come into Scarlett's eyes. She bows her head. Gerald takes her arm; they start walking again, turning toward a rise of ground.*

GERALD And when I'm gone –(observes she is paying no attention) I'll leave Tara to you –

SCARLETT I don't want Tara! Plantations don't mean anything when –

GERALD *(stops in his tracks, indignant)* Do you mean to tell me, Katie Scarlett O'Hara, that Tara - that land doesn't mean anything to you?

*Scarlett doesn't answer. They have stopped near the top of the hill that commands a view of the surrounding countryside. Gerald gestures off with his arm.*

GERALD'S VOICE (*continued*) Why, land is the only thing in this world worth working for, worth dying for - because it's the only thing that lasts.

SCARLETT (*disgusted*) Oh, Pa, you talk like an Irishman.

GERALD 'Tis proud I am that I'm Irish, and don't you be forgettin', Missy, that you're half Irish, too. And to anyone with a drop of Irish blood in them, why, the land they live on is like their mother. Oh, but there, there now, you're just a child. It will come to you, this love of the land - there's no getting away from it if you're Irish. (*Looking at the land. Gerald puts his arm around her.*)

**NOTE:** Camera moves back until we have the tiny, silhouetted figures of Gerald O'Hara and his daughter gazing over the lands of Tara, beautiful in the sunset, to the thematic musical accompaniment which we will use for Tara throughout the picture.

See the original scene here: (minutes 02:00 – 02:56):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSOYTFw0JaA>



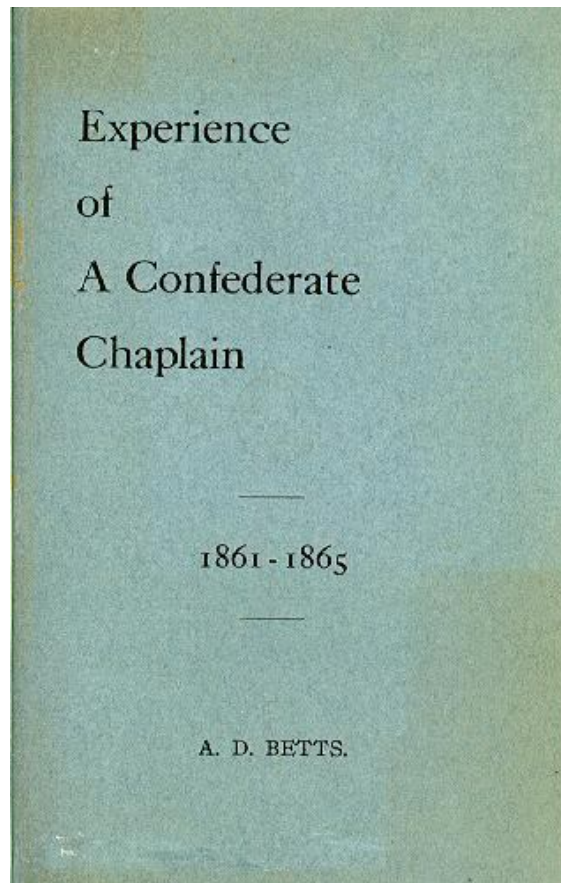
(© MGM 1939)



## INTERESTING READING

Experience of a Confederate Chaplain  
1861-1864

BY REV. A. D. BETTS, D. D.,  
N. C. Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South.  
Chaplain 30th N. C. Troops.



Extract from the introduction (p. 3): "*The perusal of these plain annals will surely revive in the memory of many a Confederate Veteran the vivid panorama of that unequalled and heroic struggle for the perpetuation of certain principles that underlie the purest and best form of government in the estimation of loyal Southrons. It is devoutly desired that all who may trace the indentures of this diary will reflect gratefully upon the allwise and gracious providence of God that seeks to save even unto the uttermost. It is believed that many persons, at home and in the army, were led to accept Christ as their Saviour, who under other circumstances might never have known His forgiving love.*"

Access the electronic copy of this book from here:

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/betts/betts.html>



# Intelligence

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