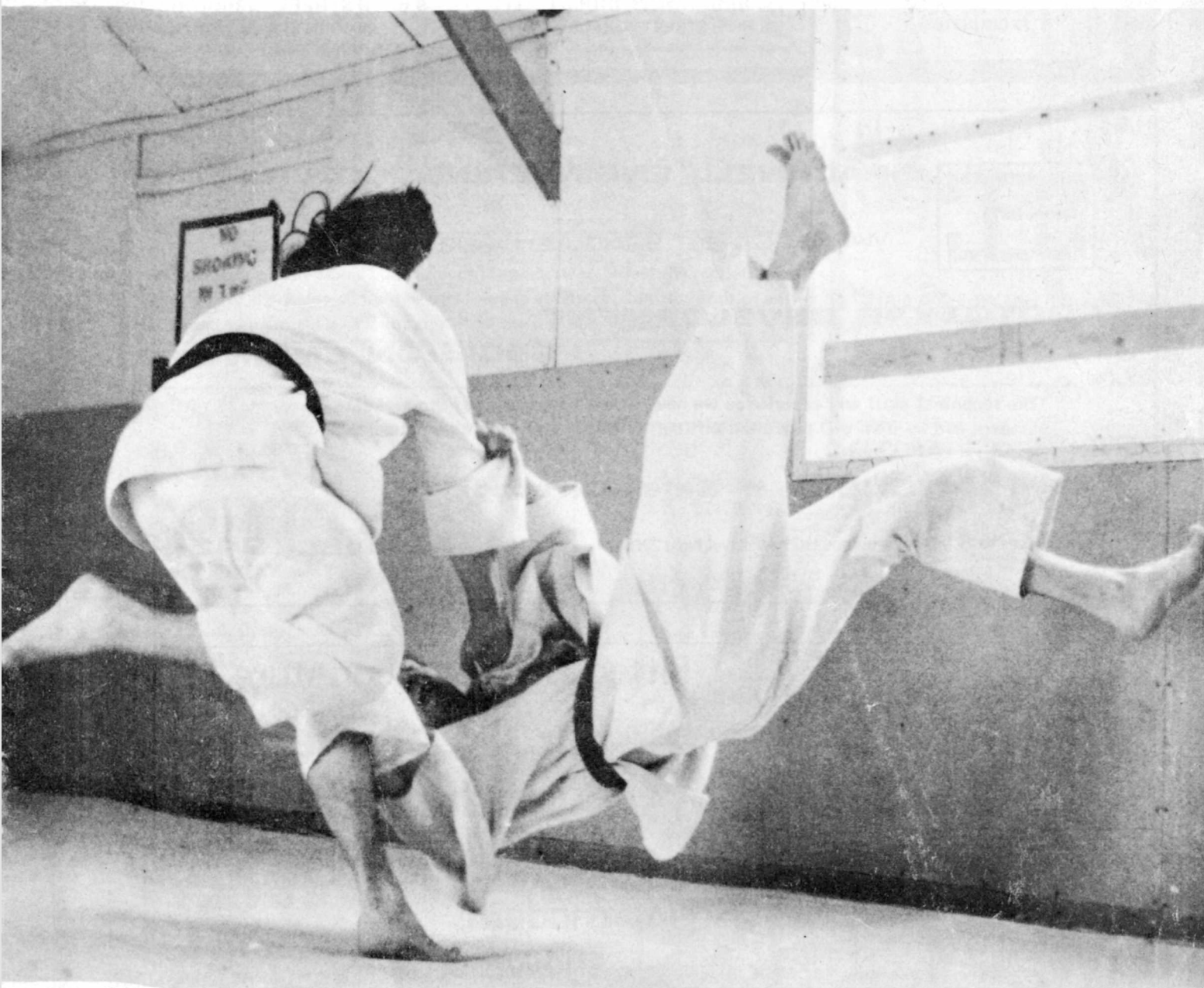


NOVEMBER 1972

3p

Harlequin

Leisure Magazine of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Research Group and Associated Organisations



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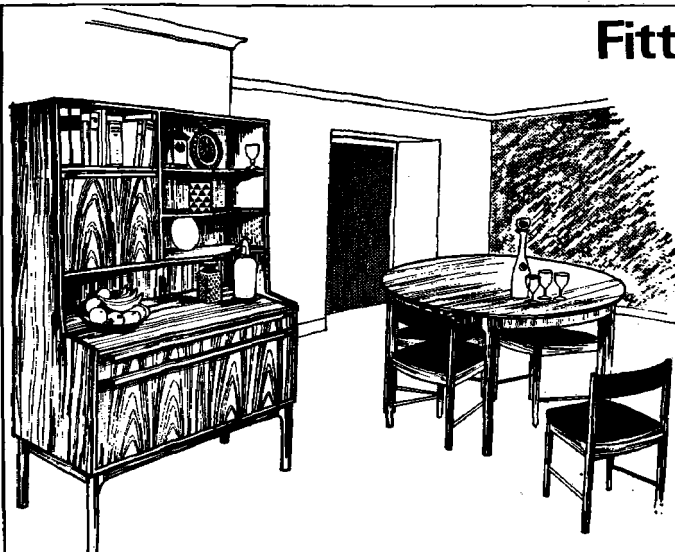
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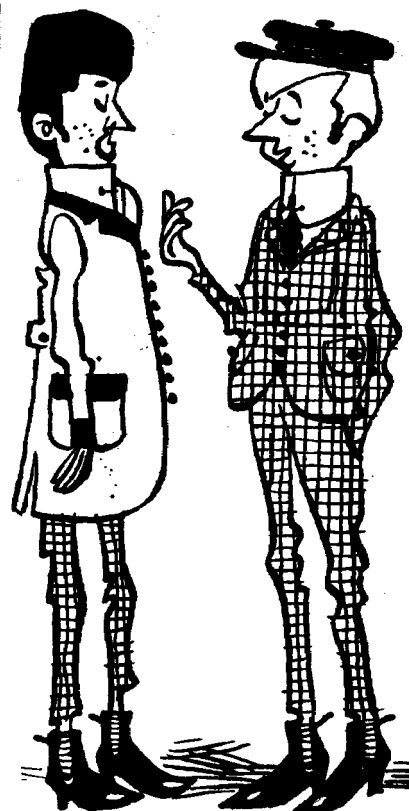
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ED. ASSISTANT DR. R. B. JACOBI
SALES MANAGER J. D. GULLY
TREASURER R. WAKEFIELD

COVER PICTURE DAVE BAKER THROWING ROBIN LASCELLES WITH HARAIGOSHI IN A TRAINING SESSION AT AERE JUDO CLUB.

HERE AND NOW

"Harlequin" depends on Divisional and club correspondents to reflect the aspirations and achievements of the Research Centres at work and at leisure. Contributions of all sorts are required to maintain a new image of local interest and topicality.



"Same with my old man—so old fashioned when it comes to clothes"

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Out o' Doors in November

W. E. Norvell, Grounds Dept.

By repute, November is dark and forbidding. Brightened briefly by fireworks on the 5th, it is otherwise just something to be suffered between the pageant of autumn and the first Christmas freak-out, (the Grounds Department dinner is on December 1st this year). There will be fog and frost, rain and wind, and probably power cuts and punctures and fuel bills and domestic crises.

But it isn't all bad.

There will also be clear, sunny days, shining like diamonds in a dull seam, when nature's November face will be seen to be no less beautiful than any other.

The oak retains its leaves longer than most of our common trees, and oak woods now are a study in warm brown. Beech, hornbeam and elm still add their own particular brush-strokes to the canvas, but gradually the bare branches are revealed in attitudes and angles peculiar to each species.

The trained eye can identify these silhouettes with accuracy, but it needs the right kind of training. Army training, apparently, is the wrong kind. Bill Young of Nimrod Division at Rutherford, who has a good eye for a tree, was taken to task once in his orienteering training for identifying a skyline tree as an oak. He was told in colourful terms that there weren't any oaks in the army—they were either "poplars" or "bushy-tops", and nothing in between.

The "bushy-tops" of our Berkshire elms are incomparable in winter. Most of the farmland trees in this area seem to be of great age, and it is to be hoped that landowners are doing something towards replacement planting to continue a fine traditional feature. There is promise now of a cure for Dutch elm disease—some pioneering work in this field has been done locally—and it is a near certainty that this scourge will be brought under control before too long.

As the flowers disappear from the garden, attention turns to the greenhouse where winter's sting can be drawn to some degree. Those critical daily tasks of watering and ventilation and temperature control, which have brought many a good man to his knees, can now be automatically controlled without too much expense. Such innovations are resisted by the purist, as depriving him of the disciplines of husbandry which enhance his pleasure in the end product, but it does mean that the less pure can leave the greenhouse without fear over even a fortnight's holiday.

A small fan, mounted at the end of the

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The greenhouse, where life goes on during the dark months.

house and controlled by a thermostat, will take care of ventilation and summer temperature, and there are many automatic heating systems available to provide the right conditions in winter. A toilet cistern controlling the water level through a sand bench will water plants by capillary action. Said quickly, this sounds like a packaged horticultural heaven, but it still lacks that mystical gardening commodity, "green fingers", which hasn't been bottled yet and without which the most up-to-date equipment is valueless.

With the ridge of the greenhouse running north-south—as it is generally supposed to do—maximum sunlight is admitted during the summer when it's not needed. Set on the other axis, more light is admitted during the darker months when the sun describes a shallow arc, and when every extra lumen is worth having. The ideal house, for the less-than-pure, is a fully automated lean-to on a south wall, directly accessible from indoors, with a place for a comfortable chair and room enough to swing a Sunday paper.

The use of scented plants in the closed atmosphere of a greenhouse adds another dimension of enjoyment. A very evocative autumn smell is that of chrysanthemums; it is a stately-home sort of smell rather than a sensuous after-shave, but what's wrong with a touch of quality?

The chrysanthemum, most stately of flowers, comes into its own in November. Competition has fallen by the wayside, and, given a greenhouse, perfect blooms can be produced right up to Christmas with little trouble.

Basically hardy, the plants need protection only from rain and frost. They ask no more of life than regular feeding to keep the leaves bright and healthy, plenty of ventilation, and just enough heat to keep the frost out.

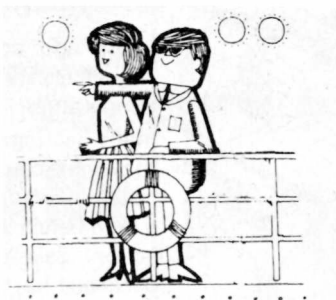
Cut them in cool conditions—morning or evening—and stand them in a deep bucket of water overnight in a cool place before taking them indoors. Their life can be prolonged by shortening the stems every week, and by moving them to a cool, light room when not needed in the warmer areas of the house.

BIRDS

Bird-watching is a hobby for all seasons, and the noting of our winter visitors is a high point in the year. Locally, the flooded pits, which are a legacy of the sand and gravel extraction business, have become gathering points for all kinds of birds and provide at least one example—the little ringed plover—of a bird actually fostered by industry. The pits at Standlake, Dorchester, Farmoor and Radley are probably the biggest and best for bird life, and every year rare visitors are recorded.

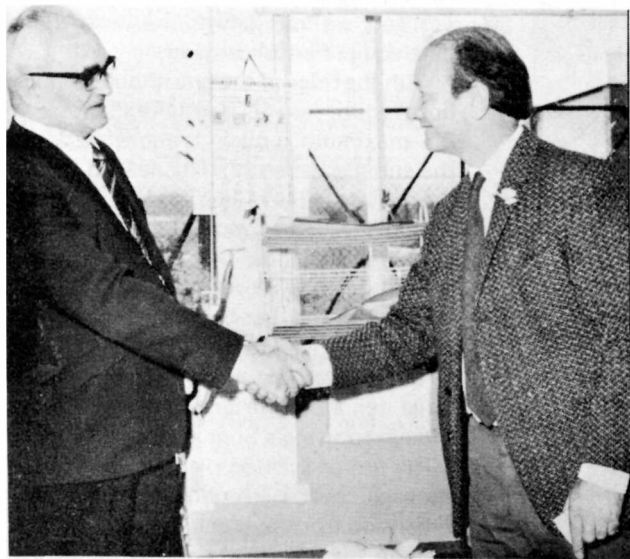
The flowing winter lines of the white poplars at Bldg. 429.





WIDER HORIZONS

—LOOKING FORWARD TO RETIREMENT



About to embark on his retirement Bob Chambers, left, receiving a hand shake from Peter Varney.

Studies show that there is a general unpreparedness among those in their fifties and sixties. Instead of being "all the things you've always wanted", retirement can bring anti-climax. At Harwell, the course "Preparation for Retirement" proves valuable for all grades, and the Research Group Retirement Fellowship continues to grow.

For those who have not yet considered the problems that this sudden change in one's life can bring, *Mervyn Barnes*, who has now been retired for three years from the Harwell Pass Office, offers these suggestions:

1. Ensure, as far as possible, that you will be financially independent, so that you can live comfortably and not have to stint, and have a few bob (or rather new pennies) over for holidays and amusements.
2. Take advantage of any concessions offered to pensioners in cinemas or on buses. You are entitled to them.
3. Don't try to do too much. Let the youngsters get on with it.
4. Never get up in the morning until you are ready, unless it is for your own benefit.
5. Always pretend to agree with younger people even if you think they are crazy, and avoid an "I told you so" attitude.
6. Keep cheerful and never grumble, and you should be happy and make plenty of friends.

HAVE YOU GOT FIVE YEARS

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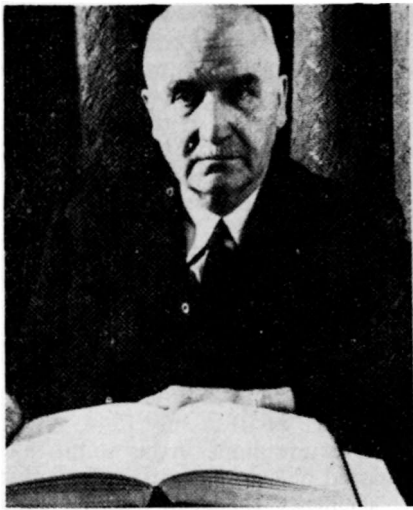
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Lord Cherwell

and the V Weapons

By E.J.S. Clarke, Research Group Financial Controller

- At R.A.F. Harwell, bombing and machine gunning by enemy aircraft caused casualties among both airmen and civilian workmen, but the V1 which arrived had largely psychological repercussions. Coming in at about 4 am one morning and travelling approximately from east to west, it flew up the long runway to explode in the field between where DIDO now stands and where Downs House once stood. Only slight damage was done to greenhouses and the front entrance of the property, but there were fears that this V1 heralded the start of precision bombing by pilotless aircraft. Without our hindsight of today, which suggests an erratic course for the rocket, the decision that personnel must be slept off the target area was a wise one, and property was requisitioned for this purpose at Chilton, West Ilsley and East Hendred, which were considered "off-target".
- In this article, the author draws on his experience as Personal Assistant to Lord Cherwell in describing the attitude of the Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister towards the V weapons.

LORD Cherwell, Paymaster General, was a member of the War Cabinet from 1942 to 1945. In that capacity, and as Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister, he exercised a unique influence. No other scientist has occupied quite such a position and none other has been able to play so important a part in his country's technological direction at so vital a time. Cherwell acted on his own initiative; he consulted widely but depended on no particular organised group. Except to those few whom he trusted, his manner was icy and aloof; he treated those he disliked with savage irony. It is not surprising, therefore, that particularly in scientific circles, and particularly since his death, he has been the subject of concentrated attack associated in many quarters with the expressed wish that no such power should ever again be allowed to rest in the hands of one man.

It is equally natural that his detractors have seized on those occasions where his advice was said to have been wrong. The most frequent attacks have come upon the part which he played in connection with the German V2 rocket. The case against him is that he said the rocket was a hoax. Some rockets arrived in England; therefore Cherwell was wrong. In a book published in 1964 by Mr. David Irving, ("The Mare's Nest"), on the V weapons, many of the resentments aroused by Cherwell can be found congealed. In that book, Cherwell's views are summarised as being due to a distaste for rocketry and to jealousy of a Junior Minister who was then in charge of the intelligence effort.

"So strong were these feelings" . . . (that he) "allowed them to rule his reasoning and he talked himself into defending a false and unscientific position which he must himself have increasingly believed to be indefensible".

To appreciate the part played by Cherwell, one must grasp the aims of the Germans who developed and brought into production the V2 weapon. These were:

1. To develop the first long range rocket as the fundamental step towards an interplanetary vehicle. The concepts which led to the V2 can be traced back to the Berlin Interplanetary Society in pre-war days, and those who most inspired the development, in particular Dr. Wernher Von Braun, never lost their long term aim. Although Von Braun spent a short period in prison for

speaking of the interplanetary objectives which he had in mind, he survived, to become a leading figure of the American post-war astronautical effort.

2. From 1937, when the experimental establishment at Peenemünde was established by the Army Ordnance Department, the whole project became exclusively military. At no point, however, did the V2 have any prospect of becoming a sensible war weapon. Its developers were absorbed with delivering a missile over the range of 100 miles or more and never chose to reflect that the warhead could not be greater than one ton. This was established as early as March, 1940 when the A4 design took shape. It was equally clear that the V2 as a weapon must be hopelessly cost-ineffective. The cost was eventually reduced to some £40,000 per missile all in, without counting the experimental costs. This was approximately the cost of a Lancaster bomber, so that on the basis of ten trips for a Lancaster bomber with a total delivery of some 75 tons of explosive in a reasonably well defined chosen area, all that the V2 offered was one ton for the same cost delivered in a far less determinate area. The V1, the pilotless aircraft, on the other hand, carried the same tonnage of explosive at a cost of about £300, and made relatively little demand on R & D and on critical production items. That the Germans, having the choice of both weapons, should have decided to produce both was partly because at a critical comparative trial held on May 26th, 1943, there were two V1 failures and two apparently perfect V2 shots—although there was a deviation from the expected line of flight of 17,000 metres. It was partly due to the determination of the Army to have its own weapon; and to the relatively low standing and abilities at that time of the Air Force. But it was mainly because at that stage of the war, the Nazis' need was for a revenge weapon and a long range rocket appeared much more horrific than a mere small pilotless aircraft.

3. But for propaganda, it was useless to have a weapon which, however unusual, had only a warhead of one ton. In Göbbel's hands, therefore, the V2 was endowed with a ten ton warhead. Leaks to this effect were assiduously planted by the German upon the British Intelligence, and apparently convincing reports converged from many quarters of London which appeared to indicate a ten ton weapon.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO V WEAPONS

The V1 was a midwing monoplane pilotless aircraft with an all-up weight of two tons and a range of 160–250 miles. The power unit was a pulse jet using low grade aviation spirit. It was launched either from a ramp (the take off using the hydrogen peroxide-permanganate of potash reaction) or from a piloted aircraft. The first fell on London in June 1944, seven days after 'D' day.

The V2 was a gyroscopically stabilised finned rocket with an all-up weight of 13 tons and a range of 200–250 miles. It was fuelled with ethyl alcohol, water and liquid oxygen, and was launched upright from a portable stand on any hard surface. The first arrived in September, 1944.

▶ In the whole period, therefore, from May 1943, shortly after the first detection of the rocket upon a reconnaissance photograph taken of Peenemünde, down to the 9th August 1944, when the 'mare's nest' was finally exposed by reconstruction of rocket fragments which had fallen on a Swedish island, the controversy in Britain raged around a ten ton rocket. This was the figure quoted in April 1943 by the first report commissioned by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In an interim report of June 1943, the rocket had shrunk to two to eight tons. But in the report signed by twelve scientists and engineers of 24th October, 1943, it was stated that the existing scientific knowledge made it possible to design single stage rockets, i.e. compatible with the reconnaissance photographs, with a range of 130 miles and a warhead of five to fifteen tons (ten to twenty tons with a 15% advance on known techniques). Sir Stafford Cripps reported on the 2nd November 1943 that "there was nothing impossible in a ten ton warhead at a range of 130 miles". As late as July 16th 1944, the evidence of craters at Blizna and Peenemünde was held to indicate a warhead of three to seven tons.

These terrifying estimates led the Ministry of Home Security to expect up to 4,000 deaths per rocket with 100,000 deaths per month; and to set up the "Black Plan" to evacuate much of London. Later there was some danger of an effect on the Normandy invasion plan and even of attempting an assault on the Pas-de-Calais which it was one of Hitler's major objectives to provoke. A considerable, and mainly misdirected Allied counter bombing effort was actually carried out.

Cherwell had been through this sort of thing before. He knew of the effect which the Air Ministry estimates of 40,000 deaths from bombing per day had had in the early stages of the war. He recalled his struggle against the myth of a 1940/1 Luftwaffe twice its real size. He knew that Nazi frightfulness too easily crept across the channel into certain Whitehall minds. By 1943 the growing Allied offensive must not be turned back into defensive measures. He knew—what his opponents, not within the inner circle could not—of the nature and broad timing of Allied invasion plans.

Cherwell was satisfied from first to last that the rocket could not be an important weapon. His view, stated on 27th April 1943, within a few days of the first alarming reports, was that "... at the most something equivalent to a 2,000 lb. bomb would arrive in London at the end of it all." To this view, based at that stage, admittedly, on a supposed multi-stage cordite rocket, he steadfastly adhered. He knew of the possibility of liquid fuels but was more realistic than others as to the overall consequences in the ratio of warhead to all up weight. He understood that fundamental mathematical calculations on this ratio could not be carried into engineering reality. He did not fall into the trap of taking the best possible energy figures for each liquid fuel without reckoning on their particular handicaps in the light of basic knowledge of the time. He was satisfied that the margin of error in his calculations from the Peenemünde

rocket as photographed was between a warhead of nil and one ton. The rocket was, therefore, either a hoax or a senseless weapon. The only wise course was to assume that the enemy was rational; therefore the hoax assumption should be pursued till disproved. If the enemy was irrational, he would defeat himself by incurring costs out of proportion with the damage he could inflict; but if he provoked irrational counter measures he could be the net gainer after all.

Cherwell's objective as the Allied invasion approached, therefore, was to prevent the wasteful dissipation of effort which Hitler wanted. He stuck to this even when certain scientists appeared to have valuable arguments. Lurid stories have been told of the Defence Committees on 29th June, 25th and 28th October 1943, and also of a later Committee on 18th July 1944. At all these, Lord Cherwell was quite alone in his stand that the ten ton warhead existed only in Göbbels' mind. But he felt that the twelve scientists' report of 24th October confused theoretical with practical probabilities. He was indeed jolted by the swift change of view of four leading scientists during 28th October; he was disconcerted (though undeflected) by wavering on the part of the Director of Air Ministry Intelligence—in whom he had the greatest confidence—in June 1943 and July 1944. He was only seriously upset when he felt he had lost Mr. Churchill's absolute confidence. To lose that confidence even temporarily was to Cherwell to be wretched indeed. But even that could not alter his judgement.

At length (on, I think, 9th August 1944) the 'mare's nest' was exposed. Reconstruction of rocket fragments and proof of the fuel showed that the warhead was about 1 ton. The relief of Cherwell's staff on this day was enormous, for their belief in the probability of Cherwell's being right, against so much and so varied an opposition, had sometimes flickered. Cherwell felt no such relief. The answer was in the range of calculated probability and therefore not surprising.

Actually the warhead was 1,650 lbs. 1,700 people were killed in the total V2 bombardment: less than half of those imagined by the Ministry of Home Security for a single burst, and scarcely more than the road deaths over the same period. Cherwell's stand was vindicated by the once sceptical Chiefs of Staff, for when the bombardment started they refused to divert any bomber effort to counter it. Indeed had the entire German tested production been used, the scale of attack would not have been strategically dangerous. On August 15th Cherwell wrote to Mr. Churchill "... Hitler would, I think, be justified in sending to a concentration camp whoever advised him to persist in such a project". Albert Speer was not sent to Spandau for that reason!

It would be wrong to conclude without reference to the V1. On 29th June 1943, Cherwell secured a directive from the Defence Committee that a report on Pilotless Aircraft must be prepared and that the Director of Air Ministry Intelligence must be associated with it. On 3rd December, Cherwell reported to Mr. Churchill details of the V1 and its launching sites. On 18th December, he predicted the warhead of one ton, the method of propulsion, the inaccuracy of aim, the speed, the launching rate and the resultant death rate. Every prediction—based again on material supplied through Air Ministry Intelligence—proved fantastically accurate when the bombardment started.

Had Cherwell been fully believed throughout, a muddled system of counter measures would have been avoided; our attacks would have been devoted to V1 objectives and effective ways of countering the V1 on arrival would have been considered earlier. But he did prevent the diversion of effort to supposed V2 objectives from reaching significant proportions. This he did alone, and had it not been for him, a significant Nazi objective might have been attained.

Between the Ridgeway and that other ancient track the Icknield Way lies this ancient village of Chilton, nearest neighbour to the "new town" of AERE.



PROBABLY no village in Berkshire has been more affected by the sprawling mass of buildings which comprise the atomic establishment at Harwell than that of Chilton.

What it has lost on the swings of a desecrated countryside and intrusion on former privacy and seclusion, it has gained on the roundabouts of an increased population, a large modern school, more houses, and obviously more employment. These advantages have at least enabled it to preserve its identity as a village, unlike so many other isolated Berkshire villages that have almost ceased to exist, since all the young people naturally go further afield and public transport ignores those who remain.

Picturesque Chilton a sharp contrast to Harwell

KEITH B POOLE

"Chilton" is the postal address of the Rutherford Laboratory and Atlas Computer, which lie at AERE's south-west gate, but as a village Chilton must at one time have been much more important than it is today.



Viewed from the Downs, oats, barley and wheat stretch as far as the eye can see in abundant pastures, for this is rich farming country—and in the middle is CHILTON

Photos: E.C. Paine

Reproduced by permission of "Newbury Weekly News".

This ancient village of Chilton, visited by Edward II in 1321, is a happy blend of thatched, timbered, and brick cottages in a winding street, a curious well, manor farmhouse, and beautiful old church, is in sharp contrast to the nearby mass of box-like and sinister buildings, tall chimneys and reactors, which unfortunately dominate the whole countryside for miles.

The scene is even worse by night when the sky for miles around is discoloured by the unearthly artificial glare the establishment so effectively produces.

On a rise of the Downs above the village one can look down on its red roofs, barns, stables, farmlands and small church, surely one of the smallest in the county, with a great pleasure at so harmonious a setting.

For motorists and walkers alike there can surely be no more beautiful countryside than that between Chilton and the even more remote village of Farnborough.



Here may be seen illimitable acres of farmland, spread out in all directions in an immense sweep.

This is also the countryside of the vast ploughlands and meadows of the lower chalk bench backed by the steep climb to the Ridgeway, that age old track running along the crest of the Downs, and across the whole of Berkshire into Wiltshire.

It is a lonely world of sheep, horses, cattle, and wild birds; an unchanging and eternal world of incomparable beauty to those who know and love it, and travel over it on foot, for this belongs entirely to walkers, or used to before cars began to invade it.

Chilton lies between this and another ancient track known as the Icknield Way, two of the four Royal roads, as they were called, the others being the Portway and Old Street, according to ancient documents. It was linked to all of these by the many and varied tracks radiating from each one, intersecting, breaking off in many directions, but all used, especially and much later by mules and smugglers.

In the year 970 King Eadgar granted lands to the great Abbey of Winchester, the grant mentioning both the Ridgeway and the Icknield Way as boundaries, and including the township, as it was then registered, of Chilton.

Long before these times, however, the countryside had been discovered by ancient Britons, Saxons, Danes, and Romans. Here, because of the wide sweeping contours of the land, the great earthwork camps and hill forts were built; Uffington, Letcombe, Segsbury, and Lowbury Hill, to mention only a few.

In 1803, between Hagbourne Hill and Chilton, a pre-historic hoard was discovered, and on Chilton Down is a great barrow near which is a supposedly large Roman burial ground.

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The original tower of All Saints Church at Chilton was smashed down by Cromwell's troops before retreating in haste from the Royalists.

Chilton has had many names; in the 11th century Cillestone, Ciltone, Chiltune or Chiltuna, and in the 12th century, Childestuna. This last caused so much trouble to the place-name pundits that they decided this meant "Children's Town," a derivation as ridiculous as it is inaccurate. They also believed that this name indicated an unusual kind of Saxon settlement, perhaps for lost or delinquent churls?

One of the parish boundaries is the ancient Grimsdyke, difficult to date, but constantly turning up in the county.

Chilton must have been at one time a much more important place than it is today, for at the time of the Domesday Survey it had not one manor but two, a rare thing. They had both been held under Edward the Confessor by one Wenric, but were granted by William the Conqueror to William Fitz-Other, whose descendants assumed the name of Windsor on being appointed wardens of Windsor Castle.

The manor descent of Chilton passed on through the Windsors to the Lascelles, thence to the Danvers, who held it for several generations. Under their overlordship the village was always referred to as Chilton Danvers. They paid a nominal rent of "one clove gilly flower." It finally came into the hands of the Hungerfords, and then to Colonel Loyd Lindsay, VC, KCB, who was created Lord Wantage.

The second manor, also held by Wenric, was granted to him by the Abbey of Abingdon. It had at one time been held by Blachemen, under Earl Harold. Blachemen was a very wealthy priest, also a dissolute one, and in 1050 he fled from England with the mother of Earl Harold. All his lands were consequently forfeited, and the manor was not restored to the Abbot of Abingdon until he had made repeated and prolonged requests to William the Conqueror to do so.

The Abingdon Chronicle further relates that long before the priest, the estates and manor belonged to Wulfget, who lost both because of plotting against King Ethelred, who gave them to the Bishop of Ramsbury, who conveyed them back to the Abbey of Abingdon.

There were also, much later, two other manors, those of Gainsfords and Symons (1468-9), which finally came into the possession of Lord Overstone, the father of Lady Wantage.

The very small church of All Saints standing in its neat, well kept churchyard, with lovely views of the Berkshire countryside, is as cared for inside as outside. The interior is almost a study in white, full of light and clarity, always an outstanding feature of G. E. Street who, in 1876, restored the extremely high pitched chancel, originally of the year 1200.

Other interesting features are a blocked north Norman doorway, and probably the south one, and the priest's doorway also. The oddly positioned south arcade is 13th century.

The clear glass windows add even more light to the church and are mostly Perpendicular. The only harsh feature of the whole interior is the violent 19th century East window, designed by J. F. Bentley and executed by Nat Westlake. The font is probably 12th century and is curious for having nine sides, eight flat and one rounded, and is lead lined.

There were once four bells, one of which was the second oldest bell cast at the famous Wokingham bell foundry. It was later recast but formerly bore the familiar crowned cross, lion's head and coin, carrying the inscription "Ave Maria" in large letters, each of them crowned.



The original steeple was smashed down by Cromwellian troops, and a new one built in the 19th century. Preserved in the tower are two 12th century carved headstops, one the head of a bear, the other a grotesque human head.

In the days of revels and fairs Chilton held a special church feast just before Whit Sunday, when booths and stalls were fitted up both inside and outside the church, another one of the many delightful but lost Berkshire traditions.

The first rector was Philip Bassett, who was summoned in 1275 for building a wall which encroached on the King's highway. In 1641 Chilton made the protestation ordered by the House of Commons to maintain and defend the Protestant religion.

During the Commonwealth Thomas Lawrence was ejected from the living as "non compos mentis," and Holyday Barter inducted. He had been chaplain to Charles I and Archdeacon of Oxford since 1626. He was a translator and a dramatist, and wrote a play which was performed before James I, who, however, found it so dull that he was with difficulty restrained from walking out before the end. At the Restoration Lawrence, presumably once more "compos mentis," was re-instated to his living. As stated in the church records Adam Head charged lands in Harwell Fields with 10/- a year for the poor in Christmas week. A further bequest was left by a lady for bread to be distributed to the poor on New Year's Day.

Opposite and below the church stands what still remains of the Manor House of the Latton family, who came here from nearby Upton in the reign of Henry VIII. It is now completely modernised. It once contained some splendid woodwork and armorial glass, but was sold by the landlord to an Abingdon antique dealer for £16 to pay for repairs. A massive oak table, formerly in the kitchen, disappeared at the same time to someone in Chippenham.

John, one of the Latton family, represented Oxford in Parliament in 1529, and became treasurer and governor of the Inner Temple. There is a fine brass of him and his wife in Blewbury church.

In 1644, a few days after the second battle of Newbury, Chilton narrowly escaped being a major battlefield, for only one day after Cromwell's troops had smashed down the church steeple and damaged other property, the Royalist troops, in hot pursuit, swept into the village to find that the Roundheads had retreated in haste a few hours before.

All these events are a far cry indeed from the peaceful, isolated village it is today, forgetful even of its own history. Just as difficult to believe is the recorded statement of the great Berkshire walker, J. R. A. Hockin, who wrote as good a book as any on Berkshire. In the year 1934 he records: "I paid 2/6 for an excellent dinner, bed and breakfast at the 'Horse and Jockey' inn." Happy days indeed, and part of the long ago and almost forgotten history of this still charming little Berkshire village.

VIEWPOINT

Fred Roberts (Group Marketing Unit)

I once saw a film which impressed me very much. It only lasted ten minutes or so. Although the message was simple enough, it came over in very dramatic fashion. It was about an English boys' boarding school, normal in every respect except for the fact that all the boys were hopping about everywhere they went, and all hopping on the right foot. After some time, you began to notice that one boy was hopping on his left foot. At first this went unnoticed, until suddenly one of the others started back in horror; he pointed out the fellow, shouting, "Look, he's different!" Gradually, more and more boys noticed the one who was different, and followed him about, staring curiously. Eventually, the whole school was hopping after him and he quickened his rate of hopping, panic beginning to show on his face. The film finished with shots of the poor boy hopping off into the distance, the rest of the school pursuing furiously, all hopping on the other foot, and hate

showing on every face. This, of course, revealed not only how ridiculous it can be for a community to be down on the person or the minority who are different from the majority in some way, but also how vicious and horrible the community can be towards any member who does not conform.

Most people wish to be accepted as one of the pack; they hate to be stared at and talked about because they are different. This applies to standards of fashion, manners, customs, social behaviour, ethics and morals. The 'conformity law' can be very valuable in maintaining order and stability in society. It makes for a comfortable existence because everyone knows what to expect from others in any situation; people feel safe and relaxed. This is of great help to those responsible for the maintenance of what we call 'law and order'.

Now, of course, a human society does not stay completely static for very long. Changes are constantly being tried out, new things tend to catch on, but the pioneers generally have a rough time at the beginning. Let us assume that a new fashion, a new code of behaviour is emerging. As it spreads through the community, eventually we must reach some point where 50% of the people have adopted the new, while 50% still follow the old way. How do we ever get past the point in time when no one can say what is the norm for society to follow? Maybe one should not worry too much about this philosophical point; obviously we do get past the half-way mark. The point is that things are more complicated than this. Take an apparently simple case, hair styles. I remember the horror which many ordinary people experienced when they first saw the Beatles with long hair on T.V. some years ago. One might be tempted to generalise and say that long hair is the norm for youth of today, but is it not a fact that we now have a situation where anything goes for a hair style? The whole thing has been opened up, as it were. Motorway workers have their long hair, so do many schoolboys, but we also have the 'skin-head' style, and the bushy sideboards and beards of various types. And maybe all this variety is a good thing. But I would challenge the statement that any of these styles are *new*. (Get out the family photograph album; look at pictures of Gladstone, Samuel Pepys, King Charles . . .)

The conformity law obviously does not work for everyone, and the writer has often taken a perverse pride in being the odd man out, rebuked by his father on this score—"You must always be different from everyone else, Fred. Why can't you be normal?" Owing to a rebellious attitude of mind towards those who say we must do a thing this way 'because we always have', and because I am neither shy nor bothered about making a fool of myself (do I hear a voice saying, "Nature has saved you the trouble"?) it has not been compulsive for me always to conform. And I think that on balance my life has so far been the more interesting and somewhat richer in experience because of this.



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One of the hopeful things for society is that many youngsters of today do not need encouraging in this direction. It can be a very good thing for society to have a good proportion of young people who want to try new things, who want to reject those ways of behaving which we can *only* justify on the basis that we have always acted that way in the past. That is insufficient justification in my view. On the other hand, do not let us kid ourselves that something is new if it really is not. Let the community be kind and tolerant with the tiny minority who want to try out new things for size, and conversely let those who consider themselves to be 'with it' not be too harsh on the 'squares' who find it difficult to adapt themselves to new fashions, new customs and new ways of living.



Mystery photograph—identified below.

Codewords

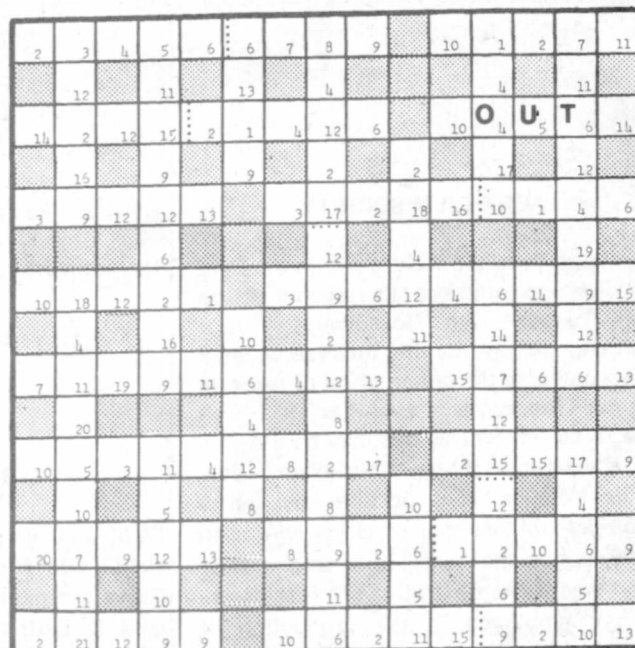
THIS crossword puzzle has only one clue — the word that is already printed in it. Notice the number alongside each letter of the clue word. Where this number re-appears elsewhere in the puzzle, the letter is also repeated. Fill in these known letters first then work out remainder. Dotted lines indicate hyphens or linked words, where these occur.

Now test your skill: Experts, 12 to 15 minutes; goodish, 20 minutes; average, 30 minutes. SOLUTION NEXT MONTH.

SOLUTION TO LAST PROBLEM

1 S; 2 T; 3 E; 4 P; 5 D; 6 X; 7 R;
8 A; 9 C; 10 I; 11 G; 12 H; 13 L;
14 N; 15 O; 16 U; 17 M; 18 F; 19 Y;
20 W; 21 B; 22 Z.

Reared by
Elizabeth Walters
of Bldg. 424—
genus cucumbers
Mystery photograph



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CONTRIBUTOR TO THIS ISSUE

Education

Ipswich Grammar School and Magdalen College, Oxford

Assistant Principal,
Ministry of Health 1936

Personal Assistant to Lord Cherwell
1943–45 and 1951–53

Principal Private Secretary to Minister of Health (Aneurin Bevan) 1947–48

Assistant Secretary,
Ministry of Health 1948–1951



E.J.S. Clarke

Principal Metals Officer, UKAEA 1954–
Principal Finance Officer,
UKAEA 1962–70

Financial Controller,
Research Group 1971–

Member (various times) Reactor, Engineering, Weapons, Production and Research Management Boards

Other Interests

Territorial Army 1936–1961

Civil Defence 1961–1968

Metropolitan Borough of Wandsworth,
Councillor, 1968–1971

Harwell Diary

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Tuesday 14 November

7.30 pm at SRC Lecture Theatre

A talk: 'Alpines Without a Rock Garden' by Mr. J. Elliot, Broadwell Nursery

Tickets 15p from any Committee Member

Dick Wiseman, Ext. 2199, H 10.

ALL WELCOME



A training session at AERE



▲ Uchimata

Dave Baker throwing Robin Lascelles



◀ Taiotoshi

JUDO CLUB

AERE FILM SOCIETY

FilmSoc Two, the society within the Film Society, commences its second season on Tuesday, 7th November. In four programmes at monthly intervals we shall be examining the presentation of truth on film. "The camera never lies" is a well worn cliché. Whereas this may be true in a literal sense, it bears closer examination. For instance, it is possible, by skilful selection of material or clever editing to manipulate the 'facts' so as to distort or even conceal the truth. These skills are often employed in the production of propaganda films and our first film is perhaps the most famous and notorious example of this genre.

Leni Riefenstahl was commissioned by Adolf Hitler to record the 1936 Nuremberg Rally. She succeeded in making a very disturbing film which after 36 years still has the power to send shivers up most peoples' spines. So much so that the film remains banned to the general public. Presumably it is considered that the Nazi message implicit throughout the film is still too attractive to the very impressionable. We hope to discuss this point and others after the film. We were only able to show the film after giving assurances to the Imperial War Museum that it formed part of a bona fide series examining "The Approach to Truth"—the title of the series.

Information on the other films to be shown in FilmSoc Two this season can be obtained from D. Arkell Ext. 4763. The subscription is £1.00.

▲ Tsurikomioshi

RIFLE CLUB

Club's 21st Anniversary Rifle Shoot An eight-a-side friendly match was shot at Grove last month with teams from Buckland & District R.C. and from British Legion Abingdon R.C. in glorious sunny weather. It was nice to see all 24 firing points in use together, the match being shot shoulder to shoulder. Freddy Foxon came along and officiated as Range Officer and George Barnes, Chief Stats. Officer for Berkshire, ably carried out Stats. duty assisted by Jim McIntyre. The match was a full Dewar course i.e. 20 shots at 50 and 20 at 100 yards, the best six scores to count. B.L. Abingdon won the match with an aggregate of 2,304 ex 2,400. A.E.R.E. came 2nd with 2,281 and Buckland 3rd with 2,274. Top scorer was Derek Messenger, B.L. Abingdon, with 394 ex 400. Six of our members also used the match as the Final of the Club Championship. This was ably won by Harold Wise with 387 ex 400, and which he deserves after a very successful shooting season. Close behind came John Winter with 385 and Gordon Biddle with 384. The match was a fitting end to our 1972 outdoor .22 rifle season.

Adults grading under BJA promotion syllabus: Graham Simms from ungraded straight to Orange Belt; Neil Harris from Yellow to Orange Belt; B. Turnbull from Orange to Green Belt.

Caron Groves our phenomenal, fighting, fifteen-year-old girl has done it again, and moved up to adult Green Belt only 10 months after her first Judo lesson, beating 4 adult Orange Belts in the process. Competition Results in the BJA National Championships: AERE entered 3 boys at count level; 10-year-old Tony Steer was unfortunately injured, but Mark Brabben, our under-50kg entry, won a silver medal and Chris Savage, our under-55kg entry, won a gold medal. These two then competed at Harrow for the Northern Home Counties Championship where Mark was eliminated after 3 contests, but Chris won a bronze medal.

Representing the Northern Home Counties at the National Championships at the Crystal Palace on Saturday 14 October, Chris Savage never really found his proper form and was eliminated after 4 contests. Hard luck, but well done for getting that far.

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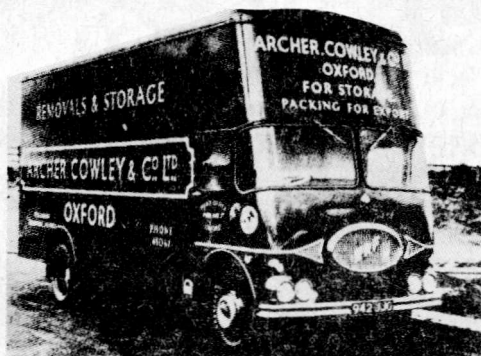
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