

Dr. Helen Fry | The Spies Who Changed the World, Part 1

- Great to be back, and great to be talking again about spies. I thought I would come at it at a slightly different angle today, and I hope you enjoy some of the material that I've prepared. I've got a lot of material, I probably won't be taking questions in this session. What I hope is that you'll enjoy the material that I'm offering today, and I'm going to send across a few book titles for anyone who wants to read in more detail. And Judy, one of the team, will send that out with a reminder ahead of next week. But in the meantime, of course, there are the well-known books "Spycatcher" by Peter Wright. That will be a really good one to have a look at. I think most people have probably got it on their bookshelf, but if not, you might want to try and get hold of a copy before next week. Peter Wright, spelt with a W, his controversial book, "Spycatcher," I think you'll really enjoy. And Ben Macintyre's book on Kim Philby, "A Spy Amongst Friends," or some such similar title. So do get hold of those. And I will be sending a few more titles through for those of you that really want to do a lot of reading. And I'm starting today, and I think I'll start each week, we've got a three-week course, on spies who changed the course of history. And this quote from the famous spy writer, Frederick Forsyth, of course, author of "The Day of the Jackal", he wrote a few years ago, and I will read it, "The spies in history who can say from their graves, the information I supplied to my masters, for better or worse, altered the history of our planet, they can be counted on the fingers of one hand." And I don't know if he still stands by that quote, but I found that quite shocking and controversial. I mean, is it really true?

I'm not sure if we'll get any closer to that, but I am going to work with you today on some fascinating material about Kim Philby, in particular, after my introduction. Next slide, please. Because, of course, we can very firmly argue that the double agent, Kim Philby, one of the most fascinating spies, I think, and double agents of all time, certainly, one could argue changed the course of history. But of course, just as a kind of broad overview, how many of us, all of us love that spy fiction, we love the films so immortalised by Ian Fleming with his James Bond, 007. Interestingly, when I was doing some research a few years ago, and it was still in the days of when you pretty much used fax machines, the code to Russia was 007, I thought that was quite funny, and probably not coincidental on the part of Fleming when he gave the code name 007 to his character James Bond. And of course, the works of the late John le Carre, absolutely brilliant, and many, many others. And that perception of espionage, of the Secret Service in novels, sometimes sits very closely, sometimes it doesn't. And you have that whole dilemma between fact and fiction. And I don't know if any of you recently watched that TV drama, "The Undeclared War," about the cyber crime, very, very dramatic, really worth watching. And you kind of wonder, how much of this is fiction

and how close is it to the truth? And that's the fascination, I think, that sense of mystery with this, that this topic is just ripe for endless discussions and research. Will we ever know the truth? Of course, from highly top-secret organisations, probably not. But as a historian, who works primarily in the Second World War, well, First World War to Second World War, a little bit of Cold War, on espionage and intelligence, I'm absolutely fascinated because some of the material that's declassified into the archives I think personally reads much better than fiction.

I think it's important to clarify the difference between MI5 and MI6. So I'm talking at this from a British perspective today, and some of you of course will know the difference, but I think it is worth outlining. MI5, the British Security Service, is responsible for security on the soil of the United Kingdom, so will be tracking all kinds of subversive terrorist threats, that kind of thing, working very closely, I understand, from their website, with the likes of GCHQ today. MI6 is the agency that works abroad. So gathering intelligence from countries abroad in the interests of the United Kingdom, and working very closely with our allies across the world. And I have to say, right from the start, much of the research I do, what I can glean about these secret services is from the National Archives, I've had no access to MI5 archives, and certainly no historians, apart from their official historian, has had access to MI6 archives. So how do we begin to piece this together? Well, occasionally, there are copies of MI6 files or memos and letters that make it into the National Archives because they're contained in a War Office file or a Foreign Office file. In fact, not so long ago, in the last few years, new material was released by MI5 and the Foreign Office on those Cambridge Five, little bit of Kim Philby material, but lots of stuff on Burgess and Maclean, and I can highly recommend Andrew Lownie's book "Stalin's Englishman," which is the latest and fabulous biography of Guy Burgess. So do have a look at that and it'll be amongst my book list.

Next slide, please. So hopefully, we've got an understanding of the difference between MI5 and MI6. MI6 in particular then, what would be the purpose of a secret service? Just as our background, to steal secrets from others, on the right there you've got one of the spy cameras, of course, we've got different models of spy cameras, little Minox oblong cameras, the one that once sees quite often in museums. It's also to fiercely protect its own secrets. If you think about, just for example, Bletchley Park in the war time, in the Second World War, those secrets were fiercely protected, its existence was fiercely protected so that it could continue to operate and intercept Hitler's messages, and was enabled to crack the Enigma code and listen in to those vital communications between Hitler and his secret service or Hitler and his commanders. And it's also to get others to betray secrets. So they're into stealing secrets, protecting one's own secrets, but also, and this of course is ripe for a lot of novels and drama, to get others to betray secrets.

Next slide, please. So there is that still today, that whole cloak of secrecy and very hard for historians to get to the truth. But we have a pretty good try. MI6, primarily, although, I guess, from looking at its website, its roles might be shifting to evolve in this technological age. But historically, primarily engaged in human intelligence, in gaining information through human interaction, and of course, running spy masters, agents, intelligence offices right across the world. And those agents and operatives are gathering information to send back to the head of MI6 in London. Just a little quirky fact, which you probably do know, but the first head of MI6, Mansfield Cumming, it was too much to keep writing his name in full, so he would just sign his name with a great big C in green ink. And today, it's a tradition that's carried on in MI6, and the head of MI6 signs off in green ink with a green C. And occasionally, when you find a letter in the archives, you turn over the page and there's been signed by one of the heads of MI6, that great big green C. I don't know, for historians, it's actually quite an exciting moment.

Next slide, please. So we are going to look today at Kim Philby. I thought we'd look at a sort of a baddie, if you like, a double agent. I mean, shelves full of books have been written about him. I recommended Ben Macintyre's book. Philby himself wrote his own memoirs, "My Silent War" in which Graham Greene, the spy Graham Greene, gave the foreword, it's a very interesting foreword. Next slide, please. So Philby's closest friend then, Graham Greene, pictured there on the left, wrote that screenplay "The Third Man" set in Vienna after the Second World War. And you get a sense of that, yes, that shadowy, murky world that's emerging into the Cold War, but how close is it to the truth? I really enjoyed probably the novel more than the the film actually. But Graham Greene actually uses a central character who he names Harry Lime, who of course is buried in the first scene. I won't give any more away if you haven't read the book or seen the film. But Philby is the model for that character Harry Lime. But just how close is that fact from fiction? Next slide, please. And there were others, I won't go through all these in detail, but there were other dramatisations, "Traitor" in 1971, actually that's not one that I've seen, "The Jigsaw Man" in '77, there, very early days of plastic surgery still, developing from McIndoe in the Second World War and his work. But that idea of changing the identity of spies with plastic surgery, and of course that central character was again based on Kim Philby. I'm not suggesting Kim Philby at any point had plastic surgery, but this character was sent back to Britain on a spy mission and loosely modelled the story on Kim Philby.

Next slide, please. And I'm not sure how many of you know, but it was always said that Philby's treachery ended the spy career of David Cornwell, otherwise is known as John le Carre, John le Carre being his writing name. The late David Cornwell worked originally for MI5 and then for MI6, had a career in intelligence in Bonn at one point, in

Germany. And it was said that during that period because he was given away by Philby, he was betrayed, his name was portrayed to the Russians, that really he had very little he could do other than to take up a career in writing, which he did with huge success. And don't we just love the fiction that he has written? And I think his last posthumous novel has just come out as well. His autobiography is also worth reading, John le Carre's autobiography, "Pigeon Tunnel".

Next slide, please. So what do we know about Kim Philby? Kim is a sort of name given after Rudyard Kipling's character, but he was born Harold Adrian Russell Philby, I've given you his dates there. He actually became a high ranking member of the British Intelligence Service, MI6. It was believed at one point or the expectation was that he could even become the head of MI6. And if we think about what he went on to do and the betrayal, the betrayal of our nation's closest secrets, most protected secrets, my gosh, if he'd actually become the head of MI6, it doesn't really bear thinking about. We know, this is just very briefly outline, he worked as a double agent, I'll come a little bit more to that shortly, who defected to the Soviet Union in 1963. The height of that early '60s, in that period, within a two to three year period, you've got the Cuban Missile Crisis, you've got the Profumo affair, it's ripe for spies and double agents. And he served in the NKVD, which of course was the Russian Intelligence Service, which was then renamed the KGB, so he worked for them for decades.

Next slide, please. So he rose very high within MI6, as we'll see, as I mentioned, he nearly became the head of MI6. There on the screen, you can see the iconic headquarters of MI6. I love that building, you know, you can't have just an ordinary building, can you, for the headquarters of MI6? I mean it has to be iconic like that, absolutely fabulous. I've never met anyone who's been inside, probably find it's quite boring inside. But I wouldn't mind going in one day. Philby was one of those famous Cambridge spies, the Five Cambridge spies and traitors, himself, Donald Maclean, Guy Burgess, Anthony Blunt, and possibly, although some scholars doubt this. John Cairncross, John Cairncross who worked at Bletchley Park during the Second World War. Anthony Blunt, who became keeper of the Queen's paintings, very close to royal family, of course, he was outed later as a double agent after his confession. So I'm not going to go into the details of all of them in this session, we're just going to focus primarily on Philby.

Next slide, please. So Philby was British born but in India, a son of St John Philby, who'd actually converted to Islam. Very little written about his father, but he had served, was very loyal to his country, served in the Indian Civil Service, and later, became an advisor, became very close to King Sa'ud of Saudi Arabia. Next slide, please. Okay, he was, Philby, Kim Philby was well educated, he's part of that elite that begins to enter the secret intelligence service, MI6, during the 1930s and '40s. If we look at the history of the service before that, the founding members are largely those who have served in

military intelligence, in uniform, in army uniform or in naval uniform and some actually in air force uniform. But we see a transition in the '30s and beyond of a sort of close network of graduates from Oxford and Cambridge. Philby graduates from Trinity College, Cambridge in 1933. He has, in 1933, visited Germany, absolutely appalled by what he sees about the treatment of Jews, of the brutality. And of course, there are newspaper leaks coming out about what's happening. But it's not the same as actually being in Berlin. The impact for him of actually being in Berlin and experiencing the terrifying atmosphere and learning about what was happening to Jewish intellectuals, he vowed he wouldn't go back to Germany. And as far as I'm aware, he didn't go back to Germany, certainly not before the beginning of the Cold War era, and I don't think during the Cold War era. But you see, when he'd finished at Cambridge, he actually wanted to learn German. And so, he says to his tutor about, you know, about learning German, didn't want to do it in Germany. So the next best place is to send him to Vienna, and he is given the details, next slide, please, of the, not secretary, the treasurer, if you like, Litzi Friedmann, who was Jewish. Litzi Friedmann ran the organisation, the communist organisation in Vienna, and was effectively its secretary and treasurer. In '33, '34, the Dollfuss regime actually started to clamp down on communism. '33, '34, you see this intense clash and fights, physical fights on the streets of Vienna, between the extreme far right and extreme far left, and there's very little in between. And so there was not much choice, and this is one of the excuses, if you like, that's given by those that later helped the Russians was that at this period there was no choice. Philby was certainly not going to be right wing, he was not going to follow anywhere near the fascist Nazi kind of ideology. And so, really he saw no other option than to support the communists at that time. Litzi was working with the communists, they'd been driven underground into the sewers of Vienna, and you have images of Graham Greene's novel, and yes, that's after the Second World War, but that whole idea of those who are being hunted down, hiding in the big sewers of Vienna and they could go in one entrance and come out the other side of the city. So that period was, as I say, one of physical fights on the streets of Vienna, Dollfuss' regime actually opened fire on a block of flats at one point, killing a number of people. Philby was a witness to this and he very much decided to actually be an active participant in helping the communists at this time. And he would start to ferry messages for them between Vienna and Prague. He could use his British passport to easily slip in and out with messages across the communist regime. And at that time, of course, he was lodging with Litzi, he fell in love with her and they married in Vienna, I believe it was in the town hall in Vienna, in February, 1934. And in marrying him, she becomes a British citizen and she's given a British passport. And I'm going to raise a few questions a bit later on about this whole period. And during that time, he became quite close friends with a man called Eric Gedye. Gedye is a journalist, who's forgotten these days, but in his day, I suppose he would be the John Suchet or the Kate Adie of the day,

highly respected journalists, British journalists working in Eastern Europe from Vienna. And it was said that Winston Churchill, who of course was not prime minister yet in the '30s, would actually wait for Gedye's reports and trusted his material and, if you like, intelligence. But what we now know was that Eric Gedye was working for British Intelligence, he was working for a man I've written about, and some of you will have heard me speak about, Thomas Joseph Kendrick, who was in Vienna at this time as MI6's most senior spy, working out of the British passport control office. And so you can see, if you haven't made this triangle ready, there are going to be a few questions asked, if Gedye is working for Kendrick, is Kendrick tracking, through Gedye, Philby? Does he know that Philby's in the city and what's happening? April '34, then, Philby and Litzi decide finally to leave for England.

Next slide, please. And it's at that time, we'll go onto the next slide please. We don't need that one. Okay, just before we get onto the England period, then, I'll raise a few more questions here. I don't think it's pure coincidence that Gedye turns up in Vienna. He turns up in the late 1920s and begins to work for Kendrick. And we now know he'd certainly probably received an allowance for SIS for MI6. He took up freelance journalism but almost certainly as a cover for his intelligence work. And we now know for sure that Gedye did work as one of Kendrick's agents, who was monitoring the communist threat in the 1920s and the communist and Nazi threat in the 1930s. And so, Gedye working with the underground movement was able to bring intelligence back to Kendrick on the communists. And, you know, how could Kendrick have missed Philby in Vienna? I personally don't think he did. And you can read more in my book on Kendrick, called "Spymaster".

Next slide, please. So Peter Wright, we're going to learn a bit more about him or look at some of what he says next week. But he wrote that very controversial book "Spycatcher", and I'm going to unpick a little bit of the events surrounding his controversial book next week. But Peter Wright worked for MI5, at one point, he was tasked with a mole hunt really to hunt down the traitor or traitors within British Intelligence, and so we'll come more to that next week. But Peter Wright said in his memoirs, "Spycatcher" that it was Litzi Friedmann, so Litzi, the woman who married, first wife of Kim Philby, who married Philby in Vienna, he wrote was almost certainly the person who recruited Philby to the Soviet cause. And what's really important is that Philby's in Vienna from 1933 to 34, he's there for a year, that's not always reflected in dramas or TV documentaries. But he's not working for the Soviets at this time. He's helping communists who are at risk and he believes in their cause, but he has not yet been recruited to the Soviet cause, that happens on a park bench in Regents Park when he comes back to England after his wedding and he comes back to England in April, 1934, with his new bride, Litzi.

Next slide, please. And round the time of Peter Wright's witch hunt,

if you like, or mole hunt, there was a lot of speculation about who had betrayed who and when had Philby actually been involved in espionage for the Russians. And at one point, it was believed that it could have been Burgess himself or Maclean, and Yuri Modin, KGB controller, he's written a book, again, worth reading if you want to go into detail, he was the KGB handler for those Cambridge spies, and he wrote, "Contrary to received opinion, it was neither Guy Burgess nor one of our own agents who lured Philby into the toils of the Soviet espionage apparatus, it was Litzi," i.e. Litzi Friedmann. Well, she didn't directly recruit her husband, in actual fact, she introduced him to two characters who did work for Russian intelligence, Soviet intelligence, one of them, Edith Tudor-Hart, originally born Edith Suschitzky, next slide, please. She was the sister of Wolf Suschitzky, you know he made a fantastic career in cinematography and lived, after they escaped from Vienna, lived most of his life in freedom here in England. Litzi Friedmann with Edith Suschitzky, who went on to marry Ethan Tudor-Hart, together introduced Philby to a third person, to Arnold Deutsch, and it was Arnold Deutsch, AKA Otto, who actually recruited Philby. So he's told to meet this man on a park bench in Regents Park. We don't know what they talked about. Arnold Deutsch's file, well, one file, I'm sure there are more, has been released by MI5, and that is really worth looking at. In fact, it's only been released in the last five or six years, so when I started researching about Thomas Kendrick and a bit on Philby and the others, Arnold Deutsch's file hadn't actually been released, and neither had Edith Tudor-Hart, born Suschitzky. But now we have those files as well.

Next line, next slide, yeah. There we have a picture of Edith Tudor-Hart, a very famous photographer in her own right. Next line, please. So she was a known Soviet agent and communist who grew up in Vienna and she has a parallel story to that of Philby. I mean you just think if Philby hadn't met Litzi Friedmann, he would never have been introduced to Edith Suschitzky, who became Edith Tudor-Hart, and his recruitment as a penetration agent for the Russians, of course, may never have happened. But there is a parallel story between Philby and Litzi, who marry in Viennain '34, and Edith Suschitzky, who marries a Cambridge professor, Alexander Ethan Tudor-Hart. And both of them marry in Vienna around the same time. MI5 were already tracking her because she makes a visit to Britain and is involved in a demonstration in Trafalgar Square in 1930, so she's already on the radar of MI5. But both couples marry around the same time in Vienna, and neither of their marriages last very long. Next slide, please. And one of the suggestions that's been made that perhaps the Russians hoped that these two women, both of them Jewish communists, of course, in that period, as many Jews and anti-Nazis were, it was possible the Russians hoped that these women would marry British men, obtain British passports and be able to penetrate British society on behalf of of the Russians. And of course, they would turn out to be incredibly successful through the recruitment of Kim Philby. So after

this period, he then goes on to enroll in a School of Slavonic languages. He's not very good at Russian, actually, his father pulls a few strings and he manages to get in to learn some of the East European languages and Russian. He then takes a job in the "World Review of Reviews". Next slide, please. So just to tie up the end of the Philby and Litzi story. They remained married until just after the war, though they pretty much separated in the 1930s, late 1930s. And they divorced finally, as I said, in 1946. Now in this period, Philby has been recruited by the Soviets but he takes an interesting turn, he goes to cover the Spanish Civil War from February, 1937 and he's working now, he's upped a bit in the world, and he's working for "The Times" newspaper, and there he very firmly sides with the Franco forces, he's writing coded letters to a fictitious Russian girlfriend in Paris.

Next slide, please. But he is also highly mixed up and a couple of his handlers in this period, I mean, these are dangerous times, were actually shot during Stalin's purges. And Philby had a brief from the Russians to actually support Franco's assassination, and now he's in a really difficult position because he is supposed to be supporting Franco and getting close to him for the British, but he's now firmly working as a double agent. Next slide, please. And what the Russians want is for him, as a journalist, to tail Franco very closely and actually look for weaknesses in his security services, and potentially to see a gap for an assassination attempt. But his handler in Moscow actually wrote once of him, particularly of this period, that Philby, "Though devoted and ready to sacrifice himself, does not possess the physical courage and other qualities necessary for this assassination attempt." And that's really revealing because whatever Philby was, changing his guises like a chameleon really changes colours of its coat, he could never really be an assassin. And if you look at all of those Cambridge Five, I suppose you could ask the same question, couldn't you? Would any of them have made an ideal assassin? Probably not. Can you go back one for me please? One forward now, thank you. Lovely, thank you. But Philby's involved in a very serious car accident in December '37, and three of those journalists in the car die, he is the sole survivor and Franco actually decides to award him a Red Cross of Military Merit. And now he has access to fascist circles and, as I've put there, all kinds of doors are opened to him. He's got the ear of Franco and, what does that mean? That means that he, Philby, is incredibly valuable as an intelligence agent. Next slide, please. But things get a little bit sticky for Philby and others in 1940. Now there's a former Russian agent who actually defects in Paris, he turns up at the embassy in 1937, Walter Krivitsky, fascinating character. And in the following year, he actually publishes his work "Stalin's Secret Service". Now MI5 actually interviewed him in London after his defection. This is 1940, he's interviewed by MI5, and although he doesn't give names, he gets as close as one can at this time, he claimed, and the question is whether he was believed at the time, that there were two intelligence

agents that have penetrated, that were working for Soviet Intelligence, that have penetrated the British Foreign Office, and that a third was working as a journalist for a British newspaper in the Civil War. Now you think the last one in particular would've been quite easy to track down, but, you know, within British Intelligence at the time, there was no connection made between what Krivitsky said, this defector from Russia, from the Soviet Union, and any link at all to Philby. But as I've put there, Krivitsky was actually shot in mysterious circumstances in a Washington hotel in 1941. And it kind of reminds us, doesn't it? That kind of murky, dangerous world that these operatives are working in.

Next slide, please. So just before the outbreak of the Second World War, Philby returns to the office of "The Times" in London. He is actually shocked by that secret pact that's made between Germany, the Soviet Union, of course, it would only last until Germany invades the Soviet Union in 1941, in June '41. But he's shocked that actually they'd contemplated and had divided up Poland. And now we have a gap during the war time, between what he carries on to do for British intelligence and his Russian handlers. There seemed to be a period when he doesn't work for Russian Intelligence, and he eventually is offered a job with Special Operations Executive to help with training secret agents to go behind enemy lines. But he didn't actually like the work, next slide. So he doesn't last very long with the SOE. But in 1941, he's given a really significant role and this is one we don't have time, of course, to go into in any great detail. But he's working for Section V of MI6 in Lisbon. Section V is responsible for counter-espionage or counter-intelligence, and what that means is he's in charge of tracking enemy spies, agents, dead letter boxes, German spies, primarily, German safe houses, gaining intelligence for the British. And he's working in and out of Spain, primarily based in Lisbon, and Lisbon at this time and arguably Madrid up to a point, but certainly Lisbon, becomes the centre of espionage. And from there, he's running a number of double agents. And later in the year, I'll be doing something on on those double agents. So he's there at a fascinating time. The Abwehr are using Lisbon as one of their key centres for their own spies to move in and out, and it becomes a really important place to track German spies, but also as handler and passing intelligence around those double agents. He's also responsible the following year for tracking agents and spies in North Africa and Italy. So he's got a pretty big brief, he has access to all the intelligence, he's signing off the reports, so you can imagine, by the time he works for the Russians again, he has a pretty clear idea, not only of how MI6 operates, but has a broad view of the intelligence that Britain is gaining. But also, after Pearl Harbour, after 7th of December, 1941, the Americans are in the war and we are sharing intelligence both ways with Britain and America. But James Jesus Angleton, who worked for American intelligence, and later head of the CIA, he was already for some reason becoming quite suspicious of Philby. And he does make a very mysterious comment in one of his

books, Angleton, where he says, "You know, whatever the secrets are of Philby, I take them to the grave," or words to that effect. So there was obviously something that he knew that he wasn't prepared to talk about in his lifetime.

Next slide, please. So this is a period of defections. By the end of the Second World War, we have another Soviet defector, and this begins to put pressure behind the scenes, really, how long can those Cambridge Five survive? This is an agent who's worked for the Russian Intelligence Agency, the NKVD, he's suddenly requesting asylum in Britain, and most spies, I understand from my reading, work for a number of motives, money, women, power, a sense of importance. Well, Volkov was prepared to accept a large sum of money, and he would, for a large sum of money, be prepared to name those two Soviet agents who were working inside the Foreign Office. And a third one, who was working in counter-espionage in London. But who was given Volkov's case to look at? Because Philby was still working in counter-espionage, it was given to Philby. Philby becomes MI6's senior officer, intelligence officer, on all matters Russian. How ironic is that? That this double agent is actually given MI6's most trusted posting, if you like, as overseeing much of the Russian desk. And so, he told his controller about Volkov behind the scenes, and Volkov actually travels, makes his way to Istanbul, and there Volkov is arrested, betrayed by Philby, and arrested by the Soviets there waiting for him.

Next slide, please. So Philby's, in 1947, appointed head of British intelligence for Turkey. And so, you can see already his career, which has now spanned nearly three decades, has got an incredible overview of of everything. He's very senior within MI6, he's posted to Istanbul, very important posting there in the Middle East. And there he's working closely with Turkish security services so he can now pass the secrets of Turkish security services that are working, all the intelligence is coming both ways between the British and the Turks. And of course, when he's outed later, the Americans are very concerned about what Philby has given the Russians from American intelligence files. Now at this time, one of the worst things that's pinned on Philby is an incident in Armenia and Georgia. Two of the recruits are shot as they go over the border, two of the SIS recruits, and it's now believed that Philby actually betrayed them. Next slide, please. Albania, Albania is the one area that, if you ask those that know anything about Philby, will know that Philby is allegedly, and I believe that's probably true, responsible for the deaths of over a hundred agents, insurgents in Albania. And at the head of an operation was one Colonel David Smiley. Now I'm not sure, but I think John le Carre has based his "Smiley's People", or at least taken the surname from Colonel David Smiley. And he was an aristocratic Guards officer, who was prepared to work with the Hoxha forces to liberate Albania. And so, he helped with the training of commandos in Libya or in Malta, in bases in both. It's interesting some of whom were former Nazi

collaborators. So they're now being trained up as commanders. And this is an area I haven't looked at in any detail, I haven't studied it, but we do know from the glimpses of reading that we can, that some Nazi war criminals were taken up after the war. And I believe there maybe people here that know more about that than myself, may have studied it. But there were former Nazi collaborators and possible war criminals that were taken up to help the Hoxha forces. In 1947, they managed to infiltrate those southern mountains of Albania, it was always a really, really difficult area, even in the Second World War, and some of our commandos landed in Albania, the terrain is very challenging, very, very difficult operations, as it was in the former Yugoslavia. And they were going to try to build support for the former King Zog, King Zog who found exile in Britain actually during the Second World War. And they were going to build support for him to be back in power, and this was a joint operation with MI6 and the CIA, is my understanding. But the planning behind the scenes did not actually have the full support of the then head of MI6 SIS, a man named Stewart Menzies. But the first three missions, which they carried out over through land, through Greece, was actually really successful. But towards the end, most of those that were infiltrated were actually caught, and the Albanian Security Services massacred them. And it was always believed that Kim Philby had actually been the man who'd betrayed them to those forces via the Russians. And of course, if that's true, I guess that's one example of where this spy has changed the course of history.

Next slide, please. Ben Macintyre chooses a particular quote in his book, "A Spy Among Friends" from a cold-blooded quote from Philby actually. Philby said, "The agents we sent into Albania were armed men intent on murder, sabotage and assassination. They knew the risks they were running." And Philby writes, "I was serving the interests of the Soviet Union, and those interests required that these men were defeated. To the extent that I helped defeat them, even if it caused their deaths, I have no regrets." So if we think back to the Franco war, the Civil War in Spain in '37, '38, that time when his Russian handler thought he didn't have the guts to assassinate Franco himself, and it's probably true, Philby could probably never have pulled a gun on someone, but he was prepared to see, to betray, to see others assassinated, in this case, by the Albanian Secret Service. Next slide, please. In 1949, so two years after Albania, he's actually moved to Washington, and he's given the highest ranking role there for the head of MI6. He becomes what's called the First Secretary to the British Embassy, and now you can see there's other intelligence crossing his desk. And I've just outlined there a few key points. At this time, he's still very closely working with James Jesus Angleton, Angleton's still suspicious of Philby, but nothing's coming out. So Philby oversaw, as I put there, the urgent and top secret communications between the United States and London. And you can imagine where copies of that ends up in Moscow. So he also liaised with the CIA to sort of promote a more aggressive, open relationship,

and intelligence operations between America and Britain. And don't forget this is a very new relationship. The Anglo-American intelligence relationship was really only forged in the earliest 1940, '41 at Bletchley Park, and the bugging operation that was run by Thomas Kendrick in Britain, an exchange of intelligence, and then after Pearl Harbour, the relationship becomes very close. In 1949, it's still incredibly new, they haven't worked out a methodology of cooperation, it's a sort of learning process with different perspectives. Very, very good book comes out this month by Michael Smith, one of the few books on the history of the Anglo-American intelligence relationship. Really worth looking up. If you look up Michael Smith, he's written books on Bletchley Park and MI6 before. His books are marvellous. But there is this new one coming out any day now on the history of the Anglo-American intelligence relationship. So it's forged at places like Bletchley Park, in the early part of the Second World War, but it's still very new now. And MI6 trusts their senior man, Philby, with this posting in 1949. Next slide, please, and of course, we've entered the Cold War. And I just want to throw in here Teddy Kollek, 'cause I find Teddy Kollek fascinating.

Again, I haven't had time to study much on him. Born in Austria, in Vienna, he knew my man that I've written about, Thomas Kendrick. He came to what was then Palestine in around 1935. And Teddy Kollek in the Second World War absolutely was working with British intelligence, that is clear from some of the declassified files that I've worked on in the National Archives here in London. So former Mossad agent, became the first mayor of Jerusalem, and he recognised Philby, interestingly, from the time when he was in Vienna in the 1930s. And when he saw, Teddy Kollek once wrote, when he saw Philby and Angleton together, Kollek said, "I assumed that Angleton had turned Philby again into a triple agent." Well, that's quite some story if that's true, I have no idea whether it is. But Teddy Kollek certainly didn't think things were right with Philby. Next slide, please. Things get even more serious, don't they? And everything goes particularly pear-shaped for Philby in May, 1951, with a defection of Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean. And now Philby is potentially compromised too. And it is said that Philby tipped them off because of the intelligence that was coming across his desk, he tipped them off and said, "You're about to be arrested," and Burgess accompanies Donald Maclean to the port, they go out via France and are smuggled across Europe, if I'm not mistaken, through East Berlin, and eventually land up in Moscow. And it was always said that Burgess thought he was just accompanying Maclean to the port. And when he got there, he was told, "You're coming too." So the two of them land up eventually in Moscow. Philby is, of course, interrogated by MI5, and it forces his resignation from MI6. Next slide, please. But Gordon Corera, again, his books absolutely brilliant, any stuff that Gordon Corera, the journalist, has written, wrote that, "The Soviet penetration of Britain's intelligence services may have been more serious than officially admitted." And certainly at that time, and the defection of Guy

Burgess and Donald Maclean, who really believed that the treachery was far more serious. Next slide, please. And in this period, Philby goes back to what he's really good at, journalism. But he's kind of struggling, he's struggling to make ends meet. As far as can be told from material available, from research, from historians who interviewed officers decades ago, during their lifetime that met Philby, it appears that he now no longer had any contact with Russian intelligence, although, of course, that would change again. October, 1955, extraordinary that Foreign Secretary Harold Macmillan stands up in the House of Commons and says, "I have no reason to conclude that Mr. Philby has at any time betrayed the interests of his country, or can we identify him with the so-called 'Third Man', if indeed there was one." Originally, of course, after the defection of Burgess and Maclean, it was believed that there was a third man. Well, we now know there are five, and some historians think it may even be as many as seven or more. So the numbers of double agents around this crowd are actually potentially increasing. But certainly, 1955, I mean, Harold Macmillan didn't have to stand up in the Commons and declare Philby a safe bet, that they cleared his name. And so what happens is that Philby ends up back in MI6. Next slide, please. I'm just keeping an eye on the time. And that famous photograph in November, 1955, Philby gives a press conference. I've watched that several times and he declares, "I have never been a communist." I have looked at that film so many times to try gauge from his face, whether you can tell if he's lying or not, but very, very difficult to read the man, but smiles to the cameras, he's been cleared by Harold Macmillan, no sorry, not Harold Macmillan, yes, beg your pardon, the heat of London's getting to me. His name has been cleared officially, and he is now about to step back officially into MI6.

And we're going to look at the rest of his story and the involvement of Peter Wright next week. Thank you.