



April 2001

Recent Releases at the Public Record Office

PRO reference	Date	Description
AB 88/50	1967 - 69	Records of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and its predecessors: Puma batteries: nuclear powered heart pacemakers
AB 88/51	1967 - 69	Puma batteries: nuclear powered heart pacemakers
DEFE 29/7	1965 - 66	Records of the Ministry of Defence: Security: Bossard and Allen, convicted under Section 1 Official Secrets Act 1911
ED 245/50	1974 - 79	Records created or inherited by the Department of Education and Science, and of related bodies: Globe Theatre Project, Sam Wanamaker
ED 245/47	1974 - 77	Abolition of admission charges to museums and galleries
FCO 19/156	1970	Records of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and predecessors: Anti-hijacking precautions affecting diplomats and diplomatic bags
FCO 19/157	1970	Use of diplomatic female officers as casual couriers
FCO 32/718	1970	Request by United States for refueling and communications in Diego Garcia
FCO 32/719	1970	Memorandum of the understanding concerning facilities on Diego Garcia
FCO 32/721	1970	Indian attitude to use of Diego Garcia
FCO 32/722	1970	Strategic military requirements in the Indian Ocean regarding Gan and Diego Garcia

FCO 33/1007	1970	Death of General de Gaulle of France
FCO 33/1075	1970	Reports of civil unrest in Northern Ireland
FCO 33/1076	1970	Reports of civil unrest in Northern Ireland
FCO 33/1077	1970	Reports of civil unrest in Northern Ireland
FCO 33/1078	1970	Incidents resulting from imprisonment of Member of Parliament for Mid-Ulster (Bernadette Devlin)
FCO 33/1084	1970	Armed forces of UK in Northern Ireland
FCO 33/1086	1970	Police forces of Northern Ireland
FCO 33/1184	1970	Visit by His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh to Finland, 22-25 September 1970
FCO 33/1197	1970	Political activities of the Sinn Fein party in the Republic of Ireland
FCO 33/1198		Riots and demonstrations in the Republic of Ireland
FCO 33/1161	1970	Imprisonment of war criminals in Spandau prison - Rudolph Hess
FCO 33/1162	1970	Imprisonment of war criminals in Spandau prison - Rudolph Hess
FCO 33/1163	1970	Imprisonment of war criminals in Spandau prison - Rudolph Hess
FCO 33/1164	1970	Imprisonment of war criminals in Spandau prison - Rudolph Hess
FCO 33/1207		Arrest and trial of former ministers of Republic of Ireland on charges of gun-running into Northern Ireland
FCO 33/1208		Arrest and trial of former ministers of Republic of Ireland on charges of gun-running into Northern Ireland
FCO 33/1248	1970	Canonisation of English martyrs by the Holy See
FCO 46/353	1969	Defence Department: Policy on resettlement of British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)
FCO 65/785	1970	Foreign and Commonwealth Office: West African Department: Publication by Sunday Telegraph of report by

		Defence Adviser in Lagos on Civil War
HW 25/6	1949	Records created and inherited by Government Communications Headquarters Enigma; early correspondence relating to the ENIGMA cipher machine, including the patent specification and photographs
HW 25/7	1923 - 1927	Operating instructions for the Glow Lamp Ciphering Machine 'ENIGMA'. This document is undated but is thought to have been produced in the mid-1920s
HW 25/8	1923 - 1950	ENIGMA CHIFFRIERMASCHINEN - HANDELSMASCHINE: this is a pamphlet on the use of ENIGMA, the 'large machine', particularly for business purposes. A translation prepared by the US Armed Forces Security Agency in 1950 is also provided
HW 25/9	1933 - 1943	Early ENIGMA Papers, all undated. Peter TWINN: ENIGMA (General). FOSS' system of rectangles. Explanation of keys of the ENIGMA Cipher machine (translation from German). Directions for use of keys on the cipher machine ENIGMA I (translation from German). Z
HW 25/10	1949	ENIGMA machine - early history (written after the event). H R FOSS: Reminiscences on the ENIGMA machine. N de GREY: ENIGMA history
HW 25/11	1939 - 1957	Miscellaneous papers in folder entitled 'German Naval ENIGMA'
HW 25/12	1938 - 1943	ENIGMA history. Papers relating to the pre-war meetings between French and Polish cryptanalysts and members of GC & CS on the subject of ENIGMA; subsequent wartime correspondence between KNOX and DENNISTON on ENIGMA processing at Bletchley Park
HW 25/13	1928	Photostats of German ENIGMA handbooks.
HW 25/14	1927	A paper by Hugh FOSS, believed to have been written in 1927 or 1928, entitled 'The reciprocal ENIGMA'
HW 25/15	1920	Dossier on Polish Liaison - summaries of various documents relating to the Polish contribution to the solution of ENIGMA
HW 25/16	1974 - 1978	Papers relating to the French and Polish contribution to the solution of ENIGMA, particularly as revealed by General Gustave BERTRAND in his book, ENIGMA, and S A MAYER of the Polish Intelligence Service.
INF 12/781	1951	Records created or inherited by the Central Office of Information Soviet and communist propaganda

MAF 99/562	1952	Records created or inherited by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Departments, and of related bodies Atom bomb target studies: Scotland
MAF 99/566	1952	Atom bomb target studies; London
MEPO 3/3157		The Whitechapel Murders ("Jack the Ripper"): Letter written by person claiming to be Jack the Ripper to Dr TH Openshaw of the London Hospital, Whitechapel, dated 29 October 1888. The subject of the letter is the human kidney which was sent to G Lusk of the Whitechapel Vigilance Committee.
PREM 13/3471	1964 - 1970	Records of the Prime Minister's Office Prime Minister's Office: Summary of ministerial responsibility for security and intelligence services
T 326/1128	1964	Records created and inherited by HM Treasury Captain R F Scott's Antarctic Expedition of 1912: gift of film to the Nation
T 326/1132	1962	Granting of emigrant status to Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean: implications and public reaction
T 326/1133	1962	Granting of emigrant status to Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean: implications and public reaction; legacy to Kim Philby
WO 188/911	1943	Records created or inherited by the War Office, Armed Forces, Judge Advocate General, and related bodies Chemical Warfare: Masks for army war dogs


MEPO 3/3157

Letter written by a person claiming to be Jack the Ripper to Dr TH Openshaw of the London Hospital, Whitechapel, dated 29 October 1888. The subject of the letter is the human kidney which was sent to G Lusk of the Whitechapel Vigilance Committee.

Old boss you was rite it was
the left kidney i was goin to
operate agin close to your
aspitte just as i was goin
to drop mi wife along of
er bloomin throate them
cusses of coppers spoilt
the game but i guess i wil
be on the job soon and will
send you another bit of
innards jack the ripper

Have you seen the revle
with his microscope and scalpel
a lookin at a kidney
with a slide cocked up

Dr. Openshaw
Pathological Curator
London Hospital
White Chapel



The Openshaw Letter

The 'Openshaw letter' is inextricably linked to the 'Lusk letter'. The 'Lusk letter' was one of the best known letters allegedly sent by the unknown Whitechapel murderer, and was received on 16 October 1888 by the East End builder and decorator George Lusk, chairman of the Whitechapel Vigilance Committee. This group had been formed in September 1888 and was composed of concerned local businessmen and traders who intended to assist the police in their hunt for the killer. The Lusk letter began 'From hell, Mr Lusk, Sor, I send you half the Kidne I took from one woman prasarved it for you...' The letter bore no signature, simply ending 'signed Catch me when you can Mishter Lusk'. The famous nickname for the killer, 'Jack the Ripper', had appeared as the signature in two communications to the Central News Agency which had been published in the press at the beginning of October 1888. However, the Lusk letter was accompanied by half a human kidney and that caused the authorities to treat it seriously. The Lusk letter is not known to have survived, and only a photograph of it exists.

Whether or not the Lusk letter was from the genuine killer is still debated. Many think it was the work of a hoaxer, possibly a medical student or someone else working at the London Hospital. Lusk had enjoyed some prominence in the press prior to receiving the letter and piece of kidney. Needless to say the episode received great publicity and in the course of ascertaining whether or not the kidney was genuine it was taken to the London Hospital, where it was examined by Dr Openshaw, the curator of the pathological museum. This led to reports in the newspapers which published details of Dr Openshaw and the results of his examination.

Thomas Horrocks Openshaw had been appointed curator of the pathological museum at the London Hospital in 1887 and was thirty-two years old in 1888. He had a distinguished career and was a member of the Clinical Society of London. The letter which has come to be known as the 'Openshaw letter' was written to him on 29 October 1888. It reads:

'Old boss you was rite it was the left kidny I was goin to hopperate agin close to your ospitle just as I was goin to dror mi nife along of er bloomin throte them cusses of coppers spoilt the game but I guess I wil be on the job soon and will send you another bit of innerds Jack the Ripper O have you seen the devle with his mikerscope and scalpul a lookin at a Kidney with a slide cocked up'

The envelope in which the letter was received is postmarked 'LONDON E. 0C29 88 and addressed

'Dr Openshaw
Pathological curator
London Hospital
Whitechapel'

WO 188/911

Extract from War Office file WO 188/911 1943-44 describing the trials of gas masks for dogs, and their discovered drawbacks.

APPENDIX II to Porton Report No. 2654

Report on Work of Dogs when wearing a Respirator

To: The Commandant.

War Dog Training School,
Northaw.

Subject: Tests for dogs working in respirators

- (a) 9 dogs have been tested for Patrol, all are quite comfortable in the mask and walk and sit without undue agitation.
- (b) Completely confused when asked to work on a/c of the intake of air coming from under the chin, no direct scent can reach the nose, and it appears that if it did the container filter would be faulty.
- (c) Removing the Filter. The dog knew there was someone about, but could get no sense of direction.
- (d) 4 Liaison dogs tried could not work, just walking around and unable to make sense of it.
- (e) 4 Mine dogs tried were unable to detect anything on ground whilst mask on. On removing filter were at once aware of presence of mines but could not get sense of direction.

Conclusion

Masks invaluable in gas attack when dogs remain out of work, walking or sitting. Of no value at all for working in.

18.8.44.

(Signed) H. S. Lloyd.

