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THE ANGLO -AMERICAN ISHAM ANCESTRY ASSOCIATION

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1940 – 1945

"A SECRET BACKGROUND OF THE WAR"
EXTRACTED FROM THE BOOK

"OFFICIAL SECRET"

BY

CLAYTON HUTTON

1960

LT. COL. V. A. R. ISHAM, MC - "TIGER"

"Good" enthused Major Crockatt. "I believe you'll do, Hutton.

But before we go any further, let me attempt to put you in the picture.

Our main concern in this department is to give assistance to prisoners-of-war.

In the last show...men were content to stay put until the cessation of hostilities.

This present war is to be conducted along vastly different lines.

Not only will prisoners be expected to seize all opportunities of escaping;
the intention is also that they are to be supplied with gadgets
that will enable them to break out of the POW camps, and once out,
help them to find their way to freedom".

"Now do you think you can cope?"

"I replied unhesitatingly that I should be delighted to try..."

"Major Crockatt introduced me to the rest of the staff."

"Our second-in-command, also a major, was as tall as a lamp-post and nearly as thin.

Despite a quiet manner and a voice so soft that it was frequently inaudible,
he held very decided views about the ultimate issue of the conflict,
reiterating constantly that in the end the greatest contributory factor
to the defeat of the enemy would be inadequate food stocks."

"The others had christened him **"Tiger"**, but I never observed any resemblance
between the self-effacing major and that aggressive animal.

When I came to know him better, I concluded that the nick-name originated
from the way he would get his claws firmly hooked into bureaucratic nonsense
and hang on until he had reduced it to a shambles".

"...he had a thorough knowledge of the intricate workings of all three services
and a nice appreciation of the value of the 'old boy' net-work.

When trouble came later - usually as a result of unorthodox methods -
the "Tiger" always knew which particular wire to pull on my behalf.

I was able to trespass frequently without fear of prosecution."