

20 December 2017



**The President and Board of Directors of the UK Chapter extend their Season's Greetings to our members and their families and wish all of you a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2018.**

**Review** 2017 has been another excellent year for the UK Chapter. We were recognized again as the AOC Large Chapter of the Year, making it an unprecedented 6-in-a-row. Success as a Chapter depends on an energetic Board and on members who support the Chapter. So thanks are due to the hard working Board and to all the enthusiastic members who provide support. This year we have also seen an increase in membership to over 500 which bodes well for the future – please help encourage more members whenever you can. Particularly encouraging is the fact that more young members are joining us, taking up the complimentary 3-year full membership offer for young adults under 26. I know that some companies, such as Leonardo, are widely advertising the scheme to their staff and apprentices. Please encourage your teams to do the same. And I personally ask you to become more involved with the Chapter, do what you can to spread the word about EW and related Electromagnetic operations and capability, and specifically to encourage new members, specially focusing on the young.

**Christmas Awards Dinner** The Christmas Dinner earlier in December was great fun and gave us a chance to recognise the achievements of some of our members. We want it to be bigger and even better next December so please book as early as possible. One of our large contingents of regulars missed the Dinner as they were unfortunately working in California ☺ Please make an effort to join us; even bring some friends in 2018. They are assured of a warm welcome and a great evening in the beautiful RAF Club.



We honoured Wynne Davies with the AOC Lifetime Achievement Award (which will be presented at the AGM in March) and in absentia (they are engaged on operations) HMS OCEAN's EW team who after winning the Fleet EW Effectiveness award earlier in the year, has now been awarded the prestigious AOC NATO EW Operations award. The award will be presented on current planning by the AOC President to the HMS OCEAN EW team leader during AOC EW Singapore at the end of January 2018. It probably isn't a coincidence that the Royal Navy's former flagship was captained during Ocean's extraordinary missions and EW successes by a long-term UK Chapter member.

**Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach** – gave a most interesting final CDS Annual Brief to RUSI a week or so ago. [Watch the speech here](#) Sir Stu is perhaps the only CDS ever to also be a member of

the UK Chapter and the only non-US citizen ever to be awarded the AOC Gold Medal. I'm sure that the whole Chapter will join the BOD in wishing him well in his next appointment as Chairman of NATO's Military Committee, which he is scheduled to begin in July 2018. In his talk, Air Chief Marshal Peach refers to the potential vulnerability of the world's undersea cables. Many Chapter members will be well aware of the issue; here is an excellent article <https://theconversation.com/us-fears-a-russian-attack-on-undersea-internet-cables-that-could-plunge-world-into-chaos-49857> authored by UK Chapter Academic Director, Professor David Stupples in 2015.

**UK EW Documentary – Request for Expertise** I received a request 2 months ago from a UK company planning on making an EW Documentary. Here is the request based on a couple of emails from Ben Hudson:

*I am writing on behalf of Woodcut Media, a production company based in London and Hampshire. We are currently in the research stages of a series that aims to tell stories of interesting military machines and I am focusing on an episode on "Electronic Warfare". Consequently I am looking for people with anecdotal and/or expert knowledge of electronic warfare who might be open to contribute their stories on screen. Woodcut Media is a production company that make historical war documentaries amongst other things: <http://woodcutmedia.com/>. We are currently in the research stages of this series, and I am looking into potential stories of electronic machines that have played significant roles in war. So, for example, things that have come up on the radar (excuse the pun) are the Aspidistra radio transmitter in Sussex, Cobra Mist Radar station in Suffolk, the Cold War story of Operation Ivy Bells etc. We are also looking at stories on smaller, handheld devices – the SCR 300/560 and the GEE-H radio navigation system, both of which were WWII devices. However we are open to any other stories of electronic devices with a good war story. Also, it is always helpful to be in contact with general experts in the field who might help tell the story of electronic warfare in general.*

This looks like a very interesting and potentially very useful project, so if you are willing and able to help please email Ben: [bh13168.2013@my.bristol.ac.uk](mailto:bh13168.2013@my.bristol.ac.uk) and please let Ian Fish, our membership executive director, know how you get on. We have also passed this request to the DEHS. Please help spread the word about EW – both history and future.

**New Articles - to potential New Authors** - the UK Chapter membership includes many world class professionals and many of them are distinguished writers in their own fields and on a wide variety of media. All of them are very happy to encourage new thinkers, writers and creative folk and to help them polish their work. Send your articles and let us work together to benefit the field of EW, cyber and EM manoeuvre operations. **In future** we will be looking for members willing to propose topics and mentor young military personnel on courses and specifically on course projects.

**Finally** That's all folks. I've listed a few dates below, where you might consider joining us and the wider AOC community in 2018. Do remember, the UK Chapter is all about you, so please stay engaged and let the Board know what you want. Feedback is always welcome; otherwise we operate in a vacuum. We need more diverse and young members to become actively involved in what the Chapter does – any ideas are most welcome. **The 3-year young adult complimentary membership is a great initiative and one the UK Chapter has worked towards for many years – please think about it and use it wisely, for example let your apprentice and training teams know about it.** Please send ideas about recognising suitable individuals or organisations for AOC and/or UK Chapter awards. We are particularly keen to encourage apprentices in industry, academics and serving personnel learning new EW-related skills.

**Happy Holidays from Clifford Towers for another Year!**



John Clifford OBE / UK Chapter President

### **SOME DATES FOR YOUR 2018 DIARY**

**Second AOC EW Singapore Conference** – Marina Bay Sands, 30/31 January 2018

**UK Chapter AGM**, Thursday 22 March 2018, RAF Club, London

**AOC EW Europe 2018**, Congrès Bealieu, Lausanne, Switzerland, 5-7 June 2018

**Visit to 30 Cdo Y Sqn Stonehouse Barracks** Plymouth Date TBD 2018

**Check out our website at [www.ukaoc.org](http://www.ukaoc.org)**

You can also check out **career opportunities** there too, by clicking on the

Home Page "**EW Job Vacancies**" button