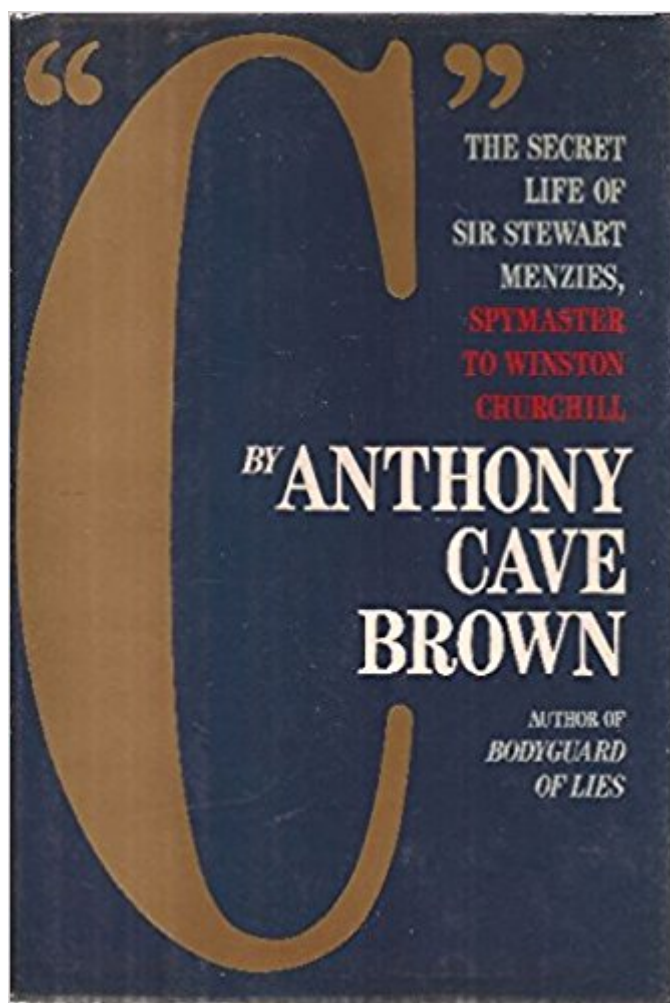


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C: The Secret Life Of Sir Stewart Graham Menzies, Spymaster To Winston Churchill



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Brown (Bodyguard of Lies) has dug up an impressive amount of information about the almost-legendary figure who headed British Intelligence during World War II and the early years of the Cold War. Menzies's organizational and proprietary efforts on behalf of the Ultra Project, by which German codes were broken and monitored, are covered in detail. The author reveals how "C" 's guardianship of the Ultra secret became his most important task during the war. In the end he became a prisoner of the secret, as Brown puts it, for he could not reveal it even in his own defense. Thus Menzies refrained from justifying his appointment of Kim Philby, the Soviet penetration agent, to the post of counterespionage chief. Brown examines the "inexplicable decisions" made by Menzies in regard to Philby, which included assigning him as liaison officer to the CIA and FBI during the Cold War, a position in which he had more access to secret military and policy information than any foreigner in Washington. Photos. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The subject of this monumental biography was head of the British Secret Service, SIS, during World War II and until 1952. Many of his agency's triumphs against the Third Reich are described and original views of other intelligence operations and personnel are given. Despite his wartime success, Menzies's tenure came to be clouded by the revelation that one of his SIS employees, Kim Philby, was a Soviet spy. As in much of the literature, clear answers are seldom or convincingly given, and here we are left with the impression that Philby may have been used by the United

States and the British to feed the Soviets misinformation. Historians and spy fans will find much of interest in this extensively researched book. George H. Siehl, Library of Congress Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This was a former library book. That said, it was in good shape. It is a fascinating book.

Loved the book but found two problems. First it's about 100 pages too long and second one really doesn't learn much about Menzies. What we do learn is not very in depth and you get the feeling you really don't know the man. That's both the fault of the author as well as available information on Menzies.

A very serious, meticulously researched and fantastically well written history of an epoch, AND a biography of an astounding man. My copy has underlining and notes to self on literally every page. Many thanks to Anthony Cave Brown!

Haven't finished it yet, but am very pleased with it.

A slow read but a must read for anyone who wants to understand how British Int. broke the German codes and the length they went to keep that a secret. The book gives a look into the lives of the upper class and their education at Sandhurst starting before WWI; how that war depleted much of its educated upper class and crippled England's economy for two generations. Would make a good spy novel but is a very detailed history.

It provides a detailed insight into the secret lives of real spies and the interactions before, during and after WW2 between Britain and USA

The writer connects all the important dots in the very complex and intriguing history of British intelligence in WW2. The man, Menzies, comes alive; his position in the long timeline of the history of the British Empire was equalled only by his mentor, friend and co-conspirator Winston Churchill in the defense of Christian Civilization - or putting it in a more homely way, all that we hold dear. The book ends on a fitting note: the mystery of Kim Philby. The writer hints that there was indeed "more" to the mystery than has been disclosed, or possibly ever will be disclosed due to the ongoing nature of counter-intelligence.

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