

I even told them about the SOE. Talk about no tern unstoned (RSPB alert)

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news -> The SOE:
now, boys, don't be
silly
by [Ysabel Howard](#) -
Tuesday, 14 June
2011, 08:52 PM

I really don't think it's a good idea for you to forget about the SOE.

The thing is, it would be awfully foolish to think 24-inch waist SAS is entirely a joke, to think, for instance, that women simply don't do that kind of thing and everyone knows (haw, haw, snigger, snigger) women don't do that kind of thing. On the contrary, the crustiest, most traditional retired general knows full well that women do do that kind of thing, and do it bloody well.

Noor-un-Nisa Inayat Khan, GC, MBE, (1 January 1914, Moscow - 13 September 1944, Dachau concentration camp), usually known as Noor Inayat Khan, was a British Special Operations Executive agent in World War II of Hyderabad (Indian) origin and the first female radio operator to be sent into occupied France to aid the French Résistance. Awards George Cross, MBE, Croix de Guerre, Mentioned in Dispatches

[Noor Inayat Khan](#)

Free Indian Sufi women fighting with the British against fascism would hardly be new.

Over half of First Aid Nursing Yeomanry's total strength was devoted to the work of Special Operations Executive (SOE) during WWII. One of FANY's members was the fiery Violette Szabo (née Violette Reine Elizabeth Bushell) (*Louise*) who was the half-French daughter of a Brixton motor-car dealer and was said to be the best shot in the SOE.

Mme. Szabo was posthumously awarded her George Cross in 1946 and it was received from the King by her 4-year old daughter. (See SPECIAL FORCES, ROLL OF HONOUR)

Leo Marks, who was the head of the Codes Section of the SOE, spoke of Violette almost with awe and devotes to her parts of his recent memoir "Between Silk and Cyanide - The Story of SOE's Code War, 1941-1945" (HarperCollins).

[Violette Szabo: History of this British SOE Agent](#)

The First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (Princess Royal's Volunteer Corps) (FANY(PRVC) - pronounced Fanny) is a British independent all-female unit and registered charity affiliated to, but not part of, the Territorial Army.

It was formed as the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry in 1907 as a first aid link between the field hospitals and the front lines, and was given the yeomanry title as all its members were originally mounted on horseback.

In the Second World War, the F.A.N.Y. was formed into the initial driver companies of the Auxiliary Territorial Service, called the Women's Transport Service, and it also served as a parent unit for many women who undertook espionage work for the Special Operations Executive. Three of these (Odette Sansom, Violette Szabo and

Noor Inayat Khan), were awarded the George Cross and Nancy Wake the George Medal for their service.[1]

[FANY](#)

[List of SOE agents](#) - Pearl, Nancy, Krystyna, Lorraine, Marie, Noor...

SOE included a number of women (who were often recruited from the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry); F Section alone sent 39 female agents into the field, of whom 13 did not return. The Valençay SOE Memorial was unveiled at Valençay in the Indre département of France on May 6, 1991, marking the fiftieth anniversary of the despatch of F Section's first agent to France. The memorial's Roll of Honour lists the names of the 91 men and 13 women members of the SOE who gave their lives for France's freedom. [SOE](#)

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news -> Nancy
Wake
by [Ysabel Howard](#) -
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Of course there were some pretty cool kittens in the earlier generations too. Meet Nancy Wake, o goons, awarded the George Medal, Légion d'honneur, Croix de Guerre, French Resistance Medal, US Medal of Freedom, Companion in the Order of Australia. Of course to Bobbles she was just some stupid Sheila.

The White Mouse

Nancy Wake was the Allies' most decorated servicewoman of WWII, and the Gestapo's most-wanted person. They code-named her 'The White Mouse'. When war broke out she was a young woman married to a wealthy Frenchman living a life of luxury in cosmopolitan Marseilles. She became a saboteur and Resistance fighter who led an army of 7,000 Maquis troops in guerrilla warfare to sabotage the Nazis. Her story is one of daring, courage and optimism in the face of impossible odds.

In 1992 a television mini-series was made about her life. However the subject was irritated by historical liberties that were taken with her life story, such as showing her having an affair while working for the Resistance in Auvergne:

"What do you think my bosses in England would have thought, all those thousands of pounds to train me and for me to go and have an affair. Really!"

"The mini-series was well-acted but in parts it was extremely stupid. At one stage they had me cooking eggs and bacon to feed the men. For goodness sake did the Allies parachute me into France to fry eggs and bacon for the men? There wasn't an egg to be had for love nor money, and even if there had been why would I be frying it when I had men to do that sort of thing?"

Nancy Wake's comrade Henri Tardivat perhaps best characterised the guerrilla chieftain: "She is the most feminine woman I know, until the fighting starts. Then, she is like five men."

[Full article here](#)

PANTHER ->
Site news ->
24-inch waist
SAS
by [Ysabel
Howard](#) -
Tuesday, 14
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08:54 PM

Or indeed 24-inch waist SAS. Of course it's only a story - readily available for a small sum in all leading book-sellers?

[24-inch waist SAS is a small fable of mine. As the country slides into fascism, so the SAS think to recruit the brighter members of the female of the species, lecturers in Near-Eastern Studies from Girton and so on.]



Pretty, isn't it. Sort of emblem that could be used as a cap-badge. Indeed, I seem to recall...Alas, following on from that unfortunate interlude, it is even in the extremes of fantasy fiction unlikely that this particular motif could wend its way into the British Army. Some other symbol is therefore required.

Now, the so-called 'winged dagger' I gather is actually not a winged dagger at all but a flaming sword, and not just any old sword, either, but Excalibur. That

might suggest something representative of Guinevere, but it is hard to find anything positive about that particular lady, who in fact stands for the destruction of Arthur's kingdom, so perhaps we should go for the Lady of the Lake, who gave Arthur the freaking or even flaming sword in the first place. The Lady of the Lake isn't much of a speaking-part, being generally represented by a disembodied arm sticking out of a chilly-looking lake, but then, as you reasonably point out, an emblem isn't a speaking-part. The trouble with all this, of course, is that it is distinctly androcentric, the point about 24 SAS being having swords of our own, sisters, not handing them out to passing heroes, so it may be back to the drawing-board. Perhaps if we simply invert the sword so that a well-manicured paw is holding it by its hilt? What a well-manicured paw is doing in a lake is another matter.



What? Oh, a motto, certainly, yes:

The Grape that can with Logic absolute
The Two-and-Seventy jarring Sects confute:
The subtle Alchemist that in a Trice
Life's leaden Metal into Gold **transmute**:

Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam

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And the outcome of all this ape-puke

