les pigeons voyageurs

par Daniel TANT

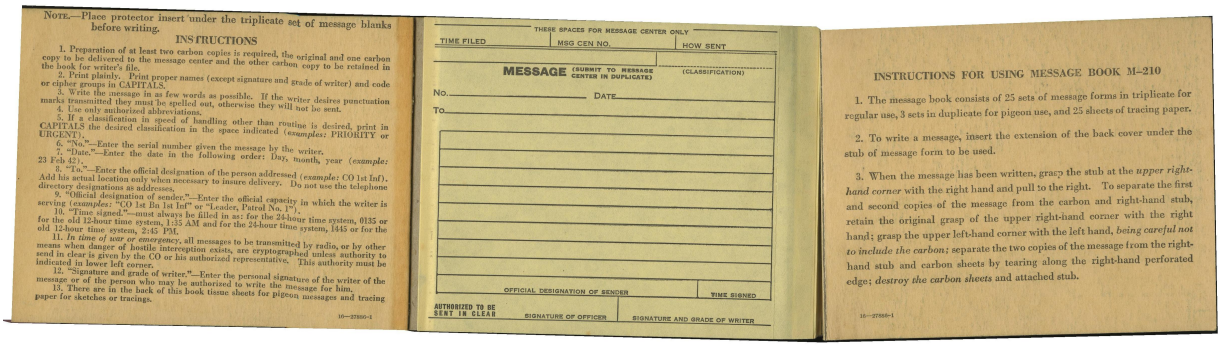
Une émission radio peut être facilement écoutée par l'ennemi et une liaison filaire peut être interceptée.

Pour contrer ces problèmes il existe un autre procédé utilisé par de nombreux pays : le pigeon voyageur.

Les services anglais envoyaient par avion un parachute relié à une cage en carton contenant un pigeon, un carnet et un crayon. L'ensemble était réceptionné par un maquisard qui écrivait un message relatant les renseignements utiles aux alliés : nombre d'Allemands ou de régiments, la ville de garnison, le nombre de chars, de canons ou autres...
Il plaçait le message dans un bague fixée à la patte de l'oiseau puis lâchait le volatile qui retournait dans l'anonymat vers son pigeonnier.

Le procédé était officiel puisque les carnets de messages américains "M-210" comportaient les feuilles à cet effet.

Il arrivait aussi que le pigeon soit fixé dans le sac ventral d'un parachutiste.



NOTE.—Place protector insert under the triplicate set of message blanks before writing.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preparation of at least two carbon copies is required, the original and one carbon copy to be delivered to the message center and the other carbon copy to be retained in the book for writer's file.
2. Print plainly. Print proper names (except signature and grade of writer) and code or cipher groups in CAPITALS.
3. Write the message in as few words as possible. If the writer desires punctuation marks transmitted they must be spelled out, otherwise they will not be sent.
4. Use only authorized abbreviations.
5. If a classification in speed of handling other than routine is desired, print in CAPITALS the desired classification in the space indicated (*examples:* PRIORITY or URGENT).
6. "No."—Enter the serial number given the message by the writer.
7. "Date."—Enter the date in the following order: Day, month, year (*example:* 23 Feb 42).
8. "To."—Enter the official designation of the person addressed (*example:* CO 1st Inf). Add his actual location only when necessary to insure delivery. Do not use the telephone directory designations as addresses.
9. "Official designation of sender."—Enter the official capacity in which the writer is serving (*examples:* "CO 1st Bn 1st Inf" or "Leader, Patrol No. 1").
10. "Time signed."—must always be filled in as: for the 24-hour time system, 0135 or for the old 12-hour time system, 1:35 AM and for the 24-hour time system, 1445 or for the old 12-hour time system, 2:45 PM.
11. *In time of war or emergency*, all messages to be transmitted by radio, or by other means when danger of hostile interception exists, are cryptographed unless authority to send in clear is given by the CO or his authorized representative. This authority must be indicated in lower left corner.
12. "Signature and grade of writer."—Enter the personal signature of the writer of the message or of the person who may be authorized to write the message for him.
13. There are in the back of this book tissue sheets for pigeon messages and tracing paper for sketches or tracings.

16—27886-1

THESE SPACES FOR MESSAGE CENTER ONLY
TIME FILED | MSG CEN NO. | HOW SENT

MESSAGE (SUBMIT TO MESSAGE CENTER IN DUPLICATE) (CLASSIFICATION)

No. DATE
TO

OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF SENDER | TIME SIGNED
AUTHORIZED TO BE SENT IN CLEAR | SIGNATURE OF OFFICER | SIGNATURE AND GRADE OF WRITER

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING MESSAGE BOOK M-210

1. The message book consists of 25 sets of message forms in triplicate for regular use, 3 sets in duplicate for pigeon use, and 25 sheets of tracing paper.

2. To write a message, insert the extension of the back cover under the stub of message form to be used.

3. When the message has been written, grasp the stub at the *upper right-hand corner* with the right hand and pull to the right. To separate the first and second copies of the message from the carbon and right-hand stub, retain the original grasp of the upper right-hand corner with the right hand; grasp the upper left-hand corner with the left hand, *being careful not to include the carbon;* separate the two copies of the message from the right-hand stub and carbon sheets by tearing along the right-hand perforated edge; *destroy the carbon sheets* and attached stub.

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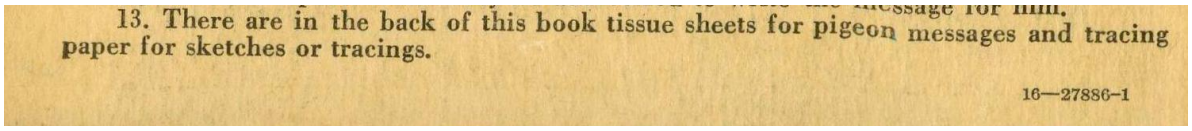

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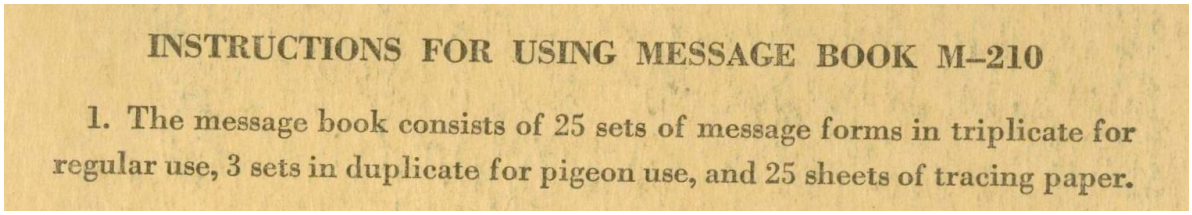

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Les Allemands aussi utilisaient des pigeons voyageurs