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>>> Helen Hassett informant at the death of Ellen Hassett (her mother?) in 1860

manufactured light steel pressings for ammunition and other items. They were one of several British companies participating in a secret program of war work, producing devices containing hidden objects intended to be used by downed aircrew or by British prisoners-of-war attempting to escape; Typically the objects produced by these companies were innocent personal domestic items (hairbrushes, combs, razors, shaving brushes, tooth brushes) inside which were hidden maps, foreign currency, compasses etc. These were openly shipped into enemy prisoner-of-war camps, where they were used by British POWs attempting to escape the camps and return to the UK; Hassett & Harper focussed on manufacturing miniature compasses concealed inside the brass uniform buttons of R.A.F. aircrew, such as the example illustrated here:



Birmingham is a "Museum of the Jewelry Quarter") also made pewterware ("Knighthood" trademark) following his acquisition of "Sturges, Bladen & Middleton" & "Browetts' Pewterware"

He used the name "J.B. Hassett" for all his business purposes

President of "Birmingham Jewellers Association" (later named "The British Jewellers' Association") in 1938, when Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain was guest of honour & speaker at their annual dinner; this event occurred immediately following his return from meeting Adolf Hitler at Munich, his speech at this dinner being the first broadcast about that event; His father, distinguished statesman Joseph Chamberlain, was a prominent Birmingham manufacturer

sailed from Southampton 22.5.1948 for N.York, USA

d.18.10.1969 Torbay, Devon

m.1st Apr-Jun.1912
Aston, Birmingham;
Annie Elizabeth Law
d.1951

m.2nd Oct-Dec.1951
Meriden, Warwickshire
Betty E. Bolland

>>> William "Billy" Joseph Blennerhassett (alias Blenner-Hassett, alias Hassett) b.9.5.1891 Aston, Birmingham; emig. to Canada; unm.

joined Royal Navy as seaman [NA - Royal Navy Register of Seaman's Services, Cat. Ref. ADM 188/647, Image Ref. 305/302]; served in army WWI; Private (Service No.100) 8th Batt'n, Canadian Light Infantry (Manitoba Regt.); d.23.4.1915 K.I.A. at Ypres (now Ieper), Belgium; his name is on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West Flanders, Belgium (Ieper, West Vlaanderen) panel 24-26-28-30; this memorial carries names of men lost without trace during the defence of the Ypres Salient during the First World War

>>> Justice Francis "Frank" >>>>>>
Alfred Blennerhassett, QC
b.7.7.1916 Aston, Birm.
Edu. Solihull School 1930-3;
/
of Broom Cottage, Old Station Road, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull, Warwickshire (in the grounds of the ancestral home of Sir Robert Peel's family)

started his career in insurance industry before studying law TA 1938; Royal Artillery (serving in the ranks); commissioned Capt. Royal Warwickshire Regt WWII 1939-46, serving in East Africa

started his career in insurance industry before studying law; Barrister of Middle Temple 1946; Oxford Circuit; Dep. Chairman of Staffordshire Quarter Sessions 1963-71 [TIMES 14.9.1963]; QC 1965 [TIMES 15.4.1965]; Recorder of New Windsor 1965-71, Hon. Recorder of New Windsor 1972-1976 and of Windsor & Maidenhead 1976-1989; Elected Bencher of Middle Temple 1971; Recorder of Crown Court from 1971/2; Legal assessor to the GMC and the Dental Council 1971-1978; Circuit Judge (Midland & Oxford Circuit) 1978-89 [TIMES 21.9.1978]; Member of the Parole Board 1981-1983; Member of the Home Office Committee on Magistrates' Courts Procedure; author of "Progress and the Individual: The Valedictory Process" Birmingham 1951 (Birmingham & Edgbaston Debating Society paper); Legal adviser to Gen. Medical Council & Gen. Dental Council 1972; Served on the Home Office committee on magistrates courts procedure 1989-1993; His chambers were at the Lamb Building, Temple, London; Chairman of a British Government committee set up in 1975-6 to review the working of the law on drinking and driving, known as "The Blennerhassett Committee of Inquiry into Drinking & Driving" (a.k.a. "Blennerhassett Review", "Blennerhassett Group"), which in The Blennerhassett Report proposed introduction of roadside breathalyzer tests in UK; Featured in a newspaper cartoon ["Sunday Telegraph" 2.5.1976] - see right --> [Who's Who 1974-5, 1982-3, 1983-4, 1985-6, 1988, 1990, 1992]

mem. of the Bar Golf Society; Capt. of Heath Golf Club; mem. of various Birmingham Clubs

d.13.6.1993; from his obit. in ["Daily Telegraph", 18.6.1993, p.23] said: "...Frank Blennerhassett presided over his courts with dry authority, only rarely giving rein to the wit that made him such a catch as an after-dinner speaker..." obit. in "The Silhillian", the magazine of the Solihull School "Old Silhillian's Association" No.44, Nov.1993 pp.21-22

m.1947/8 Betty Muriel Bray; of Brixham, Devon

>>> Rev. Eric William >>>>>>>>>>>>>
Blennerhassett
b.1921

Served in the TA in 1938 with his brother Frank; and during WWII 1939-46 as Capt. Royal Artillery; Liaison Officer, Canadian Night Fighter Squadron 1943-45 (Saskatchewan 1943)

Methodist Minister (from 1947) at Radlett, Sutton Park, Winchester & Portsmouth; BBC Radio & TV Religious Broadcasting 1956-76; St.Paul's Bedford Street, Covent Garden, London 1972-76 Oxhey, Watford, Herts 1968; Chichester, W.Sussex 1993-2007

m.Jul-Sep.1950 Woolwich, Kent
Edith Amy "Babs" Coulson



