

Belevenissen in bezet Nederland van Aart Hendrik Alblas, cover name Aramis, geboren XXXX in 1917 in Middelharnis. Ouders C. Alblas-Prinsenstraat 23 te Dordrecht. Naar Nederland in de nacht van 4 op 5 Februari 1941 met radio-telefonieset. Persoonsbewijs E06314 van Den Haag op naam van Aart de Waard. Gearresteerd in Juli 1942.

Report on Aart Hendrik Alblas, Netherland subject, concerning his intelligence work in Holland 1941 - 1942 after his being trained for such in Britain.

This statement was made on request of Colonel Seymour by Brian A. Intveld. Aart Hendrik Alblas was born 20th September 1918 at Middelharnis. A photograph of him is attached to this report. The present address of his parents is Prinsenstraat 23, Dordrecht.

Brian Arie Intveld was born 15th September 1916 at Rijswijk (Z.H.). Father Dutch, mother Scotch. Born at St. Vigean, Arbroath. Address c/o Bureau P. Intveld, Naval Architects, Van Leeuwenhoeksingel 27 te Delft.

#### Educational training.

After leaving the lower grade school in 1930 Aart Alblas followed the course Mulo A and subsequently attended and finished the higher grade school H.B.S. 1933-1936. In September 1936 he became S-lieutenant of the Navy School at Den Helder. In 1937 he changed over to the school of Navigation at Rotterdam, Merchant Service, where he attended until 1938. He sailed on the s.s. Meerkerk of the Verenigde Nederlandse Scheepvaartmaatschappij from 1938 until the end of 1939. He then went back to the Rotterdam School of Navigation and took his examination for 3rd Officer in April 1940. A few weeks later the Germans invaded and occupied the Netherlands.

In May 1940, after May, many British soldiers were in hiding in Belgium. Matters for them became tense owing to their great numbers and German activities. A group of Dutchmen set up a plan for bringing British soldiers from Belgium to Holland. This group consisted of Jan Idema, born 16th January 1908, present address Stooplaan 21 te Dordrecht, Nico Rijdsdijk, shot later on, of Zwijndrecht, Jacques Batenburg, Lagerwey and Aart Alblas went to Belgium to arrange matters. After returning to Holland they built up a transmitter as they decided to get into contact with Britain to arrange British soldiers to Britain after fetching them from Belgium to Holland. The apparatus was not a success.

Some of this group met a qualified student from Wageningen named Jan Westerhout who said that, just before the German invasion, he had received his appointment to a post in the Dutch East Indies and was keen to get there via Britain. For this purpose he bought a speed boat. As Aart Alblas was a sailor he was introduced to Westerhout and they escaped to Britain on the 7th March 1941.

In Britain Aart Alblas got the choice of serving with the submarine service or intelligence service. He chose the former, but on request of the British authorities took the latter service. He subsequently was trained in Britain.

In June 1941 Aart Alblas was dropped from the air in the province of Groningen near the German frontier, although the intention had been near a little wood outside Assen. On having difficulties with hiding his parachute and transmitter he was caught by Dutch Military Police. He was forced to explain matters and released immediately.

Aart Alblas then went to Jan Idema and Jacques Batenburg, the latter staying with the family Hoogervorst, Paulinestraat, The Hague, This was the first address from where Aart Alblas transmitted.

At the end of August 1941 Aart Alblas' was detected by the Germans, who raided the house whilst he was transmitting. Alblas escaped, but Jacques Batenburg, Corrie and Greet Hogervorst were arrested, although they were released after a few weeks, being constantly shadowed.

Alblas hid at the house of his friend Wim Paans, Moerdijk, from 12th September until 14th October 1941. He was then introduced by Wim Paans to my father Mr. Paul Intveld, underground name Michiel, who arranged matters for Alblas. He also introduced him to Brian A. Intveld, underground name Jan Bakker. Alblas asked me to become his right hand for gathering information, travelling as courier and wording the messages to be transmitted. (Noot S. Had Alblas inmiddels een ander zendtoestel uit Engeland gekregen?).

Het then started transmitting at the house of P van Dalfsen, Huize Nooitge-

before the German invasion

dacht <sup>at</sup> te Loosdrecht, friends of Jan Idema.

So far Aart Alblas had paid his expenses from the 2000 guilders he received from Britain and he was helped financially by my father. By this time he had run out of his 2000 guilders and obtained the address from Britain of Jonkheer Roëll of Apeldoorn, secretary to H.R.H. Prince Bernhard, who could only give him a small allowance as he helped already other underground workers. Jonkheer Roëll was arrested in the summer of 1942 on account of other underground work.

At this point it may be of interest to mention the following. I discovered at this time that Jhr. Roëll was arrested in conjunction with two other intelligence agents who had received their training together with Alblas. I mentioned this to Alblas, and also that apparently one of these agents had some music code and the other a code taken from the Erbkönig. This happened to the same code as Alblas had and which he used before he was detected by the Germans. It now was clear how the Germans knew his first code. (Dit geval is mij niet geheel duidelijk. Het is in ieder geval wel zo, dat de Britsche dienst niet vrij uit gaat).

During this time Jan Idema came into contact with people of the illegal group "Ons Parool". Alblas at first did not want to enter into contact with this group as he wanted to stick to his orders not to join other illegal parties. One of this group was Salomon Vas Dias, who had been with the Netherlands Intelligence Service G.S. III. (Noot S. Ik heb bij G.S. III nooit van deze Vas Dias gehoord) Alblas stayed with him until Christmas 1941 at Huizer Straatweg te Bussum. There he met Mr. Van Heuven Goedhart, Frans Goedhart and Dr. Krediet.

The next address from where Alblas transmitted for a short time was at the house of Dr. De Pree, Duinweg 18 te Huis ter Heide. After the arrest of Jhr. Roëll Alblas was supplied with money for his maintenance and his operations apart from Mr. F. Intveld and also by Dr. De Pree.

He also obtained information from Captain Thomson from Utrecht, formerly with the Dutch H.Q., now probably in Britain, and Mr. A. Kortland, Harbour Master of Rotterdam, who was arrested at Ymuiden in an attempt to cross over to Britain and was shot.

Towards the end of 1941 Alblas transmitted from the house of Dr. Krediet, Zijdweg te Wassenaar. On the 16th of January 1942 Alblas was introduced by Vas Dias to the home of Captain R. A. Hueting, Reserve Captain of the Dutch Intelligence Service G.S. III, Laan van Poot 214 in Den Haag. Hueting himself had been arrested in August 1941 and was imprisoned at Scheveningen on account of underground activities quite outside the matter. Later on he was shot. At this meeting also were present Frans Goedhart, underground name Pieter 't Hoen, Police Inspector Moonen, underground name Broer, Dr. Krediet and someone who had been sent over by the name of "Peter". (Noot S. Dit was ongetwijfeld Peter Tazelaar). In Britain Alblas had also been called "Peter" by his Colonel. As "Peter" had to go back to Britain, Frans Goedhart, Wiardi Beckman and a third man intended to cross over with him. Alblas arranged this crossing with Britain against his will as he said this was not his work. This affair was not successful and Frans Goedhart and Wiardi Beckman were arrested. (Noot S. Bij deze arrestatie had Frans Goedhart al zijn illegale papieren bij zich, welke hij onder het zand had trachten te verstoppen. Natuurlijk ontdekten de Duitsers deze paperassen, waardoor velen niet aan een arrestatie konden ontsnappen).

Alblas continued transmitting from Loosdrecht, our working address being at the Laan van Poot in The Hague. Decoding etc. and also some courier work was done by the daughter and son of Captain Hueting, Miss Marie Hueting and Gerard Hueting, the latter now serving with Intelligence Service in Australia. After some time Alblas was engaged to be married to Miss Hueting. I must not omit to emphasise that she was a valuable and courageous worker who made no mistake.

After his hiding period at Moerdijk as a result of being detected by the Germans Alblas had to have other identity papers. He had originally arrived in Holland with papers on which his name was Aard de Waard. The new papers were forged by Police Inspector Van Bommel of Monster, one of the first to do such work in Holland and who in this way helped many underground workers out of a great deal of difficulties. As a result of this work he has been shot. The son of Inspector Van Bommel also supplied Alblas with some information and Alblas transmitted from there a short time. From now he had the name Klaas de Jong.

Except for my father, I mention of those who worked under the following: Ir. Jean C. Tissot van Patot of the Rotterdam Drydock Company, Piet van der Hoeven, matters worked on his nerves, eventually and he was taken to a mental hospital where he still is, Frank van Kralingen, Wim Paans and Joop van der Hoek, As I was in my father's office and this is a business of naval Architects where all the work was stopped during the war on account of refusing to work for the Germans, I could work my way into the shipyards and other firms. The party was kept as small as possible as such were orders from Britain. The reason for Aart Alblas asking me to also word the messages to be transmitted was because my being half British, my mother being Scotch, and having studied in Britain.

He then transmitted again from Loosdrecht and also from Kedichem near Corinchem. (Noot S. Waar is dat Kedichem gelegen?).

Aart Alblas' right ear was peculiarly shaped. As this was known to the Germans he underwent two operations at the Elisabeth Hospital in The Hague by dr. Van Weijner who did not know about the activities of Alblas.

On the 16th of June Salomon Vaz Dias was arrested in Paris. Someone who was trusted by Vaz Dias, but who was a German agent, went to the wife of Vaz Dias and said he had some information for Alblas and asked his address. Mrs. Vaz Dias gave the address of the courier of her husband Miss Jopie Waldorp, now Mrs. La Rivière. The latter was suspicious and subsequently the Germans did not get any further this way.

However in some unknown way the Germans discovered that the contact address was at the Laan van Poot in The Hague. Miss Hueting was arrested on the 15th of July 1942 after being enticed from the hospital where she was a nurse. On the 16th of July the Germans took Miss Hueting to her home where also Mrs. Hueting and Gerard Hueting were arrested. From the house the Germans telephoned to several acquaintances of Mrs. Hueting, telling them a tale that Miss Hueting had concussion of the brain as a result of falling from her bicycle. Miss Hueting managed to get all of the Germans out of the house as both Alblas and I were to meet there that day. In this way I escaped, but the Germans came back with Miss Hueting after seeing they had been led astray. Alblas heard of the accident of Miss Hueting but was slightly suspicious. He sent an aunt of Miss Hueting to her house. Through mistakes of this aunt Alblas was arrested the same day, the 16th of July 1942.

After being taken to the prison at Scheveningen he was transported to the prison camp at Haaren, being questioned at both prisons. Mrs. Hueting, Miss Hueting and Gerard Hueting were released on the 5th November 1942. In March 1943 Alblas was called before the Kriegsgericht in the case Vaz Dias, Moonen, Krediet. In January 1944 Alblas was transferred to Assen and from there in May 1944 to Mauthausen in Germany, where on the 7th of September 1944 he was shot with 45 others by an order from Himmler.

The parents of Alblas were visited three times by a German agent by the name of De Graaf or De Waard (both). As the parents knew hardly anything at all about his activities and understood not to mention they did not know, the German agent did not have any success there. Alblas had always hoped that one day he could have his parents as their financial position is not very great.

Herewith goes a copy of a letter which Alblas wrote to Miss Hueting during his imprisonment at Assen.

This report is a bare statement of facts. Many details have been omitted, which I can give if wanted. Particulars about the work and of what has been gone through were also left out. But I should like to mention the following.

Alblas was a serious, intelligent, cautious and painstaking worker. He did not choose this work, but was requested to do it for a certain time to which he agreed and he felt this job had to be done. When that time had expired he was asked to continue, but was somewhat disappointed that he was not relieved as he was keen to return to Britain and get back to sea, as was his original intention. He was even planning to return on his own and it was arranged between us that I would carry on alone with his transmitter.

He had to work under extreme difficulties and make many sacrifices, the 2000 guilders he had been sent out were quite insufficient and he went many days without a warm meal. (Noot S. Dit bedrag van F, 2000- is inderdaad belachelijk laag, en de dienst welke hem uitzond moet daarvoor zeer ernstig worden geblameerd). These

difficulties were overcome when I got to know that ~~my~~ my father helped him. I of course paid my expenses and that of my workers.

That our work was successful and appreciated is evidenced e.g. in a message we received "congratulations" for valuable but detailed information".

Apart from the fact that Alblas was a loyal patriot doing the best he could and risking all for the allied cause in the most critical period of the war, I shall ever remember that my father, Jan Idema and myself owe our lives to his loyalty to us. Despite all the torture he never disclosed our names. A noble Netherlander!

Delft (Holland), 9th October 1945.

(w.g. Brian A. Intveld).

Translation of a letter sent by Aart Alblas from the prison camp at Assen to Miss Marie Huetting on 12th January 1944.

12th January 1944.

Dearest Pim,

In this special way I reach you because the promise that you would be allowed to visit me regularly has been broken.

First a short statement of what happened to me in telegram style as account in case anything may happen to me.

At the questioning after being arrested they wanted to know:

1. Where my transmitter was. You will have heard from the Germans that I ~~came over~~ came over from England with a ~~transmitter~~ transmitter.
2. People who helped me.
3. Place where I was landed.
4. Addresses from where I transmitted.
5. Persons who helped me with money.

By constantly not saying anything I got things so far that all I had to tell was where my transmitter was, on condition that they would not use it. And nothing would happen to the people where it was. These people indeed nothing knew about the affair. Giving way to threats I at least told from whom I received the money as I knew he had already been sentenced to death, and also the addresses from where I transmitted, i.e. my first one in The Hague which had been detected long ago so was known, the addresses at Loosdrecht where I had been a long time. I could mention this as similar to those in The Hague the people were absolutely ignorant of my work. (Noot S. Deze bewering lijkt mij sterk overdreven. Immers: ten eerste moeten de antennes welke zijn gespannen toch wel verdenking wekken, en ten tweede is het zich opsluiten met een radiosef met het daarbij behorende klikken van de seinsleutel een zeer verdacht teken dat er met dit geval toch wel iets aan de hand is. Erg geloofwaardig klinkt deze verklaring van Alblas naar mijn mening dan ook niet.) Thirdly the address of Mr. Vaz Dias. You will be surprised about all this, but I am very thankful now that I never spoke to you about my work. Vaz Dias had himself already confessed that I had transmitted from his home. Fourthly my last address of transmitting.

At last against the agreement I had to mention the people supplied me with informations. I then mentioned the names of the two informers, two friends of whom I knew that one was submerged (hidden) and the other would have been so wise as to do also. The names were in fact already known. Also my code was known. (Noot S. Het is mij volstrekt onbegrijpelijk hoe die code aan de vijand bekend kon zijn. Kwam dat misschien omdat bij de eerste overval waarbij Alblas was ontsnapt zijn code was gevonden? Het moet dan van betrokkene zeer onverstandig zijn geweest met dezelfde code later weer verder te seinen. In ieder geval is het hier een erg raadselachtig geval).

The questioning lasted exactly 100 hours on end. I constantly got good food. I felt miserable after those four days and was terribly sleepy on my chair, to which I was handcuffed all the time. This is the only excuse for my confessing ultimately.

After this I was taken to Haaren where I was questioned regularly during a couple of months for the translation of messages to say from which of my friends I had received these.

After more than half a year I was told that more people from Utrecht had supplied me with information. Those people were caught in connection with other things

and had said such. Of course I could only deny. Also I had to tell what L.63 meant which was written at the top of the latter which dealt about me. Of this I was absolutely ignorant. (Noot S. Hier komt onze vriend Joop de Geus dus ook weer in the picture).

Originally I had been promised that I would not have to appear before the Kriegsgericht, that I would be well treated, that you would be allowed to come and that I would be released after the war.

Through the above mentioned causes all these promises were cancelled and I had to appear before the Kriegsgericht, after all with of course the well known result. This was during the time you did not hear from me for a while. I then spent some difficult weeks, but God helped me.

By an unknown reason I was at last told that I would not need to appear before the Kriegsgericht. In Haarlem we were treated very well. So far the statement.

So partly the Germans kept their agreement e.g. as regards the place of landing, which they do not know, and as regards the fact that I am still living. At the end of November a few of us escaped. Therefore we were transferred somewhere else in Holland. It is better not to tell you where that is. Our condition is much worse now, but better than in Scheveningen

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(Personel matters to Miss Hueting)

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Pray much for me. Do not do things by which you come in danger. There is betray everywhere and everyone betrays everyone. Keep courageous, you know for Queen and Fatherland.

(signed: Klaas).

Note: The last words are from a Dutch National song:

Komt ooit de vijand naken,	Might over the enemy approach
Is het Vaderland in nood,	Is the Fatherland in danger
Dan staan wij pal en blijven het	Then we stand firm and remain
Getrouw tot in den dood.	Faithful to until death
<u>Voor Koningin en Vaderland</u>	<u>For Queen and Fatherland</u>
<u>Waakt iedere jongen mee</u>	<u>Every boy joins in guard</u>
Voor Koningin en Vaderland	For Queen and Fatherland
Waakt iedere jongen mee.	Every boy joins in guard.

Uninformed may get the impression from this letter that he had given away some secrets. The letter was however very cleverly planned to inform us and we realised to what he had said was very well considered.

(W.G. Brian A. Intveld).

(Naschrift S. Bovenstaand verhaal is in feite een drama. Naar mijn mening is de agent Alblas het slachtoffer geworden van een incompetente Londensche dienst. Ten eerste is het een grote fout een agent uit te zenden met een bedrag van F.2000. Het is een wonder dat deze jongeman door vrienden in Nederland nog geholpen kon worden aan contanten. Veder is het feit dat Alblas niemand verraden heeft te memoreren. Hij is in ieder geval een prachtig voorbeeld geweest van een zeer moedige jonge Nederlander. Dat hij postuum door mij is voorgedragen voor de Bronzen Leeuw mag worden gezien als een eerbewijs aan deze moedige jongeman, die een voorbeeld mag worden genoemd voor velen die na het kwamen, en die het er heel wat minder afbrachten).