

Simplified transcript

Mission instructions

INAYAT KHAN

Went into

field [enemy territory] 16.6.43

Operation [name of spy mission]: NURSE

Christian name in the field: MADELEINE

Name on papers [official documents]: Jeanne Marie RENIER

Mission

You are going to France to work as a wireless operator [receiving and sending messages to/from England]. You will work for a spy network located in Le Mans [an area of France].

Approach

You will arrive in France with another spy on a Lysander aeroplane at a specific location.

When you arrive, you will be taken to Paris. Here you will be given instructions on how to contact the organiser of your spy network, code-named CINEMA.

There is a password you must use.

You must be very careful when you contact him.

METHOD

1. You will take the name of Jeanne Marie RENIER. When working as an agent you will use the name MADELEINE.
2. You will receive and send messages for Cinema's spy network [Cinema is the person in charge of this network]. You will take instruction from him and he will tell you what to do.
3. You will only take messages given to you by Cinema. You will put them into code yourself.

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Major General Gubbins' report

Unit: WAAF [Women's Auxiliary Air Force]

Name: Nora Inayat Khan ['Nora' is sometimes used instead of 'Noor']

Action for which commended [awarded recognition or praise]

This officer [Noor Khan] landed in France on 16th June 1943 as a Wireless Operator [sending and receiving wireless messages to/from England]. Shortly after she arrived, the Gestapo [secret German police] arrested the main organiser of her spy network and many of the other spies.

Noor herself had a few narrow escapes. On one occasion she had come back to her house to find the Gestapo waiting for her. Remaining calm, she managed to escape them.

She helped the escape of 30 Allied airmen who had been shot down in France.

She was told to return to ENGLAND. But she asked to stay in France and carry on with her work even though it was very dangerous. She lost contact with London in October 1943 when she was arrested by the Nazis.

In recognition of her bravery and commitment to carry on with her work (even after the arrest of other spies in her network), it is recommended that she be appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire [MBE – this is awarded for excellent service to the country].

Major General Gubbins
6.10.45