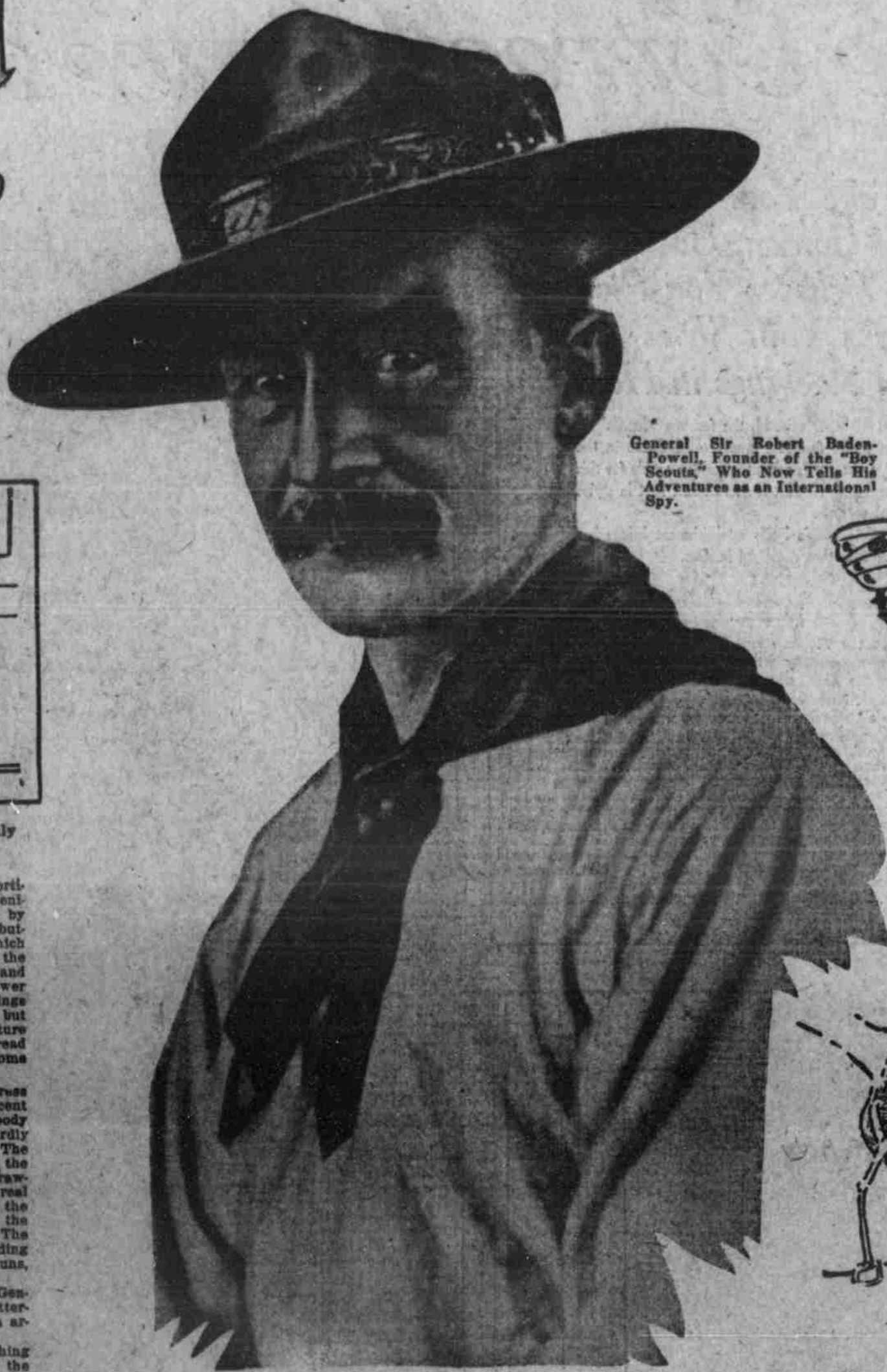
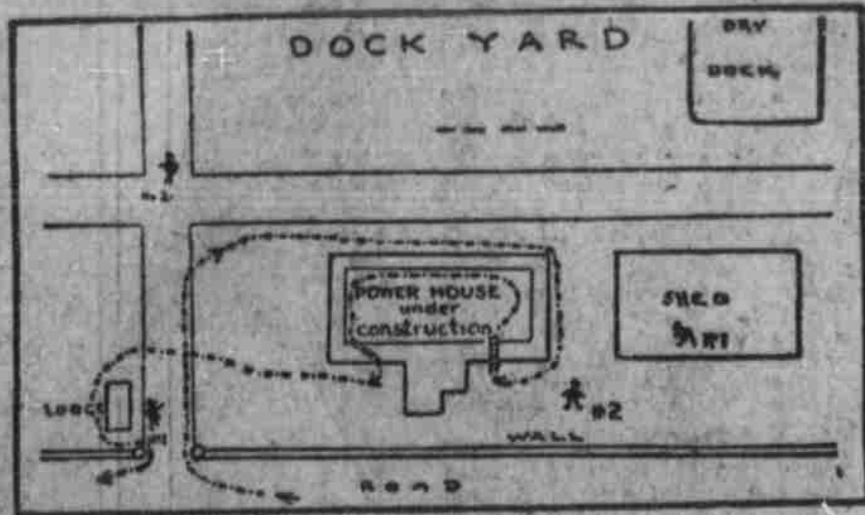


## "What I Did When I Was a Spy" - By Lieut. General Sir Robert Baden Powell



General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, Founder of the "Boy Scouts," Who Now Tells His Adventures as an International Spy.

The World Famous Founder of the Boy Scouts, Tells of His Perilous Adventures in the English Secret Service and the Extraordinary Methods By Which He Sent Information Concerning Other Nations' Fortresses and Other Defenses to His Own Country.



Plan of German Dockyard Which General Baden-Powell Was Secretly Sketching when the Police Surprised Him. Dotted Lines Show How He Ran to Escape Capture, as Told in His Book.

GENERAL SIR ROBERT BADEN-POWELL, the famous "B. P." of the British army and founder of the "Boy Scouts," has written a book revealing some of his remarkable adventures and achievements as a spy.

He calls his book very frankly, "My Adventures as a Spy." It is evident that most of his exploits took place in Germany, for that is the only country whose military secrets England could have been very anxious to learn.

General Baden-Powell made a great reputation during the Boer War when he defended the town of Mafeking with a force of irregulars against a superior body of Boers for nine months and displayed more resourcefulness than any other British commander. He surprised everybody by the tricks he played, such as slipping through the Boer lines by night and drawing the Boers into traps by means of "faked" trenches.

After the war the general organized the "Boy Scouts" movement, which quickly spread to America and all over the world. He taught the boys of England how to spend their playtime in a healthful and interesting way, while preparing themselves to be useful to their country in time of war. He taught them the delights of tracking, of making a secret trail, of seeing in the dark, and all sorts of things about wild animals and nature.

In short he taught them to be good scouts. Thousands of English boy scouts during the present war have done splendid service watching suspected spies, guarding railroad bridges and doing other important work.

When a scout turns his attention to a foreign country he becomes a "spy." That is what General Baden-Powell has been doing.

It is thrilling to hear this mature and more or less dignified British general tell how he sneaked past foreign sentries disguised in a German hat and necktie, how he ran up ladders to avoid pursuing policemen, how he employed the trained scout's art of hearing motions and feeling himself out to avoid detection. It adds to the thrill to remember that if he had been caught the general would have got an indefinite term in prison.

When the general had penetrated into a town or area or at least obtained a good view, he had to sketch out his observations in such a way that the drawings could not convict him if he were arrested.

Here is one simple method by which the general concealed a careful drawing of a fortress. First of all he sketched the plan of the fortress in a straight-forward manner, giving the strength and positions of the various guns. In one figure shown here these are as follows: A. Rapoporters with machine guns. B. 15 centimetre gun cupola. C. 12 centimetre gun cupola. D. Quick firing disappearing gun. E. Howitzer cupola. F. Searchlight.

Having done this he would consider the best method of concealing the plan. In this case he decided to transform the sketch into one that looked like a stained glass window. If you will carefully examine the picture on this page you will see how successfully this has been done. The picture has all the appearance of an ancient stained glass window in a European church with a fantastic coat of arms surrounded by a crest and completed by a noble Latin motto and an open bible under it.

Certain of the decorations signify the sizes and positions of the guns. General Baden-Powell gives the symbols with their meaning. These, of course, have a very definite meaning to him when he gets back home safely and is able to work out the plan, and they would be equally intelligible to many other officers in his service.

It would not be wise to use such a peculiar design every time, especially

as it has really the outline of a fortification. More deceptive and ingenious sketches are therefore used by the general. One of these is a butterfly very cleverly drawn which shows the plans of a fortress and marks both the position and power of its guns. The marks on the wings and those on the lines show the nature and size of the guns and can be read by the keys which are left at home in England.

The outer boundary of the fortress is represented by a very innocent looking line drawn round the body of the butterfly which could hardly arouse the suspicion of anybody. The guns are represented by spots on the line on the wings outside the drawing of the fortress, but their real position in the fortress is at the spot where the line ends inside the outline already mentioned. The spots on the line indicate, according to their size and shape, fortress guns, field guns and machine guns.

When taking this sketch the general was armed with a large butterfly net and had all the air of an ardent entomologist.

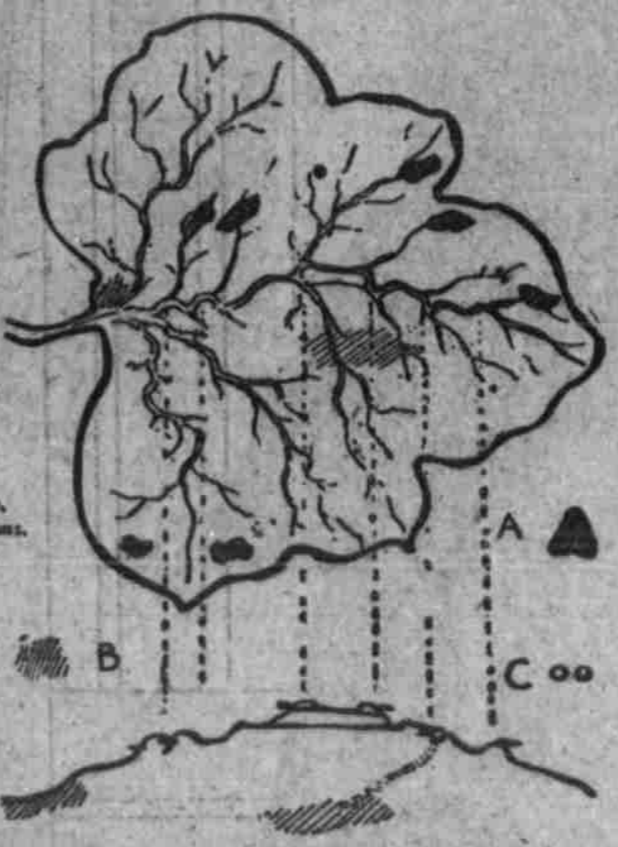
Another clever way of sketching fortifications is represented by the picture of an ivy leaf. The veins on the ivy leaf show the outline of the



A. Rapoporters with machine guns. B. 15 cm. gun cupola. C. 12 cm. gun cupola. D. Quick firing disappearing gun. E. Howitzer cupola. F. Searchlight.



G. 15 cm. gun. H. Howitzer. I. Q-F. disappearing gun. J. Searchlight.



Plan of a Fort Concealed by General Baden-Powell in an Innocent Looking Sketch of an Ivy Leaf. Dots to Which the Veins of the Leaf Point Indicate Guns. The Secret Marks Shown in the Key Below the Leaf Mean: A, Big Guns; B, Dead Ground, Whether There is Shelter from Fire; C, Machine Guns.

At the Left the Plan of a German Fortress as General Baden-Powell First Draw It, and at the Right, How He Ingeniously Buried It in a Picture of a Stained Glass Window.

fort as it is seen when one is looking west while the point of the leaf indicates the north. There are a number of large patches on the leaf. Each of these shows where a big gun is mounted if a vein points to the patch. It would be impossible for an investigator not in the secret to understand the meaning of this plan, because there are so many patches in it that mean nothing. The harmless looking shaded areas on the leaf, which seem so natural, represent "dead ground" or areas where an assailant of the fortress would find shelter from fire. Various smaller spots indicate machine guns.

In another case a curious picture of a dula moth concealed the details of an important fortification. In this instance the general carefully sketched the fortification first and then put in "fills" to make it look like a moth. The head represents a fort on a hill. The eyes are two field guns. The spot where a nose would be is a machine gun. The hairs around the head are wire entanglements. The space between the legs is an enclosure for transport animals. The ends of the forelegs are each a machine gun and the twig on which they rest is a bridge.

"This sketch," says General Baden-Powell, "was made giving all the particulars that I wanted. I then decided to bury it in such a way that it could not be recognized as a fortress plan if I were caught by the military authorities. I finally decided on the sketch of the moth's head. Underneath in my note book I wrote the following words: 'Head of dula moth as seen through a mag-

nifying glass caught 19-5-12. Magnified about six times the size of life. (Meaning scale of six inches to the mile.)"

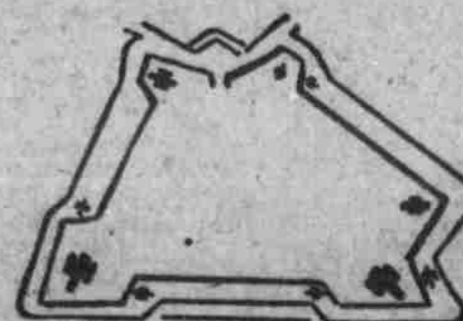
Sir Robert has some interesting notes on the uses of "freezing" when being pursued. To "freeze" means to become absolutely immovable when close to a pursuing object. If one "freezes" well enough one can escape the sharpest eyes. In one story he tells how he examined a new German dock yard and although pursued by two policemen, escaped under their noses by "freezing."

"The knowledge of this fact came in useful on one of my investigating tours," he writes. "Inside a great high wall lay a dockyard in which, it was rumored, a new power house was being erected, and possibly a dry dock was in course of preparation. It was early morning; the gates were just opened; the workmen were beginning to arrive, and several carts of materials were waiting to come in. Seizing the opportunity of the gates being open, I gave a hurried glance in, as any ordinary passer-by might do. I was promptly ejected by the policeman on duty in the lodge.

"I did not go far. My intention was to get inside somehow and to see what I could. I watched the first of the carts go in, and noticed that the policeman was busily engaged in talking to the leading wagoner while the second began to pass through the gate. In a moment I jumped alongside it on the side opposite to the janitor, and so passed in and continued to walk with the vehicle as it turned to the right and



How the Secrets of a Fortress Are Concealed in a Drawing of a Butterfly. The First Sketch in the Butterfly Drawn by General Baden-Powell. Beneath is the Sketch Hidden in the Wings.



The marks on the wings reveal the shape of the fortress shown here and the sizes of the guns.

FORTRESS GUNS. FIELD GUNS. MACHINE GUNS.



in that direction. While they were thus busy they were leaving the gate unguarded, and I thought it was too good a chance to be missed, so, returning along the scaffolding until I reached the smaller ladder, I climbed down this on to the lower story, and, seeing no one about, I quickly swarmed down one of the scaffolding poles and landed safely on the ground close behind the big chimney of the building.

"Here I was out of sight although not far from the policeman guarding the ladder; and, taking care to keep the corner of the building between us, I made my way round to the back of the lodge and then slipped out of the gate without being seen."

Another fascinating story relates to the penetration of a certain fort—the nationality is not stated, but the impression is that it was German—and Sir Robert prefaces the narrative by these hints on "How to Enter a Fort":

"Our next step was to see this wonderful illumination for night work, and in the course of our wanderings we came across a large fort from which searchlights had been showing the previous night. There were notice boards round this fort at a distance of about 20 yards apart stating that nobody was allowed within this circle of notices, and we argued that if once we were inside any sentry or detective would naturally suppose we had leave to be there.

Fort Hidden in Drawing of a Moth. The Key Shows the Meaning of the Secret Marks.

"I tried the idea, and it worked splendidly. We walked calmly through camps and past sentries without a tremor and not a question was asked us. Once within this line we were able to get directly into the fort, and there we strolled along as if the place belonged to us. There is a certain amount of art required in making yourself not appear to be a stranger in a new place. In the minor matter of hat, boots, and necktie it is well to wear those bought in the country you are visiting, otherwise your British-made articles are sure to attract the attention of a watchful policeman.

"In the matter of demeanor you behave as a native would do who was accustomed to being there.

"Walking into a strange fort must be carried out much on the same lines as you would adopt in entering a strange town, only more so. You walk as if with a set purpose to get to a certain part of it, as though you knew the way perfectly, and without showing any kind of interest in what is around you. If you pass an officer or dignitary whom you see everybody saluting, salute him too, so that you do not appear singular. When you want to observe any special feature you loaf about reading a newspaper, or, if in a town, by looking at all you want to see as reflected in a shop window.

"The penalty for spying in this country was five years without the option of a fine, or even of a trial."

The author proceeds to tell how time and again he entered this particular fort, but that, often by success, he went once too often. "The Emperor" happened to be there, and with a great number of officers. Sir Robert retired, but on his way back aroused the suspicions of some staff officers, but escaped arrest with his usual cheerfulness and resourcefulness.

"One man went later in the while the other remained outside on the line that I should probably take for escaping, that is, between it and the boundary wall leading to the gate-way. By accident rather than by design he stood close to the foot of my ladder, and this cut off my retreat

the corner came one of the policemen. I at once 'froze.' I was about 15 feet above sea-level and not 20 yards from him. He stood undecided with his legs well apart, peering from side to side in every direction to see where I had gone, very anxious and shy. I was equally anxious but immovable.

"Presently he drew nearer to the ladder, and, strangely enough, I felt safer when he came below me, and he passed almost under me, looking in at the doorways of the unfinished building. Then he doubtfully turned and looked back at a shed behind him, thinking I might have gone in there, and finally started off, and ran on found the next corner of the building. The moment he disappeared I finished the rest of my run up the ladder and safely reached the platform of the scaffolding.

"The workmen were not yet upon the building, so I had the whole place to myself. My first act was to look for another ladder as a line of escape in case of being chased. It is always well to have a back door to your hiding place; that is one of the