



INSPECTOR GENERALS' MISSIVE WEEK 29



IG Missive 8th October 2020

A fairly depressing week with all the new information coming in about the second peak we are suffering in many parts of the country. My brother is driving to Scotland today and will be annoyed to find the pubs are closed (although it seems hotels may remain open, just as Scottish hotels were open on Sundays when pubs were not permitted to open at all – funny how many locals got signed in as “guests” on a Sunday evening). Arguments about flu jabs are of course now beginning with shortages being forecast at the same time as we are all supposed to be lining up. I’ve never had one, but the science seems to be indicating that I should because getting flu AND Covid is likely to be much more serious.

Stephen Knight gets the accolade this week with Nick Wilson still very close. All answers revealed a good deal of enjoyment from sitting at a computer although too much time there isn’t good for one I’m told.

Here are my answers to the week 28 questions last week.

1. An average man will reach terminal velocity (or very close to it) after somewhere between 480 to 500 metres of fall (though it will vary with his weight and configuration)
2. Alan Eustace, a Vice President with Google made a freefall jump from 135.908ft (25 mls up!)
3. Amelia Earhart was awarded the first female Distinguished Flying Cross by the US Congress in 1932 for her solo crossing of the Atlantic. The first British female DFC recipient was Flt Lt Michelle Goodman, awarded the medal for a medical evacuation flight under fire in a Merlin helicopter from Basra in 2007.
4. An erg is the amount of work done when a force of one dyne moves through one centimetre.
5. Alois Schicklgruber changed his name to Hitler and was later father to Adolf.
6. Khrushchev and Bulganin came to Portsmouth harbour in 1956 in the Soviet Cruiser Ordzhonikidze which was reputed to have a new type of propeller. MI6 commissioned RN diver Lionel “Buster” Crabb to dive under the ship to investigate but he disappeared. The (perhaps somewhat tenuous) link with Flash Gordon is that the character in that cinema serial was first played by Larry “Buster” Crabbe. Brachyuric refers to an infra-order of decapod crustaceans which includes crabs.
7. Gringo is a term used by hispanic or latino peoples (mostly in the USA) to refer impolitely to non-hispanic/latino people. It originally came from the Spanish word “griego” meaning a greek or a person who spoke a language other than Spanish, or a foreigner.

8. Shakespeare's first history play was called "The Troublesome Reign". It was written in 1588-89 but later revised/re-written as "The Life and Death of King John" in 1611.
9. Bradley Cooper, David Bowie and Mark Hamill have all acted as John Merrick in Bernard Pomerance's play "The Elephant Man."
10. The last "official" battle between US forces and native Americans was the massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890 but the last actual battle was initiated by a group of Yaqui Indians who regularly crossed the US/Mexico border to obtain arms in their fight against the Mexican generals who were annexing what they regarded as their territory. In January 1918 the Yaquis attacked a group of soldiers whom they believed to be Mexicans but were in fact a detachment of US cavalry guarding the southern border of Arizona. Ten of the Indians were captured and charged with illegal arms export and got 30 days in prison.

Now for this week's posers:

1. Which British rugby player has scored the most tries at club and international level?
2. Who made the first non-stop transatlantic flight?
3. Which cytokine was discovered by a man from the Gorbals?
4. What aspect of the Queen's coronation was not shown on television in 1953?
5. Why did the Japanese forces invade the Dutch East Indies in 1942?
6. Where is the Waltzing Matilda tune supposed to have originated?
7. Who issued the edict of Milan and to what did it lead?
8. What are the five colours of heraldry?
9. Name the largest and the driest desert regions of the world.
10. Who really invented the telephone?

Keep phoning and zooming friends and neighbours to ensure they stay well and stay safe yourselves.

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