

Obituary of Kenneth Self Bank of England official who in wartime served MI5 and guarded Lord Haw-Haw's wife

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▣ Abstract (summary)

KENNETH SELF, who has died aged 87, spent all but three years of his career at the Bank of England at its so-called "country" branches; during the war he worked under Lord Rothschild at MI5.

In 1942, [Kenneth] Self had volunteered for the Intelligence Corps, where he served in 50 Field Security Section (50 FSS). The next year, he was one of seven NCOs seconded to M15 to work directly under Lord Rothschild, then head of British Counter Sabotage.

Following D-Day, 50 FSS advanced 350 miles in two and a half days to play a significant role in the liberation of Brussels. Responsible for the interrogation of Nazi collaborators, Self had as one of his prisoners Mrs William Joyce, wife of the notorious "Lord Haw-Haw". Self had the task of censoring Mrs Joyce's letters to her husband - until his execution as a traitor - and of procuring items for her on the Brussels black market. In return, she did all the section's darning.