



Remains of the studios at Milton Bryan in Bedfordshire which came into operation in 1943 to transmit 'black propaganda' stations like 'Soldatensender Calais' aimed at fermenting discord among German soldiers. (Jayembee1969)

Much of the structure of the radio studio complex remains and the building is now used by a local scout group.

Wavendon Tower, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Wavendon Tower is a country house in the village of Wavendon, now part of Milton Keynes. It was the first black propaganda station base. Programmes were recorded here and then taken on discs to be transmitted from nearby transmitters.

One of the stations which was initially recorded at Wavendon was 'Gustav Siegfried Eins' which broadcast from May 1941 until October 1943. The station's ruse was that it was the voice of a clandestine German military organisation and its leader, 'Der Chef' played by a German émigré called Peter Seckelmann, who had fled Berlin in 1938. The idea



Now the offices of several companies, Wavendon Tower was the first base for black propaganda radio stations organised by the Political Warfare Executive. In the 1960s and 1970s the building was used as the headquarters of the Milton Keynes Development Corporation. (Colin Philpott)

was that this radio station was a communication between the leader and members of his group. Its tone was a clever mixture of loyalty to the German military and the fatherland but undermining the reputation of Nazi officials.

Wavendon became redundant when the more sophisticated facilities of Milton Bryan became available. After the war, it had various uses, including being the home of the Milton Keynes Development Corporation in the 1960s and 1970s. It is now used as offices.

Aspidistra, Crowborough, East Sussex. The coming on stream of Milton Bryan studio coincided with the development of a massive new radio transmitter ordered secretly, and initially without the knowledge of the BBC, in the Ashdown Forest near Crowborough in East Sussex. The