



RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
Invites you to a presentation on Webinar, April 20, at 11:00 a.m.
Log on: <https://bit.ly/30IBj21>

David Alan Richards

Kipling's KIM, the Great Game, And Anglo-American Spies and Spy Novelists



Rudyard Kipling introduced the reading public to the romance of the international spy in his great novel of 1901, *Kim*, concerning the Great Game, the contest between Great Britain and Russia for control of the Indian subcontinent. The plot centers on the training of the Anglo-Irish Indian orphan Kimball O'Hara, recruited to the Empire's secret service to help expel the foreign agents stirring up trouble on the Northwest Frontier. But was that spy network real, with its agent numbers like "C25 1B", or made up? And what impact did the story have on actual spies, such as the most notorious member of the Cambridge spy ring, "Kim" Philby, or on American spies, like CIA Director Allen Dulles in Washington, CIA officer (and Theodore Roosevelt grandson) Kermit "Kim" Roosevelt in Egypt and Iran, and CIA agent Edward Lansdale in Viet Nam? And finally, how did its

theme influence Kipling's literary successors in the genre, like John Buchan (Greenmantle), Ian Fleming (the Bond novels featuring "007"), and our greatest contemporary spy novelist, the late John Le Carré?

David Alan Richards is a retired real estate attorney who practiced in Manhattan, where his projects included the air rights for Trump Tower, the sale of the AT&T building, the television broadcasters' antenna at the World Trade Center, and the 13-year-long donation of the High Line to New York City for a park. Mr. Richards served as the chair of the Real Property Section of the American Bar Association, which published his book on commercial leasing in New York City, and chair of the Anglo-American Real Property Institute. He graduated from Yale College and the University of Cambridge, with degrees in American and European history, and then Yale Law School. His collection of the first editions, manuscripts, and letters of Kipling, now at the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library at Yale, is the world's largest. The collection was exhibited at the Beinecke Library in 2007 and the catalogue published by Yale University Press. In 2010, the British Library published his Rudyard Kipling: A Bibliography, now the standard reference cited by Sotheby's, Christies', and the leading antiquarian book dealers here and abroad. In July 2021, he was elected president of the London-based Kipling Society, in whose Journal he has published several articles about the writer.

Recently Mr. Richards was honored in the Wall Street Journal as one of sixteen winners of the Marquis Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Awards for 2020-2021.

This presentation can only be viewed on ZOOM. There will not be an in-person showing at the church on April 20th.

Next Week: April 27: Sean McMeekin, Ph.D., Professor of European History and Culture at Bard College on his book, *Stalin's War: A New History of World War II*.

The Greenwich Retired Men's Association offers a free speaker program every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. For additional information see www.greenwichrma.org or contact us by email at info@greenwichrma.org.