

## IN JULY, 2013 A BLACK PACKAGE

wrapped in oilskin with the letters *SS BEDDINGTON* and *TOP SECRET* is netted by the fishing trawler, *Elizabeth Ann III* off Cape Cod. The trawler captain, Peter Broderick, recalls that his great grand father, the captain of the first *Elizabeth Ann*, had rescued survivors from the *Beddington* after it was torpedoed by a German U-boat in 1945 during WW II. Broderick turns the package over to the Navy believing that it will be declassified and returned. Wrong! The Navy confiscates it while maintaining that the *Beddington* never existed. Broderick, sensing a cover-up, with the help of Janey Sheffield, a marine biologist; Sean Kelly, captain of a salvage ship and a U.S. Senator starts an effort to find the wreck and prove its existence. That trail of evidence starts in Strassfurt, Germany in 1945 where material to make Hitler's secret weapon is captured by the U.S. Army. From there it goes to Avonmouth, England where that top secret material is loaded onboard the *Beddington* with other valuable cargo from Russia. The story ends four-hundred feet under the Atlantic Ocean where the source of gamma radiation, dangerous to marine life, is found in hold number three. Intriguing cargo in hold number four of the *Beddington* wreck surprises the salvage crew and leaves them with an open question that's finally answered by an elderly lawyer in Munich, Germany.

THE BEDDINGTON INCIDENT | BILL FLYNN

B I L L F L Y N N

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TOP SECRET CARGO

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