



# HEADQUARTERS GAZETTE

SOCIETY FOR MILITARY HISTORY

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## 75TH ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

The 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Military History will be here before we know it, so make your plans to attend sooner rather than later. Weber State University and Ogden, Utah, are ready for the onslaught of military historians April 17-19, 2008. Remember that the first session of panels will be Thursday evening, April 17<sup>th</sup>, and that there will be NO panels on Sunday morning, April 20<sup>th</sup>. In order to allow attendees to return to the east coast at a decent hour (remember there is a two hour time difference), it was decided to not hold panels on Sunday morning. If possible, please plan to arrive in Ogden by 1700 on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, for the opening reception.

Offsite opportunities for the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting include a Friday afternoon tour of the flight line at nearby Hill AFB, a Saturday morning tour of historic Fort Douglas in Salt Lake City, and a Saturday afternoon trip to Golden Spike National Historic Site. Seating is limited for each offsite and will be allotted first come-first serve by order of registration.

All hotel, transportation, and other information, including information on Ogden tourism, is available online at: <http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/SMH2008.html>.

The deadline for paper and panel proposals is November 1, 2008. The call for papers is at: [http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/2008SMH\\_Call\\_for\\_Papers.html](http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/2008SMH_Call_for_Papers.html).

A registration form for payment by check is enclosed in this edition of the Headquarters Gazette. Registration by credit card will be available online beginning November 1 at: [http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/2008SMH\\_Registration.html](http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/2008SMH_Registration.html). Deadline for registration is March 15, 2008.

Please note that if you are on the program you must be a member of SMH. The program will be available online sometime in late January. If you have any questions, please contact Professor Bill Allison at Weber State University: (801) 626-6710 or at [wallison@weber.edu](mailto:wallison@weber.edu).

**Editor's Note:** Bill Allison has recently confirmed that Rick Atkinson will be our banquet speaker in Ogden. His latest book, the follow up to *An Army at Dawn* (about which he spoke at Madison a few years ago), is *The Day of Battle: The War in Sicily and Italy, 1943-1944*. If you were at the Madison meeting, you will remember Atkinson's talk as one of the gathering's highlights.



*The lobby of the Ogden Marriott*



*The Hampton Inn Downtown in Ogden*

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# MILITARY HISTORY IN ACADEME TODAY

Richard H. Kohn

Professor of History and Peace, War, and Defense  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

## Philanthropy Roundtable Higher Education Conference

### "How Philanthropy Can Help Preserve History and Our Founding Principles"

Harvard Club of New York City

May 2, 2007

Revised June/September 2007

It's a pleasure to participate in this important conference.

The discussion last night at the New York Historical Society was fascinating, and demonstrated that it might be impossible to overestimate the importance of what Messrs. Richard Gilder and Lewis Lehrman have done and are doing to promote the teaching of American history. (It is also illuminating to note that the lovely volume they distributed last evening, the "Treasures" of their huge collection, contained images and documents that were over half military history.) Certainly they are correct when they expressed the view that a sound, impartial rendering of our past is indispensable to the health and indeed the survival, of the United States.

We historians often lament our lack of influence but in 1989 when I visited the Soviet Union on a military to military exchange between the historians in our Pentagon and our counterparts in the Soviet armed forces, I was reminded that total or tyrannical systems always suppress historians first, and continually.... The great George Orwell had his character "Big Brother" say, in the chilling novel *1984*, "He who controls the present, controls the past. He who controls the past, controls the future." And if you want to teach your children or grandchildren how precious is the freedom we have in this country, take them to the new German film *The Lives of Other People*. (Be sure they're at least sixteen years old.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Now on military history: remember that this is an unusual field, probably singular among specialties in the historical discipline. It possesses a huge popular audience, even for very obscure work. Military history is ubiquitous in society: in bookstores, on TV, in videos, in the movies, among re-exacters, and the like. Furthermore, it has significant "clients" in the military services going back to ancient times, in the works of Herodotus, Thucydides, and Julius Caesar. The biggest single employer of historians outside of the National Park Service is the Department of Defense, and many of the Park Service historians are practicing military history.

The problem is that inside academe, military history is vulnerable, for reasons you know, and some perhaps you do not. Besides political incorrectness and the liberal orientation of faculties, many - including some among its own practitioners - believe the field has been weak conceptually and methodologically. Often the most exciting and influential work has been done by colleagues who do not think of, or identify, themselves as military historians. We who do are often not replaced when we leave a faculty to work elsewhere, or retire. Of the history departments in the United States rated in the top twenty, only a handful have military historians in tenured or tenure-track positions. Princeton relies on the military historian Paul Miles who holds the rank of lecturer. Columbia had Ken Jackson, an American urban historian (although labeled a military historian in a recent *Washington Post* article) teaching the subject and Elihu Rose as an adjunct (Elly also teaches as an adjunct at NYU and

has for some twenty-five years). A recent *Harvard Magazine* pointed out that in the early 1960s, the faculty of arts and sciences grew from about 400 to 600 professors, and in the last nine years from 615 to 723. In that same nine years, there were 279 appointments to replace faculty "who moved, retired, or died." To my knowledge, none of these 388 hires included a military historian, although Harvard faculty write or wrote in the field, such as the diplomatic historians Ernest May and Akira Iriye, the Civil War historians David Donald and the late William Gienapp, and the economic historian Niall Ferguson. The apparently shrinking numbers of military historians so worried the political scientist Harvey Sapolsky, who until recent headed the Security Studies program at MIT, that he convened a group from the two fields two years or so ago to ponder the problem and brainstorm solutions, believing that the subject of security studies could not flourish without military historians. There are only a handful of programs in the field - that is, history departments that offer general graduate training in military history with more than one faculty member who self identifies at least in part as a military historian. Other departments have a military historian and perhaps even two, but no graduate program as such. Of course the best guide to these programs is on the SMH website.

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Military history is being taught largely in three different ways at the undergraduate level.

First is the more traditional approach, in survey courses that emphasize warfare at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels, command, and individual wars. This occurs mostly at smaller colleges and universities, if being offered at all, and usually not by military historians as such - that is, people who identify themselves as, or were trained to be, military historians. The emphasis is on national military histories, or European or American history. This is the approach also in large parts of the US military: history as a practical tool of past experience to inform the present.

Second is the more recent approach: the history of war and military institutions in broadest context, focusing on the nature of war, the evolution of warfare, how societies mobilize and fight, the lived experience in war and peace of soldiers and people on the home front, the politics and economics and social history of the military experience, and the evolution and experience of military institutions. The subject thus possesses very loose boundaries. Paul Kennedy's *Rise and Fall of the Great Powers* is very much a work of military history, but so also is his book on the United Nations, which is at the border of the field but very much inside the border.

A third way military history is taught is as case studies, mostly by political scientists and a tiny few in other disciplines who deal with war and the military. And of course professional military education presents history in this manner. Good examples of this approach in the literature are Stephen Biddle's *Military Power: Explaining Victory and Defeat in Modern Battle* (2004), which uses historical examples to explain why land battles turn out they way they have in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and Eliot Cohen's *Supreme Command: Soldiers, Statesmen, and Leadership in Wartime* (2002), a study of civil-military relations in wartime, emphasizing particularly the role of top political leadership in war's outcome.

\* \* \* \*

I don't believe military history is in "crisis" or disappearing as a 2006 *National Review* article suggested. Ohio State and Wisconsin have recently advertised chairs in the field and while not filled this past year, Ohio State at least intends to widen the search and try again; there are some strong programs; and there is insatiable student demand for the courses no matter how they are taught. Our graduate students are getting jobs. Our two largest historical organizations, the American Historical Association and the Organization of American Historians have reached out to the field. There are regional organizations. And the Society for Military History has grown in the last twenty years, professionalized, expanded its annual meeting, and has been put on a very sound financial footing by a generation of devoted and responsible leadership. Mark Grimsley has it right in rebutting the *National Review* article, and even more importantly, in pointing out how destructive a "culture" of whining can be to the field internally, elsewhere in academe, and with the public.

Yet most academics outside the field would probably agree that it is still weak. It bumps along the bottom, with small numbers compared to other specialties in academe, and low status. It is, in my judgment, in some danger, and there are very few places to get training as well as a continually tight job market for colleagues professing the subject. The field needs help. If we are to avoid, among other things, strategic illiteracy in this country, we need to educate our best college students about war and the military, and there are few subjects as effective or useful in this regard as military history well taught.

\* \* \* \*

Thus there exists great opportunities for philanthropy. Already the Smith-Richardson Foundation supports crucial workshops like the West Point Military History Fellowship, that month-long residential program for college professors put on by the Military Academy's history department; the Summer Workshop on Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS) put on by Richard Betts of Columbia's Institute of War and Peace; and the teaching institutes recently begun by the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia.

But the need is greater, and most importantly, in professorships. Jobs for college professors are indispensable: without professors, courses won't be taught on a regular basis, taught professionally, and continued; without professors, young people will not be brought into the field, and graduate programs sustained. The key is to support assistant professorships to lure departments into making hires that compete for permanence. Endowed chairs are, oddly enough, too permanent and too likely to be warped to hire faculty who seem to be military historians but are not. Importantly, philanthropy must support efforts that must be renewed after showing results. An interim first step is to support adjunct hires that may, because of large enrollments or attractive scholars, become permanent positions though judging by the last two decades this may be wishful thinking. These positions, adjunct or permanent, might come into existence in partnership with ROTC programs or Department of Defense subsidies, for it is in the interest of the military to support military history education in the populace. The Canadian government supports several such security studies centers that include historians.

A second need is to support the training and research of faculty: graduate fellowships in the field that will attract the highest possible quality of student who can gain employment in competition with other young historians and publish such outstanding work as to achieve tenure and higher rank in the professorate in spite of focusing on military history. Such fellowships for five years at \$20,000 a year would be a bargain over time. My own department in Chapel Hill has lost some outstanding candidates for lack of money: in the last two years, twice to Johns Hopkins, which does not even have a military historian.

Research support is also needed: for doctoral dissertation research, for post-doctoral fellowships that enable promising young scholars to publish their work more quickly; funds to support travel to archives and subventions for publication; fellowships for interdisciplinary study, for example a semester or year in the Department of War Studies at King's College, University

of London. The work of the Olin Foundation in this regard, since ended, has been magnificent.

A third area is support for activities that give the field glamour, visibility, and legitimacy. Prizes, such as those created by the Gilder-Lehrman Institute, draw attention to the field and attract research, with the attendant fallout of course development. Prizes for best dissertations in various fields of military history, or for first books, or best books, or journal articles can have real impact on the field, and secondarily, promote the winners in their professional and employment advancement. Lectures at prominent universities or scholarly meetings, like the George C. Marshall Lecture given alternately at the annual meetings of the American Historical Association and Organization of American Historians give the field a special traction, as does the Harmon Memorial Lecture at the US Air Force Academy.

In the end, this kind of philanthropy takes on a life of its own, with self-reinforcing effects that over time will strengthen military history in colleges and universities. That is indispensable, for not only are military historians trained in the academy, and some of the most innovative work done there, but it is there that we introduce the broadest slice of the public to the nature of war and the military experience of peoples and nations - and thereby educate our citizenry to the realities of a past that never ceases affecting the present.

## NEWS FROM THE NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER

**Pentagon Attack History:** The Government Printing Office recently published *Pentagon 9/11*, compiled by the Historical Office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The work was coauthored by the OSD Historian, Alfred Goldberg, Sarandis Papadopoulos (a professional staff member of the Naval Historical Center), and Dr. Goldberg's staff historians Diane Putney, Nancy Berlage, and Rebecca Welch. The comprehensive history documents the serious damage inflicted on the Pentagon building and the pain and suffering on its occupants on that terrible day in September 2001. It also documents the epic struggle of medical, fire, police, and other emergency personnel to succor survivors and restore the Defense Department to full function in the days and months after the devastating assault.

**Korean War History:** The U.S. Naval Institute recently published *The U.S. Navy in the Korean War* edited by Edward J. Marolda, Senior Historian of the Naval Historical Center. The work incorporates a number of individual essays, previously issued in commemorative booklet form, on various aspects of the conflict. Individual chapters are authored by distinguished historians, including the late Tom Buell, Joseph H. Alexander, Bernard C. Nalty, Tom Cutler, Richard C. Knott, Malcolm Muir, and Curtis A. Utz.

**Cold War Gallery:** The Naval Historical Center is developing a 20,000 square foot exhibition for the National Museum of the United States Navy highlighting the Navy's contribution to victory in the Cold War of 1946-1991. Individual galleries will focus on Defining the Cold War, The Navy in the Nuclear Age, The Global Mission, The Hot Wars of the Cold War (Korea and Vietnam), and Service and Sacrifice in the Cold War. Particular attention will be paid to the men and women of the Navy who served their country with dedication and valor, and many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice. In support of this worthy project, the Naval Historical Foundation has mounted a \$10 million Capital Campaign. Additional information on the forthcoming Cold War Gallery can be found at: <http://www.navyhistory.org/coldwar/>.

### Naval History Seminar Program for 2007

**Lecture:** "Pentagon 9/11" by Dr. Sarandis Papadopoulos, of the Naval Historical Center, who is the Navy co-author of the history, *Pentagon 9/11*. That work provides the most comprehensive account to date of the 11 September 2001 attack on the Pentagon and its aftermath, including unprecedented details of the impact on the building and its occupants and the scope of the rescue, recovery, and care-giving effort. The narrative is based on firsthand accounts of survival, tragedy, and heroism drawn from hundreds of interviews. It records in compelling detail the destruction caused by American Airlines Flight 77 when it crashed into the building. He will also relate the epic struggle of the on-scene survivors and those individuals who led colleagues to safety, firefighters, security and medical personnel. He will be available to autograph copies of his book.

When: 12:00-1:00 on Tuesday 20 November 2007

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Lecture: "Counterinsurgency in the Vietnam War" by Dr. Mark Moyar, Kim T. Adamson, Chair of Insurgency and Terrorism at the U.S. Marine Corps University and author of *Triumph Forsaken* and *Phoenix and the Birds of Prey*. He will explain the rise of the Viet Cong insurgency and evaluate the multitude of American and South Vietnamese counterinsurgency programs. A leading critic of the conventional history of the Vietnam War, Dr. Moyar offers many new interpretations and facts. He will be available to autograph copies of his books.

When: 12:00-1:00 on Tuesday 18 December 2007

# **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

## **Call for Papers: 2008 SMH Annual Meeting 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for Military History, Ogden, Utah, April 17-20, 2008.**

The Society for Military History is pleased to announce its call for papers for the 75th Annual Meeting, hosted by Weber State University at the Ogden Eccles Convention Center in Ogden, Utah, April 17-20, 2008. The conference theme is "The Military and Frontiers," highlighting the military's role relating to geographic, technological, political, social, and other frontiers. Panel proposals must include a panel title, contact information for all panelists, a brief description of the purpose and theme of the panel, abstracts of each of the three papers (one paragraph each), brief CVs for all panelists, including commentator and panel chair. Proposals for individual papers are welcome and should include a brief abstract, brief CV, and contact information. Deadline for proposals is November 1, 2007. While the theme of the conference will provide a basic guide to determining the final program, the Program Committee will gladly consider proposals on other facets and perspectives of military history. Proposals may be submitted electronically to Dr. Nikolas Gardner at [Nikolas.Gardner@maxwell.af.mil](mailto:Nikolas.Gardner@maxwell.af.mil) or by regular mail to Dr. Nikolas Gardner, Chair, SMH 2008 Program Committee, Air War College, 325 Chennault Circle, Maxwell AFB, AL 36112.

The meeting will be held at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center in downtown Ogden, with the Ogden Marriott and Hampton Inn Downtown serving as host hotels. Ogden is easily accessible via Salt Lake City International Airport. The conference site is located just off of Ogden's Historic 25th Street, which offers a range of local restaurants, pubs, and shopping. Information concerning registration and lodging can be found at: <http://www.weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/SMH2008.html>. Please contact Prof. Bill Allison at [wallison@weber.edu](mailto:wallison@weber.edu) or (801) 626.6710 for more details.

## **George C. Marshall Lecture in Military History**

The Annual George C. Marshall Lecture in Military History, sponsored by the George C. Marshall Foundation and the Society for Military History, will be given by John W. Shy at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting on January 5, 2008 from 5-6:30 pm at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. Professor Shy's lecture, "History, and the History of War," will be delivered in the Virginia Suite A&B, with a reception to follow in Delaware Suite A. Neither AHA membership nor meeting registration is required for this event.

## **Call for Papers**

The Council on America's Military Past (CAMP) will host its 42nd Annual Military History Conference, May 14-18, 2008, at the Red Lion Hotel in Salt Lake City, UT. CAMP is soliciting papers on all American military history subjects but especially on the history of American military installations, ships and planes and the military in the West. Please send proposed topics and a short abstract for a 20-minute talk by January 1, 2008 to CAMP, PO Box 4209, Charlottesville, VA 22905-9900 or contact Dale Floyd at (434) 295-2672 or [caponier@aol.com](mailto:caponier@aol.com).

## **Prizes Announced**

The John A. Adams '71 Center for Military History and Strategic Analysis at the Virginia Military Institute is pleased to announce the following prizes for its third Cold War essay contest:

First prize: \$2000

"A Quiver of Golden Arrows: The Evolution of American Mobile Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles" by Steven A. Pomeroy, U.S. Air Force Academy

Second prize: \$1000

"General William DePuy: His Relief of Subordinates in Combat" by Henry G. Gole, Col. U.S. Army (Ret.)

Third prize: \$500

"U.S. Army Mechanized Reconnaissance during the Cold War, 1946-1990" by Alexander M. Bielakowski, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College

Honorable mentions (in alphabetical order)

"Targeting China: US Nuclear Planning and 'Massive Retaliation' in the Far East, 1953-1954" by Matthew Jones, University of Nottingham

"A Policy of Amateurism: Rice Policy of the U.S. Army Military Government in Korea, 1945-1948" by Jinwung Kim, Kyungpook National University

"Planning the Peace and Enforcing the Surrender: Deterrence in the Allied Occupations of Germany and Japan" by Melissa Willard-Foster, University of California at Los Angeles.

The Adams Center will sponsor a fourth essay contest, with submissions due 31 May 2008. For information, contact: Dr.

Malcolm Muir, Jr., Director - John A. Adams '71 Center for Military History and Strategic Analysis - Virginia Military Institute - Lexington, VA 24450 - (540) 464-7447. Email: muirm@vmi.edu.

### **US Army Center of Military History Dissertation Fellowships**

To support scholarly research and writing among qualified civilian graduate students preparing dissertations in the history of warfare, the Center offers three Dissertation Fellowships each year. One, funded by the National Museum of the U.S. Army, is designed to support dissertations that explore the material culture of the Army; the two others support research in the more general areas of military history in all its many aspects. In your application please specify if you wish to compete for the two general fellowships or for the Museum's fellowship. These fellowships carry a \$10,000 stipend and access to the Center's facilities and technical expertise.

This program defines the history of war on land broadly, including such areas as biography, military campaigns, military organization and administration, policy, strategy, tactics, weaponry, technology, training, logistics, and the evolution of civil-military relations. In the selection of proposals for funding, preference is given to topics on the history of the U.S. Army. Topics submitted should complement rather than duplicate the Center's existing projects.

Applicants who wish to become Fellows must be civilian citizens of the United States. They must demonstrate their professional potential by submitting the following: (1) official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate schools attended; (2) a proposed plan of research; (3) a letter of recommendation from their academic director that includes a statement that the applicant's committee has approved the dissertation prospectus; (4) two other letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to their qualifications for the fellowship; and (5) a writing sample of approximately 25 pages. (Please submit an entire piece rather than a fragment.) Applicants must have completed by September all requirements for the Ph.D. degree, except for the dissertation. Any student who has held or accepted an equivalent fellowship from any other Department of Defense agency is not eligible for these awards. Individuals who accept a Center of Military History fellowship may not hold a full-time job or accept a fellowship of equal or greater value from any other institution during the term of the Center's fellowship.

Fellows are required to visit the Center at the beginning and end of their fellowship period. On the first visit, Fellows meet the Chief of Military History, the Chief Historian, and the Executive Secretary of the Dissertation Fellowship Program and learn ways in which the Center can assist Fellows. On the second visit, a Fellow presents an oral report of the past year's research to an audience of CMH historians. The Fellow also prepares a brief written report at the conclusion of his or her fellowship year. The Center requires deposit in its library of one copy of the complete dissertation.

The stipend of \$10,000 for the fellowship is provided in one payment at the start of the academic year. From this sum, the recipient must meet travel, typing, and all other expenses in connection with the fellowship. The payment of the stipend is made directly to the Fellow upon receipt of certification from the parent academic institution that he or she is a candidate for the Ph.D. degree and is authorized to become a Visiting Research Fellow.

The Center of Military History also undertakes to support the Fellow's scholarly activities in the Washington area by making its collections accessible and its specialists available, insofar as official duties permit. Fellows receive desk space at the U.S. Army Center of Military History, if available, and are assisted in gaining access to archival and library sources within the Washington area as well as at the U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Review of the dissertation by the Center is at the discretion of the Center and the candidate's sponsoring institution, but responsibility for the control and approval of the dissertation remains with the academic institution and its faculty.

Applications may be obtained from the Executive Secretary, Dissertation Fellowship Committee, U.S. Army Center of Military History, Building 35, 103 Third Avenue, Fort Lesley J. McNair, D.C. 20319-5058. Telephone number: (202) 685-2071. Fax number: (202) 685-2077. Email: CMHOnline@hqda.army.mil. Applications can also be downloaded from the Center's web site: <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg>. Applications and all supporting documents for the Dissertation Fellowships must be postmarked no later than 15 January each year. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all required documentation is mailed before the closing date.

The Center of Military History conducts its evaluation of applicants on the basis of academic achievement, faculty recommendations, demonstrated writing ability, and the nature and location of the proposed research. Awards are made on merit without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical disability, marital status, or political affiliation. The Center notifies all applicants of the competition's outcome by a short notice or letter not later than April.

### **Contributors Wanted**

Citizendium.org is an adult version of Wikipedia, written by knowledgeable people and edited by scholars. I'm one of several editors for military history. For an idea of what it does see [http://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Military\\_History](http://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Military_History).

Citizendium needs authors to help write encyclopedia articles on all topics of military history. In contrast to Wikipedia, contributors use their real names, there is no vandalism, and the pitch is to a serious college-level audience.

Anyone eager to pitch in should Email Richard Jensen at [rjensen@uic.edu](mailto:rjensen@uic.edu) or look at [http://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Main_Page). The criteria is knowing something about a topic.

### **Michael J. Hogan Fellowship**

The Michael J. Hogan Fellowship was established to honor Michael J. Hogan, long-time editor of *Diplomatic History*. The Hogan Fellowship of \$4,000 is intended to promote research in foreign language sources by graduate students. The fellowship is intended to defray the costs of studying foreign languages needed for research. It is announced at the SHAFR luncheon held during the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians. Applicants must be graduate students researching some aspect of U.S. foreign relations history. Membership in SHAFR is not required.

Procedures: Self-nominations are expected. Applications must include: a detailed plan for using the fellowship to achieve the purposes of the program (5-7 pages); a concise c.v. (1-2 pages), and a budget (1 page). Each applicant's graduate adviser must write a letter of recommendation, to be submitted separately. All applications and letters must be submitted via Email. Within eight months of receiving the award, each successful applicant must file with the SHAFR Business Office a brief report on how the funds were spent. Such reports will be considered for publication in *Passport*.

To be considered for the 2008 award, nominations and supporting materials must be received by February 1, 2008. Submit materials to: Kristin Ahlberg, Hogan Committee Chair, AhlbergKL@state.gov.

### **W. Stull Holt Dissertation Fellowship**

The W. Stull Holt Dissertation Fellowship of \$4,000 is intended to defray the costs of travel, preferably foreign travel, necessary to conduct research on a significant dissertation project. The fellowship is awarded annually at the SHAFR luncheon held during the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians. Applicants must be actively working on dissertations dealing with some aspect of U.S. foreign relations history. Applicants must have satisfactorily completed all requirements for the doctoral degree except the dissertation. Membership in SHAFR is not required.

Procedures: Self-nominations are expected. Applications must include: a dissertation prospectus including a paragraph or two on how funds would be expended (8-12 pages), a concise c.v. (1-2 pages), and a budget (1 page). Each applicant's dissertation adviser must write a letter of recommendation, to be submitted separately. All applications and letters must be submitted via Email. Within eight months of receiving the award, each successful applicant must file with the SHAFR Business Office a brief report on how the funds were spent. Such reports will be considered for publication in *Passport*.

To be considered for the 2008 award, nominations and supporting materials must be received by February 1, 2008. Submit materials to Kristin Ahlberg, Holt Committee Chair, AhlbergKL@state.gov.

### **SMH Member Studies Counter-Terrorism in Israel**

In late May, Gregory J. W. Urwin, a professor of history at Temple University, traveled to Israel on a Foundation For Defense of Democracies Academic Fellowship on Terrorism - "Defending Democracy, Defeating Terrorism" - an intensive, 10-day course on terrorism and the threat it poses to democratic societies.

Based in Tel Aviv, Urwin visited military bases, border zones and other security installations, and attended lectures by academics, diplomats, military and intelligence officials, and politicians from the Middle East, Southeast Asia and the United States.

"We were given unparalleled access to every level of the Israeli security system and government," Urwin said. "Among the most chilling experiences was being able to enter the cell block of a maximum-security prison housing terrorists, [where] I got to speak to two terrorists - one from Hamas and one from the Popular Front."

In an op-ed published in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* on June 27, Urwin explored the motivations behind terrorism and how Israel's response to constant threat has differed from the United States'. "Israel has found ways to cope with terrorism without stifling internal dissent or abrogating the rule of law," he wrote. "America could learn much from its long-time ally as it strives to better safeguard itself."



### **Call for Student Papers**

The League of World War I Aviation Historians is a nonprofit organization chartered with furthering the study of aviation history encompassing the World War I period. To this end, the League sponsors the annual Mike Carr Student Paper Competition.

This essay competition is open to both graduate and undergraduate students attending any accredited educational institution. Monetary prizes will be awarded for the best original paper on any aspect of aviation taking place during 1914-1918 (eg.,

personal history, unit history, citations, tactics, technical development, political ramifications, aircraft development, balloon activities, etc.).

Papers must be at least 10 double-spaced pages in length (not including bibliography, references, etc.), and if submitted in hard copy, must be cleanly and clearly typed (i.e., no hand-written or faint dot matrix-printed entries). Any generally accepted format may be used. The topic of the essay can be of the student's choosing, except that it MUST deal with some aspect of aviation during the 1914-1918 World War I years.

All entries will be judged by a panel of knowledgeable members of the League of World War I Aviation Historians. Judging will be based on the criteria of originality, technical accuracy, thoroughness of development of the subject, and source documentation. The award for first place is \$500, while \$200 will be given to each of five honorable mention awardees. The League reserves the right, at its discretion, to publish one or more of the winning papers in a future issue of *Over the Front*, with full credit given to the author.

Papers should preferably be submitted in digital form (Email with attached document) to the administrator of this competition, at [papers@overthefront.com](mailto:papers@overthefront.com). Alternatively, hard copies or disks can be sent to: Karen Kubal, 909 Pine St., Yankton, SD 57078-3636. To be considered for the 2007-2008 competition, entries must be received by May 31, 2008. Winners will be announced in the summer of 2008.

Educators and mentors, please encourage your students to submit entries. Students, we look forward to receiving your submission. Good luck!

### **Fellowship Announcement**

The Society of the Cincinnati invites applications for the Tyree-Lamb Research Fellowship. The fellowship is named in honor of two members of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Virginia, Lewis Tyree, Jr., and John K. Lamont Lamb. It is intended to provide \$1,000 to support the cost of travel, housing and per diem expenses for a scholar wishing to use the Society's library for a period of at least one full week. The fellowship is open to graduate level students and other scholars who are conducting research that may benefit from the library's holdings.

The Society of the Cincinnati library collections include contemporary books, manuscripts, maps, and works of art on paper which support the in-depth study of 18th-century naval and military history and the art of war during that period. The library also houses books and archives related to the formation and history of the Society of the Cincinnati, as well as materials related to the life of Larz and Isabel Anderson, whose Gilded Age home now serves as a museum, and the headquarters of the Society.

The fellowship recipient will be required to complete his or her week of research within a period of one year from the date of the award. Further, the recipient will be required to submit a three-to-five-page written report and summary of research findings, which may be published in the Society's journal, *Cincinnati Fourteen*. In addition, the library requests a single copy of any subsequent publication (article, thesis, dissertation, or book) that may result.

Applicants should submit the following:

- A curriculum vitae, including educational background, publications and professional experience
- A brief outline of the research proposed (not to exceed 2 pages)
- (For current graduate students only) Two confidential, sealed letters of recommendation from faculty or colleagues familiar with the applicant and his or her research project. Note: If letters are to be mailed independently, please include the names of recommenders when submitting the application.

Applications must be received by November 15th, 2007. Applicants will be notified by January 15th, 2008.

Applications should be mailed to: Ellen McCallister Clark, Library Director, The Society of the Cincinnati, 2118 Massachusetts Ave, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008. For further information about the collections, contact Rebecca Cooper, Manager of Reader Services, at (202) 785-2040, x411; or: [rcooper@societyofthecincinnati.org](mailto:rcooper@societyofthecincinnati.org).

### **Looking for British Veterans**

Benjamin Ohry, a documentary director at the Israeli Broadcasting Authority, is beginning research for a documentary about the British camps in Eritrea that housed suspected members of Jewish underground organization beginning in 1944. He has found several former prisoners but is seeking information from former British officers or soldiers who served in the camps from 1944-1948, and can be contacted at [gezer\\_1@netvision.net.il](mailto:gezer_1@netvision.net.il).

### **Book Published**

SMH members Jose Alvarez and Wayne Bowen have published *A Military History of Modern Spain From the Napoleonic Era to the International War on Terror* with Praeger Security International. Complete information about the book can be found online at [http://www.greenwood.com/psi/book\\_detail.aspx?sku=C9357](http://www.greenwood.com/psi/book_detail.aspx?sku=C9357).

### **Grant Announcement**

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) of the National Park Service invites Federal agencies, tribal, state,

and local governments, educational institutions, and nonprofit historical preservation and other private sector organizations to submit applications for grants. The purpose of this grant program is to provide seed money for projects that lead directly to the identification, preservation and interpretation of battlefield land and/or historic sites associated with battlefields. In recent years grants have averaged about \$32,300 per award. Applications must be received in the ABPP office by January 18, 2008. Visit the ABPP website at [www.cr.nps.gov/abpp](http://www.cr.nps.gov/abpp) for details, or contact Kristen McMasters, grants manager, at (202) 354-2037, or by Email at [Kristen\\_McMasters@nps.gov](mailto:Kristen_McMasters@nps.gov).

### Call for Papers

#### 3rd Annual Military Seminar Series - Lancaster, PA, 24-27 July 2008

The Historical Miniatures Gaming Society announces a call for papers for the 3rd Annual Military Seminar Series. The Seminar theme "The World on Fire" – The First World War: The Seven Years War and French & Indian War 1754-63. Papers should highlight the military's role in the conflict relating to geographic, technological, naval, and tactical warfare in Europe and on the American frontier. Paper proposals should include an abstract and contact information.

Papers on other subjects relating to battles and campaigns, land and naval, from other time periods are also welcome. Proposals may be submitted electronically to [seminars@historicon.org](mailto:seminars@historicon.org) or by regular mail to: Richard Brooks, 4166 St. Route 764, Utica, KY 42376.

The meeting, held as part of the HMGS-East Historicon 2008 will be held at the Lancaster Host Hotel. The convention boasts the largest selection of military miniatures and military reference materials on the east coast during the four-day event. The area immediately surrounding the Host Hotel offers golf, restaurants, outlet shopping, and children's activities, as well as Pennsylvania Dutch Country.

### SMH Members' Help Sought

The National Museum of the United States Army is engaged in the process of developing themes and specific exhibits for their galleries. Whenever possible, they intend to use the words of real soldiers wherever feasible and appropriate to tell the Army story. For many periods, locating personal narrative accounts of Army service is a question of winnowing through an embarrassment of riches, as there are so many moving, poignant accounts to draw from. This is certainly the case in looking at the two World Wars, the Civil War, and some other periods. The difficulty arises in finding good accounts from earlier periods and more obscure conflicts or periods of service. Examples are the War of 1812, frontier Army service in the pre-Civil war era, the Cold War, and the first Gulf War, to name a few. The museum is requesting the assistance of SMH members in locating and or recommending personal narrative accounts of US Army service that are enlightening, informative, and useful in reflecting the soldier experience in the US Army over time. They are especially interested in enlisted men's accounts.

Those who might contribute to this effort should contact Stephen McGeorge at [stephen.c.mcgeorge@us.army.mil](mailto:stephen.c.mcgeorge@us.army.mil). While a gloss or summary of what an individual account covers will be helpful, it is not necessary. The essential information he needs is a bibliographical citation sufficient to locate the account and evaluate it as it may pertain to a variety of National Museum gallery and exhibit themes.

### U.S. Army in World War II Series Out of Print?

Recently, it came to the attention of the U.S. Army Center of Military History that certain booksellers are advertising that many of the volumes of the official series, The U.S. Army in World War II - popularly known as "the green books" - are out of print, and that they have the few remaining copies for sale. Frequently in the past, private publishers have republished volumes from the series on the pretext that they have gone out of print, and then they have charged top dollar for them. Suffice to say, all of the series is still in print and will be for the foreseeable future, given the demand in the private sector and their ongoing use in Army schools and historical programs. While occasionally out of stock (as opposed to out of print), they are available for purchase through the Government Printing Office at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>, or by calling 1-(866) 512-1800 toll free. A complete catalog of CMH publications is available at the CMH website at [www.army.mil/cmh/catalog/index.html](http://www.army.mil/cmh/catalog/index.html).

### Taps

We regret to report that longtime member Dr. E. Howard Brooks of San Luis Obispo, California, has passed away.

**FINISHING YOUR  
DISSERTATION  
OR YOUR FIRST  
RESEARCH-BASED  
MONOGRAPH?**



**Watch the  
SMH  
Website**

**for details about the  
Edward M. Coffman First-Manuscript Prize**

# Society for Military History

75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Ogden, Utah April 17-19, 2008

## Registration Form

Deadline for Registration is March 15, 2008

You can register online with your credit card at: [http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/2008SMH\\_Registration.html](http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/2008SMH_Registration.html)

You may also mail this form with a check to: SMH 2008 Registration, Department of History, Weber State University, 1205 University Circle, Ogden, UT 84408-1205

Please print or type all information

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail (required): \_\_\_\_\_



Check here if you require specific accommodations at the conference site, and someone will contact you to make arrangements.

### Registration Fees

_____	Member Regular Registration	\$100
_____	Non-Member Registration	\$150
_____	Graduate Student Registration	\$50
_____	Late Fee after March 15, 2008	\$25
_____	Awards Luncheon	\$25      Meal Selection: Chicken Caesar Salad _____ Roast Beef Ciabatta _____
_____	SMH Banquet	\$50      Meal Selection: Salmon _____ Prime Rib _____ Vegetarian _____
_____	Total Due	

### Payment Information

All funds are in U.S. dollars only. Please return this form with check payable to **SMH 2008** to: SMH 2008 Registration, Department of History, Weber State University, 1205 University Circle, Ogden, UT 84408-1205

### Offsite Tours

If you would like to participate in one of the offsites below, please check the appropriate box. *Space is limited and will be allocated first come-first serve in order of receipt of registration.*

Description of offsites is at: [http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/Offsite\\_Opportunities.html](http://weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/Offsite_Opportunities.html)

- Hill AFB Flightline Tour – Friday, April 18, 2:00 -5:00 PM (Because of base security restrictions, this offsite is available to US citizens only)
- Fort Douglas/Salt Lake City – Saturday, April 19, 8:30-Noon
- Golden Spike NHS – Saturday, April 19, 1:30-5:00 PM

*Please keep a copy of this form for your records. You will receive email confirmation of your registration.*

## Hotel Information

The Ogden Marriott and Hampton Inn Downtown are the conference hotels. Both are easily accessible via airport shuttles and both have ample parking (The Marriott has free parking; the Hampton Inn offers free parking and \$5 valet parking to its guests). The Marriott is located 1.5 blocks west of the Eccles Center, while the Hampton Inn is actually attached to the Eccles Center. Both are very nice hotels - the Marriott is undergoing renovation and will be ready for 2008, while the Hampton Inn was completely renovated for the 2002 Winter Olympics.

The rate per night at the Marriott is \$80 single, \$88 double occupancy, with continental breakfast. The rate per night at the Hampton Inn is \$109 for a king standard or double/double standard room, \$139 for a junior suite, and \$159 for an executive suite. The Hampton Inn also includes continental breakfast. The cut-off date for the Hampton Inn is March 18, 2008, while the Marriott cut-off is March 26, 2008. After these dates, our unsold block of rooms returns to general inventory and regular rates.

### MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY!!

When making reservations, use the following codes to get the conference rate:

Marriott: **MILMILA** for online reservations, or **Society for Military History** for call-in reservations at (888) 825-3163  
website: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/slcoog-ogden-marriott/>

Hampton Inn: **SMH** for online reservations and call-in reservations at (801) 394-9400  
website: [http://hamptoninn1.hilton.com/en\\_US/hp/index.do;jsessionid=284F298BB3D6EC49EBB821734948C8CA.etc41](http://hamptoninn1.hilton.com/en_US/hp/index.do;jsessionid=284F298BB3D6EC49EBB821734948C8CA.etc41)

## Transportation Information

Getting to Ogden from Salt Lake City International Airport is easy. Of the options available, renting a car or using an airport shuttle service are probably the most convenient. The Society for Military History has contracted with Ogden Express Shuttle Service for a round-trip fare of \$36. Reservations are required and the information for making reservations is below. Xpress Shuttle Service also offers service to Ogden from Salt Lake International. The Wasatch Front Runner commuter rail link SHOULD be operating by April 2008. Bus service from the airport will transfer you to the hub station in downtown Salt Lake City, where you can catch the Front Runner to the Ogden station, where it is just two blocks to the Ogden Marriott.

Ogden Express Shuttle Service - Reservations can be made via online, email, phone or fax. For online reservations, go to [ogdenexpress.com](http://ogdenexpress.com), click "contacts" and complete the online reservation form, noting that you are with the Society for Military History at a rate of \$36 round-trip. Reservations can also be made toll free at 866-746-5438, by fax at 801-627-8088, or by email to [diane@ogdenexpress.com](mailto:diane@ogdenexpress.com). You will need your flight arrival and departure information and hotel information at the time of booking. Walk-ups at the counter in the baggage claim area will pay \$50 round-trip.

### RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO GET THE CONFERENCE FARE!

Xpress Shuttle - Reservations can be made online at [http://www.xpressshuttle.com/salt\\_lake\\_city.htm](http://www.xpressshuttle.com/salt_lake_city.htm). Round-trip from Salt Lake International to Ogden generally is around \$60. It is better to make reservations, but you can walk up to the counter in the baggage claim area to make arrangements. The Society for Military History does NOT have a special rate with Xpress Shuttle.



MAKE YOUR CONFERENCE  
RESERVATIONS EARLY!

• DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS •  
MARCH 25, 2008

# **NCH Washington Update**

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By Lee White of the National Coalition for History

*This is a compendium of items which might be of interest to members of the Society from several recent NCH Washington Update newsletters.*

**National Archives Reaches Deal With FamilySearch to Digitize Civil War Records-** The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) have announced a five-year partnership agreement to digitize case files of approved pension applications of widows of Civil War Union soldiers from NARA's holdings.

The partnership will begin with a pilot project to digitize, index, and make available the first 3,150 of the pension files. Upon successful completion of the pilot, GSU, doing business as [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) FamilySearch, in conjunction with Footnote.com, intends to digitize and index all 1,280,000 Civil War and later widows' files in the series. These records, are currently available only at the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C.

FamilySearch will make the digitized materials available for free through and in 4500 family history centers worldwide, or on a subscription-based website operated by a third party, subject to National Archives approval. They will also be available at no charge in National Archives' research rooms in Washington, DC, and regional facilities across the country. In addition, FamilySearch will donate to the National Archives a copy of all the digital images and the associated indexes and other metadata that they create.

This agreement is one of a series of agreements that the National Archives has reached or will reach with partners to digitize portions of its holdings.

**Archives Announces Initial Release of Military Personnel Files-** The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has announced it will open for the first time all of the individual Official Military Personnel Files (OMPFs) of Army, Army Air Corps, Army Air Forces, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard military personnel who served and were discharged, retired or died while in the service, prior to 1946.

Collectively, these files comprise more than six million records. This is the second step in the progressive opening of the entire paper and microfiche OMPF collection of over 57 million individual files. Additional military personnel records will be made available to the public each year through 2067 until the entire collection is opened.

To view an original record, individuals may visit the NPRC Archival Research Room in St. Louis, MO. Research room hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central Time Tuesday through Friday. Visitors are strongly encouraged to call ahead (314) 801-0850 to make reservations.

The National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records (NPRC-MPR) is the repository of millions of military personnel, health, and medical records of discharged and deceased veterans of all services during the 20th century (Records prior to WWI are in Washington, DC). NPRC (MPR) also stores medical treatment records of retirees from all services, as well as records for dependent and other persons treated at naval medical facilities.

**Federal Judge Invalidates Order Allowing Former Presidents to Withhold Records-** On October 1, a federal district court judge gave historians and researchers a partial, but significant victory in a lawsuit questioning the legality of President George W. Bush's Executive Order (EO) 13233, which broadened the rights of presidents and former-presidents to withhold federal records from the public. The judge struck down the section of the EO that allows a former president to indefinitely delay the release of records.

However, Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly did not rule on the constitutionality of the Executive Order itself, narrowly crafting her decision to address only specific provisions in the order.

Under the Presidential Records Act, presidential records are legally required to be released to historians and the public 12 years after the end of a presidential administration. In November 2001, President George W. Bush issued Executive Order 13233 that overturned an executive order issued by President Reagan and gave current and former presidents, their heirs or designees and former vice presidents broad authority to withhold presidential records or delay their release indefinitely.

Judge Kollar-Kotelly did not rule on the legality of the sections of the Executive Order allowing heirs and designees of former presidents, and former vice presidents, the authority to control the release of documents, calling them "unripe" since no records have yet been withheld pursuant to those provisions. However, the judge left open the right for the plaintiffs to challenge these provisions in the future. According to press reports, the Bush administration is reviewing its options concerning an appeal of the decision.

The lawsuit was brought by Public Citizen in 2001 on behalf of itself, the American Historical Association (AHA), the National Security Archive (NSA), the Organization of American Historians (OAH), the Reporters Committee for Freedom of

the Press, the American Political Science Association (APSA) and historian Stanley Kutler.

"We're delighted by the court's recognition that the executive order unlawfully impedes access to presidential records," said Public Citizen attorney Scott Nelson, who brought the case behalf of AHA, OAH and the NSA. "Although its failure to strike down the order in its entirety is disappointing, the court's rejection of the government's unfounded constitutional theories of executive privilege sends a warning shot suggesting that the other provisions of the order are unlawful as well."

Legislation (H.R. 1255) to overturn Executive Order 13233 overwhelmingly passed the House by a vote of 333-93 in April. At the time the legislation was considered in the House, the Bush administration issued a threat to veto the bill, but it passed the House by a veto-proof margin. Similar legislation cleared the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee by voice vote this summer. However, when the Democratic leadership sought to bring the bill to the floor on September 29, Senator Jim Bunning (R-KY) objected to consideration of the bill.

**World War II Crimes Working Group Issues Final Report to Congress-** On September 28, the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group (IWG) issued its final report to Congress describing the seven-year, approximately \$30-million government-wide effort to locate, declassify, and make publicly available U.S. records of Nazi and Japanese war crimes.

In a Capitol Hill ceremony, the Archivist of the United States, Allen Weinstein, presented the final report on behalf of the IWG, entitled Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group: Final Report to Congress to Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), one of the authors of the 1998 enabling legislation.

The IWG's membership consists of representatives of seven Executive Branch agencies and three presidentially-appointed public members, Thomas H. Baer, Richard Ben-Veniste, and Elizabeth Holtzman. The Archivist of the United States is designated by statute as the group's Chair.

More than eight million pages were declassified and opened to the public as a result of the Disclosure Acts. The records include the entirety of the operational files of the Office of Strategic Services (the predecessor agency of the CIA), and more than 163,000 pages of CIA materials of a type never before opened to the public.

The declassified records also included more than: 435,000 pages of FBI files, 20,000 pages from Army Counterintelligence Corps files, 100,000 pages related to Japanese War Crimes; and 6 million additional pages of records.

One of the IWG's aims was to uncover documentation that would shed light on the extent to which the U.S. Government had knowingly used and protected war criminals for intelligence purposes. Findings on this subject were explored in two volumes produced by the IWG: Researching Japanese War Crimes: Introductory Essays (January 2007) and U.S. Intelligence and the Nazis (April 2004).

**National Park Service Names New Chief Historian-** On August 30, the National Park Service (NPS) announced the long-awaited selection of Dr. Robert K. Sutton as Chief Historian of the National Park Service. Dr. Sutton has been Superintendent of the Manassas National Battlefield Park since 1995. Dr. Sutton will begin his new position on October 1, 2007. The Chief Historian position has remained vacant for over two years since the retirement of Dr. Dwight Pitcaithley in June 2005.

Dr. Sutton holds a Ph.D. degree in history from Washington State University. Dr. Sutton began his career as a park ranger with Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Subsequent positions include museum curator with the Oregon Historical Society; historian with the Oregon State Parks; architectural historian with the NPS Southwest Regional Office in Albuquerque, New Mexico; historian with Independence National Historic Park; Assistant Professor in the History Department and Director of the Public History Program at Arizona State University; and Assistant Superintendent and historian at National Capital Parks-East. Since 1991, he has served as adjunct professor of history at George Mason University. In 2000, Dr. Sutton received the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award.

The Chief Historian position in the National Park Service is one of the most prestigious historian positions in the Federal government. Dr. Sutton will be responsible for managing the Service's history programs, which includes coordinating historical studies at the national level, managing the administrative history program, and overseeing the quality of documentation of historic places within national parks.

**National Archives Announces Copying Fee Increases-** In a final rule published in the Federal Register August 17, 2007, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) announced across-the-board fee increases for reproduction of archival materials in its facilities nationwide. In addition to Federal records, this includes donated historical materials, Presidential records, and records filed with the Office of the Federal Register. This rule will become effective on October 1, 2007.

The National Archives current fees were established in October 2000 and this is the first fee increase in seven years. In fiscal year 2006, the Archives said its costs for fixed-fee services were more than double the revenue it received in copying fees.

As of October 1, 2007, self-service copies will rise from \$0.15 per page to \$0.25 per page in the Washington, DC, area, and \$0.20 per page at regional archives and Presidential libraries. NARA-made copies will be \$0.75 per page up from the cur-

rent \$0.50. Microfilm-to-paper copies made by a customer on a self-service copier would rise from \$0.30 per page to \$0.50. There would be a minimum fee of \$15.00 for all mail order reproductions, up from the current \$10.00.

Fixed-fee reproductions of commonly-requested genealogical records using the National Archives order forms will be:

Passenger Arrival Lists: \$25.00 (NATF Form 81)

Federal Census Requests: \$25.00 (NATF Form 82)

Eastern Cherokee Applications to the Court of Claims: \$25.00 (NATF Form 83)

Land Entry Records: \$40.00 (NATF Form 84)

Full Pension File more than 75 years old (Civil War and after), up to 100 pages: \$75.00 (NATF Form 85)

Full pension file (pre-Civil War): \$50.00 (NATF Form 85)

Pension Documents Packet (selected records): \$25.00 (NATF Form 85)

Bounty Land Warrant Application Files: \$25.00 (NATF Form 85)

Military service files more than 75 years old: \$25.00 (NATF Form 86)

**Senate Passes Freedom of Information Act Reform Bill-** On August 3, 2007, the U.S. Senate by unanimous consent passed the “OPEN Government Act of 2007” (S. 849), a bill mandating major reforms in the operation of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Similar legislation (H.R. 1309) overwhelmingly passed the House earlier this year by a vote of 308-117. It is unclear at this time whether a conference committee will be needed to iron out any differences between the two bills or whether the House will simply adopt the Senate bill as passed.

Specifically, S. 849 ensures that anyone who gathers information to inform the public, including freelance journalist and bloggers, may seek a fee waiver when they request information under FOIA. The bill ensures that federal agencies will not automatically exclude Internet blogs and other Web-based forms of media when deciding whether to waive FOIA fees. In addition, the bill also clarifies that the definition of news media, for purposes of FOIA fee waivers, includes free newspapers and individuals performing a media function who do not necessarily have a prior history of publication.

The bill also sets deadlines for agency action, by ensuring that the 20-day statutory clock under FOIA starts when a request is received by the appropriate component of the agency and requiring that agency FOIA offices get FOIA requests to the appropriate agency component within 10 days of the receipt of such requests. The bill allows federal agencies to toll the 20-day clock while they are awaiting a response to a reasonable request for information from a FOIA requester on one occasion, or while the agency is awaiting clarification regarding a FOIA fee assessment. In addition, to encourage agencies to meet the 20-day time limit, the bill prohibits an agency from collecting search fees if it fails to meet the 20-day deadline, except in the case of exceptional circumstances as defined by the FOIA statute.

The bill also addresses a relatively new concern that, under current law, federal agencies have an incentive to delay compliance with FOIA requests until just before a court decision that is favorable to a FOIA requestor. The Supreme Court’s decision in Buckhannon Board and Care Home, Inc. v. West Virginia Dep’t of Health and Human Resources, 532 U.S. 598 (2001), eliminated the “catalyst theory” for attorneys’ fees recovery under certain federal civil rights laws. When applied to FOIA cases, Buckhannon precludes FOIA requesters from ever being eligible to recover attorneys fees under circumstances where an agency provides the records requested in the litigation just prior to a court decision that would have been favorable to the FOIA requestor. The bill clarifies that Buckhannon does not apply to FOIA cases. Under the bill, a FOIA requester can obtain attorneys’ fees when he or she files a lawsuit to obtain records from the government and the government releases those records before the court orders them to do so. But, this provision would not allow the requester to recover attorneys’ fees if the requester’s claim is wholly insubstantial.

To address concerns about the growing costs of FOIA litigation, the bill also creates an Office of Government Information Services in the National Archives and creates an ombudsman to mediate agency-level FOIA disputes. In addition the bill ensures that each federal agency will appoint a Chief FOIA Officer, who will monitor the agency’s compliance with FOIA requests, and a FOIA Public Liaison who will be available to FOIA to resolve FOIA related disputes. Finally, the bill enhances agency reporting and tracking requirements under FOIA. The bill creates a tracking system for FOIA requests to assist members of the public and the media. Tracking numbers are not required for FOIA requests that are anticipated to take ten days or less to process. The bill also establishes a FOIA hotline service for all federal agencies, either by telephone or on the Internet, to enable requestors to track the status of their FOIA requests.

In addition, the bill also clarifies that FOIA applies to agency records that are held by outside private contractors, no matter where these records are located. And, to create more transparency about the use of statutory exemptions under FOIA, the bill ensures that FOIA statutory exemptions that are included in legislation enacted after the passage of this bill clearly cite the FOIA statute and clearly state the intent to be exempt from FOIA.

**Archives Reaches Deal With Amazon to Sell Film Holdings On-Line-** On July 30, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) announced that it had reached a non-exclusive agreement with CustomFlix Labs, a subsidiary of Amazon.com, Inc., to make thousands of historic films from the Archives’ holdings available for purchase on Amazon.com.

CustomFlix DVD on Demand service will initially make the National Archives' collection of Universal Newsreels, dating from 1920 to 1967, available on DVD. A limited number of titles are already available on Amazon.com.

In an article in the *Washington Post*, National Archives spokeswoman Susan Cooper emphasized that the deal between the Archives and CustomFlix was non-exclusive. Last year the Smithsonian Institution was sharply criticized for entering into a semi-exclusive deal with the Showtime Networks, Inc. that limited access to the Smithsonian's holdings for filmmakers. No details were released concerning the financial arrangements made between the Archives and CustomFlix.

NARA holds more than 200,000 motion picture titles that include documentaries, newsreels, instructional films, and combat footage. Thousands of public domain films and other U.S. Defense Department and U.S. Information Agency titles from the National Archives motion picture vaults will also become available in the near future.

The program allows the National Archives to offer their DVDs for sale on Amazon.com without inventory. DVDs are manufactured only when customers purchase them and can be delivered within 24 hours. The Washington Post reported that the Archives will ship the film to CustomFlix for digitization. The company will make a copy for the customer and store the digitized film on a computer for future use. Then the original film will be returned to the Archives along with a digitized "preservation" copy.

"Our initiative with CustomFlix Labs will reap major benefits for the public-at-large and for the National Archives," said Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States. "While the public can come to our College Park, MD research room to view films and even copy them at no charge, this new program will make our holdings much more accessible to millions of people who cannot travel to the Washington, DC area. CustomFlix Labs DVD on Demand will provide the National Archives with digital reference and preservation copies of the films that are sold on Amazon.com. This is an important contribution to our preservation program."

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## MEETINGS CALENDAR 2007

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**November 11**, WFA Southwestern Chapter Film Festival, Camp Marbry, Austin, Texas. Contact Dr. David Beer at dbeer@mail.utexas.edu.

**November 28-30**, When the Soldiers Return. University of Queensland, St. Lucia Campus. Information: <http://www.uq.edu.au/hprc/soldiersreturn>.

**November 29-30**, Occupying "the Other": Australia and Military Occupations from Japan to Iraq. The Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies(CAPSTRANS), University of Wollongong. Contact: Dr. Christine de Matos, CAPSTRANS, University of Wollongong NSW 2522. Telephone: 61-2-4221 3627. Email: cdm@uow.edu.au.

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## MEETINGS CALENDAR 2008

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**February 9-10**, The Spanish Civil War: History, Memory, Representation. Temple of Peace, Cardiff, United Kingdom.

web site: [www.unomaha.edu/uno/history/mvhchome](http://www.unomaha.edu/uno/history/mvhchome). SMH contact: Connie Harris, PO Box 121, Grasston, MN 55030. Email: [ckharris1@juno.com](mailto:ckharris1@juno.com).

**February 15-16**, WFA Florida and Gulf Coast Seminar, Tampa. Contact Len Shurtliff at [lshurtliff@aol.com](mailto:lshurtliff@aol.com) for details.

**March 7-9** Combined Operations in the Civil War. Sponsored by the USS Monitor Center of the Mariners' Museum in Newport, News, Virginia, as part of the Battle of Hampton Roads Weekend. A limited number of travel grants are available. Proposals for papers of entire panels should be sent to Craig L. Symonds, 102 Hillsmere Court, Annapolis, MD, 21403, or by Email to [macsymonds@aol.com](mailto:macsymonds@aol.com). Proposals are due NLT December 1, 2007.

**February 21-23**, Military Oral History Conference: Between Memory and History. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Contact: Dr. Shawn Cafferky, History Department, University of Victoria, P.O. Box 3045, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P4. Phone: (250) 721-7287. Email: [shawncaf@uvic.ca](mailto:shawncaf@uvic.ca).

**March 10**, The Nigerian Civil War: Forty Years After What Lessons. Benue State University, Makurdi, Nigeria. EMail: [hsnconference2008@yahoo.com](mailto:hsnconference2008@yahoo.com).

**April 17-20**, Society for Military History Annual Meeting, Ogden, Utah. The Department of History, Weber State University will host the meeting at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center/Hampton Inn and Suites. Contact: Bill Allison. Tel: (801) 626-6710. Email: wallison@weber.edu. Website: <http://www.weber.edu/History/WhatsHappening/SMH2008.html>.

**May 14-18**, Council on America's Military Past (CAMP) 42nd Annual Military History Conference, at the Red Lion Hotel in Salt Lake City, UT. Contact: Dale Floyd at (434) 295-2672 or caponier@aol.com.

**June 15-17**, Society for Civil War Historians, Union League in Philadelphia, PA. Sponsored by the Richards Civil War Era Center at Penn State. Web site: [www.richardscenter.psu.edu](http://www.richardscenter.psu.edu).

**July 24-27**, 3rd Annual Military Seminar Series: "The World on Fire" – The First World War: The Seven Years War and French & Indian War 1754-63. Held as part of the Historical Miniatures Gaming Society's East Historicon 2008 in Lancaster, PA. Contact: seminars@historicon.org.

**July 25-27**, 10th Conference on Women and the Civil War. Gettysburg, PA. Full information at [www.swcw.org](http://www.swcw.org).

**September 12-15**, Western Front Association Annual Seminar, US Army Heritage & Education Center, Carlisle, PA. Contact Louise Arnold-Friend at [warsrus@mindspring.com](mailto:warsrus@mindspring.com).

**November 7-9**, WFA New England - New York Chapter Annual Seminar, US Military Academy, West Point, NY. Contact Dr. Guy Cavallaro at [Ph1m2h3@aol.com](mailto:Ph1m2h3@aol.com).

*New members to the Society will be automatically entered into the online directory database. If this is not acceptable, please contact the business office.*



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