Annual Meeting Begins May 20 in Lexington

The 77th Annual Meeting of the Society of Military History will take place in the beautiful and historic town of Lexington, Virginia, from May 20-23. Virginia Military Institute and the George C. Marshall Foundation will co-host the meeting.

The theme, “Causes Lost and Won,” provides the opportunity to examine and discuss military institutions and practices including the causes, conduct, resolution, and consequences of past wars. Complete session information will be available soon on the meeting web site.

Overview information is available online at www.vmi.edu. You can register online also. Rates for early registration expire March 31.

Check in upon your arrival in Lexington begins at noon on Thursday, May 20. An opening reception and barbeque starts later that day at 5:30. Sessions begin Friday morning. See a complete, but still tentative, program schedule on the VMI website.

Extracurricular activities include two afternoon trips. You may choose to go on optional staff rides to the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford (Friday) and to the New Market Battlefield in New Market (Saturday).

Or you can keep yourself busy in Lexington and Rockbridge County. Lexington includes VMI, Washington and Lee University, the George C. Marshall Foundation with its Marshall Library and Archives and historic sites related to Robert E. Lee (Lee Chapel), Stonewall Jackson (Jackson House), and George C. Marshall (Marshall Museum). Other historic sites include Cyrus McCormick’s Farm, the Sam Houston Wayside, and the Museum of Military Memorabilia. Rockbridge County features naturally beautiful areas including the Maury River that is spectacular as it rushes through Goshen Pass, the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway, the Natural Bridge of Virginia where none other than George Washington carved his initials into the rock face, the James River, and House Mountain natural area. See more at www.lexingtonvirginia.com.

Consult the annual meeting web site for travel information. You have some options. Interstate highway travel is easy. Lexington is located at the crossroads of I-81 and I-64. These major highways connect with many others in the East. See the map and directions on the web site. Roanoke is the closest airport; Richmond is two hours east and Washington/Dulles is three hours to the northeast.

We have reserved blocks of rooms at several hotels in and around Lexington, which has become a popular destination. See the web site for prices and SMH codes so you can receive special meeting rates when making your reservations. Shuttle bus service will be provided from these hotels to the meeting site.
By Robert H. Berlin

As I write this note on 22 December 2009, snow is falling outside my home in Prescott, Arizona giving me time to reflect on how much the Society has accomplished this year and how so many have contributed to its success. So please indulge my effort to thank the SMH officers, employees and committee members who have devoted time, effort, and expertise to support our organization.

Wendy Vandervort, our office manager in Lexington, Virginia, handles a great deal of the Society’s increasingly demanding daily operations. Still, I was surprised when she phoned me yesterday from her office at the Virginia Military Institute. The campus was closed after more than two feet of snow fell the night before, but Wendy was working on SMH matters, even if it took a four-wheel drive vehicle and skillful driving to get to the office. Her dedication is typical of Wendy’s commitment to the functioning of SMH.

The Society President, Brian Linn, and Vice President, Joe Glatthaar are senior professors of history holding endowed chairs at Texas A & M University and the University of North Carolina, respectively. Despite their teaching responsibilities, publication deadlines, and involvement in academic issues, they give considerable time to ensure a steady course for the Society and fulfill their leadership roles. Building upon the efforts of past presidents, their initiatives have expanded our membership beyond 2,500. Their decisions always reflect good judgment and, thankfully, timeliness and clarity. The Society trustees have likewise all responded to my enquiries promptly this year and I thank them for their cooperation.

The Society’s success is directly related to the quality, accuracy, academic integrity and readability of The Journal of Military History. Editor Bruce Vandervort and the JMH staff of James R. Arnold, Roberta Wiener, Anne S. Wells and Blair P. Turner maintain the highest academic standards and make JMH the primary benefit of SMH membership. Thanks to their efforts, members can count on the best military history scholarship in the field every quarter.

Many thanks are due to the generosity and support of the George C. Marshall Foundation and the Virginia Military Institute for backing and believing in SMH. They help make publication of JMH possible and their support is fundamental to our operation. We owe special thanks to Marshall Foundation President Brian Shaw who has enabled greatly increased communication between the Foundation and SMH.

Of course Society membership brings more than JMH. Our website is now the place to go for all relevant, pertinent and current information about the Society, our activities and what’s happening in the military history field. Our newsletter, Headquarters Gazette, brings relevant information to members in an easily read format that serves as a handy reference to Society-related events. Many thanks to Kurt Hackemer, SMH webmaster and newsletter editor, who makes this all happen and still finds time for his duties at the University of South Dakota as professor and administrator and copes with a fair amount of snow too!

Graham Cosmas, our long time treasurer, keeps SMH financially secure, pays the Society’s bills, approves its annual audits, and watches its investments. His conscientious and thoughtful approach to these responsibilities has kept the Society in the black. We all owe Graham thanks for making Society finances a matter of routine. I can count on Tom Morgan, our recording secretary, to provide meeting minutes and photographs. His work, published in the previous issue of Headquarters Gazette, allows all members access to the annual business meeting reports and discussions. Our new archivist, Paul Thomsen, has expanded both collection and organization of the Society’s unified and comprehensive archive at Kansas State University.

As our annual meetings have grown and become a center of scholarship and social activities for attendees, the role of meeting organizers has expanded. SMH
members have come to anticipate first-class meetings such as the one Derek Frisy hosted at Middle Tennessee State University in 2009. May 20-23, 2010 will find us in Lexington, Virginia, using the facilities of the Virginia Military Institute and George C. Marshall Research Library. Thanks to Brian Shaw, Leigh McFadden, Brigadier General Charles F. Brower IV, Major Amy DeHart and their colleagues for their extensive planning, enthusiasm, efficiency and hard work organizing the meeting. Greg Urwin, Tim Dowling and the 2010 program committee devoted time, expertise, and a cooperative spirit to develop the forthcoming meeting program. The large number of panel and paper proposals made for difficult decisions, but they were made in a transparent process. I especially commend Greg for his willingness to discuss the committee’s decisions with interested parties. Thank you to all members who submitted proposals.

The Society’s future meetings are set through 2013 and thanks go to the spirit and cooperation of future meeting organizers and sponsors Paul Herbert and the Cantigny First Division Foundation, Matt Seelinger and the Army Historical Foundation, and Susannah Ural and Mike Neiberg and the University of Southern Mississippi. They worked with me to conclude hotel contracts at the Hilton Lisle, IL, the Hyatt in Crystal City/Arlington, VA and the New Orleans Sheraton Hotel.

Our awards committees headed by Ethan Rafuse, Kay Reist and Roger Spiller can be counted on to review nominated works carefully and make wise choices. I thank them and the committee members for their efforts, which this time of year can seem daunting. Regional coordinators David Hall, Sam Watson, Randy Papadopoulos, Fred Schneid, Dave Fitzpatrick, Susannah Ural, Brian Farrell and especially Joe Fitzharris have organized successful SMH functions at regional meetings. Their outreach efforts bring the SMH to potential new members and to our members attending regional and local conferences and events.

During 2009 the Society identified future annual meetings through 2014, completed an electronic publishing contract with EBSCO publishing, enhanced cooperation with the National Coalition for History, successfully passed two of the three hurdles for membership in the American Council of Learned Societies, increased membership, and expanded sustaining and contributing members. We continue to enjoy a fruitful relationship with ABC-Clio and are especially appreciative of their efforts to support research in military history. Please accept my thanks for all for your efforts, cooperation and continuing support. Without an active and supportive membership, none of this would have been possible. Best wishes for our continued success in the New Year!

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**Call for Proposals**

*Editor, Civil War History*

The Kent State University Press invites qualified scholars to submit proposals to edit Civil War History beginning with volume fifty-eight (2011).

Published quarterly, *Civil War History* is the foremost scholarly journal of the sectional conflict in the United States, focusing on social, cultural, economic, political, and military issues from antebellum America through Reconstruction. The editor solicits, evaluates, and selects articles and reviews and prepares each issue’s manuscript for submission to the Press. Proposals should include an editorial statement of purpose and CV. The successful proposal will include at least a five-year editorial commitment and a detailed letter of support from the candidate’s academic institution.

Send proposals by postal mail no later than April 1, 2010, to: Will Underwood, Director, The Kent State University Press, 307 Lowry Hall, PO Box 5190, Kent, OH 44242-0001 USA. No email submissions please.
ABC-Clio Awards Announced

Since 2007, ABC-Clio has generously funded two $500 research grants in military history. These awards are designated specifically to support the work of advanced graduate students and those scholars who do not hold a doctoral degree but are employed full-time as historians. The 2010 winners are Kristen Dolan from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and William Taylor from George Washington University. Both winners will be acknowledged at the Society’s 2010 annual meeting.

Call for Applications

2010-2011 Research Fellowships for Historians. The Gilder Lehrman Institute invites doctoral candidates, postdoctoral scholars, college and university faculty at every rank, and independent scholars to apply for research fellowships in American history. For 2010-11, ten GLI Fellows will receive $3,000 to support research within an American history archive in the New York City metropolitan area. Research must be completed within one year of the award. Past fellows have worked in the archives of the Gilder Lehman Collection, the New-York Historical Society, the Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library, and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, among others. Applications must be postmarked or submitted online by May 1, 2010. To read the complete guidelines and begin your application, visit www.gilderlehrman.org/fellowships.html. Questions about GLI Research Fellowships? Email fellowships@gilderlehrman.org.

Call for Papers

The 2010 Northern Great Plains History Conference will be held 29 September - 2 October in Grand Forks, ND.

The Society for Military History sponsors a full slate of sessions at the NGPHC and will host a luncheon and have other activities. Individual proposals and session proposals are welcome. For individuals, send a one-page proposal and short c.v. (only c.v. if volunteering to chair/comment). For sessions, send one-page session proposal, one-page proposals for each paper, and short c.v.s for all participants. We award a graduate student prize, “The Society for Military History - Cantigny First Division Foundation and Museum Prize for the Best Paper in Military History by a Graduate Student at the Northern Great Plains History Conference,” valued at $400. Please include e-mail address. For more information, check http://personal2.stthomas.edu/jcfitzharris/NGPHC/. Deadline for proposals is 15 April 2010.

Send proposals and c.v. to: Joe Fitzharris
Department of History - Mail #4018
University of St. Thomas
2115 Summit Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105
Or send by e-mail to: jcfitzharris@stthomas.edu.

Proposals for all other topics should go to Kimberly K. Porter, kimberly.porter@und.edu.

Kudos!

Rich Muller’s book The Luftwaffe over Germany: Defense of the Reich (London:
Greenhill, 2007), co-authored with Donald L. Caldwell, just received the Air Force Historical Foundation’s “Best Air Power History Book of 2008” prize.

John Hattendorf was recently awarded two significant awards. He received the Samuel Eliot Morison Award from the USS Constitution Foundation in Boston for public service that echoes traits of Adm. Morison, the Harvard professor and official US Navy historian during World War II. He also received the Alfred Thayer Mahan Award for Literary Achievement from the Navy League of the United States for literary achievements that advance understanding of naval warfare, strategy and policy.

Call for Papers


The Office of the Historian, Department of State, will hold a conference on September 29-30, 2010, on American policy and war in Southeast Asia, 1946-1975. The conference will take place in the George C. Marshall Conference Center at the Department of State in Washington, D.C. and will serve three purposes. It will showcase and commemorate the work of the Historian’s Office in documenting United States policy in Southeast Asia in the Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS) series in over 24,000 pages of documents; and it will provide--through participants’ papers, presentations, and panels--a full-scale examination/re-examination of United States policy, beginning with the Indochina War (1946-1954), continuing through the American periods of advice and support (1955-1964) and intervention (1965-1973), and ending with the Fall of Saigon (1975). Finally, the conference will explore the relationship between force and diplomacy in both the prosecution of the war and the peace negotiations. Proposals on the post-1975 era leading to “normalization” will be considered but the conference will focus on the period of greatest American involvement.

The first day’s program will include the following: a keynote address by a senior official of the Department of State; a roundtable discussion by Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon-Ford Administration policy advisors on Vietnam; presentations by scholars from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; and a panel of presentations by senior scholars of the War. The second day’s program will consist of a series of panels where academic and independent scholars will present papers on topics/themes related directly or indirectly to American policy in Indochina from 1946 to 1975.

Those interested in submitting proposals should keep in mind that the Program Committee will be more likely to form panels by historical period than by theme, but the latter will be considered.

To achieve the above objectives, the Program Committee welcomes proposals for original papers/panels dealing with, but not limited to, the following topics:

- The Cold War and United States policy in/for Southeast Asia
- Early United States involvement in Southeast Asia: Truman to Kennedy
- The Americanization of the Vietnam War—policy, strategy, and operations
- United States relationships with and/or involvement in South Vietnamese governments
- The role of force and diplomacy in the implementation of policy
- The air war against North Vietnam
- Vietnamese Communists’ approaches to the war
- The influence of non-governmental players—e.g., the media, the anti-war movement—on policy and public opinion
- Intelligence and policy
- Pacification and nation-building in South Vietnam
- Embassy Saigon and the implementation of United States policy in South Vietnam
- Explanations for the outcome of the Vietnam War
- The legacy of the Vietnam War for American military and foreign policies

Paper and panel proposals (abstracts and curricula vitae) must be in English, which is the language of the conference, and should be sent, via e-mail or fax, by March 1, 2010 to: Dr. John M. Carland, Program Committee Chair, Office of the Historian: email: vietnamconference@state.gov. Fax: 202.663.1289.
Call for Contributors for Encyclopedia of Women in American Military History

This two-volume encyclopedia will include entries on all aspects of women’s roles in the American military. It will include entries on individuals, groups, events, institutions, and legal rulings as well as longer essays on historic conflicts and wars. Entries will vary in length from 500-4,000 words depending on the significance of the topic. The encyclopedia will be published by ABC-CLIO. All contributors will receive full authorial credit and electronic access to the published volume. Some contributions will be compensated with a modest honorarium and/or a hard copy of the encyclopedia set. For more information and a list of available entries, please contact the editor, Lisa Tendrich Frank, at lytfrankphd@gmail.com. Potential contributors should send a copy of their c.v.

Call for Papers

War Stories: The War Memoir in History and Literature,
22-24 November 2010, University of Newcastle, Australia.

From the early modern period through to the present day, both combatants and non-combatants who lived through war have written about their experiences in autobiographical works. Sometimes published, but often not, such memoirs entail not only authors recalling their wartime lives but recasting, re-imagining and reprocessing their experiences. The popularity of war memoirs in the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries in particular raises questions about why, when and the manner in which conflicts are recalled and remembered, how these texts contribute to or conflict with collective memories, and how they can be read and interpreted by the reading public and scholars alike. Papers are invited from scholars from across the disciplines working on any aspect of the memoir in relation to military conflicts in any locale, from the early modern period to the present day. In examining war memoirs and the manner in which both veterans and civilians recall past conflicts, this symposium will also contribute to a broader discussion on the experience of war across cultural boundaries. Keynote Speaker: Prof. Jay Winter (Yale).

Paper proposals (as well a brief C.V.) should be submitted via e-mail to the conference organizers, Philip Dwyer, Philip.Dwyer@newcastle.edu.au and Roger Markwick, Roger.Markwick@newcastle.edu.au. Please send all queries to the same address. The deadline for receiving proposals is 1 June 2010. Papers will be circulated before the symposium. Accepted papers must be submitted for circulation to participants no later than 1 November 2010.

Call for Papers

Coalition Warfare from the Early Modern Era until Today 3-4 May 2011, Denmark

The conference on Coalition Warfare from the Early Modern Era until today will take place as a joint venture of the Royal Danish Defence College and the Danish Commission for Military History. In the topical debate on coalition warfare, focus is mostly on the ongoing campaign in Afghanistan or on the War on Terror in general. However necessary, this debate largely ignores some salient issues, which are prominent in wars of the past. The history of coalitions and their war aims, troubles, and achievements reaches a long way back. This conference will address political aims as well as military operations, procedures, and experiences from the history of coalition warfare from Early Modern Era until the present, as well as lead nation responsibilities, national and coalition loyalty requirements, logistical difficulties.

The perspective will be eclectic comprising viewpoints of lead nations as well as those of minor or major contributing countries. At the conference there will be key note addresses by Professor Richard Holmes, UK, Professor Doug Delaney, Canada, Senior Lecturer Mikkel Vedby Rasmussen, Denmark, and Dr. Niels Bo Poulsen, Denmark. Moreover, it is planned to have 12 papers in four sessions, most of which will be published in the conference proceedings or as an International Revue of Military History.

The conference organizers would welcome proposals for papers on themes related to the conference title. Please send a 700 -word proposal accompanied by curriculum vitae of the
paper giver(s). The deadline for submissions of abstracts is 1 August 2010 and all proposals should be sent to the following address:

Ms. Britt Solbjerg Madsen: coalition@fak.dk  
Points of contact: Kjeld Galster: cfm-11@fak.dk  
Royal Danish Defence College, Ryvangs Allé 1 DK 2100 København Ø Denmark

**Call for Papers**

“Twenty Years in Iraq: RAF Operations in the Gulf since 1990”

This conference intends to bring together scholars and practitioners, including those with operational experience, with an interest in the RAF’s participation in the various phases of the Iraq deployment in order to explore the following (and any related) themes:

- RAF transformation: from Cold War air force to expeditionary air force
- The evolution of air-land integration from 1990 to 2009
- Modern air operations and the media
- Non-kinetic and psychological air power
- Air policing and the utility of air power in low intensity operations
- Casualty tolerance and intolerance
- Prisoners of war
- International perspectives on the RAF’s role and performance in Iraq
- The legacy of Iraq on the RAF today and the immediate future

Applicants are encouraged to submit original work on the conference themes. Please send 300-word proposals for twenty to thirty-minute papers, a title, and a brief CV of the presenter via email or post to: dsdconf.jscsc@da.mod.uk. Submission deadline is March 15th.

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**Call for Papers**

The Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University, invites proposals for papers to be presented at the 21st Military History Colloquium, to be held at the Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario on 29 April to 1 May 2009.

The primary focus will be on all periods of Canadian military history - pre-1914, First and Second World Wars, the Korean War and post-1945 developments including peacekeeping. Proposals for papers advancing new and innovative perspectives will receive first consideration. Papers addressing all facets of military history, including tactics and operations, social and cultural issues, economic impacts, and the home front, from the colonial era to the present day will be considered. Proposals are welcome from all scholars, but graduate students and recent Ph.Ds are especially encouraged to submit. Topics of special interest for 2010: 100th Anniversary of the Canadian Navy, 95th Anniversary of 1915, 65th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War. The deadline for proposals is 26 February 2010.

Mike Bechthold  
Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies  
Wilfrid Laurier University  
Waterloo, ON CANADA  
Phone: 519.884.0710 x.4594  
Fax: 519.886.5057  
Email: mbechthold@wlu.ca  
Visit the website at http://www.canadianmilitaryhistory.com

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**Call for Papers**

*Americans Divided and United: Multiple and Shifting Solidarities*

*Thursday, March 17 to Sunday, March 20, 2011*  
*Hilton Americas-Houston*

With the theme of “Americans Divided and United: Multiple and Shifting Solidarities,” the Program Committee for the 2011 Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting
in Houston intends to present a wide-ranging program that will encourage critical discussion of the issues now driving the best scholarship in all subfields of United States history. The Committee invites proposals that cover any and all periods within the full chronological sweep of the American past, from pre-Columbian years to the twenty-first century, and the rich thematic diversity that has come to characterize contemporary American history writing and teaching. The program will feature sessions on the ways in which Americans have been separated from and united with one another in a variety of historical contexts, but the Committee welcomes proposals on topics beyond this year’s designated theme. The program aims to include public historians and independent scholars as well as those teaching at universities, colleges, community colleges, and secondary schools. In general, the program should reflect the full diversity of the OAH membership in the United States and abroad.

Beginning October 1, 2009, the program committee invites the submission of panels and presentations that deal with these and other issues and themes in American history. OAH welcomes teaching sessions, particularly those involving the audience as active participants or those that reflect collaborative partnerships among teachers, historians, and history educators at all levels. We urge presenters to continue the ongoing transition from simply reading papers to more actively “teaching” the topic of their sessions. Wherever possible, proposals should include presenters of both sexes and members of ethnic and racial minorities. OAH encourages more senior historians to present their own research, and welcomes debate on challenging and controversial issues. If you have questions about these policies, please email the OAH meetings department.

Policies: OAH policy prohibits individuals from participating in two consecutive annual meetings in the same role and limits individuals to appearing only once on the program in a given year. All participants must preregister for the meeting. Participants who specialize in American history and support themselves as American historians must be members of the OAH.

Submission Procedure: Proposals should be submitted electronically to the OAH Proposal System (http://db.oah.org:8080/dbproject/login.jsp) beginning October 1, 2009. Please download proposal system instructions -- http://www.oah.org/meetings/2011/instructions.html -- before beginning your submission. Complete session proposals most often include a chair, participants, and, if applicable, one or two commentators. We welcome proposals for roundtables and workshops as well as for sessions with papers and comments. Chairs may double as commentators, and commentators may be omitted in order for the audience to serve in that role. Sessions with commentators should have no more than three paper presentations. All sessions should have substantial time allotted for audience questions and comments. We prefer to receive proposals for complete sessions but will consider individual paper proposals as well.

All proposals must include the following information:

1) A complete mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, and affiliation for each participant
2) An abstract of no more than 500 words for the session as a whole
3) A prospectus of no more than 250 words for each presentation; and
4) A vita of no more than 500 words for each participant

The deadline for proposals is Thursday, February 25, 2010.

2011 Program Committee
Manfred Berg, University of Heidelberg
Holly Brewer, North Carolina State University
Hasia Diner, New York University
David Gutierrez, University of California San Diego
Martha Jones, University of Michigan
Moon-Ho Jung, University of Washington
Peter Kolchin, University of Delaware, Cochair
Paul Kramer, Vanderbilt University
Cold War Prize Competition
2009-2010

For the sixth year, the John A. Adams Center at the Virginia Military Institute is pleased to announce that it will award prizes for the best unpublished papers dealing with the United States military in the Cold War era (1945-1991). Any aspect of the Cold War military is eligible, with papers on war planning, intelligence, logistics, and mobilization especially welcome. Please note that essays which relate aspects of the Korean and Southeast Asian conflicts to the larger Cold War are also open for consideration. Not only do we invite your submission of previously unpublished pieces, but we encourage you to pass along this notice to colleagues or promising graduate students who might be working in this area.

Prizes: First place will earn a plaque and cash award of $2000; second place, $1000 and a plaque; and third place, $500 and a plaque.

Procedures: Entries should be tendered to the Adams Center at VMI by 15 July 2010. Please make your submission by Microsoft Word and limit your entry to a maximum of twenty-five pages of double-spaced text, exclusive of documentation and bibliography. A panel of judges will, over the summer, examine all papers; the Adams Center will then announce its top three rankings early in the fall of 2010. The Journal of Military History will be happy to consider those award winners for publication. In addition, the Adams Center would like to post the better papers on its website – with the permission of the author, of course.

Submissions and questions:
Professor Malcolm Muir, Jr., Director
John A. Adams ’71 Center for Military History and Strategic Analysis
Department of History
Virginia Military Institute; Lexington, VA 24450
Email: muirm@vmi.edu
Phone: 540.464.7447/7338
Fax: 540.464.7246

REMEMBERING RICH ZEITLIN

From December 10 to 12, 2009, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and the University of Wisconsin History Department sponsored a symposium to honor the memory of Richard H. Zeitlin, the long time director of the museum who passed away one year ago, and to celebrate the restoration of American military history to the UW curriculum. The symposium, held in the Richard H. Zeitlin Education Center at the museum, featured presentations by seven former UW history graduate students, two current professors—Jeremi Suri and John Hall, the recently appointed Ambrose-Hesseltine Professor of Military History, and one Professor Emeritus—Edward M. Coffman, whose paper (read by T.K. Nenninger) related to his hiring by the University of Wisconsin in 1961 as the first faculty member with a specialty in American military history. Despite zero degree temperatures and a major blizzard the day before it began, the four sessions of
OBAMA EXECUTIVE ORDER ISSUED TO EXPEDITE DECLASSIFICATION- On December 29, President Obama issued a new executive order (EO 13526) that would dramatically change the way the executive branch handles classified material, reduce over-classification and expedite the release of formerly classified materials to the public. Federal agencies would be required to eliminate a 400 million page backlog of materials awaiting declassification by December 31, 2013.

The President issued a memorandum to heads of departments and agencies that directs additional steps agencies should take to implement the order. The White House also released a Presidential order entitled “Original Classification Authority.” This order designates those agency heads and officials as having the authority to classify information as “Top Secret” or “Secret” under the executive order.

Among the major changes resulting from EO 13526 and implementation memorandum are:

- It establishes a National Declassification Center at the National Archives to centralize and streamline agency reviews of classified materials. The Archivist of the United States will develop declassification priorities with input from the general public and after taking into account researcher interest and the likelihood of declassification. On December 30, Archivist of the United States David Ferriero announced the immediate establishment of the NDC within NARA.

  Under the direction of the NDC, agencies will be required to take steps to eliminate the backlog of more than 400 million pages of accessioned Federal records previously subject to automatic declassification in order to permit public access to these records no later than December 31, 2013. These include archival records related to military operations during World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

- For the first time, it establishes the principle that no records may remain classified indefinitely and provides enforceable deadlines for declassifying information exempted from automatic declassification at 25 years. The new EO also strengthens the standards agencies must meet to exempt any record from automatic declassification at 25 years. It also prohibits classification beyond 75 years except in extraordinary cases.

- For the first time, it requires agencies to conduct fundamental classification guidance reviews to ensure that classification guides are up-to-date and that they do not require unnecessary classification.

- It eliminates an Intelligence Community veto of declassification decisions made by the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel that was established by the Bush administration.

- It directs that information not be classified (or be classified at a lower level) when “significant doubt” exists about the need to classify it.
• The Order significantly tightens restrictions on reclassification of information after its declassification.

An in-depth summary of the Executive Order and Implementation Memorandum is available at the White House’s Website.

This new Order replaces Executive Order 12958 that was issued by President Clinton in 1995 and later amended by President Bush in 2003. In a May 27 memorandum, President Obama directed the National Security Advisor to lead a review of EO 12958 and recommend revisions that improve transparency, openness, and interagency collaboration in the Government’s treatment of national security information. As part of the review process, the White House also solicited public comment from stakeholders through its Website.

ARCHIVIST OF THE U.S. CREATES HOLDINGS PROTECTION PROGRAM- In one of his first major acts since assuming the position, Archivist of the United States David Ferriero recently announced the creation of the NARA Holdings Protection Program and the appointment of a team to staff the initiative.

Eric Peterson was appointed as the team leader. Most recently, Mr. Peterson was the Special Security Officer for the Naval Information Operations Command in Suitland, MD, where he was responsible for loss prevention and classified programs. Mr. Peterson will lead a seven-member team composed of archives specialists, loss prevention specialists, and a trainer.

Over the past few years, NARA has been embarrassed by highly-publicized incidents of theft of its holdings. The most famous was the theft of documents from the National Archives by President Clinton’s former National Security Advisor Samuel R. (Sandy) Berger. Berger eventually pled guilty to one misdemeanor count of Unauthorized Removal and Retention of Classified Documents.

In March 2009, NARA discovered an external hard drive containing copies of Clinton Administration Executive Office of the President (EOP) data was missing from a NARA processing room. Despite the posting of a $50,000 reward for information leading to the recovery of the hard drive, it remains missing.

The NARA Holdings Protection Program will serve as a nationwide resource developing and administering policies to enhance holdings protection of original records, regardless of their format to reduce the loss of and aid in the recovery of holdings while ensuring ready access for research by all stakeholders. The team will work with individual offices within the National Archives in Washington, DC, the regional archives and records centers, and the 13 Presidential libraries.

CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMISSION BILL INTRODUCED- Senators Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and Jim Webb (D-VA) have introduced the “Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Act of 2009” (S. 1838) to establish a Commission to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War from 2011-2015. The legislation authorizes $3.5 million in funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to award grants for activities relating to the sesquicentennial.

Consisting of 25 members from government, business and academia, the commission will develop and carry out programs to ensure suitable National observances of the anniversary. The private members will include 5 individuals from the corporate community, 6 historians, 1 individual with expertise in art history or historic preservation, 1 individual with expertise in anthropology, cultural geography or sociology, and a final representative with expertise in political science, law or economics.

Among its duties, the commission is tasked with encouraging interdisciplinary examination of the Civil War, coordinating and facilitating the public distribution of scholarly research publications and interpretations of the Civil War, and providing technical assistance to States, localities and non-profits to assist in their commemorations.

In awarding grants, the NEH is directed to consider established university, museum or academic programs with national scope that sponsor multidisciplinary projects, including those that concentrate on African Americans in the Civil War.
On December 3, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee’s National Parks Subcommittee met to consider legislation (S. 1838) to establish a commission to commemorate the upcoming sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

S. 1838, the “Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Act,” was introduced by Senators Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and Jim Webb (D-VA). The bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a 25-member commission composed of representatives from Congress, the executive branch, the corporate community and academia, including six historians. The commission would cooperate with and assist States and national organizations with programs and activities to ensure a suitable national observance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. It also authorizes a grant program for the development of programs, projects, and activities on the Civil War that have lasting educational value. The National Endowment for the Humanities would be authorized to award $3.5 million in grants to fund “appropriate activities” relating to the commemoration of the Civil War.

Katherine H. Stevenson, Assistant Director for Business Services at the National Park Service testified that the Administration would support the bill subject to minor amendments dealing with the appointment process and size of the commission. Ms. Stevenson also expressed concerns that the bill mentions specific organizations and places important to the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Since the Civil War was a national experience, the Administration recommended that other scholarly centers and programs be acknowledged so that a broader spectrum of social, political, and economic aspects of the war would be emphasized.

Testifying on behalf of the bill was David Madden, founding director of the United States Civil War Center at Louisiana State University. The United States Civil War Center and the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania, have been designated by the Federal Government to plan and facilitate the commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

The National Coalition for History is a member of the Coalition for the Civil War Sesquicentennial. It is an ad hoc group of national organizations (see below) committed to the creation of an inclusive commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. The Coalition was established at a meeting convened this past April by the American Association for State and Local History. The Civil War Sesquicentennial Coalition has assembled a Council of Scholars, co-chaired by James McPherson, James Horton, and William Cooper, which includes more than one hundred of the nation’s leading scholars of the War and its legacies.

Although the Civil War Sesquicentennial Coalition currently believes that the best way to achieve its goals is through the creation of a presidential commission, Coalition representatives are engaged in an ongoing dialogue with Senators Landrieu and Webb to seek common ground with their legislation to create a congressional commission for the Sesquicentennial.

Civil War Sesquicentennial Coalition Members
- American Association for State and Local History
- American Association of Museums
- Association for the Study of African American Life and History
- Civil War Preservation Trust
- Federation of State Humanities Councils
- Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Foundation
- Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History
- The History Channel
- National Coalition for History
- National Council for the Social Studies
- National History Day
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- National Council on Public History
- Society for Military History
- Southern Historical Association
Military Historian, Lincoln and Reconstruction Scholar Dead at 88

By Paul A. Thomsen

On January 8, 2010, the discipline lost a leading scholar of nineteenth and twentieth century of American and military history, Distinguished Professor of History Hans L. Trefousse.

Born in 1921 Frankfurt, Germany, to George and Elizabeth Trefousse, Hans and the family were forced to leave Germany in 1936 when his father assaulted a Nazi Party member who had been mocking the World War I veteran’s Jewish heritage. They settled in Staten Island, New York. Upon receiving his bachelor’s degree from New York City College (now the City College of the City University of New York [CUNY]), in 1943, Trefousse enlisted in the United States Army. When a search of army records revealed his fluency in several European languages, Trefousse was detailed to Camp Ritchie, Maryland, for training as an Interrogator of Prisoners-of-War. During the Allied liberation of Europe, he served as a translator, a negotiator, and frontline intelligence analyst in several key battles, including the invasion of Normandy, the Huertgen Forest, the Battle of the Bulge, and the siege of Leipzig. Before rotating home, he supervised the detention of prisoners and war refugees. In one instance, he was compelled by his superiors to repatriate detained Eastern European residents to the Soviet Union, which, he later admitted, greatly influenced his interest in the topic of slavery. His Second World War intelligence activities are part of a forthcoming monograph on American combat intelligence.

After the war, Hans Trefousse became dedicated to the study of history. In the late 1940s, he earned a PhD in history from Columbia University and taught briefly at both Adelphi College and the University of Wisconsin before finding a permanent home in 1958 at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center. At Brooklyn, his quick wit and fiery lecture-style rapidly charmed both faculty and students with equal vigor. In the 1960s and 1970s, Trefousse, along with John Hope Franklin, Eugene Genovese, and others, helped topple the old Dunning School interpretation of paternalistic slavery. As a mentor, Trefousse made his student’s intellectual advancement a high priority, answering after class questions, taking part in informal group discussions, and hosting private parties to both toast recent achievements and discuss new ideas. He was also a highly prolific editor and author, collecting issue-oriented essays on nineteenth century topics and writing over a dozen monographs and numerous articles on the Civil War, Lincoln, Reconstruction, and twentieth century German and American relations. In the 1990s, when his publishers could no longer accept type-written manuscripts, Trefousse set aside his old manual Smith Corona typewriter and asked one of his former graduate students to teach him how to work a computer (which he often referred to as “that damned machine”), word processing, and email so that he might continue to contribute to the academy he loved.

After his wife, Rashelle, died in 1999, many of his students feared the “Old Man” might lose his passion and fade away. Instead, he continued to teach classes emeritus, redoubled his writing efforts, and gave even more time to his old friends and former students. His biographies of Ben Butler (1957), Andrew Johnson (1981), Carl Schurz (1997) and Thaddeus Stevens (1998) remain highly praised. In 2005, he published First Among Equals: Abraham Lincoln’s Reputation during His Administration and many of his older works continue to be reprinted.

To the academy, he was a consummate professional and an erudite contributor of lasting scholarship. To his students, friends, and family, he was a kind soul and veritable force of nature. He will be sorely missed.
In 2007 the Richard L. D. and Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections at Kansas State University was selected as the official repository for the historical records of the Society for Military History. Spanning over one-hundred and thirty boxes, the collection preserves the seventy-seven year history of the organization’s efforts to promote the scholarly study of military history as the 1933 American Military History Foundation (AMHF), the 1939 renamed American Military Institute (AMI), and the 1990 modernized Society for Military History (SMH).

Now open to the public, researchers will find a wide assortment of documents and graphics, including officer reports, presidential papers, committee correspondence, and materials concerning the planning and execution of annual conferences. Some interesting sections include the organization’s efforts to assist in the modernization of the United States Army as an historical and analytical resource during the interwar period, the absorption of the Order of the Indian Wars veteran’s group into the organization, the efforts of editors Dallas Irving and Victor Gondos to manage the growth of Military Affairs (the antecedent to the present Journal of Military History), and the increased activity played by the organization in providing a forum for many Cold War era events. The records also include detailed notes on the financial and membership history of the organization, correspondence relating to foreign interest in the organization, presidential portraits, banquet pictures, and documents concerning Filipino businessman, politician, and Second World War guerilla war-fighter Hilario Moncado’s United States citizenship status.

The archive has recently grown to include the organizational papers of Larry Bland, AMI era artifacts donated by Harold Langley, a portrait photograph of Edward Coffman, and print copies of past website content. At present, the archivist is digitizing a selection of historic documents and photographs for preservation and membership access and is working towards obtaining a complete run of Headquarters Gazette issues. In the near future, the archive also plans to begin collecting the oral histories of members to provide future generations with the institutional memory of the organization’s most influential members.

Members wishing to donate material relating to notable past SMH activities or their time as officers and trustees of the organization should contact the archivist at pthomsen@ksu.edu.
MEETINGS CALENDAR 2010

February 20 - The National World War II Museum’s Mason Lecture Series presents a 65th Anniversary of Iwo Jima veterans panel. The panel will feature a veteran of the 4th Marine Division and a veteran from the 5th Marine Division who both fought in that battle 65 years ago. Saturday, February 20, 2010 at 1:00pm. For more information please call 504.528.1944 x331.

February 26-27 - Western Front Association, Florida & Gulf Coast Chapter annual seminar, Tampa, Florida. Contact Len Shurtleff at lshurtleff@aol.com for program and registration information.


April 29-May 1 - Military History Colloquium, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario. Email: mbechthold@wlu.ca. Website at http://www.canadianmilitaryhistory.com.

April 14 - Korean War Conference - Christ Church Oxford. Email: rebecca.favell@chch.ox.ac.uk. Visit the website at http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=775&Itemid=633.

April 15-16 - Unarmed on the Battlefield: Non-Combatants and the Experience of Combat in Modern War. University of Glamorgan, Cardiff/Pontypridd, Wales. Contact: Dr. Edward Madigan at warstudies@tcd.ie.


May 20-23 - The SMH 2010 Annual Meeting will be in Lexington, VA hosted by the Virginia Military Institute and the George C. Marshall Foundation. Casey Brower at VMI and Brian Shaw, Director of the Marshall Foundation, are coordinating the meeting.

June 24-26 - Korean War Conference. Victoria College, Victoria, Texas. Contact James M. Smallwood at jms8466@okstate.edu or by mail to 1413 S. Lindsay St., Gainesville, Texas 76240-5625.


September 29-October 2 - Northern Great Plains History Conference, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND. SMH information: Joe Fitzharris, jcfitzharris@stthomas.edu.

November 22-24 - War Stories: The War Memoir in History and Literature, University of Newcastle, Australia. Contact: Philip Dwyer@newcastle.edu.au and Roger Markwick@newcastle.edu.au.
MEETINGS CALENDAR 2011


May 3-4 - Coalition Warfare from the Early Modern Era until Today, sponsored by the Royal Danish Defence College and the Danish Commission for Military History.

June 9-12 - The Cantigny First Division Foundation (CFDF) near Chicago, Illinois will host the 2011 Society for Military History (SMH) Annual Meeting in June at a hotel in Lisle, IL.

MEETINGS CALENDAR 2012

May 10-13 - The 2012 SMH Annual Meeting will be in Arlington, Virginia (Crystal City) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel May 10-13 hosted by the Army Historical Foundation.

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