

## Society for Military History Firsts

**March 16, 1933-** Major C.C. Benson drafts the first position paper calling for a non-profit military history organization to aid the U.S. Army

**June 2, 1933** After a series of informal discussions amongst military and civilian archival personnel, papers are filed in Washington, D.C formally incorporating the American Military History Foundation (AMHF)

**June 9, 1933** The first official meeting of AMHF is held

**Jan-February, 1935** The first in a series of three articles by members on the study of military history were published in *Army Ordnance* (through the assistance of managing editor Colonel Leo A. Codd)

**April 1, 1937** The organization publishes the first issue of the *Journal of the AMHF* with art and ink illustrations provided by member Fred Todd

**November 1938** A formal discussion begins to change the name of the organization

**December 28, 1938** At the membership meeting of the AMHF in Chicago, the members vote for the renaming of the organization as the American Military Institute. At the meeting, a name change for the journal was also approved, but the name change occurs two years later

**June 2, 1938** Although some in the organization began using AMI starting in January, AMHF was only legally incorporated as AMI in June. A second filing for incorporation under the name AMI was made on March 24, 1939, changing part of the description and address of the organization

**January/Spring 1940** *The Journal of the AMHF* is first published under a new name *The Journal of the American Military Institute* (Volume 4, Number 1)

**Spring 1941** *The Journal of the American Military Institute* is first published under the name of *Military Affairs* (Volume 5, Number 1)

**January/Spring 1989** *Military Affairs* is first published under the name *The Journal of Military History* (Volume 53, Number 1)

**July 1990** After several informal discussions, the council considers a proposed name change for the organization from AMI to the Society for Military History (SMH). Records indicate the name change was approved by a nearly unanimous vote

**March 10, 1991** The proposed name change of AMI to SMH is put to the general membership

**June 11, 1991** The Certificate of Amendment is formally signed by a notary with **Richard Kohn (president) and B.F. Cooling (secretary)** certifying the name change from **AMI to SMH** in the records of incorporation in the **District of Columbia**

**January 9, 1999** **Russell Weigley** gives the inaugural **Marshall Lecture** on "**What Military Historians Can Teach Other Historians**" at the **American Historical Association** annual meeting