

SMH Publications History

- 1935 *Army Ordinance* runs three American Military History Foundation (AMHF) articles.
- 1937 April 1: *The Journal of the American Military History Foundation* begins publication
- 1938 OIW starts to merge with AMHF, granting access to OIW membership lists and requiring the organization to publish 32 pages of Indian War related material annually and to sit one member of OIW on the Board of Trustees.
- Journal circulation reaches 600 printed copies
- 1939-1940 *The Journal of the American Military History Foundation* is renamed *The Journal of the American Military Institute*.
- 1941-1988 *The Journal of the American Military Institute* is renamed *Military Affairs (MA)*.
- 1940s AMI members discuss merging with *Infantry Journal*
- 1940 AMI releases a classification system for the “new” study of Military History
- 1942 *MA* works with a new printing company, delaying the publishing cycle.
- 1943 *MA* receives a query from the Soviet Information Bureau, asking if the organization would accept submissions on Soviet military history.
- 1945 Dallas Irvine copies the style of *National Geographic* for *Military Affairs*
- 1946 *MA* reaches a circulation of 1,500 copies
- 1947 AMI attempts a collaboration with the Airpower League in journal and lecture-writing
- 1947 *MA* falls in circulation to 1,400 copies
- 1947 After several years as editor and repeated attempts to give the journal a broader appeal, Dallas Irving launches a series of complaints about lack of funding and membership support for *MA*. Receiving little response, he resigns his position with the journal. The Office of the

Chief of Military History is asked to step-in as the journal's editorial board.

- 1948-1949** *MA* is run by paid editors through the Office of the Chief of Military History (Major Robert De T. Lawrence and Captain William Ross), reverting the publication to its prior format. Soon, thereafter, the venture is cut from DoD operations by Secretary Louis Johnson.
- 1949** Columbia University President Dwight Eisenhower directs Edwin N. Clarke to assist the faltering AMI. The consultation produced a plan to reorganize the organization under Columbia University, proposing an organizational-wide broadening of scope to include "war and Peace." When Eisenhower is recalled to active duty to serve as NATO commander, Columbia University abandons the proposal to establish their own "Institute of War and Peace Studies" and, later, their own defense policy publication.
- 1949-1950** Publication of *Military Affairs* is suspended for one year.
- 1950** November 3: Without an editor, editorial board, a General meeting of AMI members is called in the Pentagon auditorium to address both the future of the journal and the organization in general. Colonel Milton Skelly reluctantly agrees to serve as the new *ad interim* editor. *MA* resumes publication, simultaneously printing both the back issues of "the lost year" and current issues.
- Over the next several years, the *MA* editorial board continues to release more than four issues a year as "amends" for the "missing year"
- 1952** *MA* reaches circulation of 1,200 copies
- June 1953** AMI and the journal achieve solvency.
- After nearly fifteen years, *MA* begins to in-part honor AMHF's original agreement with OIW by releasing an article on General George Armstrong Custer in the Winter issue of the journal.
- June 1953** AMI officers discuss the option of placing the entire run of *MA* on microfilm
- May 1954** *MA* is displayed in the Pentagon bookstore
- 1955** *MA* retains 620 paid subscribers
- 1956** *MA* publication numbers rise to 813 paid subscribers

Ten percent of the copy requests are attributed to United States Army units stationed in Europe looking to acquire material for their libraries. Fifteen percent are attributed to foreign military organizations (primarily the Israeli Army and, secondarily, the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republic)

While the journal was originally conceived as four issues per year, funding troubles briefly lead the editorial board to briefly scale back their publication schedule to two or three issue per year

- 1957 While maintaining a publication circulation of 1,700, poor fiscal management nearly forces *MA* to terminate publication.
- 1958 President Trevor Dupuy first recommends the creation of a *Who's Who in Military Affairs*
- 1959 *MA* reaches a publication circulation of 2,000 issues
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- At a cost of \$130 to AMI, the first eighteen volumes of *MA* become available at the Library of Congress in microfilm
- 1959 Membership rises from 400 to 800.
- 1967 Kansas State University (KSU) History Department expresses interest in publishing AMI
- 1968 *MA* publication circulation falls to 1,900 printed copies
- 1968 June 25: Under the editorial management of Professor Robin Higham, KSU assumes editorial and printing responsibility for *MA* under a five-year renewable contract.
- 1968 October: KSU publishes their first issue of *MA*
- 1968 *MA* begins advertising in other journals, including *Proceedings*.
- British bookseller Blackwell becomes *MA*'s agent abroad.
- The "Academic Intelligence" column begins running details on new courses and other developments in the field
- 1969 KSU assumes organizational responsibility for maintaining

subscription and membership records.

Attempting to widen the circulation of *MA*, KSU and AMI officers begin soliciting regional ROTC offices for subscribers

- 1969** With the transition to KSU now complete, Victor Gondos, Jr. retires from 17 years of service as *MA* editor
- 1969** AMI attempts to recruit Canadian *MA* subscribers
- 1971** KSU seeks renewal of their *MA* contract. As there are no other bidders and circulation continues to rise, AMI renews the agreement.
- 1972** *MA* circulation rises to 2,800 copies
- 1972** AMI officers discuss the possibility of creating a “policy” journal akin to *Foreign Affairs* to run alongside *MA*. No action is taken
- 1976** Continued discussions of a *Foreign Affairs*-oriented journal prompts officer questions of moving *MA*, obtaining a new editor, and the viability of a self-sustaining journal
- 1977** KSU’s contract with AMI is renewed again
- 1988** The AMI agreement with KSU for *MA* management expires. Subsequently, the Virginia Military Institute assumes control of *MA*
- 1989** *MA* is renamed *The Journal of Military History*
- 1989** AMI enters into a joint book project with the U.S. Commission on Military History (USCMH) to publish the first American-produced issue of *Revue Internationale D’Histoire Militair*, which focuses on intersection between the U.S. Constitution and the American armed forces.

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