

## ALLEN WEINSTEIN DELIVERS HEWLETT LECTURE AT SHFG ANNUAL DINNER

*By John W. Roberts*

Dr. Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States, delivered the Hewlett Lecture on October 19, 2005, at SHFG's annual dinner. Nearly 80 SHFG members and their guests attended the event, held at the La Colline restaurant in Washington, D.C. The Hewlett Lecture is named in honor of Dr. Richard Hewlett, retired historian of the Atomic Energy Commission, Senior Vice President of History Associates Incorporated, and co-founder of SHFG.

Weinstein delighted the audience with reminiscences and observations—some lighthearted, some more serious—about his career and the archival landscape. He organized his remarks around what he called his “Twelve Step Program” for achieving success in managing federal programs: a series of slightly tongue-in-cheek aphorisms, such as “Prepare for the Law of Surprises,” “Budget for the Unexpected,” “Accept the Things You Can’t Change—Then Change Them Quickly and Quietly,” and “Beware of Metaphors—They Bite.” Illustrating his aphorism about metaphors, Weinstein recalled his rash promise to visit every National Archives and Records



*Archivist of the United States,  
Allen Weinstein*

Administration (NARA) installation throughout the United States within the first 100 days of his administration—a goal he now hopes to achieve within the first year.

Recalling his writings in support of an independent NARA back in the early 1980s, at a time when he was first being mentioned as a possible candidate for Archivist of the United States, Weinstein commented that “I knew the job perfectly, when I didn’t want it.” After closing his Center for Democracy in 2003, he was looking forward to retirement when the “unexpected call” came from the White House, offering him the position as Archivist. Despite the highly charged political environment, extending back at least as far as Watergate, he was assured by the Republican Administration that there would

be no problem with the fact that he was a registered Democrat. “It might even make you easier to confirm,” he was told.

Noting the occasional instances of friction between archivists focused on preservation and historians focused

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This issue of the *Federalist* finds us well into the SHFG year. Our first annual new members happy hour was a success, thanks to the diligent efforts of Anne Rothfeld and Brooke Fox who conceived, planned and executed the affair. At this event a number of new friends of the Society were

made, most of whom subsequently became members, despite a fire alarm about 15 minutes after everyone arrived—the success of the event may be judged by the fact that no one actually left when the fire alarm sounded.

October 19th saw this year's Hewlett Lecture, once again at La Colline. Despite a sizable attendance, including about a dozen new members, we all fit in and were fed and watered without a hitch. Although—despite explicit instructions—many of you proved utterly unable to make the critical choice between chicken and risotto beforehand, everyone seemed to get what they wanted.

For the speaker at the Hewlett Lecture we were, of course, very fortunate to have the Archivist of the United States, Dr. Allen Weinstein. As I mentioned at the dinner, for that we have to thank our Treasurer, Rick Peuser, who seized an opportune moment last spring to invite him. Arrangements were made at about the same time by last year's President, Suzanne Junod, so the event was well-organized some months before it actually occurred.

All of which means that we've had two very successful events thus far, with very little effort on the part of your current President. There's a lesson in there somewhere, but I'm not quite sure what it is.

Apart from the advisability of letting someone else do all the work, the main idea I took away from the Hewlett Lecture was the essential uniqueness of the federal history program. All countries have national archives, but, as Dr. Weinstein reminded us, there is an essential unity that binds the institutions of history in the federal government, including the Archives. The profession of federal historian is peculiar to the United States, which has led the world

in the creation of a body of professionals, attached to the government itself, and dedicated to recording and preserving the history of its institutions. Apart from official military history, which originated in Germany as a function of the General Staff, official histories usually are written by scholars brought in for the purpose. The results are often outstanding, but they tend to focus on specific events or time periods, such as the voluminous official British histories of World War II. There is much less continuous effort to produce official histories over time. Only comparatively recently have countries like the United Kingdom and France established formal, permanent official history programs.

This year, we celebrate the richness and diversity of federal history programs. In this issue of *The Federalist*, we continue to document history programs in the federal government, including articles by John Lonnquest on the Army Corps of Engineer historians in Iraq, Sara Leach on the National Cemetery Association history program, and by Dave Herschler and Kristin Ahlberg on the State Dept. History Office, which surely must be one of the oldest federal history programs, if not the oldest. The upcoming Annual Meeting will be devoted to showcasing the work of federal historians in their diverse programs and, in particular, their role in documenting the events and disasters—natural and otherwise—of the past few years. The program is planned to be an ambitious one, in which we cover as many federal history programs as possible. We hope to get a mailing out by the end of the year and we will include information in future issues as it becomes available.

One last point: your Council voted unanimously last spring to raise the annual dues from \$28 to \$35. This was supposed to take effect after the 2005 Annual Meeting, but for some reason the new amount was not posted on the web site, so there has been some confusion over the amount of annual dues. Anyway, they now are as follows:

Membership Category	
Regular (\$35)	Three Year (\$95)
Student (\$20)	Retired (\$25)
Institutional (\$100)	

Donald P. Steury

*Donald P. Steury is Senior Historian at the Center for the Study of Intelligence and President of SHFG.*

### **THE FEDERALIST** (ISSN 0736-8151)

*Newsletter of the Society for History in the Federal Government*  
Published Quarterly

The Society is a national professional organization open to all who are interested in federal history programs. Annual membership fee is \$35 and includes a subscription to *THE FEDERALIST* and the Society's *Occasional Papers*. For information, write the Society at:

P.O. Box 14139  
Benjamin Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044

Contributors are encouraged to submit articles, news listings, or photographs to the editors. Either hard copy or e-mail attachment in MS Word or Wordperfect format is acceptable.

#### SHFG Officers

President . . . . .	Donald P. Steury 703-613-1790
Vice-President	John W. Roberts 202-354-2009
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Executive Council	John M. Carland John Lonnquest Kristin Ahlberg Lee Ann Potter

#### THE FEDERALIST

Co-editors . . . . .	Betty Koed betty_koed@sec.senate.gov
	John Lonnquest lonnquestj@hq02.usace.army.mil
	John W. Roberts john_w_roberts@nps.gov
	Benjamin Guterman benjamin.guterman@nara.gov
Photographer . . . . .	Charles Downs

Web Site  
[www.shfg.org](http://www.shfg.org)

Printed by **Welsh Printing Corp.**  
Falls Church, VA



## THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS OFFICE OF HISTORY SINCE 9/11

By John Lonnquest

Following the attacks on the World Trade Towers in September 2001, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was thrust into the forefront of the Global War on Terror. Immediately after the attack USACE personnel, both military and civilian, deployed to New York City to help clear the rubble from the World Trade Center and also assisted with the recovery efforts at the Pentagon. Later, after the United States initiated offensive operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Corps of Engineers deployed with coalition forces, building support facilities and later helping to restore those nations' shattered infrastructures.

For the Corps of Engineers Office of History (CEHO), keeping pace with these far-flung deployments has been a challenge, but it has not been a completely new endeavor. Our office has deployed historians for decades, documenting events ranging from natural disasters to the Gulf War. But the pace of our recent deployments has been rigorous—since 9/11 Corps historians have deployed to New York City, Iraq, and Afghanistan. During those trips CEHO historians conducted hundreds of oral history interviews, collected nearly a terabyte of electronic data, thousands of images, and dozens of artifacts. Supporting these deployments and balancing them against other requirements has been a fascinating, but

somewhat taxing experience for our small, nine-person office.

Following the attacks in New York City, the Office of History sent four historians to New York to capture the experiences of engineers who responded to the disaster. Over the course of several weeks our historians conducted nearly 50 oral history interviews with Corps employees who supported 9/11 relief operations. These interviews are one of the Corps' most valuable records of the incident, for in those hectic days immediately after the attack, written records were sparse and many contained only the dry, official documentation of any disaster response—evidence of formal taskings from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the inevitable funding documents, and records of ships and personnel moving toward New York City. Although these sources hinted at what happened, they revealed little about why they happened and who was involved. The oral histories supplied details lacking from the written accounts, such as the stories of the Corps boat crews who evacuated thousands of panicked New Yorkers from lower Manhattan, and the engineers who devised the process to carefully screen and inspect the millions of tons of debris removed from the World Trade Center complex in a final search for victims.

In January 2003, our office undertook a new assign-

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### *Weinstein, continued from page 1*

on access, Weinstein expressed gratitude for the "generous and unstinting" support he had received as Archivist from historical organizations and archival organizations alike. He went on to emphasize that everyone—not just archivists and historians—are NARA stakeholders, and he said that he had appointed NARA's first External Liaison Officer to work with those stakeholders.

Ultimately, Weinstein's appointment as Archivist of the United States made his "dreams become his responsibilities." He declared that NARA would be at the cutting edge of technology, would be an outstanding employer, neighbor, and partner, would be a leader in the fields of archives and museums, and would promote "civic literacy."

During a lively question-and-answer session following his address, Weinstein affirmed that NARA was not a political agency, and he expressed pride over NARA's commitment to access—noting, as an example, how quickly NARA processed and released 79,000 pages of records in connection with the confirmation hearings for Supreme

Court Chief Justice John Roberts. He also indicated that NARA was in the final stages of discussion relating to the deed of gift for the papers of former President Richard Nixon, stating that future arrangements in connection with those materials were "on track."

Weinstein became the 9th Archivist of the United States on February 16, 2005. Before taking the helm at NARA, he was the founder and president of the Center for Democracy, senior advisor at the International Foundation for Election Systems, a fellow of the Woodrow Wilson Center and the American Council of Learned Societies, and a professor at the University of London, Boston University, Georgetown University, and Smith College. He has published several critically acclaimed books, including *The Haunted Wood: Soviet Espionage in America—The Stalin Era* (1999) and *Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case* (revised edition, 1997).

*John W. Roberts is Acting Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Program.*

*Office of History, continued from page 3*

ment—chronicling the Corps of Engineers preparations to support military operations in Iraq. Initially one of our historians was assigned to the USACE battle staff, and then shortly after the invasion we sent two historians to Baghdad for several weeks to document the Corps' rapidly expanding mission in Iraq. From the austere splendor of a palace on the banks of the Tigris (albeit without much electricity or furniture) our historians began making the rounds of Corps of Engineers and Coalition Provisional Authority offices conducting oral history interviews and collecting thousands of pages of electronic documents. Collecting the oral history interviews was a familiar endeavor, but in Iraq we found the interview process yielded new and unanticipated dividends. Upon arriving in theater we found a receptive, but slightly puzzled audience. Our Corps of Engineers colleagues were not really sure what history was or what historians were supposed to do, but we found that the personnel intuitively understood and were comfortable with the oral history process. Consequently, during the next several weeks we recorded nearly 75 interviews, and over the course of the interview process we found that our interviewees almost invariably became proponents of the history program. Our interviewees supported our efforts, referred us to their friends and co-workers, and in a development that we had not foreseen, gave us access to their computers from which we harvested gigabytes of irreplaceable data and photographs.

After our historians returned to the United States in August 2003, they continued to monitor events in Iraq. Amidst the turmoil in that country, the Corps of Engineers mission continued to expand, and by the spring of 2005 USACE had nearly 600 people serving in Iraq supervising billions of dollars of reconstruction projects. Moreover, USACE's organizational structure expanded apace with its mission, and the Corps established the Gulf Region Division (GRD) in Baghdad that had district and area offices scattered throughout the country.

In May 2005, we again sent two of our staff historians to Baghdad, but this time we brought additional resources to bear—a historian hired specifically to work in Baghdad and document Corps operations there on a daily basis. Our new historian, Ron Plante, was a Corps of Engineers employee who was cross-trained as a historian in the Air National Guard. He had already done a tour in Iraq in another capacity, so he was familiar with the Corps'

mission and the organization he had to cover.

My colleague Eric Reinert and I spent two weeks in Baghdad training Ron and developing a data collection plan that our new GRD historian would implement during his four-month tour. Ron's tour was tremendously successful, and during his stay in Baghdad he conducted dozens of oral history interviews, compiled a detailed command chronology, and collected nearly a terabyte of data. He also traveled widely, visiting Corps facilities across Iraq.



*Historian Eric Reinert inspects a disabled Iraqi tank near Basra.*

The key to the success of our Gulf Region Division historian was two fold. First, Ron was a visible presence throughout GRD. He attended staff meetings, cultivated sources, and was an ever-present reminder that history mattered. Moreover, Ron was successful in doing what no historian, or no information manager for that matter, had ever done—he broke the Gordian knot that had heretofore blocked the transfer of large amounts of GRD's historic electronic data back to the United States. The solution was fairly straightforward; Ron had the information managers at GRD headquarters and the various field activities copy the contents of their shared drives from their local area networks onto several large external hard drives that he brought home at the end of his tour.

Having a historian on the ground in Iraq was a huge advantage, for the perspective that one gains in theater is decidedly different from the vantage point in headquarters. The experiment was so successful that the Office of History is looking to hire a second GRD historian and hopes to have that person on the ground in Baghdad this fall.

In retrospect, the three years since September 11 have been an exciting, but demanding experience for our office. On the positive side, our services are more in demand than ever before. Our senior leaders want historians involved in ongoing operations, ranging from the Global War on Terror to the relief operations following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. They want us to document operations as they unfold, and they frequently turn to the Office of History to review current operations using historical precedent as a guide. All that is good, but we need to measure our current requirements realistically against our available staffing and financial resources and factor in the numerous other activities of the office to ensure that we remain responsive in the future.

For our current operations, especially for the Corps of Engineers work in Iraq and Afghanistan, there is considerable demand to produce relevant historical products quickly.



But with our limited staffing it is rare that we can assign more than one historian to any given task. There lies the conundrum—how can a single historian collect information from the battlefields of Iraq, review and analyze the data, then write up their findings while at the same keeping pace with current operations? The answer is that they cannot; something has to give and in our case we have elected to continue following current operations and collect data with the fervent hope that we will be able to sort it out later. In the process we are preserving source material that most probably would otherwise be lost. In the digital age, historians have become database managers.

The question is, where do we go from here? First, it is absolutely vital that our office, as well as other federal history offices look to the positive—being busy is a sign that our respective leadership needs the skills and abilities that our historians offer. For the Office of History, we need to embrace a variety of strategies to cope with our current workload. One solution is better technology. The first time our historians deployed to Iraq they took analog tape recorders and a stack of CDs. Two years later we went equipped with digital recorders and external hard drives that enabled us to record in broadcast quality sound and collect 15 times more data than we did before. Simply put, better technology lets us capture, organize and preserve more data.

Next, we need to look at ways of augmenting our work force. In these days of federal downsizing, adding permanent staff is difficult, but not impossible. We also need to look at tapping other labor sources, notably contractors and student interns. Our office currently employs several extremely talented contractors who do research and writing for us, and although we need to continue those relationships, we also need to develop a new generation of contractors for the decades to come. A number of our local colleges and universities have outstanding public history and library science programs. Bringing those students aboard as interns is a tremendous opportunity. As employers we get young, eager scholars with fresh ideas and new skills, while the students get to practice their craft under the direction of a tremendously talented pool of federal historians and archivists.

For the Office of History, the past three years have been tremendously exciting. There have been some stressful interludes, but on the whole it has been worth the price. By deploying historians abroad and supporting the Global War on Terror here at home, our office has learned new skills, and acquired new capabilities. We look forward to serving the Corps of Engineers, and the nation, in the years to come.

*John Lonquest is a historian with the Office of History, HQ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.*



## THE NEW FRONTIER OF RESEARCH IN CONGRESSIONAL PAPERS

*By Raymond Smock*

Since the advent of the Presidential Library System, the records of all presidents since Herbert Hoover have been housed in modern state-of-the-art archival buildings that serve as research facilities and museums that hold the bulk of the records of each administration as well as the personal papers and memorabilia of each president. Collectively, the Presidential libraries contain millions of pages of manuscript material, millions of still photographs, millions of feet of motion pictures and videos, vast quantities of audiotapes, and, more recently, huge amounts of electronic data of all kinds.

Congress, on the other hand, has nothing closely approximating the range of resources for historical research that exist for the executive branch. The House of Representatives and the Senate do keep their committee records, which are maintained by the National Archives and Records Administration in the Center for Legislative Archives in Washington, DC. This is an incredible historical resource, and the National Archives in recent years has come to see it

as one of the great treasure troves in its holdings.

From the standpoint of sheer volume there is an illusion of parity among congressional and Presidential records. Current estimates show the equivalent of 400 million pages in the Presidential Library System and about 380 million pages of House and Senate committee records and related congressional agency records. But these gross numbers are deceiving.

There is a very important dimension of congressional records that falls outside the laws or rules of what is preserved as part of the official records of Congress. This missing link is the personal papers of Senators and Representatives, including their office records that are not preserved by law. This rich, largely untapped, and unevenly preserved record often reveals as nothing else can the important function of members in their states and districts. What is largely missing from official committee records of Congress is the part that tells us what it means to be a representative of the people under our Constitution.

Some of the personal papers and office papers of indi-

vidual members of Congress are saved and eventually made available for research. Most of this material is simply lost. While the Library of Congress holds the papers of the first 23 Presidents of the United States, it has never tried to systematically collect the papers of individual members of the House and Senate. In the 1980s, as part of the planning for the bicentennial of Congress, the Senate Historical Office and the Office of the Bicentennial of the House of Representatives launched extensive surveys to locate research collections of former members of the House and Senate. These surveys revealed great disparities in preservation of collections, and illustrated how material was scattered widely across the country in hundreds of depositories, making any systematic research difficult, time-consuming, and expensive.

The House survey found publicly accessible research collections for 3,300 former members out of the almost 10,000 who had served since 1789. Some of these collections, scattered in 592 different repositories, were small and of limited research value. Others were large, containing hundreds or even thousands of cubic feet of records. The records of two-thirds of House members who had served since 1789 were not found. The Senate survey had much better results, given the relative importance of Senators and their smaller numbers. In the Senate's latest compilation of their original 1983 survey, published in 1995, papers for 1,658 of the 1,726 former senators were located, scattered in 594 repositories throughout the nation.

In 1989 the Senate Commission on the Bicentennial, The Commission on the Bicentennial of the House of Representatives, and the Congressional Research Service sponsored a major conference, "Understanding Congress: Research Perspectives," which published its proceedings in 1991 (House Doc. 101-241). This conference brought together historians, jurists, journalists, political scientists, House and Senate members, and prominent authors including Robert Caro and David McCullough to discuss the future of research on Congress. The broad conclusions of this conference were that we need to know more about Congress and that Congress is not adequately studied largely because of the difficulty of accessing official records and the research collections of individual members of Congress. David McCullough said "We need to know more about Congress because we need to know more about leadership. We need to know more about Congress because we can never know enough about human nature. Above all, we need to know more about Congress because we are Americans. We believe in governing ourselves."

In the 16 years that have transpired since that conference took place, not much has changed regarding access to congressional records. Major problems of preservation

and access remain. Many of these collections sit on shelves awaiting funds for processing. Others are packed away in barns, sheds, warehouses, basements and attics, slowly being consumed by time and neglect.

Even more problematic than the many preservation and access issues is the largely unanswered question of just what it is we are saving and how valuable is it to researchers across multidisciplinary fields of inquiry. What do historians want? What do political scientists want? What do biographers want? Of what benefit are these research collections to students and teachers? And how will we get these resources to the intended audiences?

While old problems and challenges remain, there is an exciting new movement that suggests congressional research collections may finally get the attention they deserve. Historians, who for years ignored Congress for other research interests, are beginning to study Congress again. They are asking new questions with fresh perspectives. Political scientists, who have always studied Congress, are now taking a fresh look at historical records of Congress to ask new questions or to further explore current topics by adding historical perspective. A recent meeting (August 2005) of the American Political Science Association heard calls for more research in congressional collections of all kinds. There are whole careers and lifetimes of work awaiting a whole new generation of congressional scholars, said Sean Q. Kelly of Niagara University, a leader in the effort to promote congressional studies. Constitutional scholars, congressional scholars, and scholars of the Presidency and the judiciary are asking important questions about issues related to separation of powers, the right to filibuster in the Senate, the history of advice and consent, and the very nature of representation itself, to mention just a few topics.

Over the past three decades, a small number of congressional centers have been created around the country that house important congressional collections. In some cases these centers have received federal, state, and private funds for program development and for buildings and archival facilities that house congressional collections. Many are on campuses of colleges and universities, some are independently operated. Taken collectively the amounts of federal money that these centers have received is a drop in the bucket when compared with the regular federal appropriations or the significant private money that goes into Presidential libraries. But these scattered congressional centers are on the cutting edge of the future of congressional studies. Since there are no institutions for congressional papers like the Presidential library system, the small, often isolated, congressional centers try to fill the bill as best they can.

In 2003 the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV, invit-

ed the directors and archivists of congressional centers across the country to meet for the purpose of finding ways that the centers could cooperate and pool resources to enhance congressional studies. The conference resulted in the creation of a new organization, The Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC). Twenty-five organizations attended the first conference. Membership has almost doubled in the first two years. The new organization complements the important work of the Society of American Archivists' Congressional Roundtable. Many members of the ACSC are also active in the Congressional Roundtable, and some are the same persons who participated in the influential Harpers Ferry Conference in 1985 that led to the creation of the Congressional Roundtable.

The mission of ACSC is different from that of the Congressional Roundtable. The ACSC will focus on scholarly and public access to congressional collections and to address issues of actual use of congressional material in the holdings of the various centers. The ACSC will work to showcase the actual content of the records. The ACSC is

exploring ways to use the Internet to bring scattered congressional material into one place so researchers can evaluate what is available. Many individual members of the ACSC already have important documents online and offer excellent historical and current information on Congress.

There is rich ore to mine in congressional collections—lifetimes of it. The interest in congressional research is growing. A new generation of scholars across several disciplines is beginning to explore official records and the private collections of individual members. The ACSC's member organizations are poised to assist in this process. The future of congressional studies looks brighter than it has in a long time.

*Raymond Smock, former Historian of the U.S. House of Representatives, is director of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Archives at Shepherd University, and is serving a two-year term as the first president of the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress. He can be reached at rsmock@shepherd.edu.*

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## THE OFFICE OF THE HISTORIAN, DEPARTMENT OF STATE: REACHING OUT TO NEW AND OLD AUDIENCES

*By David H. Herschler and Kristin L. Ahlberg*

What's happening at the Department of State's Office of the Historian? Plenty! Since 2001, the Office professional staff has nearly tripled, and this influx of a new generation of diplomatic historians and area specialists has fueled a virtual renaissance in scholarly historical activities, most of which are designed to reach an ever expanding public audience.

Long associated almost exclusively with the preparation and publication of the *Foreign Relations of the United States* (FRUS) series—the official documentary record of U.S. foreign policy and diplomatic activity—Office historians now also meet an increasing number of requests to research and prepare policy-supportive historical studies for the Secretary, the White House, and Department principals and bureaus. Many of these studies are classified, but the majority are either unclassified or have an unclassified version; some are available on the Department's web site.

The Office is also engaging in cultural diplomacy and is joining with such nations as Russia and China in order to plan and prepare documentary publications on major aspects of the Cold War. These joint historical projects not only break ground in the presentation of previously unavailable documentation from foreign governments but also foster

greater understanding and positive relations between nations.

The area in which the Office has seen the most extraordinary growth in the past four years, however, is in the development of an impressive, direct, historical public outreach program that supports the Department's mission to reach a broader, deeper, and younger audience. During the past several months, the Office produced a historical educational video and accompanying curriculum guide for use by social studies teachers in secondary schools; co-hosted a symposium on Johnson-era diplomacy at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library in Austin, Texas; and presented a scholarly conference at the Department of State focusing on United States—South Asian relations.

### HISTORICAL EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS

As part of a major Department initiative to target younger audiences, the Office—working collaboratively with a team of expert teachers—is undertaking production of historical educational videos. Entitled *Doors to Diplomacy*, the video series is designed to introduce historical diplomatic themes, encourage students to better understand the ways in which diplomacy plays a role in their lives, and prompt

students to think about diplomacy in nontraditional ways. The videos are accompanied by printed curricula aligned with national teaching standards and include a broad selection of lessons, documentation, and resources—appropriate for a range of student skill levels—for teachers of social studies classes at the secondary level.

November 2004 marked the rollout of the Office's first video, *A History of Diplomacy*, and its accompanying curriculum guide at the annual meeting of the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), held in Baltimore, Maryland. Office historians joined the team of teachers in presenting a workshop on the video and curriculum and distributed about 1,500 copies of the video and curriculum at the conference exhibit. In all, the Office has circulated more than 12,000 copies of the video and curriculum guide nationwide, and it is estimated that this program ultimately will reach in excess of a million students. The Office has received overwhelmingly positive responses to the video from the educational and historical communities, and there is a high level of anticipation for the next video, entitled *Sports and Diplomacy in the Global Arena*, scheduled for release in November 2005 at the NCSS annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri.

#### **SYMPOSIUM AT THE LBJ LIBRARY**

Cooperation and collaboration with other government agencies and educational institutions has enhanced the programming capabilities of the Office. In April 2005, the Office joined with the LBJ Library and the University of Texas Humanities Center to host a one-day symposium entitled "LBJ and Latin America: New Documents, New Perspectives." The symposium marked the release of *Foreign Relations, 1964–1968*, Volume XXII, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Haiti, and Guyana, but focused on the recently released companion volume, *Foreign Relations, 1964–1968*, Volume XXI, South and Central America, Mexico (2004).

Held in the Library's Eighth Floor atrium, the symposium brought together distinguished historians of the Johnson period along with governmental officials and Department of State historians specializing in Latin American affairs. The symposium provided stimulating discussion and highly useful commentary, both on the subject and on the documentary record. The success of this event may well lead to partnerships with other Presidential libraries, federal history programs, and nongovernmental historical institutions to present future symposia.

#### **CONFERENCE ON SOUTH ASIA AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

The hiring boon of the last few years has enabled the Office of the Historian to organize and host a series of scholarly conferences at the Department of State. On July 28–29, 2005, the Office hosted its third annual scholarly confer-

ence, entitled "South Asia in Crisis: United States Policy, 1961–1972." The conference followed two earlier undertakings, in May 2003 and January 2004, planned to coincide with the release of *Foreign Relations* volumes on the 1954 Guatemalan coup and the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, respectively. These conferences garnered substantial attention from U.S. and international print and electronic media, participation by scholars in the field, and attendance by the public. The high quality of most of the sessions demonstrated the utility of continuing such programs.

Like the earlier conferences, the 2005 event highlighted a key FRUS volume (*Foreign Relations, 1969–1976*, Volume XI, South Asia Crisis, 1971). This conference, in contrast, was held two months after release of the volume to enable conference participants to base their presentations at least in part on the documents presented in the volume, and to elicit commentary on the volume in the sessions. The volume was the third in a series of publications on South Asia chronicling U.S. policy during the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations. The conference also marked the release of the first electronic-only, web-based FRUS volume—*Foreign Relations, 1969–1976*, Volume E–7, Documents on South Asia, 1969–1972.

In addition to highlighting the research of university, government, and independent scholars and the aforementioned FRUS volumes, the conference boasted two other notable new features. First, a roundtable discussion brought together administration participants in South Asia affairs from the Department of State and the National Security Council who were involved in policy making during the 1971 India-Pakistan conflict, and who discussed their recollections of the crisis and provided insight into the decision-making process in the Nixon White House. Second, a roundtable consisting of three distinguished scholars provided their analyses of the rich documentation contained in the 1971 South Asia Crisis volume. In an especially rare occurrence among scholars, all three panelists agreed in their assessments of the Nixon administration. The Office plans to continue to hold annual scholarly conferences at the Department.

At The Office of the Historian, where accelerating and improving the production of the FRUS series remains the top priority, the skill, energy, and efforts of the professional staff have, nevertheless, made possible an impressive public historical outreach program. These developments demonstrate that a federal history office can carry out a highly effective, multifaceted, program that meets the needs of the agency and the public.

*David H. Herschler is the Deputy Historian of the U.S. Department of State. Kristin L. Ahlberg is a historian at the U.S. Department of State.*





## NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION BUILDS A HISTORY PROGRAM

*By Sara Amy Leach*

During the 1990s, senior staff at the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) debated the necessity for a professional agency historian. Some were adamant that the heritage of the smallest and youngest agency of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), with oversight for most of the country's national cemeteries, was at risk. NCA's FY2001-2006 *Strategic Plan* directed that a History Program be established to "ensure that a comprehensive and professional historical record of NCA exists for future generations," and its first historian was hired in February 2001. No specific assignments loomed except for the need to produce an administrative history in the future, but a plethora of records materialized—boxes stuffed with books and studies emerged from abandoned cubicles, overstuffed drawers held outdated correspondence, and photographs were unloaded on historical staff.

One thing was clear, NCA's heritage was not static. More than two-thirds of NCA's national cemeteries date to the Civil War or earlier. There are 121 national cemeteries and 33 soldiers' lots already in existence, with 10 new VA national cemeteries being planned or constructed.

The priorities of NCA's History Program grew in part from public and internal queries, as well as federal mandates. One priority was the identification of all NCA resources. For example, when in 2001 the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs asked how many memorials or monuments (not headstones) NCA had, the "guesstimate" initiated the first comprehensive inventory of these structures. That inventory, modeled on the Save Outdoor Sculpture! (SOS!) program, was finished in December 2004 with the help of hundreds of volunteers. Managed by historian Darlene Richardson, the inventory tallied 780 memorials installed since the early 19th century at 128 national cemeteries or soldiers' lots. Notice of the project placed in veteran-oriented media attracted responses from more than 3,000 would-be volunteers. Eventually, 372 individuals were assigned in different locations. Volunteers donated more

than 3,400 work-hours, measuring, photographing, and researching the monuments.

Hard copies of all survey material—forms, prints and negatives, research material—will be retained by the History Program. Next, NCA will verify the data for top-echelon "works of art," approximately 60 typically attributed and figurative sculptures done in bronze or stone. This



*NCA Historian Darlene Richardson marks the spot in Alexandria National Cemetery where in ca. 1870 a large ornamental cross was located, as part of an investigation of the historic landscape of this Civil War-era property.*

information will be provided to the Smithsonian's American Art Museum for its SIRIS database. Ultimately, NCA will post a comprehensive, searchable database of all its memorials on its homepages for public access. As new memorials are installed, that information will be captured and made available.

The foundation of a functional NCA archives is underway. One long-term goal is a compilation of U.S. Army *General Orders* relat-

ed to national cemeteries and their operation since the 1860s. Likewise, as NCA is a frequent user of some large collections of cemetery records at the National Archives; NCA summer interns have compiled a modest finding aid for these. An oral history project to interview former directors, is also underway. A graphic collection is being compiled, including images from NARA, as well as early 20th century vintage postcards showing lost landscapes. For more recent activity, NCA has more than 11,000 construction photographs dating to the 1950s that have been labeled and organized. Hundreds of staff photos, color slides and VHS tapes are yet to be evaluated.

To record present conditions, with a look ahead to exhibits and publications, NCA last year began documenting its historic resources with large-format (5x7) black-and-white photography. Archival-quality images capture cultural landscapes, buildings, structures, and vistas. One set of negatives and prints will reside with NCA, and the other set will be given to the Library of Congress for its Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Survey/Historic American Landscape Survey Collection, a program of the National Park Service (HABS/HAER/HALS, NPS).

In addition to resource documentation, NCA encourages history-outreach to schools and communities. Over the past two years, staff worked with Ohio high school history teacher Paul LaRue to develop two Civil War curriculum lessons for the NPS's Teaching with Historic Places program. This partnership was an outgrowth of hands-on research projects LaRue developed for his students to delve into the lives of U.S. Colored Troops buried throughout Ohio. "A Nation Repays Its Debt: The National Soldiers' Home and Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio," features the earliest federal veteran residence with a large cemetery. These graves were first indicated with wooden markers and later, the ubiquitous, round-topped Union marble headstone adopted in 1874. To complement the Northern angle, "Not To Be Forgotten: Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio," covers a small but complex burial ground with interments that reflect a range of internees and belated monuments to the Southern cause. The lessons, the first co-developed by an educator and a federal agency, were posted on the Internet in spring 2004 and spring 2005, respectively.



*View of the Union Monument (1876) and the Maine Monument (1908) at Salisbury National Cemetery, North Carolina.*

One education tool was produced to promote cemetery history in anticipation of NCA's 30th anniversary in 2003. *Landscapes of Honor and Sacrifice*, a video that illustrates the history of the government's responsibility for burying veterans and maintaining these cemeteries as national shrines, used rarely seen archival images. In summer 2005, the Department of Veterans Affairs kicked off a year-long celebration marking its 75th anniversary, and NCA's heritage will be included here, too.

Recently, the responsibilities of the History Program were codified in a "Notice" that is slated to be expanded into a formal directive in the next year. The four functional management areas reflect the program's accomplishments and projected needs: Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources; Historic Collections; Research, Scholarship, and Publication; and Public Programs and Outreach. The current staff is composed of two permanent historians and a Presidential Management Fellow. For more information about NCA, please visit <http://www.cem.va.gov>.

*Sara Amy Leach is Senior Historian for the National Cemetery Association's History Program.*



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OFFICE OF HISTORY AND PRESERVATION

*By Matt Wasniewski*

The Office of the History and Preservation (OHP) in the U.S. House of Representatives was established in July 2002, with Kenneth Kato serving as the office's first chief. This took place after a history staff was created within the Clerk's Legislative Resource Center in 2000. OHP is a unique federal history office in that it performs a range of archival, curatorial, and historical publications services for House Members and staff, the press, scholars and researchers, and the general public.

In cooperation with the Senate Historical Office, OHP revised and updated a forthcoming print edition of the *Biographical Directory of the U.S. Congress*, the first to be published since 1989. The publication contains biographic entries on the approximately 12,000 individuals who have served in the U.S. and Continental Congresses.

OHP also shares duties with the Senate Historical Office to maintain and update the online version of the *Biographical Directory* (<http://bioguide.congress.gov>). In addition, both offices have worked to develop exhibition content and story scripts for public spaces in the new Capitol Visitors' Center.

OHP simultaneously has undertaken several of its own publications projects. One of the office's principle tasks has been to write a new edition of *Women in Congress*, last published in 1991. The forthcoming edition, which will be published by the Government Printing Office, includes greatly expanded individual profiles on all 229 women who have served in Congress, contextual essays, appendices, an index, and newly-researched images. *Women in Congress* will be followed by several other volumes on minority Members of Congress: *Black Americans in*

*Congress, Hispanic Americans in Congress, and Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Congress.* In 2004, OHP also initiated the House's first oral history program, focusing on collecting the memories and institutional insights of longtime staff members and support personnel. The office is developing plans to make these interviews available to researchers and the general public in both print and, eventually, electronic format.

OHP's archival department provides continuity in the transfer of the official records of U.S. House committees and officers to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Archival staff work with committee personnel to process and house on-site committee records from the previous two Congresses. In consultation with NARA archivists, older records are retired to the care of the Center for Legislative Archives. OHP archival staff also advise individual Members on collection preservation standards and suggest possibilities for the eventual disposition of Member manuscript collections. In 2005, the office published new "Committee Records Management Guidelines" advising House committees on the preservation and transfer of records. The archival staff is building updated files on the location of Member papers and on scholarly works published about individual Members. These are published online as a component of the *Biographical Directory*.

With the development of a curatorial component in 2002, the House created its first-ever department dedicated to the collection, preservation, and interpretation of its art and historical artifacts. OHP curatorial services works with Member and committee offices to advise them on proper care and preservation of artwork. The House Collection includes the Speaker Portraits and the Committee Chair Portraits collections. In addition to maintaining the existing collection of artwork, OHP's curatorial staff also have helped procure new artwork for the House side of the building including portraits of former Members John Quincy Adams, James Madison, and Abraham Lincoln, as well as those who achieved historical "firsts": Jeannette Rankin (first woman Member), Joseph Rainey (first African American Member), and Romualdo Pacheco (the first Hispanic American Representative). Curatorial staff also collect and catalogue historical objects that bear on the history of the House, including such items as Member passes and antique prints.

Recent staff expansion has strengthened OHP's ability to undertake the office's diverse projects. In 2004-2005, six new staff members joined the office. Andrew Dodge was hired as a publications specialist in charge of editing the new print *Biographical Directory* edition. Kathleen Johnson and Laura Turner joined the publications department as researchers working on a variety of projects—

including research and writing for *Women in Congress* and *Black Americans in Congress*. Joe Wallace became OHP's new archival technician. In addition, Catherine Wallace and Antoinette Coverton were hired as receptionist and office manager, respectively. These new staff members join a team of five that includes acting office chief and curator Farar Elliott, archivist Robin Reeder, publications manager Matt Wasniewski, researcher Erin Lloyd, and registrar Karen McKinstry.

*Matt Wasniewski is Manager for Historical Publications, House Office of History and Preservation.*

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## **MAKING HISTORY**

### **AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

The Association will hold its 2006 Annual Meeting January 5–8, 2006, in downtown Philadelphia with events scheduled at the Philadelphia Marriott (headquarters), Loews Philadelphia (co-headquarters), and Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown hotels. For information visit <http://www.historians.org/annual/index.cfm>

The full text of *The Status of Women in the Historical Profession*, 2005, by Elizabeth Lunbeck, has been posted online at <http://www.historians.org/governance/cwh/2005Status/index.cfm>.

### **THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL**

Applications are invited for the twentieth year of the United States Capitol Historical Society Fellowship. This fellowship is designed to support research and publication on the history of the art and architecture of the United States Capitol and related buildings. Graduate students and scholars may apply for periods ranging from one month to one year; the stipend is \$2,000 per month. Applications must be postmarked by March 15, 2006. For further information contact Dr. Barbara Wolanin, Curator, Architect of the Capitol, Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 228-1222 or the United States Capitol Historical Society at [www.uschs.org](http://www.uschs.org).

### **ASSOCIATION FOR DOCUMENTARY EDITING**

The ADE held its annual meeting on Oct. 6–8, 2005, in Denver, CO. Topics included: The Spanish Colonial Period, Women's Papers Projects, Editing Works on Human Rights, and Editions Relating to Native Americans.

### **CENTER FOR CRYPTOLOGIC HISTORY**

The Center, based at Fort Meade, MD, held its 2005 Symposium on Cryptologic History on October 27–28, 2005, at The Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, Kossiakoff Center, in Columbia, MD, on the theme "Cryptology and the Cold War." One entire day was devoted to exploring VENONA, the American cryptologic effort that uncovered Soviet espionage efforts against the U.S. during World War II. Historians from



NSA, the FBI, the Library of Congress, and several academic institutions presented new insights into this fascinating triumph of American cryptology, in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the declassification of VENONA documents. For information visit <http://www.nsa.gov/cch/>.

### COUNCIL ON AMERICA'S MILITARY PAST

The Council on America's Military Past (CAMP) has issued a call for papers for its 40th Annual Military History Conference to be held May 10–14, 2006, at the Holiday Inn, Chattanooga Choo Choo., Chattanooga, TN, with emphasis on the United States military activities from the American Revolution to the Cold War and missile defenses. Special emphasis on the military's role in the Tennessee-Georgia area and the Indian Removal and Civil War is invited. The conference will include papers on these subjects and visits to the military history sites in the area, including battlefields and fortifications. Send topic for a 20-minute talk (with slides if desired) to CAMP '06 Conference Papers, P. O. Box 1151, Fort Myer, VA 22211-1151, by Jan. 15, 2006. Call 703-912-6124 or e-mail to [campart1@aol.com](mailto:campart1@aol.com)

### HISTORY ASSOCIATES, INC.

History Associates Incorporated (HAI) has announced the opening of its European Office, in Berlin, Germany. Dr. Keith Allen, senior historian with HAI, will head up the new location.

### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library's Veterans History Project presented a one-hour special titled "While the World Watched," which was aired on and around Veterans Day, November 11, 2005, on Public Radio International (PRI) affiliate stations around the country. This program paints a portrait of the Nuremberg Trials through the voices of WWII veterans and eyewitnesses of the trials. This radio documentary draws from the collections of the Library of Congress, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the National Archives and Records Administration, and new interviews with witnesses of the Trials.

"While the World Watched" is the fourth program in the acclaimed Experiencing War series. Former U.S. Senator Max Cleland is host of this series, which was created and produced by Lee Woodman. The first two programs in the series, "Coming Home" and "Lest We Forget," were each awarded the Gracie Allen Award from American Women in Radio and Television for "superior quality in writing and production" in 2004 and 2005, respectively. Also, the Project was selected as one of the "Top 50" for the 2005 Innovations in American Government Award competition, a program of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

"Forever a Soldier: Unforgettable Stories of Wartime Service" was published by National Geographic Books in association with the Library of Congress on Nov. 11, Veterans Day. The volume is the second in a series of collected oral histories from the growing collection of the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. See [www.loc.gov/foreverasoldier](http://www.loc.gov/foreverasoldier) for details.

### MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL PROGRAM

The Marine Corps Historical Program was integrated into the Marine Corps University and Educational Command at Quantico, Virginia, in 2002. As of July 1 this year, the History and Museums Division was reorganized as two separate entities under a common command, the History Division and the Museum Division. The Marine Corps Historical Center, Building 58, Washington Navy Yard, no longer houses Marines after a stay of about 65 years. The History Division is now located at Marine Corps Base Quantico, in Building R64, and the address is United States Marine Corps, History Division, Marine Corps University, P.O. Box 997, Quantico, VA 22134. While losing the museum and archives functions, the history writing, oral history, field history, and historical reference services will remain under one roof. The Program will search for a new Director to replace Colonel John W. Ripley, USMC (Ret) who retired on August 31.

### NASA

NASA Chief Historian Steven Dick and Historian of Science James Strick of Franklin and Marshall College organized this year's Dibner-Marine Biological Laboratory Seminar in the History of Biology at Woods Hole, MA, focusing on the topic of Astrobiology. Participants included NASA-funded scientists and historians who are documenting the development of the field of astrobiology. Dick and Strick co-authored *The Living Universe*, which traces NASA's astrobiology program.

Three new publications are available in print and online: *Project Apollo: The Tough Decisions*, by Robert C. Seamans, Jr. (<http://history.nasa.gov>); *NASA and the Environment: The Case of Ozone Depletion*, by W. Henry Lambright (<http://history.nasa.gov>); and *The Role of Small Business in NASA's Return to Flight Initiative* (<http://www.osdbu.nasa.gov>).

The History Division has issued a call for papers for a three-day conference to be held in Washington, DC, in 2006 on the topic "Societal Impact of Space Exploration." The five sessions currently planned concern "Catalyzing Events," "Commercial and Economic Impact," "Applications Satellites, the Environment, and National Security," "Local Impacts: Educational, Social, Political, and Economic," and "Philosophical and Cultural Impact: Our Place in the Universe." Contact Dr. Steven J. Dick at [steven.j.dick@nasa.gov](mailto:steven.j.dick@nasa.gov).

### NATIONAL ARCHIVES

On September 8, Archivist Allen Weinstein announced the agency's selection of Lockheed Martin Corp. to build the Electronic Records Archives, a system that will preserve electronic records of all formats and enable researchers to access them. Lockheed will receive from NARA a \$308 million contract for work on the ERA through Fiscal Year 2012. ERA should have initial operating capability by FY 2007. The Archivist noted that the agency was impressed with Lockheed's "ability to design a system that addresses in considerable depth NARA's business needs, on the one hand, and on the other hand, a system that entails a modern, service-oriented architecture." The innovations that will emerge from the ERA will have pro-



found impact on electronic record keeping at all levels of government and in private institutions. A new Advisory Committee will be established to make recommendations on the development and implementation of the ERA.

The Information Security Oversight Office hosted a symposium on Oct. 18 titled "Classified National Security Information: The Vision, the Reality, the Future." The panel discussions were held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the William G. McGowan Theater at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. Participants included Lee H. Hamilton, a former Indiana congressman, and Steven Garfinkel, former Director of the Information Security Oversight Office. Visit [www.archives.gov/isoo](http://www.archives.gov/isoo) for more information.

NARA held a conference on Sept. 22 titled "Parchment and Titanium: Preserving the Charters of Freedom." The focus was on NARA's state-of-the-art project to re-encase the Charters of Freedom. Topics included casement design, the role of the National Bureau of Standards, examination and treatment of the documents, and lessons learned and applications for the field. Visit <http://www.archives.gov/preservation/conference-2005.html> for details.

NARA will receive from the FBI records that include the entire collection of J. Edgar Hoover's Official and Confidential Files for the period 1924–1972.

### NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The third annual NIH History Day took place on the NIH campus in Bethesda on Thursday, September 22, 2005. The program included welcoming remarks by NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci and Director of Intramural Science Dr. Michael Gottesman, an illustrated lecture by Office of NIH History Director Dr. Victoria A. Harden, and the display of two panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt. The History Day Lecture was titled: "An Indescribable Experience': NIH Researchers and the AIDS Epidemic, 1981–1990." Victoria A. Harden has done extensive research on the NIH response to the AIDS epidemic. In the 1980s and 1990s she interviewed dozens of NIH researchers, including scientists, administrators, and Clinical Center nurses about their experiences.

The Office of NIH History sponsored a major two-day conference on "Biomedicine in the Twentieth Century: Practices, Policies, and Politics" in the Lister Hill Auditorium on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD, on Dec. 5–6, 2005. The conference was to honor Dr. Victoria A. Harden, Director, Office of NIH History, on her retirement. The keynote speaker was evolutionary geneticist and social critic Richard C. Lewontin, Alexander Agassiz Research Professor at Harvard University, who discussed "The Effects of the Socialization of Biomedical Research." Direct questions to Dr. Caroline Hannaway, at [hannawayc@mail.nih.gov](mailto:hannawayc@mail.nih.gov).

Lisa Walker, Ph.D., is the 2005–6 Stetten Fellow in the History of Biomedicine and Technology. Dr. Walker will be researching the United States-Soviet collaboration in the fight against polio, focusing on NIH scientists and their work.

Newly posted to the NIH web site at [www.history.nih.gov](http://www.history.nih.gov) this fall is the book *Robert J. Huebner, M.D.: A Virologist's Odyssey*, a biography written by Dr. Edward A. Beeman. The book details

the work of Dr. Huebner's laboratory and covers subjects such as the Virus Cancer Program at NIH, research on orphans at Washington, DC's, Junior Village, and much more.

### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

A new exhibit titled "Honky-Tonk: Country Music Photographs by Henry Horenstein, 1972–1981," opens November 25. It will feature Horenstein's photographs during the years of transition in the country music scene, "as the first and second generation of country music stars were making their last tours, and a new generation of listeners and performers were embracing them."

The exhibit "La Causa: The Delano Grape Strike of 1965–1970" opened Sept. 16. It tells the story of the five-year strike led by Caesar Chavez against area grape growers in Delano, CA, that launched the United Farm Workers of America.

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

"The Power of Context: NPS Museums at 100 Years" is an exhibit on the centennial of National Park Service (NPS) museums that will run through December 2005 at the Museum of the Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC. The exhibit title reflects the unique nature of NPS museums, which preserve objects and archives in the actual places where people and events shaped our history and environment. This context, this direct relationship to place, distinguishes NPS museums from other museums, which are repositories of objects far removed from the places that made them important. Objects from NPS museum collections throughout the United States are included in the exhibit.

The last remaining lifeboat station with an intact marine railway for launching boats directly into the Pacific Ocean is set to undergo a \$1.8 million rehabilitation to make it structurally sound, operable, and accessible to the public. Located at Drakes Bay in Point Reyes National Seashore, the marine railway was built in 1927 and used by the U.S. Coast Guard for sea rescues until 1968. The property was transferred to NPS the following year, and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1990.

On June 28, American Memorial Park in Saipan hosted Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko on the first visit by an imperial family member to a World War II site outside of Japan. Arriving just ahead of the 60th anniversary of the end of the war, they paid tribute to those who died and prayed for world peace. The 133-acre American Memorial Park was created in 1978 and is administered by NPS.

Mary A. Bomar has been named Regional Director of the 13-state NPS Northeast Region. Previously, Bomar was Superintendent of Independence Hall National Historical Park in Philadelphia, PA. The NPS Northeast Region is home to one-third of all NPS museum collections, one-quarter of all historic structures, almost one-half of the country's National Historic Landmarks, and more than one-half of the National Heritage Areas.

A \$50,000 gift from the estate of Lillian A. Comeau of Rhinebeck, NY, the widow of World War II prisoner of war Philbert

Comeau, has helped the Friends of Andersonville meet its goal of raising \$1 million for the Andersonville Trust endowment fund. The Andersonville Trust provides long-term support to the Andersonville (GA) National Historic Site, which was the location of a notorious Confederate prisoner-of-war camp during the Civil War, and to the National Prisoner of War Museum at Andersonville. In 1970, Congress designated the Andersonville site as the national memorial for all American POWs throughout history.

### NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER

The U.S. Navy Museum at the Washington Navy Yard opened an exhibit titled “Navigating the Dead Sea: The U.S. Navy’s 1848 Expedition.” The spring/summer issue of the Naval Historical Foundation’s newsletter, *Pull Together*, contains background information on that expedition. Also available is *Sailors in the Holy Land: The 1848 American Expedition to the Dead Sea and the Search for Sodom and Gomorrah*, by Andrew Jampolier (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2005). See [www.navyhistory.org](http://www.navyhistory.org). New publications available from the Center include *Breaking the Color Barrier: The U.S. Naval Academy’s First Black Midshipman and the Struggle for Racial Equality*, by Robert Schneller (New York: New York Univ. Press, 2005); *Against All Odds: U.S. Sailors in the War of 1812, Charles Brodine, Michael Crawford, and Christine Hughes (2004)*; and *Attack from the Sky: Naval Air Operations in the Korean War*, by Richard C. Knott (2004). The last two can be purchased at [www.gpoaccess.gov](http://www.gpoaccess.gov). The Naval Historical Foundation underwrites the web site for the International Journal of Naval History, at [www.ijnhonline.com](http://www.ijnhonline.com), which contains articles and reviews.

### NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

The Library hosted a symposium titled “Global Health Histories” on Nov. 3–4, 2005, to examine global public health crises in historical and contemporary perspectives. Sponsors were the History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine, and the Institute of the History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, in association with The Global Health Histories Initiative, World Health Organization. All sessions were held at William H. Natcher Conference Center, National Institutes of Health, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894. More information is available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/conferences/globalhealthhistories/index.html> and Tel: 301-496-8949.

The National Library of Medicine recently acquired two collections of postcards. First, there are 2,500 nursing postcards from Michael Zwerdling that formed the basis for his book, *Postcards of Nursing: A Worldwide Tribute (2003)*. The collection and book depict nurses at work and illustrate their place in 20th-century culture as symbols of caring, at war, and in advertising. The collection depicts nurses from more than 70 countries. The second collection comprises about 10,000 postcards acquired from William Helfand and encompass medicine in its widest sense, including portraits, buildings, scenes of war, get-well wishes, vignettes, dime novel covers, pharmacy, HIV/AIDS, nursing, doctor/patient relations, humor, public



health, advertisements, medical museums, and drug stores, from the 19th century to the present. Interested scholars may view the postcards by appointment with Jan Lazaruj at 301-435-4994; [lazaruj@mail.nih.gov](mailto:lazaruj@mail.nih.gov).

### NATIONAL PRESERVATION INSTITUTE

The Institute’s 2005–6 schedule of seminars is available. The Institute is a nonprofit organization that provides training and education for those in both the public and private sectors involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of our cultural heritage. The range of seminars includes such topics as “Preservation Maintenance: Understanding and Preserving Historic Buildings,” “Decisionmaking for Cultural and Natural Resources in the Legal Environment,” “Identification and Management of Traditional Cultural Places,” “Native American Cultural Property Law,” “Archeological Curation, Conservation, and Collections Management,” and “Identification and Evaluation of Mid-20th-Century Buildings.” The Institute offers limited scholarship opportunities for tuition only to participants to attend its seminars. Contact: 703-765-0100, [info@npi.org](mailto:info@npi.org); web site [www.npi.org](http://www.npi.org).

### THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

The NRO is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Clayton D. Laurie to the position of NRO Historian and as Chief, NRO History Staff, within the Center for the Study of National Reconnaissance (CSNR). Dr. Laurie brings 19 years of federal history experience to his new position, having previously served at the U.S. Army Center of Military History with the CIA History Staff, and as Deputy NRO Historian. Dr. Laurie and his staff welcome the opportunity to discuss with you ways that the NRO History Staff and the Center for the Study of National Reconnaissance can assist your historical and educational programs. The Center has a reference hotline (703-488-4733) that provides ready contact with CSNR staff. You may contact Dr. Laurie directly at 703-488-4738 or email him at [lauriecl@nro.mil](mailto:lauriecl@nro.mil).

### ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS

The OAH will hold a joint annual meeting with the National Council on Public History at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, DC, on April 19–22, 2006. The topic, “Our

America/Nuestra America,” invites participants “to explore the many meanings of ‘America’ for people living in North America and beyond.” Visit <http://www.oah.org/meetings/2006/> for details. The OAH hosts the web site for the National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites at <http://ncwhs.oah.org/>.



### SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

The Society has provided information about disaster recovery in New Orleans on its web site at <http://www.archivists.org/>. The site offers a weblog to enable interchange of information for archivists and historians, a hurricane-response volunteer list, information about document and artifact conservation and preservation, and news about recovery efforts at museums and historical institutions.

The SAA will hold a joint 2006 meeting with the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) and the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators (COSHRC) on July 31–Aug. 6, 2006, at the Hilton Washington and Towers in Washington, DC. The topics will address areas of concern to all three organizations.

### US ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY

During 2005, the Center welcomed a number of new historians to its ranks and bid farewell to some of its stalwarts. Mr. Jon Hoffman is the chief of the newly created Contemporary History branch in the Histories Division. Other new members of that division are Dr. Thomas Bruscano, Dr. Edwin Miller, and Mr. David Goldman. Dr. Bianka Adams has recently taken a position with the Defense Department’s Threat Reduction Agency. Longtime CMHer and SHFG member Dr. Terrence J. Gough retired earlier this year as did the Center’s longtime chief editor, Mr. John Elsberg.

During the current academic year, Dr. Richard S. Stewart, chief of the Histories Division, is attending the National War College in Washington, DC. He is also the general editor of the revised and expanded edition of American Military History, intended as a textbook for use by students in the ROTC program. *Volume 1, The United States Army and the Forging of A Nation, 1775–1917*, takes the story up to the nation’s entry into World War I. *Volume 2, The United States Army in a Global Era, 1917–2003*, carries it forward to current operations in Iraq and

Afghanistan. Gordon W. Rudd’s *Humanitarian Intervention: Assisting the Iraqi Kurds in Operation Provide Comfort, 1991*, examines the relief operation that followed the first Gulf War. Dr. Stephen A. Carney authored two brochures in the Mexican War series, *Gateway South: The Battle of Monterrey and Guns Along the Rio Grande: Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma*. Also joining the campaign brochure series are *Operation Just Cause: The Incursion into Panama and Bosnia-Herzegovina*, both by Mr. R. Cody Phillips. Mr. Phillips is also the co-editor with Michael D. Krause of *Historical Perspectives of the Operational Art*, a compilation of essays by such well-known historians as the late Russell F. Weigley, David G. Chandler, and Brig. Gen. John S. Brown (USA-Retired), the Chief of Military History. Rounding out the list is a new edition of *Secretaries of War and Secretaries of the Army: Portraits and Biographical Sketches*.

In the electronic publications arena, the Center added to its CD ROM editions *The United States Army and the War with Spain* and sets 4 and 5 of the World War II “green books.” These two sets contain the 24 volumes of the Technical Services subseries. Those visiting the CMH web site (<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg>) will find an ever-increasing array of information to include the first of the new American Military History volumes. The site is updated frequently.

Dr. David Hogan has been elected to the Board of Trustees of the Society for Military History (SMH), and Dr. Janet Valentine serves on its membership committee. At the SMH’s annual conference in Charleston, SC, Dr. Valentine presided over a session on the military’s historical offices at which Mr. Frank Shirer, the Center’s head archivist, spoke on CMH’s library and archival holdings. Dr. Andrew Birtle moderated a panel at a Combat Studies Institute Conference on Occupation and Counterinsurgency Policies. Dr. Donald Carter presented a paper on “Eisenhower vs. The Generals” at the Royal Military College (Kingston, Ontario) History Symposium. Bianka Adams’s “From Crusade to Hazard: The Denazification of Bremen” appeared in volume 5 of the Society for History in the Federal Government’s (SHFG) *Occasional Papers* published this past spring. Dr. William Hammond spoke on “Military Media Relations Since World War II,” at an Eisenhower Library Conference on the Vietnam War. He also served as a keynote speaker on “The Public Affairs Lessons of the Vietnam War” at the U.S. Pacific Command’s Annual Public Affairs Conference in Honolulu and published a paper titled “Who Were the Saigon Correspondents and Does It Matter, (With an Appendix on the Embedded Reporters of the Iraq War),” in Mihail E. Ionescu (ed.), *Acta of the XXIXth International Congress of Military History: War Military and Media from Gutenberg to Today* (Military Publishing House, Bucharest, 2004); Dr. Edgar Raines gave a presentation at the Air Staff Air Power History course at the Pentagon in January 2005 on “Corps Observation in the AEF, 1918.” He also delivered a paper at the annual meeting of the Council on America’s Military Past (CAMP) at San Diego in May 2005 on “2d Lt. James Franklin Bell and Fort Buford, Dakota Territory: The Indian Watching Army on the Northern Plains, 1882–1886,” and spoke to the June 2005 session of the Military Classics Seminar at Fort Myer, Virginia, on “Brian




McAllister Linn's "The Philippine War: An Essay Review." He also published book reviews in the *Journal of Illinois History* and *Air Power History*. Mrs. Rebecca Raines also presented a paper to CAMP in San Diego, "Cradle of the Signal Corps: The Georgetown Camp of Instruction, 1861-1865." Dr. William Dobak addressed the Military Classics Seminar on the works of Robert Utley and published book reviews in *Kansas History*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, and the *H-Net*. Dr. Christopher Koontz was a panelist in the "News From The Front: Combat Documentation in Iraq and Afghanistan" session of the combined meeting of the SHFG and Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region in March 2005 in College Park, MD. He also chaired and commented on the session, "Texans in World War II and the Cold War," at the 2005 meeting of the Texas State Historical Association in Fort Worth. Mr. Stephen Lofgren presented a paper, "It's Official: The U.S. Army Presents Its History of World War II," at the 2005 meeting of the Organization of American Historians.

As part of the Center's Field and International program, Dr. Richard G. Davis, Chief of the Field Programs and Historical Services Division, presented a paper in June 2005 at the Republic of Korea, Ministry of National Defense International Seminar on the Korean War, "The US Army and National Security Policy, 1945-1953." In April 2005, Dr. Robert S. Rush

traveled to Vienna to deliver a paper, "A Study of States in Coalition Warfare: The Confederate States of America," at the NATO Partnership for Peace International Military History Symposium on Coalition Warfare. Dr. Stephen Carney presented a paper, "Counterinsurgency Operations in the Philippines: A Comparison of American and Japanese Experiences," at the meeting of the Military History Exchange in Tokyo. Also part of the Center's outreach activities are its popular staff rides. Among those taking advantage of this excellent educational experience during 2005 were the House Armed Services Committee, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Danish Senior Staff College, the National Guard Bureau, the U.S. Capitol Police, and the Inter-American Defense College.

The Conference of Army Historians will be held July 24-27, 2006, with the theme "Terrorists, Partisans, and Guerillas: The U.S. Army and Irregular Warfare, 1775-2005." The deadline for panel and paper proposals is tentatively mid-January. Please watch the CMH web site for further details, or contact Dr. Stephen Carney at 202-685-2728.

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Society for History in the Federal Government  
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