



The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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The Federalist welcomes contributors with information highlighting news of the profession, or who are willing to describe their projects for the SHFG audience!

Lessons from the Origins of the Department of Energy History Program

by Eric Boyle, Historian, Department of Energy

Sixty-five years ago, in early 1957, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) was preparing to celebrate its tenth anniversary. At a meeting, one of the AEC Commissioners expressed a concern: he and his colleagues were making some of the most momentous decisions in American history without the benefit of a historian to record the events.¹ The discussion ultimately resulted in a decision to create a new AEC History Program, which involved hiring professional historians, giving them complete access to the AEC files, and permitting them to write—with no restrictions other than those imposed by national security—the story as they saw it. The AEC History Program would eventually become a model for other federal history programs and provided the basis for the Department of Energy History Division when it was formed in 1977.

On April 24, 1957, the Secretary of the AEC, Woodford B. McCool, informed AEC Chairman, Lewis Strauss, that he had interviewed available candidates to head a new history project, and that he recommended Dr. Richard Hewlett for the position. Hewlett had been with the AEC for 5 years by that time, and in the words of McCool, “had hoped to be associated with the history effort and had given much preliminary thought to what would be required.”² Hewlett saw the general scope of the history program as McCool did, and finally,

1 “Tenth Anniversary of the AEC,” *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 20, Box 7940, Folder 12, February 1957.
2 “Memorandum for the Chairman, Subject: AEC Historian,” *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 20, Box 1265, Folder 1, April 24, 1957.

and very importantly, he wrote well and his research was scholarly. McCool identified two other candidates and provided the resumes for all three to Strauss.

Less than two months later, on June 20, 1957, AEC Announcement No. PSMO-38 officially

informed headquarters principal staff and the manager of AEC operations that Hewlett had been appointed as the AEC’s first historian.³ In his new position, Hewlett was given the mandate to plan and direct the newly established AEC history program, including the preparation of the official history of the AEC, beginning with its origin in the Manhattan Project during WWII, as well as the preparation of what was referred to as “the current history of the AEC.” Additional duties included writing historical articles on major events or developments in AEC history. Announcement PSMO-38 also laid out Hewlett’s short bio. He had attended Dartmouth College prior to military service in WWII. After the war he completed his undergraduate work and went on to earn his MA

3 “Appointment of Richard G. Hewlett as AEC Historian,” *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 1387, Folder 5, June 20, 1957.



Eric Boyle

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Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the positions of *The Federalist*, the SHFG, or the agencies or organizations where the authors are employed.

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President's Message

Joel Christenson

At its core, the Society exists to address the professional needs of our members and to serve the inter-

ests of the broader community of professionals who deal with federal history. In that spirit, this summer, SHFG joined other historical societies and associations in regular consultative meetings convened by the External Affairs Liaison of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Vice President Julie Prieto and I have been participating in these discussions, held more or less monthly, hearing about the challenges NARA is facing and providing advice and insights from our perspective as representatives of you—the federal historical community. I'd like to use this President's Message to bring you up to speed on the discussions so far.

We've participated in three meetings so far, and more are scheduled in the coming weeks and months. During the first one we attended, in July, NARA Chief Operating Officer William J. Bosanko and his staff addressed concerns raised by some historical associations about the consolidation of presidential records from the presidential libraries system to NARA facilities in the Washington, DC area. Among the concerns expressed was what costs and negative effects could accrue from separating presidential records from the library staff with the best direct knowledge of how those collections are put together and what they contain.

NARA staff explained that planning and execution of this move began before the COVID-19 pandemic, with the aim of making the declassification process more timely and efficient—the idea being that eliminating the piecemeal shipment of classified records to DC, where declassification reviews have always been centered, would streamline the process and shorten the time required to conduct reviews. Ultimately, they said, executing the process in one place will make declassified documents available to the public more quickly than before. Also at issue, NARA staff indicated, is the significant expense the agency

has incurred by maintaining secure facilities and staff clearances at libraries throughout the country. NARA's budget has been largely static for years, they explained, and these expenses, which are significant, have become unsustainable.

Another prominent issue these meetings have addressed is the future of presidential library museums. You may have seen Timothy Naftali's June 3, 2022 article in *The Atlantic* entitled "The Death of Nonpartisan Presidential History," which sounded an alarm bell over NARA's decision to relinquish curatorial and programming responsibility for the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in Dallas, Texas. Naftali argued that removing NARA experts from interpretive roles in the museum, and leaving it to the George W. Bush Foundation, places the public's understanding of presidential history at grave risk—particularly if it becomes a precedent for future presidential libraries. In our July meeting, representatives of historical associations echoed his concerns.

NARA Chief Operating Officer Bosanko acknowledged the validity of these concerns, and said that in an ideal world NARA would continue to execute this important public history function. However, he said, after much deliberation NARA has had to face the hard reality that Congress simply does not provide NARA with sufficient funding to run all presidential library museums. The agency's plan is to continue administering presidential library museums from Hoover through Clinton. In NARA's view, the decision to turn over curation of the Bush Library museum to the George W. Bush Presidential Center is an overdue and appropriate nod to fiscal reality. Decisions on future museums are yet to be made. Mr. Bosanko stressed that NARA will continue to apply its interpretive expertise in the public interest, but that it will do so by focusing its scarce resources on the core mission of preserving records, making them accessible to the public, and by curating document-driven online exhibits on NARA's website and social media spaces that accurately convey presidential history to the public.

These NARA External Liaison meetings have surfaced other important issues, and the common thread that seems to run through most is the fact

See "*President's Message*" cont'd on page 3

Editor's Note

This issue of *The Federalist* focuses on the challenges facing federal history programs. The **SHFG officers and executive council** sent a letter of concern to the American Historical Association (AHA) regarding a recent essay by the AHA president. It is included in this issue. Our president, **Joel Christenson**, details how SHFG joined other historical societies and associations in regular consultative meetings convened by the External Affairs Liaison of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). At these meetings, Joel and SHFG Vice President **Julie Prieto** pressed NARA to provide information on declassification efforts and document access at presidential libraries. They also raised concerns over the control of presidential library museums and the role of NARA personnel in shaping the content and interpretation of exhibits at these museums.

Mike Gorn interviews **Melanie O'Brien**, who has served for over ten years in the National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) program, administered by the National Park Service. She discusses her career and the appeal of serving as a federal historian. **Jennifer Ross-Nazzal**, author of *Making Space for Women: Stories from Trailblazing Women of NASA's Johnson Space Center*, sheds light on how a federal historian gets published by a university press. Pen expert **Jim Binder** provides an interesting introduction to "World War II and the Fountain Pen". He shows the impact of wartime rationing. **Keith J. Muchowski**, a librarian and professor at New York City College of Technology (CUNY) in Brooklyn, offers "Keep Them Fed. Keep Them Moving — Hans von Kaltenborn and the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* National Park Tours." He tells the fascinating story of how a New York newspaper promoted interest in America's national parks.

Two presenters from the June 2022 SHFG conference contribute to this issue. **Eric Boyle**, Historian, Department of Energy, looks at how one history program came to be in "Lessons from the Origins of the Department of Energy History Program." **Lora Vogt**, Curator of Education and Interpretation, National WWII Museum, offers "Commemorations, Covid and Creating Community at the National WWI Museum and Memorial." She discusses how her organization weathered the pandemic.

The Federalist also has an announcement about **Colleen Joy Shogan**, President Biden's nominee for Archivist of the United States. Of course, this issue includes the usual features: Making History, Recent Publications, and Calendar.

Comments and suggestions are welcome at shfgfederalist@gmail.com.

Federal History 2022

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Contents include:

The Roger R. Trask Lecture by Arnita Jones

Articles:

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- Aircraft Patent Issues and the 1926 Air Commerce Act
- Richard Nixon and the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program
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Features:

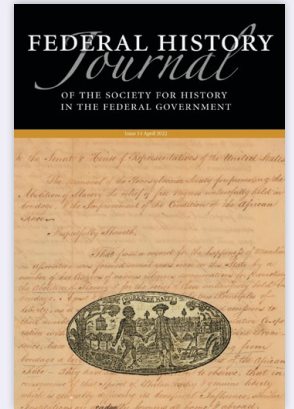
- Interview with Kelly J. Shannon, U.S. Policy & Muslim Women's Human Rights
- Roundtable on *From Selma to Moscow* by Sarah B. Snyder

Federal History is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal published annually online and in print. The journal promotes scholarship on all aspects of the history and operations of the U.S. federal government, and of critical historical interactions between American society and the government, including the U.S. military, 1776 to the present.

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"President's Message" from page 2

that NARA carries a workload far in excess of the resources the nation gives it. I am glad that SHFG is part of these conversations, and Julie and I are committed to representing your views in the months ahead. We will be posting notes from all of our meetings in the Member Profile area of the SHFG website. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us and share your thoughts.

Joel Christenson
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The History Professional *An Interview with Melanie O'Brien*

Melanie O'Brien has served for over ten years in the National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) program, administered by the National Park Service. Since 2015, she has been the program manager, responsible for national implementation of the law and for carrying out administrative responsibilities on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. Prior to her Federal service, Melanie worked for more than eight years at Morgan, Angel and Associates, a private firm where she wrote about and researched Native American and environmental history and served as an expert witness in litigation. Ms. O'Brien earned a Master's degree in Public History from Loyola University of Chicago in 2002.



Melanie O'Brien

Interview by Mike Gorn

How did you become interested in history, and did it happen early in life or later on?

From a very early age I was drawn to history and public history in particular. I grew up near Independence, Missouri, where history was a part of the atmosphere and the air that I breathed. As a child, I consumed a regular diet of Laura Ingalls Wilder books and loved to wear handmaid pioneer costumes at an annual celebration called SantaCaliGon Days (named for the three trails west). Regular visits to the Truman library and home kindled a lifelong love of history as well as for the places where history happened. My very first part-time job was working in the gift shop at the Steamboat Arabia Museum in Kansas City. I was hooked on history from the very beginning.

When did the prospect of a career in public history first occur to you? How did you become aware of public history?

I knew what I loved about history and its public presentation long before I knew what public history was. I really became aware of the field in college. Like most college students, I looked for my own way to rebel and challenge societal norms during my college years, and there were plenty of paths I could have explored. But my rebellion took the form of studying “public history,” which was often maligned by my classmates as being unintelligent or anti-academic. Although I was often challenged by my classmates for my interest in public history, I received support from the faculty at my college, even if there was no formal course of study at that time. I informally volunteered at the local historical society during college, labeling donated objects with accession numbers and writing up catalog cards. I seized an opportunity for an independent study my senior year and created an “exhibit” on the bulletin boards in campus center using photos and textual documents from the college archives. I not only wrote my senior essay on the so-called field of “Mickey Mouse History” but did so with academic distinction. After four years of defending my passion for public history to my classmates in college, I went on to study public history in graduate school.

You've had many and varied positions as a public historian. Please describe your career path prior to the

period of federal employment.

During graduate school, I was able to explore many different career opportunities in public history through internships, practicums, and class projects which opened my eyes to the variety of career paths in public history. At the end of my graduate program, I was fortunate to spend a semester learning how to make documentary films, which was my initial career aspiration. After graduate school, my first full-time job was working with documentary filmmakers on outreach and education to support a film series. In that role, I was exposed to the life and career of a documentary filmmaker while keeping my feet in public history by working directly with museums on outreach and education. I also learned that documentary film was not a career I wanted to pursue, for both personal and professional reasons. As is often the case, I took a part time job while I tried to figure out what I wanted to do and that turned into a career. I began working for a private historical consulting firm as a part-time research assistant and left nine years later as a senior associate. A small, private company provided me with a significant opportunity to develop a wide variety of skills and experience. In my time with the private consulting firm, I learned so much about managing people and projects and budgets. I also made plenty of mistakes along the way, but the impact of those mistakes were lessened by the safety net of a well-established company. I am deeply indebted to that company and my mentors who helped me to grow and learn.

You've been employed by the National Park Service for over 10 years. Why did you decide to enter federal service and what was the transition like, going from the private sector to NPS?

During my time with the private historical consulting firm, I worked with many Federal employees, both active and retired. In working closely with those civil servants, I gained a deep appreciation for their dedication and contribution to the United States. Even in contentious litigation cases, the Federal employees I worked with were committed to discovering as much as possible about the past actions, whether good or bad, of the Federal government. I valued the way the Federal government

approached its own harmful and traumatic past with openness and transparency in hopes of making the present a little bit better. In researching the history of the Federal government, I also learned to appreciate how complex and complicated the work of public policy can be. When I began looking to make a career change, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do, but I was sure I wanted to work for the Federal government. In coming to the National Park Service, I was fortunate to find a position with the Federal government that also connected to my passion and interest in public history. I also benefited greatly from my time in the private sector where I had an opportunity to acquire a variety of skills and experience that set me up for success in advancing up the Federal government career ladder.

At NPS you've been involved principally with the implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). You've advanced steadily, going from program officer, to acting program manager, to program manager. What are the main objectives of NAGPRA?

The main objective of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) is to facilitate the respectful return of Native American ancestors and objects. In crafting the law, Congress required actions on the part of museums and Federal agencies who hold Native American collections, Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations who seek the return of those collections, and the Secretary of the Interior who administers the law. The National NAGPRA Program assists the Secretary of the Interior with those responsibilities for administration. Every party has a unique role in the legal repatriation process, and while it can be bumpy at times, collectively, we are making progress toward the goal of respectful repatriation of Native American ancestors and objects.

What are the key responsibilities of your current position? What are the greatest challenges that you face? How does your education and training as a historian contribute to your performance in the job?

The Secretary of the Interior delegated certain responsibilities to the National NAGPRA Program, including supporting a Federal advisory Review Committee, publishing notices in the *Federal Register*, administering grants, and maintaining a significant volume of records related to compliance with the Act. The National NAGPRA Program is a relatively young Federal program, being created just after the law was enacted in 1990. Yet, the program created a significant amount of public policy in that short time. As a trained historian and archival researcher, one of the greatest challenges I have faced is sorting through the history of the program in order to determine a course for the future. I often wonder if I focus on the administrative history of the program because of my training and experience, but I know understanding the history of the program will benefit me, the program, and all parties involved in the repatriation process. Part

of the challenge for me has been understanding the transition from analog to digital record keeping and ensuring that public policy keeps up with the rapid changes in technology over the last thirty years.

Since you are program manager for an activity that is national in scope, please explain NAGPRA's reporting structure within the NPS and the Interior Department. Who are your bosses and what kind of interactions do you have with them?

The Federal government has a very clear process for delegations of authority from the cabinet level (the Secretary of the Interior) to the staff level (the National NAGPRA Program) in the form of Secretarial orders and Departmental manuals. In my case, I have a clear reporting structure up through the National Park Service, to the broader Department of the Interior. Day to day, I report to a senior executive career employee in the National Park Service, the Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science. On occasion, I work directly with political appointees – the Director of the National Park Service and two Assistant Secretaries of the Interior. I very rarely have any direct communication with the Secretary of the Interior, although ultimately, I am carrying out the Secretary's responsibilities under NAGPRA. I have had to develop new skills to work with and for political appointees, who usually have very little time and limited knowledge of the specifics of my work and program yet must make certain decisions about repatriation.

A significant part of your job involves public policy work. Could you elaborate on your experiences applying history to public policy?

As a lifelong historian, I always see great value in understanding the past to inform the future, and history is so critical to work in public policy. Most public policy work has a very clear framework, through either law or regulation or both. But how that work is carried out day-to-day can vary greatly depending on the political environment and people tasked with that work. In my early career, I spent a significant amount of time researching the daily decisions of individual Federal employees who carried out broader public policy objectives. In my current work, I try to always remember that I am tasked with carrying out the broader public policy of repatriation. I try to never lose sight of my own role in the greater arc of history. Regularly, I have to make decisions on small public policy issues that I know might have a much bigger impact in the long run.

Do you foresee any major changes in the NAGPRA program, and if so what do they entail? Or do you see a largely stable future?

I am currently in the midst of shepherding some major changes to repatriation through changes to the regulations implementing

See "*Interview*" cont'd on page 15

“Lessons” from page 1

degree in 1948 and PhD in 1952 at the University of Chicago. He had been employed as an intelligence specialist, for the Directorate of Intelligence for the US Air Force from July 1951 to February of 1952, when he came to the AEC. At the AEC, he had served as a program analyst in the Progress Report and Statistics Branch, in the Division of Finance.

Hewlett had done a great deal of preliminary thinking about what the AEC history program, and his position of AEC historian, and what each should look like. In notes sketched out by Hewlett in April 1957, he maintained that the History Program and AEC Historian should:

- 1) Prepare the official history of the AEC.
- 2) Prepare monographs and articles on smaller segments of AEC history, for publication in professional journals.
- 3) Collect documents and record developments as they happened for future use.
- 4) Develop a system for locating and preserving AEC records of historical importance.
- 5) Serve as liaison between AEC and individual scholars or academic groups.⁴

In an official note at the end of July 1957, AEC Secretary Woodford B. McCool announced that the AEC History Program, as outlined in an attached report, would be approved by the AEC General Manager on August 7th, subject to any comments by the AEC Commissioners.⁵ All five of Hewlett’s objectives were endorsed.

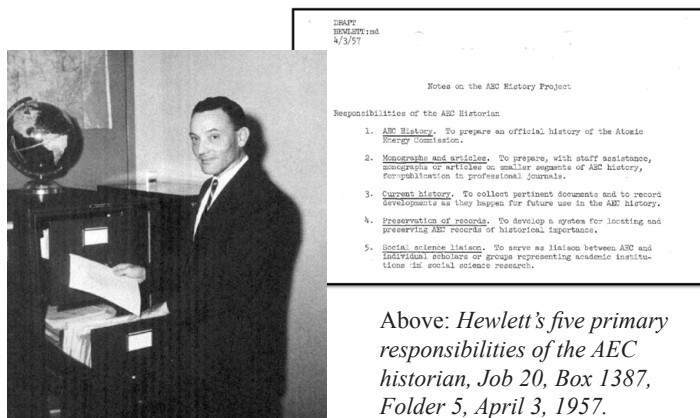
Initial staffing requirements included one GS-14 Historian, one GS-13 Assistant Historian, and one GS-5 Secretary, with the caveat that one or two additional positions might be required in subsequent years, particularly if there was a desire to expand the functions of the program or accelerate the publication of the AEC history.

In creating the administrative structure of the new History Program, McCool also followed one of Hewlett’s most important recommendations: that a Historical Advisory Committee (HAC) be established to advise the Commission on matters relating to the official history of the AEC, and to assist the history staff in planning and reviewing portions of the AEC history. In a separate report on the establishment of an HAC, McCool explained that it was an essential part of the AEC History Program because it would include members with exceptional ability and experience whose primary functions would include:

- 1) Providing broader perspectives to the preparation of AEC history. The idea here was that including the outsider’s point of view which would assure a more balanced and objective treatment of AEC activities.
- 2) The committee would endorse completed manuscripts, assuring the Commission and the public that the work met the highest professional standards.

⁴ “Notes on the AEC History Project,” *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 20, Box 1387, Folder 5, April 3, 1957.

⁵ “AEC 972: AEC History Program,” *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 20, Box 1265, Folder 1, June 30, 1957.



Above: Hewlett’s five primary responsibilities of the AEC historian, Job 20, Box 1387, Folder 5, April 3, 1957.

Left: Hewlett working with the Bush-Conant document collection, one of the most important document bases for any history of the Manhattan Project, in 1958.

- 3) And the committee would stimulate interest in historical and social scientific research on the development of atomic energy.⁶

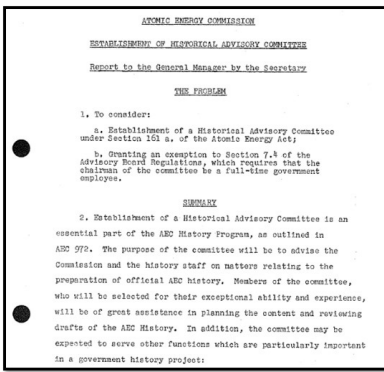
McCool was concerned with potential charges of bias with official histories, particularly when they would be based upon classified records that were not available to other historians and the public. He believed a strong advisory committee would help protect the AEC from unfounded accusations that the historian’s conclusions had been revised for administrative or political reasons, or that valid historical evidence had been intentionally overlooked.

In an interview with Hewlett conducted years later, in 1995, he recalled reaching out to Dr. Kent Roberts Greenfield, who was the Chief Historian of the Army history program, in early 1957, for advice. Greenfield told Hewlett, “To survive in this business, you’ve got to have outside support. You cannot be completely under the control of the agency, because the first time you write something they don’t like, you’re going to get swatted down, and there are always going to be people in there who won’t like what you write—no matter what it is.”⁷ So he said, “You need a historical advisory committee of distinguished historians and scientists from the outside who will watch what you do, who will review what you write, and then who will endorse it to the commissioners. Because they won’t know whether it’s any good or not. If you can establish a historical advisory committee, that is, I think, essential to your success.”

Among AEC leadership, not everyone was on board with the ambitions of the AEC History Program, and not everyone was in agreement about the value of the Historical Advisory Committee. Willard Libby, a chemist who had worked on the gaseous diffusion process for uranium enrichment during the Manhattan Project, and was serving as an AEC Commissioner at the time, believed the proposed AEC History Program was too ambitious. In AEC Commissioners Meeting Minutes, Libby expressed his

⁶ “AEC 972/1: Establishment of Historical Advisory Committee,” *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 20, Box 1265, Folder 1, June 30, 1957.

⁷ Richard G. Hewlett and Jo Anne McCormick Quatannens, “Richard G. Hewlett: Federal Historian,” *The Public Historian*, Winter, (Winter 1997), 61.



Above: Report justifying the establishment of an AEC Historical Advisory Committee, AEC 972/1, Job 20, Box 1265, Folder 1, June 30, 1957.

with the official title *Atomic Energy for Military Purposes*, and Arthur Compton's book, *Atomic Quest*, and then combining the two in a revised form, a more desirable history of the AEC would be obtained.

AEC Chairman Lewis Strauss responded to Libby by noting that the two books he referred to did not even cover the AEC's activities since approximately 1945. He added that Mr. Compton had not actually been active in the development of the AEC either. But Strauss also said that he believed the advisory committee might actually be a hindrance to the program. He suggested that perhaps it would be more desirable to obtain a number of writers with security clearances who would work in two groups—one would cover all the previous years of the AEC and others would maintain a current recording of AEC history. In response, AEC Secretary McCool suggested it was important to obtain the support and assistance of historians outside the AEC, in part to avoid a possible future charge that the history was biased, and he maintained the advisory committee would be helpful on both counts. He conceded that an ad hoc advisory committee might be a first step in reviewing the proposed outline for the AEC history and providing guidance concerning alternative approaches.

In February 1958, an ad hoc committee consisting of Dr. James Baxter, President of Williams College and formerly chairman of the new Army historical advisory committee, Rear Admiral Samuel E. Morison, professor emeritus of history at Harvard and author of the history of the US Navy in World War II, and Dr. Isador Isaac Rabi, Professor of Statistical Mechanics at Columbia and formerly Chairman of the AEC General Advisory Committee, made their recommendations to the Historical Advisory Committee.⁹ In addition to Baxter and Morison, the individuals listed below were also recommended to serve on the Historical Advisory Committee:

- Dr. William T. Hutchinson, Professor of History, University of Chicago

⁸ "Establishment of Historical Advisory Committee," *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 20, Box 1387, Folder 5, 1957.

⁹ "Establishment of Historical Advisory Committee, Report to the General Manager by the Secretary," *Department of Energy Archives*, Job 20, Box 1265, Folder 1, February 25, 1958.

belief that involving a number of historians on the HAC wasn't the best approach.⁸ He also suggested the official history should be written under contract by someone who had participated in the AEC program but had retired, not a historian. He also suggested that by updating the Smyth Report, a commissioned administrative history of the Manhattan Project

the Manhattan Project

- Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, Professor of Chemistry, University of California
- Dr. Cyril S. Smith, Professor of Metallurgy, University of Chicago
- Dr. Arthur S. Compton, Distinguished Service Professor of Natural Philosophy, Washington University
- Mr. Don K. Price, Jr., Vice President, Ford Foundation, New York, who subsequently became Dean of John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard

The plan was to meet twice a year to review manuscripts, to advise on changes, and to provide guidance on future work on the official history. In addition, contact would be maintained with the committee by letter and through individual interviews, so it would be in more or less continuous session.

The HAC proved to be an essential part of the AEC History Program, largely because it was an effective substitute for independent scholarly criticism and effectively facilitated the independence of the History Program within the AEC. In an article by Hewlett on the subject of writing federal history, from 1975, he noted that government historians must take certain precautions if they are to enjoy the freedom they need, and an advisory committee had played an important role in buttressing efforts in that area during his time with the AEC.¹⁰ First, he maintained federal historians must make certain they have firm support at the highest level of their agencies. Second, historians must be assured in a clear and formal way that they will have access to all records pertinent to their studies. Third, they must keep their projects to a high professional level and defend the value of historical training for federal historians. Fourth, they must defend their independence. And for Hewlett, the Historical Advisory Committee, more than any other device, had assured the independence of AEC historians.

Hewlett closed by pointing out that while all historians are at least resigned to accepting appraisals of their work by their professional colleagues, government historians are exposed to even greater hazards. He suggested they are "ultimately vulnerable to attack by powerful political and economic forces on the national scene" and noted that they "do not enjoy the privilege of academic tenure" while "indiscretion as well as harsh judgment from their peers may cost them their job."¹¹ Thus, Hewlett concluded, government historians lead an exciting if precarious existence. As a result, he advised that they must maintain their independence and fight their own battles. They must be discreet in choosing topics for research, and they must evaluate the practicalities of publishing the results of their work. Hewlett warned if they were reckless they would probably not survive as government historians. If they were too cautious they would fail to achieve their purpose.

¹⁰ Richard G. Hewlett, "Government History: Writing from the Inside," in Frank B. Evans and Harold T. Pinkett, eds., *Research in the Administration of Public Policy* (Washington: Howard University Press, 1975), 12-15.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

Book Announcement and Interview with Jennifer Ross-Nazzal, author of *Making Space for Women: Stories from Trailblazing Women of NASA's Johnson Space Center*

From the creation of the Manned Spacecraft Center to the launching of the International Space Station and beyond, *Making Space for Women* explores how careers for women at Johnson Space Center have changed over the past fifty years as the workforce became more diverse and fields once closed to women—the astronaut corps and flight control—began to open. Jennifer M. Ross-Nazzal has selected twenty-one interviews conducted for the NASA Oral History Projects, including those with astronauts, mathematicians, engineers, secretaries, scientists, trainers, managers, and more. The women featured not only discuss leadership, teamwork, and the experiences of being “the first,” but also reveal how the role of the working woman in a predominantly white, male, technical agency has evolved.

The narratives highlight the societal and cultural changes these women witnessed and the lessons they learned as they pursued different career paths. Among those included are Joan E. Higginbotham, mission specialist aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery; Natalie V. Saiz, first female director of the Human Resource Office; Kathryn Sullivan, the first American woman to walk in space; Estella Hernández Gillette, the deputy director of the center’s External Relations Office; and Carolyn Huntoon, the first woman director of the Johnson Space Center.

Making Space for Women offers a unique view of the history of human spaceflight while also providing a broader understanding of changes in American culture, society, industry, and life for women in the space program. The women featured in this book demonstrate that there are no boundaries or limits to a career at NASA for those who choose to seize the opportunity.

Jennifer M. Ross-Nazzal is the historian for the NASA Johnson Space Center. She is a two-time recipient of the Society for History in the Federal Government’s Charles Thomson Prize. She is the author of *Winning the West for Women: The Life of Suffragist Emma Smith DeVoe*. She lives in Houston.

Can you tell us about the impetus for this project? How did you come to select this topic?

When I came to the Johnson Space Center (JSC) as a doctoral student, I was interested in learning more about the women at NASA. (I am an historian of women and have written a biography on suffragist Emma Smith DeVoe.) I couldn’t find exactly what I was looking for. I started looking for a book about the topic at the Center library, but all I found was a monograph about female engineers at another Center. I mined our archival records, but most of the documents related to the spaceflight programs and institutional history, not women.

As an oral historian, it made sense to compile a book of conversations with women in the Agency. JSC’s History Office

has a vast collection of oral history interviews, and transcripts compose the bulk of several JSC History Office publications.

I created this book to inspire young women to pursue jobs in STEM careers and aerospace. But, as I point out throughout

the book, even those who do not have technical training—like historians—can pursue a career with NASA in a wide variety of mission support roles. Of course, history was another component. I also wanted readers to understand how women’s occupations changed over time and how elite fields such as the astronaut corps and flight control opened to women.

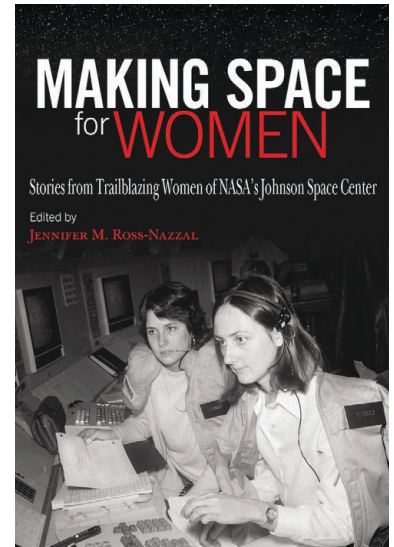
How did you decide which interviews to pursue?

My original intent was to utilize existing oral history interviews. Unfortunately, the female JSC oral history participants I identified in the collection were white and most worked in technical fields. I did not want to include highly technical interviews for fear that might turn off younger readers. So, I worked with the head of our oral history committee to come up with a list of potential candidates for additional interviews that would reflect the diversity of our workforce.

During the sixties, as NASA was working to send men to the Moon, most women worked as secretaries, and I wanted to include several women from this field because their work was invaluable to NASA’s mission. So too was the work of the first aerospace nurse, Dee O’Hara. NASA became an agency in 1958, but women were not selected as astronauts until 1978, so I decided to include one of the women from that group. I knew I needed to include women of color and the only two women to command Space Shuttle missions as well as the first female chief of the Astronaut Office and JSC Center Director.

As you researched and wrote *Making Space for Women*, what did you discover that surprised you most?

Typically historians write for other historians. If you read this book, you will see that it is more than a history of women at JSC. In some instances, it could be a career manual. One of my favorite interviews is with the former head of procurement, Debra Johnson. She talks about the key to the men’s room, basically how she and other women learned and documented



how to get promoted from a GS-5 to a GS-7 and so on. Within the interviews there is some invaluable advice about how to set and achieve goals when thinking about a career.

Working as a government historian and publishing with an academic press can be difficult. Can you talk about the process of researching, writing, and publishing this book?

The process of researching and writing the book was something I did in my role as the JSC Historian because the original intention was to publish through NASA. However, due to a reduction of funding for NASA publications, the process was much more of a challenge. I had to find an outside publisher and working with that type of press truly complicated the experience and added another layer of challenges. Identifying peer reviewers who had the time to review the lengthy manuscript

took many months, and once I received a contract, many people, including my contract management and the NASA JSC legal team, had to review the document and come to an agreement on copyright. To this day questions still pop up about the book.

What advice would you give to historians embarking on similar projects?

If you know your agency will not have the funds to publish a volume, start talking with other presses about the subject. Is there an interest in partnering or working with your organization? Consider setting up an agreement with an outside press to publish works from your History Office so that the legal issues are ironed out well in advance so that you can avoid the challenges I encountered.

SHFG Letter of Concern

On August 17, 2022, American Historical Association President James H. Sweet wrote a message from the president entitled “IS HISTORY HISTORY? Identity Politics and Teleologies of the Present.” President Sweet intended the column to be thought-provoking, but in our view it went beyond provocation. As SHFG is an AHA affiliate organization, our officers and Executive Council felt an obligation to make the concerns expressed by our members known not just to the AHA, but to the wider historical community. President Sweet has since offered a qualified apology, but in our view, the apology did not go far enough to undo the damage the column created. The full text of President Sweet’s message, and his subsequent apology can be read here: www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/september-2022/s-history-history-identity-politics-and-teleologies-of-the-present.

Below is the text of the Society’s letter to the American Historical Association.

American Historical Association
400 A Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Dr. Grossman,

We are writing on behalf of the Society for History in the Federal Government (SHFG) to express the Society’s disappointment regarding President James H. Sweet’s August message “Identity Politics and Teleologies of the Present,” in *Perspectives on History*. As an affiliated society to the American Historical Association, our Executive Council and members were deeply troubled by this problematic editorial piece. We acknowledge that President Sweet issued an apology for his column, but even that apology does not fully encapsulate the issues that many in the federal history community found offensive in this message.

President Sweet wrote an extremely biased piece, that he himself referred to as “ham-fisted.” His observations about Black individuals such as the Ghanaian tour guides and the “large, African American family” portrayed these persons as objects, as subjects to be studied, instead of individuals with agency and experiences that he cannot possibly understand. In addition, his perplexing argument that the present should not affect our interpretation of the past, does a vast disservice to the study not just of slavery, but that of colonization and empire, women’s history, LGBTQIA+ history, and other disciplines that seek to understand and interpret the attitudes and actions of predominantly white men toward other groups.

While President Sweet acknowledges that this piece was meant to be provocative, his attitude toward marginalized persons is troubling, and potentially harmful to others in the historical profession. In a time when our scholarly community is struggling to be more inclusive, this was a slap in the face to all of us who are working so hard to promote DEIA principles in our work and among our colleagues.

Although we understand that these columns are the prerogative of the President, we hope that President Sweet and the AHA work together to ensure that any future columns take into account the values of the AHA, their affiliated societies, and the history community. Too many historians and readers were hurt and offended by President Sweet’s piece, and another in a similar vein would be very troubling.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Officers and the Executive Council
Society for History in the Federal Government

Keep Them Fed. Keep Them Moving. — Hans von Kaltenborn and the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* National Park Tours

By Keith J. Muchowski

On the evening of Saturday August 2, 1919, one hundred and fifty Blackfoot Native Americans arrived at the Glacier Park Hotel in Montana to meet a contingent of New Yorkers who had just arrived. These tourists—Eaglets they called themselves—had left Grand Central Terminal on Friday July 18 aboard the so-called Eagle Special and by the time of their arrival at Glacier Park had traveled through Upstate New York, Chicago, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. With two weeks still to go before their return to the East Coast they had already seen Niagara Falls, Pike’s Peak, Buffalo Bill Cody’s resting place atop Colorado’s Lookout Mountain, Yellowstone National Park, and much else. Everywhere the Eaglets went, they were met by civic boosters, curious onlookers, local mayors, and the governors of at least four states. The local press covered the Eaglets’ movements extensively and readers back home closely followed along as well. Indeed, the tour was sponsored by one of New York City’s leading newspapers, the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, which naturally covered the 7,000 mile round trip in great detail for Brooklynites. The tour’s organizer and guide was the Eagle’s assistant managing editor himself, Hans von Kaltenborn. Chiefs White Calf, Medicine Owl, Eagle Calf, Short Grass, and Curly Bear greeted the New Yorkers and the two parties exchanged gifts. A Mrs. Minton, spouse of a prominent Brooklyn physician, presented to Chief Curly Bear the German helmet she had acquired during her volunteer work with the Emergency Canteen of the American Red Cross. The helmet was a present in recognition of the role that Native Americans had played in the Great War. Mr. Kaltenborn was given a war bonnet, made an honorary member of the Blackfoot Nation, and given a name to go with this new status: Mistuksihna—Mountain Chief in English.

The 1919 *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* tour was not the first sponsored by the newspaper; four years previously Kaltenborn had led a similar entourage from the borough to the West Coast and back through Yellowstone. The highlights of the 1915 California Exposition Tour were the “Brooklyn Days” at the two world’s fairs held in the Golden State after the recent opening of the Panama Canal: San Diego’s Panama–California Exposition and the Panama–Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. At the Brooklyn Day held in San Francisco on June 30, 1915, the Eaglets participated in what one publication at the time called a “transcontinental telephone celebration.” Gathered around a telephone at the exposition, Kaltenborn and his party basked in the moment and took turns speaking to the Brooklyn borough president, various Eagle executives, dignitaries, and loved ones situated 3,000 miles away in the New York Telephone Company offices in downtown Brooklyn around the corner from the Daily Eagle Building. The participants’

excitement was understandable given the novelty of telephony; only about one third of American households owned a telephone at this time. Alexander Graham Bell had made the very first transcontinental telephone just five months previously on January 25. The 1915 Brooklyn Daily Eagle tour was a big success, enjoyed tremendously by the nearly one hundred and fifty who took part and followed eagerly by the many thousands of subscribers who read the coverage daily. Though there was no repeat the following year, in late April 1916 Kaltenborn and a group of approximately fifty Eaglets held a reunion in a Brooklyn church at which they pledged to visit Alaska in 1917. That trip did not come to pass, presumably because the United States entered the Great War that spring and every ship and train were essential to the war effort. Kaltenborn remained active nonetheless. Besides his duties as assistant managing editor of the Eagle, he worked in support of women’s suffrage, the Preparedness Movement, and the Red Cross among other things. After the United States entered the war in 1917, he organized free French lessons for uniformed service persons about to go overseas.

Seven months after the Armistice, Interior Secretary Franklin K. Lane telegraphed *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* executives expressing his support for the tour that would eventually take the Eaglets to Glacier Park and their visit with the Blackfeet. From 1919 to 1925, Hans von Kaltenborn—H.V. to the public—organized seven annual tours on behalf of the newspaper. Most of these trips, like the 1915 one, involved the national parks in some way. In their journeys Kaltenborn and the Eaglets got as far north and west as the Alaska and Hawaiian Territories, down to South America and Brazil, and across the Atlantic to North Africa and Europe. Kaltenborn’s mantra, as recounted in his memoir, *Fifty Fabulous Years, 1900-1950: A Personal Review*, was: “Keep them fed” and “Keep them moving.” The *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* tours had three primary stakeholders: the newspaper itself, which correctly saw the goodwill tours as a moneymaker for the publication; the public and private leaders along the way for whom the coverage was a means to tout the economic potential of their local communities; and the federal government, which saw such tours as a means to promote visitation at the national parks.

So eager were cities for the dollars and publicity that an Eagle Tour visit might bring that municipal leaders in the west competed with one another to host events during the annual excursions. Kaltenborn himself put it best when he noted in his memoir that “Chambers of Commerce along the route were only too eager to show Eastern visitors their industries and their real estate. They were happy to sell the West to the East.” And just as civic authorities along the way were eager to

promote their towns' growth potential, so too were National Park Service officials anxious to promote the natural wonders and pleasures to be had at the sites they had sworn to protect. For no one was this truer than Stephen T. Mather, the National Park Service's first director. Mather had come to Washington D.C. in January 1915 before there even was a National Park Service at the request of his former University of California, Berkeley classmate: Interior Secretary Franklin K. Lane. Mather's mandate was to organize the approximately one dozen scattered, essentially autonomous, and poorly-managed national parks into a unified whole. Already in Washington was yet another Berkeley graduate: the hard-working taskmaster Horace M. Albright, whom Secretary Lane had brought East in 1913 and who would serve faithfully as Mather's second-in-command in the succeeding years. Mather and Albright set about improving such basics as lodging, transportation, and general amenities at Yellowstone and elsewhere. The financially secure Mather even used his own funds to organize camping trips of the parks for business, media, and political leaders. He also provided significant sums of his own wealth to pay for road and other infrastructure improvements. He, Lane, and Albright achieved a major victory when President Woodrow Wilson signed the Organic Act on August 25, 1916, creating the National Park Service under the auspices of the Department of the Interior.

Now that there *was* a National Park Service, there was the issue of getting people there. Publicity was thus a priority in the earliest years of the National Park Service. A natural salesman going back to his days in private industry where he had acquired his sizable fortune, Mather was well-suited for this task. Because he had also once been a cub reporter for the New York Sun, Mather understood the power of media to shape public opinion. He now put these tools to work for the federal sites under his management. Albright explained the strategy to an interviewer after his retirement several decades later, noting as quoted in his 1987 Los Angeles Times obituary that "In our day we had to have people in the parks, because that was the way Congress judged the parks--on how many people used them." Higher visitation meant greater interest—and potential buy-in—from congressmen, who then as now held the power of the purse over the federal government. The Eaglets of Brooklyn were hardly the only touring party encouraged to visit American's natural wonders. Lane, Mather, and Albright supported town councils, Good Roads advocates, automobile clubs, lodge owners, naturalists, and essentially anyone with an interest in either boosting tourism to the already existing national parks or in seeing more sites added to the system.

The railroad companies were especially active in promoting park visitation. This is easy to understand given that the vast majority of the sites were west of the Mississippi River in remote areas not easily accessible to urbanites living in the Northeast. The Great Northern Railway was a leader in this endeavor. In an age when Americans with the means still

aspired to a European grand tour, the Great Northern Railway's colorful broadsides and sumptuous brochures encouraged families to "See America First." The best way to do that, at least in the opinion of Great Northern Railway president and chairman Louis W. Hill, was via his company's railcars. Hill was a sincere believer in the national parks idea and his enlightened self-interest was a boon for Lane, Mather, Albright, and the Department of the Interior. The outreach and publicity were paying off. Magazines like *Collier's*, *National Geographic*, and the *Saturday Evening Post* were just three of the periodicals that closely covered the early Park Service. From 1917—the first full year of the National Park Service's existence—through 1919 there were over 1000 articles written about the agency and all it had to offer visitors to the growing number of sites under its management.

Public interest in the nascent National Park Service is easy to understand. For one thing Americans wanted to relax and enjoy themselves after the horrors of the Great War and influenza pandemic. Moreover, seeing America—first or otherwise—was becoming easier than ever thanks to the railroads and motorways being laid across America in the first decades of the twentieth century. New York's magisterial Pennsylvania Station opened in 1910, and the equally imposing Grand Central Terminal in 1913. Henry Ford built his mechanized Quadricycle in 1896 and produced his first Model T in 1908. The one millionth Tin Lizzy rolled off the assembly line in December 1915. By 1921 there would be five million on the road. The *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* National Park tours always utilized a combination of rail and motor transport in their travels, often dividing into smaller groups as needed along the way and meeting up at the next rendezvous point. One of the primary events of the 1919 trip would be the Eaglets' inauguration of a National Park-to-Park Highway connecting Rocky Mountain, Yellowstone, and Glacier National Parks. The highway eventually linked about a dozen federal park sites in a loop through several Western states. Horace Albright, who with Kaltenborn had worked out most the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* tour details that June in Washington D.C. just before moving West to become Yellowstone superintendent, invited a contingent of the Eaglets to participate in an international discussion at parks north of the border with Canadian representatives about road construction. The 1919 *Report of the Director of the National Park Service to the Secretary of the Interior* averred that "It will be impossible to overestimate the importance of the tour of the Brooklyn Eagle party, as it was the first party of eastern people to travel between a group of parks by special train and by automobile service, and likewise it was the first party to make an "international interpark" tour."

So productive was the 1919 experience that the following year, Secretary Lane invited Kaltenborn and the Eaglets to participate in the 1920 Grand Canyon National Park Dedication Tour. The Eagle Special left Pennsylvania Station on April 8 and took Kaltenborn and his charges through Virginia,

Tennessee, Louisiana, Texas, Arizona, California, and then back to Arizona. There they dedicated Grand Canyon National Park on April 30. The Eaglets also raised \$1,600—over \$23,000 in today's dollars—to build a gateway for the park. Director Mather was on hand to accept the check from Kaltenborn. The work of Kaltenborn and the Eaglets over the two years generated significant goodwill, so much so that in 1921 they were invited on their most ambitious project yet: a round-trip voyage to the West Coast and Hawaiian Territory. Upon his arrival in the lush tropical paradise, H.V. Kaltenborn immediately recognized Hawaii's tourist potential. Twenty years before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he noted too that "The Army and Navy development here is startling to the eye of an American coming from the Eastern seaboard." On July 9, Kaltenborn and the Eagle party stood on the edge of Halema'uma'u Crater for the formal dedication of the nearly 75,000 acre Hawaii National Park. As quoted in the November 1953 edition of *Hawaii Nature Notes*, Kaltenborn declared to the several hundred gathered at the crater spewing its gaseous fumes that "Here at Kilauea, we stand upon the verge of earth's greatest marvel. Here is visible to our eyes the actual creation of God's world, and the ground whereon we stand is holy ground indeed."

In 1922, the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* entourage traveled via the Panama Canal to South America, where the primary objective was to attend the Independence Centenary International Exposition celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of Brazilian autonomy from Portugal. Other countries on the Eaglets' itinerary included Argentina, Chile, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay. It is not clear why Kaltenborn decided to forgo a trip focused on the United States and its territories, but one reason for the more international focus could be that on April 4, a few months before the voyage, Kaltenborn began hosting what became a regular radio show. Always interested in foreign affairs and not shy about sharing his opinions, Kaltenborn's new radio duties literally gave him a voice in public affairs. Americans in the ensuing decades would become familiar with that voice throughout the rise of communism and fascism, depression, and world war.

In the following two years, the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* travelers remained in North America and returned to the national parks at the invitation of the Department of the Interior. The 1923 trip was an 11,000 mile journey that took some five dozen Eaglets to Jasper National Park in the Canadian Rockies, the Pacific Northwest, and then via steamship and the new Alaska Railroad to the Land of the Midnight Sun. There on July 9 they dedicated Mount McKinley National Park, today called Denali National Park and Preserve. The Eaglets even beat Warren G. Harding to Denali; the president showed up at Mount McKinley about a week later on his way to Nenana near Fairbanks to lay the ceremonial Golden Spike officially completing the federally-owned 470-mile Alaska Railroad. With President Harding, among others, was his Secretary of Commerce, Herbert Hoover. In 1924, Kaltenborn and the



Park dedication ceremony

Eaglets returned to the American South and Southwest. The Eagle Special pulled out of Pennsylvania Station on June 20 on what would be one of the longest tours that Kaltenborn and the Eaglets would take: a jam-packed, six-week, 9,000 mile journey cutting ribbons and dedicating infrastructure projects. Some highlights of what was called The 1924 National Park Development Tour were the passage through the Blue Ridge Mountains, dedication of a new southern entrance at Mesa Verde National Park, the christening at the Grand Canyon of a scenic road, visits to Native American reservations in New Mexico and elsewhere, a stop in San Diego with a brief incursion across the border; the ride up the California coast to San Francisco, and then the return across the United States. Interspersed were many other side trips too numerous to mention. As they often did, the Eaglets mixed rail and automobile travel on the 1924 Development Tour to maximize their options. At 9:30 p.m. on July 31—forty-two days after pulling out—the exhausted entourage pulled back into Pennsylvania Station.

Perhaps because the 1924 trip had retraced so many of the steps the Eaglets had taken on previous journeys, the following year, Kaltenborn and other Eagle executives elected to do something entirely new: The *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* Old World Tour of 1925. Kaltenborn and the others sailed aboard the *Patria* on April 27 and returned to New York City on the *Leviathan* July 20. After a brief side trip to the sites of colonial-era Cambridge and Boston they sailed for the Azores, Egypt, Algeria, Italy, France, Spain, and the United Kingdom among other places. All told, Kaltenborn and the Eaglets visited more than one hundred cities in ten countries across North America, Africa, and Europe. It was the longest and most ambitious tour that Hans von Kaltenborn led for the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. It was also the last. It is not clear why the 1925 Old World Tour would be Kaltenborn's finale, but it is true that his star was rising, and he was increasingly busy with other affairs. A few years previously, he had been promoted to associate editor. His radio presence was also increasing, so much so that in 1930 he

left the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* altogether for a new position at the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS). In the tumultuous middle decades of the twentieth century, first for CBS and then NBC, H.V. Kaltenborn traveled the world and reported everything he saw. His calming voice was a steadying presence in American life, and he became known as the Dean of American Radio Commentators. When in April 1952 Kaltenborn hosted a radio program in recognition of his thirty years in broadcasting, President Harry Truman, baseball great Dizzy Dean, and Edward R. Murrow were just some of the people who appeared on the airwaves to pay tribute. Kaltenborn retired in 1955 and kept active, playing tennis with his wife and maintaining a rigorous lifestyle until his passing on June 14, 1965.

The *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* tours of 1915-1925 took place at a unique time in American history. In this age before television most mid-sized and even smaller cities had at least a morning and afternoon newspaper. Most adult Americans thus read at least one daily newspaper. New York had upwards of a dozen competing dailies. In contrast to the *New York Times*, once dubbed the Gray Lady for its dense columns of ink and dearth of visual imagery, the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* offered its readers local, national, and international news complimented with often stunning photographs. This was ideal for the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* National Park Tours project, which came with striking

maps and images of Eaglets in exotic places enjoying themselves. Frederick Jackson Turner had issued his frontier thesis at Chicago's World's Columbian Exposition in 1893, emphasizing the significance of Western expansion in American life and declaring the closing of the frontier. Historians and others have debated Turner's theory for well over a century. What is true, however, is that the 1920 census recorded the moment in United States history when over fifty percent of Americans lived in urban and not rural communities. This was very much the demographic of Brooklynites who either traveled with Kaltenborn or who read about their adventures each day in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle's* pages. Internal and technological improvements such as the railroads, automobiles, and highways upon which to drive them in turn made the trips possible. And of course there was the work of Stephen T. Mather, Horace M. Albright, and others working within the National Park Service itself to promote the parks and all they had to offer. These and other factors came together to make *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* trips of the 1910s and 1920s the important cultural events they were.

Keith J. Muchowski is a librarian and professor at New York City College of Technology (CUNY) in Brooklyn. He has volunteered at numerous National Park Service sites in the Greater New York area since 2010.

Colleen Joy Shogan, Nominee for Archivist of the United States

From the National Archives: On August 3, 2022, The White House announced that President Biden intends to nominate Colleen Joy Shogan for Archivist of the United States. The head of the National Archives also chairs the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Colleen Shogan is the Senior Vice President and Director of the David M. Rubenstein Center for White House History at the White House Historical Association. For the past decade, Shogan has taught a graduate course on politics and American history at Georgetown University as an Adjunct Lecturer in the Government Department. She also moderates the Emerging Governance Leaders seminar at the Aspen Institute. She served as the Vice Chair of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, the bipartisan commission designated by Congress to commemorate the Nineteenth Amendment. Before her current position, Shogan worked for over a decade at the Library of Congress, serving in senior roles as the Assistant Deputy Librarian for Collections and Services and the Deputy Director of the Congressional Research Service. As a Library employee, she completed the Stennis Congressional Fellowship Program for the 112th Congress. Earlier in her career, Shogan worked as a Senate policy staffer, beginning her service through the American Political Science Association (APSA)

Congressional Fellowship Program. Shogan served as the President of the National Capitol Area Political Science Association and was an elected member of the APSA Council.

Prior to her federal service, Shogan was an Assistant Professor of Government and Politics at George Mason University.

Her research areas of focus include the American presidency, American political development, women in politics, and Congress. Shogan's *Moral Rhetoric of American Presidents* was named by the *Wall Street Journal* as one of the top five books written on presidential rhetoric. She received her Ph.D. in Political Science from Yale University. A first-generation college graduate in her family, Shogan received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Boston College. Born and raised near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, she is a public-school graduate of Norwin Senior High School. Shogan currently resides in Arlington, Virginia.



Joy Shogan

Commemorations, Covid and Creating Community at the National WWI Museum and Memorial

By Lora Vogt, Curator of Education and Interpretation, National WWI Museum

As much of the world was ending its remembrance activities around World War I, a narrative twist was presaged in an October 2018 lecture at the National WWI Museum and Memorial by Dr. Powel Kazanjian:

Just as the people in 1918 were vulnerable to a catastrophic pandemic in an age of biomedicine, we are vulnerable to a similar pandemic today. We don't have the technology to eliminate influenza...all we can do is react to it.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of organizations around the world in March 2020. For the National WWI Museum and Memorial, a private non-profit institution with federal designation, the closure lasted from March 17 through June 1, 2020. During the closure and over the next two years, adaptations occurred to address ever-changing uncertainties of COVID-19.

During the centennial of WWI, from 2014-2019, the Museum and Memorial initiated a variety of strategies to increase institutional collaborations and opened its rich collection and interpretation to a global audience. Partnerships with both private and federal institutions, including the United States WWI Centennial Commission (WWICC), created opportunities for remembrance and robust engagement with history. In 2018, a congressionally-funded grant from the WWICC enriched commemorative efforts with, among other initiatives, a program to present in-person teacher workshops across the U.S. While centennial commemorations of WWI were concluding in 2019, the National WWI Museum and Memorial focused on its second century, including a strategic objective to “build our capabilities as a center for learning and research, including engaging new and more diverse global audiences through the effective implementation of digital technologies.”

On March 17, 2020, days after the World Health Organization called COVID-19 a global pandemic, the National WWI Museum and Memorial closed its doors. In less than a week, a temporary organizational restructure created four new work teams from among the seven existing departments of 42 staff: Digital Learning (DL), Digitization and Transcription (DT), Building and Essential Infrastructure (BEI), and Support Services (SS). The regrouping put practical emphasis on the institution's existing conviction in digital education and online accessibility of the collection. And, no job positions were released due to COVID-19, affirming the commitment of the organization's leadership to staff.

A pre-2020 decision, then less common to the museum

industry, to let a non-research staff member work a mainly remote schedule meant structures and correlating platforms for virtual work were already in place across the institution. While not making individual COVID transitions easier, it presented a model and bolstered the organization's confidence that staff could work effectively outside of the office.

Staff, primarily working from home, were invited to deliberate and strategically pursue projects of impact during and beyond the six weeks of onsite closure. Guest-facing employees were teamed to work under the guidance of the collections department to transcribe digitized, handwritten accessioned materials. This effort, by 2021, resulted in nearly 15,000 pages transcribed. With a focus on digital learning, the Museum's audio-visual lead worked with the marketing and collections teams to catalog digitized videos and create over 450 GIFs. This effort, by summer 2022, led to over 150 million views of primary source content on the platform GIPHY.

Scheduled public programs quickly shifted online. A live Facebook program was held on March 20, 2020. The first (formal) online live public program was held on April 4, 2020 – pivoting a bi-monthly series, known as “Mrs. Wilson's Knitting Circle,” from an onsite lecture that would normally receive roughly 40 RSVPs to a Zoom chat that received over 700 RSVPs from around the world. This traction provided a clear approach to complete a two-year nationwide initiative to offer educators in all 50 states WWI teacher workshops. These workshops transitioned in May to online experiences leading to 33 cultural institution partners reaching teachers from six continents resulting in more than 2.5 million direct learner engagements.

While doors re-opened in June 2020 to ticket sales deeply reduced by COVID, online live and on-demand educational programming attendance rose dramatically with regular attendees from across the world including South Africa, the U.K. and Canada. In October 2020, a “Lunch and Learn” lecture on French Fashion and WWI was picked up by *The New York Times* in



A sign encouraging social distancing used during 2020 and 2021 within the galleries of the National WWI Museum and Memorial.



Capitalizing on 47 acres and WWI hot air balloon history to bring an estimated 40,000 to the grounds of the National WWI Museum and Memorial.

“Things to Do This Week.” Over the next two years, more than 150 online programs and an onsite/online multiple prong approach occurred with learners, including live electronic K-12 field trips, local outdoor art partnerships, and “take-out” cocktail/food pairings and online lecture series for those in the Kansas City area entitled “WarFare.” It created a sense of community among a global audience in a season when community was deeply needed.

As historians and educators continue to engage the public in learning, a chapter is closing and a new one is beginning. There was no singular response from cultural organizations and historic institutions; each charted its own path. These are a few of the lessons learned from the perspective of one institution’s education department:

Collaboration of private and federal institutions leveraged

“Interview” from page 7

NAGPRA. For several years, I have been tasked with drafting revised regulations to improve the process for repatriation. While grounded in the Act itself and the related legislative history, changes to the regulations will hopefully improve the pace of repatriation. The process for changing regulations is necessarily slow and arduous, but my hope is that these changes will improve the process for all parties involved in repatriation and help realize the goal Congress set for this law: to encourage a continuing dialogue between museums and Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations and to promote a greater understanding between the groups while at the same time recognizing the important function museums serve in society by preserving the past.

Are there other opportunities in federal history that you’ve considered?

Right now, I’m focused on my current work, but I do hope that changes to the regulations for repatriation will result in working myself out of a job in the coming years. I look forward to a future where there is not so much repatriation work to achieve, and I will be able to explore other opportunities in the

strengths - matching entrepreneurial nimbleness of private organizations with the complex depth of federal institutions – to enrich programs and increase efficiencies. New ideas abounded. “Post-pandemic” this cooperation should not only continue but be sought out.

Pragmatic risk-enthusiasm has a place in leadership at historical organizations. What may be uncommon for history organizations, but apt for America’s museum and memorial dedicated to the First World War, is institutional encouragement towards ambitious ideas and the theory that new mistakes provide important learning opportunities.

Audiences multiplied for online partner programs. In a comparison of 2021 to 2019, while program offerings decreased by 15 percent, public program engagements doubled. We can produce less, while reaching more by investing online and with partners.

As of fall 2022, the National WWI Museum and Memorial is at a 60% attendance return rate for onsite lecture programs. In many, the online live audience is larger than the number of individuals in the room. The hybrid approach is here to stay, though it will need to transform to audience needs, and organizations must consider how, without increased staffing, it can be sustainably maintained.

It seems, for the National WWI Museum and Memorial at least, an outcome of the WWI centennial commemorations was a collaborative, worldwide community of institutional partnerships and individuals – both historians and educators - ready to assist and support each other. During a time of global catastrophe that seems a striking success.

Federal government. Someday, I would like to do more research and writing on the history of the Federal government, especially the history of Federal Indian policy. I would also love to have an opportunity to assist other public policy managers with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the history of public policy in hopes that it can inform our collective future. I’m not exactly sure what that kind of opportunity might look like, but if I have learned anything from my own personal career history, it is that you never know what opportunities will present themselves.

Do you have any advice for recent hires to public history, or for people looking for their first federal history job?

Be open to any opportunity that might come your way. You never know when a part-time job will lead to a career. Or when a chance to work in your dream job will help you realize what you don’t want to do. When I was in graduate school, I never could have imagined where I would be 20 years later, but I wouldn’t want to be anywhere else. I truly believe the key to success in work and in life is being open to the opportunities and challenges that come your way.

World War II and the Fountain Pen

By Richard Binder

World War II had a profound effect on home-front life. Rubber and gasoline rationing changed travel habits, creating a boom in railroad ridership. Quotas on fuel oil popularized knitting as families needed sweaters for winter, and many women knitted items for the troops overseas. Diets changed as many foodstuffs were rationed. People saved waste fat and turned it into explosives. Victory Gardens sprang up everywhere. Limits on clothing and shoes turned many housewives into seamstresses and even cobblers.

The war even touched that most prosaic of tools, the pen. The need for writing instruments burgeoned as families at home flooded the postal system with letters and packages for servicemen and women around the world — but pen manufacturers didn't make a fortune selling millions more pens. The War Production Board designated rubber, steel, aluminum, brass, petroleum, and many other raw materials as critical war resources and strictly rationed them, with most of the supply going to war production. Pen companies had to scale back their production, retool, and manufacture precision goods such as bomb fuzes. In November 1942, the WPB limited fountain pen production to 46% of 1941 output and assigned not-to-exceed quotas to most manufacturers.

Fountain pens produced during the war differed from their predecessors in many ways. When the U.S. went to war in December 1941, for example, Parker had just introduced the "51", made of Lucite. The "51" was revolutionary in both technology and appearance, and it became an overnight hit; everybody who could afford it wanted one. The war put its success in jeopardy because Lucite was suddenly needed in greater quantities for aircraft canopies. Parker made some material-saving modifications and continued producing the "51", but most of the reduced numbers went to the military, for sale in PXes and NEXes at home and abroad. (The U.S. military did not issue fountain pens to service members.) Civilians' difficulty in buying "51"s only made the pen more desirable, and sales exploded after the war. Parker was not the only company affected by the rationing of Lucite. The L. E. Waterman Company had introduced a Lucite pen, called the Hundred Year Pen, in 1939. As it became obvious that the U.S. would be going to war, Waterman began a conversion back to celluloid, the primary pen material in the 1930s. By 1941, the Hundred Year Pen was made of celluloid. The last half inch of the new Hundred Year Pen's barrel was solid clear celluloid. Celluloid is unstable, and the clear parts proved unfortunate.

To reduce cost and shorten production cycles, Eversharp Inc. and David Kahn, Inc. maker of Wearever pens, switched during the war from celluloid to injection-molded polystyrene. The change did not work out equally well for both companies.

Rationing of rubber, which was doubly enforced by the



rationing of gasoline in order to reduce wear on rubber tires, placed a burden on most U.S. pen makers because the most common filling systems in use in America relied on an ink reservoir that was a rubber sac. The few pens that did not use rubber sacs sold well, and some manufacturers switched to designs that reduced the use of rubber in their pens. Among the most notable of these latter was the Morrison Fountain Pen Company, whose wartime "Patriot" models used a system that worked like a syringe and used no rubber at all.

Nibs, the part of a fountain pen that touches the paper, underwent a real improvement in the U.S.A., but in Axis countries, the opposite happened. Some American makers of cheaper pens switched from nibs of stainless steel, which was on the critical materials list, to gold, which was not. (Gold is highly corrosion resistant and is an ideal nib material.) In Germany, where the Nazis knew that neutral countries would not accept paper Reichsmarks in payment for raw materials, the use of gold was prohibited. In Japan, which had forcibly expanded its empire to provide petroleum, rubber, and other resources, the leaders also knew that they would need to pay in gold for raw materials that they did not have, and they too prohibited the use of gold. In both countries, stainless steel became the only material of which nibs could be made. Both nations' pen manufacturers made other cost-saving changes, but the elimination of metal cap bands in Germany did not diminish the inherent quality of the pens, while slipshod plating techniques in Japan produced pens whose clips and cap bands suffered pitting and corrosion.

Based in New Hampshire, Richard Binder writes about pens for *Pen World* magazine. You can read a lengthier version of this article at www.richardspens.com/?hist=wwii_effects. © 2022 RichardsPens.com.

Making History

National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) announced \$9.7 million in grants to assist 21 preservation projects in 9 states for historic structures on campuses of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

“For more than 180 years, Historically Black Colleges and Universities have provided high-level academics, opportunities, and community for generations of students. These grants enable HBCUs to preserve the noteworthy structures that honor the past and tell the ongoing story of these historic institutions,” said NPS Director Chuck Sams.

Since the 1990s, the NPS has awarded more than \$87 million in grants to over 85 of the remaining active HBCUs. Congress appropriates funding for the program through the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). The HPF uses revenue from federal oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf, providing assistance for a broad range of preservation projects without expending tax dollars.

Accredited HBCUs are eligible to apply for this grant program, and eligible projects include physical preservation of sites listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. HBCU grants can also fund pre-preservation studies, architectural plans and specifications, historic structure reports, campus preservation plans, and National Register nominations. All projects must follow the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.

Projects receiving grants this year will preserve stories, resources, and places, such as:

North Carolina A&T State University: The World War Memorial Stadium was designed in 1926 and is the oldest minor-league ballpark in North Carolina. This project will address repairs to the structural concrete seating deck and installation of new seating, and the addition of ADA-accessible seating as well as other safety devices.

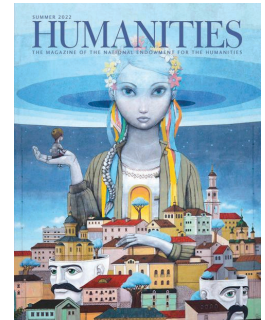
Mississippi Industrial College: Washington Hall was founded in 1905 and is contributing to Mississippi Industrial College Historic District. Rust College, located directly across the street acquired the property and is working to reimagine the former HBCU. This project will address repairs to the roof and building envelope.

Selma University: Dinkins Memorial Hall is contributing to the proposed Selma University Historic District, as determined by the Alabama Historical Commission. This project will address replacement of the roof, and upgrades to the HVAC and electrical systems.

Applications for \$10 million in FY2022 funding will be available in fall of 2022.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The summer 2022 issue of *Humanities* is now available online at www.neh.gov/issue/summer-2022. This issue offers articles on diverse topics such as revisionist history, Caravaggio, Navajo Code Talkers, Ukrainian poetry, the partition of India and Pakistan, and the Idaho Humanities Council.



Library of Congress

Library of Congress Magazine (LCM) is published bimonthly to tell the Library’s stories, to showcase its many talented staff, and to share and promote the use of the resources of the world’s largest library. The most recent issue is volume 11, number 4 (July-August 2022). This Library of the Unexpected issue highlights a wealth of delightfully offbeat items, from Walt Whitman’s walking stick to Leonard Bernstein’s license plate and Sigmund Freud’s friend’s (inert) cocaine. Also, newly acquired material sheds light on the pioneering photographer who took the first selfie and images taken by Alfred Cheney Johnston helped capture the Jazz Age. See the magazine at www.loc.gov/lcm.



Defense Logistic Agency

Documentary showcases DLA’s 60 years as DOD logistics provider, by Beth Reece DLA Public Affairs.

Mary Martinez gained a keen sense of troops’ need for supplies while talking on the phone to an officer during the Vietnam War.

“I could hear bombs in the background and he wanted to know where his shipment was at,” the former Defense Logistics Agency Distribution employee says in a new documentary that recounts the agency’s 60-year history.

Over 30 former and current employees share personal stories about milestones in DLA’s quest to become the premiere supply agency for the military services and other federal agencies. The 30-minute documentary proves wrong the early skeptics who thought a largely civilian organization could never handle the challenge of consolidating supplies and logistics services for the entire Defense Department.

The agency was created as the Defense Supply Agency in 1961 through a handwritten memo. Its first employees worked in



rat-infested buildings no one else wanted, processing orders with pens and pencils. The documentary traces the steps DLA took to bring stability during the 1970s energy crisis and the ways it continued bringing efficiency to its support and business practices. DLA Land and Maritime's Debbie Miller remembers the introduction of computers, when employees in an entire bay shared a single computer.

To prove its cost-effectiveness, DLA Disposition Services began using the internet in the 1980s to create a searchable database for customers to view and order material. Rodney Moskun demonstrated the product for DLA Headquarters leaders. They liked what they saw but didn't think it would catch on. The documentary tells how the past three decades brought yet more growth in DLA's responsibility. From deploying alongside troops and supporting humanitarian missions like the Ebola crisis and current pandemic, the agency has benefited the nation as well as its warfighters.

National Archives

Acting Archivist of the United States Debra Steidel Wall announced the appointment of 20 individuals to the National Archives and Records Administration's 2022–2024 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee. The individuals named will serve a two-year term and begin meeting in September 2022.

The FOIA Advisory Committee consists of no more than 20 individuals who are all FOIA experts from both inside and outside of government. Members of the FOIA Advisory Committee foster dialogue between the administration and the requester community and develop recommendations for improving FOIA administration and proactive disclosures. Ms. Wall has appointed the following individuals:

Government Members

- Paul Chalmers – Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
- Carmen A. Collins – U.S. Department of Defense
- Allyson Deitrick – U.S. Department of Commerce
- Gorka Garcia-Malene – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Michael Heise – U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- Stefanie Jewett – U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General
- Catrina Pavlik-Keenan – U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Alina M. Semo – Chair, U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Office of Government Information Services
- Bobak Talebian – U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Information Policy
- Patricia Weth – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Non-Government Members

- Jason R. Baron – University of Maryland
- David Cuillier – University of Arizona
- Alexander Howard – Digital Democracy Project

- Gbemende Johnson – University of Georgia
- Adam Marshall – Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press
- Luke Nichter – Chapman University
- Ginger Quintero-McCall – Demand Progress
- Thomas Susman – American Bar Association
- Eira Tansey – University of Cincinnati
- Benjamin Tingo – AINS

NARA initially chartered the Committee on May 20, 2014. The Archivist of the United States renewed the Committee's charter for a fifth term on April 28, 2022, and certified that renewing the Committee is in the public interest. OGIS provides administrative support along with chairing the Committee in accordance with the charter.

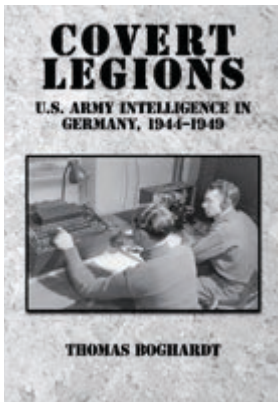
Department of Veterans Affairs

Telling the VA's story—object by object. If you wanted to create an album of your family's history but were limited to 100 items, what would you put in and what would you leave out? These were the questions that the VA History staff asked in compiling the History of VA in 100 Objects virtual exhibit. The exhibit explores the history of the nation's efforts to honor and reward Veterans for their service by spotlighting objects that tell key parts of the VA story. The objects span centuries, from the earliest laws governing disability claims for Revolutionary War soldiers to the latest medical gear to protect VA workers and Veterans from the COVID-19 pandemic. The exhibit is being published serially throughout 2022 and 2023, with new entries appearing Thursdays at the rate of one or two per week.

Object 35: Dayton Bible, by Katie Rories, Historian, Veterans Health Administration. While many stories in the Bible have resonance for readers, the Book of Job held extra meaning for Civil War Veterans living at the Central Branch of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (NHDVS) in Dayton, Ohio. The 1861 edition of the Bible that was used in countless services at the Dayton chapel displays telltale color changes to certain pages due to light exposure and cracking along one part of the binding. These blemishes suggest that it was frequently opened to the Book of Job. The sermons given by Reverend William B. Earnshaw about Job, a righteous man tested beyond measure, must have provided relief and comfort to the ex-soldiers who had witnessed and endured the horrors of battle.

Dayton Bible highlights the important role that religious faith and chaplains played in the lives of the National Home residents as well as later generations of Veterans. When the NHDVS system was established in 1867, chaplains like Earnshaw were provided housing on the different National Home campuses and paid a salary of \$1,500 per year plus forage for one horse. Religious services were held for both Protestant and Catholic Veterans and large weekly attendance numbers resulted in "much good, and largely contributed to the moral improvement of the mend and the peace and good order of the establishment."

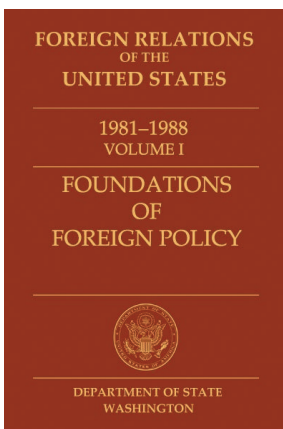
Recent Publications



Covert Legions: U.S. Army Intelligence in Germany, 1944-1949, (CHM Pub 45-5-1) by Thomas Boghardt examines the organization and operations of U.S. Army Intelligence in American-occupied Germany from 1944 to 1949. Thomas Boghardt explores how Army Intelligence pursued Nazi war criminals, recruited German scientists for the U.S. military, and enlisted rising policy-makers, such as future president

Theodor Heuss and future chancellor Willy Brandt. It also reveals how intelligence shaped American perceptions of Soviet policy in Europe and helped to avoid war over the Berlin blockade in 1948/49. *Covert Legions* draws on official intelligence records, including numerous documents declassified specifically for this volume, which is available at history.army.mil/catalog/index.html.

Boghardt received his master's degree in history from the University of Freiburg in 1996, and his Ph.D. in modern European history from the University of Oxford in 2002. Dr. Boghardt joined Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service as the Fritz Thyssen Fellow from 2002 to 2004. For the next six years, he worked as a historian at the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C. In 2010, he joined the U.S. Army Center of Military History as a senior historian.



In September, the Department of State released *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1981-1988, Volume I, Foundations of Foreign Policy*, edited by Kristin L. Ahlberg. This volume documents the intellectual foundations of the foreign policy pursued by President Ronald Reagan's administration. Unlike other volumes in the Reagan subseries, the documentation seeks to illuminate the collective mindset of Reagan administration officials across for-

ign policy issues in the broadest sense.

Rather than exploring the formulation of individual policy decisions or diplomatic exchanges, the volume takes as its canvas the entire 8-year record of the administration, as well as the immediate pre-presidential period, including the transition between the Jimmy Carter and Reagan administrations.

Specifically, it documents the ways in which the Reagan administration tried to "reset" foreign policy following the Vietnam War, Watergate scandal, and Iranian hostage crisis and it sought to recreate a world structure hospitable to certain U.S. values. The volume draws upon both the published record of speeches, press releases, press conferences and briefings, interviews, and Congressional testimony and the internal memoranda, correspondence, meeting minutes, and other records generated by administration officials to document the policy positions and assumptions of foreign policy makers. The documentation presented in this volume, drawn from public and archival sources, chronicles the perspectives of not only President Reagan but also Vice President George H.W. Bush, Secretaries of State Alexander Haig and George Shultz, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, and other prominent policy makers.

The volume and this press release are available on the Office of the Historian website at history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1981-88v01. Copies of the volume will be available for purchase from the U.S. Government Printing Office online at bookstore.gpo.gov (GPO S/N 044-000-02708-9; ISBN 978-0-16-095933-2), or by calling toll-free 1-866-512-1800 (D.C. area 202-512-1800). For further information, contact history@state.gov.

Kristin L. Ahlberg is a historian and Assistant to the General Editor in the Office of the Historian, Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State. She received her Ph.D. in diplomatic history from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2003. Ahlberg has worked at the Office of the Historian since 2003 and has compiled eight volumes in the *FRUS* series. She is the author of *Transplanting the Great Society: Lyndon Johnson and Food for Peace* (University of Missouri Press, 2008). Her articles have been published in *Agricultural History*, *Diplomatic History*, *Great Plains Quarterly*, and *The Public Historian*. Ahlberg currently serves on the Agricultural History Society Executive Council, the National Council on Public History Governance Committee, and the Western History Association Public History Committee. She is a past President of the Society for History in the Federal Government.

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Federalist Calendar

Oct 12-15, 2022. Western History Association. Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX. www.westernhistory.org/2022

Oct 19–22, 2022. Oral History Association. Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, CA. www.oralhistory.org/annual-meeting/

Nov 10-13, 2022. Society for the History of Technology. Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. www.historyoftechnology.org/annual-meeting/2022-shot-annual-meeting-7-13-november-new-orleans-louisiana

Nov 17-20, 2022. History of Science Society. Annual Meeting. Theme: Sustainability, Regeneration, and Resiliency. Chicago, IL. hssonline.org/page/hss22.

Dec 8–9, 2022. American Philatelic Society, the American Philatelic Research Library, and the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Twelfth Winton M. Blount Postal History Symposium. Theme: Political Systems, Postal Administrations, and the Mail. Washington, DC. postalmuseum.si.edu/symposia-and-lectures

Jan 5–8, 2023. American Historical Association. 137th Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. www.historians.org/annual-meeting

Mar 22-26, 2023. American Society for Environmental History. Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. www.aseh.org/Events

Mar 23–26, 2023. Society for Military History. 89th Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA. smh-hq.org/conf/futuremeetings.html

Mar 30–Apr 2, 2023. Organization of American Historians. Annual Meeting. “Confronting Crises: History for Uncertain Times.” Los Angeles, CA. www.oah.org/meetings-events/oah23

Apr 12-15, 2023. National Council on Public History. Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. ncph.org/future-meetings

Jun 8-10, 2023. Agricultural History Society. Annual Meeting. “Agricultural Pasts of the Climate Crisis.” Knoxville, TN. www.aghistorysociety.org/2023-meeting

Jun 15-17, 2023, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. Annual Conference. Arlington, VA. shafr.org/shafr2023.

Jul 13-16, 2023. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic. 44th Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. www.shear.org/future-conferences/

Jul 22-29, 2023. Society of American Archivists. 87th Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. www2.archivists.org/conference