

CALL TO ORDER: GAVELS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

By Farar Elliott

The commanding rap of a gavel punctuates each meeting of the United States House of Representatives. Both a parliamentary tool and symbol of authority, the gavel has a long-standing association with congressional proceedings. It appears in photographs, portraits, and oral histories as a mark of the authority of the House and its leaders. New exhibitions in the Capitol highlight gavels from the last seven decades, all from the collection of the House's Office of History and Preservation. Gavels are not-so-silent witnesses to the great legislative events of American history, and integral parts of the quotidian workings of a legislative body. Speaker Sam Rayburn once said, "In the Speakership, the gavel becomes almost a part of the office." He continued, "It's habit. Any gavel you use has a lot of sentiment attached."

The use of the gavel in the work of legislative bodies antedates the First Federal Congress, extending back into the American colonial legislatures that borrowed the tradition from the British Parliament. However, the evidence is inconclusive as to how and when the U.S. House of Representatives adopted the practice of using a gavel during its meetings. The scant historical record also suggests that the use of a gavel in the Senate also was a fairly late development—probably occurring during the Fifth Congress (1797–1799).



"Gus Arms the Speaker;" Unknown photographer, 1943, Collection of U.S. House of Representatives. Capitol engineer Gus Cook (left) hands Speaker Sam Rayburn an arsenal of gavels in preparation for the 1943 fall session.

In colonial America there existed considerable precedent for the use of gavels in legislative proceedings, long before the First Federal Congress met in 1789. Colonial assemblies generally followed English political customs and precedent, wherein a gavel was used to bring parliamentary debates to order. During the mid-1700s,

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Mike Reis

What does it mean for a historian or other federal history professional to *advise* an agency? What can we learn from our advisory experiences,

whether successful or no?

The roots of the words “advice” and “advisor” appear to simply come from medieval French and earlier Latin for “it seems to me” or “in my view.” But for those of us cast in an advisory capacity, especially pursuant to statute or regulation, the responsibilities associated with offering sound advice to officials can involve much more than just offering a personal opinion. In this light, an advisor decidedly ventures into the realm of guardian and protector of the integrity of a program or project, with all the challenges and chance of controversy and frustrations entailed by that role.

This, in a nutshell, was the situation in which Professor Roger Louis, formerly of the State Department’s Advisory Board on Historical Diplomatic Documentation—the statutory and scholarly guardian of the *Foreign Relations Series*—found himself. Having offered advice he felt was not being implemented, and mindful of his lawful duty to make “recommendations on particular problems,” Dr. Louis elected to resign in protest from the Board in late 2008 and submit a letter to then-Secretary Condoleezza Rice detailing his objections.

As his experiences should be of interest to all federal history practitioners, we are pleased to announce that as our 2009 Hewlett Lecturer, Professor Louis shared insights from his advisory duties, including how offering professional advice illuminates larger conclusions about the challenges and issues involved in doing federal and public history. Special thanks also go to Bob Griffiths and Kathy Franz of the AU History Department for working with us to organize the Hewlett Lecture this year!

Taking a view of course also means continually seeking to expand one’s professional horizons. To that end, we are lining up a series of “Pearls of Wisdom” Professional Development events during the 2009–2010 year; upcoming outings will include a special tour in November of the Lincoln Exhibit at the National Museum of Health and Medicine, located at Walter Reed Hospital—thanks to Adrienne Noe, director of the museum, and SHFG Executive Council member John Parascandola for offering this event. We also are committed to arranging a more convenient “re-do”—perhaps on a weekend or holiday rather than a work day—of the fascinating event originally slated for this June: a visit to the National Museum of the Marine Corps near Quantico. Lin Ezell, the Museum’s director, has graciously invited us to try again and we promise to make this “do-over” memorable and much more feasible for all concerned.

Stay tuned to the SHFG e-bulletin for emerging details about dates for these upcoming events and the December holiday reception. It’s also not too early to think about making a presentation or putting together a panel for next year’s annual meeting; SHFG Vice President Pete Daniel will post a call-for-papers announcement in the near future.

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published accounts record the use of a gavel in the Virginia House of Burgesses—which, itself, served as a model of parliamentary practice within the colonies. Eighteenth-century colonial assemblies, like the early Federal Congresses, were composed of a number of Masons for whom the gavel was a highly symbolic device used to call fraternal meetings to order or to preside over ceremonial events. Although we do not know the exact number of Masons who served in the early Congresses, we can say with a high degree of certainty that it was a disproportionately high number compared to the general population. Further, as the early federal Congresses operated without the benefit of modern sound amplification in rooms with difficult acoustics, it stands to reason that the gavel, or some instrument like it, would have facilitated calling a large group to order. Despite precedent and need, however, the absence of institutional traditions in the Continental and early Federal Congresses, coupled with frequent relocations, seems to have contributed to the make-shift use of everyday items in place of a gavel. For instance, contemporary accounts record that a bell—not a gavel—was used to bring meetings of the Continental Congresses to order.

Little is known of gavels in the 19th century House, but it is assumed they were used throughout the century. Newspaper reports as early as 1852 note the presiding officer's use of a gavel to bring the House to order. The official records of the House first refer to gavel use in the chamber in 1869. A memoir of a Page who worked in the Capitol in 1872 described the hard use the Speaker gave the gavel. It was much louder than the Senate's gavel, and was known in the House as "the hammer." This and other descriptions indicate that at least by the 19th century, gavels were used hard enough that they were likely replaced with some frequency. While engravings of the Chamber were made as early as 1798, the earliest image of a gavel in the Chamber is found in an 1861 *Illustrated London News* print.

Earlier images use gesticulation and the height of the rostrum to demonstrate the power of the Speaker. It appears from other historic prints that the gavel's appearance as a symbol of authority in newspaper illustrations grows from the 1870s, when images of Speakers begin to change from gesticulating figures to sedate gavel-wielders. By the end of the century, cartoons of Speakers of the House frequently included a gavel on the rostrum.

In the 20th century, photographic evidence documents that gavels were made in the Capitol in the 1930s, and



"A Scene in the Hall of Representatives Washington," Unidentified after Thomas Nast, The Illustrated London News, April 6, 1861, Collection of U.S. House of Representatives. The earliest image of a gavel used in the Chamber was an illustration of a heated moment in the weeks leading up to the first shots of the Civil War.

probably much earlier. Photographs also demonstrate that the Speaker expected to use multiple gavels over the course of a session.

Instances of gavels breaking during a session were not uncommon. Speaker Champ Clark of Missouri broke two gavels during the opening session of the 62nd Congress (1911–1913) while Speaker John Nance Garner of Texas broke three gavels during his first week at the rostrum in 1931. Tired of breaking gavels, Garner reportedly ordered an "unbreakable" gavel to be made of black walnut and treated with a special curing process. Speaker Thomas Brackett Reed of Maine was known as such an enthusiastic gavel wielder that he splintered the rostrum desktop. When the felt from his desktop was replaced late in the 51st Congress (1889–1891), visitors obtained the wood splinters as souvenirs.

The tradition of giving signed House gavels as souvenirs dates at least as far back as the mid-20th century. Signed gavels were part of House custom through the rest of the 20th century, and most of the gavels in the House Collection come from that tradition, which has continued into the 21st century. Generally, only Speakers sign House Chamber gavels, although there are exceptions to the rule.

The nine gavels in the House of Representatives' collection constitute the largest extant collection of gavels used in the Chamber. Unlike the U.S. Senate's small, hour-glass-shaped piece of ivory, House gavels were practical wooden mallets, made in-house. They were used with an accompanying striker (a wooden block on which to hammer the gavel) for maximum effect and to minimize damage to the rostrum. Five more Speakers' gavels are on dis-

play in an exhibition in the Capitol, adjacent to the House Chamber's Visitors' Gallery. A half-century of leadership is represented, culminating with a gavel used by Speaker Nancy Pelosi during the historic session in which she presided as the first woman to serve as Speaker of the House. The most famous gavel in the House Collection is one used to declare war against Germany and Italy on December 11, 1941. Twenty-nine year-old reading clerk Irving Swanson read the resolution, and in thanks, Speaker Sam Rayburn offered him the gavel. Swanson asked the Speaker to sign the handle, and kept it for over 60 years in a shoebox in his attic. In the course of an oral history conducted by the Office of History and Preservation's senior historian Matthew Wasniewski, Swanson retrieved and donated to the House his landmark artifact. Today, it is exhibited in the Capitol Visitor Center.

Farar Elliott is the Curator and Chief of the Office of History & Preservation, Office of the Clerk, U. S. House of Representatives.



Speaker's gavel, House cabinet shop, 1941, Collection of U.S. House of Representatives. Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn used this gavel during proceedings that led to the Houses declaration of war against Germany and Italy on December 11, 1941.

USING ELECTRONIC RECORDS FOR FEDERAL HISTORY: FAMINE OR FEAST?

By Michael Warner

The Information Age has fostered wider and faster access to unparalleled volumes of information, but it has also prompted complaints and concerns among historians and archivists about what is being lost. They voice these worries about electronic recordkeeping in academic journals, media interviews, and even at SHFG annual conferences. Their arguments can be summarized into three points:

The volume of electronic records staggers the imagination, far exceeding the volume of paper files that agencies produced even a generation ago. Large portions of those electronic records are trivial and need not be preserved, but the nuggets that merit retention are so thoroughly mingled with the dross that they can be difficult to uncover.

As a direct result of this volume problem, huge amounts of important information are routinely being lost or destroyed.

No technique, technology, or plan has yet emerged for solving either of these problems, whether in the private or the public sectors—but “business-as-usual” in the records-keeping and review fields is unsustainable.

If the concerns listed above are valid, one would expect to observe federal historians who are accustomed to finding passable documentation from recent decades now encountering increasing difficulty researching and interpreting the

events of the last 10 or 15 years. Is this in fact the case?

I tested this hypothesis when I wrote a brief, classified history of an assignment undertaken and completed by one component of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in 2007. I could not have undertaken and completed this project without access to the digital files in that component's “share drive.” These records were almost all I had to work with; the component kept few paper files, and those essentially duplicated its digital holdings. My experience in completing this project is admittedly unrepresentative, but it might also be instructive.

The good news is that one can indeed write “real” history from digital files. The component that I studied had come into being in mid-2007, and by the end of that year had generated hundreds of digital files, including briefings, memoranda, slides, spreadsheets, notes, minutes, charts, and e-mails. Officers there were also meticulous about “version control,” saving and labeling each significant iteration of important drafts. As most of the files in question were generated in Microsoft Office programs (chiefly Word, PowerPoint, and Excel), they could also be sorted by file name and date using the Windows “Search” feature. One handy capability is the ability to fine-tune a search to bring up all documents created or edited within a specified span of days—a useful tool for tracking the component's progress on

an issue or its reaction to a particular event. In addition, while there was virtually no “secondary literature” for the events that this component watched (apart from press reports), both the classified and unclassified versions of the World Wide Web yielded a trove of supporting documents shedding light on the larger issue in question. These documents covered the last decade, but the collections of declassified documents on the public internet are growing and becoming very useful for background information.

The bad news, while serious, did not seem to fulfill the pessimists’ predictions. The volume of records that I sorted through for this relatively brief period in the life of one component in a single agency seemed truly daunting at first. For a larger organization or a longer time span, it could have been overwhelming; a researcher might well be unable to determine that every important document had been found. Another issue was that of citing documents. Once on the Web, data can seemingly stay there forever—but can they be found? Websites, for instance, come and go like soap bubbles, and digital file folders may similarly be shifted among servers or organizations frequently enough to make one’s source citations inaccurate soon after publication. My solution was the old fashioned one: for safety’s sake I printed everything I cited in the study and kept the copies in paper files, then cited those in my footnotes. Finally, the Windows Search function might be less useful in a less-meticulous office, or one that recycled its files, writing over older versions but keeping the old file-names.

Whether the good news outweighs the bad news is not for me to say. Nonetheless, in light of all the concerns over the challenges of preserving electronic records, it seems reassuring to report that the worst has not yet happened. The basic problem seems to be that too much is being saved—not too little. My admittedly tiny sample set suggests that, even if no one is actively “saving” electronic records, no one for that matter is systematically deleting them either. It also goes without saying that historians need better software for searching across databases and for finding specific content within them.

Experience gained with earlier projects suggests there is one important caveat to add to this basically optimistic view. Files from the dawn of the desktop computer revolution in the federal government—roughly 1984 to 1994—could well prove very tough to find and utilize. Many agencies maintained paper filing systems during this period. However, the transition from preserving hard copies to electronic filing on desktops or in relatively crude “hub and spoke” systems like WANGs accelerated the loss of documentary evidence. By the late 1980s, many desktops were being linked together in early Local Area Networks (LANs), but storage remained an issue. Simply put, many of the early computer files and folders did not migrate into the more sophisticated LANs oper-

ated on Windows systems that emerged in the early 1990s. If a document was not printed and manually filed, it could well have been lost, and thus the late 1980s and early 1990s may have more than their share of historical gaps when future researchers tally the surviving documentation.

Finally, it’s worth adding a bit of historical context to our current records management dilemma. We have crossed this Rubicon before. The loss of information in the Information Age is surely comparable in some ways to the losses that occurred when telephone and radio suddenly allowed decision making at a distance while ensuring that many of those decisions would not be “documented.” In theory, the spread of radios and telephones caused a great deal of important information produced over the last century to be lost forever. While historians and archivists might well lament this loss, however, its practical effect on our understanding of the past has been less than overwhelming. Does anyone argue that the 20th century is less well documented or less well understood than the 19th?

Michael Warner is Chief Historian of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. This essay reflects remarks he made at the SHFG annual conference in March 2009. The views he expresses in them are his own and do not represent the views of the ODNI or any other U.S. Government entity.

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HENRY CLAY'S LOST ELECTION

By Terrance Rucker

Henry Clay (1777–1852) is acknowledged as the first powerful Speaker of the House of Representatives. Clay is credited with transforming the speakership from that of an impartial umpire into a partisan office that ensured that the legislation of the majority party took precedence. Clay not only defined the Speaker's office for his successors, he also helped to keep the Union together through acts such as the Missouri Compromise of 1820 and, later as a U. S. Senator, the Compromise of 1850. As a result, his peers dubbed him, "The Great Compromiser."

Scholars have documented many of Clay's elections to the House and Senate. However, one election slipped through the cracks. Henry Clay's October 30, 1815, special election to the House escaped the attention of academic scholars and was not listed in some of the standard sources. Interestingly, the discovery of this special election was a collaborative effort between two federal history offices, a state historical society, a state archive, and an independent research library. This case illustrates what federal history offices can provide to enhance a historical narrative.

The House Office of History and Preservation (OHP) and the Senate Historical Office manage the content of the *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*, www.bioguide.congress.gov, a publication that features biographical profiles of every Member, Senator, Delegate, and Resident Commissioner who has served in Congress from 1774 to the present day. As a result, both offices respond to reference inquiries from Members of Congress and their staffs, the media, and the general public. In June 2008, I received an inquiry from a staff member of the American Antiquarian Society, a research library and historical society that studies the politics of the Early Republic (1789–1815). In the course of her research, she noticed that Clay ran for a special election in the fall of 1815 that was not listed in Clay's *Biographical Directory* profile. The staff member sent a fax of the original sources and a detailed note to our office for review.

After receiving the inquiry, I reviewed three sources about congressional elections and Henry Clay. The first source was Michael J. Dubin's *United States Congressional Elections, 1788–1997: The Official Results of the Elections from the 1st through 105th Congresses* (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland Publishing, 1998). Although Dubin listed the general election results for Clay's district, he did not list results for the October 30, 1815, election, nor did he cite the same sources as the American Antiquarian Society. The second source was Robert Remini's *Henry Clay: Statesman for*

the Union (New York: W. W. Norton, 1991), considered by many to be the definitive biography of Clay. Remini's account did not mention the special election at all, focusing instead on Clay's activities as minister plenipotentiary to Great Britain.

The third source was the *Papers of Henry Clay*, a multi-volume work compiled by the University of Kentucky Press. Clay's papers included two letters regarding the special election. In an October 13, 1815, letter to Kentucky Secretary of State Martin Hardin, Clay outlined his constitutional dilemma and the reasons for running in an October special election. Due to signing "a Commercial convention with Great Britain...under a Commission from the President, it has become questionable whether my seat as a Representative... has not thereby become vacated." Clay also wrote, "the question depends upon a provision in the first article of the Constitution." Clay was referring to Article I, Section 6, Part 2 of the Constitution, which prohibits Members of Congress from simultaneously holding a position in the executive or judicial branches of government. Throughout 1814, Clay served as minister plenipotentiary to Great Britain in a diplomatic effort to resolve the War of 1812. During that period, Clay did not certify or sign anything as a minister. However, his signing of the commercial convention as a representative of the executive branch violated this clause of the Constitution. As a result, Clay invalidated his membership as a Member of Congress. Clay felt that "the proper interpretation" of the clause necessitated a declaration of vacancy of the seat and the organization of the special election. Clay said the governor "may not always possess a knowledge of the facts necessary to decide questions of this sort; but when officially notified of them...it would seem to me that his Constitutional duty necessarily arises."

An October 20, 1815, public letter announced Clay's intention to run for the seat. This letter was published in a number of local newspapers of the time. The citations of the newspaper articles were the same that the American Antiquarian researcher had sent to me—textual confirmation that Clay's special election took place.

After consulting with my colleagues, we sought additional evidence to confirm that the October 30 special election took place. One idea was to find a copy of Clay's certificate of election results. I contacted the Center for Legislative Archives, the section of the National Archives that manages of the records of Congress, to ask about Clay's certificate. A colleague sent a scan of Clay's certificate that listed the special election date.

In the Name of the State of Kentucky.

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting; Know ye,

That we George W. Mottus Deputy Shff of the County of Dayette,
Lewis Singleton Deputy Shff of Sepamino County, & Thomas Harper
Deputy Shff of Woodford County, composing one entire circuit, entitled
by law to elect a member to the House of Representatives of the United
States, do hereby certify and make known, that at an election held on
the 30th day of Oct 1815 at the Court house of our respective counties,
pursuant to a writ of Election for that purpose issued by his Excellen
cy the Governor of This Commonwealth, the electors qualified to vote
for members to the house of representatives caused to be chosen,
to-wit: Henry Clay Esq. to represent this state as a member of
the house of representatives of the United States; Given under our hands
and seals this 13th November 1815.

Geo. W. Mottus Deput. Shff
Lewis Singleton Deput. Shff
Thomas Harper Deput. Shff

Henry Clay's original special election certificate, Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

With three pieces of evidence (Clay's October 13 and 20 letters and his certificate of election), I had verified two important assertions: First, that Clay successfully won a special election on October 30, 1815; second, that Clay's seat was declared vacant based on his October 13, 1815, letter. The final question was, when did the governor of Kentucky declare the seat vacant?

The NARA colleague that sent the certificate of election to me suggested that I should contact the Kentucky Historical Society to locate source information for the special election results. A friendly staff historian at the Society referred me to a number of colleagues. One of those colleagues was an archivist who kindly searched the state's election records for information about the October special election. Unfortunately, he did not find anything in the records about the special election. During my research, I discovered that the governor of Kentucky, Isaac Shelby, kept executive journals during his term. I asked the archivist if there was any mention of Clay's vacancy in the journals. The archivist found an October 16, 1815, entry that declared the seat vacant.

After receiving the articles, the OHP staff drafted language for Clay's Biographical Directory entry that listed the special election. After perfecting a draft, we sought input from Betty Koed, who is currently the Associate Historian of the Senate. After she concurred with the language, OHP

modified Clay's entry to reflect the October 30, 1815, special election in August 2008.

This memorable reference request is illustrative of the collaborative process between different public history offices in three ways. First, this experience shows how federal history offices can conduct independent research that adds to the historical record. Second, federal history offices actively consult and work with federal and state agencies to resolve a historical question. Finally, changes such as the one that OHP made to the Clay entry allows for further inquiry by professional historians and the general public about a little-known historical episode that could have seriously affected the career of an important historical figure in the history of the Early Republic.

I would like to thank Krista Ferrante of the American Antiquarian Society for bringing this question to OHP's attention. Thanks also to Kenneth Kato of the Center for Legislative Archives for sending the digital scan of Clay's certificate. Finally, thanks to Sally Bown of the Kentucky Historical Society for her assistance and to Tim Tingle of the Kentucky State Archives for finding the Isaac Shelby executive journal entry.

Terrance Rucker is a historical writer and researcher in the Office of History & Preservation, Office of the Clerk, U. S. House of Representatives

LIFE AS A COMMAND HISTORIAN: THE FIRST YEAR

By Maria Christina “MC” Mairena

I am the first Command Historian ever hired for the Army’s Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command (FMWRC). FMWRC is only two years old, but has existed in one incarnation or another since 1983. The role of FMWRC within the U.S. Army is to provide support to the soldiers and to their families. This on-garrison support includes childcare, dining options, lodging, and entertainment. For deployed soldiers, support includes educational opportunities, libraries, and recreational activities. As a Command Historian, I have oversight of all aspects of FMWRC history: its collection, preservation, and analysis. It’s my job to create and catalog a historical archive; to create and implement an oral history program to interview the top leadership of the Command and to answer historical inquiries from the media and the public. I write incidental papers on FMWRC history when called upon to do so. I also compile the Command’s Annual Report and will research the first ever Command History.

Prior to working for the Army, I worked for a year as Library Director at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, DC. I finished my dissertation while working at Bolling, and was happy to work for the U.S. Air Force. But I wanted to use the education I’d worked so hard for and spent so much time getting, so I sought a historian position within the military or federal government. In March 2008, I applied for the position of command historian, was interviewed at the beginning of May, and received an offer about two weeks later.

Once I arrived at FMWRC in mid-June 2008, I was given a cubicle and left on my own. It was a jarring transition. I went from being a facility manager and library director with a staff of six to sitting in a cubicle all by myself. But that was one of the selling points of the position: I got to CREATE the office. I began with ordering a small reference library to supplement my own personal library, which I had brought with me. I worked on the long list of required training for incoming Army civilian employees and spent a great deal of time thinking of strategies for moving forward.

My role as the FMWRC Command Historian is different from that of other historians within the Army. I am not

I know that the preservation and researching of MWR history is an important and valuable service. I know that I may not write the great history of MWR, but am content to organize the resources for those who will come after me.

a combat historian. While FMWRC has civilian employees and soldiers from the Command who do deploy, there is not a traditional “warfare” component to FMWRC. The history that I focus on, the behind-the-scenes support work does not have the usual “cachet” associated with the battlefield. Fortunately, there is a growing interest in the current and past work of FMWRC, and attendance at the Society of Military History conference in April 2009 and the Bi-annual Army Historians conference in July 2009, have helped to raise the profile of MWR history. Happily, I have established good working relationships with several historians at the Center of

Military History (CMH), the Collections Branch of the Museum Division of CMH, and the Army Heritage and Education Center.

I’ve been hired for my training and expertise in deciding what should be preserved at repositories such as the National Archives, the Library of Congress, and the Army Museum Division of CMH. I’ve enjoyed visiting the storage cages and units to dig for FMWRC history and artifacts. I come into my office in the morning and will find items left on my chair—a scrapbook, stack of framed photos, or DVDs. Aside from the challenge of collecting FMWRC history, the other challenge has been where to store it all. I received Command support to move the growing FMWRC archives from a small storage unit to a



A World War II-era sign directing soldiers to the Patton Hotel near Berchtesgaden, Germany

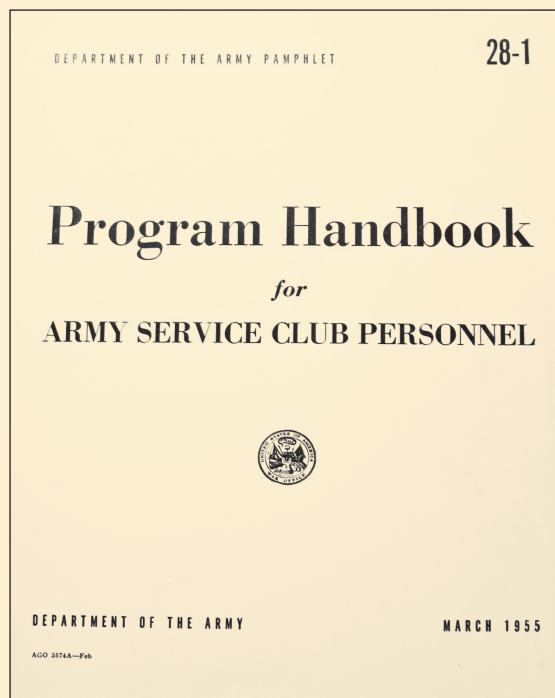
larger space at Fort Belvoir. The Community Recreation Directorate found space in the Army Entertainment Division warehouse. The Community Recreation & Operations Support Directorates cleaned the space, moved filing cabinets into the space, and set up a workbench for me. Having a dedicated storage and work space for the archives has made work life much simpler.

Since June 2009, I've received funding to attend training related to book conservation and disaster response for archives and libraries. Best of all, I received permission to establish a "Command Historian" page on Facebook, where I post updates, photos, and notes about MWR history and my work as the FMWRC historian. I've made a YouTube video explaining what the archives are and what I hope they'll eventually contain. (I have also been on

Command-sanctioned trips to visit former MWR staff to collect artifacts and papers that they wish to donate to the FMWRC archives.) As of October 1, 2009, I'm being moved from the Public Affairs Office to the Command Group's Special Staff, so we'll see what changes continue to occur.

I know that the preservation and researching of MWR history is an important and valuable service. I know that I may not write the great history of MWR, but am content to organize the resources for those who will come after me.

Maria Christina "MC" Mairena is Command Historian of the U. S. Army's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command in Alexandria, VA.



A U. S. Army Service Club Personnel handbook from 1955



U. S. Army Special Services ashtray from Vietnam War era

CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for the 24th year of the United States Capitol Historical Society Fellowship. This fellowship is designed to support research and publication on the history of the art and architecture of the United States Capitol and related buildings. Graduate students and scholars may apply for periods ranging from one month to one year; the stipend is \$2000 per month. **Applications must be postmarked by March 15, 2010.** For further information contact Dr. Barbara Wolanin, Curator, Architect of the Capitol, Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 228-1222 or the United States Capitol Historical Society at www.uschs.org.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE HISTORY PROJECT

By Alan J. DellaPenna, Jr.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services. Our mission is to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level. Underlying our mission is a foundation to uphold the federal government's obligation to promote healthy American Indian and Alaska Native people, communities, and cultures and to honor and protect the inherent sovereign rights of Tribes. We are one of the few agencies in the department that provides direct services to individuals: the 15,000 employees of IHS serve 1.9 million members of the 564 federally recognized tribes located in 35 states.

The picture of Indian health is much different than it was in 1955. The health status of Indians has improved dramatically. Federal policy and enabling legislations towards Indians experienced a major shift in the 1970s and 1980s that ushered in an era of Tribal Self-Governance. This has led to tribal governments operating over 50 percent of the Indian health system through contracts and compacts with the federal government. The IHS history project grew out of a sense that the issues and events that shaped these changes in the Indian health system had not been well documented or described. A history project could help provide context and understanding to the mission of IHS to current and future Indian health leaders.

The Indian Health Service initiated a history project in the fall of 2005 with the goal of producing a book commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Transfer Act. The Transfer Act moved the federal health responsibilities for American Indians and Alaska Natives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the U.S. Public Health Service in 1955. I was detailed to coordinate the project based on prior experiences managing large projects to completion in IHS. My background is in environmental health, I am a Sanitarian in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and have worked in field, regional, and national programs in IHS since 1983.

The history project started out as a committee composed of representatives from the disciplines and programs of IHS. It didn't take long to assess that the chances of a committee producing a comprehensive history on its own was unlikely due to their work schedules and the scale of reviewing 50 years of the detailed history of the IHS programs. The main challenge was to produce a book on the history of our agency while struggling to find focus, style, and direction for the project.

By chance, through Cindy Lachin at the FDA Historian's Office, I met Alexandra "Lexi" Lord, then at the PHS Historian's Office. Lexi understood the situation we were in. She advised us to consider contracting for help from a professional historian or history firm. Lexi suggested several sources, including History Associates, Inc. I contacted Ken Durr at History Associates and explained our dilemma. Ken reviewed History Associates' experience with corporate and government history. He outlined what we were looking for: an illustrated history with a balance of photos and deeply researched narrative that would be relevant to new employees, tribal leaders, and seasoned veterans of the system. During this period, I maintained a standing appointment with Lexi Lord. She mentored me in the basics and finer points of a history office. Sheena Morrison and Lindsey Hobbs at the PHS Historian's Office also offered invaluable advice and assistance. As a novice, this was a great help to me.

In May 2006, IHS entered into a contract with History Associates to conduct research, draft the manuscript, and prepare the graphic design of the book. IHS would conduct the oral history interviews and photo history research. We spent the first six months doing research at the Washington, D. C.-based archival sites. The contract included trips to several Indian reservations. As a service delivery agency with over 50 percent of our employees as beneficiaries, I felt strongly that understanding our agency couldn't be achieved through archival research only. You have to spend some time in an Indian reservation to understand who we are, what we do, and our relationship to the people we serve. This turned



Jamie Rife, of History Associates (left), and Alan DellaPenna, Jr.

out to be a valuable component of our research. The research for the project included visits to IHS facilities in Alaska, Arizona, and New Mexico.

Jamie Rife was assigned by History Associates to the project. Jamie was a great fit for our project and as a result, we quickly formed a good rapport and partnership. They provided a level of objectivity and professional rigor that we never could have achieved on our own. We formed an IHS team that helped provide focus and emphasis on topics, events, and individuals that History Associates would have not reached through archival research and oral history interviews.

From the experience with the PHS Historian's Office staff, I came to appreciate the opportunity I had working full-time on the history project. Documenting the agency's history had been attempted over the years with limited success. The major outcomes were videotaped interviews with our past directors of IHS in 1989, a proposal for an independent history project that never got off the ground in 2000, and an independent article, "The Political History of IHS," published in 1999. We could attempt to establish a collection of IHS-related photos, documents, and oral histories while conducting research for the book. This strategy resulted in a growing collection of materials that includes over 60 new and historic transcribed interviews and numerous historic

documents collected at research visits to most of the National Archives sites. We've also acquired and received donations of photos, documents, and personal items.

One offshoot of the history project has been a series of presentations and speakers at IHS Headquarters. The sessions typically include a presentation of historic photos and primary source materials about topics in Indian health along with a retiree or expert on the subject. The sessions have been popular and very helpful in making the history of our agency relevant to current staff.

We have made a lot of progress with the IHS history project. Our book, *Caring & Curing: The History of the Indian Health Service*, is finished. Our partner, the Commissioned Officers Foundation, produced a commercial publication due for release in October 2009. We have a growing archive of photos, documents, and oral histories. We expect the IHS History Project to continue for the foreseeable future. Our new agency leadership supports the effort. The challenge of securing sustainable funding continues while we share the rich history of IHS with staff and tribal programs.

Alan J. DellaPenna, Jr. is a project coordinator in the Office of Public Health Support of the Indian Health Service in Rockville, Md.

THE KITCHEN DEBATE AND AMERICAN PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

By Martin J. Manning

On Thursday, July 23, 2009, George Washington University's School of Media and Public Affairs hosted a symposium that celebrated an illustrative example of American public diplomacy. The "kitchen debate" occurred on July 24, 1959, between then-Vice President Richard Nixon and then-Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev at the American National Exhibition, Sokolniki Park, Moscow, in the exhibition's model American home. This event was the first one held after the signing of the US-USSR Cultural Exchange Agreement (Lacy-Zarubin) the previous year. When Nixon opened the exhibition, he tried to impress Khrushchev with America's advances in color television,

**"WE HAVE OVERTAKEN YOU
IN ROCKETS. WE WILL
OVERTAKE YOU IN COLOR
TELEVISIONS TOO."**

Nikita Khrushchev

**"WAIT A MINUTE. WAIT TILL
YOU SEE THE PICTURES."**

Richard Nixon

but the debate became a Cold War confrontation instead.

Vice President Richard Nixon: "There are some instances where you may be ahead of us. For example in the development of the thrust of your rockets for the investigation of outer space. There may be some instances for example, color television, where we're ahead of you. But in order for both of us..."

Nikita Khrushchev: "No, no way. We have overtaken you in rockets. We will overtake you in color televisions too."

Richard Nixon: "Wait a minute. Wait till you see the pictures ..."

Fifty years later, survivors of this exchange, and the exhibition which fostered it, gathered at George

Washington University. Participants at the symposium, “Face-off to Facebook: From the Nixon-Khrushchev Kitchen Debate to Public Diplomacy in the 21st Century,” emphasized that although their tools of persuasion have changed during the past 50 years, U. S. public diplomats emphasize personal interaction with others rather than a government “pushing a message” on a “target audience.” Often cited during the conference were the words of Edward R. Murrow, the Director of the United States Information Agency (USIA) during the Kennedy administration, who famously said that USG overseas outreach “is not so much moving information or guidance or policy five or 10,000 miles. . . . The real art is to move it the last three feet in face to face conversation.”

The opening panel almost became a second “kitchen debate” between speakers Sergei Khrushchev, the premier’s son, and journalist Bill Safire, as both men argued the significance of the American National Exhibition and whether or not the “kitchen debate” was a spontaneous moment or a planned event. Both were present at the 1959 show. Khrushchev, 24 years old at the time, accompanied his father. Safire was the press agent for General Electric, which actually made the model kitchen in which the debate started. Shortly before the end of the panel, Safire asked Khrushchev to answer a question he had been debating for decades: When Nixon returned to Moscow in 1966 or 1967, after Khrushchev was out of power, he tried to look up the by-then deposed Nikita K., but was told he was out of town, when in fact he was only a few hours out of town, and the KGB ensured that Nixon’s note wasn’t delivered to Khrushchev until minutes before Nixon left the USSR. Sergei Khrushchev remembered the incident but time constraints would not allow him to go into more details.

The next presenter, Jack Masey, USIA Chief of Design of the 1959 exhibition, pointed out that what really worked best in the case of our Cold War “enemy” was that Russians were able to connect with real Americans—the young U.S. exhibition guides (fluent Russian speakers) with whom Russians talked about a wide variety of subjects, some of which had little to do with the exhibition itself. Exhibition guide George Feifer, in his memorable account of his Moscow stay, stressed how important it was to him to speak with Russians directly and how much he had learned about their post-Stalin society through their one-on-one exchanges. The luncheon speaker was William Burns, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and Former Ambassador to the Russian Federation.

The second part of the conference dealt with “The New Media in Today’s Public Diplomacy.” Here too, a key word was “connect.” The new media makes it possible for people throughout the world to link up on matters of shared interest via cyberspace—rather than, as was arguably the case—to be manipulated by centrally controlled media outlets, government entities, or CNN. One speaker, Clay Shirky, the author of *Here Comes Everybody*, tied in the new media with the traditional methods used at the 1959 exhibition. The rest of the afternoon consisted of other leading voices in media, government, academia and in the cutting edge of new media and social networking.

Martin Manning is a librarian in the State Department’s Bureau of Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs and curator of its public diplomacy archives.

CALL FOR PAPERS

FEDERAL HISTORY SHFG ONLINE JOURNAL

The Society seeks papers for the January 2011 issue of *Federal History*, its online, peer-reviewed history journal. The journal promotes scholarship on all aspects of the history and workings of the federal government, and of the developmental relationships between American society and the U.S. military or U.S. government, 1776 to the present. In addition, the journal features research articles on methodological developments in federal historical work, including the fields of history, archival science, historic preservation, public history, museum studies, web-based history, memory studies, and other related areas. The manuscript must be fully documented and follow the submission standards posted at our Publications link at www.shfg.org. Send your manuscript, an abstract, brief biographical information, and information on available images to editor-shfg-journal@shfg.org.

INTERNSHIPS IN FEDERAL HISTORY

Internship opportunities in federal history offices are diverse and extensive. Interns can make valuable contributions to a program, and often these opportunities lead to permanent positions. This column highlights a different history internship program in each issue. You can send information on your office program for future inclusion to benjamin.guterman@nara.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS, VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (VHA) HISTORY OFFICE

Program goal: Internships in the VHA History Office provide students with a wide range of practical experiences in public history and embraces many disciplines such as the history of medicine, oral history, museum studies, and architectural history. The internships are typically designed to provide specific experiences that benefit both the student and the History Office. The VHA History Office is a new program established in 2006 to preserve the administration's heritage, which spans back to the National Soldiers and Sailors Asylum authorized in 1865.

Intern duties: Interns are normally assigned various tasks connected to a specific project, but may be given other duties as needed. Assignments may include conducting historical research, preliminary analysis, and writing; oral history; archives and collections work; assisting with surveys; creating handouts; data entry for database projects; providing research assistance; photography; art or design work; and more.

Work location: All history internships must be approved by the VHA History Office in Washington, DC. A majority of internships are conducted in Washington, however, internships can be based out of any VA medical center in the country, with approval from the VHA History Office.

Application requirements: The applicant must be a U.S. citizen currently enrolled at an accredited educational institution and be in good academic standing. Applicants must submit a current resume (two-page maximum), along with a written recommendation by their professor, teacher, or instructor, and include a cover letter with a brief description of the subject(s) they're interested in and skills or experiences they seek to gain. Approved interns are required to complete a National Agency Check and Inquiry (NACI) background check.

Web site: not available at this time

Contact: Darlene Richardson

E-mail: Darlene.richardson@va.gov



WHITNEY STANTON

In January 2009 I had the opportunity to work on a research project with the Veterans Affairs History Department on the marching bands of the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, a predecessor of contemporary VA hospitals. With guidance and fresh insight from my supervisor Darlene Richardson, I gathered an abundance of information from institutions such as the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and the VA library. Historical research is a fun process. After the thrill of hunting for raw facts, I wove together the seemingly disparate threads from information like visitors' accounts to biographical information to make a story. I ended up delivering lists of compiled facts, a historical timeline on the marching bands for each branch of the National Homes, and a draft playlist for a CD of songs actually performed by the bands. My internship at Veterans Affairs was very enjoyable and rewarding. I feel that the extensive archival experience has prepared me for my current job with the General Services Administration where my current project is locating and reclaiming missing Works Progress Administration period artwork.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Stuart I. Rochester, 63, chief historian of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, died on July 29, 2009, at his home in Burtonsville, Maryland. With his passing, the federal history community lost a gifted historian and editor, and his colleagues lost an esteemed friend who displayed remarkable courage and fortitude during his long battle with melanoma. Stuart served with the Historical Office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense for nearly 30 years, becoming deputy chief in 1987 and chief historian in 2008. During that time he co-authored *Honor Bound: The History of American Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia*, the definitive account of the U.S. POW experience during the Vietnam War that provides historical context for matters relating to the Geneva Conventions and Code of Conduct. He served as principal editor for the *OSD History Series* and *DoD Special Studies Series*, chief editor of the *Public Statements of the Secretary of Defense*, and directed the production of numerous historical reference books. Among fellow staff, he was legendary for his prowess with the pen and “eagle eye” for spotting mistakes. Even during the last months of his illness, he continued to edit the office’s forthcoming history of the administration of Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.



Born in Baltimore, Stuart graduated from Loyola College (Baltimore). He received a master’s degree and doctorate in history from the University of Virginia, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and was a Ford Scholar and du Pont and Marchant Fellow. He taught at his alma mater, Loyola College, and was tenured in 1976. He joined the defense department in 1980. Stuart’s other books include *Takeoff at Mid-Century: Federal Civil Aviation Policy in the Eisenhower Years* (1976) and *American Liberal Disillusionment in the Wake of World War I* (1977), which won a Phi Alpha Theta Manuscript Award. Stuart was also active in local zoning and land use matters, serving on citizen advisory and county committees.

Stuart loved his work and appreciated being part of the federal history community, though he did not shy from allowing the books he edited to express criticism if the historical record warranted it. He displayed a bountiful humor, special warmth, and keen intelligence in all his dealings with colleagues and was an inspiring mentor to younger staff. His passing is deeply felt.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

THE 1992 SOCIETY PICNIC

By Charles Downs, SHFG Archivist

On September 19, 1992, the Society hosted a picnic at Fort Ward Park, in Alexandria, Virginia, in place of its annual Hewlett Lecture. SHFG President Gerald Haines had suggested the picnic and moving the Hewlett Lecture to the next year's annual meeting. Haines reserved the location and even arranged for a guest speaker, Congressman James Moran (D-VA). These arrangements were later approved by the SHFG Executive Council.

A brief story on the picnic appeared in the fall 1992 edition of the *The Federalist*, written by editor Kevin Ruffner, who note that nearly 50 people attended the event. The director of the Fort Ward Museum and Park led a tour of the Civil War fort and museum. Traditional cookout fare was provided, with hot dogs and hamburgers grilled by Roger Trask. Ray Smock and Charlene Bickford conducted a trivia game, while President Haines led an egg toss and other games. One of the highlights of the event was the appearance by Congressman James Moran (D-VA), who was his in first congressional term. (He is now in his 10th term representing the same northern Virginia district.) While seeming a bit out of place wearing a dark suit at a picnic, Moran, a former federal worker, quickly fit in. After discussing issues of concern to the Society, he was presented a Society tee shirt, which he proudly displayed.

A good time was had by all who attended, but the event was not a complete success. The Executive Council's notes reports that it cost the Society almost \$200, and left a considerable amount of uneaten food, which was donated to a homeless shelter. President Haines wrote in *The Federalist* that the Society still had almost 400 members, since "no one was lost at the picnic." The next year the Society had two Hewlett Lectures, one in conjunction with the annual meeting, and one with the fall dinner. Since then, the Society has retained its tried and true formula of Annual Meeting, Dinner/Hewlett Lecture, and Holiday Party. For more information about the SHFG archives, write to cfdowns@earthlink.net.



*(left to right) Jack Shulimson
(then VP), Terry Gough, David
Pemberton, Mike McReynolds*



*Above: (left to right) Cindy Fox, Gerry Haines, Congressman
Moran*

Left: Roger Trask at the grill

MAKING HISTORY

AIR FORCE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The Air Force Historical Foundation held its biennial symposium on Thursday, October 8, 2009, on "The Balkans Air Campaigns in the 1990s and Their Influence Since 2001," at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. The guest speaker for the awards banquet that evening was General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff, USAF. The luncheon speaker was General Michael E. Ryan, who as 16th Air Force Commander was responsible for air operations in Bosnia, and who was Chief of Staff from 1997 to 2001.

The morning panel addressed air campaigns in Bosnia, 1995, and in Kosovo, 1999. The panel was chaired by Mr. Dick Anderegg and featured papers presented by Major William A. March, CD, MA, of the Canadian Armed Forces; Dr. Daniel Haulman, and Mr. Chris Mayse, two civilian historians in the U. S. Air Force history program. The afternoon panel, chaired by Dr. Timothy A. Keck, included papers presented by Dr. Rebecca Grant of IRIS Independent Research and the Air Force Association's Mitchell Institute; Lt. Col. Erik Rundquist, an active Air Force officer and scholar-warrior experienced in special operations in Iraq; and Col. Mike Isherwood, a combat veteran of Operation DESERT STORM and now an analyst with the Northrop Grumman Corporation.

The awards banquet included an address by General Schwartz and the presentation of two prestigious awards. The third annual General Carl "Tooey" Spaatz Award was awarded to Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Stafford, USAF (Ret). The Foundation presented its third annual Major General I. B. Holley Award to Mr. Herman S. Wolk, a distinguished career Air Force historian, for making a sustained, significant contribution to the research, interpretation, and documentation of Air Force history. It is named for the distinguished professor who taught military history at Duke University for over six decades, served as an active and reserve Air Force officer, and influenced several generations of military historians.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CIA historians, who reside at the Agency's "think tank," the Center for the Study of Intelligence, have been engaged in recent months in a number of activities that reflect the dual nature of the work of the CIA History Staff. Agency historians work primarily in the classified world, producing historical studies of use to currently serving intelligence officers, while at the same time participating in outside events designed to illuminate and explain to the American public the often mysterious history of intelligence and the CIA.

Chief Historian David Robarge, for example, presented to an Agency audience his analysis of the leadership charac-

teristics of past CIA directors and also briefed officers in the field on operational history. Staff historian Matthew Penney detailed the history of CIA involvement in Iraq to a large group of operations officers. Tracy Rich briefed participants in an Intelligence Community program on the ancient antecedents of the modern intelligence profession. All members of the History Staff helped teach the 25-hour course on CIA history offered every spring in the Agency auditorium, which is taught at the SECRET level.

Outside activities involved travel to schools such as Brigham Young University, the Virginia Military Institute, Savannah State University, and the Culver Academies for well-received unclassified presentations on CIA history; to conferences such as the University College of Dublin's conference on CIA and U.S. Foreign Policy (where CIA historian Nicholas Dujmovic delivered a paper) and a Vietnam War symposium at Washington and Lee University (where Dr. Robarge also presented); to military institutions such as the Naval War College and the Air War College; and to civic events such as the James City County Public Library lecture series. Upcoming activities will include guest lectures in academic courses taught by Officers-in-Residence, who are CIA officers teaching openly at several U.S. universities.

HISTORY ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED

History Associates vice president Michael C. Reis recently authored an essay appearing in *The Environmental Legacy of Harry S. Truman*, published by Truman State University Press. The book, edited by Karl Boyd Brooks, examines the Truman administration and its impact on the natural environment and the preservation movement. Based on papers presented at the 2007 Truman Legacy Symposium at Key West, Florida, *The Environmental Legacy of Harry S. Truman* includes articles by leading environmental, political, and legal scholars including Mark W. T. Harvey, Paul Milazzo, and Christine Todd Whitman. Mr. Reis's essay, "Pre-EPA Environmental Records at the National Archives," offers reflections on doing professional environmental history research, arguing that a wide variety of environmental records were created by federal agencies long before the EPA was established. Mr. Reis documents how these materials can help determine the facts at issue in current environmental disputes.

History Associates senior historian James P. Rife recently completed *Caring & Curing: A History of the Indian Health Service*. Co-authored with Capt. Alan J. Dellapenna, Jr., the book chronicles the history of Indian Health Service (IHS) from its earliest beginnings, as part of the Department of the Interior, through multiple reorganizations including the 1955 transfer to the U.S. Public Health Service. Focusing upon the intense, often shifting political, tribal, and health-care dynamics, *Caring & Curing* traces IHS's evolution over

time. The book follows the agency through myriad trials and triumphs in its long-running fight to elevate Indian health to a level comparable to that of the rest of the nation. Brought to life through compelling personal stories, a crisp narrative, and archival imagery, the book not only looks at past successes and failures of Indian health care, but keeps an eye toward the future and the remaining work to be done by the agency in consultation and cooperation with American Indians and Alaska Natives. For more information about History Associates, call (301) 279-9697 or visit www.historyassociates.com.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

On July 7, 2009, the Library of Congress celebrated the opening of modules 3 and 4 and cold-storage rooms at the Fort Meade Facility. These modules and four cold-storage rooms will accommodate approximately 33 million items from the Library's special collections, including maps, globes, manuscripts, prints and photographs, sheet music, and microfilm. The newly completed construction also includes a new processing area, a quarantine room, a loading dock, and mechanical spaces.

Roberta I. Shaffer was appointed Law Librarian of Congress on August 20, 2009. Shaffer leaves the post of executive director of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee/Federal Library Network (FLICC/FEDLINK) that oversaw procurement, provided advocacy and advice on technology, and managed education and training.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

The exhibit "A New World Is at Hand" is in the Rotunda in Washington, DC, featuring some of the Archives' most important documents. The new traveling exhibit "Documented Rights" traces the evolution of human and civil rights in the United States. The 75th-anniversary issue of *Prologue*, the agency's quarterly journal, contains a brief history of the agency, discussing its growth and evolution.

In June the Nixon Presidential Library released about 154 hours of tape recordings from the Nixon White House recorded in January and February 1973. Topics include the conclusion of peace between the United States and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the return of POWs, Nixon's second inauguration, and the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision. The recorded conversations are available

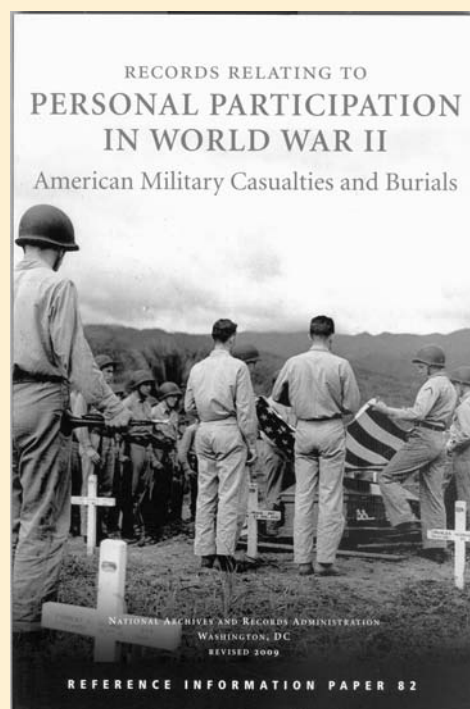
online at www.nixonlibrary.gov and at the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, CA, and at the National Archives at College Park, MD. Newly released textual records include about 10.5 cubic feet from the White House Special Files, Staff Member and Office Files; the National Security Files; and the Henry A. Kissinger Files. The press release states, "Although other copies of these documents have been released by the CIA on its website, these materials were not previously publicly known to have been received by the Nixon administration."

The Archives has launched a YouTube channel to showcase popular archived films, inform the public about upcoming events around the country, and bring National Archives exhibits to the people. The URL is www.youtube.com/USNationalArchives. New films will be steadily added.

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has opened over 6 million individual personnel files of former federal civilian employees from the mid-1800s through 1951. They include the files of prominent individuals who worked for the federal government, such as Walt Disney, Ansel Adams, Eliot Ness, Calvin Coolidge, J. Edgar Hoover, Gifford Pinchot, Walker Evans, and Albert Einstein.

New microfilm publications include *Stars and Stripes: Newspaper of the American Expeditionary Forces, 1918-1919* (M2130, RG 120, 1 roll); *War Department Records of the Division and Department of the Pacific, 1847-1873* (M2114, RG 393, 89 rolls); and *Orders Relating to the Activation, Transfer, Redesignation and Disbandment of U.S. Army Units, 1942-1964* (A3701, RG 319, 53 rolls). Review roll lists and order copies through Order Online! at www.archives.gov.

The National Archives has revised and updated *Records Relating to Personal Participation in World War II: American Military Casualties and Burials*, Reference Information Paper 82 (RIP), which surveys the records in the holdings at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland, that provide information on World War II military casualties and burials. Military recordkeeping followed complex procedures, and information on casualties was incomplete, making it often impossible to locate individual names. This guide describes the records—textual, motion picture, and still picture—that are easiest to use and most productive in terms of quantity of names and information. The introduction discusses military casualty reporting systems in World War II,



casualty reports and notification telegrams, letters of condolence and progress reports, messages of cheer, “missing air crew reports” and follow-up letters, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps casualty accounting and inter-service cooperation, and distribution of casualty status information outside the casualty branch. Some of the record groups cataloged include records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, American Battle Monuments Commission, Fifth Army Graves Registration Service, and Office of the Chief of Chaplains. For a free copy, contact the Research Support Staff, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20408; Tel: 202-357-5400, 1-866-325-7208.

NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

The museum has recently opened a new exhibit, *Delivering Hope: FDR & Stamps of the Great Depression*, which will run through June 2010. Franklin D. Roosevelt, president during the Great Depression, used stamps to communicate with the American people. A stamp collector himself, he understood the power of visual imagery, and he changed the look of stamps to convey messages of hope, optimism, and the solidity of the federal government. This exhibit offers novel insights into FDR’s personality, his relationship with Postmaster General James A. Farley, and his concern for the welfare of the American people.

NATIONAL PRESERVATION INSTITUTE

The Institute has released its schedule of professional seminars for the period September 2009–June 2010. The state-of-the-art classes aim to serve “those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of our cultural heritage.” Classes include “Identification and Management of Traditional Cultural Places,” “Historic Property Management,” and others that will assist professionals who are working in a preservation environment. The schedule is available at www.npi.org.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has selected University of Michigan historian Myron Gutmann to head its directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences that supports research that builds fundamental knowledge of human behavior, social and economic systems, and organizations and institutions. He begins his position on November 2, 2009. Gutmann has a broad range of interests in interdisciplinary historical population studies, especially relating population to agriculture, the environment, and health. He also studies ways that digital materials can be properly preserved and shared, and how the confidentiality of research subjects can be protected when data about them is made available for secondary use. He is an expert on historical demography and the social, demographic, and economic history of Europe and the Americas. His current research focus-

es on the relationship between population and environment in the Great Plains of the U.S., and on the history of the U.S. Hispanic population.

NAVY HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND

The Naval History and Heritage Command, the United States Navy’s primary official historical agency, headquartered in Washington, DC, has awarded the following prize, fellowship, scholarship, and research grant in 2009.

The Rear Admiral Ernest M. Eller Prize in Naval History, sponsored jointly by the Naval History and Heritage Command and the Naval Historical Foundation, for the author of the best article on U.S. naval history published in a scholarly journal in 2008, has been given to Timothy S. Wolters, of Utah State University, for his article “Electric Torpedoes in the Confederacy: Reconciling Conflicting Histories,” published in the July 2008 issue of *The Journal of Military History*. Through careful and logical analysis of all the relevant sources, the prize article cogently explains the contributions of competing claimants to the development of the Confederacy’s electric torpedoes, while providing explanations of the origins of conflicting claims to priority in the development of this innovation in the technology of warfare. The purpose of this award is to heighten awareness of naval history and to encourage other scholars to research and write articles on innovative topics within the discipline.

The Rear Admiral John D. Hayes Pre-Doctoral Fellowship has been awarded to Ryan D. Wadle of Texas A&M University, to assist the writing of a dissertation on the shaping of a new public image of the United States Navy between the two world wars. The Samuel Eliot Morison Scholarship, a grant that supports research by commissioned officers in the United States Navy and Marine Corps enrolled in advanced degree work in history and related fields, has been awarded to Captain Peter D. Haynes of the Naval Postgraduate School for dissertation research on the evolution of U.S. naval strategy since the end of the Cold War. The Vice Admiral Edwin B. Hooper Research Grant has been awarded to Dr. Jonathan R. Winkler of Wright State University to assist with his research on U.S. national security policy through the 20th century from the perspective of changes in communications and information technology.

U.S. ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION, INC.

The latest issue of the Foundation’s journal, *On Point*, is now available. It includes an articles on the Army’s last campaign against the Apaches, by Lieutenant Colonel Edward B. Cummings; the AH-1 Cobra helicopter, by Matthew J. Seelanger; Brigadier General Luther R. Hare, by Lieutenant Colonel Roger D. Cunningham; the United States Army Hospital Ship *Ernest Hinds*, by David A Kaufman; and the Fort Stewart Museum in Georgia; as well as review of new books.

U. S. FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

The Highway History website of the Federal Highway Administration has put up a list of songs dealing with highways: www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/roadsong.cfm. The author, Richard F. Weingroff, is taking further reader suggestions for additions. Suggestions can be sent to him at Richard.weingroff@fhwa.dot.gov. They should meet the following criteria: Songs about musicians being "on the road" don't qualify unless they actually mention roads. Songs about cars, rather than roads, also don't qualify. A song can qualify if it mentions a highway even if the rest of the song is about something else.

U. S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

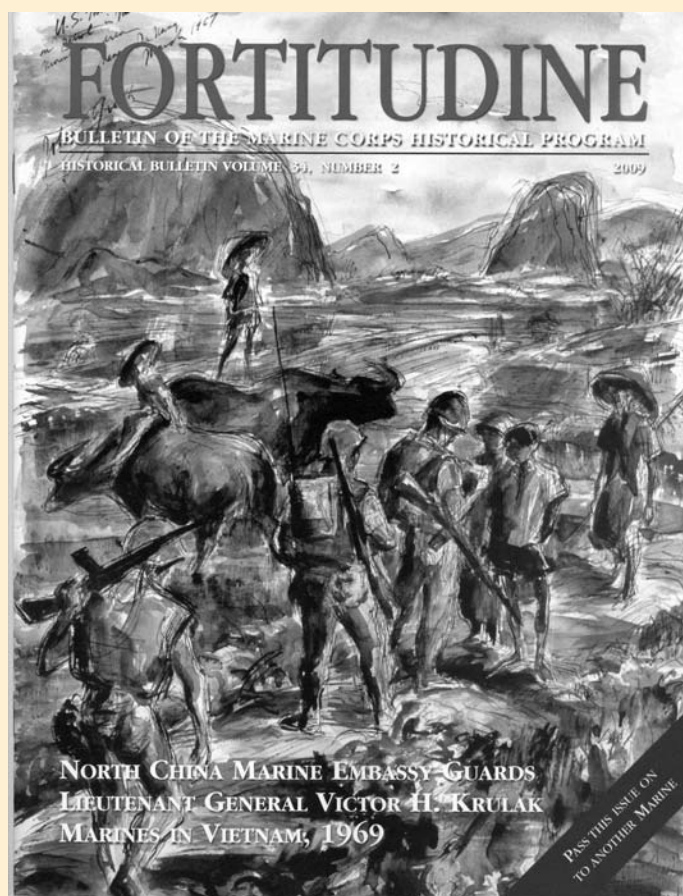
The Holocaust Museum presented an evening of remembrance for the 70th anniversary of the German invasion of Poland. 70 YEARS LATER: REMEMBERING THE GERMAN INVASION OF POLAND was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2009, at 7 p.m. in the Helena Rubinstein Auditorium. Speakers included Jacek Nowakowski, *Senior Curator*; Ray Farr, *Director of the Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive*; Susan Goldstein Snyder, *Curator*; and Edwarda Powidzki, Holocaust Survivor. Also, the Oscar-nominated short film *Siege* about Warsaw in 1939 was presented.

U. S. MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

The History Division has published two new volumes in its Occasional papers series. The first is *Marine Advisors With the Vietnamese Marine Corps: Selected Documents Prepared by the U.S. Marine Advisory Unit, Naval Advisory Group*, compiled and edited by Charles D. Melson and Wanda J. Renfrow. It opens with a background to the Vietnamese Marine Corps, 1954–1975. The selected documents include a Senior Advisor Brief, information on Vietnamese customs, techniques of advising, and standing operating procedures, including "Field Deployment of Marine Advisory Unit." The second paper is *Close Air Support and the Battle for Khe Sanh*, by Lieutenant Colonel Shawn P. Callahan. This fully illustrated volume defines and provides a background for "Close Air Support," and has chapters on "The Hill Battles of 1967," with its heavy bom-

bardment; "The Siege of 1968"; "Operation Pegasus and the Relief of Khe Sanh"; "The Deep Air Battle and the B-52"; and "Radar Controlled Tactical Air Support." These publications are available through the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office at www.bookstore.gpo.gov.

The latest issue of *Fortitudine* (Vol. 34, No. 2), the Division's bulletin, includes a history by Rob Taglianetti of the captivity of the North China Marine Embassy Guards, taken captive on December 8, 1941, and held under horrific conditions. It also features news from the National Museum of the Marine Corps and a chronology of marines in Vietnam in 1969.



FEDERALIST CALENDAR

Oct. 29–31, 2009. Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC), Meeting, Jersey City, NJ. Visit www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/conferences/conferences.html.

Jan. 7–10, 2010. American Historical Association (AHA), Meeting, San Diego, CA. Visit <http://www.historians.org/annual/2010/index.cfm>.

Mar. 10–14, 2010. National Council on Public History (NCPH), Annual Meeting, “Currents of Change.” Portland, OR. Visit www.ncph.org/.

Apr. 7–10, 2010. Organization of American Historians (OAH), Annual Conference, “American Culture, American Democracy.” Hilton Washington, Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.oah.org/meetings/2010/>.

May 20–23, 2010. Society for Military History (SMH), 77th Annual Meeting. “Causes Lost and Won.” Lexington, VA. Visit <http://www.smh-hq.org/conference.html>.


June 24–26, 2010. Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), Annual Conference. Madison, WI. Visit <http://www.shafr.org/conferences/annual/2010-annual-meeting/>.

August 10–15, 2010. Society of American Archivists (SAA), Annual Conference. Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.archivists.org/conference/>.

September 2–5, 2010. American Political Science Association (APSA), Annual Conference. “The Politics of Hard Times: Citizens, Nations, and the International System under Economic Stress.” Washington, DC. Visit http://www.apsanet.org/content_65547.cfm?navID=193#.

October 15–17, 2010. Association for Documentary Editing (ADE), Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA. Visit <http://www.documentaryediting.org/meeting/index.html>.

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