

DOCUMERICA AND FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PHOTOGRAPHY

Bruce I. Bustard

Most historians of the United States are familiar with the Great Depression–era Resettlement Administration/Farm Security Administration (FSA) photography project. The FSA employed photographers like Dorothea Lange, John Vachon, Jack Delano, Marion Post Wolcott, and Arthur Rothstein, who crisscrossed the country during the late 1930s and early 1940s photographing America, most famously in shots such as Lange’s iconic “Migrant Mother” and Rothstein’s of a father and his sons fleeing a dust storm. Directed by agricultural economist Roy Stryker, the project’s goal was to document the United States during the Great Depression and promote Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal, especially in agriculture. The project, its photographers, and its photographs now have their own historiography, and generations of historians have mined the FSA archive at the Library of Congress for photographs for their textbooks, monographs, exhibits, and websites. When combined with the archives of its World War II successor, the Office of War Information (OWI), the collections contain over 165,000 images as well as thousands of pages of administrative records.

Less well-known is another federal photography project inspired by the FSA. In 1971, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) created DOCUMERICA, a nationwide program that employed about 70 photographers who photographed in all 50 states and 28 cities from 1972



DOCUMERICA director Gifford Hampshire (right) was inspired by the New Deal–era Farm Security Administration photography project directed by Roy Stryker (center). During the 1970s, FSA photographer Arthur Rothstein (left) served as an advisor to *DOCUMERICA*. Courtesy of the Hampshire family.

through 1977. Charged with photographically documenting “subjects of environmental concern,” *DOCUMERICA* was born out of the 1970s environmental awakening, and its photographers produced striking photographs of that era’s environmental problems and achievements. But *DOCUMERICA* photographers also were given the freedom to capture the decade’s fashions, trends, and cultural

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By David McMillen

I want to express my appreciation to the membership of the Society for the opportunity to serve as President. It is a position of great honor, and I follow in the footsteps of many great men and women who have led the society, as the roster of Presidents shows. I am indebted to Marc Rothenberg and Matt Wasniewski, our two immediate past Presidents, for guiding the Society wisely over the past two years. I am also fortunate that most of those who have led the Society over the past two years remain, although many have changed positions. Carl Ashley, formerly an Executive Council member, will be our Vice President/President-elect. Marc Rothenberg, has agreed to serve the Society by returning as an adviser to the Council. Sejal Petal has stepped down as Secretary of the Society, and will serve as a member of the Nominating Committee. I thank Lu Ann Jones of the National Park Service for her work on the Council. Laura O'Hara from the House of Representatives history office will replace Sejal as Secretary, and will continue editing the SHFG eBulletin. Jessie Kratz, who was recently selected to be the historian at the National Archives, will serve as the Society's liaison to the National Archives, a position created by our past President, and one that I will continue. Anne Musella serves as Treasurer. Our Executive Council members are Margo Anderson, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee; Eric Boyle, National Institutes of Health;

Kristina Giannotta, Naval History and Heritage Command; Terrance Rucker, Office of the Historian, U.S. House of Representatives; Sara Berndt, State Department; and Zack Wilske, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Benjamin Guterman will continue as Publications Coordinator and Webmaster, and Susan Junod will continue as Awards Coordinator. Serving on the Nomination Committee are Jessie Kratz, Eric Boyle, Elizabeth Charles, and Sejal Patel. I am fortunate to have such a diverse and talented group with which to work as we face the ongoing challenges of membership and finance.

The Society exists to serve the needs of those who document and study the actions of the federal government. Toward that end, we publish *Federal History*, a journal that contains the latest scholarship on that task. The Society eBulletin and *The Federalist* newsletter keep you current with what is happening within agency history offices, in academia, and in the private sector. Our annual meeting and the Hewlett Lecture provide an opportunity for you to meet your colleagues and look inside current research. We hope these benefits are sufficient to keep you coming back for more. If they are not, we need to know from you what else you want from the Society.

The Society for History in the Federal Government exists because a group of concerned historians joined together in 1979 and formed the Society (<http://shfg.org/shfg/about/history/>). Our organization continues because of the active involvement of its members. I hope that during this coming year, each of you will contribute to its growth and be fulfilled by your involvement in the Society.

David McMillen
SHFG President

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EDITOR'S NOTE

We welcome our incoming president, David McMillen and look forward to his leadership for the coming year; his welcoming message is included here. This issue again features a wide-ranging look at federal history work that reflects the diversity of history offices. It starts with Bruce Bustard's discussion of the current National Archives exhibit on the 1970s DOCUMERICA photography project. Not only has that project been little-known, but it is historically revealing and valuable to contrast it with its earlier model, the Farm Security Administration's Depression-era project. Max Baumgarten's work with the Shoah Foundation's oral history database demonstrates some of the indexing insights and methods we can devise to unlock the wealth of data in such resources. I'm excited to feature our interview with NASA historian

Robert Arrighi. His work has allowed us a deeper look into the nation's impressive flight test facilities during the Cold War and beyond that have produced most of our "revolutionary" technological breakthroughs for jet and rocket engines. The stories are not only ones of remarkable aeronautical advances but of the military basis for our development into a superpower. We also feature a look into the work of the Office of the Secretary of Defense Historical Office. Other features hint at some "explorations" or revaluations of historical work, and summarize newly available records. We welcome your submissions and comments to improve *The Federalist* at webmaster@shfg.org.

— Benjamin Guterman, editor

DOCUMERICA continued from page 1

shifts. Held at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland, DOCUMERICA's archive includes about 22,000 color slides, black-and-white negatives, color transparencies, photographic prints, and 20 boxes of textual material that allow historians to study the project and its photographs. The images paint a fascinating portrait of America from 1972 to 1977.

DOCUMERICA was modeled on the FSA project. Its project director, former National Geographic photo editor and career federal employee Gifford "Giff" Hampshire, greatly admired the New Deal photographic enterprise. Hampshire saw DOCUMERICA as "a contemporary application of the photojournalistic principles established by the FSA." He held up the Depression-era agency as his inspiration in the initial press release about DOCUMERICA, urged his photographers to read about it, and hired former FSA photographer Arthur Rothstein as an adviser. When photographers asked for guidance, he pointed them to F. Jack Hurley's *Portrait of a Decade: Roy Stryker and the Development of Documentary Photography in the Thirties*, a history of the FSA project. All his adult life, Hampshire had hoped to "do something . . . comparable to the FSA."

But, as Hampshire liked to point out, he was "no Roy Stryker." He hoped to avoid what he considered the "propaganda" for agency programs he noticed in many FSA photos, and he emphasized that his photographers would have the freedom they cherished to pursue the photographs they intended. Unlike Stryker, Hampshire did not send out lists of images he needed for the files, nor did he offer much in the way of guidance for their assignments. "I'm not saying," he wrote to a photographer, "that I cannot direct photographers into meaningful assignments. . . . I'm saying

that I should not. I contend the best photography comes out of the photographer's intellectual involvement as well as emotional." He often bragged that DOCUMERICA was "a photographer's project."

But while there were differences between the DOCUMERICA and FSA projects, such as DOCUMERICA's reliance on color photography and its larger staff, as a whole the projects had a similar nationwide scope, and its photographers explored comparable issues such as change and continuity, the nature of progress, and American values through in-depth photographic stories. Consciously or not, DOCUMERICA photographers often took pictures that seem inspired by (or even imitative of) documentary techniques pioneered by the FSA in the 1930s.

A comparison of a 1939 FSA photograph taken by Arthur Rothstein and a 1973 DOCUMERICA photograph taken by David Hiser offers one example of these similarities. Both Rothstein's "Miner's Café, Butte, Montana" and

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Hiser's "The cook at the Texan Café watches the snow removal crew at work" are clearly in the documentary tradition of capturing everyday, "ordinary" life. Hiser's and Rothstein's subject matter are the same—a café window framing advertising for the restaurant—although Hiser humanizes the image with his inclusion of the cook. In both photographs the photographer emphasized the reflection of the street from the café window. Those who are familiar with the FSA collection will recognize that Rothstein's shot is only one of dozens of photographs of storefronts and signage taken by FSA photographers. By the late 1930s, images of shop fronts and signs had become familiar cultural artifacts. Whether he realized it or not, Hiser was following what was by 1973 a composition popularized by the FSA; one that would become common among later generations of documentary photographers.

Other *DOCUMERICA* and FSA photographs provide similar opportunities for comparison. Some, for example the *DOCUMERICA* photographs of Leroy Woodson in Birmingham, Alabama; Jane Cooper in rural Vermont; or Jack Corn in Appalachia, are in the tradition of social



A comparison of Arthur Rothstein's 1939 FSA photograph "Miner's Café, Butte, Montana," (left) with David Hiser's 1973 DOCUMERICA photograph "The cook at the Texan Café watches the snow removal crew at work" illustrates the influence of FSA photographic technique on DOCUMERICA. Library of Congress and National Archives.

justice FSA photographs by Lange and Rothstein. Photographs of small-town life such as Lee Lockwood's photograph of men looking out of a pool hall window in Eastport, Maine, or Arthur Greenberg's shot of a town hall and polling place in Hickory, Illinois, recall similar FSA assignments by Vachon in North Platte, Nebraska, or by Wolcott in Woodstock, Vermont. *DOCUMERICA* photographers John H. White and Danny Lyon brought a commitment to picturing cultural diversity that reminds us of the efforts of Lange and, later, OWI photographer Gordon Parks.

Of course, 1970s America was a very different place than 1930s America, and *DOCUMERICA* photographs cover issues such as suburban sprawl, nuclear power, and environmental degradation that were unknown or seldom captured by FSA or OWI photographers. Hampshire's fascination with the FSA did not always take into account these changes. For example, many of his assignments in rural America produced photographs that were uncritical, even romanticized views of the countryside. Still, a historian of photography could write an interesting article comparing and contrasting the projects and their images. A museum curator could mount a fascinating exhibit wherein examples of the *DOCUMERICA* and FSA photographs sit side by side. Or a website could feature displays of similar or contrasting images.

As the last large-scale Federal documentary photography project of the 20th century, *DOCUMERICA* and its images deserve attention, greater visibility, and further study. *DOCUMERICA*'s connection to, and comparison with the most famous government photography project of the 20th century is one direction such research could follow.

The National Archives exhibition, "Searching for the Seventies: The *DOCUMERICA* Photography Project," is the first retrospective of the *DOCUMERICA* project, and contains 90 color photographs. It will be open in the Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery in the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, through September 8, 2013. A catalog of the exhibition is available for purchase online at www.myarchivesstore.org/exhibits-114.html.

The Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information archive is held at the Library of Congress. It can be viewed online at: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/fsahtml/fahome.html>.

About 16,000 *DOCUMERICA* photographs are available online and can be searched by photographer's name, location, or topic on NARA's Archival Research Catalog at: <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/environment/documerica-geographic.html>.

Bruce I. Bustard is a senior curator at the National Archives in Washington, DC. He developed the exhibition "Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project."

ORGANIZING TESTIMONIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Max D. Baumgarten

Crowdsourcing initiatives, the creation of digital history exhibits, and the opening of the archives to a wider public have changed the field of public history. Digital technologies and platforms provide a broad and diverse public with unprecedented access to historical resources. As a result, content curation and data organization have assumed heightened importance in helping to structure historical information online and mediate the ways in which the public interacts with history.

With these general thoughts on my mind, I recently presented at the SHFG-OHMAR Conference (“Public History in the Digital Age”) on the values, assumptions, and biases that undergird the Shoah Foundation Visual History Foundation’s online interface and organizational infrastructure. The primary question I posed at the conference, and have mulled over since, is one of balance: how can the Shoah Foundation Archive (and similar digital history projects) balance the organizational imperatives of large-scale data sets and online user accessibility with the need to convey the complexity of historical experiences?

Between 1994 and 1999, the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, now the USC Shoah Foundation Institute in Los Angeles interviewed about 52,000 Holocaust survivors and other witnesses of the Holocaust about their prewar, wartime, and postwar experiences. In total, there are over 105,000 hours of survivor testimony. With its institutional mission to “overcome prejudice, intolerance, and bigotry—and the suffering they cause—through the educational use of the Institute’s visual history testimonies,” the Shoah Foundation made the videos available to the public with the establishment of the Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, which can be found at <http://sfi.usc.edu>.

Because of the immense size and scope of the collection, the Foundation developed a data management indexing system that helps to organize and categorize the topics mentioned in the testimonies. The Shoah Foundation hired indexers to watch the videos and assign particular keywords to align with the topics discussed. The indexing system effectively functions as the archive’s backbone; it’s the only way for users to navigate and search the archive in a strategic and organized fashion.

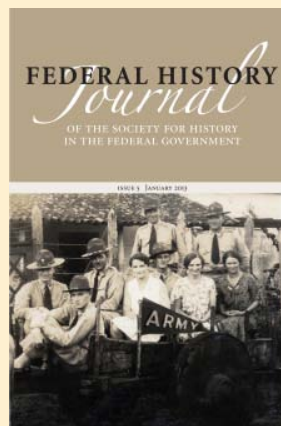
While the Shoah Foundation’s indexing system strives for objectivity based on a set of pre-established guidelines, it nevertheless privileges easily definable, major topics that are discussed at length during the testimonies. The Shoah



Foundation does a particularly effective job at thoroughly indexing the tragic and dramatic events that occurred during the war in Europe. While each survivor tells his or her own unique story, their experiences correspond with a certain overarching narrative and revolve around common, dramatic themes: recollections related to encounters with European antisemitism, instances of forced movement, places of incarceration, and responses to Nazi discrimination are frequently discussed within the testimonies and meticulously indexed.

Yet, fundamental problems with the indexing system become apparent when looking at the ways in which postwar survivor experiences are indexed. The experience of survivors during the postwar period—spanning a variety of geographic, political, and social environments—does not easily conform to any sort of indefinable master narrative or revolve around a single event as monumentally dramatic as the Holocaust. Discussions of the postwar experience are defined by an eclectic array of stories about cultural adaptation, domestic life, professional achievements, and voluntary migration.

Given that the Shoah Foundation indexing system favors easily definable topics and major events, discussions of these relatively nuanced postwar experiences are often under-indexed. While many survivors are intent on sharing their postwar experiences, setbacks, and accomplishments at length, the indexers typically resort to using broad and general keywords like “Acculturation 1945–2000” and “Attitudes Towards Americans” to categorize the postwar content. Take for example the testimony of Natan Gispman, who discusses his experiences as a union member and his



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frustrations with union bureaucracies in postwar Detroit in detail. Yet, this discussion is only tagged with the generalized indexing term: “working life”; nothing in the meta-data suggests that the interviewee talks about organized labor.

To a certain extent, the emphasis on the war experience makes sense. Holocaust remembrance is the central organizing principle of the Shoah Foundation and the adhesive that bonds the interview subjects together. And yet, users with a particular interest in postwar history are effectively being forced to navigate the archive in a roundabout and obtuse way and therefore might not be able to identify the full set of relevant interviews.

As a historian of 20th-century American Jewish History and a digital history enthusiast, I found this situation discouraging and frustrating: stories of the postwar survivor period are worthwhile in their own right and convey valuable historical information. In an effort to think about how the Shoah Foundation might address their problem, I decided to sketch out an indexing system that was adequately attuned to, and could more effectively track and trace, the survivors’ postwar experiences.

In total, I watched 67 videos and concentrated on the testimonies of survivors who migrated from Europe to the United States and eventually settled in Los Angeles. This project has recognizable limitations. The 67 testimonies are not necessarily representative of all the survivors in Los Angeles or the survivor experience elsewhere. Nevertheless it allowed me to better understand the themes, topics, and experiences that animated survivor life during the postwar period.

To start, I watched and transcribed the 67 videos. From there, I decided to construct an indexing system that revolved around eight categories that were frequently referenced throughout the videos. These categories included location before coming to Los Angeles, reason for moving

to Los Angeles, year the survivor arrived in Los Angeles, marital status, organizational/political affiliations, and survivor’s primary occupation. I collected and recorded information from each testimony to align with the appropriate category topic. Unlike the Shoah Foundation’s indexing system, which privileges dramatic events, I turned testimony content into index terms regardless of how long the topic was discussed in the testimony. This information then was placed into an Excel spreadsheet, where it was organized.

By reading against the grain and exploring the testimonies in intimate and untraditional ways, I was able to familiarize myself with the nuances and subtleties of the Shoah Foundation’s postwar content. What became evident is that the Shoah Foundation Archive is more than the sum total of its current indexing system. For example, I learned that most survivors did not come directly to Los Angeles from Europe but lived in other cities—primarily New York and Chicago—beforehand and on average did not arrive in Los Angeles until 1952. I also realized that the vast majority of survivors who moved to Los Angeles did so because they had friends and family who were already living there.

While the Shoah Foundation doesn’t need to scrap its current indexing system and embark on a comprehensive re-indexing initiative, the adoption of a secondary system like the one I employed could help to supplement the current indexing system. This basic advice is applicable for other digital historic projects. The utilization of a dynamic and responsive indexing system—one that is hypersensitive to historical context and provides a multitude of roadmaps throughout the archive—could effectively meet the needs and interests of an array of users and their quest to interact with reliable historical content online.

Max D. Baumgarten is a history Ph.D. candidate at UCLA and a project officer for HistoryPin.com.

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THE HISTORY PROFESSIONAL

Robert S. Arrighi is an archivist and historian at NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. He has worked on numerous textual and audiovisual collections, many of which have been central for his histories of several historic test facilities at the Center. He is the coauthor of NASA's Nuclear Frontier (2004) and author of Revolutionary Atmosphere: History of the Altitude Wind Tunnel and Space Chambers (2010), Pursuit of Power: NASA Glenn's Propulsion Systems Laboratory No. 1 and 2 (2012), and other works. He has also curated complementary websites and interactives. His Altitude Wind Tunnel Interactive CD-ROM won SHFG's Powell Award in 2009.



Interview by Benjamin Guterman

Robert S. Arrighi

How did you start working at the Glenn Research Center?

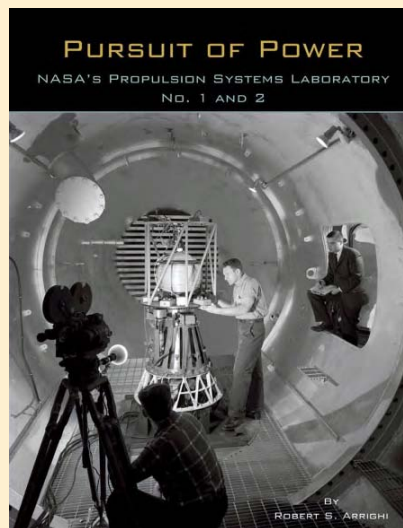
I was a project archivist for Virginia Dawson and Mark Bowles at History Enterprises, Inc. In 2001 NASA contracted us to document its Plum Brook Reactor Facility in Sandusky, Ohio. I spent two years archiving related documents and photographs and researching the history of the reactor. It was during this period that Mark and I wrote *NASA's Nuclear Frontier*, and I worked with Jim Polaczynski on the *Of Ashes and Atoms* documentary. As the project wound down in 2003, NASA hired me into the Glenn History Office.

Generally, what types of collections and records have you processed, and have they presented any special archival challenges?

The collections at NASA Glenn are varied. Many of the most significant holdings, such as all of the early Directors Office materials, are duplicates of documents that are in the agency's Records Management system or at the National Archives. In these cases, there are not too many daunting preservation issues. We do have a number of personal paper collections donated by former researchers or managers. There are also collections from facilities such as the Altitude Wind Tunnel (AWT) and Propulsion Systems Laboratory (PSL), or programs such as the Centaur rocket and Space Station Power System. These types of materials have some minor archival issues, but are generally remediated by basic archival methods. The real challenge is finding the time to properly process the backlog of materials.

What prompted the Glenn Research Center to undertake documentation of its historic test facilities?

For nearly a decade, NASA has attempted to reduce its physical footprint. There has been an effort at all of the centers to remove unused buildings and structures. As such,



Glenn has demolished several of its under-utilized test facilities in recent years. Since many of these are historically significant, the Center has worked with the State Historic Preservation Office to develop plans to mitigate these losses by properly documenting the facilities as they are removed. Glenn's Facilities Division has partnered with the History Office to perform this documentation for several of these facilities. Despite the fact that these sites are no longer here, these mitigation projects provide a greater understanding and appreciation of the contributions made by the facilities.

You write that the AWT contributed vitally during World War II and later. What technological advances occurred in flight engines by 1952 that created the need for the new PSL?

The AWT was designed in the early 1940s to study reciprocating engines. The tunnel was powerful enough, however, to handle the turbojet when it emerged during World War II. The AWT tested nearly every early generation jet engine in the United States. The jet engine developed at a remarkable pace during the postwar years, however. Performance, power, and reliability increased dramatically. The real growth in jet engines was centered on the axial-flow type of engine, which employed a series of fan-like compressor stages that increased the pressure of the airflow. Power was increased by adding additional stages. Designers sought to increase the performance of each stage by perfecting blade shapes and durability, and by using afterburners to augment the engine's thrust. It became clear to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA, later NASA) that the AWT would not be able to keep up with the more powerful engines that would emerge, so PSL was designed specifically to handle these larger engines. PSL was the agency's most powerful engine test facility, and remained active until the late 1970s.

RESOURCES

Glenn Research Center: The Early Years, [http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/portal/gallery/B-1 and B-3 Test Stands](http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/portal/gallery/B-1%20and%20B-3%20Test%20Stands), <http://PBHistoryB1B3.grc.nasa.gov>
 Propulsion Systems Laboratory No. 1 and 2, <http://pslhistory.grc.nasa.gov/>
 Lessons of a Widower, <http://www.nasa.gov/externalflash/aero/>
 Altitude Wind Tunnel website, <http://awt.grc.nasa.gov/>
 Altitude Wind Tunnel interactive CD-ROM, <http://awt.grc.nasa.gov/Interactive/awt.html>

What aeronautical advances did the PSL make possible?

Although designed for airbreathing engines, I think PSL's most significant contribution was with the Pratt & Whitney RL-10 rocket engine in the early 1960s. The RL-10 was the first commercial rocket engine to use liquid hydrogen. Two of the engines were incorporated into the Centaur second stage rocket, which was the first hydrogen-powered space vehicle. The RL-10s were also intended for upper stages for the Saturn rocket. In 1960 Pratt & Whitney began having difficulty with the engines. In fact, two had exploded on their test stands. The RL-10 was brought to Cleveland in early 1960 and put through over a year of testing at PSL. The researchers developed a method to settle the combustion instability and demonstrated a new pre-ignition cooling technique. Both the RL-10 and Centaur have gone on to long, successful careers.

It seems that oral histories helped you gain critical technical understanding and background. They've also enabled you to humanize these stories. Was that your intention from the outset?

To be honest, at the outset, I was just trying to grasp the general significance of the story. There was not a great deal of conspicuous information available. It was later that I was able to go back to the interviews and find clarification on certain issues, contextual information, and of course the personal memories. I have been extremely fortunate to have met a number of former employees who have generously shared their time and stories with me. I agree, it is these stories that humanize what could have been a very technical narrative.

You reserve special credit to Abe Silverstein for helping advance both jet engines and early rocket testing. Can you briefly explain his major contributions?

Silverstein's most significant attribute was his ability to realize the potential of a technology, chart a course for advancing that technology, and appoint his best engineers to tackle the specific problems. In 1943, he was asked to run the first U.S. jet aircraft, the Bell XP59A, in his new Altitude Wind Tunnel. Realizing the possibilities of the jet engine and high-speed flight, he began designing supersonic wind tunnels. After the war ended, Silverstein was a key influ-

ence on the reorganization of the entire laboratory to address turbojet engines.

By 1949 Silverstein supervised all of the research at the lab. He supported three new areas of research—nuclear propulsion, electric propulsion, and high-energy propellants. In 1954, researchers conducted the lab's first firing of a liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen rocket engine and used liquid hydrogen in a turbojet combustor. Silverstein seized upon the promise of liquid hydrogen and arranged for a successful flight test of a liquid hydrogen-powered Martin B57. Two years later, he chaired a committee to review potential upper-stages for the Saturn rocket, and was able to convince Wernher Von Braun to use liquid hydrogen stages. Marshall Space Flight Center oversaw the Centaur program, using the first rocket powered by liquid hydrogen. After the first attempted launch failed in May 1962, Silverstein, then Center Director, agreed to take on the Centaur Program. He personally oversaw the efforts to get the rocket ready to launch a series of Surveyor spacecraft. The next Centaur launch in 1963 was a success, and by June 1966 Centaur was sending Surveyor spacecraft to the lunar surface.

The images in these volumes are striking. In what ways did you hope that the visual record would help with those stories?

I am fortunate in that the Glenn Research Center has a very robust photographic history that runs continuously from its construction in 1942 to today. There are nearly 350,000 photographs with corresponding metadata. The photographs have frequently served as an essential research tool, particularly for establishing dates, understanding how facility systems worked, and identifying people. In some cases, the photographs are used to reveal things that are difficult to describe. In others, the images are just visually arresting. Many of the images in these publications have not been viewed for decades; some since the day they were taken.

In the complementary websites for these volumes and histories, what are a few of the digital capabilities and components that you and your team incorporated to create a fuller resource?

The websites provide the opportunity to include a greater number of photographs, as well as video clips,

animations, or interactive pieces. They also permit the presentation of resources such as historical documents or technical reports. We hope that the website will be a permanent repository of sorts for anyone seeking additional information on the subject. One of the more unique features on the AWT site is a series of panoramic, 360-degree photographs of the wind tunnel. The user can pan the camera in any direction. The viewer experiences what it was like to stand inside or atop the giant tunnel.

You received SHFG'S John Wesley Powell Prize in 2009 for your Altitude Wind Tunnel Interactive CD-ROM. What do you think are some of the features that made that product successful?

I am fortunate to have a close relationship with Glenn's Imaging Technology Center, which handles all of the Center's audiovisual work. Gary Nolan and I have worked on several multimedia projects together. He is a brilliant designer who is always generating fresh ideas. I am able to provide the historical content for some of these projects. I think the success of the AWT CD-ROM, and several other collaborations, has been the marriage of interesting historical information and images with Gary's modern designs and interactive creativity.

How did you conduct your oral histories for these projects?

The majority of the interviews for the AWT and PSL publications were the result of the efforts of retiree Bill Harrison, former Chief of the Test Installations Division. He graciously facilitated the introductions with a number of his former colleagues in 2005. Others I met while working on the project or through the History Office. I generally met the interviewees at their homes. When possible, I try to submit some questions to them ahead of time so they know what areas I am interested in. Everyone I have spoken to has generously shared their time and memories with me.

What are you working on currently, and are additional projects planned to document historic research sites at the Glenn Research Center?

I am currently working on a project to document a collection of small liquid hydrogen test sites that were active in the 1960s at NASA's Plum Brook Station. I am also creating a retrospective publication on the history of NASA Glenn, which will be observing its 75th anniversary in 2016. I am also hoping to be able to document the Center's rich flight research history, which dates back to 1943.

SHFG DIRECTORY

SHFG is compiling the Directory of Federal Historical Programs online. Visit <http://shfg.org/shfg/publications/directory-of-history-offices/> to complete and submit a directory form. Send form to webmaster@shfg.org

FOIA MATTERS

Sprinkled through some records at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) are "Withdrawal Notice" sheets noting the absence of records from publicly accessible holdings

When records are accessioned to NARA, individual documents that are classified or otherwise restricted by statute, Executive Order, or by the agency that transferred the records to NARA are stored separately and marked in the holding with a Withdrawal Notice. You can request that such records be considered for declassification by seeking Mandatory Declassification Review (MDR) or by filing a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

Under FOIA:

- the request is processed like all FOIA requests, generally in consultation with agency declassification experts.
- requesters who disagree can appeal to the agency's FOIA appellate authority; then, if they still disagree, can request assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) or file a lawsuit in Federal court.

Under MDR:

- the request goes to a specific point of contact within the agency; requesters who disagree with the agency's assessment can appeal to the agency within 60 working days or after one year if the agency has not acted on the request; if they still disagree, they can appeal to the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP), which is the final appellate authority made up of senior officials from intelligence agencies.
- if agencies disagree with ISCAP's decision, they have 60 days to appeal to the President or must release the records; if requesters disagree with ISCAP, there is no further recourse.

Classified records undergoing review should receive the same evaluation under FOIA or MDR. When choosing between the two, the main considerations are time and options for recourse. MDR typically takes at least a year. FOIA has a 20-working-day statutory response period, but in some agencies delays are inevitable, and MDR may actually be faster. If you disagree with an agency's decision, you can challenge it in court only if you have requested the records under FOIA.

Learn more at <http://www.archives.gov/research/declassification.html>

OGIS

Office of Government
Information Services

NEED FOIA ASSISTANCE?

The Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) is here to help. Created by Congress as the Federal FOIA Ombudsman and housed at the National Archives, OGIS serves as a neutral party within the Federal Government to which anyone—requester or agency—can come for assistance with any aspect of the FOIA process. Contact OGIS at ogis@nara.gov or 202-741-5770.

FEDERAL HISTORY OFFICE PROFILE

The Federalist profiles a different history office in each issue.

Please direct texts, comments, and inquiries to editor Joan Zenzen at joanz10@verizon.net.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HISTORICAL OFFICE

Jon T. Hoffman

The Historical Office is one of the oldest continuously operating elements within the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). When Secretary of Defense James Forrestal established the office in March 1949, OSD was only 18 months old and employed fewer than 350 civilian and military personnel. In December of that year, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson moved the historical function from the Office of Public Information to his Executive Secretariat, making it an element of his personal staff. More than six decades later, Johnson's one-page memorandum remains the official charter of the Historical Office. With the growth of OSD, however, the office now reports to the Director of Administration and Management, which oversees administrative and infrastructure support functions for OSD and the Pentagon reservation.

In addition to the typical tasks of recording and disseminating the history of OSD, Secretary Johnson charged the office with "coordinating historical activities within the Department of Defense." The Department of Defense (DoD) history program consists of the collective efforts of the historical offices of OSD, the Joint Staff, and the four military services. The six programs are loosely coordinated via periodic meetings of their respective heads, who cooperate to accomplish tasks that cut across multiple elements of DoD.

The work of the OSD Historical Office has gone through three major eras, each coinciding with its three longest-serving chief historians. Dr. Rudolph A. Winnacker was the first professional historian in the position, beginning work in November 1949. His initial staff of six (including himself and a secretary) expended much of its effort writing the

legally mandated semiannual report of the Secretary of Defense. This focus on the current activities of OSD was understandable in a new organization. But it also drew Winnacker into important roles as a key staff member of the Committee on Department of Defense Organization, which authored Reorganization Plan No. 6 in 1953, and as chief author of DoD Directive 5100.1 implementing the DoD Reorganization Act of 1958. Other work included compiling annual multivolume collections of the public statements of the Secretary of Defense, as well as serving as DoD's liaison to the State Department for its *Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS)* documentary series. These functions left little time for historical research and writing, and attempts to craft several narrative histories on various topics foundered short of publication.

In 1973 Dr. Alfred Goldberg succeeded Winnacker. A combination of events enabled him to take the office in a new direction. During the 1960s the chief historian shed two major responsibilities when Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara established another office devoted to the organizational and management planning function that Winnacker had often performed, while Congress ended the requirement for a DoD annual report. Other OSD elements also took on a larger role in assisting State with the declassification of records for its *FRUS* volumes, and the Historical Office completed the major task of assisting in the declassification of the *Pentagon Papers* covering DoD's role in the Vietnam War.

Within a year, Goldberg initiated work on the first two volumes of an ongoing narrative history of OSD. Since the civil servant staff of the office remained very small (only four at this point), he enlisted contract authors to research and write the volumes under editorial supervision. The first volume in the series, *The Formative Years, 1947–1950*, appeared in 1984. The office also undertook completion of projects unfinished during the Winnacker era, such as *The Department of Defense: Documents on Establishment and Organization, 1944–1978*. Other new works included *The Pentagon: The First Fifty Years* and *The Department of Defense 1947–1997: Organization and Leaders*. Following the terrorist attacks in September 2001, the office worked with the Services to produce a history, *Pentagon 9/11*. Dr. Goldberg also instituted an oral history program that captured the recollections of senior DoD and relevant non-DoD officials. He initiated *Key Officials*, a periodically updated



The Historical Office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense helps develop and edit exhibits for the Pentagon's hallways, including this Career Civilian Corridor display. Photo courtesy the OSD Historical office.

publication summarizing organizational changes in OSD and listing the names and dates of tenure of all senior leaders in DoD since 1947.

Dr. Goldberg retired as the chief historian in 2007. He was succeeded by his longtime deputy, Dr. Stuart Rochester, who died in office just 18 months later. Dr. Rochester's many contributions as deputy included co-authoring *Honor Bound: The History of American Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia, 1961–1973*, and overseeing publication of the companion volume *The Long Road Home: U.S. Prisoner of War Policy and Planning in Southeast Asia*.

Dr. Erin Mahan took office as the fourth chief historian in early 2010. She has continued the focus on scholarly histories with the aim to release a major publication every 18 months. In 2011 the office published the sixth volume in the *Secretaries of Defense Historical Series—McNamara, Clifford, and the Burdens of Vietnam, 1965–1969*. The office also assumed responsibility of the *History of Acquisition in DoD Series*, which saw publication of the first volume in 2012, *Rearming for the Cold War, 1945–1960*. Dr. Mahan has initiated the production of monographs, including a study of the Reserve components since 9/11 and a special studies series, which got underway in 2011 with an inaugural series on the role of the Secretary of Defense in foreign affairs during the Cold War.

Dr. Mahan has expanded the mission of the office by establishing an Applied History and Policy Support program. The new initiative is reinvigorating the oral history effort instituted by Dr. Goldberg, with a plan to make interview transcripts available to the public through the office web site and to interview sitting as well as former DoD officials. The new Applied History and Policy Support program writes summary organizational histories of OSD elements to introduce new assistant and under secretaries to the collected experience of predecessors in their specific positions. The staff of the Applied History program also maintains the office's reference collection, answers historical inquiries, and researches and writes information papers in support of current OSD analysis and decision-making. In an effort to raise awareness of the Historical Office, promote the importance of history, and enhance professional military education, the DoD History Speaker series got underway in spring 2012. The series periodically brings a dynamic historian to the Pentagon for a presentation relevant to current events or commemorating important historical anniversaries. Video of each presentation is subsequently available on the Web for a wider audience.

Technology is changing some operations and the visibility of the office. The *Public Statements* series traditionally produced about a dozen bound copies of each un-indexed volume, which went to a handful of institutions. Beginning in 2010, this series is now produced in a digital format, which makes it searchable and will permit it to eventually

appear on the office's public web site. Likewise *Key Officials* became a digital-only publication in 2012 available solely on the Web, allowing the office to update the publication bi-monthly. The office's enhanced web site also will eventually include declassified transcripts from the oral history collection, with interviews of OSD officials appearing in tandem with publication of the official history volume covering their tenure.

The OSD Historical Office remains a small entity in terms of budget and permanent personnel. Although OSD has expanded in size and mission by orders of magnitude since 1949, the chief historian still has just five other civil servants (including an administrative assistant) to accomplish the task of recording and disseminating the history of this large organization. Contractors and consultants thus remain a critical part of the operation. In addition to Dr. Mahan, the deputy chief historian assists in overseeing two senior historians, respectively tasked with responsibility for the Publications Program and the Applied History and Policy Support Program. The staff is rounded out by a senior editor who oversees production of publications and the web site.

The Historical Office today is committed to maintaining a high level of quality in its scholarly publications and to providing timely and valuable support to the day-to-day work of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. It is thus melding the signal accomplishments of the Winnacker and Goldberg eras into an effort to serve the interests of both national security and the history profession.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, HISTORICAL OFFICE

1950 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301

Chief Historian: Dr. Erin Mahan

Office Activities and Responsibilities: The mission of the historical office is to collect, preserve, and present the history of the Office of the Secretary of Defense in order to support Department of Defense leadership and inform the American public. Key responsibilities include preparing and publishing the *Secretaries of Defense Historical Series* and the *History of Acquisition in DoD Series*; coordinating historical activities within the Department of Defense; providing historical support to the Office of the Secretary of Defense; and representing the Department of Defense before other government agencies on historical matters. Examples of these activities include conducting an oral history program, regularly publishing scholarly narrative histories, and using the office's web site to make more information available to the public.

Recent Publications, exhibits or web pages: Recent publications include *McNamara, Clifford, and the Burdens of Vietnam, 1965–1969*, and *Rearming for the Cold War, 1945–1960*.

Contact: Web site: <http://history.defense.gov/>

FROM THE ARCHIVES

THE MUSEUM AND EXHIBITS STANDARDS COMMITTEE

By Chas Downs

On January 8, 1997, SHFG's Executive Council adopted a statement of Museum Exhibit Standards, which is now posted on the SHFG website (<http://shfg.org/shfg/programs/resources/other-documents/>). That an organization like the SHFG would have done this is not unusual. What is remarkable is that leadership councils of three other major historical organizations have also adopted the identical set of standards and posted them on their websites.

In January 1995, the National Air and Space Museum cancelled a proposed exhibit on the "Enola Gay," the B-29 that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. In the aftermath of the heated public controversy aroused by the proposed exhibit and its cancellation, SHFG President Philip Cantelon established a committee to discuss the issues that had been raised about public museum exhibits, and to formulate recommendations to address them. Dr. Victoria A. Harden, Historian at the Office of NIH History and its Stetten Museum (which she helped to develop) was named chair of what became the SHFG Museum and Exhibits Standards Committee. The other members were Cecilia Wertheimer, Bureau of Engraving & Printing; Dwight Pitcaithley, NPS; Richard Mandel, independent scholar; Bruce Bustard, Exhibits Branch, NARA; Rebecca H. Cameron, Office of Air Force History; Betty C. Monkman, Office of the Curator, White House; J. Samuel Walker, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and Paula Johnson, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

As chair, Harden told the committee that SHFG members represented a unique group of historians and curators practicing public history in the federal government, and were thus more sensitive to these issues than their academic colleagues. The committee came to a consensus on several items, noting that public museums face greater scrutiny than private museums. Peer review was one method that could be used to broaden intellectual support for exhibits. The public must be educated on the process of historical research, and that there is no way to present "the facts" without some degree of interpretation. To be worthy of the public's trust, curatorial freedom must be balanced with responsibility.

At the 1996 annual SHFG meeting at Harpers Ferry, WV, the committee presented its work, and received both support and useful feedback from the attendees. In revising the committee's first drafts, the number of standards was reduced from seven to six, before ending at five. The draft's language was clarified, and jargon removed. The first part of the document summarized the importance of history and historical exhibits to our democracy. The final approved version contained the following five standards for exhibits:

- Exhibits should be founded on scholarship and intellectual integrity, and subjected to peer review
- Stakeholders should be identified and possibly involved in the planning process



Museum Exhibits Committee Presentation at Harpers Ferry Annual Meeting 1996. From left: Cecilia Wertheimer, Bureau of Engraving & Printing; Harden; Dwight Pitcaithley, NPS; Richard Mandel, Independent scholar.

- Public institutions must be aware of diversities among their constituencies
- Competing points of view should be identified and acknowledged, and the public made to see that history is always in flux, subject to constant interpretation and reinterpretation
- Museum administrators should defend exhibits that meet these standards.

In a January 17, 1997, memorandum to members of the Museum Exhibit Standards Committee announcing approval of the standards by the SHFG Executive Council, Harden was exultant:

Wow—we did it! And, if I may say so, I think it will be very difficult for any group to produce a more cogent, substantive document that we have. These standards reveal how committees function at their best, producing documents that are probably better and certainly more thoroughly vetted than the sum of the documents each of us might have produced alone. Each of you has my deep gratitude as well as that of the SHFG executive council.

In an article in the Summer 1999 issue of *The Public Historian*, titled "Museum Exhibit Standards: Do Historians Really Want Them?" (Vol. 21, no.3, pp. 91–109), Harden elaborated on her experiences on the SHFG committee and with the National Task Force on Historians and Museums, which met several times to discuss museum exhibit standards but became bogged down in divergent goals, academic politics, petty squabbling, and the inability to reach substantive agreement over what was needed. Harden participated on the Task Force as SHFG's representative, and dutifully kept her SHFG colleagues informed on the progress of lack thereof made by the Task Force. The SHFG Museum Exhibit Standards Committee kept its focus and was able to overcome such distractions and bring forth a set of standards that were useable and that found widespread support among a diverse and demanding audience. In a 2010 email to SHFG President Pete Daniel, Harden wrote that "it was the most effective and amazing committee I have ever been a part of, and SHFG should crow a little about having been the moving force behind the standards." Indeed so. To learn more about the SHFG Archives write to chasdowns@verizon.net

KEEPING UP WITH DIGITAL HISTORY

by Tali Beesley

To help you keep up with current digital trends and digital history, here are three suggestions of online resources.

TO WATCH

The **Digital Public Library of America** (<http://dp.la>), beta launched in April 2013, aims to “[bring] together the riches of America’s libraries, archives, and museums, and [make] them freely available to the world.” The resource aims to do so by collecting individual institutions’ metadata about the items in their collections, and making that metadata available through a single portal. In this way, users can navigate to a single site (<http://dp.la>) and be able to browse or search millions of books, images, historic records, and audiovisual materials that are physically housed in hundreds of locations across the United States. The portal makes searching easy—users can filter the materials through a timeline or map or search for specific material by format or topic. In addition, users can explore digital exhibits that DPLA content partners or staff have curated. While the site is still a technical work in progress, some members of the press are already calling it “a great new American institution.” The DPLA currently contains over 2.5 million records from a network of more than 450 partners. Individual institutions contribute content by working with their local service hub; service hubs aid institutions with everything from digitization and metadata creation, to data aggregation and storage. To start contributing content, first see if your area is currently served by a service hub: <http://dp.la/info/about/who/partners/hubs/>. If your region is not currently served, check back often, as the network is expected to expand prodigiously.

TO READ

In “**Museums and Wikipedia: Wikipedia for Regional Museums**,” the final copy of which can be found in the June issue of *Museum Practice*, with a version at <http://bit.ly/19cZFha>, Nicole Beale lists four easy and reasonable ways that cultural institutions, and the subject-matter experts who work in them, can begin to leverage Wikipedia and its immense user base to support the work cultural institutions are already performing. As Beale says, “There is information that can never be in Wikipedia, but that is within our museums’ collections, or our archives, or our libraries’ shelves, and this is where

you come in.” Beale’s four tasks, which she explains in detail, include the following: become a Wikipedia editor; use Wikipedia referencing structure; engage with your local Wikipedia community; and get to know GLAMWIKI. While her article is geared toward museum professionals, the tasks she endorses are steps any historian or cultural institution could take to drive more users to their sites and thus to accurate and relevant information.

TO EXPLORE

The National Archives has launched in beta a new site called “**Founders Online**,” which aggregates the papers of six of our nation’s founders: George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and Benjamin Franklin so that scholars and students worldwide may have ready access to them. The site (<http://founders.archives.gov/>) organizes the papers by author, recipient, and period, and allows users to search for any topic, such as slavery, across all time periods and individuals. From there, users can further filter their search by author, recipient, date, or period. The site currently houses over 119,000 documents, fully annotated, the originals of which come from multiple institutions, including the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and even private collections. The documents have been transcribed and encoded so that the text of each document is searchable. More content will be added in the future, but as it is, the site already includes many gems: as the site says, “All citizens can now access annotated first drafts of the Declaration of Independence, the spirited debate over the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and the records of the very beginnings of our national story. You can also read firsthand the details of the Founders’ personal lives as told in their own voices.” Aggregating the collections in this way should allow researchers to more easily draw parallels and trace conceits across individuals and eras. This project is a great example

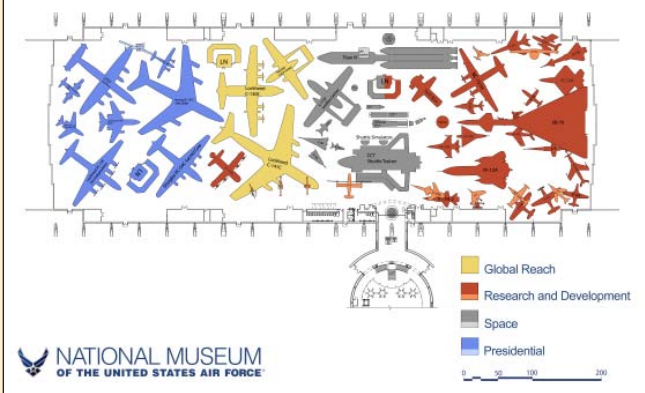
of collaboration among many individuals and institutions to bring together and make available in one place a natural *fonds*—the body of papers of a group—in this case the collection of papers of some of the most influential members of our Founding Fathers.



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE'S NEW FOURTH BUILDING

The Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio, will begin construction of a new building in 2014. It has raised \$38 million of the required \$46 million projected cost. The new building will hold aircraft from the popular Research and Development Gallery, and will have a new Presidential Gallery, an expanded Space Gallery, and select global reach planes. Visitors will no longer have to travel to the location at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to see the popular R&D planes, which included the XB-70 Valkyrie, capable of flying three times the speed of sound, and other experimental aircraft. That facility is closed due to budget reductions. Rob Bardua explains that the new facility will be able to hold the R&D planes because acquisition of the still active C-5 and KC-135 “will be deferred until they can be accommodated.” The new building will also enable more educational outreach opportunities. The popular Presidential Gallery, temporarily closed, holds the Boeing VC-137C that served as Air Force One on the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. Visitors can also enter the presidential aircraft of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman, and Dwight Eisenhower. The museum also has a new artwork exhibit honoring the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II. The exhibit of 35 paintings by Chris Hopkins is titled “Red Tails, Silver Wings” and is free to the public. More information: www.nationalmuseum.af.mil. View museum exhibits online at <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/exhibits/> with links to the several galleries, exhibits, and news.

4th Building Aircraft Layout



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A REGULATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

*Edward Balleisen, Associate Professor of History
and Public Policy, Duke University*

The Rethinking Regulation Project at Duke University incorporates faculty and graduate students from across the social sciences who study regulatory governance. We are laying the groundwork for a long-term oral history initiative on the regulatory state. Many of our ideas build on the research in *Government and Markets: Toward a New Theory of Regulation* (2009), which I edited with David Moss, as well as a recent essay that I co-wrote with Elizabeth Brake, “Historical Perspective and Better Regulatory Governance: An Agenda for Institutional Reform” (*Regulation & Governance*, 2012).

This initiative will occur in two phases. We are now creating a digital inventory of oral history collections that offer significant reflections on regulatory policy-making (formal rule-making, informal public education, monitoring, and enforcement), across issue domains and jurisdictional levels. Assuming sufficient funding, we will then commission new oral histories to address specific research agendas, informed by the inventory. We would like to enlist the assistance of this newsletter’s readers. First, a bit more detail.

DIGITAL INVENTORY AND WEB GATEWAY

Most of the oral history collections that we have already identified have been created by regulatory agencies, but others were undertaken by scholars or historical societies. Almost all of these collections concentrate on the experiences of individuals working for specific regulatory agencies of the federal government, the states, or cities, though some concern quasi-public regulatory bodies. Ideally, we would like to include collections that focus on regulatory governance outside the United States, as well as oral histories that offer the perspectives of regulated entities (especially large corporations) and influential NGOs.

Our most basic goal is to create a well-organized set of annotated links to the entities that house relevant oral histories. Annotations would describe, in general terms, the range of available interviews (type of interviewees; chronological coverage; subjects covered; nature of public access). Over the longer-term, we hope to create a searchable database of interviews that have been digitized and are available online, including thematic keywords and links.

SECOND PHASE—NEW ORAL HISTORIES

Once we have an initial inventory, we will be better able to identify priorities for the commissioning of new interviews. Among the themes in which we already have interest:

- the emergence and transformation of informal norms within regulatory institutions

- shifting perceptions about the nature of regulatory “success” and the crucial determinants of such success
- strategies for adjusting to/coping with rapid technological and organizational innovation within regulated economic sectors
- strategies for ensuring effective democratic participation in regulatory policy-making
- the strengths and weaknesses of delegating regulatory authority to non-governmental bodies

- diffusion of regulatory approaches across issue areas and jurisdictions; and
- the evolution of regulatory oversight bodies, such as OIRA.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

We would greatly appreciate receiving specific suggestions about relevant oral history collections, as well as any feedback about the overall plan for the initiative, which is still at an early stage. Please send correspondence to elizabeth.brake@duke.edu

RECORDS & RESEARCH

This feature highlights federal records that are newly available for research at the National Archives, either in the Washington, DC, area or at one of its regional archives. Many series can be identified in the Online Public Access (OPA) catalog: [http://www.archives.gov/research/search/Additional records releases](http://www.archives.gov/research/search/Additional%20records%20releases) are announced by the National Declassification Center at <http://www.archives.gov/declassification/ndc/releases.html>.

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL RECORDS

Records of the Federal On-Scene Coordinator’s Office for the T/V Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, 1989–1993.
 Records of the U.S. Coast Guard, 1785–2005, Record Group 26
 ARC Identifier 6277471

Background: The tank vessel *Exxon Valdez* struck Bligh Reef in Prince William Sound, Alaska, shortly after midnight on March 24, 1989, discharging 11 million gallons of crude oil. The spill affected a 600-mile area. Despite contingency plans, it quickly became apparent that the magnitude of the spill was too large for the local Marine Safety Office to handle, so the Federal On Scene Coordinator’s Office (FOSC) was created on March 27, 1989. This office was responsible for approving and monitoring the clean-up effort, which was to be reimbursed by Exxon. The FOSC’s staff of about 300 worked during the 1989 clean-up season (March–September), but was cut back the next year. The FOSC staff included personnel from the USCG and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

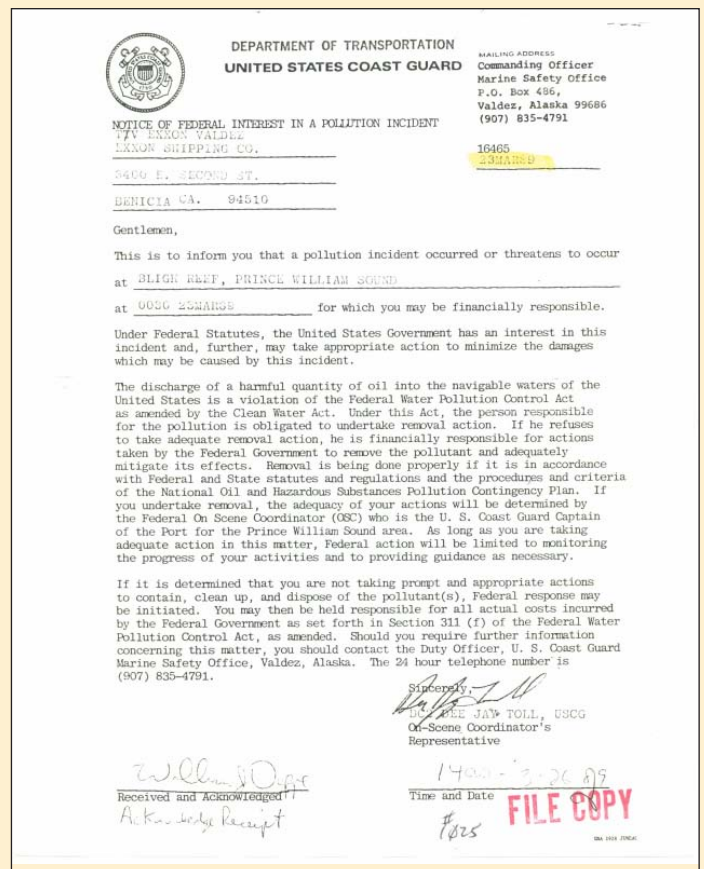
Records Contents:

- “This series consists of material relating to the day-to-day operations of the Federal On-Scene Coordinator’s Office (FOSC) following the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill. There are two types of records: material directly generated by or for the FOSC office, and records relating to the activities in which the FOSC office was involved. Included are daily and weekly operational reports, weather reports, public affairs materials, correspondence, photographs, Cleanup Work Requests, financial material, personnel orders with awards and documentation, and records relating to techniques and technologies used in cleanup efforts.” —OPA
- Arranged by type of record, and thereunder chronologically; 15 subseries; 379 cubic feet; 134 FRC cartons,

standard; 469 legal Archives boxes, standard

Finding Aid: <http://www.archives.gov/anchorage/finding-aids/rg-26-coordinators-office.pdf>

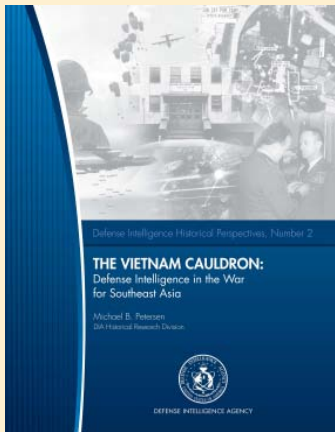
Contact: National Archives at Anchorage, 654 West Third Avenue, Anchorage, AK, 99501-2145. Tel: 907-261-7800; **FAX:** 907-261-7813; Email: alaska.archives@nara.gov



A Coast Guard letter informs Exxon Shipping Company that it will be financially responsible for the spill cleanup and damages.

BOOK REVIEW

Benjamin Guterman



**THE VIETNAM CAULDRON:
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE IN
THE WAR FOR SOUTHEAST
ASIA (2012)**

by **Michael B. Petersen**
(available at <http://www.dia.mil/history/publications/>)

The success of the U.S. war effort in Vietnam was vitally interwoven with military intelligence and

how it was interpreted. Yet we learn from Michael Petersen's study that the intelligence-gathering framework there was in dangerous flux during those years. Petersen's task is to explore the Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA) performance so that the agency and its personnel can learn from its past. In so doing, he also provides a concise and incisive analysis of the conduct of the war at several key junctures. This essay is adapted from his original work published in *Defense Intelligence Historical Perspectives*, 1 (October 2011).

From its inception in 1961 as part of Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara's reorganization of Defense intelligence through 1974, the new agency had to struggle for legitimacy and acceptance. It opened a Production Center, Dissemination Center, Automated Data Processing Center, and other directorates. The Production Center provided intelligence to military forces worldwide, while the Intelligence Support and Indications Center served the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the National Military Command Center (NMCC) in the Pentagon. By August 1964, the agency had expanded staff to enable it to produce intelligence on 127 nations. Yet, it faced structural problems as "management responsibilities impinging on analytical duties and hindered DIA's ability to process raw intelligence into finished intelligence."

Petersen takes a hard look at the agency's successes and failures in Vietnam, noting that much was expected of it even while it was building its capabilities. The DIA worked with scarce resources, and hesitant leadership limited its effectiveness. It served on President Johnson's National Security Council (NSC) Working Group's Intelligence Panel, but it doubted, by the end of 1965, the effectiveness of Operation ROLLING THUNDER, the sustained bombing of North Vietnam. Petersen discusses the serious internal differences between the assessments of the United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) and DIA. The Army estimated enemy combat strength (order of battle analysis) at 300,000, while the DIA and CIA believed it to be closer to 600,000. With the Joint Chiefs favoring Gen. William

Westmoreland's position, the infighting "demonstrated DIA's inability to resolve intelligence disputes and arrive at a universally agreed-upon estimate devoid of Service bias." The disagreement weakened DIA's position in the Intelligence Community and Department of Defense. It also made clear the weak leadership of DIA Director Lt. Gen Lewis Carroll, who disagreed with the MACV estimate but lacked the resources to contest it fully.

Subsequent events further tested DIA efforts. The enemy's Tet Offensive, launched at the end of January 1968, demonstrated their strength and shocked American forces—now "even MACV's personnel knew the numbers did not add up." In another setback, North Korea captured the USS *Pueblo* in 1968 while it was on a signals intelligence (SIGINT) mission. DIA analysts did not foresee that North Korean ships would attack. North Korea imprisoned and tortured U.S. sailors for 11 months.

In September 1969, DIA's new director, Donald Bennett, brought stronger leadership and organization at a time when the agency assumed greater responsibility for POW/MIA issues in Southeast Asia. The agency provided intelligence on the Son Tay prison camp to Special Forces planners for the raid on November 20, 1970. While no American prisoners remained there, the successful raid supported by combat aircraft demonstrated DIA's ability to assemble "national- and theater-level resources" and "achieve complete tactical surprise."

DIA provided intelligence for bombing raids in 1970 by tactical bombers and B-52s. After the January 1973 Paris peace accords, DIA staff provided intelligence from within South Vietnam until the collapse of the country with the surge of North Vietnamese forces.

Petersen uses a wide range of sources, including DIA Intelligence Appraisals, CIA reports, the Pentagon Papers, *Foreign Relations of the United States*, correspondence in the Lyndon Johnson Library, oral histories by participants, and extensive secondary sources. He presents a convincing and balanced account of DIA's "evolution" in a difficult wartime period. Although not fully established, the agency faced competition and hostility from existing intelligence offices that had their own networks and connections with Pentagon leadership. In a larger sense, his account stresses the central importance of effective intelligence work. He succinctly relates the inner conflicts between MACV and DIA, and McNamara's adjustments to intelligence problems, and reports how decision-making at the Pentagon and by the President suffered as a result. But he also tempers those early DIA failings with observations of the entrenched bureaucratic and organizational obstacles the agency faced. The result is a realistic and balanced outline of intelligence work in Vietnam that offers solid insights and lessons for future work, especially concerning agency organization, proper authorities, and sound leadership.

EXPLORATIONS

• **MILITARY HISTORY** — **Ricardo A. Herrera** undertakes the critical task of investigating the belief system of the American soldier, 1776–present. Understanding those beliefs—of why soldiers serve—guides us to a fuller understanding of the unique nature of our military establishment. By constitutional design, our military is governed by our republican system of government; the Founding Fathers had firsthand knowledge of the dangers of standing armies loyal to monarchs. How, then, do Americans reconcile their loyalty to nation and freedom (with a strong strain of individualism) with the call to military service and discipline? Arguing that the U.S. military first adopted European standards of planning and organization with the War of 1812, he explores soldiers' attitudes and behavior in four areas: "virtue"; "legitimacy"; "self-governance"; and "glory, honor, and fame." The result is an intricate look that exposes ambiguities, as in, for example, the tension between some self-governance in militia groups and the discipline and dedication of military service. "Service was not a total surrender of the right of self-governance," he writes, "but was, instead, a voluntary, negotiated, and temporary abjuration of that right." The result has become a military that can maintain discipline while accommodating individualism in many ways, and yet serve its civilian masters. — "Toward an American Army: U.S. Soldiers, the War of 1812, and National Identity," *Army History*, Summer 2013, pp. 42–56.

• **DECLASSIFICATION** — **Steven Aftergood** (www.fas.org/sgp/) writes that government declassification programs are not meeting the President's mandate for progress and thus not serving the needs of historians and the general public. He cites the State Department's inability to meet its legal requirement to publish foreign affairs documents 30 years after their creation.

Members of the department's Historical Advisory Committee found that many documents reviewed by the NDC are still not "cleared" for the public, and won't be for 35 years, a situation that demands more efficient declassification guidelines.

• **ORAL HISTORY** — **Mary Larson** examines the evolving range of moral issues arising from changing formats for and access to oral histories. Use of the Internet has greatly extended the audience, facilitated copying, and weakened the control (in many cases) of institutions on content. She notes issues arising from deeds of gift and whether institutions can reissue materials intended for the reading room to the new platform of the Web. In that issue of privacy, the original donor could not have foreseen the new technology. Many new release forms provide for "future possible uses of interviews." Often, repositories will only release excerpts, or they will conduct a thorough search for the donors. In addition, institutions face issues of loss of control, copyright, and "misuse" of interviews. Another consequence from this wide distribution is the effect of testimonies on community peace and relations, which can be disturbed by new revelations. Larson notes a related moral problem for the interviewer when interviewees agree to wider dissemination of their story even when it threatens community harmony—"even when the content" can later "be damaging to them or others in later years." And our concepts of privacy are continually changing in this world of social media. She also raises the issue of how soon to interview victims experiencing trauma after a natural or manmade catastrophe. While guidelines are available from the OHA, they cannot cover all situations. Decisions will vary by institution and individual, and she cautions that we must be aware of the guidelines and limits so that we can make informed decisions for our own situations. *Oral History Review* 2013, Vol. 40, No. 1, pp. 36–39.

MAKING HISTORY

AIR POWER HISTORY

Air Power History now features an extensive review section. A few examples are, *Strategic Vision: America and the Crisis of Global Power*, by Zbigniew Brezinski. Review by John Cirafici; *Mission to Tokyo: The American Airmen Who Took the War to the Heart of Japan*, by Robert F. Dorr. Review by Joseph Romito; and *The Rise and Fall of the Japanese Imperial Air Service*, by Peter J. Edwards. Review by John G. Terino, Jr.

ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The summer 2013 issue of *On Point: The Journal of Army History* features the following articles: "Artwork of Edward Reep"; "Bullis's Medal of Honor Fight at the Pecos River 25 August 1875, Val Verde County, Texas," by Lt. Col. William F.

Haenn, USA-Ret.; "Landmines," by Vince Hawkins; "Walter J. Gunther, Jr.," by Nick McGrath; "244th Field Artillery Battalion," by Patrick Feng; "I will give them one more shot!": Battery A, 4th U.S. Artillery, at the Battle of Gettysburg, 2–3, 1863," by Donald McConnell and Gustav Person; "Fort Stevens, Oregon," by Lt. Col. Danny M. Johnson, USA-Ret. Book reviews are included.

DIRKSEN CONGRESSIONAL CENTER

The Dirksen Congressional Center has created a site devoted to Robert Henry "Bob" Michel, a Republican representing central Illinois's 18th congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives for 38 years. He served as Minority Whip (1975–1981) and Minority Leader (1981–1995) during an era of Democratic Party House dominance. The site features historical background quotations, photos, videos, and capability to search the Robert H. Michel Collection, first acquired by The Center in 1989 and supplemented over the years. Special features include

digital selections from Michel's "Presidential Scrapbooks" in which he kept selected photographs and correspondence from each of the nine presidents with whom he served. Also included are transcriptions of notes Michel kept of congressional leadership meetings in the White House. Visit <http://www.robertmichel.name>

HISTORY ASSOCIATES INC.

History Associates collaborated with the Civil War Trust to develop content for the latest in a series of GPS-enabled smartphone apps. The Appomattox Battle App™ guide provides a tour of locations of interest at Appomattox, including the battlefield, the town, and the Wilmer McLean House where the Army of Northern Virginia surrendered. The app uses "virtual signs" to tell the story of specific events and also includes points of interest, video and audio clips, orders of battle, fun facts and quizzes, historical photos, and battle maps. Visitors can trace their position on the battlefield using the GPS-location function, but this feature is not required to use the app; it serves equally well as an educational resource for users not on-site. History Associates worked closely with the Civil War Trust and the National Park Service in coordinating the content development, preparing the text, securing historical photos and imagery, and coordinating production of audio and video segments. Battle App™ guides are now available for ten different Civil War sites. These apps are designed to work on Apple iOS devices (iPhone, iPad, iPad Mini, iPod touch) and most Android-powered smartphones. They are free of charge, thanks to the financial support of the Virginia Department of Transportation, and can be downloaded from the Apple iTunes store or at Google Play. For more information about History Associates, call (301) 279-9697 or visit www.historyassociates.com.

History Associates has published an article that answers common questions posed by museum professionals when selecting collections management system (CMS) software. The article appears in the January-February issue of *Museum* magazine, the flagship publication of the American Alliance of Museums (AAM).

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory celebrated the 50th anniversary of Mariner 2, the first successful planetary mission. The "Solar System Exploration @50" symposium is available on YouTube. The history team at Johnson Space Center (JSC) will soon publish a history titled *First Fifty Years: Johnson Space Center*. Contributors include Rebecca Wright, Sandra Johnson, Jennifer Ross-Nazzal, and Rebecca Hackler. The JSC oral history project, begun in 1996, has completed its 1,000th oral history interview. Interview subjects included contributors to the Earth System Science Program, Space Shuttle Program, Solid Rocket Booster Recovery Ships, and Shuttle Carrier Aircraft. The interviews were also used in two recent volumes: *Shuttle-Mir: The United States and Russia Share History's Highest Stage* and *NASA at 50: Interviews with NASA's Senior Leadership*. See the full range of transcripts at <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/history>.

The Stennis Space Center has collected 212 oral histories of former and current employees, as well as members of the

community. The web-based collection includes discussion of the Apollo and Space Shuttle programs, Hurricane Katrina, and the Stennis Space Center's 50th anniversary. Visit <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/stennis/about/history/oral-history.html>.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

The John F. Kennedy Library has received about 2,000 digitized images of materials preserved in the Ernest Hemingway collection in Cuba. Hemingway lived in his villa Finca Vigia for over two decades. The materials include previously unavailable letters, telegrams, travel documents, and even the liquor and grocery bills. The transfer, arranged by the Boston-based Finca Vigia Foundation through the Cuban Council of National Heritage, occurred on the 60th anniversary of Hemingway's Pulitzer Prize for "The Old Man and the Sea." The library has his official papers, but these materials will shed some additional light on his personal life.

NARA hosted a panel on June 13 on the space program during the Nixon and Ford years. The speakers were Roger Launius, Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum; John Logsdon, professor emeritus of George Washington University; and William Barry, chief historian at NASA. John Logsdon noted the enduring legacy of Nixon's realignment of the space program to this day. After the Apollo missions to the Moon, Nixon moved from space exploration to orbital flight testing and experimentation, a course that resulted in the successful Space Shuttle Program and International Space Station. William Barry spoke on the successes, failures, and priorities of the Soviet program in the 1960s and '70s and the reasons for cooperation with America on the Apollo-Soyuz Test Program. That cooperation resulted largely from the decline in the Soviet program and the perceived benefits from cooperation. Roger Launius spoke on the cultural importance on the space program and then moderated the discussion.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH HISTORY OFFICE

The NIH Stetten Museum receives requests on a regular basis for loans of materials. Recently, the Stetten Museum loaned an early HIV test kit and a 1983 notice to blood donors about AIDS to the New York Historical Society's new exhibit "AIDS in New York: The First Five Years." The exhibit explores the impact of the AIDS epidemic on personal lives, public health and medical practices, culture, and politics in the first years (1981–1985) of recognition of the mysterious and fatal disease. The exhibit will be open through September 15, 2013. For further information check the website at <http://www.nyhistory.org/exhibitions/aids-new-york-first-five-years>. The History Office Archives have continued to digitize materials and post on the website. Issues of the National Institutes of Health Alumni Association newsletters are now online and searchable at <http://history.nih.gov/research/alumni.html>. The *NIHAA Update* served as a link among NIH alumni worldwide and served as an informal record of changes in NIH's physical and administrative structure over the years. In addition, it tracked alumni activities and reported appointments, honors, publications, personal developments, and obituaries. The NIHAA, with over 2,300 members during its existence, was a private, nonprofit organization.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The National Park System Advisory Board recently released its report on ways to strengthen the work of the National Park Service as it approaches its 100th year of existence in 2016. After consulting NPS employees and outside experts, the Board released *Engaging Independent Perspectives for a 21st-Century National Park System*, focusing on needed efforts on stewardship, education, relevance, and personnel.

Among its recommendations were calls to recommend national historic landmarks that provide a broader, richer picture of the American past and its natural diversity; innovative funding strategies that include public/private cooperative programs; outreach to educational contacts that can incorporate NPS parks and programs into their work; promote public engagement with the NPS; highlight Latino heritage through NPS sites; and re-examine the Leopold Report that set the philosophical foundation for the NPS in 1963 to determine whether its precepts are still applicable in the 21st century. The National Park System Advisory Board's report is available online at www.nps.gov/resources/advisoryboardreport.htm.

NATIONAL PRESERVATION INSTITUTE

The Institute's 2013 schedule for seminars is available. Offerings include "Section 106: An Introduction," "The Recent Past: Identification and Evaluation of Mid-20th-Century Resources," and "Cultural and Natural Resources: An Integrated Management Strategy." Tel: 703-765-0100. Web: www.npi.org

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HISTORICAL OFFICE

David Crist spoke at the Defense Department's speaker series on May 21 on "The Twilight War: The Secret History of America's Thirty Year Conflict with Iran." Dr. Crist is a senior historian for the Defense Department and a special adviser to senior officials in the U.S. government on the Middle East. His previous publications include *Gulf of Conflict: A History of U.S.-Iranian Confrontation at Sea* (2009). The series schedule is posted at <http://history.defense.gov/whatsnew.shtml>.

U.S. ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY

The Summer 2013 issue of *Army History* is now available. Articles include "Nothing But the Spirit of Heroism: Andrew A. Humphreys at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg," by Matthew T. Pearcey; "I Was Shelled, Mortared, and Strafed": The Legacy of Edward Reep, World War II Combat Artist," by Sarah Forgey; and "Toward and American Army: U.S. Soldiers, the War of 1812, and National Identity," by Ricardo A. Herrera. The cost of a subscription is \$20 per year. Order by title and enter List ID as ARHIS. To order online, go to <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>. To order by phone: 866-512-1800 or 202-512-1800; or by e-mail, contactcenter@gpo.gov. The current issue, as well as the complete collection of back issues of *Army History* can be viewed online at: www.history.army.mil/armyhstory/index.html

Two of the Center's publications have received awards: *Kevlar Legions: The Transformation of the U.S. Army, 1989–2005*, by John Sloan Brown, received the 2012 Society for Military History Distinguished Book Award, and *Freedom by the*

Sword: The U.S. Colored Troops, 1862–1867, by William A. Dobak, received the Richard W. Leopold Prize given by the Organization of American Historians.

Chief of Military History Robert J. Dalessandro reports in the Spring issue of *Army History* that the Center continues to help the National Archives and Records Administration and the Army Record and Declassification Agency reconstruct missing records from the operations in Afghanistan and Iraq by using historical materials collected by the Military History Detachments. These records now constitute almost 96 terabytes of digital documents and materials in the Global War on Terrorism database.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

The USCIS history office continues to add new information to its website at <http://www.uscis.gov/> under "History and Genealogy" and then "USCIS History." Features include an Organizational Timeline, Overview of INS History, and Commissioners and Directors. The USCIS History Office can be reached by email at cishistory.library@uscis.dhs.gov.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The Interior Museum has two lectures scheduled. On Wed., Aug. 7, Interpretive Park Rangers Enimini Ekong & Kawther Elmi will discuss the implications of the 1963 March on Washington and what it was intended to accomplish. On Wed., Sept. 4, FWS Chief, Branch of Environmental Response and Restoration Mark Huston will discuss an overview of FWS responsibilities during a spill, how animals are captured and cleaned, and some of their major restoration projects. Both lectures are at 1:15–2:15 p.m. in the Rachel Carson Room, Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building, 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240.

U.S. SENATE HISTORICAL OFFICE

The Senate Historical Office has new Oral History Interviews Open for Research. Since 1976 the Office has interviewed Senate officers, parliamentarians, clerks, police officers, chiefs of staff, reporters, photographers, Senate pages, and senators. These interviews cover the breadth of the 20th century and now the 21st century, and include a diverse group of personalities who witnessed events firsthand. Darrell St. Claire, Assistant Secretary of the Senate, offered reminiscences of senators from Huey Long to Lyndon Johnson. Ruth Young Watt, Chief Clerk to the Subcommittee on Investigations under Joseph McCarthy and "Scoop" Jackson, candidly described fellow staffers Roy Cohn and Robert Kennedy, and reminisced about witnesses such as Howard Hughes and Jimmy Hoffa. Jesse Nichols, clerk and librarian for the Finance Committee from 1937 to 1971, was the first African American hired on the Senate's clerical staff. He spoke of the long, slow transition from a segregated city to an integrated workplace. Senate historians interview those individuals who can offer a unique perspective on Senate history but may otherwise be missed by biographers, historians, and other scholars. Steeped in the literature and folkways of the Senate, the Senate historians also have ready access to Senate records. See a list of interviewees and links to interviews at http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/history/e_one_section_no_teasers/OralHistoryList.htm



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FEDERALIST CALENDAR

Aug. 11–17, 2013. Society of American Archivists (SAA) and Council of State Archivists. Joint Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Visit <http://www2.archivists.org/conference/2013/new-orleans/call-for-session-proposals-archives-new-orleans-2013>.

Aug. 29–Sept. 1, 2013. American Political Science Association (APSA). Annual Meeting & Exhibition Theme: “Power and Persuasion.” Chicago, IL. Visit http://www.apsanet.org/content_77049.cfm?navID=988

Sept. 26–27, 2013. Library of Congress American Folklife Center. Symposium. “Cultural Heritage Archives: Networks, Innovation & Collaboration.” Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/events/culturalheritagearchives/index.html>

Oct. 9–13, 2013. Oral History Association (OHA). Annual Meeting. “Hidden Stories, Contested Truths: The Craft of Oral History.” Oklahoma City, OK. Visit <http://www.oralhistory.org/2012/10/12/2013-annual-meeting-call-for-papers/>.

Oct. 9–12, 2013. Western History Association (WHA). Annual Meeting. “Vital Signs: Earth, Power, Lives.” Tucson, AZ. Visit <http://www.westernhistoryassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2013-Call-for-Papers.pdf>.

Oct. 17–18, 2013. Center for Cryptologic History. Biennial Cryptologic History Symposium. “Technological Change and Cryptology: Meeting the Historical Challenges.” Laurel,

Maryland. Visit http://www.nsa.gov/about/cryptologic_heritage/center_crypt_history/news/index.shtml

Oct. 31–Nov. 3, 2013. Southern Historical Association (SHA). Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO. Visit http://sha.uga.edu/meeting/call_for_papers.htm.

Mar. 18–22, 2014. Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA). 74th Annual Meeting. Albuquerque, NM. Visit <http://www.sfaa.net/sfaa2014.html>

Mar. 19–22, 2014. National Council on Public History (NCPH). Annual Meeting. “Sustainable Public History.” Monterey, California. Visit <http://ncph.org/cms/conferences/2014-annual-meeting/>

Apr. 3–6, 2014. Society for Military History (SMH). Annual Meeting. “Transformational Conflicts: War and its Legacy Through History.” Kansas City, MO. Visit <http://www.smh-hq.org/2014/2014annualmeeting.html>

Apr. 10–13, 2014. Organization of American Historians (OAH). Atlanta, Georgia. Visit <http://annualmeeting.oah.org/index.php/future-annual-meetings>

June 19–21, 2014. Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHA FR). Lexington, Kentucky. Visit <http://www.shafr.org/conferences/annual/2014-annual-meeting/>