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CREATING “EVIDENCE,” A PERMANENT EXHIBIT FOR THE NMAI

By Paul Chaat Smith

This article is adapted from a talk at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) on March 4, 2005.

“The Well-known Texas cattleman, Charles Goodnight, related that a Comanche shield he once procured was stuffed with the pages of a complete history of Rome.”

— from *The Comanche Shield, Symbol of Identity*, by Christopher H. Bentley, 1989

For me, these words were a piece of found history, a prophecy telling me the task I had been assigned was perhaps not completely impossible. Because if a single Comanche shield could hold the history of Rome, then perhaps a single Comanche, with the right comrades, could tell an even bigger story, maybe the biggest untold story of all.

I am the newest curator at the Museum, and work on this museum’s permanent exhibit precedes my arrival by many years. I want to acknowledge and thank the many who came before me. The Our Peoples gallery is really nine exhibits. Eight are collaborative ventures between NMAI curators and people from Indian communities across the hemisphere. The ninth, comprising roughly half of the gallery space, is my focus here. This NMAI-curated section of Our Peoples, one that I am going to call the “Big Story,” or sometimes “Evidence,” is in my opinion the *raison d’être* for the existence of the Museum itself.

Awarding Indians the last open space on the National Mall was a profound act that showed the American govern-

ment and its people wanted Indians to be part of a national conversation, to finally talk, seriously, and at the highest levels, about the painful and unspeakable things we had never really talked about before. Yet, the National Museum of the American Indian project rests on a set of exquisite contradictions, as the U.S. for much of its history has targeted Indians for removal and physical destruction.

I was assigned to this project in January 2002. Despite much ground work, the Museum leadership believed no viable exhibit had emerged. I brought in Dr. Jolene K. Rickard, a Tuscarora artist and scholar who is also, in the opinion of many, the most talented Indian curator in the United States. Jolene curated two groundbreaking exhibitions in the 1990s that challenged conventional Iroquois thinking: “In the Shadow of the Eagle,” and “Across Borders, Beadwork in Iroquois Life.” We had been colleagues for years, and we shared several assumptions and a deep skepticism that allowed work to move quickly. The other crucial person was my boss, Dr. Ann McMullen. She oversaw both the work Jolene and I did as well as the eight community spaces.

Jolene believes that an exhibition should present something new, and not repackage knowledge that already exists. It should use objects to provide a unique experience, and generate controversy, questions, discussion, and yes, argument. We aimed for an exhibit in which the anthropological

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Photo by Amber Young

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John W. Roberts

Several months ago, the revelation that the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) was reclassifying previously released records, under agreements it had reached with other federal agencies,

excited considerable controversy—particularly within the federal history community. Several members of SHFG recommended that the Society take a formal position opposing reclassification, and, as Vice President, I drafted a statement addressing the matter.

Within a matter of weeks, NARA suspended the reclassification program, pending further study—thus rendering the issue moot, at least for the time being. The reclassification controversy, however, raised an internal question for SHFG: the propriety of our organization, comprised so heavily of federal employees, taking a position on federal policies that so many of our members are bound to uphold.

SHFG, through its conferences, lectures, training seminars, and publications, provides a unique forum to learn about diverse federal history programs, to share research, to build professional networks, and to promote the study of federal history. But for those of us who are federal employees, there is a fine line that we must not cross. To the extent that controversial political or policy questions arise, we need to think carefully about whether or not we should respond—and, if we do respond, we need to avoid even the appearance of advocacy or lobbying. Simply put, it is illegal for federal employees to engage in lobbying, whether on duty or off. The matter becomes especially ticklish in cases involving classification and declassification. A large percentage of us hold security clearances, and are involved in classification and declassification decisions every day. Taking quasi-political positions on policies related to security classification could be regarded as anything from a

possible conflict of interest to an actionable offense. This goes beyond security classification concerns, in fact, and can cross over into the realm of political activity in which federal employees are prohibited from participating.

Now that I am with the National Park Service, I am not involved in records access decisions or security classification matters to the extent I was with the Bureau of Prisons, or, before that, with NARA. But I quite understood the sensitivity of the matter, and was not surprised when Don Steury—who was SHFG President when the NARA reclassification controversy emerged, and who works with classified records on a daily basis as a historian with the Center for the Study of Intelligence—felt obligated to recuse himself from discussions of NARA's program at Executive Council meetings and at the business meeting of the 2006 SHFG Annual Conference. The point was reinforced just a few weeks ago at the annual planning session of the Executive Council when incoming Vice President Bill Williams, a historian with the National Security Agency, noted that his agency's General Counsel had cautioned him to not to become associated with any political positions through his membership in SHFG.

Frankly, in all my years with SHFG, awkward situations of this kind have been few and far between. In the 1990s, during my first term on the Executive Council, I remember our support for a bill (that never reached the floor of either house) requiring federal agencies to establish history offices. In the early 2000s, during my second term on the Council, we approved a statement opposing the downsizing or outsourcing of federal history offices. These were noble causes, but in both cases I recall feeling a little uneasy. Until the NARA reclassification flap—which fizzled, fortuitously, before we could actually take a position—those were the only occasions in which I was involved where I thought we might be veering a little too close for comfort to that invisible line.

As for that statement I drafted concerning the reclassification issue—well, I think it might still be useful as a general statement of principles on records classification and access. It was prompted by the NARA reclassification program, as well as such other developments as the appearance of the "Records of Concern" concept, the promulgation of an Executive Order in 2002 conveying authority over certain access decisions to former presidents and

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President's Message, continued from page 2

their families, and the Smithsonian's agreement giving the Showtime cable network special access to its collections of moving images. Nevertheless, it deliberately avoids taking a stance on specific programs or policies. It was never formally adopted by the Executive Council, so it may be regarded—and perhaps dismissed—as just my personal opinion. Also, it is prefaced with the caveat that SHFG's members—many of whom make declassification and access decisions as part of their official duties—are committed to following all laws, executive orders, access regulations, and agency procedures to the fullest.

1. Public access to records is fundamental to accountable and open government.
2. Decisions on whether to not to classify or otherwise restrict access to government records must be based on codified, objective, and publicly available laws, regulations, and guidelines.
3. Decisions to declassify or otherwise release records and information must be universally applicable—what is released to one person must not be withheld from another.
4. Decisions to reclassify previously declassified records should be undertaken in only the most exceptional and compelling situations, and policies and regulations governing such decisions must be made available to the public. Apart from such unusual circumstances, the overriding principle should be that once a document is released, it should reside in the public domain forever.
5. Classification, declassification, and other access-related decisions must be made exclusively by federal employees who are publicly and legally accountable for their decisions, and who are trained in classification and access laws and procedures.
6. Control of publicly owned research collections must never be surrendered to private or commercial enterprises. Private or commercial enterprises should never have special access to federal records or other publicly owned collections (except when acting as a federal contractor), and should never have authority to grant or withhold access based on their own interests.

* * *

Having mentioned Don Steury and Bill Williams earlier in this column, I would be remiss if I did not mention them again in connection with their contributions to SHFG. In July, Don completed his term as SHFG President. Don did an exemplary job, both as President (in 2005–06) and as Vice President (2004–05), and he will continue to play an important role as immediate Past President. It was a real pleasure for me to work with Don this past year. Bill Williams, meanwhile, is beginning his term as Vice President. Bill and I were on the Executive Council together a few years ago, and I was delighted when he consented to run for Vice President. He is already hard at work on planning the 2007 Annual Conference, and I look forward to working with him over the next year.

NMAI, continued from page 1

gaze, previously one that showed Indians on display, trapped in an ideological prison, would be returned by Indian people. I believed and wrote that “understanding this hemisphere and your place in it is impossible without investigating the centrality of the Indian experience.” Our core message, that Contact was the most profound and momentous event in recorded human history and places Indians, and the Indian experience, at the very center of world history, creates a sense of “cognitive dissonance,” a sensation that served our experiential purpose. Jolene thus envisioned a contemporary and gently destabilizing physical space based on sculptor Richard Serra's curving, disorienting walls.

For direction we closely studied two projects: the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM). The first teaches that this work is more art than science, and insight into the human condition and the human heart is more valuable than a million visitor surveys. Although a slab of black granite adorned with nothing more than names initially sounded cold and sterile, Maya Lin brilliantly understood the kind of pure form and symbolic tribute that people wanted.

The second taught us the value of understatement, the importance of using real artifacts, and most importantly, the rewards of respecting the intelligence of viewers. USHMM curators gambled that millions of people craved deep knowledge about the Holocaust, and not superficial treatment. Visitors would read long text labels that are more than 75 words long. And I deeply respected a singular part of the USHMM exhibit, that is the one that happens the night before at home, when out-of-town visitors are debating whether they are up for a visit to the Holocaust Museum. I'm sure many of you have had that experience. I have friends here who love museums, and to this day think they are not ready. That is an extraordinary achievement that is also completely appropriate for a Holocaust Museum. NMAI was never meant to be a Holocaust museum. When I think today about the failure of the “Big Story” to even come close to that kind of emotional power, I believe one reason is the mandate to tell the darkest of stories right next to exhibits that are celebrating life.

THE EXHIBIT

I can only provide brief images here. It begins with a single word: EVIDENCE. We imagined the exhibit as a beautiful excavation site, where history is buried, lost, and found. The first installation, a blast of white, like a fresh layer of snow on a frozen lake, reveals objects beneath the surface. Our purpose here for visitors is that what you see depends on where you look, things change, and this Indian history museum is going to look nothing like an Indian history

museum is supposed to. An installation called 1491 contains a teeming convention of contrarians, figurines, lots of whom don't look especially Indian. They are from all over, and made of stone, wood, silver, jade. The key ideas here are ancient, always changing, tens of millions of people, and incredible diversity. The curving S wall ends with a column of fire and a quote from Eduardo Galeano. A free-standing installation called Ocean presents our thesis: that contact between the world's two halves was the most profound event in human history, and changed everything. There is a room full of George Catlin masterpieces, and a portrait of George Gustav Heye, whose obsession to collect Indian things in vast quantities made the National Museum of the American Indian possible. In the center of the gallery are three walls named The Storm. They depict the powerful forces that confronted Indian people across the hemisphere: firearms, Christianity, and the power of governments not our own.

Creating this exhibit was unbelievably difficult, much harder than writing a book. I feel extraordinarily fortunate to have been part of it. The exhibit is massively imperfect, yet it achieves many of the goals we set. I particularly want to thank Lynn Emi Kawaratani and Verena Pierik, the two finest designers on the East Coast.

The opening was a fantastic success. It drew 80,000 people, the building has been a hit, and we just had our one-millionth visitor. I would like to correct at least one misconception. *The Denver Post* reported in November 2004 that in this museum "American Indians hold all the key leadership positions."

Actually, in the countless meetings about this project over the last three and a half years, I was usually one of just two Indians, and quite often the only Indian in the room. Our splendid Director W. Richard West, and his Special Assistant Gerald McMaster are both reds, and they had final authority over the exhibit content. Indians are a

minority at the Indian museum, and are especially a minority on the content and exhibit side of things. My hope for the Museum is that in this next chapter we become both more ambitious, and more humble. This biggest of all stories should attract the sharpest minds from all over the planet, and the color of their skin matters not at all. Expertise, scholarship, experience, creative thinking is what counts.

Because the Museum is the site of a national conversation, it can be rough going, especially at first. Let's keep arguing, because at least it means we're talking. And of course I'm talking also about arguments among Indians, not just those boring arguments between Indians and cowboys. But we'll get better at this because we have to. I mean, it's not like anyone's going anywhere, right?

I close with part of the exhibition's last label. It's called All My Relations.

"Nine of ten perished. One in ten survived. All Indians alive today are here because our ancestors used intelligence, skill, planning, strategy and sacrifice. They didn't fear change; they embraced it. They survived because they fought for change on our terms.

"Their past lives in our present. As descendants of the one in ten who wake up in the 21st century, we share an inheritance of grief, loss, hope, and immense wealth. The brilliant achievements of our ancestors make us accountable for how we move in the world today. Their lessons instruct us, and make us responsible for remembering everything, especially those things we never knew."



The 1491 section of the NMAI permanent exhibit features "a teeming convention of contrarians, figurines" to show the diversity of native cultures.

The original broadcast is available online at <http://smithsonian.tv/nmai>. Paul Chaat Smith is Associate Curator at the National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, DC.

CHURCHILL AND THE GREAT REPUBLIC: THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AWARD-WINNING INTERACTIVE

By Betsy Nahum-Miller

Since 1992, the Interpretive Programs Office (IPO) of the Library of Congress has mounted more than 60 online versions of its exhibitions. From their first appearance on the Library's web site until recently, online versions of exhibitions followed a single, linear path, presenting material that echos the physical exhibition. Two years ago, IPO took on the challenge of creating more interactive exhibits that enable visitors to select their own pathways through an exhibition. The most recent endeavor, an interactive tour of the Library's acclaimed exhibition, "Churchill and the Great Republic," recently garnered a prestigious Muse Award from the American Associations of Museums.

The first exhibition for which an online interactive version was created was "Rivers Edens Empires: Lewis & Clark and the Revealing of America." Interpretive Programs Office Chief Irene Chambers conceived of creating a virtual tour that allowed visitors to experience the exhibit online as if they were physically walking through it—according to their own selected path. The online presentation was successful in creating a sense of space and scale and allowed visitors to explore in a nonlinear way. Chambers envisioned that the next major exhibition would go even a step further by offering online visitors interactivity that moves beyond the confines of the physical gallery space.

The Library's next major exhibit was "Churchill and the Great Republic," which is currently on a national tour. The exhibition examines the life and career of Sir Winston Churchill and emphasizes his lifelong links with the United States—the nation he called "the great Republic." Items in this exhibition include an early report card in which the eight-year-old Winston is characterized as "very naughty"; a newly discovered letter written shortly after Lieutenant Churchill had ridden with the Twenty-First Lancers in the last great British cavalry charge of the 19th century; another newly discovered letter expressing



The Churchill online exhibit allows visitors to chart their own interactive, multi-tiered exploration of Churchill's life, making available letters, photographs, maps, speeches, and personal documents.

Churchill's anguish while serving in the trenches during World War I; Churchill's draft for his "Finest Hour" speech; Franklin D. Roosevelt's handwritten plea to open a Second Front to draw off German pressure from the Soviets during World War II; and the scribbled notes exchanged between Churchill and Roosevelt envoy W. Averell Harriman while flying in a noisy bomber en route to a crucial and difficult meeting with Stalin. The physical exhibition was organized by the Library in cooperation with the Churchill Archives Centre in Cambridge, England, the repository for Winston Churchill's papers.

The success and popularity of the exhibition inspired the Interpretive Programs Office to produce an online interactive that would reveal the essence of the physical exhibition while allowing the visitor to engage in multiple layers of exploration. Creating a dynamic online version of the exhibition involved a change in the traditional thinking process, as well as the use of newer technology. The online exhibition team conducted a search for web design firms with proven success in creating exciting and innova-

The Library of Congress, the largest repository of recorded knowledge in the world, is America's oldest federal cultural institution. Established in 1800, the Library's collections now comprise more than 130 million items in no fewer than 450 different languages. The Library's Interpretive Programs Office (IPO) creatively draws on the collections, developing and mounting exhibitions, and developing auxiliary programming that includes printed materials, exhibit tours for various audiences, symposia, public lectures, performances, teachers' institutes, conferences, and online exhibitions.

tive digital presentations. Of the five web design companies that submitted proposals, the firm Terra Incognita brought to the table the experience, educational approach, and technical ability that fit the goals for the creation of the Churchill interactive.

The major aim of the online version of the exhibition was to develop a presentation that captured the context of the actual exhibition and took full advantage of the digital medium to allow visitors to chart their own interactive, multi-tiered exploration. Working closely with Terra Incognita, the core team of the online exhibition developed self-directed, multi-layered paths to explore the story—a timeline offers a chronological look at Churchill's long life and career; nine major themes can be explored, such as his relationship with American presidents, his skills as a communicator, his political career, and his commanding role in WWII; and finally, more than 200 items relating to Churchill can be examined including letters, photographs, maps, speeches, and personal documents. In addition, throughout the presentation is interesting commentary by exhibition curator, Daun van Ee.

The result is a unique presentation that appeals to audiences diverse in age, background, and knowledge of

Churchill. Churchill and the Great Republic can be viewed at <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/churchill/interactive/>. In addition to the Silver MUSE Award from the American Association of Museums, the exhibition has achieved recognition by USA Today Hot Sites, Communication Arts Site, SXSW (South by Southwest Music, Film, and Interactive Festival), and Macromedia Site of the Day.

In looking toward the future, the Interpretive Programs Office will continue to develop interactive media to enhance the overall visitor experience. Multi-tiered online exhibitions will continue to give visitors an opportunity to further explore the materials, long after an exhibition has closed—or if they simply cannot reach the Library. The online exhibits program will continue to provide access to the Library's vast collections as well as to reach and inspire visitors to become "lifelong learners" through the Library of Congress.

Betsy Nahum-Miller is Online Exhibit Coordinator, Interpretive Programs Office, at the Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON DECEMBER 31, 2006?

By James David

December 31, 2006, is one of the most important dates ever in the long and usually very slow process of declassifying U.S. government records. On that day, all pre-1981 classified presidential library records and pre-1981 classified permanent agency records are to be automatically declassified, regardless of whether they have actually been reviewed by the proper authorities or not. The only exceptions are if the records have been exempted from automatic declassification by the White House, been examined and found to contain information that still merits classification under current guidelines, contain the equities of more than one agency, are special media (e.g., films, audio tapes, and microfilm), or were inadvertently not reviewed. On every December 31st thereafter, all such records becoming 25 years old during that year will be automatically declassified unless one of the exceptions applies.

This is the first time in our history that this procedure is to be applied across the Executive Branch. The original automatic declassification date was April 2000 under E.O. 12958. However, because so many agencies were behind

in locating and reviewing their subject records, President Clinton signed E.O. 13142 pushing it back to October 2001 for some records and April 2003 for others. Just weeks before the latter deadline, President Bush signed E.O. 13292 which extended the date to the end of 2006 and added the last three exceptions described above.

Will there be a massive opening of records on December 31? The answer is no. Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO), the office within NARA that has oversight responsibility for this and associated programs, reported in September 2005 that there were about 1.9 billion pages of classified pre-1981 presidential library records and classified pre-1981 permanent agency records. This figure was broken down as follows: 1.6 billion pages subject to the deadline, 138 million pages with multiple equities that face automatic declassification at the end of 2009, 174 million pages of special media that are subject to it at the end of 2011. (It is important to note that these exemptions are cumulative. As an example, microfiche from 1960 that contains multiple equities does

not face automatic declassification until the end of 2014.) For unknown reasons, the 1.9 billion page total does not include the nearly 190 million pages from 10 agencies exempted by the White House in 1998 or the unknown number of FBI records exempted by an October 1995 agreement signed by the directors of the FBI and ISOO.

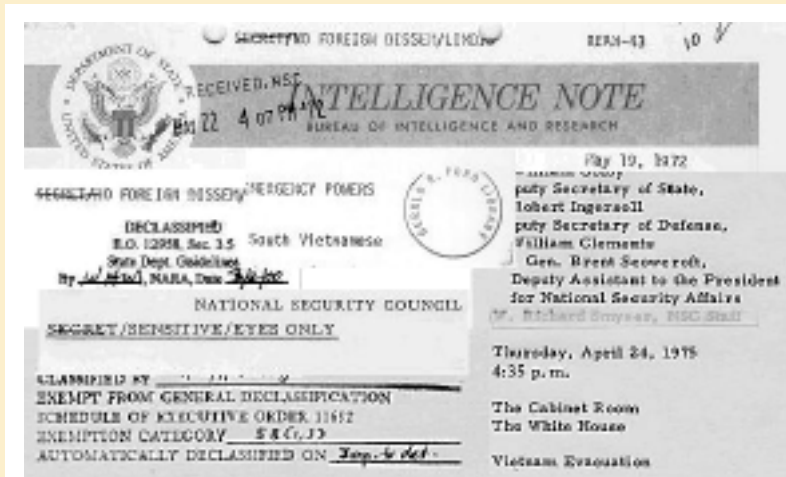
Of the 1.6 billion pages subject to automatic declassification at the end of 2006, ISOO reported that approximately 1.4 billion pages had been reviewed and one billion pages had actually been declassified by late 2004. Although there are questions regarding the accuracy of many of the numbers supplied by the agencies and NARA to arrive at these overall figures, there is no doubt that far more records were declassified from 1995 to 2005 than in any comparable period in the nation's history. (As a matter of comparison, ISOO reported that only 257 million pages were declassified from 1980 to 1995 under the then existing systematic review programs.)

The real success of any declassification program is the public's ability to access the records opened up, and on this score the current program has largely failed. The only available figure along these lines is that 450 million of the one billion "declassified" pages are reportedly at the College Park National Archives, but they cannot be examined by the public for one or more of the following reasons: 1) they contain Restricted Data (e.g., nuclear weapons design information) or Formerly Restricted Data, 2) they need to be referred to one or more other agencies for declassification review of their equities, or 3) the National Archives has not processed the records for public release (among other things, this entails removing the still-classified records and preparing a withdrawal slip for them). An examination of the computer-generated inventories for many record groups at College Park illustrates the problem. For example, it appears that the majority of Office of the Secretary of Defense records (Record Group 330) at the facility is inaccessible to the public. Among the many key records that are currently closed are Top Secret Secretary of Defense correspondence files beginning in 1953.

Where are the other 550 million pages of records reportedly declassified from 1995 to 2004? Although there is no definitive answer because of a lack of a central tracking system, some undoubtedly are on the "public shelves" at College Park. However, others are still at federal records centers or the agencies themselves (perhaps because they are not yet eligible for transfer to the National Archives under the applicable records schedule). When are they going to be transferred, reviewed by other agencies if necessary, and finally processed so the public can see them?

Several improvements are necessary in the current program. First, each agency, and the National Archives and each of its presidential libraries should submit annually a publicly accessible report on what collections they reviewed, the percentage of each declassified, and their location. This information is currently almost impossible for the public to learn. If at all possible, these organizations should prepare similar reports covering the records reviewed between 1995 and the present. Second, all exemptions from automatic declassification—the 11 granted in 1995 and 1998 and any approved subsequently—should immediately be released (only three have been thus far). The public has a right to know exactly what records have been exempted and for how long. Third, far more classified records are not subject to the executive orders than are for one of two reasons: 1) they contain Restricted Data or Formerly Restricted Data, 2) they contain National Security Information or National Security Information and Sensitive Compartmented Information but are unappraised, temporary, or pending reappraisal. There needs to be the most accurate inventory possible of records in these two categories. Among other things, it is needed because such unappraised and pending reappraisal records that are eventually appraised as permanent are subject to automatic declassification 25 years after their date or 5 years after they are so appraised, whichever is later.

James David is a curator in the Space History Division at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, Washington, DC.



TARGETED ASSISTANCE: NARA PARTNERSHIPS FOR EFFECTIVE RECORDS MANAGEMENT

By Galen Wilson

In the past, other federal agencies became involved with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) only after they finished actively using their records. NARA's federal records centers offered a convenient and inexpensive place for storing records awaiting either destruction or permanent retention. Permanent records were placed ultimately with NARA's Archives program in Washington, DC, and in regional archives across the country.

While NARA continues to provide these storage services, it has also recently emphasized a records "lifecycle" philosophy. This philosophy holds that records management works best if it begins in the agency when records are created, or, even better, if records management is incorporated into the planning for new activities that will create records. Planning for records management is especially crucial when designing electronic systems. NARA calls this "front-end records management." Records that are well-managed from the beginning will be available when the agency needs them for its business. It also means the permanent records will be available when it is time for them to come to the National Archives as part of our Nation's historical record. As a theory, the concept was relatively simple. Turning that theory into reality, however, would clearly require extensive investment on NARA's part.

Thus was born one of NARA's most creative initiatives: "Targeted Assistance" (TA). Basically, NARA offered its expertise to help agencies solve their records management problems. NARA hired approximately 40 Senior Records Analysts and stationed them in the Washington, DC, area and around the country—in or near Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Tampa, Dayton, Chicago, Kansas City, Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, Albuquerque, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, and Anchorage. This



This poster is being used by Federal Fire Agencies to educate staff about the new flexible records schedule for wildland fire incident records.

corps of professionals was hired based on their track record of high-level experience with records management programs, and particularly with electronic records and recordkeeping issues.

A TA partnership begins with a request from a federal agency—at the local, regional, or headquarters level. Together, NARA and the partner agency develop a project with a well-defined purpose, tangible results, distinct milestones, and a time frame for completion. NARA provides the time and expertise of its TA staff while agencies provide knowledgeable staff to work alongside NARA personnel. The agencies are asked to fund travel costs when necessary. Each TA proposal is evaluated by NARA to determine if the project addresses a critical need. Projects that will help protect records that document citizen rights and government accountability, that are at risk of loss, or that are historically valuable are given first priority.

TA has been well received by agency records management programs. Since the launch of the TA initiative, NARA has helped 107 federal agencies tackle their records management challenges through 279 completed projects.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was one of the first agencies to recognize TA's potential and take advantage of the program. NASA Centers in Florida, Texas, Ohio, and California have multi-year agreements with regional TA staff. Project highlights include records management workshops, training in vital records, advice to International Space Station staff on retention periods for imagery and still photography, appraisal of records from 1960s programs working toward the first moon landing, an inventory of several thousand historic 16-mm film reels, and a records self-assessment plan by which NASA offices can review their own processes. A NARA

team that included five Senior Records Analysts worked with the NASA records officer and members of her staff to write an innovative and flexible new schedule for records amassed by any NASA program or project.

After Hurricane Katrina's floodwaters receded, NARA's Southwest Region staff assisted the Parish of Orleans in assessing records damage. Working with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offices both in New Orleans and Baton Rouge, NARA crafted a records management program plan so that accomplishments by frontline workers in the historic recovery efforts will be documented. The plan included designation of a records coordinator for each FEMA core function, training (conducted by NARA) in records management for those coordinators, an ad hoc records manager to remain onsite to assist records coordinators, and creation of file plans for each core function. NARA drafted a plan to capture e-mail transacting FEMA business—important documentation of potential interest to historians, yet easily lost unless intentionally preserved.

A regional office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) sought to improve its FOIA response efficiency, and decided to invest in an electronic system to manage its documents as records. NOAA asked a NARA Senior Records Analyst to join a team to

prepare system requirements, review potential off-the-shelf products, consider building the system in-house, plan priorities for bringing departments online, and design office-specific file plans needed to set up the new system's directories. An unanticipated bonus of this successful project was the discovery that NOAA's records schedule mandates too short of a retention period for an important series of records; a new schedule item has been drafted with NARA's assistance.

Senior Records Analysts from six NARA regional records management programs participated with the United States Forest Service (USFS) and other federal agencies in a two-year effort culminating in an innovative cross-agency schedule for fire management records. This project ensures that records documenting federal policy and action in wild-fire management will be preserved permanently.

You can find out more about NARA's Target Assistance initiative on NARA's web page at <http://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/initiatives/targeted-assistance.html>. Or for additional information, contact Susan Cummings at 301-837-1636 or at susan.cummings@nara.gov.

Galen Wilson is a Senior Records Analyst with the National Archives—Great Lakes Region, Dayton, Ohio.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Current changes in labor-management relations are the most extensive since 1978, and have generated much debate. Separate plans creating new “pay bands” and rules for labor-management relations have been developed at the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, and the Office of the Director of National Security, and are in partial implementation. While official justifications cite the need for greater flexibility in hiring in the intelligence community and the promise of a more efficient workforce through a “pay for performance” model, many find the possible outcomes full of uncertainties and dangers. Recent court decisions, prompted by labor unions' allegations of serious threats to collective bargaining rights, halted implementation of those program procedures that would affect unionized federal workers. Appeals are pending, and Congress is reviewing possible cuts in the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) funding until those aspects relating to collective bargaining and binding contacts are in conformity with court decisions. The phasing-in of the NSPS in the Defense Department will proceed with a second stage in October 2006 that will include management and non-union personnel in several commands, including many workers at the Washington Navy Yard and Langley Air Force Base. Other agencies will do the same. These changes are complex and have implications for all federal workers. In one aspect of these changes, Mike McManus discusses the implementation of Total Pay Compensation (TPC) at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). In another personnel matter, Richard W. Stewart discusses the Army Center of Military History's use of an intern program as a way of streamlining the hiring process and securing high-quality employees. *The Federalist* welcomes contributions on these issues.

TOTAL PAY COMPENSATION (TPC) AT NGA

By Mike McManus

While many organizations are now considering implementation of pay bands and performance pay, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) recently completed

its seventh cycle under its performance pay system. This system, called Total Pay Compensation, or TPC, considers the employees' performance, work accomplishments, and the total resulting salary level in the band in determining salary increases and bonuses. It has a single pay band structure comprised of five pay bands, and all the occupa-

tions use the same band structure, but define the work requirements and performance standards for each band within the context of the occupation's work. Newer developing employees in the core analyst functions can participate in a career ladder program called "Occupational Advancement." This provides a "safety net" of salary progression while the employee develops required skills and proficiencies.

The benefits of a broad-band system are clear. Narrow definitions of occupations and work within grades are expanded. The broader bands provide flexibility in assignments and pay progression. High performance and work accomplishment can be recognized and rewarded within the broad band structure.

NGA considers its process an overall success, but there are challenges with a broad-band structure and performance pay. The idea of a broad band structure is that employees can advance in pay based on performance much further than the narrower General Schedule grades would allow. While this is in fact what has happened, many employees have expressed concern over the lower number of promotion opportunities. It has become clear that promotions offer levels of prestige that go beyond just higher pay levels. This issue is inherent in any broad band structure, and current proposals that would create only three bands (generally reflecting Entry/Developmental, Full Performance, and "Expert" work) will exacerbate this problem.

NGA has refined its process over the years in response to employee and manager input. One of the areas we have adjusted is our approach to bonuses, which are one-time payments instead of a continual salary increase. In the earlier iterations, almost 75% of the workforce received a bonus, but most viewed them as a lesser reward, because bonus amounts were relatively low and did not factor into retirement computations. NGA changed its policy to limit the distribution of bonuses to 45% of the workforce, which directed them to the highest performers and made the amounts much more meaningful.

There are several new or proposed performance pay systems under various stages of development or implementation at this time. The National Security Personnel System (NSPS) will eventually cover 750,000 employees in the Department of Defense. The Department of Homeland Security is developing a similar process for its multitude of organizations. The Office of the Director of National Security (ODNI) is developing an architecture for all of the Intelligence Community (IC) that could result in a common system for all its organizations. Most new systems include common characteristics of goal-oriented performance management systems, pay bands or structures, and pay-outs related to performance. An addi-

tional feature adopted by most is consideration of market-based labor rates in the pay ranges and possibly as a salary target within the range.

NGA's system already incorporates most of these features, but we have not incorporated market-pay setting principles into its design to date. NGA's pay bands were generally linked to the General Schedule grade ranges, but we have always recognized the band ranges may evolve over time. NGA falls under the IC and is now participating in the ODNI Pay Modernization effort. This could mean substantial changes in how we define our occupations and band levels. It could also impact our performance management and performance pay processes.

With any performance-based system, the greatest challenges are to define bands that realistically reflect the levels of work; establish a credible performance management system; adequately communicate and train managers and employees; and hold managers accountable for the year-round performance management process and subsequent pay decisions. An underlying challenge is to allow supervisors and managers the time they need to truly supervise and manage.

New systems need to answer some fundamental questions at the outset to determine even the most basic features. Among them are:

- What is the "pay philosophy" that will determine pay ranges, and (possibly) a target pay point within that range? Some systems simply allow the pay to move unrestricted to the top of the pay range, while others have a pivotal pay target point.
- What is the purpose of a bonus? That will help determine how it is budgeted and distributed.
- How can you maximize "transparency" (i.e., process is clear and understandable to the employee) while still administering all the multiple considerations in the pay process? You do not want to oversimplify at the cost of accurate pay decisions, but the process cannot be so complex that the employees cannot see the link between performance and pay.

NGA will bring seven years of experience to the table as we help define a new system for the IC. We look forward to creating a system that incorporates the latest principles of labor market pay setting. We also recognize the challenges ahead in establishing a common system for a variety of organizations and cultures.

Mike McManus, Senior Compensation Analyst at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), has been involved in the development, implementation, and refinement of the performance pay system at NGA for the past nine years. Martin Gordon, the NGA Historian, asked him to write this article for The Federalist.

CONSIDER THE FEDERAL CAREER INTERN PROGRAM

by Richard W. Stewart

Recent changes in the Army Personnel System have made it even more difficult to bring new professionals into federal historical programs. Some of these difficulties are discussed below. For those involved in recruiting actions and keeping new, potential federal historians informed of how to get such positions, I believe that this information can be exceedingly valuable to you. Simply being aware of the new system and its problems and possibilities will help us overcome them.

Briefly, in an effort to expedite the overall federal hiring process, which can take well over a year, personnel specialists have sought to automate the process. For example, Army Civilian Personnel Operations Centers are now requiring all applicants (not just in-service or status candidates) for most federal positions to use an automated resume generation and application process called "Resumix." All Resumix applications will now be screened by an "intelligent" computer system and not by civilian personnel specialists or historians. The new system will examine each electronic resume and search for exact matches to very specific keywords/phrases and then will automatically rank-order the applicants by how many of the keywords are found. Only the "top" candidates (according to this machine search) will be forwarded to the actual "selecting" (i.e., hiring) officials.

As an example, one of the keywords/phrases used to screen a recent list of applicants for a book-writing historian in our Histories Division was "independent research." One candidate, an assistant professor at a small university with Ph.D. in hand, articles published, dissertation on the path to publication, was ranked far below several applicants who just had master's degrees because he did not use the exact words "independent research" in his resume.

In sum, civilian personnel specialists will not, for the most part, even see or manually review the applications. The non-status applicants (the majority of your students will be in this category) will be rank-ordered by the computer program, and then a certificate issued for the selecting official to make a choice. Because of veteran's preference and other laws and regulations, a candidate's specific position on a list is often critical to whether or not you can hire them, and that rank position is based solely on the points derived from the computer program.

As a result, if you have students just getting their degrees and applying for historian positions anywhere in

the federal government, they should 1) know that their resume will be reviewed only by a machine and that simply cutting and pasting their academic vita, created assuming a certain level of knowledge of the reviewer, will NOT work; 2) read carefully the description of the position for which they are applying and ensure that they address clearly (assuming nothing!) the specific skills or abilities listed; 3) write carefully and write complete and full descriptions of what they did during their course work, independent study, fellowship, and dissertation work (i.e., "read primary sources," "conducted independent research," "did analysis of facts," "summarized historical data," "wrote complex paragraphs," "completed research and analysis project," and so forth) so that even a non-historian can understand their skills and abilities.

We also are approaching the hiring problem from yet another angle, the Federal Career Intern Program (FCIP). Under this program, history offices would be able to accept applications (resumes and transcripts) directly from interested candidates who have not yet (or have just barely) completed their dissertations and are interested in a professional history position in the federal workforce. We can screen their applications ourselves, examine writing samples and recommendations, and, if we like their skills and they are a good fit, we may be able to provide a quick turnaround offer of employment without using through the Resumix system. With the right approved training plan in place, these positions can start at the GS 09 level in the excepted service (in essence, non-tenure), but within two years they can be promoted to GS 12. They will then have only one year left of career-conditional status before full career status (equivalent to full tenure) is granted at the end of the third year. In many ways the FCIP program is ideal in identifying young historians who want to work for the federal government and allows supervisors to get them hired for a "trial" basis.

In sum, despite expected major revisions in federal personnel systems, navigating thru the complex hiring process will remain difficult for applicants, their advisers, and the selecting officials. However, I believe that as federal history agencies we can work with academic institutions to identify highly qualified candidates for entry-level historical positions thru the FCIP. But to do this, we have to make our needs known directly to the academic communities and solicit candidates who meet the qualifications noted above. Otherwise, we will be at the mercy of machine searches for key words to tell us who we can hire.

Richard W. Stewart is Chief, Histories Division, U.S. Army Center of Military History, Washington, DC.

CALL FOR PAPERS SHFG ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Current Challenges and New Directions in Federal History—MARCH 2007

The Society for History in the Federal Government invites the submission of proposals for papers and other types of presentations at its annual conference, which will be held in March 2007 at the National Archives at College Park, MD (exact date to be announced). Proposals for complete sessions and individual papers are welcome from historians, archivists, curators, librarians, and others engaged in the study of federal history in its broadest context.

The conference theme includes an examination of the research and activities currently underway in federal government history programs. It will also showcase innovative ideas for making federal history meaningful to the general public as well as to government agencies. Proposals connecting federal history to current historiographical debates are also welcome.

Topics for proposed sessions include the role of the federal government in medical history; museum activities and displays; the African American experience; the Native American experience; national security; the current crisis in Iraq; the Washington, DC, flood of 2006; declassification and “reclassification” of federal records; history “outreach” programs; and history on the Worldwide Web. Submissions on other topics will also be considered.

Graduate students are encouraged to submit proposals for presentations. Additionally, a roundtable discussion on how to get a job as a federal historian is planned. The conference will conclude with the annual business meeting of the Society, which all members are welcome to attend.

Session or individual paper proposals should be sent to shfgannualconference@yahoo.com. The deadline for submissions is 15 December 2006. Any specific questions can be directed to the conference’s executive director, Bill Williams, at bill-wms50@gmail.com, or by telephone at 301-688-2336. Visit www.shfg.org for more details.

KRISTIN L. AHLBERG NAMED EDITOR OF OCCASIONAL PAPERS

Kristin L. Ahlberg has been named editor of SHFG’s journal, *Occasional Papers*, succeeding Rebecca Welch and Fred Beck. Dr. Ahlberg is a historian with the State Department Historical Office and a member of the SHFG Executive Council. Inquiries and manuscripts may be submitted to Dr. Ahlberg by e-mail at AhlbergKL@state.gov, or by mail at SHFG, P.O. Box 14139, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044.

SOCIETY AWARDS

November 15 is the deadline for nominations for the Society’s awards. Each year the Society awards six prizes for various types of historical publications and work furthering the understanding and history of the federal government: the Henry Adams and George Pendleton Prizes (Books), the James Madison and Charles Thomson Prizes (Articles or Essays), the Thomas Jefferson Prize (Documentary Edition or Research Aid), and the John Wesley Powell Prize (Historic Preservation or Historical Display). Visit <http://shfg.org/towards.html> for details. Send submissions to HJGwiazda@yahoo.com.

MAKING HISTORY

AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The AHA will hold its next annual meeting Jan. 4–7, 2007, in Atlanta, GA. The theme is “Unstable Subjects: Practicing History in Unsettled Times.” Visit www.historians.org/annual/2007/index.cfm for details. The 31st edition of the Directory of History Departments and Organizations in the United States and Canada (2005–2006) is now available. The Association’s publication *Perspectives* can now be viewed online at www.historians.org/Perspectives/index.cfm.

ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The summer issue of *On Point: The Journal of Army History* is available. It contains information on the Foundation’s continuing campaign to develop the National Museum of the United States Army in the Washington, DC, area. The Foundation is also building The Registry of the American Soldier. It is “an internet-based, online listing open to record the service of every soldier who has ever served in the U.S. Army.” Visit www.usarmyregistry.org for registration of a soldier.

ASSOCIATION FOR DOCUMENTARY EDITING

The Association’s 2006 Annual Meeting will be held on October 20–22 in Quincy, Massachusetts. The meeting registration fee is \$65 for application forms postmarked by September 15, 2006. The program is posted at <http://etext.virginia.edu/ade/upcomingconf/program.html>

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

The Graduate Program in Policy History and the Social Philosophy and Policy Center of Bowling Green State University, the University of Toledo College of Law, the Robert H. Jackson Center and the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities will present a two-day interdisciplinary conference with the aim of facilitating the study of historical, political, legal, and military implications of the Nuremberg War Crimes Trial across the past six decades. The conference is titled "The Nuremberg Trial and Its Policy Consequences Today," and will be held Oct. 6–7, 2006, at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. Visit www.bgsu.edu/departments/history/nuremberg for details.

COUNCIL ON AMERICA'S MILITARY PAST

The Council on America's Military Past (CAMP) has issued a call for papers for its 41st Annual Military History Conference, May 9–13, 2007, at the Clarion Hotel, Hampton, Virginia. Send topic for a 20-minute talk to CAMP '07 Conference Papers, P.O. Box 1151, Fort Myer, VA 22211-1151, by December 15, 2006. Call 703-912-6124 or e-mail camphart1@aol.com for more information.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Department of State released on July 18 *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1964–1968, Vol. XXIX, Part 2, Japan*, the penultimate volume to be published in the Johnson administration sub-series. This volume documents U.S. policy toward Japan during the presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson. It is a companion volume to *Foreign Relations, 1964–1968, Vol. XXIX, Part 1, Korea*, which in addition to U.S. relations with the Republic of Korea, includes chapters on the Pueblo crisis and the settlement between the Republic of Korea and Japan that ended their estrangement since World War II. The present volume documents a relationship that was fundamentally sound, but suffered from irritants and problems arising from a number of issues.

The volume, the summary, and this press release are available at the Office of the Historian web site at www.state.gov/r/pa/ho/frus/johnsonlb/xxix2. Copies of this volume can also be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office at bookstore.gpo.gov (GPO stock number 044-000-02593-1; ISBN 0-16-072509-7). For further information, contact Edward Keefer, General Editor of the Foreign Relations series, at (202) 663-1131; fax (202) 663-1289; e-mail to history@state.gov.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

"Military Intel: The Inside Story," a selection of 22 digitized collections of materials submitted by war veterans who served in military intelligence are now highlighted on the Veterans History Project Web site. "Military Intel" is now part of the "Experiencing War" stories from the Veterans History Project at www.loc.gov/warstories. This is the 12th set of individual stories—comprising interviews, letters, photographs and written memoirs—to be featured on the site. Visitors to the "Experiencing War" site can gain insights to military intelligence through personal accounts of 22 veterans. The presentation is divided into three types of experiences: "In Harm's Way," "In the Field," and "Behind the Scenes." Those who are interested in participating are encouraged to e-mail the Veterans History Project at vohp@loc.gov or to call toll-free (888) 371-5848 to request a free project kit. For more information about the Veterans History Project, and to see and hear veterans' stories, visit www.loc.gov/vets.

NASA

NASA held its conference titled "Societal Impact of Spaceflight" on Sept. 19–21 at the Smithsonian's Hirschhorn Museum in

Washington, DC. The purpose of this symposium was to undertake a broad overview of the societal impact of spaceflight both nationally and internationally. Please see <http://history.nasa.gov/socimpactconf/index.html> for more information and the formal agenda.

Just published is *Unconventional, Contrary, and Ugly: The Story of the Lunar Landing Research Vehicle*, by Gene Matranga, Wayne Ottinger, and Cal Jarvis. NASA continues to post publications online: for example, *On the Moon with Apollo 16: A Guide to the Descartes Region* (NASA EP-95, 1972) is now available at <http://history.nasa.gov/EP-95/ep95.htm>

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The National Archives Building in Washington, DC, suffered major damage in the lower two levels following heavy rains on June 25. It was closed to staff and researchers for several weeks. Water rushed down the driveways on Constitution Avenue where it damaged the electrical equipment and flooded the stage and first two rows of the McGowan Theater. No records were affected, and The Charters of Freedom—the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights—are in environmentally protected encasements in the Rotunda. Recovery efforts were continuous, and the building was reopened in stages in late July.

A major exhibit "American Originals: Eye Witness," opened June 23 at the Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery in the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. The show lets a visitor hear the voices, see the sights, and feel the emotions of Americans witnessing and recalling watershed events in American and world history. "It's about storytelling," National Archives curator Stacey Bredhoff says. "It's the personal story, the experience of events we think we know. But when you see a film clip, read a letter, hear a voice, it becomes brand new and immediate, as if it just happened yesterday."

The John F. Kennedy Library is making plans to break ground next year on a \$22 million wing that would house Senator Edward M. Kennedy's papers, the largest expansion in the 27-year history of the library, officials said yesterday. EMC Corporation and National Archives announced a partnership on June 9 to make JFK's presidential papers accessible worldwide through the Web. The new library—a digital one consisting of the entire collection of papers, documents, photographs, and audio recordings of President John F. Kennedy—will eventually be accessible to citizens throughout the world via the Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum's web site, www.jfklibrary.org. It materialized as the result of the leadership of the Kennedy Library Foundation under its president, Caroline Kennedy. EMC will provide software, hardware, and technical support and services expected to exceed \$1 million in value for the total project. The project's objectives are five-fold: 1) The long-term preservation of administration records, photographs, documents, video, and audio; 2) Provide online accessibility to a worldwide audience; 3) Enhance one's ability to search the collection using metadata; 4) Protecting historical assets through remote replication (keeping a copy in another location in case of disaster); and 5) Minimizing wear and tear on irreplaceable physical assets.

New exhibits at the presidential libraries include "Power to the People: The Electrification of Rural Texas" at the Johnson Library; "Diana Walker: Photojournalist," the Carter Library; "100 Tall Texans and Texas Lone Stars," George Bush Library; "A Child in the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Dolls," (opening Nov. 18) Truman Library; and "Back in the Saddle Again: A Roundup of Cowboy Heroes," Clinton Library.

Exhibits at the regional archives include "Free Speech at War: The Espionage and Sedition Acts of World War I," NARA–Central Plains Region (Kansas City); "Around the World with the USS *Olympia*," NARA–Mid Atlantic Region (Phil.); and "All Indians who do not

respond will ultimately be left behind in the march of progress": Bureau of Indian Affairs Surveys of Indian Industry in the 1920's, NARA—Great Lakes Region (Chicago). The Ninth Annual Civil War Symposium will be held Sept. 30 at the Cantigny First Division Museum in Wheaton, IL, sponsored by NARA—Great Lakes Region (Chicago).

Some recent microfilm publications include *Unbound Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, 10th Congress, 1807–1809* (M1711, RG 233, 9 rolls, DP); *Records of the Field Offices for the State of Tennessee, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, 1865–1872* (M1911, RG 105, 89 rolls, DP); *Weekly Returns of Enlistments at Naval Rendezvous ("Enlistment Rendezvous")*, Jan. 6, 1855–Aug. 8, 1891 (M1953, RG 24, 71 rolls); *Quarterly Returns of Enlistments on Navy Vessels, June 30, 1866–September 30, 1891* (M1974, RG 24, 13 rolls); and *Selected German Documents from the Records of Headquarters, European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 1942–1945* (M2088, RG 498, 1 roll).

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PUBLIC HISTORY (NCPH)

NCPH has issued a call for papers for its 2007 Annual Meeting to be held April 12–15, 2007, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The theme is "Many Histories, Many Places—Common Ground?" The deadline for proposals is Sept. 1, 2006. Visit www.ncph.org/2007annualmtg for more details.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum at the National Institutes of Health is pleased to announce the appointment of Joseph A. November as the next DeWitt Stetten, Jr., Memorial Fellow in the History of Biomedical Sciences and Technology. Joseph November, who will receive his Ph.D. from Princeton University this summer, plans to join the University of South Carolina as an Assistant Professor of History. He will spend his fellowship year (2007–2008) at the NIH conducting research sponsored by the Center for Information Technology. His project is titled: "Planting the Seeds: How the NIH Cultivated Biomedical Computing."

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

The History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine, has opened a new mini-exhibit titled "Animals as Cold Warriors" in the History of Medicine Division Foyer. The exhibit explores the fierce conflicts between medical researchers and antivivisectionists that emerged during 1940s atomic testing and 1950s space exploration. Using pictures, artifacts, and a variety of archival materials, this exhibit locates the conflict within the framework of Cold War politics. The mini-exhibit runs through September 31, 2006.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor Travel Itinerary was launched on the web site of the National Register of Historic Places (www.cr.nps.gov/nr) in June. It highlights 49 historic places on a north-south route between Cleveland and New Philadelphia, Ohio. Included are Cleveland's Public Square, Canal Fulton, the Cascade Locks Historic District, and the Valley Railway Historic District. The itinerary features explanations of the historic significance of each site along the route, with color photographs and public accessibility information. The National Register of Historic Places and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park produced the online travel itinerary in partnership with the Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor, the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

The Civil War Preservation Trust is accepting nominations for "History Under Siege," its annual report on endangered battlefields. Any Civil War battlefield is eligible. The study will highlight 10 sites, which will be selected based on geographic location, military significance, and the immediacy of current threats. Nominations must be received by October 10. The nomination form is available at www.civil-war.org/news/topten2007/nominationform2007.pdf.

Two North Carolina men have pleaded guilty to stealing 19th century handguns and other museum objects from the Fort Davis National Historic Site, and face up to 10 years in prison and \$250,000 in fines when they are sentenced in October. National Park Service law enforcement special agents, in coordination with Sheriff's offices in three states, and multiple federal and state law enforcement agencies, conducted the investigation that led to the arrests. The stolen weapons are now at the Springfield Armory National Historic Site for restoration, after which they will be returned to Fort Davis.

NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER

Senior Archivist Bernard F. Cavalcante—"Cal" to everyone who knows him—retired from the Naval Historical Center on 31 March 2006 after 52 years of dedicated service to the Department of the Navy and the nation. In 1960, following 6 years on active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps, including combat service during the Korean War and an embassy assignment in Bonn, West Germany, Cal joined the staff of the Naval Historical Division's Operational Archives Branch. During the next 46 years he became an internationally respected authority on the record holdings of the modern U.S. Navy, capping his career as head of the Operational Archives and then Senior Archivist. The Secretary of the Navy recognized Mr. Cavalcante's stellar contributions with a Length of Service Award and the Director of Naval History with a Navy Superior Civilian Service Award.

The Director of Naval History selected Peter A. Shulman, a Ph.D. candidate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to receive the \$10,000 Rear Admiral John D. Hayes Predoctoral Fellowship in U.S. Naval History for 2006–2007. Two Vice Admiral Edwin B. Hooper Research Grants in U.S. Naval History (\$2,500 each) were selected by the Director of Naval History for 2006–2007. Dr. Stephen R. Taaffe, a Professor of History at Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, has authored a number of military and naval historical works. He will employ his grant to study the leadership of the Union Navy's five geographically based naval squadrons during the Civil War. The second recipient, Dr. John W. "Jack" Coe, received his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He plans to organize the papers of Captain John G. Crommelin, USN, at the National Museum of Naval Aviation, Pensacola, Florida, and publish his findings.

Naval Documents of the American Revolution, Volume 11, edited by Michael J. Crawford, et al., is the latest work in a series that brings together from widely scattered sources the basic documentation necessary for a comprehensive understanding of the maritime heritage of the United States and the role played by the war at sea in the nation's struggle for independence. This publication can be ordered through the Government Printing Office web site: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov>

Officers of the Continental and U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, 1775–1900, with a foreword by Rear Admiral Paul E. Tobin, USN (Ret.), the Director of Naval History. This work, first published in 1901 by Edward W. Callahan, provides an alphabetical listing of leaders from these two military services. Recognizing its importance as a valuable research tool, the Naval Historical Center has digitized and revised the list for online use, making the data searchable for today's scholars. (<http://www.history.navy.mil/books/callahan/index.htm>)

Riverine Warfare: The U.S. Navy's Operations on Inland Waters, with

a foreword by Edward J. Marolda, Senior Historian, Naval Historical Center. In response to current Navy interest in riverine warfare and a recent conference on the subject held at the U.S. Naval Academy, the Naval Historical Center has posted on its Web site (<http://www.history.navy.mil/library/online/riverine.htm>) this booklet first published in 1969. In addition, the Center has posted a comprehensive complementary resource: *Riverine Warfare in Vietnam (1946-1973): A Select Bibliography* (http://www.history.navy.mil/library/guides/riverine_bib.htm)

ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

The Association will hold its 2006 Annual Meeting on October 25–29, 2006, at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock, AR. The theme is “Generational Links: Confronting the Past, Understanding the Present, Planning the Future.” View the program at http://www.dickinson.edu/oha/org_am_1rock.html.

SOCIETY FOR HISTORIANS OF AMERICAN FOREIGN RELATIONS

SHAFR has issued a call for papers for its 2007 Annual Meeting to be held June 20–24, 2007, at the Marriott Westfields Conference Center, Reston, Virginia. Although proposals for individual papers will be considered, proposals for complete or nearly complete panels are encouraged and will receive higher priority. In order to receive full consideration, proposals should be submitted no later than December 15, 2006. Among the panels are “US Citizens, Foreign Subjects, and the Making of US Empire, 1893–2005,” “Women and US Foreign Relations: Insiders and Outsiders,” and “New Histories of Race and US Empire.” The full program is posted at <http://www.shafr.org/meeting06/program.htm>.

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER FLAG HOUSE

Tenth National War of 1812 Symposium will be held at the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House, Baltimore, MD, on October 7, 2006, 9 am–4:30 pm. Talks on the issue of British impressment of American sailors—a major cause of the War of 1812; the War of 1812 career of Brigadier General Winfield Scott; the role of the U.S. Marines in the Battle of St. Leonards Creek, Maryland; the 1814 British occupation of Maine; Jeffersonian gunboats; the War of 1812 heritage of New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; and a panel on the upcoming Bicentennial of the War of 1812 will be among the highlights. Price is \$37.50 per person with checks made payable to the War of 1812 Consortium, Inc., and sent to Charles P. Ives III, 802 Kingston Road, Baltimore, MD 21212.

US ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY

The Army has named Dr. Jeffrey J. Clarke as the new Chief of Military History. A field historian during the Vietnam War, Dr. Clarke joined the Center in 1971 and has been the Chief Historian since 1990. COL John Spinelli has reported as the Center's new Deputy Commander. He comes to CMH from the Office of the Vice Director of the Army Staff.

The Center's recent publications include Dr. Graham A. Cosmas' study *Military Advisory Command, Vietnam, MACV: The Joint Command in the Years of Escalation, 1962–1967*. It is the first of two volumes that will serve as the capstones to the Center's series on the Vietnam conflict. Dr. Cosmas is now the Deputy Director of the Joint History Office.

Other new works: *Signal Corps*, compiled by Rebecca Robbins Raines, the latest volume in the Army Lineage Series. It contains concise histories of Regular Army and Army Reserve Signal units, battalion and above, that have been in the force since 1963 and similar

National Guard units active as of June 15, 2001. The volume also features color plates of unit heraldic items and select bibliographies of books and articles about the units.—“*Ruck It Up!*” *The Post-Cold War Transformation of V Corps, 1990–2001*, by Charles Kirkpatrick. Sadly, Dr. Kirkpatrick passed away in October 2005 before his book was published.—Two of the World War II pictorial volumes have been revamped using digital images: *The War Against Germany: Europe and Adjacent Areas* and *The War Against Germany and Italy: Mediterranean and Adjacent Areas*.—Department of the Army Annual Historical Summary for 1999, compiled by Dr. Jeffrey Charlston. Dr. Charlston recently joined the history staff of the National Reconnaissance Office.

Glenn Williams' *Year of the Hangman: George Washington's Campaign Against the Iroquois* (Yardley, Pa.: Westholme Publishing, 2005) has received the American Revolution Round Table's Thomas J. Fleming Award for the Outstanding Revolutionary War Book of 2005. Glenn will accept the award at the Round Table's annual meeting in Philadelphia in September. Glenn also spoke at the May meeting of the Military Classics Seminar on Fred Anderson's, *Crucible of War: The Seven Years' War and the Fate of Empire in British North America, 1754–1766*.

Dr. William Dobak presented a paper entitled “‘This Most Delicate Duty’: Evicting Intruders from Indian Territory” at the OAH annual meeting in Washington, DC. He also spoke at the Ninth North American Fur Trade Conference on “Buffalo Robe Traders, Government Contractors, and the Federal Presence in Montana, 1865–1885.” Dale Andrade's article, co-written with James Wilbanks, on “CORDS/Phoenix: Counterinsurgency Lessons from Vietnam for the Future,” appeared in the March–April 2006 issue of *Military Review*.

The Center's most senior historian, Romana M. Danysh, retired on March 31 after 41 years of service—all of them at CMH. Roma's depth and breadth of knowledge will be sorely missed. She was the Center's expert on Infantry units and their organization. She co-authored the Infantry volume in the Army Lineage Series and compiled the lineage portion of the volume on Military Intelligence in that series. Also joining the ranks of retirees was Mr. Stephen L.Y. Gammons. Steve joined the Center in 1988 and most recently had been a historian in the Force Structure and Unit History Branch.

And we sadly report the passing of one of the Center's distinguished alumni, William Gardner Bell, on May 21 at age 91. A veteran of World War II, Colonel Bell subsequently served as associate editor of the *Cavalry Journal* and editor of *Armor Magazine*. Following his retirement from military service, he joined the Office of the Chief of Military History (later CMH) in 1956. For a dozen years he prepared the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Army and the annual Department of the Army Annual Summary. A specialist in frontier history, he wrote the chapter on the Indian Wars in *American Military History*. He was also the author of *Secretaries of War and Secretaries of the Army: Portraits and Biographical Sketches* (1982) and *Commanding Generals and Chiefs of Staff* (1983). Colonel Bell retired from the Center in 1984 but continued writing until his death. His later publications included, *Will James: The Life and Works of a Lone Cowboy* (1987). As one of his friends remarked, he was the only James biographer to have actually known James.

Dr. Richard W. Stewart, the Chief of Histories Division, recently returned to the Center after graduating from the National War College. Dr. Stewart attended the college over the academic year just ended.

UNITED STATES SENATE CURATOR

United States Senate Catalogue of Graphic Art has been published. This volume marks the first comprehensive publication of the almost one thousand prints in the holdings of the United States Senate. The

collection represents a 30-year effort to document graphically the 19th- and early 20th-century history of the Senate, the Capitol, and American political history. The diverse illustrations range from inauguration ceremonies and impeachment trials to senatorial portraits and political cartoons. Represented in the Senate's graphic arts collection are some of the most notable artists working in the printmaking medium. As a research tool, the graphic arts collection has been invaluable to historians and scholars for many years. This publication seeks to broaden the appeal of this collection by making the information avail-

able to a wider audience. Essays by Senate Curator Diane K. Skvarla and Associate Senate Historian Donald A. Ritchie provide an overview of the collection, with selected prints highlighted throughout the book. This is the second volume dedicated to the Senate's art and historic collections. In 2002 the Senate published the *United States Senate Catalogue of Fine Art*, presenting the 160 paintings and sculptures in the Senate's fine art collection. Available for purchase through the Senate Gift Shop, U.S. Capitol Historical Society, or Government Printing Office.

DON RITCHIE TO DELIVER 2006 HEWLETT ADDRESS

Donald A. Ritchie, Associate Historian with the United States Senate Historical Office, will deliver the 2006 Richard Hewlett Address at the SHFG Annual Dinner on Thursday, October 19, at the Army and Navy Club on Farragut Square, Washington, DC. Dr. Ritchie will speak on "Senate Voices: Thirty Years of Oral History on Capitol Hill."

A former President of the Oral History Association, and a former council member of the American Historical Association, the International Oral History Association, and SHFG, Dr. Ritchie has provided historical commentary on C-Span, National Public Radio, and other networks. He is the author of several books, including *Press Gallery: Congress and the Washington Correspondents*, which received the Henry Adams Prize from SHFG and the Richard W. Leopold Prize from the Organization of American Historians. Among his other books are *The Oxford Guide to the United States Government; Our Constitution; James M. Landis: Dean of the Regulators; Doing Oral History; Reporting from Washington: The History of the Washington Press Corps*, and a five-volume compilation of previously closed hearings held by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, 1953-54.

Registration forms for the 2006 SHFG Dinner and Hewlett Address will be posted shortly on the SHFG website, and fliers will be mailed to all SHFG members.

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