War Stories Newsletters

Spring 2012

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Center for the Study of War & Society

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**DIRECTOR’S NOTE**

It is a great pleasure for me to announce a momentous advance in one of our major projects at the Center—the creation of an online digital archive entitled “Friends and Foes: Images of Allies and Enemies in World War II.” Thanks to the hard work of our staff members Michael McConnell and Will Rall, we have launched a prototype of the larger project which can be viewed at [web.utk.edu/~jrall/page_1](http://web.utk.edu/~jrall/page_1).

This new digital archive is both a research and teaching resource for undergraduate students and history scholars. It is focused on propaganda depictions and descriptions by individual soldiers of combatants and civilians involved in World War II, in order to illuminate how the “Other” has been represented and how those perceptions of foreigners, whether as allies or enemies, have been used politically. Our aim is to create for UT the sort of profile won by similar humanities online digital archives at MIT and the University of Virginia. If you are interested in making a contribution toward this project, our UT at War project, or any other undertaking, please contact us today!

—Vejas Gabriel Liulevicius, Director

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**Great News About A Great Honor!**

**Announcing the Hop Bailey Jr. Endowment for CSWS**

This past fall, Mrs. Fay Bailey established the center’s newest endowment in memory of her husband, Hop Bailey Jr. We are touched and deeply grateful to Mrs. Bailey for her generous gift, which will support the CSWS mission of public service education through our Veterans Oral History Project, the WWII Archival Collection, guest lectures, seminars, and undergraduate internship program. This association with Captain Bailey and his distinguished record of service is truly an honor for us. Captain Bailey was a native of Knoxville and a graduate of the University of Tennessee. During his sophomore year, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, and to quote from his brief memoir, “Everybody in my age group knew we were going!” He joined the US Army Air Corps and left for Nashville in 1942, where he was chosen for pilot training. Bailey trained further at Maxwell Field, Alabama; Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Walnut Ridge, Arkansas; and Seymour, Indiana. Flying came naturally to Bailey, and he was already prepared. He recalled in his memoir, “I had no trouble flying because I had a civilian license that I got in yellow J3 Cubs at the Island Home Airport.” Bailey went on to pilot C-47s and C-54s with the 9th Air Force, 442nd Troop Carrier Group, 305th Squadron during World War II. He served as a flight leader during the first assault wave over Normandy on June 6, 1944. After World War II, Bailey continued to serve in the US Air Force Reserve during the Berlin Airlift and the Korean War Era. He served his country with distinction and CSWS is proud to carry forward his name on this endowment, which will give crucial support to our work.
12th Annual Charles W. Johnson Lecture

In April 2011, the center was proud to welcome back former CSWS assistant director John C. McManus, who spoke to an enthusiastic crowd on “Grunts and the Realities of Urban Combat: Aachen, Germany 1944 and Fallujah, Iraq 2004.” McManus, currently a professor of history at Missouri University of Science and Technology, has become one of the nation’s most prolific experts on the history of the American combat soldier. He is the author of nine books including Alamo in the Ardennes, The Americans at Normandy, Deadly Sky: The American Combat Airman in World War II, Deadly Brotherhood: The American Combat Soldier in World War II, and American Courage, American Carnage. His most recent book Grunts: Inside the American Infantry Combat Experience, World War II through Iraq, chronicles six decades of American military history.

The lecture focused on the role of the “grunt” and the importance of land power in military history, in spite of numerous declarations throughout history that the latest technology will obviate the need for ground forces. Numerous examples prove that material and technological superiority do not always guarantee victory. McManus went on to illustrate his argument by discussing the similarities and differences of urban combat in Aachen, Germany during WWII, and in Fallujah, Iraq in 2004. In Aachen, the Americans had to create their own urban combat doctrine. The battle ended with real surrender—and real victory. Again, in Iraq, the US thought firepower would win the day, but the destruction of the wrong building or killing of civilians could cause major strategic problems, and the job fell to the infantry. After two separate battles replete with up-close-and-personal fighting, political interference, and extremely difficult decision making down to the lowest level of rank, American forces emerged victorious. The American military learned to meld technology with grunt work. The final message: Land power is still the leading edge and grunts are our most indispensable asset.

The late Charles W. Johnson taught military history at UT from 1965 to 1998. During the 1980s he was named the UT National Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher of the Year, published—along with Charles O. Jackson—City Behind a Fence: Oak Ridge, Tennessee 1942-1946, and founded the World War II Project, the predecessor of today’s Center for the Study of War and Society. Johnson conducted hundreds of interviews with veterans and built an enormous WWII collection. He also took a leading role in organizing the university’s very popular interdisciplinary Normandy Scholars Program. In recognition and appreciation of his efforts, the Charles W. Johnson Lecture on American Military History was established in 2000 as a tribute to the rich, lasting legacy of one of the history department’s most accomplished and esteemed colleagues.
Eleventh Annual Wilson Lecture

“Our Late Beloved President’: Peace Churches Encounter and Remember Abraham Lincoln” was the lecture given by 2010-2011 Wilson Fellow, Aaron Jerviss, for the eleventh annual Edgar and Jerry Wilson Lecture in October 2011. Jerviss is a doctoral candidate in history, working on a dissertation under the supervision of Ernest Freeberg, which focuses on how the three “historic peace churches” (Friends, Mennonites, and Brethren) remembered their Civil War experience as conscientious objectors in the years between 1865 and 1915. Jerviss spoke about the members of the three churches who wrote stirring eulogies about Lincoln in the wake of his 1865 assassination and continued to share stories about encounters with president in the fifty years after his death. The “cultural adoption” of Lincoln confirmed for the churches that they could cling to their traditional beliefs while adopting more elements of American technological and religious culture.

The Edgar and Beatrice J. “Jerry” Wilson Endowment was established by the late Edgar C. Wilson (’40) in honor of his wife, Jerry. Mrs. Wilson was a graduate of Milligan College and a registered nurse. Mr. Wilson was a Silver Star recipient during World War II, served as a Field Artillery Forward Observer and Artillery Liaison Officer with the 80th Infantry Division, Third US Army, in Europe. The Edgar and Jerry Wilson Fellowship is given annually to a graduate student in history at UT who has completed all PhD requirements, except for dissertation, with a focus on American military history. Preference is given to applicants examining World War II.

The May 6, 1865 edition of Harper’s Weekly includes a touching portrait of President Abraham Lincoln, and his son Tad.

West to deliver Johnson Lecture

Nationally renowned author and military analyst Bing West will discuss “War and Defense in 2012 and Beyond” at the thirteenth annual Charles W. Johnson Lecture on March 13 at 5:00 p.m. West, former assistant secretary of defense for International Security Affairs, has written widely about foreign policy, counterinsurgency, and national defense. He served in the Marine infantry and was a member of Force Recon that initiated attacks behind North Vietnamese lines. He is the author of No True Glory: A Frontline Account of the Battle for Fallujah, The Strongest Tribe: War, Politics, and the Endgame in Iraq, and The Village. His books have won the Marine Corps Heritage Prize, the Colby Award for Military History, the VFW Media Award, and the General Goodpaster Soldier-scholar Award. His most recent book is The Wrong War: Grit, Strategy, and the Way Out of Afghanistan.

Please join us prior to the lecture at 4:00 p.m. in the University Center’s Hermitage Room for a reception and book signing. For more information, call 865-974-0128 or e-mail ctinker@utk.edu.
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