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General Information

Established in 1967 “to promote historical research in the period of World War II in all its aspects,” the World War Two Studies Association, whose original name was the American Committee on the History of the Second World War, is a private organization supported by the dues and donations of its members. It is affiliated with the American Historical Association, with the International Committee for the History of the Second World War, and with corresponding national committees in other countries, including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, and the Vatican.

The Newsletter

The WWTSA issues a semiannual newsletter, which is assigned International Standard Serial Number [ISSN] 0885-5668 by the Library of Congress. Back issues of the Newsletter are available from Robin Higham, WWTSA Archivist, through Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma (or Box 1009), Manhattan, KS 66502-4228.

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Annual Membership Dues

Membership is open to all who are interested in the era of the Second World War. Annual membership dues of $15.00 are payable at the beginning of each calendar year. Students with U.S. addresses may, if their circumstances require it, pay annual dues of $5.00 for up to six years. There is no surcharge for members abroad, but it is requested that dues be remitted directly to the secretary of the WWTSA (not through an agency or subscription service) in U.S. dollars. The Newsletter, which is mailed at bulk rates within the United States, will be sent by surface mail to foreign addresses unless special arrangements are made to cover the cost of airmail postage.
News & Notes

1999 WWTSA Elections and Membership Renewal

All members of the World War Two Studies Association are eligible to vote for the eight directors of the association who will serve three-year terms through the year 2001. Please indicate your choices on the ballot included in this letter and mail it as directed by January 31, 1999. Also inserted in this issue of the newsletter is the 1999 membership renewal form. Membership dues are payable at the beginning of the calendar year.

Report on WWTSA Activities at the 1998 AHA Conference

The World War Two Studies Association held its annual business meeting and sponsored a scholarly session in conjunction with the 1998 American Historical Association Conference in Seattle Washington in January 1998.

The business meeting convened at 4:45 p.m. on Friday, January 9, in the 4th Floor Boardroom of the Sheraton Hotel. The meeting agenda included reports by Mark Parillo, the association's secretary-treasurer and newsletter editor, on association membership, newsletter plans for 1998, and the state of the association's finances, which were reported as solvent. Special note was made of the WWTSA's gratitude to the Department of History and College of Arts and Sciences at Kansas State University for their continued clerical and financial support of some association activities. There was also a call for proposals for a scholarly panel or panels to be organized for the 1999 AHA meeting, to be held in Washington, D.C. Announcement of the scholarly session scheduled for the following morning on the topic of new uses of technology in the classroom prompted a general discussion on the subject. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Along with the Committee for History in the Classroom, the WWTSA jointly co-sponsored a scholarly session titled "Teaching World War II with the Internet" in Suite 428 of the Sheraton at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 10. Professor Gordon R. Mork chaired the session, which featured a presentation titled "Listservs, Web Sites, and the History of World War II," by Professor Mark P. Parillo of Kansas State University, and commentary by Professor Mark A. Stoler of the University of Vermont. Professor Parillo, using handouts and overhead images to illustrate his talk, discussed his recent attempts at integrating newer technologies into his World War II course in the Spring 1997 semester. He argued that a course electronic discussion list, periodic Power Point presentations, and maintenance of a course World Wide Web homepage, along with the use of other scholarly Web sites for written assignments, extended the classroom in both time and space, thereby enhancing the learning experience. He also cautioned against the temptation to allow the new technologies to drive rather than serve the instruction of the course, noting that teaching still revolves around the active interaction of student and teacher. Professor Stoler wholeheartedly agreed.
with the reservations expressed by Parillo and was doubtful that some of the advantages described by him were either real or worth the effort of learning and integrating the new technologies. His own experiences had suggested to him that electronic contact with students was of a lower order than face-to-face interactions and frequently replaced rather than augmented direct contact time with students. He expressed a view of the new technology as passive rather than active and consequently more likely to lead away from the goals of university education. A lively discussion ensued as the audience, including WWTSA members such as Professor Gerhard Weinberg, joined in to express their views. While some, including some undergraduates in attendance, found the opportunities presented by the new media to be exciting, others questioned its suitability for the classroom. While no consensus was reached about the Internet’s value in the teaching of World War II studies, most agreed that the session had been successful in stimulating serious thought about the issue.

1999 WWTSA Scholarly Panel

The World War Two Studies Association will sponsor a scholarly session in conjunction with the American Historical Association Conference in Washington, D.C. in January 1999. The session will be held in Maryland Suite B of the Marriott Hotel. The program is as follows:

"New Resources in World War Two History"
Chair: Dr. Stanley Falk
Lawrence MacDonald, NARA, "The OSS and Its Records"
Timothy Mulligan, NARA, "New Doors, New Keys: Recent Accessions and Finding Aids to World War Two Records at the National Archives"
David Haight, Eisenhower Library, "World War Two Resources at the Eisenhower Library"
Comment: The Audience

Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting of the World War Two Studies Association will be held in conjunction with the American Historical Association Conference in Washington, D.C. in January 1999. The meeting will convene at 5 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 1999, in the Eisenhower Room of the Marriott Hotel. All association members are welcome.

NARA Publication on POWs & MIAs

Presidential Library Holdings Relating to Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (Reference Information Paper 104) provides descriptions on the personal papers and Presidential Library records that pertain to prisoners of war and missing in action during World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, the war in Vietnam, and the Pueblo incident. To receive a copy of this free publication, call 1-800-234-8861 or write to the Product Sales Section (NWPS), National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20408-0001.
Plans for the ICHSWW Meeting in Oslo in 2000

by

Donald S. Detwiler

On Saturday, 3 October 1998, the executive committee of the International Committee for the History of the Second World War met at the Institut d’histoire du temps présent (Centre national de la recherche scientifique) now located on the campus of the École Normale Supérieure de Cachan, a state teachers’ college just south of Paris. The primary purpose of the meeting was to make plans for the quinquennial meeting of the ICHSWW that will be held in conjunction with the international historical congress at Oslo from 6 to 13 August 2000. As at Montréal in 1995, the ICHSWW is to have a one-day academic symposium, with one session in the morning and another in the afternoon, and a half-day business meeting at which officers for the following five years are to be elected.

In preparing for the Oslo meeting, the executive committee of the ICHSWW decided to follow a procedure similar to that employed for the Montréal conference in 1995. The affiliated societies will be notified within the next several weeks that initial proposals for papers should reach the secretary general not later than the end of February 1999, with the understanding that those that are accepted must be submitted in English or French (the official languages of the ICHSWW) in typescript and on IBM-compatible disks no later than 30 November 1999, in order that they may be published in the special issue of the ICHSWW bulletin that is to be circulated well before the Oslo meeting. As at Montréal, the contributors to the symposium will not read their papers, but each will have an opportunity to respond briefly to the opening presentation synopsizing and synthesizing the papers under consideration, before the floor is opened for general discussion involving the audience.

Unlike 1995, when contributions were solicited on two themes ("1945: The End of the War, the Transition to Peace, and the Fate of Eastern Europe," and "Memory, Legacy, and After-effects of the War since 1945"), proposals for papers for the symposium in 2000 are being solicited from the affiliated national committees on a single theme only: the place of the Second World War in the history of the twentieth century, i.e., its historical significance, as seen with over a half century’s perspective at the end of the millennium. Proposals submitted to the secretary general of the ICHSWW by affiliated national committees are to include brief biographical notes on the authors and abstracts of the proposed papers. Each committee is being encouraged to submit more than one proposal, but with the understanding that it is not likely that more than one will be accepted from any single committee.

The agenda of the WWTSA’s annual business meeting in January 1999 in Washington, D.C., will include consideration of the ICHSWW’s call for proposals for the Oslo meeting in August 2000 (as well as planning for the WWTSA program for the annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the convention of the American Historical Association in Chicago, 6-9 January 2000).
A Tribute to
Sir William Deakin

The eminent English historian of World War II, F. W. Deakin (now in his mid-eighties), who has served as chairman for some three decades of the British National Committee for the History of the Second World War, was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters degree by the University of Hull on 11 October 1994. Members of the World War Two Studies Association aware of his service in Yugoslavia during the Second World War, his history of the "brutal friendship" between Hitler and Mussolini, and his role in assisting Churchill in writing his monumental history of that conflict, will appreciate the following address with which he was presented for the award of the honorary degree by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hull and the president of the International Committee for the History of the Second World War, Professor David Dilks (with whose kind permission it is reproduced here).

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S PRESENTATION ADDRESS FOR SIR WILLIAM DEAKIN
October 11, 1994

Sixty years ago that devoted scholar and teacher Keith Feiling wrote from Christ Church to Mr. Winston Churchill, recommending a young graduate who had lately distinguished himself in Finals. Perhaps in Mr. Deakin his tutor had rightly discerned other qualities which would endear him to Churchill. Thus began an association, marked on Churchill's side by growing esteem and on Sir William Deakin's by a profound admiration for Churchill's integrity and powers of concentration, even by a suspension of those critical faculties which historians normally bring to bear upon all.

While Churchill wrote his biography of Marlborough and then began on The History of The English Speaking Peoples, Bill Deakin brought to his duties as literary assistant a wide knowledge of Europe, fortified by study at the Sorbonne before he had entered Christ Church, and by a year's teaching in Germany after his graduation. He became Fellow of Wadham College at the age of 23. 'I can say from my own intimate knowledge of him for several years,' wrote Churchill shortly before the war, 'that he is in every way fitted to make an excellent officer.'

Mr. Churchill was not normally given to understatement. In this case he did not exaggerate. Since Sir William Deakin carries modesty to the point of a failing, I shall not dwell lengthily upon the good humour, calm and unflinching courage with which he bore himself in one perilous assignment after another. At Chartwell in pre-war days he had learned about the conduct of coalition warfare at the hands of a master; from 1939, he witnessed the process in its modern guise.

Service in the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars was followed by secondment to the Special Operations Executive. In May 1943 Captain Deakin was selected to go to Yugoslavia and find out what he could about Tito and the Partisans. Neither about the man nor about the movement did the British have any reliable information. In a moment of wry humour, the operation was code-named 'Typical.' The little party--two officers, two wireless operators and two soldiers--was dropped into Montenegro at the end of May 1943. German, Italian and some Yugoslav troops surrounded the core of the Partisan forces. In that inhospitable mountain, scourged by the winds, a desperate battle was fought amidst ancestral hatreds. This was the crucial point of that part of the war, for the Partisan forces had to break out of the ring if they were to survive. It was a war of no quarter; the enemy shot all prisoners, and indeed the doctors and nurses who had tended them. It was a point of honour with the Partisan forces to care for their own wounded, knowing what fate would befall them if they were left behind; and for that a heavy price was paid.

In Sir William Deakin's record of this epic, he discloses any Olympian impartiality. There he scarcely does himself justice. The book is so arranged that we have the account of the eyewitness, no less horrifying because expressed in spare and moving prose, separated from the section in which the same eyewitness as historian examines the evidence. Nor does his account gloss over disagreeable truths. For example, when the small band escaped by the narrowest of margins from the encircling forces of the enemy, bodies lay...
along the path and the cries of the wounded showed many of them to be Croats. But "Pity had long drained out of us," Sir William Deakin wrote. "Edging my horse among the bodies, a flick of the rein would have avoided the trampling of the imploring shadows. But in our triumphant wrath and the explosion of our release, we crushed them. Surprise came in retrospect, but with an understanding that, as a stranger, I had taken on by stages a binding and absolute identity with those around me ..." The Partisans were harried by day and forever on the move by night. Tito and Deakin shared a respect and the distinction of being injured by the same German bomb; Tito, indeed, was saved only by his devoted Alsatian dog which flung itself upon its master at the moment of the explosion and was killed. Tito was wounded in the shoulder, Deakin in the leg.

Because Tito spoke no English and Deakin no Serb-Croat, they conducted all their discussions, and plotted the downfall of the Führer, entirely in German. Deakin admired Tito's calm under even the most severe of stresses, and his bearing of natural authority. After many vicissitudes, the Royal Air Force arranged to drop crates of explosives needed to blow up the railway lines supplying the enemy forces. It was Captain Deakin's task to unpack each of the containers. Alas, they held nothing but left-footed boots and one army newspaper from Cairo. The truth could scarcely be concealed from Tito. He said not a word about the lack of the long-promised explosives. 'Explain what the joke is,' he asked, pointing to the newspaper which showed the cartoons of two officers hanging around the streets of Cairo. Captain Deakin did his best. 'But I've got the same two types here!' Tito exclaimed. 'We'll go round the table.' This they did, speaking in German and thus unintelligible to all their companions.

Perpetually short of rations, living sometimes onion soup or strips of bark, infested by lice, daily witness to acts of heroism and terror, Colonel Deakin (as he soon became) knew that the Partisans were doing the Allies a service of the first order in engaging so many German and Italian divisions, a diversion of forces which became the more significant as the campaigns in Sicily and Italy developed. In the end, British support was transferred from General Mihailovic to Tito and the Partisans. No doubt that decision owed something to the detailed reports of Deakin and Fitzroy Maclean, to whom he handed over in due course and who describes him as looking like 'a very young and rather untidy undergraduate.' But the decision derived far more, as we now know, from the interception of German and Italian signals. Well might Colonel Deakin reply, when Field Marshal Smuts asked him in the British Embassy in Cairo in December 1943, 'And what do you do?' 'I think that I am some sort of a bandit.' Smuts winked. 'So was I, once.'

After service in the later phases of the war on the staff of Mr. Harold Macmillan, who valued him as highly as Churchill did, and then a short spell as First Secretary at the British Embassy in Belgrade, Mr. Deakin resumed with relief his academic life. He went back to work for Churchill, and directed the research which underpins the six volumes of *The Second World War*. Their friendship deepened down the years. No surer proof could be given of it than Churchill's choice of Sir William Deakin as companion when he went out for the last time, in his 91st year, to a meeting of The Other Club.

A generous Frenchman, M. Besse offered money to Oxford after the war for the foundation of a college. By the happiest of strokes for St Antony's, Mr. Deakin was selected as its first Warden. The College was to be located in a convent on the Woodstock Road. The endowment was in Ireland and could not be easily retrieved. There were at first no students and beyond the Steward and the Sub-Warden, no staff. The Warden did wonders, nothing less, for St Antony's. From the beginning, scholars were brought as Fellows or students of the College from every part of the globe, including Japan, Germany and Italy, the Iron Curtain countries, the Middle East, the United States, Canada, Australia, South America, Africa. Sir William and Lady Deakin, whom it is a special pleasure to see in the Middleton Hall, were endlessly hospitable and receptive. Funds were raised for new buildings and scholarships. Today, some forty-five years after its foundation, the College is acknowledged everywhere as a leading centre for the study of its chosen fields.

Of Sir William Deakin's books, I have already
mentioned *The Embattled Mountain*. His versatility and wide interests are demonstrated in an astonishing range of papers given at conferences and seminars all over the world; by his study of one of the most daring and successful of all intelligence agents in the Second World War, Richard Sorge; and perhaps most of all by his magisterial treatment of the relations between Hitler and Mussolini, and between the officials and the military men of two states in theory solidly united, in practice suspicious or even contemptuous of each other. *The Brutal Friendship* explains in almost irresistible style what seems incredible: how a régime so long consolidated could collapse so completely in the summer of 1943.

Sir William Deakin's services to academic and public life are innumerable. I take as examples the rôle which he played as a member of the Hayter Committee, as a consequence of which South East Asian Studies were established at Hull, greatly to the benefit of the University and, we hope, of a much wider community; his service to the International Committee for the History of the Second World War, where his genius for friendship and the universal respect for his talents as historian and man of action give him a unique place; his chairmanship and inspiration of the British National Committee for the History of the Second World War over nearly thirty years; his determination that justice be rendered to the part played in that war by Great Britain and the Commonwealth.

All this, my Lord and Chancellor, gives us abundant reason to marvel at what Sir William Deakin has done. But in at least equal measure we honour him today for what he is, the soul of generosity in his dealings with colleagues and students, an unobtrusive but effective supporter of co-operation between universities in every part of the globe, someone who by his example and activity kept alive in the grim days contacts in the countries of central and eastern Europe which would otherwise have faded away. Evelyn Waugh calls him at one moment 'A very clever, heroic man' with which description we need not quarrel; and elsewhere 'A very lovable and complicated man.' It is true that Sir William Deakin is instinctively aware of the subtleties of personality and situation and consequently the shrewdest judge of both. But I think that will not be the most powerful impression left upon those fortunate enough to have encountered him as mentor and friend. What we know is that his has been a life of unselfish labour for causes always worthy. As for individuals, in whom his interest is unceasing and unfeigned, no-one in perplexity or distress turns to him in vain.

My Lord and Chancellor, it is with a deep sense of thankfulness that I present to you Frederick William Dampier Deakin, Knight, chevalier of the Légion d'Honneur, holder of the Russian Order of Valour, the Yugoslav Partisan Star and the Distinguished Service Order, for the degree of Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*. 
From the Archives

Selected excerpts and articles from the NARA newsletter, The Record, with the kind permission of the editor.

Declassifications

National Archives - Washington, D.C. Area


II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).


Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State (RG 84, 128 cubic feet).
American Embassy Panama City, Consular Section, General Correspondence, 1936-48; American Consulate Colon, General Correspondence, 1941-45; U.S. Mission to the United Nations, General Subject File, 1945-63; International Organization Subject Files, 1950-60. Materials Open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).


Drug Enforcement Administration (RG 170, 199 cubic feet). Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, Subject Files, 1916-71; and others. Materials open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).


Naval Intelligence Command (RG 89, 10 cubic feet). Office of Naval Intelligence (OP322F1F4), Intelligence Monograms on Germany, 1921-40; Miscellaneous Documents, 1942-80; Naval Attache Oslo, Norway, Report, 1950; Reports on German Industrial Complexes, 1945-46; Reports on German Naval Activity, 1939-45; Reports on Reconnaissance and Survey of Iceland, 1941-45; Reports on Survey of Greenland, 1941-45. Materials open. Contact Archives II Military Records (301-713-7250).


Interdepartmental and Intradepartmental Committees (State Department) (RG 353, 1 cubic foot). Air Coordinating Committee (ACC) Files, 1946-52; Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) Files, 1948-53. Materials Open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).

Defense Mapping Agency (RG 375, 5...
cubic feet). Bureau of Economic Analysis, Director's Special Subject File, 1932-60. Materials Open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).


Presidential Library System

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
200 S.E. 4th
Abilene, KS 67410
(785) 263-4751

The Library staff applied systematic declassification review guidelines furnished by the Department of State and other agencies to mandatory review requests before submitting such requests to agencies. As a result of onsite systematic review, the staff declassified 20,133 pages during this period, relating to topics such as World War II materials on German concentration camps in Poland; Soviet involvement in World War II in the Pacific against Japan; and others.

Accessions and Openings

National Archives - Washington, D.C. Area

Records of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture (Record Group 16, 39 cubic feet). World War II Food Campaign Files, 1941-4; General Correspondence, 1947-61; Organization Files, 1920-56; and others. Materials Open. Contact Archives II Civilian records (301-713-7230).

Army Air Forces (RG 18, 2 cubic feet).


Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (RG 38, 10 cubic feet). Reports on German Industrial Complexes, Intelligence Monographs on Germany, Reports on German Naval Activity, and Reports on Surveys of Iceland and Greenland, 1930-45. Materials open. Contact Archives II Military Records (301-713-7250).


Federal Bureau of Investigation (RG 65, 151 cubic feet). Case Files and Indexes for Classification 15, Theft from Interstate Shipping, 1920-67; Classification 32, Federal Building Sites and Identification-Fingerprint Matters, 1923-41; Classification 88, Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution, 1938-52; and Classification 91, Bank Robbery, Bank Burglary, and Bank Larceny, 1931-66; Materials Open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).


Office of the Chief of Engineers (RG 77,
32 cubic feet). Engineer Intelligence Studies, 1942-64. Materials Open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).


U.S. Marine Corps (RG 127, 54 cubic feet). Historical Division collection of records relating to Corps activities before World War II. Included are records of Marine participation in World War I, 1916-45; the First Provisional Brigade and Gendarmerie d'Haiti, 1915-34; the Marine occupation of Santo Domingo, 1916-24; Marine activities in China, 1927-38; and copies of newspapers issued by Marine Corps units in such places as Peking, 1922-23, and Coblenz, Germany, 1919. Materials open. Contact the Old Military and Civil Records staff (202-501-5385).

Office of Alien Property (RG 131, less than one cubic foot). Index to Litigation Case Files, 1942-87. Materials open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).


Panama Canal (RG 185, 33 cubic feet). Records of the New York Office, including Index to Minutes of Meetings of the Board of Directors, 1912-47; Index to Executive Office Files, 1918-49; Index to Freight and Steamship Files, 1918-57; Location record Cards, 1890-1957; Yellow Fever Control Records of the Division of Preventive Medicine, 1942-51; Records of the Department of Operation and Maintenance Relating to the Water Storage Project and Spillway Study, 1905-46; Declassified General Correspondence Maintained by the Internal Security Office, 1945-79; and others. Materials Open. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).

Public Housing Administration (RG 196, 16 cubic feet). Congressional Correspondence maintained by the Special Assistant to the Commissioner for Congressional Liaison, 1942-62. Materials open. Contact Archives II Civilian records (301-713-7230).

Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).

**Army Staff (RG 319, 13 cubic feet).**

**Office of the Secretary of the Army (RG 335, 150 cubic feet).**
Records Relating to the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of World War II. Materials Open. Contact Archives II Military Records (301-713-7250).

**U.S. Army Commands (RG 338, 436 cubic feet).**

**Headquarters U.S. Air Force (Air Staff) (RG 341, 168 cubic feet).**
Target Jackets, 1938-55; and others. Materials open. Contact Archives II Military Records (301-713-7250).

**U.S. Air Force Commands, Activities, and Organizations (RG 342, 183 cubic feet).**

**St. Elizabeth’s Hospital (RG 418, 7 cubic feet).**
Historical records, collected in the Office of the Director. Included are correspondence and medical records relating to the incarceration of the poet Ezra Pound, possibly St. Elizabeth's most famous patient. Materials Open. Contact Archives I Civilian Records (202-501-5395).

**Department of Energy (RG 434, 25 cubic feet).**
Reports, Laboratory Notebooks, and Logs from the Argonne National Laboratory, 1943-54; and others. Materials security classified. Contact Archives II Civilian Records (301-713-7230).

**Special Media Archives Services Division**

**Motion Picture, Sound, and Video Branch**

**National Archives Gift Collection (DM 8 cubic feet).**
Joan M. Lemley donation, ca. 1945, 2 items, 2 reels of motion picture films including one reel of gun camera footage made during World War II and the other documenting the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; and others. Materials are open and processed.

**Still Picture Branch**

**Bureau of Naval Personnel (RG 24, 33 images).**
Panoramic Photographs of U.S. Navy Personnel, 1918-20 (Series PAN). Contact Still Picture Branch Reference Services at College Park, MD (301-713-6625, ext. 234).

**U.S. Geological Survey (RG 57, 4,580 images).**
Lantern Slides Relating to Geographical Surveys and Geological Studies, ca. 1900-59 (Series LS); Caption Lists to RG 57, Series LS, "Lantern Slides Relating to Geographical Surveys and Geological Studies, ca. 1900-59" (Series LSW); Subject Index to RG 57, Series LS,
"Lantern Slides Relating to Geographical Surveys and Geological Studies, ca. 1900-59" (Series LSX); Geographic Index to RG 57, Series LS, "Lantern Slides Relating to Geographical Surveys and Geological Studies" (Series LSY). Materials Open. Contact Still Picture Branch Reference Services at College Park, MD (301-713-6625, ext. 234).


**U.S. Marine Corps (RG 127, 269 images).** Photographic Prints of Marine Corps Activities and Personnel, ca. 1925-63 (Series M) and Photographic Prints of Marine Corps Aviators and Aircraft, ca. 1931-37 (Series MA). Contact Still Picture Branch Reference Services at College Park, MD (301-713-6625, ext. 234).

**Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (RG 235, 37,045 images).** Photographic negatives of the "Athletic Roundup" Exhibition, 1948 (Series AR); photographic negatives of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare component and predecessor agencies, 1944-77 (Series N); index to portraits of personnel of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and component and predecessor agencies, 1945 (Series PX); and others. Materials Open. Contact Still Picture Branch Reference Services at College Park, MD (301-713-6625, ext. 234).

**Army Staff (RG 319, 10 posters).** Soviet "Motivational" Propaganda Posters, 1938-62 (Series SP). Contact Still Picture Branch Reference Services at College Park, MD (301-713-6625, ext. 234).

**Allied Operational and Occupation Headquarters, World War II (RG 331, 42 posters).** World War II Newmaps Describing Action in the South West Pacific Area and the European Theater of Operations, January 1944-March 1945 (Series NP). Contact Still Picture Branch Reference Services at College Park, MD (301-713-6625, ext. 234).


**Cartographic and Architectural Branch**

**Coast and Geodetic Survey (RG 23, 6 cubic feet).** Reference Card Files Pertaining to Tide Gauge Recording Stations, 1924-51; Reference Card Files Pertaining to Tide and Current Observations, 1912-72; Reference Card Files Pertaining to Lightships Recording Current Observations, 1912-57; Reference Cards Files Pertaining to "M Class" (Magnetics) Studies, 1934-38; and others. Materials Open. Contact Cartographic and Architectural Branch at College Park, MD (301-713-7040).

**Bureau of Public Roads (RG 30, 61 cubic feet).** Aerial Photography of the Mississippi River Parkway, 1939-49; Aerial Photography of the Highway


Office of Regional Records Services

National Archives and Records Administration--Northeast Region (Boston)
380 Trapelo Road
Waltham, Massachusetts 02154-6399 (617) 647-8104

Records of the District Courts of the United States (Record Group 21, 1023 cubic feet). Certificates of Loyalty (Immigration and Naturalization Service Form N438) relating to naturalization of enemy (primarily German and Italian) aliens in the U.S. District Court in Hartford, Connecticut, 1944-51; Card indexes to naturalization declarations and petitions filed in U.S. District and U.S. Circuit Courts for Rhode Island, 1796-1991; military petitions, 1918-45; women's applications for repatriation, 1936-68; Bankruptcy Case Files for the U.S. District Court for Massachusetts, 1946-70; Criminal Dockets for the U.S. District Court for New Hampshire, 1944-71; and others. Materials open.

Fish and Wildlife Service (RG 22, 1 cubic foot). Monthly Statistical Bulletins and "Current Fishery Statistics" for the
ports of Boston and Gloucester, MA, 1901-44, and Portland, ME, 1915-44. These reports show species, quantities, and values of fish landed; location of fishing grounds; size and nature of the fishing fleets; number of vessel sailings; and type of fishing gear (trawls, gill nets, etc.). Materials open.

Office of the Chief of Engineers (RG 77, 8 cubic feet). Survey Reports, 1914-76. Documents relating to the preparation, processing, and submission of reports to Congress pertaining to New England water supply feasibility studies, storm water modeling, and waste water and treatment plants for Boston and the Merrimack River basin. Accretions to current holdings. Materials open.


National Archives and Records Administration--Great Lakes Region (Chicago)
7358 South Pulaski Road
Chicago, Illinois 60629 (773) 581-7816


District Courts of the United States (RG 21, 219 cubic feet). Civil Docket Books, 1855-1969, Criminal Docket Books, 1907-

National Archives and Records Administration--Rocky Mountain Region
Denver Federal Center, Building 48
Denver, Colorado 80225
(303) 236-0801

U.S. Mint, Denver, Colorado (RG 104, 3 cubic feet). The records from the Denver Mint, Cash Division, pertain to bullion deposits, assays, purchases, and correspondence, 1938-95. Materials open.

U.S. Army Commands--Fitzsimmons Army Hospital, Aurora, Colorado (RG 338, 84 cubic feet). These records were received from the Public Affairs Office and Historian and consist of documents, correspondence, reports, newspaper articles, photographs, slides, cassettes, and videos relating to the activities and functions of the Fitzsimmons Army Hospital, 1918-97. Materials open.

National Archives and Records Administration--Pacific Region (San Francisco)
1000 Commodore Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066
(415) 876-9009

District Courts of the United States (RG 21, 10 cubic feet). Hawaii district declaration of intention, 1929-71; oaths of allegiance, 1919-67; naturalization petitions from outside the U.S.; and naturalization orders, 1939-95. Materials open.

District Courts of the United States (RG 21, 10 cubic feet). Hawaii district declaration of intention, 1929-71; oaths of allegiance, 1919-67; naturalization petitions from outside the U.S.; and naturalization orders, 1939-95. Materials open.


Park, 1925-66; and others. Materials open.

Forest Service (RG 95, 27 cubic feet). Pacific Southwest Regional Office timber program management records, 1912-87; and others. Materials open.

Bureau of Prisons (RG 129, 6 cubic feet). Administrative files and architectural drawings, ca. 1934-63, of the U.S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California. Some materials may be restricted.

Naval Districts and Shore Establishments (RG 181, 24 cubic feet). Mare Island Shipyard historical maps, 1854-1970; Oak Knoll Naval Hospital newspapers "Oakleaf" and "Red Rover," 1945-96; selected publications related to hospital history and base closure; and others. Some records may be restricted.

National Archives and Records Administration--Pacific Alaska Region (Seattle)
6125 Sand Point Way, NE
Seattle, Washington 98115-7999
(206) 526-6501

United States Army Corps of Engineers (RG 77, 29 cubic feet). North Pacific Division, Portland District, Civil Works Project Files, 1939-76; and others. Materials open.

Forest Service (RG 95, 254 cubic feet). Special use permits, 1939-73, and Forest Service diaries, 1921-60, from the Regional Forester (Region 1, Missoula, MT); and others. Materials open.

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Presidential Library System

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
511 Albany Post Road
Hyde Park, New York 12538

The Library received the papers of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Schuler, Jr. Mr. Schuler was a foreign service officer (1931-44) who served in Japan prior to World War II. The papers deal with a warning of a Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor conveyed by the Peruvian Ambassador to Japan to the American Ambassador, Joseph Grew, in January 1941. (1.5 feet)

The Library also received additional papers of Sumner Welles and his wife, Mathilde. The accretion consists of Sumner Welles's journals, 1929-March 9, 1933 (381 pp.) and a typescript of Mathilde Welles's autobiography, December 1944 (91 pp.).

John F. Kennedy Library
Columbia Point
Boston, MA 02125-3313
(617) 929-4500
library@kennedy.nara.gov
http://www.cs.umb.edu/jklibrary

In 1945, Captain Samuel Beer of the U.S. military government conducted a series of interviews in Germany immediately after the collapse of the Third Reich. Beer interviewed German officials and citizens about their experiences during the Nazi era. He also wrote analyses of German history and public opinion in post-Nazi Germany. These notes and reports, as well as sixteen interviews, were added to Professor Beer's Personal Papers at the Library and opened. Copies have also been
deposited in the archives of the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. (1 foot)

From Harvard University Archives, four handwritten letters from Robert Kennedy to his parents when he was in the Navy, 1946-47. Materials open.

The Personal Papers of Alexander Christie, labor figure, legislative consultant, have been opened. Material relating to labor, World War II, President Kennedy's death, and the Middle East, 1940-83. (2 feet)

An oral history interview with Arleigh Burke, Admiral, Chief of Naval Operations, Joint Chiefs of Staff (1955-61), has been opened. (39 pages)

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
200 S.E. 4th
Abilene, KS 67410
(785) 263-4751

The Eisenhower Library continues its nationwide solicitation of personal papers, diaries, printed material, and photographs of World War II veterans and those who served on the home front. The World War II Participants and Contemporaries Collection now totals 55 cubic feet and includes material received from 350 individuals. Materials open.

Harry S. Truman Library
500 West U.S. Highway 24
Independence, MO 64050-1798
(816) 833-1400

The Library has received photocopies of records of the U.S. Department of State, Record Group 59, relating to the origins of
“Documenting Nazi Plunder of European Art”

Records in the National Archives Provide Research Base for Tracking Works Seized During War

By Greg Bradsher

During and after World War II the United States Government, in part, through the Safehaven Program to identify, recover, and restitute Nazi looted assets, expended considerable resources on the looted art issue. It was a big issue, given the fact that upwards of 20% of the art of Europe was looted by the Nazis. The American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historic Monuments in War Areas (The Roberts Commission), the U.S. Army's intelligence units and Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives officers, the Office of Strategic Services' Art Looting Unit, and State Department Foreign Service officers, among others, were engaged in efforts to identify, recover, and restitute looted art works. Much looted art was recovered and restituted. However, despite the efforts of the American and other governments, many thousands of pieces of art were never recovered by their rightful owners. As late as 1994, 16 of the 40 top paintings were still missing. This past March, Philip Saunders, editor of Trace, the stolen art register, stated that "there are at least 100,000 works of art still missing from the Nazi occupation."

Fifty years later, as questions abound about Nazi looted assets that were never recovered, interest in the looted an has been rekindled. In August 1997, the National Jewish Museum established a Holocaust Art Restitution Project, and in September the World Jewish Congress began exploring the possibilities of establishing a similar project. At a National Jewish Museum-sponsored conference held in Washington, DC, on September 4, 1997, one individual who spoke about his grandfather's Degas being taken noted that "information is at the crux of the problem." Much of the pertinent information resides in the holdings of the National Archives, including the records of the agencies mentioned above as well as the Captured German records and the War Crimes records. As art sleuth Willi Korte was quoted in a New York newspaper in late August, "... in the National Archives... we have perhaps the most important collection of records which can easily be used to form a very solid foundation for such a project," referring to the Holocaust Art Restitution Project.

Indeed, the National Archives at College Park has a substantial quantity of records pertaining to Nazi looted art. These records range from thousands of intelligence reports to over 12,000 still photographs accumulated by the Roberts Commission. As always the Archives staff at College Park stands by to assist researchers in their quest for information about the looted art.

Greg Bradsher is Assistant Chief, Archives II Textual Reference Branch
"Searching for Records Relating to Nazi Gold"

by Greg Bradsher

"Everyone should understand the role of records in establishing rights and legitimizing identities and liberties." So began a letter to the editor of Time magazine (March 17, 1997) by John W. Carlin, Archivist of the United States. "The dramatic case of the search for Nazi gold is an excellent example of the value of records not only in documenting historical facts but also in preserving essential evidence," he continued. "For us at the National Archives and Records Administration," Carlin concluded, "the role of preserving and providing access to this essential evidence of history is at the core of our mission." Indeed, NARA's holdings of records relating to "Nazi Gold" and its ability to make those records available in a timely manner has demonstrated the importance of NARA not only to this country but to peoples, governments, and organizations in other countries.

The search for what has become known as "Nazi Gold" records began in March 1996, when researchers from Senator Alfonse D'Amato's office began coming to Archives II at College Park looking for records relating to World War II-era dormant bank accounts of Jews in Swiss banks. Within weeks the research expanded into issues surrounding looted Nazi gold and other assets. By midsummer 1996, the research room at College Park was the host to at least 15 researchers daily--sometimes as many as 25--conducting research in "Nazi Gold" records. These records, contained within 30 record groups and comprising some 15 million pages of documentation, were like a magnet, drawing increasing numbers of researchers as the summer progressed.

In the early fall of 1996, President Clinton asked then Under Secretary of Commerce Stuart E. Eizenstat, who also serves as Special Envoy of the Department of State on Property Restitution in Central and Eastern Europe, to prepare a report that would "describe, to the fullest extent possible, U.S. and Allied efforts to recover and restore this gold [gold the Nazis had looted from the central banks of occupied Europe, as well as gold taken from individual victims of Nazi persecution] and other assets stolen by Nazi Germany." Eizenstat, in October, formed an 11-agency Interagency Group on Nazi Assets, including NARA, to do the research and produce the report, under the direction of William Z. Slany, Historian, Department of State. Slany formed his research team, consisting of researchers from the Departments of Defense, Treasury, Justice, and State, the U.S. Holocaust Museum, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Federal Reserve Board. They soon made Archives II their home.

During the next five months, the demands on NARA's staff were enormous. Not only were both government and Swiss, because their country was the initial and primary focus of the "Nazi Gold" story. The NARA connection to the Swiss has become a very close one, in part, because of an agreement between the United States and Swiss governments. This agreement, signed in early 1997, by then Under
Secretary Eizenstat and Ambassador Thomas Borer, head of the Swiss Federal Task Force, provided non-government researchers making relentless demands for records, often the same records at the same time, but also relevant records were accessioned from the Department of the Treasury in November 1996, and the Federal Reserve Board in March 1997, and declassified under great pressure to make them immediately available.

While research was being conducted during the fall of 1996 and the following winter, the media discovered that an important aspect of the "Nazi Gold" story was NARA: its records, its staff, and its researchers. Thus, journalists and documentary film makers began appearing on a regular basis during the winter of 1996-1997, and the first stories highlighting NARA's role appeared in November 1996 in USA Today and in early February, 1997, in Le Monde. Time also ran a cover story in late February regarding the quest for records relating to "Nazi Gold."

The NARA-Swiss Connection

Starting in the winter of 1996-1997 and continuing since, Archives II has become a gathering place for prominent individuals representing various groups involved in the "Nazi Gold" phenomenon. This has been particularly true of the that their respective countries, including national archives, would closely cooperate.

Among the Swiss visiting Archives II have been a member of the Swiss Federal Task Force; a member of the Swiss Parliament; the first secretary of the Swiss Bankers Association; the chairman of the Independent Commission of Experts (looking into all facets of World War II Switzerland), and four commission members; and, members of the Swiss Embassy staff. Researchers representing the Swiss Bankers Association began their research at Archives II in spring of 1996, and were joined in July 1997, by a four-member research team from the Bergier Commission. Other researchers, including accountants from the Volcker Committee (created by the Swiss Bankers Association and the World Jewish Congress to investigate deposits made in Swiss banks by victims of Nazi persecution), have also found NARA a useful source of information.

During the past year NARA and the Swiss Federal Archives have developed close ties. There have been frequent communications between Dr. Christoph Graf, the Director of the Swiss Federal Archives, and NARA. In November 1997, I visited Dr. Graf and the Swiss Federal Archives in Bern. I also met with Madeleine Kunin, America's Ambassador to Switzerland, and Jacques Picard, a member of the Swiss Independent Commission of Experts, to discuss ongoing research and NARA's critical role in what President Clinton stated was one of the aims of his Administration—to "bring whatever measure of Justice might be possible to Holocaust survivors, their families, and the heirs of those who perished."

The Media Interest

By the spring of 1997, NARA had become a magnet for the media as well as
researchers. The media, unable to obtain stories from those government historians researching and drafting the Eizenstat Report found that much of the document base upon which the report would be derived was in NARA. Not only were the documents reviewed and filmed, but researchers and NARA staff members were interviewed. Feature stories appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Times, The Jewish Times, and The Cleveland Plain Dealer, among other newspapers.

Also, major periodicals such as Newsweek and US News & World Report contacted NARA for information. The History Channel, the Arts and Entertainment Network, the Public Broadcasting Service, and the Cable News Network ran specials based on interviews with NARA staff and researchers. Press interest has continued since May 1997. ABC News, Dateline NBC and a wide variety of print and visual media have regularly contacted NARA, as have Swiss TV, Swedish Public Radio, and numerous film makers, newspapers and magazines.

The First Eizenstat Report

On May 7, 1997, the Interagency Group on Nazi Assets, headed by Ambassador Eizenstat, issued its report entitled U.S. and Allied Efforts To Recover and Restore Gold and Other Assets Stolen or Hidden by Germany During World War II: Preliminary Study. The report, based primarily on NARA's holdings, was quite critical of the Swiss and the other World War II neutrals. The author of the report acknowledged NARA's contributions to the completion of the report. In his preface he wrote "All of the research depended directly upon the unfailing support, assistance, and encouragement of the Archivist of the United States and the staff of the National Archives and Records Administration. Our work simply could not have been carried out without this assistance . . . It is to the credit of the National Archives staff that the needs of all researchers--government and private, domestic and foreign--were met with unfailing courtesy and without disruption to research schedules."

Special Finding Aids

With the help of NARA staff and others, I prepared a 300-page finding aid to the records at Archives II. This finding aid served as the appendix to the Interagency Group's report. This report and finding aid were issued on May 7, 1997, and immediately made available at the Department of State's website and sold by the U.S. Government Printing Office. When the research widened to more countries and more subjects, and there was a great desire for an expanded finding aid to relevant records, we issued a 300-page supplemental finding aid in the fall of 1997. It was placed on the Department of State's website in November 1997. A revised and expanded finding aid, some 750 pages, was placed on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's website in March 1998 at http://www.ushmm.org/assets/nazigold.htm

New Records

In 1996, the Clinton administration urged agencies to transfer relevant records to the National Archives. In 1997, the Central
Intelligence Agency transferred Office of Strategic Services records, as well as biographical profile documentation on Thomas McKittrick, the wartime president of the Bank for International Settlements, and Emil Puhl, the Reichsbank vice-president. The National Security Agency, on the day before the report was released, transferred to NARA copies of Army Security Agency intercepts of communications between the Swiss legation in Washington and the Swiss Foreign Ministry in Bern, Switzerland. Although their records are not federal records, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York sent to NARA two cubic feet of copies of pertinent materials. During the summer of 1997, the Department of Justice transferred to NARA a major body of Office of Alien Property Trading With the Enemy Act case files. All of the records accessioned were immediately declassified, if this had not already been done, and made available and used by researchers.

Reichsbank Records

Among the most significant bodies of records uncovered have been those of the Reichsbank's Precious Metals Department. These records were greatly sought after during the spring of 1997 by two Federal agencies and other researchers because it was believed these records would document conclusively how much of the looted German gold acquired by the Allies was composed of non-monetary gold, that is gold that came from victims of Nazi persecution, including such things as gold teeth. The records, discovered on April 1, 1997, consisted of some 70 reels of microfilm contained in a small box within a recently accessioned Federal Record Center box of Treasury Department records. There was great excitement. The microfilms, which dated back to 1948 and not accessioned by NARA until November 1996, were not in the best condition. However, NARA reproduced the microfilm and made it available to researchers on April 4, 1998.

The discovery of the records was the subject of two Associated Press stories, and on May 7, 1997, when Under Secretary Eizenstat "rolled out" the Interagency Group's report at the State Department, he had one blown-up page of the records on an easel behind him. Unfortunately, the records were found too late to be used in preparing the report, but they have been used on a regular basis by research teams for the past year. Interestingly, the story does not end at this point, because in 1948 the US Army did not microfilm all of the records. Within a month of the filming, all of the original paper records, both those filmed and not filmed, were turned over to the successor bank, and they have since disappeared. Thus, during the past year there has been a search throughout Europe to locate the original records.

More Researchers

In the wake of the Eizenstat report, more researchers found their way to College Park. Not only were the researchers, including claimants, continuing to seek information about looted Nazi gold and related topics, but the boundaries of research had widened to include questions relating to looted securities, looted works of art, unclaimed and unpaid insurance
policies, refugee policies, slave labor practices, and wartime trade between the neutrals and the Axis powers.

Law firms and other research teams involved in class action litigation relating to dormant accounts in Swiss banks and unpaid insurance policies of victims of Nazi persecution have found NARA's holdings critical to their research. Jewish organizations, banking organizations, and art restitution research teams have also used NARA's holdings.

Foreign researchers have found NARA an important resource to supplement the information available in the archival records in their own countries. During the past year there have been dozens of private researchers from various countries, including Austria, Sweden, the Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Germany, and Switzerland. During the summer of 1997, six researchers from Sweden made their home at Archives II for several weeks, looking at records relating to their country. In February 1998, researchers representing commissions from Spain, Portugal, and Argentina began their research. Representatives of foreign banks and foreign archivists, including those from Israel and Sweden have also sought information.

Congressional Interest

The Senate Banking Committee and the House Banking and Financial Services Committee have made use of NARA's holdings. Senator D'Amato, appreciative of NARA's efforts, said, "The National Archives at College Park has been nothing less than amazing... Their help was indispensable in establishing, continuing and expanding the research of the Committee."

The House committee was interested in records pertaining to heirless assets in America. Committee staff research contributed to the Holocaust Victims Redress Act being introduced in Congress during the fall of 1997 and passed and signed by President Clinton on February 13, 1998. The law authorizes $20 million for restitution and $5 million for archival research. In signing the law, the president noted that it "recognizes the need for long overdue archival research... to set the historical record straight."

NARA and the Inter Agency Group on Nazi Assets

Within days of issuing its first report, the Inter Agency Group on Nazi Assets was asked by political leaders to prepare another report. Thus, in the summer of 1997, researchers from the Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the National Security Agency, representing the Interagency Group on Nazi Assets, began to do their research again with NARA's assistance. Their efforts will result in the publication of a report, tentatively entitled U.S. and Allied Wartime Postwar Negotiations With Argentina, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Turkey on Looted Gold and German External Assets. This report, which is being authored by William Z. Slany, is due to be issued sometime in the late spring of 1998.

Slany and the author, NARA's representative with the Inter Agency
Group on Nazi Assets, traveled to Ascona, Switzerland, in October 1997 to attend a conference on "Nazi Gold" records and research. This conference, sponsored by the Bergier Commission, was attended by representatives from Argentina, Canada, Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States. At the conference, research methodology and archival resources were among the primary topics of discussion.

The Future

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, speaking to the Swiss Parliament on November 15, 1997, said that "doing all we can to discover the truth about the Holocaust and events related to it, and to act on the consequence of that truth, are among the vital unfinished tasks of this century." Throughout the world, many countries, organizations, groups, and individuals share this belief. Thus, interest in the "Nazi Gold" issue remains high. Commissions have been appointed in Sweden, Portugal, Argentina, France, Belgium, Norway, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and half a dozen other countries to address issues relating to victims of Nazi persecution, postwar restitution efforts, and dormant bank accounts.

In December 1997, hundreds of representatives from 41 nations met in London, England at a conference sponsored by the British Foreign Office to discuss looted gold and the disposition of the remaining gold held by the Tripartite Gold Commission. Small conferences were also held in Lisbon, Portugal, in February 1998 and in Monaco in March 1998. At the London meeting, Under Secretary of State Eizenstat announced that another international conference would be held in Washington, D.C. That conference is scheduled to take place in November, under the auspices of the Department of State and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Undoubtedly, interest in "Nazi Gold" issues will continue for years, if not decades, and just as certainly archival research will accompany that interest. NARA will continue to be a critical resource for those doing "Nazi Gold" research, for contained in its holdings is what the Archivist terms "essential evidence." This evidence, with the assistance of NARA's skilled and dedicated staff, will be made available and used for a multitude of purposes. The end result of the various research efforts at NARA and elsewhere, one hopes, will contribute to countries, including the United States, being more capable of addressing their pasts and accepting their current responsibilities.

Greg Bradsher is NARA's Assistant Chief, Modern Military Records
"The Unknown Eisenhower"

A New Documentary Edition from the Eisenhower Library Tells the Story of Ike's Formative Years

Dwight Eisenhower was a famous war hero and beloved president, but most Americans know little about his formative years. Thanks to the hard work of the staff at the Dwight Eisenhower Library, that story is about to be made available in a new book. In February 1998, Johns Hopkins University Press and the Eisenhower Library will publish the documentary edition entitled Eisenhower: The Prewar Diaries and Selected Papers, 1905-1941. The 576-page book will list for $45.

Edited by Library Director Dan Holt with the assistance of Archivist Jim Leyerzapf, the volume includes a substantive introduction by the president's son, John S. D. Eisenhower. The project was greatly facilitated by Mr. Eisenhower, a well-known military historian.

Eisenhower includes five pre-World War II diaries and selected papers beginning with the earliest extant document written by Eisenhower—a 1905 letter to a cousin in Topeka, Kansas—and concludes with a rousing patriotic speech meant to be delivered to an Army Air Corps graduating class at Kelly Field, Texas, on December 12, 1941, the same day Eisenhower was ordered to the War Department by General George C. Marshall at the beginning of World War II.

The heart of the book is composed of the five diaries that cover the period from August 1929 to December 12, 1941. They include the Gruber-Eisenhower Diary (1929) that recorded a summer vacation that Ike, Mamie, and their friends took during his Paris service with the American Battle Monuments Commission; the Guayule Diary (1930), detailing an inspection trip to California, Mexico, and Texas to study rubber plant cultivation and processing for the mobilization planning division at the War Department; the Chief of Staff diary (1929-34), kept while Eisenhower worked with the Assistant Secretary of War and as a special assistant to Army Chief of Staff Douglas MacArthur; the Philippine Diary (1935-40), written during Eisenhower's service with the American Military Mission to the Philippines; and finally the Fort Lewis Diary (1940-41) kept during his short term of service at that post. These five diaries are being published in their entirety for the first time.

The original intention was to include only the five diaries, but Holt and Leyerzapf expanded the volume to include a selection of personal, family, and military papers of substance. Also included are little-known speeches and articles that Eisenhower wrote for others when it could be determined that he authored those works. One example of Eisenhower ghost-writing is Douglas MacArthur's report on the U. S. Army's eviction of the famous Bonus Marchers from Washington in 1932.

The selected papers were compiled after an extensive search of the Library's pre-1942 holdings. Library volunteer Elinor Haas greatly assisted in this process by
examining nearly 30,000 pages of the prewar papers and flagging and copying Eisenhower documents and collateral correspondence for contextual notes. Leyerzapf examined the many remaining files in the Library collections and contacted twenty other archival repositories throughout the United States that held, or might have held, Eisenhower documents. Eisenhower Library Archivist Tom Branigar and NHPRC staff member Timothy Connelly also assisted in examining collections. Many others at the Eisenhower Library, at the National Archives and Records Administration, and at other historical institutions contributed significantly to this publication.

The papers were selected to demonstrate the breadth of Eisenhower's experiences, the scope of his early military training and tasks, and the range of writings and studies he conducted as a junior and field-grade officer— from personal to the professional. Of all the prewar Eisenhower documents (not including diaries), about one-half are included, many published for the first time. Copies of all Eisenhower prewar documents accumulated for this project, whether selected for publication or not, now reside in a reference file at the Eisenhower Library, providing a major resource file for researchers.

There is no question that the academic community will find this volume valuable. "It is fascinating to watch this making of a great man," notes Eisenhower biographer Stephen Ambrose of this new book, "to see his growth in the development of his self-confidence, his assumption of responsibility, his exercise of initiative." Presidential historian Robert H. Ferrell adds that "this extraordinary collection will keep historians busy for a long time. Here is the preparation... all the fascinating experiences that made possible the general of World War II and the president of the 1950s." Thanks to the Dwight Eisenhower Library, the Eisenhower family, and the Johns Hopkins University Press, this important chapter in the life of our thirty-fourth president will be available in hundreds of libraries and research institutions across the country for the first time.
"The United States Naval Academy Archives"

by Gary LeValley, USNA Archivist

(Excerpts for the WWTSA Newsletter.)

The USNA Archives Collections

The USNA Archives collection comprises records that at various times have been part of Record Group 24, Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Record Group 24, Record Group 181, Records of Naval Districts and Shore Establishments. They are now designated as Record Group 405, Records of the United States Naval Academy, dating from 1845 to the present. The purpose of the Archives is to collect, preserve, and store the noncurrent records of the Naval Academy, and make available to authorized Naval Academy personnel and other researchers, the official record of the Naval Academy and its significant policy-making and functional subdivisions. The material includes Superintendent’s correspondence from 1845, Academic Board and Board of Visitors records, midshipmen personnel jackets, conduct and academic records, yearbooks and other midshipmen publications, official directives, faculty records, records of the academic departments and administrative offices, records of the reserve officers training programs during World War I and World War II, and records of special courts of inquiry.

Nontextual records have also been collected. There are approximately 25,000 photographs depicting life at the Academy from the 19th century to the present; numerous maps illustrating the growth of the Academy grounds; architectural drawings, including original sketches by architect Ernest Flagg, who reconstructed the Academy around the turn of the century; film and videotape recordings of athletic and other events from the Educational Resource Center and Physical Education Departments; and audiotape recordings of speeches given by prominent visitors.

The still photograph collection of the USNA Archives consists primarily of 8” X 10” black and white prints which were shot by Naval Academy and commercial photographers, as well as prints donated by graduates and other interested parties. In 1991 the Archives staff, with the assistance of volunteers, completed a project which transferred 10,000 images from the collection to a 12” video laser disc, United States Naval Academy Archives and Museum Picture Collection. This disc serves several significant purposes. It allows the researcher to view specific photographs or the entire group at his or her convenience and relieves the staff of the task of pulling and replacing groups of photographs. It also aids in the preservation of the collection, since the original photographs need to be handled less often. A detailed finding aid and a searchable data base were developed in conjunction with the disc, which enables the researcher to obtain in-depth information about each image.

Also included on the disc are an additional 10,000 images from the Naval Academy Museum’s Beverly R. Robinson Collection.
of naval prints and images selected from the pages of *Harper's Weekly*, *Gleason's Drawing Room Companion*, and *Ballou's Weekly*; pictures used by the Naval Academy History Department and NROTC faculties to illustrate key events in Naval and Marine Corps History; a selection of photographs from the U.S. Naval Institute Collection; ship models from the Navy's collection of contract models built by the firm of Gibbs & Cox, Inc.; and photographs of the medals in the collection of the Navy Museum.

When the records of RG 405 were returned to USNA, they consisted of approximately 397 cubic feet of textual records. Approximately 797 cubic feet of textual records that have been formally accessioned into that record group, and an additional 1,542 linear feet are waiting to be appraised, arranged, and accessioned into the legal custody of NARA. Records Management and Disposition Program Instruction 5210.4A, dated 4 March 1987, directed records managers of the Naval Academy divisions/ departments to institute a records disposition program in consultation with the Archivist, and is responsible for the constant flow of new material to the Archives. The Archives also holds over 344 linear feet of records gathered by the Naval Academy Alumni Association that document the postgraduate naval careers of USNA alumni; these will remain as "Naval Academy" records. These "Alumni Jackets" often contain official Navy Department biographical sketches, personal correspondence, obituaries, and other documents that are extremely useful to the Archives staff and to other researchers.

A collateral duty of the Archivist since 1970 has been preparation of the Command History of the Naval Academy, which is submitted annually to the Director of Naval History. Twenty-eight such histories have been prepared by the Archives staff.

**Research Use**

Use of the Naval Academy Archives by faculty, staff, midshipmen, and outside researchers continues to increase yearly. In the last year, the Archives staff of two, responded to over 1,100 outside requests for information and photographs and provided access to records for numerous internal requests by the Special Collections Division. The USNA faculty regularly consult the Archives on issues such as curriculum development, institutional history and precedents, photo reproduction for classroom presentations, and individual research projects. Members of the History and English departments schedule their classes to receive an introduction to the Archives and Special Collections to acquaint their students with the use of primary source materials, and midshipmen frequently receive assignments that can only be completed by consulting these archival collections.

The Archives serves as a constant source of information for the Public Affairs Office, providing documents, photographs, and films for commemorative events, documentary film productions, publications, the USNA Visitors Center, and other outreach programs. Our extensive collection of architectural plans and drawings, along with the buildings and grounds photographic collection, provide
an historical background for the Academy's Public Works Department as they plan building renovation and expansion projects, often allowing them to compare proposed plans with those actually completed.

In addition to providing research support for Academy personnel, the Archives also serves members of the general public, alumni, and outside academic professionals researching various aspects of Academy history. We regularly provide information to individuals conducting genealogical research linked to midshipmen and officer and civilian faculty. Tours of the Archives are provided to individuals and professional groups interested in our collections or in general archival practices. Between 500-600 high school students visit the Special Collections and Archives each year as part of the Academy's Summer Seminar History Workshop.

Researchers are encouraged to submit their questions relating to U.S. Naval Academy history to the Archives staff: Archivist Gary A. LaValley and Archives Technician Beverly Lyall. Mail can be sent to USNA Archives, Nimitz Library, 589 McNair Road, Annapolis, MD 21402-5029. The Archives may also be contacted by phone at (410) 293-6922; by fax at (410) 293-4926 and by e-mail at lavalley@nadn.navy.mil.

Gary A. LaValley has been the Archivist of the U.S. Naval Academy since June 1997. He has a B.A. in History/Political Science from Iowa State University and a M.A. in History from the University of Arizona.
A Bibliographical Report

by

Donald S. Detwiler

Three Reference Works

The Biographical Dictionary of World War II by Mark M. Boatner III (Novato, Calif.: Presidio Press, 1996), xiii & 733 pp., $50.00, provides about a thousand biographical sketches with bibliographical references and cross-references to each other and to a well-crafted glossary. The glossary not only identifies abbreviations and specialized terms, but, as noted in the introduction, serves as “a mini-encyclopedia . . . covering events, issues, definitions, and matters that otherwise would have to be repeated in several places elsewhere.” The readable and even-handed biographies range from brief paragraphs to concise essays. The one on Manstein, for example (on pp. 341-44, with over a dozen cross-references to other biographical entries or the glossary and a half-dozen bibliographical references), gives his family background, summarizes his early career and reviews his World War II record in some detail, accounts for his conviction as a war criminal in 1950, notes his release in 1953, and mentions that there are significant omissions in the American edition of his memoirs. In the judiciously annotated bibliography with which he concludes his book, Colonel Boatner, a retired U.S. Army officer who once taught history at West Point, describes Thomas Parrish’s Simon and Schuster Encyclopedia of World War II (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1978) as “the best US reference book in its field.” Boatner’s biographical dictionary admirably complements Parrish’s encyclopedia.

Loyd E. Lee, ed., World War II in Europe, Africa, and the Americas, with General Sources: A Handbook of Literature and Research, foreword by Mark A. Stoler, Robin Higham, advisory editor (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1997), xix & 525 pp., $95.00, gives in twenty-nine chapters (six written or co-authored by Prof. Lee of SUNY College at New Paltz) a synoptic assessment of the literature, with consideration of research resources, on the war in Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Works in English or English translation are listed whenever available, but indispensable titles in other languages are cited, as, for example, in the bibliography concluding Gerhard Hirschfeld’s chapter, “German Occupation of Europe, the Axis ‘New Order,’ and Collaboration.” Among the chapters dealing with major theaters of military operations are “The Soviet-German War, 1941-1945,” by David M. Glantz, and

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Donal J. Sexton, Jr., Signals Intelligence in World War II: A Research Guide, Bibliographies of Battles and Leaders, No. 18, with series foreword by Myron J. Smith, Jr. (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1996), xl & 163 pp., $69.50, opens with an eighteen-page introductory essay on the historiography of World War II signals intelligence, followed by an annotated bibliography with 828 entries and by separate author and subject indices. In his topically organized bibliography, Prof. Sexton (of Tusculum College, Tennessee) carries a number of titles in more than one place. For example, Ladislas Farago’s The Game of the Foxes (New York: McKay, 1971), listed as entry 271 with a caveat and a cross-reference to Hinsley’s history of British intelligence in the Second World War, appears again as entry 805, annotated with a similarly formulated caveat and an additional cross-reference. Entry 57, listing H. R. Trevor-Roper’s critique, on pp. 13-16 of the 19 February 1976 issue of The New York Review of Books, of Anthony Cave Brown’s Bodyguard of Lies, includes, as part of the annotation, a cross-reference to entry 827; and that entry cites the very same critique (but does refer the reader to an exchange between Trevor-Roper and Cave Brown on pp. 50-51 of the NYRB of 14 October 1976). Although few signals intelligence specialists are apt to regard this volume as a self-contained research guide to the history of their field during World War II, historians of the era who turn to it may find that Prof. Sexton identifies significant material overlooked in conventional bibliographical searches. In a number of cases, moreover, he draws attention to the broader impact and relevance of signals intelligence; for example, in his annotation to entry 329, The Diaries of Alexander Cadogan, 1838-1945, edited by David Dilks (London: Cassell, 1971), he notes that the diary of the Permanent Undersecretary of the Foreign Office, “a rich source that provides insights into the mood of British leaders and the background of wartime political and diplomatic developments,” includes “entries [that] sometimes refer to intercepts of Spanish, Vichy French and Japanese diplomatic communications.”
Two Documentary Publications

*From Hitler's Doorstep: The Wartime Intelligence Reports of Allen Dulles, 1942-1945*, edited with commentary by Neal H. Petersen (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996), xii & 684 pp., $85.00, is an invaluable contribution to the historiography of the Second World War by a specialist in the field. After more than twenty years in the Historical Office of the U.S. Department of State, Petersen retired as Deputy Historian in 1988. Four years later he brought out his historical bibliography of American intelligence from the War of Independence to the Cold War, *American Intelligence, 1775-1990: A Bibliographical Guide* (Claremont, Calif.: Regina Books, 1992). For his new volume, *From Hitler's Doorstep*, Petersen selected and edited some 700 reports by the OSS station chief in Switzerland, Allen W. Dulles, from his arrival in Switzerland at the time of the North African landings in November 1942 until after the capitulation of the German forces in Italy that he had been instrumental in arranging early in May 1945. Petersen opens his introductory essay with a review of the "Background of a Spymaster," explains the setting in which Dulles functioned in Switzerland, and concludes (on p. 20) with the following observations on Dulles' mission and on his wartime reports from Bern:

The Bern mission engaged in intelligence-gathering, covert action, psychological operations, and counterintelligence, all brought together in the U.S. intelligence service that emerged in the late 1940s. However, Dulles at Bern exceeded the bounds of both traditional and modern intelligence practice by intruding into the area of policy formulation. He was not just a semiautonomous intelligence proconsul within the OSS, but a would-be grand strategist for the West. Seldom again would an American station chief range so far and wide—not even a Director of Central Intelligence, not even Dulles himself in the 1950s. But for the historian, appreciation of the documents in this volume need not be confined to their place in a continuum. They stand by themselves as representative of a fascinating historical situation worth studying for its very uniqueness.

Petersen published the selected reports (or extracts of reports) chronologically, prefacing each with a bracketed headnote, providing transition and context, so that they may be read in sequence as a running account, from a unique perspective, of the last two and a half years of the war in Europe. The reader's understanding is facilitated by an exemplary apparatus. The copious endnotes include not only the archival location of every report, but, in many cases, concise essays citing the relevant literature and archival sources. On key issues, documentation is also provided. In his note on Doc. 4-118, for example, Dulles' telegram of 5 December 1944 to the Director of OSS, Gen. William J. Donovan, regarding German peace feelers, Petersen writes (on p. 624):

OSS treatment of peace feelers was influenced by a memorandum from President Roosevelt to Gen. Donovan on Dec. 18, 1944, which read as follows: "I do not believe that we should offer any guarantees of protection in the post-hostilities period to Germans who are working for your organization. I think that the carrying out of any such guarantees would be difficult and probably widely misunderstood both in this country and abroad. We may expect that the number of Germans who are anxious to save their skins and property by coming over to the side of the United Nations at the last moment will rapidly increase. Among them may be some who should properly be tried for war crimes or at least arrested for active participation in Nazi activities. Even with the
necessary controls you mention I am not prepared to authorize the giving of guarantees” (OSS Records, Office Director Microfilm, Reel 81).

In addition to the partially annotated bibliography and a detailed index that includes references to the endnotes as well as the text, there are lists of abbreviations, acronyms, code names and numbers, and also a list of “Certain Persons Residing in or Visiting Switzerland, 1942-1945” (mentioned by Dulles in his reports). A brief epilogue (pp. 523-26) concisely recounts Dulles’ postwar role in Europe until OSS was abolished on 1 October 1945 and his part in the formation of the Central Intelligence Agency that was established in 1947, that he joined in 1950, and that he directed during the Eisenhower administration.

_American Intelligence and the German Resistance to Hitler: A Documentary History_, edited by Jürgen Heideking and Christof Mauch with the assistance of Marc Frey (Boulder, Col.: Westview Press, 1996), xxii & 457 pp., $49.00, is, like Petersen’s edition of the Dulles reports, largely based on the U.S. National Archives collection of OSS Records (Record Group 226). Prof. Heideking of Cologne University and Dr. Mauch of the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., have included seventeen selections also in the Petersen volume, but their purpose and perspective is quite different. Their new book has grown out of the work that led them to publish “Das Herman-Dossier: Helmuth James Graf von Moltke, die deutsche Emigration in Istanbul und der amerikanische Geheimdienst OSS [The Hermann Dossier: Count Helmuth James von Moltke, the German Emigration in Istanbul and the American Secret Service (OSS)],” _Vierteljahrshefte für Zeitgeschichte_, vol. 40 (4/1992), pp. 567-623; _USA und deutscher Widerstand: Analysen und Operationen des amerikanischen Geheimdienstes im Zweiten Weltkrieg_ [“U.S.A. and German Resistance: Analyses and Operations of the American Secret Service in the Second World War”] (Tübingen and Basel: Francke, 1993); and _Geheimdienstkrieg gegen Deutschland: Subversion, Propaganda und politische Planungen des amerikanischen Geheimdienstes im Zweiten Weltkrieg_ [“Secret Service War against Germany: Subversion, Propaganda and Political Planning of the American Secret Service in the Second World War”] (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1993). In the prefatory note to their new volume, Heideking and Mauch write that they intend it to be “not only a compendium of historical documents but also a form of literature,” and that in selecting material for it, they “have tried to assemble a collection that conveys a sense of the unfolding of events over time”—and they have succeeded. The dates, origins, and subjects of the more than 100 sequentially numbered documents are identified with headnotes and their archival locations given in footnotes, which are also used to provide background information, identify persons, and cross-reference related documents. The position or role of each person named is spelled out in the index. The bibliography, which begins with a concise essay on sources, lists articles as well as books and cites English translations of German works. The introductory essay focusses (with reference to specific documents) on the major themes documented in the volume:

- how the German resistance looked from an American perspective;
- early considerations regarding the use of psychological warfare against Germany (April 1942 to May 1943);
• speculation regarding a possible early German collapse and efforts to encourage and support those who might bring it about (August 1943 to April 1944);
• the OSS and the German conspiracy against Hitler (January to September 1944);
• propaganda and subversive warfare against Germany in the aftermath of the failed conspiracy against Hitler (October 1944 to May 1945); and
• the beginning of the Cold War in Europe (January to October 1945).

Apart from the documented overview of OSS contacts with individual Germans who opposed Hitler and of evolving U.S. policy toward the German resistance, Heideking and Mauch have included a number of selections of individual interest (enhanced by helpful annotation), such as
• an extensive memorandum of 25 September 1943 on “Oppositional Movements in Germany” by Willy Brandt in Stockholm (Document 21, pp. 97-115);
• memoranda by the president of the World Council of Churches, in Geneva, Willem Visser’t Hooft, from December 1943, on the situation of the Protestant Church in Germany (Document 30, pp. 162-171), and by his colleague in Geneva, Hans Schönfeld, from September 1944, on the German church opposition against the National Socialist régime (Document 70c, pp. 300-311 [available in the original German in USA und deutscher Widerstand (cited above), pp. 205-215, where it is followed by a concurring evaluation by Stewart W. Herman of the Central European Section of the Special Operations Branch of the OSS, pp. 215-17]);
• a report of 27 July 1944 by Dr. Franz L. Neumann of the OSS Research and Analysis Branch on “The Attempt on Hitler’s Life and Its Consequences” (Document 60, pp. 260-272); and
• a field intelligence study from October 1945, “Political Implications of the 20th of July” (Document 102, pp. 417-423), by the historian Franklin Ford, whose article, “The Twentieth of July in the German Resistance,” was published the following year in The American Historical Review (vol. 51, pp. 609-626).

Two Works on the German Opposition

Contending with Hitler: Varieties of German Resistance in the Third Reich, edited by David Clay Large, Publications of the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991), viii & 197 pp., $49.95, includes revisions of papers initially presented in April 1988 at a symposium in New York, with an introductory address on the German resistance movement by Willy Brandt, a response by Theodore Ellenoff, president of the American Jewish Committee, and a welcome, on behalf of Columbia University, by Fritz Stern. Several of the twelve contributions, as Prof. Large of Montana State University notes in his introduction, “point out how the resistance scene quickly became a kind of microcosm of Germany’s splintered social and political order, a welter of separate and often mutually hostile constituencies” (p. 4). In his contribution on “Working-Class Resistance: Problems and Options,” the late Prof. Detlev J. K. Peukert of the University of Essen stressed (on p. 41) that from the National Socialist point of view,

... the event in 1933 that crucially determined the future of the labor movement was not the imposing of the
ban on workers’ organizations, nor even the imprisonment of leading labor officials, but the unbridled “wildcat” terror campaign that the SA (Sturmabteilung) launched in working-class districts. Old scores from the Kampfzeit were settled, and numerous temporary concentration camps were set up in which the SA became self-appointed arbiters of life and death. The SA, SS (Schutzstaffel), and police waged a systematic attack on working-class communities that lasted from spring until autumn. By the end of this period, the risks involved in resistance, or even in offering the most passive aid to the resistance, had become so great that the hardy political activists still willing to put their lives on the line had been effectively cut off from the bulk of their former supporters. This split between class and cadre was to remain the central structural feature of the workers’ resistance until 1945.

In “The Kreisau Circle and the Twentieth of July,” Prof. Thomas Childers of the University of Pennsylvania reviews the literature on this group named for the estate of one of its two principle leaders, Helmuth James von Moltke, who was arrested in January 1944, describing its subsequent role, under the leadership of its other leader, Peter Yorck von Wartenburg, a cousin of Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg, and concluding that “instead of dissolving in January, the Kreisau Circle had become an integral part of the conspiracy which culminated in the Bendlerstrasse on that sultry Thursday in July 1944” (p. 117). “The Political Legacy of the German Resistance: A Historiographical Critique” (pp. 151-162) by Prof. Hans Mommsen of the Ruhr University in Bochum perceptively considers the work of some two dozen historians without naming book titles or providing bibliographical data in his unannotated paper, but some of their works are listed in the selected bibliography that highlights works in or translated into English. A concise but well annotated overview and evaluation of the military plot against Hitler is provided in “The Second World War, German Society, and Internal Resistance to Hitler” (pp. 119-128) by Peter Hoffmann, the author of The History of the German Resistance, 1933-1945, 3rd ed. (Montréal: McGill Queens University Press, 1996) and of the work considered next.

Peter Hoffmann, Stauffenberg: A Family History, 1905-1944 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), xvii & 424 pp., $39.95, is the author’s revision and translation of Claus Schenk Graf von Stauffenberg und seine Brüder (Stuttgart, Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt, 1992). Having dealt with the plot against Hitler in comprehensive detail in his massive History of the German Resistance (cited above), Prof. Hoffmann (of McGill University, Montréal), provides here a meticulously documented account, in broad cultural, social, and intellectual context, of the road that led Claus Schenk von Stauffenberg to the unsuccessful attempt on Hitler’s life on 20 July 1944, which led to his execution that very night and that of his deeply involved older brother Berthold not long after. Berthold’s twin brother Alexander, who had been serving in Greece, was brought back to Germany in “kith-and-kin” detention [Sippenhaft], but survived and became a professor of ancient history at Munich University after the war. The Stauffenberg brothers were born into an aristocratic southwest-German family; their father was lord chamberlain at the royal court at Stuttgart until the abdication of the king of Württemberg in November 1918 and thereafter manager of the royal family’s extensive private estates. Too young to serve in World War I (the twins having been born in 1905, Claus in 1907), the brothers received a traditional, classics-oriented education. In the 1920s, they became members of a circle of admirers of the poet Stefan George, whose
character and influence are effectively presented by Hoffmann, and whose idealism made an indelible impression on the brothers. The only one of the three to choose a military career, Claus initially welcomed Germany’s rearmament under Hitler, but was expressing, as Hoffmann shows, grave misgivings about Hitler’s excesses well before the beginning of the war. By the end of 1942, on the basis of what he learned as a general staff officer attached to the High Command of the Army on the Russian front, he reached the conclusion that Hitler had to be stopped, and made no secret of his conviction. Hoffmann quotes (on p. 282) an account written in the late 1940s by his brother Alexander: “Stauffenberg made his entry into the ranks of the Resistance very late, but once he had committed himself it was with his characteristic drive to action, and from the year 1942 onwards the warning, stirring voice of the officer from Army Headquarters Organisation Branch made itself heard among army staffs and army group staffs on the eastern front.” Not long after a private conference on the eve of the collapse of Stalingrad with Field Marshal Manstein, who advised him to have himself transferred to a general staff post in the field, Stauffenberg was assigned to North Africa, where, after seven weeks, he was severely wounded when his vehicle hit a mine. In September 1943, after having recovered (with the loss of his right hand and wrist, his left eye, and two fingers on his left hand), he was transferred to Berlin, where, in senior positions in the staff of the Home Army (after 20 June 1944, chief of staff to the commander in chief), he was in the one position from which a takeover of the government might be orchestrated following the assassination of Hitler. Hoffmann’s account makes it very clear that although a number of Stauffenberg’s associates who were aware of the plot gave passive support, they lacked the courage and conviction to see it through. Thus he was forced on 15 July, at the last minute, to return to Berlin from Hitler’s East Prussian headquarters without carrying out the mission he would attempt five days later. In the conclusion of his epilogue, Hoffmann writes (on pp. 284-85 [with references to backnotes deleted]):

In the end the “colonels” were left alone, deserted by their senior leaders. The unbelievable events of 15 July 1944 must have been devastating, showing the lack of support from senior fellow conspirators. Any prospect of a successful uprising had vanished. It is one of the most painful insights into the events of 15 and 20 July 1944 that on the second occasion Stauffenberg was willing to make another attempt, without any hope. Claus Stauffenberg always remained a faithful Catholic. Noble birth and family were deeply-felt obligations. Finally, he remained committed to the living Secret Germany to which the Stauffenbergs had become heirs through Stefan George’s last will and testament. This neo-classicist and neo-romantic side-road of German intellectual history drove them to action with greater force than the intellectual milieu to which the other conspirators belonged. Claus and Berthold Stauffenberg gave their lives for the Secret Germany as well as for the Reich, and as sacrifice and atonement for the crimes of the Reich’s leaders. They could not live without revolting against those crimes. Claus sacrificed his life, his soul, his honour, his family.

The conspirators’ self-sacrifice presents a continuing existential challenge to contemporaries and successors alike. That is the historical significance of the uprising.

Ultimately, the manifest act determines historical understanding effect. All acts of resistance to the criminal regime participate in the legitimacy that Stauffenberg’s act created. There is no indication that anyone else would have achieved it. And without Stauffenberg’s manifest act there would never have been the host of individual martyrdoms which demonstrated the ethical foundations of the resistance, its existential response to inhumanity.

Alexander Stauffenberg wrote that a nation’s secret destinies are revealed in its poetry, and that Poetry itself was the nation’s destiny when through the Poet the man of action was moved to act, or to sacrifice himself if he failed.
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