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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.
World War Two Studies Association Update

The annual business meeting of the World War Two Studies Association, scheduled in conjunction with the American Historical Association annual conference in Washington, D.C., in January 1999, was postponed when severe weather substantially delayed the arrival in Washington of several participants and prevented achievement of a quorum. Though over the next few days, association officers managed to discuss some agenda items with various association members who were present at the conference, there was no subsequent formal meeting in Washington.

The WWTSA treasurer was prepared to report continued solvency of the association, with grateful acknowledgment to the Department of History and the College of Arts and Sciences at Kansas State University for their continued support and assistance with clerical and other overhead costs. The "Friends of the World War Two Studies Association" fund, built by the generous donations of WWTSA members and maintained through the Kansas State University Foundation, now forms a small reserve of capital for the organization.

Another important agenda item was discussion of ideas and proposals for a WWTSA-sponsored panel or panels to be held in tandem with the 2000 AHA meeting, scheduled to convene in Chicago in January 2000. The association will present a scholarly session titled "The Battles Continue: World War II Issues in the 1990s," to consist of three papers and commentary on aspects of the Second World War that have provoked historiographical and historical controversies in the past decade. The schedule of presenters and paper titles was not finalized by press time but should be completed shortly, so direct questions about this to the association secretary or wait for the formal notice of the session in the fall newsletter. Members wishing to propose additional papers or sessions for the Chicago meeting, or for any of the subsequent meetings held in conjunction with the annual AHA conference, are encouraged to contact the association secretary.

On Saturday, January 9, the WWTSA sponsored a scholarly panel at the Wardman Park Marriott Hotel, titled "New Resources in World War II History." Dr. Stanley Falk chaired the session, at which NARA staffers Lawrence McDonald and Timothy Mulligan discussed the organization and status of various World War II record collections at the U.S. National Archives, and archivist David Haight described the range and extent of World War II materials at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas. Despite the inclement weather, the session was well attended, and further exchange of information about World War II resources occurred in the question and answer period. This number of the newsletter carries the remarks of the three panelists.
On September 20, 1945, less than three weeks after Japan’s official surrender, President Truman informed General William J. Donovan that the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) would be terminated, effective October 1. After the OSS closed down, almost all of its records would eventually be transferred to one of two agencies: the State Department or the Central Intelligence Agency.

Late in 1945, the OSS sent some 1,800 cubic feet of textual records, including most Research and Analysis Branch (R&A), most Schools and Training Branch and some Foreign Nationalities Branch files, to the Department of State, where veterans of the R&A staff continued to write finished reports in response to customer requests (cf. M1221). During the 1940’s and 50’s, the National Archives accessioned all of these records, and, following declassification in 1975 and 1976, they were opened to researchers.

Also in 1945, the OSS transferred approximately 6,300 cubic feet of textual records to the newly formed Strategic Services Unit (SSU), which was made up of veterans of the OSS Secret Intelligence Branch and the OSS X-2 Branch and was subordinate to the War Department. Its function was to care for OSS-created assets, which included OSS intelligence networks and all OSS records except those transferred to the State Department. In 1946, the SSU was absorbed by the Central Intelligence Group (CIG) under General Hoyt Vandenberg. On September 18, 1947, in accordance with the National Security Act, SSU and CIG, along with their OSS records (by then known as the OSS Archives), were assigned to the custody of the Central Intelligence Agency, which was established by the same legislation.

Records of the Coordinator of Information (COI), the OSS’s predecessor, and of the SSU, the OSS’s immediate successor, are interfiled with the records of the OSS in Record Group 226 at the National Archives. Records of the CIG will also be assigned to Record Group 226 when the CIA transfers them to the National Archives.
### OSS AND PREDECESSOR AND SUCCESSOR AGENCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>DATE ESTABLISHED</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COI</td>
<td>11 July 1941</td>
<td>Coordination of foreign intelligence of Federal Agencies (State Dept., G-2, ONI, FBI, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSS</td>
<td>13 June 1942</td>
<td>Foreign intelligence and covert action operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSU</td>
<td>1 Oct. 1945</td>
<td>Care of OSS created assets, records and intelligence networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIG</td>
<td>22 Jan. 1946</td>
<td>Coordination of foreign intelligence activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIA</td>
<td>18 Sept. 1947</td>
<td>Foreign intelligence and, in 1949, covert action operations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A glance at the OSS organizational chart shows that, along with the administrative and support units common to so many other Federal agencies, the Office of Strategic Services was divided into two major functions, a Directorate of Intelligence and a Directorate of Operations.

By the beginning of 1943, the Directorate of Intelligence consisted of five branches. The Secret Intelligence Branch (SI) collected and evaluated clandestine intelligence in all parts of the world except the Western Hemisphere. The X-2 Branch, the OSS counterintelligence branch, was composed of spy-catchers and others who identified and foiled enemy penetration; the function of counterintelligence has been described as “defining the enemy.” The OSS R&A Branch was largely the creation of William L. Langer, the eminent Harvard historian, who selected some of the finest scholars in the nation to serve as area specialists in this branch. In writing finished reports for the OSS and other agencies, R&A drew on secret intelligence sources but derived far more information from open sources such as those found at the National Archives and the Library of Congress, where R&A maintained its own offices. R&A files and indexes amount to well over 1,600 cubic feet of records and make analysis of conditions in every nation on earth. The Foreign Nationalities Branch invited foreign-born Americans of European and Mediterranean background to support the war effort by providing the OSS, cost free, with strategic and tactical intelligence pertaining to their country of origin. The Censorship and Documents Branch supervised radio and intelligence activities and distributed intelligence obtained from censorship sources to other branches of the OSS.
OSS Organization
(WASHINGTON)

DIRECTOR

1st ASS'T DIRECTOR

2nd ASS'T DIRECTOR

SECRETARIAT

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FIELD SECTION

GENERAL COUNSEL

BOARD OF REVIEW

SPECIAL ASS'TS & REPRESENTATIVES

COMMUNICATIONS

FIELD PHOTOGRAPHIC

PRESENTATION

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

HQ & HQ DETACHMENT

NAVAL COMMAND

SECURITY

SPECIAL FUNDS

CHIEF SURGEON

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

MORALE OPERATIONS

MARITIME UNIT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

FIELD EXPERIMENTAL UNIT

OPERATIONAL GROUP COMMAND

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - S & T

SCHOOLS & TRAINING

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

BUDGET & PROCEDURES

PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

REPRODUCTION

TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE SERVICES

FINANCE

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-PERSONNEL

PERSONNEL

PROCUREMENT

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

SECRET INTELLIGENCE

X-2

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

FOREIGN NATIONALITIES

CENSORSHIP & DOCUMENTS

OSS records in the National Archives include files from almost every office shown in this organizational chart.
The achievements of the Directorate of Operations are celebrated for their courage and daring to this day. In 1946 alone, Hollywood produced three films, Alan Ladd and Geraldine Fitzgerald in "055," Gary Cooper in "Cloak and Dagger," and James Cagney in "13 Rue Madeleine," that made OSS a byword for espionage and covert operations. Special Operations Branch (SO) trained and deployed small, often three-man, teams who worked in enemy-held territory, performing sabotage, assisting resistance fighters, rescuing downed pilots, and radioing back weather reports and target information. Out of SO would develop special detachments like Det 101 in Burma, which later became the prototype for the Green Berets. Morale Operations Branch (MO) disseminated non-attributable, black propaganda, intended for effect rather than veracity, in order to incite resistance and create confusion within enemy territory. Maritime Unit (MU) served as the OSS maritime transportation arm, getting SO and SI men on and off shore in enemy-controlled areas. MU also assisted in the development of special maritime equipment, such as that used by U.S. Navy SEALs and frogmen. The Special Projects Office carried out special operational assignments and missions as approved by the Director. Field Experimental Unit demonstrated newly developed and special weapons and techniques to field missions of OSS. Operational Group Command (OG) was composed of commando units whose personnel spoke the language of the target area and were trained to conduct guerilla warfare. OSS was excluded from covert action operations in Pacific Theater and Latin America.

The records of other OSS branches and units are also of inestimable value. To mention only a few, the OSS General Counsel Office (GC) was responsible for legal affairs of the OSS but, later in the war, GC attorneys became the first to prepare for the postwar trials. The success of the OSS Field Photographic Branch is largely attributable to its chief, John Ford, one of America's greatest film directors. The OSS Research and Development Branch (R&D) produced a highly useful matchbox camera and an excellent flashless and soundless gun along with an endless list of sometimes madcap special weapons and devices, including crossbows, invisible ink, destructible paper, incendiary pencils, suicide capsules, tire spikes, cacolube, baseball-shaped handgrenades, the famed OSS Stiletto, and Aunt Jemima, an explosive powder made to look like pancake mix that, in a pinch, could be cooked and eaten.

It would be a mistake to overlook the OSS records of any series or branch. So carefully integrated were OSS functions and records that OSS files provide the researcher with an outline of the war in microcosm. As a rule, only a small percentage of the records generated by a federal agency are assigned for permanent retention at the National Archives. By contrast, most of the records created or received by the OSS and its predecessor COI will be permanently preserved for research. The CIA was authorized to destroy 2,000 cubic feet of the records in its OSS Archives after appraisal indicated that they had no historical value. All other records, a total of some 7,000 cubic feet, have been preserved.

OSS records still classified include approximately 300 cubic feet of Component Files, consisting of travel vouchers and other records useful to servicing veterans' requests. These Component Files remain at the CIA. Other security-classified records have been transferred
to the National Archives. The National Archives is required by law to withhold 220 cubic feet of OSS records because they derive from a foreign source or involve third agency equity. Another 360 cubic feet of records, originally withheld by the CIA, are classified to this day for sources and methods. All records pulled from the files for reasons of security and still withheld are marked by a Withdrawal Notice card.

**OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES TEXTUAL RECORDS (1945)**
**AND THEIR DISPOSITION**
**(TOTAL OF APPROX. 8,100 CUBIC FEET)**

1,200 CF Text

State Dept. (1,800 CF of R&A Records)

600 CF Index Cards (800,000 cards)

2,000 CF destroyed, Aug. 1982

Declassified (Approx. 3,420 CF)

SSU/CIA (6,300 CF) — 4,000 CF to NA

CIA - 360 CF

Withheld

NA - 220 CF

300 CF Component Files still remain at CIA

CF - Cubic feet (i.e., roughly, 2,500 pages of records)

SSU/CIA - The Strategic Services Unit was assigned to the War Department in 1945. It was composed of veterans from the OSS counter-intelligence branch (X-2) and the OSS Secret Intelligence Branch (SI). In September 1947, all SSU’s records were acquired by the CIA, where they became known as the OSS Archives.

R&A Records - OSS Research and Analysis Branch records were transferred to the State Department along with some OSS Foreign Nationalities Branch and OSS Schools and Training Branch records.

CIA - Central Intelligence Agency originally withheld specific files amounting to 360 cubic feet of records. A withdrawal Notice card appears among the records for each file withheld. The CIA transferred these records to the National Archives in April 1997. CIA and NA withheld are still classified.

NA - National Archives
Allowing for re-boxing and changing methods of records measurement and quantification, we can estimate that in September 1945 the OSS probably had some 8,100 cubic feet of records. In October 1945, when the OSS was closed down, 1,800 cubic feet were transferred to the State Department and 6,300 cubic feet were transferred to the Strategic Services Unit. These figures are approximate. More precisely, the current Cubic Measurement Report of the National Archives indicates that textual material of the Records of the Office of Strategic Services (Record Group 226) amount to 6,870.6 cubic feet.

The Guide to the National Archives indicates that non-textual records in RG 226 include the following: 7,648 maps and charts, 367 reels of motion pictures, 27 sound recordings and 11,933 still pictures.

PRINCIPAL FINDING AIDS FOR OSS RECORDS

LIST OF ENTRIES - Provides a title line description for each of the 223 entries in OSS (RG 226) records as well as the number of boxes in each entry, stack location, date received and the National Archives accession job number. (Entries 1-86 were accessioned from the State Department; Entries 87-223 were accessioned from the CIA.)

CARD INDEXES FOR R&A REPORTS - Most of the OSS records accessioned from the Department of State consist of unprocessed (raw) intelligence reports. During World War II, the Research and Analysis Branch prepared 3" x 5" card indexes to access these reports. The card indexes are arranged by country and by personal name.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTS - National Archives volunteers have written descriptions, folder by folder, for records accessioned from the CIA's OSS Archives (Entries 87-223) and for some of the entries accessioned from the State Department. To enhance control and access, they have also labeled each of these folders according to record group (RG 226), entry, and folder number.

OSS ARCHIVES INDEXES - These computer printouts of the OSS Database consist of indexes to the above mentioned Box and Folder Lists. For use of researchers, they are arranged by point of origin (home or overseas offices), OSS branch (SO, MO, SI, X-2, etc.), file type (admin, intel, pers, op, etc.), area, associated location, code and mission names, entry, a select subject topical index, and a sort for alpha-numeric files.

INDEXES TO THE OSS WASHINGTON DIRECTOR'S OFFICE RECORDS - Microfilm (M 1642) of the records of Gen. William J. Donovan's office consists of 136 rolls. Description identifies every item at roll and frame level, and the indexes include alpha sorts by subject/topic and by name of correspondent, and a chron-sort by month and year.
LIST AND INDEXES TO STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT (SSU) REPORTS, 1945-46-
Microfilm (M 1656) of the SSU Reports consists of five rolls.

This list does not include all OSS finding aids. A card index, similar to the R&A card
indexes, was compiled by OSS SI (Entry 156) during the war. An index by roll to records
microfilmed (A3304) by Gen. Donovan's office is filed as the folder list for Entry 180.
Finished R&A reports are assigned to RG 59; some are microfilmed (M 1221). Preparation of
a detailed index to the microfilm (M 1623) of the History of the OSS London Office (Entry
91) is in progress. Also in progress is a more detailed index to the box and folder list for the
OSS Washington History Office (entry 99).
NEW KEYS, NEW DOORS: RECENT FINDING AIDS AND ACCESSIONS TO WORLD WAR II RECORDS AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

by

Timothy Mulligan, NARA

The imminent approach of the twenty-first century provides an appropriate context to evaluate research into the most significant event of the twentieth, the Second World War. In their new location at College Park, Md., the World War II holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) have been supplemented by new accessions and new means of intellectual control to facilitate access to their contents. What follows is a status report on new records, finding aids and means of access to World War II textual records as of the beginning of 1999, and an attempt to answer frequent inquiries prompted as much by technological capability as by historical interest.

I. Electronic access through the NARA web site and Internet

For the last several years NARA has offered a preliminary electronic catalog of its holdings, designated NAIL (NARA Archival Information Locator), through its web site (http://www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html). This working prototype for a future online catalog is particularly useful for nontextual materials (which served as the pilot project for NAIL), including detailed series descriptions of still photographs and individual item descriptions of motion pictures and sound recordings. Armed with the name of a World War II subject, location or individual, a researcher may thus access nontextual holdings through the web site with a reasonable chance of locating specific items. Some familiar photographs and selected key documents, accompanied by a small number of maps and sound recordings, have also been digitized for direct web site access.1

For the great mass of textual records, however, limitations of time and resources restricted series-level descriptions (a series is defined as a collection of records unified by a single or common filing scheme) only to newly-accessioned records. As nearly all textual materials pertinent to the war were already in NARA custody prior to the establishment of NAIL, few such descriptions are therefore accessible through the web site. Two exceptions are: (1) records of the Supreme Commander, Allied Powers (SCAP) in Japan, located within Record Group (RG) 331, Records of Allied Operational and Occupation Headquarters, and (2) a series of historical files recently accessioned from the National Security Agency (NSA) for inclusion in RG 457 (see below for additional information). For these series, identifications, date spans, organizational histories and descriptions have been prepared in a consistent format (designated Forms X and Y) intended for use in electronic systems.
Some series descriptions have also been added to NAIL, but the vast majority of remaining materials are generally described by subgroup (e.g., records of offices or agencies that typically comprise several series), arranged by RG number, as published in the recently-revised and republished Guide to Federal Records in the National Archives of the United States, 3 vols. (Washington, DC: NARA, 1995). Copies of all volumes may also be purchased (cost $95 for the set, plus $5 shipping and handling) from the Product Sales Branch (NWCP), National Archives, 8th and Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20408.

With the 1994-95 transfer of World War II records previously held at the downtown Archives building and the Washington National Records Center at Suitland, MD., NARA staff members prepared new or updated agency-originated finding aids keyed to physical locations in the new College Park facility. The nature and extent of these finding aids vary greatly, from annotated box- and folder-lists to summary descriptions that simply identify the file classification scheme used in arrangement. These finding aids are captured electronically for use and updating by NARA staff members but are not available through the website. In part this reflects technical limitations of NAIL, such as inadequate memory space for all present and future finding aids for all record groups. More than this, however, simple subject or topical search terms that can be matched with individual item descriptions among nontexual holdings are inappropriate for summary descriptions of extensive series; a key-word reference commonly used by a contemporary historian (e.g., "Battle of the Bulge" or "Ardennes counteroffensive") would not necessarily appear in the description for an important textual series, even if the latter contained relevant documentation.

On the other hand, copies of electronic finding aids of moderate size have been successfully appended as responses to Internet reference inquiries. Individual NARA staff members contacted by researchers through the Internet have forwarded copies of finding aids appropriate to certain inquiries, but in many cases these have not been received in legible form by the requestor. The causes of such garbling are not clear, but the length of the finding aid may be a factor. Researchers using the Internet may therefore expect the possibility of receiving copies of finding aids, but should not anticipate optimum access by this means.

Technological limitations will hopefully be improved by the planned replacement of NAIL before the end of 1999 by the Archival Research Catalog (ARC). Where NAIL stores record descriptions, for example, ARC will link databases for agency histories, descriptions, physical holdings, and other information. Doubtless this will both expand and facilitate electronic access to NARA holdings.

Yet even a greatly expanded web site and Internet access cannot substitute for a personal, systematic review of pertinent records. This is illustrated by an example from the 1996 accession to the NSA records noted earlier. The "NSA Historic Cryptographic Collection, Pre-World War I through World War II" includes a series description available on
NAIL, as well as a detailed folder list prepared by the agency. Only a personal review by NARA archivists preparing the series description, however, revealed that the folder entitled "German Navy: U-Boat Logs" actually comprised excised pages of the war diary of U-Boat Command (Befehlshaber der Unterseeboote, or BdU), January 1943-March 1944, relating to cryptographic matters. These pages, previously unknown and unavailable for general research, included proof that the German Abwehr broke the ULTRA secret to German naval authorities in early August 1943, a vital piece of intelligence history otherwise buried in a location neither identified by the accompanying finding aid nor accessible electronically.2

II. Status of NARA World War II Guide

From late 1988 through early 1994, the author served as the compiler of the Guide to Records Relating to U.S. Military Participation in World War II, a comprehensive guide intended both to supplement and largely replace the descriptions in the 1950 National Archives publication Guide to Federal Records of World War II, Vol. II: Military Agencies. The new guide was planned as a single-volume publication, but its size and budgetary considerations ultimately led to the decision to publish it in sequential parts. In contrast to similar NARA topical guides arranged solely by RG number, this guide is organized into fourteen subject chapters (e.g., "Strategy and Policy," "Intelligence," "War at Sea," "Ground War in Northwest Europe"), each of which is thereunder arranged by record group. Within each of the latter, records are described at the series level and often include examples of specific topics documented. In all, the guide identifies pertinent holdings among more than sixty record groups, totaling over 200,000 cubic feet of records. The delay in publication perhaps limited the guide's use in the immediate aftermath of the 50th anniversary of the war's end, but this also allowed the subsequent inclusion of descriptions of later accessions of records, particularly the NSA Historic Collection already noted and a large quantity of U.S. Navy records transferred from the Naval Historical Center's Operational Archives in 1996.

Part I: Policy Planning, and Administration, containing the guide's first three chapters, was published in 1996. Part II: Supply and Support (Chapters 4-6) appeared just before the end of 1998. Part III, which will include Chapters VII ("The Role of Science and Technology"), VIII ("Intelligence"), and XIV ("The Prosecution of War Crimes") is tentatively scheduled for publication before the end of 1999. Each volume includes a separate index and appendices that explain the filing classification schemes used by the War and Navy Departments during the conflict. Both parts are accessible through the NARA website; bound copies are also available at a cost of $16 from the Product Sales Branch.

The remainder of the guide will be probably require three more parts over a period of several years. These will emphasize World War II combat operations, with the sea and air war, ground operations in the European theater, and ground operations in all other theaters providing the focus of the remaining volumes. It is probable, however, that the text of these volumes will be available electronically through the NARA website sometime after the establishment of the ARC catalog.
III. New Developments in Captured German Records

Ironically, some of the most significant recent developments pertain to a segment of NARA’s World War II holdings many researchers have long since considered closed. The quantity of microfilmed German records located in RG 242, the National Archives Collection of Foreign Records Seized, 1942-, more than doubled in size in 1994-96 with the accession of 39,000 microfilm rolls reproducing the biographic collections of the former Berlin Document Center (BDC). Following the BDC’s termination in 1994, the originals of these records were restituted to the Bundesarchiv, where they are available for research but subject to German privacy restrictions. By contrast, the microfilm duplicates may be reviewed and copied at College Park without reservation.

In addition to series descriptions and roll lists, a fairly comprehensive finding aid for all the names that appear or which are repeated in most of the various BDC biographic collections exists in the form of a computer database, prepared by the BDC staff prior to the facility’s termination. This requires, however, a conversion from the original German software program to an electronic medium that can be used to maximum effect by NARA staff and research public alike. NARA is now working on this conversion and hopes to offer access to the database later in 1999. In addition to the biographic collections, a number of original textual records held at the former BDC were transferred to NARA custody in 1995. Most comprised records pertaining to denazification actions during the 1945-49 period by the Office of Military Government, U.S. (OMGUS), but included approximately 25 cu. ft. of Nazi-era German original documents: membership lists of the Nazi Party and affiliated organizations in specific towns or locales, local histories of the Nazi Party, correspondence of the German chapters of the International Red Cross and the Young Mens' Christian Association relating to conditions in prisoner-of-war and concentration camps, and some materials of a private German firm under contract with the Luftwaffe for the supply of specific parts. Over the course of 1997-98, these original records were described and microfilmed prior to restitution to the Bundesarchiv. Filmed with them were a variety of German military records (totaling ca. 20 cu. ft.) in NARA custody omitted from previous filming or description due to security classifications or loans to the Army Center of Military History. These included German Army regional district (Wehrkreis) records relating to low-level tactical ciphers used by the Wehrmacht during the late 1930s and interwar studies of French and Czech military intelligence, together with a scattering of Army Groups Center and South (Heeresgruppen Mitte und Sud) operational and intelligence records relevant to the initial period of the German invasion of the USSR.

All of these materials were filmed as rolls 441-489 of National Archives Microfilm Publication T84, “Miscellaneous German Records Collection,” and are described in the forthcoming Guides to German Records Microfilmed at Alexandria, V: No. 98, scheduled for publication later this year. The microfilm rolls and the accompanying draft descriptions, however, are already available for use and reproduction at College Park.
Finally, NARA has at last begun revision of its finding aids to German Navy records reproduced on the more than 4,500 rolls of National Archives Microfilm Publication T1022. Except for two specific guides prepared by NARA for records of German U-boat operations in both world wars, the only general finding aid consists of accession lists prepared at the time of filming by the U.S. Navy, arranged by roll number and providing little description. As records for individual German Navy commands and warships were disarranged when filmed, the lists are inadequate for ready identification of pertinent microfilm locations.

Since early 1996, this situation has been improved by the preparation of revised finding aids, arranged by German Navy organizational hierarchy and thereunder chronologically. The first product is German Navy Guide No. 3, “Records of the German Naval High Command 1935-1945,” a guide to the available records of the Navy Commander-in-Chief and of the Seekriegsleitung, scheduled for publication in spring 1999. In addition, descriptions have been completed for discrete collections of navy records from both world wars, e.g., war diaries of German warships, fleet commands and subordinate formations, and regional commands. In time these separate descriptions will be combined into future guides, but they are currently available for use in both paper and electronic format.

Thus, new records have been added to NARA's World War II holdings, and new finding aids are available or are in preparation to facilitate greatly intellectual access to these and older collections. Technological advances, moreover, guarantee enhanced access to finding aids in the future. Yet such advances imply a risk to researchers: the false assurance that mastery of access and control of the records' contents has been gained. For no finding aid, no matter how sophisticated, can ever substitute for painstaking physical review of the records themselves.

NOTES

1 The best description of special media records pertaining to the conflict, however, remains NARA Reference Information Paper 70 (Revised), Audiovisual Records in the National Archives of the United States Relating to World War II (Washington, DC: NARA, 1992).

2 The specific item is identified as ZEMA 06 36419A in the NSA Historic Cryptographic Collection, Pre-World War I through World War II, RG 457, NARA. Its significance is noted in the accompanying Format X series description available through the NAIL web site.

3 These are Guides to the Microfilmed Records of the German Navy, 1850-1945, Received from the Naval Historical Division, No. 1: “Records of U-Boats and T-Boats, 1914-1918” (Washington, DC, 1984), and No. 2: “Records Relating to U-Boat Warfare, 1939-1945” (Washington, DC, 1985). These cover, however, a total of perhaps only 300 rolls of Microfilm Publication T1022.
World War II Era Archive in the Heart of America:
The Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
by
David Haight, Dwight D. Eisenhower Library

A few years ago an author of several books on World War II and the veteran of more than one trip to the Eisenhower Library commented: "Abilene, Kansas, site of the Eisenhower Library, is not easy to get to; it requires a long flight and a long drive, to a town with sparse accommodation. Yet a Klondike of material exists there."

When talking to travel weary scholars, I emphasize the existence of the "Klondike of material" while pointing out that the cost of living is lower in central Kansas than in most other parts of the United States. Therefore, researchers, upon recognizing the research opportunities present at the Eisenhower Library, may decide it is worth the trip, realizing they may be able to afford to stay longer there than in many other places.

The Dwight D. Eisenhower Library was originally conceived as a museum and memorial to honor General Dwight Eisenhower and the soldiers who served under him during World War II. Since Eisenhower went on to serve two terms as President of the United States, his papers are now housed in a library emphasizing the history of his presidential administration. Nevertheless, General Eisenhower's service in World War II has not been forgotten. While the Eisenhower Foundation implemented plans to develop the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Eisenhower himself, along with many of his friends, military associates and admirers, endeavored to collect materials relating to World War II. These efforts bore fruit, and from its beginning, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library achieved recognition as a major source of documentation for the history of World War II. Almost from the time the Library opened for research in 1966, the staff began publicizing the Library's research potential for historians studying the Second World War and continues to do so by hosting conferences and lectures, presenting papers and publishing books and articles.

The Library, beginning with a few core collections of presidential and pre-presidential papers and individual bodies of personal papers, has, over the years, added significantly to its holdings, including those pertaining to World War II. At present, some 110 of the Library's 400 plus collections contain information relating to the war. Many of these collections have been opened to research within the last fifteen years.

First let us look at collections which are commonly known to be held by the Library, namely Dwight Eisenhower's Pre-Presidential Papers and the papers of officers serving with Eisenhower during the War. Dwight Eisenhower's Pre-Presidential Papers, known at the Library as the "1916-52 File," have long constituted a key source of information for scholars working on Eisenhower's military career and the functioning of his combined operational commands, Allied Forces Headquarters (AFHQ) and Supreme Headquarters, Allied
Expeditionary Force (SHAWE). The “1916-52 File,” mined extensively by the research staff of the Johns Hopkins University Eisenhower Papers Project, which produced the five-volume compilation of Eisenhower’s letters titled The Papers of Dwight David Eisenhower: The War Years, is described in an excellent essay on sources in Volume V of this publication as well as in some of the articles cited in footnote 2.

A few points should be made concerning this workhorse collection. First of all, most World War II-era documents in the “1916-52 File” are now declassified, with the exception of a handful pertaining to intelligence sources or cover and deception. The finding aid is at present not user-friendly; consequently, thorough searching is necessary to locate many items. The staff is currently revising this finding aid while at the same time endeavoring through the production of in-house search reports and, occasionally more extensive topical guides to gain better intellectual control over this rich collection.

Careful searching for nuggets can be done with the Butcher Diary, which is part of General Eisenhower’s Pre-Presidential Papers. Most scholars working on the history of World War II in Europe are familiar with the version of this diary published in 1946 by Captain Harry C. Butcher, General Eisenhower’s naval aide, titled My Three Years with Eisenhower. Captain Butcher did not, however, publish the diary in its entirety. The following is Butcher’s published explanation for the Allied defeat at Kasserine Pass (Sidi-bou-Zid) in February 1943:

He [Eisenhower in a press conference] did not mention the real reason I suspect we got caught: the misinterpretation of a previously reliable intelligence from the Germans which indicated that the attack in the Sidi-bou-Zid area was to be merely a feint and that the real blow was to be struck farther north against the British. This information influenced General Anderson to hold armor in reserve while the main punch actually came in the Sidi-bou-Zid sector. 3

Captain Butcher’s unpublished diary covers the same incident as follows:

An explanation of the defeat, as seen by Ike, lies in a misinterpretation of radio messages we regularly intercept from the enemy. This source is known as “ULTRA”. It happens that our G-2, Brigadier Mockler-Ferryman, relies heavily upon this source. It has frequently disclosed excellent information as to the intentions of the Axis. However, the interpretation placed by G-2 on the messages dealing with the place of attack, an attack that has been expected several days - led Mockler-Ferryman to believe a feint would be made where the attack actually occurred through Sidi Bou Zid, and that the real and heavy attack would come farther north. Our reconnaissances and air observations plainly showed the massing of tanks and troops, presumably for attack, in the Sidi-Bou Zid area, but did not show considerable additional forces,
particularly tanks, which had been cleverly hidden. Basing his judgment on the reliability of ULTRA, Mockler-Ferryman was confident the main attack would come to the north. As a result, General Anderson kept in reserve approximately half of the First Armored Division to meet an attack that never came. The result was that the other half of the First Armored Division was chewed up by overwhelming forces, particularly by Mark VI tanks (Tigers).  

According to Captain Butcher’s diary, Eisenhower thought Mock (Mockler-Ferryman) relied too heavily upon one source of information: the intercepts. Later in the same entry, Butcher commented on “the intercept of the German message [stating] that the American troops have shown poor fighting quality, which reflects also on all the officers, [I] wish it could be made known to every one of our men and officers at the front.”

Captain Butcher’s specific reference to ULTRA is unusual because at the time this type of intelligence was so closely guarded that virtually no other documents pertaining to it were retained in General Eisenhower’s World War II files or the files of his staff. The Library has subsequently acquired copies of a very few documents regarding ULTRA, including George Marshall’s letter of March 15, 1944 that outlined the use of ULTRA in General Eisenhower’s area of responsibility. References to MAGIC are also rarely found in these papers, although General Marshall did mention it in a message sent to Eisenhower in January 1944.

These references to ULTRA and MAGIC, found in two of the Library’s most heavily used World War II-related collections, should hint at the need for thorough coverage of even those files that have long been open to research at the Library. In addition to Eisenhower’s own papers and the Walter Bedell Smith Collection of World War II Documents, the Eisenhower Library holds the papers of such officers as Henry Auran, Simon Bolivar Buckner (diary), Harold Bull, Edwin Clark, J. Lawton Collins, Gilbert Cook, Norman Cota, Courtney Hodges, Lauris Norstad, Floyd Parks, and Charles Ryder along with Walter Bedell Smith’s personal papers. Some of these collections, most notably the Buckner Diary and the papers of Collins, Cook and Norstad, have been opened to research within the last 10 years and consequently offer materials not available to scholars who may have visited the Library before 1988. For example, J. Lawton Collins’s papers document his service as Commander, 25th Infantry Division during campaigns in Guadalcanal and New Georgia in the South Pacific as well as his role in Allied combat operations in Normandy and elsewhere in Northwest Europe. The photocopy of the diary kept by Simon Bolivar Buckner contains General Buckner’s personal observations on his service in Alaska and in the Pacific, especially the Okinawa campaign, in which General Buckner lost his life. Gilbert Cook served in several posts during the war, including commander of XII Corps and deputy commander of the Third Army, 1943-44, before poor health forced his return to non-combat duty in the U.S. As deputy to George Patton, Cook apparently had a good working relationship with his more renowned boss. The Cook-Patton correspondence, spanning the period 1944-45, covers a variety of topics, including Patton’s thoughts on his tactics and their
possible use against the Japanese, combat operations, and Cook’s comments regarding the role of women in the military.

General Lauris Norstad’s papers cover aspects of World War II from General Norstad’s perspective as assistant chief of staff for Operations, 12th Air Force, director of operations for the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces and as chief of staff, 20th Air Force, 1944-45. Norstad’s papers contain reports on air operations in Torch, operations in Italy and over Ploesti, a history of FRANTIC (the American shuttle bombing to and from Russian bases) and finally plans and operations conducted against Japan in 1944-45. One can find memoranda reflecting the thinking of General Norstad and other air officers on incendiary bombing of Japanese cities and the possibility of bombing the Japanese imperial palace, along with such items as a report on the ancient monuments of Italy.

The library also holds the papers of such naval officers as John D. Bulkeley and William Outerbridge and staff officers such as Ray Barker, Harold Bull and Thomas Jefferson Davis. All of these contain material useful to historians of the Second World War. As for the civilian side, the Library holds a number of important collections. These include the papers of Jacqueline Cochran, Eleanor Lansing Dulles, Clarence Frances, Arthur Flemming, C. D. Jackson, Elizabeth Phillips, Franklin Stone and Paul Sturman.

The papers of Jacqueline Cochran contain 228 feet of documents from the career of this famous aviatrix, including her activities during World War II. As early as 1941, Ms. Cochran endeavored to persuade the United States War Department to organize a Women’s Air Corps as an auxiliary to the men’s air corps. According to Ms. Cochran, in 1941 there were over 2,000 licensed women pilots who could be affiliated with the armed forces in ferrying, planes, equipment and pilots from factory, to field and to places of maintenance. As head of the Women’s Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs), she supervised the training of over 1,000 women, many of whom performed distinguished services. Ms. Cochran’s papers contain her correspondence with Henry Arnold and others within the War Department, a memorandum of a conversation and other documentation regarding a meeting with Colonel Oveta Culp Hobby covering plans for use of women in the Army Air Forces, and documentation of life in the WASP training program in Sweetwater, Texas. Because of the rich and varied documentation contained in Ms. Cochran’s papers, the Library can readily point to this collection as a potentially rich source of information for social historians as well as historians of World War II and of aviation in general.

Arthur Flemming, known by many for his service in the Eisenhower Administration as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, or perhaps by some as Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization prior to becoming HEW Secretary, served on the United States Civil Service Commission during World War II. In this capacity Flemming worked with management-labor policy committees, the National Labor Supply Committee, the War Manpower Commission and served on the Secretary of War’s Council on Civilian Personnel. Flemming handled problems involving housing for government employees in Washington,
the employment of Japanese Americans, Blacks and women in the war effort and the retraining of returning veterans for employment in the post-war economy. The numerous committee meeting minutes and related memoranda contained in the Flemming Papers constitute a potentially useful source for the social historian.9

There are some collections of personal papers that are unusual even in relation to the Eisenhower Library’s diverse holdings. These are the papers of Claude Boillot, Frank Stone and Paul Sturman. The Boillot papers probably constitute the closest thing the Eisenhower Library has to a “cloak and dagger” collection. Boillot was a member of the British Special Service during the war, when he used the code name “Colonel S. C. Drinkwater,” and parachuted several times into German-occupied France, especially in Brittany prior to D-Day to coordinate resistance there with Allied plans. Mr. Boillot’s papers document some of his activities. Included here are materials outlining characteristics of agents, references to contacts with communists and other groups, reports on operations in Brittany and in the Bulge, lists of German industrial personalities, notes on crossing the Swiss frontier, memoranda regarding recruitment of agents in areas such as Luxembourg, handwritten notes on intelligence needs and numerous messages from Drinkwater. Seventeen items totaling forty-one pages relating to certain aspects of intelligence methodology still remaining classified after recent review.

Franklin Stone, as supervisor in the sabotage section, FBI Headquarters, during the war knew about cloak and dagger operations. His section took charge of a case involving eight Nazi saboteurs who landed on Long Island and at Jacksonville, Florida in 1942. Stone retained in his collection copies of documents detailing the capture and interrogation of these eight saboteurs, six of whom were executed within a short time after capture. The interrogations recorded in this documentation reveal the saboteurs’ plans to disrupt production at aluminum and magnesium plants.

Paul Sturman’s Papers are a recent (1993) addition to the Library’s significant holdings regarding psychological warfare and propaganda during World War II. Sturman’s papers pertain to his work in the Foreign Language Division of the Office of War Information (OWI), where he monitored activities of ethnic groups in the United States primarily from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia. This collection spans the period 1940-45 and includes memoranda, publications, correspondence, weekly activity reports, radio scripts, and foreign language publications. Of possible interest are items in these papers originated by Sturman’s supervisor, Alan Cranston, a future United States Senator from California. Other materials which should be noted include a report on conditions of Poles and Jews in Polish concentration camps in the summer of 1942, perhaps the earliest Holocaust-related documents in the Library’s holdings.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the war, the Library established a special World War II archives that focuses on actual wartime experiences of soldiers and civilians, overseas in all theaters and on the homefront as well.10 As of July 1998, the Library has...
received thousands of pages of letters, diaries, V-mail, photographs, memorabilia and other printed material from over 360 donors nationwide, titled “World War II Participants and Contemporaries: Papers.” This collection covers such diverse topics as service in WAC detachments, personal letters from a soldier stationed at Dachau that reflect his observations on the horrors of this camp, a captured album of good quality photographs and German text on Adolf Hitler, unit histories, POW information and even a bit of intelligence, as one donor served with the OSS in Greece. This collection offers the opportunity to view World War II from the perspective of the many soldiers and civilians who served rather than from the high-level perspective of the Supreme Allied Commander, General Eisenhower, or his staff and army commanders.

The Library holds many other collections of personal papers that document the human side of the war. For instance, the Papers of Thurman Erickson contain the diaries of this Pan American Airways executive who was interned in the Philippines by the Japanese from December 11, 1941 to February 3, 1945. Mr. Erickson’s diaries, which he concealed from the Japanese, describe daily existence for this civilian under Japanese custody. Typically, entries cover news and rumors about the war, work, diet, health conditions and life in the Santo Tomas University Internment Camp in general and include comments on Japanese rules and procedures.

Presidential libraries such as the Eisenhower Library serve historians by preserving personal collections which often contain correspondence, diaries and other materials not likely to be found elsewhere. Such personal collections are sources of information for biographers, social historians and other scholars. But the Eisenhower Library’s research potential for scholars studying World War II is also enhanced by its sizeable holdings of duplicate records, some in paper and others in microfilm formats.

The highest level body of duplicate records relating to World War II in the Library’s holdings is the set of microfilm copies of the Records of the Secretary of the General Staff, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF, SGS). Sixty reels of microfilm contain copies of forty-four cubic feet of the cream of the crop of the large body of SHAEF records held by the National Archives in Record Group 331. This SHAEF SGS file includes most papers brought to the immediate attention of General Eisenhower or his Chief of Staff plus other papers which they might have needed for consultation. The value of this collection to researchers was boosted by the recent declassification of copies of 667 frames requested through the Library from its microfilm set. Materials previously declassified in the SHAEF SGS files in Record Group 331 and available on microfilm at the Library include several versions of BODYGUARD deception plans used in connection with OVERLORD, reports and messages concerning SHAEF interactions with Soviet military and political authorities, reports on Operation CROSSBOW and much more. The SHAEF SGS microfilm collection is supplemented by a four-reel set of copies of documents filmed from the Records of SHAEF, Office of G-3 (Harold Bull) and by eighteen feet of paper copies of SHAEF Selected Records.
Another major body of duplicate records comprises the collection titled “Dwight D. Eisenhower Library: Collection of 20th Century Military Records, 1918-50.” These records consist of seven series totaling forty-nine linear feet, including a series of Air University historical studies on various aspects of aerial warfare during World War II, a series called “Library Reference Publications” covering U.S. military command, operational and organizational functions within the United States as well as in different theaters, plus a series consisting primarily of OSS Research and Analysis Branch studies of Germany and occupied Europe, used by the European Advisory Commission. The Library Reference Publications cover topics ranging from plans for Allied invasion of Japan to military logistics, medical, personnel and supply matters.

The collection known as the U.S. Army Unit Records is comprised of 696 feet of duplicate paper copies of organizational and operational records compiled by individual U.S. Army divisions and many of their regimental components. Supplementing these paper records are about 200 reels of microfilmed copies of records of the 82nd Airborne Division, the 1st Armored Division, the 1st Infantry Division and the 4th Infantry Division. These records cover units which served in the Pacific as well as the European Theaters of operations and include much material on occupation duties and experiences of many units in Germany, Japan and Korea after the war.

Any survey of the Eisenhower Library’s holdings on World War II would be incomplete without coverage of the Library’s audio-visual collection. The Eisenhower Library holds over 300,000 still photographs, 600 motion picture films (16, 35 and 8 mm) about 200 videotapes and over 26,700 audio tapes and discs. While much of this pertains to Eisenhower’s presidency or other aspects of his career, much on World War II can be found here as well. Particularly worth mentioning are the numerous photographs taken by the U.S. Army Signal Corps depicting campaign actions in North Africa, Italy and Northwest Europe, including many OVERLORD-related actions. Also found here are photographs relating to the careers of many individuals, such as Ruth Briggs, Walter Bedell Smith’s secretary during the war, Captain Harry Butcher, A Dayton Clark (useful for the Mulberry and Gooseberry artificial harbors), Courtney Hodges, C. D. Jackson, Elwood Quesada, and Walter Bedell Smith, to name only a few. Cartographic research in the Library’s World War II map collection is also possible, since many kinds of maps ranging from detailed topographic maps prepared by the U.S. Army to those printed by the National Geographic Society are available here.

As president, Eisenhower drew upon his experience as Supreme Allied Commander during the war. Thus, his Presidential and Post-Presidential Papers must also be considered important sources of information on the war. In April 1960, a prominent diplomatic historian, Dr. Herbert Feis, interviewed President Eisenhower in the Oval Office with the discussion covering Allied strategy in Europe, relations with Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Union, and various personalities. A memorandum of this meeting is available for research in Dwight Eisenhower’s Papers as President (Ann Whitman File). This, along with a few
scattered Eisenhower letters in his Presidential and Post-Presidential Papers, constitutes the record of Eisenhower’s expressed opposition to the use of the atomic bombs against Japan.\textsuperscript{12}

World War II-related correspondence can be found scattered throughout the President’s Papers and Post-Presidential Papers. The White House Central Files contains a file of memoranda pertaining to consideration of clemency for Japanese soldiers convicted of war crimes along with descriptions of the crimes for which they were convicted and recommendations by the War Clemency Board concerning possible parole. There are also comments and reminiscences about World War II events and personalities sprinkled throughout his Presidential Papers. Finding aids to these papers indicate information on such matters as Eisenhower’s comments on Bernard Montgomery’s own memoirs, Eisenhower’s recollection of his refusal to accept a Congressional Medal of Honor, his remarks about his relationship with George Marshall, his views on Russian intervention in the Pacific War in 1945, correspondence with Lord Ismay regarding Winston Churchill and World War II strategy, and a memorandum from John Foster Dulles regarding World War II POWs retained in the Soviet Union.

Eisenhower’s Post-Presidential Papers are, likewise, a good source of information on Eisenhower’s retrospective views on personalities, issues and events. An examination of these papers will find references to myriad issues and personalities, such as Eddie Slovik, George Patton, Arthur Tedder, Bernard Montgomery, OVERLORD, Kasserine Pass, the Wehrmacht, strategy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union, Nazi war criminals, the Holocaust, racial integration of the U.S. Army, plus drafts for a planned book on the Anglo-American alliance.

The Library routinely prepares reports listing researchers using the Library each month and their topics. An examination of these monthly reports for the period 1990 through August 1998, shows that slightly over 3000 researchers used the Library during this period and just under 500 of them focused on World War II for at least part of their research. According to these records, a diverse group of people came to the Library, including university faculty members, graduate and undergraduate students, professional writers, high school and middle school students, retired veterans, genealogists, museum exhibits specialists, official government historians, senior citizens participating in the Library’s Elderhostel programs, journalists and TV producers. These diverse users have worked on a variety of topics, such as military strategy, transportation and logistics, studies of specific battles and campaigns such as OVERLORD, the Ardennes, TORCH and the North African campaign, Mediterranean operations, biographies of individuals such as Eisenhower, George Patton, Courtney Hodges, Jacqueline Cochran and others, treatment of prisoners of war, the Holocaust, the impact of ULTRA on the Allied war effort, personal research on many individual units, and recently an examination of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) and its use of Jedburgh teams in conducting covert warfare.

The Library staff continues to solicit personal papers of individuals who participated in the war at all levels and in any theater of operations or the homefront. The solicitation
program has been so successful that at present the Library has received more collections, including many for the World War II era, than it has been able to process. The largest of these are the Records of the Darby Corporation, an industrial manufacturing company in Kansas City, which during the war produced landing craft for the United States Navy, and the personal papers of Harry Darby, which span the years 1925-1985. The Darby Corporation Records occupy 168 linear feet of space, while Mr. Darby's personal papers occupy 546 linear feet. Because of the size of these collections and the limited staff time available for manuscript processing, it may be some time before these collections can be opened for research, but in the future scholars may find useful information reflecting the nation's war production efforts in these collections. Other unprocessed collections not yet available to the public include the papers of Tom Coughran, a civil affairs officer in SHAEF; a small World War II file in the papers of Alfred Gruenther who served as Chief of Staff, 5th Army in the Mediterranean Theater; the papers of Justus Lawrence, a public affairs officer in SHAEF; and the papers of Edward K. Moss, an officer in the United States Navy during the war. In short, the Library staff still has much work to do to make its World War II holdings fully available for public use.

While declassification, reviewing under the terms of donor deeds of gift and other processing activities continues, research does too. Although the literature on World War II is enormous, research in this era still goes on, and public interest in World War II appears to be remaining high. Many topics can be fruitfully explored at the Eisenhower Library. Some of these may be considered conventional, such as studies focusing on General Eisenhower himself: his career, strategic thinking, command decisions, and the functioning of his combined operational headquarters, Allied Forces Headquarters (AFHQ) and Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF). Also possible is a study of the interaction between SHAEF and the Soviet Union. The papers of aviatrix Jacqueline Cochran constitute one popular but still not fully explored source for the social historian. Mobilizing and using the United States' manpower during the war along with planning for demobilization and retraining in preparation for the nation's return to post-war life is worth exploring in the Papers of Arthur Flemming, with its minutes of War Manpower Committee meetings and similar documentation. Information on the experiences of African-Americans can be found in many collections, such as the Alvan Gillam Collection re the Gillem Board and the papers of Courtney Hodges. Biographers have many subjects to choose from in the Library's many collections of personal papers. Perhaps the controversy aroused a few years ago by the publication of Canadian writer James Bacque's Other Losses has died down, but his topic, the treatment of POWs during World War II, is one that still bears study. Food shortages exacerbated the harsh conditions which POWs as well as displaced persons experienced at the end of the war; the papers of Dennis FitzGerald document his work on U.S. Department of Agriculture and UN Food Relief Commissions in 1945-46.

Thus, even as World War II passes further into history, the diverse resources of the Eisenhower Library can serve to stimulate interest in understanding this most violent and socially transforming of wars. Archival processing will make additional materials available.
within the next few years. As interested citizens of many countries including veterans, relatives of veterans, scholars and other interested members of the public seek information to add to their understanding of the war, the Eisenhower Library will continue to be one of the primary research centers for the study of World War II.

**NOTES**


5Ibid.


7Memorandum, Jacqueline Cochran to Assistant Secretary of War for Air, undated, Letter, Cochran to Colonel Robert Olds, War Department, July 20, 1941, and undated preliminary outline of organization, Women’s Auxiliary Air Corps by Cochran, Box 1, WASP Series, Papers of Jacqueline Cochran.

9See the Minutes of a War Manpower Commission Meeting on October 7, 1942. These minutes record a discussion of the employment characteristics of Japanese evacuees under the War Relocation Authority, categorizing these people as agriculturalists, workers in retail, domestic service and sugar beet farming. The minutes mention fear of persecution as a deterrent to acceptance of work by Japanese-Americans and outline War Relocation Authority efforts to overcome this fear. File Folder: “CSC: War Manpower Commission--Minutes (7),” Box 52, Papers of Arthur Flemming.


World War II on the Web

A Quick Look

by Mark P. Parillo

Just as the telephone did not replace written correspondence, the new arena of cyberspace will not prove to be a substitute for the book and the library. Nevertheless, the telephone did affect the manner in which we use the postal letter, and it seems clear that the electronic medium will alter in some ways our scholarly endeavors. Indeed, it has had some impact already, and its influence is apt to grow in the coming years. It therefore behooves us to develop some grasp of what meaning the Internet is likely to have for our efforts as historians and teachers. But the “virtual” domain of the World Wide Web can be overwhelming to the newcomer and nearly as confusing and trackless even to the more experienced “surfer.” In the hope that simple beginnings may lead to bigger and better things, this article presents a brief look at the Web from the perspective of a student of the World War II era.

This can only be an introduction, but perhaps the reader can gain some feel for what is available via the Web by looking at a sampling of sites. Though others might disagree with the typology used here, this article has tried to categorize World War II Web sites into several major groups. Bear in mind that the specific sites mentioned are only a few examples of what is available. There are literally tens of thousands of sites devoted to one or more facets of World War II, so no article of this length could ever pretend to present a comprehensive survey. Also, remember that many sites might properly fall into more than one of the selected categories.

While this article attempts to highlight many sites that are useful for research, there are also some categories of Web sites that may be of assistance with teaching or other public presentations.

1. Reference

   1. Books
      
      http://www.amazon.com/
      http://www.barnesandnoble.com/
      These are commercial sites for ordering books, but they can also be used as an expeditious reference for recent publications. Both sites feature quick search engines, trade reviews, and links to related works or subject areas.

   2. Dictionaries
      
      http://www.facstaff.bucknell.edu/rbeard/diction.html
      The site has hundreds of dictionaries, including over 150 foreign language dictionaries. It also has grammar books for nearly one hundred languages, including multiple grammar books for
most major languages. There are also many specialized dictionaries for various professions, including dictionaries or glossaries for such topics as railroads, geography, military terms, and economics. Some biographical dictionaries are included. In addition, the site contains dozens of thesauri and other vocabulary aids.

3. Naval Vessel Register
   The Naval Vessel Register lists important data for all commissioned U.S. Navy vessels. The site contains a search engine for rapid location of ships by type or name.

4. U.S. Navy and Coast Guard Losses, 1940-45
   http://metalab.unc.edu/hyperwar/USN/ships/ship-losses.html
   The site lists all Navy and Coast Guard vessels lost in World War II in a tabular format, with an entry for each ship that contains the vessel's name, date of commissioning, date and circumstances of its loss, and a link to basic ship's data.

5. U.S. Navy Chronology, World War II
   http://metalab.unc.edu/hyperwar/USN/index.html#ops
   A fairly detailed chronology of U.S. Navy events, including administrative as well as operational notes. Below is a sample covering a few days in early 1944. Entries for dates of major operations are substantially lengthier.

   02/07 Mon. Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, is declared secured. Submarine NARWHAL (SS-167), delivers supplies and evacuates certain personnel from near Balatong Point, Negros, P. I.
   02/08 Tue. United States naval vessel damaged: Destroyer LUDLOW (DD-438), by coastal defense gun, Italian area, 41 d. 28' N., 12 d. 30' E.
   02/10 Thu. Aircraft from carrier task group (Rear Adm. S. P. Ginder) bomb enemy installations on Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands; similar strikes are made on 11 and 12 February. United States naval vessel damaged: LST 170, by horizontal bomber, eastern New Guinea area, 08 d. 39' S., 148 d. 27' E. Japanese naval vessel sunk: Destroyer MINEKAZE, by submarine POGY (SS-266), off Formosa, 23 d. 12' N., 121 d. 30' E.

6. Canadian Book of Remembrance
   http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/books/ww2/ww2main.htm
   Facsimile reproduction of the Canadian Book of Remembrance for World War II. Contains the names of every Canadian soldier who died in World War II.

7. Special Operations Code Names
   This site lists the code and cover names used by U.S. Army Special Operations Forces in the European Theater of Operations.
8. Holocaust Organizations
   http://mtdata.ushmm.org/ad/

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Web site contains an international directory of organizations in Holocaust education, remembrance, and research. A search engine allows for rapid identification of such organizations by name or geographic location. For example, a search of “Greece” yielded nine entries, such as the following:

**Jewish Museum of Greece**
36 Amalila Avenue
Athens GR 105 58
Phone: 30 1 322 5582
Fax: 30-01-32-31-577
Contacts: Stefanos Rozanis Prof.
Comments: Est. ’77. Volunteer staff: 6, salaried staff: 5. Opening hrs.: daily, except Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Type of organization: museum. Services: exhibits, travelling exhibitions, concerts, guided tours etc. Remarks: The museum is dedicated to the Jewish communities of Greece.

**Union of Jewish Holocaust Survivors of Greece**
13 Korkinaki Street
Athens 14561
Phone: 30-19-750-75-19-433

9. U-boats
   http://uboat.net/

Assembled and edited by Gudmundur Helgason, an Icelander with great personal enthusiasm for the subject, this site contains the equivalent of more than 2,500 pages of graphics and text on the subject of German submarines. Histories of every U-boat and every U-boat captain are presented, as well as technical information on submarines, anti-submarine weapons, codebreaking, and almost any imaginable topic related to the U-boats. Photographs, drawings, maps, boat art, and other graphics abound. Annotations on historical works in the field are not scholarly, and there are areas devoted to the interests of gamers and hobbyists, but this is nevertheless a handy reference site on a broad topic.

II. Library Catalogs

It is a rare library today that does not have a Web site, and most also have their catalogs online. Therefore, the list below mentions only a few exceptionally extensive or useful on-line library catalogs.

1. Library of Congress
   http://lcweb.loc.gov/catalog/

The Library of Congress on-line catalog has several search modes available. Not all catalog
databases are available all the time due to the constant demands of updating (the Library of Congress acquires 31,000 new items per day), but most are accessible on weekdays and during standard business hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Especially helpful to researchers is the "browse" search engine. As the LOC page describes it:

Use fill-in forms through the World Wide Web to browse and then select from alphabetical indexes for the Library's catalogs, including subject cross references. Browse by subject, author (personal, corporate), conference, title, series, Library of Congress Classification (partial call number), Dewey Decimal Number. Also, search for exact standard numbers like International Standard Book Number (ISBN), International Standard Serial Number (ISSN), and Library of Congress Control Number.

2. U.S. Navy Department Library
   The U.S. Navy Department Library has 150,000 volumes and the world's greatest concentration of writings on the U.S. Navy.

3. Harvard University Library
   http://hplus.harvard.edu/hollischoices.html
   HOLLIS (Harvard On-Line Library Information System) has several databases and indices in addition to its on-line catalog.

4. Australian Force Defence Academy
   Aside from full listings of holdings, this site allows subject searches on the chapter and sub-chapter level as well as by whole books. For example, a chapter and sub-chapter search for "Gavutu" produced the following entries:

   Ware, Leonard. The landing in the Solomons, 7-8 August 1942. (Washington [D.C.]: Naval Historical Center, Dept. of the Navy, 1994)

   Loxton, Bruce; Coulthard-Clark, C. D. (Christopher David). The shame of Savo: anatomy of a naval disaster. (St. Leonards, N.S.W. Allen & Unwin, 1994)


5. Air University Library
   http://132.60.136.133:8002/
   The Air University Library has an extensive collection of volumes on aerial warfare and air power history. Also on-line are a number of bibliographies on subjects such as Claire L. Chennault, William F. Halsey, Giulio Douhet, the Battle of Midway, and Allied air and sea
campaigns against Japan in World War II. The site also has links to about seventy-five professional military journals, some of which carry full-text articles.

III. Archival Listings and Finding Aids

Planning research trips and writing grant proposals have become much easier now that many archives and other records repositories have constructed Web sites with series descriptions, finding aids, container lists, and other types of inventories of their holdings. The archivist and librarian remain the researcher’s best resource, but uploaded information on a repository’s onto Web site about its holdings allows much preliminary spadework to be done from one’s desktop, thus enabling the archival staff to devote more time to projects and researchers that will benefit most from their specialized knowledge.

1. National Archives and Records Administration Guide
gopher://gopher.nara.gov/II/in/orm/guide
This site holds the Guide to Federal Records in the National Archives of the United States, describing in some detail the records in each of the more than 500 record groups in the U.S. National Archives. A subject index is included.

2. National Archives and Records Administration Finding Aids
http://www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html
NARA currently has an on-line records-searching apparatus known as NAIL (NARA Archival Information Locator). This is an experimental project scheduled for replacement sometime in 1999 by the Archival Research Catalog (ARC). At present, about 350,000 NARA items are registered on NAIL for searching via the Internet. Below is an example of one entry obtained via a NAIL search.

Control Number
NWDNS-111-PXS

Media
Textual records

Descr. Level
Series

Record Group
111

Series
PXS

Title
Shelflist to Army Portrait file (Series 111-P)

Dates
ca 1932-ca.1982

Creating Org.
Department of the Army. Office of the Chief Signal Officer.

Accession Number
NN3-111-86-1

Record Type/Genre
Shelf List

Scope & Content
This shelflist, created by the Signal Corps, provides reference to the Army's official portrait file (found in RG 111, Series P). Each entry contains the "P" number and the name of the person pictured. Entries for photographs taken during and after World War II contain the date as well. Frequent references are made to photograph numbers which have been cancelled by some authority; these prints and negatives are no longer in the files.

General Note
These are not photographs

Agency Hist Note
For a history of the Army Signal Corps, see RG 111, Series SC.

Process
N/A
3. U.S. Army Center of Military History
   http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/research.htm
   The Center of Military History has put a number of finding aids to its own and other
   collections on line. For example, there are finding aids, sometimes containing links to the full
   text documents, of the CMH Historical Manuscripts Collection, CMH holdings of periodicals
   on microfilm, U.S. Army Museums, and the CMH Historical Resources Collection: Part II.
   This last finding aid is available only in electronic form.

4. British Library Oriental and India Office
   http://www.bl.uk/collections/oriental/records/iorarrgt.html#Listhead
   The arrangement of records and a list of classes of the British Library Oriental and India
   Office Collections (OIOC) are located here. The listings contain short descriptions of
   individual collections, such as the following for the series L/MIL: India Office, Military
   Department Records 1708-1959:

   The military records reflect and document the whole spectrum of military affairs both
   of the East India Company's armies and of the armies of the Government of India.
   These range from military policy, defence schemes and the organisation of army,
   navy and air force in India to the careers--appointments, pay, leave, promotions and
   pensions--of individual officers and soldiers in the Indian Army, the Indian Medical
   Service and the Royal Indian Navy. Medal rolls, prize and batta rolls, and soldiers' letters are included among the Military Department records, as are the records of
   soldiers' and cadets' entry into the military service in England before embarkation.
   The contents of the India Office Military Department Library of official publications
   are also included here. Associated with the Military Department records are the
   papers of the India Office War Staff (L/WS) organisation, which maintained its own
   files on military strategy, organisation, intelligence and supply. A catalogue has been
   Department (London, 1982).
5. Library of Congress
   http://lcweb2.loc.gov/jaid/FaidCollList.html
   At this time, twenty-eight collections have complete finding aids on-line at this site. For example, the register for the Henry H. Arnold Papers has series descriptions, name and subject files, and container lists for the nearly 300 boxes in this collection.

6. U.S. Navy Historical Center
   The U.S. Navy Historical Center maintains these sites of chronological and alphabetical listings of the holdings of its Operational Archives Branch. The shelf footage of each collection is given.

7. Public Record Office
   http://www.pro.gov.uk/jinding/catalogue/search.htm
   At present, only limited collections of the PRO can be searched on its Web site, though this well presented site has careful explanations of what is and is not available. A sample from one portion of the Foreign Office records descriptions follows below. There are also more than one hundred leaflets available on-line for further descriptions of PRO collections.

Records of various Second World War Departments
Creator(s):
Foreign Office, Consular (War) Department, 1939-1940
Foreign Office, Prisoners of War Department, 1940-1948
Foreign Office, Political Intelligence Department, 1939-1946
Foreign Office, British Mission to the French National Committee, 1941-1943
Foreign Office, Office of the United Kingdom Representative with the French Committee of National Liberation at Algiers, 1943-1944
Foreign Office, Political Liaison Officer with the United States Forces in Great Britain and North Africa, 1942-1943
Foreign Office, Office of the Minister of State Resident in the Middle East, 1942-1946
Foreign Office, Office of the Minister Resident at Allied Forces Headquarters in Algiers and Paris, 1943-1944

Covering Dates: 1938-1973
13 classes

Scope and Content

The Second World War led to the formation of various departments and missions that specifically set up to serve wartime needs and were therefore shortlived.

The records of the Consular (War) later Prisoners of War Department are in FO 916. A small number of the Political Intelligence Department's records are among those of the Political Warfare Executive in FO 898. Records of the British mission to the French National Committee are in FO 892; records of the
office of the United Kingdom representative with the French Committee of National Liberation (Duff Cooper) are in FO 660. Records dealing with the welfare of French nationals following the fall of France are in FO 1055.

Records of the political liaison officer with the United States Forces in the United Kingdom and North Africa (W H B Mack), who was seconded from the Foreign Office, are in FO 660.

Records of the minister of state resident in the Middle East are in FO 921; those of the minister resident at Allied Forces Headquarters in Algiers are in FO 660.

8. The Hoover Institution
http://sunsite2.berkeley.edu:28008/dynaweb/oac/hoover

This site has detailed listings of the Hoover Institution's holdings, including descriptive summaries, historical notes, administrative information, series descriptions, and container lists for every collection. Below is the series description for the Committee for the Return of Confiscated German and Japanese Property Records.

CORRESPONDENCE, 1954-1962
Boxes 1-14
Correspondence, biographical data, copies of public statements, and legal briefs. A major portion of the correspondence deals with confiscated German property. Correspondence filed under Mike Masaoka, the Washington representative of the Japanese-American Citizens' League, concerns Japanese property. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.

SUBJECT FILE, 1955-1962
Boxes 14-22
Reports, memoranda, press releases, correspondence, notes, newspaper clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by subject.

OFFICE FILE, 1954-1962
Boxes 22-27
Minutes of meetings, press releases, position statements and reports, form letters, government documents, correspondence, notes, and printed matter. Arranged by subseries, as follows: minutes of meetings, press releases and position statements, government documents file, and pre-1955 file. The pre-1955 file contains the records of the Committee prior to 1955, including unarranged correspondence, notes, and printed matter.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS AND PRINTED MATTER, 1954-1962
Boxes 28-33
Newspaper clippings concerning confiscated property, reactions to proposed legislation, activities of the Committee, and annotated printed material, consisting mainly of government publications. Arranged chronologically.

9. Japanese Monographs
http://metalab.unc.edu/pha/monos/guide.html

listings of all the nearly two hundred monographs.

10. Presidential Libraries
   http://hoover.nara.gov/
   http://www.academic.marist.edu/fdr/index.htm
   http://www.trumanlibrary.org/
   http://redbud.lbjlib.utexas.edu/eisenhower/ddehp.htm
   http://www.cs.umb.edu/jfklibrary/
   http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/
   http://metalab.unc.edu/lia/president/nixon.html
   http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/ford/index.html
   http://carterlibrary.galileo.peachnet.edu/
   http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/reagan/
   http://www.csdl.tamu.edu/bushlib/

Ten presidential libraries and the Nixon Presidential Materials Staff (the Nixon Project) of the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration maintain Web sites. Most have at least some finding aids on-line, and several have limited photograph or document collections that are accessible through the Web site as well.

IV. On-Line Research
A surprising amount of primary source material is now on-line. Many historical Web sites have memoirs, diaries, letters, or oral histories. But there are also some instances of original documents being digitized and put on-line.

1. Personal Recollections
   http://members.tripod.com/~Memory_WWII/
   About fifty personal stories from a range of theaters and situations, including some recollections of the U.S. and British home fronts.

2. Documents from the Harry Truman Library
   http://www.trumanlibrary.org/photos/av-photo.htm
   This is a sampling of some of the Truman collections. Included are documents on the Berlin airlift, desegregation of the U.S. armed forces, and the decision to drop the bomb. The site also has some photographs.

3. 225th AAA Searchlight Battalion
   http://www.skylighters.org/memories/index.html
   A collection of oral histories, letters, and other personal recollections of this unit's experiences in the European theater. The site is designed as a "virtual reunion" rather than a historical resource. It also contains plenty of collateral features for the uninitiated to understand the 225th's role and battle history.

4. World War II Medal of Honor Winners
These sites contain the full text of the citations for every Medal of Honor awarded in World War II.

5. Women's Oral Histories
   http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/WWII_Women/tocCS.html
This site is the product of a high school honors class project. It contains twenty-six interviews with women recounting their World War II experiences. The site also contains some essays and other material gathered by the class.

6. Battle of the Bulge
   http://users.skynet.be/bulgecriba/battlebul.html
A collection of primary source materials on the German Ardennes counteroffensive. The site contains maps, photographs, orders of battle, and a number of personal accounts from diaries, memoirs, letters, and recollections.

7. Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “Safe” Files
   http://www.academic.marist.edu/psf/boxlist.htm
This site has 6,000 pages from the files that occupied FDR’s safe. Many of the Web site representations are photographic facsimiles of the actual documents. Most files are from the World War II years and cover a wide range of diplomatic and military topics, from the Manhattan Project to the United Nations.

8. A Sailor’s Diary
   http://www.sinclair.edu/sec/his103/103d01.htm
Diary of Seaman Jack McKnight, who served aboard the U.S.S. Essex, 27 April 1943 to 16 December 1945. The focus of the diary is the Essex’s operations. Ship and aircraft references in the text carry explanations and links to further information.

9. The Normandy Assault
   http://normandy.eb.com/normandy/documents.html
   http://www.highrock.com/JohnGBurkhalter/D-day.html
   http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/amex/guts/voices.html
Letters, diaries, and interviews of men and women who experienced the Normandy invasion.

10. Rutgers Oral History Archives
    http://history.rutgers.edu/oralhistory/orlhom.htm
This site contains the transcripts of interviews of sixty-two Rutgers alumni who served in World War II.
11. 104th Infantry Division
   http://members.aol.com/twdiv2/archive.htm
There are nearly one hundred brief accounts of wartime incidents by or concerning members of the U.S. 104th Infantry Division during World War II.

V. Documents Collections

Though they contain texts of primary sources, these sites are listed separately because they generally reproduce documents that will be of more use for teaching than research. These are documents collections that might serve as background for courses or resource pools for student assignments.

1. Yale Law School’s Avalon Project
   http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/wwii/wwii.htm
A collection of more than fifty international agreements and communiques, from the Declaration by the Secretary of the Treasury on Gold Policy, February 22, 1944, to the Compact on Coordinated Control of Merchant Shipping, August 5, 1944, with a special emphasis on armistice and occupation agreements. The collection can be searched by keyword.

2. Diplomatic Documents
   http://metalab.unc.edu/hyperwar/Dip/index.html
The full texts of various diplomatic documents of the World War II era are to be found on this site. There are about twenty items, such as the Atlantic Charter, Neville Chamberlain’s “Peace in Our Time” speech, the German and Japanese surrender documents, and Franklin Roosevelt’s “Day of Infamy” and Four Freedoms speeches.

3. Atomic Bomb: Decision
   http://www.dannen.com/decision/index.html
There are about twenty documents associated with the Hiroshima decision at this site, such as the Franck Report, Minutes of the Target Committee, an excerpt from Harry Truman’s personal diary, and various petitions concerning the bomb’s use. There is also a short audio excerpt from Harry Truman’s speech of August 9, 1945, discussing the Hiroshima decision. There are full citations for each document.

4. Pearl Harbor Working Group
   http://www.metalab.unc.edu/pha/pha/index.html
This is a meticulous compilation of material on the Pearl Harbor raid, most especially the full texts of the nine official investigations but containing dozens of other relevant documents and historical sources. Patient and conscientious editing has made these very reliable sources. The documents aggregate more than ten thousand pages of text.

5. Fuehrer Direktiven
http://www.smartusa.com/wow/history.htm
This site will have all but one of Hitler’s seventy-five Fuehrer Direktiven. They are translated into English. At present, only the first few have been uploaded.

6. Nuremberg Trials
http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/imt/imt.htm#sup
This is another branch of Yale Law School’s Avalon Project. The site contains documents from all phases of the trials, including motions, testimony of witnesses, rules of procedure, and supporting documents introduced as evidence.

VI. Specialized Studies

There are a multitude of Web sites devoted to particular individuals or events associated with World War II. Typically such sites contain a variety of graphic and textual information, and the overall quality can vary strikingly depending on what person or agency has constructed the site. This is another type of Web resource more valuable for teaching than for research.

1. Pearl Harbor
http://www.execpc.com/~dschaaf/mainmenu.html
A compilation of survivors’ stories, maps and photographs, timelines and statistics, and links to related sites.

2. The Normandy Assault
The U.S. Army Center of Military History has compiled a host of materials on the American efforts during the Normandy invasion operation. These include the full texts, with maps and notes, of the official histories and some regimental studies, a complete U.S. Order of Battle, artistic depictions of the battle, and reports on Medal of Honor winners.

VII. Secondary Sources

1. “Green” Series
http://metalab.unc.edu/hyperwar/USA/index.html#usa
The intention of the site owners is to provide full texts of all the volumes in the United States Army in World War II Series (the “green books”). The project’s initial phases are concentrating on the volumes covering the war in the Pacific, though some of the volumes dealing with overall strategic planning and the technical services are also targeted for early loading onto the site. Four titles in the series are presently available. Text includes bibliographies, appendices, and notes.

2. USMC Official Histories
http://metalab.unc.edu/hyperwar/USMC/index.html#ops
The first volume of the five-volume History of U.S. Marine Corps Operations in World War II
is reproduced here in full. There is no indication of what the schedule for loading the other volumes may be. The site also contains a link to the Marine Corps World War II monograph project, which has a few of the monographs, including maps and photographs, already uploaded.

   [http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/online/ww2.htm]
Contains the full text of dozens of CMH publications on World War II, covering all theaters and many specialized subjects. Examples range from Dr. Stetson Conn, “Highlights of Mobilization, World War II, 1938-1942” to Judith A. Bellafaire, “The Women’s Army Corps: A Commemoration of World War II.”

4. USSBS Summary Reports
   [http://www.anesi.com/ussbs01.htm]
   [http://www.anesi.com/ussbs02.htm]
Full text of the Summary Reports (“Pacific War” and “European War”) of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey (32 pages and 18 pages, respectively). Contains some charts and tables. The original pagination is preserved.

5. “Think Tank” Transcript
   [http://www.pbs.org/thinktank/archive/transcripts/transcript.206.html]
Stephen Ambrose, Daniel Boorstin, Martin Blumenson, and David Fromkin discuss the meaning and lessons of World War II with a half century’s hindsight and reflection. This is the transcript of a PBS program that aired in 1995.

VIII. Journals

Because of the potential effect on subscriptions, few periodicals put their publication’s content on-line. There are, however, a few exceptions.

1. Airpower Journal
   [http://www.airpower.maxwell.af.mil/airchronicles/apje.html]
All the features of the print journal are available at this site. Issues currently on-line date back to 1987.

2. Parameters
   [http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usawc/Parameters/]
“Parameters: The US Army War College Quarterly” is on-line. The site contains full text of current and past issues (with several years’ worth of articles and book reviews now on-line), a cumulative index, and a cumulative book review index.

3. “World War II” Magazine
   [http://www.thehistorynet.com/general/articleindex/worldwar.htm]
Contains fifty articles written for “World War II” magazine. “World War II” is a monthly periodical published for popular audiences. Some articles contain personal interviews, but otherwise its main appeal will be to undergraduates and the general public.

IX. Photographs and Other Graphics

As with many of the “documents” sites, these resources are principally of use for providing background or other enhancement of public presentations, such as teaching.

1. European Theater Battlefront Photographs
   http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/Quarters/6171/main_map.htm
   Contains sixty photographs of front line scenes from the European theater.

2. Women War Correspondents
   http://lcweb.loc.gov/exhibits/wcf/wcf0001.html
   The work of eight women war photographers and journalists, including Clare Booth Luce and Dorothea Lange, is presented here.

3. U.S. Navy Historical Center
   http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/sh-usn/usn-name.htm
   This site is the U.S. Navy Historical Center’s “Online Library of Selected Images.” It contains photographs and other graphic depictions of more than 200 U.S. Navy vessels of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including many of the World War II era. There are multiple views of many of the warships, including some interior shots and closeups of particular features or activities. There is also a link to a collection of photographs of a dozen Imperial Japanese Navy vessels.

4. U.S. Surface Warship Photo Archives
   http://navsource.org/Archives/home.html
   The site contains hundreds of photographs and other images of U.S. surface warships of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The battleship collection, for example, has from one to twenty images of sixty of the sixty-six vessels assigned the “BB” designation by the U.S. Navy, for a total of nearly 500 photographs and drawings. Most images are photographs, but there are also line drawings. A few of the photographs are in color.

5. Photographs of Armored Fighting Vehicles
   http://www.inf.upol.cz/~stepanos/ww2.html
   Black and white photographs of dozens of armored fighting vehicles of World War II. There are no notes or technical data. This site is typical of many constructed by enthusiasts.

6. Propaganda Posters
   http://www.openstore.com/posters/
   Thirty-one U.S. propaganda posters on a variety of themes. Documentation is incomplete.
7. Poster Database

http://www.library.nwu.edu/govpub/collections/wwii-posters/

The Northwestern University Library has made available over 300 U.S. home front posters. The site possesses a slow but serviceable search engine.

X. Equipment and Technical Data

There are many thousands of Web sites devoted to the weapons, vehicles, and other equipment of World War II. As may be imagined, most are constructed by buffs and do not contain much of value for the serious student. Nevertheless, some are better than others, and a few may be of use for general reference or for students with special interests in these subjects.

1. Aircraft

http://www.ixpres.com/ag1caf/usplanes/american.htm

Contains photographs and specifications for well over a hundred U.S. aircraft, most from the World War II era.

2. Orders of Battle of Major Combatants

http://www.freeport-tech.com:80/WWII/000_admin/000oob.htm

This site contains partial orders of battle for the armed forces of twenty-five nations that participated in World War II. It is handy as a quick reference but lacks the documentation, consistency, and thoroughness for serious scholarly use.

3. German Armored Fighting Vehicles

http://www.achtungpanzer.com/profiles.htm

Contains the history, photographs, and specifications of every German armored fighting vehicle of World War II.

* * * * *

This has been a brief review of a very limited selection of World Wide Web sites that may be useful for researching or teaching World War II. It is the purpose of this article to serve as a quick guide to what one might expect in cyberspace, but only by experiencing it oneself can one gain a full sense of the quantity, quality, and variety of what is out there.

It remains to be seen how vital the Internet will become to our profession, but, whether we choose to become involved or not, the World Wide Web will have a presence in the arena of World War Two and other historical studies. Therefore, we have the choice of allowing others to shape how this new medium is used for scholarship or of helping to determine that ourselves.
Recently Published Articles on World War II

Selected Titles from an Electronic Compilation by Susannah U. Bruce


Recently Published Books on World War II

Selected Titles from an Electronic Compilation by James Ehrman


Kremer, S. Lillian. Women's Holocaust Writing: Memory and Imagination. (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1999).


