

2015 Military History Seminar

The 33rd Annual Alfred and Johanna Hurley Military History Seminar
Military History Center
University of North Texas
14 November 2015
“New World Orders”

The MHC hosted the 33rd Annual Alfred and Johanna Hurley Military History Seminar on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. The theme was "New World Orders: 1815 and 1945." Napoleon's defeat in 1815 and the collapse of his French-dominated system led to a fundamental reorganization of the international system at the Congress of Vienna and afterward. A desire to weaken and humble France had to be balanced against the need to keep France alive and strong as a check on rising powers like Russia, Prussia and Britain. Hitler's defeat and the collapse of imperial Japan in 1945 also led to the search for a new world order, this time enlivened by the clash of American and Soviet ideology, nuclear weapons and a fever of decolonization in the developing world. How statesmen terminated the world wars and laid the groundwork for enduring peace despite their profound differences is a fascinating story on the 200th anniversary of 1815 and the 70th anniversary of 1945.



Dr. Jeremy Black, an internationally recognized authority on diplomatic and military history, author of more than 110 books, explained the lessons of 1815 in a presentation titled “1815 and the Nineteenth Century World Order.”

Dr. Jeffrey Engel, Director of the SMU Center for Presidential History and author of several books on Cold War history, described the dilemmas and solutions of 1945, and their long-term impact on the international system in a presentation titled “Over there...to Stay this Time: American New World Order Since.”



2014 Military History Seminar

The 32nd Annual Hurley Military History Seminar
Military History Center
University of North Texas
22 November 2014

“When Diplomacy Fails: The Outbreak of WW I and the Cataclysm of 1914. Fresh Perspectives on the 100th Anniversary of the Great War”

Our morning speaker, Dr. Sean McMeekin, presented: “The War of the Ottoman Succession: Re-Examining the First World War a Hundred Years Later.” Dr. McMeekin is an internationally acclaimed expert on Russian history who is a professor at Bard University. He received his Ph.D. and MA from the University of California, Berkeley and his undergraduate degree from Stanford University. In between he attended Mezhdunarodny universitet in Moscow, Russia, for intensive Russian language study, Humboldt Universität in Berlin, Germany for a Promotionstudium in



neuer Geschichte, Moscow State University (MGU) in Moscow, Russia for advanced Russian language study, and the University of Paris 7 (Jussieu) in Paris, France, to study history, film, and theater in French. Dr. McMeekin is the author of several books and articles. His July 1914.

Countdown to War (Basic Books, 2013) was reviewed on cover of the New York Times Book Review. Glowing reviews were published in the London Review of Books, the Times Higher Education, the London Times, the Sunday Express, the Journal of Military History, Booklist, Kirkus, etc. His The Russian Origins of the First World War, Harvard University Press/Belknap, 2011) was awarded the Norman B. Tomlinson Prize by the World War One Historical Association, for calendar year 2011, nominated for the 2012 Lionel Gelber Prize and awarded Honorable Mention for the 2012 Marshall Shulman Prize by the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies. In 2010, he published The Berlin to Baghdad Express. The Ottoman Empire and Germany’s Bid for World Power, 1898-1918 with Penguin/Allen Lane (UK and world); Harvard University Press/Belknap (US rights and distribution), which received the Barbara Jelavich Book Prize from the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies. His 2008 book, History’s Greatest Heist: The Looting of Russia by the Bolsheviks (Yale University Press) was awarded honorable mention for the Ed A. Hewett Book Prize sponsored by the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies. Dr. McMeekin's first book, The Red Millionaire: A Political Biography of Willi Münzenberg, Moscow’s Secret Propaganda Tsar in the West (Yale University Press, 2004) received excellent reviews in: The New York Review of Books, Times Literary Supplement, the Sunday Telegraph, the London Spectator, Quadrant, the National Observer, and Literary Review. We are pleased that Dr. McMeekin will base his presentation, "The War of the Ottoman Succession: Re-Examining the First World War a Hundred Years Later," on his latest book by the same title, which will be available in summer 2015.



Our luncheon speaker, Dr. Geoffrey Wawro, presented: “A Made Catastrophe: The Outbreak of WW I and the Lessons for Today.” Dr. Wawro is a Professor of Military History at the University of North Texas, and Director of the UNT Military History Center. His primary area of emphasis is modern and contemporary military history, from the French Revolution to the present. Professor Wawro received his diploma from the Loomis-Chaffee School in Windsor, Connecticut in 1978, and his A-levels in English Literature and German from Cheltenham College, in England, the following year. After receiving his Bachelor's degree magna cum laude from Brown University

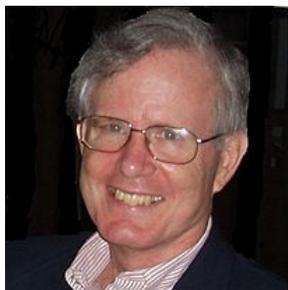
(1983), he attended Yale University, where he received his Master of Arts in European History

(1987), his M. Phil. in European History in 1989, and his Ph.D. in 1992. From 1989 to 1991, he was Fulbright Scholar, University of Vienna, Austria, and from 1991–92, an Andrew W. Mellon Doctoral Fellow, Yale University. His dissertation, titled, "The Austro-Prussian War: Politics, Strategy and War in the Habsburg Monarchy, 1859-1866" (1992), supervised by Paul Kennedy, argued that the battle of Königgrätz (1866) was not so much won by the brilliance of the Prussian commander Helmuth von Moltke the Elder as it was lost by the incompetence of the Austrian commander Ludwig von Benedek. Wawro hosted the History Channel's book show: Hardcover History, and was host and anchor of the History Channel programs History's Business and History vs. Hollywood, as well as Hard Target, Global View, and History in Focus. His guests have included Jimmy Carter, Henry Kissinger, Jack Welch, Robert Rubin, Caspar Weinberger, Warren Christopher, Niall Ferguson, Richard Overy, Stephen Ambrose, Michael Howard, Robert Dallek, Paul Theroux and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.. Wawro, an expert on military innovation and international security in Europe, the U.S., and Canada, was also (before his move to Texas) Professor of Strategic Studies at the U.S. Naval War College as well as the Naval War College Review's "special correspondent," a designation that took him to "places or events of strategic or technological interest," including Iran, Brazil and the Paris Air Show. In addition to many peer reviewed articles and edited volumes, Professor Wawro has written five well-received books: A Mad Catastrophe: The Outbreak of World War I and the Collapse of the Habsburg Empire, Basic Books, 2014; Quicksand: America's Pursuit of Power in the Middle East, Penguin Press in 2010; The Franco-Prussian War (Cambridge, 2003) was the main selection of the History Book Club and Military Book Club and received a best non-fiction mention from Publisher's Weekly, Nov. 2003; The Austro-Prussian War (Cambridge, 1996), based on his doctoral dissertation, was History Book Club and Military Book Club main selection; and Warfare and Society in Europe, 1792-1914(Routledge, 2000) is a standard university text. In addition, he has also served on the editorial teams for over twenty volumes, including The Cambridge Military Histories, which he co-edits with Oxford's Hew Strachan. Professor Wawro won the Austrian Cultural Institute Prize and the Society for Military History Moncado Prize for Excellence in the Writing of Military History.

2013 Military History Seminar

The 31st Annual Hurley Military History Seminar
Military History Center
University of North Texas
2 November 2013

“The National Security Implications of the Kennedy Assassination”



The 31st Annual Alfred and Johanna Hurley Military History Seminar was held on 2 November 2013 at the Gateway Center on the UNT campus. The morning speaker was Dr. David Kaiser, who gave a talk titled “Crime, Covert Action, and the Kennedy Assassination.” Professor Kaiser has published numerous works covering a broad range of topics from European Warfare to American League Baseball. He was a Professor in the Strategy and Policy Department of the Naval

War College from 1990 until 2012 and has also taught at Carnegie Mellon, Williams College, and Harvard University.



The luncheon address, titled “John F. Kennedy's Last Hundred Days,” was presented by Thurston Clarke. Educated at Yale University, Columbia University and the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, Clarke has written eleven widely acclaimed works of fiction and nonfiction, including three New York Times Notable Books. His Pearl Harbor Ghosts was the basis of a CBS documentary, and his bestselling *Lost Hero*, a biography of Raoul Wallenberg, was made into an award-winning NBC miniseries. His articles have appeared in *Vanity Fair*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and many other publications. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and other awards and lives with his wife and three daughters in upstate New York.

2012 Military History Seminar

The 30th Annual Hurley Military History Seminar
Military History Center
University of North Texas
17 November 2012

“Death of the Wehrmacht: The Rise of American Combat Power and the Destruction of Hitler's Army”



Our morning speaker was Dr. Robert M. Citino is a Professor of History at the University of North Texas and one of the world's most distinguished military historians. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he attended St. Ignatius Loyola High School on the city's west side, received his B.A. in History from The Ohio State University, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1978, and his M.A. (1980) and Ph.D. (1984) from Indiana University. He joined the UNT History Department and its Military History Center in the Fall of 2009 after teaching at Eastern Michigan University since 1991. He is fluent in German and is an expert on early 20th century German military literature, particularly the *Militär-Wochenblatt*, a professional German military periodical published from 1816 to 1942.

Professor Citino is the author of nine books, including *Quest for Decisive Victory* (2002), *The German Way of War* (2005), and *Death of the Wehrmacht* (2007). His book *Blitzkrieg to Desert Storm* (2004) was a multiple award-winner, taking both the American Historical Association's Birdsall Prize for best book of the year in military history and the Society for Military History's Distinguished Book Award. Professor Citino's most recent book is *The Wehrmacht Retreats: Fighting a Lost War, 1943* (2012). In October 2007, his article "Military Histories Old and New:

A Reintroduction" appeared in the American Historical Review, the first military history article to appear in the profession's journal of record in decades. He served as Book Review Editor for World War II magazine from 2004 to 2006, and has written the magazine's weekly online column, "Front and Center," since 2009 (www.historynet.com/magazines/world_war_ii/front-and-center). His review of Quentin Tarantino's war film, *Inglourious Basterds* appeared in *Variety* (January 2010), and in recent years he has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *New York Times*, "Anderson Cooper 360" (CNN), and The History Channel. Appearing repeatedly on the History Channel as a consultant on various related subjects concerning World War II, he notably headlined on *Hard Target*, where he discussed the failure of U.S. intelligence before the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944, and on HistoryCENTER where he discussed the fall of Japan in the last eight months of World War II.

Throughout his career, Professor Citino has advocated changing the current nomenclature of German military tactics. Although he uses the word *Blitzkrieg* on the cover of his books, he has always espoused the view that it should be called by its proper German military term, *Bewegungskrieg*, or maneuver warfare. He has taught history classes for over two decades, mostly on German military history, stressing the doctrines of maneuver warfare to create a *Kesselschlacht* and the German doctrine of *Auftragstaktik*. Professor Citino has also taught classes about Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany, the Holocaust, as well as American military history such as the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In 1993, he won Eastern Michigan's Teaching I Award for his enthusiasm in the classroom and his ability to inspire student interest in history. In 2007, he was named the "#1 Professor in the U.S." by ratemyprofessors.com, the online student rating service, and was interviewed nationally on MTV. During the 2008-09 academic year, he was invited to teach at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, NY, where he held the Charles Boal Ewing Visiting Professorship.

Professor Citino traces his love for military history to his father, who served as a junior officer in the U.S. Army during World War II, serving with the "Americal" Division on Guadalcanal. In fact, he still remembers the day his father handed him a copy of *Guadalcanal Diary* by Richard Tregaskis and suggested that he read it. It was, Citino says, "a life-changing event at the age of 10," and the moment that he decided he wanted to be a military historian. Rob lives in Corinth, TX with his wife Roberta and youngest daughter Emily, and spends his free time writing, cooking, and playing his growing collection of guitars.



Our luncheon speaker was James Megellas, Lieutenant-Colonel US Army (retired). James "Maggie" Megellas was born and raised in Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin. The attack on Pearl Harbor occurred mid-way through his senior year at Ripon College. He participated in the school's Reserve Officers' Training Corps program and accepted a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry of the United States Army when he graduated in 1942. Megellas was originally assigned to the Signal Corps, but grew tired of the required additional schooling and volunteered to become a paratrooper in order to see combat. Four years later, he was one of the most decorated officers in the 82nd Airborne Division and was discharged from the Army with the rank of Captain. He continued serving as a citizen-soldier and retired with the rank

of Lt.-Col. The most-decorated officer in the history of the 82nd Airborne Division, his awards include the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, Presidential Citation w/cluster, the Belgium Fouragere, 6 Campaign Stars, and Master Parachutist badge. He was selected by General James Gavin, the commanding general of the 82nd Airborne Division to receive the "Military Order of Willhelm Orange Lanyard" from the Dutch Minister of War in Berlin in 1945, the first American so honored by the Government of Holland.

Megellas fought in the Italian and Western European campaign, first as a platoon leader, then later as the Company Commander of H Company, 3rd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR). He first experienced combat in the mountains outside Naples, Italy, near Venafro, where he was wounded and hospitalized. In October 1943, while the remainder of the 82nd Airborne departed Italy to recoup before the invasion of Normandy, the 504th PIR remained behind and took part in Operation Shingle. On 22 January 1944, the 504th took part in an amphibious assault at Anzio. The fighting took a heavy toll, Megellas being wounded again, and it was not until April before the regiment was withdrawn. Due to the losses at Anzio, the 504th did not participate in the D-Day Normandy Landings. However, they did parachute into the Netherlands as part of Operation Market Garden, the airborne invasion of that country. Megellas took part in the crossing of the Waal River near Nijmegen, where the American forces crossed the river in flimsy boats while under heavy machine gun fire. During the day's fighting, Megellas single-handedly attacked a German observation post and machine gun nest. For these actions, he was awarded the U.S. military's second-highest decoration, the Distinguished Service Cross.

In late December 1944, the regiment was rushed into the Battle of the Bulge. On 28 January 1945, First-Lieutenant Megellas's platoon was advancing towards Herresbach, Belgium. Struggling through heavy snow and freezing cold, they surprised 200 Germans who were advancing out of the town. Catching the Germans largely off-guard, the attack proved to be devastating, with the Americans killing and capturing a large number and causing many others to flee. However, as they prepared to assault the town, a German Mark V tank took aim at them. Megellas ran towards it, and disabled it with a single concussion grenade. Climbing on top of it, he then dropped another grenade into the tank, eliminating the threat to his men. He was

nominated for the Medal of Honor shortly after, but the account of his actions was not included in the original battle reports, and he was instead awarded the Silver Star. He finished World War II with the occupation forces in Berlin and led his Company, the only Company he served with during the entire war, down 5th Avenue, New York City in the January 1946 Victory Parade.

Megellas served in the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for 23 years with work in Yemen, Panama, South Vietnam and Columbia. During his work with USAID, he served two years in Vietnam, leading 4,000 soldiers and civilians from Vietnam and other nations in civil-military relations. For this work, he received the National Chieu Hoi Medal, and the Psychological Warfare Medal from the South Vietnamese government. His book, *All the Way to Berlin*, released in 2003, provides a vivid and riveting chronicle of his first-hand heroic experiences as a young Infantry leader. At 95 years "young", Magellas recently visited his old outfit, the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment in Afghanistan along the Pakistani border three times in the past five years. Returning from Afghanistan Jim stopped in Holland and spoke at an event for the release of the second edition of his book *All the Way to Berlin* in the Dutch language. He continues to travel and lecture both in the United States and abroad. He holds a Master of International Public Policy, Johns Hopkins University and was an instructor of International Affairs at Florida Tech.

On 7 September 2012, a world premiere was held in Fond du Lac, WI of the documentary film, "Maggie's War: A True Story of Courage, Leadership and Valor in World War II."

2011 Military History Seminar

The 29th Annual Hurley Military History Seminar
Military History Center
University of North Texas
8 October 2011
"Dilemmas of American Power 1776 to 2011"



Our morning speaker was General Anthony C. Zinni, a retired four-star General of the United States Marine Corps and former Commander in Chief of U.S. Central Command. General Zinni joined the Marine Corps Platoon Leader Class program in 1961 and was commissioned an infantry second lieutenant in 1965 upon graduation from Villanova University. He held numerous command and staff assignments that included platoon, company, battalion, regimental, Marine Expeditionary Unit, and Marine Expeditionary Force command. His staff assignments included service in operations, training, special operations, counter-terrorism, and manpower billets. He has been a tactics and operations instructor at several Marine Corps schools and was selected as a fellow on the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group. His deployments to the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, the Western Pacific, Northern Europe, and Korea. He has also served tours of duty in Okinawa and Germany. His operational experiences

included two tours in Vietnam, where he was severely wounded. General Zinni's 23 personal awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; the Distinguished Service Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters; the Bronze Star with Combat "V" and Gold Star; the Purple Heart; the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star; the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and Gold Star; the Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star; the Combat Action Ribbon; and personal awards from Vietnam, France, Italy, Egypt, Kuwait, Yemen, and Bahrain. He also holds 37 unit, service, and campaign awards.

General Zinni has participated in presidential diplomatic missions to Somalia, Pakistan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea, and State Department missions involving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and conflicts in Indonesia and the Philippines. He has worked in mediation and negotiation efforts with the University of California's Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, the US Institute of Peace, and the Henri Dunant Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva. He has also been President of UCLA's Center for Middle East Development, a Distinguished Advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, an Honorary Fellow at the Foreign Policy Association, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, Chairman of the Council's Middle East Forum, a board member of the American Academy of Diplomacy, Chairman of the Board of the Institute of World Affairs, Co-Chair of the American Security Project, member of the board of the Henri Dunant Centre, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Policy Advisory Group, and Co-Chair of The Center for U.S. Global Engagement's National Security Advisory Council.

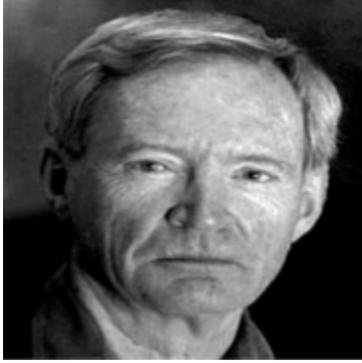
General Zinni was the Terry Sanford Lecturer in Residence and Visiting Professor of Public Policy Studies at Duke University and currently holds the Frank H.T. Rhodes Class of '56 Professorship at Cornell University. He has held academic positions that include the Stanley Chair in Ethics at the Virginia Military Institute; the Nimitz Chair at the University of California-Berkeley; the Hofheimer Chair at the Joint Forces Staff College; the Weisberg Chair at Beloit College; the Harriman Professor of Government Chair and membership on the Reves Center for International Studies at the College of William and Mary; membership on the board of Villanova University's Center for Responsible Leadership and Governance; membership in Villanova's President's Club; and selection as a Carter O. Lowance Fellow in Law and Public Policy at the William and Mary Law School. He has also lectured at numerous colleges and universities in the U. S. and abroad. General Zinni's presentation for the 2011 Hurley Military History Seminar is titled: "The Generals' Dilemma: Aligning Warfighting With Politics, from the American Revolution to the War in Afghanistan."



Our luncheon presentation was given by Lieutenant-Colonel Phillip Frieze of the United States Marine Corps. A graduate of New Mexico State University and commissioned in 1991, Lt-Col. Frieze has completed the Amphibious War School, the U.S. Army Engineer Officers Advanced Course, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and the Joint Forces Staff College. In 1994, Lt-Col. Frieze reported to Marine Wing Support Group-37 and served as Commanding Officer - PSD, Plans and Assistant Operations Officer. This marked the beginning of an outstanding career that has thus far seen Lt-Col. Frieze serve as the Inspector-Instructor, C Co, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, 4th Marine Division; the Commanding Officer of the Engineer Support Company and the Operations Officer of the 9th Engineer Support Battalion; and the Special Action Committee/Facilities Implementation Officer at Marine Corp Base Japan.

He received an appointment to the Marine Corps Command & Staff College (CSC) in 2002. Mid-term, he deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) I as the Engineer Plans Officer, with the Coalition Force Land Component Command. Returning from OIF I and completing his coursework at CSC, he received assignment to Joint Task Force North as the USMC Engineer Plans Officer. In 2006, he reported to Combat Logistics Battalion-22, 2d Marine Logistics Group and served as the Executive Officer. During this assignment, he deployed to Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa as the Civil Military Operations Plans Officer. During the deployment, he served as the Mission Commander for both Unity Night (Ethiopia), Unity Eclipse (Kenya) and later as the Military Training Team Commander to the Ugandan Peoples Defense Force (African Union Mission to Somalia) to relieve Ethiopian forces in Somalia. Returning to 2d Marine Logistics Group in 2007, he was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel and served as G3, Operations Officer.

In 2008, he was assigned to II Marine Expeditionary Force as the G4, Engineer Officer. Lt-Col. Frieze served as the G7 Engineer for OIF FY09. While preparing for deployment, he was command selected, reassigned to 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade as the G7 Engineer, and deployed to Afghanistan to facilitate the introduction of forces into the Helmand Province. In May 2009, he assumed command of 7th Engineer Support Battalion and deployed the battalion to the Helmand Province of combat operations. Lt-Col. Frieze was selected to attend Top Level School at the Argentine Defense University in Buenos Aries and is currently studying Spanish in Monterey, California. His personal decorations include the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy/Marine Commendation Medal with two Gold Stars, Navy/Marine Achievement Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon. He is married to the former Katherine M. Holmes, they have four children, Kaitlyn, Victoria, Jacob, and Ethan. Lt-Col. Frieze's luncheon presentation is titled: "U.S. Marine Engineers in the Helmand Province: The Big Red 7."



Our afternoon talk was given by The Honorable Francis J. “Bing” West. An author of eight books on national security, he served as Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs in the Reagan administration. Other posts he has held include: Assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense, Vice President of the Hudson Institute and Dean of Research at the Naval War College. He has also been an analyst at the Rand Corporation, a visiting professor at Tufts University and president of GAMA Corporation.

A graduate of Georgetown and Princeton Universities, he also studied at Fribourg University in Switzerland and was Woodrow Wilson fellow at Princeton. A Marine platoon commander in Vietnam, he was a member of the Force Reconnaissance team that initiated Operation Stingray - small unit attacks behind enemy lines. While serving as Assistant Secretary of Defense, he chaired the United States Security Commissions with El Salvador, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Pakistan, South Korea and Japan.

Among other awards, he is the recipient of the Department of Defense Distinguished Public Service Medal, the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Service Medal and Tunisia's Medaille de Liberté, awarded for an action following a raid from Libya. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Middle East Institute, the Infantry Order of St. Crispin and the Newport Reading Room, he appears frequently on C-SPAN and The News Hour.

His books include *The Village*, a narrative of 485 days of combat in Vietnam that has been on the Marine Commandant's Reading List for 40 years; *The Pepperdogs*: (a novel); *The Strongest Tribe*, a history of the Iraq war that was a New York Times Bestseller; and *The Wrong War*, a history of the Afghanistan war. His web site is www.bingwest.com.

He is the recipient of Marine Corps Heritage Award, the Colby Military History Award, the General Goodpaster Prize for Military Scholarship, the Free Press Award, the Marine Corps Russell Award for Leadership and the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Media Award. His articles appear regularly in *The Wall St. Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *The National Review* and *The Washington Post*. He and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in Newport, RI. Colonel West's talk is titled: "The Public's Dilemma: Who Will Fight for Us?"

2010 Military History Seminar

28th Annual Alfred & Johanna Hurley Military History Seminar
University of North Texas - ESSC 255, Silver Eagle Suite
October 23, 2010 from 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

“Graveyard of Empires or New Dawn in the Middle East? Fresh Perspectives on the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan”

Our morning speaker was Dr. Hew Strachan, the Chichele Professor of the History of War at the



University of Oxford, and co-editor (along with Geoff Wawro) of the *Cambridge Military Histories*, and author of many books including *European Armies and the Conduct of War*, *Wellington's Legacy*, *The Politics of the British Army*, and the new three volume *Oxford History of the First World War*. At Oxford, Dr. Strachan teaches military history from the 18th century to date, including contemporary strategic studies, but with particular interest in the First World War and in the history of the British Army.



Our luncheon presentation was given by one of UNT's West Point Fellows: Captain David Musick. Captain Musick's Army career began on 3 January 1992 when he enlisted as a Chemical Operations Specialist and attended Basic Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. Upon graduation, Specialist Musick was assigned to the 19th Special Forces Group at Camp Williams, Utah. Over the next seven years he was promoted to Sergeant and Staff Sergeant and served faithfully in a variety of leadership assignments in Utah, Alaska, and Washington until selected in 1999 to attend language training in Tagalog at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California. Upon graduation in 2000, Staff Sergeant Musick was retrained as a Cryptologic Linguist

and assigned to the 115th Military Intelligence Group at Kunia, Hawaii. After two years of exceptionally distinguished service, he accepted an offer to attend Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia in January 2003. Staff Sergeant Musick was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in Military Intelligence on 10 April 2003. In August 2003 he was assigned to 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, and served as the inaugural Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) platoon leader for the 172nd Stryker Infantry Brigade. After establishing UAV operations for the Brigade, Lt. Musick was transferred to 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry regiment in April 2005 and was deployed that August to Mosul and later Baghdad, Iraq as the Battalion Tactical Intelligence Officer. Upon redeployment in December 2006, Captain Musick was reassigned as the Battalion Intelligence Officer for 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment as part of Army force restructuring efforts. In October 2007, Cpt. Musick was selected for short notice deployment as the Brigade Intelligence Officer for Task Force 49 Combat Aviation Brigade and returned to Iraq that November. From November 2007 until July 2008 Cpt. Musick's 18 Soldier intelligence section handled all strategic and operational aviation intelligence for the Iraqi Theater of operations. In late July 2008, Cpt. Musick's unit was transferred to Multi-national Division Center and assumed responsibility for tactical and operational intelligence support to aviation in the southern half of Iraq until their return in November 2008. Upon his return, Cpt. Musick attended the Military intelligence Captain's Career Course at Fort Huachuca, Arizona and graduated in June of 2009. Musick is currently assigned to United States Army Student Detachment preparing for a follow-on assignment as an Assistant Professor of Military History at the United States Military Academy. He is pursuing a PhD in Military History at the University of North Texas. Captain Musick is working under Dr. Robert Citino in studies on the U.S Army in the 20th Century. His planned dissertation is on the

effects of soldier motivation on battlefield tactics in the 20th Century. He believes this will help explain the impact of political decisions on armies at war. Captain Musick has a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Chaminade University. He is a graduate of the Army Chemical Operations School, the Army Airborne School, Army Military Intelligence Basic Non-commissioned Officers Course, the Defense Language Institute, the Department of Defense Signal Intelligence School, the Intelligence Officer Basic Course, and the Military Intelligence Captains' Career Course. His awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star (two awards), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (three awards), the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal (four awards), the Combat Action Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.



Our afternoon talk was presented by Dr. Seth Jones. Dr. Jones was most recently a plans officer and senior advisor to the Commanding General, U.S. Special Operations Forces, in Afghanistan. He is the author of *In the Graveyard of Empires: America's War in Afghanistan* (W. W. Norton, 2009) and *The Rise of European Security Cooperation* (Cambridge University Press, 2007). He is a Senior Political Scientist at RAND and has taught at Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service and the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School. He has visited Afghanistan and Pakistan regularly since September 11, 2001 to assess the state of the insurgencies. Jones has published articles on Afghanistan, Pakistan, and other national security issues in a range of academic and policy journals such as *International Security*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *The National Interest*, *Security Studies*, *Chicago Journal of International Law*, *International Affairs*, and *Survival*. He has also published widely in a range of newspapers and magazines such as the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and *Newsweek*. Among his many RAND publications are *Counterinsurgency in Pakistan* (2010), *Counterinsurgency in Afghanistan* (2008) and *How Terrorist Groups End: Lessons for Countering Al Qaeda* (2008). Jones received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

2006 Military History Seminar



Sir Michael Howard, one of the world's leading military historians, gave the keynote address at the 23rd Military History Seminar at University of North Texas on October 14, 2006. His topic was "War Among the Peoples" and his talk was a consideration of 21st century strategy and warfare.