



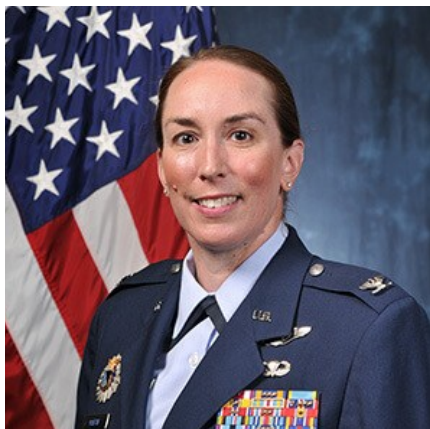
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Falcon Footnote

Volume 33, April 2025

Academic Year 2024-2025

Commander's Call: Colonel Meg Martin



Hello DFHers past and present! It is great to be back in the Department after five semesters as the Vice Dean. Although I enjoyed the challenges of the position and serving the Academy from a different role, it is wonderful to be back among the excellent historians of our current Department. Colonel Matt Dietz did a superb job leading DFH during my absence, and I am grateful for his service. Department majors enrollment and opportunities flourished during his tenure, as did faculty publications and Department outreach. We will celebrate his retirement in June and ideally have more to say about him in our summer edition.

We are in the “downhill”

part of the academic year—after the Spring Break and rushing headlong to graduation. It has been a busy year, and we look forward to giving robust updates on faculty publications, cadet accomplishments, and travel in the June and September editions of the *Footnote*. Our year has been shaped in large part by the arrival of our twenty-second Superintendent, Lieutenant General Tony Bauernfeind. He arrived with a deep commitment to warfighter readiness, and his vision for Warfighters to Win, Leaders of Character and Quality, and Critical Thinkers to Adapt, has been a natural complement to the nine Institutional Outcomes and the learning objectives nested within core and elective History courses. We continue to refine our curriculum to ensure adequate understanding of air power and space power history and to offer cultural understanding of allies and peer competitors alike. The deep and diverse expertise and operational experience of our faculty members has proven to be of

great value to our cadets and the institution as we implement new leadership vision. Many of you are also aware that our eleventh Dean, Brigadier General Linell A. Letendre, will retire at the end of May. General Letendre has been a committed friend of DFH and consistently advocated for funding and support for our cadet-focused programs and faculty research. There has been no announcement yet of her replacement.

DFH remains committed to growing our cadets as historians and as leaders of character for the Air Force and Space Force. We are excited to launch the class of 2025 in a few short weeks and then pivot to welcome the class of 2029. Thanks for making time to stay plugged into the Department and please share news of the DFH Alumni Association with any former faculty or cadets you are in contact with who may not be connected. As always, our Department alumni have my sincere thanks and appreciation because “once a DFHer, always a DFHer!”

Alumni Association:

Larry Weaver

To join the DFH Alumni Association, go to our website [here](#) and fill out the form. It only takes a few minutes, and it is free.



Welcome to the Spring '25 edition of the *Falcon Footnote*! The good news is winter is over and summer is on the horizon. However, for you future planners out there, a critical fall event needs to be on your calendar. We are planning the second DFH

Alumni reunion for **14-16 October**. Details and registration data will follow by email and will be included in the June *Footnote*. So pull out your calendar and block those days off so that you can join us!

For those of you in the Washington area or inclined to travel in that direction, the Air Force Historical Foundation symposium is on 21 May with the dinner on 22 May. Registration details are included in this edition. Please read and re-read Colonel Martin's Commander's Call. She has returned to the department just in time to lead in a period of

rapid change. We look forward to updates on those changes as they occur, and if you have questions, please send them our way and we will work to answer them. Meanwhile, remember rumors grow bigger with each telling. The fish I caught last summer has blossomed to over 6 feet.

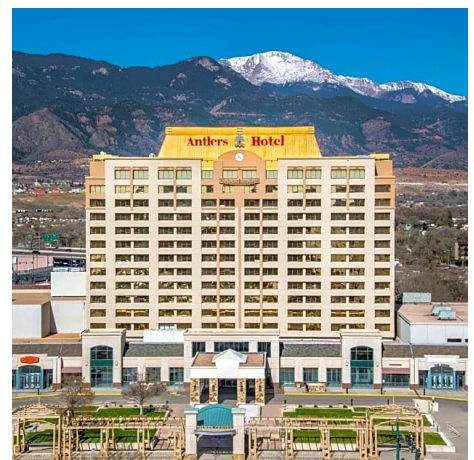
As always, I want to thank the *Footnote* team for another great edition, and if you are reading this and you have not become a member of the alumni association, please go to the link above and join today!



The dates for the DFH Alumni reunion 2025 are set for 14 -16 October. It is time to start thinking about this fall and where you want to be! Join us for the second DFH Alumni reunion. You made the first reunion in 2023 a great success and we know this one will be even better. We are building the

Save the Date: DFHAA Reunion 2025

agenda, and it will include your favorites such as class visits, department updates, a memorial service, possible tours of the "chapel in a box" and the new stadium addition, and a banquet recognizing our distinguished alumni. We will be based out of the Antlers Hotel on South Cascade Avenue in Colorado Springs. Look for registration details soon!



Superintendent Bauernfeind's article in *Checkpoints*

The most recent issue of [Checkpoints](#) includes an article by Lieutenant General Bauernfeind, '91. The Superintendent explains how he is reshaping the cadet experience to prepare leaders ready to fight the day after graduation.



By Lt. Gen. Tony Bauernfeind '91

on warfighting, leadership, and critical thinking in order to forge the leaders our Air Force and Space Force need to deter our adversaries, and should deterrence fail, fight and win our Nation's wars. The following outlines the changes we are implementing at USAFA to achieve this mission.

UPDATED MISSION AND PRIORITIES

The President gave the Department of Defense a clear mission — to achieve Peace through Strength. Our Secretary of Defense outlined his three priorities that will achieve that mission, chief among them restoring the warrior ethos. We are American Warriors in the Air Force and Space Force, and that is reflected in our updated mission statement:

"We will forge leaders of character, motivated to a lifetime of service, and developed to lead our Air Force and Space Force as we fight and win our Nation's wars."

Our priorities are derived from our mission and are built on the foundation of our Air Force and Space Force Core Values:

Integrity, Service, Excellence, Courage, Character, Connection, and Commitment. Building on these foundations, focused on universal military standards, and grounded by our Honor Code, our priorities are:

- Forging Warfighters to Win
- Inspiring Leaders of Character and Quality
- Motivating Critical Thinkers to Adapt

Warfighting is not a job — it is a mindset. Our transformation will ensure our cadets are ready to lead Day 1 after their commissioning. The warrior ethos our Nation needs must focus on readiness — physical, mental, spiritual, and within our families — driving us to be offensively-minded, masters of our craft, and team builders who overcome adversity. Our mission, priorities, and warfighting training are the bedrock of developing Warfighters to Win.

Leaders of Character and Quality make the right decision, the right way, even if unpopular. They value teamwork, hold each other accountable, and build each other up to exceed the standards. Leaders set the vision for their team, fight for

We are in a Time of Consequence, facing threats from every corner of the world and in all domains. Our adversaries have watched and learned the American way of war over the last three decades, so we must adapt and continue to field lethal, warfighting teams, or risk losing future conflicts.

From China setting 2027 as a readiness target, to Iranian war games, and the new Russian nuclear doctrine, this Time of Consequence demands swift and sweeping action. We will answer the challenge and focus our Military Service Academy

resources needed to succeed, and knock down barriers to ensure success. As Leaders of Character and Quality, especially when faced with the fog and friction of war, we will uphold our high standards and our honor. To that end, we will revitalize the intent, execution, and oversight of the cadet-led Honor Code, with an understanding that while sanctions from honor violations may be tiered, to include the ultimate sanction of expulsion, our Honor Code is holistic and will not be parsed.

Finally, the dynamic strategic environment of our time demands Critical Thinkers to Adapt. On modern-day and future battlefields, our leaders must innovate solutions to wicked-hard problems, while operating with limited information and Mission Command. By focusing on military readiness, rapid decision making with limited data, exercising mission command, and managing operational risk, our cadets will be ready to face a changing world.

ENFORCING OUR STANDARDS

For this Academic Year, we focused on returning to the basics of military training and standards for all USAFA personnel. This includes a common Uniform of the Day for staff and cadets. We are one team, and our unity is reflected through a standard uniform.

Additionally, we reinstated weekly Morning Formations and Noon Meal Formation each weekday. This builds muscle memory among our future officers who, as supervisors, will check on their subordinates daily. For faculty and staff, we implemented quarterly formations and uniform inspections. These routine, recurring formations serve an important purpose by bringing the unit together, providing accountability, and promoting unit cohesion.

Standards and accountability are critical to good order and discipline. Of greater importance, standards and accountability are vital to modern warfare, where precision, professionalism, tactical contracts, and trust are the bedrock of the complex military activities inherent in our tactics, techniques, and procedures.

We are laser focused on executing the sets and reps required to instill enhanced

standards and accountability in USAFA's muscle memory.

UPGRADING MILITARY TRAINING

To instill the warrior ethos among our future leaders, we are training on fundamental warfighter skills. Our foundational warfighter training will prepare cadets to shoot, move, communicate, medicate, and automate. Some may call this Army training, but the face of modern warfare has evolved — this is joint warfare. These are the skills our joint force requires, where our warriors will fight to deploy from their bases, fight into theater, and fight from theater in pulsed operations to achieve the strategic advantage our joint force requires.

At full capacity, our warfighting training will require every cadet to qualify on two weapons each year. We can no longer afford to provide familiarization training and rely on the active-duty units to provide just-in-time training. A more lethal force requires Airmen and Guardians who are proficient and confident in their weapons and engagement techniques.

As the Air Force and Space Force build the capability to rapidly establish and fight from small forward airfields, Airmen and Guardians must be capable across multiple specialty codes. Cadet squadrons, as the foundational Unit of Action, will learn to execute Agile Combat Employment concepts by quickly establishing, sustaining, generating an exemplar of combat power, and defending forward operating locations.

Cadet squadrons will execute command and control, through mission-type orders, at all echelons, to generate combat power. They will understand and execute commander's intent to succeed in an environment where communications will be denied or degraded. While cadets will develop resilient command and control centers, they must also prepare for a "Day Without Space" or a "Day Without Comms" to enable decentralized execution to accomplish the mission.

Cadets will learn and execute enhanced life-saving medical skills necessary in combat conditions. As we pivot to high-end warfare, the concept of the "Golden Hour," where we had high confidence that

medical care or rescue would occur within an hour, it is not a guarantee. Airmen and Guardians must have the skills to immediately care for their teammates in contested, hostile environments, while still generating combat power to defeat our adversaries.

In our rapidly changing environment, cadets will learn to utilize automated systems and processes to increase their speed of decision making, enable their defense, and assist the generation of combat power. Our cadets will embrace the power of automation and the understanding that the military force who moves out with automation first, gains the competitive advantage.

We are in the crawl phase of our military training efforts. For the run phase, the long-term vision is for our cadets to own their training. They will be resourced appropriately, understand their mission, lead their squadrons through their training and mission requirements, and be evaluated against defined standards through Fall and Spring culminating exercises.

Finally, modern warfare requires warrior-leaders who understand effects delivered from the Air, Space, and Cyber domains. As we evolve our warfighter training, we will develop programs to ensure our graduates appreciate the organizations, doctrine, tactics, and procedures involved with generating Air, Space, and Cyber effects for the joint force.

EVOLVING THE FOUR-CLASS SYSTEM, RECOGNITION-PROMOTION

As cadets gain, improve, and test warfighter skills throughout their time at the Academy, they will also gain, improve and test their leadership competencies. Historically, our Academy placed a great emphasis on stress-focused training, with limited military value, during the four-degree year. We are evolving to an intensive, military-focused, progressive training at the team and unit levels that spans their entire 47-month developmental program.

As four-degrees, cadets will focus on becoming strong followers and good teammates with a focus on basic military skills and junior Airman-level responsibilities. They will gain the

experience and knowledge throughout their first year to build the confidence and skills to teach and mentor the next class.

As they move to their three-degree year, cadets will transition to front-line, engaged supervisors taking on the responsibilities of non-commissioned officers and supervising fourth-class cadets in their flights. As three-degrees, cadets will teach, motivate, mentor, and be responsible for those under their supervision, while taking direction from their upperclassmen.

As cadets progress into their two-degree year, they will focus on being team and element leaders, where they will continue to supervise other cadets. They will be the primary military training instructors (shoot, move, communicate, medicate, automate), and take on increased responsibility, learning specialized roles within the squadrons, identify resource shortfalls, and begin to manage operational risk.

During their senior year, our firsties will become Unit Leaders managing every level, while taking responsibility for a healthy command climate. These leaders will plan and execute unit training and military exercises, and ensure team success, while understanding and managing risk and resources.

Aligning our four-class system into a follower/teammate, front-line engaged supervisor, team leader, and unit leader model enables us to train, test, and certify each cadet on required leadership skills — skills necessary in our Air Force and Space Force. As cadets progress through their leadership development, we will evaluate their progress through Fall and Spring CULEXs. These CULEXs serve as a comprehensive training exercise, comprised of field training and three focused events to assess cadet readiness, leadership, and operational competencies.

Cadets who successfully meet the defined standards, will be **RECOGNIZED** for their performance, and **PROMOTED** to the next grade. Those who fall short, will be provided time and resources to meet the standards, ideally before the beginning of the next academic year. We expect to build on this year's CULEX to develop more challenging and in-depth scenarios, while

procuring the warfighting equipment necessary for realistic training.

OPERATIONALIZING THE ACADEMY

At the end of our 47-month program, our cadets will be Airmen and Guardians ready to lead their teams on Day 1. As we evolve our training and mindset as an institution, we must also change our structure and nomenclature to best prepare cadets for their time as officers.

The cadet squadron, led by the squadron commander, is our Unit of Action and must represent the squadrons and units within the Air Force and Space Force. We have restructured our squadrons to align with the updated roles and responsibilities, mirroring Air Force and Space Force operational units.


The cadet squadron A-staff provides firsties and two-degrees the experiences unique to staff functions (A1 – Admin/Personnel, A2 – Intel, A3 – Operations, A4/6 – Logistics/Comm). From addressing personnel matters, exercise planning, fixing comm outages, to embracing pride in ownership of our facilities, A-staff opportunities give our future leaders front-line experience on how our Air Force and Space Force operate. Of special note and aligned to our warfighter training, we established the A2, an Intelligence Operations Division, in our Headquarters staff and within each cadet squadron to provide regular intelligence briefs to cadets. These briefs prepare cadets for the complex

state of the world and the threats we face.

FOCUSING ON WARFIGHTERS TO WIN

The United States Air Force Academy will be a premier Military Service Academy, forging leaders of character who are motivated to a lifetime of service. Our graduates will be prepared to lead the Air Force and Space Force as warfighting officers, ready to lead lethal, warfighting teams to deter our adversaries, and should deterrence fail, win our Nation's wars.

Through rigorous, adversary-focused military training, a nationally recognized academic program, and a culture of highly competitive athletics, we will develop graduates who exemplify unwavering courage and a deep commitment to honor and integrity. Our world-class installation, professional and dedicated permanent party, and engaged alumni ensure we will be the Nation's preeminent institution for developing leaders prepared to answer our Nation's call.

We must forge Warfighters to Win. We must inspire Leaders of Character and Quality. We must motivate Critical Thinkers to Adapt. At the end of their 47 months at our USAFA, our cadets will be the warrior-leaders our Nation deserves. 

Lt. Gen. Tony D. Bauernfeind '91 is the 22nd superintendent of the U.S. Air Force Academy.



DFHAA Committee Updates

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- ⇒ **Affinity Group:** (Larry Weaver) The DFH Alumni Association is an affinity group supported by the AOG/Foundation. It serves as a coordinating body for providing support to the department by developing the mutual ties of former department members and history majors as well as a select group who share the need for providing support for department projects and research. Our relationship with the AOG/Foundation allows us to operate with no overhead. The affinity group is working to support such events as the Harmon Memorial Lecture series, the *Falcon Footnote*, the website, our YouTube channel, reunions, and other efforts as we mature. The Affinity Group meets once a month on Zoom and if you are interested in joining our next meeting, please contact Larry Weaver at laweaverphd@gmail.com for the next meeting time and date.
- ⇒ **Harmon Memorial Lecture:** (Larry Weaver) The Harmon Committee developed a history and criteria for speaker selection. The effort seeks to aid in the process of nurturing the Air Force Academy's longest running speaker series. John Hurley, son of Brigadier General Alfred Hurley, Permanent Professor and Department Head from 1966-1980, is the major supporter of the lecture series, and he serves as part of the team. The Department requested this year's Harmon be delivered between October 14-16, the date and speaker to be finalized.
- ⇒ **Fogleman Project:** (Mark Clodfelter) The effort to fund a bronze statue of General Ronald Fogleman (USFA '63) and his wife, "Miss Jane," continues, with our proposal having been submitted to the USAFA Memorial Fund Committee for review. Estimated costs for the statue, which will appear adjacent to the Class of 1963 Exhibit in Arnold Hall, run between \$100,000 and \$110,000, with donations hopefully beginning this summer. The sculptor, Jim Nance (USFA '71), hopes to begin the project no later than August 2025 to allow completion and dedication in concert with the Class of 1963's 63rd gathering in June 2016.
- ⇒ **Friends of DFH:** (Darrel Whitcomb) We currently have 27 DFH Friends registered on our [website](#). I periodically send invites to veterans groups with dwindling results. Many of you are well connected through your service and professional endeavors. If you know anyone who would like to become a member, please reach out and invite them to join.
- ⇒ **DFHAA Reunion:** (Donna Clodfelter) The History Department Alumni Association reunion is slated for Tuesday—Thursday, October 14-16, at the Antler's Hotel in downtown Colorado Springs. Room rates will be \$165/night plus tax, while daily parking will be \$24 valet, or \$19 self-park. Evening events include a reception, a banquet, and the Harmon Memorial Lecture. We're also looking into some unique tour possibilities. We anticipate registration to begin in June; more details to follow.
- ⇒ **Falcon Footnote:** (Brenda Roth) We are publishing about 4 *Footnotes* every year. The Spring edition is devoted to the Department, while we use the Fall edition mostly for Alumni news. We have 362 Alumni and Friends who receive the newsletter.

Gone But Not Forgotten: Brigadier General Malham Wakin, DFP

One of the first Permanent Professors at USAFA – Brigadier General Malham Wakin (1931-2024) -- [passed away in July of last year](#). For many years he was Permanent Professor of Philosophy, and in different reorganizations he also headed Political Science and Fine Arts. He was a great friend of DFH, led the Humanities Division for many years, and was respected by members of DFH and cadets. Except for a tour in Vietnam, he taught at the Academy from 1959 to 1994 on active duty and continued until 2016 as an emeritus professor – 57 years of teaching at the Academy. The book he edited, *War, Morality, and the Military Profession* (first edition, 1979), was on the professional reading list of General and SECDEF James Mattis.



Help Us Find Them

The following are faculty members in which we have no address at all. We need your help finding them. If you know how to reach out to any of the following, please let us know. Contact either Larry Weaver (laweaverphd@gmail.com) or Brenda Roth (brerot@gmail.com).

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| • Charles M. Bowling | • Doug Foster | • Nicholas Miles | • Deborah Schmitt |
| • Christi E. Campbell | • Robert A. Gay | • Edward A. Miller | • Mark E. Scott |
| • Phillip M. Carr | • Robert Horne | • William P. Moody | • Jeff Smith |
| • Dawn R. Conrady | • Richard E. James | • Brian J. Nicholson | • Rogers M. Smith |
| • Robert J. Cooper | • Laura Johnson | • Charles A. Nicholson | • Charles Wells |
| • Philip L. Driskill | • John J. Jones | • David E. Parker | • James M. Wright |
| • Robert Duman | • Richard D. Kennedy | • Thomas A. Phillips | • Karl H. Zimmerman |
| • Scott W. Elder | • Neil D. Martin | • Raymond M. Platt | |
| • Peter Faber | • Mike McDermott | • Dean E. Rice | |
| • Theodore M. Faurer | • Matthew McKenzie | • Ted L. Roberts | |



Become A Member: [Become a Member - Air Force Historical Foundation](#)

AFHF Website: afhistory.org/

The Journal of the AFHF: afhistory.org/journal-of-the-air-force-historical-foundation/

SYMPOSIUM and MUSEUMS CONFERENCE AND AWARDS BANQUET

21-22 May 2025

Stephen F. Udvar-Hazy Center, Chantilly, VA

Go to this [link](#) to register

***A Few Great Captains* by DeWitt S. Copp (new and enhanced edition)**

It was known as the Army Air Corps from 1926 to 1941, and it was in many ways a golden age. The technology of flight was advancing in great leaps, and it was glamorous. Aces of the World War such as Eddie Rickenbacker and Frank Luke were heroes still, and then there were new faces—Charles Lindbergh, Jimmy Doolittle, Horace Hickam, and the like. Also, in the Air Corps were energetic and farsighted young officers who envisioned a new type of war that would be dependent on airpower. This vision was in direct contradiction to that of the ground officers who actually ran the Army. Sparks flew.

Pete Copp tells this story with unusual verve and insight. His research was prodigious, and he speaks eloquently of the times—dominated by the bang of the Roaring Twenties and giving way to the kaboom of the Great Depression. It was a feast and famine environment for most of America, but for the Air Corps it was mostly famine. Technology nonetheless moved ahead as rickety biplanes of wood and fabric gave way to sleek monoplanes of metal. Speed went from the Wright brothers' blistering 7 mph over the windy beach at Kitty Hawk to over 400 mph three decades later. Aircraft would dominate the world war soon to erupt.

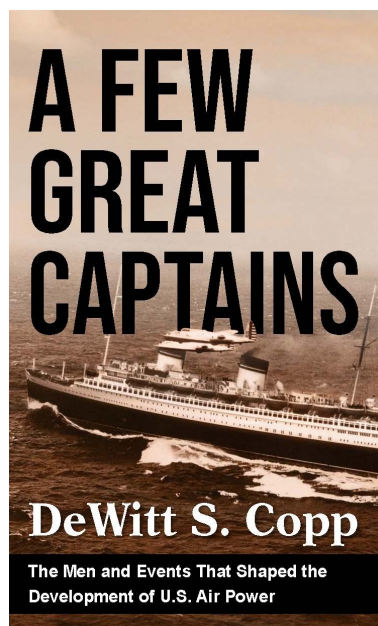
As for people, Billy Mitchell cast a long shadow over the early years of this story, and his disciples carried on with his ideas afterwards: Hap Arnold, Tooey Spaatz, Ira Eaker, Frank Andrews, and even Benny Foulois—who was no friend of Mitchell's but who shared the same hopes for the air weapon. It is all here in this wonderful classic.

Go to this link to get to the AFHF download webpage.

[RESEARCH - Air Force Historical Foundation](#)

Foreword to *A Few Great Captains*

By Phil Meilinger, '70 (DFH 1978-1979, 1986-1989)



DeWitt “Pete” Copp wrote a very good book over forty years ago. When I first read it back then I was struck by how interesting it was—it put a face on famous airmen I had read about, and in some cases had met in their old age. When reading it again recently and having studied airpower history for the past several decades, I was even more impressed by the power and authenticity of Copp’s insights and narrative. I now realize [*A Few Great Captains*](#) is a classic.

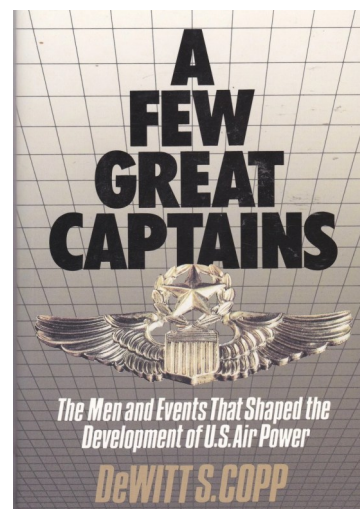
Copp focuses on the Army Air Corps. Surprisingly, there has been relatively little written on those fifteen years, 1926-41—

the world wars before and after overshadow them. Yet, this was the golden age of the air arm when ideas were formed, technology was developed, tested and fielded, and people were groomed. The last is key. Copp shows us the “great captains”—those who would lead the Army Air Forces during World War II—when they were young officers. We see them making mistakes, learning lessons, experiencing failure and setbacks, and then growing and becoming leaders. The term



“great captains” is an old one coined to denote those military leaders—generals, field marshals and sovereigns—who had headed great armies successfully in war. There were a limited number of such commanders, and Copp’s aim is to include American air leaders within this illustrious group.

We follow here the lives and careers of those who were or who would later become heroes: Billy Mitchell, Ben Foulois, Hap Arnold, Tooeey Spaatz, Ira Eaker, Frank Andrews, George Kenney, Jimmy Doolittle and many others. Some who seemed destined for greatness died, usually in airplane crashes, before their time: Horace Hickam, Oscar Westover, Bert Dargue, Hal George, Robert Olds and Clarence Tinker. It is also important that Copp also mentions what could be termed “the great lieutenants,” the next generation of those who worked for the giants above and later became famous themselves and were leaders in the new Air Force that followed the war.



The book jacket from the 1980 release of the book

An Interview With Tom Keaney '62 (DFH 1973-1977)

Grad, Pilot, Commander, Historian, Educator

Falcon Footnote: Tell us about your career.

Keaney: Without intending to, my career divided between academia and operational Air Force assignments. Following Academy graduation and pilot training, I was assigned to the Strategic Air Command and flew B-47s in New Hampshire until the "Stratojet" was retired, then moved to flying B-52s in Arkansas. By 1969, the Air Force began taking officers from their present assignments and then to serve in Vietnam, including me. I had a year-long tour flying small planes (the O-1 "Bird Dog" and the O-2 "Skymaster") as a forward air controller (FAC).

Now 8 years after graduation, the History Department sent me to grad school at the



C1C Keaney

University of Michigan for an MA and then extended me for another year to obtain a PhD, something that would be of additional value later.

After teaching in DFH for four years, I returned to flying

B-52s, this time in Texas. As a more senior officer, I quickly moved from flight commander and instructor, then to Guam to command of the B-52 Bomb Squadron on Guam. Then, after schooling and a Pentagon staff assignment I became a base commander in Michigan. That ended my operational Air Force career, and I returned to academia, joining the faculty of the National War College in Washington as course director and department head. I re



Captain Keaney and O-2

tired from the Air Force while I was at the NWC but continued as a civilian faculty member – a total of ten years. Next, I was invited to teach strategy at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), a long name for the Hopkins foreign affairs graduate school. I remained there for another nineteen years before retiring, though I still teach a course there. So, without meaning to, my one tour teaching at DFH turned into a much larger and

longer venture, all of which I enjoyed.

FF: You taught at DFH in the 1970s from 1973 to 1977. What courses did you teach? And you returned to the Academy as an MSS instructor for a year in 2011. What changes did you notice?

Keaney: My degree is in European history, so I taught that elective/advanced course each year, plus teaching the core courses in military history and World history. I had the same regular teaching load as other instructors.

Yes, while at Hopkins in 2011, I was invited to be visiting professor for a year in the Department of Military and Strategic Studies. That was the appropriate place, since I had been teaching strategy for years rather than history.

In 2011, I noticed many changes since my time in DFH as well as my time as a cadet. First, the cadets all dressed in fatigues and boots and carried water bottles, computers, and backpacks. I was very apprehensive about teaching undergraduates since I had not done so since the mid-seventies. But in the first class I knew right away, "I know these guys." Another change I saw was in the faculty. In the 1970s, DFH was all male, all military, and made up mostly of company grade officers, there for four years and moving on.

FF: After you retired from the USAF, you wrote two vol-

umes of the Gulf War Air Power Survey with Eliot Cohen. Tell us about that project and some of your conclusions.

Keaney: That project, commissioned by the Secretary of the Air Force in order to get an independent judgement on the success of air operations in the 1991 war, operated apart and without Air Force control. The results were published without Air Force coordination. There developed a great deal of friction as a result, probably a normal response in dealing with an outside agency.

In brief, here are two main conclusions. With the advent of precision weapons and stealth, entire target sets became vulnerable to air strikes. For instance, within the first week of the war, Coalition air operations had dismembered the Iraqi air defense system and much else. As a result, Coalition air forces achieved and could exploit almost complete air mastery over Iraq.

Finally, any target that could be observed and tracked could be destroyed. The corollary was -- without good intelligence of a target system, inflicting damage was problematic. For instance, during the war little was known about the Iraqis' nuclear weapons program, and thus there was only limited damage to the program. The destruction came through the United Nations inspections after the war.

FF: You taught strategy at SAIS. What did the students already understand about strategy and the US armed



Professor Keaney

forces? And what more did they need to know?

Keaney: I taught at SAIS for 19 years, retiring in 2017, though I still teach courses there. I just completed teaching Air Power and Strategy -- a course I designed and have taught for the last ten years. In my time at SAIS, I have taught this course and about five others. The school's student body includes perhaps half coming with previous work experience, the rest coming directly from undergraduate institutions, but all students arrive with very varied experiences. A sizable minority of the students have military experience, with a few still on active duty, being sent by their service or command to obtain an advanced degree. And overall, at the school, approximately one third of the students come from other countries. For most of the students, the study of strategy is entirely new to them. I should point out that though I teach courses in military affairs and strategy, the school itself focuses on many other areas, such as international economics, law, environmental studies, among other specialties. I don't consider

those fields divorced from strategy, more that they look at non-military aspects and influences on strategy.

FF: Must strategists have studied history?

Keaney: A resounding yes! I say that because the study of history has been invaluable to me. I have not taught a history course since the 1970s at DFH—since then my experience was teaching strategy. But I do that through the use of history and the experiences that engenders. I could not do it any other way. Having said that, I know others teach strategy from a political science perspective, using theories of international affairs and other associated methods. I can't do that, and the institutions I have taught at, particularly SAIS, fortunately are very policy-oriented, not theory-oriented. (Think "what happened?" or "what you want to happen?" -- theoretical or not. That's a less than elegant way to put it, so don't press me too hard on the analogy.) In any case, history has been a congenial way for me to organize my thoughts and my teaching. Yes, I have friends who are political scientists, and we disagree. [DMB]



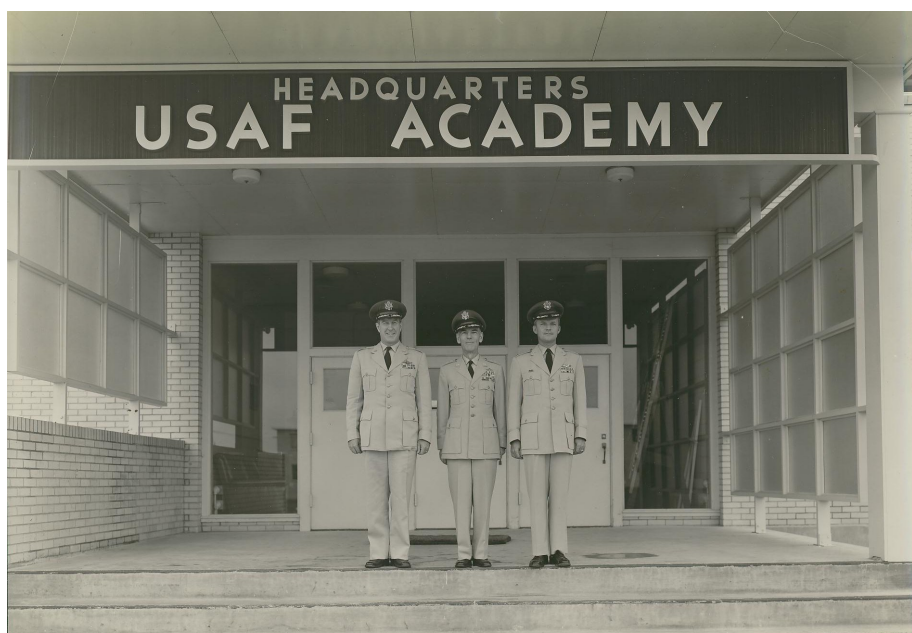
International Commission of Military History To Convene in Senegal

Paul Pitman, the Secretary General of the US Commission on Military History (USCMH), is a historian at the Department of State. He has passed the word that this year the Congress of the International Commission of Military History (ICMH) will be held from August 31 to September 5, 2025, in Dakar, Senegal. The theme is "Rebellions, Secessions, and Sovereignty in Contemporary Times (1800-the present)." A panel chaired by USCMH Vice President Janice McKenney will select three or more papers for presentation at regular sessions of the conference. Membership in the US Commission is required to participate in the conference. The USCMH will award up to three \$1,500 travel grants to assist graduate students and/or younger scholars who deliver papers at the conference.

The 2026 Congress will be held in Foz do Iguacu, Brazil.

Former DFHer Don Bishop has been a member of the USCMH since 1987, when he gave a paper at the ICMH Congress in Seoul. In recent years he and his wife have joined the congresses in Jerusalem, Sofia, and Lisbon. Attendees at the ICMH congresses, in addition to the academic sessions, meet military historians from other countries, visit military museums, are hosted by senior military leaders, and enjoy guided historical tours of capital cities and nearby battlefields. For more on USCMH, visit the website at: <https://www.uscmh.org/>

*International Commission
of Military History*



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The 1982 World History Teaching Conference

In 2018, two scholars reviewed changes in the teaching of world and global history at colleges and universities. Sven Beckert (Harvard) and Dominic Sachsenmaier (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen) edited [*Global History, Globally*](#).

Here are some excerpts from the chapter in the volume by Jerry H. Bentley (who taught at the University of Hawaii before his death). He addressed how teaching World History gradually replaced the traditional focus on “Western Civ” -- and how a conference sponsored by DFH from May 12-14, 1982, helped spark the establishment of the World History Association later that year. Bentley wrote:

“Until the 1980s, the world history project was the work of individual scholars, some of whom knew one another and formed loose networks, but most of whom worked more or less independently. As individual scholars, the early

world historians enjoyed the general respect of their colleagues for their basic research and publications, but the field of world history was invisible in the landscape of the history profession. There were numerous survey courses of world history at the levels of both secondary and higher education, although these courses varied wildly in approach: a few undertook a serious effort at global historical analysis, along the lines [Leften] Stavrianos [University of California, San Diego] had promoted, but many were basically courses in Western civilization with perhaps a bit of attention to other parts of the world.

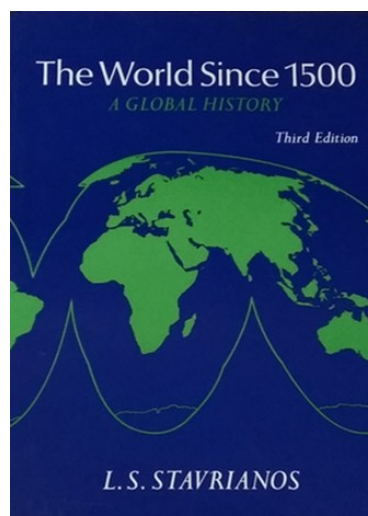
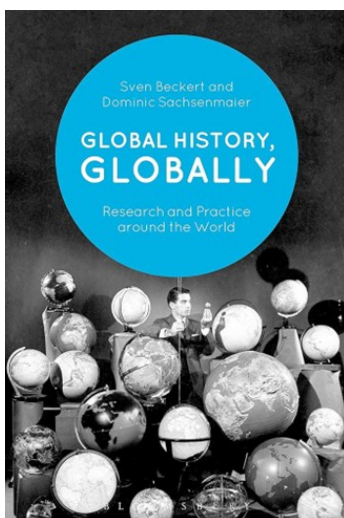
“The world history project began to achieve institutional form in the 1980s. First came the WHA, which a group of young world historians founded in 1982. The WHA was the immediate outgrowth of a teaching conference sponsored by the

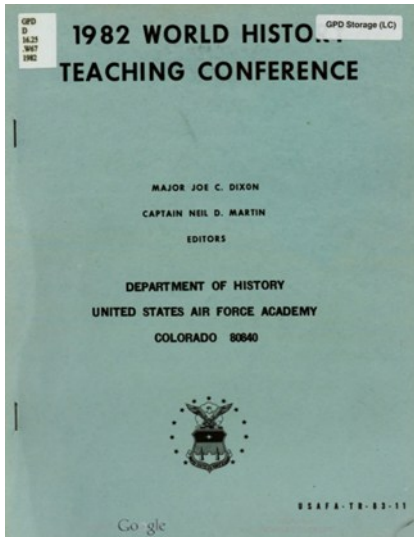
American Historical Association (AHA) in cooperation with the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

“Opened in 1954 as the youngest of the US military academies, the USAFA recognized early on that it needed to educate cadets—many of whom would serve in distant lands—about the world beyond North America. In 1968, the USAFA established a survey course in modern world history, rather than Western civilization, as its required introductory course.

“Firmly committed to this course, but without a large permanent faculty of professional historians, the USAFA called on the AHA for guidance. The result was the [*World History Teaching Conference*](#) (May 12–14, 1982), which was held on the campus of the USAFA. The atmosphere of the 1982 conference was electric.

“Since they had publicly announced the conference only in April 1982, organizers anticipated no more than forty or fifty attendees. In fact, more than 180 historians made their way from New York, California, Hawai'i and elsewhere into the Rocky Mountains and converged on Colorado Springs—at precisely the moment that a late





spring blizzard also made its appearance—forcing the organizers to scramble to arrange lodging, transportation, food and logistics.”

Giving the keynote address at the conference was William McNeill.

Bentley continued, “World history was not yet a recognized field in the larger discipline of history, but there clearly was a deep reservoir of interest in the approach. The conference program featured major presentations by William H. McNeill, Ross E. Dunn, Kevin Reilly, Cyril E. Black and Craig A. Lockard, among others. Participants included many who later figured as prominent leaders of the WHA and the larger world history project.

“Although the announced focus of the conference was the teaching of world history, several participants—especially Lockard and myself—argued that in order to flourish, world history need-

ed a research dimension that established comparative and crosscultural analyses as appropriate approaches to understand the global past.

“The idea of founding a professional association of world historians had been an item of discussion at least since 1980. One effect of the 1982 conference at the USAFA was to bring a critical mass of energetic historians together, and one of the principal topics of conversation during the conference was the formation of a world history association.

“During the following months, a core group of individuals, including Reilly, Dunn, Lockard and others, worked out a plan for a group they proposed to call ‘World History Association.’ At the next annual conference of the AHA, they called a meeting of interested parties, and more than a hundred participants voted to found the WHA and elect Reilly president pro tempore until the organization could organize membership, draft a constitution and hold regular elections. As Reilly said in his public announcement of the events, “A World History Association was established December 28, 1982, at the AHA meeting in Washington, DC.” * * *

“With support from Drexel University in Philadelphia, the WHA began to publish a

biennial newsletter, the World History Bulletin, in the spring of 1983. The new organization also began to sponsor sessions on world history at the annual AHA conference, and a group of energetic members in the Rocky Mountain region teamed up with the USAFA to hold several additional teaching conferences in Colorado Springs. In 1992, the WHA organized the first of its own international conferences. The purpose of the 1982 conference at the USAFA was to promote teaching in world history, and much of the early work of the WHA revolved around teaching issues. Yet from the beginning, the organization took research and publication as equally important dimensions of world history.”

The members of DFH who were previously engaged in pioneering World History at the Academy were Alfred H. Hurley, Carl Reddel, DVP Thomas McGann, Thomas A. Keaney, Malcolm Shaw, Russell W. Mank, Jr., and Edward P. Brynn – all contributors to the volume [World History in Liberal Military Education](#) (1979). Movers and shakers in the 1982 conference were Joe Dixon, John H. Albert, former DVP John M. Thompson (then at Dartmouth), Neil Martin, and Richard J. Mueller. [DMB]

Darkness in the City of Light

A book by Michael Neiberg (DFH 1998-2005)

Michael Neiberg (DFH 1998-2005) has written a new book, *Darkness in the City of Light* (under contract with Penguin Random House's Transworld Imprints). The book is a study of the Paris World's Fair in 1937. Mike used the fair's nine national pavilions to examine Europe as it slid from peace to war. The Fair featured a Palestine pavilion to encourage Jewish migration out of Europe, and an American pavilion that opened three months late because Congress couldn't authorize the money in time.

The book will use the World's Fair to explore the power competition and ideological contests in this critical year.

The "highlight" of the Fair, such as it was, were the two

"gesticulating colossi" of the USSR and German pavilions. The Soviets broke the unwritten rules by building a six-story pavilion. When the Nazis found out, Albert



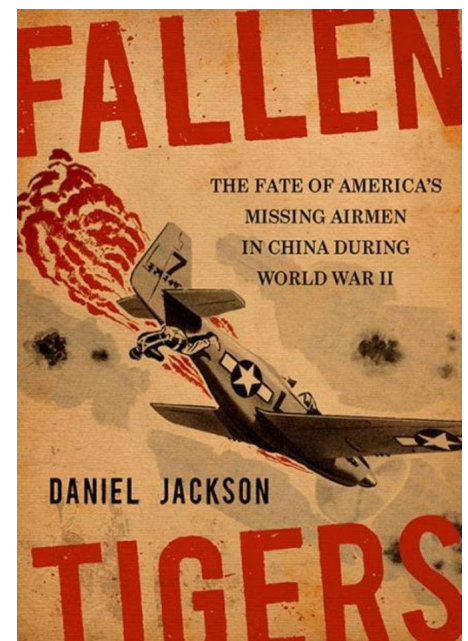
Book Review: *Fallen Tigers*

by Daniel Jackson, '09 (DFH incoming)

Professor James F. Slaughter III of Norwich University recently reviewed DFH's own Major Daniel Jackson's book, *Fallen Tigers: The Fate of America's Missing Airmen in China During World War II*, in the *Journal of Military History*. Daniel received the 2022 Air Force Historical Foundation book prize for this work, and he joins DFH this year.

Here are a few of the accolades from the review: "The archival research is admira-

ble; his impressive list of personal correspondence and interviews with many of the participants . . . is remarkable." "[T]his work breaks new ground. This is a significant contribution to the historiography and fills a void." "Jackson's treatment of complex national, cultural, social, and political relationships constitutes a compelling but easy to understand introduction to the topics . . ." As those in the 14th Air Force used to say, "*Ding hao!*"



Book Review: *Speaking of War: Quotations on Conflict*

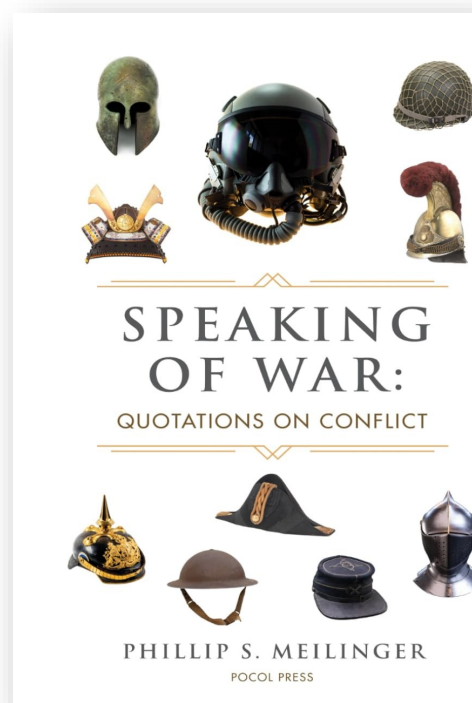
By Phillip Meilinger, '70 (DFH 1978-1979, 1986-1989)

Larry Weaver, '76 (DFH 1984-1990) recently reviewed Phillip Meilinger's latest book, [*Speaking of War: Quotations on Conflict*](#).

Here are few comments from Larry's review: "Phil has done us a great favor. He has compiled and categorized every significant quote on every stage and every level of conflict. If you are preparing a presentation, a class, or an essay, this is where you start. We all are frequent quoters of the sages of history and now we have a single source that saves time. They are categorized and listed in alphabetical order in the table of contents from Accuracy/Precision to War Termination which allows a quick turn to answer any question. You will find quotations from your favorite

political and military leaders, historians, observers and sages. This book also allows you to find that great quote and know that it is accurate (and not created on the internet for a meme.) Thus, avoiding that embarrassing moment when the great quote you used is shown to be an act of creative writing. *Speaking of War* also contains a bibliography of all the works cited so you can trace the quote back to the correct source, book, and edition and it allows you to opportunity to comment on the veracity, effectiveness, and usefulness of each quote. This book is a one stop reference that belongs in your library to help you quickly find that one quote that will make your students or readers

pay attention. When you find that perfect reference email, you will thank Phil for the time he saved you."



More Scholarship

The Marine Corps University Press has ordered a second printing of the book edited by Don Bishop (DFH 1975-1979, 2022), [*Pacifist to Padre: The World War II Memoir of Chaplain Roland B. Gittelsohn*](#) (The press will send a bound copy, at no cost, [on request](#).)

Based on Don's research in the archives of his alma mater, Trinity College in Hartford, the

student newspaper ran a [series of fifteen articles](#) on the College's alumni during the First World War, along with an [interview](#) of Don.

He had joined the 2023 conference of the Conflict Studies Working Group in Sibiu, Romania, "Shaping Nations for Conflict and War: Propaganda, Disinformation, and Strategic Communication. Implications for Policy-

makers." The whole conference volume has not yet been loaded on the web by the organizers, but his paper, "Communicating Values: Looking Back at the Four Freedoms," is available [here](#). "It's my best and most thorough treatment of how FDR's 'Four Freedoms' became shorthand for the war aims of the Allies and were integrated into the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948," Don writes.



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DFH Alumni Association YouTube Channel

The DFH Alumni Association (DFHAA) created a channel on YouTube. Currently, we have a few videos posted and we invite you to go to the channel and subscribe at this [link](#). At this point, we are using the channel to post interviews of DFHers to capture their thoughts and career remembrances, as well as their time in DFH.

Recently DFH President, Larry Weaver, and DFH alum, Mark Clodfelter, interviewed General Ronald Fogleman and that [video](#) is



on the channel. The topic is teamwork and how he and Miss Jane worked together as a team (and a married couple) to accomplish a great deal in their long and distinguished careers. We think you will find it fascinating. Stay tuned for more videos as we continue to interview our friends and colleagues. We also invite

your ideas about the channel as we go forward.

In addition to what we post on the homepage of the channel, you will see a “playlist” section that contains videos posted on other channels that we think will be of interest to our members. If you see something you think our subscribers would like, just let us know.

We hope you enjoy the channel and our efforts to communicate with everyone in this way.