

## National Archives Building Research Center

The Research Support Branch (NWCC1) at the National Archives Building (Archives I) in Washington, DC, has a multifaceted program, designed to inform researchers about National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) holdings pertaining to family and community history, as well as to assist researchers to locate files and develop research strategies.



Photo by Jermaine Scott

Reception desk at the Robert M. Warner Research Center

### Publications



Periodically, NARA staff publishes articles to expand research community awareness of NARA's holdings. By targeting state and local historical and genealogical societies with articles about the agency's holdings, we hope to reach people who otherwise would not think of the National Archives as a resource for their research. During the past few months, the staff has published the following:

Deeben, John (published):

"A Final Appeal to Capitol Hill: The U.S. House's Accompanying Papers File, 1865–1903" (*Prologue*, Vol. 39, No. 1 (Spring 2007): 51–59)

"Fighting for *Los Estados Unidos*: Hispanic Volunteers in New Mexico during the Mexican War" (*The New Mexico Genealogist* 47:2 (June 2007): 79–93)

Collins, James P. (published):

"Native Americans in the Census, 1860–1890" (*Prologue*, Vol. 38, No. 2 (Summer 2006): 54–58)

Heger, Kenneth W. (published):

"Administering the 1890 Census in the Free State: Application Files for Census Supervisors in Maryland" (*The Maryland Genealogical Society Bulletin*, Vol. 48, No. 2 (Spring 2007): 175–182)

Prechtel-Kluszens, Claire (published):

"Ohio and Mississippi River Steamboat Passenger Lists" (*National Genealogical Society (NGS) Quarterly*, Vol. 95, No. 1 (March 2007): 59–62)

"Twentieth-Century Vessel Crew Lists" (*NGS NewsMagazine*, Vol. 33, No. 2 (April–June 2007): 35–38)

Sharp, Rebecca (published):

"Their...Bedding is wet Their floors are damp: 'Pre-Bureau' Records and Civil War African American Genealogy" (*Prologue*, Vol. 39, No. 2 (Summer 2007): 56–63)

Sorrell, Rebecca (published):

"Enumerating Wisconsin's Civil War Veterans: The 1890 Special Census of Union Veterans" (*Wisconsin State Genealogical Society (WSGS) Newsletter*, Vol. 52, No. 4 (April 2007): 128–130)



Photo by Jermaine Scott

## Microfilm Publications



Staff members continue to process accessioned microfilm that documents arrivals into the United States, turning this film into National Archives microfilm publications. During the last quarter, staff completed the following National Archives microfilm publications:

- M2097, *World War II Draft Cards (4th Registration) for the State of Illinois* (326 rolls). 35 mm. RG 147.
- A3406, *Nonstatistical Manifests and Statistical Index Cards of Aliens Arriving at El Paso, Texas, 1905–27* (129 rolls). 16mm. RG 85. Contains over 575,000 arrival records.
- A3440, *Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Sweet Grass, Montana, August 1917–June 1954* (18 rolls). 16mm. RG 85. Contains over 106,000 arrival records.
- A3445, *Land Border Entries and Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Vancouver and Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, January 1894–February 1905* (7 rolls). 35mm. RG 85.
- M1994, *Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With The United States Colored Troops: Infantry Organizations, 41st Through 46th* (113 rolls). 35mm. RG 94.

## Reference Reports

Staff members produce many one-page reference reports, directing researchers to NARA microfilm publications, textual records, NARA's web site, and printed government documents pertaining to numerous research topics. The reports are extremely useful for first-time researchers as a method to explain the types of records that are available for research, as well as for suggesting a research path that can be tailored to the individual's need.

Reports fall into several general categories, including Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, residents of the District of Columbia, Military Service, Citizenship, Hispanics, Immigration, Census, and Civilian Federal Employees. Each category is color-coded for ease of reference.

During the last quarter, the staff completed ten new reference reports: three pertaining to Hispanics, one pertaining to Native Americans, five pertaining to Federal employees, and one concerning Foreign Agricultural Service records found at the National Archives facility in College Park, MD. Our newest reports are:

### Hispanics (cream paper)

- Select Records Relating to the Military Service of Hispanic Volunteers in the Old Indian Wars, 1835–55
- Select Records Relating to Military Service of Hispanic Volunteers in the Civil War, 1861–65
- Textual Records Relating to the Military Service of Volunteers from Puerto Rico in the U.S. Army: The Porto Rico Regiment of U.S. Volunteers, 1899–1901



Research room information desk at Archives I

Photo by Jermaine Scott

### Native Americans (lilac paper)

- Finding Native American Employees of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the Official Register of the United States, 1849–1925

### Federal Employees (blue paper)

- Select Government Publications Pertaining to the Lighthouse Service: The Annual Reports of the Lighthouse Board, 1852–1935
- Select Government Publications Pertaining to the Lighthouse Service: The American State Papers, 1793–1820
- Select Government Publications Pertaining to Life-Saving Service: The Annual Reports of the Life-Saving Service, 1871–1913
- Select Sources Relating to Life-Saving Service Employees, 1855–1913

## Reference Reports (cont.)

**Federal Employees (blue paper)**

- Finding Employees of the Department of State in the Official Register of the United States, 1817–1925 \*

**\*Note: Finding the *Official Register***— The *Official Register* is available at the Archives Library Information Center (ALIC) in the National Archives Building, Washington, DC. This set, however, is incomplete; early volumes from 1817 to 1830 are missing. Most U.S. Government depository libraries also carry sets of the *Official Register*, as well as many large universities and public libraries. Researchers may locate the nearest depository library by visiting [www.gpoaccess.gov/libraries.html](http://www.gpoaccess.gov/libraries.html). Some volumes of the Official Register (1883–93) are published as well in the U.S. Congressional Serial Set. See Serial Set volumes 2214–2215, 2410–2411, 2567–2568, 2764–2765, 2985–2986, and 3230–3231.

**Reference Report at the National Archives in College Park, MD (white paper)**

- Agricultural Attache Reports, 1904–84: Records of the Foreign Agricultural Service (RG 166)



Photo by Jermaine Scott

Textual Records Information Desk at Archives I

**Enhanced Finding Aids**

*This quarter staff prepared three enhanced finding aids:*

**The Foreign Agricultural Service (RG 166)**

- A **container list** for the Narrative Reports of Special Agents, Consular Officers, and Agricultural Attaches, 1971–84 (127 boxes)
- Enhanced **container lists** for the Formerly Classified Narrative Reports of Special Agents, Consular Officers, and Agricultural Attaches, 1966–70 (4 subseries, 180 boxes)
- A **file title list** for the Records of the Foreign Agricultural Service relating to Geneva Tariff Negotiations, 1949–56 (7 boxes)

**National Genealogical Society (NGS) Conference**

On May 17–18, 2007, Kenneth Heger, John Deeben, and Constance Potter of the Research Support Branch (NWCC1) attended the National Genealogical Society (NGS) Conference in Richmond, Virginia. For the first time, NGS designated a National Archives track; NARA staff presented lectures about NARA records housed in the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, and at the NARA facilities in College Park, Maryland; New York; Baltimore; and Philadelphia.

The following staff presented lectures in the NARA track:

- **Access to Archival Databases (AAD) and the Archives Research Catalog (ARC)** Lynn Goodsell (NWME) and Rebecca Warlow (NPOL)
- **Public Lands and Claims in the American State Papers and Civilian Conservation Corps Accident Reports** Kenneth Heger (NWCC1)

- **Stormy Weather: Weather Records in NARA** Kenneth Heger and Constance Potter (NWCC1)
- **The Denial of Citizenship in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York** Patrick Connelly (Philadelphia) and Dorothy Dougherty (New York)
- **Seamen's Protection Certificates, 1792–1869, and Senate Nominations, 1789–1946** John Deeben (NWCC1)
- **Civil War Tax Assessment Lists and Customs House Records** Patrick Connelly (Philadelphia)
- **Roundtable** – After Constance Potter offered a few introductory statements, the rest of the speakers and David McMillen, Acting Director of Congressional Affairs, joined her to take questions from the floor. People asked questions about the records as well as the shift in staff from reference to processing.



## Microfilm Publications Available at Order Online!

The National Archives announces several new microfilm publications which are now available at <https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/>.

- M1944, *Records of the American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historical Monuments in War Areas (The Roberts Commission), 1943–46* [RG 239, 187 rolls]
- A3380, *Microfilm Copies of Reports from the Mediterranean and European Theaters of Operations Received from the Allied Military Government, 1943–46* [RG 239, 3 rolls]
- A3383, *Card File of Japanese Works, Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection, 1946* [RG 239, 9 rolls]

These microfilm publications were made available through the Holocaust-Era Assets Records Microfilming Project (HRP).



## Self-service Document Scanner In Textual Research Room

A new self-service document scanner is now available for public and staff use in Room 2000 at the National Archives in College Park, MD (Archives II). The "Knowledge Information Center" or KIC is capable of scanning documents up to 24 by 36 inches and produces output to any USB-compatible flash drive. Customers may use their own flash drives; if they do not have their own flash drives, they may purchase 1 gigabyte flash drives for \$25 each from the Cashier's Office on the Ground floor. In addition to the

Cashier's Office, the flash drives are being sold through the NARA e-Store at <http://estore.archives.gov/> (click on *Home and Office*). As an introductory offer, the Trust Fund is giving away a \$5 copy card with the sale of each flash drive.

Currently, the cost per scan is \$0.50; this is the same price as the Minolta book scanner. *We welcome special media researchers as well as textual records users to use the scanner.*

**Extended Research Hours in  
Washington, DC, and College Park, MD**



***2007 Research Room  
Extended Hour Schedule***

On the following Thursdays and Fridays, the hours will be 9 A.M.–8:45 P.M.  
On the following Saturdays, the hours will be 8:45 A.M.–4:45 P.M.

***January–September***

- January 18–20
- February 15–17
- March 15–17
- April 19–21
- May 17–19
- June 21–23
- July 19–21
- August 16–18
- September 20–22

The schedule for days with extended hours is also available at  
[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

**Pull Time Schedule in  
Washington, DC, and College Park, MD**



***ALERT***

***Effective October 2, 2006***

***New Pull Time Schedule***

- 10 A.M.**
- 11 A.M.**
- 1:30 P.M.**
- 2:30 P.M.**

Please note: Once per month on the extended research room hour days  
(Thursday and Friday) an additional pull time will be at 3:30 P.M.

## Meet Our Staff

# Reginald Washington



Reginald Washington is the African American Genealogy Subject Specialist with the Research Support Branch (NWCC1) at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. Reginald lectures frequently on NARA's holdings relating to African American genealogy; and over the past 12 years has spoken at the conferences of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, the National Genealogical Society, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the National Institute on Genealogical Research, the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, and numerous local genealogy societies and clubs. His articles have appeared in several genealogical journals and magazines, including *Prologue*, *Ancestry*, and the *Negro History Bulletin*. He served for more than five years as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the *National Genealogical Quarterly*.

Before joining the staff of NWCC1 in 1990, Reginald served as a reference archivist in the Center for Legislative Archives (NWL), where he provided expert research service on the records of the committees of Congress. Prior to

joining NWL, Reginald worked as an archives technician in the Records Declassification Division at Suitland, Maryland. Reginald began his career at NARA as a National Archives volunteer.

In October 2000, Reginald gave congressional testimony in support of The Freedmen's Bureau Preservation Act of 2000. This act authorized \$ 3 million for the preservation of more than 1,000 linear feet of field office records of the Freedmen's Bureau. The Freedmen's Preservation Project involved staff from a number of NARA units, and included volunteers, students, archivists, archives specialists, archives technicians, conservators, editors, and microfilm camera operators. This five-year initiative, completed in Fall 2006, resulted in the reproduction of more than one million images of Freedmen's Bureau field office records on more than a thousand rolls of microfilm. The Genealogical Society of Utah has started a project to digitize and index the microfilmed records. The records will eventually be placed on the Internet.



Reginald speaks to genealogists on records at the National Archives

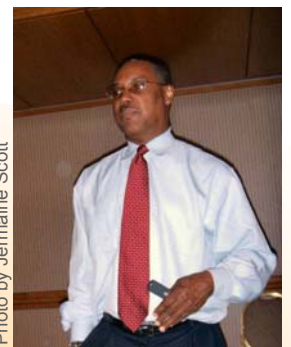


Photo by Jermaine Scott



## Know Your Records

In fall 2004, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) introduced the **Know Your Records** program. The initial program offered weekly lectures and monthly genealogy workshops to staff, volunteers, and the public. Featured speakers described NARA's records; explained how and where to locate the records; and demonstrated how to use the records for research.

**C**urrently, each one-hour lecture is delivered twice within the same week – on Tuesdays at the National Archives Building at 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC, and on Thursdays, at the National Archives at College Park located at 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD. Most of these sessions are videotaped and made available for interlibrary loan through NARA libraries and our regional facilities throughout the United States. Some, but not all of the

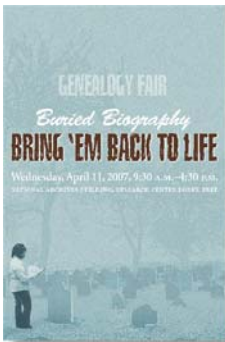
genealogy workshops are offered on Saturdays.

In addition to providing opportunities for staff, volunteers, and researchers to learn about NARA's records through lectures and genealogy workshops, we offer symposia, the annual genealogy fair, quarterly editions of *Researcher News*, and the monthly **From the Records Book Group** discussions. For book group news, see page 12.

### Last quarter's events included:

- **Annual Genealogy Fair**

#### *Buried Biography: Bring 'Em Back to Life*



The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) hosted its third annual Genealogy Fair on Wednesday, April 11, 2007. This year's theme, ***Buried Biography: Bring 'Em Back to Life*** focused on Federal records located at the National Archives that relate to genealogy and cannot be researched online. Speakers from NARA's Washington, DC, and Philadelphia offices encouraged family historians to visit all NARA sites to explore their family history. Speakers also related how discovering these sometimes obscure records can aid researchers in writing family histories and biographies. Topics addressed included immigration, naturalization, weather as it affects families and communities, black emigration, NARA regional records, and family histories. Over 400 people attended. **Next year's fair will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2008.**



Genealogy tutorial information table



"Help! I'm Stuck" table

## Last quarter's events included: (cont.)

### • Genealogy Workshop

#### An Introduction to Genealogy: An African American Perspective

On May 19, 2007, over 100 people attended this workshop presented by Deborah Daniels, *American Legacy* magazine, and Reginald Washington, NARA staff archivist. The speakers offered basic genealogical research techniques and discussed the use of oral history, pedigree charts, family group sheets, and other resources, including Federal, state, and local records available for African American family research. **Next year's workshop will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2008.**

### • Lectures

- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act
- The Electronic Records Archives Program: A Progress Report
- Mexican War Records at the National Archives
- Records of the U.S. Coast Guard Relating to Legal Matters, 1909–41
- Records Relating to the Battle of Midway
- The Nixon Tapes



John Powers discusses the over 950 reels of audio tapes from the Nixon administration historical material





We publicize our offerings in NARA's *Calendar of Events* at [www.archives.gov/calendar/](http://www.archives.gov/calendar/) and on our web page at [www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/). See this quarter's schedule below.

## Upcoming events:

# JULY–SEPTEMBER 2007

There will be no **Know Your Records** lectures or genealogy workshops in July and August. Join us in September to celebrate **National Hispanic Heritage Month**. We will be offering the following sessions:

### Genealogy Workshops

- **Hispanics in the 19th Century through Military and Census Records.** John P. Deeben and Constance Potter of NARA's Research Support Branch will give a workshop on Hispanics in the Southwest in the 19th century. Mr. Deeben will focus on service, regimental, and pension records for Hispanic volunteers from New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas during the Civil War, and also demonstrate ties to these soldiers and the 1890 veterans' census. Ms. Potter will cover both population and non-population census schedules for the same states. *Wednesday, September 26, 2007. 9:30–11:30 a.m.* Jefferson Room. Enter on Constitution Avenue at the Special Events entrance.

Reservations are required, and a fee of \$20 is payable by cash or check at the door. Call 202-357-5333.

- **Who's on Your Family Tree? Beginning Your Family Genealogy.** How can you get started on your family genealogy? Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CG, CGL, of *Melchiori Research Services, L.L.C.*, will take a look at home, local, county, and federal sources, as well as what might be on the Internet. She will also discuss how to organize and document what has been found. *Friday, September 28, 2007. 10:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.* Jefferson Room. Enter on Constitution Avenue at the Special Events entrance.

Reservations are required, and a fee of \$20 is payable by cash or check at the door. Call 202-357-5333.

### Lectures **Free**

- **Footnotes.** Jeffery Hartley, NARA Librarian, will discuss how the National Archives and *Footnote.com* are working as partners to bring unprecedented access to selections of the Archives' vast holdings. This lecture will focus on what is currently available and how to access and use *Footnote.com*. *Tuesday, September 4, 2007, at 11 a.m.*, in Room G-24, Research Center, National Archives Building. Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue.

(This lecture will be repeated at the National Archives at College Park, MD, in Lecture Room B, on *Thursday, September 6, 2007, at 11 a.m.*)

**Lectures** (cont.) **Free**

- **Early Chinese/Asian Immigration History: Records of the National Archives Pacific Region (San Francisco).** Bill Greene, NARA–Pacific Region Archives, will focus on the 250,000 archival immigration case files and related records in NARA–Pacific Region (San Francisco), which document Chinese/Asian immigration history during the Chinese Exclusion Acts period, 1880s–1940s. *Tuesday, September 11, 2007, at 11 a.m.*, at the National Archives in College Park, MD, Lecture Room D.  
(This lecture will be repeated on *Thursday, September 13, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.*, in Room G-24, Research Center, National Archives Building. Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue.)
- **Mexican Border Crossings.** Claire Kluskens will present a session on Mexican border crossing records that document the arrival of immigrants to the United States at the U.S.–Mexico border. In addition to permanent arrivals, the records also include persons who came to the United States temporarily for reasons such as short-term employment, business, or shopping trips. Mexicans make up the majority of the arrivals, but Europeans, Chinese, and Japanese are also listed. *Thursday, September 13, 2007, at 11 a.m.*, in Room G-24, Research Center, National Archives Building. Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue.  
(NOTE: One session only: *Thursday, September 13, 2007, at 11 a.m.*, in Room G-24, Research Center, National Archives Building)
- **Hispanic Volunteers in the Antebellum U.S. Army.** John Deeben will discuss available service records and other documentation for Hispanics who served in the U.S. Army from 1835 to 1855. Many of these volunteers fought in the Second Seminole War, the Mexican War, and the Apache and Navajo wars of the 1850s. *Tuesday, September 18, 2007, at 11 a.m.*, in Room G-24, Research Center, National Archives Building. Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue.  
(This lecture will be repeated at the National Archives in College Park, MD, in Lecture Room B, on *Thursday, September 20, 2007, at 11 a.m.*)
- **Hispanic-Related Films from the National Archives.** Nancy Fortna will present and lead a discussion on a variety of film clips, illustrating Hispanic population, culture, activities, and families in the early to mid-20th century. *Friday, September 21, 2007, at 11 a.m.*, in Room G-24, Research Center, National Archives Building. Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue.  
(NOTE: One session only.)
- **Documenting Community, Politics, and the Economy in Puerto Rico: Records of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, and the Office of Territories, 1898-1950.** Kenneth W. Heger will provide an overview of the records the Federal Government created to administer Puerto Rico, focusing on their value to local historians. This presentation will provide an overview of the administrative records of the two agencies that administered Puerto Rico. *Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 11 a.m.*, in Room G-24, Research Center, National Archives Building. Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue.  
(This lecture will be repeated at the National Archives at College Park, MD, in Lecture Room B, on *Thursday, September 27, 2007, at 11 a.m.*)

For further information on lectures and workshops, visit [www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/)

**FROM THE****ALIC Archives Library Information Center**

ALIC has begun to identify and collect dissertations and theses that were written using NARA records, or that relate to the holdings on archival science. The first few of these were catalogued and processed this month and may be viewed by contacting the Library reference desk :

Photo by Jermaine Scott



Archives Library Information Desk at Archives I

- Anthony, Denise. *Beyond description: an exploration of experienced archivists' knowledge and searching skills*. CD971 .A58 2006 Archives II
- Baar, K. Keyvne. *Investigating Broadway: the House Committee on Un-American Activities meets members of the New York theatre community at the Foley Square Courthouse, August 15–18, 1955*. PN1590.B5 B33 2006 Archives II
- Kent, Cynthia V. *Rethinking archival appraisal: macroappraisal as a technology for cities*. CD973.A77 K46 2005 Archives II
- Linker, Beth. *For life and limb: the reconstruction of a nation and its disabled soldiers in World War I America*. UB363 .L56 2006 Archives II
- Oberle, Clara Magdalena. *City in transit: ruins, railways, and the search for order in Postwar Berlin (1945–48)*. DD881 .O24 2006 Archives II
- Qureshi, Lubna Zakia. *Nixon, Kissinger, and Allende: a study of U.S. involvement in the 1973 coup in Chile*. F3100 .Q84 2006 Archives I
- Smith, Steven L. *The reluctant sorority: stories of American wives of prisoners of war and missing in action, 1965–73: lessons in exercising leadership in the absence of power*. JX5141 .S65 2006 Archives II
- Trauschweizer, Ingo Wolfgang. *Creating deterrence for limited war: the U.S. Army and the defense of West Germany, 1953–82*. UA710 .T73 2006 Archives II
- Whorley, Tywana Marie. *The Tuskegee Syphilis Study: access and control over controversial records*. CD3023 .W46 2006 Archives II

**Donations from any researchers who have extra copies of their doctoral dissertations or masters' theses that are based in some part on records held by NARA are welcome. Please contact Jeffery Hartley at [jeffery.hartley@nara.gov](mailto:jeffery.hartley@nara.gov) or at 301-837-1795.**

# From The Records Book Group

The Know Your Records Program launched its monthly book group in September 2006.

**The From the Records Book Group meets at noon, usually on the third Wednesday of each month, in room**

**G-24 of the Research Center at the National Archives Building, Washington, DC.** Non-fiction books are chosen because of their direct relationship to the NARA records. *This free discussion is open to NARA staff and the public.*

Please check the Archives Shop (202-357-5271) for book availability and a 15% discount for book group participants.

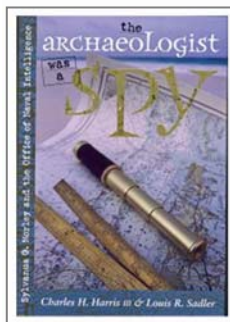
## Upcoming Book Group Meetings:

**July–August – No Book Group**

**September 26, 2007**

**Note:**

This month only: the book group will meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month.



*The Archeologist Was a Spy: Sylvanus G. Morley and the Office of Naval Intelligence*, by Charles H. Harris III and Louis R. Sadler

During the First World War, the German submarine forces were a serious threat to allied victory. If the Germans had been able to construct a secret base in some remote corner of Central America, the potential damage to shipping would have been immense. In order to avoid this happening, the Office of Naval Intelligence recruited archaeologists who spent most of the war years journeying through the Central American jungles and rivers in search of ancient ruins and preparing detailed reports on the potential for German exploitation of the remote sites. This book describes Morley's travels in Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and illustrates examples of cartoonist John Held's excellent cartography. The authors also write about other academic recruits to naval intelligence and their contributions in Central America.

**October 17, 2007**



*The Secret in Building 26: the Untold Story of America's Ultra War Against the U-boat Enigma Codes*, by Jim DeBrosse and Colin Burke

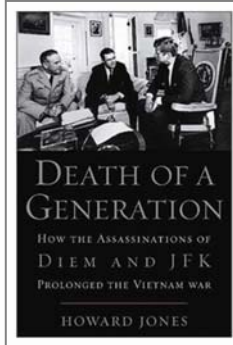
Much has been written about the success of the British "Ultra" program in cracking the Germans' Enigma code early in World War II, but few know what happened in 1942, when the Germans added a fourth rotor to the machine that created the already challenging naval code and plunged Allied intelligence into darkness. Joe Desch, an engineer at the National Cash Register Company in Dayton, Ohio, was tasked with creating a machine to break the new Enigma settings. It was an enterprise that rivaled the Manhattan Project for secrecy and complexity—and nearly drove Desch to a breakdown. Under enormous pressure, he succeeded in creating a 5,000-pound electromechanical monster known as the Desch Bombe, which helped turn the tide in the Battle of the Atlantic—but not before a disgruntled co-worker attempted to leak information about the machine to the Nazis.

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**November 14, 2007**

**Note:**

This month only:  
the book group will  
meet on the second  
Wednesday of the  
month.



*Death of a Generation: How the Assassinations of Diem and JFK Prolonged the Vietnam War*, by Howard Jones

What Kennedy would and would not have done in Vietnam has been a source of enduring controversy. Now, based on new evidence, the author argues that Kennedy intended to withdraw the great bulk of American soldiers and pursue a diplomatic solution to the crisis in Vietnam. Drawing upon recently declassified hearings by the Church Committee on the U.S. role in assassinations, newly released tapes of Kennedy White House discussions, and interviews with those in the president's inner circle, Jones maintains that Kennedy firmly believed that the outcome of the war depended on the South Vietnamese. In the spring of 1962, he instructed Secretary of Defense McNamara to draft a withdrawal plan aimed at having all special military forces home by the end of 1965. Although Kennedy felt that South Vietnam was unable to win the war, he maintained his resolve to reduce the U.S. commitment. By the end of November, however, there was a new president who began a campaign of escalation. Jones argues that if Kennedy had lived, his withdrawal plan would have spared the lives of 58,000 Americans and countless Vietnamese.

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**December – No Book Group**

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