



Military Libraries

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Notes From the Chair

Emily Mardis, Division Chair, Military Libraries Division



Greetings! This year has already proven to be a busy and dynamic year. SLA has been very responsive to the economic downturn in adjusting their budget to be as lean and fiscally responsible as possible, as well as taking into account the need for lean operations for future years. The association has also taken into account that its members are feeling the economic crunch as well. It has responded by lowering membership dues for those who have lost jobs or income. In addition, it has increased the value of our memberships by offering some Click U courses for free. SLA leadership is truly listening to what members are telling them in terms of needs for professional development.

Plans for the 53rd Military Libraries Workshop are firming up. The five-day event will be held 7-11 December 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee. Stuart Gaetjens, director of Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC) Technical Library at Arnold Air Force Base, has located some very recognizable names in information professional circles for the program as well as some of your peers. Preconference activities will be a no miss opportunity for some educational and professional development. See more details in Stuart's article this issue "MLW 09 Heads to Nashville."

SLA 2009, 14-17 June in Washington D.C., is the Centennial Celebration, SLAs 100th birthday. If you have not yet secured lodging I urge you to do so now. Pat Alderman has been working hard planning some spectacular programming and events. One special opportunity she has secured is a Wreath Ceremony at 1:15 p.m. on 13 June at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arlington National Cemetery. Several of our MLD members will be participating in this solemn ceremony. This is an opportunity you will not want to miss.

Thanks to everyone who responded to the call for Committee Members and Chairs. It is still not too late to get on board. We can always use help no matter when you decide the time is right for you to get involved. You will soon be able to see the Chairs and Committee members list online and a brief description of what they do. To become a more involved part of your Division, contact a Committee Chair or me at emily.mardis@lackland.af.mil, or by phone at 210-977-6652; DSN 969-6652. Please feel free to contact me at any time with suggestions, comments, feedback, questions or ideas.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in June!





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For Your Calendar

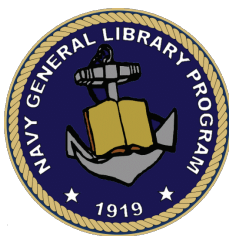
[Army Library Training Institute 2009](#), Southbridge, MA, 20-24 April 2009

[SLA 2009 Annual Conference](#), Washington, DC, 14-17 June 2009

[ALA 2009 Annual Conference](#), Chicago, IL, 9-15 July 2009

[Military Libraries Workshop 2009](#), Nashville, TN, 7-11 December 2009

Navy General Library Program Relocates



The Navy General Library Program has relocated to the Naval Support Activity Anacostia, directly across from Fort McNair in south-east Washington, DC. NGLP Director Nellie Moffitt's new contact details are:

Navy General Library Program
Commander, Navy Installations Command
715 Sicard St. SE
Washington, DC 20374-5140

Tel: 202-433-9082
Cell: 850-450-7243
nellie.moffitt@navy.mil

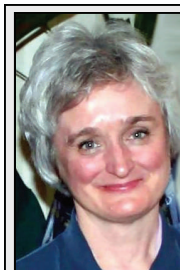
New Executive Board Members Take Office



President Barrack Obama wasn't the only elected official to assume office in January. Following an exciting election which featured a state-of-the-art electronic ballot system (email), nine of our very own Military Libraries Division members emerged victorious and eager to meet the challenges of 2009. Congratulations!

Without further ado, the newly elected 2009 Executive Board members:

Chair Elect: Greta Marlatt
Treasurer: Gloria Miller (re-elected)
Secretary: Deborah Keller (re-elected)
Air Force Director: Butch Satsky
Navy/Marines Director: Nellie Moffitt
Army Director: Ed Burgess
DoD Director: Maria Ruckman
Corporate Director: Melanie Blau
Director-at-large: Theresa Taylor



Thank You!

We should also give a well-deserved BIG round of applause to outgoing Division-Chair Marybeth Dowdell

(pictured) and all the other Executive Board Members and Committee Members who worked hard and devoted their time in 2008. Great Job!

Military Libraries is published electronically four times a year by the Military Libraries Division of the Special Libraries Association. The newsletter is posted online at www.sla.org/division/dmil. The electronic archive (1998-current) is maintained at <http://units.sla.org/division/dmil/newsltrs.htm>.

Chair: Emily Mardis
emily.mardis@lackland.af.mil

Editor: Michael McNulty
michael.mcnulty@eur.army.mil

Submissions

Please submit all material to the Editor. Please include permission to reprint copyrighted materials with your submission. All submissions must be approved by the Division Chair and are subject to editing.

Submission Deadlines: 2009

Winter March 15, 2009
Spring May 15, 2009
Summer July 15, 2009
Fall October 15, 2009



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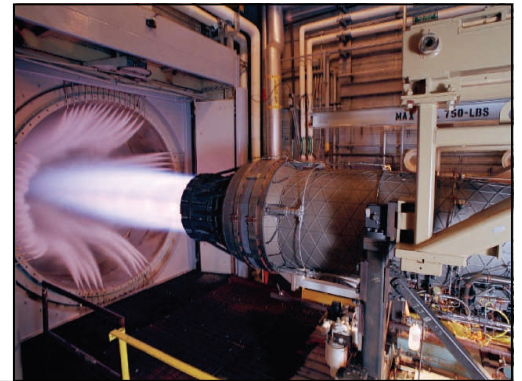
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Military Libraries Workshop 2009 Heads To Nashville

Stuart Gaetjens, Arnold Air Force Base, Tennessee



At left, Arnold Engineering Development Center's 16-foot supersonic wind tunnel test facility (photo: Phil Tarver). At right, testing a Pratt & Whitney engine at AEDC (AEDC file photo). MLW 2009 is in Nashville and will be hosted by the AEDC Technical Library at Arnold Air Force Base.



Arnold AFB, Tenn — Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC) at Arnold Air Force Base will host the 53rd Military Libraries Workshop 7-11 December 2009 at the Nashville Downtown Hilton. This year's theme, *Toward New Horizons*, comes from the title of the 1945 report by Theodore Von Karman submitted to Hap Arnold regarding the steps the United States needed to take to develop and maintain the best air forces in the world. This report led directly to the establishment of AEDC.

The week will open with service meetings and pre-conference workshops. This year's workshops include DTIC, NSPS, and a Library Director's Roundtable. The keynote speakers include Marshall Breeding, Stephen Abram, and Mary Ellen Bates. Other speakers will cover the "greener" library, workplace communication, and network security and IT policies.

Participants will definitely want to stay for the Friday tour as we visit the world's premier ground test facility. We will be able to stand inside a 16 foot wind tunnel, see a busy control room, watch a video of the "chicken gun" in action, and possibly hear the roar of a JSF engine. If we are very fortunate, we will see a brand new F-22 fly over on its checkout flight.

Our annual banquet will be held across the street from the hotel at the Country Music Hall of Fame. We will have full access to the museum before sitting down to a wonderful meal.

Those who can come early or stay late might enjoy toe tapping at the Wild Horse Saloon, admiring the art work at the Frist Art Museum or Cheekwood Art & Gardens, see the Belle Meade Mansion decorated for Christmas, ponder the exotic cars at the Lane Motor Museum, learn more about Andrew Jackson by touring his home, the Hermitage, see the NHL Predators at the Sommet Center or the Rockettes at the Grand Ole Opry, or attend a show at the Ryman Auditorium or Schermerhorn Symphony Center. Then in your spare time, shop at Opry Mills. Several of these venues are within walking distance of the hotel.

AEDC and Nashville look forward to you joining us for the 2009 MLW!

Stuart Gaetjens is Library Director at the Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC) Technical Library at Arnold Air Force Base, Tennessee.



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Aerospace and Defence Librarians' Group

Celia Waters, Aerospace and Defence Librarians' Group



The Aerospace and Defence Librarians Group (ADLG) is the British equivalent of the Military Libraries Division.

Hello from your British cousins! I might say 'tomarto' and you might say 'tomado' but from a look at some of your websites, we have many similarities.

My name is Celia Waters and I'm Chair of the Aerospace and Defence Librarians' Group (ADLG) which is the Military Libraries Division's little British cousin. After many years in the shadows we became the newest special interest

group of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) at the beginning of last year. You can find out more about us on our website at www.adlg.org.uk.

If you're ever in the U.K., please come and meet us at one of our events. Last year we held a competition in which Ben Chan from the Ministry of Defence Information & Library Services earned the chance to attend the SLA Conference in Seattle. Chan met several MLD members there including former Division Chair Marybeth Dowdell.

My day job is with the Army Library and Information Service (ALIS) which is similar to the U.S. Army Library Program. As you'll see from our website at www.armylibraries.mod.uk our Mission statement is similar--we're here to support operational effectiveness and career and personal development within the British Army.

Our vital statistics:

- In the 2007-08 financial year we answered 63,290 information enquiries, undertook 40,164 online searches and were used by 253, 862 people.
- We have approximately 60 libraries in 5 countries and 2 British Overseas Territories.
- 14 qualified librarians and over 90 library and information assistants and support staff.

With libraries spread throughout the U.K. and as far afield as the Falklands and Brunei, we're doing what I suspect many of you are with your services and trying to balance physical collections with e-resources. New for us this year will be considering e-books and maybe downloadable audio material as well as pushing forward with our information literacy initiatives via our website.

Meanwhile we also face issues such as the basic skills of some of our customers and an increasingly 'portfolio' rather than classroom style of education within the Army. These and the Google/Amazon Effect all combine to have an impact on the usage of our physical libraries, except in Germany and Cyprus where the library service maintains a key welfare role for the families.

So if these sound like familiar issues and you want to share any thoughts or ideas, or maybe your information unit is in a similar field, please contact me at cwaters@alibs.detsa.co.uk.

Celia Waters is Head of the Army Library and Information Service for the British Army and Chair of the Aerospace and Defence Librarians' Group.



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Digital Consortium at the Combined Arms Research Library

Ed Burgess, Combined Arms Research Library, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas

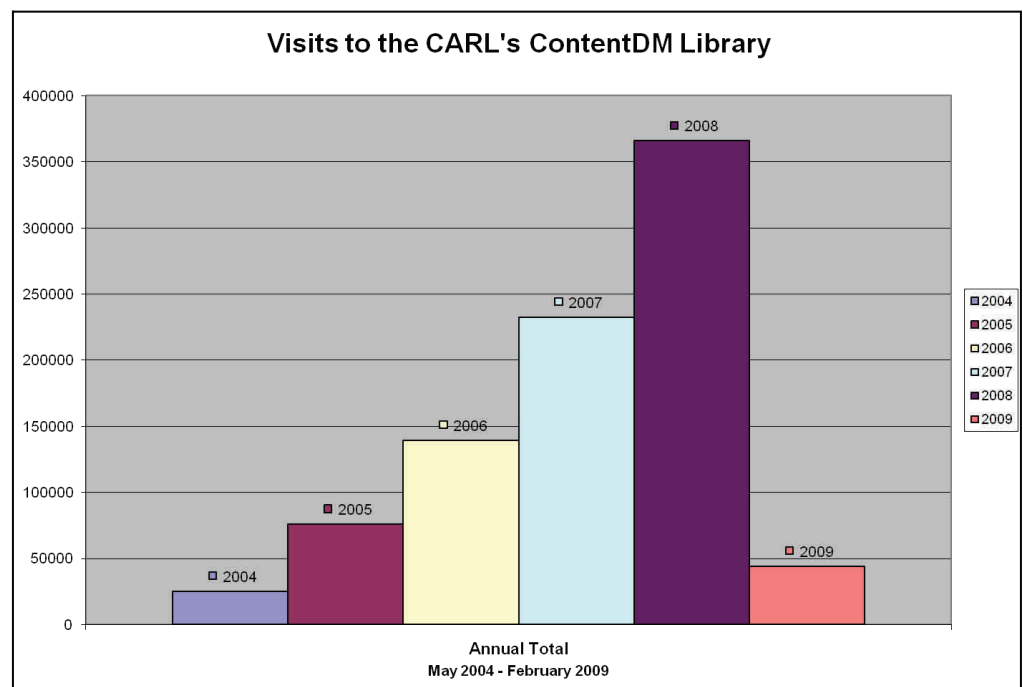
For several years, the Combined Arms Research Library at Fort Leavenworth has been building a Digital Library. We now have well over 11,000 objects in twelve collections. Originally intended to showcase the Command and General Staff College research efforts, the collections now cover a variety of operational and historical subjects.

The CARL is expanding the DL holdings by partnering with three other institutions. The Patton Museum at Fort Knox will contribute material from their rich collections on armored vehicles and George Patton. The Fort Leonard Wood Libraries will contribute Military Police, Engineer, and Chemical school materials. The Artillery School library at Fort Sill is in the process of scanning their remarkable and extensive holdings on artillery. Other institutions will be invited to join as the consortium matures.

The CARL will host the three institutions' digital objects in the existing Digital Library. The intent is to provide a way for smaller libraries to create widely visible digital collections, and in the process develop a critical mass of Army documents. More materials, and high-quality metadata will make the DL an even more popular destination for researchers than it is now. The CARL will be responsible for the overall CONTENTdm contract, training, and quality control. Each partner will be responsible for scanning and inputting their own materials. The partners will contribute to the cost of CONTENTdm. New collections, search boxes, and splash pages are being developed to improve navigation.

CONTENTdm is owned by OCLC. It can run on a local server or OCLC will host the digital objects at its Dublin, Ohio facility. The CARL's DL is hosted. The CARL DL is OAI (Open Archives Initiative) compatible, which allows our metadata to be harvested, and is visible in WorldCat, OAlster, AltaVista, Google and Yahoo. CONTENTdm indexes every word in designated metadata fields, and the first 100,000 characters of an OCR'd document, for keyword searching. It can handle most common formats for image, text, and A/V.

Kathy Buker heads the DL project team and is available for questions.



Usage of the Digital Library has ramped steadily upward since inception. The graph shows visits (defined as one user returning to the site in a 20-minute stretch).



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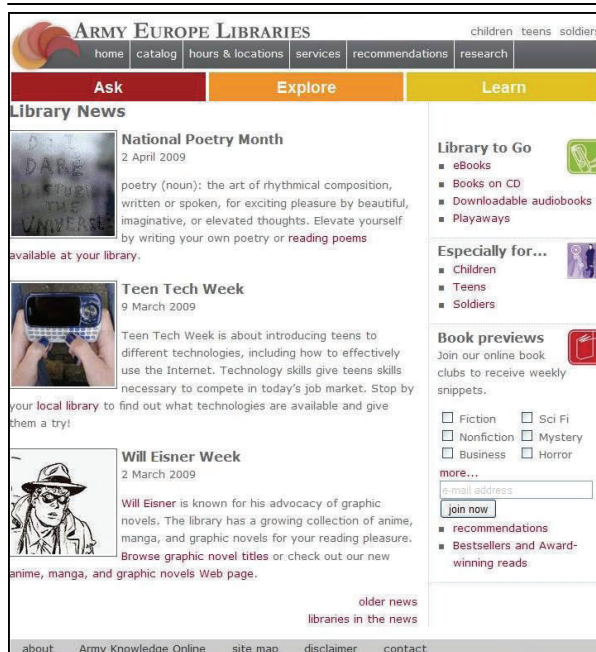
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Army Europe Libraries Launches User-Focused Web Site

Michael McNulty, U.S. Army, European Regional Library Support Center



These days, people are so busy they often don't have time for many things they enjoyed in the past, such as visiting a library.

Army Europe Libraries kept this in mind while planning the first phase of a major Web site redesign, an endeavor that aims to turn a computer into a personal eLibrary when you visit www.library.eur.army.mil.

"We are embracing the concept of a virtual library," said Meg Tulloch, Europe Region librarian. "The library is home to so many amazing resources and helpful information for people of all ages and interests. We've tried to bring some of that material into focus with this new Web site."

With a wide range of easily accessible, useful resources, the library Web site is a logical place to start any information search. Library members stationed across Europe, Iraq and Afghanistan can conduct online research using databases, read full-text newspapers, magazines and journals, read book and movie recommendations, browse the catalog, download audio books and eBooks, and more.

Presently, not all of the electronic resources are available outside the libraries. However, starting in May 2009 library staff across Europe will begin issuing eligible patrons eLibrary Cards which will give users access to the full scope of electronic library resources from anywhere.

In addition to an updated look, users will notice improved navigation and a variety of enhancements, including specialized pages - for soldiers, teenagers and children - that cater to the interests and needs of customers. Other improvements include a library news blog, more information about garrison libraries, a homework help area, and federated or single search technology to search across multiple resources simultaneously. In addition, users will find an enhanced research page, a dynamic recommendations page, and a focus on multiple formats for every "reading" style, such as downloadable audio books, e-books, print books, graphic novels and online book clubs.

Amy Drayer, a web and systems librarian, recruited librarians from around the region to conduct usability tests with library users. The outcome of those tests helped Drayer to develop the Web site, making it the Library program's first site where users had a hand in how it would look and function.

Librarians at the European Regional Library Support Center in Heidelberg, along with several garrison librarians, are now responsible for submitting regular updates to the site, ensuring its content remains current and relevant for users.

"Our goal is to provide better services to our patrons, wherever they are located," said Drayer. "The new Web site is easier to use, provides more and better content, and focuses on the patron."

Michael McNulty is an Electronic Resources Librarian at the European Regional Library Support Center in Heidelberg, Germany.



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Vogelweh Library Hosts Born to Read Program

Laurel Dougherty, Vogelweh Air Base, Germany



Sherri Sellers and her son Bryler at Vogelweh Library's Born to Read program last January.

Photo used with permis-

Military libraries are always looking for partnerships that will enhance programming opportunities for customers. This past January, Vogelweh Library in Germany teamed up with the early childhood experts from Educational and Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS) to host the month-long Born to Read program. It was an ideal partnership and the shared expertise and resources gave parents and children a great educational opportunity.

EDIS offers early intervention services to eligible children and families on U.S. military installations and on command-sponsored tours overseas. The EDIS staff strives to prepare small children for school by providing services and support to families who have concerns about their child's development. EDIS is a natural partner for military base libraries that want to explore early literacy programming for babies and toddlers.

The program aimed to emphasize the importance of early childhood literacy, as well as highlight the children's collections and offer an educational opportunity for new parents.

Throughout January, parents and expectant mothers received free reading-themed baby items and were invited to attend an educational workshop. The workshop was hosted by the Library and facilitated by EDIS experts Vikki Partlow-Anderegg and Nona Croom. Library staff marketed the workshop as a chance to learn about the lifelong positive impact of early literacy, with some practical tips on making the most of this special time with your baby.

"Reading to infants and toddlers is an important step in beginning a love of reading in children," said Partlow-Anderegg. "Many parents find it hard to read to infants and toddlers and it was a pleasure for

me and Ms. Croom to present a workshop demonstrating to families how to read to their young children, and also of the importance of reading to their child during pregnancy. The Born to Read program was a wonderful opportunity for new or soon-to-be parents to learn about early literacy ideas and begin to build relationships with other parents along the same journey they are traveling."

When parents read to babies, even the simplest picture books, illustrated rhymes, and gentle songs, they are bonding with their child and fostering important brain development and oral language functions. It's never too early for parents to foster a love of libraries and reading in their children. We were all Born to Read!

Laurel Dougherty is a librarian at Vogelweh Air Base, Germany.

"The Born to Read program was a wonderful opportunity for new or soon-to-be parents to learn about early literacy ideas and begin to build relationships with other parents along the same journey they are traveling" — Vikki Partlow-Anderegg, Educational and Developmental Intervention Services



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Great Bike Race Across Turkey Motivates Patrons

Amber Collins & Maxine Becker, U.S. Air Forces Europe



U.S. Air Force Colonel Richard Robel was the second place finisher for Team Izmir during February's Great Bike Race Across Turkey at Izmir and Incirlik Libraries.

Photo used with permission

Seventy-nine dedicated library patrons pedaled more than 2,000 miles on stationary bikes, the distance--and then some--between Izmir and Incirlik Air Bases for The Great Bike Race Across Turkey.

The month-long pedaling program, put on by staff at Izmir and Incirlik Libraries in February, pitted the rival bases against each other to see which team could log enough miles to make it to the other base and back first. The goal was to have someone on the

bike each hour of the day that the libraries were open and to complete at least 914 miles (1472km) during the month long event.

Team Izmir worried at first that Team Incirlik had the advantage of a larger base with more people as well as a library longer opening hours. However, they soon rallied and were fast on their way to arriving at Incirlik, pedaling 170 miles the first day, nearly a third of the way to Incirlik. Team Incirlik got off to a rocky start and completed only 100 miles by the end of the week.

"The Wing competition between Izmir and Incirlik was fun for bragging rights," said Colonel Richard Robel. "But the fitness benefits from the race were the real reason we got involved."

Team Incirlik never quite developed the team concept. The first week riders were consistently peddling, but it soon became apparent that Team Izmir was going to run them over, or at least out pedal them. The t-shirts and first prize of a trip to Cappadocia were good motivators but only two riders turned out to be serious contenders.



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Great Bike Race Across Turkey, Cont. from page 8

Amber Collins & Maxine Becker, U.S. Air Forces Europe



Senior Airman Manuel Amaya riding and reading while Buket Baltali waits her turn in the Great Bike Race Across Turkey at Izmir Library.

Photo used with permission

"Even though Izmir won the race by the end of the second week, we decided to just continue on to see how far we could go within the remainder of the month," said Robel. "By the end of the competition, Team Izmir had ridden 1755 miles over the course of 107 hours by 35 individuals. We all had a fun time and I'm proud of my Izmir team"

Team Incirlik consisted of 44 riders who rode 359 miles. Team Incirlik claimed squadron exercises and inspections kept them preoccupied and out of the Great Race for much of the month.

Many riders read magazines while others read books from the professional reading list. Many also listened to music, audio books, or Playaways. One rider even set up his laptop and surfed the Internet using Izmir Library's wireless network.

The Great Bike Race Across Turkey was a good training for the U.S. Air Force 2009 Library Fitness Cycle Throwdown which takes place during National Library Week, 13-17 April. More than 16 Air Force libraries worldwide will compete against each other. The library with the most mileage at the end of the week will earn a trophy and a monetary prize from its parent organization.

The Great Bike Race Across Turkey was a good training for the U.S. Air Force 2009 Library Fitness Cycle Throwdown which takes place during National Library Week, 13-17 April. More than 16 Air Force libraries worldwide will compete against each other. The library with the most mileage at the end of the week will earn a trophy and a monetary prize from its parent organization.

Top 10 Team Izmir riders:

1. Mr. Fahri Kerkel, 425 ABG Air Lift Services, 310.24 miles
2. Col. Rick Robel, 425 ABG Commander, 257.85 miles
3. LtCol David Rega, 425 ABG Deputy Commander, 191.27 miles
4. SSgt Kim Clark, 425 ABG Security Forces, 126.32 miles
5. MSgt John Palmer, NATO/A3, 123.35 miles
6. TSgt Jason Penny, 425 ABG Services, 111.10 miles
7. TSgt Lisa Brooks, 425 ABG Security Forces, 50.43 miles
8. Mr. Alper Kasas, VBR, 49.4 miles
9. SrA Mark Compton, 425 ABG Logistics, 41.38 miles
10. Ms. Zuhail Ozdemir, 425 ABG Services, 39.2 miles

Top 10 Team Incirlik riders:

1. SrA David Webb, 39 ABW Security Forces, 136.88 miles
2. Ms. Chcarra Jones, 39 ABW Civilian, 39.01 miles
3. Ms. Katie Studer, 39 ABW Civilian, 37.01 miles
4. Ms. Stacy Turner, 39 ABW Civilian, 26.00 miles
5. Ms. Patty Gill, 39 ABW Force Support, 13.5 miles
6. Ms. Dee Acree, 39 ABW Force Support, 12.22 miles
7. SSgt Nick Pinkerton, 39 ABW Security Forces, 12 miles
8. Amn Luke Wetzler, 39 ABW Security Forces, 11.61 miles
9. SSgt Hector Ledezma, 39 ABW Official Document Center, 9.5 miles
10. SSgt Jerry Mobley, 39 ABW Communications, 7.01 miles

Amber Collins is Library Director at Izmir Library, Izmir AFB, Turkey.

Maxine Becker is Library Director at Incirlik Library, Incirlik AFB, Turkey.



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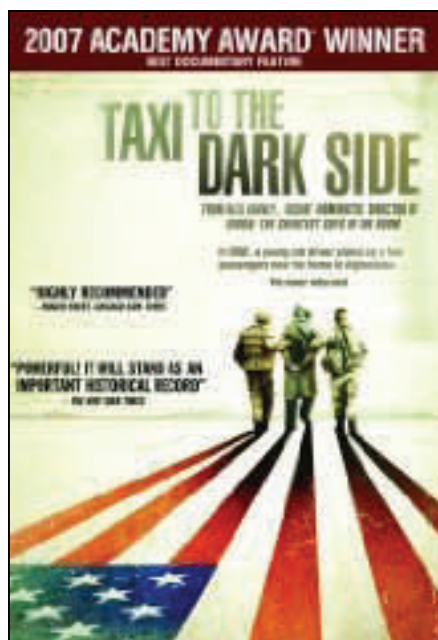
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Taxi to the Dark Side – DVD Review

Rebecca Sims, Offutt Air Force Base Library, Nebraska



Taxi to the Dark Side. Directed by Alex Gibney. ISBN 9780008568764. \$27.98

Alex Gibney's "Taxi to the Dark Side" won the 2007 Academy Award for Best Documentary. While "Schindler's List" and "Saving Private Ryan" also cover nightmarish events, as fictionalized history the audience has a measure of emotional distance when watching them. No distance is possible with this 102-minute film.

This is a dispassionate presentation of interviews, photos and video that document excesses at the military prisons at Bagram, Abu Ghraib, and Guantanamo Bay. While the film doesn't particularly address the rationale for intelligence gathering, it does allow viewers to reach their own conclusions about what constitutes unacceptable interrogation techniques. The film is disturbing on a very deep level, presenting as a touchstone the story of

the young Afghan taxi driver Dilawar, who died in 2002 at Bagram from torture-induced injuries after just a few days of imprisonment.

Although many reviewers have chosen to use the film as a tool for bashing U.S. policy makers or bemoaning the "loss of American ideals," the value to the military community falls in its potential for training young soldiers and airmen in ethics, and to warn leaders of the importance of complete training. While never explicitly stated, it nonetheless shows how a failure of leadership at all levels, from top policy makers to the lowest grade of enlisted, resulted in decisions and actions that years later still haunt the people directly involved.

My initial response to viewing "Taxi to the Dark Side" was visceral, an inclination to either throw up or go find a drink, but then it settled into strongly conflicting desires to show it to my 17-year-old son immediately and to never, ever let him watch it. It's graphic, with clinical photographs of Dilawar after his death and video taken by guards of humiliation tactics in action. There are interviews with guards, one of the prisoners, and various people in the chain of command responsible for the prisons. All speak frankly about their experiences, thoughts and emotions.

I feel like no one under the age of 40 should see this film, yet I feel even more strongly that it should be mandatory viewing for all personnel before their first deployment. Watching it, discussing it and thinking about it will force viewers to begin developing tools to deal with situations where gut instinct battles with ambiguous or incomplete directives. Maybe those who've seen this film will not find themselves completely unprepared, like many of the young guards at the prisons.

I highly recommend that all professional military education instructors consider it for an extended classroom or training session. View in advance, and plan extra time for discussion.

"Taxi to the Dark Side" is a significant addition to professional military education collections, particularly as a tool for teaching ethics - and the importance of stepping forward as a leader, regardless of rank.

Rebecca Sims is Library Director at Thomas S. Powers Library, Offutt AFB, Nebraska.



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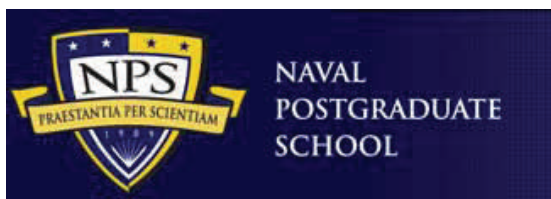
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Dudley Knox Features RSS Feeds for Military Researchers

Ann Jacobson, Dudley Knox Library, Naval Postgraduate School



Ann Jacobson, Reference and Instruction Manager at the Naval Postgraduate School, created a small suite of web pages for NPS and other military researchers interested in learning about relevant RSS feeds.

These feeds have become an increasingly important current awareness resource for both librarians and researchers. Jacobson originally created the pages to support a workshop that herself and Stephanie Anabo, a colleague from the Homeland Security Digital Library, developed to increase the NPS community's awareness of RSS feeds as a research tool.

[Click here](#) to check out the RSS Feeds for Military and Government Researchers page. Or follow the path from the NPS Library home page:

- visit www.nps.edu/Library
- click on Research Tools
- click on Subject Guides by Topic
- click on Military and Government RSS Feeds (bottom right hand corner)

Note the Related Links area on the right for "Databases the Library Subscribes To That Provide RSS Feeds" and "Setting Up an RSS News Reader". Ann welcomes your feedback on these pages and would especially appreciate suggestions of additional feeds to include. She can be reached at ajacobson@nps.edu.

Ann Jacobson is Reference and Instruction Manager at Dudley Knox Library, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California.

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

Dudley Knox Library

NPS Home Library Home Services Information Research Tools Help

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LIBRARY CONTACT

Dudley Knox Library
411 Dyer Road
Monterey, CA 93943
(831) 656-2947
DSN: 756-2947
[Send Feedback](#)

RSS FEEDS FOR MILITARY AND GOVT RESEARCHERS

[Print Page](#) | [Email Page](#)

Not sure what RSS feeds are, how you can use them, and what they can do for you? See our page on Setting Up and RSS News Reader, listed under Related Links to the right.

Some of the links below go to lists of RSS feeds, while others are the direct link to the feed itself. To subscribe to a feed, you can either copy the link provided here and then paste it into your reader, or else, click on the link provided here and then copy and paste the URL in the browser address bar into your reader.

MILITARY AGENCY FEEDS

Air University
Muir S. Fairchild Research Information Center provides a list of their RSS feeds at <http://www.au.af.mil/au/auilib/FeedPage.htm>. Their feeds include information on their bibliography updates, new books received, and more.

Army Center for Strategic Leadership (at the U.S. Army War College)
An RSS feed of their recent publications and upcoming events is available at http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usacsl/RSS/rss_csl.xml.

Combined Arms Research Library (CARL)
CARL provides a news and information feed and a cultural awareness feed. These feeds and others they produce are listed at <http://csrc.leavenworth.army.mil/carl/aboutrss.asp>.

Early Bird (from the American Forces Information Service)
An RSS feed of their daily compilation of defense-related news is provided at <http://ebird.afis.mil/ebfiles/cnsebird.xml>.

Military HOMEFRONT
This official Department of Defense web site for military Quality of Life information provides an RSS feed of their [Highlights and Headlines](#).

RELATED LINKS

- Databases the Library Subscribes To That Provide RSS Feeds
- Setting Up an RSS News Reader



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Lakenheath Library Starts Investment Club

Kathleen Hanselmann, U.S. Air Forces Europe, RAF Lakenheath AFB



Staff at Lakenheath Library in the United Kingdom organized the RAF Lakenheath Investment Club to help library customers learn more about the pros and cons of investing. Given the current economic situation, the timing for such a program might be ideal. Eleven people attended the first meeting which kicked off in February. The club meets once a month and attendance has been

steady thus far, said Lakenheath Library Director Kathleen Hanselmann.

Each meeting is facilitated by a knowledgeable finance and investment specialist who is on hand to answer patron questions. Hanselmann said they will try to bring in a variety of expert speakers from across the base and local community. The club aims to cover both basic concepts in personal investing and more complex investment topics. The investment club also gives staff a chance to promote the Morningstar personal finance database.

"We are encouraged that information on investing is needed and wanted from our customers," said Hanselmann. "With Lakenheath's high ops tempo and deployments, willing participation in a library program shows they are focused and interested in the topic."

Kathleen Hanselmann is Library Director at RAF Lakenheath Library, United Kingdom.

USAFE Libraries Complete Successful Late Night Season

Amber Collins, Izmir Air Force Base, Turkey



The cast of Izmir Library's Thirst for Blood Murder Mystery Game take a break to pose for a photo on 7 February 2009. The event was one of five murder mysteries the library hosted during this year's USAFE Libraries Late Night @ the Library season. Photo used with permission

The U.S. Air Forces Europe Library Program recently finished its second straight Late Night @ the Library season, hosting 25 events at seven libraries across three countries—England, Germany and Turkey. The program, supported in part by Project CHEER, a U.S. Air Force initiative for unaccompanied airmen, kicked off in November last year and ended this past March. More than 1,300 customers attended this season.

Each program starts after regular library hours and goes until midnight or beyond. Participants come for camaraderie, Internet, reading, games, food and prizes. Each library offers its own twist on the Late Night theme. Libraries at Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Mildenhall, and Lakenheath provided light snacks and gaming opportunities in addition to full service library operations. The Izmir library held interactive murder mystery games. Incirlik invited workers from other facilities to answer questions about their services. Both Incirlik and Croughton offered raffles and refreshments. Other events held during the Late Night season included a Rock Band tournament and a Cranium challenge, as well as costume contests and Sudoku challenges.



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Scanning vs. Microform: What Suits You Best?

Nancy Hicks, Navy Experimental Diving Unit, Panama, Florida

In today's world of digitization, archiving documents is as important as it is complicated. Although there are many trains of thought on the subject, I believe microform is the way to go.

The main purpose of archiving anything should be to preserve it in a format that can be accessed for decades to come, be it for research or just historical documentation. Many things must be considered in the discussion of scanning versus microform. For instance, who will be performing the task? Be them volunteers at museums or temps at corporations, they change often, and training must be considered when choosing how to archive documents. By choosing microform, less training and quality control are necessary to achieve a quality product.

Scanning in different formats is difficult work. Without expensive software and training on that software, getting a good scan can be complicated. The learning curve for creating microform is much simpler. With a decent machine, the most expensive being about \$2,500, staff error is reduced and the company still gets an accurate, long-lasting product. Also, storage devices change. Large floppy discs, small floppy discs, zip drives, and CD-ROMs were once common storage formats but now we primarily use memory sticks or thumb drives. What will storage devices look like in the future? Nobody knows. However, as long as we have a microform reader, the microform can be used as long as it lasts.

Microform's primary disadvantage is that it cannot be read with the naked eye. Special readers that project full-size images on a screen are needed. However, such readers are inexpensive and readily available. Since microfiche is easy to misfile because of its small size, a professional needs to be responsible for the collection and its use. Regular copy machines cannot reproduce the images and a special viewer with copier needs to be purchased. Lastly, since microfiche can be reproduced for only a limited number of generations, we recommend that after the master copy has been made with the silver halide dyes in hard gelatin (with an estimated life of 500 years in air-conditioning) we should first make a couple of diazo-based copies first that can be for public use.

Microform is compact and therefore has very small storage costs. It is cheaper than a paper copy and is a stable archival form. Because it is analog, an actual image of the original data, it is easy to view. Unlike digital media, the data format is instantly comprehensible to persons who can read the language and have a magnifying glass. This format reduces the possibility of obsolescence. There are machines now that create both a digital image as well as the microform. However, if one must choose, the combination of cost, durability, and ease of use makes microform the way to go for most archival purposes.

Nancy Hicks is a librarian at the Navy Experimental Diving Unit Technical Library in Panama City, Florida.





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Military History Institute Holds Large Military Pub Inventory

Monica Lester, Army Heritage and Education Center



The Military History Institute, a component of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, maintains one of the largest collections of the Army's superseded military publications. These include administrative publications, doctrinal, training and organizational publications, and technical and equipment publications. The collection currently consists of

54 individual military publication series, 32 of which are superseded and 22 current. Approximately 335,000 hard copies and 17,000 digital copies make up this collection.

To reach the inventory:

- Visit the Web site at: www.ahco.army.mil
- Click on **Resource Guides/Finding Aids**
- Click on **Military Publications Inventories**

The category folders at the top represent those military publications that have extensive digitized copies associated with them. Eventually users will be able to click directly to the digitized document. For now only the finding aid in a Word document is available. After selecting a publication type and a title users will see the content on the screen but the layout is sometimes awkward to read. To remedy this click the yellow 'folder' icon located in the upper right hand corner of the page (the mouse-over will read 'show document'). Users have the opportunity to open or download the document in a more readable Word format.

The finding aids, represented by the Word document icons, are arranged by document number, date, title, pages and number of copies or format. The finding aids include 'supersedes/superseded by' information, additional publication number if jointly issued, and whether or not the document is currently available digitized and if it is restricted distribution.

The Military Publications Inventories is constantly growing with new documents and information added every day. Please contact [Monica Lester](#) with special requests for digital documents or for help using the resource.

Monica Lester is Library Director at Thomas S. Powers Library, Offutt AFB, Nebraska

Education and Training Links

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[Internet Library for Librarians](#)

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