

★★ THE BUGLE ★★

Volume VIII:IV

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

October 2001

F R O N T L I N E

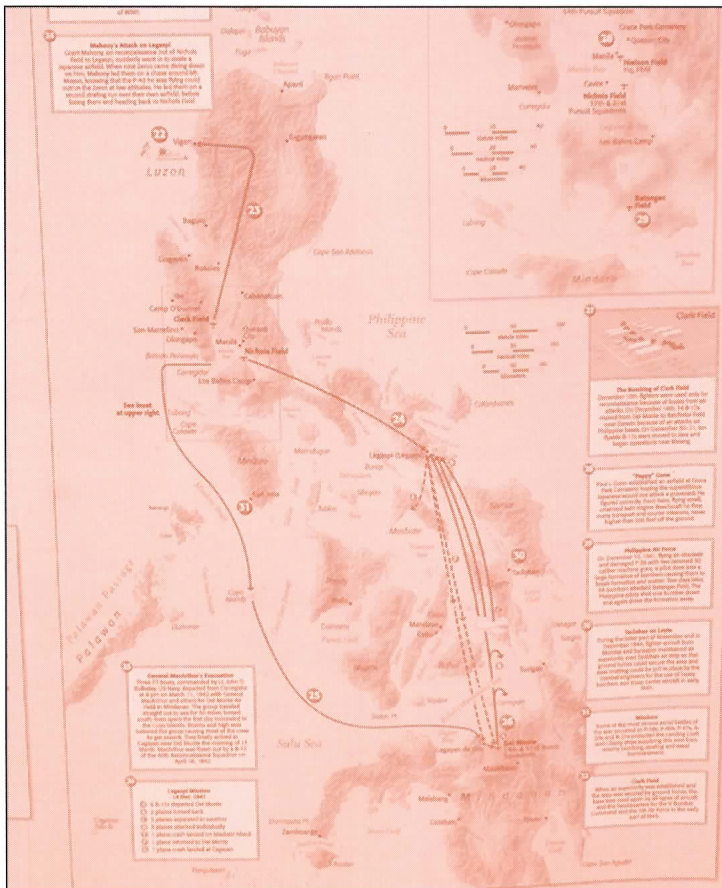
Extraordinary Map Donated to Research Center

by Russell Horton

The 5th Air Force Memorial Foundation (5th AFMF) and XNR Productions donated an amazing map to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's Research Center in August. Titled

"The History of the 5th Air Force, 1941-1945," the 36" x 48" full-color political map spans the Pacific Ocean from the Asian mainland to the Fiji Islands and from the southern tip of

aircraft used in the Pacific also receive attention in the bottom left corner of the map where small-scale drawings of 19 planes appear.



Japan to the continent of Australia. Three close-up boxes highlight areas in which sustained actions took place. Color-coded lines depict the major movements of the 5th Air Force along with those of other Allied and Japanese forces. The map also emphasizes 36 major engagements and other important events with paragraph-long written descriptions. The

The 5th Air Force Memorial Foundation currently consists of more than 1,000 veterans from World War II and subsequent conflicts. The Foundation's mission is to ensure that future generations remember and appreciate the sacrifices and accomplishments of the 5th Air Force through the creation and placement of permanent memorials. The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Museum in Oshkosh is the site of one such memorial: a display case filled with 5th Air Force memorabilia. There also are memorials at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio, the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, and in Townsville, Australia, which served as a base for the 5th Air Force during World War II.

Almost three years ago, several members of the 5th AFMF decided to have a map of their

"The History of the 5th Air Force, 1941 - 1945" Map - donated to the museum by the 5th Air Force Memorial Foundation and XNR Productions

BUGLE

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

The purpose of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum is to commemorate, acknowledge, and affirm the role of Wisconsin veterans in America's military past by means of instructive exhibits and other educational programs.

The Bugle is a publication of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation which serves to further the museum's mission by providing funds for the acquisition of artifacts, exhibit production, and development of educational programs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM

30 W. Mifflin St., Madison, WI 53703 - (On the Capitol Square)

HOURS

Mon.- Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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FOR INFORMATION
 Call 608.267.1799



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DIRECTORS' CORNER

Secretary Appoints New Board Members

by Richard H. Zeitlin



Raymond G. Boland, secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, appointed three members to the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. The three Museum Foundation Board members will represent the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Donald L. Savage of Caspian, Michigan, is the current Wisconsin state commander of the DAV. A Navy veteran, Savage joined the DAV in 1968. Savage has served in a professional capacity in DAV chapters in Wisconsin, California, and Florida over the course of twenty years. He was a member of the Department of Wisconsin's Finance Committee from 1998 - 2001, before being selected as state commander. He graduated from Northern Michigan University.

Roger Dorman resides in Portage. Dorman has played an impor-

tant role in DAV Chapter #60, starting as its Sergeant-At-Arms, officer of the day, membership chairman, junior vice commander, and commander. He now serves as the post adjutant. Dorman has experience working with the DAV legislative committee. A veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, Dorman sailed from the Arctic to the Antarctic, the Far East, as well along the shipping routes of the Great Lakes. He is active in community organizations and is a graduate of the Madison Area Technical College.

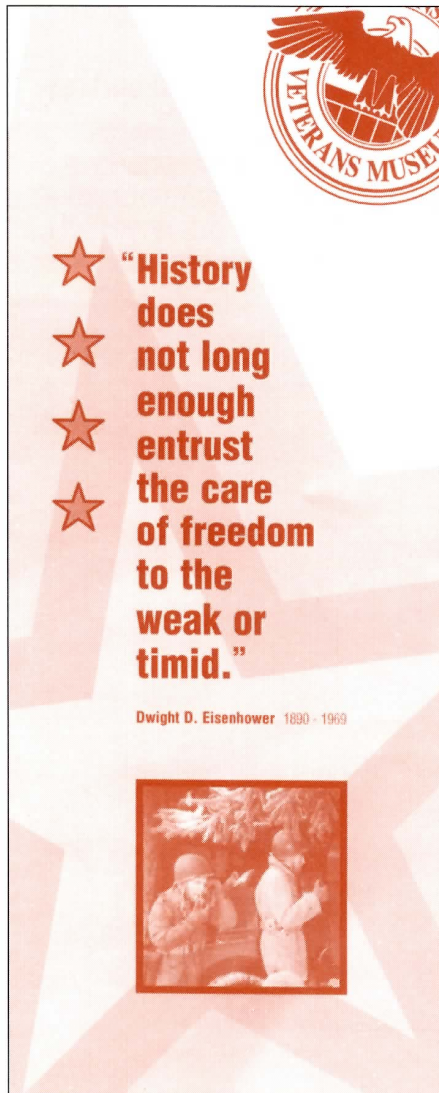
John A. Scocos will represent the VFW. Scocos holds a bachelor's of arts degree from the University of Wisconsin, a bachelor's of science from Mankato State, and a master's degree from Truro University. He served in numerous overseas assignments in command and staff positions while on active duty with the Army from 1979-1991, including Korea, Germany, and Bosnia. Now a lieutenant colonel in the National Guard, Scocos has extensive legislative experience gained while working for the state Senate, as assembly sergeant at arms, and since being elected assembly chief clerk in 2001. Scocos served as the Executive Assistant to the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs from 1997-2001. He is a member of the Dane County Veterans Committee and the Madison Veterans Council.

The Veterans Museum Foundation welcomes its new directors.

Museum Undertakes Annual Appeal

by Richard H. Zeitlin

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is undertaking its annual appeal for funds. Annual appeal letters are being prepared for mailing. Last year was the first year that we asked our friends and constituents to help sustain the work of the museum with gifts of financial support.



"History does not long enough entrust the care of freedom to the weak or timid."

Dwight D. Eisenhower 1890 - 1969

Donations Appeal Brochure - Wisconsin Veterans Museum

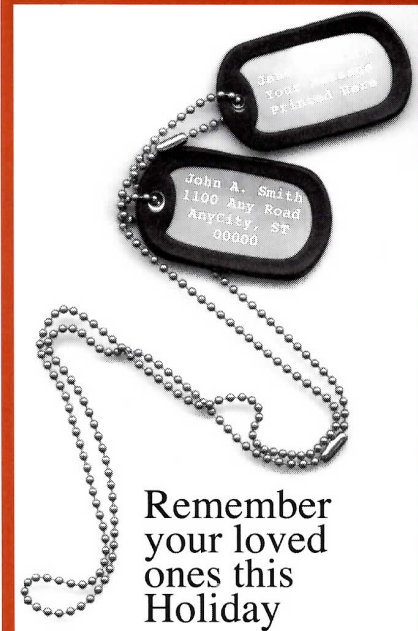
The financial support received from other than state sources is essential to the museum. State appropriations cover the museum's fixed costs such as utilities, rent, maintenance, and salaries. However, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum depends on gifts, grants, and donations to produce new and changing exhibits, purchase artifacts, and to develop the wide range of creative public educational programs that have come to characterize the museum's activities. To meet this need, the museum relies on its friends to give to the the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation through which financial gifts are channeled to assist the Museums goals.

The Veterans Museum recently produced and opened the new exhibit **"Uncovering the Enemy: Military Intelligence in the 20th Century."** The 1,000 square foot display features a German Enigma code machine from World War II. It also has a touch screen electronic simulator enabling visitors to encode messages and interact with the Enigma. The Museum Foundation has entered into an agreement with a publisher to produce a volume of oral history accounts by Wisconsin veterans describing their experiences. In addition, the museum has planned for an ambitious series of temporary displays and public programs.

Please be looking for our annual appeal letter. Remember, your gift helps us recognize the contributions of Wisconsin veterans by preserving the history of their service and sacrifices.

ORDER YOUR OWN SOUVENIR "DOG TAGS"

Visitors to the museum can make a personalized souvenir or a special gift for family or friends by custom imprinting a set of dog tags.



Our genuine US Dog Tags are used by military personnel and civilians for recording important information.

GREAT FOR PERSONALIZING

- Medical Identification
- Luggage Tags
- Holiday Gifts
- Pet Tags
- Keys

Museum to Host Society for Military History Meeting

by Richard H. Zeitlin



The Wisconsin Veterans Museum will host the Annual Meeting of the Society for Military History (SMH) on April 4-7, 2002 at Monona Terrace Convention Center. The pre-eminent organization dedicated to the study of military affairs, the Society for Military History membership consists of national and international scholars, military professionals, government officials, diplomats, and other individuals with an interest in military history. The Society for Military History publishes a quarterly, *The Journal of Military History*, in partnership with the George C. Marshall Foundation and the Virginia Military Institute, as well as a newsletter *Headquarters Gazette*. The SMH has roughly 5,000 individual and institutional members.

The theme for the SMH 2002, Annual Meeting will be, “**War and Remembrance: Constructing the Military Past and Future**”. The Annual Meeting traditionally hosts at least two major keynote speakers. One will focus on current military affairs in light of the bombing of the World Trade Center. The other will be Edward M. Coffman, University of Wisconsin Professor Emeritus, who will present a talk about his forthcoming second volume of *The Old Army*. Coffman, a popular

professor at the UW, speaks with eloquence, knowledge, and charm.

Attendance at SMH meetings has steadily risen over the past several years, and the Veterans Museum has reserved a block of 275 hotel rooms in anticipation of about 350 visitors. A special behind the scenes visit to the Experimental Aircraft Association Museum in Oshkosh has also been arranged. Please consider attending the meeting.



The theme for the Society for Military History 2002 Annual Meeting will be “War and Remembrance: Constructing the Military Past and Future”

Out with the Old, In with the New

by Mary Bade



Exhibit designer and construction engineer review construction plans for new exhibit.

A lot of behind-the-scenes work is involved in taking down one exhibit and preparing for the installation of another. Removing objects from display and returning them to their proper storage locations or to the individuals from whom they were borrowed, packing empty display cases for storage, and maintaining contact with the exhibit designers involved in designing and fabricating the next exhibit are only a few of the steps involved.

It takes at least a year and a half to plan, research, and fabricate an exhibit the size of "Uncovering the Enemy: Military Intelligence in the 20th Century." An exhibit proposal has to be developed detailing the ideas one hopes to convey to the public. Additionally, an exhibit design firm needs to

be consulted to determine whether these ideas are possible to fabricate into an actual exhibit, and many meetings need to be held to elaborate on these ideas and choose objects from the col-

lection that fit the concepts trying to be conveyed.

If the permanent collection does not contain all the required objects for the exhibit, museum staff must spend time locating them using other sources (such as other museums, historical societies, or potential lenders). In addition, photographs need to be chosen to accompany portions of the exhibit. Again, if relevant photos cannot be located in the museum archives, curators must obtain them from sources such as the National Archives or other museums.

When all the images are located they then need to be sent out for duplication, enlargement, and mounting. Once all the objects and photos are located, the text has been written, and photo and object labels have been created, it falls to the exhibit designers and fabricators to devise a design and construct suitable mounts for all of the objects.

While this process is taking place, the collections staff also is responsible for dismantling

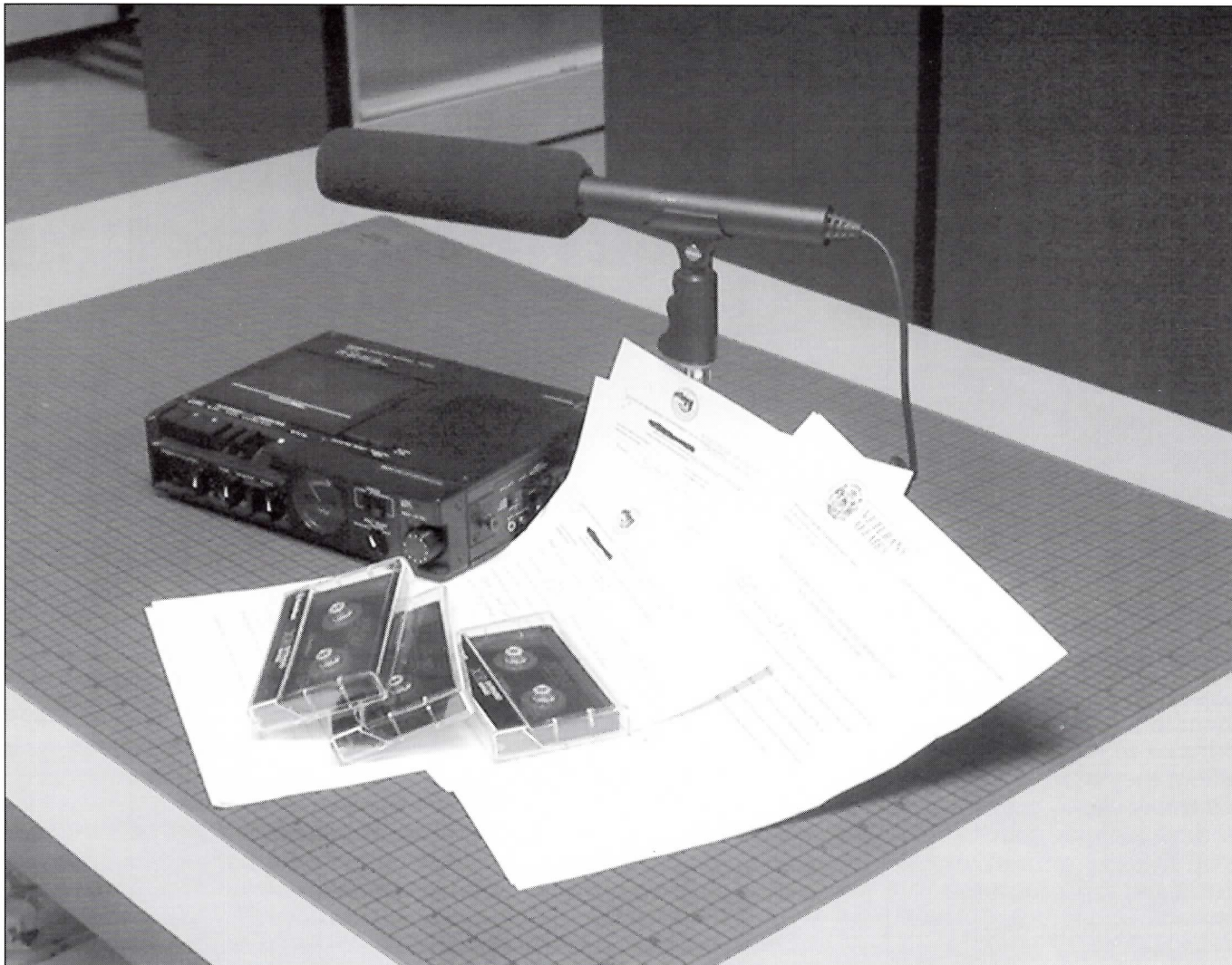
CURATOR'S - CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Construction in progress as the new gallery space is prepared for "Uncovering the Enemy" exhibit.

Archivists Respond to September 11, 2001

by Aaron W. Marrs



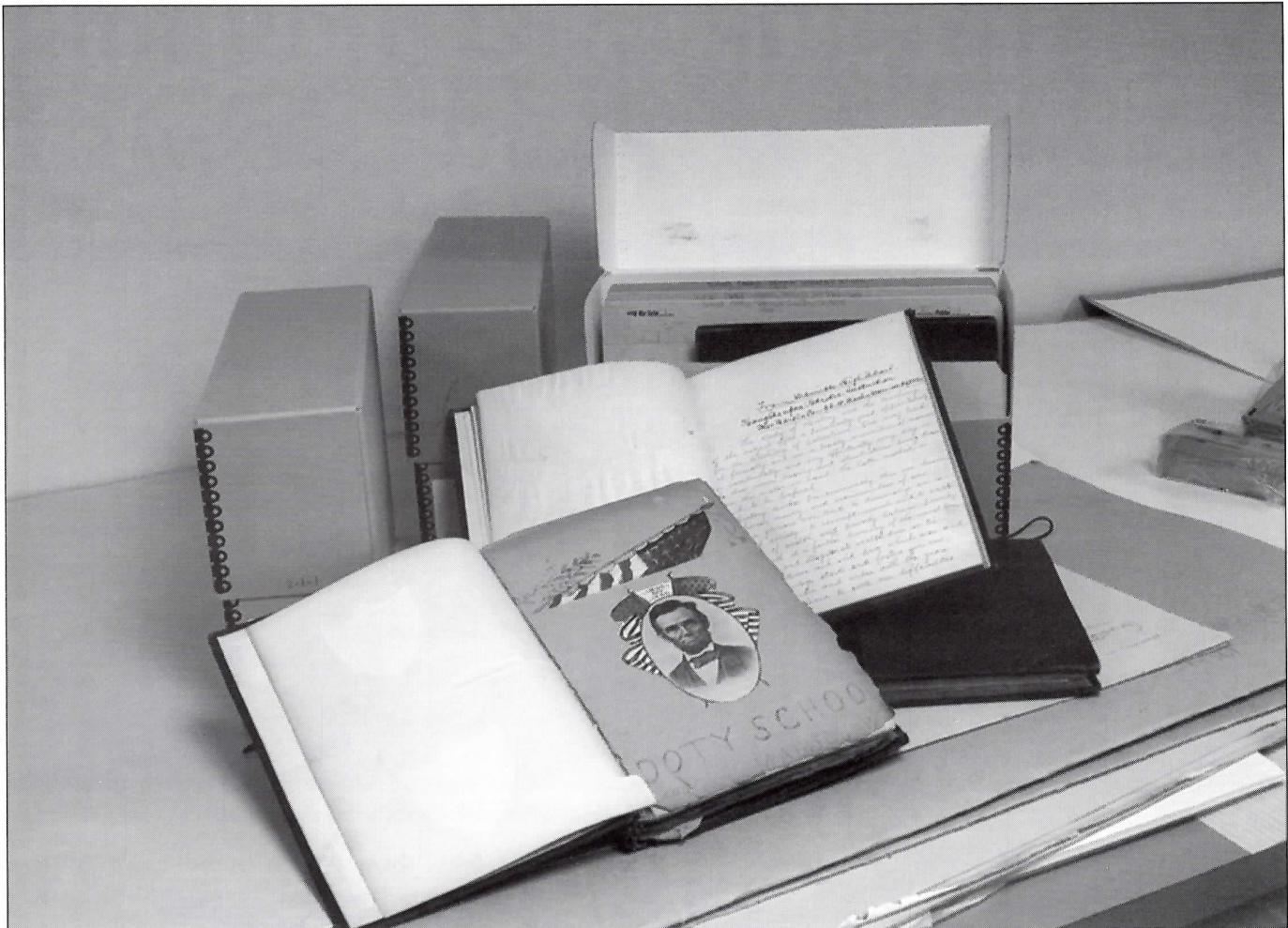
Oral history interviews with WWII veterans Art Rortvedt, John Langford, and Robert Feller discuss their Pearl Harbor experiences. (From the Veteran Oral History Collection of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum)

Archives are often thought of as depositories for materials from the distant past. Indeed, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum continues to collect materials from the earliest conflicts involving Wisconsin residents. Yet archives

also have another equally important function: to ensure that contemporary events are documented adequately. The importance of this task was made clear after the recent attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The effort to document this tragedy has included both ad hoc efforts from archivists around the nation and organized efforts sponsored by major grants. Immediately after the attacks, the American Folklife Center of the

FROM THE ARCHIVES



School essays on patriotic topics written by Wisconsin school children during the 1910s and 1920s. These essays may be found in the records of the Grand Army of the Republic, Dept. of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Veterans Museum Manuscript Collection.

Library of Congress put out an urgent request for folklorists and others interested in cultural history to do man-on-the-street interviews and send the audiotapes to the center. A similar strategy was used after the attack on Pearl Harbor resulting in a rich collection of immediate reactions to the event.

While the effort by the American Folklife Center represents a grassroots effort to cast as wide a net as possible in collecting reactions, a more systematic effort is being undertaken by Columbia University's Oral

History Research Office. In October, Columbia was awarded a \$90,000 grant by the National Science Foundation to conduct an extensive oral history project using video and sound recordings. The project will interview more than 300 individuals immediately and again after six months and two years.

Other archivists focused their attention on a new type of source: the World Wide Web. The web is difficult to archive because of its constantly shifting nature. Yet many important documents (news reports, photographs, tribute pages, etc.) appear

only on the web. In an effort to maintain a record of the webpages that sprung up in response to the attack, the Internet Archive, in conjunction with the Library of Congress and other organizations, has begun the mammoth task of archiving over five terabytes of information. The archive will keep copies of webpages as they change, allowing future researchers to see how the nation's response to the attacks evolves over time.

In keeping with its special focus to tell the personal story of Wisconsin's military and home front experiences, the Wisconsin

2001 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

TEMPORARY

100 YEARS OF SERVICE

October 12, 2001 - January 6, 2002

Reception Area

In 1901 the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) Museum was established through legislation mandating the creation of a veterans museum in the State Capitol. The law mandated that state officials establish a memorial dedicated to commemorating Wisconsin's role in the Civil War and "any subsequent war." This exhibit will highlight the history of the museum from 1901 to 2001 including a move from the Capitol to a new facility with award-winning exhibits.

THE KOREAN WAR, 50 YEARS LATER

January 17 - June 21, 2002

Reception Area

This photo exhibition on the 50th anniversary of the Korean War reexamines the meaning of the Korean conflict, its far-reaching international ramifications and the ongoing quest for a permanent peace.

ONGOING

UNCOVERING THE ENEMY

Opens November 11, 2001

Changing Exhibit Gallery

Uncovering the Enemy will focus on military intelligence and surveillance from World War I through Vietnam. The exhibit will include a German Enigma machine, aerial cameras, communications equipment, and interactive displays. Uniforms, equipment and the unique stories of Wisconsin veterans who have participated in information gathering activities will be featured.

A TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is dedicated to the citizen-soldiers of our state. Employing exhibits, displays, and presentations, the museum's main galleries tell the story of Wisconsin men and women who served in America's conflicts from the Civil War to the Persian Gulf War.

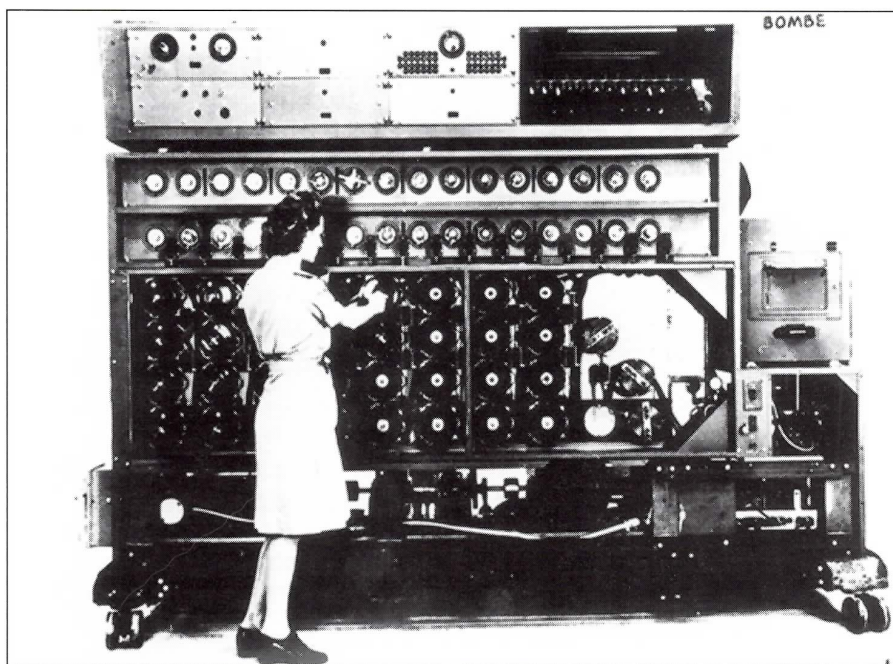
CURATOR'S - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the current exhibit to prepare for the installation of the new one. The first step is to remove objects from their display cases. It is most efficient and least confusing to remove objects in groups, so we often begin by removing all of the items that have been loaned to us. The collections staff often refer to the loan forms to check items off the list as they are taken out of display cases to make sure that everything borrowed is returned to the appropriate lenders. Lenders are then contacted to see how they would like us to return the borrowed items to them, and the borrowed objects are packed and appropriate paperwork is generated. Next, all of the material borrowed from the museum's archives is removed from exhibit and returned to the archives for proper storage. Finally, all of the objects borrowed from the museum's objects collections must be

returned to the collection storage area. The computerized collections database is consulted to determine the storage location of each object. The database is used to track the location of each object, whether it be on exhibit, loaned to another institution, or sent off for conservation. A note is made in the collections database stating that the items are no longer on exhibit and that they have been safely returned to storage.

Finally, Plexiglass display cases that will not be used in the new exhibit are wrapped in bubble and plastic wrap and taken to an off-site storage location. When preparing to install "Uncovering the Enemy..." all of the exhibit bases and wall text panels had to be removed and sent to the exhibit designer for re-fabrication. Once all objects and extraneous materials are out of the exhibit gallery, the floors are waxed and the gallery prepared for the

CURATOR'S - CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Woman standing in front of coding machine named the "Bombe"

ARCHIVES – CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Veterans Museum is also interested in collecting such records. “National efforts at collecting will be more comprehensive. However, it is important to document Wisconsin’s participation and reaction. It is equally important to keep these records in the state where future generations of Wisconsin students, teachers, and researchers can use them,” said Wisconsin Veterans Museum Archivist Gayle Martinson.

Efforts to preserve our nation’s history are made easier when individuals take steps to preserve their own memories. Martinson has a few suggestions for individuals interesting in doing this. “Many people now communicate by e-mail. If you e-mailed friends and family in the aftermath of the attack, you should print them out,” notes Martinson. She also suggests holding on to regular mail received from friends and family as well as relevant materials that may be issued at your place of employment (memos regarding safety at work, building security, new mail procedures, etc.).

Materials that appeal to our patriotism, such as bumper stickers, decals, signs, banners, advertisements, and the like are also worth saving. She also suggests taking the time each day to keep a journal of your reactions and feelings. “These records not only help us deal emotionally with our horror and sadness, but are of immense use to future researchers.” She encourages military service members to pay particular attention to preserving their role and involvement.

Martinson has several suggestions for schoolteachers who

may be interested in incorporating historic documentation into classroom assignments and projects. As an example, she cites the Museum’s Grand Army of Republic records that include numerous essays written in the 1910s and 1920s by Wisconsin schoolchildren on patriotic topics. Today, teachers might run a tape recording during school discussions; or compile scrapbooks of newspaper articles, student artwork, poems, or essays. Writing assignments might include such topics as how the child’s ideas of patriotism have changed, how families have been affected, and other topics relevant to the age group concerned.

By encouraging individuals to save materials with an eye to posterity and future research use, greater documentation of this horrific event in American history can be achieved. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center will collect papers, publications, posters, and photographs that document America’s ensuing war on terrorism from the Wisconsin perspective. If you have records that you feel may be of interest, please contact Martinson at 608.261.0536 or gayle.martinson@dva.state.wi.us.

PERSONAL NOTES

Aaron W. Marrs is a graduate student at the University of South Carolina, pursuing master’s degrees in Library and Information Science and Public History. He was an intern in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum archives during the summer of 2001.

WE WANT YOU

TO VOLUNTEER AT THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM!

Be a part of a premiere organization helping it to continue to produce interesting programs, protect historical documents and display exhibits that chronicle the history of Wisconsin’s veterans.

VOLUNTEERS ARE TRAINED BY MUSEUM STAFF AND ARE NEEDED MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

- **Docent:** Guide school and adult groups through the museum’s 19th and 20th Century galleries. Docents teach students about the lives of soldiers throughout different conflicts and why we should honor all of our veterans.
Most tours are Monday-Friday between 9 am and 3 pm
- **Education Assistant:** Explore the museum’s galleries with children helping them discover the experiences of Wisconsin’s citizen-soldiers.
Most tours are Monday-Friday between 9 am and 3 pm
- **Evaluation Specialist:** Survey visitors as they leave the museum. Talk with people from all over the U.S. and around the globe to discover what they learned from the museum. This critical information is used in grant applications and marketing plans.
(Monday-Saturday)
- **Special Events Volunteer:** Assist with special events such as Civil War encampments and cemetery tours. Special event volunteers can serve in many different capacities at events: tour guides, greeters, set-up/tear down crew members, researchers, etc.
(Evenings and Weekends)
- **Office Assistant:** Aid the museum in many capacities. Assist with mailing of teacher packets, press releases, and invitations to programs. Update databases. Produce flyers and other tasks.
- **Collections Assistant:** Help collections staff prepare exhibits for travel. Clean, inventory, and number artifacts. Assist with paperwork and database upkeep.
- **Library/Archives Assistant:** Complete projects organizing collections in the research center. These collections include manuscripts, photographs, audio recordings, maps, posters, books, and magazines.

To volunteer or for more information contact Julie Bryan at **608.264.6086** or julie.bryan@dva.state.wi.us.

FRONTLINE – CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

World War II operations made for their own reference and to further the Foundation's mission. They contacted XNR Productions, a Madison-based firm that specializes in creating educational maps, about the creation of such a map. Using information provided by the veterans, XNR produced several drafts that were given to the 5th AFMF for inspection. The 5th AFMF corrected minute details and made suggestions, which XNR used to create an incredibly accurate and visually attractive map that successfully conveys the operations of the 5th Air Force in World War II.

Formed in February 1942, the 5th Air Force remained in the Pacific Theater throughout the course of the war. They aided in the defense of the Philippines and Australia before taking the offensive in the second half of 1942.

The 5th Air Force played a major role in the Allied advance

toward Japan by transporting ground troops, moving supplies, and evacuating Allied wounded. They also attacked Japanese bases, hindered their reinforcements, and disrupted their supply lines. After the reclamation of the Philippines, the 5th Air Force moved its base to Okinawa and began direct attacks on the Japanese mainland, which continued until Japan's surrender.

Many young men from Wisconsin took part in these events as members of the 5th Air Force. In fact, perhaps the most famous member of the 5th Air Force was Richard Bong, a native of Poplar, Wis. Early in 1942, Bong, who had just received his pilot's wings, began training on the new P-38 fighter plane in California. Before the year was over, Bong was sent to the Pacific as part of the 9th Fighter Squadron, 49th Fighter Group, 5th Air Force. In less than 16 months, Bong shot down 28

enemy aircraft, which broke Eddie Rickenbacker's World War I record of 26.

Twice during the war, Bong returned home to Wisconsin on leave: once at the end of 1943 and again in May 1944, just after he shot down his 27th plane. On both occasions, the people of Wisconsin greeted him as a hero with great fanfare and parades.

Despite being designated as a gunnery instructor upon returning from his second leave, Bong volunteered to fly combat missions. He shot down 10 more enemy aircraft between Oct. 10 and Dec. 7, 1944. On Dec. 12, Gen. Douglas MacArthur presented Bong with the Medal of Honor. Bong celebrated by shooting down two more Japanese planes in the following five days, bringing his total number of confirmed "wins" to 40, a record that stands to this day. After returning to the United States in January as the United States' ace of aces, Bong died tragically while test piloting an experimental P-80 Shooting Star on Aug. 6, 1945.

Through the creation and donation of "The History of the 5th Air Force, 1941-1945," the 5th Air Force Memorial Foundation and XNR Productions have assured future generations the opportunity to learn more about this vital chapter in World War II history. Visually appealing, the map will inspire patrons of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's Research Center to learn more about the 5th Air Force, as well as the Wisconsin men who were a part of it.



Richard Bong, a Wisconsin native and ace of the 5th Air Force, receives the Congressional Medal of Honor from General Douglas MacArthur, 12 December 1944

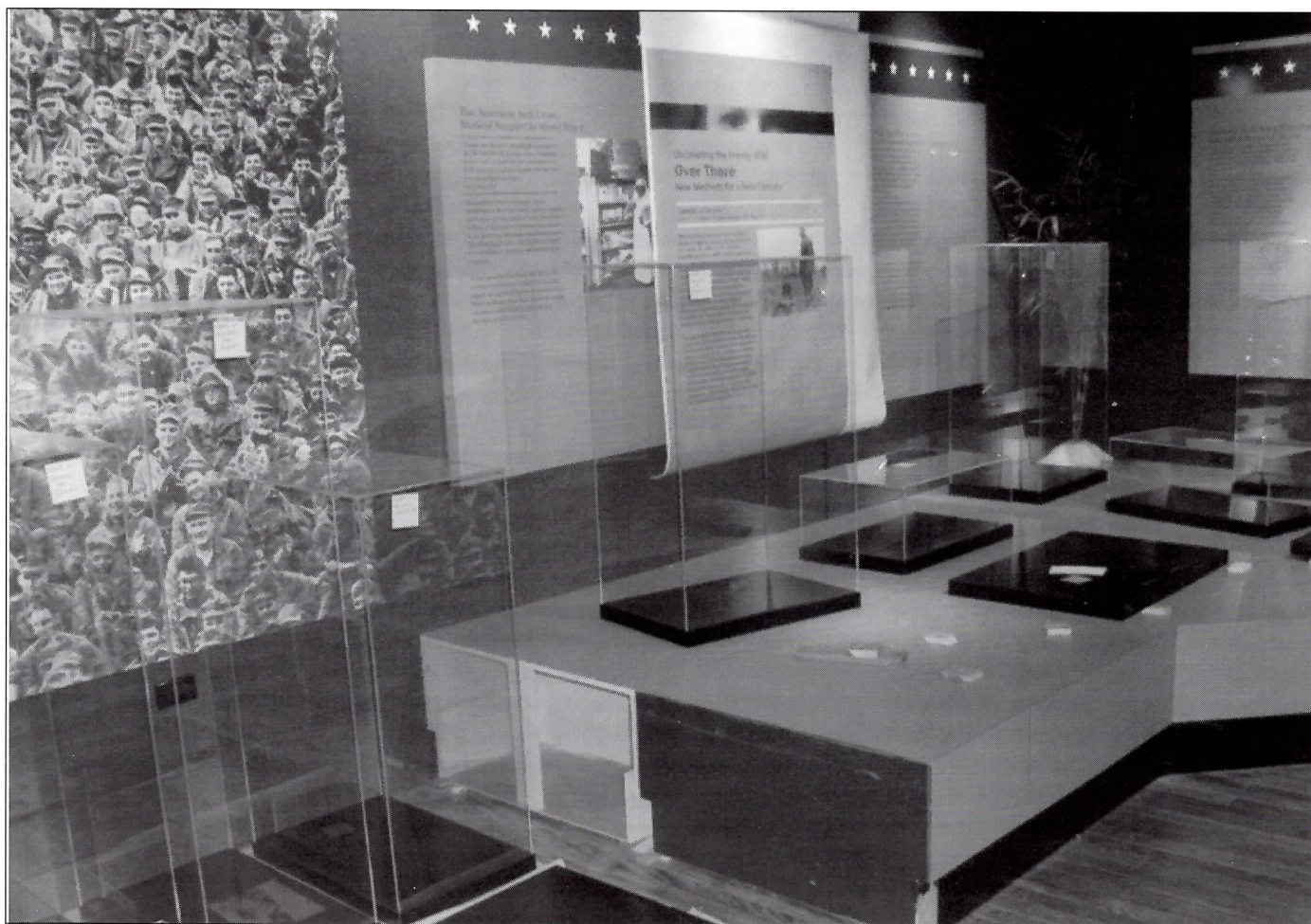
CURATORS' CHRONICLES

CURATOR'S – CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8
installation of the new exhibit.

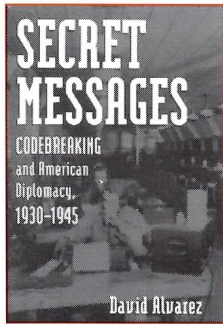
It is a long and involved process to produce any sizeable exhibit, but it is always very rewarding to see it begin to take shape. It is an exciting feeling to watch the progression of concepts and ideas develop into a tangible display. **“Uncovering the Enemy: Military Intelligence in the 20th Century”** was installed the week of October 29 and opened to the public on November 11.



A ribbon cutting ceremony was part of the Veterans Day exhibit opening.



A view of the new “Uncovering the Enemy” exhibit nearing completion.

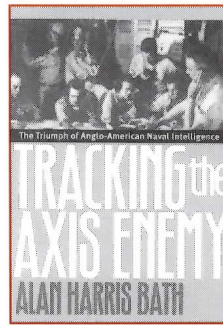


**SECRET MESSAGES,
CODEBREAKING AND AMERICAN
DIPLOMACY 1930-1945**

University Press of Kansas, 2000
David Alvarez

The ability to break the enemy's code and read their messages was considered to be a vital weapon during World War II. In *Secret Messages*, author David Alvarez gives us the first comprehensive analysis of the impact of decoded radio messages upon American foreign policy and strategy from 1930-1945. *Secret Messages* presents the most complete account to date of the Signal Intelligence Service (SIS) highlighting its creation, struggles, and rapid wartime growth.

\$35.00

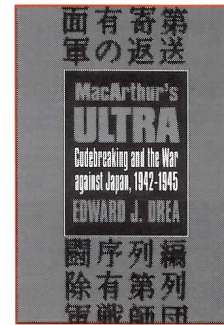


TRACKING THE AXIS ENEMY

University Press of Kansas, 1992
Alan Harris Bath

Tracking the Axis Enemy follows former naval intelligence officer Alan Harris Bath as he traces the coordination of Anglo-American efforts before and during World War II, identifying the political, military, technological, and human factors that aided and sometimes hindered cooperation. He discusses the Allies' different and often conflicting styles of intelligence gathering and reveals ways in which interagency and interservice rivalries complicated an already complex process.

\$34.95



**MACARTHUR'S ULTRA:
CODEBREAKING AND THE WAR
AGAINST JAPAN 1942-1945**

University Press of Kansas, 1998
Edward J. Drea

This book is the first comprehensive examination of General Douglas MacArthur's use of ULTRA, and how his Central Bureau deciphered the Japanese codes. Drea's excellent study presents a detailed illustration of the interplay between intelligence-gathering and operational planning and uses one of history's most successful commanders as its model.

\$15.95