World War II Exhibit Closes Successful Run

Fifty years ago, the world was in the midst of the most devastating war in history. World War II, which claimed fifty million lives, forever changed the world. In 1989 the National Archives commissioned a traveling exhibit to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the United States's entry into the war. "World War II: Personal Accounts" tells the history of that conflict through the letters, diaries, and personal recollections of its soldiers, generals, and world leaders. The Gerald R. Ford Museum hosted the exhibit, September 3, 1993 through January 3, 1994.

"The largest feature exhibit ever hosted by the Museum ...also drew the largest number of viewers."

"Personal Accounts" gathers together the diaries of George Patton, Adolph Hitler's last will and testament, Franklin Roosevelt's "Day of Infamy" speech, the original surrender documents, and over a hundred written accounts of people who experienced the war first-hand.

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Also displayed are personal artifacts of such participants as Dwight Eisenhower, Erwin Rommel, Douglas MacArthur, and Audie Murphy. Original film footage of the attack on Pearl Harbor, other film and audio, and a dramatic simulation of the atomic explosion at Nagasaki recreate the horror of those events.

As the largest feature exhibit ever hosted by the Museum, "Personal Accounts" extended over 3,600 square feet. It also drew the largest
number of viewers, over 50,000 visitors.

The exhibit's primary sponsor, the Consumers Power Foundation, helped fund the cost of bringing the exhibit to Grand Rapids, and served as a catalyst in forming a host committee. Chaired by Hank Meijer, the host committee organized special accompanying programs to create an exciting community event. Among them were a Sunday lecture series, a film series, and special evening programs featuring David Eisenhower and Harold Stassen. The Museum provided a 1940s Christmas ornament workshop, planted a "Victory Garden," and arranged for a Sherman tank to be placed on the grounds.

President and Mrs. Ford joined the festivities with a special visit to Grand Rapids in November. On November 10, Mrs. Ford hosted Mrs. Ford greeted visitors prior to "Fashions of the 40s."

"Fashions of the Forties," featuring celebrity models. Over 500 guests reminisced as forty models each made several tours through the auditorium, parading a large and impressive collection of vintage clothing from the Dickinson County [Kansas] Historical Society. Mrs. Ford greeted the guests at a special tea held in the lobby between the two shows.

On the next day, Veterans' Day, fighting a terrible cold, President Ford appeared live on NBC's "Today" where he answered questions about the exhibit and NAFTA. Later that morning he spoke to over 1,000 people gathered in Bicentennial Park in front of the Museum for a Veterans' Day ceremony. At the conclusion of the President's remarks, the visitors placed poppies donated by the American Legion on two simulated graves, in memory of those who had lost their lives in combat. The 126th Army Band provided the music.

In December a recreated USO show, "I Can't Come Home for Christmas," drew over 700 people to the Museum's auditorium for a mixture of comedy, song, dance and poignancy. Tickets for the show, which was performed by a professional troupe from Washington, D.C., were in such demand that the Museum added a third performance.

Special school tours, designed by the Museum's education staff and local educators, brought in more than 2,200 students from area schools.

All of the programs and special events that highlighted this unique and popular exhibit were made possible by the hard work of the host committee and the financial contributions of the Amway Corporation, Mazda Distributors Great Lakes, Meijer Incorporated, Old Kent Bank, Grand Rapids Label Foundation, Keller Foundation, Universal Companies, Peter F. Secchia Foundation and the Gerald R. Ford Foundation.

"World War II: Personal Accounts" will end its tour on May 6, 1995 at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.
Neal Lane Featured Speaker

Neal F. Lane, director of the National Science Foundation, gave the keynote address, "The Role of Federal Spending in Science Research," at the Library's fourth Gerald R. Ford Colloquium on March 28. The subject was of con-

iderable interest to the audience, composed largely of University of Michigan faculty, students and staff. University President, and Chair of the National Science Board, James J. Duderstadt served as moderator of the program. The University has the largest sponsored research program of any in the nation. Lane's comments took place as NSF simultaneously presented testimony to Congress for its 1995 budget.

Lane recalled how President Ford ensured the long-term involvement of the science and engineering community in the activities of the federal government when he established through legislation the Office of Science and Technology Policy. In 1976 H. Guyford Stever resigned as director of NSF to head the new office as the President's top science adviser. The OSTP has endured, Lane observed, playing a prominent role in setting the nation's science, technology, and education agenda.

Last November, President Bill Clinton added to President Ford's legacy with the creation of the National Science and Technology Council, a Cabinet-level group chaired by the President, with the "clout to get things done." The Council will coordinate federal science and technology investments and policy, in part through a multi-agency committee structure. As an example, Lane co-chairs the Committee on Fundamental Science with Harold Varmus, director of the National Institutes of Health.

The Clinton budget offers the NSF a 6 percent growth rate, compared to a rate of 10 percent or more in the past. "I do not expect to see such double-digit increases anytime in the near future," Lane predicted, noting that "many in Congress are in a serious budget-cutting state of mind." Discretionary spending has already been essentially frozen through 1998 under last summer's budget agreement.

Key directives for today's budget require the forging of stronger partnerships between the various performers of research and better coordination of federal research investments. In calling for an increased contribution of federally-funded investments to areas of national growth and environmental protection, President Clinton has said, "Well-conceived partnerships, facilitated by Government when necessary, will help our nation harvest the fruits of science and engineering, and carry them into the national marketplace."

In delivering comments after Lane's remarks, Homer Neal, UM vice president for research and physics professor, noted that when the Cold War ended, most scientists felt the nation would be able to significantly increase its support of basic research. "Instead, we find ourselves more preoccupied than ever by budget constraints."
Promoting Use of the Library

In January, with financial support from the Foundation, the Library initiated a new facility use program. The program, designed to capitalize on our attractive building and its advantageous space, invites co-sponsorship of selected university educational programs. As both a research and an educational institution, the Library is interested in facilitating a broad range of programs dealing with modern American history, public policy, the federal government, and information policy and technology. The Library will support successful applicants by waiving the fee for use of the building and by offering modest financial support through the Foundation.

One of the first requests for building use came from Dr. Marilynn Rosenthal, co-ordinator for the University of Michigan’s Forum on Health Policy Reform. The Forum is a two-year program on health care: the issues, the process, and the impact of reform. Two briefings have taken place at the Library. On March 11th, Debbie Chang, a health policy advisor on the Senate Finance Committee, discussed the Clinton administration plan and various other proposals. She described issues relating to each health plan, including financing mechanisms and health benefits. On March 26th, nine area health care providers and health interest groups expressed their views of health care reform. Over 150 students and faculty took part in the Forum from diverse departments of the University, including the Business School, Law School, Medical School, Nursing School, Dental School, and the School of Public Health.

On March 25th, the southeast Michigan chapter of the Fulbright Association joined the Library to present Professor Ned Gramlich, director of the University of Michigan’s Institute of Public Policy Studies, who delivered the keynote address, “Economic Challenges of the Presidency: Past and Present.” The Foundation sponsored a reception that followed.
Transportation Conference Hosted by Library

In September the Library hosted "Promoting Transportation Applications in Defense Conversion and Other Advanced Technologies," one of four nationwide outreach seminars designed by U.S. Transportation Secretary Federico Pena to enact President Bill Clinton's technology reinvestment initiative. Nearly 100 representatives of government, industry, academia and small business attended.

"Among them were electric cars, traffic information and mapping systems, crash avoidance radar units, and smart cruise control"

Experts from diverse fields focused on transportation's interaction with the environment, infrastructure rehabilitation and maintenance, and new vehicle technology. Following the presentations, the participants viewed prototypes derived from research that might provide commercial applications for emerging defense industry resources. Among them were electric cars, traffic information and mapping systems, crash avoidance radar units, and smart cruise control. The demonstrations took place at the nearby site of the seminar's local co-sponsor, the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI).

In her opening remarks, Grace Crunican, Federal Transit Administration Deputy Administrator, emphasized Secretary Pena's commitment to technology reinvestment as a means of improving transportation's safety, efficiency, and productivity in the global marketplace. The seminars will provide input from a broad customer base to help define the nation's real transportation needs and key research and development opportunities. Noting the diverse transportation users and providers gathered in the auditorium, Crunican confirmed Pena's determination to "break down barriers in mobility management, both intermodal and interdepartmental."

Describing the environmental point of view, the problem of transportation's impact is "as big as all outdoors," claimed University of Michigan Natural Resources Dean Gary Brewer. He suggested that an opportunity exists now to rebuild the nation's infrastructure with entirely new technology powered by sustainable fuels: "There is still time to begin to manage and avert the predictable global crisis that will inevitably occur by 2020."

"Defense-related technology far outpaces the needs of the automotive industry," cautioned Robert Ervin, head of engineering research at UMTRI. To illustrate he provided a nevertheless appealing list of cutting-edge futuristic applications. Included were nighttime infrared vision enhancement, dynamic "yellow pages" on the commercial radio band, and dead reckoning/map matching to guide drivers to destinations in new territories.

Following her presentation, Crunican toured the library and received a demonstration of various technologies employed to manage collections and assist researchers.

Grace Crunican and Frank Mackaman
Document Declassification

The handling of national security collections at the Ford Library, a part-time job for one person just a few years ago, has become a full-time job for two archivists. As time has passed, many classified files have become less sensitive and are more likely to be declassified. In addition, the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act of 1992 supplied a special impetus for declassification work.

When the Act gave a deadline of August 23, 1993, for the creation of a database record of each document related to the assassination not open for research at the time the legislation was signed, the pressure was on.

More than 240,000 pages of unprocessed materials had to be searched for anything related to the assassination or investigations thereof—that's a ton, literally, of paper. Gerald Ford's Warren Commission files, almost entirely open since 1981, had to be copied for the collection at the National Archives but did not have to be included in the database. Other prominent Library collections containing materials related to the assassination included the files of the President's Commission on CIA Activities within the United States (Rockefeller Commission), and the files of Phil Buchen, John Marsh, Michael Raoul-Duval, and James Wilderrotter.

Concentrating on the Kennedy assassination project meant that other tasks had to be put on the back burner. The timing was unfortunate—during this period the Library's usual trickle of mandatory declassification review requests had become a torrent. By the time of the JFK project deadline, our mandatory review backlog had swollen to 4,000 pages. (Under provisions of Executive Order 12356, classified documents must be reviewed by their originating agency prior to declassification. Our part in this

Mandatory Review Submissions

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Archivists Karen Holzhausen and Leesa Tobin enter into the computer declassification requests for material from the files of U.S. Ambassador to Saigon Graham Martin.

"...documents declassified from the files of Graham Martin, the U.S. Ambassador in Saigon, illustrate in a very personal way the rapid deterioration of the situation in South Vietnam."
Document Declassification (continued)

process is to prepare documents for submission upon researcher request, a process called mandatory review.

The accompanying graph shows the all-out effort made during the first half of this fiscal year (October 1, 1993 thru March 31, 1994) to catch up on mandatory review submissions.

Most of the documents submitted now come back declassified, at least in part. And some very valuable materials are being opened. For example, documents declassified from the files of Graham Martin, the U.S. Ambassador in Saigon, illustrate in a very personal way the rapid deterioration of the situation in South Vietnam. The following quotes are from Martin to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger:

April 15, 1975: "The most calming influence in Saigon is my wife who goes about her regular way, makes appointments for weeks in advance, and who has refused to pack anything at all although we would hate like hell to lose our most valued possessions."

April 26, 1975: "Your second question, how would I propose we depart if we do, I think, is a bit premature. If there is an attempt at a military investiture of Saigon, the answer is obvious. We depart very quickly."

They did—three days later.

Library Opens Robert T. Hartmann Papers

This note from President Ford, ca. December 1975, exemplifies the unique material contained in the Robert Hartmann Papers. [SOTU refers to the State of the Union address.]

A team of archivists recently completed processing 86 linear feet of Robert T. Hartmann’s papers and opened them to research. This important collection covers the years 1930-81 and documents not only Hartmann’s work as a senior aide to Gerald Ford, 1966-77, but also such topics as Hartmann’s early life, his education at Beverly Hills High School and Stanford University, his career as a reporter and bureau chief for the Los Angeles Times (especially in the 1950s and 1960s), and the drafting of his memoir Palace Politics: An Inside Account of the Ford Years.

Materials from the early years of Hartmann’s life and career include extensive correspondence with his parents, other family members, newspaper colleagues, editors, and politicians, along with copies of his literary and journalistic writings and subject files on specific topics.

More than one third of the collection concerns Hartmann’s work for Gerald Ford and other Republican leaders of the House of Representatives, 1966-73. These materials concern such topics as the programs and policies of Johnson and Nixon administrations, joint press conferences of the Republican leaders of Congress (the "Ev and Jerry Shows"), drafting of Republican responses to President Lyndon Johnson’s State of the Union addresses, weekly liaison meetings of the Republican leaders of Congress with President Nixon and his staff, and the 1972 House of Representatives delegation to China headed by Gerald Ford and Hale Boggs.

Hartmann’s extensive materials from the Ford presidency include handwritten notes from the President and Hartmann’s notes from various meetings. Case files on speeches and statements concern the drafting of most major Ford speeches and include such items as handwritten instructions from the President on the drafting of the 1976 State of the Union address. Other materials relate to the organization and operation of the Editorial Office, selection of a new vice president in 1974, the 1976 presidential campaign, and White House liaison with national and state Republican Party leadership.

In January 1994, Hartmann delivered to the Library approximately 10 cubic feet of additional papers comparable in scope and nature to the original donation. These new papers are not yet available for research.
Federal Reserve Minutes Opened

The Papers of Federal Reserve Chairman Arthur Burns, housed at the Library, contain copies of transcripts of 1976-78 meetings of the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC). This winter, Library staff opened sanitized versions for U.S. House Banking Committee researchers and the public. At the time, the House committee sought access to the Federal Reserve's previously unreleased master set of transcripts, 1976 to the present. The Burns Papers also contain extensive background material for FOMC meetings, 1970-78. The Library's collections on economic policy during the crucial 1970s are unsurpassed in scope and accessibility. A 2-page summary is available upon request.

Treasury Secretary William Simon and Arthur Burns, August, 1975

New Book about Gerald Ford

James Cannon, domestic policy adviser to President Ford and executive director of the Domestic Council, has written Time and Chance: Gerald R. Ford's Appointment with History. Based on research at the Library and interviews with President Ford and almost 200 associates, the book focuses on Ford's life and political career, and his decision to pardon Richard Nixon. The last chapter summarizes the Ford presidency. Early reviews have been favorable. Historian Douglas Brinkley, reviewing the book for The Washington Post, writes that Cannon "has written a superbly provocative and arresting biography..." Time and Chance, Brinkley observes, "leads one to conclude that the Ford administration represents a subtle but clear break with the JFK-LBJ-Nixon past and shares common ground with the Carter and first Reagan administrations, in that its primary objective was to restore the public's faith in government." Time and Chance is available in bookstores and at the Museum Shop.
Interview with Researcher

Andrew Moran of London Guildhall University has been researching his dissertation, "American Political Economy in the Age of Limits: The Ford Administration, the Democrats, and the Great Recession of 1974-75." After his month-long visit to the Library, we asked him to share his thoughts.

"Ford was the first post-war President to experience "stagflation."

Q. What is your topic about?

A. My research examines the historical significance of Gerald Ford's economic policy in making the transition from the liberal economy of the post-war years to the conservative political economy of the final Carter years and the Reagan-Bush era. Ford was the first post-war President to experience "stagflation" (simultaneous inflation and high unemployment). In response to new problems, the Ford Administration abandoned the Keynesian precepts that had shaped economic policy for the past quarter century. My research focuses on how the economic policy was made, the relationships between the newly-created Economic Policy Board and established agencies, and the constraints imposed on Administration policymakers by the Democratic Congress.

"No significant study has yet been made of the economic policies of the three administrations of the 1970s..."

Q. What makes your topic interesting to a British audience?

A. Inflation and unemployment are very prevalent problems in the United Kingdom. I've found that many of the policy issues being discussed at home today were discussed in the 1970s in the Ford Administration and in U.S. think tanks. No significant study has yet been made of the economic policies of the three administrations of the 1970s, and the Ford administration is the most neglected of all.

Q. How have the documents affected your thesis?

A. First, it's quite a revelation to see these documents. Gaining access to comparable documents in England is difficult. They show the concern "Where do we go from here? The models we have are not appropriate." The number of Economic Policy Board meetings increased rapidly toward the end of 1974 as the administration realized the seriousness of the problem. People were meeting Christmas Eve, New Year's Day. Important decisions were being made. For example, I saw one document in my last week here that I knew existed but I hadn't known what it said. It told me more about the 1975 tax cut than any of the secondary literature I had seen.

"It told me more about the 1975 tax cut than any of the secondary literature I had seen."

Q. Why are you planning a return visit?

A. This visit focused on the Economic Policy Board and the decisions made there. I want to look more at Arthur Burns' papers on the Federal Reserve. Mostly, I want to see the Congressional liaison files, like Max Friedersdorf's, and Press Secretary Nessen's papers to understand the external pressures on the administration. The clash between free market and national planning arguments is striking.
Research Grants

During its fall and spring meetings, the Foundation's Grant Committee awarded 20 grants, ranging in size from $165 to $1,975. A record number of applications were received and funded. The selected topics, listed below, encompass a wide array of foreign and domestic issues, including Sino-American relations, Palestinian terrorism, the international drug war, the European Economic Community, civil rights, and the political, economic and monetary policies of the 1970s. For grant information and collection advice, contact grants coordinator Bill McNitt at 313/741-2218.

Grant Recipients Fall 1993 and Spring 1994

Douglas Brinkley
University of New Orleans
"Biography of Jimmy Carter (Birth to 1977), Vol. 1"

Kate Doyle
National Security Archive
"The International Drug War Documentation Project, 1968-1993"

Diya Dutt
University of Cincinnati

Derick Hulme
Alma College
"Palestinian Terrorism and U.S. Foreign Policy: Nixon to Reagan"

Dean J. Kotlowski
Indiana University
"Politics and Principle: The Civil Rights Policies of the Nixon Administration"

Daniel C. Kramer
College of Staten Island (CUNY)
"The Days of Wine and Roses are Over: A Biography of Governor Hugh Carey of New York"

Jon J. Lines
State University of New York at Buffalo
"Executive Politics and Minority Voting Rights"

Raymond M. Lodato
University of Chicago

Robert John Mason
Brasenose College, Oxford University

James L. McDonald
The American University
"Overriding Interests: Subversion as an Instrument of U.S. Foreign Policy"

Sophie Meunier
University of Chicago

Andrew D. Moran
London Guildhall University
"The American Political Economy in the Age of Limits: The Ford Administration, the Democrats and the Great Recession of 1974-75"

Susan Rosenfeld
Tulane University
"Democracy's Demons: How and Why Americans Spy on Each Other"

Sharon Rudy
Queen's University (Canada)
"Feathering Wounds: The Domestic Consequences of the Vietnam War in the 1970s"

Sunil Sondhi
Rajdhani College (India)
"Technology and Politics in the Asia-Pacific Rim"

Gil Troy
McGill University
"Co-Presidency: The Emergence of the Presidential Couple in the Postwar United States"

Thomas J. Vance
Upjohn Company and Western Michigan University
"Elliot Richardson's Leadership in the Ford Administration"

Theodore A. Wilson
University of Kansas
"Resurrection: The United States Army Since Vietnam"

John T. Woolley
Georgetown University
"The Federal Reserve and the Conduct of Monetary Policy in the Burns Years"

Qian Xiao
Tianjin Normal University (China)
"G.R. Ford and Sino-American Relations in the 1970's"

Student Award Winner

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation sponsors the Ford Library Student Achievement Award given to undergraduate students who write research papers based on the Library's holdings. This year's winner is Brady Baybeck for his paper, "Academic Advice for the President." Brady was a student in Frank Mackaman's fall writing seminar, "Organizing to Govern: A New President Begins Work," offered through the University of Michigan's Political Science Department. The course sought to analyze President Ford's management of the White House staff and make comparisons to the Clinton administration.

Brady Baybeck
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Design on the lid of a Palekh Box on display in "Gifts from Russia." The box was given to President Ford by Andrei Gromyko, Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs, 1974.

COMING EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM

Through October 24, 1994
"Gifts from Russia." Exhibit of gifts given to American Presidents from Russian heads of state and dignitaries, including Czar Nicholas II, Stalin, and Yeltsin.

November 1-January 16, 1995
"From George to George." Exhibit of oil pastel Presidential portraits by Morgan Monceaux.

January 23-April 30, 1995
"First Ladies Gowns." Exhibit of original gowns and reproductions, supplemented with photographs and accessories.

January 30-March 13, 1995
Reception and tea for the 1940s fashion show.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation Newsletter
Editor: Nancy Mirshah

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation whose programs are supported entirely by contributions and bequests in an effort to honor Mr. Ford's lifelong commitment to public service. The focus of the Foundation is on community affairs and educational programs, conferences, symposia, research grants and special projects that improve citizen interest and understanding of the challenges that confront government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Martin J. Allen Jr., Chairman, Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504.

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