THE CAMERA AS A WEAPON

The Role of The War Photographer
Presented by:
Fred and Robert Henstridge
TOPICS TO BE COVERED

• History of War Photography
• The Use of Art to Depict War
• The First Use of the Camera in War
• Propaganda During WWII
• Photography in the U.S. Army
• Notable Photojournalists in WWII
FIRST KNOWN IMAGES OF COMBAT

• Cave Paintings at Lascaux
  – 32,000 Years Ago

• Romans did not use images to depict combat
  – Roman Historians accompanied the Legions

• Bayeux Tapestry
  – Depicts the Norman Invasion of England
  – A Documentary in Cloth
FIRST KNOWN IMAGES

Bhimbetka rock painting, India Dating back 30,000 years, it depicts hunters with horses.

Harold's death
THE USE OF ART TO DEPICT WAR

- French Revolution
  - Eugène Delacroix
- Goya Painting
- Crimean War
- United States War Between the States
- Indian Fighting
  - Remington
- First World War

Marine machine gunners, Battle of Belleau Wood (1 June 1918 – 26 June 1918)
ART TO DEPICT WAR

The Third of May 1808, 1814. Oil on canvas, 266 x 345 cm. Museo del Prado, Madrid.

Liberty Leading the People, Eugène Delacroix, Louvre, Paris
FIRST USE OF A CAMERA IN WAR

• Crimean War
  • Roger Fenton
• Civil War
  – Matthew Brady
First World War
  Lowell Thomas
Spanish Civil War
  Robert Capa
SECOND WORLD WAR

• German Ministry of Propaganda & PK
  – Movies and Still Photos
  – Signal Magazine was Distributed World Wide

• Soviet Union Documentation
  – Roman Carmen, Famous for his film footage
THE CAMERA AS A WEAPON

German PK Archives

Above: German troops enter Poland after a 'blitzkrieg' offensive which swept into Poland on September 1, 1939.

Right: Nazi German troops who stormed into the Soviet Union on June 22, 1941, were well-prepared, aggressive, and certain of victory.
German troops in the Ukraine, circa 1940. German PK photographers were using Agfa color film.

German troops using an Enigma code machine in the field, Russia, circa 1940.
Two members of a Cossack volunteer formation with copies of the Russian edition (issue number 9/1943). PK photographs, probably Croatia, late 1943.

Give that man a cigar! Two Belgian-Flemish members of the Vlaamsche Wacht having fun with the Churchill cover of the Dutch issue number 8/1943. PK photographs, 1943.
UNITED STATES OWI

- Office of War Propaganda
  - Tasked to Document the Home Front
  - Voice of America
- War Department Wanted to Document the War
  - Stills, Films and Voice Recordings
- Hollywood’s Contribution
  - Training and Propaganda Films
PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE U.S. ARMY

• Army Signal Corps
  – Trained Thousands of Sill and Film Photographers
  – Fairchild 16mm Turret Lens Cameras
  – 4x5 Speed Graphic and 2x2 Twin Lens Reflex
  – 35mm Cameras were mainly German

• General Army Photographers
  – Assigned to Army and Marine Units

• Independent Photojournalists
THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

• Dogface Soldiers
  – Casablanca to the Berghof

• Third Signal Company
  – Lt. George “Fuzzy” Frezell
  – 1,300 Framed Photographs
  – http://www.dogfacesoldiers.org/

• Sgt. William (Pops) Heller – 1910-1972
  – Contacted His Son
  http://www.warfoto.com/
FUZZY FOLLIES

Lt. George “Fuzzy” Frezell

Bill Heller and Howard Nickelson listen to the BBC somewhere in France. This shot shows the exterior of the Fuzzy's Folly photo lab.
THE PHOTOGRAPHERS

- Sgt. (T3) John D. "Jack" Cole
- Sgt. (T4) William "Pop" Heller
- Sgt. (T4) William Toomey
- Pfc. Robert S. "Bobby" Seesock
- Cpl. (T5) Howard B. "Nick" Nickelson (Not in the Photo)

Third Signal Company Photographers near Zweibrucken, Germany. Names are listed at Right from Left to Right
Bill Toomey and Bill Heller pose by the Third Signal Company’s headquarters sign in Bad Wildungen, Germany.

Bill Heller shows off some of the unit's cameras.
WILLIAM HELLER

A Tank Destroyer of the 601st TD Battalion, is guided down the ramp toward the shore at St. Tropez France, August 1944

....this is the office. It's just part of it. I just can't be without a cigar. Even my identification photo. I have a cigar in my mouth." France 1944
This 380mm artillery piece, the Anzio Express, captured near Monte Cassino. The Germans had two large railway guns which made the GI's miserable on Anzio,
Bill Heller and Bobby Seesock in the darkroom.

Pain registering in face of German Soldier, as he dies.

Casualties - Animal and Human Montilimar, France
Gi's leading nurse and German POW's across the Rhine at Worms, Germany.

Gi carrying dead Italian girl from wrecked building
WILLIAM HELLER

Marlene Dietrich with Bobby Seesock 3rd Signal Co Photographer

Marlene showing her loyalty to the 3rd Division-1945
NOTEABLE PHOTOJOURNALISTS
And War Photographers

• Roger Fenton
• Mathew Brady
• Robert Capa
• Joe Rosenthal
• Eddie Adams
• Margret Bourke-White
• Eugene Smith
• John Houston
ROGER FENTON

The Crimean War

Valley of the Shadow of Death, with road full of cannonballs, by Roger Fenton, 1855

Marcus Sparling seated on Roger Fenton's photographic van, Crimea, 1855.
MATHEW BRADY

The Civil War

A company of the 6th Maine Infantry on parade after the battle of Fredericksburg.

Confederate dead behind a stone wall at Fredericksburg, VA The 6th Maine Infantry penetrated the Confederate lines at this point.
When soldiers of the 16th Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division landed at Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944, photographer Robert Capa, in the employ of LIFE magazine, was among them with his Contax II 35mm camera.

Men of the 16th Infantry Regiment seek shelter from German machine-gun fire in shallow water behind "Czech hedgehog" beach obstacles, Easy Red sector, Omaha Beach. © Robert Capa/Magnum Photos.
ROBERT CAPA

Loyalist Militiaman at the Moment of Death, 1936 Robert Capa © Magnum

Beach Scene, Omaha Beach, June 6, 1944. Robert Capa © Magnum
Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima, by Joe Rosenthal - The Associated Press.

Lowery's most widely circulated picture of the first flag raising.
EDDIE ADAMS

Adams’ photograph of Nguyễn Ngọc Loan executing Nguyễn Văn Lém on February 1, 1968

Boat of no smiles, Vietnamese Refugees, Gulf of Siam, Thanksgiving Day
MARGERT BOURKE-WHITE

First Woman Combat Photographer

Above: Mohandas Gandhi, 1946 by Margaret Bourke-White.
Right: Victims, KZ Buchenwald, 1945. Margaret Bourke-White
W. Eugene Smith's iconic photo of Army soldier Angelo Klonis, cigarette clenched between his lips, illustrates the cover of LIFE book, World War II

Once is Enough, Marines on Iwo Jima, 1945, W. Eugene Smith

Master of the Photo Essay
JOHN HOUSTON
The Battle for San Pietro

Soldier of the 36th Infantry Division with Thompson Sub Machine Gun, December, 1943.

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The Camera as a Weapon

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QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION