The Museum will mark its 50th year of operations in 2017, unveiling a comprehensive exhibit spanning the five decades of the National Museum of the Pacific War's evolution and growth. Entitled "Five Stars, Five Decades," the exhibit will tell of the early local efforts to save the old Nimitz Hotel and create a museum honoring Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. Admiral Nimitz gave his blessing to the project with the caveat that the museum be dedicated to the men and women who served with him in the Pacific during World War II. From this beginning in 1967, the National Museum of the Pacific War has grown from the original Nimitz Museum to comprise the George H.W. Bush Gallery and Pacific Combat Zone, along with the Memorial Courtyard, Presidential Plaza and Japanese Garden of Peace. The Museum is now part of the Texas Historical Commission and has risen to national stature with the Nimitz Education and Research Center becoming one of the largest depositories of World War II Pacific artifacts and archival material.

The exhibit will be displayed free to the public beginning at 9am, 25 February, in the Nimitz Museum Ballroom. This temporary exhibit will be available throughout the year in various locations, including a stay in the Rotunda of the Texas State Capitol in Austin. Please check the Museum's website for the dates and locations where it may be viewed.

Saturday, 25 February and Sunday, 26 February, all Gillespie County residents will be admitted free to the Museum as a small thank you to our local community for its foresight and 50 years of support.
“We Served Too: Women in National Security”
Brief Summaries of 2016 Symposium Presentations

The Museum’s recent Symposium, held Saturday, 17 September, was entitled “We Served Too: Women in National Security.” It was focused on the role of women in World War II and beyond, an often neglected topic. Historians and women who have served as high ranking officers in the U.S. military discussed the contributions of and problems faced by women. Summaries of the presentations follow. To listen to the entirety of the Symposium, please contact: Rollin’ Recording on (830) 537-5494.

RICHARD FRANK
Leading Female Cryptographers in WWII

There were two female cryptographers who made significant contributions toward winning World War II -- yet they are largely unknown today. They were Elizebeth Smith Friedman and Agnes Meyer Driscoll. Both were born in the late 1800s and were from the Middle West. Friedman worked for the Newberry Library in Chicago, which possessed a Folio of Shakespeare’s plays -- thus awakening her interest in the Bard. This became significant when she went to work for the private Riverbank Laboratories. Its owner, Col. George Fabyan, was convinced the real author of Shakespeare’s plays was Sir Francis Bacon whom he believed had inserted ciphers into the dramas. Thus, Friedman was put to work trying to find ciphers, and that is how she became involved in cryptography.

While at Riverbank, she met a geneticist named William Freeman, who became interested in her and her cipher quest. They married in 1917 and moved to Washington, D.C. where Elizebeth was hired by the Treasury where she worked running down rum runners who used codes. She was tasked with breaking these codes and was very gifted at it.

When WWII broke out, she was put to work in the cipher and code breaking sphere, and while little is known about the specific projects Friedman worked on, she ultimately became one of the foremost codebreakers of the 20th century. The introduction of her husband to the field where he also made numerous significant contributions was also one of the most important events in the history of U.S. cryptography.

Agnes Meyer Driscoll overlapped with Elizebeth Fried- man in several respects, including a stint at Riverbank Laboratories. In 1918, she enlisted in the U.S. Navy where she worked in the Code and Signal Section in Washington, D.C. One of her duties was to test cipher machines that inventors hoped to sell to the Navy, and she demonstrated that none of them were secure. She helped to develop the Navy’s first cipher machine and was awarded $6,000 by the U.S. Congress.

Driscoll became the trainer for many of the men who went on to become famous for their code breaking skills, including Capt. Joseph Rochefort. She also broke numerous Japanese codes and made critical inroads into JN-25, the Japanese fleet’s operational code. Driscoll was recognized as the single individual codebreaker who was capable of attacking any problem.

SARAH BYRD RICKMAN
History of the WASPS and Their Contributions

The Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPS) were a group of young women pilots who were trained to fly U.S. military aircraft in non-combat roles to free male pilots for combat. They ferried aircraft from factories to military bases, as well as towing drones and aerial targets.

Two women were key to the formation of the WASPS: Nancy Harkness Love, an accomplished test pilot, and Jacqueline Cochran, a pioneer in American aviation and a “gifted racing pilot.” Both independently had the idea of using women pilots to assist in WWII. Love approached General William Tunner, head of the Ferrying Division of the Transport Command, and Cochran went to General Henry “Hap” Arnold, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Air Forces. Both women were initially turned down. However, Tunner became desperate for ferry pilots and approved Love’s proposal, and about the same time, Arnold gave the go-ahead to Cochran.

continues on next page
Rickman continued:

The predecessors to the WASPS were the Women’s Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), headed by Love, and the Women’s Flying Training Detachment (WFTD), commanded by Cochran. In 1943, the two groups merged into the WASPS with Cochran in command. Love became the executive in charge of WASP ferrying operations.

The female pilots’ assignments were not confined to a single type of aircraft. The goal for the women was to check out on many different types of aircraft so as to make them as versatile as possible. For example, many were tasked with towing gliders, anti-aircraft targets and others became test pilots. Eventually, the ferrying of high performance pursuit aircraft became the priority. Much of the initial training took place in Houston, TX, but it was eventually moved to Sweetwater, TX.

While the female pilots performed extraordinarily well, problems arose, including 38 deaths. There were concerns about the quality of the education, including from the women who were being trained. At one point, Cochran received a telegram from some of the women saying they were being badly treated and had been washing out of school because of improper training. Eventually, only a few of the graduates went to the Ferry Command, but Cochran continued to find work for others at 120 bases.

By September 1944, the WASPS were delivering 3/5 of the pursuit planes being manufactured. However, the group was deactivated in December 1944. The record shows that 1,102 WASPS served (this number includes 28 original WAFS and 1,074 flight school graduates); 303 were assigned to the Ferrying Division; 134 qualified as pursuit pilots.

In 1977, the WASPS received their militarization authority for their service, and in March 2010, the WASPS were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their service.

Military nurses are first soldiers, then officers, and finally nurses. These roles have to be melded together, but the most important one is caring for America’s sons and daughters.

No males served as nurses until August 1955. In 1966, approval came to commission them as army officers, and it took until 1974 to have a male nurse achieve the rank of colonel. Males now make up about 30 percent of the Corps, but it is significant that female nurses were the trailblazers. In 1970, Anna May Hayes broke the glass ceiling when she achieved Brigadier General rank.

Education is critical to the nursing corps. In 1974, it was decided that the minimum educational degree was a BS in nursing from a nationally accredited school. This standard still stands, and now many are sent for PhDs. Critical care nurses play a significant role working under hazardous conditions. They have contributed to a 95 percent survival rate on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. Weapons training is now mandatory.

Military nurses exemplify American values. They follow the creed: “I will always place the mission first; I will never accept defeat; I will never quit, and I will never leave a fallen comrade.”
Continued from Page 3:

REAR ADMIRAL MARGARET DE LUCA KLEIN
Women in the Military Post-World War II

The 1993 changes to the combat exclusion policy still held women back. Women could not serve in units that had “the primary mission of destroying the enemy.” Women wanted to do more in combat and wanted to know why that option was denied to them (especially since women were already dying beside men in Iraq and Afghanistan).

The progress thus far attained probably would not have moved along without the efforts of the civilian leadership. The only laws that Congress has mandated revolve around “gender neutral occupational standards.” It is not a law that all women have to be integrated into combat; instead, it is a policy established by the Secretary of Defense. No vote has been taken by Congress, although the issue has been discussed on the fringes.

Another issue not dealt with yet is having all women sign up for Selective Service like men have to. It should be stressed that there are no quotas, standards must not be lowered, and going into combat units will be voluntary.

The Marine Corps was the only service which asked for an exemption to allowing women into certain types of combat. This request was denied. Currently, women are being sent to various schools for training and overall they did well. One might ask “why do women want to do this?” Answers include they want to compete and do the hardest things possible -- even if they fail. Others want to serve their country -- just the same as men do. The type of people wanted for the military are those who want to be tested and can handle defeat. However, a study of women who went into units where load bearing tasks are key found many women were slower and showed a degradation in combat effectiveness because of the need to carry heavy weapons and equipment. This was one reason the Marine Corps wanted an exemption to the policy.

In sum, with regard to the issue of women in combat, “we are not done yet -- there is still a long ways to go, but we are making progress.”

COL. ANNE WEINBERG
USMC (Ret)
Women in Current National Security Roles

here were a variety of policy and legislative measures over the years which led to 1993 when the laws involving the exclusion of women from combat roles were changed.

In 1948, The Women’s Armed Services Integration Act was passed. This allowed women to serve “permanently” in military roles in peacetime, as well as during wartime.

The next piece of significant legislation was in 1951 when the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in Service was established. This was formed to address women’s issues across the services. In 1972, the Reserve Officer Training Corps was opened to women, including all ROTC programs.

In the mid 1970s, there were several significant developments: In 1973, the military went to an all volunteer force. Service academies, including West Point and the Naval Academy, were opened to women, and the first women entered these institutions the following year. Even with these changes, women had little exposure to much of what the military is trained to do.

The most significant change in legislation involving women occurred in 1993 when the policy on combat exclusion was lifted. Every service interpreted this change differently. The success of integration depends on leadership. It has taken a large number of strong leaders to say this is the right thing to do, albeit it may not be the popular.

In the Marine Corps and Army, screening is underway to ensure the right people with the requisite abilities are put into the appropriate unit which requires that particular skill set. In December 2015, the Secretary of Defense announced that everything is going to be open to women with no exceptions.

JOIN
Our Growing Genealogical Society: Sons & Daughters of WW II Veterans
for information VISIT www.sons&daughtersofww2veterans.org

Next Year’s Symposium: 16 September 2017 POWs and Internees
"Battlefield Leadership" Presents 2017 Leadership Seminar

The 2017 Leadership Seminar will be held Friday, 7 April 2017 in the Nimitz Ballroom from 3pm to 5pm. General Hagee will be joined this year by Colonel Cole C. Kingsseed, US Army (Ret), founding partner of Battlefield Leadership, LLC. This presentation will bring you the visceral experience of Leadership challenges on the battlefield. You will learn from historic decision-makers caught in the drama of such battles as Gettysburg, Battle of the Bulge, D-Day, Little Big Horn and the Alamo. Battlefield Leadership, LLC was founded in 2008 and has delivered more than 500 conference and training sessions to executives across the nation.

Colonel Kingsseed is a 30 year Army veteran who commanded at the platoon, company and battalion levels. His career culminated in tenure as full professor of history and chief of military history at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Colonel Kingsseed holds a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University and an MA in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College, and is the author of many books and articles.

Doors open at 2:30pm with Colonel Kingsseed's one hour presentation beginning at 3pm. He will be joined by General Hagee for a Q&A session afterwards. A reception with light refreshments and adult beverages will conclude the afternoon. The program is free to members of the corporate Premier Business Partners and to individual members of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation - but they must register. Non-members may attend for $15. To register to attend, please contact Marty Kaderli, (830) 997-8600 x204 or Kaderli@NimitzFoundation.org.

Author James Hornfischer Speaks on Veterans Day 2016

This year’s commemoration of Veterans Day drew a large crowd to the Memorial Courtyard where many veterans were present. General Michael Hagee, USMC (Ret), welcomed all present, and patriotic music was provided by students from the Ambleside School.

Best selling author and historian James Hornfischer (shown above left) was the keynote speaker. A long time friend of the Museum, Hornfischer is the author of a new book, The Fleet at Flood Tide, a major narrative of the U.S. offensive into the Mariana Islands in the Central Pacific. In his talk, he focused partially on how much his research has opened his eyes to the countless acts of heroism and sacrifice displayed by those who fought in the Pacific. In addition, his interviews with veterans have shown how many personal decisions made by supposedly insignificant crewmen had affected the course of history as much as decisions made by officers in charge. This underlines the value of the personal and oral interviews with veterans, and how significant bits of information are being carried away with the passing of that generation.

The ceremony ended with a rifle salute by members of the Nimitz Living History Detachment and Taps played by Bill Smallwood.
Dear Members,

All of us at the Foundation and National Museum of the Pacific War wish you and your families Happy Holidays and a great 2017.

With your support and the work of our superb staff, we experienced another successful year in 2016. For those of us in Central Texas, the best recent news is the rain we received in the months of October and November!

As you have read in these newsletters, the renovations at the Pacific Combat Zone are proceeding well, and we believe we will finish them by the end of 2016. We plan on conducting the first new and improved Living History Program in the new Amphitheater on 11 March 2017. Many thanks for your financial support. We could not have done it without you.

The temporary exhibit of Norman Rockwell’s Life Magazine Covers has received great reviews. I recommend a visit if possible.

Besides a wonderful Veteran’s Day Program on 11 November, highlighted by a presentation by Jim Hornfischer, we also had a single dedication of 28 bricks in the Memorial Court Yard. The bricks honored the service of 28 members of one family with representations from all services. These are always special events including friends and family.

As a reminder, if you have not had a chance to respond to the 2016 Fund Drive request, I urge you to do so. This end of the year appeal is important in helping us accomplish our important education mission. This newsletter also contains some special information on potential tax advantages for those who must take the required minimum distribution from your IRA at the end of the year. (Page 9)

Finally, we look forward to celebrating the museum’s 50th Anniversary next year. Our website and future newsletters will provide more information. Many thanks for your continued support of the museum and our important education mission.

Best wishes and Happy New Year,
Mike Hagee

Plaque Dedicated in Honor of the 22nd Bombardment Group

A plaque was dedicated in honor of the 22nd Bombardment Group’s service in the Pacific War on 22 October 2016 in the Memorial Courtyard. After the ceremony, two officials of the organization, Vice President Mike Edmonds and Treasurer Tom Dewan, presented a generous donation of $10,000 and archival material to the Museum.

Edmonds, whose father was killed in action, donated photos, a banner and mission reports from the WWII service of the 22nd Bombardment Group. Dewan donated material from his father’s, (Lt. M.T. Dewan), years of combat duty with the group, including a diary and group of photos.

The WWII version of the 22nd Bombardment Group was one of the first U.S. Army Air Force units to be sent to the Pacific after Pearl Harbor was attacked. The group served mainly in the Southwest Pacific Theater and was awarded two U.S. Distinguished Unit Citations and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation for its combat role across the Pacific, including China, New Guinea, Leyte, and Luzon.

Director of Development Marty Kaderli accepting the donation from members of the 22nd Bombardment Group, Tom Dewan and Mike Edmonds.
Living History Programs to Resume as Pacific Combat Zone Reopens

Following extensive renovations, the Pacific Combat Zone (PCZ) will open to the public on 11 March 2017, and the popular Living History re-enactment programs will resume 11-12 March at 10:30am and 2pm each day. These reenactments will put onlookers in the front lines as U.S. Marine re-enactors capture fortified positions from Japanese defenders on a newly designed and enlarged battlefield with the use of authentic World War II weapons, military vehicles, a LCVP landing craft, and operational flamethrower. A complete list of dates for upcoming programs can be found on page 11 of this newsletter and on our website.

Overlooking the redesigned and expanded battlefield is the new William P. Clements, Jr. Living History Amphitheater which provides covered stadium-style seating for an audience of 400 visitors. A new sound system and computerized pneumatic pyrotechnics special effects will “amp-up” the combat portion of the Living History presentation.

A new Military Vehicle Display Building will now be home to the Museum’s motor pool of World War II jeeps, half tracks, DUK and others which can now be stored safely from the elements, but still be accessible for the Pacific Combat Zone visitors to enjoy. New barracks for volunteer re-enactors and a garage building have also been built. All of this adds to the PT-309 and TBM bomber exhibits found in the first phase of the Pacific Combat Zone which re-opened in the spring of 2016.

The architect for the Pacific Combat Zone renovation project was Richter and Associates, and the firm’s work on the PCZ earned it an award for architectural design excellence from the Corpus Christi Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The Jury admired "the project's retrained use of materials and its beautifully composed elevation. The skillful arrangement of metal and cast concrete elements recall a modern era and, at the same time, are fresh and current...There is a simplicity to the material palette and a limited number of design moves, all resulting in a very strong project."

Life Lessons from the Admiral at Nimitz Middle School

The Nimitz Middle School, a Magnet School in San Antonio, TX where 87% of the student body is deemed economically disadvantaged, was recently re-vitalized with a new building. When the school was originally dedicated in 1962 to Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, the Admiral wrote a letter encouraging the students with practical advice on how to become responsible adults and citizens. This letter had been stowed away in a dusty old scrapbook, and was rediscovered by chance during the renovation. The architect, Lowell Tacker, LPA, saw the letter and decided to make it the centerpiece of the new entrance lobby to share it prominently with the school children.

The letter was enlarged with a photo of Admiral Nimitz and placed in the lobby, where the flooring is printed with an aerial photo of Pearl Harbor. The students walk by the letter several times a day, and the Admiral, who was once only a historical figure, now speaks to them directly. As an example of the impact, 7am one morning a young boy was found reading the letter aloud, word for word, and his voice resonated throughout the school lobby and halls. When he was finished, he turned to the Principal standing nearby and said “This is so awesome.” Another powerful image is the main gymnasium which is construed in the silhouette of the USS NIMITZ. The students are very proud to attend Nimitz Middle School, and are very proud of the legacy of one of the Nation’s finest military leaders. His advice and counsel to these future citizens of our country is with them daily.

Note: We would like to thank Dana Stolhandske, the Principal at Nimitz Middle School, and Lowell Tacker, the architect for the new building, for this information.
Heroes are Standing By:  
Capt. Henry T. Elrod, Medal of Honor Recipient on Wake Island  
by Kent Knudson

Watching the Pan American Philippine Clipper as it returned to Wake Island’s lagoon 20 minutes after its departure for Guam seemed to confirm reports that all was not well in the Pacific. It was Monday, December 8, 1941, and the Marines of Marine Fighting Squadron (VMF)-211 had been up early to provide a dawn patrol. They would soon be at their battle stations.

Four days earlier, this aviation detachment and its new Grumman F4F-3 Wildcat fighters had left the USS Enterprise—the “Big E”—and arrived at the atoll to provide aviation support for the military defense force on the three islets of Wake Island. There were 12 pilots under Major Paul A. Putnam’s VMF-211 command—including his executive officer, Captain Henry Talmage Elrod—who landed his Wildcat at the Peacock Point airstrip that was only wide enough to handle one aircraft at a time.

Elrod, born on September 27, 1905 in Turner County, Georgia, had been in the Marine Corps for 14 years and commissioned for ten of them. Prior to that, he had attended the University of Georgia and Yale University—and debated about becoming an architect or a physician. Deciding to join the Corps, he received his “wings of gold” in February 1935 in Pensacola, FL, and later completed tours at Quantico, VA, and San Diego, CA, before heading to Hawaii.

Despite 1,200 civilian workers hurriedly trying to prepare the base as a Pacific outpost, there were no revetments to protect the planes and limited space to park them. There were no electronic navigational aids for the fighters and limited facilities. All refueling had to be done by hand pumps. By noon on December 8th, Wake was under attack from Japanese planes based on Roi in the Marshall Islands. Elrod was on a two-man patrol to the north of the atoll and missed the action completely. VMF-211’s aircraft inventory was soon down to four planes.

Over the next several days, the defenders of Wake were repeatedly targeted for aerial attack prior to the arrival of the Japanese landing forces. “Engaging vastly superior forces of enemy bombers and warships on 9 and 12 December, Capt. Elrod shot down two of a flight of 22 hostile planes and, executing repeated bombing and strafing runs at extremely low altitude and close range, succeeded in inflicting deadly damage upon a large Japanese vessel, thereby sinking the first major warship to be destroyed by small caliber bombs delivered from a fighter-type aircraft.” The warship was the Japanese destroyer Kisaragi which would sink 30 miles southwest of Wake. Damage from Elrod’s two 100-pound bombs eventually caused the depth charges stored on board to explode, sinking the ship and taking the entire crew with it.

On December 20th, he wrote what would be his final letter to his wife, Elizabeth, stating: “I am writing this in something of a hurry and under somewhat difficult circumstances.” Two days later, VMF-211 did not have any flyable planes and its aviation personnel began to serve as infantrymen. The accounts of the courageous defenders of Wake during the previous two weeks had electrified the nation during those early dark days of the war. The Japanese were frustrated by the delay and the losses sustained by what was supposed to be a straightforward local operation. They had to send a larger task force to compel Wake’s surrender. In the early hours of December 23rd, the members of the Special Naval Landing Force began arriving on Wake Island’s beaches through the darkened surf.

Assuming command along one flank of the beach defensive line held by VMF-211, Elrod conducted “a brilliant defense, enabled his men to hold their positions and repulse intense hostile fusillades to provide covering fire for unarmed ammunition carriers… Responsible in a large measure for the strength of his sector’s gallant resistance… Capt. Elrod led his men with bold aggressiveness.” Shortly before dawn, as casualties mounted around a nearby 3-inch gun, a Japanese marine infiltrated himself into the carnage, feigning death. He shot Elrod, killing him. Without relief by American forces, Wake surrendered later that day.

On November 8, 1946, Elizabeth Elrod (who also served as a Marine officer) received his posthumous Medal of Honor—the first Medal of Honor earned by a Marine aviator during World War II—for his heroic and vigorous fighting efforts from December 8-23, 1941. Captain Elrod is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

In a 1983 letter to A Magnificent Fight author Robert J. Cressman, Milo G. Haines (a VMF-211 Marine aviator who had been left at Hawaii’s Ewa Field) came to the point when talking about “Hammering Hank” Elrod: “In case of combat, I’d rather be with him than against him.”
Japanese Garden Expert Visits to Train Staff on Gardening Techniques

In November, John Powell, North American Japanese Garden Association Board member and Japanese Garden expert from Weatherford, TX, visited the Museum for two days to assist and train staff members on pruning and maintenance of growth and development of the plants in the Japanese Garden. Above, he can be seen counseling gardener, Joy Rendon, on how to care for the plants and trees.

Please Remember the Museum in Your End-of-the-Year CHARITABLE GIVING

During this season of the year, please consider a gift to the Admiral Nimitz Foundation in support of the National Museum of the Pacific War.

One easy, tax-wise option may be through an IRA charitable rollover gift from your IRA to the Foundation – if you are at least age 70.5 years, you may:

- Reduce your current income tax
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Visit with your investment manager or tax consultant about how this may benefit the Museum, and you and your family as well.

Museum Stores:

50th Anniversary Museum Ornament

A beautifully detailed image celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Admiral Nimitz Museum which opened in 1967. Ornament is 100% handmade in the USA and is finished in 24kt gold. Gift boxed. $24.95

New James Hornfischer Book

The Fleet at Flood Tide, America at Total War in the Pacific, 1944-1945, $35

A thrilling narrative of the climatic end stage of the Pacific War, focusing on the U.S. invasion of the Marianas.

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Serving With Apache Pride: Two Native Americans Honored for Their Service

Two Native Americans, U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Richard Banasau and his son, Master Sgt. Ernest C. Banasau, were honored posthumously at a plaque dedication ceremony on 29 October. Both men were members of the San Carlos Apache Tribe in Arizona. Richard Banasau served in the 1st Cavalry Division from 1922 to 1952 and was the longest serving enlisted man in the Cavalry. Ernest C. Banasau served in both the U.S. Army Air Force and then the U.S. Air Force from 1942 to 1964 and flew in the “Monkey’s Uncle” B-17 aircraft. He also participated in Operation Torch and the Berlin Airlift. Both men were career military. (Left: An Apache medicine man, Alvin Kindelay, and an Apache Desert Storm veteran, Cranson Hoffman, sang an Apache prayer during the ceremony.)

2017 Temporary Exhibits:

THE WARTIME SILHOUETTE:
Patriotic Fashions of the 1940s
10 February 2017 through 7 May 2017

From DIY fashion to Hollywood glamour, the Wartime Silhouette looks at how fashion thrived despite war shortages. This exhibition explores how Americans wore functional, yet stylish clothes, as an expression of duty and sacrifice.

As a member of the War Production Board declared, “Style has done much to help the war effort.” Fashions of the 1940s, as a statement of American distinctiveness and freedom, embodied one of the reasons “why we fight.”

PROPAGANDA ART IN WWII
26 May 2017 – 14 August 2017

During WWII, propaganda was a major weapon on and off the battlefield. Propaganda in art became common and was widely distributed. This exhibit features works from the Gregg and Michelle Philipson Collection and Archive, and includes works from artists Arthur Szyk, Dr. Seuss, and others.

Before They’re Gone: Portraits and Stories of WWII Veterans
1 September 2017 – 14 January 2018

This exhibit features a comparative photographic study of WWII veterans then and now. Each participating veteran was photographed and interviewed in their home by photographer, D. Clarke Evans. The exhibit consists of an image of the veteran in recent years, a bio sheet featuring the highlights from the interview and a small photo from their active duty days.
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Our Partnership with the Texas Historical Commission:
Working together by agreement as a state agency and a non-profit organization, the THC and Admiral Nimitz Foundation formed a new public/private partnership created to preserve the historic resources of the National Museum of the Pacific War and guide the expansion of the Museum. It is the only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific Theater battles of World War II.
The Admiral Nimitz Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation eligible for corporate matching grants. Foundation members may forward any forms for matching gift programs with their membership contributions.

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