

Perspectives in Military History

50th Annual Lecture Series

INVASION

The Conquest of Serbia, 1915

Dr. Richard L. DiNardo

Professor for National Security Affairs

United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College

In the late summer of 1915, the German military powerhouse turned from the growing stalemate on the western front of World War I to a new objective: the conquest of Serbia's mountainous and treacherous terrain to open a corridor to the Ottoman Empire. The fight for Serbia represented a "proto-blitzkrieg," showcasing every technological advancement the German juggernaut had at its disposal. Dr. Richard DiNardo will give a lecture at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center based on his book, *Invasion: The Conquest of Serbia, 1915*, in an effort to dissect the German push into the tiny country. He will describe the difficult terrain, the horrendous weather, and the brutal combat of the campaign. Dr. DiNardo will also examine the military innovations on which the Germans capitalized to subdue their eastern enemies. Previously overlooked by historians, these innovations were integral to the future of modern warfare: telephones, railroads, extensive use of aircraft, heavy artillery, coalition warfare, and continued development of the famed German general staff.

Richard L. DiNardo is Professor for National Security Affairs at the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College at Quantico, Virginia. He obtained a Bachelors of Arts in History in 1979 from Bernard Baruch College, part of the City University of New York (CUNY). DiNardo then attended the Graduate School and University Center of CUNY, receiving his Masters of Philosophy and his Ph.D. degrees in History in 1985 and 1988, respectively. DiNardo assumed his present position with the Marine Corps Command and Staff College in January 1998, and has an extensive record of publication. He has authored, co-authored or co-edited seven books on topics ranging from German military history, to the American Civil War, to the Royal Navy in the age of sail. His most recent work, *Invasion: The Conquest of Serbia, 1915*, published by Praeger, appeared in 2015 following his previous book, *Breakthrough: The Gorlice-Tarnow Campaign, 1915*, also published by Praeger, in 2010. One of DiNardo's earlier publications, *Germany and the Axis Powers: From Coalition to Collapse*, published by the University of Kansas Press in 2005, is part of the required reading in a course on coalition warfare at the Air War College. Aside from books, he also has published an extensive number of articles on a variety of topics in scholarly journals and professional military publications.

DATE: Wednesday, October 19, 2016

TIME: Doors open at 6:30 PM and the talk begins at 7:15 PM

PLACE: USAHEC, Visitor and Education Center, Multi-Purpose Room

For updates and any last-minute changes in "Perspectives" meeting times and places, please check the USAHEC website: www.USAHEC.org or call the Information Desk: (717) 245-3972.