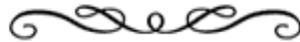


Brooks E. Kleber Memorial Lecture in Military History

11th Annual Lecture Series



Exposing the Third Reich: Colonel Truman Smith in Hitler's Germany

Colonel (Retired) Henry Gole, Ph.D.
Independent Scholar

In 1939, on the cusp of war, one unsung American hero risked everything to spy on the rising Nazi regime. Like many American officials off the front line during World War II, Colonel Truman Smith's work as a military attaché in Nazi Germany from 1935 to 1939 is not well known. Smith's work during the interwar years provided the United States crucial information about the Third Reich. The first American official to interview Hitler in 1922, he continued to keep tabs on Adolf Hitler's government. To maintain his intelligence network when the war started, he developed and utilized a wide and loyal network of German friends. The network remained a key to understanding Nazi-era Berlin.

In his latest book, *Exposing the Third Reich: Colonel Truman Smith in Hitler's Germany*, Colonel (Ret.) Henry Gole presents an essential look at one of the many unsung heroes of World War II against the backdrop of the tempestuous history of Germany in the mid-20th century. Gole explores both Col. Smith's fascinating career gathering key intelligence behind the scenes in Hitler's Germany, and Smith's professional career and personal life before and during the Third Reich. Gole goes on to recount the story of this virtually unknown U.S. Army officer and his key role in the development of U.S. military planning before and during World War II. Gole's work is a great contribution to the historiography of U.S.-German relations and American military thinking about Germany's strengthening positing in the years before the Second World War.

Henry G. Gole., USA (Ret.), Ph.D., a former Green Beret, fought in Korea and served two tours in Vietnam as a Special Forces officer. He has taught at West Point, the U.S. Army War College, the University of Maryland, Dickinson College, and Franklin & Marshall College. Some of his published work includes, *The Road to Rainbow: Army Planning for Global War, 1934-1940* and *Soldiering: Observations from Korea, Vietnam, and Safe Places*.

DATE: Thursday, November 6, 2014

TIME: Doors open at 6:30 p.m., the talk begins at 7:15 p.m.

PLACE: USAHEC, Ridgway Hall, Reading Room

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