

Perspectives in Military History

49th Annual Lecture Series

Ike and Dutch Mentor, Protégé, and Common Sense

Dr. Gene Kopelson

President, Theodore Roosevelt Association, New England Chapter

As Ronald Reagan traveled across the United States campaigning for the highest office in the land, the Governor of California possessed an ace in his hand unmatched by his opponents: the ear and advice of former president Dwight D. Eisenhower. Reagan was in constant contact with Ike, following his advice at every turn and going so far as to base his entire 1966 campaign on his mentor's own successful run years before. Eisenhower's astute view of internal Washington politics, foreign affairs, military matters, and the swirling pool of primary rivals, provided his protégé the fuel he needed to learn, and eventually win, the war of words. In his latest book, *Reagan's 1968 Dress Rehearsal: Ike, RFK, and Reagan's Emergence as a World Statesman*, Dr. Gene Kopelson outlines the story of Reagan's first presidential bid with an in-depth look behind the scenes. On Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Dr. Kopelson will give a lecture titled, "Ike and Dutch: Mentor, Protégé, and Common Sense," to delve deeper into the relationship between Reagan and his mentor and how it not only shaped Reagan's future campaigns, but his presidency, as well.

In his lecture at the USAHEC, Dr. Kopelson will use never-before-tapped audio clips, interviews with the original 1968 campaign staff, Eisenhower's personal diary, and material straight from personal correspondence to show how Eisenhower influenced Reagan's politics and eventually, his far-reaching presidential policies. From Reagan's hawkish views on Vietnam to his perspective on the Arab-Israeli situation, his groundbreaking steps with Gorbachev and the Soviets to nuclear defense, Eisenhower and Reagan had a close and personal relationship which changed America's future.

Dr. Gene Kopelson is a cancer physician and former director of one of Yale University's cancer centers. He is a prominent speaker on radiation oncology and an accomplished scholar and historian. Dr. Kopelson is the president of the New England Chapter of the Theodore Roosevelt Association and a holocaust educator. His book has received rave reviews from former Secretary of State George Shultz, former Attorney General Edwin Meese, numerous Reagan and Eisenhower historians, *The Washington Times*, *The Weekly Standard*, *the New York Post*, *The Daily Caller*, *The Daily Wire*, and *Newsmax*. Kopelson has spoken at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene, the Stanford University Hoover Institution's combined lecture with The Heritage Foundation, The Institute for World Politics, and the Discovery Institute.

DATE: Wednesday, February 15, 2017

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.