
USMA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 3

Spring 2007

Connecting Cadets and Platoon Leaders

Smart cadets who realize there's no substitute for on-the-job training, have a tool that allows them to talk with seasoned platoon leaders in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Cadets are provided with the best military and academic equipment, training, and resources available. Yet, as they enter their last year at the Academy, they become more aware of future challenges and skills needed, and know that there is no substitute for experiential learning.

Just as the Internet has become a valuable tool for consumers wanting to find out the latest on health issues, stock reports, and current events, so has it become a tool for leaders in training who want to find out firsthand the challenges platoon leaders deal with daily, and prepare for future commands.

"Informal networks have always been primary means of learning," says Lt. Col. Pete Kilner, West Point professor and leader of the team of officers who support the PlatoonLeader website.

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First Class Cadets Gabriella Blanchard, Heather DiSilvio, and Daniel Wagner (l-r) view the PlatoonLeader website on a large screen.

Legacies MacArthur Gave Us

By Elaine McConnell, Rare Book Curator, USMA

When one thinks of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the image of the general wading through the Pacific waters as he returns to the Philippines comes to mind. MacArthur was indeed very connected to the Far East and the Philippines, but his story is greater than that.

MacArthur graduated from West Point in 1903 at the head of his class. This top class ranking entitled MacArthur to have first choice in selecting his first assignment.

To those conversant with military history, it should come as no surprise that MacArthur asked to be posted to the Philippines. This choice was to have great impact on the rest of MacArthur's long military career as he returned to the East multiple times during the ensuing fifty years.

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Navigating AKO

The AKO Web Site. Complex, multi-paged, and chock-full of great information...but how do you find anything on it?

Relax. We've done the work for you. We can show you how to:

- Keep track of classmates
- Take classes online
- Find military installations
- Do research from any computer
- Find field manuals
- Find audio books
- Send video e-mails
- Learn a language

(Cont. on p. 7)

Up-To-Speed

Joseph Barth
Librarian, USMA

With work on the sixth floor of Jefferson Hall mostly completed, there is now visible a preliminary view of how the buildings on the perimeter of the plain will appear.

A clear blend of architectural elements creates a harmony among the buildings that is now visible and will be more apparent when the building is complete. Note in the accompanying photograph how the large arches on the north east façade of Jefferson repeat the arches visible in the windows of the Chapel, on Washington Hall, and on the front of the present Library. Now that the protective plastic housing has been removed from the west face of the building we have our first glimpse of the granite exterior. It is very close in appearance to the granite on Washington Hall. As is the case with the present Library, Jefferson Hall will have limestone window surrounds assuring a compatible appearance.

While we are enthusiastically awaiting completion of the new building, the Library program continues to develop in harmony with the needs of the academic program. The Library staff is working to update the website with an anticipated completion date to correspond with the opening of Jefferson Hall. RFID tags are being applied to each book to provide improved inventory control. New staff members bring skills that will guarantee a sound future for Library services.



The U.S. Army Chief of Staff's Professional Reading List

Sublist 1 For Cadets, Soldiers, and Junior NCOs

1. *The Constitution of the United States*, www.archives.gov/national-archives-experience
2. *Centuries of Service: The U.S. Army 1775-2004*, by David W. Hogan, Jr. <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg>
3. *The Face of Battle*, by John Keegan
4. *For the Common Defense: A Military History of the United States of America*, by Allan R. Millett and Peter Maslowski
5. *Band of Brothers: E Company, 506th Regiment, 101st Airborne from Normandy to Hitler's Eagle's Nest*, by Stephen E. Ambrose
6. *We Were Soldiers Once...and Young: Ia Drang - The Battle that Changed the War in Vietnam*, by LTG (Ret.) Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Galloway
7. *If You Survive: From Normandy to the Battle of the Bulge to the End of World War II, One American Officer's Riveting True Story*, by George Wilson
8. *Touched with Fire: The Land War in the South Pacific*, by Eric M. Bergerud
9. *Closing with the Enemy: How GIs Fought the War in Europe, 1944-1945*, by Michael D. Doubler
10. *Patton: A Genius for War*, by Carlo D'Este
11. *In the Company of Heroes*, by Michael J. Durant



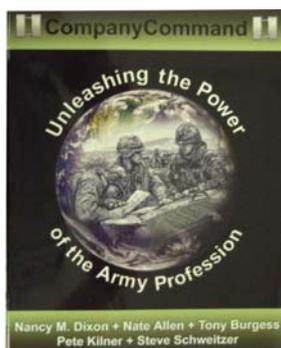
The Library Needs Books!

Library staff will be bustling this summer, and asking patrons to return books and materials promptly. Their goal will be to make sure no items miss out on the conversion process to RFID tagging. The entire collection will be tagged with Radio Frequency Identification, in preparation for the move to the new library in the summer of 2008. So, if you have any items, this is a good time for spring cleaning. Return them and you'll be doing the library a much-appreciated service.

PlatoonLeader, cont.

“The PlatoonLeader forum supports the cadets’ education. How you learn to do your job starts with academic and military preparation, but is mostly carried out while you are in the job. PlatoonLeader is a virtual space for supportive, professional discussion that enables actual platoon leaders to share experiences with each other, and gives cadets the chance to learn from the mistakes and successes of others, ask questions, and listen-in on the topics that interest them,” adds Kilner.

PlatoonLeader is an online forum for currently commissioned officers, USMA and ROTC cadets, and OCS candidates. Cadets can request membership in the list, then log on and select the topic that interests them. Topics can include branch-specific issues, training, maintenance, war fighting, fitness, leadership issues, professional reading, a hall of honor for fallen lieutenants, and more. Although the membership numbers more than



2,500, participation in a discussion thread is usually determined by the topic and who has experience with it.

Members can also view videos filmed recently in Iraq and Afghanistan by platoon leaders relating experiences and how they dealt with them.

Typical questions posed by cadets have included: ‘What branch should I pick?’ and, ‘Can you tell me more about your experience in...?’

PlatoonLeader began in 2001 as a logical extension of the Company-Command forum, and in 2002 was placed on the military server at West Point. The forums were founded by Lt. Col. Nate Allen and Lt. Col. Tony Burgess. They, along with Kilner and Maj. Steve Schweitzer, now lead the Center for the Advancement of Leader Development and Organizational Learning (CALDOL) at West Point.

The Center published a book in 2005 with more information titled, *CompanyCommand: Unleashing the Power of the Army Profession*. Cadets can sign up for the forum at <http://platoonleader.army.mil/>

E-books Can Be Searched Digitally 24/7

Why bother with electronic books when the USMA Library has such a fine collection of books?

Ask any cadet who has ever tried to find books a week before a paper is due. If many other cadets are researching a similar topic, the odds are the first group will check out the best books, leaving their classmates scrambling.

Or, ask the cadets if they’ve ever realized they were lacking some sources the night before a paper was due, when the library was already closed.

Or ask a cadet who’s just searched an electronic book for a phrase...in less than a minute.



Our society is in transition and college libraries, like every other institution, are trying to meet the needs of their students. They are digitizing collections and enabling research to be done online.

American Libraries’ columnist Joseph Janes commented recently that it is up to us to “figure out ways to make order in such a dynamic world.”¹

The USMA Library has a sizeable collection of e-books and is constantly adding to it. More than 280 titles are on the way at present. Once you are in a digital book collection, more titles can be searched.

Here’s a snapshot of what the library and the AKO website offer:

E Book Collection	Size of Collection	Download the First Time	Number of Users
<i>Ebrary</i>	23,000 books	Download an applet, upgrade periodically	Simultaneous users
<i>NetLibrary</i>	2,900 books 980 audio	Set up an individual account	Simultaneous viewers unless checked out
<i>ACLS History E-Book Project</i>	Over 1,500 books	Simply read it	Simultaneous users
<i>AKO NetLibrary</i>	3,600 books 1400 audio	Simply read it	Simultaneous viewers unless checked out

¹Janes, Joseph. (2007). “W(h)ither Print?” *American Libraries* 38, no. 4 (April): 30.

MacArthur Legacy, cont.

Following his early assignment in the East, MacArthur was stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he commanded an engineer company and battalion and then served as an instructor at the Army Service Schools. This assignment was followed by a second teaching assignment at the Mounted Service Schools in Fort Riley, Kansas, and participation in the Mobilization of Maneuver Division in Texas.

These early assignments, coupled with his experiences in Washington, DC, made him the perfect choice as a field commander of the Rainbow Division A.E.F.

MacArthur's success in Europe led to his receipt of numerous awards, both domestic and foreign, and his appointment as Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy in 1919.

While Sylvanus Thayer is credited as the chief architect of the Military Academy's curriculum, MacArthur had a great effect on the Academy, particularly in his efforts to broaden the curriculum with the addition of a course in economics and government, his emphasis on physical fitness and athletics, and the formalization of the honor system.

From West Point, MacArthur once again returned to Manila. Bracketing his tenure as Chief of Staff of the Army from 1930-1935, MacArthur served in various capacities in the Philippines, including a tour as military advisor to the government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. MacArthur served as Supreme Commander of the Southwest Pacific Area and the Pacific from 1941-1945, received the surrender of the Japanese in 1945, and served as Military Governor of Japan from 1945-1951. His last active duty assignment was as Supreme Commander of the UN forces in Korea, 1950-1951.

MacArthur received the Thayer Award in 1962, just two years before he "faded away" at the age of 84. MacArthur's long and sometimes controversial military career, which spanned nearly a half century, can be further examined using the following Library resources.



Douglas MacArthur, Superintendent USMA, and Edward Prince of Wales, November 20, 1919, West Point, NY.

Selected Special Collections' Items

MacArthur, Douglas. *Duty, Honor, Country; A Pictorial Autobiography*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1965.

---. *Duty, Honor, Country*. Designed, Ill. Tad Dubois. Salem, Mass.: Spheniscidae Press, 1984.

---. *Military Demolitions*. Fort Leavenworth, Kan.: Staff College Press, 1909.

---. *Preparation of a Plan to Provide For Adequate Promotion in the Regular Army*. S.l.: s.n., 1934.

---. Papers. 1921-1962. 1 box. Personal correspondence with George Cocheu, Avery Andrews, Syngman Rhee and others; addresses delivered upon receipt of Thayer Award, 1962; address at Army-Navy football rally; original poetry and prose about MacArthur; reminiscences from the Class of 1903; handwritten notes and drafts for press releases by MacArthur; two autographed photographs. (Manuscript)

Menoher, Charles Thomas. Papers. 1898-1930. 1 box ; 6 cm. Orders, 1898-1916; papers concerning the 42nd or "Rainbow" division including a brief history of the 42nd and extracts of General Pershing's communiqué relating to the 42nd; correspondence with Pershing and MacArthur regarding the 42nd Division; papers concerning relief of General Brown from command of 84th Infantry; papers dealing with Army Air Service; congratulatory letters, 1918-1921; letters of recommendation and commendation written by Menoher; correspondence and memorabilia; commentary on "Sudan--The Goal" by Junius Wood; letters regarding retirement, 1926; news articles. (Manuscript)

Selected MacArthur Materials in the USMA Library.

Multimedia

- [Douglas MacArthur: The MacArthur Story \(video - 21 minutes\)](#). Department of Defense, Directorate of Armed Forces Information and Education, n.d. AFIF 132. Digital Collection.
- MacArthur, Douglas. *The Complete Life of General Douglas A. MacArthur Through His Own Words*. Sound recording. New York: Atlantic, 1964.
- . *Duty, Honor, Country*. Speech. Sound recording. San Diego, Calif.: Documentary Recordings, c1986.
- . *General MacArthur's Acceptance of the Thayer Award on 12 May 1962*. Sound recording. West Point, N.Y.: U.S. Military Academy: Signal Corps, 1962.
- . *General MacArthur's Report to Congress*. Sound recording. New York: Jeffrey Norton, [1951?]
- . *Speeches of Gen. Douglas MacArthur*. Video recording. S.l.: MPI Home Video, c1990.

Circulating Books

- MacArthur, Douglas. *Duty, Honor, Country; Two Memorable Addresses*. New York: Rolton House Publishers, 1962.
- . *MacArthur On War*. Ed. Frank C. Waldrop (with an introduction). New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1942.
- . *Representative Speeches of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur*. Compiled by the Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress. Washington: GPO, 1964.
- . *Reminiscences*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1964. Locations: Circulating Books, History Dept-Thayer, Spec Collections
- . *A Soldier Speaks; Public Papers and Speeches of General of the Army, Douglas MacArthur*. Prepared for the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., by the Dept. of Military Art and Engineering. Ed. Vorin E. Whan, Jr. (with an introduction by Carlos P. Romulo). New York: Praeger, 1965.
- Pictorial History of the Korean War, the Graphic Record of the United Nations Forces in Action Throughout Every Phase of the Korean Conflict. MacArthur Reports*. Consult. ed. Jay Allen Cassino; consult. picture ed. William R. Adam. S.l.: s.n., 1951.
- Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers. *Reports of General MacArthur, Prepared by His General Staff*. Ed. Charles A. Willoughby. Washington: GPO, 1966.

Digital Access

Official records concerning Douglas MacArthur's time as a cadet and his service as Superintendent are available in the USMA Archives. The archival finding aid entitled, *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the United States Military Academy*, has been digitized and is available on the web at http://digital-library.usma.edu/libmedia/archives/guides/reliminary_inventory1.pdf

Microform

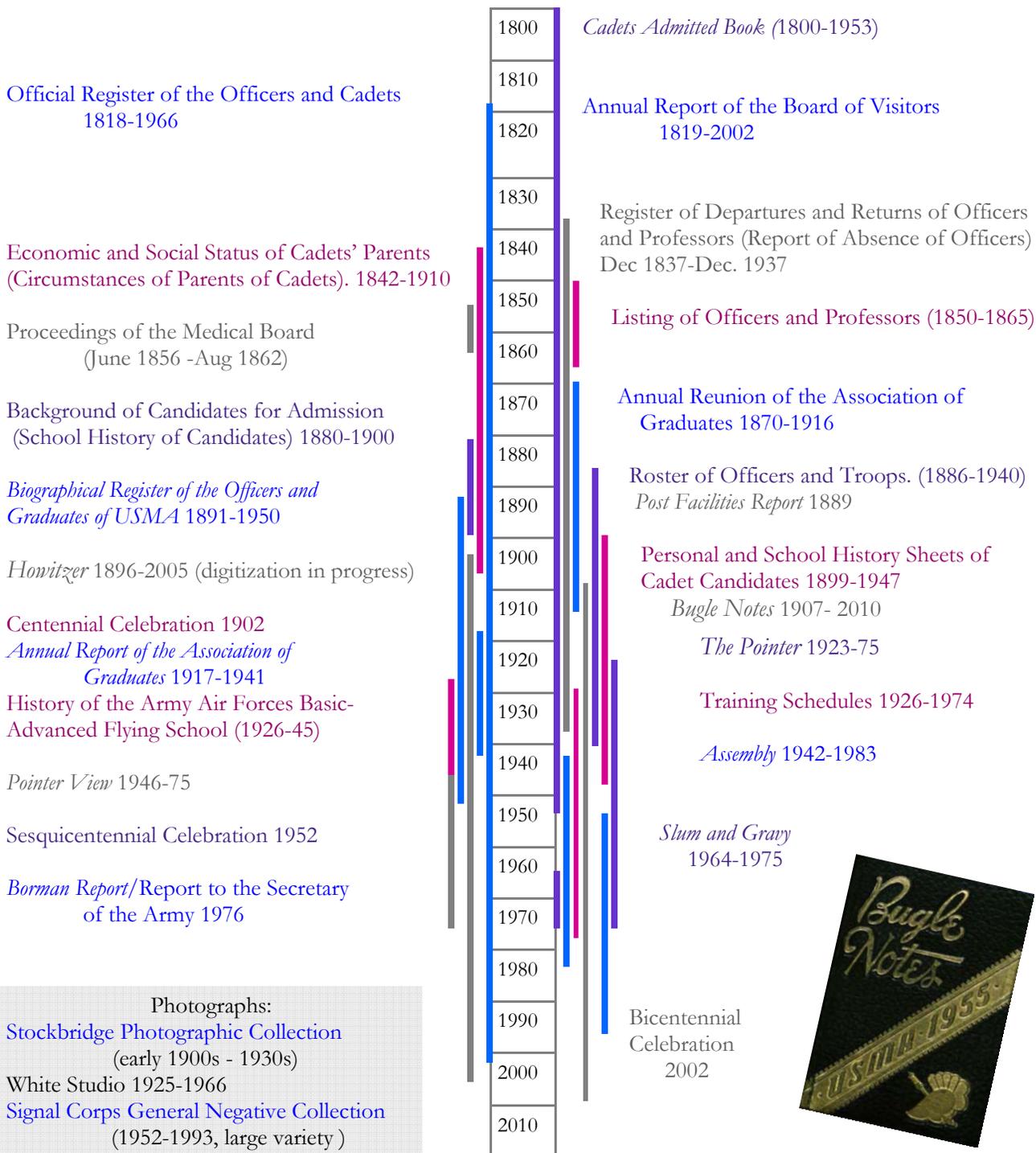
MacArthur, Douglas. *Papers of General Douglas MacArthur*. Microform. Norfolk, Va.: MacArthur Memorial, [198-?] Moore Wing - Microfilm Collection

For further reading on General Douglas MacArthur check the USMA Library Catalog: <http://www.library.usma.edu/search/default.asp>.

Other primary source materials on the life and career of General MacArthur are located at the
MacArthur Memorial
MacArthur Square
Norfolk, VA 23510
Telephone: (757) 441-2965

Cadets Over the Years (1800—2010)

The historical records of the U.S. Military Academy are maintained in the Special Collections and Archives Division of the USMA Library and are both rich in content and varied in form and format. Those in [blue](#) are digitized; the rest are in print. For help in finding any items, contact Special Collections at 8libarch@usma.edu.



Navigating **AKO**:

The Important Stuff (for cadets and grads)

Whether you're graduating, going on an AIAD trip to Spain, or finally getting a break with the family...you can rely on Army Knowledge Online.

AKO Main Page

[Send Video E-Mail](#)

[Locate classmates and friends](#) - White Pages (top right corner icon) - type in their names

[My Professional Data](#) (right side) - Personal and Professional Development

[My Medical Readiness Status](#)

[My DA Photo](#)

[Army Links](#) (right side)

[Official Military Personnel File](#)

[Officer Record Brief](#)

[Search box](#): type in SITES

Find [military installations](#), aids for moving yourself and family

[Early Bird News Tab](#) (one of four tabs, front and center of page)

Daily compilation of news articles concerning defense-related national security issues

[Self-Service](#) (On upper panel)

[Antivirus Services](#) - [Download free software](#), such as McAfee, Symantec

[Army e-Commerce](#) - Download management software, such as PureEdge Viewer

[DA Pubs and Forms](#)

[Doctrine and Training](#) (on left) ([Find Field Manuals](#))

[My Education](#)

[Learn a language](#) (Rosetta Stone)

[Learn a skill, take a class](#)

[My Finance](#) - [My Pay Information](#), Log-in, Pay tables

[Leave Earning Statements \(LES\)](#)

[My Library](#)

[Ask a Librarian](#) (How to find anything on the AKO site, research help)

[CountryWatch](#) (Find out about a [Country](#) you are going to)

[Read a Magazine or Newspaper](#) (Find articles about local issues at your post)

[Read or Listen to a Book](#) - Army Audio eBook Library (Listen to a book)

[Netlibrary](#) (Read a book)

[My Travel](#)

[Per diem](#) (CONUS, OCONUS), [SpaceA](#) (Space Available) Travel

Going overseas soon?

An AIAD summer assignment, or
visiting another state?

Look Ahead...



By Wendy Swik
USMA Reference Librarian

NEWSPAPERS

USA and worldwide newspapers from **RefDesk.com**. Check out your hometown paper or a city newspaper from around the globe, and search newspaper archives. <http://www.refdesk.com/paper.html#natnews>

COUNTRIES

CountryWatch provides country-specific geopolitical intelligence, cultural, economic and up-to-date information on each of the 192 countries of the world. Includes the Country Map Gallery. (USMA internal, AKO) http://0-www.countrywatch.com.usmalibrary.usma.edu/cw_default.aspx

The **U.S. Department of State** provides useful sites: <http://www.state.gov/countries/>, offers background information on countries and links to important travel advisories. Consular Information sheets can be found at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html. For Travel Warnings and Public Announcements, as well as general passport information, go to <http://www.travel.state.gov/>.

The CIA's **World Factbook** is a valuable site with maps, country profiles, a searchable database, and more. <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>

LANGUAGES

Free2Translation allows users to translate foreign phrases instantly. <http://www.freetranslation.com/>

Free Online Language Courses contains links to a variety of tutorials and lessons. <http://www.word2word.com/coursead.html>

MILITARY INFO

SITES is the official DoD website to assist military members and their families with a government ordered Permanent Change of Station (PCS). Includes searchable list of all military installations. S.I.T.E.S. stands for Standard Installation Topic Exchange Service. <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/sites/login.do>

Military.com is a handy commercial site with all sorts of travel information. A military installation guide can be found at http://benefits.military.com/misc/installations/Landing_Page.jsp

VisitMilitaryBases.com allows you to book hotels, view interactive satellite maps of US Military bases, and find the nearest lodging.

HEALTH, CURRENCY CONVERTER

The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** recommends vaccinations for travelers. <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/vaccinat.htm>

Currency converters can be found by querying any standard search engine.

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