SSG Paul D. Savanuck
# Memorial Library Newsletter

Q & A with Molly Guptill Manning

Author of *When Books Went to War: The Stories that Helped Us Win World War II*

When America entered World War II the Nazis had banned and burned more than 100 million books. Outraged librarians launched a campaign to send free books to American troops, and the War Department sent 120 million small, lightweight paperbacks to servicemen overseas. Molly Guptill Manning talks about her new book, an inspiring story for history buffs and book lovers alike.

What were the origins of the Victory Book Campaign?

The book burnings in Germany in the 1930s sparked discussion in America and around the world about why books were under attack and how Americans could counteract this purging of ideas. In every country Germany invaded, books containing viewpoints antagonistic to the Nazi platform were destroyed. American librarians decided that the best way to fight back was to encourage Americans to read more, making books weapons in the "war of ideas." So they began collecting books to distribute to service members, which would provide much-needed entertainment and morale-boosting in the bare-bones training camps.
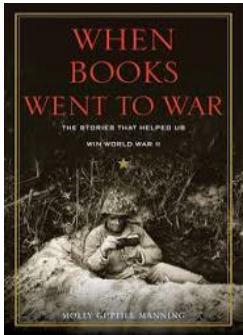
What came to be known as the Victory Book Campaign mobilized American civilians to donate 18 million books between 1942 and 1943. The librarians waged publicity campaigns, hosted collection contests, worked with organizations like the Boy and Girl Scouts for door-to-door collections, pitched stories to newspapers, and scattered book donation receptacles across their towns and cities.

Why did the donation campaign come to an end, to be replaced by the Armed Services Editions?

First, many of the donated books did not suit the reading tastes of young men (thousands of children's books were donated, for instance.) Librarians had to painstakingly sort the books they collected, in order to send only the best. And the donated books were primarily hardcovers, so as servicemen shipped out overseas, they proved too heavy and unwieldy to carry.

These problems exposed the need for paperback editions of books that young men would especially enjoy. American publishers banded together to form a group called the Council on Books in Wartime, and ultimately developed troop-friendly paperbacks called Armed Services Editions (ASEs), which were designed to fit in the hip or breast pocket of a military uniform and were printed in titles that soldiers eagerly snatched up.
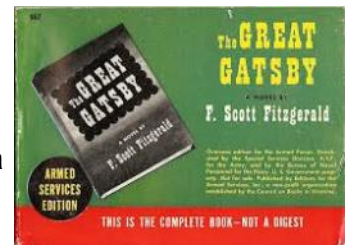
What was the lasting impact of the campaign?

The average WWII conscript had an 11th-grade education and did not read books. During the war, sometimes out of sheer desperation for something to do, the men would pick up books because they were the only entertainment around. Many service members came home with a love of books. Thanks to the popularity of the ASEs, publishers started to release cheap paperback editions for civilians, so veterans returned to a flourishing paperback trade.

The ASEs also motivated many GIs to go to college, having proven that they could enjoy reading and studying. Some two million veterans, who might never have enrolled in a university before the war, found themselves signing up for a free college education. In 2002, the Legacy Project revitalized the ASEs and sent pocket-sized books to Americans serving around the world. Today, the Navy is distributing e-readers pre-loaded with popular books so service members always have hundreds of books at their fingertips. So the tradition of providing books to help men and women through their service far from home continues.

Excerpt from: Scutts, Joanna. "How Books Became a Critical Part…" Smithsonian.com. December 22, 2014. http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-books-became-critical-part-fight-win-world-war-ii-180953689/?no-ist.

Free Database: *Business Insights: Essentials*

Gale/Cengage is providing DINFOS free access for one year to *Business Insights: Essentials*, a database that makes it easy for researchers to find in-depth information on U.S. businesses, industries, and products, including:

- 1,000 SWOT reports, updated quarterly
- 3,900 full-text periodicals
- 14,000 industry research reports from Datamonitor
- 50,500 articles from *Market Share Reporter*
- 80,000 articles from Gale's *Business Rankings Annual*

- 2,200 corporate chronologies
- 11,500 market research reports
- 15,000 company histories
- 465,000 company profiles including 2,000 with links to related content and statistical data

Business Insights: Essentials is available from the Library's web page under "Gale Databases Search," or [click here](#).

New eBook: *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Technology*

Ed. J. Michael Spector. SAGE Publications, Inc. (2015)

The SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Technology examines information on leveraging the power of technology to support teaching and learning. While using innovative technology to educate individuals is certainly not a new topic, how it is approached, adapted, and used toward the services of achieving real gains in student performance is extremely pertinent. This encyclopedia explores such issues, focusing on core topics that will retain relevance in the face of perpetually evolving devices, services, and specific techniques. As technology evolves and becomes even more low-cost, easy-to-use, and more accessible, the education sector will evolve alongside it.
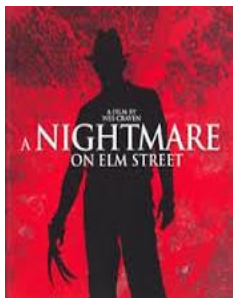
Find *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Technology* in the Gale Virtual Reference Library or [click here](#).

HORROR MOVIES IN THE LIBRARY

It's that time of year to watch a good scary movie! Check-out these movies (we have over 100 horror movies!) from the DINFOS Library:

The Bride of Frankenstein #6
Psycho #7
The Babadook #10
The Innocents #22
The Cabin in the Woods #23
A Nightmare on Elm Street #36
Zombieland #45
The Conjuring #58
28 Days Later #59
Paranormal Activity #79

Ratings are from the Rotten Tomatoes Top 100 Horror Movies list.

LIBRARY HOURS

Day	Date	Hours
Mon	10/19	0700-1700
Tue	10/20	0700-1700
Wed	10/21	0700-1700
Thu	10/22	0700-1600
Fri	10/23	0700-1700
Mon	10/26	0700-1700
Tue	10/27	0700-1700
Wed	10/28	0700-1700
Thu	10/29	0700-1700
Fri	10/30	0700-1700
Mon	11/2	0700-1700
Tue	11/3	0700-1700
Wed	11/4	0700-1700
Thu	11/5	0700-1700
Fri	11/6	0700-1700

Library: Room 1107-A
Computer/Study: Room 2110

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The Savanuck Memorial Library is a resource for Defense Information School staff, faculty, current students, and alumni. We support the school's mission of producing outstanding Public Affairs and Visual Information personnel for the U.S. Department of Defense.

The Library Newsletter is produced by library staff. We will consider articles and photos submitted by DINFOS students and staff for inclusion in the newsletter.