

## **KELLY E. CRAGER**

Vietnam Center and Archive  
Texas Tech University  
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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in U.S. History, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, 2005  
M.A. in U.S. History, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas, 1999  
B.A. in History, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas, 1996

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Head, Oral History Project**  
**The Vietnam Center and Archive**  
**Texas Tech University**

Dates: January 2008-Present

Duties: Planning, coordinating, directing all aspects of the Oral History Project; Interviewing; Outreach; Web-based instruction; Grant and Project Development; Directing Professional and Graduate Internships

Courses Taught: HIST 7000 Practicum in Oral History

**Visiting Assistant Professor**  
**Department of History**  
**Texas A&M University**  
**College Station, Texas**

Dates: August 2005-December 2007

Courses:

HIST 463 American Foreign Relations since 1913

HIST 462 American Foreign Relations to 1913

HIST 373 Great Depression and World War II

HIST 372 Reform, War, and Normalcy

HIST 226 History of Texas

HIST 106 History of the United States since 1877

HIST 105 History of the United States to 1877

INTS 485 Directed Studies (U.S.-British Relations during the Vietnam War)

**Adjunct Assistant Professor**

**Department of History**

**Austin Community College**

**Austin, Texas**

Dates: January 2005-August 2005

Courses:

HIST 1302 History of the United States since 1865

HIST 1301 History of the United States to 1865

**Graduate Teaching Fellow**

**Department of History**

**University of North Texas**

**Denton, Texas**

Dates: August 1998- June 2004

Courses:

HIST 2620 History of the United States since 1865

HIST 2610 History of the United States to 1865

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Department of History**

**University of North Texas**

**Denton, Texas**

Dates: July 1999-August 1999; June 2002-July 2002

HIST 3650 Representative American Leaders

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Department of History**

**University of North Texas**

**Denton, Texas**

Dates: May 2002-June 2002

HIST 4621 The Texas Revolutionary Era

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Book**

*Hell under the Rising Sun: Texan POWs and the Building of the Burma-Thailand Death Railway.* College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press, 2008.

**Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals**

“The Yokohama POW Journal of Private First Class Claude C. Likens, Company D, 192<sup>nd</sup> Tank Battalion, 1942-1945,” *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, Special Issue, Vol. 111, No. 3, Summer 2013.

“‘It Was a Thing Whose Time Had Come’: Texas Tech’s Vietnam Center and Archive,” *Military History of the West*, Vol. 40, January 2011.

“God Knows What’s Going to Happen to Us’: The Lost Battery of Texas’s ‘Lost Battalion’ during World War II,” *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Vol. CXII, No. 1, July 2008.

### **Book Chapter**

“Texan Prisoners of the Japanese: A Study in Survival,” in *Texans and War: New Interpretations on the State’s Military History*. College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press, 2012.

### **Catalog**

Associate Editor, *Heroes: Oral History Interviews with Veterans of World War II*. Oral History Program, University of North Texas, 2002.

### **Reference Works**

*Encyclopedia of the Vietnam War: A Social, Political, and Military History*. Spencer Tucker, ed. ABC-Clio’s Military History Series. (May 2011) Entries for: “Son Thang Massacre,” “Corps Tactical Zones,” “Col. Francis J. Kelly,” “SERE Training”

*Encyclopedia of the Mexican-American War: A Social, Political, and Military History*. Spencer Tucker, ed. ABC-Clio’s Military History Series. Entries for: “Edward Burleson,” “Conventions of 1832 and 1833,” “Robert A. Gillespie,” “Battle of Gonzales,” “Samuel A. Maverick,” “Domingo de Ugartechea”

*Encyclopedia of Military Science*. G. Kurt Piehler, ed. Sage Publishing. 2000-word essay for Oral History in Military History

### **Book Reviews:**

Review of *Death on Base: The Fort Hood Massacre*, by Anita Belles Porterfield and John Porterfield. Denton, TX: University of North Texas Press, 2015. For *Central Texas Studies: Journal of the Central Texas Historical Association*, 2016.

Review of *Mourning Headband for Hue: An Account of the Battle for Hue, Vietnam 1968*, by Nha Ca, translated by Olga Dror. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2014. For *The Journal of Military History*, 2015.

Review of *Name, Rank, and Serial Number: Exploiting Korean War POWs at Home and Abroad*, by Charles S. Young. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014. For *The American Historical Review*, 120 (1) 2015.

Review of *Cold Days in Hell: American POWs in Korea*, by William Clark Latham, Jr. College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press, 2013. For *Pacific Historical Review*, Vol. 83, No. 1, February 2014.

Review of *Armed with Abundance: Consumerism and Soldiering in the Vietnam War*, by Meredith H. Lair. Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 2011. For *Michigan War Studies Review*, 2012.

Review of *War without Fronts: The USA in Vietnam*, by Bernd Greiner. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009. For *Michigan War Studies Review*, 2011.

Review of *Voices from the Vietnam War: Stories from American, Asian, and Russian Veterans*, by Xiaobing Li. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2010. For *The Oral History Review*, 2011.

Review of *Until the Last Man Comes Home: POWs, MIAs, and the Unending Vietnam War*, by Michael J. Allen. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009. For *The Journal of Military History*, Vol. 74, No. 2, April 2010.

Review of *Twentieth Century Texas: A Social and Cultural History*, edited by John W. Storey and Mary L. Kelley. Denton, TX: University of North Texas Press, 2008. For *Journal of South Texas*, 2010.

Review of *Japan and the League of Nations: Empire and World Order, 1914-1938*, by Thomas W. Burkman. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2008. For H-U.S.-Japan, March 2009.

Review of *Dolph Briscoe: My Life in Texas Ranching and Politics*, by Dolph Briscoe. Austin: Center for American History, 2008. For *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Vol. CXIII, No. 1, April 2009.

Review of *The Son Tay Raid: American POWs in Vietnam Were Not Forgotten*, by John Gargus. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2007. For *Military History of the West*, Vol. 39, 2009.

Review of *Claytie: The Rollercoaster Life of a Texas Wildcatter*, by Mike Cochran. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2007. For *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Vol. CXII, No. 1, July, 2008.

Review of *Prisoner of the Rising Sun: The Lost Diary of Brig. Gen. Lewis Bebe*. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2006. For *Military History of the West*, Vol. 37, 2007.

Review of *The First Cold Warrior: Harry Truman, Containment, and the Remaking of Liberal Internationalism*, by Elizabeth Edwards Spalding. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 2006. For H-Diplo, September 2007.

### **Newsletter**

"Recording the Vietnam Generation in Their Own Words," *Dialogue: The Newsletter of the Oral History Section of the Society of American Archivists*, Vol. 5, Issue 2, August 2009.

### **Exhibits**

Co-designer, The Tet Offensive (Tết Mậu Thân), online exhibit (2010)

Co-designer, Vietnam: The Helicopter War, online exhibit (2012)

Co-designer, Vietnam: The Helicopter War, physical exhibit (2012)

### **Current Research:**

Myth and Memory in the Vietnam War

## **SELECTED CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND INVITED LECTURES**

“Not Your Father’s War: Veterans Oral History with the Vietnam Generation.” OHP@50: The UNT Oral History Program 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas (November 2015)

Panel Chair and Commentator, “The Voices of a Contested Past: Oral History and the Hanford Nuclear Reservation.” Oral History Association Annual Conference, Tampa, Florida (October 2015)

Panel Chair, “Oral History as a Learning Method: Students Capture Stories of the Vietnam War Era.” Oral History Association Annual Conference, Tampa, Florida (October 2015)

Moderator, “In Stealth We Trust: Special Operations and their Origins in World War II.” Annual Pacific War Symposium, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2015)

“Building the Death Railway.” The Dr. Harold C. Deutsch World War II History Round Table, Minneapolis, Minnesota (October 2014)

“Demystifying Veterans Oral History: Approaches to Interviewing.” Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire (July 2014)

Panel chair and moderator, “Myth, Memory, and Metal: New Oral Histories of the U.S. Military.” Oral History Association Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (October 2013)

“Never Let the Truth Get in the Way of a Good Story: The Intersection of Myth and Memory in Oral History Interviews with Vietnam Veterans.” Oral History Association Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (October 2013)

Moderator, “The Military and the Media: Witnesses to War.” Annual Pacific War Symposium, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2013)

“The Vietnam War: An Oral History Primer.” The Vietnam Experience Conference, Victoria, Texas (June 2013)

Panel Commentator, “Alcohol and Drugs in Two Wars: Korea, and Vietnam.” Society for Military History Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA (March 2013)

Moderator, “Leadership in Wars and Crises: Presidents, Admirals, and Generals.” Annual Pacific War Symposium, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2012)

“Schmoozing 101: The Importance of Networking in Career Development.” Museum and Heritage Student Association, Texas Tech University (September 2012)

Commentator and Historical Advisor to C-SPAN American History Series, Oral Histories of the Battles of the Ia Drang Valley (2012)

“Professional Development: It’s Up to You.” Museum and Heritage Student Association, Texas Tech University (March 2012)

“I Guess There were as Many Vietnam Wars as There were People Who Served’: An Examination of Identity and the Vietnam Veteran through Oral History.” Rice University (December 2011)

“Ephemera, Digital Archives, and the Vietnam War: What is the Connection?” Ephemera and Archives Workshop, Rice University (December 2011)

Moderator, “Strategic Surprise: Pearl Harbor to 9/11.” Annual Pacific War Symposium, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2011)

Moderator, “Atrocities in Vietnam; Genocide in Cambodia.” Vietnam Center 7<sup>th</sup> Triennial Symposium, Texas Tech University (March 2011)

Moderator, “Veteran Perspectives on the Vietnam War.” Vietnam Center 7<sup>th</sup> Triennial Symposium, Texas Tech University (March 2011)

Moderator, “War and Politics as Depicted on Postage Stamps in French Indochina.” Vietnam Center 7<sup>th</sup> Triennial Symposium, Texas Tech University (March 2011)

“‘The Goal was to Leave’: An Examination of the Individual Soldier’s Experience in the Vietnam War.” Oral History Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia (October 2010)

Moderator, “Termination of War: The Role of Unconditional Surrender.” Annual Pacific War Symposium, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2010)

“Texan Prisoners of the Japanese: A Study in Survival.” Texas State Historical Association Annual Conference, Dallas, Texas (March 2010)

Chair, “Hill Country Homefront: Fredericksburg, Texas, during World War II.” Grand Opening of the George H.W. Bush Gallery, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (December 2009)

Moderator, “Siege and Bombardment: War of Attrition against Japan Led by Submarines and B-29s.” Annual Pacific War Symposium, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2009)

“Lone Star under the Rising Sun: Texans on the Death Railway.” 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium, Texas Heritage Museum, Hillsboro, Texas (April 2009)

Moderator, “The War in Cambodia.” Vietnam Center Annual Conference, “The Vietnam War in Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand,” Texas Tech University (March 2009)

“Issues in Interviewing: Vietnam Veterans as a Test Case.” College of Mass Communications, Texas Tech University (October 2008)

“The Battle of Iwo Jima in Historical Perspective.” Rotary Club of Fredericksburg, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2008)

Moderator, “Closing the Circle: The Philippines and Iwo Jima.” Annual Pacific War Symposium, National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas (September 2008)

“American POWs of the Japanese: Their Experiences in Southeast Asia.” United States Naval Heritage Center, Washington, D.C. (September 2008)

Panelist, Briefing U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee on Issues Facing Former American Prisoners of War of the Japanese, Washington, D.C. (September 2008)

Panelist, “American POWs of the Japanese: World War II Experiences.” Sigur Center for Asian Studies, The Elliot School of International Affairs, The George Washington University (September 2008)

“Oral History and the American POW Experience.” Westerners of Lubbock Association, Lubbock, Texas (July 2008)

Keynote Speaker, National Museum of the Pacific War Memorial Day Program, Fredericksburg, Texas (May 2008)

Moderator, “Tet, the DRV, and the RVN.” Vietnam Center 6<sup>th</sup> Triennial Symposium, Texas Tech University (March 2008)

Moderator, “Postwar Issues and Challenges.” Vietnam Center 6<sup>th</sup> Triennial Symposium, Texas Tech University (March 2008)

“The Oral History Interview and Military History.” Department of History, Texas Tech University (February 2008)

Keynote Speaker, “Lost Battalion” Annual Reunion, Dallas, Texas (August 2006)

“Lone Star under the Rising Sun: Texan POWs and the Building of the Burma-Thailand Death Railway, 1942-1945.” Texas State Historical Association Annual Conference, Ft. Worth, Texas (March 2005)

## **HONORS**

Awarded Early Promotion to Associate Archivist with Tenure, 2013 (Texas Tech University)

Outstanding Doctoral Student in History, 1999-2000, 2001-2002 (University of North Texas)

Hatton Sumners Historical Scholarship, 2000-2001, 2001-2002 (University of North Texas)

Faculty Endowment Historical Scholarship 1999-2000 (University of North Texas)

Fred B. Misse Excellence in History Teaching Award, 1996-1997 (Pittsburg State University)

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award for History, 1997 (Pittsburg State University)

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Book Review Editor, *Military History of the West* (February 2009-Present)

Advisor, Dartmouth Vietnam Project (2014-Present)

Book Manuscript Referee, University of Missouri Press (2014)

Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Vietnam Center and Archive, Texas Tech University (2013, 2014)

Book Manuscript Referee, Texas A&M University Press (2013)

Member, Symposium Program Committee, National Museum of the Pacific War (2009-2013)

Co-Coordinator, Conference on the Vietnam War Era, University of Houston-Victoria/Victoria College (June 2013)

Member, Program Committee, Texas State Historical Association (2011-2012)

Committee Member, H. Bailey Carroll Award, for the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Texas State Historical Association (2009-2010)

Committee Member, Department of History Graduate Advisory Board, Pittsburg State University (2009-2011)

Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Vietnam Center and Archive, Texas Tech University (2008)

Judge, Oral History Documentary Competition, Texas History Day (2007)

Secretary, Faculty Search Committee, Department of History, University of North Texas (2000)

Secretary, Faculty Search Committee, Department of History, University of North Texas (1999)

Member, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of History, University of North Texas (2001)

Member, Textbook Selection Committee, Department of History, University of North Texas (2000)

Member, Graduate Student Association Board, Pittsburg State University (1997)



**MEMBER**

Society for Military History

American Historical Association

Oral History Association

Texas State Historical Association

Texas Oral History Association