

# AMONG FRIENDS *of LBJ*

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World War II—Fifty Years Later (See page 2)



# World War II



"Wounded at War: Now The Day is Over." Artist: W. G. Laurence; U.S. Coast Guard Art Program



"Bob Hope Entertaining Troops, Somewhere in England." Artist: Floyd Davis, U.S. Army Art Collection

Cover: "Funeral Pyres." Artist: W. G. Laurence; U.S. Coast Guard Art Program

Reproduced here and on the cover are three paintings by men who served in the armed forces in World War II which are part of an exhibition now at the Library, titled "World War II: The Artists View." Composed of some 40 original works of art, it is a forerunner of the exhibition based on letters and memorabilia from that war, scheduled to open in April (See page 12). Both exhibitions will travel to all presidential libraries. The art show was put together by Dennis Medina, curator of the Eisenhower Library.



# High School Teachers Study The U.S. Congress



Senate Historian Richard Baker speculates on "What the framers [of the Constitution] would recognize and what would surprise them about the U.S. Congress."

The Library held a summer institute on the U.S. Congress for secondary school teachers from central Texas. For a week, the educators heard experts discuss how the Congress works. Documents from the Library's archives were used to help illustrate Congress in action.

Lecturers included Dr. Richard Baker, Historian of the U.S. Senate, and Dave McNeely, political reporter for the *Austin American-Statesman* (pictured on this page.) Other teachers at the institute were Dr. Harold Hyman, Professor of History at Rice University; Dr. Morton Keller, Professor of History at Brandeis University; Donald Bacon, formerly senior legislative editor of *U.S. News and World Report* and co-author of *Rayburn: A Biography*; Dr. Raymond Smock, Historian of the U.S. House of Representatives; Dr. Roger Davidson, University of Maryland; Jim Cicconi, former staff secretary to President Bush; Jim Shearer, former regional political director of the Bush Presidential Campaign; George Christian, former LBJ aide; and from the University of Texas: Vice Presi-

dent William Livingston, Historians Robert Divine and Lewis Gould, Political Scientist Melissa Collie and

Dr. Barbara Griffith from the Barker Texas History Center.



Political Columnist Dave McNeely discusses public perceptions of the Congress.



# Speakers at the Library . . . Jim Ketchum

Jim Ketchum, presently curator of the U.S. Senate, was curator of the White House from the Kennedy through the Johnson and into the Nixon administrations. Among his reminiscences:

I've had the great honor of meeting nine First Ladies and working for three, but only one introduction stands out as truly memorable. A day or two after she moved into the White House, Mrs. Johnson telephoned and asked if I could meet with her in the family quarters. When I got to the second floor, I was startled to find her on her hands and knees in a walk-in closet off her bedroom, unpacking a box of porcelain. She welcomed me warmly and I joined in unwrapping what turned out to be a collection of Royal Worcester birds, gathered through the years. Outside, in a narrow corridor, workmen were moving a sofa into a small sitting room. As they passed, they closed the door, causing the switch in the door frame to turn off the closet light. Here we were, in a sea of packing materials and priceless porcelains, groping in total darkness and trying to figure out how to escape our predicament.



Ketchum was introduced by Bess Abell, who worked closely with Ketchum when she was social secretary in the Johnson White House. Speaking of his current assignment, she said: "If you're lucky enough to take a Senate tour with Jim, you feel as if you're eavesdropping on history."



Ketchum, recalling the "worst moment I ever experienced in the White House," demonstrates the imitation of President Nixon which his then five-year-old son displayed in a Nixon receiving line for staff members and their families.

## His recollection of the Johnson period:

Five glorious years of prized acquisitions for the collection, storybook

weddings, beautiful babies, ballet in the East Room, country fairs on the south lawn, singing dogs, and electric pepper grinders.

Ketchum closed his remarks by reading a letter he received on the last day of the Johnson Administration.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 19, 1969

Dear Mr. Ketchum,

So finally we've checked off the last thing on the list that there's time to do! I've just walked down to see the tiny little garden which we want to leave for White House children and grandchildren of days to come.

I like the way it's tucked away, and you're almost surprised to come upon flagstone leading through a "secret tunnel" lined by the holly trees. The apple tree will be lovely, with blossoms in Spring, and fruit in Autumn—and it's almost irresistibly "climbable"! Wouldn't a small swing be nice there! I hope there will be some crocus among the flagstone for early Spring blooming.

I think of the spot as the sort of place a First Lady who is a grandmother might wheel a baby carriage and sit in the shade and enjoy her own backyard, in a quite secluded spot. And very especially it would be a good place for four-year-olds to have a "tea party," or watch the gold fish in the little pool—or for their mother or grandmother to read about Peter Rabbit or Winnie-the-Pooh.

I shall think back affectionately about this dear House and these grounds we've loved these five years.

My warmest wishes to all of you who will look after the White House for the families who follow—

Lady Bird Johnson



# Speakers . . . Howard Baker

"I have always resisted the idea of mandatory term limitation [for Congress]," Howard Baker told an audience composed of Friends of the LBJ Library, but "I'm about to change my mind."

The Tennessean who served as Republican leader in the U.S. Senate and later as President Reagan's White House Chief of Staff, presented a forceful case for "the Congress returning to the status of a citizen legislature . . . An aggregation of citizens who are on temporary duty to represent their neighbors."

Now a private attorney in his home state, the veteran of almost two decades on Capitol Hill maintained that the Congress "lost its way" when it "became a full-time undertaking." The change in the legislative body's original purpose came, he said, "when we started passing thousand-page bills, when we started acting like an aggregation of bureaucrats, trying to legislate bills and regulations instead of general public policy."

Even with a term limitation, Baker declared, "Congress ought to be a part-time job . . . We shouldn't try to write every jot and tittle of every program into the legislative enactment. We should state broad general policy and then we should go home and find out what our fellow citizens think about what we did."

Baker made these observations on other related matters:

**On Congressional hearings:** "I think the Senate and the House of Representatives should adopt a code of evidentiary proceedings. I think there is too little safeguard for the dignity, for the safety, for the standing, for the reputation of people who are called before these committees. If it were in a court of law, a great majority of what is being testified to would be excluded, either in hearsay or as not relevant. There are no such safeguards in Congressional hearings. There should be."

**On Campaign Reform.** "It is overdue. The one thing I don't support is appropriations from the federal treasury to elect members of Congress [because] pretty soon you'd have federal rules and regulations on how those



funds would be spent. I think instead you ought to have limitations on the amount that can be contributed but mostly full and timely disclosure. You ought to cut off campaign contributions, say two weeks before the election, so that those contributions can be compiled and published so people can see who contributed and how much, and they can decide whether this is going to influence this fellow or not, and whether they like it or not."

**On the quality of Congressional leadership.** "They used to say about Will Rogers [that he] went home to Oklahoma in the 30s after he'd been in Washington for a while and somebody said, 'Tell me, is it true that Congress

is made up of thieves and rascals?' He said, 'Well, of course it's true, but it's a good cross-section of its constituents.'

'But it is not true. Congress is made up by and large of the most dedicated, diligent, honest, hard-working, insightful, intellectual people that I've ever had the privilege of dealing with. They sacrifice so much—financially, so much in terms of the burden borne by their families, so much in so many ways in order to try to serve their fellow citizens. So don't believe for a second that Congress is made up of thieves and rascals.' "



## Speakers: . . . Mathilde Krim

Dr. Mathilde Krim, research biologist and geneticist who has devoted the last decade to mobilizing research, education and public support to combat the pandemic of AIDS, presented an overview of the history of the disease and a sobering look into the future as it can now be foreseen.

### Some of the grim predictions:

- By the year 2,000, 40 million people world-wide, almost half of them women and children, will be infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. All of them will die of the disease unless cheap and effective treatments are developed and used rapidly.

- Throughout large areas of Central Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and Southeast Asia, the impact will be devastating. It will have destabilizing effects on [their] economy and political systems. In the third world, AIDS will overshadow all other health issues and [become] the major obstacle to development.

- In the U.S., we can anticipate at least another 200,000 cases to be reported within the next three to four years. After that, a slight leveling off of the rate at which new cases are reported, as a result of treatments that will delay the onset of AIDS and the adopting of lower risk behavior, but by no means a resolution of the epidemic.

The disease, Dr. Krim, said, "will have such an extraordinary impact on all human societies that it will be the event that defines our century."

Despite these grim forecasts, Dr. Krim struck a note of hope: "If I have not become desperate in dealing with the realities of AIDS every day of my



life, it is because I have seen, day after day, scientists, physicians, nurses and social workers stand firm at their sta-

tions. It is also because I have acquired solid confidence in the power of the modern biological sciences. I now firmly believe, as many of our scientists do, that if provided with the resources they need to do their work, they *will* find the therapies that will stop the inexorable progression of HIV disease. I also believe that our scientists *will* eventually develop a protective vaccine. Such enduring solutions, if they are pursued with utmost vigor, may become a reality within the next ten years."

### Krim on LBJ and AIDS:

"Had Lyndon Johnson been with us during the last ten years, we would not have experienced the great void in national leadership that has so complicated and delayed the fight against AIDS. He would have been the first to remind us of our responsibility to the many Americans who suffer from AIDS, or to all those threatened by it. He would also understand our responsibility to countless others throughout the world, and would have made it his crusade to rid our planet of AIDS and make of this world a much safer and better place for all. I am quite certain of this."



## Speakers: . . . William H. Gray

William H. Gray III delivered the seventh in a series of lectures named for the late Frank C. Erwin, Jr., former Chairman of the LBJ Foundation Board of Directors. The lecture series is co-sponsored by the Library and the LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Gray, who served as Majority Whip in the U.S. House of Representatives, has been president of the United Negro College Fund since September.

He spoke of the challenges facing America as a competitor in the next century.

One: "There must be investments in our physical infrastructure. Our bridges, our roads, our transit systems are in desperate need of repair and rebuilding." Every day, he declared, "a bridge in America closes down."

He offered this solution to that challenge; "the savings achieved in light of the changing world situation and the savings achieved on the military side of the budget" should be used "as investments for rebuilding the infrastructure." Such a conversion of funds, he submitted, "would also be creating employment opportunities." So in answer to the argument that a "cut in military spending would have a dramatic negative impact on employment," that impact "would be easily offset by the creation of new employment opportunities in the infrastructure investment program."

The other investment that must be made, he said, are in our "human resources." The challenges here, he maintained, are "our inability to face the increasing diversification of America and solve . . . the problem of race in this country . . . not for altruistic reasons, not for humanitarian reasons . . . not simply for equity reasons . . . but [because] it is in America's interest."

He offered these demographic considerations: "By the next century, 85% of all the new workers who enter America's work force will come from three groups: women, minorities and new immigrants . . . we will become the most pluralistic, the most diverse society the world has ever seen as one nation."

If America is to be competitive with the other industrialized nations and



maintain its position in the world, he submitted, "we have got to make investments—in the education and training—in those people who are going to be our workers in the next century."

President Johnson, Gray said, understood this: "One of the greatest presidents of all time—who came from

a background where many of us up north never would have thought that he would be the president to do more to open up America and build a stronger America than anyone else—understood that ultimately when you lift someone else out of the ditch of life you are lifting yourself."



## Speakers: . . . Joseph A. Califano

Joe Califano, whose *The Triumph and Tragedy of Lyndon Johnson: The White House Years* was published in October, discussed that book before an enthusiastic audience.

For 3½ years Califano was LBJ's chief assistant for domestic affairs in the White House. "I worked with him day and night," Califano said. "I ate more meals with him than with my own family . . . I watched him laugh and swear and get angry and cry and get hurt and hurt others and dream and achieve things most everyone thought impossible."

The "triumph" of the book's title refers, of course, to Johnson's domestic achievements. The "tragedy" relates to LBJ and Vietnam: "No matter how Lyndon Johnson mustered his persuasive powers, he could not communicate to the American people why he was convinced we had to be in Vietnam and if there, why it made sense to walk his line between all out war and surrender so that the nation could deal with its domestic problems."

Califano offered his own reflection, in the light of recent events, on Vietnam's part in the chronology: "In the context of today and the collapse of the communist system, my own view is coming now that if you look at [the past] 50 years of history, from the time after Roosevelt with Truman first in



Greece and Turkey, then with the Marshall Plan, then fighting in Korea—a very unpopular war; Eisenhower sending American troops to Lebanon; Kennedy dealing with the Russians at the Berlin Wall, dealing with Khrushchev in Cuba; Eisenhower, Kennedy and then Johnson in Vietnam—Johnson with the major buildup with Americans fighting, despite its unpopularity; then Reagan with his enor-

mous defense budget—whatever you think about it—saying to the Russians, 'whatever it takes to have more than you, we're going to spend it'—if looked at in the context of 50 years, you have to see why we won the cold war. And it's all part of that. It's a lot of pain, but it's all part of that."



Don Wilson, Archivist of the United States, presents Library Director Harry Middleton a certificate giving Middleton the Presidential rank of Meritorious Executive in the Senior Executive Service, citing, "Sustained superior accomplishment in the management of programs for the United States Government and for noteworthy achievement of quality and efficiency in the public service."



# Research Grants Awarded to Twenty-Three Scholars

Twenty-three scholars have been selected as the 1991-92 recipients of grants to study in the LBJ Library. The funds, totaling \$25,000, are made available by the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation by virtue of a grant from the Moody Foundation to help students, teachers, and writers use the Library's resources by providing support for travel and living expenses.

Those receiving grants-in-aid and the titles of their proposed projects are: Edward Berkowitz, "Biography of Wilbur J. Cohen"; James A. Bill, "George Ball and U.S. Foreign Policy"; Larry Burt, "The Great Society on Reservations"; Robert Buzzanco, "U.S. Military Policy & Politics During the Vietnam War"; Warren I. Cohen, "Lyndon Johnson and the Middle East, 1963-1969"; Frank Costig-

liola, "The Johnson Administration & Western Europe"; Richard Dauer, "Mission Unfulfilled: Chester Bowles & the Process of American Foreign Policy, 1951-1969"; Robert Finbow, "The Development of Medicare in the U.S."; Carol Horton, "Race, Liberalism, and Civil Rights Law in the U.S."; Richard Immerman, "Johnson, Vietnam, and Southeast Asia"; Bruce S. Jansson, "Guns, Butter & Taxes: The Battle Over National Priorities, 1940-1992"; Stephen M. Leahy, "The Public Life of Clement J. Zablocki"; Terrence Lyons, "LBJ's Policies Toward Africa"; Cathie Jo Martin, "Business and the New Economic Activism: The Growth of Corporate Lobbies in the '60s"; Roger Newman, "Hugo Black: A Biography"; Steve Potts, "All the Fruits of the Garden: Lyndon John-

son's Great Society Social & Economic Programs for Native Americans"; Edward Rhodes, "The Johnson Navy"; David Alan Rosenberg, "The Global Strategy of the Johnson Administration"; Michael Schaller, "The U.S. & Japan, From the End of the Occupation to 1972"; Robert Schulzinger, "The War in Vietnam and Its Legacy"; Kent G. Sieg, "The Harri-man-Vance Mission to the Paris Peace Talks on Vietnam '68-69"; Judith Stein, "Afro-Americans & Labor in the 20th Century: The Case of Steel"; and Nancy Bernkopf Tucker, "East Asia in a Time of Troubles."



University of Texas faculty members who determine the grants to be awarded, appointed by U.T. President William Cunningham at the Library's request, are Dick Schott,

LBJ School of Public Affairs, Lewis Gould, History Department, and Bruce Buchanan, Government Department (2nd, 3rd and 5th from left). They discuss their deliberations

with Library and Foundation staff members Tina Houston, Larry Reed, Harry Middleton, David Humphrey and Charles Corkran.



## Library Offers Elderhostel Course

The Library offered its first Elderhostel course in October, a one-week session titled "Lyndon Baines Johnson, The Man, The Myth, The Memories." Senior citizens from several states assembled to explore the Johnson story with guest lecturers, films and tapes. The program was organized by the Library's Museum Education Department, headed by Judy Davidson and staffed mainly by volunteers.

Museum Curator Gary Yarrington told the group's final luncheon session about the forthcoming World War II exhibit. (See page 12.)



Elderhostelers hear reminiscences from former LBJ staffers George Christian, Liz Carpenter, Harry Middleton and Walt Rostow.



U.T. Professor Lew Gould gave an historian's view of the Johnson Presidency.



Eleanor Butt Crook, wife of former U.S. Ambassador to Australia, William H. Crook, related the experiences of an ambassador's lady.



# President's 83rd Birth Date Observed

LBJ's birthday was commemorated in three places this year with refreshments, speeches and wreath-laying ceremonies. The 36th President would have been 83 on August 27.

At the LBJ Ranch, Tom Johnson, accompanied by Colonel Charles Harr, Commander of Bergstrom Air Force Base in Austin, laid the traditional wreath at the President's graveside. Johnson, President of Cable News Network and Chairman of the LBJ Foundation Board of Directors, was special assistant to the President and assistant press secretary during the Johnson Administration.



Photo By Morris Semiatin

At the LBJ Grove in Washington, D.C., long-time friend Dale Miller, in the tradition of LBJ-style raconteurs, told a story about a flood of the Pedernales one week-end when he and his wife Scooter and then Governor and Mrs. Price Daniel were visiting the LBJ Ranch in the 1950's. Johnson routed everyone out of bed at 3 a.m. to rescue endangered drainage pipes and rescue stranded neighbors. He got one elderly woman out of her "ramshackle" house and into his helicopter in advance of the flood-

waters—but at the cost of a bite on the leg from the woman's frenzied dog. Back at the ranch, Miller recalled, Johnson was "pacing up and down, limping every now and then when he remembered to. Finally I saw him pause, with a look of grim determination on his face, and then he bolted out the door. I did not need to be told what his final mission was. I knew him well, and knew exactly where he was bound, and what he was going to do. He had gone back to get the dog."

At the LBJ Library, docents served coffee, birthday cake and punch for the Library visitors.





# Mr. Gillette Goes to Washington



Michael L. Gillette, who since 1976 was Chief of Acquisitions and Oral History at the Library, has been appointed to head the National Archives and Records Administration Center for Legislative Archives in Washington, D.C.

Gillette, whom Dr. Don Wilson, Archivist of the United States, called "well prepared" to take over the new operation, was also the chief organizer of the Library's History of the Congress Committee, a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Encyclopedia of the Congress project, and is a member of the Presidential Studies Group.



In October, William F. Simons, a consultant on Internal Security Policy to the Rand Corporation of Washington, D.C. became the 5,000th researcher to come to the Library to use its collection since the Library opened its first paper in 1973.

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The LBJ Library is one of nine presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration.



## COMING EVENTS

Museum exhibit specialist Pat Partridge puts the finishing touch on an item to be included in the Library's special World War II exhibition, scheduled to open in Austin on April 21, 1992.

### Also on the Calendar:

- An evening with Dr. Henry Dietz from the U.T. Department of Government who will do his impersonation of Sherlock Holmes on December 10, 1991
- An Evening with Verne Newton, Director of the FDR Presidential Library on February 4, 1992, author of the recently published book, *The Cambridge Spies*.
- An Evening with William Marshall, actor impersonating Frederick Douglas scheduled for February 20, 1992
- Exhibition—Books of the Presidents: William and Eleanor Crook Collection, January 11-March 8, 1992.
- Exhibition: The Paintings of Jim Wider, January 25-March 22, 1992

