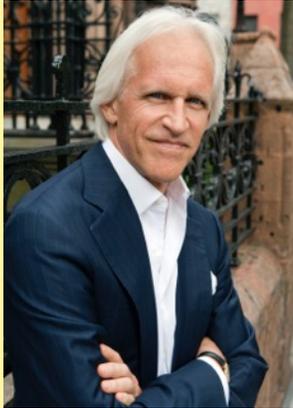




## OUR WORK CONTINUES!



*On October 20, 2015, I announced to some 2,500 people attending my presentation at SMU's Tate Lecture Series that the Monuments Men Foundation would "begin ceasing operations due to lack of funding." This painful moment had heightened emotion coming just thirty-six hours before the Monuments Men and Women would receive the Congressional Gold Medal. Much to my surprise, a person of good will*

*emerged from the audience and expressed a commitment to see the Foundation's work continue. In the weeks that followed, this person, who wishes to remain anonymous, made a substantial gift to the Foundation that allowed us to continue our work well into 2016, albeit with a reduced staff, and with the objective of identifying a partner institution to help us fulfill the third and final part our mission. We are enormously grateful to this person for their act of vision and generosity.*

*We had intended to send this newsletter in the days that followed the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony, however in light of my announcement we had already begun cutting back and putting various work on hold. I am delighted that we are now able to provide our thousands of supporters with this news, and other related activities of the Foundation and its team, even dated as it is. As you will read, the Foundation has made substantial progress on various fronts completing a number of existing projects. Our work continues.*

*When the Foundation came into being on June 6, 2007, it had three primary objectives: raise worldwide awareness of the*

See Last Page

### THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS HONORS THE MONUMENTS MEN

On Thursday, October 22, 2015, the United States Congress presented the Monuments Men and Women, of all fourteen nations, with the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the United States. George Washington received the first medal. (A partial list of recipients follows.) The rigorous review and approval



process required two-thirds consent of both houses of Congress. The Monuments Men Foundation spent nine years to ensure that these heroes of civilization received this great award. Following President Obama's signature marking formal passage of this bill in June 2014, the Foundation worked with officials from the U.S. Mint and their

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# FIVE PAINTINGS RETURN HOME

The Monuments Men Foundation continues its work to further the mission of the Monuments Men by locating and returning works of art and other cultural items to their rightful owners. On June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 the Foundation presided over the return of five paintings to their respective homes: three to the Anhalt Picture Gallery in the central German city of Dessau-Rosslau and two to the Hessian House Foundation in Kronberg near Frankfurt.

The Mayor of Dessau-Rosslau, Mr. Kuras, greeted the Foundation's Founder and Chairman, Robert M. Edsel, at city hall, where he was invited to sign the Golden Visitor's Book honoring this remarkable occasion. "Today is an incredibly important day for the city," Mayor Kuras said at the official handover ceremony in the Orangerie of Georgium Castle, home of the Anhalt Picture Gallery. "The return of these paintings seventy years after the end of the war has a high symbolic value that reaches far beyond the cultural value of the paintings themselves. In addition the return has a political and deeply human component".

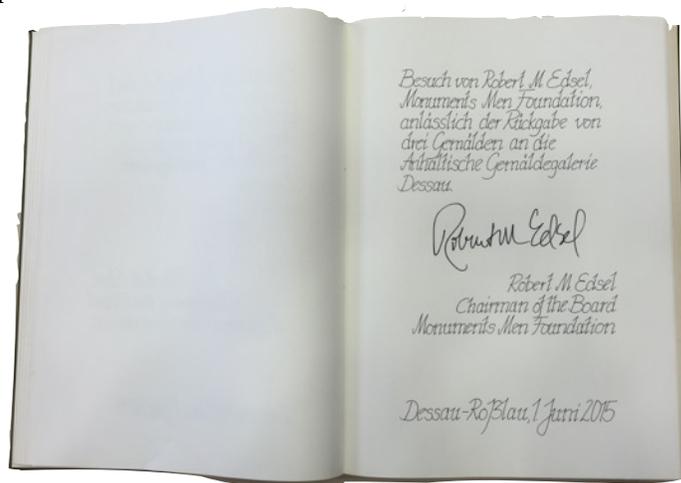
Mr. Stephan Dorgerloh, Minister of Culture of the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt remarked: "The return of those three paintings which were missing for seventy years is a little miracle and a very fortunate circumstance for the city of Dessau and the State. With this return a special part of the cultural heritage of Dessau can be restored to its original site. This is all the more significant as cultural heritage carries a great identity-generating effect for all people and nations. This return is therefore highly significant."

Mr. Edsel thanked the Mayor for his generous welcome, and stated in German: "On behalf of the Monuments Men Foundation, and the veterans' families who contacted us seeking only to honor the memories of their loved ones, we are pleased to join with the citizens of



*As the crate was opened, Robert M. Edsel slipped on white gloves and carefully took out each painting for view by the large gathering of officials and members of the media. Below: The Golden Visitor's Book, Dessau City Hall.*

Dessau in welcoming these three cherished paintings home."



For seventy years, the paintings had been in the possession of U.S. Army Major William Oftebro, whose tank unit had guarded paintings in a salt mine in Bernburg in May 1945. Years later, Oftebro stated that he won both paintings in a poker game. After his death the paintings passed to his wife and her son, who worked with the Foundation to ascertain their ownership and ultimately their return to the museum in Dessau,

Germany.

The paintings, by Frans Francken III, Christian Wilhelm Ernst and Franz de Paula Ferg, and their frames, were in such outstanding condition. Margit Schermuck-Ziesché, curator of the Picture Gallery expressed her astonishment stating tearfully, "Today is a very happy day for us all." After the ceremony, the paintings were placed on public view at the Orangerie of Georgium Castle.

The return of the other two paintings took place the following day at Schlosshotel Kronberg, a castle near Frankfurt. Empress Frederick, the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria of England and widow of Emperor



HRH Donatus Landgrave of Hesse with Robert M. Edsel, Kronberg Castle, Germany. Right: Article in the Frankfurter Allgemeine

Frederick of Germany, built the original castle, known then as Schloss Friedrichshof, and lived there until her death in 1901. Both paintings were part of her extensive collection, much of which disappeared in the months following the end of the war.

Having assumed for more than seventy years that these paintings were forever lost, the descendants of the Hessian Princes and Grand Dukes were understandably astonished at their appearance. One of the paintings, known as the “triple portrait,” depicted King Charles I; the other, a portrait of Queen Victoria holding Crown Princess Victoria (later Empress Frederick), is painted in the style of a Madonna and child.

HRH Donatus Landgrave of Hesse, head of the family and managing director of the Hessian House Foundation, welcomed members of the press in the Green Salon, the former music room of the Empress. He thanked Robert M. Edsel and the Monuments Men Foundation and spoke of this return as a “shining and ethical example of how spoils of war can be handed back even 70 years after the war”. He also gave thanks to the Holland family, who turned over custody of both paintings to the Foundation for return to their rightful owners. Mike and Bert Holland discovered the two small-format paintings in the safety-deposit box of their deceased aunt, who purchased the paintings during her military service after war’s end.



Edsel commented that, “a theft is theft, no matter how many years went by,” and emphasized that “the return to the rightful owners is not only an important sign that you can do the right thing in a sometimes cynical world, but also a contribution to healing the wounds of history. It is important to draw

lessons from the past - for our present.”

Dr. Mark Miller, director of Museum Schloss Fasanerie, near Fulda, Germany, announced at the press conference that the paintings would be part of a special exhibition at Fasanerie from June to November 2015 before being placed on permanent display in Empress Frederick’s bedroom at the Schlosshotel, which is open for guided tours.

**DO YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT  
CULTURAL OBJECT IN YOUR ATTIC?  
CALL 1-866-WWII-ART (1-866-9944-278)**

# FOUNDATION DISCOVERS ANOTHER LIVING MONUMENTS WOMAN

Earlier this year, a Monuments Woman walked through the door of our office in Dallas. At first glance small and quiet, Motoko Huthwaite's confident gait and luminous smile soon revealed the heart and soul of a teenager. Immediately setting to work, she covered our tables with photos, papers, and books detailing moments from her life. For a few days, everything else in the office stopped as we listened to her story.

We had discovered Motoko a few months prior during early preparations for the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony. She is on our list of known Monuments Men and Women under her maiden name, Motoko Fujishiro. After much determination, we found a widowed woman of that name living in a suburb of Detroit. Not only was she still alive, she was very active speaking at her church and participating in anti-war



*Motoko Fujishiro Huthwaite and the Foundation staff during her visit to Dallas. Below: Motoko next to a friend's jeep (Motoko Fujishiro Huthwaite Collection)*

demonstrations. Little did we know the treasure we had uncovered!

Motoko's remarkable story begins at Harvard University, where her father was a professor of dentistry. She frequently took walks across Harvard Yard with her mother, the host of social gatherings at their Cambridge home attended by prominent Japanese cultural figures as well as family friend and future Monuments Man, Langdon Warner.

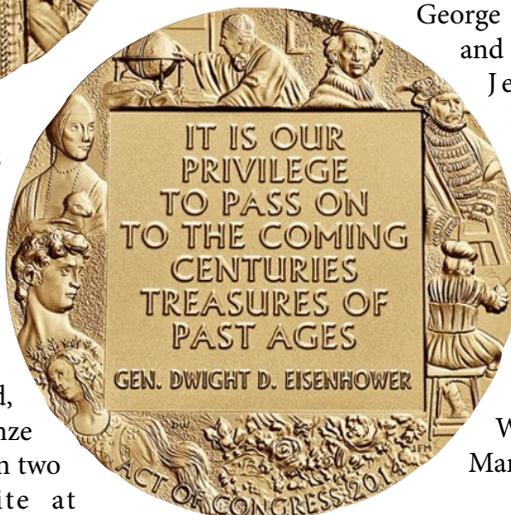
Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the consequent discrimination that took place targeting Japanese-Americans, her parents made the difficult decision to relocate the family to Japan. In the months that followed, Motoko witnessed some of the greatest horrors of war. She was only seventeen when the U.S. dropped 2,000 tons of incendiary bombs on Tokyo, running out into the street to throw buckets of water on the flames. The atomic bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki instilled the dread that Tokyo may be next. Still, many of the memories she has shared with us thus far are happy, including her time as a clerk typist with the Arts and Monuments division in Tokyo, where she befriended Monuments Men George Stout, Walter Popham, and Charles Gallagher.



Continued from Page 1

outstanding team of artists on the design of the gold medal. The outcome is spectacular!

The Speaker of the House, Congressman John Boehner, served as the Master of Ceremony for the event. Other speakers included Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader Senator Harry Reid; Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Monuments Man Harry Ettlinger, and Robert M. Edsel, Founder and Chairman of the Foundation. Many members of Congress attended along with the Ambassadors or *Chargé d'Affaires* of all fourteen nations that were represented. More than 200 family members of Monuments Men past attended, coming from some eleven different nations. Bronze duplicates of the medal are available for purchase in two sizes on the United States Mint website at



[mintnewsblog.com/2015/10/monuments-men-bronze-medals/](http://mintnewsblog.com/2015/10/monuments-men-bronze-medals/)

A partial list of past recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal includes:

Former United States Presidents Harry S. Truman, Gerald Ford, and Ronald Reagan; pioneers/explorers the Wright Brothers, Thomas Edison, Walt Disney, and Neil Armstrong; military figures and groups Generals Ulysses S. Grant, George C. Marshall, and Douglas MacArthur; the Tuskegee Airmen, and the Doolittle Raiders; celebrities Bob Hope, John Wayne; Sir Winston Churchill; artists/musicians George Gershwin, Robert Frost, and Andrew Wyeth; athletes Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, and Jack Nicklaus; religious figures Pope John Paul II, Rev. Billy Graham, Mother Teresa, and the Dalai Lama; and human rights leaders Dr. Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy, Elie Wiesel, and Nelson Mandela.



Robert Edsel presents Lennox Tierney with an American flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol

## DEPARTED HEROES

On June 12, 2015 Monuments Man Lennox Tierney passed away, age 101. Fluent in Japanese, and a greater scholar of Asian art, Tierney was assigned to General MacArthur's occupation headquarters as Commissioner of Arts and Monuments following the end of the war. In this role, he advised General MacArthur on all topics regarding arts, monuments, and culture, in particular the restoration of damaged cultural sites. He also photographed cultural sites, compiled reports, and served as translator to General MacArthur and his staff as needed. Tierney often worked independently at Occupation Headquarters liaising directly with other Monuments Men including Langdon Warner, Laurence Sickman, and Sherman Lee. He served in this position until 1952,

but remained in Japan thereafter to continue his studies of Japanese arts.

Lennox had a very long and distinguished career as a teacher sharing his lifelong knowledge and love of Japan and its cultural history with others. When Robert Edsel met Lennox last year in Salt Lake City, he was finalizing arrangements for what would be his last of many trips to Japan to share his affection for the country with students and scholars. Edsel marveled at his energy, drive, and enthusiasm. He will be missed!

# INTRODUCING THE MONUMENTS MEN TO 日本

The worldwide release of George Clooney's film, *The Monuments Men*, began in New York City in February 2014 and then spread to other countries around the world over the course of the year. An issue with the film distributor in Japan delayed the release of the film until October 2015. Because the actors' schedules were jammed with prior commitments, Robert Edsel was asked to visit Tokyo and introduce the story of the *Monuments Men and Women* to the Japanese media.

Edsel participated in more than twenty interviews with Japan's most prominent print and electronic news outlets including NHK, the country's largest broadcaster. He was also a guest on one of the most



*One of some twenty plus interviews, several of which involved high school and university students.*



*On the set of "The Most Useful School in the World."*

popular programs in the country, *The Most Useful School in the World*, which takes a fun approach to the telling of history to reach the broadest possible audience. Former Vice-President Al Gore was just one of many previous high-profile guests. It was a great forum to explain what the *Monuments Men* did in Europe and share details about their activities in Japan and other Asian nations.

The *Monuments Men in the Pacific* served with the Arts and Monuments Division of the Civil Information and Education Section under the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP). Based in Tokyo, *Monuments Men* George L. Stout, Walter Popham, Sherman Lee, Laurence Sickman, and others worked tirelessly to ensure the safety of art and monuments in Japan, China, and Korea. In addition to conducting inspections of temples, monuments, national parks, and museums, the

*Monuments Men* worked closely with officials of the Japanese Ministry of Education. They also facilitated and encouraged the display of Japanese art, organizing numerous exhibitions which had an influential role in jumpstarting postwar cultural activities in Japan and other Asian countries.

Few people in Japan knew about the *Monuments Men and Women*. In fact, several of those who provided great assistance to *Monuments Officer* George Stout and his colleagues once they set up operations in Tokyo were Japanese citizens who had attended college in the United States between the wars. One of those who helped the *Monuments Men*---George Stout in particular---was a very young Motoko Fujishiro, who the Foundation team recently located and interviewed! (For more on Motoko, please turn to page 4.)

The Foundation is continuing its research on those who served in Japan hoping to locate other living *Monuments officers* or their family members. If you have any related information please write us at [info@monumentsmenfoundation.org](mailto:info@monumentsmenfoundation.org).

# MEMORABLE WEEKEND IN FORT MEADE WITH THE 352ND CIVIL AFFAIRS COMMAND

*By Robert M. Edsel*

I've had many memorable experiences during the past thirteen years researching and writing about the Monuments Men and Women, but few compare to my trip to Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, to spend time with the 352nd Civil Affairs Command on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. Civil Affairs soldiers are doing remarkable work in conflict zones all over the world, in particular those with the 352nd, ranging from rescue missions like the one that followed the earthquake in Haiti, to protecting cultural property and other important monuments in Iraq and Afghanistan war zones. Deployment of these volunteers to troubled spots around the world is increasing in frequency and duration to meet the ever-growing needs. Their professionalism and commitment to mission redefine bravery and service to others. It was an honor for me to meet so many of them and listen to some of the challenges they must overcome.



Brigadier General Alan Stolte, Commanding General of the 352nd, and Command Sergeant Major Earl Rocca, both distinguished combat veterans, kindly included me in one of their mid-day briefings before allowing me time to give a

presentation addressing General Eisenhower's leadership role in the preservation of works of art and monuments during World War II. I also had a chance to discuss the experiences of the Monuments Men during World War II—both what worked, and what didn't, and how we can learn from those experiences to do a better job protecting cultural property in conflict zones today. It's amazing how life comes full circle: just that morning, I had a wonderful tour of the Fort George G. Meade Museum by its director, Robert Johnson, where I saw numerous photographs of a very young Dwight D. Eisenhower and George S. Patton taken in the 1920's during their assignment to Fort Meade.



*Edsel provides a briefing on the Monuments Men to the commanders and officers of the 352nd Civil Affairs Command.*

The role of those serving in the Army Reserve is greatly misunderstood by the general public. Far from being weekend soldiers, these men and women are often on extended missions that place them in harm's way alongside active duty soldiers. Like the Monuments Men and Women of World War II, those serving in the 352nd Civil Affairs Command often find themselves in operational deployments that take them into war zones including Panama (1989), Desert Shield (1990), Desert Storm (Iraq and Kuwait-1991), Somalia (1993), and Bosnia (1996). They have been in continuous service post-9/11 with multiple tours of duty in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Horn of Africa. Sadly, sixteen soldiers who served in the 352nd Civil Affairs Command have been killed in action since 2003.

The Foundation is continuing to further its ties to today's military in furtherance of our mission to put the legacy of those who served culture and the arts so faithfully during World War II to its fullest and best use. Sergeant Major Rocca underscored the importance of this aspect of our mission writing: "Messages like yours are important...the Foundation possesses the historical knowledge that does not transcend into military doctrine, manuals, and regulations. Through the Foundation, we can learn from our predecessor's experiences, triumphs, and mistakes."

*REESTABLISHING THE STANDARDS*

## Help Us Complete the Mission of the Monuments Men

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I would like to make a gift to the Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art:

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*If this donation is given in someone's honor or for a special occasion, please include that information and we will be pleased to send an acknowledgement card or letter.*  
The Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art is an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization and charitable donations are tax-deductible as applicable by law.

Continued from Page 1

*Monuments Men and Women, honor them for their military service, and put their rich legacy to its highest and best use. My three books on the subject, and the George Clooney film, The Monuments Men, have accomplished the first objective. The Congressional Gold Medal, our nation's highest honor, certainly satisfies the second objective.*

*It is the third objective---putting their legacy to its highest and best use---that now consumes our time. We continue to receive tips about missing cultural objects on our 1-866-WWII-ART toll-free tip line. The Foundation has a number of such items in its office in various stages of research, just some of the hundreds of thousands still missing objects from World War II. Our years-long effort to assemble biographies on all the Monuments Men and Women will be completed by the end of September with the posting of all 350 or so Monuments Men and Women biographies on the Foundation website. We are also increasing our interaction with today's military leaders to ensure that they have all the information about their predecessors and their work to complete their mission. (To learn more about the work of the 352nd Civil Affairs Command, please see page 7.) But our focus remains concentrated on identifying the right partner institution to broaden the teaching component of our mission and serve as a permanent home to those assets that will not be a part of the National World War II Museum permanent exhibition on the Monuments Men, and other related exhibitions in various stages of planning.*

*The Foundation depends on the support of the public to complete this important work. If you have an interest in becoming a lead donor to the Foundation or serving as a Trustee, please contact me at [redsel@monumentsmenfoundation.org](mailto:redsel@monumentsmenfoundation.org). We would love to hear from you.*



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# “DARE TO DREAM BIG...”

## THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY

OCTOBER 22, 2015



*Master of Ceremonies John Boehner, on his last day as Speaker of the House of Representatives.*



*Honoree Monuments Man Harry Ettlinger (above); Monuments Men Foundation Chairman Robert M. Edsel addresses the audience (below)*



*Monuments Men Foundation Chairman Edsel; Congresswoman Kay Granger; and Monuments Men and Women Richard Barancik, Harry Ettlinger, Motoko Fujishiro Huthwaithe, and Bernie Taper (left); The reverse side of the Congressional Gold Medal (right)*



*Members of Congress John Boehner, Mitch McConnell, Harry Reid, and Nancy Pelosi with the four honorees*



*Monuments Man Harry Ettlinger spoke on behalf of all Monuments Men in accepting the Congressional Gold Medal*



*A jubilant Harry Ettlinger*



*Ettlinger and Senator Mitch McConnell*



*Honoree Motoko Huthwaithe and her relative, James Gehrke.*



*Monuments Men Foundation Chairman Edsel and his wife, Anna*



*From left to right, top to bottom:*

*Honoree Bernie Taper and his wife Gwen Head; Edsel with all four honorees; Honoree Motoko Huthwithe; Honoree Richard Barancik and his family; Edsel and Gen. Carl Reddel (Ret.), Executive Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission; Edsel and Jim Huchthausen, nephew to Monuments Man Walter Huchthausen; and Edsel and Monuments Men Foundation supporter Mrs. Bobbie Cates Hicks.*



*From left to right, top to bottom:*

*Edsel with Congresswoman Kay Granger, who worked tirelessly to see that the key legislation awarding the Monuments Men and Women obtained the needed majority for passage in both Houses of Congress; Edsel and Stephen Watson, Executive Vice-President of the National World War II Museum in New Orleans; Honoree Harry Ettlinger and Lauren Stout, granddaughter of Monuments Man George Stout; Edsel and MMF former Executive Director Christy Fox, who spent more than seven years committed to seeing the Monuments Men and Women honored; the end of a beautiful day in Washington, D.C.!*

