



The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves, and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History

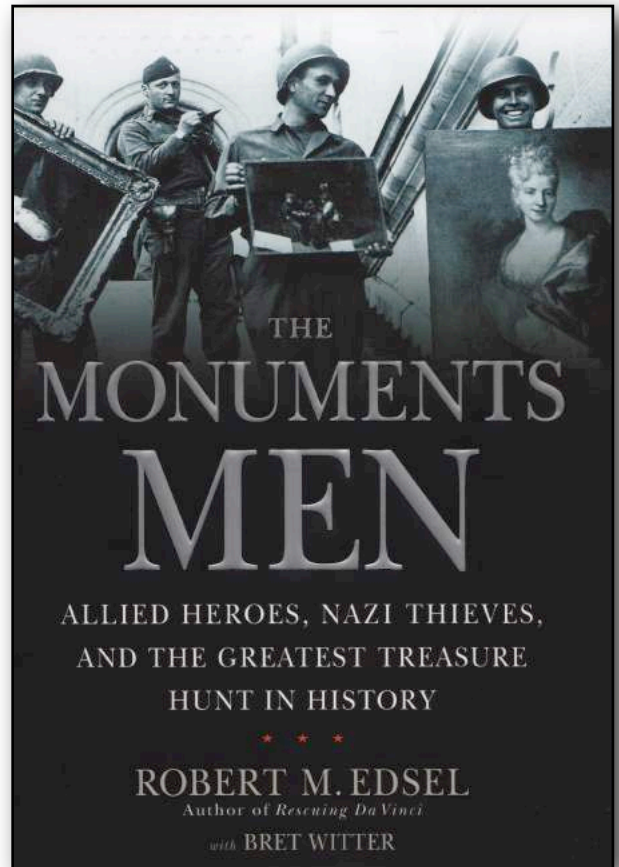
Most of us are aware that World War II was the most destructive war in history. We know of the horrific loss of life; we've seen images of the devastated European cities. Yet how many among us have walked through a majestic museum such as the Louvre, enjoyed the solitude of a towering cathedral such as Chartres, or gazed upon a sublime painting such as Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper*, and wondered, *How did so many monuments and great works of art survive this war? Who were the people that saved them?*

The major events of World War II—Pearl Harbor, D-Day, the Battle of the Bulge—have become as much a part of our collective conscience as the names of the books and films—*Band of Brothers*, *The Greatest Generation*, *Saving Private Ryan*, *Schindler's List*—and the writers, directors, and actors—Ambrose, Brokaw, Spielberg, Hanks—who brought these epic events and the heroism of that time to life for us once again.

But what if I told you there was a major story about World War II that hasn't been told, a significant story at the heart of the entire war effort, involving the most unlikely group you've never heard of? What if I told you there was a group of men on the front lines who quite literally saved the world as we know it; a group who didn't carry machine guns or drive tanks, who weren't official statesmen; men who not only had the vision to understand the grave threat to the greatest cultural and artistic achievements of civilization but then joined the front lines to do something about it?

After many years of research in six countries, and interviews with almost fifty key figures, my dream of telling the story of these heroes of civilization known as the Monuments Men has now become a reality. The book made its debut in the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand on August 20, and will be available in the United States and Canada on September 3. In the coming months it will be published in fifteen other languages plus an audio book.

The only way for the legacy of the Monuments Men to be preserved for future generations is for their story to become popularly known. For that reason we went to extraordinary lengths to locate their never before seen letters home to loved ones during combat. Their passion for their mission - and their concerns - are moving and compelling accounts. I know you'll be fascinated by their sacrifice and courage. Please help us share this remarkable story with others by encouraging them to read *The Monuments Men*.



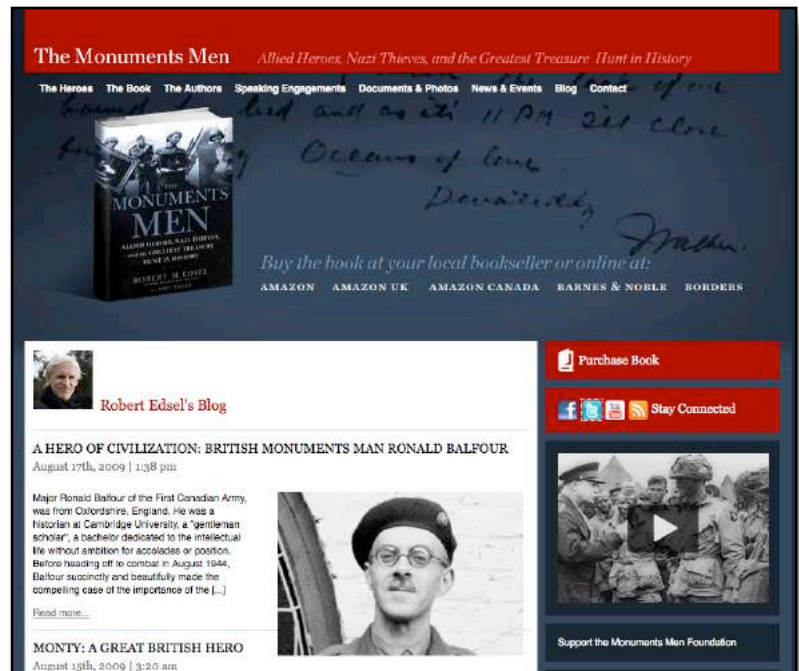


Welcome to our New Website:

www.monumentsmen.com

This new website houses all of our activities and ongoing work under one site. It also includes my daily blog which I have resumed now that the writing of *The Monuments Men* is finished, and information about my speaking engagements. For readers of *The Monuments Men* who want to know more about the story, we have included additional never before seen letters from the Monuments Men, key Nazi documents, and photographs.

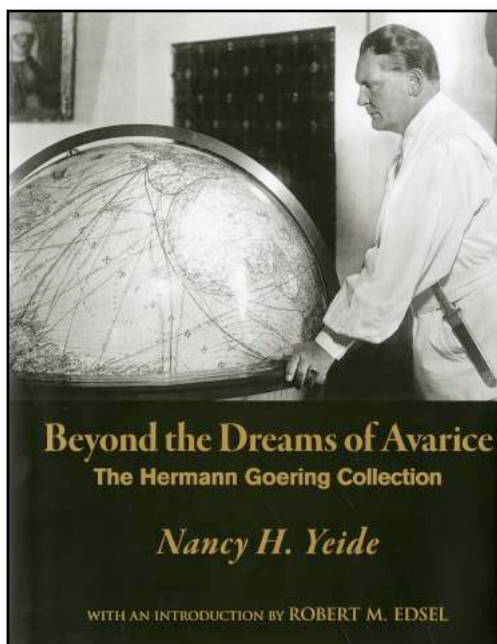
My blog is now interactive: we want to hear from visitors and readers, especially about their connections to this exciting story. Technology is providing us so many new ways to involve others and encourage them to help us in writing the final chapter to this unfinished saga of World War II. For that reason we've also created a Facebook fan page and Twitter page. I write "tweets" at least daily and often post photographs of my travels and research...and sometimes something I find funny or amusing. Please check them out!



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Robert-Edsel/130960233032>



<http://twitter.com/RobertEdsel>



Beyond the Dreams of Avarice

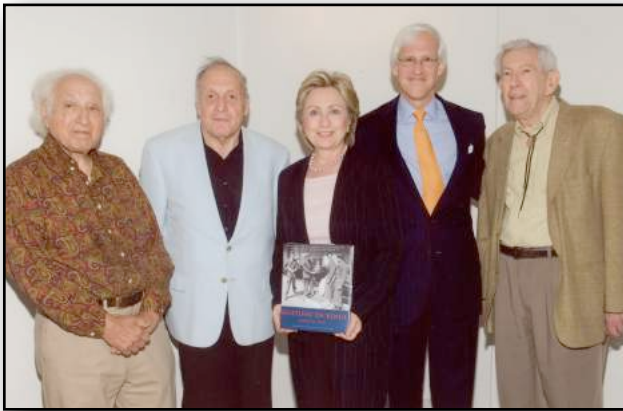
I'm very pleased to announce Laurel Publishing, LLC's newest publication: *Beyond the Dreams of Avarice: The Hermann Goering Collection*, by Nancy Yeide. Nancy is a noted scholar and the pre-eminent expert on Hermann Goering and his enormous art collection.

Nazi Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering amassed both political power and the largest private art collection in Europe. As commander of the German Luftwaffe and second only to Hitler in the ranks of the Nazi party, Goering used his power to loot artistic treasures from across occupied Europe for his personal enjoyment. This unique book is the first opportunity to view the collection as a whole and examine its place in history.

Beyond the Dreams of Avarice is now available exclusively at www.goeringart.com or by calling Laurel Publishing, LLC at 866-WWII-ART (866-994-4278).



A Look Back at Two Years of Progress...



June 5, 2007

Senator Hillary Clinton took time out of her busy schedule to meet with Robert Edsel and Monuments Men Bernie Taper, Harry Ettlinger, and Horace Apgar at her office in Washington, D.C. Senator Clinton was delighted to receive a copy of *Rescuing Da Vinci* on behalf of her husband, former President Bill Clinton.



June 6, 2007

A ceremony at the Senate marked the passage of Congressional Resolutions in both houses honoring the Monuments Men and their work. Pictured from left to right: Monuments Men Bernie Taper, James Reeds, Harry Ettlinger, and Horace Apgar, Representatives Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and Kay Granger (R-TX), Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), and Robert Edsel.



November 1, 2007

Chief Archivist of the United States, Professor Allen Weinstein, and Robert Edsel stand before one of the two "Hitler Albums" that was donated to the National Archives by the Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art.



November 15, 2007

The Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art received the 2007 National Humanities Medal. President George W. Bush greeted Robert Edsel and Monuments Men James Reeds, Seymour Pomrenze, Harry Ettlinger, and Horace Apgar in the East Room of the White House.
(Eric Draper, White House)



...and Memories!



April 16, 2008

Picturing America debuted in Dallas. This innovative program, largely underwritten by the NEH, delivered teaching materials and forty images to each approved applicant at no cost, an immense help to schools during these difficult financial times. Robert Edsel and NEH Chairman Dr. Bruce Cole were at the Nasher Sculpture Center to kick off the program.



November 9, 2008

On the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht, Robert Edsel was honored by the Dallas Holocaust Museum and Center for Education and Tolerance with its Hope for Humanity award. Robert was presented with a *shofar* (a ram's horn), which signifies a special way of calling, a way of bringing attention to an important message.



First Lady Laura Bush and Robert Edsel at the White House in February 2008 for the formal announcement of the NEH *Picturing America* program.



The Greatest Theft in History Educational Program premiered in December 2008. To find out more about this unique program, please visit www.greatesttheft.com.



Authors Julie Andrews and Robert Edsel at the Hachette Sales Conference in March 2009.



Monuments Man Richard Barancik honored for his service in the MFAA

It was an honor to travel to Chicago in April to lecture at the esteemed Art Institute of Chicago. However, the highlight of the evening was the presentation to Monuments Man Richard Barancik of his Congressional flag and copy of the Congressional Resolution honoring the Monuments Men. It was a poignant moment when special guest Monuments Man Harry Ettlinger joined us on stage to participate in the presentation ceremony. To learn more about Richard Barancik and his service as a Monuments Man, please see his biography on our website at <http://monumentsmen.com/bio.php?id=12>.



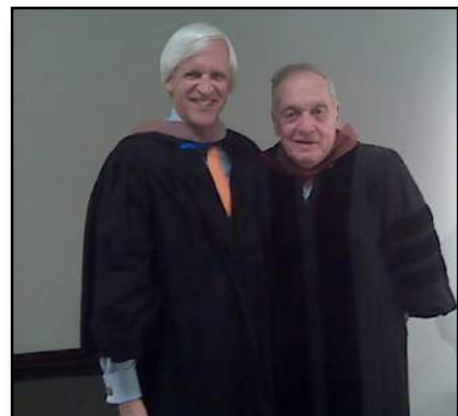
Monuments Man Harry Ettlinger, Robert Edsel, and Monuments Man Richard Barancik at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Massachusetts College of Art and Design awards the Monuments Men Foundation an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Fine Arts



On May 22, I delivered the commencement address at Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston to an audience of about 1,000 people. The Monuments Men Foundation, and the men and women of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section, then received an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts degree. Monuments Man Harry Ettlinger accompanied me and represented all the Monuments Men and women who couldn't join us in Boston for this truly special occasion. Tears were flowing when the graduates of this prestigious school - all aspiring

artists and art educators - rose to give a lengthy standing ovation at the end of my commencement remarks. Appropriately, this all took place in a grassy park which was in the shadow of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum where Monuments Man George Stout, hero among heroes, once served as director.



Robert Edsel and Harry Ettlinger after the commencement ceremony.



Monuments Men Ken Lindsay

1919-2009



Monuments Man Ken Lindsay died on March 2, age 89. A distinguished veteran, outstanding educator of art and loving father and husband, Ken will be remembered most for his instrumental role in the recovery and return of tens of thousands of works of art stolen by the Nazis during World War II. He watched over some of the world's greatest cultural treasures from his post-war position at the Wiesbaden Collecting Point, including the ancient wonder, *Bust of Queen Nefertiti* and Manet's *In the Conservatory*. Ken was not just an eyewitness to one of the most fascinating periods in history, he was also a key participant...the end of World War II, post-war Munich, the Nuremberg trials, and of course as a Monuments Men at Wiesbaden. He loved to share his experiences with others, and was one of the greatest story tellers I've known. His manner of speech, elocution, and facial expressions made any story riveting. These great men and women of the MFAA section performed a service to civilization that will stand forever as the greatest demonstration of love of the arts and selfless sacrifice in their protection. Time spent in their company is an experience to treasure. We will miss Ken — his great humor, wisdom and positive attitude — so much.

Comments... *The Rape of Europa* has been nominated for two Emmy Awards for Outstanding Historical Programming: Long Form, and Outstanding Individual Achievement in a Craft (Research). The 30th Annual News and Documentary Emmy Awards will be presented on September 21 in New York City.

On April 4, the Monuments Men Foundation hosted a teacher workshop at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, made possible by a Chairman's Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. More than 50 educators attended. More details and photos will be provided in our next newsletter...

...and Thanks! No one writes a book of any magnitude, much less one as complicated and detailed as *The Monuments Men*, without the assistance of key people. Special thanks is due to our team at Hachette and Center Street, in particular my editor Michelle Rapkin, as well as Rolf Zettersen, Harry Helm, Bob Castillo, Pamela Clements, Jana Burson, Preston Cannon, Christine Barba, Chris Murphy, Gina Wynn, and Jody Waldrup. My team at Foundry Literary and Media - Peter McGuigan, Stéphanie Abou, and Hannah Gordon - have been invaluable. Without the dedicated work of Michael Friedman, Christy Fox, Elizabeth Ivy Hudson, and Dorothee Schneider there would be no book. Finally, Bret Witter has made an important contribution to ensure that the story of the Monuments Men - and their legacy - is preserved for all time.

ROBERT M. EDSSEL SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND BOOK SIGNINGS

Legacy Books	Plano, Texas	September 15, 2009
World War II Museum	New Orleans, Louisiana	September 19, 2009
Barnes & Noble	Dallas, Texas	September 29, 2009
Speed Art Museum	Louisville, Kentucky	November 20, 2009
Southern Methodist University	Dallas, Texas	November 23, 2009
National Gallery of Art	Washington, D.C.	January 17, 2010
Palm Beach Country Club	Palm Beach, Florida	February 12, 2010

To subscribe to the *Monuments Men Newsletter*, or to provide us with comments, please contact Elizabeth Ivy Hudson: ehudson@laurelpublishingllc.com.
all photos courtesy of Robert M. Edsel collection unless otherwise noted.

© Laurel Publishing, LLC, 2009

PAGE 6