



THE ATLANTA WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE

PRESERVING HISTORY

INTERNET: <http://www.atlantawwiroundtable.org>

VOL. 28 No. 8

278th MEETING

Editor: John E. Kovach

Tel: (770) 928-4579

Contributor(s) To This
Newsletter

* Seymour (Sy) Goodman

* Herbert W. Benario

* Lee Weinstein / Marilyn Pahr

* Joe Jordan / Jay Lenny

* Bob Rivers / Carl Beck

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Commander – Lee Weinstein

Tel: 404-843-0779

Deputy Cmdr. - Marilyn Pahr

Tel: 404-888-0767

Adjutant: John Kovach

770-928-4579

Finance Officer: Jay Lenny

Tel: 770-638-7824

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Date: APRIL 17th, 2014 (THURSDAY) >> *Next Meeting MAY 15th*

Time: Social Half-Hour: **11:00 AM - 11:30 AM** > MEETING START
TIME 11:30 AM - Speaker Immediately Following Lunch

** PETITE AUBERGE RESTAURANT

2935 N. Druid Hills Road, Web Site: www.petiteauberge.com
Atlanta, Georgia 30329 (Restaurant Phone: 404-634-6268)

Price: \$ 15.00 Per Plate ** NO RESERVATION REQUIRED **

Speaker: Seymour (Sy) Goodman

Subject: "*Radar – From Pearl Harbor To Nagasaki – Technology That Helped Win WWII*"

Mission Statement

We, who by our own actions, and by our heritage, know that liberty has not, is not, nor ever will be free, do in association with our friends and comrades, who believe as we do, pledge that we will meet at the call of our Commander no less than ten times a year:

* To hear of the war experiences of our members and invited guests

* To encourage and demonstrate pride in our country and its armed forces

* To pass on to posterity our knowledge of World War II, and of the price - human and material - that was paid by our nation for the preservation of liberty in the United States and the world

((Meeting Attendance For The March 20th Meeting: 116))

Speaker for APRIL 17th, 2014– Sy Goodman (To Be Introduced By Dep. Cdr. Marilyn Pahr)

The Atlanta WW II Round Table's APRIL 17th, 2014 (THURSDAY) meeting will feature Professor Seymour (Sy) Goodman, Professor of International Affairs and Computing at The Sam Nun School and The College of Computing at Georgia Tech as our speaker. The Professor will address the Round Table on how radar helped win WW II for the U.S. and the Allies in the major theaters.

Professor Goodman will elaborate on how radar in its many forms, from the first day of combat at Pearl Harbor to the last day, when the Atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, played such a vital role in naval and air operations during the war.

Early versions of radar like RDF helped the Royal Air Force defend against attacks during the *Battle of Britain* (1940). In the Pacific, Admirals Nimitz, Spruance and Fletcher would use the early-warning benefit of radar to be victorious in the *Battle of Midway* (1942) and one form of radar, weather radar, became so important that General Eisenhower depended on it to delay and then launch the D-Day landings on June 6th, 1944 in France.

Goodman plans to also illuminate for the Round Table the many extraordinary electronic devices and systems that were developed in a very short time starting in the 1930's. As war became imminent, scientists and engineers started working with government agencies to rush development of technical methods of detecting enemy ships and aircraft that had been studied at a much slower pace since the 1920's. Sy will help us understand that many of today's systems are still using basic techniques developed before and during WW II and the high-technologies developed as a result then ultimately led to today's TV broadcasting, satellite communications and cell phones.

Professor Goodman promises that his talk will not be technical and will readily be understood by all members of the Round Table. Sy is a academic who started his career as an aspiring freshman English major at Columbia and ended his student days working on problems of mathematical physics for his Ph.D. at Cal Tech. Before starting at Georgia Tech in 2000, he held various positions at The University of Virginia, Princeton University, The University of Chicago, The University of Arizona and Stanford University. He spent 20 years studying high-technology in the Warsaw Pact countries.

Please welcome Seymour (Sy) Goodman as our APRIL 17th, 2014 speaker (278th Meeting.)

Review Of MARCH 20th, 2014 Speaker-Professor Herbert William Benario (Introduced by Dep. Cdr. Marilyn Pahr)

The Round Table owes a debt of gratitude to our March, 2014 speaker, Professor Emeritus Herbert W. Benario. Herbert's March talk was the third to the Round Table; a Thank-You should also go out to Herbert's wife, Dr. Janice Benario who has spoken to the Round Table twice.

Professor Benario brought to our attention a little known incident of German butchery, which took place in Italy on March 23rd, 1944. The event became known as the *Ardeatine Caves Massacre*. The Professor masterfully laid-out the background to the event, detailing the Allied War Campaign starting with the defeat of Rommel by Montgomery in North Africa, then engaging the Germans in Sicily and Italy, in what Churchill referred to as the

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'soft-underbelly of Europe'. Churchill was proven dead-wrong about his 'soft-underbelly' thinking, as many of the Americans and British were to find out later in the fighting to take Salerno, Anzio, and in the *Battle of Monte Cassino*.

The Germans, although an early war ally of Italy under the Dictatorship of Benito Mussolini (*Il Duce*), soon began treating the Italians as a socially uncivilized people primarily after they occupied much of Southern Italy. The Italians eventually killed *Il Duce* with Pietro Badoglio then being appointed Prime Minister; Badoglio extricated Italy from World War II by arranging for an armistice with the Allies, which further infuriated Hitler and the Germans.

This animosity and bitterness on the part of the Italians led to a column of German Police, the SS Police Regiment Bozen, being ambushed by members of the Roman resistance on the Via Raselia in central Rome on March 23rd, 1944. The Germans swiftly exacted revenge on the Italians and slaughtered 335 men and boys at the *Ardeatine Caves* just outside of the City walls of Rome the very next day March 24th. The atrocity and slaughter shocked the Italians, including the Papacy; the Germans murdering 335 Italian prisoners and civilians. The victims comprised "rich, and poor, doctors and lawyers, workers and shopkeepers, artists and artisans, teachers and students, men and teen-aged boys from every walk of life, and even a man of God to walk among them. Political prisoners were also among those murdered.

After WW II, The *Ardeatine Caves* was declared a National Cemetery and National Monument by the Italian Government and is now open to the public daily. Three Catholic Popes have visited the site as well condemning the 1944 attack, although some critical of the Church claim that the *Vatican*, including *Pope Pius XII*, may have had advance knowledge of the Nazi orders but did little to forestall the German revenge, possibly fearing Nazi revenge on the *Vatican City* itself if Hitler suspected he was collaborating with the enemy.

Herbert did recommend a book to further understand the Italian culture and society and how it impacted their participation in WW II, a book he referred to as 'one of the great books coming out of WW II', *Christ Stopped At Eboli* by Carlo Levi. (*Perhaps a copy can be procured for the Lending Library*)

Thank you Professor Herbert W. (William) (*please keep the Professor's middle name confidential*) Benario for your third enlightening presentation, for your devotion to research, writing and preserving history, and for a job well done.

I am pleased to announce that we have two (2) new members who have joined us since the March 20th Meeting.

Historian and Author: Zellie Rainey Orr – You will recall that Zellie was our December 2013 speaker. She is well known in the WW II historical community as a celebrated author and researcher. Zellie's efforts on behalf of the Tuskegee Airmen lead to the dedication of Camp Creek Parkway, Tuskegee Airman Parkway.

Vietnam Veteran Edgar Lewis – Edgar served for 23 years on active duty as a Electronic Specialist, Fighter and Bomber Pilot. He flew over 200 combat missions in Vietnam.

Please welcome Zellie and Edgar as our newest members at the APRIL 17th, 2014 meeting.

SPECIAL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/OF SPECIAL INTEREST& UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> **(UPDATED) ALL FUTURE MEETINGS** – Effective immediately the side-door entry to the Petite Au Berge Restaurant will be inaccessible as a entry door. Because of Fire-Marshall regulations, the door will always remain available as a exit-door when you are in the Restaurant. Members, guests, and visitors are requested to only use the front-door entrance. The front door to the Petite is handicap and wheelchair friendly and will save our members some steps as well.

>>> **(NEW) APRIL 26-27, 2014 (SATURDAY-SUNDAY)** – ***Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Dixie Wing – The 11th Annual WW II Heritage Days*** event will take place this year on April 26-27th (Saturday-Sunday) at the Atlanta Regional Airport (Falcon Field) , 1200 Echo Court, Peachtree City, GA. The event is hosted by over 250 volunteers and attended by +2500 people. Tables are available at no cost to non-profits.

The CAF is also seeking your assistance in inviting WWII veterans and all Women of the Greatest Generation to attend the Opening Ceremony on Sat, April 26 at 1000. Additional details regarding the opening ceremony will be forthcoming. To register or for more info, visit www.wwiidays.org. You can also contact Chris Madrid, the Public Information Officer for the Dixie Wing at 770-655-3315.

>>> **(NEW) MAY 25th, 2014 (SUNDAY)** – ***Concourse Athletic Club – Memorial-Day Celebration “MEET THE VETERANS - HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED*** - On Sunday, 25 May 2014, from the hours of 1PM to 5 PM, the members of the Atlanta World War II Round Table, in cooperation with various veterans groups and supporters of the military, plan to commemorate *Memorial Day at the Concourse Athletic Club* in Atlanta in a ***MEET THE VETERANS*** event. Time is running short to be able to be able to exhibit at the event and any veteran of any war or conflict who would like to have a ***FREE*** table for the public to meet him or her needs to contact Commander Weinstein at 404-843-0779 or Finance Officer Lenny at 770-638-7824 asap to obtain a application form. The tables are ***FREE*** to those that apply. Commander Weinstein also would like veterans of Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan to attend to help *man-the-tables* and provide fatigue-relief when needed.

>>> **(NEW) – JULY 31st – AUGUST 3rd, 2014 (THURSDAY-SUNDAY)** - ***The 12th Armored Division Association of WW II*** veterans and families will conduct their 68th reunion/convention in Atlanta GA this July 31-August 3rd.2014.The host hotel will be the Westin /Airport. History exhibits staffed by 12th museum historians will include books and shirts. For more information contact Allan Dear dear5@earthlink.net or call 229 630 5682. For information about the museum in Abilene, Texas or the association www.12tharmoredmuseum.com

>>> **(UPDATED) UPCOMING SPEAKERS for - 2014** Program chairman Larry Robert has done a splendid job in lining up a wonderful list of speakers for the Atlanta WW II Round Table for our September through December 2013 meetings. The following speakers will be making a presentation to the Round Table in: January-June 2014: - **April 17th, 2014 – Seymour (Sy) Goodman (Radar)**; May 15th, 2014 – Bruce Gamble (Author of “*Target: Rabaul*”); June 19th, 2014 – Dave Smith (Chairman of *Honor Flights Conyers, GA.*) Please note that the speaker's engagements are subject to change. Thank you Larry Robert for you're continuing efforts to seek-out and engage excellent speakers for our meetings and for a job exceedingly well done.

Monthly Quote:

No one would have doubted his ability to reign had he never been emperor. It would be said later of his reign, the more corrupt the state, the more numerous the laws.

Tacitus (c. 55–c. 120), Roman historian (summary of the character of the Emperor Galba- *Servius Sulpicius Galba* (3 BC - AD 69))