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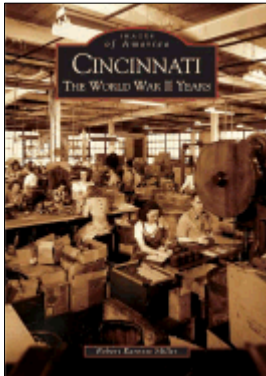
Phyllis Hegner
Assistant Manager
Phone (513) 369-4571
Fax (513) 369-4565
Phyllis.Hegner@
CincinnatiLibrary.org

Richard Helmes
Press Officer
Phone (513) 369-6959
Fax (513) 369-4565
Rick.Helmes@
CincinnatiLibrary.org

Press
Release

August 18, 2005

Delhi Branch Library Looking for a Few Good Veterans



Almost 60 years ago on September 2, 1945 on the deck of the battleship *U.S.S. Missouri*, representatives of the emperor of Japan surrendered to General Douglas MacArthur. Earlier in May of that year, the Germans surrendered in Europe. The greatest conflagration the world had ever known had come to an end.

The war had begun in August 1939 with Germany's attack on Poland. Germany, Italy and Japan had been honing their war-making skills for quite some time prior to that. The December 7, 1941 attack on the U.S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, finally brought America into the war as a full combatant. Over the next three and a half years, Americans would train, fight and die in almost every corner of the globe.

By the war's end, over 16 million Americans had joined the armed forces, and 415,000 had lost their lives. Thousands of others took jobs in industries to support the war effort. At no time in the history of the nation had more people worked towards a common goal. Cincinnatians contributed greatly to the war effort, with men and women serving the nation in every possible way. Cincinnati provided soldiers, sailors and airmen, as well as the tools to win the war.

At 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 30, in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, the Delhi Township Branch Library, 5095 Foley Road, extends an invitation to the community to recognize those who served our nation in that conflict. The program will honor the service and sacrifice of men and women who served in the armed forces, and also those who contributed to the war effort by working in factories, shipyards and other industries. Dr. Robert Earnest Miller, author of *Cincinnati: The World War II Years*, will be the evening's featured speaker. His program will discuss the Cincinnati home front and how the war affected this community. Copies of Dr. Miller's book will be available for purchase.

“All are heartily welcome, but we would be especially honored to have veterans of World War II join us for this evening’s program,” said Donald Crews, Reference Librarian. “Any veterans who are so inclined are invited to share a few words about their experiences. So that we can plan our time appropriately, please call (513) 369-6019 if you would be interested in speaking.”

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County has a long tradition of honoring the veterans from this community. The Main Library was built as a memorial to Hamilton County veterans in 1955, especially those who made the supreme sacrifice, and each year on Veterans Day a program is held to commemorate their service and sacrifice.

Cincinnati: The World War II Years by Dr. Robert Earnest Miller

How did World War II affect Cincinnati? What local wartime efforts helped America win the war? *Cincinnati: The World War II Years* covers prewar priorities in the city, the debate between interventionists and isolationists, Cincinnati's role as a wartime producer, volunteer efforts including scrap drives, air raid drills, USO centers, and the return to peace and postwar prosperity. The book, spanning 1937 to 1955, examines trends in the social, political, and cultural history of the city and surrounding communities. Events transpiring in Cincinnati mirrored changes that the United States experienced during this pivotal period—the Great Depression, isolationist impulses, the mobilization for war, and the postwar economic boom. Because Cincinnati’s war years so closely reflect larger national trends of the time, the story of this city’s home front experience serves as an insightful case study of the national war experience.

About the Author: Dr. Robert Earnest Miller earned his Ph.D. in History from the University of Cincinnati in 1991, and has since worked there as an adjunct professor of American History. He also worked as a project historian for the Cincinnati Historical Society’s exhibit entitled “Cincinnati Goes to War: A Community Responds to World War II.” He is a resident of Mason.

If you cannot make the Delhi Branch event, the program will also be presented at these branches in September:

- Anderson, 7450 State Road: Thursday, September 15, 6:30 p.m.
- Oakley, 4033 Gilmore Avenue: Monday, September 19, 6:30 p.m.

✓ **Our goal is to make our programs accessible to everyone. Please request ADA services one week in advance at 513-369-4400 (TTY 369-4409).**

✓ **Information about events at the Main Library and 41 branch libraries is available on the Internet site: www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.**