



## THE ATLANTA WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE

### PRESERVING HISTORY

VOL. 24 No. 5

235<sup>th</sup> MEETING

**Editor:** John E. Kovach  
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**Contributor(s) To This Newsletter**

- \* Frank A. Gleason
- \* Herbert W. Benario
- \* Fletcher Thompson/Randolph Goulding
- \* Marilyn Pahr/John Davis/Bill Owens
- \* Guyton McCall /Jay Lenny/Bob Rivers

**Elected Officers 2009-2010**

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Sgt.-at-Arms – Otto O’Neal  
Sgt.-at-Arms – Bill Shepherd  
Chaplain – Guyton McCall  
Tel: 404-237-1011

Asst. Chaplain – B.G. Harold A. Dye  
Asst. Chaplain – Bill Sperry

**Date:** January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 (THURSDAY) >> Next Meeting Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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

\*\* **PETITE AU BERGE RESTAURANT**  
**2935 N. Druid Hills Road, Web Site: [www.petiteauberge.com](http://www.petiteauberge.com)**  
**Atlanta, Georgia 30329 (Restaurant Phone: 404-634-6268)**

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

**Speaker: Frank A. Gleason, Colonel U.S. Army (Ret)**

**Subject: “The Capture of the U-505 Submarine”**

#### 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**

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#### **Speaker for January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009–Col. Frank A. Gleason (Ret) - (To Be Introduced By Deputy Commander Goulding )**

Many Round Table members will recall Colonel Gleason’s previous presentation to the Round Table in November 1996 when he talked to us about *China-WW II*. At that period in the war, Frank was working with the OSS and involved with guerilla warfare and industrial sabotage. While in China he was responsible for extensive ‘delay’ demolitions during the last Japanese offensive in Southeast China in late 1944. These operations were the source of a novel, “*The Mountain Road*” by Theodore White, which was followed by a movie starring Jimmy Stewart. Frank became a Technical Advisor on the movie.

Colonel Gleason entered the Army in 1942 as a Second Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers after graduating from Penn State with a BS Degree in Chemical Engineering in 1941. After the war he earned a M.S. in Civil Engineering from Harvard University in 1949. His military career spans 29 ½ years of service stretching from WW II To Vietnam. During WW II he served primarily with the Office of Strategic Services ( OSS ) in the USA, England, India and China.

In this month’s presentation, Col. Gleason will focus on the capture of the German Submarine U-505. Many of you may remember the capture of this sub on 4 June 1944, by a hunter-killer group of the US Navy off the coast of Rio De Oro, Africa. Task Group 22.3 forced the sub to the surface by an extreme depth charge attack. The Task Group commanded by Captain Daniel V. Gallery, USN, and comprised Gallery’s escort aircraft carrier USS Guadalcanal (CVE-60), and five destroyer escorts under Commander Frederick S. Hall, USN: Pillsbury (DE-133), Pope (DE-134), Flaherty (DE-135), Chatelain (DE-149), and Jenks (DE-665). It should be noted that the capture of the U-505 was the first enemy ship captured by the U.S. Navy since the War of 1812.

Please welcome Col. Frank Gleason (USA) (Ret) as our January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 speaker. (235<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

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#### **Review of December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Speaker – Hebert Benario (Introduced by Deputy Commander Goulding)**

Our December speaker, Herbert W. Benario was a professor of classics at Emory University until 1987. He has a B.A. from the City College of New York, 1948; an M.A. from Columbia University, 1949; and completed his Doctorate in Classics under Professor Henry Rowell at Johns Hopkins University, 1951. He was a past president of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. After completing his Ph.D he was drafted into the Army and sent to the U.S. Chemical Warfare Center and School at Ft. McClellan, AL which, needless to say, provided him with a cultural shock since he had never been below the Mason-Dixon line having been born and raised in the north.

Herbert’s presentation focused on four (4) *intelligence classicists* that helped win the war. These were men and woman, who General Omar Bradley called “ uniquely qualified reservists”, among whom were largely academic who were specialists in

languages, others were medievalists and academic specialists trained in German or Japanese psychological analysis. These academics were particularly important, and among them *classicists* who played a very significant role in shaping Allied Commander's decisions during the war.

Professor Benario gave us insights into four of these classicists, some he knew personally as colleges and students: Eric Birley, Gilbert Highet, Moses Hadas and Henry Rowell. These academics provided the allies with intelligence analysis ranging from the structure of the German Army, psychological and character profiles of prominent enemy leaders, cultural analysis and how the Axis cultures influenced enemy Command decisions. All the academia's were experts in their fields and served the Allied cause well, providing intelligence information which was unavailable through any other source, and certainly proving that the study of classics can be very useful in times of war.

Thank you Professor Emeritus Herbert W. Benario for a job well done.

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***I am pleased to announce that we have two (2) new members who have joined us since the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting:***  
**Stephen D. Morrison** – Steve served in the U.S. Coast Guard from July 1945 to May 1946. After completing Boot Camp in Curtis Bay, MD he served in various clerical positions in Philadelphia, PA., Washington, D.C., and Savannah (Cockspur), Georgia.  
**Jerry Newton** – Jerry retired from Hewlett Packard and now supports veterans through organizations like *Salute America, Inc.* His interest in WW II ranges from Airborne Units, D-Day, The Battle of the Bulge, and Navy operations in the Pacific.  
***Please welcome Steve and Jerry as new members of the Round Table at our January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 meeting.***

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>>> **Upcoming Speakers for - 2010** - Program chairman John Davis and program co-chairman Bill Owens have done a splendid job in lining up a wonderful list of speakers for the Atlanta WW II Round Table for our September 2009 through June 2010 meetings. The following speakers will be making a presentation to the Round Table in: **2010 – January – Col. Frank Gleason** (OSS)- Capture of the U-505 Submarine; February – Tom Beaty (Update on *Witness-To-War* Web Site); March – Col. Ben S. Malcomb; April – Dr. Robert I. Gibbs. More info to come on future speakers as they are booked. Please note that the speaker's engagements are subject to change. Thank you John M. Davis and William (Bill) Owens for a job exceedingly well done.

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>>> **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**(UPDATED) February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (Saturday) – February Banquet – Petite Au Berge Restaurant – Atlanta, GA.**  
This year's February Banquet will be on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. **All dues paying members ( current with dues ) will receive complimentary meals. Guests will have to pay a modest \$ 26.00 per meal** - with meal choices including beef, fish and chicken. The speaker for February 2010 will be Tom Beaty ( see info in Speakers Section above .) An early reservation form was included with your December 2009 Newsletter along with a return-address envelope to Finance Officer Jay Lenny. Please use that pre-addressed envelope to send your reservation form to Jay with any appropriate payment for guest(s). If you require an additional reservation form, please contact Adjutant John Kovach or Jay Lenny. Adjutant Kovach can be reached at 770-928-4579 or via email [jkovach2000@yahoo.com](mailto:jkovach2000@yahoo.com); Finance Officer Lenny can be reached at 770-638-7824 or via email [jmlrct107@aol.com](mailto:jmlrct107@aol.com).  
**Please note!! You must cancel your reservations within seventy-two (72) hours in order to have your check refunded should you be unable to attend once your reservation has been mailed.**

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>> **SPECIAL MEMBER SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

>>> **COMMANDER'S REQUEST** – *Commander Thompson is requesting that all members should make our Chaplain and Asst. Chaplains aware of any member who is sick, stricken, or seriously ill. This can be done at the monthly meetings or by calling Chaplain Guyton McCall at 404-237-1011. Asst. Chaplain B.G. Harold A. Dye can be reached at 404-315-9253 and Asst. Chaplain William (Bill) Sperry at 404-770-452-1309*

>>> **(UPDATED) VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ATLANTA WW II ROUND TABLE** – Commander Thompson, Deputy Commander Goulding and the officers and staff of the Round Table would like to extend a hardy well done and thank you for all the voluntary contributions made towards the purchase of electronic audio / visual equipment for the organization. To date our Finance Officer, Jay Lenny reports that as if January 08<sup>th</sup> 2010 we have received over **\$ 1195.00** in contributions.

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>>> **(UPDATED) AWWIIRT Directory** – (From Marilyn Pahr) Marilyn will have copies of the pictorial membership Directory for those dues-paying members who have not received theirs at the February Banquet on Feb. 20th. Please see her at the meeting. The Directory Updates will be available at future meetings as well. To be included in the directory, please have your current photo taken at the meeting, provide a photo of yourself from your service days and fill out the biographical form. Contact Marilyn Pahr for more info: **New address:** 222 12<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Unit#2006, Atlanta, GA 30309 ; email: [mpahr@emory.edu](mailto:mpahr@emory.edu) – Tel: 404-888-0767

>>> **(UPDATED) AWWIIRT Lending Library** – We continue to add titles and now have a library numbering over 200 titles. A selection will be available at the monthly meetings for members to “check out” and read or view at their leisure. Contact Marilyn Pahr if you wish to donate books, videos or DVDs related to WWII. (see above for contact info)

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Monthly Quotation:

*“In the end the Party would announce that two and two made five, and you would have to believe it. It was inevitable that they should make that claim sooner or later: the logic of their position demanded it. Not merely the validity of experience, but the very existence of external reality, was tacitly denied by their philosophy. The heresy of heresies was common sense.”*  
George Orwell, “1984”