

2014-15 was a banner year for the **Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at West Point**. The CHGS able to continue pursuing its mission to produce cohorts of cadets and officers better equipped to understand the dynamics of mass atrocity and genocide and who are inspired to the cause of prevention. Perhaps more importantly, the Center was able to secure two substantial six and seven figure donations which will go a long way to assuring that the genocide studies has a permanent place at the Academy. As a result, the Center and History Department will hire the first CHGS Post-doctoral Fellow for the 2016-17 academic year, and will begin regularly offering electives on the Holocaust and Genocide. This will give the Center even more ability to promote cross-disciplinary thinking about the nature of these mass atrocity and methods of mitigating the harms caused by them. This will help the Academy bring more guest speakers, support a greater variety of cadet internships and research projects, undertake more innovative and inter-academy curricular planning and research, and contribute more substantially to OSD/DoD initiatives related to atrocity prevention.

In September 2014 and again in September 2015, the CHGS and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) convened the fourth and fifth annual iterations of the “Mass Atrocity Education Workshop” (MAEW). As it has since 2011, this collaboration effort brought senior faculty members from multiple departments at West Point, Air Force, Coast Guard and Navy to Washington, DC. These men and women joined renowned Holocaust and genocide scholars, staff and experts from Museum, and representatives from the State Department, USAID, Amnesty International and the Office of the Secretary of Defense for a three-day workshop designed to create practical means of incorporating mass atrocity education into service academy curricula. The focus of the fourth MAEW was to produce materials designed to explain “ordinary behavior” during genocide, for use basic psychology and economics courses at the Service Academies and beyond. The aim of the fifth MAEW was to consider advances in and remaining complex problems related to mass atrocity prevention.

The MAEW has produced results at all of the Academies. The first product to come out of the MAEW, “Ordinary Soldiers: A Study in Ethics, Law and Leadership” was published in September 2014 and is available in Kindle, Ebook, and pdf forms (www.usma.edu/chgs). West Point, Holy Cross, and Air Force created an economics project which teaches the concepts of rational choice and evolutionary game theory in the context of the Rwandan Genocide. This year’s MAEW has already produced an op-ed by MAEW participant Lionel Beehner which appeared in *USA Today*. West Point and Air Force cadets will work together on atrocity prevention projects.

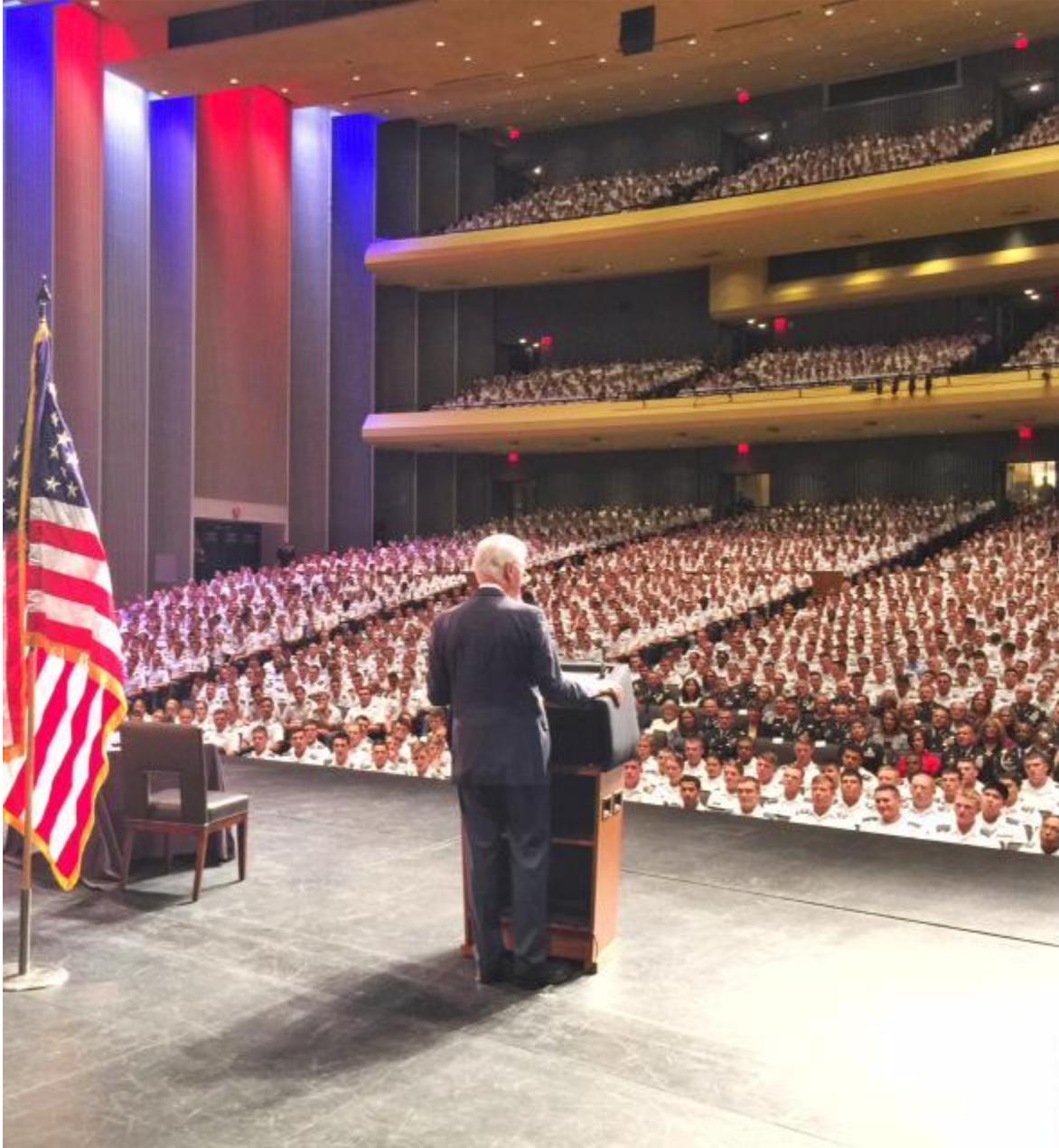
The Center was able to support a variety of programs which sent cadets around the world. While one stayed close, working at the US Army War College researching the history of the principle of the Responsibility to Protect and the NATO intervention in Libya, a second spent a month in Germany research German memory of the Holocaust. Finally, the Center Director helped organize and support a Department of English and Philosophy trip for six cadets to Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary to study the Holocaust and Just War Theory. These opportunities are invaluable, and in 2016, the Center may send its first intern to Rwanda.

During the academic year, the CHGS hosted multiple invited speakers, either at West Point or in programs conducted at the USHMM, who spoke on topics ranging from the future of the principle of Responsibility to Protect, to insurgency in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to survival in the Lwow ghetto, to US Army chaplains at the Nuremberg Trials. Among the leaders in the field who spoke to West Point audiences were Law of Armed Conflict guru Gary Solis, Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide Scholar Naomi Kikoler,

Rwandan expert Philip Gourevitch, and many more. Two deserve special mention. In January 2015, at a special event in New York City, Center Director Dr. Frey conducted a question and answer about atrocity and current Middle Eastern conflicts with GEN (R) David Petraeus. The evening was a fantastic success, topped only by the most recent Center event, a speech by former President Bill Clinton to the Corp of Cadets, which took place on 14 October, 2015. Dr. Frey invited President Clinton to speak about his experiences dealing with mass atrocities, and his speech and a question and answer period conducted by First Captain E.J. Coleman were very well-received.

Additional news about the Center can be found at the CHGS website at <http://www.usma.edu/chgs>

President Bill Clinton addresses the Corps of Cadets. President Clinton's visit occurred due to the invitation of CHGS Director Dr. Frey. The former President spoke of West Point's history, stories of leadership, and specifically his experiences with mass atrocities such as Bosnia, Rwanda and Kosovo during his tenure.



President Clinton takes questions from First Captain EJ Coleman



2015



Understanding Genocide through Rational Action and Evolutionary Game Theory

Cover of CHGS/Air Force “Economics of Genocide” Project

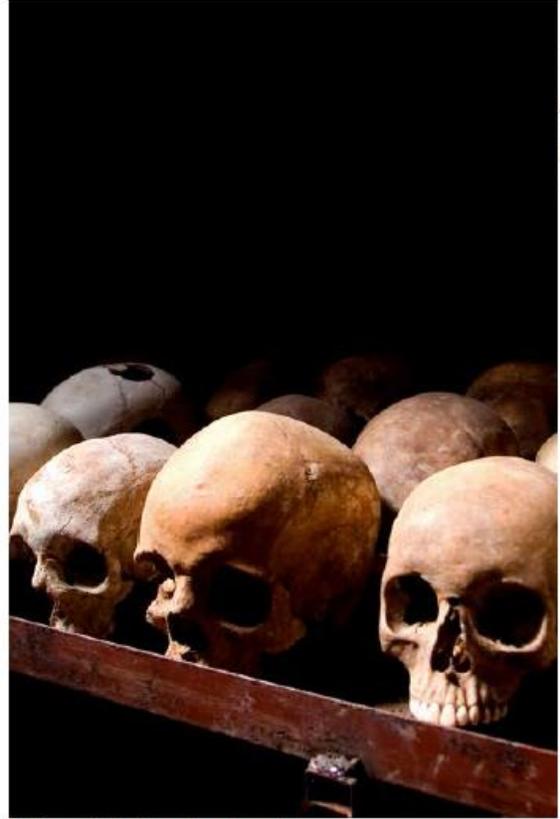
Cover page of joint US Air Force Academy and CHGS at West Point study on genocide and economic theory, available in electronic form, May 2015.

CHAPTER 8

After Genocide

Rwanda and the African Future

Bonnie Kovatch and David Frey



wikimedia commons

Victims of the Rwandan Genocide

Article co-written by Dr. David Frey and MAJ Bonnie Kovatch

Journalists and scholars Philip Gourevitch (R) and Jason Stearns (L) both spoke at West Point in late 2014 as guests of the CHGS.





**ORDINARY SOLDIERS:
A STUDY IN ETHICS, LAW,
AND LEADERSHIP**

UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
MUSEUM



Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at West Point

Cover of "Ordinary Soldiers"