

War and the Media

By SEAN M. MALONEY

Last week UNB's Centre for Conflict Study held a thought provoking international conference dealing with the role of media in modern military operations and the historian's unique problems in sorting information after the fact.

The two day study was launched successfully by Max Hastings, military historian and editor of *The Daily Telegraph* in England. Mr. Hastings, who has covered conflicts from Vietnam to the Falklands as a journalist, commented on his Falklands experiences and gave a brief background to war reporting. In his keynote address, several themes that would resound throughout the conference were introduced. These included the necessity for military organizations to maintain communication and credibility with the media, the impact of censorship in wartime situations, media loyalty and objectivity and the impact of television as opposed to print media as an information source.

One feature of the conference was the diversity of

academic approaches to the study of these topics. Notable speakers included Susan Moeller of Princeton University, who, in a multimedia presentation, discussed combat photography in the Second World War. Clarence Wyatt of the University of Kentucky and Michael Hennessy of the University of New Brunswick each presented papers on Vietnam war coverage from the two different angles of print and broadcast media respec-

tively.

Other notable session topics were the Soviet media's coverage of Afganistan, Western media coverage of international terrorism and media interaction with the armed forces of Canada and the United States.

The concluding session, chaired by Dr. Maurice Tugwell of the Mackenzie Institute and supported by Dr. A.S. Cochran of the U.S. Ar-

my's Center of Military History, Mr. Ben Greenhouse of the Department of National Defence's Directorate of Military History, and Mr. Ross Ingram of CBC Radio Fredericton, attempted to respond to the themes brought forth throughout the weekend. Essentially these were: rapid and accurate reporting versus the need for operational security and secrecy in military operations; critical analysis versus the need for good

coverage; detached non-alignment of the media versus the patriotic commitment needed to win; the differing goals of the media and the military, ie: story versus military victory.

In summary, most participants, whether military personnel, journalists or historians, gained some element of respect for the problems that are experienced by their counterparts in pursuit of their objectives.

Counselling Services

by

Alice J. Pitre

be here, doing what I am doing now, without their help.

I always used to think something was wrong with me if I couldn't solve a problem on my own. I'd struggle with confusing thoughts and feelings that I was sure no one else ever had. I'd put them all down in my journal, hoping that written expression would be enough. Or I'd whisper them as prayer in the night.

But what I needed all along was someone to say, "It's ok, Alice. It's natural to feel that way; here is a way to feel better." I found that in counselling.

At the Counselling Centre, the first face you often see is Marilyn Rees. For sixteen years she has greeted students with welcome in her smile. She will ask the basic nature of your visit, and direct you to the best person to help.

That person may be Margaret Brown, the career librarian. She can find for you calendars of all the universities

in the country, and then some. Her files on various careers are interesting and instructive.

Perhaps you need more specific help in identifying your career interests and abilities. Mary Lou Trimble would be the main person to see. Her career workshop has already begun, but Mary Lou (and some of the others) can guide you into a more confident future. Mary Lou is also available for those women students who feel most comfortable talking with another woman.

If your problem, big or small, is a personal one, Fred Horsley, Reg Craft, and Larry Finkelman are waiting for you. Each of them will give you an hour of their time, as often as necessary. Their skill is geared to students. They understand, and they care.

One special person is Serena Knockwood. She is so special, she has two offices - one in the Counselling Centre, and one at STU (205 Administration Building). Her speciality is native students, helping them with orientation, writing and study skills, course selection, and cultural problems.

If you are like me, these people can all help you with the niggling problems that make life uncomfortable. But perhaps you have an emergency - something, or someone, is just too much to handle. Call! Or drop in. Marilyn will even interrupt someone if necessary.

And if you need someone after hours, Security will find one of these people to help you.

Any student, even those only taking one night course, are welcome at the Counselling Centre. And if your problem is one you are married to, bring him/her too.

If you are still nervous about what someone might think, don't worry. Confidentiality is strictly the rule. No one will know. And if you happen to meet someone, you could always say you've just come to browse the career library.

But really, there's nothing to fear. My friends can be your friends too.

Photo by Randy Goodleaf



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