

# Alexander A. Falbo-Wild

## Contact

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## PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a historian, consultant, and instructor of military professionals. As a historian, I am broadly interested in the experience of English-speaking military forces coping with the emergence of industrialized warfare in the West from 1880-1945. I examine the evolution of their organization, culture, operations, and techniques from many points of view. As a consultant, I support academics, civil servants, and service personnel in advising on national security matters such as controlling disruptive technologies in historical context. As an instructor, I employ historical decision games and Socratic discussion to encourage critical thinking, foster a culture of initiative, and promote interest in topics from air-ground cooperation to information operations. I am a history PhD student at Temple University currently working toward a dissertation prospectus for Prof. Gregory Urwin entitled *Building Bridges: US Military Engineers and Coalition Warfare in the First World War*. My vocation is service through teaching military history.

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Case Method/Decision Forcing Cases</li><li>• Student Centered Learning/Staff Rides</li><li>• Disruptive &amp; Emergent Technologies</li><li>• AI Alignment in Defense</li><li>• Military Organization/Force Design</li><li>• Defense Policy Reform</li><li>• Coalition Warfare</li><li>• Wargame Design &amp; Facilitation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Military Engineers</li><li>• War &amp; Memory</li><li>• Divisional Culture</li><li>• Special Ops &amp; Amphibious Ops</li><li>• UK &amp; Commonwealth Ground Forces</li><li>• US Ground Forces</li><li>• The Western Front 1914-18</li><li>• The Mediterranean Campaign 1943-45</li></ul>
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## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Gladstone AI, Research Associate, March 2023 – Present

I was the Lead Author for the historical survey for an AI action plan commissioned by the US State Department's Non-Proliferation Defense Fund (NDF) advising on the AI misalignment threat to national security. I identified a methodological framework of analysis and identified six disruptive emergent technologies from the 1860s – present and their regulatory regimes for case studies. The historical survey was a concise 60 pages written for key stakeholders across government and business sectors contextualizing the firm's Action Plan. Following the composition of the report, I took part in the first major US inter-agency workshop of its kind to discuss AI regulatory frameworks and cooperation. The historical survey was researched with open-source material.

### Canadian Forces College, Recurring Guest Speaker and PME Instructor, April – June 2022 & 2023

I researched, designed, and delivered a case method seminar to a senior class of the Canadian military's CFC's National Security Program (NSP) curriculum. This case entitled, *Army '86*, concentrated on a historical American strategic force development problem during the Cold War. Balancing political policies, emerging threats, and restricted resources in a complex and dynamic strategic environment, the NSP students assumed the role of the US Army Chief of Staff in the summer of 1983. The cases were taught virtually and on site.

### **Maryland National Guard, Chief Archivist of the Witte Memorial 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Archive and Hancock Library, 2018 – 2021**

I preserved, and promoted the responsible use of, a substantial collection of historical material relating to the US 29<sup>th</sup> Division and the Maryland National Guard. In doing so, I have processed hundreds of inquiries, from both members of the public and public officials, related to the service of both units and individuals. I supervised and supported a project to digitize the holdings of this archive. I have led more than 70 tours through the museum attached to the archive for groups composed of people from many different walks of life. Additionally, I extended the mission of the archive to support the recruitment, retention, and readiness efforts of the Maryland National Guard. To this end, I embedded support for military learning into the formal plans that guided the work of the archive and introduced decision-forcing cases. Some of these cases, like those taught to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 175<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, were conducted in classrooms. In others, such as the decision-forcing staff ride I led at Antietam for soldiers taking part in the Best Warrior Competition for 2020, it took the form decision-forcing staff rides conducted upon battlefields of the American Civil War.

### **American University, Research Assistant to Dr. Audrey Cronin, 2018**

I provided detailed research support to the composition of AU professor Audrey Cronin's book *Power to the People: How Open Technological Innovation is Arming Tomorrow's Terrorists* published by Oxford University Press in 2019. My specialization in conventional and unconventional modern industrial warfare was consulted for the opening chapters of the book which establishes the patterns of military technological development over recorded history and how this change exploded at the turn of the 20th century. The book explores the role of modern commercially available technologies in the hands of non-state actors in terrorism and insurgency operations. I assisted in proof reading drafts of the relevant sections and produced regular research reports to the author summarizing the historiographical arguments on military technology and technological determinism in warfare.

### **Case Method Project Marine Corps University, Teaching Fellow, and Honorary Resident Historian, 2014 – 2018**

I taught decision-forcing cases, on a wide variety of subjects, to students at the US Naval Academy, the Basic School, the Expeditionary Warfare School, and the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, as well as Marines serving in the Operating Forces. I assisted other case teachers with research, archival and otherwise, into amphibious operations, particularly those of the First World War and the South Atlantic War of 1982. I participated in *Antwerp 1906*, the recreation of a classic (double-blind) wargame exercise featuring an expeditionary force landing near a major fortified port city. I facilitated a case method seminar to our allies in the British Army's Education and Training Service at 1<sup>st</sup> Division H.Q. in York, UK and presented an article on the relationship between theatre strategy, the media, and morale to the Fall 2017 Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society entitled, *A War of Inches: The Effect of Wartime Journalism on American Troop Morale in the Italian Campaign, 1943-45*. Lastly, I contributed a chapter, "Rising to the Occasion: the U.S. Army Expansion in the World Wars 1900 – 1945," in Matthias Strohn's anthology, *How Army's Grow*.

## Publications and Research

- Government Commissioned Report, Lead Author w/ Jonathan Askonas & Caroline Pitman, *A Historical Survey of Technology Control Regimes*, Gladstone AI for US State Department, October 2023.
- Book Chapter, co-authored w/ Nathan Packard, “To Expand and Reform: Congress and the Military during the 1980s” in, *Peace, War, and Partnership: Congress and the Military since World War II*, ed. by William A. Taylor, Texas A&M University Press, 2023.
- Book Chapter, “Semper Ubique, The Royal Engineers at Arras, 1917,” in, *The Darkest Year: The British Army on the Western Front 1917*, ed. by Spencer Jones, Helion & Co., 2022.
- Book Chapter, “Rising to the Occasion: the U.S. Army Expansion in the World Wars 1900-45,” in, *How Army's Grow: The Enlargement of Armies in the Age of Total War 1789–1945*, ed. Matthias Strohn, Casemate, 2019.
- Book, co-authored w/ Paul Cora, *Supporting Allied Offensives*, U.S. Army Center of Military History, 2018.
- Article, “What’s in a Game: The USMC Plays Chess,” for *Ares & Athena: The Occasional Papers of the Centre of Historical Analysis and Conflict Research*, July 2021.
- Articles, “Keep Faith with Your Helpless Brother: Maryland in the Meuse Argonne” parts 1 & 2 in *The Maryland Line: The Newsletter of the Maryland Military Historical Society*, Winter 2018 & Spring 2019.
- Training Booklet, with Capt. Robert Cryer and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Byron Edens, *Case Method Decision Making Aide Memoir*, 32 AEC Group, British Army, December 2017.
- Research, Decision Forcing Case archival source materials, *Operation Albion*, Case Method Project and USMC Command & Staff College, 2016.
- Thesis, *The Effect of Wartime Journalism on American Troop Morale in the Italian Campaign, 1943-45*, University of Maryland Baltimore County, May 2015.

## Notable Seminars and Instruction

- US Government Inter-agency Workshop, Increasing the Safety & Security of Advanced AI R&D for US State Department Nonproliferation Defense Fund, 14-16 November 2023
- Virtual Staff Ride Seminar, delivered *Women on the Battlefield & Jayhawks on the Combahee* to MDNG Joint Force HQ’s Annual Staff Ride, 10-11 April 2021.
- Officer Professional Development, delivered *Reckless Rex* and *Miracle on 20th St.* to 1/175th Infantry Annual Training, 6 November 2020.
- Staff Ride, led soldier finalists at Antietam for US Army’s Best Warrior Competition, 2020.
- Seminar, *Reckless Rex* delivered to Marines at the USMC NCO Instructors Course, Marine Corps University, Quantico, VA, February 2018.
- Seminar (invited), led case method seminar for the British Army’s Education Training Service’s Continuing Professional Development event, York, UK, November 2017.
- Seminar (invited), taught *Reckless Rex* for the F.B.I. Academy, Quantico, VA, May 2017.
- Seminar Tour (invited), contracted with Marion Fox company to teach cases to civil aviation staff of SmartLynx Airlines, Manchester, UK & Charleroi, BE, July 2016.
- Seminar (invited), taught four classes of case method instruction to midshipmen at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD, Spring 2016.
- Decision Forcing Case, *Reckless Rex and the Vultur of Kultur*, Case Method Project and USMC the Basic School, 2015.
- Decision Forcing Case, *Dreadnought*, Case Method Project and USMC Expeditionary Warfare School, 2014.

## Notable Presentations and Interviews

Event Organizer, hosted and organized four speaker programs, *Spirit of 1918* at Gettysburg College as incoming Branch Chairman. Western Front Association East Coast Branch, October 2018.

Interview, by Cliff Casewell for *Soldier Magazine*, the official magazine of the British Army, February 2018, p.14.

Panel Participant (invited), presented *A War of Inches: The Effect of Wartime Journalism on American Troop Morale in the Italian Campaign, 1943-45*, Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, Reston, VA, 4 November 2017.

Interview, interviewed by MSCN Brianna Jones in “Applying History to Shape Future Leaders” for *The Trident*, U.S. Naval Academy official blog, 4 May 2016,

<http://usnatrident.blogspot.com/2016/05/applying-history-to-shape-future-leaders.html>

Presenter (invited), *From Peculiar to Contemptible: The British Expeditionary Force, 1914*, Maryland Military Historical Society, May 2015.

Panel Participant (invited), “Mons and the BEF August 1914: A Panel Discussion,” Western Front Association East Coast Branch, June 2014.

## EDUCATION

### Academic Degrees

**Bachelor of Arts in History** 2017  
University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD.

**Master of Arts in History** 2024  
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

**Doctor of Philosophy in History** (Expected) 2027  
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

### Professional Certifications

**Military Operations Research Society Wargame Certificate** January 2024  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

## AFFILIATIONS & CHARITIES

**Western Front Association** 2018-2021  
WFA East Coast (US) Branch Chairman

- This is part of an international non-profit educational organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of First World War history in all its aspects. I organized and hosted biannual scholarly symposiums in the Tri-State area and maintained a network of First World War academics, authors, and enthusiasts.

**Maryland Military Historical Society** 2018-Present  
Director

- I sit on the board of directors of a local non-profit educational organization tasked with supporting the Museum of Maryland Military History.

## SKILLS & CAPABILITIES

- Maintains a strong international network of active scholars, analysts, veterans, and serving military professionals
- Adept at wargame facilitation for training purposes
- Strong oral and written communication skills, including oral history/interviewing skills
- Leadership qualities and ability to speak publicly to small or large, formal or informal, audiences
- Ability to break down large projects into manageable tasks
- Proficient in Turabian/*Chicago Manual of Style (17<sup>th</sup> Edition)*
- Skilled graphic design in Adobe Photoshop for cartography and case illustration
- Skilled in use of the latest Microsoft Office products including MS Teams
- Museum exhibit design

## REFERENCES & RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Gregory Urwin, Ph.D**

Professor of History  
Temple University  
215-317-8564  
gurwin@temple.edu

### **Bruce Gudmundsson, D.Phil.**

Professional Military Educator  
2040 Broadway Street  
Quantico, VA 22134  
540-388-9764  
[decision.forcing.case@gmail.com](mailto:decision.forcing.case@gmail.com)

### **Nathan Packard, Ph.D**

Professor of Military History  
Marine Corps University  
808-220-4754  
nathan.packard@usmcu.edu

*“It was a privilege to have you lead and walk the students through this learning methodology. You promoted student engagement through critical thinking, discussion, and debate; all-important elements to professional education and career development. I am confident that the class gained a much better appreciation of the challenges in decision-making and the strategic considerations leaders need to think through when formulating options and strategies.”*

- Brigadier General J.W. Errington, Commandant of Canadian Forces College, 2022 (Letter)

*“Your presentation was well prepared, polished, and offered historical scenarios that were both interesting and relevant. The near-universal feedback I received is that the event was one of the most effective and engaging professional development experiences in which the Battalion’s officer have ever participated.”*

- Lt. Colonel Adam J. Tiffen, Commander 1-175th Infantry, MD National Guard, US Army, 2020 (Letter)

*“Alexander came over to the UK to teach us (Officers of the British Army) about the case method and using real-life situations to practise and generate thinking skills and decision making. As well as being a thoroughly professional and rigorous historian, he is an excellent teacher and great company. I highly recommend Alexander to any potential employer. He is particularly well suited to working with the British Armed forces, due to his wealth of knowledge in this area.”*

- Captain Robert J. Cryer, 32 AEC Education Training Service, British Army, 2017 (LinkedIn)