

# USAWC student joins embedded journalist and best-selling author for AHEC lecture

**USAWC student joins embedded journalist and best-selling author for public history lecture at AHEC**

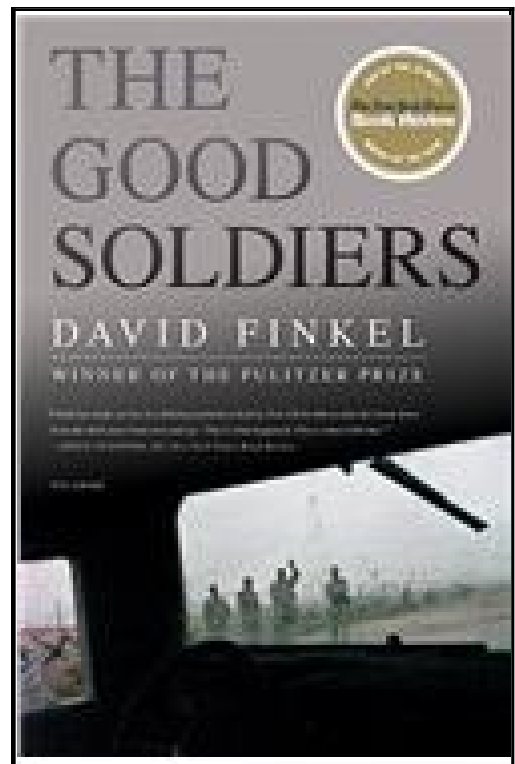
April 25, 2012 -- David Finkel, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist will partner with COL Ralph Kauzlarich, Army War College student, for the next Brooks E. Kleber reading presentation at the Army Heritage and Education Center, Thursday, May 3 at 7:15 p.m. at the USAHEC Visitor and Education Center.

Finkel's New York Times bestseller, The Good Soldiers, relates the story of the U.S. surge in the Iraq War, drawing on his experiences and observations as an embedded journalist with the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry in Iraq -- then commanded by Col. Ralph Kauzlarich, USAWC Class of 2012. They will share their unique insights in this free, public history presentation.

"Beneath every policy decision made in the highest echelons of Washington about how a war should be fought are soldiers who live with those decisions every day.

"In January 2007, President George W. Bush announced a new strategy for Iraq. He called it "the surge." ... the young, optimistic army infantry soldiers of the 2-16, the battalion nicknamed the Rangers -- about to head to a vicious area of Baghdad, they decided the difference would be them. Fifteen months later, the soldiers returned home forever changed. Finkel was with them in Baghdad almost every grueling step of the way." -- excerpt from amazon.com book review.

David Finkel is the author of *The Good Soldiers*, the best-selling, critically acclaimed account of the U.S. "surge" into the Iraq war, published in 2009 by Sarah Crichton Books/Farrar, Straus and Giroux.



The Good Soldiers was named one of the ten best books of 2009 by The New York Times Sunday Book Review, a best book of the decade by Military Times, and a best book of the year by The Chicago Tribune, Slate.com, The Boston Globe, The Kansas City Star, The Plain Dealer (Cleveland), and The Christian Science Monitor. The Good Soldiers received the 2009 Helen Bernstein book award for excellence in journalism, the J. Anthony Lukas book prize for exceptional nonfiction, and the Cornelius Ryan award from the Overseas Press Club for best nonfiction book on international affairs. An editor and writer for The Washington Post, Finkel has reported from Africa, Asia, Central America, Europe, and across the United States, and was part of the Post's war coverage in Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq. He received a Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting in 2006 for a series of stories about U.S. democracy promotion efforts in Yemen.



COL Ralph Kauzlarich graduated from West Point in 1988 and was commissioned in the Infantry. He began his career with the 3rd Infantry Division in Germany and OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/STORM. After Company Command in the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kauzlarich commanded a company in the 3rd Ranger Battalion at Fort Benning. He later served as battalion S3 and XO in the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. COL Kauzlarich commanded the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry at Fort Riley and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, where he met and worked with David Finkel. He completed the Air Command and Staff College in 2000 and will complete the U.S. Army War College in June 2012. COL Kauzlarich's awards include the Bronze Star (3 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (6 OLC), Joint Service Commendation Medal, and numerous other awards. He has earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge with one star, Ranger tab, Master Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

Note: Doors to the center open at 6:45 p.m. There is no admission fee for this event, and reservations are not required. Groups are asked to alert us in advance so that we may ensure adequate seating.

AHEC's Visitor and Education Center is at 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle PA 17013. Call (717) 245-3972 or check [www.usahec.org](http://www.usahec.org) for more info.