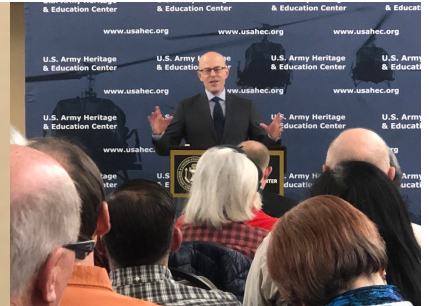


## Author Raymond Ibrahim to address Islam & West in part 4 of Controversies in Military History series

By Public Affairs Staff 18 February 2020



Raymond Ibrahim, author and speaker on Middle East and Islamic topics, will speak Wed, Feb. 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Army Heritage & Education Center, as the 4th speaker in the Controversies in Military History lecture-discussion series.



Retired Brig. Gen. Ty Seidule addresses the AHEC audience about Confederate memorialization and the U.S. Army, Jan. 9, in the first event designed to give context to changing societal interpretations of history.



Daniel Vermilya, historian-guide at Gettysburg Battlefield National Park, spoke Jan. 22 explored decision-making and policies for memorials on the battlefield: 2nd in the Controversies series.



Dr. John O. Voll, Georgetown

*University Professor Raymond Ibrahim of Islamic History, will speak about 'Islam and the West: allies and enemies in history' on Feb. 10 at 6: 30 p.m. at US Army Heritage & Education Center.*

On Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 6:30 p.m., author Raymond Ibrahim will address historical roots of Christian-Islamic rivalry. Ibrahim's presentation is part of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center's 4-part examination of the challenges associated in changing societal interpretations of history. The lecture will be followed by a moderated discussion, at the USAHEC Visitors and Education Center, 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle 17013.

**Controversies theme #2, "Historical underpinnings of conflict between Islam and the West,"** presents the 2<sup>nd</sup> of two views of historic events that shaped current events.

Ibrahim will explore historical, religious and political rivalry between Christianity and Islam -- drawing on his research of original Greek and Arabic sources, which informed his 2018 book, "Sword and the Scimitar: Fourteen Centuries of War between Islam and the West." Ibrahim plans to discuss significant episodes in the conflict that influence modern Islamic extremism, such as the Muslim rule of Spain and the battles of Yarmuk, Tours, and Manzikert.

Raymond Ibrahim is a book author and speaker on Middle East and Islamic topics. He is currently the Shillman Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center, Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Gatestone Institute, and Judith Friedman Rosen Writing Fellow at the Middle East Forum.

This lecture-discussion events of the Controversies in Military History lecture series provide an educational forum for the USAHEC audience to examine provocative topics in the interest of education and understanding. This series is designed to serve as an important step in evaluating differing perspectives, while encouraging open, professional dialogue on potentially opposing opinions. Lectures and topics do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the USAHEC, the U.S. Army War College, or the U.S. Army.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. for the 6:30 event. Each event in the Controversial Topics series is free and open to the public at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, 950 Soldiers Drive. Check [www.facebook.com/usahec](http://www.facebook.com/usahec) for late-breaking weather changes.

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**More about Theme 2, 'Historical underpinnings of Islam-West conflict'**

In Session A for Theme 2, Feb. 10, Dr. **John Voll of Georgetown**

**University discussed the history of Muslim-Christian alliances and conflicts in the modern era.** Voll urged the USAHEC audience to examine assumptions and inaccuracies in references to “Islam,” and “the West,” as he discussed shifting alliance/conflict relationships in the modern era, to include the history of the Anglo-Egyptian relationship, and the enemy-ally transitions of the Sanusiyyah and the Angle-American powers of World War II and the Cold War.

Earlier in the series --

### **Theme 1, ‘Evolving perceptions of memorialization’ - Session A**

On Jan 9, the US Army Heritage & Education Center series began with retired **Brig. Gen. Ty Seidule**, Professor Emeritus of History at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. Seidule discussed perspectives on “**The U.S. Army’s Confederate Memorialization Problem**” in a free, public event at AHEC. Seidule talked about the history behind the current debate over the memorialization of the Confederacy in the American Armed Forces. The War Department, during the World War I -- World War II period, named 10 posts for military officers who fought for the Confederacy; Seidule shared insights about the changing public perceptions and purposes in choosing Confederates' names for Army bases.

### **Theme 1, ‘Evolving perceptions of memorialization’ - Session B**

On Jan 22, the USAHEC lecture and discussion series on ‘provocative topics in military history’ continued with a second perspective from Daniel Vermilya, National Park Service Ranger and Educator. He drew from his extensive experience as an educator, discussing the circumstances, policies and decisions associated with memorials at Gettysburg Battlefield National Park.

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The **Provocative Topics in Military History** series will continue in the next academic year.

Two speakers, to be scheduled on two dates in September, will address **theme 3, ‘The politicization of intelligence through the ages,’** examining impacts on policy-making and potential challenges for military strategy. In October 2020, the series will turn to **Theme 4, ‘The U.S. Army in the Indo-Pacific: A Misunderstood past and a future ignored’** – an opportunity to examine historical perspective on U.S. Army roles in the

... some that challenge common perceptions.

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