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Newsletter of the UCSB History Associates

February

1990

Prof. Immanuel Hsu to Speak on ______ Tiananmen Square

By JOE FINNIGAN

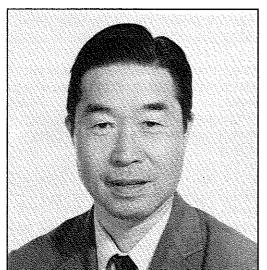
The continuing drama of the democratic movement in China and the tragic events of last summer's student demonstrations in Beijing's Tian-an-men Square is the subject of Prof. Immanuel C. Y. Hsu's lecture at the UCSB History Associates luncheon Feb. 21.

A world-famous authority on modern Chinese history, Prof. Hsu will analyze the origins of the student democratic movement in China. He also plans to discuss the role of the leading intellectuals in the movement, including Fang Lizhi, the noted astrophysicist.

In addition to his remarks on the various factions in the movement, Dr. Hsu will analyze what he describes as "the motives and psychology of the gerontocratic leaders in Beijing."

It was those "gerontocratic leaders," which include the aging members of the current Chinese leadership, who have been accused of ordering the military to crush the movement in Beijing and throughout China, a decision which lead to the death of many Chinese citizens.

"Conditions in China today, eight months after the massacre, remain repressive," Dr. Hsu says. Furthermore, the situation in that (Please See HSU, p.6)



Prof. Immanuel Hsu ...China Lecture

Distinguished Historian to Retire

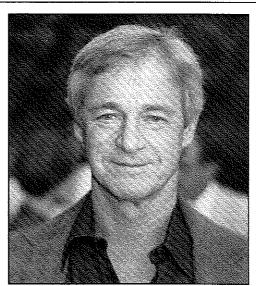
Prof. Frank J. Frost, the "grand old man of History 4," has announced his plans to take early retirement at the end of the current academic year. The still-youthful historian celebrated his 60th birth-day last December.

A graduate of UCSB, Prof. Frost went on to take a Ph.D. at UCLA and taught at Hunter College and UC Riverside before returning to UCSB in 1965. He began teaching Hist. 4A, the first term of the Western Civilization sequence, the very next year, and has taught it every year since then with only two exceptions.

"Because I have always taught the Campbell Hall section of that course, I figure I have taught more students during my career here than any other member of the UCSB faculty," Prof. Frost said recently.

"In fact, when you add in all my other classes, I teach about 5 per

(Please See FROST, p. 5)



Prof. Frank Frost
...to retire

History Grad Part of Panamanian Invasion Force

(Ed. Note: Where do History majors go when they graduate from UCSB? One of the more unusual answers was provided recently by Brian Rozcicha, who graduated with a History of Public Policy major in 1988 and currently serves with the 82nd Airborne Division.)

By BRIAN ROZCICHA

Whenever something particularly dreadful is about to occur, like jumping from an airplane, my stomach does flip-flops. On the brisk morning of December 18, my nerves and my stomach went wild when I heard we were being sent to Panama.

I had hoped to attend Officer Candidate School and work in military intelligence when I enlisted in the U.S. Army after graduation. But for a variety of reasons that I still don't understand, and nobody else would believe, I became instead a rifleman in the venerable 82nd Airborne Division.

I was with my Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, when the word came about Panama.

At first, many of us didn't believe it. Then we saw on the local news that 2,000 troops were being deployed to oust the dictator Manuel Noriega. Sure enough, a total of 50 C-141 Starlifter aircraft left Polk Air Force Base December 19, bound for Panama.

You have probably read details of the invasion in the press. But you may not know about the 70-degree change in temperature we went through from Fort Bragg to Panama. It was 12 degrees when we took off, and sleet had turned the trees to giant ice sculptures. When we jumped, the weather was in the 80s and humid; the rapid change just sucked energy from us.

During the descent, my mind was filled only with lowering my ruck sack and weapon so I wouldn't get hurt in the jump. I landed in the center of the airfield, on the air strip itself.

It was one of the worst landings of my life. I felt like I had been body-slammed by Hulk Hogan, but much to my relief I landed intact.

Others were not so lucky, as they became stranded in trees or forced to hang from high-tension wires. I personally saw one soldier become electrocuted in the wires and another killed by a .50 caliber round that penetrated his packed reserve and body and exited through his ruck sack.

There is too much to say about my experiences there—the thoughts running through my head, and the tears that came to my eyes as I considered the

fact that I might never see my folks again—to be accurately recorded here.

I have memories of elephant grass so sharp that it sliced through our uniforms like razors; of monkeys, three-toed sloths and gorillas.

About the gorillas. They're very territorial, and will suddenly drop from a tree right in front of you and start beating on their chests. We had specific training in how to deal with them—back away slowly, and they'll leave you alone.

There were six guys, though, who forgot that advice when they encountered one of these beasts.

"We're armed," they decided, "and we have him outnumbered, anyway." So they just marched forward.

When the dust settled, the score was gorilla 5, U.S. Army 0. (It would have been 6-0, except the last was smart enough to start running.)

Otherwise, all I can tell you is that the food was practically frozen, we hardly slept, the weather was awful, and our building echoed with the sound of bullets being smacked into the hollow of empty magazines.

What did my training as a History major prepare me for? Well, Panamanian monkeys have this habit of picking up their dung and throwing it at you. It upset a lot of our troops. But after two years of writing papers for Prof. Drake, I found it didn't bother me at all.

Hlistoría

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UCSB Well-Represented at AHA Convention

UCSB's History Department was well-represented at the annual American Historical Association convention in San Francisco last December, with some dozen faculty and grads presenting papers and chairing sessions.

In addition, Prof. Robert Kelley began a threeyear term as a member of the AHA governing Council at the convention.

Prof. Elliot Brownlee delivered a paper on "Political Learning and the Financing of World War I," and Prof. Francis Dutra spoke on "The Search for Status in Seventeenth Century Brazil: The Lure of Patents of Nobility and Knighthoods in the Portuguese Military Orders." Prof. Abraham Friesen spoke on "Thomas Münzer and the Early Church."

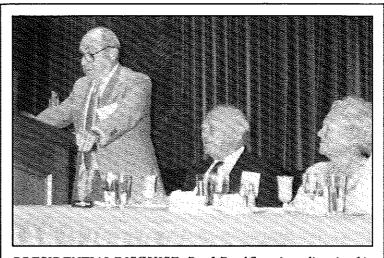
Prof. Dimitrije Djordjevic served as commentator at a session of "The Influence of the French Revolution on the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, while Prof. John Talbott chaired a session on "One Hundred Years of 'Sea Power." And Prof. Emeritus Wilbur Jacobs chaired a panel on "Consensus and Conflict on the American Indian Frontier."

UCSB grads were equally in evidence.

Pedro Castillo (Ph.D. '79), now teaching at U.C. Santa Cruz, chaired a session on "Mexicans, Migration and Revolution: Binational Labor Struggles," and Mary Ryan (Ph.D. '71), now at U.C. Berkeley, served as commentator on a panel on "Sexual Boundaries, Urban Space: The Cultural Geography of New York City."

Rick Kennedy (Ph.D. '87), now at Indiana University Southeast, delivered a paper on "The Alliance between Puritanism and Cartesian Logic at Harvard, 1687-1765" and also led a walking tour of Houses of Worship in downtown San Francisco for the American Society of Church History.

Mike Mullin (Ph.D. '89) delivered a paper on "Consensus and Conflict: Sir William Johnson and the Mohawks," while Sally Vaughn (Ph.D. '78) spoke on "St. Anselm and Women: Tradition and Novelty in Anglo-Norman Monasticism." At the same session, Cassandra Potts, who is completing her Ph.D. this year, delivered a paper on "Monks in a Violent World: Mont-Saint-Michel's Divided Loyalties during the Reign of Robert the Magnificent, 1027-1035."



PRESIDENTIAL DISGUISE. Prof. Paul Sonnino, disguised in a suit and tie, delivers his "Eloge historique de Andrew Lossky," professor emeritus at UCLA, who is seated to his left. In attendance is Prof. Ragnhild Hatton of the London School of Economics. The occasion was the annual meeting of the Western Society for French History, held last October in New Orleans.

Prof. Soninno Elected to Prestigious Post

Prof. Paul Sonnino, whose "Louis XIV and the Origins of the Dutch War" was published last year by Cambridge University Press, has been elected Vice President of the Western Society for French History, an office that carries with it automatic succession to the Presidency in 1990-91.

With more than 500 members and a mailing list of over 1,000, the Western Society is one of the two largest professional organizations of French scholars in the country. Prof. Sonnino was elected to the leadership post at the organization's annual meeting in New Orleans last October, during which time he delivered a tribute to his mentor, UCLA Prof. Emeritus Andrew Lossky, the doyen of Louis XIV scholars in the United States.

In the address, which he dubbed an "Eloge historique de Andrew Lossky," Prof. Sonnino speculated on the effect Prof. Lossky might have had on the court of the Sun King.

The speech was accompanied by presentation of a fest-schrift, edited by Prof. Sonnino, in which a number of distinguished scholars assess Louis XIV's impact on the development of law, religion, art, music and diplomacy.

Prof. Sonnino's own essay in the volume, on "The Intellectual History of the Reign," shows the iconoclastic wit well-known to students in his classes on early modern France and Western Civilization.

(Please See SONNINO, p. 5)

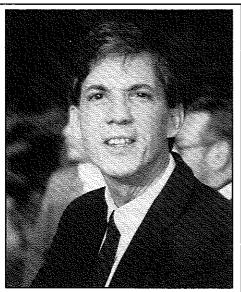
Scenes of a Sabbatical in San Salvador

(History Prof. Hector Lindo-Fuentes is well-known to members of the History Associates who remember his eye-witness account of elections in his native El Salvador last year. Prof. Lindo-Fuentes was in San Salvador again last November when the guerrillas attacked. We asked him to describe his experiences.)

By Hector Lindo-Fuentes

We were already awake when somebody knocked at the door of my family's house in San Salvador last November. It was 2 a.m., and we had been hearing gunfire since midnight; it was clear that the neighborhood had received yet another visit of the guerrilla forces.

My brother opened the door at once. We had already



HECTOR LINDO-FUENTES
...Salvador crisis

discussed this matter, and decided that whoever knocked, we had to open; a week earlier, our 80-year-old neighbor refused to open to the army, and her front door was forced open with an explosive.

Our visitors, however, were five guerrillas.

"We want power," their leader said. My brother informed them that he could not give them power, but that they could come in.

They wanted to know who lived there, how many of us there were, if we belonged to any political party, and if we had any weapons. Then they inspected the house, opened every closet and every drawer.

Apparently they did not find anything interesting. "Leave the front door open," their leader said. "We will be back."

As far as we could hear, the fighting was intense, and it was clear that we would not be able to sleep. There were five of us: my mother, the maid, my younger brother, my older brother, and myself. The airplanes and helicopters of the army were active with machine guns and rockets, and the streets were a battleground. We had to find a place to hide.

My mother's room seemed an appropriate "bunker": it

had windows to the back yard rather than to the street, and it had a second floor above that would buffer any bomb. Besides, it had a safe bathroom—an important consideration under the circumstances.

We lit a candle (by that time we had lost all services, electricity, water and telephone), and started talking. It was mostly a light conversation, trying to make fun of our situation and rehearsing the humorous stories that we would tell once we got out of this. Sometimes we got tired and kept silent. Well, silence is not the right word. The airplanes, helicopters, machine guns, grenades, mortars and the like filled the vacuum.

After surrise we felt relieved; somehow the situation seemed easier to manage. At times, our curiosity was more powerful

(Please See SABBATICAL, p.5)

Grad Student Wins National History Honor

Grad student J. Michael Burger has won one of the national History honor society Phi Alpha Theta's two top annual awards for 1989-90.

Burger, who is working on his Ph.D. in medieval history, was notified that he received the Dr. John Pine Scholarship, which is awarded to a Phi Alpha Theta member who is already enrolled in graduate school. The scholarship carries a stipend of \$750.

Phi Alpha Theta's other major award, the Dr. A.F. Zimmerman Award, carries a stipend of \$1,000 and is given to a student member entering graduate school for the first time.

Recipients of both awards are selected on the basis of national competition.

Burger is in England this year, conducting research for his dissertation on the bishopric of Lincoln in the Anglo-Norman period.

Historia

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Sabbatical

(Continued from p. 4)

than our prudence, and we would go to see what was going on in the street. It was deserted, but around 8:30 there was a strong confrontation. The noise was rhythmic and ferocious, and we were paralyzed by the sheer sonic power from the automatic weapons that paralyzed us by its ferocity.

Silence followed, then screams. I went to the window and saw a band of guerrillas retreating quietly up my street. They knocked at our door—three adults and one child. The leader was carrying three back packs full of ammunition that belonged to his dead comrades. He was covered with blood.

They asked for a ladder and a power drill. The little kid tried to use the ladder to climb to the neighbor's backyard, but the weight of his backpack and AK-47 pulled him back and he fell flat on the ground.

Eventually they all left our house. Later, we found out that their mission had been to burn the house of a friend of ours that was rented to the government's propaganda office.

This account is already way too long. But I guess that the reader will get the feeling of the kind of day we had.

The Red Cross rescued us at around 5:30 p.m., half an hour before curfew, when we were certain that we were going to be trapped for another day.

Fortunately—if that is the right word—the fighting was centered very much around my house, and other parts of the city were relatively quiet. We could go to my cousin's house, where we had a nice rest.

Sonnino

(Continued from p. 3)

"Never before had so much purified wisdom been squandered on a bigger dolt," he writes of Bossuet's attempts to educate the Dauphin. And, in a sideswipe at fawning historians who tried to conceal the failure of Louis' Dutch wars, he refers to a Dutch Republic "which, in spite of all the historians, had not been subjugated."

Prof. Sonnino currently is engaged in planning for the Society's 1990 meeting, which will be held in Santa Barbara next November. Featured speakers for the meeting, which is being co-sponsored by UCSB's Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, will include Profs. Bruno Neveu of the Sorbonne, David Chandler of Sandhurst, and Eugen Weber of UCLA.

Frost

(Continued from p. 1)

cent of the student body every year!"

In addition to History 4, Prof. Frost has taught a large upper-division course in Ancient Greek history and a highly popular course in the "History of Seafaring."

At his final Western Civ lecture last Fall, Prof. Frost's teaching assistants led the 900-student class in an emotional tribute that ended with presentation of a liter of Russian vodka.

Greek Specialist

A distinguished specialist in early Greek history, Prof. Frost began his career with an influential study of the "Life of Themistocles" written by the Greek priest and biographer Plutarch. He later branched out into archaeology, becoming one of the pioneers in the then-new field of underwater archaeology.

In recent years, he has devoted his summers to excavating the ancient site of Phalassama in Western Crete, while at the same time conducting research for a book on Athens in the 6th century B.C. He has recently been nominated for the Presidency of the national Association of Ancient Historians.

"I decided to retire now so I could devote more time to these projects," Prof. Frost explained. "I also thought it would give the Department a jump on the market in looking for my successor because in five years everybody is going to retire and there aren't going to be enough good young people to replace them."

Colorful Career

Prof. Frost's colorful career spanned the eventful years of UCSB's move to its present location from a small campus on the Riviera, its rapid growth in the 1960s, and its maturation into a major research university.

"I came to UCSB as a student in 1954," he explained recently. "I had no way of guessing at that time that I would eventually teach 4A myself for twenty-four years."

Always public spirited, he conducted a successful campaign for Santa Barbara County Supervisor in 1973 on a slow-growth platform and later waged a vigorous campaign for Congress against incumbent Robert Lagomarsino to protest then-President Ronald Reagan's domestic policies.

A maverick in his politics, Prof. Frost fought, as Supervisor, against attempts to close a nude beach ("No one's ever been caught carrying a concealed weapon") and wrote an introduction to a book on the then-controversial use of hot tubs.

Asked what he did with the bottle of vodka that his students gave him, Prof. Frost simply smiled and said, "It didn't go to waste."

Hsu

(Continued from p. 1)

nation has been affected by events in Eastern Europe, where nations of the Soviet bloc have peacefully and forcibly overthrown their Communist governments. Conditions in China, Dr. Hsu explains, "remain very tense in light of the explosive developments in Eastern Europe."

Born in Shanghai in 1923, Dr. Hsu received his B.A. from Beijing's Yenching University in 1946 before moving to the United States. He received his M.A. from the University of Minnesota in 1950, and earned a Ph.D. from Harvard four years later. He speaks Chinese, Japanese, French, Russian, and English. He has taught and lectured at the University of California, Berkeley, Harvard, and Hamburg, West Germany.

Historía

Dr. Hsu came to UCSB in 1959 and has served in various administrative posts, including chairmanship of the Graduate Council, the Asian Studies Program, and the History Department.

He has published numerous books and articles, including the best-selling "Rise of Modern China," published by Oxford University Press, and "China Without Mao: The Search for a New Order."

Dr. Hsu's appearance will be the fourth in the 1989-90 season of History Associates lecture-luncheons.

Reservations for the luncheon can be made through the UCSB Alumni Association at (805) 961-2288. Tickets are \$12 for members and \$14 for non-members.

Historía

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