The image features the words 'ALPHA' and 'BRAVO' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Each letter is intricately designed with military and technological motifs. The 'A's in 'ALPHA' and 'BRAVO' contain silhouettes of soldiers in combat gear. The 'L' in 'ALPHA' is filled with a grid pattern. The 'P' in 'ALPHA' has a vertical line through its center. The 'H' in 'ALPHA' has a horizontal line through its center. The 'B' in 'BRAVO' has a vertical line through its center. The 'R' in 'BRAVO' has a vertical line through its center. The 'A' in 'BRAVO' has a vertical line through its center. The 'V' in 'BRAVO' has a vertical line through its center. The 'O' in 'BRAVO' is a solid black circle with a white cross inside. The overall style is graphic and industrial.

A MILITARY ALPHABET
WAR FROM A TO Z

Drawings By David McLimans
Text by Michael Duffy



A MILITARY ALPHABET

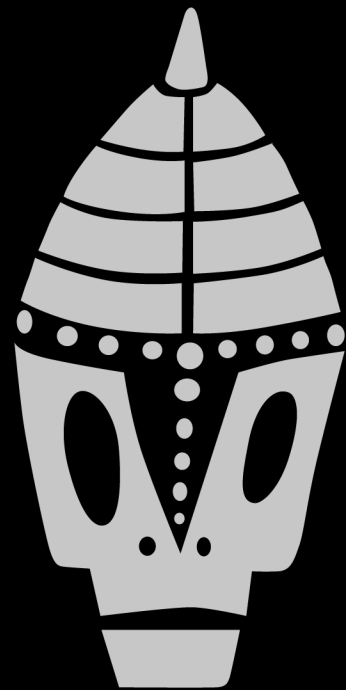
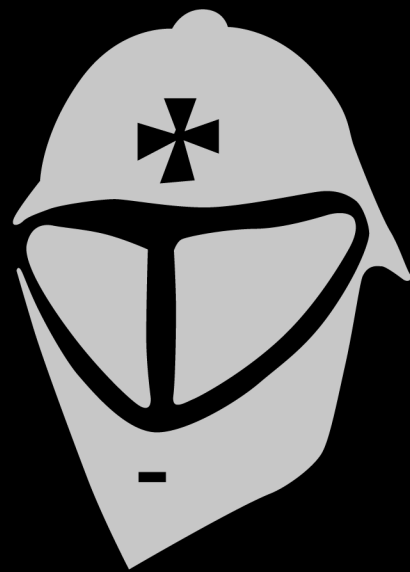
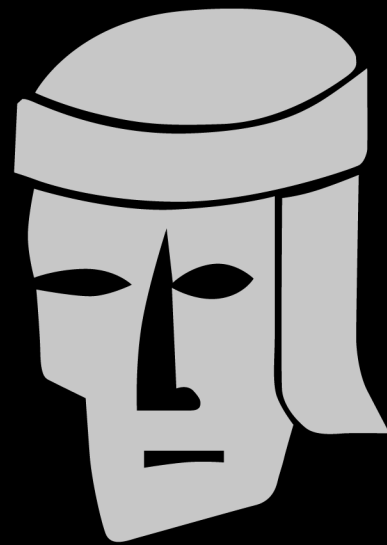
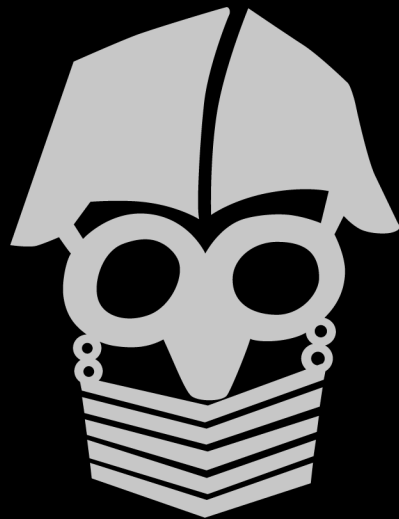
- ALPHA
- BRAVO
- CHARLIE
- DELTA
- ECHO
- FOXTROT
- GOLF
- HOTEL
- INDIAN
- JULIET
- KILO
- LIMA
- MIKE
- NOVEMBER
- OSCAR
- PAPA
- QUEBEC
- ROMEO
- SIERRA
- TANGO
- UNIFORM
- VICTOR
- WHISKEY
- X-RAY
- YANKEE
- ZULU



WAR FROM A TO Z

- Armageddon
- Battle of the Bulge
- Crusades
- Dresden
- Eighty Years' War
- French and Indian War
- Gettysburg
- Hiroshima
- Iraq
- Jericho
- Korea
- Little Bighorn
- Mongol Invasion
- Ninevah
- Orleans
- Peloponnesian War
- Quemoy
- Rwanda
- Somme
- Terrorism, Global War on
- Usumacinta
- Vietnam
- Wounded Knee
- Xenophobia
- Yugoslavia
- Zanzibar





Armageddon

The war to end all wars. The Big One.

The final battle. The biblical heavy weight championship. The Lord cometh to destroy all sinners. Earthquakes and floods. Fire and sulfur. Wailing. Holy hell. The Sign of the Beast. There will be no sequel.

Apocalypse.

T.B.A.

BELLIGERENTS

Christ vs. the AntiChrist

STAKES

All the Marbles

CASUALTIES

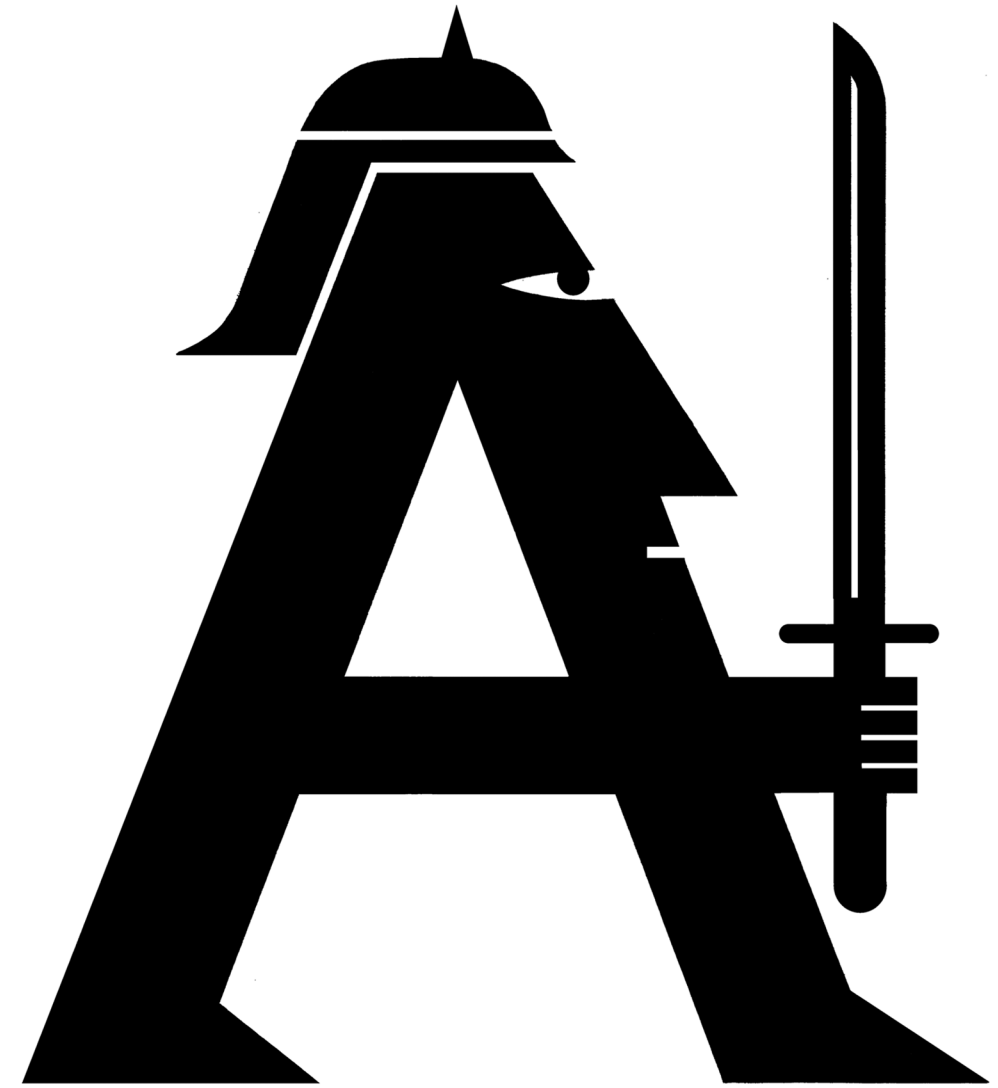
God only knows.

FUN FACT

The beast resembles a leopard with the feet of a bear and a lion's mouth, ten horns and seven heads.

MORAL

Behave Yourself.



Battle of the Bulge

The deadliest battle of World War II. A Bloodbath. A gas-guzzling blitzkrieg of man and machine. Artillery shells and howitzers filled the Ardennes forest with smoke and blood for six weeks in deep snow and frigid temperatures. Propaganda rang from loud speakers in the woods: “Your wives and girlfriends are home in a nice warm building, dancing with other men.” Paratroopers hung in trees. Men urinated on their frozen weapons. Tanks ran out of gas. Teenage German soldiers on crystal meth. Epic trench foot.

Bollocks.

1945

BELLIGERENTS

Europeans

CASUALTIES

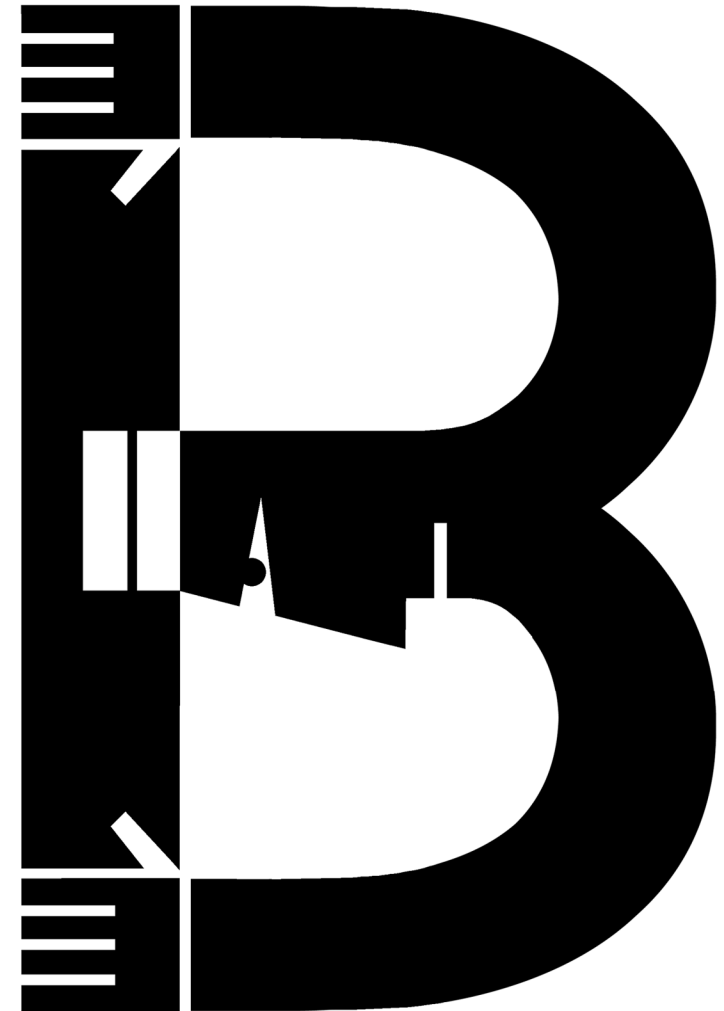
175,000

DID YOU KNOW?

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder was yet to be invented. Soldiers had to settle for Battle Fatigue.

MYTHOLOGY

WWII was the Good War, fought by the Greatest Generation.



The Crusades

Christendom was in chaos. Unemployed knights and medieval maulers chopped away with scimitars, warhammers, poleaxes, mace and pike. Pope Urban II, in a job creation scheme for deplorables, launched a mission from God. The Holyland must be taken back from the infidels. Recruits were given plenary indulgences (Get-Out-Of-Jail-Free cards,) a license to kill, and directions to Constantinople. Plunder was a perk. Peter the Hermit and the People's Crusade massacred thousands. The "liberation" of Jerusalem delivered a flood of blood and corpses. The last great ancient library was razed. The bronze horses of the Hippodrome were carted off to Venice. Some say the Crusades were a long act of intolerance in the name of God.

Christ on a Cracker.

1096 - 1292

BELLIGERENTS

Pope vs. Byzantium, Turks, Muslims, Jews, heretics, enemies of Christ, thaumaturges.

CASUALTIES

1,000,000

THE JIST OF THE SCHISM

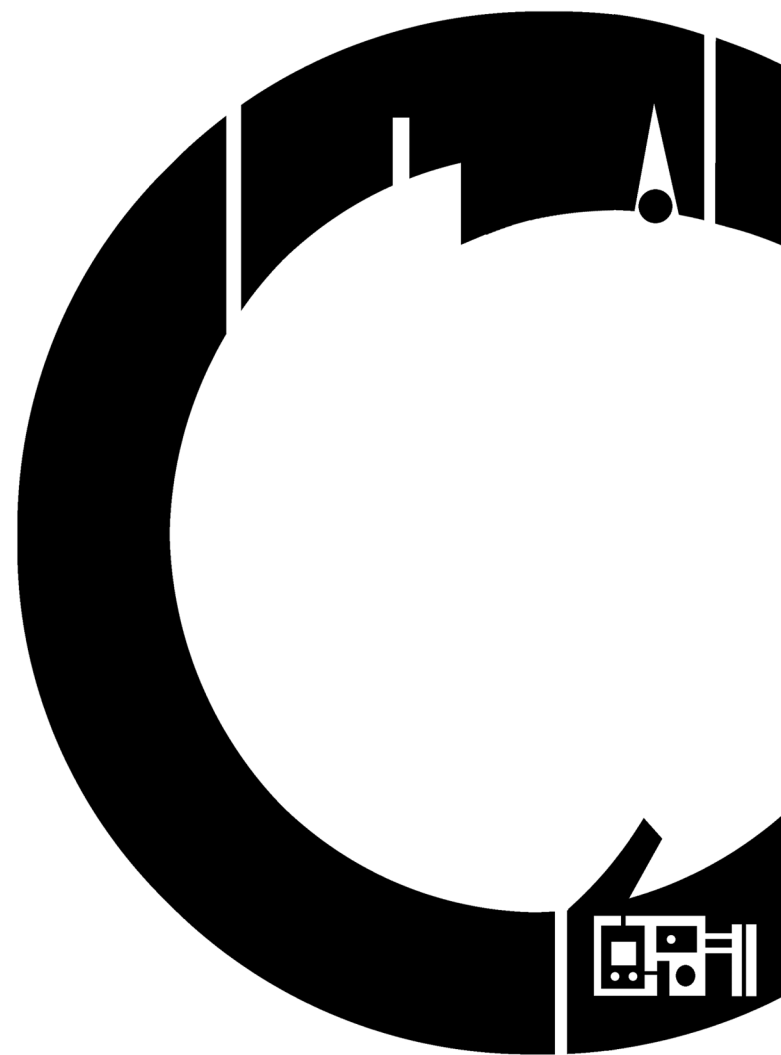
Rome believed in Purgatory and the Pope. Byzantium, not so much.

BRANDING

Knights wore a red cross on their garments. Crusade comes from the Latin word *cruciata*, meaning cross.

PROFILES IN CARNAGE

King Louis IX, AKA Saint Louis, died of dysentery in the final crusade, not before giving us "presumed innocence," Talmud burning, and the Inquisition. One out of three aint bad.



Dresden

Over three days in winter, thousands of tons of bombs and incendiary devices were dropped on the defenseless city of Dresden. The explosions blew off roofs and knocked out doors and windows and the fires raged through the perforated buildings. Deafening blasts mangled infrastructure. People were frozen in molten asphalt, aflame. Nurses dragged crippled patients to the Elbe River. Bombers on the second wave of attack could see the fire from 500 miles away. Pilots returned to strafe refugees.

Dante's Inferno.

1945

BELLIGERENTS

Politicians with Bombs
vs. The Will of the Enemy

CASUALTIES

100,000

MOMENTS OF RARE CANDOR

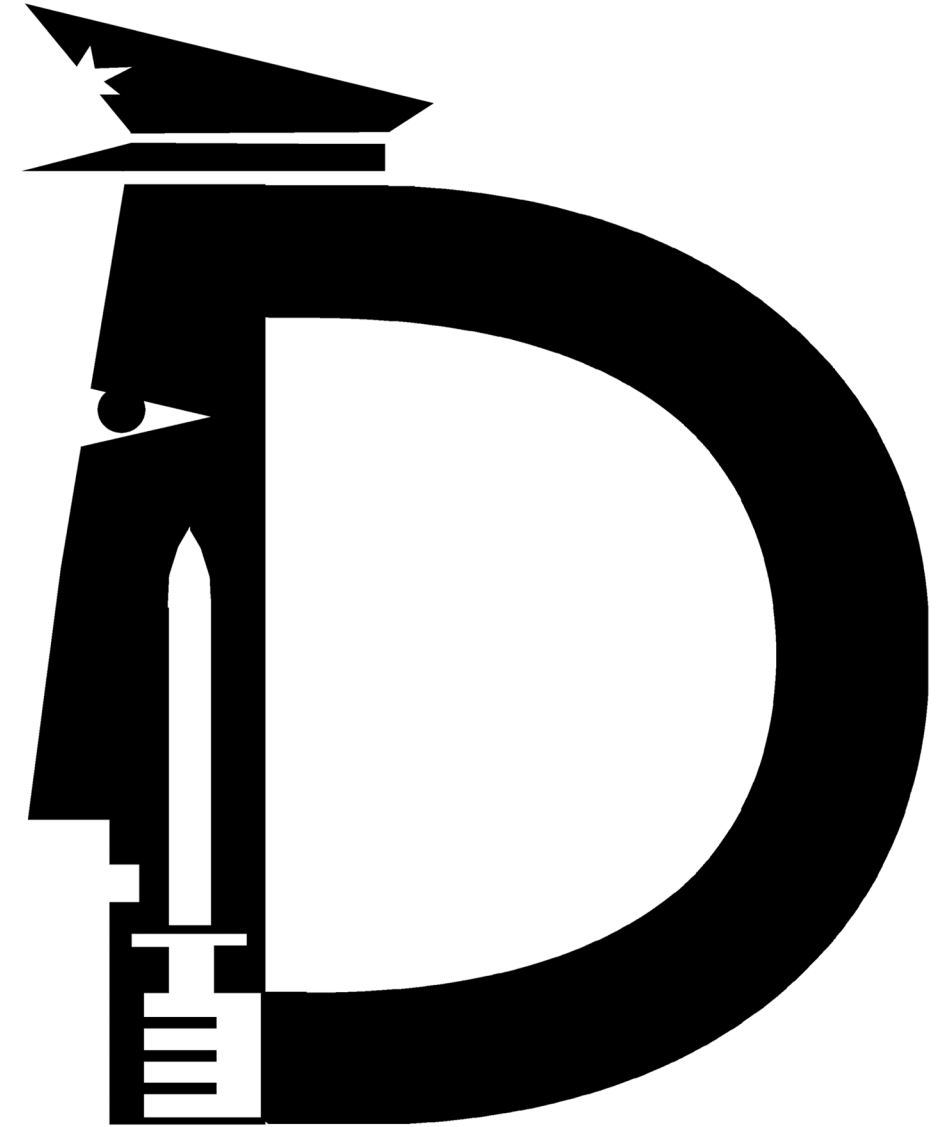
"the government has preferred the world to think that we still held some scruples and attacked only what the humanitarians are pleased to call military targets ... I can assure you, Gentlemen, that we tolerate no scruples" – Chief Bomber Commander

DID HE SAY THAT OUT LOUD?

"the question of bombing of German cities simply for the sake of increasing the terror, though under other pretexts, should be reviewed. Otherwise we shall come into control of an utterly ruined land."
– Winston Churchill

MORALITY

Dubious.



Eighty Years' War

A harsh governor was sent to quell unrest in the provinces and promptly beheaded two rebels. The Council of Troubles hanged a thousand heretics. Towns were starved and citizens were abused with cannon, musket, and pike. Castle walls were undermined by sappers. Hellburner ships were loaded with explosives and loosed on rivers, setting bridges ablaze and torching wharves. Occupying armies went unpaid and took their fury out on captive citizens. Soldiers, endlessly on the move, wore their swag into battle: fancy clothes, necklaces, rings, bracelets.

The original Eurozone.

1568 - 1648

BELLIGERENTS

Protestants vs. The Holy Roman Empire

CASUALTIES

Estimated one million dead;
the Divine Right of Kings

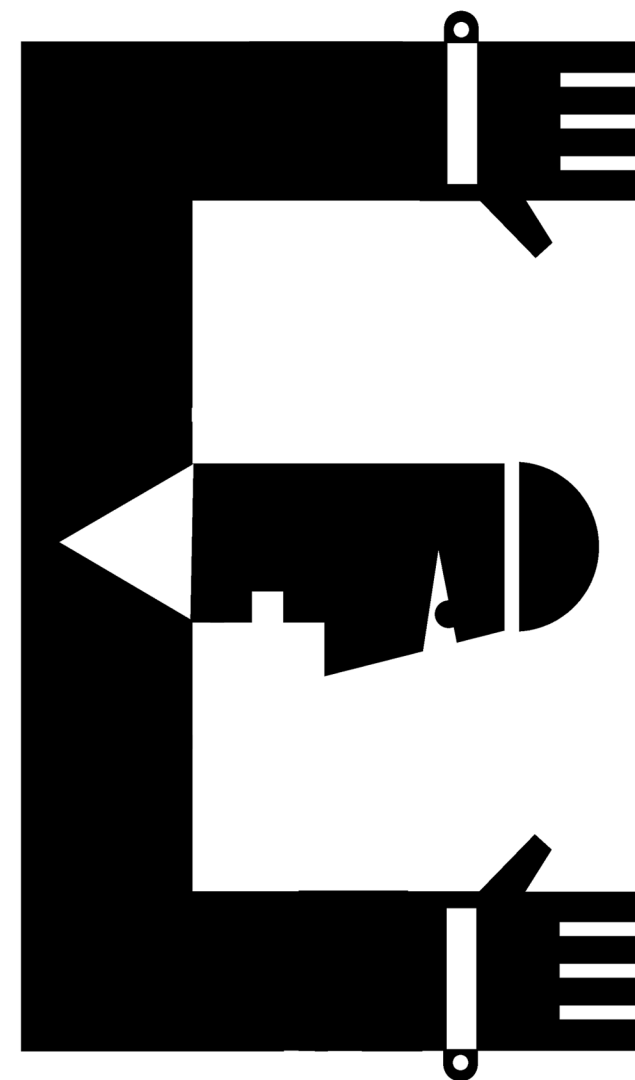
WTF IS A SIEGE?

The siege was the preferred military practice of the day and involved three techniques:

Investment: The surrounding of an enemy fort or town with an army to prevent entry or escape and cut off supplies and reinforcements.

Circumvallation: The building of ramparts and entrenchments to encircle a besieged city.

Contravallation: The building of entrenchments protecting the circumvallation line from outside attack.



French and Indian War

A European dust-up that jumped the Atlantic.

A war for control of the fur trade of Hudson Bay and ultimately the heart of the continent. Competing invaders pitted native tribe against tribe. Tomahawks dented skulls.

Flintlocks flashed. Complementary blankets carried smallpox. Villages were burned to the ground. Canada was lost to England. New Orleans to Spain. France gave up North America for two sugar plantations in the Caribbean.

Indians fled west. George Washington got schooled in guerrilla warfare. The British army killed thirty of their own in a night-blind meltdown of musket fire.

Free-for-all.

1754 - 1763

BELLIGERENTS

Colonialists and Natives, in various confederacies

STAKES

North America

OUTCOME

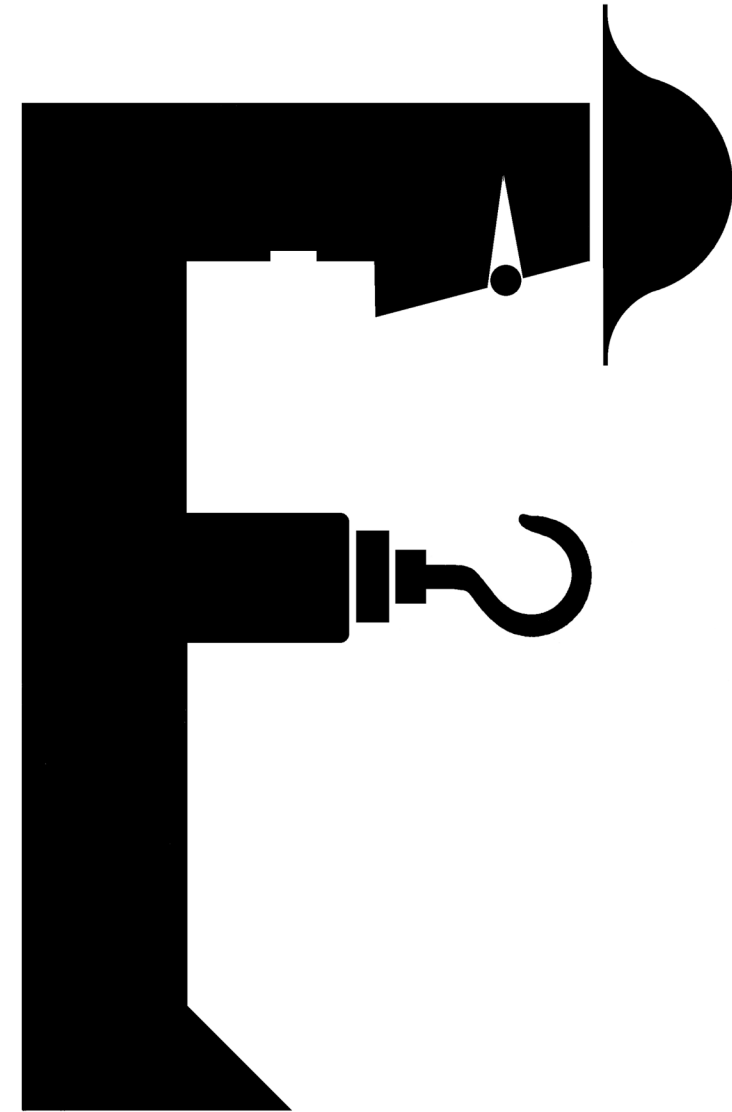
English spoken here

FAUX PAS

Voltaire referred to Canada as nothing more than a few acres of snow.

MYTHOLOGY

Manifest Destiny



Gettysburg

For three days in July, 160,000 Americans murdered and maimed each other with musket and bayonet and bare-knuckled blows under a rain of cannon fire in the Battle of Gettysburg. Bronze guns called “Napoleons” hurled 12-pound iron balls over a mile in distance. The Whitworth Breechloading Rifle launched a twelve-pound bolt two miles. The din from the artillery barrage was heard 140 miles away in Pittsburg. Army surgeons sawed away under tents and made piles of discarded arms and legs. Two thirds of battlefield deaths were from infection and disease. 5,000 horses and mules died in the battle. Funeral fires smoldered for weeks.

Glory. Gory.

1863

BELLIGERENTS

North vs.South

STAKES

these United States

OUTCOME/CASUALTIES

50,000 dead

INNOVATION IN LETHALITY

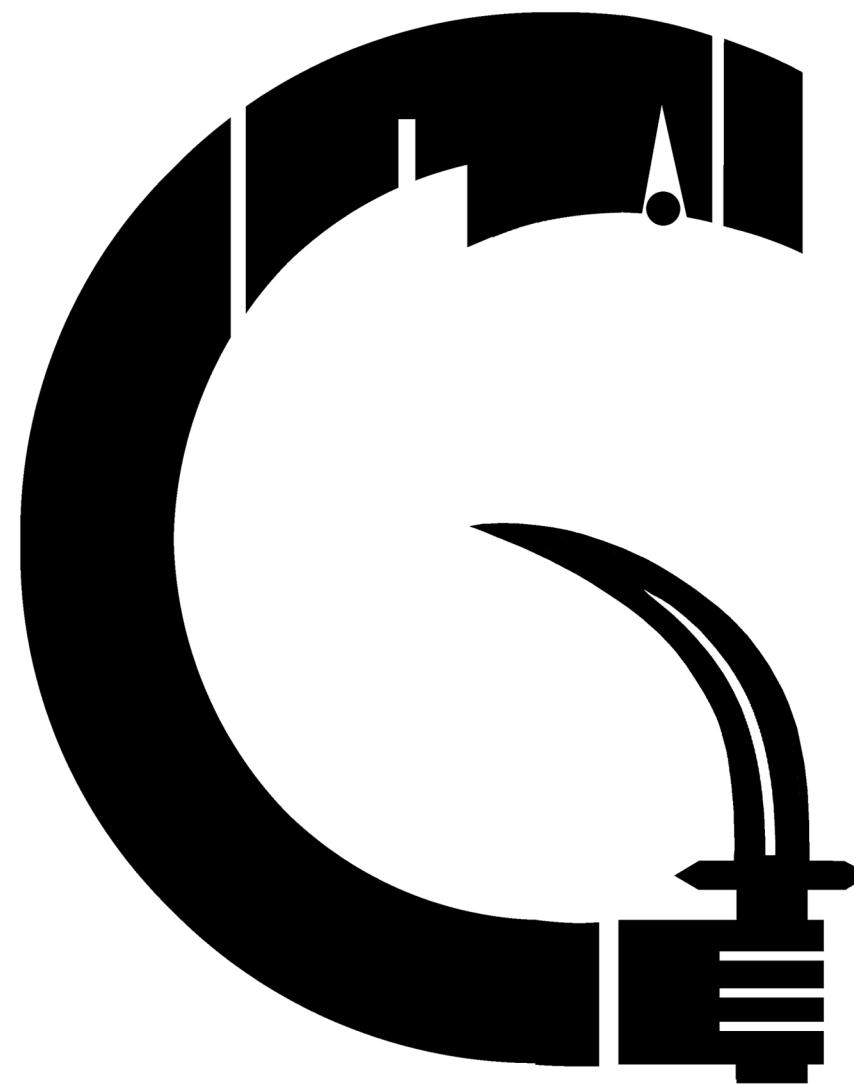
The Minié ball was a hollow bullet that flattened on impact, flaying organ and bone, and left a large, ragged exit wound.

HUMANIZING DETAIL

Robert E. Lee had a bad case of diarrhea.

IMPONDERABLES

Most of the tens of thousands of rifles abandoned on the battlefield were loaded.



Hiroshima

Hell on Earth. The citizens of Hiroshima were told to “expect a rain of ruin from the air.”

An atomic bomb named *Little Boy* fell from a bomber named *Enola Gay* and delivered a blinding flash and unleashed a tsunami of death. The storm of fire and gamma radiation formed a furnace two miles in diameter. Souls not cremated instantly died over days and weeks from radiation sickness. Hospitals and doctors had vaporized with the rest. Survivors were called “ant-walking alligators.” Their skin had been seared from their skulls, leaving a black, leathery blob with a red hole where the mouth had once been. They could not scream.

Horror show.

1945

BELLIGERENTS

Technology vs. Innocents

OUTCOME

150,000 dead

MORALITY

Not so much.

BEST PRACTICE

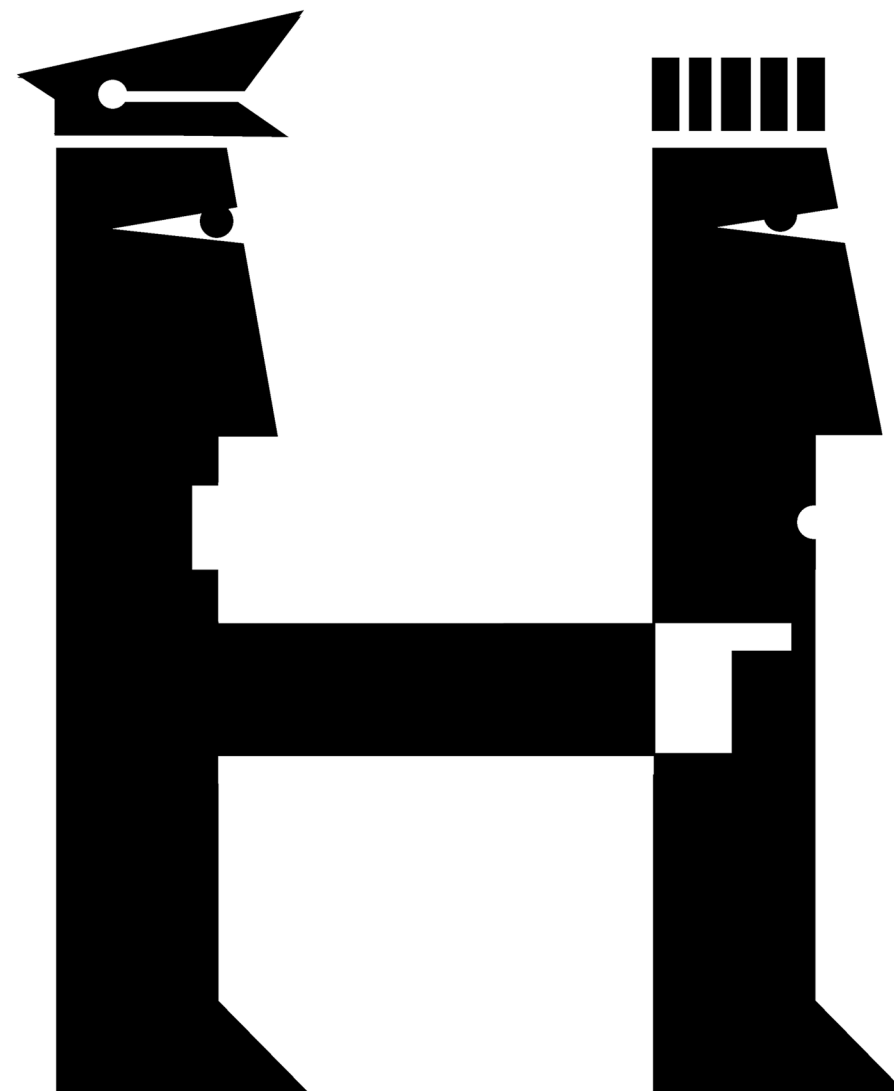
Commanders had kept Hiroshima free of damage so accurate assessment of the bomb’s effectiveness could be made.

DUMB LUCK

The city of Kyoto was to be targeted as well but was spared annihilation by the U.S. Secretary of War, who had honeymooned there.

COMFORTING JUSTIFICATION

The bomb shortened the war.



Iraq War*

Million dollar Tomahawk cruise missiles, launched from submarines in the the Red Sea, flew at 500 miles an hour low above the desert to deliver death to a recalcitrant dictator. Stealth bombers flew round-trip from Missouri to lay waste to the ancient city of Baghdad. Warthogs armed with gatling canons fired armor-piercing shells at a rate of 4,000 rounds per minute. White phosphorus made children sick, cluster bombs took their lives and limbs. Guards at Abu Ghraib prison took selfies with stacked and naked prisoners. Journalists were beheaded. Teenagers were snatched to Gitmo. Rebels improvised explosive devices and recruits in air-conditioned trailers vaporized clerics by remote control.

Now with ISIS!

* A thorough synopsis of this hideous and on-going, illegal and ever-darkening war is not possible within the constraints of this page.

2003 - 20??

BELLIGERENTS

George Bush vs.Saddam Hussein

BRANDING

Shock and Awe

DEGREE OF BLOODLUST

The dictator's head rolled off in a botched hanging.

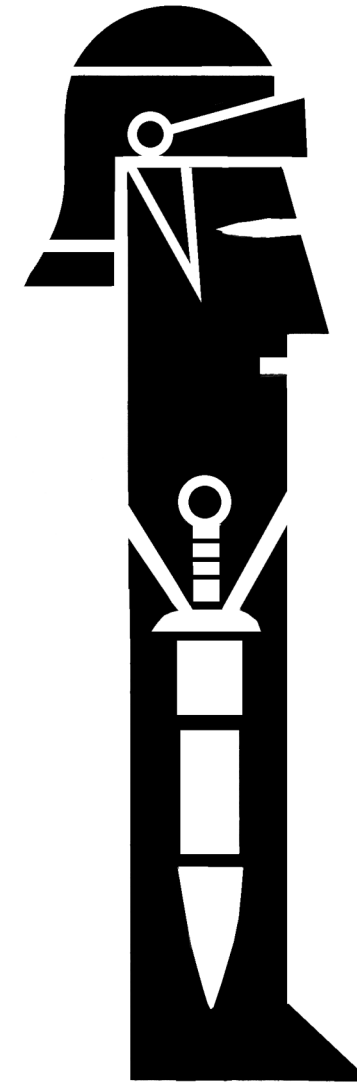
EVIDENCE OF CLUELESSNESS

In a war that rages yet today, "Mission Accomplished" was declared after three weeks.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN VIOLENCE

1.8 billion rounds of ammunition were spent per year of occupation, 250,000 bullets for each kill.

The Bunker Buster is a 5,000-pound laser-guided bomb nicknamed "Deep Throat" and unofficially nicknamed "The Saddamizer."



Jericho

The city was under siege. No one went out and no one came in. The Lord said to Joshua, “March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams’ horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout.”

On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times. When the trumpets sounded, the wall collapsed and they took the city. They destroyed with the sword every living thing in it—men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys, and reduced it to ash.

Junk Science.

1941 - 1945

BELLIGERENTS

Israelites vs. Canaanites

FAKE NEWS

Scholars agree the Book of Joshua’s account of the Battle of Jericho is largely horse feathers.

MARK TWAIN ON THOROUGHNESS

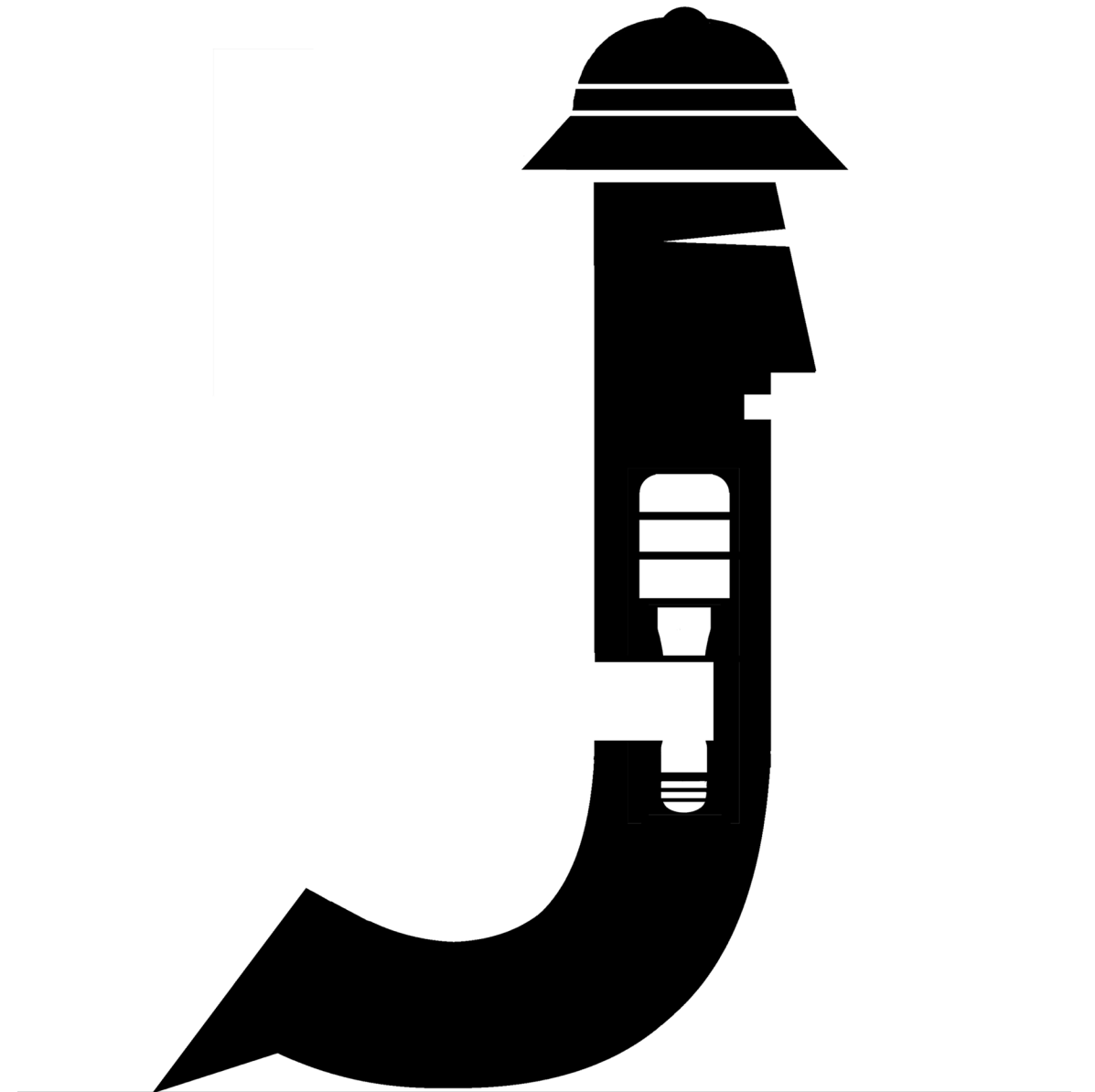
“When Joshua marched around Jericho some three thousand years ago, and blew it down with his trumpet, he did the work so well and so completely that he hardly left enough of the city to cast a shadow.”

SCORCHED EARTH

The total destruction of the enemy and his goods, and the reduction of the city to smoldering rubble was a practice known as *Herem*.

IMMORTALIZED IN SONG

“Joshua fit the battle of Jericho
And the walls come tumbling down.”



Korea

A line in the sand was drawn at the 38th parallel. The Reds took the North and the Yanks the South. The line was crossed. Mig fighter jets took down Boeing super-fortresses. Helicopters dumped guerrillas into the sea, delivered soldiers in pieces to MASH units. Planes bounced off the decks of aircraft carriers and sank into the Pacific. Tens of thousands of rebels were jailed and executed. Soldiers drank water from rice paddies fertilized with human waste. Hundreds of thousands of men were forced to march 300 miles to the war's frontline, dying or deserting along the way. Commies were hunted at home.

Karl Marx lives.

1950 -1953

BELLIGERENTS

Democratic People's Republic of Korea vs. Republic of Korea;
The first Cold War rumble

DEGREE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

"the Korean peninsula was a symbol of the global struggle between east and west, good and evil." – Harry Truman

OUTCOME

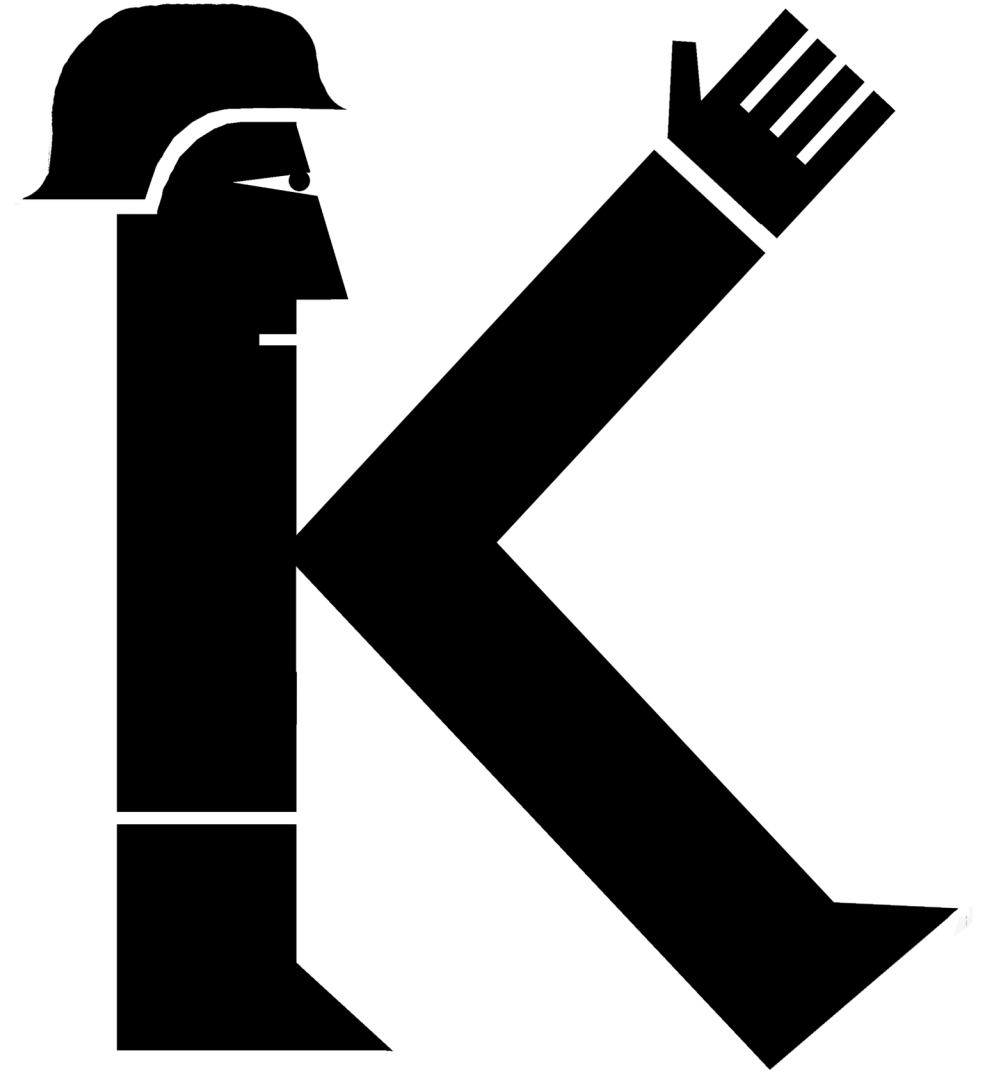
5,000,000 dead; no peace treaty;
Birth of the Domino Effect

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

By the end of the campaign, US bombers had no targets left and were reduced to bombing footbridges or dumping their payloads into the seas.

MOMENT OF RARE CANDOR

General Curtis LeMay said that "we went over there and eventually burned down every town in North Korea, some way or another, and some in South Korea, too."



Little Bighorn

(AKA the Battle of the Greasy Grass)

Gold was discovered in the Black Hills. A treaty was torn up and the cavalry was sent to evict Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse. Thousands of Native Americans gathered along the Little Bighorn River. An upbeat General and 600 soldiers entered the river valley. The Indians were well-armed with repeating rifles, revolvers and other firearms. Sitting Bull's nephew owned a muzzleloader. The soldiers took heavy fire and were ordered to shoot their horses and stack the carcasses to form a wall against bullets. Within an hour all were dead. The Indians stripped and mutilated the bodies of the dead to force them to walk the earth for all eternity.

Legacy.

1876

BELLIGERENTS

Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Arapaho vs. the 7th Cavalry

CASUALTIES

George Armstrong Custer

TROOP FEEDBACK

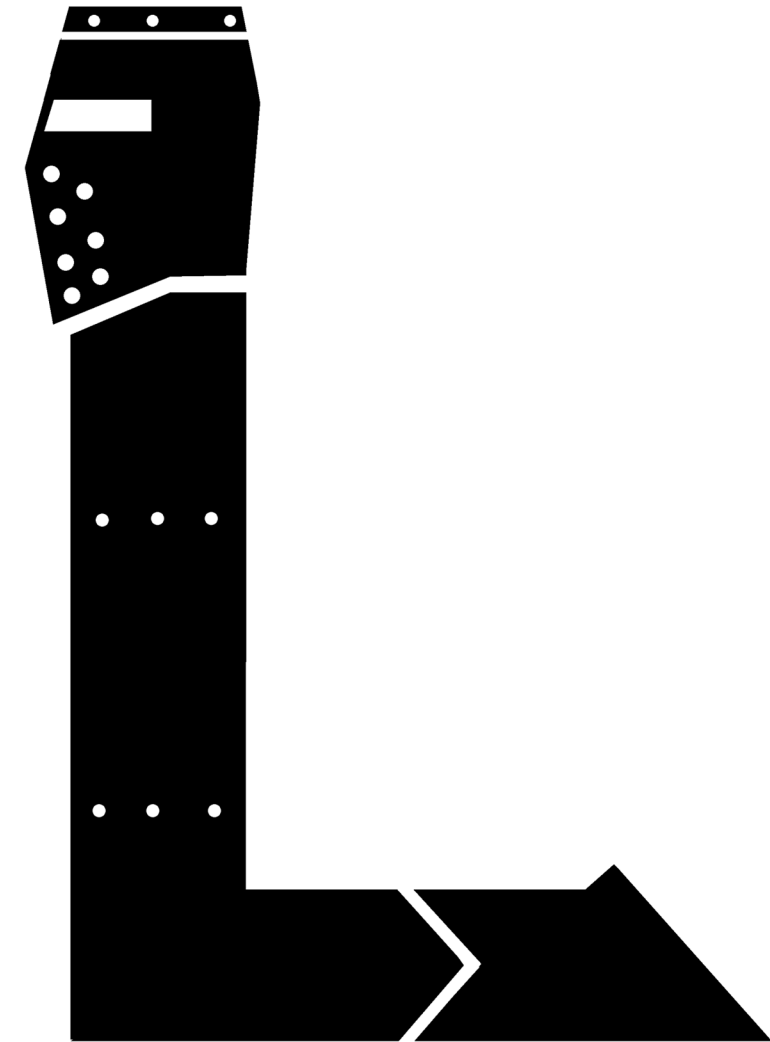
Soldiers called the Colt revolver a "thumb-buster."

CHIVALRY LIVES

Custer ordered that his wife, Elizabeth, who often rode with the cavalry, should be shot by an officer than be taken by the Indians.

FREE ADVICE

Cavalrymen were told to save the last bullet for themselves.



Mongol Invasions

Major cities ran with blood. Enemies surrendered rather than face oblivion at the hands of the notorious Genghis Khan, who mused: “The greatest joy a man can know is to conquer his enemies and drive them before him. To ride their horses and take away their possessions. To see the faces of those who were dear to them bedewed with tears, and to clasp their wives and daughters in his arms.” Beijing was sacked and Baghdad utterly demolished. The Grand Library was razed and the Euphrates ran black with ink. They rolled the caliph up in a rug and rode their horses over him. They offered the city of Kiev terms for surrender, but when rebuffed, lambasted the city with gun powder bombs and flaming naphtha. They burned its buildings and massacred its citizens.

Murderous.

1206–1337

BELLIGERENTS

Mongols vs. Unfortunates in their path

MONGOL MESSAGING

Surrender or die

PREGAME RITUAL

Defenders of a city under siege removed large rocks from the region to deny ammunition for trebuchets.

THREAT ASSESSMENT

China’s Great Wall was built to keep out the Mongols.

COMPETITIVE EDGE

Stirrups enabled Mongol archers to turn their bodies and shoot in all directions.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Diseased cadavers were catapulted into towns.

BRANDING

The Golden Horde



Ninevah

Ninevah was the largest city in the world and the heart of the badass Assyrian Empire. Its professional army was ruthless and fought with weapons of iron and rode sweet chariots. They burned down Babylon, razed its temples and made off with the statue of the god Marduk. They besieged Jerusalem by means of earth-ramps and battering-rams and placed its leader in a cage like a bird. The captured were relieved of their hands and feet. Ninevah's enemies united in vengeance. They overran the rich capital city of arches and aqueducts and laid waste, erased it utterly from history. God make Nineveh a desolation, a wasteland, as the Bible foretold.

Nuts.

612 BCE

BELLIGERENTS

Assyrians vs. Medes and Babylonians

STAKES

Mesopotamia

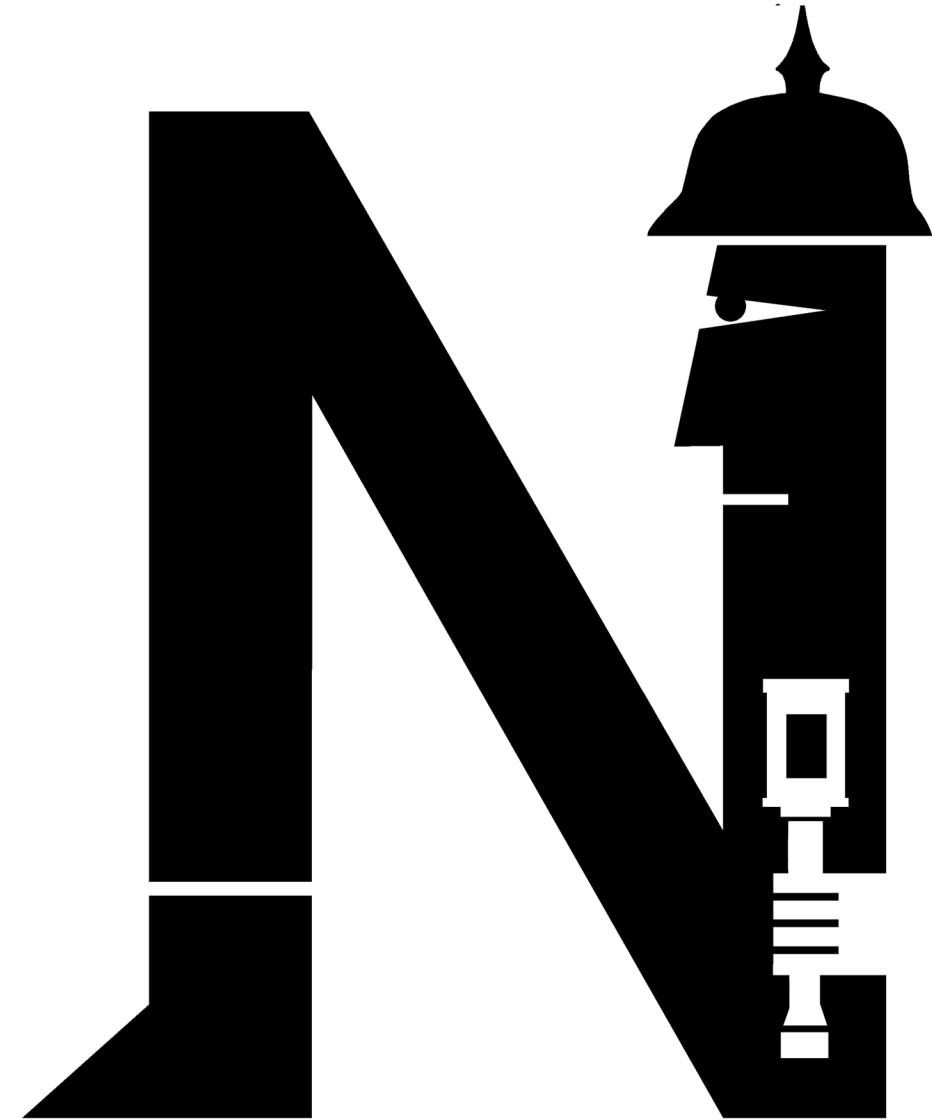
ANNALS OF ANNIHILATION

Ninevah was so thoroughly flattened that it wasn't until the 19th century that its treasures were discovered, many hauled off to the British museum.

The tomb of Jonah, one of a very few surviving monuments of Assyrian culture, was destroyed by lunatic fundamentalists in 2014.

BATTLEFIELD INNOVATION

The Assyrian military invented the army boot.



One Hundred Years' War

England and France were at each others' throats for generations in the Hundred Years' War. Soldiers wore pointed steel skull-caps. The arquebus hand gun spat misery. Arrows from longbows removed steel-plated knights from atop armored horses. The duke of Burgundy fired 412 cannonballs into the town of Lagny and killed but a chicken. Joan of Arc joined the battle to liberate the city of Orleans and was held back by missile fire, scalding oil, hot coals and quicklime. With a bum leg, she grabbed a ladder and led the assault on the battlements. Shakespeare gave us the pre-game pep talk : "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers" in his play about the Battle of Agincourt, *Henry V*.

One hundred years!

1337 - 1453

BELLIGERENTS

Kingdom of England vs. the Kingdom of France, Kingdom of Scotland

STAKES

Obstensibly about claims to the throne, the war was ultimately about real estate.

CASUALTIES

Three Million souls; Chivalry

AND IF THAT WEREN'T ENOUGH

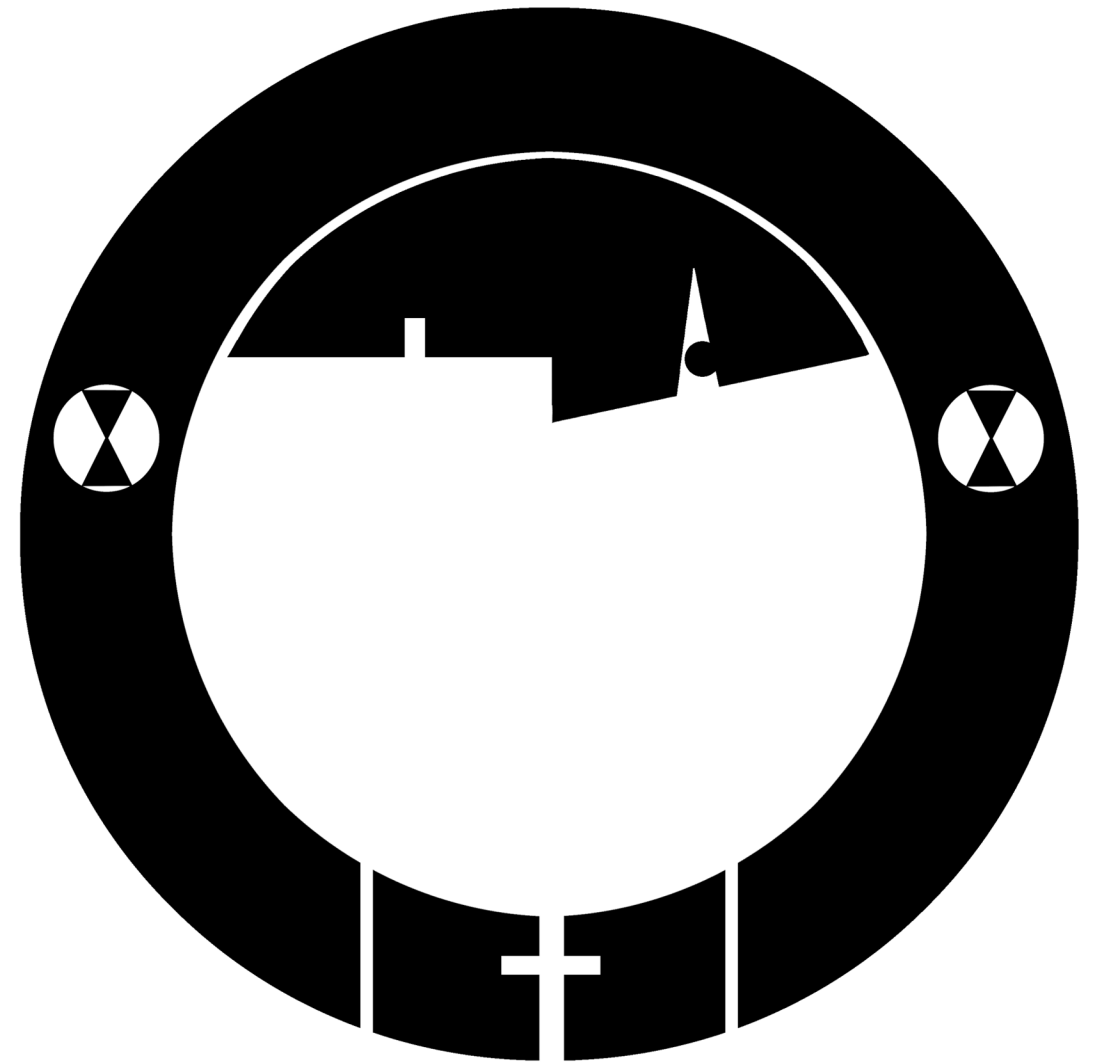
Bubonic plague and warfare killed half the population of France and a third of England's during the war.

OUTCOME

État français.

FEAR FACTOR

Combatants surrendered in the face of the new and horrible gunpowder weapons and artillery.



The Peloponnesian War

Athens versus Sparta. Things just got real. Greek warfare, once a formal affair with peltasts and archers arrayed in phalanxes, became a fully capitalized, professional onslaught on civilians. Navies of hundreds of ships roved the Aegean Sea, besieging populations. Mercenaries – skirmishers, sailors, and siege engineers – set new standards for brutality. Well remunerated and thorough, they raped and murdered, set cities on fire, and generally laid waste. The island of Melos was neutral in the conflict but saw its men murdered and its women and children sold into slavery.

Polemic. (Gk. *polemikos*, hostile < *polemos*, war.)

431 - 401 BC

BELLIGERENTS

Greek Empire vs. Peloponnesian League

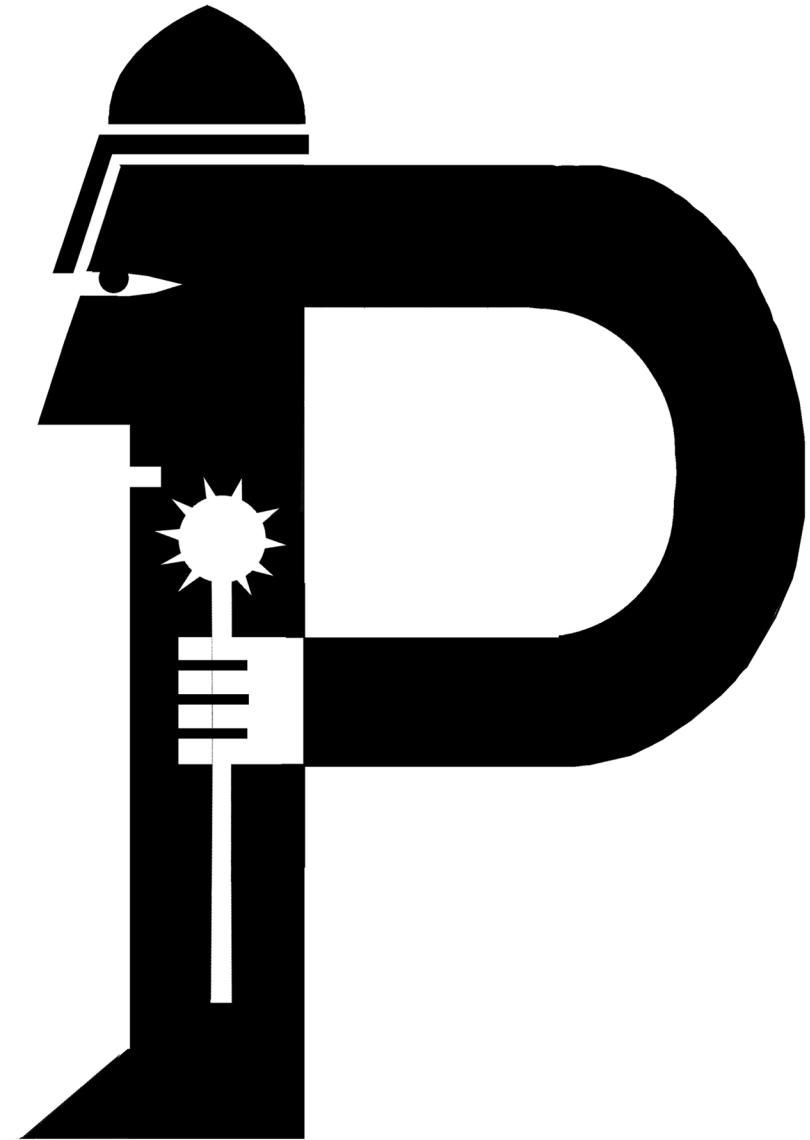
CASUALTIES

The Golden Age of Greece

PRESS COVERAGE

Thucydides, the Greek historian who wrote the book *the Peloponnesian War* said war, not peace, is the default human position.

Aristophanes' comedy *Lysistrata* is an account of a woman's attempt to end the Peloponnesian War by denying men sex.



Quemoy

Nationalist troops were stationed on Quemoy, a tiny island off the coast of China, to the chagrin of the communist dictator. Bombs were launched from the mainland. Howitzers returned fire, lobbing 200 pound shells 10 miles over the Taiwan Strait. Jets were equipped with air-to-air missiles in an operation called “Black Magic.” After a peace agreement, both sides continued to bomb each other for twenty years on alternate days of the week with shells containing propaganda leaflets.

Disquieting.

1958

BELLIGERENTS

Intramural China, Free vs. Red

STAKES

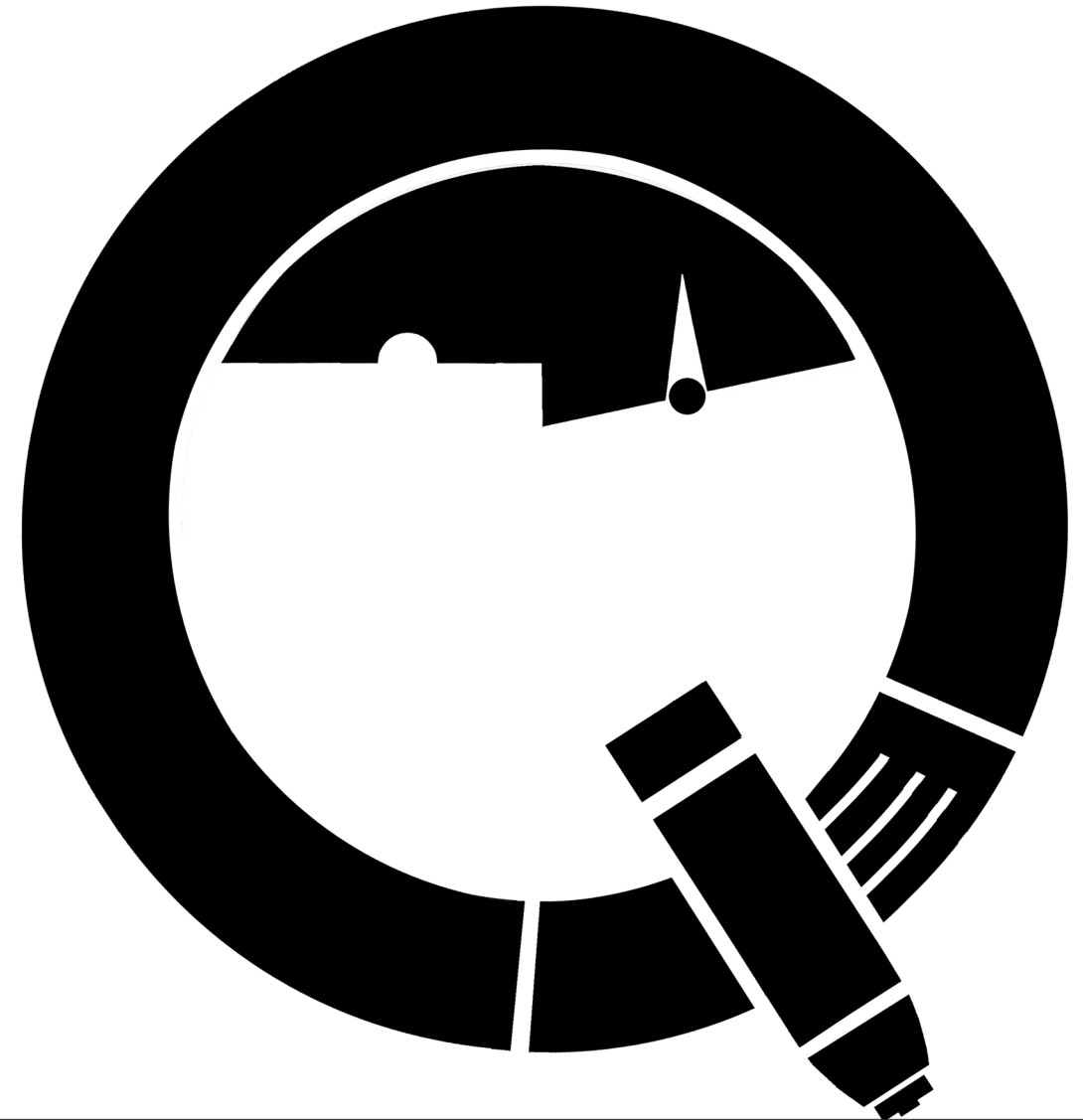
Supremacy of Taiwan Strait,
Cold War pissing match

SOW'S EAR

Locals made meat cleavers from spent bombshells.

NEW WRINKLE

Armed with nuclear weapons, superpower adversaries were reluctant to escalate hostilities, and decided Quemoy was no biggy. Armageddon was postponed. The era of Mutual Assured Destruction dawned.



Quebec

Rwanda

One million Rwandans were killed in 100 days. Two thirds of the Tutsis, 20% of Rwanda's total population, hacked to death by machete. Hutu civilians raped, maimed, and killed their Tutsi neighbors and destroyed or stole their property. Two million souls fled to refugee camps, where cholera and dysentery were rampant. Families were reduced to orphaned children and widows. War rape spread HIV infection. Men's genitals were mutilated and displayed as trophies in public.

Race war.

1994

BELLIGERENTS

Hutu vs. Tutsi

STAKES

Life and death

OUTCOME

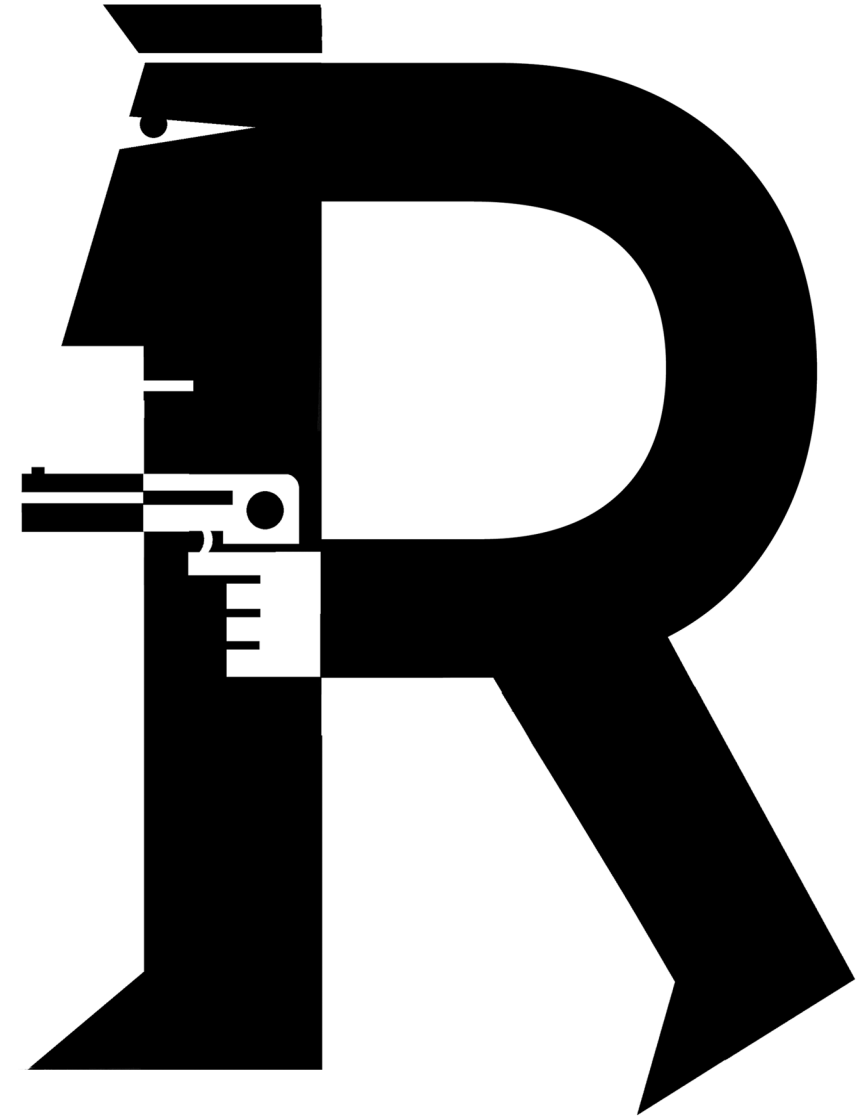
Collapse of civil society

DIABOLICAL TACTIC

Hundreds of AIDS patients were released from hospitals and formed into "rape squads."

MORAL

Don't be a Tutsi



Somme

The Battle of the Somme. Million man mud fight. Hundreds of thousands dead. Trench warfare. Incessant aerial bombing. A war of exhaustion and 20th century killing efficiency. Soldiers sucked carbon monoxide through chain mail masks in crippled tanks. Casualties on the first day were the worst in the history of the British army, nearly 60,000. Urine soaked rags were used against Chlorine and phosgene gas. Lice carried trench fever. Rats plundered corpses.

Sadism.

1916

BELLIGERENTS

Europeans

STAKES

6 miles of dirt

OUTCOME

Over a Million deceased

LESSON UNLEARNED

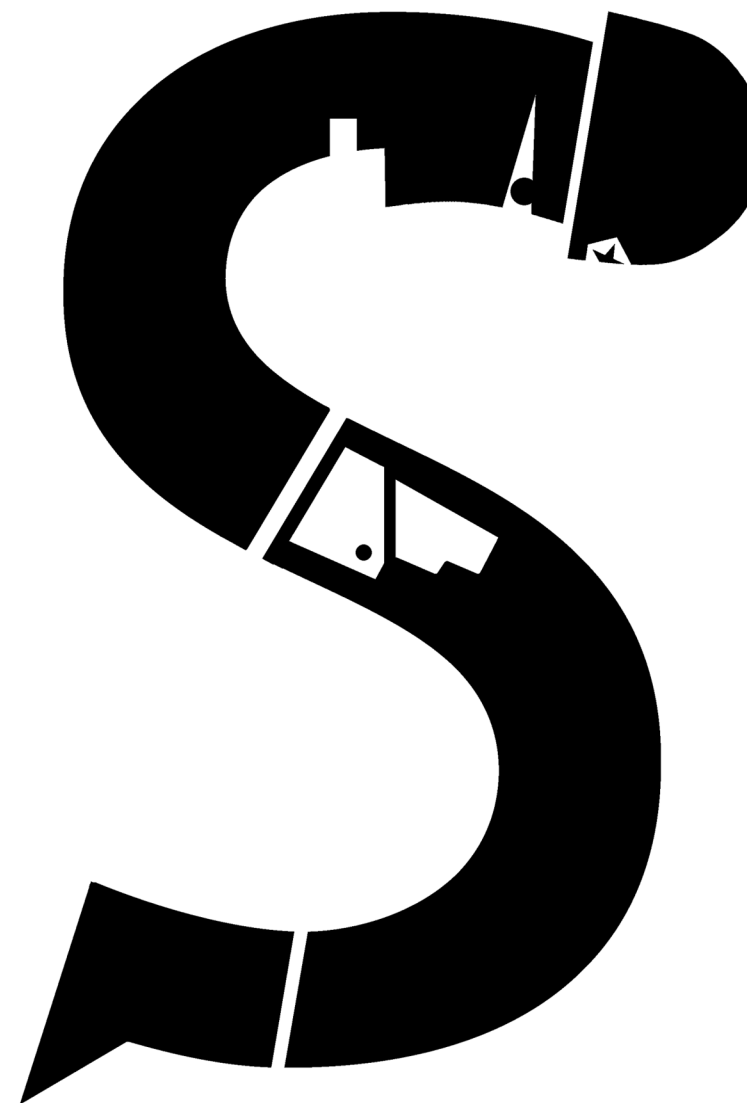
Adolf Hitler was hit by shrapnel in the Battle of the Somme. "More like hell than war," he said.

WORK-AROUND

When the army wasn't interested, Navy Secretary Churchill developed the tank as a "landship."

ADVANCEMENTS IN DEPRAVITY

Barbed wire, machines guns, poison gas.



Terrorism, Global War on*

Terrorists with box-cutters, operating on orders from a guy in a cave in Afghanistan, evaded the defenses of the most heavily armed nation in history and brought down the Twin Towers, launching a war on a noun that knows no end. The demolition was controlled. Interrogations were enhanced. Renditions, extraordinary. The Homeland was insecure. Nail clippers were confiscated. Grandmothers got groped and personal packages were prodded. Privacy pulverized. The mundane militarized. Drone hits. Black sites. Water-boarding. Targeted assassinations. Blowback. If you see something, say something. Look! Over there!

Touchie.

* Space does not permit an adequate summation of this mad malignancy.

2001 - ?

BELLIGERENTS

Us vs. Them

CASUALTIES

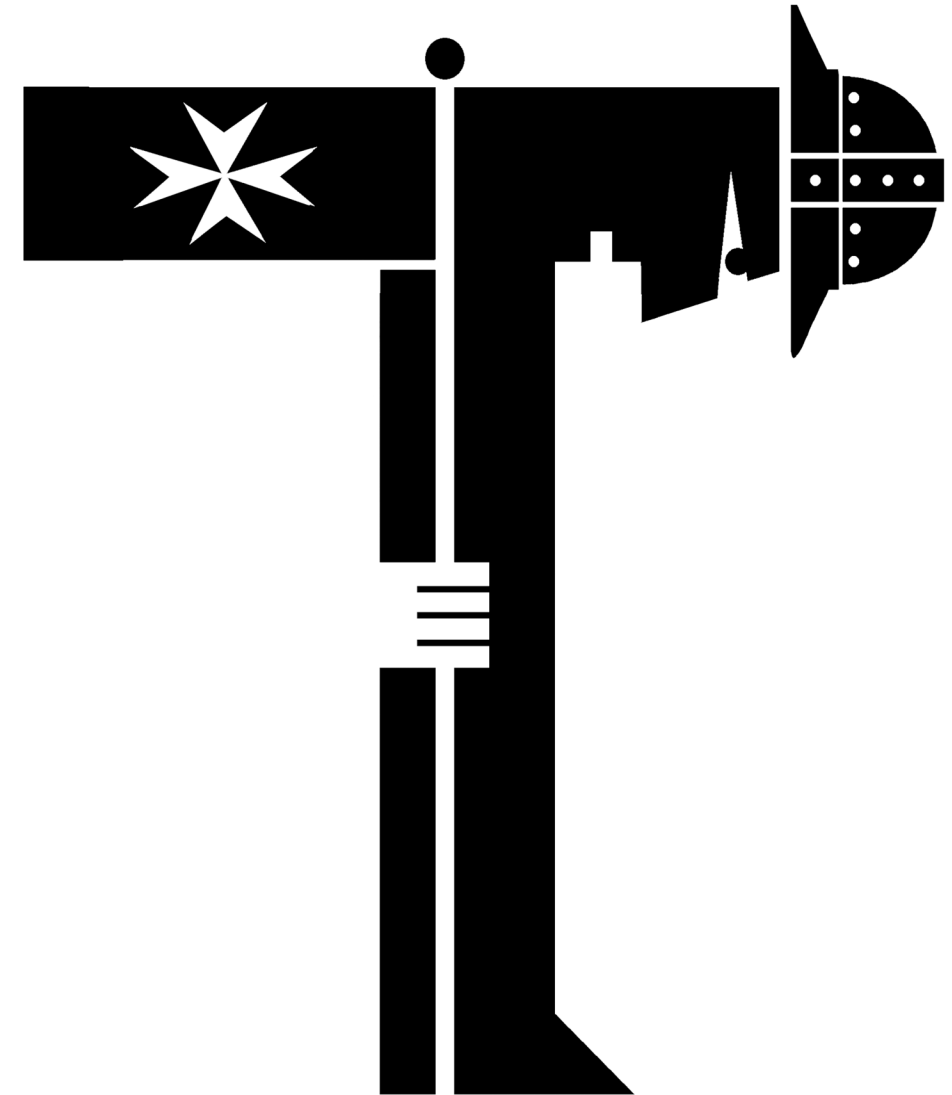
The European Enlightenment

KNOW YOUR TERRORIST

Taliban, Hezbollah, Hamas, Boko Haram, Al-Qaeda, Isis, Daesh.

CATCH PHRASES

They hate us for our freedoms.
Your either with us or against us.



Usumacinta

The Mayan cities of Piedras Negras and Yaxchilán fought each other for control of the Usumacinta River, the major trade route in Mesoamerica. Plumed and painted, with jaguar headdresses and decorated shields, they ambushed the enemy, running mad with whistles and drums. Their arsenal included reed arrows, spiked clubs, axes with blades of jade, blow guns, poison darts, and spears and knives made of obsidian. People were captured for slaves and sacrifices. Defeated ruling families were publicly tortured and sacrificed. Beheadings were staged as public spectacle and ball games were played with the severed heads.

Unreal.

500 - 800

BELLIGERENTS

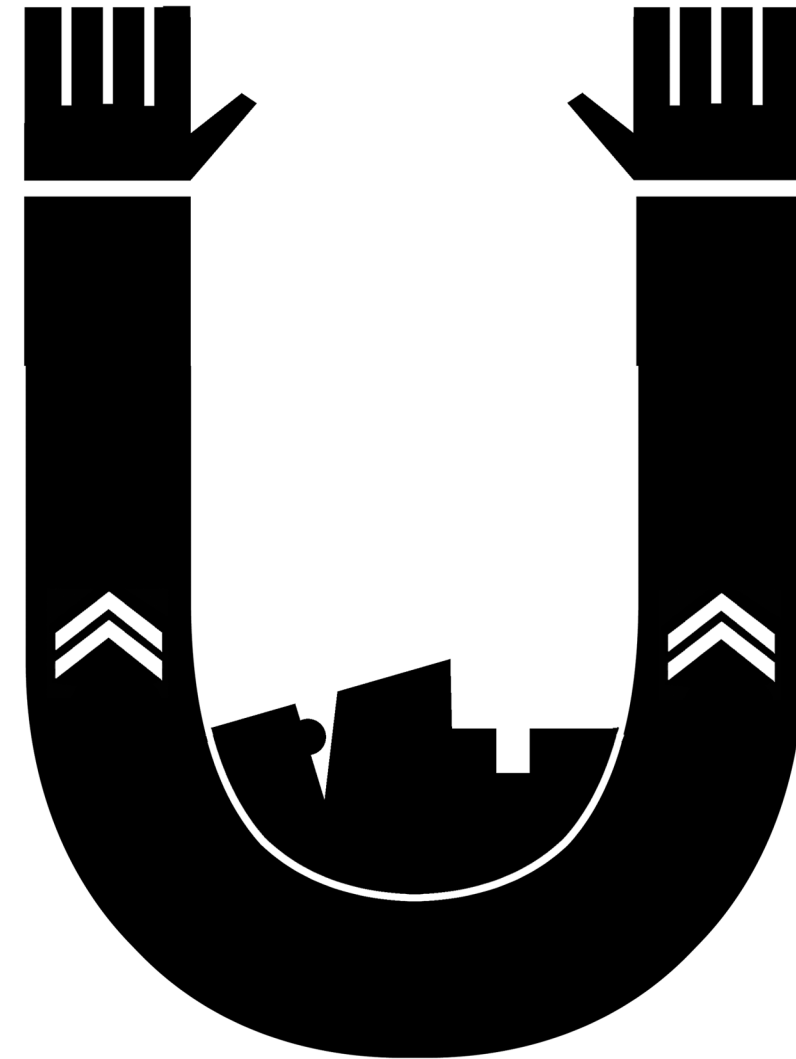
Mesoamericans

OUTCOME

Lost to the jungle

INNOVATION IN WARFARE

The atlatl.



Uniform

Vietnam

Year after year, B52s delivered a “rolling thunder” of utter devastation to Vietnam. Anti-personnel mines atomized peasants. Soldiers shot children, cattle and dogs for sport, The genitals of village chiefs were sliced off and sewed inside their bloody mouths. Tongues were cut out. Lances of bamboo were run through heads like swizzle sticks. Million of gallons of Agent Orange defoliant were dumped on Vietnam hamlets, farms and jungles. Prostate cancer, respiratory cancers, multiple myeloma, Diabetes mellitus type 2, B-cell lymphomas, soft-tissue sarcoma, chloracne, porphyria cutanea tarda, peripheral neuropathy, and spina bifida appeared in the children of veterans.

Victor Charlie.

1955 - 1975

BELLIGERENTS

South Vietnam, United States, South Korea, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Khmer Republic, Kingdom of Laos, Philippines, Republic of China, Canada, West Germany, United Kingdom, Iran, Spain, Malaysia

vs.

North Vietnam, Viet Cong Khmer Rouge, Pathet Lao, People's Republic of China, Soviet Union, North Korea, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, East Germany, Romania, Sweden

OUTCOME

3 million dead

THE LIGHTER SIDE

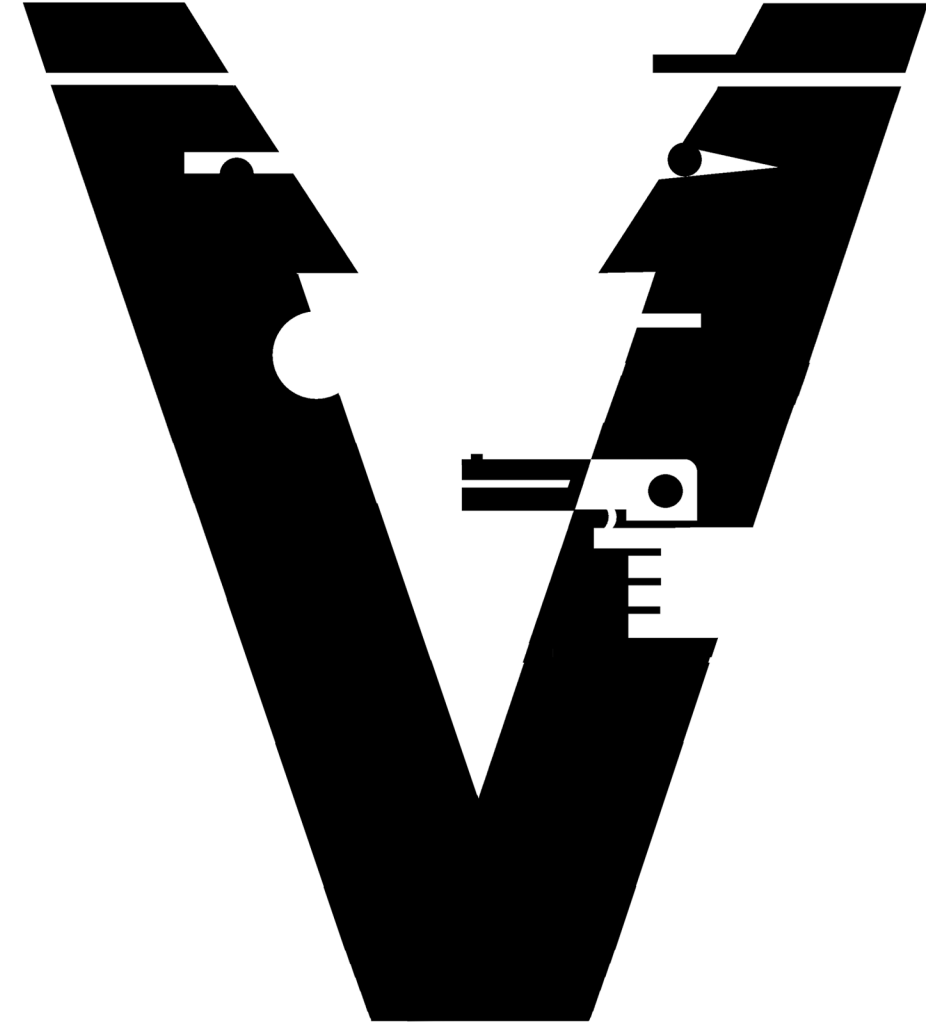
DC-3 aircraft with cannon capable of firing 100 rounds per second were called “Puff the Magic Dragon.”

CATCH PHRASES

Kill 'em all and let God sort 'em out.

Charlie don't surf

Better dead than red.



Wounded Knee

The 7th Cavalry captured Spotted Elk's band of Lakota near Porcupine Butte and led them to Wounded Knee Creek. The encampment was surrounded by troops and was supported by a battery of four Hotchkiss mountain guns. The troops went into the camp to disarm the Lakota. Black Coyote wouldn't surrender his rifle, claiming he had paid a lot for it. A scuffle ensued, a shot was fired, and the 7th Cavalry opened fire indiscriminately from all sides, killing men, women, and children, as well as some of their own comrades. Little boys came out of hiding and were butchered with swords, mowed down as they ran. When it was over, more than 150 men, women, and children had been killed. Twenty soldiers were awarded the medal of Honor.

Wiped out.

1890

BELLIGERENTS

Christians vs. Savages

STAKES

Indigenous culture

OUTCOME

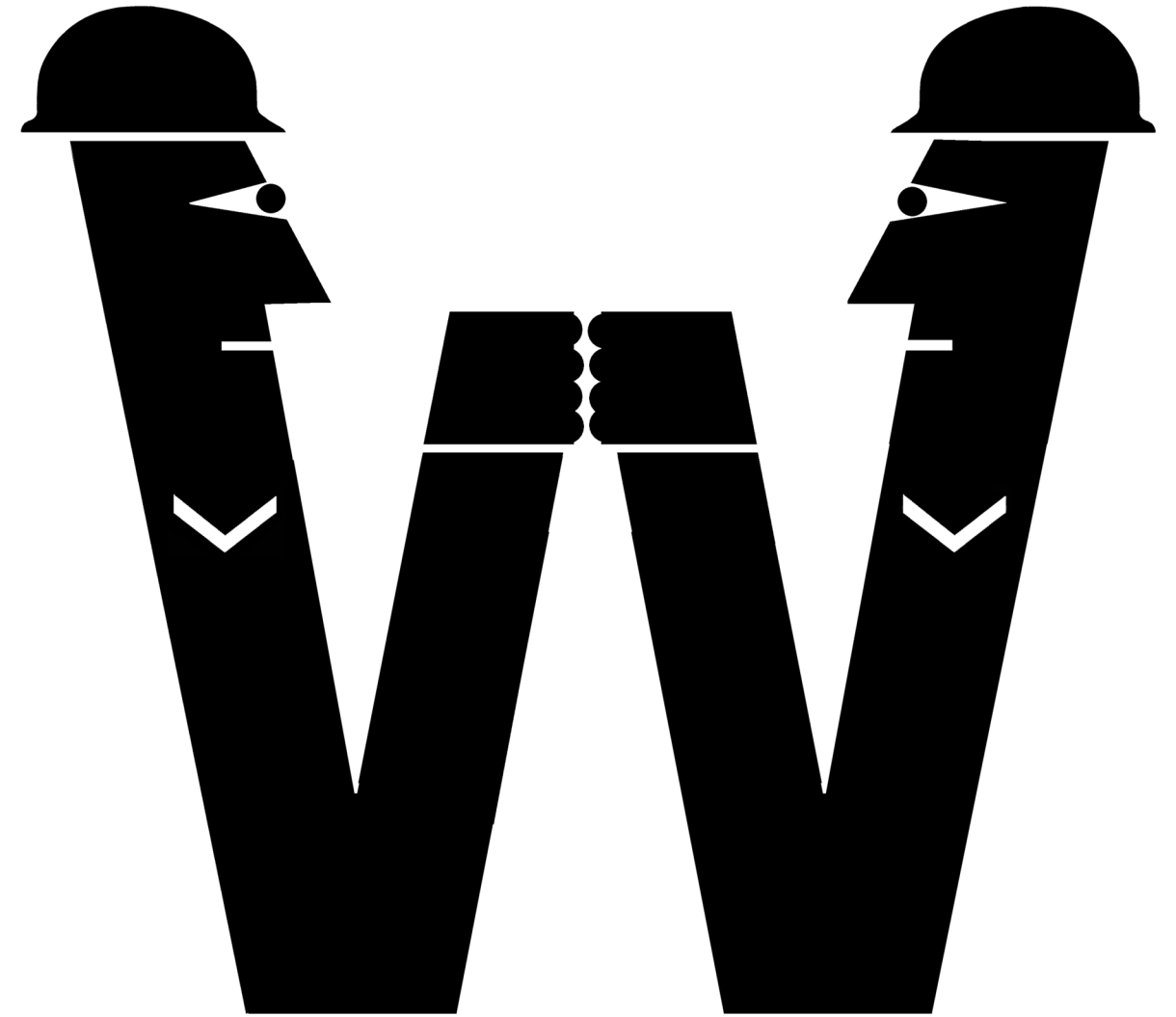
Annihilation

FUN FACT

Yellow Bird performed the Ghost Dance, telling the Lakota that their "ghost shirts" were bulletproof.

SCORE CARD

A Good Indian is a Dead Indian



Xenophobia

Wars are fought for many reasons: god, tribe, nation, territory, resources. Despots and tyrants, profiteers and warmongers can be counted on to raise a righteous call for action. Wise men will provide the rationale for belligerency. Religious prosecution and racial oppression are well reasoned and based in law. Wounded pride, perceived slights, general peevishness are all motivations to get hot and bothered, provocations to put up your dukes. But underneath these finely wrought apologies for aggression is Xenophobia. Hatred of the other. The sub-human may be tortured and raped. Atrocities of ethnic cleansing and extermination are made real. Holocausts happen. The scape goat has it coming.

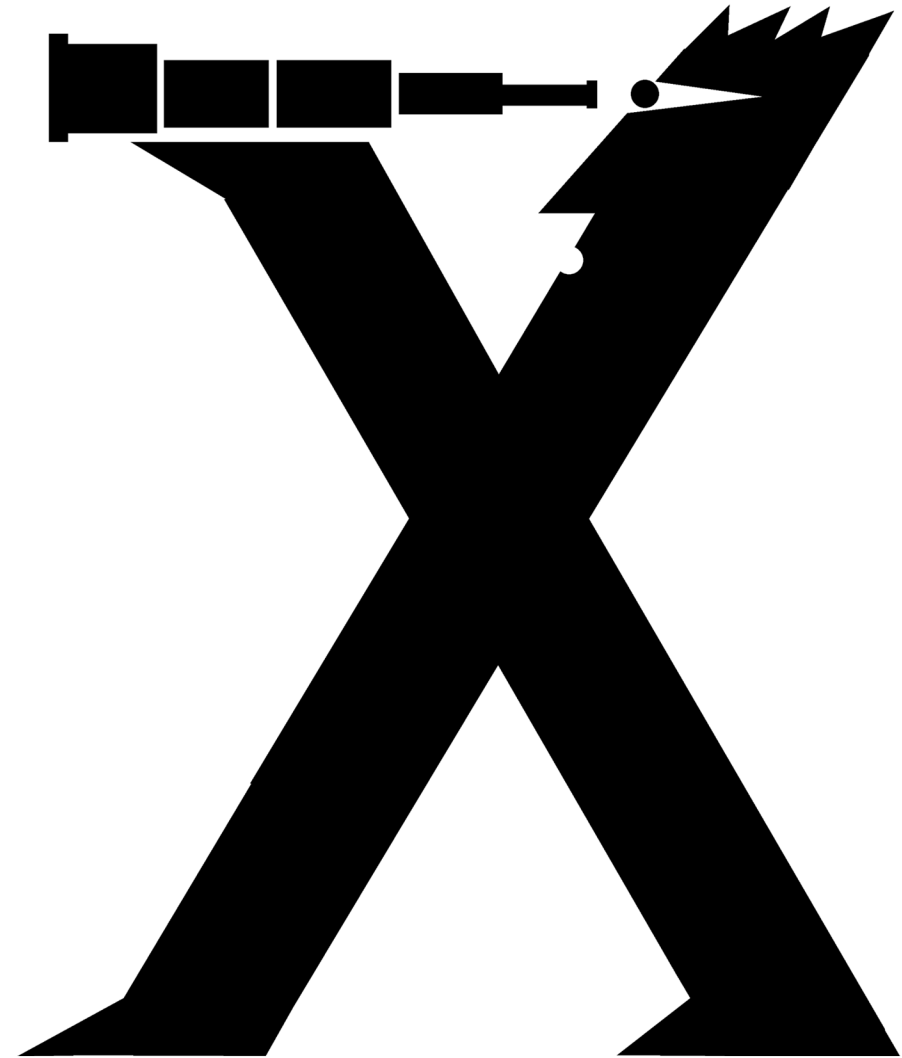
Who doesn't respond well to a good ass-kicking?

XXX

TIMELESS

HATE LIST

Beaner, Bog-trotter, Bo-hunk, Camel Jockey, Chink, Coon, Cracker, Dago, Frog, Gook, Gringo, Guido, Kaffir, Jap, Jigaboo, Kraut, Polack, Peckerwood, Redskin, Spade, Towel-head, Spic,



Yugoslavia

A benevolent dictator died. An ethnic quilt of a country unraveled. Injured parties of various religious, racial and ethnic identity were free to air their grievances. Innocents were murdered and kidnapped, their homes burned and organs hijacked. Thousands of women were held in rape camps for months. Ten-year old children fought in the army. A coalition of 15 nations saw it necessary to intervene, and graciously dropped bombs on besieged civilians, flattened the Chinese embassy, delivered precision-guided nightmares. Hundreds of thousands of refugees.

Yowsa.

1991 - 2001

BELLIGERENTS

Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia, USA, NATO

STAKES

Balkanization

OUTCOME

140,000 dead

INNOVATION IN CARNAGE

The "smart" bomb!

ENDURING EUPHEMISM

Humanitarian Intervention

BRANDING

Operation Noble Anvil



Zanzibar

The wrong guy seized power. The Crown, displeased, issued an ultimatum demanding he leave the palace. Gunships entered the harbor. Zanzibar forces were armed with guns and cannons that had been given as diplomatic gifts to the former Sultan. “We have no intention of hauling down our flag and we do not believe you would open fire on us,” said the Zanzibaris. “Unless you do as you are told, we shall certainly do so,” replied the Empire. The order to begin bombarding was given. Within minutes the palace was in smithereens, the royal yacht sunk, the flag shot down.

Zanzibarian casualties: 500. British: 0.

The war lasted 38 minutes.

Zany.

1896

BELLIGERENTS

UK vs. Zanzibar Sultanate
Europe vs. Africa

STAKES

Imperial compliance, proper subservience

OUTCOME

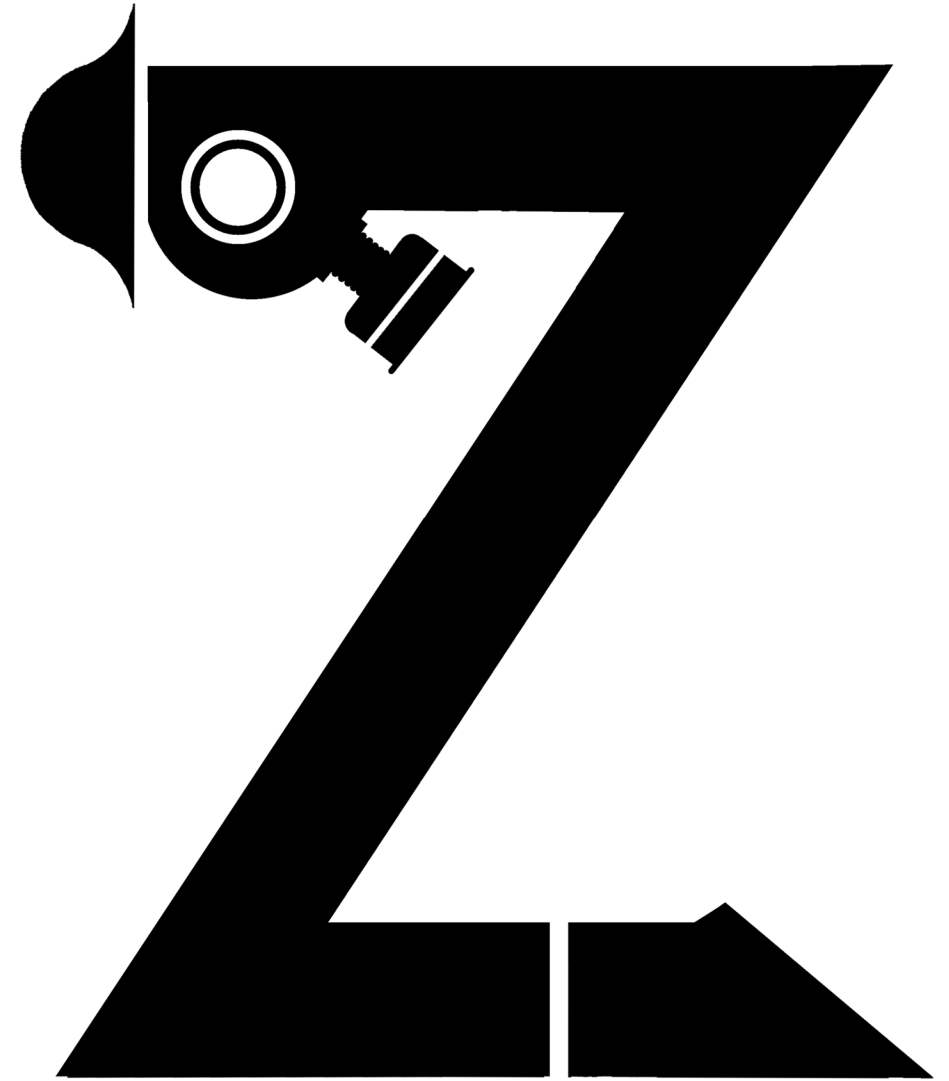
Smoldering, shell-shocked natives

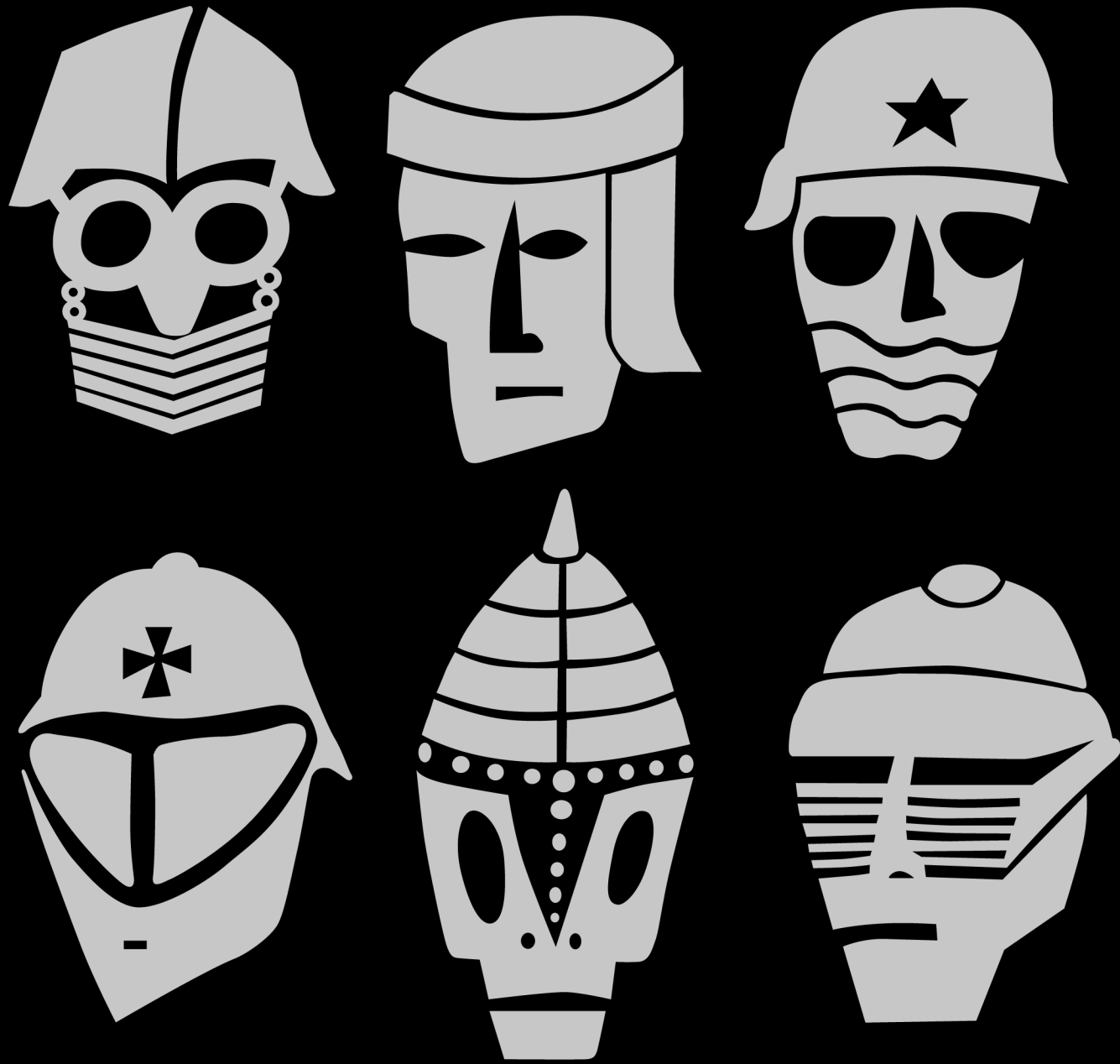
INSULT TO INJURY

The Brits billed the vanquished colonials for the damage caused by the hostilities

MORAL

Might makes Right





WHISKEY
TANGO
FOXTROT

WAR IS
PEACE

