

31 October 2016

## RAF Museum concludes 2016 lecture series

Academics, military enthusiasts and interested members of the public are being invited to attend two forthcoming lectures next month, concluding the 2016 series of lectures from the Royal Air Force Museum's Research Programme.

### **'The Development of RAF Air Power Doctrine, 1999-2013'**

**Date:** 10 November 2016

**Time:** 6.30pm

**Cost:** FREE

**Location:** University of Wolverhampton, MC001, Millennium City Building, Wolverhampton Campus.

The first of two lectures is being held on Thursday 10 November at the University of Wolverhampton and is a continuation of the joint partnership between the University's Department of War Studies and the Royal Air Force Museum. This evening lecture commencing at 6.30pm will examine how the Royal Air Force has adapted to the post-Cold War strategic environment and the influencing factors that have contributed to the change in military doctrine. The lecture entitled **'The Development of RAF Air Power Doctrine, 1999-2013'** will be presented by Dr Viktoriya Fedorchak, an independent researcher who recently completed her PhD on the subject.

Dr Viktoriya Fedorchak will discuss the variations in the RAF's policies over the last two decades and the role it has played in the development of the Service's doctrine and the evolution of air power. It will consider the four major factors in doctrine preparation; operational experience, internal politics, the role of academics and the doctrine writer. Furthermore, Dr Fedorchak will discuss how new campaigns provided operational lessons and how the shift from a single-service to a joint authorship resulted in the change of purpose and functionality.

### **Dr Peter Preston-Hough, from the University's Department of History, Politics and War Studies, said:**

*"We're delighted to be co-hosting this prestigious series of lectures, which continues to provide an interesting insight into this fascinating area of history. This lecture is a topical analysis of the RAF's history during an important and very recent period of political and military change."*

### **'Coming to Terms with the Air-Atomic Age'**

**Date:** 18 November 2016

**Time:** 12.30pm

**Cost:** FREE

**Location:** RAF Museum Cosford, National Cold War Exhibition Lecture Theatre

On Friday 18 November, Colonel Edward A. Kaplan, Director of Aerospace Studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the U.S. Army War College will be presenting the final Cold War lunchtime lecture, being held in the Museum's lecture theatre at 12.30pm. Entitled **'Coming to Terms with the Air-Atomic Age'** Colonel Kaplan looks at the notion that air power makes unique and potentially decisive

contributions to national security and how this can have different meanings over time. He will illustrate these shifts using the history of the first twenty years of post-Second World War strategic air power, the “air-atomic age”.

He will explore the shift from an early air-atomic period where American strategic air power sought to destroy enemy industry, through a later period that prioritised blunting a Soviet nuclear offensive, to the rise of Mutually Assured Destruction. The latter idea abandoned conventional notions of victory and substituted signalling an enemy through violence with a final fallback of punishment. Civilians seized control of these air operations to support these efforts to signal or punish an enemy, undermining the professional standing of Airmen. As a result, airpower began a search for a new identity that ultimately led to the substitution of precision for blunt force and the restoration of operational control to professional Airmen.

**Dr Ross Mahoney, RAF Museum Aviation Historian said:**

*“The final two lectures of the RAF Museum’s Research Programme for 2016 examine two fascinating areas related to the development and importance of air power on both sides of the Atlantic. They should be of interest to those interested in the development of air power since the Second World War to the present. Also, we are pleased to be running our Trenchard Lectures with our partners at the University of Wolverhampton who continue to support the series.”*

As spaces are limited to both lectures, organisers advise visitors to book their FREE tickets in advance via the museum’s website to avoid disappointment [www.rafmuseum.org/cosford](http://www.rafmuseum.org/cosford). Additional information about both lectures and the Museum’s Research Programme is also available online.

Visitors arriving early for the ‘Coming to Terms with the Air-Atomic Age’ lecture being held at the museum’s Cosford site can also take up the opportunity to see inside the Museum’s Conservation Centre during the annual open week which runs from 14-19 November. Doors to the Conservation Centre open at 10.15am until 1.00pm and entry is just £5 per person.

Ends...

**Notes to Editors:**

For more details about the RAF Museum’s Research Programme, please email RAF Museum Aviation Historian, Dr Ross Mahoney at [ross.mahoney@rafmuseum.org](mailto:ross.mahoney@rafmuseum.org)

**About Dr Viktoriya Fedorchak:**

Dr Viktoriya Fedorchak is a graduate of the University of Hull (PhD), Roma Sapienza University, Rome (MA) and Kyiv International University in Ukraine (MA and BA). She recently completed her PhD on the subject of ‘The Development of RAF Air Power Doctrine, 1999-2013,’ which examined factors that influenced the process of doctrine preparation in the Service. She has taught on a range of courses at the University of Nottingham, the University of Hull and Kyiv International University. Her research interests include defence studies, contemporary warfare, air power, and military doctrine.

**About Colonel Edward A. Kaplan PhD:**

Colonel Edward A. Kaplan is the Director of Aerospace Studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the U.S. Army War College. In this role, he is responsible for facilitating the education of senior officers in the Army, other services, partner nations, and senior civilians. Col Kaplan is a 1994 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. After being awarded his Master’s Degree in History at the University of Calgary in 1997, Col Kaplan attended Intelligence training at Goodfellow AFB, TX, where he was a distinguished graduate. He served in various Intelligence roles at Beale Air Force Base, California, and deployed to support U-2 aircrew at overseas locations directly. In 1998, he became a Watch Officer and Flight Commander at the Misawa Cryptologic Operations Center, where he directed the mission of a 120-person Army, Navy and Air Force team. Following his time in Japan, and a NATO deployment in support of U.S. operations in Kosovo, Col Kaplan reported for duty as an instructor in the History Department at the U.S. Air Force Academy. During his three-year tour, Col Kaplan deployed to Sarajevo for six months, was promoted to Assistant Professor, taught World History and advanced courses in American Foreign Policy and the Cold War, and directed the core Military History course. Col Kaplan then became the Readiness Flight Commander at the 607th Air

Intelligence Squadron at Osan Air Base, Korea. Col Kaplan then returned to the University of Calgary where he received his Doctorate in History. In 2007, Col Kaplan arrived at the Directorate of Intelligence on the Joint Staff, where he has served as a strategic planner, an Assistant Deputy Director for Intelligence in the National Military Command Center and as the Executive Officer for the Director for Intelligence. During that assignment, Col Kaplan deployed to Camp Victory, Iraq where he was a speechwriter and strategist for the Commander of Multi-National Forces-Iraq, before returning to the position of Senior Editor for the daily intelligence briefing prepared for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of Defense. In the summer of 2010, Col Kaplan returned to the Air Force Academy History Department as an Assistant Professor. He acted as the Deputy for Military History, Deputy Department Head, Acting Department Head, and Director of the Dean's Commander's Action Group. Before his current assignment, the Colonel was Professor and Head of the History Department, USAF Academy, Colorado.

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- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily from 10 am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at:  
<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries, please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email [michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org](mailto:michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org)
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