

Chapter 1 : Harry Elmer Barnes ( ): Progressive and Revisionist - calendrierdelascience.com Original

*The readjustment of historical writing to historical facts relative to the background and causes of the First World War "is what is popularly known in the historical craft as "revisionism" "was the most important development in historiography during the decade of the s.*

Those who can remember "the good old days" before inevitably look back to those times with a very definite and justifiable feeling of nostalgia. There was no income tax before , and that levied in the early days after the amendment was adopted was little more than nominal. All kinds of taxes were relatively low. We had only a token national debt of around a billion dollars, which could have been paid off in a year without causing even a ripple in national finance. Garet Garrett Best Price: Not until our intervention in the First World War had there been sufficient invasions of individual liberties to call forth the formation of special groups and organizations to protect our civil rights. The Supreme Court could still be relied on to uphold the Constitution and safeguard the civil liberties of individual citizens. Libertarianism was also dominant in Western Europe. The Liberal Party governed England from to France had risen above the reactionary coup of the Dreyfus affair, had separated church and state, and had seemingly established the Third Republic with reasonable permanence on a democratic and liberal basis. Even Hohenzollern Germany enjoyed the usual civil liberties, had strong constitutional restraints on executive tyranny, and had established a workable system of parliamentary government. Experts on the history of Austria-Hungary have recently been proclaiming that life in the Dual Monarchy after the turn of the century marked the happiest period in the experience of the peoples encompassed therein. It was believed that the theory of progress had been thoroughly vindicated by historical events. People were confident that the amazing developments in technology would soon produce abundance, security, and leisure for the multitude. In this optimism in regard to the future no item was more evident and potent than the assumption that war was an outmoded nightmare. Not only did idealism and humanity repudiate war but Norman Angell and others were assuring us that war could not be justified, even on the basis of the most sordid material interest. In our own country, the traditional American foreign policy of benign neutrality and the wise exhortations of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Quincy Adams, and Henry Clay to avoid entangling alliances and to shun foreign quarrels were still accorded respect in the highest councils of state. Unfortunately, there are relatively few persons today who can recall those happy times. In his devastatingly prophetic book, *Nineteen Eighty-Four* , George Orwell points out that one reason why it is possible for those in authority to maintain the barbarities of the police state is that nobody is able to recall the many blessings of the period which preceded that type of society. A significant and illuminating report on this situation came to me recently in a letter from one of the most distinguished social scientists in the country, a resolute revisionist. He wrote, I am devoting my seminar this quarter to the subject of American foreign policy since The effect upon a Roosevelt-bred generation is startling, indeed. Even able and mature students react to the elementary facts like children who have just been told that there is or was no Santa Claus. The Origins of Western Harry elmer Barnes Best Price: It certainly marked the transition from social optimism and technological rationalism into the *Nineteen Eighty-Four* pattern of life, in which aggressive international policies and war scares have become the guiding factor, not only in world affairs but also in the domestic, political, and economic strategy of every leading country of the world. The police state has emerged as the dominant political pattern of our times, and military state capitalism is engulfing both democracy and liberty in countries which have not succumbed to Communism. The manner and extent to which American culture has been impaired and our well-being undermined by our entry into two world wars has been brilliantly and succinctly stated by Professor Mario A. Perhaps, by the mid-century, all this is now water under the bridge and little can be done about it. While those historians at all receptive to the facts admitted that revisionism readily won out in the conflict with the previously accepted wartime lore, many of the traditionalists in the profession remained true to the mythology of the war decade. In any event, the revisionist controversy was the outstanding intellectual adventure in the historical field in the 20th century down to Pearl Harbor. Rethinking the Good War Laurence M. Revisionism would also produce similar results with respect to the Second World

War if it were allowed to develop unimpeded. But a determined effort is being made to stifle or silence revelations which would establish the truth with regard to the causes and issues of the late world conflict. While the wartime mythology endured for years after , nevertheless leading editors and publishers soon began to crave contributions which set forth the facts with respect to the responsibility for the outbreak of war in , our entry into the war, and the basic issues involved in this great conflict. Fay began to publish his revolutionary articles on the background of the First World War in the American Historical Review in July, Without exception, the requests for my contributions came from the editors of these periodicals, and these requests were ardent and urgent. I had no difficulty whatever in securing the publication of my Genesis of the World War in , and the publisher thereof subsequently brought forth a veritable library of illuminating revisionist literature. His work has had a profound influence on New Left historians such as William Appleman Williams and Gabriel Kolko, as well as on the historical writings of Murray Rothbard and other libertarians.

**Chapter 2 : The struggle against the historical blackout. (Book, ) [calendrierdelascience.com]**

*Revisionism, when applied to the First World War, showed that the actual causes and merits of that conflict were very close to the reverse of the picture presented in the political propaganda and historical writings of the war decade.*

Barnes took a PhD at Columbia in in history with a study in the history of penology. He was among the graduate students of William Archibald Dunning , who was influential in the history of the Reconstruction era in the United States. In Barnes published the first edition of *An Introduction to the History of Sociology*, a collaborative work intended to be a comprehensive summary of sociological development. Barnes lectured widely between and on current events and recent history. According to Barnes, the ruler said that he "was happy to know that I did not blame him for starting the war in He held that the villains of were the international Jews and Free Masons , who, he alleged, desired to destroy national states and the Christian religion". Based on their statements, he was confirmed in his belief that Germany was not responsible for World War I. He was considered disreputable as, in exchange for German gold, he provided false testimony about the actions of the Serbian government in If we can but understand how totally and terribly we were "taken in" between and by the salesmen of this most holy and idealistic world conflict, we shall be the better prepared to be on our guard against the seductive lies and deceptions which will be put forward by similar groups when urging the necessity of another world catastrophe in order to "crush militarism", "make the world safe for democracy", put an end to all further wars, etc. It is basic to the whole matter of the present European and world situation, resting as it does upon an unfair and unjust Peace Treaty, which was itself erected upon a most uncritical and complete acceptance of the grossest forms of war-time illusions concerning war guilt. In estimating the order of guilt of the various countries we may safely say that the only direct and immediate responsibility for the World War falls upon Serbia, France and Russia, with the guilt about equally distributed. Next in orderâ€”far below France and Russiaâ€”would come Austria, through she never desired a general European war. Finally, we place Germany and England as tied for last place, both being opposed to war in the crisis. Probably the German public was somewhat more favorable to military activity than the English people, but Taylor called *The Genesis of the World War* "the most preposterously pro-German" account of the outbreak of war in It must be said that Mr. As a protest against the old notion of unique German responsibility for the war, it will be welcomed by all honest men, but as an attempt to set up a new doctrine of unique Franco-Russian responsibility, it must be unhesitatingly rejected. The war was a consequence, perhaps inevitable, of the whole system of alliances and armaments, and in the origin, development, and working of that system, the Central Powers, more particularly Germany, played a conspicuous part. Indeed, it was Germany that put the system to the test in July Because the test failed, she is not entitled to claim that no responsibility attaches to her. Mencken , and the historian Charles A. In the years following the war, he argued that Adolf Hitler did not want to go to war with the United States and that President Franklin D. Roosevelt had deliberately provoked the attack on Pearl Harbor. World War II[ edit ] In the late s, Barnes emerged as a leading isolationist and German apologist who defended German foreign policy as a legitimate effort to overthrow the Treaty of Versailles, which Barnes regarded as monstrously unfair to Germany. In , Barnes published an article that charged British diplomat Sir Robert Vansittart with scheming to commit aggression against Germany in the late s. If I could raise money enough for a real defense we could make this an international cause celebre, but I cannot fight the thirty million dollars now in the coffers of the Anti-Defamation League to be used for character assassination on empty pockets. If we let them get away with this, we are licked from the start. The writer responded by complaining the action was due to a conspiracy against him, involving the British MI6 intelligence service, the House of Morgan , and all of the Jewish department store owners in New York City. Barnes alleged that the latter had threatened the publisher of the *New York World-Telegram* with the "loss of all advertising if he kept me on any longer". It is no exaggeration to say that the American Smearbund, operating through newspaper editors and columnists, "hatchet-men" book reviewers, radio commentators, pressure-group intrigue and espionage, and academic pressures and fears, has accomplished about as much in the way of intimidating honest intellectuals in this country as Hitler,

Goebbels, Himmler, the Gestapo, and concentration camps were able to do in Nazi Germany. Weinberg in turn wrote letters replying to and rebutting the arguments of Hoggan and Barnes. In his pamphlet, "Revisionism and Brainwashing", Barnes claimed that there was a "lack of any serious opposition or concerted challenge to the atrocity stories and other modes of defamation of German national character and conduct. The courageous author [Rassinier] lays the chief blame for misrepresentation on those whom we must call the swindlers of the crematoria, the Israeli politicians who derive billions of marks from nonexistent, mythical and imaginary cadavers, whose numbers have been reckoned in an unusually distorted and dishonest manner. Barnes thought that this was a terrible outcome, as he asserted that Germany never wanted war. In his essay "Revisionism: A Key to Peace", Barnes wrote: Even if one were to accept the most extreme and exaggerated indictment of Hitler and the National Socialists for their activities after made by anybody fit to remain outside a mental hospital, it is most alarmingly easy to demonstrate that the atrocities of the Allies in the same period were more numerous as to victims and were carried out for the most part by methods more brutal and painful than that alleged extermination in gas ovens. Emphasis in the original. Writing of the expulsion of the ethnic Germans from the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia in 1946, he claimed that "at least four million of them perished in the process from butchery, starvation and disease. What is deemed important today is not whether Hitler started war in or whether Roosevelt was responsible for Pearl Harbour, but the number of prisoners were allegedly done to death in the concentration camps operated by Germany during the war. These camps were first presented as those in Germany, such as Dachau, Belsen, Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen, and Dora, but it was demonstrated that there had been no systematic extermination in those camps. Broszat denied there was a functioning gas chamber at the Dachau concentration camp though he noted that one was built shortly before the end of the war as part of the effort to convert Dachau into a death camp, but was never used. Broszat commented that, though there were many concentration camps in Germany, all of the German death camps for the genocide of the European Jews were located in Nazi-occupied Poland. This difference meant that Barnes in his later years had allied himself with American and European anti-Semites and cranks, rather than with respectable or official opinion. Historian Lucy Dawidowicz concurs. History, Its Rise and Development: Sociology and Political Theory, a consideration of the sociological basis of politics, New York: Psychology and History, Century, History and Social Intelligence, New York: Patterson Smith, , Co-written with Melvin M. National Historical Society, The Twilight of Christianity, New York: World Politics in Modern Civilization: The Story of Punishment: Battling the Crime Wave: Can Man Be Civilized? Analyzing the Dry Psychosis, Viking, Harcourt, Brace and company Co-written with Bernard Myers, Walter B. Random House, , , A History of Historical Writing, Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, revised edition New York: Co-written with Negley K. A Survey of Western Civilization, Crowell, Co-written with Oreen M. The Struggle Against the Historical Blackout, , 9th edition, Author of booklets in his field. An Introduction to the History of Sociology, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, , 6th edition, Available online Society in Transition, New York: Greenwood Press, , Blasting the Historical Blackout in Britain: Selected Revisionist Pamphlets, New York:

**Chapter 3 : Inconvenient History | A Quarterly Journal for Free Historical Inquiry**

*Struggle Against the Historical Blackout," "The Court Historians versus Revisionism," "Revisionism and the Promotion of Peace," and the first chapter of Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace.*

Historical scholarship[ edit ] The examples and perspective in this article deal primarily with the United States and do not represent a worldwide view of the subject. You may improve this article , discuss the issue on the talk page , or create a new article , as appropriate. August Learn how and when to remove this template message

Historical revisionism is the means by which the historical record — the history of a society, as understood in their collective memory — continually integrates new facts and interpretations of the events commonly understood as history ; about which the historian and American Historical Association member James M. The fourteen-thousand members of this association , however, know that revision is the lifeblood of historical scholarship. History is a continuing dialogue , between the present and the past. Interpretations of the past are subject to change in response to new evidence, new questions asked of the evidence, new perspectives gained by the passage of time. The unending quest of historians for understanding the past — that is, revisionism — is what makes history vital and meaningful. Without revisionism, we might be stuck with the images of Reconstruction [—77] after the American Civil War [—65] that were conveyed by D. Without revisionist historians, who have done research in new sources and asked new and nuanced questions, we would remain mired in one or another of these stereotypes. As such, the professional-historian paradigm is manifested as a denunciative stance towards any form of historical revisionism — either of fact or interpretation, or both. No one should be surprised by this phenomenon. Every war in American history has been followed, in due course, by skeptical reassessments of supposedly sacred assumptions. Revisionist history is often practiced by those who are in the minority, such as feminist historians, ethnic minority historians, those working outside of mainstream academia in smaller and less known universities, or the youngest scholars, essentially historians who have the most to gain and the least to lose in challenging the status quo. In the friction between the mainstream of accepted beliefs and the new perspectives of historical revisionism, received historical ideas are either changed, solidified, or clarified. If over a period of time the revisionist ideas become the new establishment status quo a paradigm shift is said to have occurred. Historian Forrest McDonald is often critical of the turn that revisionism has taken, but he nevertheless admits that the turmoil of the s in the United States changed the way history was written: The result, as far as the study of history was concerned, was an awakened interest in subjects that historians had previously slighted. These expanded horizons enriched our understanding of the American past, but they also resulted in works of special pleading, trivialization, and downright falsification. These events have come with a concentration and violence for which the term revolution is usually reserved. It is a revolution, or perhaps a set of revolutions for which we have not yet found a name. The first illustration [the absence from U. After all, we study history because we are interested in it, and perhaps because we wish to learn something about our [contemporary] problems. But history can serve neither of these two purposes if, under the influence of an inapplicable idea of objectivity, we hesitate to present historical problems from our point of view. The old consensus, based upon limited evidence, might no longer be considered historically valid in explaining the particulars — of cause and effect, of motivation and self-interest — that tell How? As such, in , the historian John Hope Franklin described four stages in the historiography of the African experience of life in the U. Lipstadt said that Holocaust deniers , such as Harry Elmer Barnes , disingenuously self-identify as "historical revisionists" in order to obscure their denialism as academic revision of the historical record. As such, Lipstadt, Shermer, and Grobman said that legitimate historical revisionism entails the refinement of existing knowledge about a historical event, not a denial of the event, itself; that such refinement of history emerges from the examination of new, empirical evidence, and a re-examination, and consequent re-interpretation of the existing documentary evidence. That legitimate historical revisionism acknowledges the existence of a "certain body of irrefutable evidence" and the existence of a "convergence of evidence", which suggest that an event — such as the Black Death , American slavery , and the Holocaust — did occur; whereas the denialism of history

rejects the entire foundation of historical evidence, which is a form of historical negationism. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. March Learn how and when to remove this template message

Some of the influences on historians, which may change over time are:

Access to new data: Much historical data has been lost. Even archives have to make decisions based on space and interest on what original material to obtain or keep. At times documents are discovered or publicized that give new views of well established events. Archived material may be sealed by Governments for many years, either to hide political scandals, or to protect information vital for national security. When these archives are opened, they can alter the historical perspective on an event. For example, with the release of the ULTRA archives in the s under the British 30 years rule, a lot of the Allied high command tactical decision making process was re-evaluated, particularly the Battle of the Atlantic. The release of the ULTRA archives also forced a re-evaluation of the history of the electronic computer. As more sources in other languages become available historians may review their theories in light of the new sources. The revision of the meaning of the Dark Ages are an example of this. DNA analysis has had an impact in various areas of history either confirming established historical theories or presenting new evidence that undermines the current established historical explanation. Professor Andrew Sherratt , a British prehistorian, was responsible for introducing the work of anthropological writings on the consumption of currently legal and illegal drugs and how to use these papers to explain certain aspects of prehistoric societies. Extracting ancient DNA allows scientists to argue whether or not humans are partly descended from Neanderthals. For example, when reading schoolbook history in Europe, it is possible to read about an event from completely different perspectives. In the Battle of Waterloo most British, French, Dutch and German schoolbooks slant the battle to emphasise the importance of the contribution of their nations. Sometimes the name of an event is used to convey political or a national perspective. For example, the same conflict between two English-speaking countries is known by two different names: As perceptions of nationalism change so do those areas of history that are driven by such ideas. For example, as regionalism has become more prominent in the UK some historians have been suggesting that the English Civil War is too Anglo-centric and that to understand the war, events that had previously been dismissed as on the periphery should be given greater prominence; to emphasise this, revisionist historians have suggested that the English Civil War becomes just one of a number of interlocking conflicts known as Wars of the Three Kingdoms. Furthermore, as cultures develop, it may become strategically advantageous for some revision-minded groups to revise their public historical narrative in such a way so as to either discover, or in rarer cases manufacture, a precedent which contemporary members of the given subcultures can use as a basis or rationale for reform or change. For example, during the s it became fashionable to see the English Civil War from a Marxist school of thought. In the words of Christopher Hill , "the Civil War was a class war. Issues of causation in history are often revised with new research: Moreover, the term "dark" implies less of a void of culture and law, but more a lack of many source texts in mainland Europe. Many modern scholars who study the era tend to avoid the term altogether for its negative connotations , finding it misleading and inaccurate for any part of the Middle Ages.

Chapter 4 : calendrierdelascience.com | Blasting the Historical Blackout!

*Chapter 1* *Revisionism and the Historical Blackout* by Harry Elmer Barnes *27*, Words *The revisionist search for truth relative to the causes of the second World War is "serious, unfortunate, deplorable."*

She is the well-wisher to the freedom and independence of all. She is the champion and vindicator only of her own. She will recommend the general cause by the countenance of her voice, and the benignant sympathy of her example. She well knows that by once enlisting under other banners than her own, were they even the banners of foreign independence, she would involve herself beyond the power of extrication in all the wars of interest and intrigue, of individual avarice, envy and ambition, which assume the colors and usurp the standards of freedom. The fundamental maxims of her policy would insensibly change from liberty to force. Under his scrutiny the revealed bones And girth of the past; the string-led figures; the gods in the machine. The great spirit flies, sifting the air, translating earth shapes against the moving screen. Tame pronouncers, parrots, gulls and shamans utter cries, Communicate their shrill distress; declare him less than the familiar apes. But the shadow of the spirit enfolds them all, And here and there with shielded eyes People have seen the steady wings and far light striking them, And here and there recall how long ago the Ere was brought, The vultures and the rock, and will remember him. Roosevelt and of its results, as they have affected the course of world history, the national interest of the United States, and the welfare of its citizens. When the prospective contributors were approached, they, without exception, questioned the logic and wisdom of directing the fire of a piece of heavy artillery against a mouse, however sleek and pretentious. They suggested, instead, a comprehensive review of the interventionist foreign policy since which would constitute an effective and enduring answer to the whitewashing and blackout contingents as a group, present and future. The editor has deferred to their superior judgment. The book here presented is not only an account of the actual course and aftermath of Roosevelt diplomacy, such as has already been factually and courageously set forth by George Morgenstern, Charles Austin Beard, Frederic R. Sanborn, William Henry Chamberlin, and Charles Callan Tansill, but it is also a consideration of the background and results of this diplomacy, and of the great difficulties met today by historians, social scientists, and publicists who honestly seek to discover and publish the facts relative to the foreign policies of Presidents Roosevelt and Truman. But the book is not a partisan polemic. The editor and the contributors fully recognize that more can be said in defense of the foreign policy of Messrs. Roosevelt and Truman than in behalf of the fantastic policy of their bipartisan Republican supporters, who cannot even invoke realistic political expediency in support of their attitude and conduct. Even much of the Republican criticism of the Roosevelt-Truman foreign policy boils down to little more than the allegation that it has not been sufficiently aggressive, ruthless, and global. The title of this book was suggested to the editor by the late Charles Austin Beard in our last conversation. With characteristic cogency and incisiveness. There is already alarming evidence that this is just the type of regime into which the world is now moving, consciously or unconsciously, as a result of the foreign policy forged by Roosevelt, Truman, Churchill, and Stalin. If trends continue as they have during the last fifteen years we shall soon reach this point of no return, and can only anticipate interminable wars, disguised as noble gestures for peace. Such an era could only culminate in a third world war which might well, as Arnold J. The contributors to this volume represent the outstanding living revisionist historians, social scientists, and publicists who have thus far contributed actively to the furtherance of revisionist studies relative to the second World War. Each is a specialist in the field which he treats in his chapter. An effort has been made to cover adequately all the main aspects of the recent foreign policy of the United States. The editor deals with the blackout of material concerning the revisionist position relative to responsibility for the second World War and the cold war. Professor Tansill covers the European background of the origins of the second World War and the development of Japanese-American relations to the eve of Pearl Harbor. Sanborn describes the origins of the interventionist foreign policy of President Roosevelt, his words and actions bearing on European diplomacy prior to the outbreak of the second World War, the flagrant and ever-increasing violations of neutrality by the Roosevelt administration, and the fruitless efforts of Mr. Roosevelt to induce Germany and Italy to react to

this policy by making a declaration of war on the United States. Professor Neumann treats the broader background of the American attitude of studied hostility toward Japan, as exemplified in the diplomacy of Secretaries Stimson and Hull and of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, including also the menacing naval policy of the latter. Morgenthau provides us with a succinct survey of the diplomacy and events that led into and through Pearl Harbor. Greaves relates the scandalous story of fakery and evasion involved in most of the investigations of responsibility for Pearl Harbor and the attempts to discredit such of the investigations as did honestly seek to ascertain the truth. Chamberlin handles crisply the evidence relating to the complete bankruptcy of the Roosevelt-HuU-Stimson-Morgenthau foreign policy and the incredible and enduring calamities it has imposed on the world of today. Professor Lundberg subjects to sociological analysis the contesting trends in American foreign policy: Those readers who are stimulated to pursue further the subjects touched upon in any or all of these chapters will find ample guidance to more detailed literature in the footnotes or bibliographies of these chapters. There is no probability that later evidence will require any moderation of the indictment of our foreign policy since , and, especially, since If there were any still secret material which would brighten the record of the Roosevelt and Truman foreign policies, we may rest assured that their court historians and publicity agents would have revealed it to the public long ere this. There is no doubt that the opponents of truth and realism relative to recent world history and to American foreign policy will seek to smear this book as an example of, and appeal to, isolationism. Such criticism is as silly as it is inevitable today. The authors are all widely traveled men. They are all students of world affairs and of those changes in world conditions which have brought the peoples of the world into closer relationships, at least so far as the agencies of communication and transportation and their cultural impact are concerned. They know that the world has changed since the days of Abraham Lincoln. They favor the utmost possible development in the way of international contacts, relationships, and understanding, and amicable co-operation between the United States and other countries of the world. They wish isolation from a foreign policy which has brought increasing misery, chaos, and decimation to the world since April, , without any notable improvement in world conditions or in the safety and prosperity of our own country. They favor the abandonment of a policy which has increased the number and strength of our foreign enemies, reduced the number and paralyzed the power of our potential friends abroad, and undermined the economic security and political integrity of our nation. They see no reason to doubt that our traditional foreign policy of neutrality, continentalism, and friendly collaboration is more likely to contribute to domestic felicity and military security than global meddling and interventionism, the net result of which has been brilliantly summarized by Mr. The editor is deeply indebted to Mr. Hoy, of The Caxton Printers, Ltd. The Index was compiled by Mr. Lurie, of New York City. Holbrook, Los Men of American History, p. His most important historical writings are The History of Western Civilization 2 vols. He also edited the important series of six volumes on American Investments Abroad: Any superlatives or other praise accorded the contributors represent his wishes, judgment, and responsibility exclusively, except in the case of himself, where he has cited the opinions of others. There was no income tax before , and that levied in the early days after the amendment was adopted was little more than nominal. All kinds of taxes were relatively low. We had only a token national debt of around a billion dollars, which could have been paid off in a year without causing even a ripple in national finance. Ours was a libertarian country in which there was little or no witch-hunting and few of the symptoms and operations of the police state which have been developing here so drastically during the last decade. Not until our intervention in the first World War had there been sufficient invasions of individual liberties to call forth the formation of special groups and organizations to protect our civil rights. The Supreme Court could still be relied on to uphold the Constitution and safeguard the civil liberties of individual citizens. Libertarianism was also dominant in Western Europe. The Liberal Party governed England from to France had risen above the reactionary coup of the Dreyfus affair, had separated Church and State, and had seemingly established the Third Republic with reasonable permanence on a democratic and liberal basis. Even Hohenzollern Germany enjoyed the usual civil liberties, had strong constitutional restraints on executive tyranny, and had established a workable system of parliamentary government. Experts on the history of Austria-Hungary have recently been proclaiming that life in the Dual Monarchy after the turn of the century marked the happiest period in the experience of the peoples

encompassed therein. Constitutional government, democracy, and civil liberties prevailed in Italy. Despite the suppression of the Liberal Revolution of , liberal sentiment was making headway in Tsarist Russia and there was decent prospect that a constitutional monarchy might be established. Civilized states expressed abhorrence of dictatorial and brutal policies. Enlightened citizens of the Western world were then filled with buoyant hope for a bright future for humanity. It was believed that the theory of progress had been thoroughly vindicated by historical events. Houghton Mifflin Company, People were confident that the amazing developments in technology would soon produce abundance, security, and leisure for the multitude. In this optimism in regard to the future no item was more evident and potent than the assumption that war was an outmoded nightmare. Not only did idealism and humanity repudiate war but Norman Angell and others were assuring us that war could not be justified, even on the basis of the most sordid material interest. Those who adopted a robust international outlook were devoted friends of peace, and virtually all international movements had as their sole aim the devising and implementing of ways and means to assure permanent peace. Friends of peace were nowhere isolationist, in any literal sense, but they did stoutly uphold the principle of neutrality and sharply criticized provocative meddling in every political dogfight in the most remote reaches of the planet. Unfortunately, there are relatively few persons today who can recall those happy times. In his devastatingly prophetic book. Nineteen Eighty-Four, [2]New York: George Orwell points out that one reason why it is possible for those in authority to maintain the barbarities of the police state is that nobody is able to recall the many blessings of the period which preceded that type of society. In a general way this is also true of the peoples of the Western world today. The great majority of them have known only a world ravaged by war, depressions, international intrigues and meddling, vast debts and crushing taxation, the encroachments of the police state, and the control of public opinion and government by ruthless and irresponsible propaganda. A major reason why there is no revolt against such a state of society as that in which we are living today is that many have come to accept it as a normal matter of course, having known nothing else during their lifetimes. A significant and illuminating report on this situation came to me recently in a letter from one of the most distinguished social scientists in the country and a resolute revisionist. Even able and mature students react to the elementary facts like children who have just been told that there is or was no Santa Claus. The members of the seminar were graduate students, nearly all of whom had taken courses in recent American and European history which covered in some detail the diplomacy of Europe and the United States during the last twenty years. Being a student of the history of labor problems, I am aware of many gains for labor since But I can also remember when good steak cost fifteen cents a pound and the best whisky eighty-five cents a quart. The threat of war did not hang over him. There are some forms of tyranny worse than that of an arbitrary boss in a nonunion shop. For the sad state of the world today, the entry of the United States into two world wars has played a larger role than any other single factor. Some might attribute the admittedly unhappy conditions of our time to other items and influences than world wars and our intervention in them. No such explanation can be sustained. Indeed, but for our entry into the two world wars, we should be living in a far better manner than we did before The advances in technology since that time have brought the automobile into universal use, have given us good roads, and have produced the airplane, radio, moving pictures, television, electric lighting and refrigeration, and numerous other revolutionary contributions to human service, happiness, and comforts. If all this had been combined with the freedom, absence of high taxation, minimum indebtedness, low armament expenditures, and pacific outlook of pre times, the people of the United States might, right now, be living in Utopian security and abundance.

**Chapter 5 : Why revisionism is an historical necessity | Carolyn Yeager**

*It was praised in the Yale Review of June , in the following lyrical fashion by no less than Professor Henry Steele Commager, a participant in the historical blackout on World War II Revisionism: "It is critical, searching, and judicious a style that is always vigorous and sometimes brilliant.*

There is a cause and effect involved here. And the first great blood letting and the first total destruction of rules of morality was the first world war. Understandable, they were almost starved to death as little kids. This is mostly due to the opposition of those who attempt to change the facts of history to their favor or to fit their narrative " with a false history. Rightfully so, it is not right for groups, governments, and social movements to bend the truth so far that they end up teaching lies. But the term revisionist history has also gotten a bad name on purpose. Because those who have controlled the flow of information and the narrative of history " want the thread of history to remain as it is " as they have told it and passed it down " whether true or not. You see, there is another kind of revisionist history. The revisionist historians in this tradition are not trying to falsify history to fit their aims. They are practicing real, true, authentic investigation " to uncover, without a bias or an ill intended aim in mind " the most accurate story they can about events that took place in the past. As opposed to the common belief, they are not making things up to fit their agenda. They are exposing the truth " and along the way, uncovering agendas, plots, and ill deeds " that were passed down to us as what we think we know as history. As the common phrase goes " the victors write history. Well its not just victors in some kind of conflict. It is the mainstream, the powers that be " those who have a paradigm to maintain and have the ability through government and media " to keep it going. States do not give up power. They will do whatever it takes through propaganda and wars to hold their power. So lets jump into some examples so you get an idea of what I mean. It could be anything. Think of anything you know " open up your mind " get rid of your pre-determined view points " and see that things might be different than they seem. Down at the bottom you will find some links with videos, articles, and books where you can find more information. Abraham Lincoln was in fact a racist. They changed their public stance half-way through the war in order to drum up popular support " and so it has been passed down ever since that it was a just war from the beginning " led by the great emancipator, Lincoln. In reality, they were merely trying to maintain control, power, and territory. He even suggested that slaves be shipped off to new territories, or just back to Africa, to rid the country of them. I think this is a big one. Lincoln has become one of these huge parts of state mythology " almost deified. And since this is the case it is so very important to statists to propagate Lincoln glorification " to tell us that anything he or the government did then or since is good " since it was honest Abe doing it. The federal government wanted the attack as an excuse for getting into the war, without being the aggressors. So they directed their attention to Japan, doing everything they could to provoke an attack. The Japanese were attempting to surrender before the US government dropped nuclear weapons on civilian targets. The US government felt it was more important to show their world power and their new weapon, by killing hundreds of thousands of civilians " than to peacefully end one front of the war. When the depression began, the common myth is that Hoover was this do-nothing republican who idly stood by while things got worse. Well in reality Hoover began many massive programs " that FDR only later ratcheted up into even larger stimulus programs. All the efforts of the federal government to end recessions only make them worse. Recessions and depressions are market corrections to misallocations in the economy. Rational savings and investment grow economies. And conservative statists like to think WW2 fixed the economy. Wars only divert and destroy wealth. The economy started to turn around only after the war when depression and wartime price controls, regulations, etc. It is commonly believed that the impetus for the US government entering WWI was the evil Germans sinking an unarmed passenger ship, the Lusitania. Here is the truth"it was a British ship " Churchill had a hand in the entire thing " it was shipping a huge supply of munitions for the war, thus it would be fair game to sink. The Germans knew it was carrying war materials, so before hand they went so far as to put out newspaper ads in New York City warning Americans not to get on that ship. There has been massive propaganda by modern centralized states for over years. During WW2

people set up bomber watches on the rooftops of buildings in the northeast. The idea was spread that an attack could happen any day. Lets go way back with this one. The participants picked and choose what they wanted to be in the book. They forged a very specific narrative. They essentially created Christianity as we know it today. Something a little less serious, but still a historical myth that can be set straight. The Wright Brothers were not the first to fly a plane. Other people had been making motor driven manned planes for some years â€” some successfully flown for distances measured in miles, not in feet like the Wrights. One of these was a German who lived in America, named Gustave Whitehead â€” but there were others as well. The difference is the Wright brothers were after fame and glory and they planned on publicity. Whitehead and others were more interested in the science, the flight, and personal achievement. The Wright brothers made sure they notified the press and that they had a man there with a camera. And with that, they were the ones who went down in history as the first to fly.

**Chapter 6 : Chapter 1: Revisionist historians**

*Historical Blackout. In the United States, revisionism got off to an early start and flourished relatively, so far as the production of substantial books was concerned.*

Who We Are Mission This site seeks to revive the true spirit of the historical revisionist movement; a movement that was established primarily to foster peace through an objective understanding of the causes of modern warfare. Slightly over 30 years ago, James J. Martin, one of the deans of revisionist history of the Twentieth Century coined the term "Inconvenient History" in the title of his collection of essays, *The Saga of Hog Island and Other Essays in Inconvenient History*. Martin explained "inconvenient history" as: Today we have crossed over from a time of "political correctness" to one of outright Orwellian "thought-crime" where certain historical studies are strongly discouraged and in many once-free democracies even outlawed. Harry Barnes said that correction of the historical record could only occur in light of a calmer political atmosphere, and a more objective attitude. He was surprised to find that even 25 years after the Second World War, such an atmosphere had not yet developed. Martin coined the term "inconvenient history". Veale, and Luigi Villari can be found influencing contemporary thought and being sought out by a new generation who cannot be properly classified as "right" or "left" by contemporary standards. Revisionism was established as a progressive, some would say "liberal" methodology that originally set out to revise the harsh terms of the Treaty of Versailles following the First World War. The revisionist methodology, although rather successful in the 1950s and 1960s, met tremendous resistance following the Second World War. By the 1970s and 1980s the term "revisionism" was often thought synonymous with far-right politics and fascist sympathies. Barnes argued that revisionist theories were smothered by a campaign of unceasing inflammatory exaggerations of Nazi savagery. Barnes identified the developing Holocaust story as the true barrier to the acceptance of revisionist arguments and thereby the true barrier to peace, security and prosperity among nations. Today the specter of the Holocaust is marched out to justify every modern military intervention. Cutting through the exaggerations, lies and propaganda of the Holocaust story has to be the starting point for any contemporary revisionist and any contemporary revisionist journal. The territory is plagued of course, with the minefield of charges of "Holocaust denial," "racism," "anti-Semitism," and "neo-Nazism". Our desire is to return to the roots of revisionism without any political agenda or desire to whitewash totalitarian regimes. We are free-thinkers who seek to support the concept of intellectual freedom as a means to peace and understanding among nations, groups and individuals of every description. We are not interested in conspiracy theories; we are interested in revealing real history and supporting the freedom of historians to explore even the most sacred of historical dogmas without fear of reprisal. We do not attempt to rehabilitate any totalitarian regime. We hope in fact to one day emerge in a society that is more free than the one we live in today. We seek to reveal the facts in an effort to avoid foreign wars and interventionist crusades that leave tens of thousands dead in what amount to an endless series of "perpetual wars". We seek to blast our way through the historical blackout and to reveal the truth about modern history, regardless of how inconvenient it may be to this or that regime or political party or ideology. If you believe in free historical inquiry and in correcting the historical record, and would like to strike a blow for truth and accuracy in history, please support us by making a contribution today.

**Chapter 7 : Factualizing History | Grassroots Liberty**

*Harry Elmer Barnes () was a pioneer of historical revisionism, meaning the use of historical scholarship to challenge and refute the narratives of history promulgated by the state and the political class, or as Barnes himself termed it, "court history."*

Round Table Press; Description of WWI Allied propaganda techniques. Box , Beirut, Lebanon: One of the best Arab works to expose Zionist banditry. From Apes to Warlords. Harper and Row; Zuckerman was co-author of the survey-report which formed the basis for Prof. Anderson editor , George L. Studies in Twentieth Century American Diplomacy. University of Kansas Press; The Myth of the Six Million. Noontide Press ; The first ever English-language book to refute the "Holocaust " Allegedly written by a California professor. Sons of Liberty; First published One of the first booklets to appear in America attacking the "delayed drumhead court-martial" otherwise known as the Nuremberg Trial. Particular attention is paid to the activities of Chief U. Jackson in rigging up the "trial" and indictment which carefully overlooked any crimes committed by the Allies. Also examined are the excellent qualifications of two of the American "judges" at the "trial": Francis Biddle and Owen Roberts. The latter was the man behind the infamous Roberts Commission lie-report on Pearl Harbor. A Straight Look at the Third Reich. A distinguished American scholar asks the question: Frank and revealing memoirs of the foremost German-American figure of the postwar era -- and one of the earliest and most vocal World War II Revisionists. His polemicism earned him the honor of obtaining the life-long enmity of such types as Drew Pearson, Walter Winchell, and Ben Hecht. An interesting and illuminating collection of letters written by the author three-fourths of them in the period to various influential personages and publications, presenting vigorous comments on the causes and course of World War II, and the Allied occupation policies and actions in post-war Germany. The Six Million Swindle. Brief but factual essay on the post-war implications of the "Holocaust" fraud. A short but succinct description of the atrocities committed against the expatriate Germans in central Europe. Rutgers University Press; The standard scholarly book on the history and implications of the outstanding political and diplomatic blunder of the Allies in WW II. The Man in the Street. This book is by a leading American diplomatic historian who is a strong partisan of Roosevelt. Nevertheless he is honest enough to concede that the President lied this country into war. Bailey justifies this mendacity on the grounds that such deception was necessary, since the American people were not capable of understanding their own best interests. Germany Under Direct Controls. The treatment of West Germany. Morgenthau Plan from A short essay on the state-of-the-art of revisionism. Reprinted from Liberation Summer The Genesis of the World War, 3rd edition. Best survey of the subject for the general reader, with useful annotated bibliography. In Quest of Truth and Justice. National Historical Society; The most complete summary of the Revisionist controversy over the causes of the first World War. World Politics in Modern Civilization. Last half of this book is the standard Revisionist survey of war guilt literature and the main problems created by the post-war treaties. Reprint of privately printed edition. Barnes demolishes court historian Basil Rauch and his Roosevelt From Munich to Pearl Harbor-one of the most extreme and vulnerable attempts at defending and obscuring the Roosevelt pro-war policy. Crucifying the Saviour of France. Petain himself read a translation of this booklet in his prison cell, shortly before his death. Reprint of Arno Press edition. A handy collection of some of Barnes best. Excellent introduction to the whole Revisionist controversy after World War II through the eyes of the protagonist. Describes the ideological "flip-flop" of those "old liberals" who, mindful of the lessons of Revisionism of World War I, were all for neutrality and pacifism in the early thirties -- until The Devil Himself came along in Germany, to be replaced at the end of the war by a new League of Devils from Russia. This is one of the most biting critiques of the new "totalitarian liberalism" and its concomittant "globaloney" ever to appear in print. Writing in , at the height of the much-exaggerated "McCarthy era," Barnes does not try to conceal a certain satisfaction that the liberal totalitarians are at last getting a taste of the fear-and-smear techniques they themselves used against non-interventionists and Revisionists in the late thirties and forties. Dexter Perkins in which Perkins had argued that Roosevelt merely "followed the lead" of American public opinion as measured by polls in in

moving toward war. Barnes notes how Perkins distorted and twisted his statistics in order for them to follow his "line," and then examines those polls himself, concluding that when the often "loaded" questions are "unloaded," the real answer of the American people at that time becomes clear, a consistent and overwhelming opposition to any moves recognized as likely to get America into war. Barnes, Harry Elmer [and others]. Compiled by Barnes and 7 other scholars, this includes often-colorful synopses of each work listed. Much Revisionist work has been done since this was put together, but it remains the indispensable guide to early Revisionism. The entire contents have been incorporated into the present bibliography. *Blasting the Historical Blackout. Pearl Harbor After a Quarter of a Century.* Barnes editor, Harry Elmer. *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace.* A comprehensive symposium by eight leading Revisionist scholars dealing with all important phases of the second world war insofar as it affected the United States, including the European background and the disastrous aftermath. Especially notable for demonstrating the determined effort of historians, newspaper editors, and commercial publishers to prevent the truth from reaching the American public, and for its exposure of the shameless efforts to stifle the truth concerning Pearl Harbor. The best general book on the causes and results of the entry of the United States into the second world war. *The Court Historians Versus Revisionism.* Barnes takes apart two war-mongering books: *Cynical in the extreme.* A survey of the war-guilt question in Germany after two world wars. The title essay, here presented for the first time since its appearance in the Spring, Rampart Journal, is the lengthy bibliographic review and summing-up of the state of revisionism. *Warning and Decision and the "smother-out"* by which discussion of critical issues is drowned out in a cacaphony of wailing about alleged "Nazi atrocities". *The Struggle Against the Historical Blackout,* 9th edition. In describing the story of the Blackout as it unfolded, Barnes reviewed each significant development in Revisionist historiography, and then examined the treatment or lack of treatment given by the mass media, the reviewers, and the Establishment generally. Bailey, and assorted other Liberal ideologues learned to think twice about what they were going to say in print, knowing that Barnes would call their bluffs in future editions of this devastating brochure. *Inside the State Department.* Critical and informing analysis of the make-up, policies and methods of the U. State Department in recent years. Reveals the growth of a large and unwieldy permanent bureaucracy which controls much policy and virtually all publication, irrespective of the party in power. Especially stresses the delays and censorship in publishing diplomatic documents which might reflect on the integrity and wisdom of the president and high officials in the State Department. Throws much light on official contributions to the "Historical Blackout. *The Politics of Pearl Harbor* Very thorough re-statement of the revisionist position on Pearl Harbor and the subsequent cover-up by and for FDR and his henchmen -- containing new findings from the National Archives. Traces the origins of American involvement in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters and the "back door to war" plan, the scapegoating of Adm. Kimmel, and the progression of the official investigations culminating in the Joint Congressional Investigation of An appendix reproduces the complete John T. Bass editor, Herbert J. An "American Problem Studies" anthology, presenting differing interpretations of the reasons why America entered the war. Or was it in fact the very un-neutral American diplomacy -- and the vested interest of powerful American financiers and industrialists in the ultimate victory of the Allies whom they were so abundantly and profitably supplying -- provoked this campaign, with all its consequences? Peterson, Edwin Borchard, and Paul Birdsall. Brilliant statement of the lessons which should have been learned from the first world war by American citizens. They were learned from to, and then unlearned under the leadership of President Roosevelt. Beale editor, Howard K. University of Kentucky Press; The memorial volume on the Revisionist whom even critics concede is the likeliest candidate for the title: *American Foreign Policy in the Making,*

Chapter 8 : Historical revisionism - Wikipedia

*Holocaust revisionism pertains to the idea that the Holocaust didn't quite happen the way the Jews said it did. Supporters of revisionism and denial believe the Jews falsified either the entire story or parts of the of story of the Holocaust to promote themselves.*

North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Washington were added to the union increasing the number of stars on the American flag to 48. Later that year Thomas Edison screened his very first motion picture, launching a new entertainment medium and an industry centered on moving pictures. Jefferson Davis, the former president of the Confederate States of America died that December at the age of 78. Needless to say, when Harry Barnes was born on the family farm in upstate New York, America was a different place from what it is today. Barnes would become known not only as a historian, but also as a criminologist, a sociologist, and an economist. In the years that followed he tirelessly attempted to revise the official history of the First World War. If honest and truthful history is indeed able to prevent future cataclysms, the triumph of World War One revisionism came too late, for by an even more costly confrontation would be ignited. Perhaps his most important work during this period was the anthology *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace*. While a controversial figure in his lifetime, Harry Elmer Barnes is even more controversial today. It is on this point that I am sure that both his defenders and detractors can agree. *History and Social Intelligence*, New York: National Historical Society, Harcourt, Brace and company *A Survey of Western Civilization*, Crowell, *An Introduction to the History of Sociology*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, *The Struggle against the Historical Blackout*, , 9th edition, *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace*: Greenwood Press, , *Blasting the Historical Blackout in Britain*: To learn more about Barnes, see the following articles:

**Chapter 9 : Revisionism and the Historical Blackout | Mises Institute**

*In May of , Harry Elmer Barnes wrote one of his most enduring essays, "Blasting the Historical Blackout." Barnes essay was a reaction to the recent publication of The Origins of the Second World War by A.J.P. Taylor a trail-blazing revisionist work.*

Revisionist historians In a sense, history is always being revised, sometimes on the basis of newly discovered documents, sometimes from a different political position, sometimes employing a new methodology. The term "revisionism" however, has been applied to historical analyses that are at variance with mainstream history. World War I revisionists try to absolve Germany of the blame for starting the war, while World War II revisionists travel much the same route, often blaming Roosevelt for "tricking" America into war. In many of these studies the historical record is skewed, often in order to promote a political position. This position generally involves a rehabilitation of such states as Wilhelmine Germany, National Socialist Germany or Stalinist Russia. While historians may have differences of interpretation regarding epochal events such as these, there is also general international agreement as to the essentials. How do I know it? Most of the revisionist topics mentioned above have had few adherents, perhaps because the weight of both historical record and common sense favors their refutation. However, one other revisionist topic has enjoyed considerable notoriety, and a apparently large number of believers. This is the subject of the Holocaust. It is here particularly that motive and intention become crucially important to understand. The revisionist methodology concerning the Holocaust can be traced to the work of Harry Elmer Barnes. He has been described as "presumptive doyen of American isolationist historians, guru to fledgling libertarians, and patron saint of neo-Nazi cranks and crackpots in search of academic legitimacy. His work was so marked by contentiousness that most of it had to be privately printed. In a pamphlet called *Blasting the Historical Blackout* he questioned the "alleged wartime crimes of Germany. Even if one were to accept the most extreme and exaggerated indictment of Hitler and the National Socialists for their activities after made by anybody fit to remain outside a mental hospital, it is almost alarmingly easy to demonstrate that the atrocities of the Allies in the same period were more numerous as to victims and were carried out for the most part by methods more brutal and painful than alleged extermination in gas ovens. In France Paul Rassinier came to even more explicit conclusions than Barnes did. His first book was published in and in it he asserts that the survivors grossly exaggerated the atrocities committed by the Nazis. By Rassinier had come up with statistical proof of the Holocaust conspiracy. He asserted that precisely 4,, of the six million Jews claimed to have been murdered were actually alive. Where exactly they were was never explained. Barnes and Rassinier met in the early s. When the book appeared in English it was dedicated to "James J. Pioneers in Revisionist History. Carto, head of Liberty Lobby, which Dawidowicz calls "the best financed anti-Semitic organization in the United States, wrote this introduction. The thesis of *The Myth of the Six Million* is apparent from its title. It attempts to support its thesis by disproving all the evidence of the murder of the European Jews. Not content to throw doubt on the testimony of survivors, the author attempts also to discredit the eyewitness testimony of Nazi participants. For example, the testimony of Rudolf Hoess, SS commandant of Auschwitz, is discredited since it was obviously obtained through torture. An academic scandal erupted in when it was revealed that Arthur Butz, author of *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*, was a professor of electrical engineering at Northwestern University. Butz stated that the Jews of Europe had not been "exterminated and that there was no German attempt to exterminate them. The resulting notoriety greatly embarrassed Northwestern University, especially when Jewish contributors threatened to end their financial support. The University refused to fire Butz, holding fast to the concept of academic freedom and the right of tenure. Dawidowicz was one of those asked to participate, but had reservations about how it was being handled: In the earlys they seized the idea of using terms like "historical review" and "revisionism" to gain academic attention. The first public manifestation of this new idea was a "Revisionist Convention" held at Northrup College campus in Los Angeles in Leading lights of the pseudo-scholars read papers denying that the Holocaust occurred. The fact that the trappings of an academic convention could be a successful disguise was demonstrated by the genuine horror of the Northrup

Board of Governors when they found out the exact nature of this "convention. In the *Journal of Historical Review* appeared. It contained articles by the headliners at the revisionist convention: A cause celebre followed the appearance of the *Journal of Historical Review* when, after obtaining the mailing list of the Organization of American Historians, Carto mailed a copy to each of its 12, members. Many of the members were upset that they received this journal; more surprisingly, however, many were not. One of the revisionist tracts, *The Revisionist Historians and German War Guilt*, received a respectful review in the preeminent journal of American historians, *American Historical Review*. If the American response to the revisionists has been tepid, the French response has been vigorous. As Dawidowicz notes, "the concluding paragraph could well serve as a guide to American historians": Everyone is free to interpret a phenomenon like the Hitlerite genocide according to his own philosophy. Everyone is free to compare it with other enterprises of murder committed earlier, at the same time, later. Everyone is free to offer such or such kind of explanation; everyone is free, to the limit, to imagine or to dream that these monstrous deeds did not take place. Unfortunately they did take place and no one can deny their existence without committing an outrage on the truth. It is not necessary to ask how technically such mass murder was possible. It was technically possible, seeing that it took place. That is the required point of departure of every historical inquiry on this subject. This truth it behooves us to remember in simple terms: In the final analysis it may be claimed that none of the pseudo-academic posturing of the revisionists matters, for surely no reasonable person could believe the monstrous lies of the revisionists. Yet it can also be argued that these allegations do matter, for one reason, the matter of truth noted by the French historians. Truth is often a lonely figure, needful of defenders. It is not a matter of indifference whether historical views are true or not. There are three functions to history, as Landes and Tilley affirm, all of them crucial to a healthy society: History is, first of all, the custodian of the collective memory and as such performs the important function of nourishing the collective ego. Second, it is in all societies a primary vehicle of the socialization of the young, teaching them the past so that they may know who they are and behave appropriately in the present. Third, it is the branch of inquiry that seeks to arrive at an accurate account and valid understanding of the past. Hence, without understanding and supporting the function of history, truth withers and we are impoverished for it. It is little wonder that there are those who would deny the historical occurrence of such an event as the Holocaust. Precisely because it is an event so monstrous in conception, so insidious in evil, its historical veracity must always be protected, so that indeed history cannot repeat itself. The sheer scale of the barbarity of annihilation often causes doubts; people wonder how such cruelty could occur and this is where doubts begin. It is not surprising that people could doubt such an event. Having no experience of evil can make a person doubtful of its existence; living a pleasant existence assumes its reality for others. Most people in Canada live an essentially forward-directed existence, giving little thought to the past, for unlike the present the past cannot be changed. The "small" evils and inequities of life - the homeless, African famine, AIDS - are problems that we believe can be solved with the liberal application of money and technology. An historical event like the Holocaust can never be changed: And when people seek to remind us of that terrible time we are prone, at first, to sympathetic equanimity, but if they persist, to annoyance. This is not an unnatural reaction; people prefer to confront the horrid on their own terms. The story that follows is an account of what happened when those who would remind us of the Holocaust clashed with those for whom the remembrance was not a personal tragedy but only an historical memory.