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Cover photograph: Members of an American landing party help their buddies ashore from a life raft, after their landing craft was sunk during the Normandy invasion, June 1944. From *Kilroy Was There* by Tony Hillerman (see page 1).

Kent State University Press books are made to the highest standards of production and designed to last for generations. Hardcover books are sewn in signatures and bound with full cloth covers; paperback books are notch bound in signatures; all our book paper is acid free for archival longevity, and most is made from 60% recycled pulp, using 10% post-consumer waste.

A message from the director

We begin 2004 with an exciting list of new titles in our specialty areas of history, literature, and Ohio regional studies. Leading this list is *Kilroy Was There*, a collection of World War II photographs from the album of U. S. Army Signal Corps photographer Frank Kessler, narrated by Tony Hillerman. Accompanied by Hillerman's spirited and personal prose, these remarkable photos record the everyday struggles of GIs as they battled from Normandy to Berlin.

Other history titles include the memoir of West Point teacher, scholar, and career officer James Morrison; a study of the important role of music in the American immigrant experience; the memoir of German immigrant and Civil War colonel John Henry Otto; and the story of an American engineer who built a city and a factory in 1930s Soviet Russia. Our regional list features *The Music Went 'Round and Around*, a lively history of Cleveland's Musicarnival theater, and a revised edition of *Merging Traditions*, the landmark history of Cleveland's Jewish community told in photos and prose. Our literature studies include an examination of Melville's *Clarel*, a literary biography of Ohio poet and scholar Herbert Woodward Martin, and reflections on a midwestern life by Paul Zimmer. We also offer a study of economic reforms in Nigeria, and *Tenderly Lift Me* gives voice to women's experiences in health care, adding a new dimension to the celebrated Literature and Medicine Series. Finally, we present an updated edition of *Congress from the Inside* by Ohio representative Sherrod Brown. This rich array of scholarship and general interest titles has something for everyone who loves good books.



WILL UNDERWOOD

To commemorate the
60th Anniversary
of D-day

Kilroy Was There

A GI's War in Photographs

Tony Hillerman

Photographs from the collection of Frank Kessler

"In 1941 Frank Kessler, a young accountant in Canton, Ohio, was drafted, assigned to an Army Signal Corps unit, and went away to photograph the war in Europe. In 1945, home again with his wife and children, he stored hundreds of those images of blood and battle in his attic. There they stayed until after his death.

"Then Lee Kessler, Frank's estranged younger brother, sorted through boxes seeking to better know a brother he'd never known very well. A flier who had been shot down and held in a German POW camp, Lee saw Frank's photographs as images of a different side of war, one he never experienced. He was moved by what he saw and recognized their importance. He preserved them for all of us, carefully ordering them into albums and typing the information Frank had written on the backs of the photos.

"When I saw Frank Kessler's photographs I was struck by how different they were from the movie-camera views I see on television. No public relations pictures here, intended to glorify battle and rally support. These were up-close snapshots of the dirty, damp, and disheveled men in the rifle companies and tank units. It was the war as they endured it, as they struggled through it from the beaches of France to the streets of Berlin until they finally won it.

"With his camera Kessler was out there on the killing fields alongside the rest of us. . . . Kessler had a remarkable talent for making significant the ordinary images of war. With a snapshot of a U.S. Army medic lighting a cigarette for a bloody German soldier, he tells us how opposing troops came to see one another. . . . He shows us soldiers sitting on the muddy bank of a little stream trying to take a bath. He shows us Sherman tanks burning, young men dying, young men dead. Like no other photographs I've seen, Kessler's capture the ugliness, wreckage, cold, and misery of war."—*from the Preface*

Novelist **Tony Hillerman** is a WWII combat veteran who served as a mortar gunner in the weapons platoon of C Company, 410th Infantry. He was awarded a unit citation Bronze Star, a Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, a Silver Star, and a Purple Heart. Hillerman has been a journalist and a professor of journalism at the University of New Mexico, 1965 to 1987. He has written a series of novels, *Navajo Mysteries*, which have won numerous awards. Several have been made into PBS specials.

Frank Kessler (1915–1990) served with the 1st Army Signal Corps on the Western Front.

Military History / Photography

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80 pp., 8½ x 11, 120 photographs

An infantry medic lights a cigarette for a German prisoner who has just been treated by a U.S. doctor at the battle of Marigny, France, July 29, 1944.

