“A Horrible Fascination”

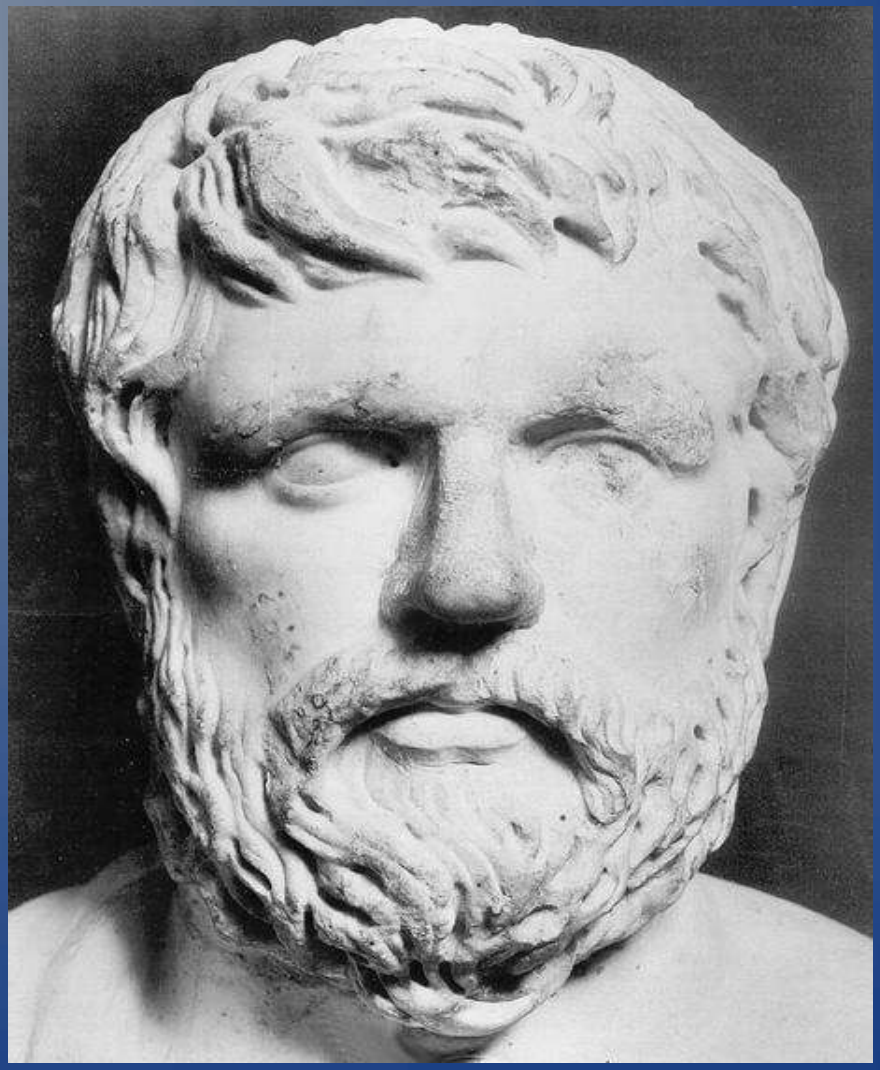
The Evolution of the War Correspondent

A presentation
by
Frederick Chiaventone
to the
Combat Studies Institute

Conference:
The U.S. Army and the Media in Wartime

US Army Command & General Staff College
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
27 August 2009

Xenophon
430 BC – 354 BC
“Anabasis – The March Up Country”



Julius Caesar
100 BC – 44 BC
“Commentary on the Gallic Wars”

Philippe de Commines
1447-1511

Battle of Crecy - 1346
by Jean de Froissart

The Swedish Intelligencer

First attempt at 'covering' a war in progress printed in London - 1632

Gustavus Adolphus
King of Sweden

Siege of Magdeburg - 1637

Battle of Lutzen

Death of Gustavus Adolphus

Thomas Chenery

1826-1884

Correspondent for *The Times* in Crimea

William Howard Russell

1820-1907

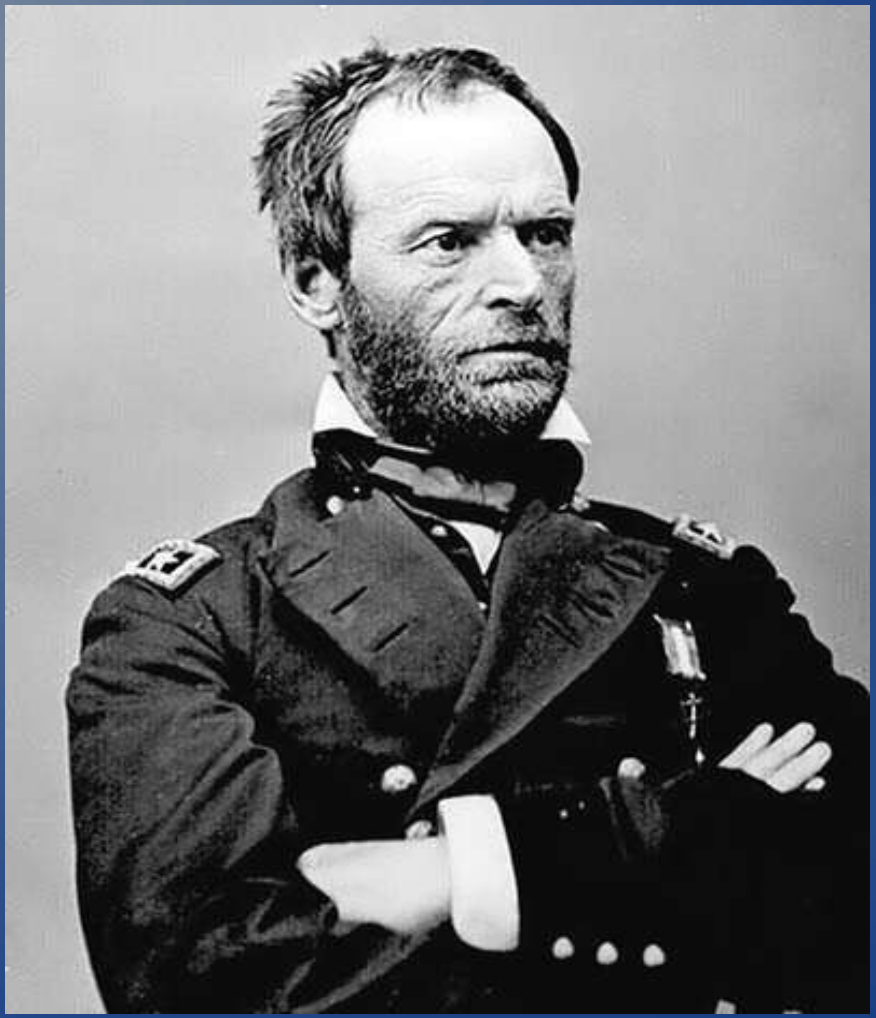
Correspondent for *The Times* in Crimea

Charge of the Light Brigade

Hand-to-hand fighting at the guns

William Tecumseh Sherman

1820-1891

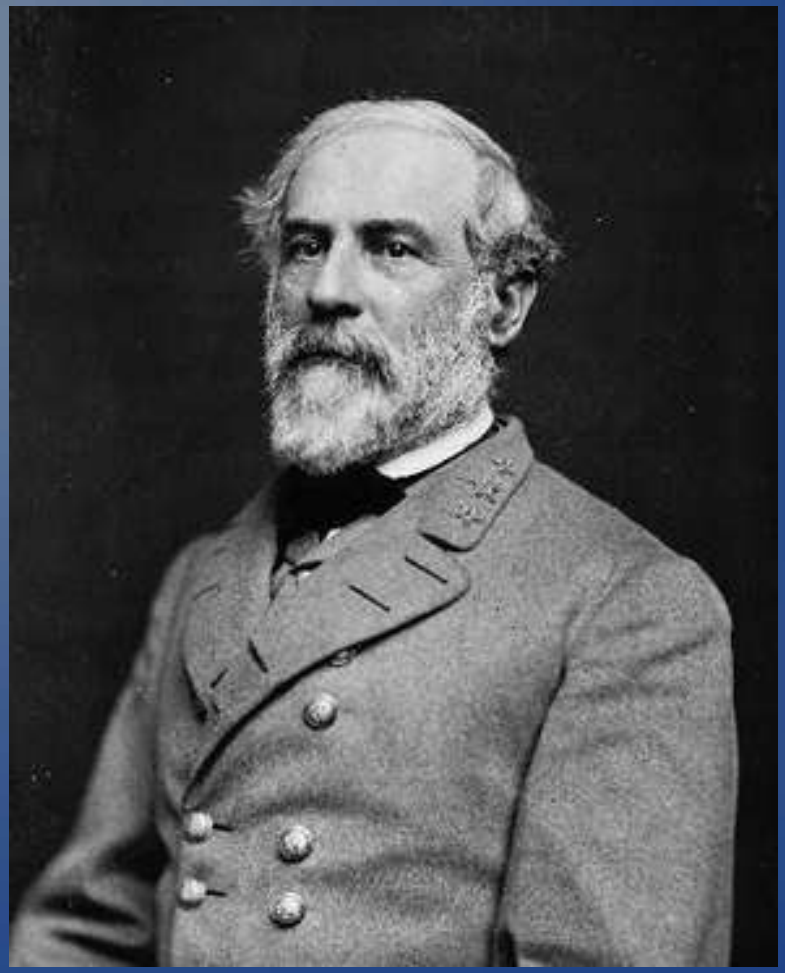


Irvin McDowell

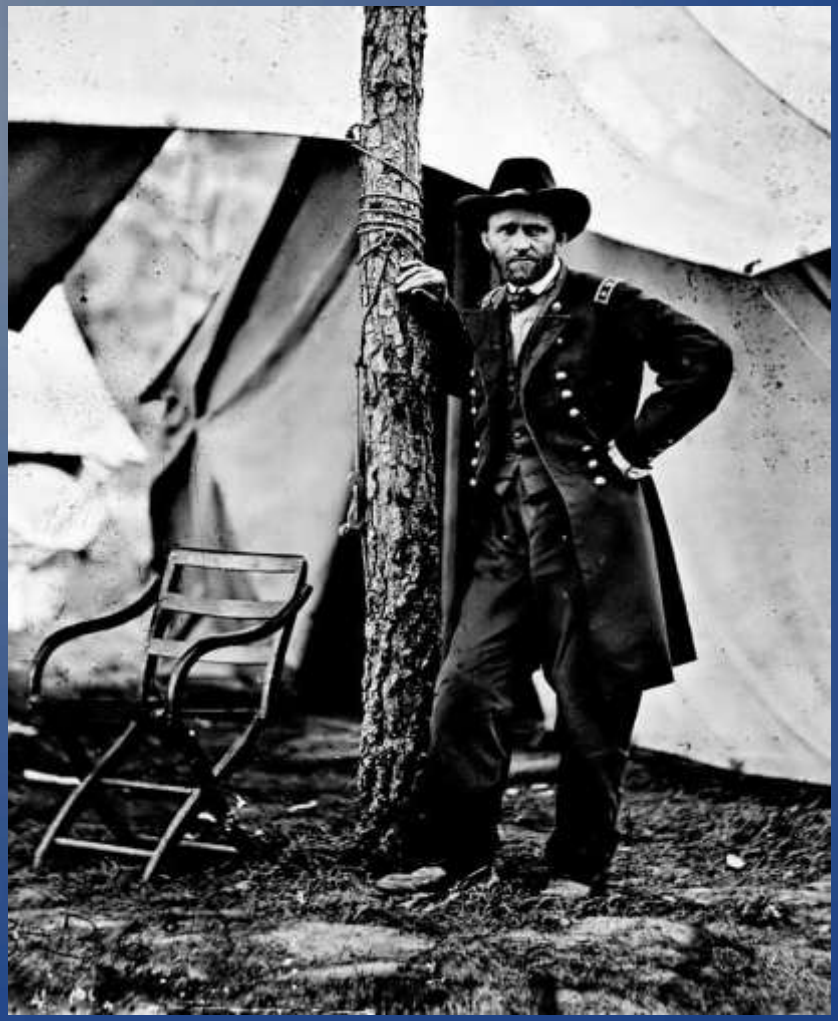
1818-1885

Robert E. Lee

1807-1870

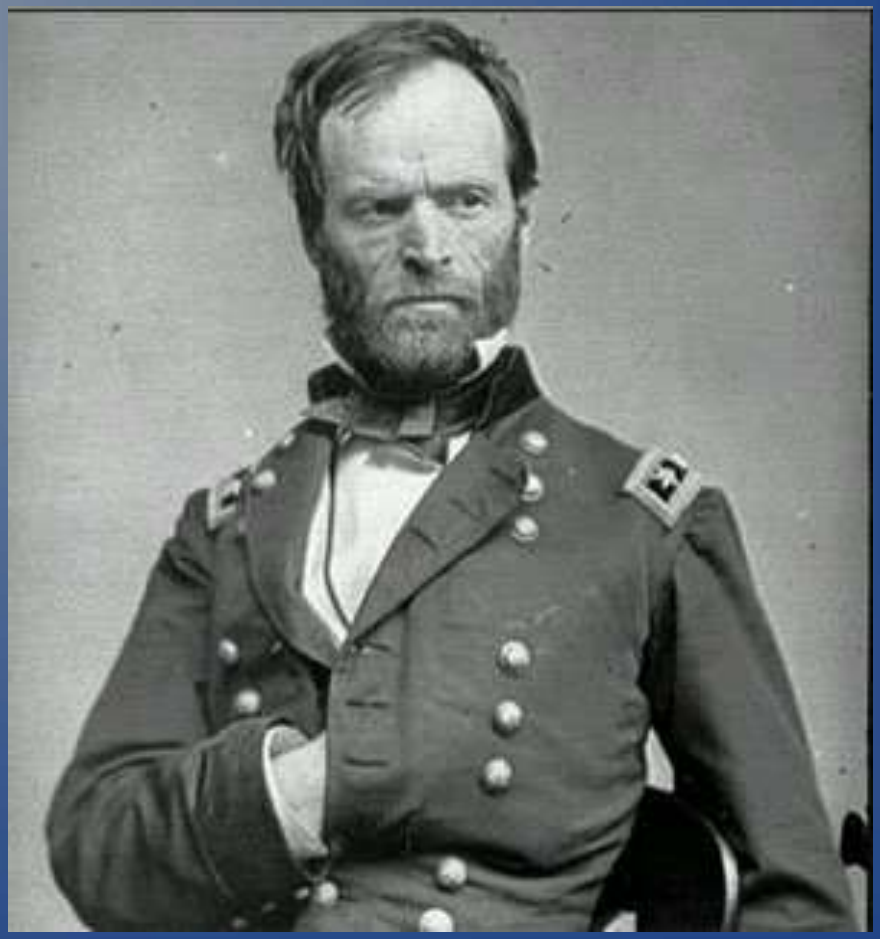


Ulysses S. Grant
1822-1885



“I expect we'll have news from Hell before breakfast.”

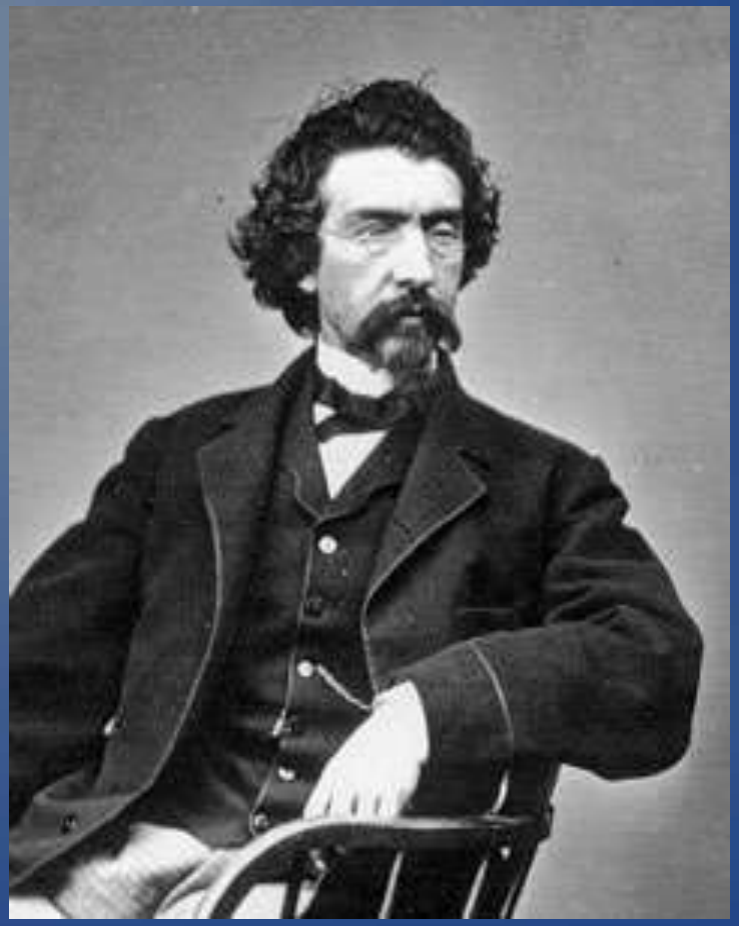
William Tecumseh Sherman



Mathew Brady

1822-1896

Civil War Photographer



The Dead of Antietam

one of Brady's photographs

George Crook

1828-1890

On campaign in Arizona

Mark Kellogg

1831-1876

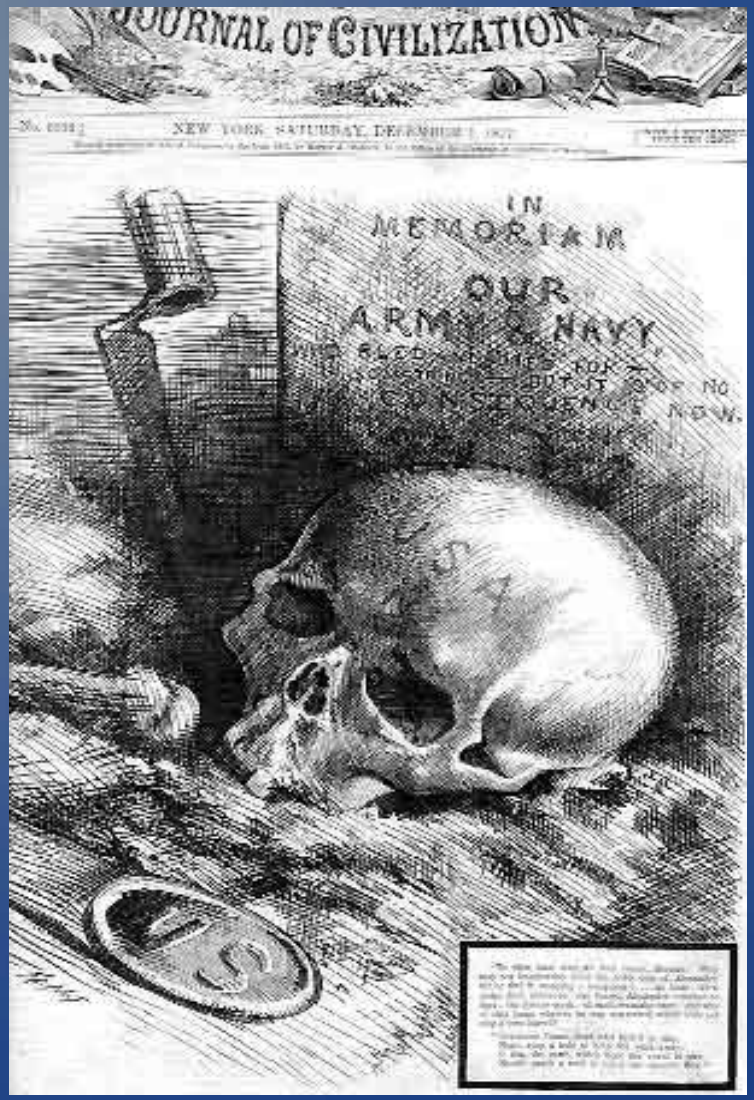
Associated Press reporter killed at Little Bighorn

George Armstrong Custer

1839-1876

Killed at Little Bighorn

Thomas Nast cartoon on Army-Navy pay stoppages
(1 December 1877)



Frederic Remington sketch of cavalry

William Randolph Hearst

1863-1951

Newspaper owner

REMINGTON

REMAIN IN CUBA STOP
YOU PROVIDE PICTURES
I WILL PROVIDE WAR STOP

HEARST

Stephen Crane

1871-1900

War Correspondent in Cuba

Henry Morton Stanley

1841-1904

Winston Churchill

1874-1965

as War Correspondent in South Africa

British trench

German trench

The Somme

British assault through the wire

President Woodrow Wilson

1856-1924

Floyd Gibbons

1887-1934

Correspondent wounded at Belleau Wood

T.E. Lawrence

1888-1935

a.k.a. “Lawrence of Arabia”

T.E. Lawrence (l) with reporter Lowell Thomas

Adolph Hitler

Ernie Pyle

1900-1945

Killed in action on Ie Shima

Ernest Hemingway

1899-1961

On campaign in Italy

Robert Capa

1913-1954

Killed by a landmine in Indochina

Capa photo of first wave at Normandy

Robert Capa (l) and Ernest Hemingway (r)

Film director John Ford

1894-1973

Played poker with Robert Capa and Bill Mauldin undershellfire at Anzio

U.S. Medical students rescued on Grenada

“Four hostile newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets.”

Napoleon Bonaparte

War Correspondents in Iraq

A final note

Lt Col Tim Karcher

Ms Martha Raddatz