Languages at War: 7th - 9th April, Imperial War Museum, London

Thursday 7th April

11.00
Art and War
A viewing and presentation of Turner prize winner Jeremy Deller’s exhibit,’ Baghdad car’.

2.00 Registration and coffee

Afternoon theme: languages in conflict resolution


3.15 tea

3.30- 5.30
The discourse of Diplomacy: negotiation and the resolution of conflict in an agency of the UN (L. McEntee-Atalianis, Birkbeck College, University of London)
Conflicts over language policies and practices (T. Agarin, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg)
Learning the language of ‘the other’ in conflict-ridden Cyprus: exploring barriers and possibilities (C. Charalambous, Open University, Cyprus)
Conflict in constructing a minority language since the breakup of Yugoslavia (M. Kameda, Japan Society for the promotion of science)

5.30 Buffet tea
Friday 8th April
9.00 Registration and coffee

9.30-10.30 Joanna Bourke (Birkbeck College, University of London) Keynote: Knowing Victims: Languages and Combat Effectiveness in Twentieth Century Warfare.
10.30 Coffee

Day Theme: Languages and the military

11.00 – 1.00 Parallel Panels

a) Fighting together

Fighting together. Language issues in military coordination of World War One Allied Coalition Warfare (F. Heimburger, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris)
Mithridates at war: Linguistic diversity, the Royal Army, and the experience of warfare in early Modern France (P. Cohen, University of Toronto)
‘Amidst clamour and confusion’: Translators and interpreters in the Franco-Irish military partnership (1792-1804) (S. Kleinman, Trinity College, Dublin)
One army, four languages: linguistic diversity in the 18th Century French Military (C. Tozzi, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore)

b) Occupation

Belgium 1914-1918: German occupation and the Flemish movement (U. Tiedau, UCL, London)
Language policy of the Italian Army in the Occupied Slovenian territories 1915-1917 (P. Svoljsak, Institute for History, SASA, Ljubljana)
Military translation cultures in WWII Finland (P. Kujamaki, University of Eastern Finland)
When Bosnia was a Commonwealth country: British forces and their interpreters in Republika Srpska, 1995-2007 (C. Baker, University of Southampton)

1.0 Lunch
2.00-3.30 Parallel Panels

c) POWS and DPs

‘For use in connection with Italian POWs working in agriculture’ (D. Best, Università degli studi di Napoli “L’orientale”)
Irish Republican ex-POWs in Northern Ireland, 1972-today (D. Mac Giolla Chríost, Cardiff University)
Victims of war: Displaced People meeting the British in WWII (S. Tobia, University of Reading)

d) Representations

Nazi fascist spies and saboteurs in freed Italy(1943-1945) (R. Cairoli, Università degli Studi, Milan)
Tampering with the experience of war. The effect of censorship and self-censorship on the language of Italian and German letters from the USSR, 1941-45 (G. Cinelli, Instituto Storico della Resistenza e della Società Contemporanea in Provincia di Cuneo)
Inglorious linguists - Tarantino, language and the cinematic memory of WWII (A. Smith, University of Liverpool)

3.30 Tea

4.00-5.00 Keynote Lt. Col. Justin Lewis (Joint Capability, UK MOD):
Languages at War: a UK Ministry of Defence Perspective

7.30 Special Conference Event:
Guided Tour of the Churchill Museum and underground Cabinet War Rooms
Dinner in one of the historic War time Rooms

Saturday 9th April
9.30-10.15 Keynote Mona Baker (University of Manchester): Challenging narratives of Global Justice: translation as a space of resistance, prior to, during, and in the aftermath of War

10.15 Coffee

Morning Theme: Interpreting War

10.30-1.00

A bilingual officer remembers Korea: a closer look at untrained interpreters in the Korean War (M. Fernández Sánchez, University of Granada)
The role of interpreters in conflict mediation (M. Todorova, University American College, Skopje)
Interpreters at war: on the job of interpreters in war zones (E. Bernardi, University of Forlì)
AIIC’s project on interpreters in war (L. Fitchett, International Association of Conference Interpreters)
Translation and testimony (A. Spiessens, Ghent University)

1.00 Lunch and the launch of the Languages at War network