

***Introduction to the History of Technology:
The Mechanization of Warfare and Engineering (2 cr)***
Hanna Sonkajärvi, M.A.
snk@fontysvenlo.org

Course Dates

10.11.2005

1.12.

8.12.

15.12

The written presentation is due to be handed in by the **21st of December 2005.**

Course plan and Readings

NOVEMBER 10, 2005

Introductory Meeting

- What is history of technology?
- organisational matters, distribution of themes for the oral and the written presentations

DECEMBER 1 (8h45-11h25):

The Mechanization of War at the Beginning of the 20th Century

1) The modernisation theorists of the inter war period: (Liddell Hart, Douhet),

LIDDELL Hart, Basil Henry, *Paris, or the Future of War*, London 1925, 33-43; 84-89.

(HENNING ORTMANN)

2) Marc Bloch and the „incapacity of the French generals to think the war“

BLOCH, Marc, *Die seltsame Niederlage, Frankreich 1940. Der Historiker als Zeitzeuge*, Frankfurt am Main 1995 (franz. Orig. “L'étranger défaite, Témoignage écrit en 1940, Paris 1946), 81-84; 90-96; 106-108.

= *Strange Defeat. A Statement of Evidence written in 1940*. New York 1968, 36-39; 44-50; 60-62.

(HENNING JÖRISKES)

Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) of the Reagan-administration (1983)

3) The development of the SDI in the Cold War context of the 1980's.

PARNAS, David L., “On Software Aspects of Strategic Defense Systems”, in: *Communications of the ACM* 28:12 (1985), 1326-1335.

(CHRISTIAN KRAUS)

DECEMBER 8 (8h45-11h25):

4) The reaction to the SDI by computer scientists

SLAYTON, Rebecca, "Speaking as Scientists: Computer Professionals in the Star Wars Debate", in: *History and Technology* 19:4 (2003), 335-364.

(TIM LANGERBEINS)

The Iraq Wars: A Military Revolution?

5) "Intelligent" weapons systems and soldiers as remotely guidable objects

NYE, Joseph S. Jr., OWENS, William A., "America's Information Edge", in: *Foreign Affairs* 75:2 (1996), 20-36.

(INGO CONTZEN)

6) Computer games as means of warfare, information warfare

FREYERMUTH, Gundolf S., "Krieg Version 3.0", in: *NZZ Folio* 01/2005, 34-37.

RUHMANN, Ingo, "Die "Strategische Armee" – Globale Konsequenzen aus dem Irakkrieg, in: *FIF-Kommunikation* 2 (2005), 22-26.

(JEROEN BEURSKENS)

December 15 (8h45-11h25):

Final discussion

COHEN, Eliot A., "A Revolution in Warfare", in: *Foreign Affairs* 75:2 (1996), 37-54.