MEDIA ADVISORY: When the Press Goes to War (Upcoming Event)

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Contact: Alex Vassar
(916) 603-7177
press@library.ca.gov

[Sacramento, Calif.] – Since before the American Civil War in the 1860s, journalists have covered wars, rebellions and natural disasters, putting themselves in danger to help the public understand conflict and the world around them. The cost is undeniable. Nearly 1,400 journalists were killed between 1992 and 2020, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Others were injured, arrested, kidnapped or missing.

The Joe Rosenthal Chapter of the USMC Combat Correspondents Association and California State Library will host a virtual panel on conflict journalism, When the Press Goes to War, on March 11th. The panel will feature photojournalists and other voices on why journalists report from the battlefield and other dangerous locations, and why their work is important to us.

The panel is part of the public programing of the Joe Rosenthal and the Photo that Changed America exhibit at the library, on display until February 28, 2022. Joe Rosenthal took the iconic Iwo Jima flag raising photo while working for the Associated Press in 1945. The photo earned him the Pulitzer Prize, raised billions of dollars for the war effort, and raised the spirits of the American people. It remains the most recognized and reproduced photo in history. Just as Rosenthal photographed from the frontline on the battlefield, today’s conflict journalists also brave life threatening conditions to get their photos and collect the news.

When the Press Goes to War will air live on March 11, 2022, 1:00-2:30pm Pacific Time.

Seats for the virtual event are limited and can be reserved now at Eventbrite.

Panelists will include:

- Nicole Frugé - Photojournalist and Photography Director of the San Francisco Chronicle
- Julio Cortez - Associated Press Staff Photographer
- Lucy Wescott - Emergencies Director, Committee to Protect Journalists
- Lauren Katzenberg - New York Times International Editor (moderator)

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About the Joe Rosenthal Chapter of the USMC Combat Correspondents Association: Part of a national organization of military and civilian journalists, the Joe Rosenthal Chapter’s mission is to educate the public on Rosenthal’s career and the ongoing work of other conflict journalists, and to honor Rosenthal with a Navy warship named for him. http://www.USSJoe.org

About the State Library: Founded in 1850, the California State Library has an extensive collection of art, books, diaries, maps, newspapers, periodicals, photographs, and posters from throughout California’s rich history. The State Library is also California state government’s information hub and holds federal and state publications, is home to the Bernard E. Witkin State Law Library and the Braille and Talking Book Library, and serves as the lead state agency for library-related services throughout California. State Library website