A Conference sponsored by the Centre for Metropolitan History with support from the Leverhulme Trust

Metropolitan Catastrophes
Scenarios, Experiences and Commemorations in the Era of Total War

Programme

Monday 12 July 2004 (Wolfson Room)

09.15 Registration

09.30 Derek Keene and Stefan Goebel (CMH)
Introduction

Chair: Derek Keene (CMH)

09.40 Eric Homberger (University of East Anglia)
Dress-rehearsal for catastrophe: New York City, 1863

10.20 Carl Abbott (Portland State University)
Big blowups and quiet catastrophes: imagining the death of American cities

Susan Grayzel (University of Mississippi)
‘A promise of terror to come’: the threat of air power and the destruction of cities in British imagination and experience, 1908–1939

11.30 Coffee

11.50 Keynote: Patrice Higonnet (Harvard University)
Paris under the impact of total war

12.50 Lunch

Chair: Eric Homberger (University of East Anglia)

14.00 Roxanne Panchasi (Simon Fraser University)
The Seine is burning: mapping catastrophe in interwar Paris

Janet Ward (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)
On the transformative challenge of urban catastrophe

14.45 Keynote: Jay Winter (Yale University)

15.45 Keith Grieves (Kingston University)
Experiencing the relational difference of life in metropolitan London and the countryside in two world wars

16.15 Tea

Chair: Pat Thane (Centre for Contemporary British History, IHR)

16.45 Keynote: Antony Beevor (London)
Stalingrad and Berlin – total warfare in a city?

17.45 Peter Stanisky (Stanford University)
September 7, 1940: the first day of the London Blitz

Helen Jones (Goldsmiths College, University of London)
Visualising London in total war

18.30 Reception (IHR Common Room)
Tuesday 13 July 2004 (Wolfson Room)

Chair: Stefan Goebel (CMH)

09.15 **Maureen Healy** (Oregon State University)
*Total war and local space: Vienna in the two world wars*

10.00 **Tim Cole** (University of Bristol)
*Ghettos and the remaking of urban space: a comparative study of Hungarian cities, 1944*

10.40 Coffee

Chair: Carl Abbott (TBC) (Portland State University)

11.10 **Bernhard Rieger** (International University Bremen)
*National Socialism, air war and local memory in Bremen after 1945*

**Julie Higashi** and **Lim, Bon** (Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto)
*The spirit of war remains intact: the politics of space in Tokyo and the Yasukuni Shrine*

12.20 Lunch

13.30 **Keynote:** Lisa Yoneyama (University of California, San Diego)
*Memories in ruins: politics of remembering and forgetting Hiroshima’s atomic annihilation*

14.30 **Parallel sessions: Session 1 (International Relations Room)**
Chair: Peter Stansky (Stanford University)

**Eyal Ginio** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
*Transmitting the agony of a besieged population: Edirne (Adrianople) in Ottoman propaganda during the Balkan Wars, 1912–1913*

**Jovana L. Knezevic** (Yale University)
*Balancing information and anxiety: propaganda, mail and rumours in occupied Belgrade, 1915–1918*

**Mark R. Hatlie** (Tübingen University)
*Re-mapping Riga: sudden regime change during war and revolution*

**Session 2 (Wolfson Room)**
Chair: TBA

**Clara M. Oberle** (Princeton University)
*Times of transit, spaces of transit: train stations in Berlin, 1945–1949*

**Daniel Prosterman** (New York University)
*New York City and the American homefront: local politics, world war, and the spectre of totalitarianism, 1933–1947*

15.30 Tea

Chair: TBA

15.50 **Joe L. Nasr** and **Peter J. Larkham** (University of Central England)
*From vestiges to mementoes: the treatment of churches and other special buildings after the Second World War*

**Fiona Henderson** (Royal Holloway, University of London)
*Gazing at ruins: the politics and poetics of bombsite tourism in London and Berlin post-1945*

16.50 **Stefan Goebel** (CMH)
*Commemorative cosmopolis: Coventry after 1945*

**Lisa A. Kirschenbaum** (West Chester University)
*National mythmaking and forgetting: the siege of Leningrad*

18.00 Conclusion