

# My Lai: A 50-Year Perspective

*Presented by Dr. Bill Allison*

**March 1, 2018**

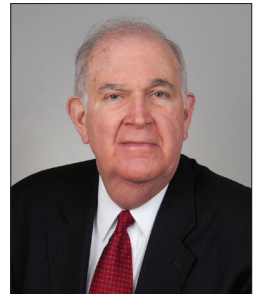
**Reception at 5:30 p.m. • Presentation at 6 p.m.  
Stove Factory Ballroom • 417 S. 2nd Street • Leavenworth, KS 66048**

In this 11th lecture of the series, Dr. Bill Allison, professor of history at Georgia Southern University, will discuss the My Lai Massacre of March 16, 1968. On that day, members of the 23rd (Americal) Infantry Division, murdered as many as 500 South Vietnamese civilians in less than three hours. Covered-up by the Americal Division for over a year, the American public learned of the My Lai killings in September 1969. Ultimately, only one soldier – Lt. William Calley – was convicted. Dr. Allison will discuss the incident, the difficulty of evidence, and impact My Lai had on the American War in Vietnam. CGSC Foundation trustee Col. (Ret.) Bill Eckhardt, who was the Army’s chief prosecutor in the My Lai trials, will contribute to the discussion.



**Dr. Bill Allison** has been a professor of history at Georgia Southern University since 2008. After earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees in history at East Texas State University in 1989 and 1991, he completed his Ph.D. in history at Bowling Green State University in 1995. He then taught at the University of Saint Francis (Indiana) before joining the history department at Weber State University from 1999-2008. During the 2002-2003 academic year, he was Visiting Professor in the Department of Strategy and International Security at the U.S. Air Force Air War College and was Visiting Professor of Military History at the U.S. Air Force School for Advanced Air and Space Studies from 2010-2011. He recently completed two years as the General Harold K. Johnson Visiting Chair in Military History at the U.S. Army War College (2012-2014). He is the author of several works including *Military Justice in Vietnam: The Rule of Law in an American War* (University Press of Kansas, 2007). He is a former trustee and vice president of the Society for Military History and has served on the editorial board of the *Journal of Military History*. He has also served as a member of the Department of the Army Historical Advisory Committee and was awarded the Army’s Outstanding Civilian Service Medal in 2014. He is currently working with Oxford University Press on a book about the Tet Offensive.

**Col. (Ret.) Bill Eckhardt** practiced law for 30 years with the Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps before retiring from uniformed service. Over the course of his long career he has provided legal services, litigated in federal and military courts, taught at the University of California at Berkeley, taught at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and taught and held the Dwight David Eisenhower Chair of National Security at the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Eckhardt began teaching law at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law in 1993. He has twice been selected Teacher of the Year by his students and has been awarded the Pierson Award for Excellence in Teaching by the University. He currently teaches criminal law, administrative law and evidence. Eckhardt received his B.A. (Honors) in 1963 from the University of Mississippi, his LLB (Honors) from the University of Virginia School of Law and his LLM Equivalent (Honors) in 1970 from The Judge Advocate General’s School. He also graduated from the Army’s Command and General Staff College in 1978 and the Army War College in 1982. He was awarded The Federal Younger Lawyer Award for his work in the My Lai court-martial cases and he is the recipient of numerous military awards. Eckhardt is also an author and editor of several significant publications including editing “Law for the Joint Warfighter.”



**Join us March 1 for this 11th lecture in the series.**

***All lectures are free and open to the public.***

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**Henry Leavenworth Chapter**

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