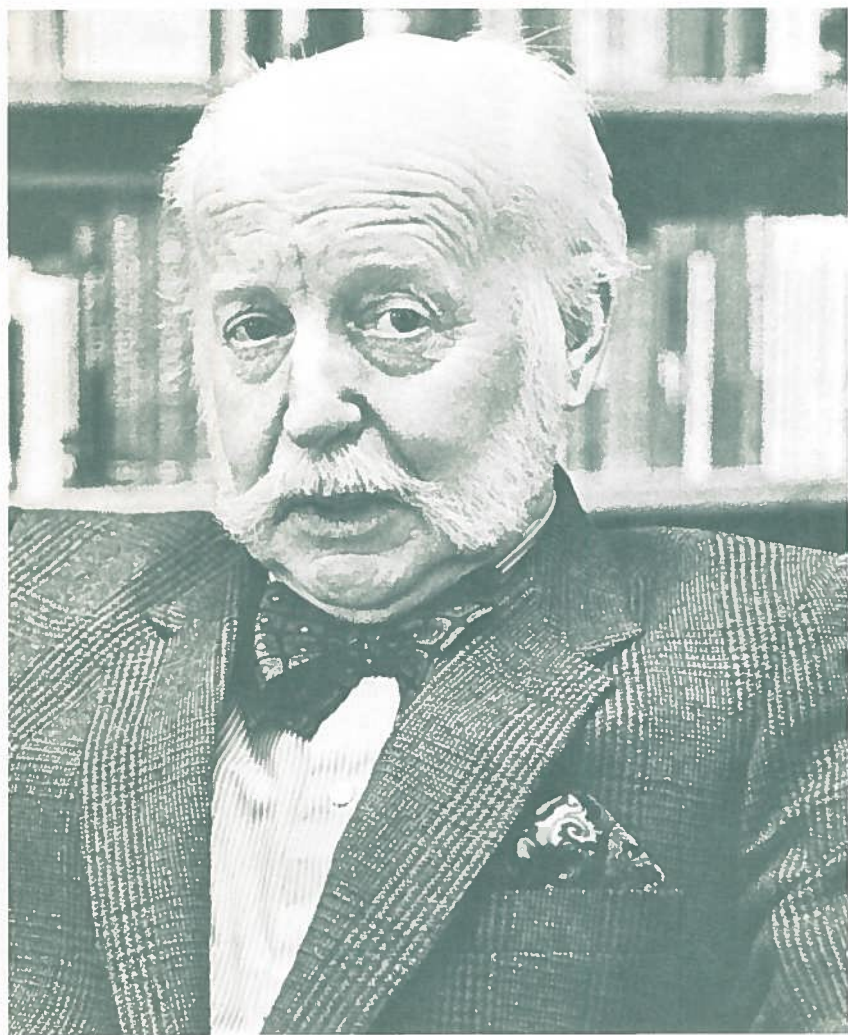


Gordon A. Craig

President

American Historical Association

1982



Gordon Alexander Craig, president of the American Historical Association, is the J. E. Wallace Sterling Professor of the Humanities at Stanford University. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1913; at the age of twelve he immigrated to the U.S. from Canada with his parents. He attended Princeton University where he received his AB in 1936, the MA in 1939, and his PhD in 1941. During this period he was also a Rhodes Scholar to Oxford where he received a B.Litt. in 1938. His field is modern Europe with research interests focusing on Germany since 1648, diplomacy, and military affairs.

Professor Craig taught as an instructor at Yale University from 1939 to 1941; after two years he returned to Princeton to teach there. He remained at Princeton for the next twenty years: from 1941 to 1943 as an instructor, from 1943 to 1949 as associate professor, and from 1950 to 1961 as full professor. Concurrently he was a visiting professor at Columbia University in 1947-48 and in 1949-50. In 1961 he moved to Stanford where he teaches three days a week to classes of four hundred students. He is widely regarded as among the greatest of the university's teachers, and in recognition of his vital contribution to scholarship and teaching he became the first J. E. Wallace Sterling Professor of the Humanities in 1969, a rank he still holds. He chaired the history department from 1972 to 1975 and again from 1978 to 1979, and had a great impact in strengthening the department. His impact as chair along with his valuable contributions to Stanford's undergraduate and graduate teaching programs brought him the honor of the Dinkelspiel Award for Outstanding Service to Undergraduate Education in 1973.

Professor Craig's concerns have extended beyond those of a scholar and teacher. Widely recognized as an authority on European and German diplomatic and military history, he has held positions on both civil and military councils. His occupations outside the university include political analyst in the U.S. government, 1941-43; captain in the U.S. Marine Corps, 1944-46; public member, U.S. Foreign Service Selection Board, 1948-49; consultant to the social science advisory board in the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, 1964-68; advisory council, U.S. Air Force Academy, 1968-73; history advisory board, U.S. Marine Corps, 1972-74.

Gordon Craig has been active in many scholarly and professional associations. He was a member of the AHA Committee on Historians and the Federal Government from 1950-53. From 1957 to 1961 he was secretary of the Modern European History Section of the AHA and chaired the section in 1963. He was chairman of the Conference Group on Central European History in 1971; in this same year he was elected president of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. From 1964 to 1968 he served on the board of editors of the American Historical Review, and since 1979 has been a member of the board of editors of the Journal of Modern History. For over twenty years he has been an active member in the Institute for Advanced Study, and has been a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Senate since 1979. He is a longtime member of the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1975 he was elected an honorary member of the Historische Kommission zu Berlin, and currently he is serving as first vice-president of the Comité International des Sciences Historiques.

His activities have regularly been honored by special appointments and awards. In 1958 he was chosen by Johns Hopkins University to be the Shaw Lecturer; in 1961 he was Haynes Lecturer at the University of California, Riverside; in 1970 he was awarded the Doctor of Letters honoris causa at Princeton University. He was a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar both in 1965 and in 1972, which involved his traveling to a total of seventeen colleges. He has been distinguished with the fellowship of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, 1956-57, and the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1969-70 and in 1982-83. In 1962 he was appointed Honorary professor by the Berlin Senate; he has remained a member of the faculty of the Freie Universitat Berlin since that time.

Professor Craig is well-known for having written numerous books and articles in the field of modern European history. In 1956 he won the Herbert Baxter Adams Prize in European history for the Politics of the Prussian Army, 1640-1945 (Oxford University Press, 1955). In 1958 he brought out From Bismarck to Adenauer: Aspects of German Statecraft (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1958). His textbook Europe Since 1815 (Holt, Reinhart, & Winston), first published in 1961 and now in its fifth edition, is widely used. His next books were The Battle of Königgrätz (Lippincott, 1964); War, Politics, and Diplomacy: Selected Essays (Praeger, 1966); and Germany, 1866-1945 (Oxford University Press, 1978) in the Oxford History Modern Europe Series. In 1981 he was awarded the first quinquennial Historical Prize of Muenster (Westphalia) for his book, Germany, 1866-1945. Among the criteria for this award is the stipulation that the work must be of high scholarship and accessibility to the lay

public. His current work, The Germans (Putnam Press, 1982) is receiving enthusiastic praise; the book dissects the soul of America's most powerful ally on the continent. His forthcoming book with coauthor Alexander George is entitled Force and Statecraft: Diplomatic Problems of Our Times (Oxford University Press, 1983).

Professor Craig has also edited several books. In 1953 he and Felix Gilbert edited The Diplomats, 1919-1939 (Princeton University Press). In 1975 he edited Treitschke's History of Germany in the Nineteenth Century (University of Chicago Press) and in 1977 he edited Economic Interest, Militarism, and Foreign Policy: Essays of Eckart Kehr (University of California Press).

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