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Interview Historian & Author for the 100th Anniversary of the End of WWI: A LITTLE-KNOWN STORY FROM AMERICA'S WWI HISTORY FORETELLS THE LEADING ROLE THE U.S. NOW PLAYS IN WORLDWIDE HUMANITARIAN AID

During one of the most pivotal moments in world history, a group of young, idealistic Americans banded together during World War I to become part of Herbert Hoover's CRB—the Commission for Relief in Belgium. The CRB, working with its Belgian counterpart, the Comité National (CN), created one of the largest and most successful humanitarian relief efforts in the history of the world. Although the name “Hoover” is usually associated with his perceived ineffective presidency, Hoover's tremendous humanitarian efforts during WWI led him to be called the Great Humanitarian and helped propel him into the White House years later.

In an effort to tell the story of this little-known yet important moment in history, historian and veteran author Jeffrey B. Miller is set to release his new narrative historical non-fiction, *[WWI Crusaders](#)* [Milbrow Press, November 11, 2018]. Having learned about the CRB from a young age—thanks to his grandfather and grandmother—he found it surprising that most of the United States remains in the dark about the CRB. To rectify that, he decided to research and write a non-fiction book for general readers about this impactful moment of the nation's history. To honor the memory of all those who participated in WWI, Miller is set to release the book on the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, which is also Veteran's Day (previously known as Armistice Day).

“My passion for telling this story was sparked by my grandfather, who was a CRB delegate, and my grandmother, who was a 22-year-old Belgian working to provide much needed milk to the children of Antwerp,” Miller recounts. “When they died, I inherited all their diaries, correspondence, and photographs from that period. For the past 10 years, I've worked full time researching the time period, WWI, the CRB, and numerous delegates.”

What Miller found was an incredible story of massive food relief. The Germans refused to feed the Belgians and Northern French trapped behind their lines and starvation on a huge scale was imminent. The CRB Americans, referred to as “delegates,” worked with the CN to ensure shipments of food made their way to the citizens without confiscation by the Germans. Saved from starvation were more than 9 million people, equaling the 9 million soldiers who lost their lives in the trenches and killing fields of the war.

With his scholarly expertise and personal passion for this piece of history, Miller is eager and qualified to speak about the following topics around the release of *WWI Crusaders*:

- The history behind this CRB and the true scale of this incredible humanitarian relief effort

- The obstacles and crises the group faced at home and behind the German trenches to establish and maintain relief for nearly 10 million people
- The Great Humanitarian—how Herbert Hoover turned from quiet, behind-the-scenes successful mining engineer to a world-beloved figure who was as well-known as President Woodrow Wilson
- The CRB’s delegates, or humanitarian crusaders—who they were and what drove their passion for service and relief
- Why this story is so important to tell, especially around the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI
- The deep personal connections he has to the story through his grandparents, and why it is important for the lives and deeds of past generations be carried forward and told

Jeffrey B. Miller has been a writer, editor, and author for more than 40 years. His career includes starting six magazines (city, regional, and national), being editor-in-chief of five inflight magazines, and director of communications for AAA Colorado. He is also the author of *Stapleton International Airport: The First Fifty Years* (Pruett Publishing, Boulder, CO, 1983); co-author with Dr. Gordon Ehlers of *Facing Your Fifties: Every Man’s Reference to Mid-life Health* (M. Evans & Co., New York, 2002), which was included in *Publishers Weekly’s* Best Books of 2002; and author of *Behind the Lines* (Milbrow Press, 2014), which detailed the chaotic beginnings of WWI Belgium food relief and was included in Kirkus Reviews’ Best Books of 2014.

Miller is currently a member of American Society of Journalists and Authors (ASJA), American Historical Association (AHA), National Coalition of Independent Scholars (NCIS), Colorado Authors League (CAL), Independent Book Publishers Association (IBPA), and the Colorado Independent Publishers Association (CIPA).

Jeffrey B. Miller can be found online on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Goodreads](#), and learn more about his work at www.wwicrusaders.com.

WWI Crusaders will be available on [Amazon](#), Barnes & Noble, and wherever books are sold beginning November 11th, 2018.

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