



Associated Press  
Germans pour into Crete by air

## The Battle for Crete, 1941: Turning Point of World War II

By TONY KOCOLAS, Merced College  
September 14, 2011 - 7:00 pm

The Battle for Crete is the only battle of World War II where the invasion was exclusively airborne; the first battle where the civilian population fought the Nazi invaders during an invasion (not guerrilla warfare after the battle, and during the occupation); in which the Nazis suffered the highest percentage of casualties up to that point, including German boxing champion Max Schmeling; and the battle which may have cost Hitler the Suez Canal and access to Middle Eastern petroleum. Professor Kocolas will discuss this most significant, if subsequently under-studied battle – what some have called the turning point of the war.

PROFESSOR KOCOLAS teaches History at Merced College, Merced, CA. He has also taught at Fresno City College and Chapman University. Kocolas is the author of “The Republicans: The Modern Party of FDR (political analysis on the changes in the American political parties) and co-author of “Streams in a Thirsty Land” (A history of Central California).

**Wednesday 14 September 2011 – 7:00 pm Reception, 7:30 pm Lecture**  
Millennium Student Center, Century Room C, 3rd floor  
University of Missouri–St. Louis  
Free and open to the public

Sponsored by  
Karakas Family Alliance for the Advancement of Hellenic Studies,  
Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professorship in Greek Studies  
Center for International Studies, University of Missouri–St. Louis

A PARKING PERMIT is required for visitors to UMSL. To request your FREE permit, a campus map and make a reservation for this program, visit our website <[umsl.edu/cis](http://umsl.edu/cis)> and click on “REGISTER” or call 314-516-7299.