

SOUTH KOREAN ARMED FORCES ENGAGE A SHIFTING DEFENSE PARADIGM



WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY
NOON
238 HRCB



Dodge Billingsley

DOCUMENTARY FILM PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR, COMBAT FILMS AND RESEARCH

Dodge Billingsley, a fellow at the David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies at BYU, is also the director of Combat Films and Research and a senior faculty member at the Naval Post Graduate School's Center for Civil Military Relations. Billingsley has been a long-time observer of many wars and contested regions and has spent considerable time with U.S. and foreign militaries worldwide, including Chechen insurgent forces, Turkish Special Forces, and Republic of Korea Marines. He embedded with the U.S. Marines for the invasion of Iraq in 2003 and embedded again with the U.S. Army's 4-6 Infantry for the closure of Al Asad Air Base and the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Al Anbar Province, western Iraq in December 2011. After 9/11, Billingsley was one of the first to cover the war in Afghanistan and was present at both the Qala I Jangi Fortress uprising, which took the life of Johnny Michael Spann, the first U.S. combat casualty in Afghanistan, and also in the battle for the Shah i Kot Valley, known as Operation Anaconda. He has produced a wide variety of media from his field work including two books: *Operation Anaconda: America's First Conventional Battle in Afghanistan*, recently published by KU Press and *Fangs of the Lone Wolf: Chechen Tactics in the Russian-Chechen Wars 1994-2009*, recently published by the U.S. Army's Foreign Military Studies Office.

In addition, he has produced and directed many documentary films and won both the prestigious Rory Peck and Royal Television Society awards for Best Feature for the film *House of War* and produced and directed nine films for the Kennedy Center under the series title *Beyond the Border*. These films include "Helen Foster Snow: Witness to Revolution," "Masses to Masses: An artist in Mao's China," "Chechnya: Separatism or Jihad?" and "Global Car." His current film in the series, "Unfortunate Brothers: Korea's Reunification Dilemma," examines the prospects of Korean reunification through the experience of a North Korean defector living in Seoul. Billingsley is an avid collector of realism art and serves on the Advisory Board at Utah Valley University's Woodbury Art Museum, where an exhibit of his Soviet military and industrial art is currently showing. He has co-curated numerous exhibits of Chinese Revolutionary and Soviet Social Realism art at various museums in the western U.S. and is currently developing an exhibit of art produced by the Vietnamese during the war with the United States. He has lectured extensively at various universities and institutions and is a regular contributor to *Jane's Defense Weekly* and *Jane's Intelligence Review*. Billingsley received a BA in history from Columbia University and an MA in war studies from King's College in London.