

**\*Efficient Force v. The Martial Volume Orthodoxy\*****Michael Donelan****Publication Date**

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I grew up in a college town. So trust me, I have spent a lot of my life in university libraries. But the resources Hesburgh offers surpass anything I have seen. Search catalogs, subscriptions, research software and the training to use it, work spaces, incredible collections, passionate subject librarians and archivists, Library Guides, an ocean of print and digital works, and talks to stimulate any researcher: Hesburgh has it all. And in witnessing the international nightmare of the past few months—namely the invasion of Ukraine—I have only grown more grateful for the Library’s outrageous intellectual wealth. Its resources empower Notre Dame’s student body to be not a passive observer of suffering, but a capable agent of change, and a potent scholarly force. In my own case, Hesburgh enabled me to extensively analyze the irrationality of a cruel, manpower-based approach to warfare, like that which Russia now employs. And while my class paper will not change anything, it will nonetheless be the seed of an expanded paper I will write while in Ukraine for the summer, studying the war up close. Thus, in my story and countless more, Hesburgh affirms itself as the strong, beating heart of Notre Dame’s intellectual community, nurturing, empowering, and encouraging the next generation of world-changers.

My research story began months before my paper did. In the fall, I took to planting myself in one of the many quiet study spots, or reserving study rooms with friends—habits which followed through to the writing of my paper, and greatly improved my productivity. I felt I always had somewhere to go when I needed to focus and work. Also early in my time here, I began eagerly attending most talks held in the Carey Auditorium. The visiting Dr. Silberklang’s talk on Holocaust victims stubbornly fighting for their dignity was particularly influential on my paper, as it contributed to my general interest in preserving human dignity amidst violent conflict.

In the latter half of the first semester, my work on research projects opened my eyes to the abundant newspaper and journal subscriptions offered through Hesburgh. Complementing the indispensable JSTOR access were free subscriptions to the *New York Times* and the *Economist*. And without the reliable reporting of those two papers, I would have had my hands tied in analyzing the invasion of Ukraine, as it would have been impractical for me to personally subscribe. Hesburgh's news service subscriptions were thus vital to my work.

Also in the first semester, I discovered how powerful OneSearch, WorldCat, ND Catalog, and HathiTrust were in helping me identify the most relevant sources for my work. When it came to my spring paper on manpower-based warfare, I spent every free minute I could on OneSearch and WorldCat. Over the months, I spent hours skimming potential sources and refining my searches to find the best base of evidence I could. Though I ultimately did not use evidence from it in the paper, OneSearch even allowed me to find a 19th century German-language military theory textbook that helped guide my research by identifying the essential military literature of its time. Thus, without such search tools, I would have been blind in my research process.

But despite the significant role of workspaces, subscriptions, search tools, and catalogs, they stand deep in the shadow of Hesburgh's free research software and corresponding training services. Indeed, I believe that my work throughout this year with the Navari Family Center for Digital Scholarship and the Lucy Family Institute for Data & Society were the greatest catalysts to my long-term development as a scholar. The skills I learned through their in-person and recorded workshops gave me a steady bedrock of research skills which I will be able to develop on throughout my time here. In the case of my paper, the Navari workshops were most useful—and indeed quite indispensable—to me. They trained me in the Distant Reader, which enabled me to identify the major themes of dense military doctrinal statements, thus guiding my

own reading of them. ATLAS.ti offered an unmatched space to organize my evidence and perfect the balance of sources. And Mendeley proved exceedingly convenient, both by facilitating the compilation of my sources and by allowing me to easily access sources I had come across months ago which proved useful to my paper.

The librarians were also exceptionally helpful in guiding my research. For instance, I wanted to incorporate Hesburgh's incredible Sherman Family Papers collection into a section of my paper analyzing General Sherman's March to the Sea, but I was having difficulty finding print digital copies of the papers, as the digital copies of the originals were illegible. I contacted the archives team and was immediately placed in contact with an archivist who directed me to more legible versions. This was enormously helpful to my research, and is only one example of the numerous instances where librarians helped direct my efforts.

Besides these main categories, there were miscellaneous areas where Hesburgh did and continues to facilitate my research. Obviously, its digital and print resources were crucial to writing my paper, and comprised the bulk of my sources. And as I continue to develop my work over the summer, I will rely entirely on the VPN service allowing me to remotely access Hesburgh's on-campus software.

Finally, with such a variety of services available and with relatively little pre-college research experience, the Library Guides played a pivotal role in my research story. Particularly helpful were "Text Mining and Analysis," "ArchivesSpace," "Catalog Help," "Citing and Managing Sources," "Information Literacy," "Research Impact," and "Starting Your Research," all of which both helped explain and built on my experience to that point with Hesburgh's services and with research in general.

Ultimately, I owe the bulk of my research to Notre Dame's strong, beating heart.