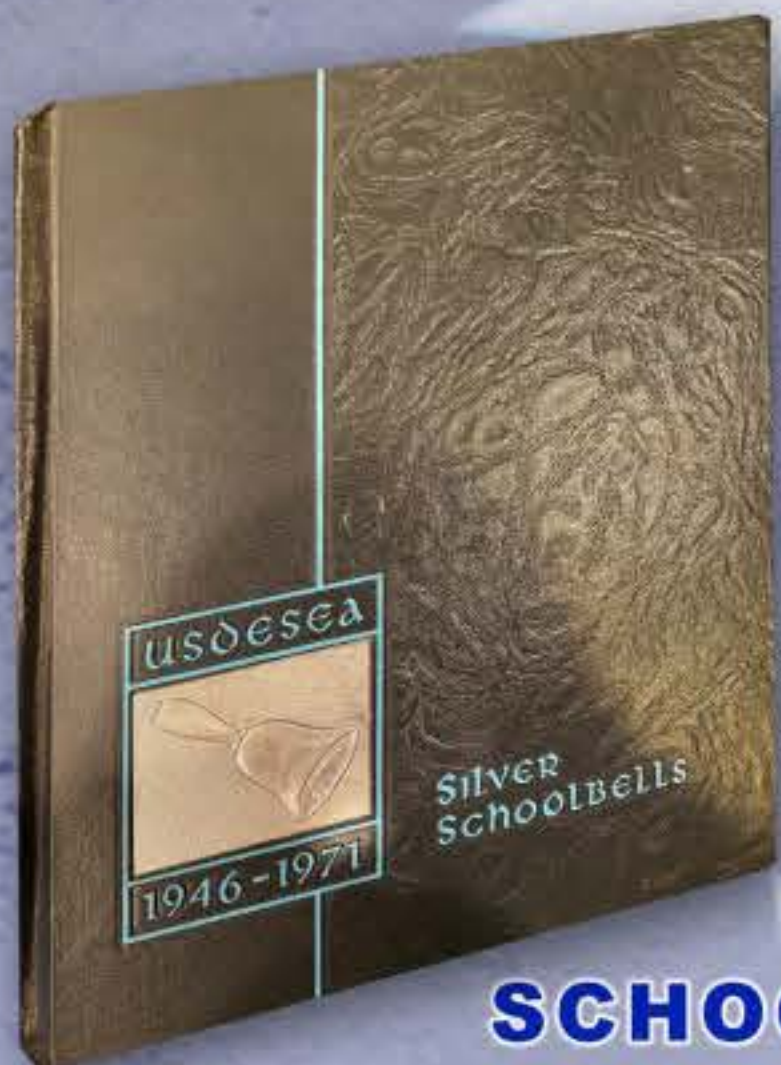
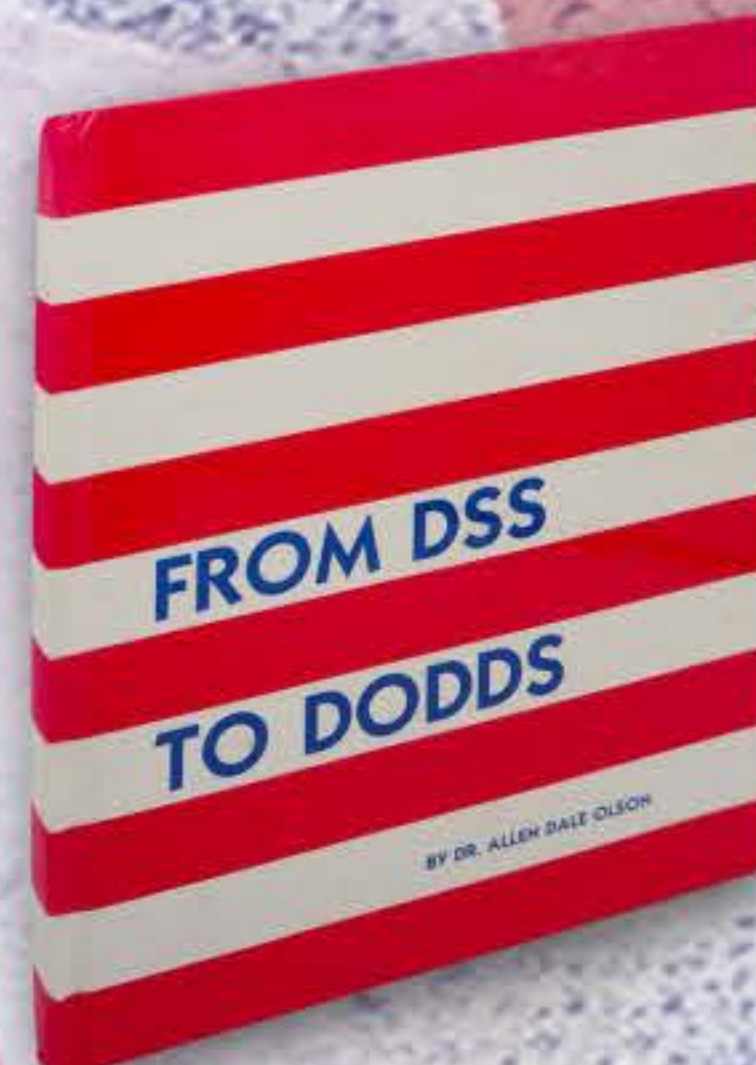


MISSION CHAMPIONS

Dr. Allen Dale "Ole" Olson Veteran, Educator, Author, and Historian



**SILVER
SCHOOLBELLS**



**FROM DSS
TO DODDS**



Since his first day as a newly recruited teacher in 1957 at Izmir High School (Turkey), Dr. Allen Dale "Ole" Olson has been a powerful voice in preserving the history and telling the story of the Dependents Schools. His determination over the six decades to share our story has been a gift to the school system, the Department of Defense, and indeed the Nation. His efforts have captured the pioneer spirit and relenting pursuit of excellence which form the vision, core values and mission for a school system that has a direct impact on the readiness of our armed forces and the quality of life for military families. That lifelong contribution continues today in his endeavors with the Museum of the Military Family.

Allen Dale Olson's 1972 doctoral dissertation, *A Historical Study of the Establishment and Evolution of the United States Dependents Schools in Europe: 1946-1971*, detailed the formative years of a school system that rose from the ruins of post war Germany and Austria. His thesis has been a benchmark resource for other researchers and storytellers for the last 50 years. Dr. Olson authored two other books: *Silver School Bells...USDESEA 1946-1971*; and *From DSS to DoDDS 1946-1986*. Both volumes showcased the remarkable challenges and achievements of our students, teachers, support personnel, and the commands we served in our continuing and expanding mission to educate military-connected students, wherever they are stationed.

Ole served as a teacher and administrator for the overseas dependent schools (USDESEA, DoDDS, DoDEA) from 1957 to 1979:

- **1957 - 1961:** Teacher of Physical Education and English, U.S. Air Force Schools Europe – Izmir High School, Turkey, Ramstein Junior High School, Germany, and London Central High School, England;
- **1961 - 1963:** Assistant Principal, U.S. Air Force Schools, Europe at Toul-Rosieres Junior High School and Dreux High School, France; and
- **1967 - 1979:** Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Dependents Schools, Europe in Karlsruhe, Germany.

From 1979 to 1989, Dr. Olson served as the U.S. Army Europe Liaison to DoD Dependents Schools in Heidelberg, Germany. Following his retirement after 32 years of civilian service, Dr. Olson served as Dean of the Graduate School of Schiller International University and as the Executive Director of the Southern Indiana Center for the Arts. Ole served as the President of the Museum Collaborative Council of Albuquerque and remains as a member of the council.

Dr. Olson holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Physical Education, and a Master's Degree in Secondary Education and Doctorate in General Administration from the George Washington University. Ole is a veteran and served in the U.S. Army in Würzburg, Germany and Fort Riley, Kansas in the 1950s.

Source: Museum of the Military Family



Far left front, standing: Dr. "Ole" Olson and his wife Joan; Ramstein 1958-1959.



February 1977 photo of Karlsruhe teachers and administrators who were the Smiley Barracks Basketball Conference Champions. Standing: E. McLaughlin, O. Olson, B. Houston, B. Ryall, R. Downing; Kneeling: D. Kroesman, J. Bardofski, C. Recesso, L. Mawby, M. Bauman.