



The Award Winning

Jimmy Carter Library & Museum

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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The General's Niece

Atlanta, GA - You probably don't know this piece of World War II history, but you should. Join us next Monday night at 7pm as author Paige Bowers discusses "*The General's Niece*".

Geneviève de Gaulle-Anthonioz was the niece of Charles de Gaulle. Her engineer father made her read Mein Kampf when she was 14 so she could understand the horror of the Nazis. She was 20 when the Nazi occupation began and her uncle called from London for the French to keep fighting. She joined a resistance movement based around academics at Paris's anthropology museum, the Musée de l'Homme. In 1943, she was captured in a Paris book shop and deported to the Ravensbruck, the largest concentration camp for women.

She later described coming close to death in the filth of the camp, surrounded by women who were massacred at random, and attacked by dogs. She spent part of her time in isolation after Heinrich Himmler, aware of her name, decided to keep her alive as a possible exchange prisoner. She was finally released in April 1945 and received a letter from her uncle saying he was "extremely proud" of her, and she should get back on her feet because "France needs girls like you".

This program is free and open to the public.

You can keep up with the Carter Library events on the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library page on Facebook and follow the CarterLibrary on Twitter. If you wish to unsubscribe to these news releases, simply email tony.clark@nara.gov and put "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line.