

# PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

*more than a library...it's an experience*

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## MARTHA RADDATZ, WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT FOR ABC NEWS, TO APPEAR AT THE PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

**CHICAGO, IL** – Thousands of miles apart, the American soldiers serving in Baghdad and their families in Fort Hood, Texas awoke to what promised to be an ordinary Sunday: patrols or guard duty for some of the troops, and church services or brunch for some of the families, with the hope of emails or phone calls from overseas later in the evening.

By the end of that agonizing day, the distance between them would never feel greater.

On Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, Martha Raddatz will appear at the Pritzker Military Library to discuss her best-selling book, *The Long Road Home: A Story of War and Family*. This event is free and open to the public. The presentation and live webcast will begin at 6:00 p.m., preceded by a reception for Library members at 5:00 p.m. It will also be recorded for later broadcast on WYCC-TV/Channel 20.

Sadr City is a densely populated area of downtown Baghdad. In the eleven months following the invasion, it had seen comparatively little violence. However, on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004, a patrol from the 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment was drawn into a violent ambush by followers of the influential Shi'a cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, and extraction attempts met with even stronger resistance. According to the ground commander, Gen. Pete Chiarelli, it was the day the war shifted "from a peacekeeping mission to a full-fledged fight against an insurgency."

*The Long Road Home* recounts every moment of that day on both sides of the world. Eight soldiers would lose their lives, along with 57 wounded. Raddatz has traveled to Iraq sixteen times in the last five years, and her vivid, precise descriptions of the dense urban terrain – and the experiences of the soldiers within it – place the maelstrom of that day firmly within the realm of imagination. She also explores what it means to have a husband, wife, or child deployed in Iraq, as long-married couples and newlyweds alike endure the pain of absence, the small comforts of the Internet, and the knowledge that the worst possible news could arrive with a knock on the door.

Martha Raddatz is the chief White House correspondent for ABC News and is the network's former national security correspondent. She has won three Emmy awards for her coverage of national security and foreign policy issues, and appears regularly on "World News with Charles Gibson," "Nightline," and "Good Morning America". In addition to her work for ABC News, she is a frequent guest on PBS's "Washington Week", "Charlie Rose", and "Larry King Live".

Seating for this event is limited, so reservations are recommended. Call 312.587.0234 or email [events@pritzkermilitarylibrary.net](mailto:events@pritzkermilitarylibrary.net).

For more information, please visit [www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/events](http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/events).

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## About the Pritzker Military Library

The Pritzker Military Library is a private, non-partisan research library located at 610 North Fairbanks Court in the Streeterville neighborhood of Chicago, near the Magnificent Mile. The mission of the Pritzker Military Library is to acquire and maintain an accessible collection of materials and develop appropriate programs focusing on the Citizen Soldier in the preservation of democracy.

The 5,000 sq. ft. facility features over 27,000 historical, reference, biographical and rare books on military subjects, over 900 original antique military posters and prints, and other military artifacts from private donors and the collection of COL (IL) James N. Pritzker, ARNG (Ret.). Since opening in October 2003, the Library has produced over 200 programs including author events, interviews with Medal of Honor recipients, and Chicago's only monthly public affairs program on military issues, *Front & Center with John Callaway*. Evening programs in the Library's McHenry Atrium are presented free of charge in front of a live audience, broadcast live on the Internet, and recorded for later broadcast on WYCC-TV/Channel 20, a PBS affiliate. Programs are also available as audio podcasts on the Library website and at iTunes. A complimentary reception for Associate Members with wine and light refreshments precedes each evening program. Books are provided for purchase and signing at author events by The Book Stall at Chestnut Court.

To learn more, please visit [pritzkermilitarylibrary.org](http://pritzkermilitarylibrary.org).

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