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cordially invite you to:

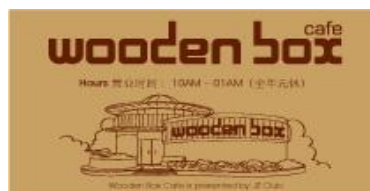
# *World War II in Europe: The American Experience and the World They Made*

## Frank Lavin

Former U.S. Ambassador to Singapore  
Former Undersecretary for International Trade  
CEO and Founder of Export Now  
Author of [\*Home Front to Battlefield\*](#)  
SAIS '92 and Georgetown '85

Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

19:00pm – 20:15pm



9 Qinghai Lu (just to the South of Nanjing West Road)  
青海路 9 号, 近南京西路, 地铁二号线南京西路站

18:45 – Doors Open  
19:00 – Lecture  
19:45 – Q&A  
20:15 – Mixer

RSVP to Frank Tsai of [Hopkins China Forum](#) at [editor@shanghai-review.org](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).



In tonight's talk, the speaker will first discuss his book, [Home Front to Battlefield: An Ohio Teenager in World War II](#), which is a history told through the story of his father, combat infantryman Carl Lavin, based on official military histories, conventional history sources, personal letters of the time, and taped recollections. It is a story of ordinary Americans, thrust into a harsh and dangerous world, where G.I.'s grapple with the horrors of combat, the idiocies of bureaucracy, and the oddities of life back home – all in the same day. It displays the best and the lowest of the human experience, including examples of heroism, compassion, and sacrifice along with cowardice, pettiness, and plain foolishness. It is the war-time juxtaposition of the trite and horrific; the banal and bizarre that gives this narrative emotional impact. Through discussion of the book, the speaker will take us back to what it was like for U.S. soldiers to serve in Europe and draw some implications from America's role in the war for the contemporary world.

[Frank Lavin](#) is the CEO and founder of [Export Now](#), a U.S. firm that operates e-commerce stores in China for international brands. He has served as Undersecretary for International Trade at the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Singapore, Director of White House Political Affairs, and in positions at the Department of Commerce, Department of State, and the National Security Council. In the private sector, Lavin served in senior finance and management positions in Hong Kong and Singapore with Edelman, Bank of America, and Citibank. He is a columnist for Forbes.com, and co-author of [Export Now: Five Keys to Entering New Markets](#) (2011) and [Home Front to Battlefield: An Ohio Teenager in World War II](#) (2017), an account of his father's service in World War II. He holds a B.S. from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, M.S. in Chinese from Georgetown University; M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins SAIS; and MBA in Finance from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

[Hopkins China Forum](#) events are organized under the auspices of The Johns Hopkins University and its alumni associations worldwide. For more information, please contact Frank Tsai of the Hopkins Club of Shanghai at [editor@shanghai-review.org](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).