

Newsletter The Cold War Museum – Berlin, August 2010

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen

Dear Adviser and Friends of the Cold War Museum - Berlin

I am pleased to offer the following report about the activities and developments of the Cold War Museum - Berlin. We have received many invitations and have arranged some interesting events

Three Nations united - Touching History.

On the 4th of June the second student conference was held at Harnekop. It was hosted by the "Foerderverein Baudenkmal Harnekop e.V. Harnekop" (Association Memorial Site Bunker Harnekop) and the Cold War Museum - Berlin. Patron of the Amtsdirector of Barnim – Oderbruch, Mr. Karsten Birkholz.

The guests came from Gretna, Nebraska, in the USA from Bogdaniec and Cedynia Poland, and from Neutrebbin Germany.

Gretna, Nebraska, USA

Located in the centre of the Midwest of the United States and just ten miles from the city limits of Omaha is the small community of Gretna, Nebraska. The village of Gretna created its first school district in 1888. Currently there are three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. The high school has a student population of about 720 students. We are a four year college preparatory high school with a graduation rate nearing 100%. Though the German language program is small, it is active in providing students with an international perspective. This year will be the second exchange between Gretna High School and the Gymnasium Wellingdorf in Kiel. This June 16 students from the 10th - 12th grade will participate in a three week exchange to Kiel with an additional week long visit to Berlin and Harnekop / Brandenburg.



Grateful thanks goes to the Sparkasse Wriezen for a donation for the US American High School Students.

Bogdaniec, Poland

The small village of Bogdaniec is located on the shores of the Wartha River, and was founded in 1768.

On September 4th 2006 the school moved into a new modern building. 39 teachers teach the students of the Elementary school and Gymnasium. In addition there is day care for school students, the library include reading room, and two topical computer rooms. The modern gymnastics hall is fully equip with excellent equipment.

The pupils of the Elementary School (158 pupils) and the students of the Gymnasium (218 students) are educated in two foreign languages, German and English.

Friendly relationships are developed with schools in Germany from Petrschagen/Eggersdorf and Muencheberg. The students have the option of attending different programmes and projects.

Polish and German school offices organise the efforts and goals. The students gain new experiences, form new relationships and improve their language skills.

Cedynia, Poland



Our school is located in Cedynia, close by the German Border Crossing Point in Osinów Dolny. Cedynia is a lovely, small town set in a beautiful landscape. In the neighbourhood there are: the Oder River, Cedynia's heathland and the Natural Park.. At present the school has 190 students and 25 teachers.

The pupils are between 13 - 16 years old. They are in 9 classes of 3 different ability levels. When they graduate from school, they choose their further education programme either at vocational school, high school, or technical school. In our school there are a lot of school activities, e. g. sport, geography, art etc. If you want like to know or learn more about the school please take a look on the website: [www. gimcedyniaedupage.org](http://www.gimcedyniaedupage.org)

Neutrebbin, Germany

Our school is located in a nice little village called Neutrebbin. It is located wonderful countryside – the “Oderbruch” named after the

River Oder. The river is also the border with Poland. The countryside is very popular with tourists especially in summer time.

At the moment 198 pupils and 15 teachers make up our school. It is a secondary school, there are eight classes which teach at two different levels. The pupils are between 12 and 17 years old. Depending on the pupil's abilities and their results in their exams at the end of the tenth class they can choose between going to high school, starting an apprenticeship or looking for a job.

If you want to know more about us have a look at our homepage:

www.oderbruch-oberschule.de or write an e-mail: osn-neutrebbin@web.de

Memorial Site Bunker Harnekop.

The Atomic Shelter was built from 1971 to 1976 and was used as a coordination centre of the headquarters of Secretary of National Defence of the GDR from 1976 to 1990. Its mission today is to inform and teach people about a time when the world was divided in two parts.

The Atomic Shelter is now a Memorial Site supported by the Association Memorial Site Bunker Harnekop e.V.

The Cold War Museum - Berlin

The Cold War Museum - Berlin is located at Memorial Site Atomic Shelter Harnekop.

Three permanent exhibitions are on display: The U-2 Incident: -The shooting down of Francis Gary Powers over Swerdlowsk, in May 1960, the tribunal, the judgment and the exchange.

The first Battle of the Cold War: - The Berlin Airlift - Berlin Blockade from 1948 to 1949.

The development of the Berlin Wall (Als alles began - die Berliner Mauer) this new exhibition opened in June 2010.

The new exhibition:

2010 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution in Europe and German Unification

After a year and a half of intensive work the Berlin Branch third exhibit has finally opened.



The Cold War Museum - Berlin wishes to remind people of the unforgettable days in August 1961 in Berlin"

Als alles began – die Berliner Mauer – "The Building of the Berlin Wall".

100 photos of special scenes and documents of those dark days in August 1961 are on display, in addition to live experiences of US Veterans present at the time.

The photos were taken by Herbert Maschke – Tumler/Maschke Archive Berlin

Herbert Maschke was born in 1915 in Jarotschin in the province of Posen and started his career as a photo reporter with the Wilhelm Gottlieb Korn press in Breslau. After work and military service, he completed a main course in photography at the technical college for optics and photo technology in 1944. After that, he worked as a staff photographer for the Tobis and the Phoenix Film Companies.



The opening of the exhibition took place on 12 June 2010 at 11am at the Memorial Site Bunker Harnepok, Lindenallee 1, 15345 Harnepok. The opening was attended by the Military Attaché from the Embassy of the United States of America, Col. James B. Brown and his son James Brown Jr. Frau Dr. Anna Kaminsky, manager of "Bundesstiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED Diktatur" and also Frau Dr. Sabine Ross who is Manager of the Department Exhibitions, documentary films and multimedia.

Special thanks go to the Stiftungsrat (Board of Trustees) Bundesstiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED Diktatur" (a Government-funded organization devoted to the examination and reappraisal of the Communist dictatorship in East Germany) for funding the project. <http://www.stiftung-aufarbeitung.de>.

I would like to express my grateful thanks to all our guests who attended this event.

A new connection: Great news, the mobile exhibition will move to several schools in the United Kingdom. *Major General Peter. Williams put me in touch with the Office of Independent Schools Council: The Council is working with its members to promote quality and to preserve diversity and excellence of UK independent education both in the UK and abroad. <http://www.isc.co.uk/>

The Berlin Branch of the Cold War Museum has put together a mobile exhibition to commemorate the Berlin Blockade during which the Western Allies supplied food to West Berlin by air after the Soviet Union blocked railway and road access. The pilots flew continually through very bad weather, often buzzed by Soviet fighters, landing and taking off again within 15 minutes of touch down. The exhibition comprises of photographs, headlines and a timeline of the Airlift and describes the duties and daily life of the troops. For more information and to host the exhibition at your school please contact Mrs Sue Campbell the United Kingdom Liaison Officer of the Berlin Branch of the Cold War Museum who is the organiser and contact person. For more information and to host the exhibition please contact Mrs Sue Campbell by email buckholtbill@talktalk.net or by telephone 01600 715173. This is a great opportunity to preserve the history of the Berlin Airlift.

Special thanks go to Major General Williams who referred me to the Schools Council.

*Major General P.G.Williams was a military liaison officer (BRIXMIS) to the Soviet Forces in Germany.

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