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About The Cold War Museum

Founded in 1996 by Francis Gary Powers, Jr. and John C. Welch, The Cold War Museum is dedicated to preserving Cold War history and honoring Cold War Veterans. For more information, call 703-273-2381, go online to www.coldwar.org, or write The Cold War Museum, P.O. Box 178, Fairfax, VA 22038.

To contact the Editor of The Cold War Times or to submit articles for future issues, email the editor at editor@coldwar.org or visit www.coldwartimes.com.

The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of Cold War Times, The Cold War Museum, and/or their respective Boards.

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR (www.Spy-Coins.com)

OLD SCHOOL SPY GEAR MEETS HIGH TECH STORAGE MEDIA

New Hollow Spy Coins Will Encapsulate the Micro SD Memory Card

A local firm (Dereu Manufacturing & Design) has brought back the Cold War hollow spy coin with a new twist.

Back in the days of the Cold War, hollow coins were used to transfer and hide secret messages and microfilms. While the data holding capacity of a small microfilm was very generous, it holds no candle to micro memory cards available today. A Micro SD Memory card has capacities of up to 16 GB of data.

The Dereu Manufacturing Company produces these hollow coins in their own shop in Missouri, one at a time using manual metal working machinery. When assembled, these coins are absolutely indistinguishable from a solid coin to the naked eye. They can be safely handled without danger of separation, and a special tool is included to take them apart.
With this marriage of old and new technology, the bearer of one of these hollow coins can conceal in his pocket change enough government, corporate or personal data to fill several hundred volumes, and carry this data unfettered through airports and across International borders. The complete line of these items can be found at www.Spy-Coins.com.

(Editors Note: Enter the Code Word "powers" without the quotes and readers of The Cold War Times will receive a 20% discount on any order. Code is good through December of this year.)

THE COLD WAR MUSEUM

SUMMER/FALL UPDATE 2009
By Francis Gary Powers, Jr.

Over the past decade, the Cold War Museum has made great strides in honoring Cold War veterans and preserving Cold War history. I am writing to provide you with a brief update.

Progress continues with our efforts to find a permanent home for The Cold War Museum. When negotiations ceased with Fairfax County earlier this year, all options were reconsidered including collaborating with a museum or university interested in adding the most comprehensive Cold War collections to its holdings. Communication is ongoing with City of Hampton, Isle of Wright County, Prince William County, and Vint Hill Economic Development Authority about locating the museum in their areas. The Museum is optimistic about securing a physical location before the end of this year.

The Cold War Museum continues to work with the Diefenbaker Museum in Ottawa, Canada, the Atomic Bunker in Harnekop, Germany, and the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC to display some of its artifacts until the museum secures a permanent home. The mobile exhibit on the U-2 Incident, the “Spies of Washington Tour,” and related educational activities continue to generate interest and support. The National Electronics Museum (www.hem-usa.org) near Baltimore, MD will display the mobile U-2 Incident exhibit through January 9, 2010. The mobile exhibit is booked at Virginia Historical Society (www.vahistorical.org) in Richmond, Virginia January through May 2010 and will then travel to the EAA Museum (www.eaa.org) in Oshkosh, WI for their 2010 Air Adventure fly-in and air show. Dates are now being scheduled for the fall 2010 and beyond. The educational Spy Tour of Washington (www.spytour.com) is booking group tours online. Email gpowersjr@coldwar.org for more info on exhibit bookings and tours.

The Cold War Museum is pleased to announce the formation of The Cold War Museum-Southeast Chapter. I would like to thank volunteer Paul Spiewak of Hollywood Florida for all the hard work he has done to establish this chapter, which compliments the museum chapters in Berlin, Germany; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin staffed by volunteers. Our Berlin Chapter and Midwest Chapter recently participated in the EAA’s annual Air Adventure fly-in and air show in Oshkosh, WI. The Caribbean Chapter is making excellent progress to document Puerto Rico’s Cold War history and enlist support for our efforts throughout the Caribbean. For additional information, visit www.coldwar.org/museum/museum_chapters.html.
May 1, 2010 will mark the 50th anniversary of the U-2 Incident. To commemorate this historic event, I am working with AAA to organize a trip to Moscow and the crash site May 1-9, 2010. Additional information outlined later in this issue. If you would like to join me on this tour, please email gpowersjr@coldwar.org.

I am also working with Coin Force to produce a limited edition of 300 Cold War Museum Challenge Coins to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the U-2 Incident. Coins are priced at $19.95 each or two for $15, which includes shipping. 100% of the proceeds go to benefit The Cold War Museum. Order now, while supplies last.

Visit www.garypowers.com (currently in the Beta stage) to view a copy of my online biography and additional information on programs concerning the 50th Anniversary of the U-2 Incident.

Please consider a 2009 contribution. Your gift will help ensure future generations remember Cold War events and personalities that forever altered our understanding of national security, international relations, and personal sacrifice for one's country.

Together we can make this vision a reality. Thank you for your support.

Francis Gary Powers, Jr. - Founder
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MIDWEST CHAPTER UPDATE
By Chris Sturdevant, Midwest Chapter President

EAA AirVenture (www.eaa.org) has started and will take place the week of July 27. Chris Sturdevant, Terry Klimek (Army Nike veteran), and Dave Roebke (Air Force NORAD veteran) kicked off the EAA Museum forum sessions on Monday morning. Werner Juretzko and Baerbel Simon headline the Museum forum on Friday afternoon. We have a booth set up and look forward to meeting many of the 500,000 people that visit the air show every year.

Our concessions work at Miller Park is half way complete. We have worked five games so far with five more to go. 14 people are helping us at the Brewer games, and as a bonus we have run into the likes of Albert Pujols and Bernie Brewer at the stadium.

The Midwest Chapter has been invited to participate in Waukesha's Big Read this fall. The Big Read is an NEA sponsored program whereby communities read a book and participate in city
wide discussions. This year's book "Farewell to Arms" by Ernest Hemingway, a WWI novel, gives us an opportunity to discuss the origins of the Soviet Union.

If you would like to become involved with the Midwest Chapter or have any suggestions or ideas for the Museum, please let me know.

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BERLIN CHAPTER UPDATE
By Baerbel E. Simon – The Cold War Museum – Berlin Chapter
Photos: Horst Simon, Berlin Chapter

Dear Friends and Supporters of the Cold War Museum-Berlin Chapter,

I am pleased to offer the following report about the activities and developments of the Cold War Museum/Berlin Chapter. The last three months were very successful for the Berlin Chapter. We made significant progress, the first exhibition abroad of the Berlin Chapter – The First Battle of the Cold War – The Miracle of Berlin 1948-1949 -has been open since May 20th 2009 at Kettering Library in England.

The Miracle of Berlin in 1948- 1949
Berlin Airlift Exhibition, Talk & Slide Presentation: Celebration 60 Years of the Lifting of the Blockade of the Besieged City.

20th May 2009 at Kettering Library, England

(Photo: Right to left: John Perkins, Peter Beswick, USAF Col. John Jordan, Mrs. Andrea Pettingale, Baerbel Simon, Geoff Smith, John Collier, Alec Chamber, Bill Ball)

We are back home right now and we have very happy memories of our visit. The weather was lovely and the event was excellently managed and organized.
I would like to offer particular thanks to Mrs. Andrea Pettingale and to the British Liaison of the Cold War/Berlin Chapter, Mr. Kevin Flecknor for all the trouble they went to. I was so very pleased USAF Col. John Jordon from the 501st Air Base at Alconbury in the UK was able to join us. It was so nice to see the veterans from the British Berlin Airlift Association and the people of Kettering who attended. Thank you so very much to all our guests and a special thank you to all who made this event possible.

On May 12th, Berlin celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the End of the Soviet Blockade and the 60th Anniversary Ceremony at the Airport Tempelhof. Berlin paid tribute to the Airlift veterans of 1948-49 and the Berliners celebrated the 60th Anniversary, a key moment in the Cold War when the Soviet Union closed the transportation connections to West Berlin. The three occupying powers, alongside the British Commonwealth (Ground and Air personnel from South Africa, Canada, New Zealand and Australia) supplied the blockaded city by air for 11 months. 150,000 of Berliners turned out on Tuesday the 12th of May to celebrate the "Miracle of Berlin in 1948-1949" that saved two million West Berliners from starvation.

“The Airlift veterans are heroes and will never be forgotten” said Mayor Klaus Wowereit.

The Berlin Chapter Officials were also invited as special guests of the Secretary of Defense of Great Britain, the British Embassy of Berlin and from the Governing Mayor of Berlin Klaus Wowereit.

A special note of thanks goes to them, for their very kind invitation to my husband and me to attend the Berlin Airlift Ceremony on 12th May at the Airfield Gatow and at the Airlift Memorial. It was a wonderful occasion and we enjoyed ourselves immensely. We had a wonderful time with the Berlin Airlift Veterans which made the day very special. Thank you again for a very special day I would like to express thanks to the Berlin Airlift Veterans Association and to Dr. Moore for his kind invitation to the Farewell Dinner on May 13th at Hotel Best Western Berlin Steglitz.

I am pleased to announce that the Commune Oder-Welse and the Commune Barnim-Oderland in cooperation with The Cold War Museum / Berlin Chapter and the Association Monument Bunker Harnekop e.V. presented.

On May 1st, 2009 an SA-2 missile at the Memorial Site Bunker Harnekop.

May 1, 2009 corresponds with the 49th anniversary of the shooting down of Francis Gary Powers and the U-2 Incident.

(Photo: The missile is a permanent artifact belonging to the Missile Museum in Pinnnow and the Commune Oder-Welse).
Please help spread the word about the Berlin Chapter. Together we can make this vision a reality. For more information, please visit either www.coldwar.org/BerlinChapter, www.atombunker-16-102.de, or contact:

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CARIBBEAN CHAPTER UPDATE
By Raul Colon, Director

This has been a very successful first summer for the Caribbean Chapter. Our ‘long days’ started in April when we receive permission from The Fundacion Luis Muñoz Marin, one of the most respected think tanks in Puerto Rico, to commence the digitalization of several of former governor, Luis Muñoz Marin papers and memos relating to the role of the Island in the days of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Also on the last month of spring, our organization began to distribute Care Packages for our Heroes, the men and women who proudly wear the uniform of the United States armed forces deployed all around the world.

(Photo: Chapter director Raul Colon with member Damian Planas' Memorial Day 2009)

In May, the Chapter was proud to take part, for the first time as an organization, in the official National Puerto Rican Cemetery Commemoration Acts of Memorial Day 2009. Our members joined in with other veterans organizations in celebrating the memories of our fallen heroes.

The governor of Puerto Rico took time from his busy schedule to talk to our group after the event. The major of San Juan, the capital city, also joined our organization for informal discussions.

On July we began a program to conserve our war monuments. As part of this effort, our volunteers had been hard at work, promoting the significance of each site. We are also in the
mist of negotiations with other veterans associations with the idea of assisting the local
government in carrying for these all important facilities.

Our efforts have been well receive by our peers and other institutions. On May 21st 2009, the
Puerto Rico House of Representative, with the Honorable Albita Rivera leading the way,
recognized our ongoing efforts to promote a better understanding of the Cold War times with a
House Motion.

Governor Charlie Christ of the great state of Florida sent a congratulation letter this past June. In
the official communication, the governor thanks us for our ‘efforts in establishing the Caribbean
Chapter of the Cold War Museum, thus making available information regarding this important
period in our history’.

This upcoming August 17th, our chapter members will attend a Puerto Rico Senate session in
which a Congratulation Resolution will be passed. The resolution, introduced by Honorable State
Senator Kimmie Rashkie Martinez, will help our drive to gather official government
documentation of the era.

Since our last communication, the Caribbean Chapter has grown twofold. The membership, the
core of the organization, has quadruple, and our artifact acquiring efforts continues to bear fruit.
A trend we hope to continue in the future.

The Chapter will like to thanks Gary Powers, Jr. for his continuing support. His dedication for
our this, most necessary cause is one of the main reasons the Caribbean Chapter of the Cold War
Museum has enjoy a great summer.

Regards,

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www.coldwar.org/caribbean.

NEW SOUTHEAST CHAPTER UPDATE
By Paul Spiewak, Director

After an unexpected meeting with Francis Gary Powers, Jr. during an event run by the Reunion
Friendly Network, Inc. (RFN), Paul J Spiewak, president of RFN volunteered to form and head
up a Southeastern Chapter of The Cold War Museum. The appropriate paper work has been filed
with the Florida Department of State to formally organize the chapter. After certification from
the state, a bank account will be set up, and the business plan written will be implemented.

The immediate focus will be aimed at securing a "good" site for the establishment of a physical
location for the museum. Preliminary steps have already been initiated; and this effort will be
extended as soon as the legal formalities have been completed.
The Reunion Friendly Network, is an organization that provides services to approximately 8,000 military reunion planners from all conflicts since WWII, in every branch of military service. Publicity and solicitations for donations for the Cold War Museum will be undertaken through the three regular publications issued by RFN. Every employee in RFN is committed to doing the best they possibly can to make the Cold War Museum a functioning reality in EVERY respect.

Paul Spiewak  
The Reunion Friendly Network.  
Hollywood FL 33023  
800-225-5044   954-983-7077

COLD WAR ASSOCIATIONS

COLD WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Chairman’s Corner  
With Vince Milum - Chairman - CWVA

Each month (except for June which is reserved for vacations), the board of the Cold War Veterans Association (together with the Greater Kansas City-area Philosophy Group) hosts a monthly meeting to discuss (among other things) the issues of the day.

At our official July meeting, the guest speakers were Andrea and Doug Whitmore who gave a briefing on the situation in Israel-Palestine (which they have visited numerous times). As part of their briefing, Doug and Andrea answered numerous questions from the attendees.

At an informal get-together on the Fourth of July, our two organizations discussed: (a) national macroeconomic policy, (b) health care financing models, (c) financial industry regulation, and (d) foreign policy (including the wars of Afghanistan and Iraq and the crises in Iran and Xinjiang).

At our May meeting, the guest speaker was James Everett - a 17-year CIA veteran. Jim covered numerous topics for us, two of which can best be summarized by these linked articles.

www.coldwarveterans.com/james everett.htm

Finally, at our (marathon) April meeting, 17 subject areas were covered on the agenda. In addition to reading the Cold War Victory Day proclamation recently issued by Kansas Governor (and now HHS secretary) Kathleen Sebelius, some of the matters discussed were (1) the recently released CIA interrogation memos, (2) NSA warrantless wiretapping, (3) the DHS report on white supremacists recruiting military veterans, (4) the McClatchy article "Experts predict Pakistan's collapse," and (5) societal conflict in Afghanistan.
At our next meeting, we will be receiving a briefing on indigenous religious movements in America and their impact on both domestic and foreign policy. Also at this meeting, I will be giving a PowerPoint presentation on the potential windfall that investment bankers look to receive should "cap-and-trade" legislation pass in its current form.

The preceding should give you some idea on the current direction of the CWVA and what we are doing to remain relevant in the 21st Century.

For more information on the Cold War Veterans Association, please visit them online at:
www.coldwarveterans.com
www.coldwarveterans.com/cwva_news.htm
www.coldwarveterans.com/cwva_board_statement.htm

AMERICAN COLD WAR VETERANS, INC.

CHAIRMAN
Sean Eagan

For the most recent updates on American Cold War Veterans, Inc., please visit www.americancoldwarvets.org.

ALLIED FORCES COLD WAR ASSOCIATION [ AFCWA ]

FORMATION

The Allied Forces Cold War Association [AFCWA] was established on 01 May 2009, less than two months ago. The AFCWA has taken its rightful place alongside other Veterans organizations and VSOs with its three-fold mission:

*COMRADERY. To organize Cold War Veterans internationally from all NATO / SEATO countries in the spirit of comradeship and allied commonality based upon the global struggle against Communist aggression during the Cold War, 1945-1991.

*REMEMBRANCE. To commemorate and remember the service and sacrifice of U.S., NATO and SEATO Cold Warriors; to never forget the struggle of the United States, and other nations that fought against Communist aggression;

*VIGILANCE. To be ever vigilant against the rise of Marxism, Leninism, Communism and/or Communist-dominated, -supported or -supplied insurrections, movements or terrorism around the globe.

The AFCWA was formed for many reasons, chief among them that the Cold War was fought not by just the United States but by its Allies ... and that during the Cold War many "hot wars" were fought, including the little known and even less understood "French Indo-china War", 1946-54,
which was the first major Communist assault in Southeast Asia. Over 90,000 French, French Union, Foreign Legion and Vietnamese troops died fighting for a free Vietnam and to stop Communist aggression.

The AFCWA's primary mission however is not political [ though we lobby at the city, county and state level ] but commemorative: we seek to remember all Allied Nations that fought against world-wide Communism including those in Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Asia. We believe that commemoration honors the service and sacrifice of all Cold Warriors who served.

The AFCWA is therefore proud to be the first United States veteran's organization to offer full membership to over 55 nations around the globe that served in defense of freedom.

**LATEST NEWS**

We met with Rep. Hubert Vo, D-TX, District 149, Texas State House of Representatives in late May 2009, just after organization formation, over Cold War Veterans issues, commemorations and events. Since that time we have taken part in several major events:

21 June 2009. "Remembering the Vietnamese Veterans." AFCWA Senior Military Advisor Maj. J. R. vande Grift USA and Mick Stewart AFCWA Post 1 Commander were invited by Rep. Vo to take part in the ARVN Veteran's Remembrance Ceremony at the Vietnam War statue, "Little Saigon", Houston, Texas. Our thanks to Rep Vo, Col Vung [ ARVN Veterans Association ], Captain Tai [ ARVN Marines ] and Mr. Tan Nugyen and Dr.'s Nugyen Khao of the Vietnamese Professionals of Houston.


**FUTURE EVENTS**

The AFCWA is poised to take part in the largest ever gathering of Vietnam Veterans in the State of Texas:

The 2nd Annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion
Sponsored by VFW Post 8905 Cypress Texas
The Young Vietnamese Professionals of Houston
ARVN Veterans Association website: [http://webpages.charter.net/vietnamvetreunion](http://webpages.charter.net/vietnamvetreunion)

The AFCWA will be sponsoring a weapons, equipment and uniform display from the French Indo-china War, 1946-75 and inviting members of other reenactment groups to come and represent the Vietnam War 1955-1975. AFCWA has been provided an invitation by the Young Vietnamese Professionals of Houston, Texas to take part in this now yearly event, which draws 5,000+ citizens.
The AFCWA's Living History Project is sponsoring two special groups:

"Honoring the Vietnamese Army 1951-1954" - This living history project will recruit within the Vietnamese-American community, honoring the Vietnamese, Hmong, Cambodian, Laotian and tribal groups that fought with the French against Communism in the French-led Commando group, Groupe Comando Mixte Aeroporte [ GCMA ].

The AFCWA Cold War Color Guard - The Color Guard will be composed of U.S., Vietnamese, Australian, Phillipino, South Korean and Allied nations representing the Cold War, 1945-1991.

Our Cold War Color Guard is the first of its kind in the United States and will be modeled on the uniforms, weapons and equipment during the Cold War. For more information on these outreach groups, contact the AFCWA website at: www.alliedcoldwarvets.com.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mick Stewart
Interim President
AFCWA Post 1 Commander
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FEATURED ARTICLES

CUBA AT THE CROSSROADS: THE ROLE OF THE U.S. HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY IN CUBAN TOURISM INITIATIVES
By Sergei Khrushchev, Tony L. Henthorne, and Michael S. LaTour

With this message I grant permission for Cold Times Newsletter to reprint in full or in part the article, "Cuba at the Crossroads: The Role of the U.S. Hospitality Industry in Cuban Tourism Initiatives," by Sergei Khrushchev, Tony L. Henthorne, and Michael S. LaTour, published in the November 2007 Cornell HRA Quarterly (Volume 48, No. 4). This permission is for one-time publication. There is no charge for this license, provided the following copyright legend is included: Copyright Cornell University. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

My best regards
Glenn Withiam
Executive Editor

Summary

The long-standing U.S. embargo on travel to Cuba has made life difficult for the Cuban people without achieving its stated purpose of regime change. Supported for many years by the erstwhile Soviet Union, Cuba turned to tourism as means for earning foreign exchange after the USSR imploded. Tourism has afforded a means for many Cubans to improve their lot, especially when their jobs allow them to collect U.S. dollars, which are a prized currency on the island.
Operators from several nations are a part of Cuba's tourism industry, which is second largest in the Caribbean and chiefly attracts travelers from Canada and Europe. Left out of the island's tourism ventures are U.S.-based chains and operators, who would benefit from being able to participate in Cuba's growing tourism industry. Given the likelihood that President Fidel Castro will not return to power, the moment is ripe for American tourist interests to seek their opportunity to do business in Cuba. A particular benefit of tourism joint ventures would be restoration of trust between the peoples of Cuba and America, a trust that has been impeded by political activities on the part of both governments.

Introduction

Fifty years after revolution and subsequent embargo, change is in the air for Cuba. The direction of that change hangs heavily on the policy taken by the United States as Cuba's governance inevitably changes. After a long dry spell, the tourism and hospitality industry constitutes Cuba's dominant source of employment and foreign exchange earnings (Cervino and Cubillo 2005; Miller and Henthorne 1997). Currently, Cuba is the second most popular tourist destination in the Caribbean even though travelers from the important U.S. market are forbidden to travel there. Cuba's longtime leader, Fidel Castro, is gravely ill as of this writing. Whether he will return to power is in serious question. The overriding issue regarding Cuba is what effect a change in government might have with regard to U.S. policy.

With regard to travel and tourism, what should be the role of the U.S. hospitality industry as we seek to meet Cuba at this time of transition? What should be the role of our political leaders as we strive to move beyond current policies? This case study seeks to address these and other related issues as we rapidly approach an era of unprecedented tourism activity.

To begin our discussion, we propose that the long-term interests of both the United States and the U.S. tourism industry are best served by nurturing economic development and reform, not in choking off this reform via the continuation of an embargo (Sweig 2007). Enacted decades ago, the embargo has clearly been costly to the Cuban people, in terms of health and well-being. Based upon the first author's firsthand, informal personal interactions with the Cuban people, including Cuban president Fidel Castro, as well as our recent qualitative research in Cuba, we contend that these past decades have fostered a deep degree of distrust between our two peoples. Certainly this distrust has been exacerbated and intensified due to the embargo. Furthermore, this distrust of the "Evil Norte Americanos" has (inadvertently) propped up the government of Fidel Castro, rather than having the reverse effect. This distrust has provided Castro with a soapbox forum from which to espouse vilification of the United States-a message that, for decades, has been embraced by the country and, not incidentally, cemented his power.

While attempted Cuban reform is desirable, such reform efforts taking place in the context of distrust of the United States and U.S.-imposed economic hardship does little to promote a mentality among the Cuban people in which change would reflect U.S. values and provide opportunity for U.S. businesses. It is unrealistic to believe American business interests will become the dominant business interests in Cuba, as they were in 1957—at least in the short run (Miller and Henthorne 1997). Too many worthy competitors have already established themselves and have both the respect and trust of the Cuban government, businesses, and citizens. Our
neighbors to the north and south, Canada and Mexico, are two of the largest investors in Cuba, having realized the potential economic payoff and positioned themselves accordingly.

However, the potential exists for the U.S. hospitality industry to play a substantial role in the reforms to take place in Cuba. The starting point would be allowing our citizens to travel and spend money in Cuba. In this way, we would bring the "American" lifestyle to the heart and soul of Cuba-its people. Rather than diplomatic actions, we contend this approach necessitates a "grassroots" effort to cultivate trust between our peoples, in the context of service providers and customers. In so doing, the last vestiges of the cold war can be, once and for all, "thawed."

By its nature, tourism serves as an international meeting vehicle by bringing together individuals from different countries, advocating diverse (and many times competing) political ideologies and religions. Tourism brings together individuals who speak different languages and live diverse lives. Tourism is a major source of intercultural contact. Tourists and tourism can serve as powerful change agents on a society's culture (Costa 2005). Indeed, the sociocultural structure of many countries has been changed substantially under the influence of tourism (Dogan 1989). Clearly, a strong infusion of U.S. tourists to Cuba, coupled with Cuban-U.S. joint hospitality business ventures, would be key antecedents to trust building.

The time is coming for U.S. hospitality business interests to present a strong consensus on this issue to stir the bureaucratic establishments into action. We contend that, upon reflection, people of all political persuasions will see this market-based approach as the most pragmatic course of action to benefit U.S. business interests and long-term relations between the United States and Cuba.

As the basis for the conclusions we just offered in this case, we will chronicle, with data, the rise and fall (and rise again) of tourism in Cuba, with the rejuvenation minus the all-important U.S. market. We then forward qualitative data, which, though anecdotal, we feel further substantiate our contention of the level of distrust among the Cuban people and business decision makers associated with perceived intentions of U.S. business interests. We provide insight into the contradictions inherent in this distrust, as it influences current perceptions on the part of Cubans and would have considerable bearing if U.S. firms were involved in Cuban hospitality operations. In addition, we offer key points that substantiate why it behooves U.S. hospitality interests to deal with Cuban tourism development in the context of "liberated" market forces, free of the embargo and other restrictions. Finally, we substantiate the value of joint-venture sponsored tourism initiatives (e.g., eco-tourism) anchored by cross-cultural consumer research.

A Historical Perspective on Cuban Tourism

While Cuba has been an object of American fascination and allure since the American Revolution, the "Golden Age" of Cuban tourism can trace its roots to that early twentieth-century American experiment in morality: Prohibition (Schwartz 1997). As America was struggling to become sober, those with the desire and means could sidestep this newly imposed regime and get away to that "Americanized" island country of Cuba. Here they would be welcomed with fashionable rum drinks, high-potency Hatuey beer, powerful hand-rolled cigars, fast-paced casino gaming, and readily available companionship. The Hotel Nacional, completed in 1930, served as the premier destination on the island (see Exhibit 1).
By the 1950s, Americans had begun to adopt trends and attitudes with Caribbean (i.e., Cuban) roots into their everyday lives. Rum drinks were experiencing resurgence in popularity, and daiquiris and mojitos were the drinks of the day. Cuban music was well known and popular, driven by Ricky Ricardo's orchestra and I Love Lucy (the most popular program on television). Cuban casinos served as an outlet for the growing American fascination with gambling (Miller and Henthorne 1997). These factors contributed heavily to the Caribbean region's growth rate of approximately 10 percent yearly throughout the decade. Cuba controlled the largest single share of the Caribbean tourism market. More than 20 percent of all visitors to the Caribbean region traveled to Cuba, far ahead of other regional competitors such as Jamaica. Of the visitors to Cuba, more than 85 percent were from the United States (Villalba 1993).

But by the beginning of 1958, tourism to Cuba was in question, with rumblings of renewed guerilla fighting in the mountains led by a young and charismatic Fidel Castro and aided by the idealistic, cool, and self-assured Ernesto "Che" Guevara, and coupled with the open corruption and decadence on the part of the Batista regime. By New Year's Eve 1958, word spread that Batista was planning to flee the country and was taking with him a sizable portion of the Cuban monetary reserve. Shortly thereafter, Fidel Castro effectively assumed control of the country.

Castro insisted his ideology was, first and foremost, of the Cuban people. In fact, he initially said his government was not associated with Communism (Phillips 1959, as cited in Fursenko and Naftali 1997). However, the affiliation of Fidel's younger half-brother Raul and colleague Che Guevara with the Communist Soviet government was being solidified. By the end of 1959, the number of travelers arriving on Cuban shores had fallen to approximately 175,000. Exhibit 2 details Cuba tourist arrivals for the decade of the 1950s.
The Soviet Union arrived in Cuba on February 4, 1960, by way of a trade exhibition, led by Soviet envoy Anastas Mikoyan. Castro and Mikoyan negotiated a package of trade credits, worth US$100 million, which included the Soviet purchase of 5 million tons of sugar over a three-year period (Fursenko and Naftali 1997). Cuba was to receive needed petroleum in exchange. This was the overt beginning of a long and intertwined relationship with the Soviet Union.

Shortly thereafter, the administration of U.S. president Dwight Eisenhower decided to work with covert anti-Castro groups inside Cuba. The object of this clandestine action was to topple the Castro government and replace it with one more open to the interests of the United States (Fursenko and Naftali 1997). By the end of 1960, President Eisenhower had begun to set in motion the U.S. embargo, and plans were afoot for an invasion.

In April 1961, the United States, now with John F. Kennedy as president, attempted to topple the Castro government by operationalizing the plan initiated by the Eisenhower administration: the recruiting of a private army of Cuban exiles to invade the island. The infamous Bay of Pigs fiasco resulted in eighty-nine deaths and almost twelve hundred invaders captured, not to mention a black eye to the United States. The Bay of Pigs debacle obviously reinforced Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev's belief that the United States was determined to overthrow the Castro regime. Not coincidentally, in August 1961, the Berlin Wall went up. According to Khrushchev, the wall was to protect East Germany from maneuverings by the West.

Finally, in July 1963, the Kennedy administration invoked the Trading with the Enemy Act, which essentially banned all commercial transactions with Cuba. This action officially marked the end of the Golden Age of Cuban Tourism. By the mid-1960s, Cuba was recording only around three thousand foreign tourists annually.

**The Rebirth of Cuban Tourism**

The resurgence of tourism development in Cuba began in the mid-1970s, well before the fall of the Soviet Bloc (see Exhibit 3). During this period, Cuba catered to a mostly Eastern European clientele, with the great majority of visitors originating from countries friendly with the Soviet Union. Hotel developments during this time took on a mostly "Communist" look—that is, monolithic, stern, and practical.

Cuban international tourism development took on new urgency as the country entered the "Special Period" of near-economic collapse, following the fall of the Soviet Union (Miller, Henthorne, and George forthcoming). The Cuban government, the sole provider for its citizenry,
was no longer able to adequately furnish the fundamental needs of its people. Food shortages were common (see Exhibit 4). Gasoline and diesel became all but nonexistent. With some of its little remaining hard currency, Cuba bought thousands of bicycles from China in an effort to provide its citizens a means of economical transportation (Baker 1995). Health care deteriorated. A general air of desperation and anxiety prevailed, as typified by crowded public transit (see Exhibit 4).

Exhibit 4:
Food Rationing in Cuba and Crowded Public Transit

Tourism, long viewed as vile, repressive, and imperialistic by the Castro government, was, out of necessity, given center stage as the shining star upon which Cuba's hopes for a productive and economically sound future were pinned. Cuba pursued this future with unprecedented vigor. By the end of 1989, Cuba was playing host to more than three hundred thousand tourists annually approximately the same number as in the pre-Revolutionary peak tourism year of 1957. That number jumped to almost six hundred thousand by 1993, and has continued to grow.

The tourism boom meant that highly trained professionals—physicians, teachers, engineers—were abandoning their professions in wholesale numbers and becoming waiters, bartenders, and bellhops. In those jobs, they could earn tips in U.S. dollars, which were much more valuable than the Cuban pesos in which they were typically paid. Education was unimportant. A teacher who was earning approximately 180 pesos a month (about US$7) could now easily earn that amount in a week (or a day) from tips received as a bellhop. Additionally, these dollars allowed access to "closed" or "dollar stores," stores where the shelves were lined with locally produced and imported products priced in U.S. dollars. These were stores (and products) off-limits to the "typical" Cuban citizen. These were stores with no shortages of food or consumer products.
Over the past decade, Cuba has experienced the highest rate of growth in tourism arrivals to become the overall second most popular tourism destination in the Caribbean region and the second most popular regional destination for European travelers (Caribbean Tourism Organization [CTO] 2006b; Cervino and Cubillo 2005) (see Exhibit 6). Because of this aggressive growth, Cuba’s tourism industry has become of great interest to its Caribbean neighbors (Miller and Henthorne 1997).

By 1995, Cuba's annual tourism revenues had reached US$1 billion. By 1996, the island's industry surpassed 1 million annual visitors (Durán 2000). By the end of 2005, annual tourism revenues had topped the US$2 billion mark (CTO 2006c), with annual visitors in excess of 2.3 million (CTO 2006b). Cuba experienced a slight decline in foreign visitors during 2006, when 2.2 million guests arrived on its shores (Valdes 2007). The largest single country of origin of Cuban visitors is Canada, which supplies approximately one-quarter of all travelers to Cuba. Currently, Cuba ranks fifth in popularity for Canadians traveling abroad, with approximately 520,000 Canadians visiting in 2005 (Statistics Canada 2006).

After Canada, the four countries responsible for the largest percentage of visitors to Cuba are Italy, Germany, France, and Spain. Together with Canada, these countries comprise approximately 60 percent of all foreign travel to Cuba (Institute for Cuba & Cuban-American Studies 2005). The tourism industry today constitutes Cuba's dominant source of employment and foreign exchange earnings (Miller and Henthorne 1997). Cuba's tourism growth statistics are shown in Exhibit 7, in comparison with several competing destinations in the region. By 2004, the country's hotel capacity exceeded forty-five thousand rooms—an increase of ten thousand rooms in five years. The reported occupancy rate hovers around 63.5 percent, just about the Caribbean average (CTO 2006a).

Even as the annual tourism revenues reached US$1 billion in 1995, continued shortages of everyday necessities and poverty-level pay led to growing discontent within the citizenry.
Regulations were relaxed, allowing thousands of Cuban citizens to open, operate, and profit from a multitude of small business ventures—everything from handiworks to paladors (small, home-based restaurants).

Qualitative Analysis

The qualitative insights presented below were gained during a series of seminars in Havana and surrounding environs dealing with service systems and service quality, presented by the second author. Over a series of five seminars spanning approximately two years, more than two hundred Cuban tourism and hospitality managers participated. During the course of the seminars, only the grounded principles of service systems and service quality for potential U.S. patrons were presented and discussed. No commentary relating to U.S. business interests or the U.S. government was presented. Following each seminar, an informal group question-and-answer period was held. During these times, participants could discuss any concerns or questions they may have had in either a group setting, or later in a relaxed "one-on-one" format. In more than 50 percent of the cases (about thirty-five individual instances), participants, neither solicited nor prompted in any way, talked about their concerns and distrust of U.S. business interests in Cuba, even though a discussion of U.S. interests was not a part of the seminar.

Given the sensitive nature of the topic and being in the context of a state-sponsored function, tape-recording of these discussions would not have been feasible. Therefore, detailed quotes could not be recorded, and as such, the qualitative data are anecdotal. However, given the unsolicited nature of the conversations and that the informal interviews and discussions were "autodriven," that is, the author asked questions based upon the responses given, we believe that the participants displayed remarkable and surprising candor. Additionally, there appeared to be a high level of convergence between informants. Following each of these "Q & A" sessions, the second author would seek privacy and write down detailed notes synthesizing these conversations. Several "consensus" themes emerged, as discussed next. The first theme is as follows:

Cuban tourism and hospitality managers maintained that their views mirrored those of the common Cuban people.

That is, given the nature of the Cuban tourist economy, the "connectedness" between hospitality managers and the common Cuban "worker class" is quite strong. According to these interviews, these managers are of this class and identify closely with the culture of the common worker and reflect the concerns of the common worker, perhaps more so than in the case of U.S. hospitality management. So, we believe that if one were to win the "hearts and minds" of the Cuban hospitality manager, one would take a huge step in winning the hearts and minds of the Cuban people.

While the tourism and hospitality managers all indicated great need for U.S. dollars, they also expressed sincere fear associated with the "price" that would be paid for those dollars. That is, akin to the Batista era, they saw U.S. corporations and perhaps organized crime attempting to reassert control of Cuba, if they were allowed to enter.
As with any concern of this type, there lies a strategic opportunity. First of all, U.S. hospitality managers, in preparation for future joint ventures in Cuba, would need cultural sensitivity training to see this picture from the Cuban perspective. Trust building is an incremental process, the key to which is "getting off on the right foot" and creating a favorable first impression. Assuring Cuban hospitality management and government officials that there is no interest in assuming control and that control should stay in the hands of Cubans in any joint venture arrangement will be key.

In keeping with the prior point, the participants feared U.S.-led "contamination" of their society with the return of gaming establishments and a repeat of what is perceived as "imperialist or capitalist" enslavement of the Cuban worker, with the bulk of the profits going back to the United States.

As per the previous point above, key to avoiding fears of cultural contamination would be cultural sensitivity training. Research would be crucial here to fully uncover the deepseated underpinnings of such long-standing distrust on both sides. Then programmatic steps can begin to find common ground between the parties involved and culturally sensitize both U.S. managers and Cuban managers.

Almost exclusively, the managers were enthusiastic about the eventual "thawing" of relations between Cuba and the United States and the resulting influx of American visitors.

As the literature points out, while causing some problems (e.g., declines in tradition, increases in social conflicts and crime; Dogan 1989), tourism has a tremendous upside in terms of facilitating communication and understanding among people (Crandall 1994; Costa 2005; Gjerald 2005). Tourism acts as a forum through which the host country has the opportunity to communicate information about its history, culture, and way of life to a body that may have limited (if any) knowledge of that nation. Conversely, tourism allows the visitor to interact with locals, thus providing an opportunity to share some of the history and culture of the visitor's home. Additionally, the infusion of hard currency will no doubt lead to a better life for the Cuban people. As trust can be built, the new Cuban hospitality industry can, for the first time, have a truly welcome partner with the U.S. hospitality firms-and, dare we say, eventually the term "friendship" may commonly be spoken.

However, there appeared to be a high level of distrust and a feeling that U.S. business was disingenuous in its desire to "partner" with established Cuban entities, preferring instead to take over and bring the prevalent American culture (and all that entails) back to Cuba.

Again, trust takes time. This gives researchers and managers a clear reality check as to how much cultural bridge building needs to take place. Those who expect to be welcomed with open arms once the embargo drops are naively mistaken.

The general overall view seemed to be that, while the Cubans looked forward to the day when relations between the two countries were normalized—at least to the extent that U.S. citizens could again travel to and vacation in Cuba—they believed the overall consensus of U.S. business was that they (Cubans) were unsophisticated in the ways of modern business and would easily be
supplanted by the more sophisticated Americans. As a result, Cuban tourism and hospitality leaders could best be described as highly "wary" and distrustful of American business interests.

Once more, trust and respect go hand in hand. The key is carefully constructed and well-funded cross-cultural market research, so as to base this process on scientifically grounded facts and not prejudicial assumptions based on hearsay.

**Ending the Embargo, Then Diminishing Distrust**

The key to future relations is to "stamp out ignorance," and that is best done through research. Initially, any such research funding should be corporate-based. When the embargo is lifted, as we expect it will be, we see the funding source migrating in part to the government. Under both stages, the use of carefully designed cross-cultural consumer research is key to gaining the knowledge vital to establishing cross-cultural understanding. This would be done in two phases. Initially, there would be a series of in-depth qualitative studies conducted within various sampling frames. These would include Cuban hospitality managers and Cuban hospitality workers both in Havana and Varadero. Additional groups for qualitative research sampling would include "tour providers" and specialized patrons at various tourist attractions, such as Cuba's famous cigar factories. As an example, Cuban cigars have deep, passionate connotations for aficionados (LaTour, Henthorne, and BraunLaTour 2003). Carefully designed "deep digging" qualitative research exposing deep metaphors and archetypes would lay an essential roadmap to more effective cigar factory (and environs) tourism (LaTour 2007).

Past U.S. patrons of Caribbean resorts would also be sampled, as would U.S. hospitality managers who potentially would be involved in future joint ventures in Cuba. While the samples in this research would be relatively small (only fifteen to twenty persons), these techniques, based on modern brain science, have been found to extract remarkable convergence among participants. This has been determined to be a function of common "brain wiring," which provide the underpinnings to attitudes and thoughts (Zaltman 2003).

These sophisticated qualitative interviewing techniques have been found to span cultural barriers to get at the fundamental "neural networks" underpinning the roots of cultural distrust (LaTour 2007; Zaltman 2003). This, in turn, would require follow-up experimental designs that build on the findings of the qualitative analysis, focused in both cultures. As in all cross-cultural studies, translation, back-translation, and careful validation of measurement instruments must be accomplished through the use of pilot studies prior to the main data collection. Obviously, different cultural values, molded in part by recent history, would also weigh into the measurement process. These quantitative analyses could make use of standard paper-and-pencil assessments of proposed promotional campaigns, as well as computer based reaction time studies (such as the Implicit Attitude Test; Potter et al. 2006) that incorporate various images of potential U.S.-Cuban partnerships. Such analyses, which test implicit attitudes in a cross-cultural context, have been found to be more relevant and meaningful for cross-cultural research than explicit measures of attitude (Zaltman 2003; Potter et al. 2006).

As to specific potential areas of research, one clear possibility is research focused on the promotion of ecotourism in Cuba. Specifically, we contend that ecotourism would be key to
bring the "hearts and minds" of U.S. tourists and Cuban service providers together for a deep appreciation of Cuba's ecology and culture. Hawkins (1994) has described ecotourism as tourism activities which are conducted in harmony with nature, as compared to more "traditional" mass tourism. Cuban tourism officials have identified ecotourism as one of the fundamental endeavors of future tourism development in Cuba (Winson 2006). Castro (1993) has openly called for sustainable development policies and practices to be employed to preserve the fragile biosphere that is Cuba today. Ecotourism is often referred to as "mindful" tourism versus the "mindlessness" of traditional sea, sun, and sand tourism (Wood 2001), due to the belief that the individuals engaged in the practice of ecotourism are more emotionally tied to the flora, fauna, and geography of the location and, thus, have a deeper appreciation for the sustainability of the region and the sociocultural environment (Singh, Slotkin, and Vamosi 2007).

**Final Thoughts**

The process of rapprochement can only start with the lifting of the U.S. embargo on Cuba. To that end, we encourage U.S. hospitality business interests of all types to urge the executive branch and Congress to eliminate the embargo, which has arguably outlived its original purpose. Guided by a cross-cultural research focus, business leaders must then encourage joint venture investment in Cuba for the purpose of expanding and promoting tourism growth as a crucial initial step potentially leading to more diverse business development. While we acknowledge those who would seek to continue the embargo, we suggest that corporate America should provide a "united front" to the U.S. government for the benefit of the industry as a whole, and one that cannot be ignored for the benefit of southern Florida politics. As mentioned previously, once this is achieved, guidance and insight into opportunities in Cuba can be facilitated postembargo in part through federal grants designed to promote cross-cultural consumer research pertinent to U.S.-Cuban business partnerships and by the dissemination of such research through funded conferences involving academe, business, and government leaders from both countries.

We see a historic opportunity for profitable investment in a "new Cuba." Not only can the U.S. hospitality industry participate in shaping that new Cuba, in partnership with locals, but the fact is that the rest of the world will take advantage of the opportunity. We contend that now is the time to advance prescriptive, forward-thinking insight designed to shift the thinking of the U.S. business community about Cuba and, in so doing, shift the thinking of the Cuban government, businesses, and people about their neighbors to the north.

**THE EAST GERMAN LABOR CAMPS**

By Johanna Ellsworth (J.Ellsworth@web.de)

One dark corner of the former East German Stasi soul barely known to West Germans were labor camps. Labor camps including watchtowers and barbed wire all around. Just like we know them from sinister Hollywood movies or historical documentaries.

No, this isn’t a misprint – this is not about German fascism which officially came to an end in 1945. We are talking about East Germany (i.e. a few decades later on the very same grounds and soil) and the creative ideas of its right hand, the Stasi. They found their own subtle methods of terror (called “Zersetzung“) to be too slow – those destructive methods that were applied to a
victim for many years (also see the organized stalking with Stasi methods that has been
spreading secretly and still only unofficially since the Millennium, i.e. over 10 years after the end
of East Germany, in all of Germany).

Therefore the Stasi (the so-called East German “Ministry of State Security” aka Secret Police of
the former GDR) went to work on planning and putting up labor camps.

When, after many years of captivity in their own country, the East German residents spilled
across the borders in 1989, those labor camps apparently had already been put up all over East
Germany and were well prepared and in working order. Everything had been planned and
prepared with the typical German efficiency: the names of the 86,000 individuals as well as
secret photos of those unpleasant citizens, the locations of the camps, the camp staff, the supply
and how to run everything smoothly …

They were ready for the order, the Stasi members, and would have been capable of apprehending
86,000 people (!) within 24 hours, deporting them to those labor camps. (Source: “Zersetzen.

And how many steps are there from a labor camp to a concentration camp in case the tough
recipients of years of Stasi stalking methods and additional years of forced labor just refuse to be
eliminated?

Those who planned the labor camp planners and those who realized them are living right among
in here in Germany today, free from bothersome harassment or persecution. And not only that.

The latest book by Dr Hubertus Knabe, Stasi Expert and Director of the former notorious East
German prison Hohenschönhausen, also offers some interesting connections between the Then
and the Now. In his book he pursues the trail of today’s German “Left Party“ via the former
Party PDS straight back to the former East German Government, the SED and the Stasi. And by
doing that, he shows us blind voters who will get our votes and who will really control our
country if the Left Party gains in power after the federal elections in Germany that are due in
September of 2009.

THE AIR WAR OVER MOROCCO
By Raul Colon (rcolonfrias@yahoo.com)

Maybe one of the lesser cover conflicts of the past fifty years, the Moroccan campaign of the mid
to late 1970s, proved to be one of the most important events in the contemporary history of North
Africa. It all started in 1974, when the Spain withdrew from the Spanish Sahara in Morocco.
After the event, both, the Moroccan government and Mauretania agreed in principal, to the
partition of the just vacated territory. In 1975, the Moroccan military took official control of all
the Western Sahara territory. Unfortunately, not all the players involve in the Sahara region
agreed with the plan and the Moroccan execution of the terms.

The main adversary to the treaty was the Algerian backed and based, Polisario (Popular Front for
the liberation of Seguief el-Hamra and Rio de Oro). Fighting over the disputed sector
commenced in the spring of 1974. By 1976, the first elements of a major French armament augmentation effort began to arrive. A few months later, the French government approved the deployment of several combat air platforms. Initially, French operated Jaguars and Mirage F-1s that were deployed in the former French base at Dakar. The units were sent there in an attempt to bolster the Moroccan Air Force’s (MAF) obsolete fleet of Dassault-Dornier Alpha Jets, F-5s and their own Mirage F-1s. The MAF main operational base was located at Kenitra where most of the MAF’s air-worthy inventory rested. Kenitra was also the main combat operation base for much of the action against the Polisario. The MAF’s F-5As and Es, supplemented by a squadron of obsolete Magisters, were the first aircrafts involve in the fighting. The main objective of the MAF, and later on, the French; was to interdict and cut off the Polisario supply lines and setup camps that sometimes were out of the reach of the regular Army. Over a three years span, the MAF pounded the rebels without much opposition. The Polisario, although well organized, lacked any type of organized air defense structure of the weapons to implement a coherent defense strategy. But that changed in late 1977 when the Polisario began to receive advance Surface-to-Air Missile Systems such as the Soviet-made SA-7 and in the late 1978, the SA-6.

The introduction of SA-7s and 6s batteries changed the air dynamics over the Western Sahara area in a dime. Polisario’s ground forces were now able to shot at incoming Moroccan and French fighter/bombers. Between the summer of 1978 and the spring of 1987, the MAF lost fourteen F-5As to SA-7 batteries. The French, which flew mostly reconnaissance missions, although some interdiction operations were also carried out, suffered the “sting” of the newly arrived SAM batteries. In fact, an alarming number of Jaguars were shot down by SA-6s, Anti Aircraft Artillery and even small caliber fire such as heavy machine guns and rifle fire. In 1987 alone, two Moroccan F-5As were shot down and two others barely made back to Kenitra. The same happened in 1987 when two F-5s and four Mirage F-1s were downed. French losses for those years amounted to six Jaguars downed or damaged beyond repairs.

In the early 1980s, in an effort to restore its former advantage, the MAF commenced a major overhaul of its air-worthy inventory. New models such as the new and improve version of the Dassault-Dornier Alpha Jet, the E model. Twenty four of these advance trainers/light attack aircrafts were purchased by the Moroccan government. In addition, in 1981 the United States made good on its 1978 pleaded for assistant sending six refurbish Rockwell OV-10 Broncos, which has the distinction of still having its operational status almost thirty years after they were introduce to the theater.

Even the new hardware could not stop the Polisario hit and run attacks and by the fall of 1989, both parties began conversations towards ending their dispute. After two years of on and of talks, the parties, with the assistance of the United Nations, finally agree to a cessation of hostilities. A new state of affairs was implemented over the region. Twenty eight years later, the uneasy truce gained in 1991 still prevails.

**Sources:**
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COLD WAR MEMORIES
(Editor’s Note: Have a Cold War Memory you would like to share? Send us your written history, experience, or anecdote for posting in future issue. FGPjr)

JOHN O. KOEHLER PAPERS, 1931-2002
Prepared by Jessica Lemieux
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Scope and Content Note

The collection documents John Koehler's career as a journalist, intelligence officer, and writer; it consists of correspondence, news stories, photocopies of East German and United States government documents, post-reunification German governmental reports, clippings, printed matter, photographs, sound recordings, and videotapes. Includes papers related to the Associated Press, the U.S. Army, political conditions in Germany, espionage, and especially the East German secret police. The bulk of the papers were collected by Koehler while researching and writing his book, entitled Stasi: The Untold Story of the East German Secret Police.

The Professional Files series includes news stories written by Koehler for the Associated Press (AP) and other news organizations, many of them dating from his time as chief correspondent in Berlin, and it also includes speeches and lectures given about journalism. Additionally, the Professional Files contain a small amount of material relating to the U.S. Army, Koehler's consulting company, and his work as President Reagan's communications director. The Correspondence series records Koehler's duties at the AP, particularly after he began working in the AP administrative offices in the United States. The Photographs series is mainly composed of AP photographs from Koehler's time as a reporter, depicting escapes from East Germany as well as photographs of Koehler himself.

The Stasi Research Materials series comprises the bulk of the collection. In the course of writing Stasi: the Untold Story of the East German Secret Police, Koehler collected information from a wide variety of sources. Thus, the series includes photocopied records from the East German Ministry of State Security (MfS), interviews with former MfS officers and victims, post-reunification German government reports, photocopied documents from various United States government agencies, and an extensive subject file of clippings and published material. The series reflects Koehler's interest in MfS abuses of power and extensively documents international espionage, terrorism, and repression of the East German population during the Cold War.

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THOUGHTS ON THE COLD WAR

This short note is to announce the start of my blog "THOUGHTS ON THE COLD WAR". Each week I will post a new article on this hot and fascinating historical period. The first article concerns a question: "Viktor Belenko: Hero or Traitor?" I invite you to read my thoughts on his defection, and at the same time to send me your opinions and comments, plus your answers to 3 questions I ask at the end. You can access "THOUGHTS ON THE COLD WAR" by just clicking on the link below:

http://thoughtsonthecoldwar.blogspot.com/

I hope you enjoy these articles as much as I enjoy writing them, trusting that reading it you'll have a deeper insight into the events that shaped the history of the second half of the XX century.

Thank you very much! Spasibo bol'shaye!

Miguel Vargas-Caba
Bronx, NY

ONE OF ONE WITH A VETERAN: DAMIAN PLANAS
By: Raul Colon

On the night of 16/17 January 1991, the skies of Baghdad lit up as Iraqi gunners blasted at targets they could hardly see. Explosion ripped through the night as American F-117A ‘stealth fighters’ and BGM-109 Tomahawk cruise missile hit with pinpoint accuracy at Iraq’s command and communication structure. Operation Desert Shield had now become Operation Desert Storm. Inside King Khalid military base, Damian Planas watched, more precisely, heard and felt the thundered explosions. He was part of an elite unit, the 394th Chemical Detachment assigned to Fort Buchannan in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The main mission of the 394th was perimeter chemical profiling. A priority for all Allied forces stationed at what became known as Khalid City, because of the expected use by Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, of chemical and/or biological agents. On that memorable night, Planas was, as always, stationed on ready alert status. Ready to go in a moment notice to perform a mission everybody feared.

The journey from the streets of San Juan to the outskirts of the biggest and more active military base since World War II has its roots on a dream. “I saw in the Army the opportunity give back to the country which had been so great to me”, said the now fifty something standby reserve officer.

Planas became active on the United States Army in 1974. He first served with the 259th Chemical Battalion Field Service Combat unit attached to the famous 82nd Airborne Division. After a brief pause, which the young soldier utilized, among others things, to get his Law Degree, Planas rejoin the Army, this time in the strategic reserve force in 1988. Little that he knew that two years later, war would knock on his door.
“We were advised on late September (1990) of a possible deployment to Saudi Arabia. On October 15th, after weeks of intense training, we departed as part of an advance party. The rest of the 394th arrived on the 24th”. Planas was one of the few chosen by then Lieutenant Colonel Cesar Vazquez, to become liaison officers with the spearheads of the Allied ground forces.

“It was an honor. Lt. Colonel Vazquez selects me and staff sergeant Herman Caseres to become the commander’s liaison on the theater of operations. Our primary goal was to setup a strategic reserve of supplies in case we were forced to do without resupplies for a week”. Around 15 million water drums, Ready to Eat Meals and counter of other war fighting goods were storage under the sandy ground of Khalid City.

Everything seemed to be going accordingly to plans until the night of February 25th when Saddam’s first Scuds began to infiltrate the Saudi sky. “When the first sirens (air attack alert systems) began to sound, we were in standby alert. I promptly put my chemical gear on and went to my assigned post deep in the outer perimeter of the base”.

Fortunately for Planas and the rest of the 394th, their expertise was never required. The Scuds utilized conventional warheads instead of the dreaded chemical ones. Still, the sights of the huge missile bearing down on a base were impressive. “I saw clearly the Scuds bearing down. Immediately, our (PAC I) Patriots batteries responded shooting down the missile. Unfortunately, the pattern of that night will repeat itself for several more days”.

A few days later, and after ‘only’ 100 hours of ground combat, President George H.W. Bush, announced to the world that formal combat operations were over in Iraq. At least that was the official story.

Accordingly to Planas, and many others who serve near the frontlines, the attack was not supposed to be concluded before a decapitation-type of strike against Hussein and his top commanders. “Tomahawks cruise missiles were ready. The Army knew where Saddam was hiding, but they needed the green light”, added Planas.

A few more hours of ground engagement, and who knows, maybe Operation Iraqi Freedom could have been avoided.

As for our veteran, he was official deactivated on May 199, returning to the Island and a much deserve heroes welcome. He took part in the July 8th 1991 Parade in Washington DC and since then have been on standby reserve.

“The Army gave me a set of skills that made a difference in the everyday life. The ability to take decisions, to think situations thoroughly and to implement the best idea to solve a situation, is all part of the Armed Forces creed”.

Today, the men who saw the Army as an opportunity to help others now find him as one of Puerto Rico’s top judicial minds. Still defending the ones who need defending. A true warrior on and off the combat theater.
COLD WAR EVENTS, REQUESTS, AND RELATED ITEMS

STONEHENGE COUNTRY CLUB INVITES CWM SUPPORTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CLUB CORP CHARITY CLASSIC 2009

For the third consecutive year, Stonehenge Country Club in conjunction with their parent company, ClubCorp, is proud to participate in the world’s largest one-day charity golf and dining event — the ClubCorp Charity Classic. Last year, the event raised $1.7 million for the selected charities, and this year that legacy continues on October 17, 2009. In an effort to give back to their communities, an estimated 25,000 participants will converge at over 120 country and business clubs to make a difference while enjoying golf tournaments, auctions, unique culinary experiences, and more.

Net proceeds raised during the Charity Classic will be allocated evenly to the following organizations: MDA/Augie’s Quest, ClubCorp’s Employee Partners Care Foundation, and to each club’s selected charity of choice which for Stonehenge Country Club is The Cold War Museum. The Museum was founded in 1996 by Stonehenge Member, Francis Gary Powers, Jr, to honor Cold War veterans and preserve Cold War history.

This year's event at Stonehenge will take place on Saturday October 17, 2009 and will feature a 9am 18 hole Shotgun start, a barbeque lunch immediately following around 2pm, prizes and awards. Sign up as a foursome or as an individual, and invite the whole family to enjoy the barbeque immediately following the event.

8am Registration
9am Shotgun
2pm Scoring and Barbeque

Price of $75 per golfer or $250 per foursome, includes: Golf Cart, Beverages, Lunch, Prizes, and Tee Gift. Lunch will include Pulled Pork Barbeque, potato salad, pasta salad, baked beans, and dessert.

There are a maximum of 16 spaces reserved for Cold War Museum supporters. Contact Mike Cooke at Michael.Cooke@ourclub.com to RSVP, for additional information, or sponsorship opportunities.

U-2 INCIDENT - 50TH ANNIVERSARY TRIP TO MOSCOW & YEKATERINBURG

I am pleased to announce that I am working with the Automobile Association of America (AAA) to produce a Tour to Moscow and Yekaterinburg in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the U-2 Incident. This tour will depart on May 1 and return to the US on May 10. The trip itinerary is outlined below. If you would like to join me on this trip, please email me at gpowersjr@coldwar.org for more information.

Day 1, Saturday
May 1 - Depart USA
Depart USA on an overnight flight to Europe aboard Lufthansa Airlines.

Day 2, Sunday
May 2 – Arrive Moscow, Russia/ explore Red Square
Just after noon, arrive at Domoyedovo Airport in Moscow.
Meet/greet and escorted transfer to your hotel in the city center and check-in.
Mid-afternoon privately guided orientation tour of Moscow and visit Red Square with St. Basil’s Cathedral.
Welcome Dinner at the hotel
Overnight at Marriott Moscow City Center Meals D

Day 3, Monday
May 3 – Moscow and the Kremlin
Buffet breakfast at your hotel
Late Morning visit to Aleksandrovsky Garden at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
Early afternoon visit the Kremlin grounds, Armory Museum and the Inauguration Halls of the Grand Kremlin Palace
Overnight Meals B

Day 4, Tuesday
May 4 - Moscow & the Cold War Period
Buffet Breakfast at your hotel.
Visit Lenin’s Tomb and Gorky Park
Procede to the US Embassy to meet with the Embassy officials for a lecture and conversation.
Tour the underground Civil Defense and/or Cold War related bunkers plus metro KGB Museum visit

Note: Lubyanka Prison is a part of the FSB (previously known as KGB) building and currently tours of the Prison are not possible.
Overnight Meals B, L

Day 5, Wednesday
May 5– Moscow / Get to know the Russian Military
Buffet breakfast at your hotel
Morning visit Central Armed Forces Museum
Afternoon tour of the Frontier Museum (Border Guard) and Poklonnaya Gora
Overnight Meals B

Day 6, Thursday
May 6 – Moscow / tour to Monino
Buffet breakfast at your hotel.
Morning drive to Monino to visit the Aviation Museum
Return to Moscow & early evening 2 hour dinner-cruise on the Moskva River
Overnight. Meals B, D

Day 7, Friday
May 7 – Moscow / full day excursion to Vladimir
Buffet breakfast at your hotel. 
Morning departure by coach for Vladimir to visit Vladimir Prison (Vladimirsky Central) 
Lunch en route. Return to Moscow in the evening. 
Overnight. Meals B, L

Day 8, Saturday 
May 8 – Moscow / fly to Yekaterinburg 
Buffet Breakfast at your hotel. 
Time at leisure until check-out and transfer to the airport 
Flight from Moscow to Yekaterinburg 
On arrival transfer to your hotel in Yekaterinburg 
Dinner and overnight. Meals B, D

Day 9, Sunday 
May 9 – Sightsee Yekaterinburg 
Breakfast at your hotel. 
Sightseeing of the city including the sites associated with the Romanov Dynasty and locations associated with Gary Powers’ capture. 
Dinner and overnight. Meals B, D

Day 10, Monday 
May 10 – Yekaterinburg / Departure 
Very early morning hotel check-out. 
Transfer to the airport and check-in for your 5AM Lufthansa flight bound for Frankfurt, Germany, arriving just after 6AM local time. Onward connection to your 10:35AM flight bound for New York, arriving JFK just after noon today.

**INVITATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO NEW SPY SERIES**

In just over five months, it will be 2010. When I realized that, it occurred to me that, next January, it might be interesting to publish a series of articles on the best, most influential, most significant spy projects so far in the 21st Century. To ensure these overviews are based on as wide a range of opinions as possible, I hope you’ll consider contributing to the project for Spywise.net.

The basic outline is for contributors to submit nominations for releases, publications, or broadcasts since Jan. 1, 2000 in:

- Best Spy Novels
- Best Espionage Films
- Best Non-Fiction
- Best Spy Television

Most significant events in espionage history
Depending on what you think, there could be additional categories or sub-categories—soundtracks, DVD releases, documentaries, whatever. I’m assuming you may follow movies but not novels, or vice versa, so I’m expecting some contributors might be interested in only a few categories. Perhaps you like only 2 or 3 titles in, say television, and that’s fine. There’s no target numbers, no “Top 10” or “Top 25.” I want to be flexible.

I hope you’ll send your nominations with at least a 3 or 4 sentence paragraph sharing why you rank each item so highly. If you care to wax long and eloquent, fine, perhaps we can add break-out or side-bar reviews. No doubt, some films, say Casino Royale, are worthy of in-depth discussion. But the main purpose is to provide a “compendium” of responses reflecting a wide variety of opinions.

Again, I don’t intend to publish the finished product until late December at the earliest. Until I gather all the responses, I can’t predict the exact format the articles will become. But I know some of you need deadlines, so let’s say Nov. 1, 2009, but that’s not set in stone. Likely, new holiday releases may include nuggets. If this interests you, please include what name you’d like to be credited as and send any questions, suggestions, or nominations to spywise@verizon.net.

If you know other knowledgeable folks who you think might enjoy participating, feel free to forward or post this invitation. Thanks—

Wesley Britton
www.Spywise.net

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE US AIR FORCE TO CELEBRATE THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREA WAR

The National Museum of the US Air Force will be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Korea War with completely new exhibitry in the Korean War Gallery. This major project will feature new technology like touchscreens, new exhibit cases, large murals, and many new artifacts on display. The formal opening for this newly-created Korean War Gallery is planned for June 2010.

As part of this project, the National Museum of the USAF is actively seeking to preserve artifacts and archival material related to the US Air Force during the Korean War, including clothing, flight gear, memorabilia, patches, photographs, slides, and documents. Please help the Museum preserve the legacy of our Airmen in Korea. If you have material to donate, please contact Jeff Duford at Jeff.Duford@wpafb.af.mil or 937-255-8790."

FALL OF THE WALL - DC COORDINATION GROUP

As part of the Embassy's activities to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, we are organizing a three part TV panel discussion series at the Newseum, to be aired by Deutsche Welle, one of our project partners. The first event is scheduled for --Monday, August 10, 2009 at 10 am--., and will focus on the building of the Berlin Wall on August 13, 1961. We have a Panel of three persons who have witnessed the event from different points of view, a prominent moderator (to be confirmed), and two younger researchers working on the subject.
Historical footage will be piped in as a scene-setter. The discussion will be opened to the audience at a later stage of the event. For further detail on this event, please check our announcement on www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_events/GIC/2009/08/10_Newseum,archiveCtx=2172602.html

There is only a limited number of seats available in the Newseum TV studio, but we would be very happy if you could find time to participate in this event. Please let me know if you are interested and available, and I could then mail you an invitation. If you have colleagues who also would have an active interest in this topic, kindly pass on names, e-mail-id, tel.-nr., and function/organization on to me (copy to our intern Lucas Wehner). The e-vites will be mailed around August 1st.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With many thanks and best regards,

Dr. Bernd von Muenchow-Pohl
Director, German Information Center USA
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
Tel:(202) 471-5533
eMail: dz-1@wash.auswaertiges-amt.de

-Precision. Motion. Style. – www.Germany.info
-Fall of the Berlin Wall 1989-2009 - www.freedomwithoutwalls.org
-Our Choices Matter - www.transatlantic-climate-bridge.org

FALL OF THE WALL

This is the year of the FALL OF THE WALL - and memories are rising: we are planning reports on the Berlin Wall Segments worldwide. The project: An exhibition of panorama-photographs from Berlin-Wall-segments (approx 20 panoramas of 1 meter x 8 meter) with audio-visual statements by the nice people who are taking care of the monument worldwide - from the Vatican to Hawaii. The exhibition will start with a first part in July hopefully in the Deutsche Historische Museum Berlin. The second part is planned to be shown in November 2009 in Berlin and worldwide. And when you do know more owners of BERLIN WALL segments, please let them know about this project. Hopefully they like to contact me.

Best regards,

Hartman Jahn
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SOUTH DAKOTA MINUTEMAN II MISSILE SITE VISTOR CENTER

The Osakis Review in Minnesota reported that the National Park Service is planning a permanent visitor center at a former Minuteman II Missile Site in South Dakota. The facility was deactivated when the Cold War ended and was converted to the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site under the supervision of the National Park Service. Two small, modular buildings were hauled in five years ago to serve as a temporary visitor center and headquarters.

Plans are being finalized for a permanent visitors’ center featuring exhibits, an orientation movie and a lecture hall, possibly to be constructed as soon as the fall of 2010. In the meantime, there has been no major effort to promote the site no interstate signs or marketing campaign.

Still, the visitors have come. June visitation was up 22 percent over last year, and this year’s total visitation is on pace to far surpass last year’s total of 22,000 people. When the permanent visitors’ center is up and running, visitation is expected to rise to 220,000 annually.

Mark Herberger, the superintendent of the site, said its popularity can be explained by its singularity. There were 150 Minuteman II silos throughout western South Dakota during the Cold War, but the one at the historic site is the only one that has been preserved.

“This is the first place in the U.S., really, that’s specifically dedicated to the Cold War topic,” he said this week in a telephone interview with The Daily Republic. “There isn’t anywhere else in the country or in the world where you can visit a site with the ‘real thing’ this is the only Minuteman II facility left on planet Earth. Here, you can touch an icon.”

The Minuteman II was so named because it could reach a Russian target 6,300 miles away in just 30 minutes. The missiles’ speed is depicted in a darkly humorous mural on the bank-vault-like door leading into the underground launch control facility at the historic site. Painted long ago by Air Force personnel, the mural depicts a missile on what looks like a Domino’s Pizza box with the words “Worldwide delivery in 30 minutes or less, or your next one is free.”

The underground launch control pod is one of three parts of the national historic site. Visitors begin at the visitor’s center, just off Interstate 90’s Exit 131 at Cactus Flat. Park Service rangers deliver presentations there about the site and the Cold War.

Next, visitors travel four miles west to the underground launch-control facility, where they also tour the above-ground living quarters that were used by the people who staffed the facility. The site has been maintained just as it was the day it was deactivated, down to the magazines and VHS tapes in the commons area.

Then, it’s another 11 miles west to the missile silo, where the tour concludes with viewing of the test missile. Herberger said a significant portion of the site’s early visitors have been people who played some role in constructing missile fields in the 1960s. Another big subset of the visitor population consists of people who simply want to see all that the National Park Service has to offer, including its newest sites.
Many of the people who visit the site are Cold War history buffs, Herberger said, in the vein of Civil War buffs and World War II buffs.

“Cold War history is all contemporary history for us,” he said. “It’s an opportunity for a lot of people in my generation, anyway, to be able to learn a little about some of those things that we lived in our history, and then also to share that history with our family.”

Plans for the permanent visitor center, which will be located across the interstate from the temporary trailers, include many ways to share the history of the site and the Cold War. One of the most exciting and promising, Herberger said, is a modest lecture hall included in the plans. He hopes Cold War symposiums might someday be staged in the hall.

The prospect of a permanent visitor center and the already soaring visitor numbers have Herberger excited about the site. “We’re very proud of this place,” he said. “It has a fascinating history, and we’re finding an incredible amount of community support, so I think we have a good future here.”

PHOTOJOURNALIST LAUNCHES DOCUMENTARY EXHIBIT OF COLD WAR BERLIN

Berlin had yet to recover from the devastation of World War II when it and the rest of Germany were divided up among France, Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union. The divisions that were created at this bargaining table made Berlin a city on the frontline of a struggle between two great superpowers. This tale of political unrest, dominance and oppression played out over the next four decades between the powers of East and West in the city of Berlin. November 9, 2009, marks the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and end of the Cold War. An entire generation has passed since these events.

Photojournalist Kelly Gorham has just launched a project entitled the Stones Have Memories: A Photographic Exploration of Berlin’s Cold War Landmarks to document the architecture that is so closely tied to historic events of the Cold War. Gorham began the project after a life-long interest in modern European history, particularly the Cold War era. In 2008, following nearly two years of research, he set out to explore the neighborhoods of former East Berlin. With guidance from historians in Berlin and the United States, and from friends who lived on both sides of the Wall, he traced history that was significant back to the location where it happened and photographed the place as it stands today. Gorham says his guiding creative principal was to let the architecture speak for itself. Gorham asks, “Is it possible to document emotion without photographing a human face?”

The exhibit will open November 9 at the 7444 Gallery at 28 Depot Street in Saranac Lake, New York and show through December 6. The exhibit can currently be previewed online at www.coldwarberlin.com. Kelly Gorham is a Montana-based photojournalist and staff news photographer for Montana State University. His work has appeared in The New York Times, USA Today, Washington Post, Sports Illustrated and National Geographic Explorer.
The Glienicker Bridge spans the Havel River in the city of Potsdam just southwest of Berlin. In 1952 the East German state closed the bridge, allowing only vehicles from the four occupying powers to cross, making it one of the few links between East and West Germany. In a 1986 article in the New York Times, author James M. Markham dubbed it the “Bridge of Spies.” From 1962 to 1986 three prisoner exchanges were made on the bridge. The most notable of these was the first exchange in 1962, when U.S. pilot Gary Powers was exchanged under the cover of darkness for Soviet colonel Rudolf Abel. Powers had spent nearly two years in a Soviet prison as punishment when his U2 spy plane was shot down over the Soviet Union.

Contact: Kelly Gorham  
Tel. 406-451-9838  
kelly@gorhamphotography.com

FRANCIS GARY POWERS’ 1960 220SE MERCEDES RESTORATION PROJECT

Francis Gary Powers purchased this car (see photos) at the American Service Center Mercedes dealership in Arlington, VA prior to the U-2 Incident. It is a 1960 220 SE of which very few were produced. The car has 140,000 miles. After Powers died in 1977, the car was stored in California from 1983 until it was shipped to Virginia in 2000. The engine was rebuilt between 2000 and 2005. The car comes complete with the original paperwork, manuals, documentation from the purchase along with a complete if not near complete record of its registrations all signed by Powers.

Because of the 50th anniversary dates of both the car and the U-2 Incident, Francis Gary Powers, Jr. is looking for sponsors to assist with the car's restoration. The car has minimal rust and the immediate need is to stabilize the car with a paint job, interior makeover, a new top, parts and accessories.

MV Service Center (820 Murray Old Dr., Midlothian,
VA 23114) has helped with tune-ups and car service. If you live in the Richmond area and are looking for a reliable mechanic contact Rick at mvservicecenter@gmail.com.

Sponsors will get acknowledgement in local regional, state wide, national, and international press, articles in car magazines, and at the Deutsche Marque Concours in Vienna, VA in early May 2010 and at the Mercedes StarFest Concours d'Elegance September 24 – 29, 2010 in Northern Virginia.

The car will also be displayed periodically as part of the mobile exhibit on the U-2 Incident at the VA Historical Society in Richmond, VA January through May 2010. Finally, there will be additional marketing and promotional opportunities through February 10, 2012 in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of Powers exchange at the Glienicker Bridge in Potsdam, Germany.

For more information on this car restoration project, contact Francis Gary Powers, Jr at gpowersjr@coldwar.org.

MEETINGS, REUNIONS, AND UPDATES

(Editor’s Note: Organizing a reunion? Looking for squadron or unit members? Send us your Cold War reunion or unit info for posting in future issue. FGPjr)

FIRST NATIONAL NIKE VETERANS REUNION - SEPT. 11 TO 13, 2009

(Edited’s Note: I will be the keynote speaker at this reunion. I would like to thank Jim Renkert, Acting Director Friends of Nike Site Summit and John Cloe for their hospitality in hosting me during my trip. FGPjr)

The Friends of Nike Site Summit (www.nikesitesummit.org) will host the first National Nike Veterans Reunion in Anchorage, Alaska, from Sept. 11 to 13, 2009. Reunion coordinator Greg Durocher said, "The summer tourist rush will be over, fall colors should be at their prime, the weather will be cool but not cold, and it will still be fishing season without the crowds!"

“We're planning to have the event held at the Sheraton Anchorage,” Durocher continued. “They are giving us fantastic rates and perks if we get the numbers. I've asked for a block of 50 rooms, not knowing how many will want to come up. The price quoted is $119 a night, plus tax.” Room rates extended to Sept 08 to the 15th for those who want to extend their stay.

(Photo: Service Practice - Nike missile live firing from Site Summit)

Activities will depend upon response, but the following events are tentatively planned:
- Meet and greet icebreaker
Historical photos/film clips session
• Personal anecdotes session
• Friends of Nike Site Summit (FONSS) session

Keynote luncheon (Speaker: Francis Gary Powers, Jr.)
• Tour of Site Summit (Bravo Battery) up Arctic Valley Road, with lunch at Alpenglow Ski Area lodge.
• Tour of Anchorage (perhaps out to Portage Valley along the Seward Hwy. a National Scenic Byway), to include showing how the Alpha Battery site was converted into Kincaid Park and Chalet.
• Salmon bake.
• Native Heritage Center tour

“Both the week preceding and following the reunion would be good for hiking, fishing, gold-panning, scenic drives,” Durocher said.

“At this point, I'm looking for the possible number of attendees. “Please reply if you are interested in attending. We're almost a year and a half out, so there's plenty of time to save some pennies and plan for a great bash. Make sure your old Nike buddies get this message. The grapevine is strong, and we don't want to miss anyone,” Durocher added.

To register for the Nike National Reunion or request more information, email Greg Durocher at gfdurocher@usgs.gov or write to him at Friends of Nike Site Summit, c/o Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, 645 W. 3rd Ave, Anchorage Alaska 99501, (W) 907-786-7009 / 907-337-2553 (H). You can also visit www.nikesitesummit.org for more info on this reunion.

(Editor’s Note: Efforts are underway to preserve the Nike site on Site Summit in Alaska. Updates are available on the USAG Alaska's Site Summit webpage at www.usarak.army.mil/conservation/CR_Nike.htm under “Meetings” - FGPjr)

ASSOCIATION OF AIR FORCE MISSILEERS

Fall 2010 in Tucson we are encouraging units or other groups looking at a reunion to consider joining us - we make all the arrangements, help you get the word out and make sure you have meeting space or fill any other special requirements. Contact us soon if you want to join us - dates will be finalized soon.

Charlie Simpson
Executive Director
Association of Air Force Missleers
PO Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424
970-453-0500
www.afmissileers.org
afmissileers@msn.com
MEETINGS AND REUNIONS

*OCS Class 58A*, 14-17 September 2009, Las Vegas, NV. Contact Mort Friedlander, 702-6745 1288, or mortnsal@cox.net.

* 455 SMW/91 SMW Minot Minuteman I Reunion, *19-23 May 2010, Dayton, Ohio, contact Dave Schuur at djshuur@verizon.net or Joe White at lojo361@columbus.rr.com.

*Association of Air Force Missileers* – 6-10 October 2010 in Tucson, registration to be available in September. 2012 in Great Falls, Montana to commemorate 50 years of Minuteman.

REUNION WEBSITES

Visit these following websites for additional reunion information:

- www.radomes.org
- www.vets.org/airforce.htm
- www.thewall-usa.com/reunion
- www.uasf.com/reunions.htm
- www.reunionsmag.com/military_reunions.html
- www.military.com/Resources/ReunionList
- www.navweaps.com/index_reunions/reunion_index.htm
- www.usaf.com/reunions.htm
- www.jacksjoint.com/cgreunion.htm

COLD WAR BOOKS, DVDS, BOOK REVIEWS, AND RELATED ITEMS

(Editor’s Note- Authors and Publishers – Send your book announcement to editor@coldwar.org for consideration. If you would like to send an advanced copy for review, let me know. FGPjr)

ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

By William A. Boik

Reviewed by John Adams-Graf, Military Trader (May 2008)

Review Excerpt:

Featuring more than 300 color photos, the author illustrates and explains the significance of North Korean orders and medals. Whereas the obverse and reverse of each medal is shown, there are also photos illustrating the variations of each award, the award certificates and cases.

Appendices in the book will serve collectors as well: The first provides the total number of awards presented during the Korean War to both North Koreans and the Chinese People’s Army volunteers. The second lists the order of precedence for the awards — valuable for ascertaining proper display. The third shows the ribbons for each award and, finally, there is a very useful reference establishing estimated values for each award.

(This book).....is a groundbreaking work, ...the volume will be a welcome source for anyone with an interest in the awards of the DPRK

Review from www.roa.org - The Officer / December 2008

ROA member COL Bill Boik lets us peek under the curtain of an enigmatic society in his book Orders, Decorations, and Medals of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, inspired by his collector’s interest in North Korean awards. This detailed color study is the only comprehensive reference on such unique awards as the Order of the Red Banner of the Three Great Revolutions, the Medal for Building Kun Gang Dam, and the Agricultural Meritorious Service Medal. The book—with 120 pages and more than 300 color illustrations—provides the information a collector would need or the simply curious would enjoy: a brief history of the country and its awards; pictures of the medals, front and back; order of precedence for the awards; all known variations; and the approximate value of each.

The orders and decorations are an interesting reflection of the society they come from. “They follow the Soviet pattern,” says COL Boik, “with military awards, labor awards, awards for being part of the collective. But there are some differences. The highest award is the Order of Kim Il Sung.” Unlike our system, earning a medal, say five times, means wearing five medals, so senior officers can literally be decorated from shoulder to waist. “I wonder how heavy their jackets are!” muses COL Boik. COL Boik’s interest in these awards began several years ago, when he led two joint U.S. –North Korean Missing in Action (MIA) recovery missions in search of U.S. service-members missing from the Korean War.

Because of North Korea’s closed society, little information about the medals— and none of the medals themselves—can be acquired in North Korea. But they are appearing in China, smuggled out by North Korean refugees, and patient collectors can find a few medals scattered around various collectors’ shows. COL Boik is the first to pull together into one volume all the fragmentary information about these awards, and many of the pictured awards are from his own collection. So, as one of the foremost collectors of these unfamiliar medals, he’s in a unique position to write a first-of-its kind book.—LtCol M.E. Earl, USMCR (Ret.), Associate Editor

For more information go to http://www.NorthKoreanMedals.com
Suppose for a moment that instead of fertilizer, Ramzi Yousef [architect of the first World Trade Center bombing] had been able to place a primitive, five-kiloton nuclear weapon in the back of his truck. Calculations run after the February 1993 fertilizer attack show the theoretical results of a five-kiloton explosion on the streets of lower Manhattan on February 26, 1993, given the wind and weather conditions on that day, to be almost too frightening to believe:

- Most buildings south of Central Park destroyed, their inhabitants dead
- Millions of other New Yorkers, once living south of 125th Street, dying of radiation effects
- Millions more throughout the metropolitan area suffering acute radiation sickness
- Much of lower Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Hoboken set on fire

The harsh reality as it exists today is that the sense of relief the world felt at the end of the Cold War has been replaced with a different kind of Armageddon nightmare. Instead of an East–West power struggle with the rest of the world on the sidelines, the collective dread this time is over terrorist organizations bent on getting their hands on a dirty bomb to effect nuclear chaos and the collapse of civil society.

Written by Thomas Reed and Danny Stillman, two of the world’s foremost nuclear weapons experts, The Nuclear Express addresses how the world got to where it is today. It is a political history of nuclear weapons from the discovery of fission in 1938 to the nuclear train wreck that seems to loom in our future. It is also an detailed account of where those weapons came from, how the technology surprisingly and covertly spread, who is likely to acquire those weapons next and most importantly why.

The authors’ examination of post-Cold War national and geopolitical issues regarding nuclear proliferation and the effects of Chinese sponsorship of the Pakistani program is eye opening. The reckless “nuclear weapons programs for sale” exporting of technology by Pakistan is truly chilling as is the on again off again North Korean nuclear weapons program.

If we are to make the right choices now, we need to understand the history of nuclear weapons and the politics that surround them. The Nuclear Express provides that history and perspective, as well as an exploration of how we may very well be able to avert disaster.

About the Authors
Thomas C. Reed is member of The Cold War Museum’s Advisory Board and a former nuclear weapons designer at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, political manager for Ronald
Reagan’s gubernatorial contests, Secretary of the Air Force under presidents Ford and Carter, Special Assistant to President Reagan for National Security Policy, and a successful businessman. Reed wrote an autobiographical account of his experiences titled At the Abyss: An Insider’s History of the Cold War. Reed is a frequent visitor to Russia and Ukraine and is a graduate of Cornell University and the University of Southern California. He resides in northern California.

Danny B. Stillman is a Los Alamos physicist with decades of experience in nuclear design, diagnostics, and testing. For thirteen years Stillman directed the Los Alamos Technical Intelligence Division; at the end of that tour he was awarded the Intelligence Community Seal Medallion. Stillman is an engineering physics graduate of University of Washington. He lives in White Rock, New Mexico.

**WE SERVED WITH HONOR**

By Linda Bromley and James F. Bard, Jr.

WE SERVED WITH HONOR is the title of a new book on the history of the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing from the perspective of the men who lived through those tumultuous times. The authors, Linda Rios Bromley, Frank T. Hayes, and James F. Bard, Jr. have collected memories from men who served in various units of the wing—flight operations, maintenance and photography. Temporary duty locations in Japan, England, Alaska and Morocco depict the long hours and difficult living conditions the men had to contend with. The global political situation at the time kept the 91st SRW at high alert and the men were always ready to go. Some of the wives have contributed their own memories of life with absent husbands and fathers.

Top Secret USSR over flights partnered with the US and UK, recon missions of North Korea and the Artic islands, dedication and loyalty of the team, combine to make a best selling fiction thriller. But, WE SERVED WITH HONOR, is anything but fiction. It is a collection of memories of the men who served the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing in such diverse locations at England, Korea, Morocco, Alaska, to name a few. Young men of 17, 18 and 19 years of age stepped up to do their best for the US. General Curtis LeMay’s favored unit performed with excellence from October 1948 to November 1957 during a tumultuous period of history following World War II. The memories in this book are from pilots, maintenance technicians, photographic specialists, and even some wives. They all have one thing in common, their love of the 91st SRW.

The maintenance technicians worked many hours to ensure that their airplanes were in the best condition for long range missions. The photographic specialists were masters at their craft and ensured that the cameras operated to capture vital evidence of a target. Though the men performed with excellence, their work was not without great danger. However, to a man, the 91st
SRW was staffed with the very best the US had for the job. There were no greater patriots than the men of the 91st SRW.

The book will be available in September 2009 and may be purchased through Linda’s website at www.peoplestoriesunlimited.com.

HELL HAWKS
By Robert F. Dorr and Thomas D. Jones

"Hell Hawks!" is a history of a "band of brothers with planes" -- a recounting in their own words by Americans at war. It's a general interest glimpse at our recent history, not technical, not specialized: It's a story that can interest anyone.

Our guys went ashore at Normandy and fought across Europe, through the Battle of the Bulge and on to victory.

Co-authors Robert F. Dorr (Bob) and Thomas D. Jones (Tom) spent five years researching and interviewing 171 of these ordinary men who became heroes. Tom is an Air Force Academy distinguished graduate, a former B-52 pilot, and a former astronaut who flew four shuttle missions. Bob is an Air Force veteran, a retired U. S. diplomat, and an author. Bob and Tom worked together to tell this story for the first time.

The P-47 Thunderbolt was built in greater numbers than any other American fighter, but rarely receives recognition. The men who supported, maintained and flew the P-47 while slogging it out on the European continent waged a grim, gritty, mostly air-to-ground war in which the enemy was personal, the fighting point-blank. The human spirit triumphed with a little help from the P-47.

"Hell Hawks" uses never before published photos and first-hand personal accounts. The book is reaching stores and amazon.com just now. The surest way to get one right away is to get it directly from Bob.

If you'd like a personalized copy, send Bob a check for $31.00, for the book, an inscription from the authors, and priority mail packaging.

Best wishes

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A Vietnam crisis was handed to President Kennedy soon after his election. It was part of an agenda for America’s defense that included an invasion of Cuba and possible future action in Laos. Kennedy had ready, able members in his administration, which included a youthful entourage of brainy Ivy-leaguers and business leaders penned as the “whiz kids,” and later “the best and the brightest” by journalist David Halberstam. They promised a new vigorous era in US foreign policy.

Historian Gordon Goldstein writes in his recent book, Lessons in Disaster: McGeorge Bundy and the Path to War, about Mac Bundy, Kennedy’s youthful national security adviser, whom Time magazine described as having a “laser-like intellect radiated from behind his clear-rimmed glasses with an intensity as hot as his smile was cold.” Bundy was the bluest of the administration blue-bloods, coming from a family with a multi-generational Harvard University pedigree. His background of privilege morphed into confidence bordering on arrogance. Bundy, Goldstein tells the reader, was the administration’s chief proponent in Americanizing the Vietnam War, resulting in quagmire.

During the Kennedy administration, there was a budding consensus for an increased American involvement in Vietnam. Earlier hawkish sentiment appeared from the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the Cuban Missile Crisis. In 1963, months after the missile encounter, administration members Bundy, Rostow, and McNamara urged the president to fight the Communist insurgency in Vietnam. Kennedy meanwhile was entertaining an acceptable exit strategy, one that would not find interference during the 1964 elections. But Kennedy never implemented this downsizing in Vietnam. His assassination in November 1963 along with South Vietnam’s leader Ngo Dinh Diem’s assassination weeks before changed the parameters. It also brought on the new president Lyndon Johnson.

Goldstein’s analysis of Mac Bundy under the Lyndon Johnson administration is especially good. He forswears the usual story about Johnson’s humble Texas hill-country background contrasted with Kennedy’s Ivy-league appointees, whose service continued under Johnson. Instead he shows how Johnson’s domestic priorities—and his prodigious political skill in getting things done—also set the tone in the foreign policy realm. Goldstein correctly points out that Johnson—a man who saw himself constructing his presidential legacy based on Roosevelt’s New Deal—didn’t want foreign crises ruining his cherished domestic goals. Soon Johnson became dictatorial, finding amenable allies in Bundy and others who feared that the US would be seen as a “paper tiger” if Vietnam wasn’t treated forcefully. Thus Bundy became a strong proponent for the Americanization of the war.

Johnson was determined to pass the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, allowing for Vietnam War expansion. By 1964 the Eisenhower era domino theory became doctrinal in power. Bundy, Goldstein says, had “core convictions about Vietnam in 1964 [which] left him only one path to
follow. Inclined to accept the Cold War parameters of the Korean War...the only option left was military escalation.” With growing escalation, Bundy the Ivy-leaguer—whose own predilections had secured America’s Vietnam legacy—soon realized that he had been outfoxed by an outsider when Johnson ordered the increasingly skeptical Bundy to carry out his order. The president’s political skills trumped the whiz kid’s intellect. Bundy’s growing skepticism became futile.

Goldstein at times, in his Kennedy era Vietnam narrative, gives the slain president too much credit for a proposed Vietnam pullout. But he also credits other historians with providing new evidence of Kennedy’s doubts. Kennedy, according to Goldstein, would not have fallen prey to the domino theory. He concludes that Bundy did. He additionally shocks the reader when he says that if Bundy’s opinions during the Cuban Missile Crisis had been followed, it could have resulted in a nuclear war. Once again referring to the missile crisis, Goldstein takes both Kennedy and Bundy into account for the later Vietnam effort. Bundy’s hawkish sentiments came forward in contrast to his president. In contrasting Bundy with Kennedy, Goldstein’s case for Bundy and his Vietnam legacy becomes stronger.

EXPERIENCES WITH THE CIA'S 1950'S BERLIN SPY TUNNEL

By Robert T. Browne
Reviewer: T.H.E. Hill

The manuscript of "Experiences with the CIA's 1950's Berlin Spy Tunnel" by Robert T. Browne is an espionage "Who Done it?" in the most literal sense of the phrase. It is a memoir of the Berlin Tunnel and those who worked it, told by four of the actual military participants of PBJointly: Robert T. Browne (Colonel, retired), John E. Quirk, Eugene N. Kovalenko, and Russell Knapp. The approach that the authors take in "Experiences with the CIA's 1950's Berlin Spy Tunnel" complements the existing literature on the Berlin Tunnel by presenting the human face of the project. While Murphy's, Kondrashev's, & Bailey's "Battleground Berlin," Stafford's "Spies Beneath Berlin," and the declassified official history of the Tunnel provide a host of technical details on PBJointly, Colonel Browne's book focuses on giving credit where credit is due to as many of those members of the uniformed services "as possible who otherwise may have been forgotten by history."

Colonel Browne's portion of the book is the story of the Tape Processing Unit that was housed in Building T-32, a temporary World War II two-story wooden barracks located near the Lincoln Memorial on the banks of the Potomac. John E. Quirk tells the tale of life in the ELINT operation at the "Warehouse" in Rudow that provided cover for the covert collection operation being carried out via the Tunnel. Eugene N. Kovalenko relates what it was like to be a direct-support Russian linguist at the Tunnel. Russell Knapp arrived in April 1956, just before the Tunnel was discovered by the Soviets, and his story is of everyday life at the Rudow compound in the final days of the project. The delivery of the stories is enhanced by a large number of photographs of those involved.

The accent in all these tales is on the military people who worked PBJointly, and the book's goal, says Colonel Browne, is "to gain recognition for the military who worked on the project." The book's documentation of military participation in Operation Gold will be welcomed by members
of the 280th Army Security Agency (ASA) Special Operations Unit (SOU), who have long been trying unsuccessfully to prove that the military worked the collection from the Tunnel, as well as dug it.

The manuscript is in search of a publisher. The content is interesting, and certainly deserves to be published, but in terms of the publishing industry categories, it is neither fish nor fowl. It is too long for a journal article but too short for a book. Potential publishers can contact Colonel Browne at svaz1 (at) cox (dot) net. The manuscript has already been through pre-publication review.


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About the reviewer: T.H.E. Hill is the author of one of the four "insider" spy novels reviewed in "An Emerging Trend in Spy Fiction" featured in the Fall 2008 issue of The Intelligencer. Signed copies of his two books have been made available to the AFIO auction. He is the author of an article on the Berlin Tunnel at The Cold War Museum (www.coldwar.org/articles/50s/berlin_tunnel.asp).

FLYING FROM THE BLACK HOLE: THE B-52 NAVIGATOR-BOMBARDIERS OF VIETNAM
By Robert O. Harder
Publication date: June 2009
ISBN: 978-1-59114-359-8 / $34.95

U.S. Air Force navigators and bombardiers have long labored under the shadow of pilots, their contributions misunderstood or simply unknown to the public. This was especially the case with the B-52 non-pilot officer aircrews in the Vietnam War. Yet without them it would have been impossible to execute nuclear war strike plans or fly conventional bombing sorties. Here, one of their own reveals who these men were and what they did down in the “Black Hole.” It is the only work to detail the B-52 air war in Vietnam from the perspective of a navigator-bombardier.

The book begins with the war’s climactic 1972 Hanoi Christmas bombing, an operation so poorly planned that it nearly became a disaster of epic proportions. The author then offers a background history of the development of bombing techniques and the evolution of bomber aircraft, focusing on the Vietnam-era B-52. The final chapters return to the eleven-day “Christmas War” over Hanoi and Haiphong for an insider’s view of that defining battle, described by the author as the last massed, heavy bomber raid the world will ever see. Harder concludes his history with a discussion of the B-52 and its capabilities in the twenty-first century.
Robert O. Harder was an Air Force ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He served in the Strategic Air Command and flew 145 combat missions during the Vietnam War as a B-52D navigator-bombardier. He later became a commercial pilot and certificated flight instructor. Now a retired retail executive, he lives in Chicago and summers at his cabin on Big Sandy Lake, Minnesota.

COLD WAR WEBSITES OF INTEREST

If you would like to have your website posted in this section, send an email to editor@coldwar.org with a brief description for consideration.

Website for Turkey Veterans - www.merhabaturkey.com

U2 drops in for gas and a fix-up – www.mysteriesofcanada.com/Saskatchewan/u2_drops_in.htm

The Diefenbunker - www.mysteriesofcanada.com/Military/diefenbunker.htm

Berlin, a journey through time: animated aerial and satellite pictures on the anniversary of the Basic Law - www.dlr.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-968/1355_read-17603

James May in a U2 Spy Plane at 70,000ft (HQ Copyright BBC, All Rights Reserved) - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJxtggLGj4M&feature=related


USS Canon (PG-90) - www.usscanon.com.


Hoher-Bogen-Project by the Bavarian Broadcasting - www.br-online.de/bayerisches-fernsehen/abendschau/roehmild-hoher-bogen-tuerme-ID1218464616145.xml.

Flight of the SR-71 - www.fark.com/cgi/vidplayer.pl?IDLink=4464984

Alaska "Cold War Historical Context 1951-1991: Fort Richardson" -
www.usarak.army.mil/conservation/DWN_HOME.htm

Nike-Hercules Alaska - http://home.att.net/~nikealaska/INDEX.html

Cold War Cartoon, Make Mine Freedom (1948) -
www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVh75ylAUXY

Mystery structure a Navy Cold War Remnant -

Diesel Sub Commander Recalls Historic Soviet Sub Chase –
www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=45746

Wasp Brings Cold War-Era Aircraft Home

National POW/MIA Memorial in California -
www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnjOw7Kw7yw&feature=related

Who ordered the construction of the Berlin Wall –
www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,628052,00.html

Photo Gallery: When the Wall Went Up - www.spiegel.de/fotostrecke/fotostrecke-42994.html

Hungary's Peaceful Revolution: Cutting the Fence and Changing History –
www.spiegel.de/international/europe/0,1518,627632,00.html

What East Germany Was Really Like –
www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,627720,00.html

1968 Revisited: The Truth about the Gunshot that Changed Germany –
www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,627342,00.html

SPIEGEL 360: 20 Years After the Wall -
www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,k-7540,00.html

Films and videotapes maintained at the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency, on POWs, torture, interrogation, escape and evasion, kidnapping, etc. -

Declassified Ike documents show policy challenges
“THE END”

Thank you for your interest in The Cold War Times and support of The Cold War Museum.

Comments, questions, suggestions, or ideas on The Cold War Times can be sent to editor@coldwar.org.

Translators needed to translate The Cold War Times and sections of The Cold War Museum’s webpage into other languages. If you can assist with this request, please email editor@coldwar.org.

If you would like to submit an article, reunion notice, event notice, or Cold War research inquiry, send an email to editor@coldwar.org. If you would like to sponsor future issues of The Cold War Times, send an email to editor@coldwar.org. If you would like to help establish a Museum Chapter in your State or Country, please email editor@coldwar.org.

If you actually just scrolled down to the bottom of the page to see “The End,” send an email to editor@coldwar.org and let me know.

Thank you for your continued support.

Francis Gary Powers, Jr.
Founder, The Cold War Museum