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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 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...
Over the past decade, the Cold War Museum has made great strides in honoring Cold War veterans and preserving Cold War history. I am pleased to report that The Cold War Museum has signed a lease with Vint Hill EDA for use of 4000 sq ft of storage and exhibit space 40 miles from Washington, DC. Vint Hill EDA and the Fauquier County Industrial Development Authority will contribute a total of $100,000 towards building restoration and provide 9-months of free rent. However, we need to raise $35,000 within the next few months in order to be within budget for the museum build out. Now is the time I truly need your help and support to make sure that we are debt free when we open our new facility. No donation is too small or too large.

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 Vint Hill site is ready. The mobile exhibit on the U-2 Incident, the “Spies of Washington Tour,” and related educational activities continue to generate interest and support. The Virginia Historical Society (www.vahistorical.org) in Richmond, Virginia will host the exhibit January through May 2010. The EAA Museum (www.eaa.org) in Oshkosh, WI will host the exhibit between June and August 2010. 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.

The Cold War Museum has implemented a yearlong fundraiser. When you dine at any Glory Days Grill, the restaurant will contribute 10% of your total food purchases to The Cold War Museum. Bring your neighbors, friends, and relatives, because the 10% applies to the total food bill. Ask your server for a copy of your check (not credit card receipt) and mail it to the museum.

The Cold War Museum continues to expand its efforts through the creation of Museum Chapters staffed by volunteers. Visit www.coldwar.org/museum/museum_chapters.html for additional information. The Cold War Museum recently stepped into the “social networking age” and created The Facebook Cold War Museum Group (FBCWMG). We have also decided to launch a CWM www.vkontakte.ru initiative. Vkontakte is the Russian equivalent of Facebook and is the thirtieth most visited site on the internet according to Alexa - The Web Information Company.

May 1, 2010 will mark the 50th Anniversary of the U-2 Incident. Coin Force has produced a limited edition of 300 Cold War Museum Challenge Coins to commemorate this Anniversary. Coins are $19.95 each, which includes
shipping. 100% of the proceeds go to The Cold War Museum. Order now, while supplies last. Please email gpowersjr@coldwar.org to place an order.

Visit www.garypowers.com to view my online bio and 50th Anniversary related lectures and events.

Please consider a 2010 contribution. You can now support The Cold War Museum on EBay (http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=33316). 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. For more information, or to subscribe to our quarterly newsletter list, please visit www.coldwar.org. Together we can make this vision a reality.

Thank you for your support.

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THE COLD WAR MUSEUM - BERLIN
By Baerbel E. Simon – German Affairs
Photos: Horst Simon, Berlin Chapter

Dear Friends and Supporters of The Cold War Museum – Berlin

The Berlin local office wishes all the friends and supporters a peaceful and prosperous New Year. Thank you all very much for the many Christmas and New Year’s greetings. I am glad to offer the following report on the activities and development of the Berlin Branch of the Cold War Museum. Special thanks goes to Mr. Kevon Flecknor, British Liaison of The Cold War Museum – Berlin-, he did a great job, Kevin keep up you good job!

The year 2009 was very successful for the Berlin Branch We made significant progress, the new mobile exhibition of the Berlin Branch – The First Battle of the Cold War – The Berlin Airlift – opened on May 20th 2009 at Kettering Library in the United Kingdom.

We returned to the United Kingdom on the 24th of September 2009. The Secretary of State had invited us to the Commemoration of the End of the Berlin Airlift Operation which was held at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire on 26th September. The mobile Berlin Airlift Exhibition was also exhibited at the conference held for senior school students by the British Berlin Airlift Association in Stafford. I wish express my gratitude to all who made this event possible. We shared a very impressive and moving ceremony with the Veterans, their friends and families.

A special thank you goes to Mrs. Sue Campbell and Mr. Bill Campbell for organizing and arranging the event. Both did a great job.
In addition, the Cold War Museum Berlin Branch presented the mobile Berlin Airlift Exhibition from the 17th to 19th November 2009 at: Churchill College, Cambridge at the College’s conference entitled “The Cold War and its Legacy” Special thanks goes to Mr. Allen Packwood, Director of the Archive and his staff.

2009 marked the 60th Anniversary of the Berlin Airlift, I had the privilege of delivering three talks, with Power Point presentation about the Berlin Airlift in the USA, at Nicholls State University, Louisiana, at the EAA Air show, Oshkosh, Wisconsin and at the Rotary Club, Des Plaines, Illinois.

2009/2010 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution and Reunification of Germany. I am very pleased to announce that the Cold War Museum – Berlin received a federal grant for the new project for 2010, "Als Alles begann - Die Berliner Mauer".

The grant was supported by the "Stiftung Arbeitung der SED Diktatur" (A Government-funded organization devoted to the examination and reappraisal of the Communist dictatorship in East Germany.)

www.stiftung-aufarbeitung.de

Photo by Herbert Maschke

I am deeply honored; this is a great appreciation of our past and future work.

The opening of the Exhibition will take place in June 2010 at the Memorial Site Bunker Harnekop Lindenallee 1, 15345 Harnekop

Christmas 1961 with the Iron Curtain
By Baerbel E. Simon

In August 1961, Berlin was dramatically divided. Between East Berlin and West Berlin was built the Berlin Wall. Families were split, homes were destroyed, and dreams of free lives were gone. But how was the Christmas Eve 1961 in Berlin?

In December 1961 John F. Kennedy, the President of the United States of America, sent the people of West Berlin an emotional message: “No wall can keep out this light.” Was that true? How about the people in East Berlin? No one knew what might happen. No one could pass through the wall.
All crossing points in Berlin were closed. The situation was very difficult, especially when children and parents were split. Sadness, loneliness and fear - this was Christmas 1961 with the Iron Curtain in Germany. This was Christmas for more than 28 years.

Once upon a time in Berlin - Fall of the Wall
By Bill Halpin

My wife and I attended the 20th Anniversary Fall of the Wall Party at the German Embassy in Washington on Saturday, 7 Nov. It was a great time to remember those important days and to reminisce with colleagues who served in West Berlin during those tumultuous days leading to 9 November 1989.

We arrived in West Berlin the week of the La Belle Disco bombing, a year after my colleague in earlier assignments, "Nick" Nicholson, was gunned down by an over-eager Soviet soldier. Between spring 1986 and November 1989, there were many exciting and spectacular events in Berlin. Among them were Berlin’s year-long 750th birthday party; President Reagan’s “tear down this wall” speech, the demise of Rudolph Hess, and the annual Allies Day Parades. There were tragedies as well – Pan Am 103, numerous terror attempts to blow up the US duty train, and many tragic failed escape attempts from the Soviet Sector. I recall the last successful escape from East Berlin in the early morning hours on 7 November 1989. East German Border Command troops fired at the escapee and he was lucky to make it out alive -- risking his life just two days prior to the opening.

A little know fact about all this follows: During the Easter 1988 weekend, the grounds of the Reichstag hosted a two or three day rock concert. The crowds were enormous and naturally, young East Germans gathered near the wall to listen. Notes attached to balloons were sent across until the Vopos cleared the "no-go zone" on the East side. Protests followed and soon thereafter East Berlin officials appeased the protesters with promises of their own rock concerts.

Well, the first (and as far as I know only) concert was scheduled for the grounds of the Weissensee Radrennbahn in mid-June 1988. My teenage daughters wanted to go, so my wife and I drove into East Berlin in a Volvo station wagon filled with five teenagers. The crowd was estimated to be 350,000. I was amazed by the display of United States symbolism -- small flags, shirts, hats, etc., all displaying the American "red, white and blue." It reminded me of Washington, D.C. on any 4 July! These symbols were illegal in the East and the Volks Polizei
arrested young men and women in great numbers. However, they couldn't make a dent in that incredible American display. The performer that evening was none other than, the Boss -- Bruce Springsteen. When he sang his signature song Born in the U.S.A., the crowd went absolutely wild. I knew then and there that the East German government could not possibly put the genie back into the bottle.

The following Thursday morning I attended the joint US Mission/US Command staff meeting. I normally kicked-off these meetings with a situational update. On that day, I told the assembled group "the Cold War is over, the wall will fall within 18 months and not a shot will be fired." When I supported my forecast with a description of the Springsteen concert, the State Department types snickered and my Military colleagues wondered if I’d gotten into the Irish whiskey. Later, I reiterated my prediction in a meeting with Secretary of the Army, John Marsh and his Special Assistant, Bob Winchester.

The Wall fell 17 months later. On that evening, I was watching the press conference in East Berlin as Günter Schabowski fumbled through his notes for answers to the pressing questions. My wife climbed onto the wall at the Brandenburg Gate and cheered the fall of East Bloc communism along with tens of thousands of her "closest friends” ... the rest is history.

**When the Berlin Wall still stood, the Gate stood alone and isolated.**
By Baerbel Simon

The Brandenburg Gate, Berlin’s most famous landmark, is over 200 years old. Until 1989 it symbolized the division of Berlin and Germany; today it is a national symbol of unity.

On December 1989, thousands of people spilled on to the city's streets cheering in the pouring rain to watch the historic ceremony which effectively ends the division of East and West Germany.

East German army engineers worked through the night to tunnel through one of two crossing points in the gate, which stands in the "no man's land" on the eastern side of the Berlin Wall. West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl walked through to be greeted by Hans Modrow, the East German Prime Minister.

Both leaders, flanked by their mayors, shook hands in a moment which signalled the first time a West German leader has officially entered East Berlin.

Today it is once again integrated into the recently designed Pariser Platz. Next to the gate stand the House Liebermann and House Sommer. Josef Paul Kleihues designed them to resemble the buildings by Stüler that previously stood at the site before they were destroyed in the war.

On the north side of the plaza there are two other impressive buildings: the Dresdner Bank and the French embassy (de Portzamparc). The
south side was developed by the DG Bank (Gehry) and the Academy of Arts (Behnisch). The luxury Adlon Hotel, which has been rebuilt on its original site, is also a Berlin highlight.

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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THE COLD WAR MUSEUM – NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATES (NIS)  
By J. Smart

The Cold War Museum - NIS continues to progress. Anyone with information regarding parties in Russia and the surrounding independent states that may be interested in working with CWM-NIS, should contact Jason at jasonjaysmart@gmail.com.

The Cold War Museum's Facebook initiative currently has 665 members. Please ask your friends and family members to join (its free!) and to help in making it a better resource for Cold War enthusiasts.

FEATURED ARTICLES

CHARITABLE GIVING IS FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE TOO

(Editor’s Note: If you would like to make a donation to The Cold War Museum, please let me know. Thanks, FGPjr)

When famous celebrities or business people announce that they’re giving large sums of money to charitable or other worthwhile causes, it usually makes headlines on television and in the newspaper. But it’s important to remember that the massive donations you read about aren’t the only way to help out. While you may not have billions to give to a charitable foundation, you may still be interested in charitable giving. Here are some ways you can make charitable donations that can benefit those in need, and also give you the added benefit of helping to reduce your taxes.

Direct gifts of appreciated securities. This method conserves the donor’s cash while helping to avoid capital-gains tax on the sale of the appreciated security. You may deduct the market value of the securities (determined at the time of the gift) on your current-year tax return. Direct gifts of life insurance. You may wish to transfer a life insurance policy to an organization if the life insurance coverage is no longer required. Transferring the policy to an organization
may provide benefits for both you and the organization. If the policy has a cash value, the organization may be able to borrow funds from the policy and you may be entitled to an income-tax deduction in the amount of the policy’s value.

Charitable remainder trust. This technique lets you make a charitable contribution of assets (property or securities) into a trust in which they can be sold without generating capital-gains tax. You may receive an income stream from the trust during your lifetime and receive a current income-tax deduction based on the present value of the future benefit to an organization. The organization receives the assets in the trust, usually at the death of the donor.

Charitable lead trust. This type of trust is the opposite of a charitable remainder trust. An income stream is provided to the charity, while you transfer the remaining interest to your family. A charitable lead trust does not generally entitle the donor to an income-tax deduction in the year the trust is established. However, any income generated by the donated assets will be reported by the trust and not the donor. The trust is then entitled to a charitable deduction for any income it pays out to the charity. Unlike a charitable remainder trust, a charitable lead trust does not help you avoid capital-gains tax. The benefit of the trust is in the ability to give the assets to heirs at a substantially discounted value.

Charitable gift annuities. In this arrangement, the organization promises to pay the donor a constant income stream — an annuity — in exchange for a charitable gift. A portion of the value of the gifted assets is tax deductible to the donor.

Pooled income funds. A charitable nonprofit organization can create and maintain a pooled income fund consisting of assets contributed by many different donors. An organization pays the net income the fund earns to the various donors in proportion to their respective interests in the fund. The income depends on the fund’s performance and is taxable to donors.

Private charitable foundations, supporting organizations and community foundations. Creating a foundation lets your family control the allocation and investment of contributions made to an organization. The entire contribution must be used for the foundation’s charitable purposes. You may structure a private foundation as a corporation, managed by a board of directors, or as a trust, managed by trustees.

Remember, you don’t have to be rich and famous to initiate a charitable-giving strategy. Your Financial Advisor can help you choose the strategy that best suits your individual or family circumstances. As Wells Fargo Advisors does not provide legal or tax advice, we recommend consulting with a legal / tax advisor before making any investment decisions which could have legal / tax ramifications.

This article was written by Wells Fargo Advisors and provided courtesy of:

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AN OVERLOOK OF THE AIR DEFENSE OF GREAT BRITAIN: 1946-1985
By Raul Colon (rcolonfrias@yahoo.com)

With the end of World War II, there were a sense in most political and society circles inside Great Britain that the country could gradually scale down its high military alert status. Unfortunately for them, the Berlin crisis of 1948 and the Korean War just two years later, rekindle in the country the spectrum of Hitler’s Blitz of 1940. As a direct result of those two crises, the Royal Air Force (RAF) Fighter Command strength remained about the same levels of WW II thought much of the 1950s. Fighter Command achieved its pick in total air assets in 1957. Total inventory that summer topped 600 operational fighters augmented by a powerful network of airfields and radar arrays. That year also marked a major policy shift inside the Ministry of Defense. This “shift” would drain Great Britain of its air defense independency in a couple of decades.

In the autumn of 1957, policymakers began evaluation the Soviet Union’s nuclear missile capacity and the threat it actually represent to the U.K. At the time, the United States enjoyed an overwhelming nuclear deterrence force. This overwhelming arsenal will lead Britain’s leaders to adopt a new policy. A policy referred to as Trip-Wire. As part of the policy review, it was decided that from 1957 onward, the biggest threat facing Britain was the vulnerability of its nuclear delivery force: the newly developed V-bomber fleet, to the USSR’s ever increasing nuclear ballistic missile force. It was suggested that a fighter shield, augmented by a powerful detection network ringing the V-bomber’s bases could provide the force enough time to take-off and to commence its retaliatory profile. The “tripe-wire” strategy was coupled with Britain’s ability to deliver a massive nuclear strike deep inside the USSR. It was because of Britain’s leaders strong believes in trip-wire that Fighter Command did not proceed with many advance research and development projects. It also did not saw the necessity to invest high amounts of money into fighter concepts and/or procurement of new systems. But as the Soviet’s ballistic missile capacity grew, both policies began to show their flaws. Because of the projected parity between American and Soviet nuclear arsenals, leaders in the UK began to understand that the next conflict will most likely be fought on a mix (conventional and nuclear) environment. Britain’s whole defense posture will now be asked to operate in a non-nuclear environment as well as an atomic one. This change in position destroyed the operating assumption of the tripe-wire strategy and, to a lesser extend, that of massive retaliation.
In the mid 1960s it was recognized by the MoD that a Soviet conventional air threat was larger than their nuclear one. Unfortunately for Britain, years of following “tripe-wire” have reduced its operational air defense structure to a bear minimum. It was not just a matter of the numbers of available airplanes it was also the matter of the shortness of men and material. Years of budgetary constraints and of neglecting available systems left Britain’s once powerful radar and control network in a state of flux. Adding to this problem was the lack of operational airfields. By the end of 1945, the UK possessed one airfield per every twenty kilometers. A ratio that held true for most of the 1950s. But by the late 1960s there were only a handful of them. Most of the decommissioned airfields were handed over to municipalities for land development.

The arrival of the new air-deployed stand-off weapon platforms in the early seventies forced air defenses specialist to think on a wider band range. Air defenses operational ranges were now pushed out hundreds of kilometers in order to engage the launching aircraft in time. By now the British were assigned by the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (SACLANT) and Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) a much wider air defense sector. Beside the Home Islands sector, the UK was now responsible for the vital Easter Atlantic area which extend from the Channel to the North Norwegian Sea in the north and out very nearly to the coast of Iceland in the west. This was a tall order for any country to assume. If NATO’s fears were ever to be realized then Britain’s air resources in the mid-seventies would prove inadequate for the task because as a rearward base for SACEUR and a forward base for SACANT, roles that were assigned to England because of its geographical position rather than by air defense strategies, they would be a prime target for the numerical superior Soviet Red Air Force.

SACLANT called for a British operational profile that beside air defense included anti-submarine warfare and air patrols in support of maritime shipping operations in the Eastern Atlantic and Channel areas. SACLANT’s command also viewed the UK as its home base for mounting flack support for its strike fleet in case it needed to fight its way against the Soviet sea and air assets deployed on the North Norwegian Sea. The other command, SACEUR planned to use the UK as a mounting base for much of the deeper air penetration effort just inside the forward edge of the Soviet’s battle sector in Continental Europe. In the case of war, the UK bases would have also served as the “world” largest air bridge. Much as it happened during World War II, Great Britain would act as a gigantic aircraft carrier. Heavy lift aircrafts and jumbo commercial planes carrying thousand of troops and supplies would make the UK its staging area before deployment to the Continent. It was in this area where the British Air Defense Commander asserted its independence, because it was his Command that was assigned the task of defending the air bridge.

Thank God war never erupted in the mid to late 1960s because the RAF was woefully unprepared for it. Years of attrition and budgetary constraints have left the RAF Fighter Command a “shell of its former self”. Gone was the force that once could blank most of the sky above Europe. But the situation began to improve in the mid 1970s. By the fall of 1976, the RAF as a whole was beginning to rise from the ashes. That same year the RAF added two additional air defense squadrons fitted with upgraded Lighting interceptors. The RAF was also in the process of making the F-4 Phantoms the backbone of its air defense component. It had re-deployed the vaunted Bloodhound surface-to-air missile system (SAM) to the south east corner of the country for low level protection. Riper SAMs were deployed to the country’s northern
areas to guard the vital bomber bases. If the present looked good to the RAF’s top brass, the future was looking even better. In the pipelines laid the much anticipated Tornado air superior platform which was schedule to replace the Phantom by the mid 1980s. The force was also expecting delivery of its coveted Nimrod Airborne Early Warning aircraft. Major improvements were also performed to the extremely important radar and communication network. The RAF was also planning the deployment of a new and flexible jamming resisting data link connecting the United Kingdom Air Defense Ground Environment (UKADGE) with fighter base control centers and early detection platforms. UKADGE was a control and communication interface system that worked through a mutually supporting hardened control centers and accepted digitized data from all sensors (ground, early warning stations, sea bases sensors and airborne radar platforms) British, French and NATO. The system gave Air Defense Commander an immediate profile of the air threat and resources available to counter it.

The mid 1970s also produce another, equally important, development; a shift in the political environment in Great Britain. The massive Soviet expansion of the early 1970s brought the threat of conventional destruction to the UK’s doorstep. In this climate, the RAF was able to find many influential allies inside the House of Commons who were able to push forward a very ambitious air expansion program. Of course, any major rearmament effort not only needs monetary support but a more boarder production base that not only include production lines, but also the training of thousand of skill workers and their support facilities. Nevertheless, rearmament began in the late 1970s at a frantic pace. By the summer of 1985 delivery of Tornado units were considerable thanks to the efforts of around-the-clock production lines. That same year, the Nimrod began entering front line service replacing the aged Shackleton (AEW). New SAM batteries were deployed to every operational airfield. New systems, such as the EUROSAM, a joint British-French venture, were also in the process of being incorporated into the RAF’s air defense structure. For air-to-air refueling, the RAF began to utilize the recently converted V-10 transport aircraft as well as a small number of converted Boeing jets.

Despite these and other measures taken by the RAF in during the first half of the 1980s, the force was still short of the skilled manpower needed to run its new and sophisticated systems. As the seventies gave way to the eighties, more and more RAF pilots and specialized ground personnel began to emigrate into the more profitable private sector. Despite several pay increased, such as the one of 1978, RAF retention rates began decrease dramatically. By the middle of the decade, turnover rates in the RAF began to stabilize and, in some areas (ground support personnel) it actually stopped. It’s safe to say that by 1985 the RAF’s operational capabilities were back to its immediate post WW II levels. Total number of available aircraft by 1985 fluctuated between 850 and 1,100 (including the Royal Navy) with more (around 200) on reserve alter status. Its once vaunted radar detection system was again one of the world’s top technological marvels and its active and reserve manpower was increasing in ratio with the country’s population for the first time in three decades. Not small feats considering the turmoil of the 1960s and 70s.

**Sources:**
The Encyclopedia of 20th Century Air Warfare, Editor Chris Bishop, Amber Books 2001
How to Make War, James F. Dunnigan, HarperCollins Books 1993
Major Doug Soifer began to trim out the Astro-Inertial Navigation System control display while at the same time he adjusted the Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) displays. It was the fifth hour of a very long, non-stop fly from the Kadena Air Force Base, located on the strategically important Island of Okinawa, to one of the more congestive areas of the world: the Persian Gulf.

In the morning of September 24 1980, what was until that point, a scrimmage border conflict between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq, erupted in a full-scaled war when thousand of Iraqi ground troops, supported by columns of armor attacked the world’s largest oil refinery at Abadan. After setting the installation ablaze, the invading force plunged quickly over the port of Khorramshahr, advancing nearly fifteen miles inside Iranian territory. Despite the early success, the Iraqi attack boggled down. An old-type of warfare descended over the Arabian sands. A systematic stalemate with both sides digging and fighting a prolong trench war.

From the outset, both superpowers un-officially decided to keep their ‘hands’ out of the area. But the Regan Administration was worried that Iran would use its military assets to hit Iraq’s most precious and the west most coveted resource: oil.

By the mid 1980s, the Iranian Air Force was conducting ever more daring raids inside Iraqi airspace. Their targets were the vital oil pumping stations. At the same time, Iraqi jets were pounding Iranian oil terminals on Kharg Island. The ‘oil’ conflict escalated when on May 18th 1987, two Iraqi F-1 Mirage carrying the deadly Exocet AM-39 anti-ship missile, attacked two frigates outside the coast of Bahrain. One of the ships was the USS Stark. Twenty eight sailors died that morning. As a direct result, President Ronald Regan ordered the Central Intelligence Agency, as well as other intelligence services, to step up surveillance activities inside Persia.

As Soifer turned the SAR on, fellow Major Mike Smith, pilot of serial number ‘967’, a sample Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird; began to turn the aircraft towards its pre-programmed objective. The 967 had experienced a heavy cloud cover level ever since its departure from Kadena. On top of the target area, Soifer activated the Blackbird’s advance Technical Objective Cameras and its Optical Bar Panoramic Camera. Sizzling through the Arabian sky, 967 took picture of the entire Iraqi-Iranian border, even their outlying Islands.

The eleven and a half mission involved two midair refueling stops on the flight’s outgoing leg, and three additional ones on its return. Two hours behind serial number 967 was No. 975, another Blackbird flown by the veteran crew of Majors Ed Yeilding (pilot) and Curt Osterheld (reconnaissance officer). As it customary at the time, two SR-71s would be on route profile for each operational sortie. It was a redundancy tactic implemented during the early days of the Blackbird mission program.

When 967 reached its second outbound refueling stop, a fully loaded KC-10 tanker, Smith called Yeilding’s plane, which trailed Smith’s by two hours, and told him that because the flight was proceeding according to plans, his ‘services that day would not be needed’. Blackbird number 967 landed at Kadena eleven hours and twelve minutes after its departure.
A month later, August 9th, Major Terry Pappas and John Manzi took off from Okinawa aboard ‘Bird number 975 in route to the Persian Gulf. After clearing the first tanker leg, Pappas accelerated its powerful aircraft into the heart of Southeast Asia, then, further south near the edge of India airspace. Near the collective area, Pappas began to suffer temporarily blindness. A condition associated with the inhaling of high quantities of purified oxygen. “My tears help me out. I could hardly manage the instrument panel. I thought of removing my visor, but the idea of full decompression changed my mind”, Pappas later stated. After a brief, but potentially, deadly problem, Pappas and Manzi were able to resume the sortie, after which they landed without incident.

By late August, data collected by SR-71s penetration flights confirmed that Iran had acquired and was prepare to deploy Chinese-built Silkworm HY-2 anti-shipping missiles. The Silkworm was a radar guided platform capable of striking targets within a range of 60 nautical miles. The weapon became ‘hot’ in September, when Iranian ground personnel commenced a bombardment of the Al Faw peninsula near Kuwait’s important oil facilities. The initial strike was a complete failure. None of the twenty five fired HY-2 hit their targets.

Unabated, the Iranians kept launching the Silkworms, finally hitting a target. On October 22nd, in a prelude of what would come, an HY-2 struck a Kuwaiti oil transport facility. Because of precise photo imaging, the United States were able to prognosticate from where the Silkworms would be fire. This information gave the defenders an opportunity to counter the treat. Decoys and electronic countermeasure systems were utilized along all the Kuwaiti ‘black gold’ processing plants.

The last Blackbird sortie was took off in the spring of 1988. With Major Dan House at the control and Blair Bozek in the rear seat, SR-71 number 974 departed Kadena early in the morning April 30th. The 11-hour mission went smoothly. The film gather by 974 was pivotal to the US Navy’s assets operating in the region, as well as to the Iraqis who were beginning to target Silkworm batteries with surprisingly accuracy.

By itself, the SR-71 did not ended the war. But the Blackbird gave the Americans, and to some extend, the Iraqis, an invaluable tool from which to work with.

A COLD WAR GHOST IN THE NEVADA DESERT
by Thomas J. Straka and Robert H. Wynn

It is now possible for the general public to visit the test site via a monthly tour that leaves from Las Vegas. It is a limited opportunity to view remnants of America’s atomic testing program, but there is a place to stand at ground zero of an underground atomic test that does not have restricted access.

In the mid 1960’s underground atomic bomb tests on the Nevada Test Site were producing too many shock waves (both physical and emotional) in Las Vegas and the military was forced to consider new test locations. Project Faultless involved a supplemental atomic bomb underground test site located between Ely and Tonopah, Nevada chosen for what was expected to be
geologically stable rock that would produce no faults (i.e., faultless). A six-foot diameter shaft was drilled into the bedrock and a one megaton thermonuclear device (67 times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb) was lowered about 3,200 feet below the Nevada desert. The explosion took place on January 19, 1968 with the purpose of testing the geologic stability of the site. Today is ground zero is a concrete-filled steel casing. Before the detonation the top of the steel casing was at ground level; the eight foot top section of the casing that shows today is due to ground subsidence from the test.

(Photograph: Ground zero and the steel casing)

The site proved to be anything but faultless! The ground swelled 15 feet up and the collapse created two parallel faults nearly a mile apart. Windows were broken at the White Pine High School in Ely, 87 miles away. The end result was a 340-acre graben (a graben is earth bounded by faults) that was ten feet below the rest of the desert. In addition there was minor subsidence crater at ground zero. The site had to be abandoned, but can be safety and easily accessed today without having to ride for several hours on a tour bus.

(Photograph: The scarp or side of the graben where the ground has subsided)

(Photograph: The steel casing has a plaque that details the history of the site)

How to get there? About half way between Ely and Tonopah on US 6 is a Bureau of Land Management sign for the Lunar Crater (this road is on the state highway map). Two and a half miles west (towards Tonopah) of the BLM sign is a road to the right marked Moores Station. Take this well-maintained gravel road for 12.5 miles to an intersection with a stop sign. Continue on straight for another 1.5 miles. There is no sign, but the steel casing is clearly visible if you look hard (remember it is in a crater). The edge of the graben is also easily discerned if you look into the distance.
If you have ever studied colonial America, then you might know something about the minute men. They were specially trained militiamen that were continually on alert. If a colony was attacked by Indians or one of Britain’s European enemies, the minute men were first responders. They would defend the colony while the regular militia prepared for battle. Of course by the twentieth century, America’s cities were no longer threatened by Indians, or soldiers from Europe. But a new danger had emerged that proved far more devastating, calling for a “Minuteman” of a different order.

The nuclear age began with the end of World War II. The first atom bombs were used by the United States. Two were dropped over Japan, and two Japanese cities disappeared from the globe. Soviet Russia coveted this destructive technology, and through a network of spies, stole the secret to the atom bomb.

While the Cold War did not officially begin until after World War II, Soviet Russia had been marked as an outlaw state since its inception for inciting communist revolutions among democratic nations. Its alliance with the United States and Britain against Nazi Germany was merely circumstantial. Originally, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin had signed a non-aggression pact with Hitler, clearing the way for German armies to invade Poland. But the Germans broke that pact, attacked Russia, and forced the Soviets into the war as an Allied Nation. Aside from that necessary alliance, Soviet Russia was never a friend to democratic nations.

When that war ended, the Cold War was beginning. In deciding the fate of the defeated nations, Stalin was not cooperative. Rather than rehabilitate and restore them to the world community, he brought the conquered nations on his border under Soviet domination, to use as a “buffer zone” between Russia and Western Europe. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill called that an “Iron Curtain.” Soviet promotion of global communism, and its involvement in China and North Korea was perceived as a threat to democracy. All of this led into the Cold War. But when the Soviets detonated their own atom bomb, the arms race began.

Modern missile technology was a contribution of the Germans, who utilized rocket propelled explosives toward the end of World War II. While the U.S. pursued missile development for improving range and accuracy, airplanes were still the most accurate and effective way to deliver bombs at that time. Planes were on hand and could be in the air within minutes. Missiles, on the other hand, were costly in production as well as maintenance. They were also cumbersome. Stored horizontally, they had to be elevated into a vertical position for lift-off. The highly volatile liquid fuel had to be stored separately, and additional time was needed for fueling. The launch process alone could take several hours. Needless to say, the missile program in the U.S. was not the highest of priorities. But that was about to change.

On October 4th, 1957 the Soviet Union launched the world’s first satellite into orbit. While the “Sputnik” boasted Russian superiority in space technology, U.S. military scientists had other concerns. A rocket that could propel an object outside the earth’s atmosphere could also send a nuclear warhead across the globe.
The Vanguard TV3 was to be America’s answer to the Sputnik. On December 6th, 1957, in a nationally televised event, the rocket propelled satellite barely left the launch pad before it fell over and burst into flames. The press labeled it, “kaputnik.” One Soviet scientist stated that “Americans design better automobile taillfins, but we design the best intercontinental ballistic missiles and earth satellites.” Soviet officials were also pleased to announce that missiles were coming out of their factories “like sausages.” This led to a perceived “missile gap,” prompting the U.S. to triple the funding for missile research.

Air Force scientists had already been researching ways to improve their missile systems, and were experimenting with solid fuel. Now, with more funding and elevated priority, they were quick to develop a weapon that was propelled by solid fuel. Initially labeled “Weapon System Q,” it was approved for production in February 1958. On February 28th, the New York Times informed the world that the Air Force was going to produce a new missile. It was called the Minuteman.

The advantages of the Minuteman were tremendous. Its solid fuel eliminated the need for the massive tanks required by liquid fueled missiles. Solid fuel was light and compact. A fully fueled Minuteman missile stood about one-fourth the size and weight of its liquid fueled predecessors, facilitating a quicker launch and greater distance. Simple in design, it required far less maintenance. Cost was low, and it could be manufactured both quickly and in mass. Smaller missiles also meant smaller launch facilities, which could be built more quickly and at less expense. But the greatest advantage of the Minuteman was that it could be stored fully fueled. Standing upright in an underground silo, this missile was ready to launch at the push of a button, or more accurately, at the turn of a key.

On October 22, 1962, the first flight of ten Minuteman missiles was activated and placed on alert. John F. Kennedy was President then, and he had a problem… the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The Soviet Union had been secretly installing nuclear missile bases in Cuba. At that time, nearly all of America’s early warning systems were monitoring the north, where a Soviet missile attack would most likely occur. Now these guys were sneaking around behind our backs. When Kennedy learned of this, he ordered a naval blockade to keep Soviet ships from getting there.

On the same day that the first Minuteman missiles were placed on alert, the President made the following public statement: “It shall be the policy of this nation to regard any nuclear missile launched from Cuba against any nation in the Western Hemisphere as an attack on the United States, requiring a full retaliatory response upon the Soviet Union.” People in those days thought we were about to have a nuclear war. But the presence of an equal or greater ability to cause damage to the enemy provided the President a measure of confidence (and maybe a measure of fear to the Soviets), and an agreement was reached to remove the missiles from Cuba.

Originally, the philosophy of nuclear war was based on the concept of “first strike” capabilities. It was thought that the nation that fired first would win, because the target nation would have no time to retaliate. For that reason, the U.S. kept planes loaded with nuclear warheads in the air at all times in case the Soviets ever fired. Solid fuel missiles brought an end to that philosophy, and
this new capacity for a “second strike” introduced a different way of understanding nuclear war. It was called “MAD,” an acronym meaning “mutually assured destruction.”

For thirty years of the Cold War this was the philosophy that kept 1000 Minuteman missiles on alert across the Great Plains. Unlike the minute men of the colonial days who were expected to confront enemy forces in battle, the purpose of this Minuteman was one of deterrence. In the understanding of the United States military, it served to deter the Soviets from a nuclear attack. The Cold War ended peacefully. That could be an indicator that it worked.

Since the Cold War, the U.S. still maintains a force of 450 Minuteman III missiles. As other nations begin to acquire nuclear capabilities, there still remains the danger of a nuclear attack. With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rise of rogue nations and terrorist threats, “MAD” can no longer be the governing philosophy for deterrence. The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) proposed by President Reagan in 1983 set the groundwork for the anti-ballistic missile systems currently in operation today. Maybe someday, newer technologies will render even the idea of nuclear war obsolete. Time will tell.

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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)
WINNING THE COLD WAR: OVERCOMING THE SOVIET SUBMARINE THREAT
By M. Dick Van Orden, Rear Admiral (Retired), United States Navy
Former Chief of Naval Research

The United States nearly lost World War II in Europe because of the aggressive German U-Boat fleet. With technologies developed during the early 1940s and successfully applied in the later stages of the war, however, the Allied forces were able to defeat the German submarine threat; at war’s end the Allies had complete control of the seas. In the period following WWII, there was no longer a submarine threat, so our victorious forces neglected nearly all advanced antisubmarine warfare (ASW) technology and continued to use the equipment and tactics that had defeated the German submarines.

In the early 1960s the Soviet Union, recognizing the near-winning role German submarines had played in World War II, expanded its submarine force, beginning with the most modern of the U-boats taken from Germany as spoils of war. In addition, the Soviets developed new classes of missile-carrying submarines capable of operating in the western Atlantic and along the East Coast of the United States. At about the same time, they started development of nuclear-powered submarines. Their early submarines and missiles were not very capable, but they were soon augmented with newly-developed nuclear submarines and long-range ballistic missiles. Subsequently, their operational capability—using ballistic missiles and nuclear submarines—became a serious threat to the United States. The U.S. Navy, lulled into peacetime routines and relying on outdated technology and tactics, was initially unable to counter the Soviet threat of attack from the sea that faced the nation. The U.S. Navy could not reliably detect, localize, and track sophisticated Soviet submarines in the mid- to late-1960s. The Cold War had become a reality, but the U.S. Navy, responsible for countering maritime threats to the U.S., was playing catch-up.

Soon, however, an excellent passive detection system, intended for anti-submarine warfare, was completing early stages of development by the Navy and initial installations were being deployed off the coasts of the U.S. This system was initially known by several names, but finally officially became SOSUS (SOund Surveillance System). The equipment was installed and maintained for the Navy by AT&T. The science was performed by Bell Laboratories and offshore operations were handled by Western Electric—both were subsidiaries of AT&T. Information on development and deployment of this system was extremely sensitive and known to relatively few people—probably no more than a few hundred of the Navy’s several hundred thousand military and civilians.

Many of the Navy’s top operational Admirals became aware of the system and its intended use for detection and tracking of Soviet submarines, but, because of the high security attached to SOSUS, its early (unproven) developmental stage, the importance of keeping it closely-held, and the dangers of inadvertent disclosures, they did not seek full details of its planned operations. Some senior Navy officials, both military and civilian, knowing a few rudiments of the system, were curious about its capabilities, but unless they had a “need to know” they refrained from delving deeply into the details. This was a dangerous time during the Cold War, and everyone was careful to keep new developments—particularly those involving anti-submarine warfare—from becoming known to large numbers of people.
In the beginning, SOSUS had two defining characteristics: (1) it was very expensive to build, install, and maintain, and (2) it didn’t work very well much of the time. The reasons why it didn’t work well were largely a result of operating conditions. The Soviet submarines at that early stage were diesel-electric propelled, so they were compelled to operate on the sea surface (or use their snorkels) to run their oxygen-dependent diesel engines and re-charge their propulsion batteries. Unfortunately, their acoustic signatures resembled those of many other surface ships with diesel engines. There was nothing to tag them as submarines, and they were lost in a very large crowd. When submerged and on electric power (batteries) they were extremely quiet. Their acoustic signatures were difficult to pick up and track. They enjoyed an operational environment where they often felt safe and secure from detection.

When Soviet nuclear submarines entered the picture, however, their acoustic signatures—some of which were quite different from those of other ships—were very noisy. They fell well within SOSUS’s excellent detection capabilities, so they were easily detected—sometimes at very long ranges of up to about 1,000 miles. The Navy’s ability to detect and track the Soviet nuclear boats was one of the most carefully protected bodies of information of that era. Nevertheless, there continued to be significant problems with reliable detection of both nuclear and conventional submarines. In the late 1960s, the Navy finally faced up to the need to make even more meaningful advances. It was recognized that the basic problems were largely technical and that their solutions would require expert scientific advice and support.

Principal problems were three:

First was the problem of ambient noise in the ocean. When the ambient noise caused by surface ships and other noise-producing sources (off-shore oil drilling, ice pack grinding, etc.) reached critical levels, SOSUS was unable to detect—at essential ranges—the acoustic noises of submarines. In effect, their signals were lost in the noise. SOSUS badly needed to extend the long-range detection capabilities of those SOSUS stations cursed with high ambient noise levels.

Second was the problem of range. With the advent of long-range ballistic missiles aboard Soviet submarines, it became important to detect submarines at greater distances from the U.S. shores. Even though SOSUS provided a greatly improved long-range detection capability, it could not extend its reach into all areas where the Soviet submarines were likely to lurk.

Third, and probably most important, was the need for surveillance in ocean areas not covered by SOSUS installations. SOSUS was a fixed-array system; its hydrophones were laid in long strings of cable connected to shore-based monitoring stations. It was, therefore, financially and technically impractical to locate enough SOSUS stations and their supporting underwater ranges to provide coverage of all of the ocean areas of importance. Only the most important areas could be covered. This left gaping holes in the coverage needed to defeat the Soviet threat.

The Navy’s technical and operational experts joined forces to investigate all three of the Navy’s submarine detection problems. The largely military Antisubmarine Warfare Group in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-95 under Vice Admiral Charles Martell) asked for—and received—expert assistance from the civilian scientists and contractors of the Office of Naval
Research (ONR) in tackling their detection and tracking problems. The small number of people involved realized that success would depend on arriving at solutions without fanfare and without the Soviets getting even a hint of what was being done. Classification of the efforts was very high—secret in most cases, top secret in many.

The first problem—that of ambient noise levels—was a primary concern of the scientists assembled by ONR under a special project called LRAPP (Long Range Acoustic Propagation Project). Theirs was the basic science problem of measuring characteristics of ocean phenomena and developing techniques to predict acoustic levels in areas of interest in the oceans of the world. Navy leaders hoped that the increased knowledge obtained would be useful in designing improved systems for submarine detection.

As it turned out, the findings were extremely important. Results were used to optimize detection systems and to assist in selecting the most advantageous locations for SOSUS stations. Probably their most significant finding was that—contrary to the prevailing beliefs of AT&T (Bell Labs) and most scientists—noise caused by distant shipping characteristically does not propagate uniformly in all directions. This finding enabled enhancement of SOSUS designs to work well in spite of high noise environments.

The need for secrecy in the LRAPP effort was obvious to all. Tight security prevented the Soviets from knowing of the study areas of ONR and then duplicating the ONR scientific investigations to conduct similar research to their own advantage. Secrecy also provided for locating SOSUS stations in places that had previously been avoided because of their high ambient-noise levels—thus thought to be “safe” by the Soviets. The ability to restrict vital information to a very few highly-motivated and security-conscious people made it possible to preserve the needed secrecy.

The second problem—achieving acceptable detection ranges—was solved by proper understanding and use of the natural ocean acoustic environment. LRAPP contributed significantly to the basic scientific knowledge associated with acoustic signals: their propagation characteristics, frequency dependence, sound levels, directionality, and the peculiarities of specific sites. Once these characteristics had been determined and accounted for, the performances of SOSUS systems were able to be materially improved, with a consequent doubling or tripling of previous range capabilities.

The third problem—operations in areas not served by SOSUS—required a significantly different solution. Since it was impracticable to establish enough SOSUS systems around the oceans of the world to provide complete coverage, it became obvious that “mobile” SOSUS capabilities were needed. Operational and scientific experts demonstrated the utility of long, towed, listening arrays that could be moved and deployed at best water depth and with optimal orientation.

The newly developed towed arrays were pulled behind surface ships and submarines. They were made up of hydrophones placed in a flexible, neutrally-buoyant, plastic cylinder that stretched a long distance behind the towing vessel. These long lines were attached to a tow-cable and were reeled in and out from a winch on the vessel. Hydrophones were simply microphones that worked underwater to pick up and convert (into electronic signals) the acoustic energy received.
These signals were telemetered along the cable back to the towing vessel. There they were fed into processing equipment collectively called “beamformers”. The linear placement of the hydrophones—precisely located, with varying distances between them—allowed beams to be formed electronically to detect and amplify acoustic signals. Each beam could then be observed and analyzed to give directions to the submarine emitting the acoustic signals. The towed array solution was hard to keep secret; much curiosity was stimulated by Navy ships with hundreds (or thousands) of feet of cable following in their wakes. Nevertheless, its purpose and performance were kept as internal secrets long enough for the Soviets to wonder just how their submarines were being detected, tracked, and forced to the surface without any indication of nearby detectors.

With the solution of these problems the surveillance, detection, localization, and tracking became part of routine operations of a number of participating Navy activities. In its expanded coverage areas, SOSUS would detect Soviet submarines. A detected submarine’s location might then be “handed off” to surface ships that operated towed arrays, or to Navy patrol aircraft engaged in anti-submarine warfare. These platforms had no direct communications with the SOSUS system, and typically did not know how the information was obtained for directing them to designated search areas, where they usually picked up submarine targets. They could then either maintain contact and attempt to force the Soviet boat to the surface or hand off the contact to the U.S. submarine force.

A successful handoff could then enable a U.S. Navy attack submarine to pick up and trail the Soviet submarine for the duration of its mission. The U.S. submarine was able to maintain a position that would allow it to sink the Soviet submarine if so directed by the U.S Command Authority and if the Soviet submarine was evaluated to be an immediate threat to the U. S. or one of its allies. This state of readiness was reached in the late 1970s and continued until the end of the Cold War. Its success was instrumental in forcing the Soviets to realize that they no longer had freedom to roam the seas and pose a threat to the continental United States.

The real answer to why these successful developments remained virtually unknown to almost the entire Navy and to all of the news media and citizens of the U.S. was a complex one, with many included subtleties:

First, the ASW process itself was very complex. It involved at least four separate, definable steps: Detection, Classification, Localization, and Kill. Each step of the ASW process was usually performed by a different Navy operational unit, which did not need to know about the cooperative operational details of other Navy units. Thus the Research and Development units lost track of their developments once they were turned over to operational Naval platforms, such as ships, submarines, and aircraft—and to SOSUS shore stations. And each of those individual platforms or activities was not fully aware of the manner in which the process was carried out by the others. So, even though the knowledge was spread to additional people, very few knew the full details of the total process and how the information was obtained. All knew it was important, however, and should not be disclosed.

Second, the number of people who knew the overall particulars of the process numbered only a very small percentage of those involved—a few hundred at most. These few—a mixture of Navy
officers, Navy civilians, and members of the Navy’s supporting industrial contracting community—worked on different aspects of the overall problem. All knew of their responsibility for controlling information, and all were effective in maintaining tight security controls. The progress on the total problem was watched and partially controlled by the senior Naval command authority in Washington. The Secret and Top Secret information on vital aspects of the overall program were never compromised.

Third, the fundamental basis for the entire complex series of operations was based on scientific research. Virtually the only people in the United States Navy who actually understood the essentials of how the integrated system could proceed from detecting Soviet submarines at distances of hundreds—even thousands—of miles, to tracking them continuously, pinpointing their positions, and establishing an ability to sink on command those that became a threat were several dozen Navy officers and their supporting ONR Navy and civilian scientists.

The LRAPP segment of the development program, extending over almost three decades and costing an astonishingly small amount (less than $250M), was closely held and kept from our enemies throughout the Cold War. It stands out as a remarkable example of how dedicated, motivated people—both technical and operational—when faced with a problem of great importance, can process it successfully to completion. It is also an outstanding example of how loyal people can keep a secret when it is known to be of importance to the security of their nation.

[Note: This summary is based on a book, TRANSPARENT OCEANS: THE DEFEAT OF THE SOVIET SUBMARINE FORCE, written by one of the LRAPP team members, Doctor Louis P. Solomon. The book was published in 2003, and includes extensive details of the LRAPP project.]

THE ROLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA DURING THE COLD WAR
By Samuel Chen Hung Hui - Institute of International Affairs and Strategic Studies, Tamkang University

Hi there, sorry for replying so late. As a free Chinese from Taiwan, I think it would always be a good start for me to introduce you the role of my country during the Cold War, while most books in America and other Western World usually ignored it. In fact, the Republic of China in Taiwan participated in more than 3/4 major events in East and Southeast Asia during the Cold War as an important partner of the United States.

Reviewing the history, we will find out that the Republic of China was not only the first constitutional republic in East Asia, but also aiding the American war efforts in both World War II and Cold War against the Imperial Japan and Communist China. Although not fully a democratic nation during those bloody eras, the Republic of China was always on the side of Free Camp unlike other major Asian nations which either sided with Japan during WWII or Soviet Union and Communist China during Cold War.
Started from the Republic of China’s retreat to Taiwan after being defeated by the Communist, my country participated in the Korean War (1950-1953), First Indochina War (1946-1954), Indonesia Revolution (1956-1958), Second Indochina War (1965-1975) and the conflict between North and South Yemen (1979-1991).

Although we never sent regular army to fight side by side with the United States in any of those events I mentioned above, we did sent our pilots, agents, and even special force to those war zones either overtly or covertly. For examples, the Republic of China sent representatives to Korea for interrogating the Communist Chinese POW, and eventually 14850 of them chose to defect to Taiwan instead of returning to their motherland occupied by Communist forces. It was the largest defection from Communist World to the Free World in 1950s.

During the Vietnam War, the Republic of China Political Warfare School also sent Advisory Group to South Vietnam to launch anti-Communist political campaign. Beside, the Republic of China also sent Special Forces into the jungle of Vietnam to fight Vietcong secretly. The pilots from the Republic of China Air Force and China Airline even flew combat cargo missions for both the MACV and ARVN during the battles.

Since the Republic of China Air Force had the best pilots in the Far East, the United States didn’t miss any opportunity to cooperate with them. For example, the Republic of China was the only country beside the United States and United Kingdom to actually operate U-2 spy plane. Our pilots under the guidance of the SAC and CIA flew many successful missions into Communist China. The Black Cat Squadron of the ROCAF was also the first unit actually finding out Communist China’s nuclear test and the split between Beijing and Moscow in late 1960s.

Many countries included Jordan, South Africa, South Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and even Thailand had their pilots trained in Taiwan too by our excellent fighter pilots. We even sent pilots to fly F-5E fighters for North Yemen under the request of Saudi Arabia from 1970s to 1990s. From this description above, I think it wouldn’t be very hard for you to imagine what important role my country had played during the Cold War.

Most importantly, the United States of America had always wished to make China her most important ally in Asia since the years of Franklin D. Roosevelt to contain both Japan and Soviet Union. Started from late 19 century on, many American and Chinese had dreams to rebuild China with the democratic system. It was always Dr. Sun Yet-Sen’s goal in eventually creating a New China combining the traditional Chinese culture with Western ideology.

It was a tragedy that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek had failed his war with the Communist right after his victory over Japanese aggressors. Anyway, Taiwan was still considered a very important ally under Eisenhower administration to contain both the Communist China and Japan (preventing the reviving of the Fascist) while expanding the American way of life in East Asia. Eventually, the Republic of China had accomplished the democratization in 1990s although the United Stated had ended her official relation with Taiwan in 1979. With the Taiwan Relation Act still activated, the United States is still providing Taiwan advance weapons to defend ourselves from reckless Communist aggression.
As a free Chinese in Taiwan, I think the role of my country is not only to defend ourselves from Communist China, but also to pass on our experience of democratization to the people of mainland China. I think it is our duty and responsibility to help our brothers and sisters of China to acquire their freedom.

I think it is still a very bad thing to realize that most American intellectuals and scholars know so little about the role of ROC in both WWII and Cold War. Many of them tend to believe what the Communist China and its sympathizers in the Western World wrote about, which was not the true. There are two books, which I can introduce you guys to read about. They are both written by Jay Taylor.

The Generalissimo: Chiang Kai-shek and the Struggle for Modern China
The Generalissimo’s Son: Chiang Ching-kuo and the Revolutions in China and Taiwan

I think it is best for any westerners to understand Chiang family before trying to understand the history of Far East during either WWII or Cold War. They truly played important role that nobody should miss.

COLD WAR EVENTS, REQUESTS, AND RELATED ITEMS

FROM CIVILIAN PILOT, TO IMPRISONED SPY, TO WAR HERO - VIRGINIA MAN’S COLD WAR STORY ON DISPLAY AT VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Saturday, January 16, 2010, the Virginia Historical Society (VHS) opened a powerful exhibition called Cold War Crisis: The U-2 Incident about the life of Pound, Va., resident and Grundy High School graduate Francis Gary Powers (1929–1977). The exhibition tells the story of how Powers went from being a military pilot on a top secret mission to an international figure caught in the cross-fire of political conflict, military tension, and economic competition between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Powers was a civilian pilot flying for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). On May 1, 1960, the American U-2 reconnaissance plane he was flying was shot down by a surface-to-air missile over the Soviet Union. The event became known as the U-2 Incident.

Because the U-2 plane was specifically designed for covert surveillance, Powers was tried by the Soviet government, convicted as a spy, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment. In 1962, after twenty-one months of captivity, he was exchanged in Germany for a Soviet agent. Upon his return to the United States, Powers was cold-shouldered by the CIA for having failed to destroy the plane or kill himself. Less than one month later, a Senate committee determined that Powers followed orders and did not divulge any critical information to the Soviets, thus fully exonerating him.

“Francis Powers’s story is one that made world news and had a huge influence on international relations for decades,” said Paul Levengood, Virginia Historical Society President and CEO.
“Some Virginians may remember the U-2 Incident, but to many, the story will be new. In an effort to focus more on 20th-century topics, the VHS wants to show visitors the Cold War’s effect on Virginia history.”

In 2000, on the 40th anniversary of the U-2 Incident, Powers’s family was presented with his posthumously awarded POW Medal, the National Defense Medal, and the CIA Director’s Medal for “Extraordinary Fidelity and Essential Service” for his military service and for never disclosing any classified information.

The Cold War Crisis: The U-2 Incident exhibition is organized by The Cold War Museum, which was founded by Powers’s son, Francis Gary Powers, Jr. The exhibition features more than fifty items including photos, letters, Soviet artifacts, and a never-before-seen propaganda poster that Powers’s son has kept in his Midlothian, Va., home over the years.

Powers, Jr., will give a gallery walk of the exhibition on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, at noon at the VHS. Gallery walks cost $6/adults, $5/seniors 55+, $4/students and children under 18, and are free for VHS members. There is no charge to visit the exhibition while it is on display at the society through May 30.

“I am so honored that the Virginia Historical Society is hosting this exhibit about my father,” said Powers. “I have spent decades preserving Cold War history, honoring Cold War veterans, and making sure that stories like his do not get forgotten.”

NEW NATIONAL MUSEUM EXHIBITION SHOWCASES FASCINATING AUDIO AND VIDEO MATERIAL FROM COMMUNIST ERA

Za Svobodu! – called Be Free! in English – is the title of an exhibition the Czech National Museum opened on Tuesday’s anniversary of the start of the Velvet Revolution. It is located in the institution’s new building, the former home of Czechoslovakia’s Federal Assembly, and is co-curated by Lucie Swierczeková.

“We created this exhibition in order to show the four-decade period in Czechoslovakia between after the war and 1989 – to show how propaganda was omnipresent here, and to show how free information did manage to get into the country. We’d like to bring people today closer to the atmosphere of that time.”

Be Free! is divided into two halves. The first focuses on the 1950s and ‘60s, featuring for instance chilling video footage of prosecutor Josef Urválek opening the show trial of Communist politician Rudolf Slánský. The second part turns the spotlight on the last two decades of totalitarian rule in Czechoslovakia. Swierczeková describes some of the items on display.

“We have a courtroom dock in a section dedicated to the show trials of the 1950s, a dock where defendants stood. We have original and replica balloons by means of which Radio Free Europe flyers were dropped into the country. We have a clock that was in the studio of RFE when it was
bombed. And we have the original designs for the logo of Civic Forum, which were done by the graphic designer Pavel Šťastný – they’re in the free space, the final section of the exhibition.”

Among a number of videos running in Be Free! is one of a 1976 press conference featuring StB secret police officer Pavel Minařík. A former presenter on Czechoslovak Radio, Minařík was a spy for seven years at Radio Free Europe in Munich and was later used by the communist regime in an attempt to discredit the station. He was also accused of planting the bomb referred to by Lucie Swierczeková, though he was cleared by a Prague court some years later.

The former Federal Assembly building Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is one of the partners of the Be Free! show. The station moved from Munich to Prague in the 1990s, and for several years was based in the former Federal Assembly building that now houses the exhibition. Prokop Tomek, another of its curators, outlines the significance of the venue.

“This place is remembered as the home of the federal parliament of the Czechoslovak socialist republic. It was a place of propaganda and lies, because the parliament had absolutely no impact on affairs in the country. It was a formal, puppet institution.”

Lucie Swierczeková: “This building was a bit of a theatre. The parliament was here and then the radio station. Our exhibition is a bit theatrical too…It shows, partly using videos, how this place spread demagoguery in various directions. Then RFE was here, so we’ve got everything covered I think.”

Among the audio attractions at Be Free! is a tape of Radio Free Europe journalist Pavel Pecháček broadcasting news of events during the early days of the Velvet Revolution directly from Prague’s Wenceslas Square. Prokop Tomek describes some of the show’s other valuable recordings.

“In the 1950s section we have some recordings from the early days of Radio Free Europe. But what I think is extremely interesting are recordings of phone calls to RFE, or actually to the agency Free Press Agency, which collected information from Czechoslovakia in the 1980s for RFE. We have recordings of people like Václav Havel and Petr Uhl, who were relaying information about what was happening in dissident circles, about persecution, about demonstrations, and so on.”

Those recordings, never heard publicly before, can be listened to via old-style phones in the same kind of phone booths from which Václav Havel and others spoke to the Free Press Agency in Munich. Near those booths you will find a re-created centre for the production of illegal underground literature.

“We have what’s called a Samizdat Workshop. There you’ll find stencil duplicators, typewriters…equipment which was smuggled into the country, for instance for the Charter 77 Foundation. It was used to make samizdat, meaning self-made books and magazines. But in the 1980s samizdat also involved audio and video tapes. So you can see how as time went by citizens managed to spread free information themselves. They weren’t dependent on official information or information smuggled in by exiles.”
HISTORY OF THE ARMY IN ALASKA PUBLICATION

The U.S. Army Alaska cultural resources department has developed several short (<80 pages) publications on various aspects of the history of the Army in Alaska, including:

- Northern Defenders: Cold War Context of Ladd Air Force Base, Fairbanks, Alaska
- Cold War Historical Context 1951-1991 of Fort Richardson, Alaska
- Tracking the Unthinkable: The Donnelly Flats MIDAS Ground Station and the Early Development of Space Warning Systems, 1959-1967

PDF copies of these and other items are available at: www.usarak.army.mil/conservation/DWN_FWA.htm

For more information contact:

Sarah McGowan (Sarah.Mcgowan1@us.army.mil)
Cultural Resources
Fort Wainwright, Alaska

THE NATIONAL HISTORY CLUB (NHC)

The National History Club Inc. (NHC) inspires students and teachers to start history club chapters at high schools, middle schools, and within other student and community programs. Members of local history club chapters participate in local and national programs, and create their own projects and activities. The NHC also provides chapters with resources and services that will help them increase the activity and impact of their history club. To date, the NHC has founded history club chapters at high schools and middle schools in 43 states, and there are over 10,000 student members.

When you join the National History Club, you join students and teachers from around the country—and the world—in discovering, learning, reading, writing, teaching, and living history. Our main goal with the NHC is to bring students and teachers with a real passion for history together, helping them learn from the ideas and activities that are exchanged through our eNewsletter, eUpdates, and other communication methods. We do not limit the scope of activities that a chapter may participate in—each club is allowed to navigate its own course. This allows for a wide-range of really interesting activities that are displayed in each Newsletter and on our website. The NHC also co-sponsors multiple award programs to recognize outstanding student members, Advisors, and chapters.

NHC Programs:
- Tri-annual eNewsletter
- Monthly eUpdate
- "History Student of the Year" award (autographed book on George Washington given to one recipient in each chapter.) - Co-sponsored by Mount Vernon
- LeadAmerica Essay Contest (1st prize winner gets scholarship to attend week-long leadership summit in DC.)
- National Advisors of the Year (five recipients) - Co-sponsored by Churchill Centre
- Student Leadership Awards (ten recipients) - Co-sponsored by National World War II Museum
- National History Scholars Society (for students maintaining 3.5 GPA in honors history classes, 2+ years in history club, and recommendation by Advisor. All students receive certificates. Graduation chords for purchase, as well.)

For information please visit our website [www.nationalhistoryclub.org] or contact Bob Nasson at rnasson@nationalhistoryclub.org.

3RD PHOTO RECON SQUADRON TO TELL THEIR STORY

I’m the commander of a new USAF flying unit that employs the RQ-4 Global Hawk reconnaissance aircraft out of Andersen AFB, Guam. We provide high-altitude intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance products to “customers” and decision-makers in the PACOM AOR. Our unit, Detachment 3, took on the “3” designation in an effort to preserve the heritage of the 3rd Photo Reconnaissance Squadron.

I am just beginning my research and found your email addresses listed online in conjunction with the 3 PRS. Specifically, I am attempting to gather the best quality digital photos I can find of the Airmen and aircraft of the 3 PRS to tell their story. I plan to create a “heritage wall” in our unit at Andersen AFB with these images and descriptions of the major operations they supported.

I see that you have some interesting photos and facts. Would you be willing to email me some of your better quality scans of the photos you have and the stories that accompany them? Also, if you know of others who would like to help me prolong the legacy of the 3 PRS and its Airmen, please feel free to forward this email.

Lt Col Brandon Baker
Commander, Detachment 3 (Global Hawk)
Wk Email: brandon.baker@andersen.af.mil

HISTORY PROJECT AT FORT BLISS, TX

I am wondering if the Cold War Times can help me get the word out about a history project centered around the 5800 area at Fort Bliss, TX? This location was the site of multiple training programs during the Cold War centered around both antiaircraft artillery guns and SAM missiles as well, and I am hoping to be able to locate people who trained in the HAWK, Corporal, Sergeant, and Patriot programs at this area. Participants would be interviewed for an oral history component to a history publication to be distributed by the Fort Bliss Conservation Branch.
Former students and teachers/trainers from the Skysweeper, Corporal, Sergeant, HAWK, and Patriot training programs at Fort Bliss are sought to share their stories and experiences about surface-to-surface and antiaircraft systems training and education at the post. A small book will be prepared for the Fort Bliss Conservation Branch to educate the public about surface-to-surface and antiaircraft defense training and their role in the Cold War, particularly during the period from about 1955 until the late 1980s. Please contact Tim Sawyer at Van Citters: Historic Preservation for more info.

Timothy Sawyer, Ph.D.
Architectural Historian
Van Citters: Historic Preservation, LLC
220 Adams SE, Suite A
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108
505-220-3707
tim@vcpreservation.com

MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS OF 3,000 VIPS NOW AVAILABLE

The National Personnel Records Center has released a list of some 3,000 prominent former military service men and women whose service records may be obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. The list includes heroic officers and enlisted men, Medal of Honor winners, astronauts, and test pilots, among others -- plus actors, politicians, artists, executives, and government officials who went on to become famous after their military careers. Brief and often inspirational biographical sketches of the individuals are included in the list.

The "VIP List" was obtained under public records laws and may be downloaded at www.governmentattic.org/2docs/NPRC_VIP_List_2009.pdf.

It should be an invaluable tool to authors, journalists, historians, librarians, military/unit history enthusiasts, and genealogical researchers.

Copies of military service records files for individuals on the list may be requested under the Freedom of Information Act from the National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, MO 63152-5100. Requests may also be faxed to 314-801-9195.

Requests should mention that they are being made under the Freedom of Information Act. Requests for records of deceased individuals will usually result in more material than those on living people due to lessened privacy concerns.

THE FBI'S "DEAD LIST": 17,000 PEOPLE LIKELY TO HAVE FBI FILES

The FBI has just released a list of roughly 17,000 people who are likely to have FBI files. All have two things in common: all were prominent in some way and all are now dead. The deceased individuals include gangsters and scientists, politicians and Hollywood stars, military figures and
foreign leaders. The list may be downloaded at www.governmentattic.org/2docs/FBI_RIDS_DeadList_2009.pdf

The list, known internally to the FBI's records division as the "dead list," was provided by the FBI in response to a public records request. It should be an invaluable tool to authors, journalists, historians, librarians, and genealogical researchers.

Copies of FBI files for specific individuals on the "dead list" may be requested under the Freedom of Information Act simply by writing to the FBI. The free web site "Get Grandpa's FBI File" www.getgrandpasfbifile.com and the FBI's own web site at http://foia.fbi.gov/foia_instruc.htm can help with making such requests. The FBI charges copying fees of $0.10 per page for files more than 100 pages; files less than 100 pages are free.

JOHN A. ADAMS CENTER AT THE VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE CALL FOR PAPERS ON THE UNITED STATES MILITARY IN THE COLD WAR (1945-1991)

For the sixth year, the John A. Adams Center at the Virginia Military Institute is pleased to announce that it will award prizes for the best unpublished papers dealing with the United States military in the Cold War era (1945-1991). Any aspect of the Cold War military is eligible, with papers on war planning, intelligence, logistics, and mobilization especially welcome.

Please note that essays which relate aspects of the Korean and Southeast Asian conflicts to the larger Cold War are also open for consideration. Not only do we invite your submission of previously unpublished pieces, but we encourage you to pass along this notice to colleagues or promising graduate students who might be working in this area.

Prizes: First place will earn a plaque and a cash award of $2000; second place, $1000 and a plaque; and third place, $500 and a plaque.

Procedures: Entries should be tendered to the Adams Center at VMI by 15 July 2010.

Please make your submission by Microsoft Word and limit your entry to a maximum of twenty-five pages of double-spaced text, exclusive of documentation and bibliography. A panel of judges will, over the summer, examine all papers; the Adams Center will then announce its top three rankings early in the fall of 2010.

The Journal of Military History will be happy to consider those award winners for publication. In addition, the Adams Center would like to post the better papers on its website--with the permission of the author, of course. Submissions and questions: Professor Malcolm Muir, Jr., Director, John A. Adams '71 Center for Military History and Strategic Analysis, Department of History, Virginia Military Institute; Lexington, VA 24450, muirm@vmi.edu.

PANEL MEMBERS NEEDED FOR 2010 SHAFR CONFERENCE

I am interested in assembling a panel for the 2010 SHAFR conference tentatively based on theme 'The US Congress and the early Cold War.' My own doctoral work focuses on the
Republican Right in the Senate and their role in US foreign policy-making during the first half of
the 1950s.

I would expect to present specifically on the internal/constitutional conflicts between the
legislative and executive for control of foreign policy during these years, rather than on the
external theatres in which these debates ultimately played out.

If anyone feels their research coincides with this topic, either narrowly or broadly defined, then
please contact me at jrb92@cam.ac.uk.

With thanks,

James Blackstone
Clare College, Cambridge University

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@garypowers.com.

TRABANT USA
http://trabantusa.art.officelive.com/default.aspx

On Nov. 7, 2009 twenty East German Trabants, the lovable little iconic car of the Cold War, met in Washington DC for the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Trabant owners from as far as California converged and paraded through our capital. This was the third and best attended such gathering of Trabant USA members.

Trabant USA has about 70 members and many more who participate in a Yahoo group to exchange ideas, tips, and stories. Many of the members have other automotive or transportation interests, Cold War expertise, and or desire to learn or share what they know about German history, especially regarding East Germany. Naturally, most of the banter centers around the group's common interest of the Trabant.

The Trabant, built in Zwickau, turned 50 years old in 2007. They were built from 1957 to 1991. The end of the East Germany also meant the end of the Trabant and many other eastern products. In late 1989 and early 1990, several Americans started importing Trabants. The number of Trabants in the US is not known for sure but a good guess would be around 200. People are still importing Trabants today and the need to communicate only grows. In the late 90's Erich Groebe in Missouri started Trabant USA as a club to promote the sharing of information. A few years ago Mike and Matt Annen of Maryland accepted the reigns as webmeaster of the Trabant USA site, http://trabantusa.art.officelive.com/default.aspx and have organized the annual DC Rally for the last three years.

The Cold War Museum has a Trabant as part of their collection and the museum may be come a rally point for Trabant USA members in the future. Trabant USA encourages reports of Trabant sightings and new members.

(Photo: a shot showing several Trabants on the way to DC on Nov. 7th, 2009)
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)

MEETINGS AND REUNIONS

* 455 SMW/91 SMW Minot Minuteman I Reunion, 19-23 May 2010, Dayton, Ohio, contact Dave Schuur at djschuur@verizon.net.


* Strategic Air Command Airborne Command Control Association (SAC ACCA), September 8-12, 2010, Seattle, WA. Contact: Wilton Curtis (804-740-2290) wcurtis135@aol.com.

* 308 SMW, 18-19 September 2010, Little Rock, AR, contact William Leslie, at william.leslie2@wpafb.af.mil

* 579 SMS (Walker Atlas), 6-10 October 2010 with AAFM in Tucson, contact William Leslie at william.leslie2@wpafb.af.mil

* 487 TMW (Comiso) - 6-10 October 2010 with AAFM in Tucson, contact Chuck Vickery, 915-760-4673, email chuckvickrey@sbcglobal.net.

* Association of Air Force Missileers and the 579 SMS (Walker Atlas) - 6-10 October 2010, Radisson Airport 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 www.afmissileers.org or afmissileers@msn.com for more information.

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)

EASTERN EUROPE: COLD WARFARE III

Is the Cold War really over? Find out in Eastern Europe: Cold Warfare III by Dr. Patrick Pacalo Capt. (USAR Former). The book covers how Europe was dominated and how it escaped the Soviet grasp, and how the contemporary Communist system is related and at work in today's China. The book should be rolling off the presses at Publish America in a matter of months.

Have a great day!
PJPacalo

DIE NACHT BEGANN AM MORGEN
By Werner Jurezko


( Editor’s Note: Werner Juretzko, former G-2 agent spent 7 years in the Stasi’s infamous “U-Boat” prison in East Berlin. Werner is part of The Cold War Museum-Midwest Chapter)

FLIGHT TO LIBERTY
By Miguel Vargas-Caba (mvargascaba@hotmail.com)

Set in 1976 in the Soviet Union, and almost inside the Arctic Polar Circle, BEAR: Flight to Liberty, is the debut novel of Miguel Vargas-Caba, who devoted more than thirty years to researching and writing this riveting yarn.

Main character Captain Mikhail Makarov, the hero of this book, is a bit of a rogue, as he is not a member of the Communist Party nor is he an enthusiastic proponent of their system. Rather, he is a great admirer of Western democracy, and
he dreams of the day when he will defect. Due to his rebellious nature and his refusal to follow the party line, his superiors considered him unreliable and dangerous to keep on as a bomber squadron commander, even though he had been a war hero during World War II.

Using trumped up charges, Makarov was court-martialed, demoted and transferred from the Soviet Air Force to the Soviet Navy in Kuzomen. Realizing that his career had reached a dead end, and that he would have to spend the rest of his life in this god-forsaken place, he decides he has to flee at any price.

In order to defect to the West and escape the impregnable fortress of the Soviet defense system, Makarov first needed to assemble a competent team of airmen, which he does with not too much difficulty. A more serious and perilous problem is coming up with a viable escape plan. It is here where his audacious team proves to be invaluable with their cunning tactics that include the use of bribery, a daring venture to secure essential jamming equipment, getting people drunk in order to extract vital information, and a number of other hair-raising shenanigans. All of this was accomplished in strict secrecy and under the noses of their superiors, including a known KGB stoolie.

The suspense of this heart-stopping novel arises from the unfolding series of challenges faced by the defecting crew that always appear insurmountable. However, Vargas-Caba's characters never give up easily, and in using a good deal of creativity and ingenuity, they always overcome a multitude of risks, particularly that of being discovered, which would lead no doubt to their death sentences. The culmination of all of this is a novel that hurstles the reader toward a chillingly exciting climax replete with all kinds of sophisticated weaponry.

This novel provides the reader with some great suspense and entertainment. In addition, it is loaded with interesting information concerning real events of the Soviet armed forces during the Cold War era. Incidentally, don't be deterred by the Russian expressions and English terms, as well as the acronyms that the author sprinkles throughout the novel; he does provide his readers with a comprehensive glossary. In addition, you will also find a technical appendix pertaining to Soviet and American aircraft.

**Author’s bio:**
Miguel Vargas-Caba was born in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic. He is a professional technical-literary translator and a polyglot. He knows how to read Latin and Greek, speaks fluently in English, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Russian, and not so fluently in German, Swedish, and several other languages. In 1974 he migrated to New York City, where he acquired his higher education in the field of Electromechanical Technology. Today he works in the field of Information Technology in Westchester County. He resides with his family in The Bronx, New York.

BEAR: Flight to Liberty is his first book, which made him the first, and at this moment the only Dominican national to write a book on the subject of the Cold War. He is also working on a second part to this first book:
“Chronicles of the Bear – Stories from the Bear Crews”, a collection of stories about the exploits of the crews of the TU-95 Bear over all the oceans of the world during the freezing days of the Cold War.

More info online at www.bearflighttoliberty.com.

BUSHELS AND BALES: A FOOD SOLDIER IN THE COLD WAR
By Howard L. Steele - ehsteele@cox.net

FIGHTING THE COLD WAR WITH BUSHELS AND BALES is one man’s story of a career in international agricultural development in the years of the Cold War.

The story begins in the 1930s in western Pennsylvania where, as a young boy Steele accompanied his father on his rounds to members of the Dairymen’s Cooperative Sales Association. This firsthand exposure to the hard-working rural poor during the Great Depression made a lasting impression on the boy, and fueled his desire to spend his life helping farmers gain greater productivity and live better, more comfortable lives, a goal he carried out throughout his career as a university professor and researcher in Agricultural Economics and as an international development worker in 43 developing countries around the world. The story ends with Steele’s return visit to Central America with his daughter, now a graduate student in international development, who spent her early childhood years in Bolivia, Honduras and Sri Lanka. Steele’s delight in seeing the progress that has been made by local farmers in the intervening years, and his reflections on the continuing legacy of the work he had started there 20 years earlier, as well as on the overall impact of American intervention in the latter half of the 20th century, round out the story.

BUSHELS AND BALES… offers fascinating glimpses of the nitty gritty, everyday challenges, the highs and the lows, of international development work, as well as the perspective gained from a distance x years later. Steele shares his adventures and misadventures in a variety of international settings, from Brazil in the wake of the 1964 revolution in which the Brazilian military finally ousted the João Goulart regime, where he witnessed the political power of pot-banging housewives, to Switzerland in 1995, where he explained to a bemused panel of international diplomats that not only could the U.S. government (which had temporarily shut down) not pay its overdue U.N. dues, but that he (Steele himself) might have to borrow money from his 16-year-old daughter (who was sitting behind him) in order to make it back home to the U.S.

BUSHELS AND BALES …also covers the “back-story” of the unique rewards, demands, and stresses on family life that a career in the foreign service implies. With frankness and honesty, Steele tells how his own family’s life was affected in ways large and small—from the major stress that life in the foreign service placed on his first marriage to small comic details, such as the time his high-school daughter nearly broke her neck tripping over a suitcase that had found its way, unannounced after nine months of wandering, from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to their front doorstep in suburban Virginia.
BUSHELS AND BALES… is part personal memoir, part travelogue, part an in-depth insiders view of U.S. efforts to export agricultural technology and techniques to the developing world. With valuable insights and perspective for students of agricultural economics and international development, public or private sector employees who have lived, or are about to live, overseas, to any American citizen concerned about our national image, and our work in the world,

The Author:
Howard Steele, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, served as a development economist with the Ohio State University in residence in Brazil from 1964 to 1967, then in the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1971 until his retirement in 1997. His other resident assignments included posts in Guatemala, Bolivia, Honduras, and Sri Lanka, plus short-term assignments in 38 other countries.

Through his international development work, Howard Steele had an inside view of life in 43 different developing countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Central and South America, and the Caribbean during the years of the Cold War. As he advanced from mid-level technician to senior-rank U.S. representative, Steele learned how to navigate the idiosyncrasies of his own government’s bureaucracy, as well as those of dozens of overseas regimes. His adventures took him from the palatial offices of foreign ministers in Saudi Arabia to remote locations in jungles and deserts, where he once spent an evening comparing and contrasting life in Muslim countries with life in the U.S. in a wide-ranging discussion under the stars with a group of Bedouin farmers. Along the way he survived encounters with gun-toting Bolivian revolutionaries, Viet Cong mortar and rifle fire, anarchy in Sri Lanka, a shakedown by Tanzanian police, rodent-sized cockroaches in Taiwan, and sheep’s eye stew in Saudi Arabia.


Steele, now retired, is committed to bringing the message of “BUSHELS AND BALES: A Food Soldier in the Cold War” to a much broader public. As a university professor who has lectured in three languages, he is an experienced public speaker, and enthusiastic raconteur. He would embrace the opportunity to widely and actively promote his book: he has already targeted and warmed-up a variety of special markets, and through his contacts in government, academia, and industry is well positioned to promote the book within these specialized markets. He has received advance commitment for endorsements from Dr. Christine Emery of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, Michael Boorstein, Director of Administration, Pan American Health Organization (and retired Foreign Service Officer, Eric Rozenman, Editor and Author of Total Jihad, Dr. David E. Hahn, Emeritus Professor, Agribusness, The Ohio State University, and Louis S. Philhower, Investment Banker MorganStanley/SmithBarney. Macon, Georgia
The shocking history of the Soviet Union’s espionage campaign against the Catholic Church

Already infamous for the arbitrary, paranoid persecution of their own citizens, it is a little known fact that the Soviet Union also waged a vicious espionage war against the Catholic Church and its followers. From the persecution of local priests to an assassination order against Pope John Paul II, the KGB viewed Catholicism as a threat to stability in Eastern Europe and treated the Church as an enemy of the State.

Lifetime journalist and former U.S. Army Intelligence Officer John Koehler has written the definitive book on this startling history. Using never before seen documents and transcripts, including an order against the Pope that was signed by Gorbachev and nine other Politburo members, Koehler paints a vivid picture of the network of spies and double agents who were working to infiltrate the Church’s infrastructure, from the Vatican down to local parishes.

The efforts to purge the Soviet Union of the Church’s “conspiratorial influence” would eventually backfire. The shared sense of unity that developed as a result of these attacks, compounded with the myriad of grievances brought on by decades of brutal Soviet rule, would culminate in the birth of the Solidarity movement after a visit by the Pope in the late 1980’s.

“This is a shocking exposé. Spies in the Vatican makes a real contribution to a better understanding of the Soviet Union and its nefarious doings that extended well beyond its territory.” –John Siber, President Emeritus, Boston University

John Koehler is the author of Stasi: The Untold Story of the East German Secret Police. John has worked as a journalist for nearly forty years with the Associated Press and is a former U.S. Army Intelligence Officer, specializing in counter-espionage and intelligence collection. An advisor to President Regan from 1985-1989, John is retired and lives in Stamford, CT.

Spying as an integral part of warfare gained new meaning in the Cold War. In his book Spies in the Vatican: The Soviet Union’s Cold War Against the Catholic Church, writer John Koehler
writes about Soviet bloc spies in the Vatican, and takes the spy debate beyond purely national concerns. In doing so, he not only adds to the literature about the overall effectiveness of the Soviet spy apparatus, but gives a new perspective of Catholic Church’s culpability to Soviet spies.

Kohler’s career is far-flung, spanning Army intelligence service, AP reporting, and advising the Cold War sensitive Reagan administration. His career includes the authorship of Stasi: The Untold Story of the East German Secret Police.

Koehler writes of early Soviet hostility toward religion, the jailing of Eastern Orthodox clerics, and further disintegration under Josef Stalin. Pravda editor Nikolai Bukarin once declared that a fight and Church to the death must be declared upon religion. By 1928 about 28,000 clerics and intellectuals had been put in slave labor camps. When Nikita Khrushchev came to power after Stalin’s death, the repression continued. By this time, Koehler writes, many clergy had been recruited for duty with the KGB. Soon clerical spies from both the Soviet Union and East Germany became concerned with the Vatican’s Ostpolitik. By 1971, the East German secret police [the Stasi] had circulated a 12 page top secret and closely held analysis of the Papal Ostpolitik based upon information furnished by a spy with access to the State Secretariat.

Koehler writes that in the late 1950s, the spy system within the Vatican had [with the absence of the pope] been “embedded within the ornate offices of the Holy See and performing their treacherous deeds within walls adorned by crucifixes…purloining secrets that Western governments, especially the US shared with the pope.” The author uses a dramatic example citing an announcement of a troop withdrawal by Richard Nixon from Vietnam, shown in a spy report. Additionally, there was information on the exchange of prisoners.

Poland’s Karol Cardinal Wojtyla election to the papacy proved to be the most telling event in the late 1970s for Vatican spies. The new pope’s strident anti-communism, coupled with his Polish ancestry made for justifiable consternation for the Soviets. Consternation morphed into paranoid fear. Koehler writes about Soviet fears of John Paul II traveling to Poland, stirring up resentment, and meeting publicly with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa. Koehler also writes about the role of US president Ronald Reagan, the CIA [who he describes a number of times as performing effectively] and eventual Soviet [spy and diplomatic] acknowledgment of the changing situation. Spies in the Vatican’s most unsettling evidence dwells on clerical complicity with Communist spies from Soviet Russia, East Germany, Poland and Hungary. Koehler names many prominent clergy ranging from the well traveled Archbishop Agostino Caseroli to Father Mieczyslaw Malinski, who under the code name “Delta” had been spying for the SB [Polish intelligence service] since 1981, and had been a close associate to Pope John Paul II. Much of this information is from the Institute of National Remembrance, which estimated that up to 15 percent of the nation’s Catholic clergy had collaborated with the secret police.

John Koehler’s advances Cold War study in his story of the church and the role of spies. It will probably be received with little fanfare in an atmosphere that promotes the importance of openness rather than covert intelligence operations, and diplomacy rather than military and theological influence. Spies in the Vatican should be read for its emphasis on new areas of research and interpretation. After all, it shows evidence contrary to arguments put forth by
political pundits from the right that Ronald Reagan won the Cold War and to those on the left who credit Gorbachev.

**ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE COLD WAR**

By Seymour Topping

An American Correspondent’s Journal from the Chinese Civil War to the Cuban Missile Crisis and Vietnam

In the years following World War II, the United States suffered its most severe military and diplomatic reverses in Asia while Mao Zedong laid the foundation for the emergence of China as a major economic and military world power. As a correspondent for the International News Service, the Associated Press, and later for the New York Times, Seymour Topping documented on the ground the tumultuous events during the Chinese Civil War, the French Indochina War, and the American retreat from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. In this riveting narrative, Topping chronicles his extraordinary experiences covering the East-West struggle in Asia and Eastern Europe from 1946 into the 1980s, taking us beyond conventional historical accounts to provide a fresh, first-hand perspective on American triumphs and defeats during the Cold War era.

At the close of World War II, Topping—who had served as an infantry officer in the Pacific—reported for the International News Service from Beijing and Mao’s Yenan stronghold before joining the Associated Press in Nanking, Chiang Kai-shek’s capital. He covered the Chinese Civil War for the next three years, often interviewing Nationalist and Communist commanders in combat zones. Crossing Nationalist lines, Topping was captured by Communist guerrillas and tramped for days over battlefields to reach the People’s Liberation Army as it advanced on Nanking. The sole correspondent on the battlefield during the decisive Battle of the Huai-Hai, which sealed Mao’s victory, Topping later scored a world-wide exclusive as the first journalist to report the fall of the capital.

In 1950, Topping opened the Associated Press bureau in Saigon, becoming the first American correspondent in Vietnam. In 1951, John F. Kennedy, then a young congressman on a fact-finding visit to Saigon, sought out Topping for a briefing. Assignments in London and West Berlin followed, then Moscow and Hong Kong for the New York Times. During those years Topping reported on the Chinese intervention in the Korean conflict, Mao’s Cultural Revolution and its preceding internal power struggle, the Chinese leader’s monumental ideological split with Nikita Khrushchev, the French Indochina War, America’s Vietnam War, and the genocides in Cambodia and Indonesia. He stood in the Kremlin with a vodka-tilting Khrushchev on the night the Cuban missile crisis ended and interviewed Fidel Castro in Havana on its aftermath.

Throughout this captivating chronicle, Topping also relates the story of his marriage to Audrey Ronning, a world-renowned photojournalist and writer and daughter of the Canadian ambassador to China. As the couple traveled from post to post reporting on some of the biggest stories of the century in Asia and Eastern Europe, they raised five daughters. In an epilogue, Topping cites
lessons to be learned from the Asia wars which could serve as useful guides for American policymakers in dealing with present-day conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

From China to Indochina, Burma to Korea and beyond, Topping did more than report the news; he became involved in international diplomacy, enabling him to gain extraordinary insights. In On the Front Lines of the Cold War, Topping shares these insights, providing an invaluable eyewitness account of some of the pivotal moments in modern history.


NO SENSE OF DECENCY: THE ARMY-MCCARTHY HEARINGS: A DEMAGOGUE FALLS AND TELEVISION TAKES CHARGE OF AMERICAN POLITICS
By Robert Shogan
Reviewed by Frank DeBenedictis

Historians discussing McCarthyism’s impact traditionally viewed its main legacy as one of political repression and fear. Cold War anti-Communism was augmented by Senator Joseph McCarthy’s ruthless ambition adding to his demagogic mystique. Author Robert Shogan’s new book readily acknowledges this traditional interpretation, and for good reason. “McCarthyism” as terminology survived well beyond the 1950s. However, the author of No Sense of Decency: The Army-McCarthy Hearings: A Demagogue Falls and Television Takes Charge of American Politics argues that McCarthyism’s most important legacy was television’s introduction into the political debate.

Joe McCarthy did not create the Red Scare of the late 1940s and early 1950s. It was well underway in 1950 as McCarthy spoke in Wheeling, West Virginia charging Communist influence in the State Department. Robert Shogan’s book focuses on McCarthy’s charges being further aided by television reporting.

Television launched McCarthy’s rise. And as if the law of gravity took hold, his fall came just as dramatically. Shogan argues it directly resulted from his televised battles with the US Army. Consequently No Sense of Decency emphasizes the Army-McCarthy hearings, which started in April 1954, lasted 36 days over a two months period, and consumed 188 hours of television time.

Famed broadcast journalist Edward R. Murrow is given his due by Shogan for defusing the fearful campaign of the Wisconsin Senator. Murrow, who was an ardent anti-Communist, more importantly functioned in this episode as consummate broadcast professional. He pointed out
inaccuracies in McCarthy’s diatribes, and courageously exposed his bullying tactics. Murrow’s contribution in getting America out of this dark era is worthy. However, the author feels television’s impact went beyond Murrow, as the Army-McCarthy televised hearings revealed.

By June 1951 McCarthy’s anti-Communism went beyond the pale as he described General George Marshall, the World War II and Cold War hero, as being part of a “conspiracy so immense.” McCarthy extended this criticism to former Secretary of State Dean Acheson, President Harry Truman, and finally in 1954 to the Army. Shogan’s Army-McCarthy narrative includes McCarthy’s encounter with witness counsel Joseph Welch, who echoed a growing sentiment when he said, “Have you no sense of decency sir?” The questioning was related to Fred Fisher, a young attorney, who had been a previous member of the left wing National Lawyer’s Guild. Welch’s acidic comeback froze McCarthy, and this TV segment began his downfall.

George Clooney’s film Goodnight and Goodluck musical score featured jazz singer Diane Reeves, singing a tune titled TV is the Thing This Year. It could have been a signature song for Shogan’s book as well as Clooney’s movie about Edward R. Murrow’s McCarthy era story. Shogan writes, “With the passage of time, the condemnation of McCarthy, and the unraveling of his career, it became evident that while there may have been a number of losers, the biggest one by far was McCarthy himself. And just as clear was that there was one big winner. And that was television.”

The author turns to television’s continuing influence in the Vietnam War. Television’s early war support, contrasted with its later opposition again called attention to this medium. What he doesn’t do is write in detail about the persons hurt by McCarthy, which is arguably beyond the book’s scope. Vietnam and television coverage has a similar story as Vietnam veterans were slandered, and associated in general with individual atrocities. This treatment was in fact worse than McCarthy era witch hunt victims. Revelations about veteran’s atrocities and Vietnam War deterioration was largely made possible by television coverage.

Shogan also writes about the war in Iraq and television’s role. He closes convincingly; persuading the reader that the Army-McCarthy hearing’s television coverage, along with Edward R. Murrow’s broadcast may well have been the most significant events of the McCarthy era. In bringing up Vietnam and Iraq, the author strengthens his argument on the McCarthy era, and establishes the continuity of television’s importance for the decades to come.

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USAFSS Members that were Stationed at Darmstadt and Augsburg - www.6910th.net
Republic of China (Taiwan) Air Force Major learning to fly the U-2 -
www.hmhf.info/SG_09E.html
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More about the U-2 at Military.com's Equipment Guide –
http://tech.military.com/equipment/view/89724/u-2r-u-2s.html

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Dallas Public Library Finding Aid [INDEX] For the JFK Collection –
A Good Description Of The SA-2 From A Recently Released Source –
http://sites.google.com/site/samsimulator1972/home/docs

U-2 Flight With Camera In Cockpit - www.wimp.com/breathtakingfootage

Vietnam Battle Area That Was Active Early In The Conflict - www.thebattleofkontum.com

Left's Revisions Can't Diminish Reagan's Berlin Legacy –
www.redcounty.com/LEFTS-REVISED-CANT-DIMINISH-REAGANS-BERLIN-LEGACY

Berlin 1962 One Year After The Wall Went Up –
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Czechoslovakia-1948-1956 –

The Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the Security Services Archive -
www.ustrcr.cz/cs/informacni-brozura

A Preview Of 200 Photographs On The Subject Of The Nuclear Bomb –
www.flickr.com/photos/ordinary-light/sets/72157622716315469/

"Keep on, Keepin' on" Dan Cedusky, Champaign IL "Colonel Dan" -
www.angelfire.com/il2/VeteranIssues

Cartoon of Washington Monument becoming a Titan I missile –
www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=jEjUAnPc2VA

Army Security Agency (ASA) Info –
www.nasaa-home.org
www.asalives.org
www.Ultimatesacrificememorialssupportcenter.com

European Experiences of the Cold War –
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebx5gN1t5w and
www.whatliesbeneath.org.uk

“THE END”

Thank you for your interest in The Cold War Times and support of The Cold War Museum. It has been an honor and priviledged for me to move the museum forward over these past 13 years. I want to thank everyone who has supported this effort from the time of its inception on July 16, 1996. I could not have moved the museum forward to this point without the assistance of the board of directors, financial supporters, artifact donors, oral history providers, and numerous volunteers.
I am excited about our new home at Vint Hill. Now is the time that I need your help the most. 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.

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.

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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