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OLD SCHOOL SPY GEAR MEETS HIGH TECH STORAGE MEDIA

New Hollow Spy Coins Will Encapsulate the Micro SD Memory Card

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

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

The Dereu Manufacturing Company produces these hollow coins in their own shop in Missouri, one at a time using manual metal working machinery. When assembled, these coins are absolutely indistinguishable from a solid coin to the naked eye. They can be safely handled without danger of separation, and a special tool is included to take them apart.

With this marriage of old and new technology, the bearer of one of these hollow coins can conceal in his pocket change enough government, corporate or personal data to fill several hundred volumes, and carry this data unfettered through airports and across International borders. The complete line of these items can be found at www.Spy-Coins.com.

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

THIS ISSUE DEDICATED TO U-2 PILOT JOHN SHINN

John trained and deployed with CIA U-2 Detachment C at Groom Lake, a.k.a. Watertown in 1956, and was backup pilot for Francis Gary Powers on May 1, 1960. He was a member of Daedalian Mile High Flight 18. John Shinn took his final flight in Lubbock, TX on Sunday, 16 August. A memorial service for John, organized by his fellow U-2 pilots, took place in Lubbock on 21 August. His inurnment was at Ft Logan National Cemetery in Denver on Friday, 11 Sept.

THE COLD WAR MUSEUM

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

Over the past decade, the Cold War Museum has made great strides in honoring Cold War veterans and preserving Cold War history. I am pleased to report that The Cold War Museum board of directors has entered into lease negotiations 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 storage space for our $3 million in Cold War artifacts.

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 National Electronics Museum (www.hem-usa.org) near Baltimore, MD will display the mobile U-2 Incident exhibit through December 2009. The Virginia Historical Society (www.vahistorical.org) in Richmond, Virginia will hosts 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 on exhibit bookings and tours.

The Cold War Museum is pleased to announce the chapter formation of The Cold War Museum-Moscow. I would like to thank volunteer Jason Smart of Northern Virginia for all the hard work he has done to establish this chapter, which compliments the museum chapters in Berlin, Germany; Hollywood, Florida; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin staffed by volunteers. For additional information, visit www.coldwar.org/museum/museum_chapters.html.

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 50 anniversary of the U-2 Incident. To commemorate this historic flight, I am working with AAA to organize a trip to Moscow and the crash site May 1-10, 2010. If you would like to join me on this tour, please email gpowersjr@garypowers.com. Visit www.garypowers.com to view my online bio and 50th Anniversary related lectures and events.

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

Please consider a 2009 contribution. Our CFC number is #12524. 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.

Francis Gary Powers, Jr. - Founder
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www.coldwar.org / gpowersjr@coldwar.org
THE COLD WAR MUSEUM - MIDWEST (CHAPTER UPDATE)
By Chris Sturdevant, Midwest President

On November 11 at 6pm we are hosting an event at Carroll University in conjunction with the NEA's Big Read. Charles Byler, professor of history, will speak on the deployment of US troops in North Russia and Siberia during WWI. We will also show clips of "Voices of a Never Ending Dawn", a documentary of soldiers deployed to the region. The producer may be in the area to introduce the clips. More info can be found here: www.polarbeardocumentary.com/index.html.

Fund-raising at Miller Park (See Photo above) yielded approximately $3200 over the course of the season. We have received all but $800. Many thanks to the people who helped out at the ballpark and will look into this opportunity next year.

We are invited to participate with the annual history program hosted by Central Alternative High School in Dubuque, IA. Apollo astronaut Scott Carpenter and SR-71 creator Bill Fox will present in March 2010. Past events have involved the Tuskegee Airmen, the Cold War with Gail Halverson and Gary Powers, and Little Rock Nine, among others.

(Photo: a plaque commissioned to honor American pilots who died during the airlift.)

The other project brewing is displaying B52 crash pieces and hosting a program in conjunction with the New Berlin Public Library. These pieces were found at a crash site near St. Paul, MN. The B52 was on a training mission from Loring AFB in Maine. The program will aim educate how the Cold War was a deadly conflict.

On Thursday July 30 Baerbel Simon, CWM Berlin Chapter, presented the history of the Berlin Airlift with the Rotary Club of Des Plaines, IL. Rotary is partnering with the Cold War Museum on educational projects of Cold War historical importance.

Baerbel shared her experience as a child during the Berlin Airlift and the conflict’s role in shaping the Cold War for nearly fifty years. Basic necessities like food dropped from the sky to keep Berliners alive, even gum and chocolates dropped by pilots such as “Candy Bomber” Gail Halverorson. She also shared the appreciation and sacrifice of Air Force pilots during this bleak time. Thirty one Air Force personnel died keeping West Berlin alive and free.
If you would like to become involved with the Midwest Chapter or have any suggestions or ideas for the Museum, please let me know.

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THE COLD WAR MUSEUM - BERLIN (CHAPTER UPDATE)
By Baerbel E. Simon – The Cold War Museum – German Affairs
Photos: Horst Simon, Berlin Chapter

Dear Adviser and Friends of the Cold War Museum / Berlin Chapter

I am pleased to offer the following report about the activities and developments of The Cold War Museum - Berlin. We have had a very interesting invitation to an event. We returned to the United Kingdom on September 24, 2009. The Secretary of State had invited us to the Commemoration of the End of the Berlin Airlift Operation which was been held at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire on September 26.

The Veterans of the Berlin Airlift marked the 60th anniversary of the end of the Operation with a special ceremony at the National Memorial Arboretum yesterday (see photo). More than 500 people arrived for a service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance at Alrewas, Staffordshire, to mark the occasion and to pay tribute to the 39 British and Commonwealth service personnel and civilians who died during the Berlin Airlift.

A letter from the City Mayor of Berlin, Klaus Wowereit, was read from the Military Attaché of the
German Embassy, Brig Gen Franz Nolte. He said: "The wave of solidarity West Berlin experienced back then has never been forgotten."

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.

(Photo: Flyover at Berlin Airlift Anniversary Event)

On Friday September 25 a conference was held at the Tillington Hall Hotel for High School students from the Staffordshire area to inform them about the Berlin Airlift. Fifty students together with their teachers attended. The mobile Berlin Airlift Exhibition was also exhibited at the conference. I want express my gratitude to all who made this event possible.

November 9, 2009 marks the 20th Anniversary when the Berlin Wall came down.

The beginning -- “No one has any intention of building a wall.”

Walter Ulbricht, head of the GDR State Council, discusses the “Berlin Question” at an international press conference on June 15, 1961, at the House of Ministries in East Berlin. In his speech, Ulbricht welcomed Soviet proposals for a peace treaty and called for the neutralization of West Berlin. Additionally, he stressed that the GDR leadership had no intention of building a wall.

August 13, 1961 the erection of the Berlin Wall

When the East German Authorities closed the border between East and West Berlin on August 13, and the Berlin Wall was erected in late August, this was to stop the movement from East Berlin to West Berlin. The East German Parliament has built up the high concrete wall in response to a communique from Warsaw Pact Nations appealing for a halt in the mass exodus of East Berliners and East Germans that had embarrassed communist regimes as 2,300 people per day crossed from East to West, most of the refugees were young, and well educated people.
November 9, 1989 when the Berlin Wall came down.
Timeline 1989

"The Wall … will still be standing in fifty and even a hundred years' time": that's what Erich Honecker is still saying at the end of January 1989. And the GDR does seem stable to most people at the time, even though the dilapidated condition of industrial plants, the old parts of cities and the roads, as well as the air and water pollution, all herald the imminent economic disaster.

But the pressure to carry out changes in the GDR comes from outside. The Soviet Union is in a deep economic and political crisis.

To end the arms race and limit military spending, the leaders in Moscow and all their allies sign the CSCE agreement in January 1989. Among other things, they undertake to guarantee all citizens the right to leave a country and return again.

On May 2 1989, Hungarian border troops take down the barbed-wire fence to Austria. In the GDR, the first demonstrations are held to demand the right to leave the country: over 100,000 people are waiting for their applications for exit visas to be approved. But the GDR government remains firm.

At the start of the summer holidays, a large number of GDR citizens decide to do something about the situation: they occupy the Permanent Mission of West Germany in East Berlin and the West German embassies in Warsaw, Prague and Budapest. Thousands of mostly young people travel to Hungary with the aim of reaching West Germany via Austria.

On September 10, the Hungarian government opens the border to Austria for GDR citizens as well. The Wall is crumbling, but the SED party still has support in Prague.

GDR citizens are forbidden to cross the border from Czechoslovakia to Hungary. At the end of September, over 10,000 GDR citizens occupy the West German embassy in Prague to force the authorities to allow them to leave. On September 30, Honecker gives in and lets the refugees go. West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher announces the news from the balcony of the Prague embassy.

The GDR government continues its firm stance and shuts the border to the CSSR. At the same time, Honecker gives the order to "nip in the bud" the ever more frequent demonstrations. His plan to bring up tanks in Leipzig "for intimidation purposes" is however rejected by military leaders. On October 17, Erich Honecker is ousted from office in the SED Politburo. His successor, Egon Krenz, announces a "turning point", but the demonstrations against the SED now spread across the entire GDR. Hundreds of thousands of people demand free elections, permission to form opposition groups and freedom to travel. And, on November 9, the Wall finally comes down.

The chronicle of the year 1989 traces the stages of dissolution, exodus and protest. It focuses upon the dramatic events before and after the fall of the Wall – reconstructed and illustrated with
documents, film and audio material, photographs and eyewitness interviews. Leading politicians like George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev, Helmut Kohl and Egon Krenz have a say along with generals and officers of the Ministry for State Security and the National People’s Army (Nationale Volksarmee), as well as normal Berliners who helped bring down the Wall.

1990 the Legendary Wall-picture
By Ralf Dentzer

In January 1990 we visited the Berlin Wall behind the “Reichtags-Building after a Frisbee tournament. After we had thrown a disc several times through and over the gone Berlin Wall, an East German frontier soldier told us in a friendly manner to leave the East German side. I asked him if he didn’t want to throw the disc, since we would go soon.

After initial hesitation Thomas Müller threw the disc through this hole in the Berlin Wall. A German T.V. station, the ZDF, and their show “lass Dich überraschen” had managed it in June 2001 that the picture was admitted to the museum “Story of Berlin” as a permanent exhibition object.

The then Governing Mayor of Berlin, Mr. Eberhard Diepgen, revealed the exhibition in the museum. He told me that he insisted on revealing this important document of our time himself although he was under pressure at the time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22. January 1990</td>
<td>The photo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1990</td>
<td>Publication: the National Sport Association NRW publishes the photo for the first time on the front page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 1990</td>
<td>Publication: Washington DC. Frisbee Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1990</td>
<td>Publication: UPA USA (official organ of the world Frisbee association) title: East Block Ultimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. October 1990</td>
<td>Publication: the Aachen newspaper published the photo with the addition: a sport photo of historical value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1990</td>
<td>The National Championship of the USA is dedicated to freedom, because of the photo. The American player Julie Halpern had sent the photo to the contest.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 - CARIBBEAN (CHAPTER UPDATE)
By Raul Colon, Chairman

The beginning of autumn could not have been more exiting for the Caribbean Chapter of the Cold War. It all started in late August when our Chapter was granted special access to the Luis Muñoz Marin Foundation. The former Puerto Rican governor state gave us a cradle of information regarding the first decade of the Cold War. We found hundreds of newspaper articles and clippings from the late 1940s and the early fifties. After acquiring the necessary releases, our technical team has begun to digitalize most of them.

We expect to have the first batch of articles, with photos, in digital format by late November. Our members, as well as any visitors, will have the opportunity to review it on the Chapter’s webpage as early as December. This is the first step towards acquiring one of the most complete data banks relating to the conflict in the region.

Keeping up with our desire to educate the public about the events that marked the Cold War, we commenced a program of interactive educational conference. The first of those was given on October 26th to the Eurasia International Policy Institute. It is our hope that this new vehicle will serve as a model for future educational endeavors.

On October 1st, 2009, the Puerto Rican Senate gave the Chapter a Motion of Congratulation for our efforts of establishing this unique platform. I, as the chairman, accepted the honor on behalf of our 100-strong membership. That an institution of the prestige and history of the Senate decided to recognize our efforts speak volumes of the work the Chapter had done doing since its foundation almost a year ago.

In the months ahead, and with the help of our ever-growing membership, the Chapter plans to open a Museum on San Juan. After eight long months of relentless work, we have been granted permanent access to a local facility for the incorporation of a permanent exhibit. This ‘new house’ will give the Chapter an important footprint in our community. In the months ahead we will keep you all posted about any development of this front.

Of course, all our work is circle around our veterans and their families. Because of this, last September our organization entered into an agreement with the United States Veterans
Administration, National Cemetery of Puerto Rico to serve as volunteers in cleanup, planning and building efforts at the Bayamon facility. It’s a great honor and distinction to be part of a select group of institutions that provided this much needed servicing to the men and women who represented us with such pride and honor.

As we move forward towards the Holiday Season, the Caribbean Chapter will begin a series of activities related to commemorate our first year as an organization. You can see all the information regarding this, and all of our activities, in our website or at our Facebook Group.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Regards,

Raul Colon
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www.coldwar.org/caribbean.

THE COLD WAR MUSEUM - SOUTHEAST (CHAPTER UPDATE)
By Paul Spiewak, Director

While we are still not "official," due to extremely difficult registration problems in the State of Florida, we have high hopes of clearing that hurdle within the next few weeks.

Meanwhile we have been trying to find a permanent home for the museum. Our efforts in South East Florida, where we are headquartered, seems to have approached a dead end. Every official we contacted is in favor of having it here, but there is no community effort to see that it gets accomplished.

Undaunted, we have started to explore the contacts developed over the past twenty years with Convention & Visitors Bureaus throughout the country. This is being done on a highly selective basis. Unfortunately, no one is prepared to act instantly, and the proposal has to work its way through proper channels. Almost always it is a matter of politics.

Nevertheless, we have two good possibilities for what we deem is a "good" or excellent location. If either come through, we expect that it will be on a rent-free basis. Meanwhile, our fund raising activities, and membership solicitations are on "hold," as we cannot legally engage in this until we are cleared by the State of Florida.

Paul Spiewak
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“NEW” THE COLD WAR MUSEUM - MOSCOW (CHAPTER UPDATE)
By J. Smart, jasonjaysmart@gmail.com

The Cold War Museum: The Social Networking Initiative

The Cold War Museum recently stepped into the “social networking age” and began an international Facebook presence. Since its inception this past May, The Facebook Cold War Museum Group (FBCWMG) has over 520 members and is growing exponentially. A target of 1,000 members has been set and is a realistic goal by the end of the year. This rapid growth is attributable to several factors: For one, Facebook allows people of like interests to readily join together to promote a common cause; Secondly, the leadership of the FBCWMG reached out to already existing Cold War historical/veterans'/memorial groups to encourage them to join our organization; Lastly, the CWMFBG sought to unite the already existing chapters of the Cold War Museum on Facebook.

The long term promise of our “virtual community” is this: With the click of a button, over 500 people can be mobilized to promote our legislative and fundraising objectives. We can readily communicate with people from around the globe –and they can communicate with us. Also, Facebook allows for us to readily post updates, videos, pictures, articles, etc. on our “Profile Page” (i.e. “home page”) in order to keep our membership well informed and involved. Raul Colon, Mike Hassett, Jim Weller and Steve Shaw have been a great help in building this effort.

Since I will shortly be moving to the Russia, Gary asked me to head-up the effort to establish another chapter, The Cold War Museum-Moscow. In addition, we have decided to also 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. This will allow us to reach out to the Russian speaking world (i.e. the people of the former Soviet Union) to promote our mutual interest in preserving local, regional, national, and international Cold War history.

As always, I am anxious to find new volunteers, veterans and historians that would like to contribute to our important effort - if you are interested in helping me to build up our Moscow chapter (via donating your time, Cold War artifacts, financial contributions), please contact me. If you use Facebook or Vkontakte, please join our group!

COLD WAR ASSOCIATIONS

COLD WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Chairman’s Corner
With Vince Milum - Chairman - CWVA

The CWVA and the Greater Kansas City-area Philosophy Group continue to hold their monthly joint meetings.
The focus of our meeting on Saturday, September 12 was the breakdown in civility occurring in our public discourse. As a result, the following question served to guide our discussion:

Name three specific things you believe are necessary to usher in a more civil world order.

(We continue to invite responses from others on this topic.)

For our meeting on Saturday, October 17, we assigned two questions in advance of our meeting. The first deals with the nation's economic crisis while the latter deals with the failure of systems to deliver on their promises (often with catastrophic results) (e.g., communism):

(a) What measures do you recommend to improve the (US) national economy that would generate a broad consensus?

(b) Why do utopian dreams (almost) invariably result in dystrophic realities when implemented on a large scale?

On Saturday, August 22, 2009, the CWVA and the Greater Kansas City-area Philosophy Group had James Everett as their (return) guest speaker. James, who is a 17-year CIA veteran, discussed the history, theology and political influence of two (intertwined) indigenous faith groups. In addition to speaking to the group about the Latter Day Saints (i.e., "Mormons") and Community of Christ (formerly the RLDS), Jim spoke to the group about two recently revealed CIA controversies: (a) the CIA's contracting of Blackwater (now "Xe") to carry out assassinations (in violation of U.S. and international law) and (b) the CIA having engaged in mock executions (also in violation of U.S. and international law). Vince Milum (who worked for the National Security Agency) joined Jim in denouncing the CIA's actions with both Jim and Vince explaining to the group why these disreputable activities are harmful to the nation's long-term security interests (irrespective of the moral implications).

Also the group discussed the following question, "What collegiate education requirements should be instituted for NCOs?" in response to an Op-Ed by an Army officer attending the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth.

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

AMERICAN COLD WAR VETERANS, INC.

During the fall, we have been working with members of the US House and Senate on legislation of interest to Cold War Veterans. They have requested recommendations from us regarding language of these bills. We should have specific information on bills introduced within the next two weeks, and will post details at www.americancoldwarvets.org. We
are also observing the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Especially noteworthy is the November issue of VFW Magazine, which features articles on the Cold War. With their permission, we are posting copies of these articles at www.americancoldwarvets.org. All comments on these articles should be directed to magazine@vfw.org.

Excerpts of these articles are presented here:

FALL OF BERLIN FREES EAST EUROPE
By Lee Edwards

"On a cool November evening 20 years ago, the infamous Berlin Wall came tumbling down without a shot being fired...Among the rapt observers were the Americans serving in the Berlin Brigade, a 6,000-man unit that had been patrolling the 96-mile Wall dividing the city since 1961."

COMMEMORATING COLD WAR COMBAT CASUALTIES
By The Editors, VFW Magazine

"This is VFW’s tribute to America’s Cold War killed in action, one that the nation as a whole has far too long neglected to offer. No doubt, due to the secretive nature (of Cold War Operations). Some 382 Americans were killed as a result of direct enemy action during the Cold War—those military actions between 1945 and 1991 beyond the scope of the Korean and Vietnam wars. This tally includes only those documented military personnel or government operatives killed by communists. In some operations, other servicemen were killed accidentally or in “friendly-fire” incidents. Still others, Air Force and Navy aviators, were lost in operational flights directed at the enemy, but died in aircraft accidents. Hence they are not part of this figure. If the cause of a downed aircraft is inconclusive, the crew members are nonetheless included. Moreover, many thousands of GIs were killed on maneuvers, training for potential major confrontations with communist forces. During the Korean and Vietnam war eras, tens of thousands of Americans in uniform died outside the war zones from non-hostile causes: 2,329 in Germany alone between 1965 and 1975, for example. This fatal casualty count is for the hostile deaths the U.S. public has so long been led to believe never occurred."

'YOU WON THE COLD WAR'
By The Editors, VFW Magazine

"As President Reagan would have no doubt been the first to agree, it was those who provided the muscle behind the policies that ensured victory. Americans in uniform and their civilian intelligence counterparts, in other words, made victory possible. Millions of Americans served in the Cold War between 1945 and 1991. Many were in overlooked campaigns, crises, and confrontations and on forgotten fronts beyond the full-fledged wars in Korea and Vietnam...It is to these servicemen the public owes a special debt of gratitude. And it is on this 20th anniversary..."
of the Berlin Wall’s fall that we remind the nation of that debt" In the words of Senator Bob Dole, "You have won the Cold War. … [Your] underappreciated valor [helped] topple the Berlin Wall, and bring down dictators the world over. … For the past four decades the world behind the Iron Curtain … looked to Americans for hope, and America looked to you to get the job done. Today, the free world says thank you.” Senator Bob Dole, May 24, 1990.

SELFLESS COURAGE
By Tim Dyhouse.

"A 20-year-old Marine sacrificed his life in November 1979 defending the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan from a murderous mob during a seven-hour siege. In doing so, he became the first American killed in action fighting Islamic militants. On the 30th anniversary of his death, we pay tribute."

We want to express our profound gratitude to the Editors and staff of VFW Magazine for a job well done!

Sean Eagan, Chairman, American Cold War Veterans
Jerry Terwilliger, Vice Chairman
Frank M. Tims, Ph.D., Legislative Director
(727) 867--8137

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

ALLIED FORCES COLD WAR ASSOCIATION [ AFCWA ]
By Michael W. (Mick) Stewart, AFCWA National Commander

Little known to even military historians is the war the French call, "les oublies guerre d'indochine" - The Forgotten War. The first shot across the bow during the opening salvos of the Cold War was not Korea, Vietnam or the space race. The Cold War was officially opened in 1946 with the Communist infiltration into the former French colony of Indochina (officially part of Cochinchina), when forces of Ho Chi Minh and Giap, invaded from their protective sanctuary into the upper Viet Bac of the country. For nearly 9 years the French fought a massive Communist insurgency with no money (her currency was devalued from the end of WWII), little support (only the U.S. provided aid) and manpower. They fought heroically, but the war ended in a community victory in 1954 with the fall of the garrison at the provincial town of Dien Bien Phu.

The war has disappeared from history (like its veterans) and is quietly forgotten in France, receives no attention in America and is wiped from the psyche of the Vietnamese. Yet ... it is now starting to receive interest from surviving veterans, historians, and historical living history recreationists.
This past weekend, the history of the French Indochina War and Vietnam War came alive with help from the Allied Forces Cold War Association's Cold War Living History Commemorative Group.

The Allied Forces Cold War Association (AFCWA) took part in the 2nd Annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion, 10-11 Oct 2009 in Houston, Texas. The organization sponsored a French Indochina War and Vietnam War weapons display at VFW Post 8905 in Cypress Texas on Saturday and then took part in a display and parade the next day at Hong Kong City Mall in "Little Saigon" - the heart of the Vietnamese community on Sunday. The AFCWA is grateful for the support of supporting elements from the 5th Special Forces Group (AIRBORNE) historical reenactment group. Members attended from as far away as Maryland. The weapons display at Saturday featured French, U.S. and German weapons used by French forces early in the war (1946-54) and later by American and ARVN forces (1960-75).

On Sunday, Oct 11, 2009, the organization took part in a parade in "Little Saigon" - the heart of the Vietnamese community in Houston, Texas. Over 20,000 people attended the parade, American and ARVN veterans "Honoring Ceremony" at the Vietnam War Memorial, and another major weapons display in the parking lot of Hong Kong City Mall, which anchored Sunday's event. We met US and ARVN veterans, French Viets who served under French command, one Foreign Legion veteran (who was Vietnamese) who survived the Route Coloniale 4 battles and hundreds of civilians who stopped by the view the weapons display.

The AFCWA is grateful for the support of the Young Vietnamese Professionals Association (YVAP), ARVN Veterans Association USA, VFW Post 8905, Maj.-Gen. John Bailey (USA Ret'd), Brigadier General Tan Si Trang (ARVN Ret'd) and various veterans and historical groups that took part.

We have been invited back next year!
Photos of the military history units that took part - www.alliedcoldwarvets.com

Video of the parade:

[ 3 min 24 sec ] www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOHAGByMPCs
[ 10 min ] www.youtube.com/user/HoustonTV#p/a/u/1/UQ_CeROSbMA

We would like to thank Dr. Alvin and Dieu Thao Nguyen, BG Trang, MG Bailey, VFW Post 8905 (Cypress, Texas), Allied Forces Cold War Assoc (AFWCA) and ARVN Veterans Associations and groups, plus all those who helped make this a successful event.

Submitted,
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FEATURED ARTICLES

FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE RED MENACE: OPPOSITION TO THE 1959 KHRUSHCHEV VISIT
By Kevin M. Singer

On September 23, 1959, Coon Rapids, Iowa became the epicenter of Cold War diplomacy as excited onlookers, State Department and White House officials, reporters and photographers converged at the farm of Roswell Garst. Soviet premier Nikita S. Khrushchev, on the Midwest leg of his coast-to-coast tour of the United States, would soon be arriving in town. He had landed in Washington only eight days earlier and since traveled to New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco on a whirlwind tour that at times tried his stamina and notorious temper. Washington had greeted Khrushchev rather coolly, and in New York protesters brandishing hostile placards caused noticeable irritation. On three occasions Khrushchev even threatened to enact the ultimate doomsday scenario: to pack his bags and return to Moscow.

In New York, at a dinner reception hosted by the city’s Economic Club, Khrushchev was treated to a spontaneous patriotic gesture, when the audience delivered an impromptu rendition of the national anthem. In Los Angeles, he was twice enraged, first by the Mayor, Norris Paulson, who laced into his Russian guest at a dinner reception with a diatribe on the strength of capitalism, and then again by Twentieth-Century Fox chairman, Spyros Skouras, who lectured Khrushchev on the virtues of American individualism and hard-work. And when police informed Khrushchev that he would be unable to visit Disneyland due to safety concerns the slightly perturbed visitor, wanting to make a scene, quipped, “Is there some kind of cholera or launching pad out there?”

Fortunately for East-West relations, San Francisco calmed his nerves. Khrushchev was charmed by the city and delighted by the warmer reception he received from its citizens. Things were looking up as he headed for Iowa. In Des Moines, before leaving for Coon Rapids, Khrushchev confessed that he had developed an admiration for American architecture, grocery stores, and...
cuisine. Upon eating his first American hot dog Khrushchev’s review was glowing: “We have beaten you to the moon, but you have beaten us in sausage making.”

In high spirits the premier arrived in Coon Rapids. The promised spectacle and historic nature of the visit transformed Garst’s quiet farm into a scene of minor chaos. Mobs of reporters and locals flooded in, slipping past National Guardsmen and police to accompany Khrushchev as he toured the farm. Reporters noticed that the visitor seemed to be enjoying the atmosphere considerably. Since his tour began, Khrushchev had complained about his limited personal contact with Americans. And as with the perceived anti-Soviet line of questioning he had faced at the National Press Club and in other public forums thus far, Khrushchev believed that his isolation from the common people was yet another scheme “instigated by official sources.” But contrary to his experiences elsewhere, the afternoon spent in Coon Rapids was shaping up to be an excellent chance for both mingling freely with the average American and a chance to discuss his passion for farming.

The idea was for Khrushchev to observe capitalist agriculture and meet with Garst, who was an old acquaintance, having visited Russia in 1955 as part of a delegation of American farmers sent to observe the Soviet kolkhozes, or collective farms, and to exchange agricultural ideas with their Soviet counterparts. Born a peasant himself, Khrushchev took pride in his reputation as an agricultural expert. The press described him as seeming the most “relaxed...in the lush cornfields of Iowa” than at any other point during the visit. Walking among the people, kissing children, and cracking jokes, Khrushchev was decidedly in his element as he basked in the fulfillment of what his visit to the United States promised: a new chapter in Soviet-American relations.

Khrushchev believed “the exchange of opinions between [the Soviet Union and the United States]...is necessary for ending the ‘cold war’ and creating an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding between our two countries.” President Eisenhower echoed this sentiment of friendship and diplomatic goodwill between the two world superpowers, as well: “In your travels across America” he remarked, “you will see how our people live. The American people want to learn from you” to acquire “mutual understanding that might lead to a rapprochement.” Citizen-diplomat Roswell Garst offered perhaps the most poignant take on this newfound faith in personal diplomacy, telling Khrushchev, “You know, we two farmers could settle the problems of the world faster than diplomats.”

Though a heightened sense of optimism over the visit was heard in some of the rhetoric out of Washington and from men of peace-seeking persuasions, like Mr. Garst, conservative anti-communists demurred. To be sure, Khrushchev’s jolly comportment – as well as his earthy good humor – won him a lot of fans in Iowa. However, many in the heartland were not pleased with the communist leader in their midst. Dana Charter, a farm-equipment salesman from Perry, Iowa told reporters that she “didn’t have anything but a low opinion of Khrushchev before he came, and it’s no higher now – maybe even lower.” Other dissenting Iowans characterized the Soviet premier as a “master liar,” “slick, smart, and shifty,” a hearty braggart and an undeniably dangerous man.

The architects of the visit, both Russian and American, understood that to a contingent of American anti-communists no amount of smiles or pleasantries would change their opinion of
the man or the country he represented. And while Khrushchev’s presence was supposed to resonate as a symbol for the promise of peace, or at the very least, an easing of Cold War tensions, to conservative anti-communists it stood for nothing more than the flagging of America’s will to resist the Soviet Union and international communism.

Anti-communism in 1959 was a ubiquitous force in American politics, yet those who shared an inveterate loathing of communism were hardly a united whole. As such, the visit is worthy of historical inquest for what it puts on display: namely, the fragmented nature of American anti-communism in the wake of Joseph McCarthy’s demise. The movement was dispersed across a myriad of committees, organizations, and groups sharing principal ideals that would, in the coming years, help these various anti-communist constituencies to coalesce around a burgeoning New Right political movement with anti-communism at its core. The membership of the New Right formed its identity in the crucible of paranoid anti-communism that marked the early post-war years; and it is evident that anti-communism lay close to the heart of the movement and became the galvanizing issue that bound the secular, mostly anti-statist right wing together with the Christian Right, which took issue with communism’s atheist stance.

Analysis of the visit has historically focused on contextualizing the event in relation to the larger Cold War narrative, with historians tending to treat the visit as an example of premature détente – a missed opportunity quashed by the shot down of Francis Gary Powers U-2 – or an interesting window into the personalities of Eisenhower and Khrushchev. The visit, however, offers much more in the way of historical importance. It serves as an excellent case study for analyzing the range and variety of anti-communist sentiment in the post-McCarthyist era – just before the dawning of Goldwater’s presidential campaign. It was moment of crisis and controversy, in which anti-communists were forced to articulate the principles that guided them. In the didactic perorations of its leaders and manifestations of dissent and protest, where points of contact between various groups were made, anti-communism revealed its intense and sincere conviction that the United States was engaged in an epic spiritual crusade against the Soviet Union.

Furthermore, the visit also raises questions about the degree of devotion with which the Eisenhower administration actually accepted this new course in diplomacy aimed at reducing Cold War tensions. Though committed to the core principles of the Cold War, Eisenhower was by no means a radical zealot. He saw the path towards improved relations, and eventually peace with the Soviets, realistically. That is, he saw it as a long, drawn-out process, with minor victories along the way. Disarmament talks, cultural exchanges, political settlements, and official visits would mark small but important steps down the path towards ultimate peace. Still, despite Eisenhower’s belief in a gradual thaw with the Soviet Union, the visit lent cause for concerns over the potential propaganda fodder it might afford the Soviet Union; in addition to worries about the damage it could potentially do to the Western Alliance and morale of the Captive Nations.

The State Department and the office of the president’s Press Secretary, James Hagerty, conspired to manipulate news coverage of the visit and to educate reporters with facts and talking points so as to effectively challenge Khrushchev’s claims and mitigate their impact. Ironically, the same misgivings, suspicions, and concerns about Cold War commitments (both literally to other nations, and figuratively as both superpower and spiritual anti-communist leader), which
weighed heavily on the mind’s of policy-makers as they struggled over the cost-benefit calculus of the visit, were similar in nature to those raised by conservative anti-communists, who were also worried about the effects Khrushchev’s visit might have on the morale citizen’s and foreign allies.

To complete this article, please visit www.coldwar.org/museum/documents/face-to-facewiththeredmenaceoppositiontothe1959khrushchevvisit.htm.

NIKE IN FAIRFAX: NOT SO BAD NEIGHBORS
By Daniel Ranard

When the United States Army established a Cold War missile defense site in a rural part of Fairfax County, Virginia, locals were more accepting of their new co-inhabitants than one might expect. Local resident Mr. Malpass, for one, did not seem to mind. Each day, he brought his hogs down to the kitchens of the 71st Antiaircraft Missile Battalion's battery and fed his animals the leftover scraps. Each year, Mr. Malpass returned the kindness with a pig roast at the battery, and one by one the soldiers rotated off duty, taking turns to grab their share (S. Crow, personal communication, December 30, 2008).

The battery was part of a missile defense system announced in 1951 intended to protect selected cities throughout the country from an aerial attack on American soil. Chosen cities were surrounded by a ring of missile defense sites. Three such sites would end up in Fairfax County, Virginia, protecting the nation’s capital (Bright, 1997). While the extensive defense system was borne amid controversy—critics questioned the effectiveness of the expensive new “Nike” missiles—what is perhaps more interesting is the potential controversy that did not occur (Norris, 1954). As the Nike sites were installed in Fairfax County, Virginia and around the country, local uneasiness was short-lived. With the sites’ roaring diesel generators and possible safety hazards, they had the potential to be the worst of possible neighbors. Instead, the three Nike missile sites in Fairfax County grew to be quite the opposite. During the 1950s and 60s, at a time when the Cold War weighed heavily on the minds of Americans, the three Nike Missile sites in Fairfax County became a welcome presence and an active part of the local community.

In 1945, the United States detonated the first nuclear bomb and brought an end to the Second World War; in 1949, the Russians detonated their first nuclear bomb, and the Cold War began (Bender, 2004). Within the next decade, Mr. Malpass could be found feeding his hogs the leftover scraps from the 71st battalion, and cities across the nation were encircled by over 100 missile sites similar to those in Fairfax. The Nike antiaircraft missiles were hoped to be the last line of defense against the Soviets’ extended-range bombers.

The first successful generation of Nike missiles (“Nike,” after the Greek goddess of victory) was dubbed Nike Ajax. First tested in 1951 and declared operational in 1953, these missiles were later replaced with Nike Hercules, an improved version of the missile sporting nuclear warheads. Each missile site included a launching area where the missiles were stored in addition to a radar and control facility (Bender, 2004). The launching area, radar facility, and surrounding buffer zone totaled thirty to fifty acres (Bright, 1997, p. 326). After winning approval of the Nike project over competing missile systems, the Army faced its first public relations hurdle: land
acquisition. The Army Corp of Engineers was responsible for obtaining the property, and all land used for the sites needed to meet several specifications (Bright, 1997, p. 332). “Army Buying in Suburbs” announced a Washington headline (1953), while a Time magazine article warned that “[w]hile doing their defending duty, the Nikes will not be desirable neighbors” (“Winged Victory,” 1953). Thus began the Nike’s relationship with the American community.

Despite the inauspicious national press, land acquisition flowed relatively smoothly in Fairfax County, where three missile sites were established in Herndon, Fairfax, and Lorton, from North to South, in the years of 1956, 1955, and 1953 (Bright, 1997). To appreciate the ease with which Nike had its start in Fairfax County, one must first consider some of the roadblocks that occurred elsewhere. In Connecticut, desired locations conflicted with school construction plans; in New Jersey, park officials preferred not to have a missile site on the Watchung Reservation (Witkin, 1955). “Put Your Nike Somewhere Else, Suburbs Tell Army,” the New York Daily News reported (1954). The problem was that often, the army was simply unable to “put their Nike somewhere else”—elaborate specifications and the necessary spacing of the sites demanded that they be placed only in certain locations (Witkin, 1955).

In Fairfax County, no such commotion was documented in the local media but that does not suggest Nike settled in without discord (Bright, 1997, p. 327). The Army’s use of private land did in fact lead to some grumbling. Mr. Moir F. Bowman, for example, was not at all pleased to discover that portions of his orchard were cleared to avoid potential radar interference at the Fairfax site (Bright, 1997, p. 332). Meanwhile, at the Herndon site, land was claimed from Ned Turner and Ida Money (Bright, 1997, p. 317); fortunately, land at the Lorton site could be procured from a government-owned cornfield used by the Lorton prison.

The successful acquisition of land did not spell the end of all possible troubles. The Nike sites were not, at least initially, the best of neighbors. First, their structure was likely a blot in the landscape, with their radar towers, launching platforms, and 30-foot missiles (Bright, 1997). Neighbors to the Nike sites elsewhere worried about declining real estate values, although it is unknown whether this was an issue in Fairfax. Then, there were more bothersome issues. Site operations required substantial electrical power, and the use of loud diesel generators spurred some complaints. The generators produced “a whining [sound]… a tremendous amount of noise” remembers one Nike veteran from the Lorton site (Crow). The battery was responsive to the community and outfitted the generators with heavy mufflers, although “they still made a lot of noise” the Colonel admitted.

Another concern was the threat of falling missile parts. The “boosters” that accelerated the missiles in the first seconds of flight were discarded, left to fall on nearby property. Locals were worried about the boosters “breaking away, coming through roofs,” and some residents may have contacted lawyers (Crow). Luckily for both Washington and the neighbors, there was neither a single missile launched from Fairfax nor a single roof smashed. Boosters were not the only possible safety hazard. In 1955, a malfunctioning missile launched from a Maryland Nike site and exploded in the sky (Levier, 1955a). However, no property was damaged, and the accident was not a source of worry in the Fairfax community (Crow).
Although the new Nike sites may have had a lukewarm reception, it did not last long. A Nike veteran involved in the establishment of the Lorton site said that several meetings were held in which residents could learn about the Nike project and voice any of their concerns. One Colonel involved with the Nike sites in later years said of the Fairfax community, “They were very nice, very good to us” (T. Smith, personal communication, December 30, 2008).

At first, the Nike sites remained somewhat secretive—much of the information concerning them was classified, and civilians were not allowed to enter the site or take photographs. All of that changed when the batteries were opened to the public and the Lorton site was toured by the national media (Levier, 1955b). Lorton would become the home of the nation’s premier Nike battery, the “national show battery.” Visitors were allowed to tour the site, and four levels of privilege were offered (Crow). Level I allowed a minimum of information, while Level IV included a full tour of the site save for the underground “exclusion area.” International dignitaries and government visitors received the Level IV tour, which could include guard dog demonstrations and simulated missile alerts (Smith).

The Nike batteries formed several positive relationships with the surrounding community. One relationship of note was that of the Lorton battery and the nearby prison. The site’s proximity to the penitentiary did create some problems: one Colonel recalls an instance in which the sirens from a Nike drill prompted the confused prison guards to search local highways in pursuit of prisoners who had not actually escaped—apparently, the sirens were not unlike those meant to alert guards to a prison break (Crow). However, the issue was resolved quickly, and those at the Lorton site enjoyed their spot next to the prison. The battery was on a piece of the land farmed by a group of prisoners, mainly alcoholics, whose continual confinement a judge had deemed unnecessary. The food was provided to the prison as well as homeless in D.C.; when Nike came to Lorton, the battery received bushels of corn daily. “They kept us fed,” a veteran said. The Nike men grew friendly with the prison guards, and some were brought to tour the battery (Crow; Smith).

Despite the relative isolation of the Nike sites—the Fairfax and Herndon sites were in rural parts of the county, and Lorton’s primary neighbor was the prison—the batteries became members of the civilian community. In one instance, an emergency call for blood donations to the Fairfax Station postmistress was met by several Nike men, who were “pleased to be of assistance” and cited the postmistress’ previous kindness toward the men (“Nike-Men Donate...,” 1958). In another instance, the Fairfax battery hosted a Christmas party for local schoolchildren. A captain
at the site reported that entertaining the children was one way the Nike men might enjoy their holiday away from home (“Nike Battery…,” 1955).

( Cartoon - A front-page cartoon in the Fairfax Herald demonstrates the Cold War’s prominent position in the public mind).

The opening of the sites to public access also strengthened Nike’s role in the community. Open houses were advertised in the local papers (“Open House…,” 1957), while the Lorton battery held an “Open Site Sunday” every week (“Battery ‘D’…,” 1957). Students from nearby schools visited to learn about rockets and tour the sites. Visits from dignitaries as well as locals became so frequent that the Lorton site added a building with a theater to supplement the tours with informational movies (Crow). The battery was visited by a diverse group of reporters, government leaders, local science students, and cub scouts alike.

To understand Nike’s reception into the Fairfax County community, one must understand the political climate at the time. Although the United States was not always engaged in direct warfare, the nation was nonetheless a nation at war. The same papers that featured articles about the battery Christmas parties and blood donations also ran frequent political cartoons referencing the Cold War or Russia’s threat to the West. Public service announcements appeared alongside news items, helping residents to distinguish between the “Take Cover Signal” and “Alert Signal” (“Learn Civil…,” 1955). Meanwhile, the papers made heroes of the Nike men, “on alert 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, guarding your skies” (“Open House…,” 1957). When asked about the relative ease with which Nike moved into Fairfax and assimilated into the community, one Colonel recalled, “Back in those days, people wanted the defense” (Smith). Regardless of whether such a need existed, local media supported the idea that a display of rocket power was crucial in a cold war.

While the Nike batteries’ entrance into Fairfax County may have been easier than the program’s establishment in other areas, it is likely that the attitudes of Nike’s neighbors throughout the country were ultimately benevolent. Consider the 1955 New York Times report on Nike in Connecticut. The Times told readers in 1955 that while town officials in Connecticut were disappointed that the recently announced Nike missile site might foil plans for the new Little League field, officials were still aware of the need for protection in uncertain times (Witkin, 1955). As it happened, the Army was able to strike a compromise, moving the planned location 150 yards away and allowing the field to be built. Judging from Nike’s stay in Fairfax, one would not be surprised if it turned out that the Connecticut Nike men became excellent neighbors.

(Editor’s Note: For a full list of citation for this article, please email gpowersjr@coldwar.org)
GLOSTER ROCKET
By Raul Colon (rcolonfrias@yahoo.com)

The development of the jet engine revolutionized the design of both military and civilian aircraft, but it was the former, particularly the fighter platform, which benefited first. Frank Whittle’s achievement in developing the jet has been well covered, but the task of producing the first generation of aircrafts designed to use his engines, mainly by the Gloster Aircraft Company, is no so wee documented, specially, some of its most obscure, early projects. One of those ‘block’ projects was the little know Gloster Rocket fighter.

The ‘Rocket’ proposal was briefly mentioned in an August 1943 declaration paper. In it, the company stated that “it marked the introduction of a new design for a fighter and shows the possibility of a future important advance along the road towards ultimate development. It outlines the prospect of achieving a low-level speed of 550 miles per hour and a climb rate, commencing at sea level, of around 9,000 feet per minute’.

The original Rocket design was similar in scope as the Gloster E.5/42 Ace, which although popular in many circles, never passed out of the mock-up stages. The main difference between the two proposals was the Rocket’s twin side-by-side engine installation which served almost as a single operating unit. Two prototypes Rolls-Royce B.37s occupied the same position in the rear fuselage area as the Halford engine had occupied in the original E.5/42 Ace. Of course, the air frame’s width was modified in order to accommodate the new format. The extra width was just about the level necessary to duct the air intakes on either side of the frontal frame section. Gloster engineers believed that the combine thrust of the two units, when fully developed, would be around 5,000lb. This increase on power was much more than could be effectively utilized from a single power plant in a similar aircraft-type.

Nevertheless, there were no profound differences between the E.5/42 and the Rocket. Those which could actually be seen were basically that of the fuselage length and the center wing structure. The frontal part of the airplane, outer wing sections, the undercarriage and tailplane were almost identically. The front part design was one of the first ergonomically concepts ever conceived. Besides housing the all important pressure cockpit, the section was filled with state of the art sensors and other related materials. The Rocket model was expected to use the newly high speed wing structure developed by the Royal Aircraft Establishment for the E.28/39 project.

Because it similarities with the E.5/42, Gloster expected that full production, if ordered, would had been shift and relative, easy. The Rocket would have been fitted with B.37 engines. Each of them would supply around 2,200 pounds of thrust given the aircraft a top speed of 545mph at sea level. Climb rate was to be 7,650’ per minute. Operational ceiling was estimated to be at 55,000 feet.

On the morning of August 31st 1943, Gloster’s managers reported to Whittle about the possibility of installing the vaunted W4.100 engine on the E.5/42 platform. The idea was quickly nixed because it was ‘not a very suitable solution’ according to Whittle. Still, the inventor was reluctant to accept the tandem configuration. Early on the program life, the RAE and Gloster
estimated that the Rocket pure, raw speed would be at around 449mph at sea leave. Impressive, but far below what the Royal Air Force desired.

On October 9th, Frank Whittle meet with Dr. Roxbee Cox and several high members of the RAE at Ministry of Aircraft Production. The conference centered on a new project, the M.52 supersonic research airplane and the Rocket. Whittle, now a full doubter of the whole twin engine configuration on the Rocket concept, stated that ‘if they (RAE) are going for a super fighter (Rocket), an airplane which has not yet gone beyond the drawing stage, they should make a proper job and put it the most suited power plant, instead of fiddling with several units’. No definitely conclusion was reach in the meeting. Engineers at Gloster would continued to work on the drawing for several more months before the whole idea was shelved in favor of a similar, but vastly more promising one: the E.1/44 Ace.

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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 as 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 lay 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 door step. 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.
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)

THE HOG WILD STORY: MEMORIES FROM THOSE WHO WERE THERE.
By Terry R. Rainey

In the May issue of the Cold War Times, Streifer and Sabitov made a very clear hypothesis concerning the August 29, 1945 mission of the Hog Wild, a B-29 heavy bomber piloted by my father Robert S. Rainey. The authors claim that the crew and observers on the ill-fated flight were on a covert reconnaissance mission over northern Korea in search of evidence associated with a war-time Japanese program to develop chemical and nuclear weapons. In fact it is my belief that one or a combination of factors, other than collecting intelligence data, was responsible for the downing of the Hog Wild. My case for this supposition rests on evidence from official Army Air Forces depositions authored by the flight crew and ground crew/observers shortly after their return to Saipan in 1945, with the exception of tail gunner Richard Turner; my father’s library of personal correspondence with crew members, observers and POWs in the Konan Camp during the sixty years following the event; and 2003 interview data from my father.

The Hog Wild was a B-29 heavy bomber housed in the 882nd Bomber Squadron, 500th Bomber Group, 73rd Bomber Wing of the 20th Air Force. The flight crew and aircraft were based on the island of Saipan. Two weeks after the Hog Wild had flown its last combat mission over Osaka, Japan, the flight crew was sitting in briefing meetings for a mercy or humanitarian mission to the Konan POW Camp, where British and Australian prisoners of war were located, outside of the port city of Hamhung in northeast Korea. According to radar operator Doug Arthur (1945), navigator Gene Harwood (1945) and squadron flight engineer Robert Campbell (1945), the aircraft took off for Iwo Jima at 3 am on the morning of August 29 with ten of the eleven members of the flight crew (Left gunner Cliff McGee did not fly.) and three observers, who were actually members of the ground crew (R. Rainey, personal communication, September 20, 2003).

Following a two-hour layover (Campbell, 1945; Harwood, 1945), the aircraft crew and observers headed north from Iwo Jima toward their Korean destination. After arriving over the site where the crew believed the POW camp was located, they had trouble finding it. Squadron Engineering Officer John Grant (1945) claimed the crew was made aware of the camp’s coordinates in the mission briefing. Aircraft Commander Joe Queen (1945) lamented that the briefing officials had not informed the crew about what the camp looked like, much less whether the area had been occupied by the Russians. Seemingly gathering and analyzing new information as they sought to locate the target for the mercy drop, bombardier Marion Sherrill (1985) noted that while
searching for the Konan Camp “…we saw a Russian flag over a carbide factory and assumed the Russians had occupied Korea” (p. 123).

Harwood (1945) and Queen (1945) indicated that a visual sighting of the Korean city of Hamhung was made around 1430 hours. However, due to what appears to be the lack of meaningful information among the flight crew concerning the whereabouts of the camp, which turned out to be the curse of ten other humanitarian missions in post-war Asia (Headquarters Twentieth Air Force APO 234, n.d.), two circles were flown over the area in a vain attempt to locate it (Sherrill, 1945). From the ground Australian POW Richard Heatherill (1945) reported that the Hog Wild was sited over the Konan camp at least two hours after two other super fortresses (A. Kerr, personal correspondence, October 10, 1993) had occupied the same air space. These facts were also confirmed by ring gunner Joseph Rinaldo (1945) in his post-event deposition.

While searching for the camp, Rinaldo (1945) reported two Yak fighters “appeared at nine o’clock” (p. 69). Pilot Bob Rainey (1945), flight engineer Jesse Owens (1945), Arthur (1945), Campbell (1945), Grant (1945), Harwood (1945), Owens (1945) and Sherrill (1945) thought the Russian pilots were wanting to lead the aircraft to the POW camp. On the contrary Queen (1945) felt the message was for the Hog Wild to land. Indeed, the crew and observers were led to a small airdrome outside of Hamhung. At this juncture two more Yak fighters joined Yak #60 and Yak #65 and the Hog Wild over the airstrip. After surveying the landing site, which Queen (1945) determined was too short to land safely, the aircraft commander ordered the flight crew to continue its search for the camp (Campbell, 1945; Rainey, 1945). Arthur (1945), Grant (1945) and squadron gunnery officer Weeks (1945) recalled this decision irritated the Yak #65 pilot, who angrily rolled back his canopy cover and shook his fist and gestured for the aircraft to land. The action escalated a short time later when a few rounds of 20 mm shells (Owens, 1945) were fired across the nose of the super fortress, as reported by left blister gunner Cyril Bernacki (1945), Grant (1945), Harwood (1945), Rinaldo (1945) and Sherrill (1945). Arthur (1945) and Weeks (1945) believe the burst came from the pilot in Yak #65, who Lednicer (2005) has identified by the name Zizevskii.

At this point Campbell (1945) commented that Queen had three choices: land, fight or vacate the area. Pre-flight orders informed the flight crew that they were not to land (Queen, 1945; Rainey, 1945) and since Queen issued the order not to return fire (Weeks, 1945), the aircraft commander ordered the mission aborted, which more than likely would entail dumping its mercy pay load in the sea, as the B-29 headed back to Iwo Jima for a refueling stop before flying the final leg to Saipan (Campbell, 1945).

Ten to twenty miles out over the Sea of Japan (Arthur, 1945; Campbell, 1945; Harwood, 1945; Owens, 1945; Queen, 1945; Weeks, 1945), the pilot in Yak #65 fired on the number one engine of the Hog Wild (Harwood, 1945; Owens, 1945; Queen, 1945; Rainey, 1945; Rinaldo, 1945; Sherrill, 1945; Weeks, 1945). The attack either disabled the number two engine (Rainey, 2000) or it was shut down as a precautionary response by the aircraft commander (Sherrill, 1985). Fearing the aircraft would explode (Campbell, 1945; Harwood, 1945; Queen, 1945), Queen (1945) ordered the aircraft back to the airstrip outside of Hamhung and gave the order to bail out. Arthur, Campbell, Harwood, Owens, Sherrill and Weeks parachuted from the aircraft, but radio
operator Arthur Stilky, Rinaldo, Bernacki, Turner and Grant rode the Hog Wild down with the aircraft commander and pilot, after it was determined that the B-29 had lost too much altitude and air speed to make their exit a safe procedure (R. Rainey, personal correspondence, October 25, 2003). In a letter to Grant, Rainey (personal correspondence, November 21, 1993) wrote, “I well remember it took Joe [Queen] and I on the controls to get the aircraft back to land.” In a letter to Sherrill, Bernacki (personal correspondence, January 2, 1991) commented, “If it weren’t for (Joe Queen) and Bob [Rainey] we may not have made it.”

Bobbing around in the rough and frigid Sea of Japan from forty-five minutes to four hours before being safely rescued from the frigid water by Korean fisherman (Campbell, 1945; Harwood, 1945; Weeks, 1945; Sherrill, 1945), Harwood (1945) writes that the six who jumped from the aircraft were tired and near hypothermia. In fact Arthur doubtless suffered the most harrowing experience as he was strafed by cannon and machine gun fire from Yak #65 shortly after hitting the water for his four-hour experience (Arthur, 1945; Harwood, 1945; Weeks, 1945). After quickly exiting the burning aircraft, and being frisked for weapons by Russian soldiers (Bernacki, 1945; Grant, 1945; Queen, 1945; Rainey, 1945; Rinaldo; 1945; Strilky, 1945), the group was escorted to “a small room in a building on the field” (Rainey, 1945, p. 59). Grant (1945) noted that while waiting for two hours for an interpreter, Bernacki was able to communicate using broken Russian and as a result “was a real help to us in tight spots” (p. 81).

On a lighter note, Campbell, in a letter dated October 17, 1985, reminded Rainey about the time the Hog Wild pilot tried to explain his civilian job to “…some ‘knuckle’ headed Russians.” Campbell reminded him that while in the room, “You were having a ‘hell of a time’ getting across (sic) that you were a farmer, finally one of the officers hit on the idea, ‘Oh, a Peasant!’”

During the thirty-minute interrogation, a rather testy exchange was had between Queen and the Russians, who scoffed at him for claiming the airstrip was not long enough to safely land (Grant, 1945; Rinaldo, 1945). Queen (1945) requested permission for the crew and observers to go back to their downed B-29, and he asked permission to make contact with Saipan. With a Russian escort, Queen (1945) was allowed to visit the Hog Wild and retrieve personal belongings. Unable to open the bomb bay doors to access the POW supplies but aware of the fact that papers, operational manuals, brief cases and a camera were missing, Queen (1945) returned and was able to persuade the Russians to send Grant and Turner to open the pay load doors and unload the guns on the aircraft respectively; a Russian officer also accompanied them. At the scene, Grant (1945) noted that they worked to manually open the doors, but he admitted being fearful that the steel drums holding the humanitarian supplies would collide and cause a spark, which could have easily ignited the fuel, some of which had spilled on the ground, the Russians were in the process of draining into two trucks from the Hog Wild. On the issue of trying to reach Saipan, Queen was denied that request until the whereabouts of the six who had jumped from the aircraft was ascertained (Bernacki, 1945; Grant, 1945). The Russians’ claim that they were actively searching for those who bailed out was never substantiated (Bernacki, 1945; Rainey, 1945).

Following his return from the crash site, Queen (1945) reports that, “The Russian Commander apologized for shooting us down and asked us to have supper with him” (p. 57). So about 2000 hours on the 29th (Queen, 1945), the Americans joined the Russians for a meal of “greasey (sic) pork, dry rice and washed it down with Jap whiskey” (Grant, 1945, p. 82). Further, Queen (1945)
notes that, “During the meal...many toasts were made to Truman, Stalin, etc.” (p. 57). Grant added that with a full bottle in front of each person at the table, “the crew [and observers] were getting pretty high” (p. 83). Queen (1945) mentioned the meal came to an abrupt end about 2200 hours when “two English Officers and two Australian enlisted men” (p. 57) arrived from the Konan camp seeking information about the seven on the Hog Wild for Weeks, who had bailed out and was brought to the camp earlier in the day in a “‘32 model Ford Sedan” (Weeks, 1945, p. 79). Irked by the interruption, the Russian military host informed his “guests” that due to the fear of Japanese snipers, who lurked under the cover of nightfall, the B-29 crew and observers would stay in separate rooms at the airstrip, which accommodated four people each and would be patrolled by a Russian soldier (Grant, 1945). Rinaldo (1945) commented that before he retired he met and talked to the pilot of Yak #60 who “seemed to be proud in having a hand in shooting us down, although I only saw (Yak #) 65 doing the shooting” (p. 69). Rinaldo (1945) also wrote that after the crew and observers had reached the Konan camp, they took advantage of the pilot’s invitation to check out his Yak fighter.

An early morning, August 30th attempt to visit the downed aircraft by the crew and observer was stopped cold by a Russian soldier with a side arm. However, at 0900 hours the Russians arrived with the POW pay load from the Hog Wild in the back of a truck (Queen, 1945). The seven Americans jumped into the bed of the truck with the supplies and an armed Russian guard and, after several stops in Hamhung, were taken to the Konan camp (Grant, 1945; Queen, 1945). Queen (1945) wrote that they finally arrived at the camp site around 1300 hours and were finally united with Weeks and four others who had arrived at 2400 hours on the evening of the 29th (Owens, 1945). Sherrill (1945) finally appeared with a Russian escort about 1030 hours on August 31st. Sherrill (1985) noted that he found the other crew members, observers from the aircraft and some prisoners of war playing baseball when he arrived: I was never so glad to see my crew members in all my life. They immediately put me to bat and with too much vodka [from breakfast with his Russian hosts the morning] I immediately struck out. For some reason I had trouble seeing the ball. (p. 128)

Sherrill’s excitement over being reunited with the other crew members and observers may have matched that of the English and Australian prisoners who Campbell (1945) reported were extremely happy to see the Americans, In addition, he discovered the prisoners of war to be “in better condition than some of the prisoners I had read about. The POW’s were starved for news, wanting to know about the American movie stars and many other small but human news items” (p. 75).

After the crew and observers had been reunited, Campbell (1945), Queen (1945) and Sherrill (1945) indicated that apologetic Russian officers offered to fly the Americans to the American embassy at Vladivostok in the Soviet Union. The Russians also offered to truck them to the crash site for unlimited access to the Hog Wild. After cobbling together a power source on the super fortress (R. Rainey, personal communication, October 25, 2003), Queen (1945) noted that sometime on September 1st the Americans made their first contact with Saipan since being detained in Korea. Among other questions, the base wanted to know what repairs would need to be performed on the Hog Wild in order to fly it back to Isley Field. On that visit to the aircraft, Rinaldo (1945) and Queen (1945) also noticed that its interior was disheveled and three clocks were missing.
Campbell (1945) indicated that Saipan had indicated that it would send a C-46 on September 4th to bring the Hog Wild crew and observers back to the American base. That did not materialize, so the crew radioed Saipan to find out when it could expect the cargo plane to arrive. Seemingly, a frustrated Campbell (personal communication, August 30, 1945) wrote that, “The Radio said they would come after us on the 6th weather permitting, but something sounds funny, for why should a little weather in between us worry them[]. It didn’t use to when we were running [bom[bing] missions.”

While waiting for a rescue aircraft to arrive, Rainey (personal communication, October 23, 2003) mentioned that everyone passed the time by playing baseball games and taking eight-mile pedestrian trips to Hamhung. In his late August 1945 letter, Campbell also reports that reading, and hands of bridge and gin rummy were common diversions as well.

Campbell (personal communication, August 30, 1945) notes that poor weather conditions kept the rescue aircraft from arriving until September 11th. After surveying the damage to the Hog Wild, the Chief Engineer of the Pacific Area, who was on board the C-46, determined that the B-29 was not worth repairing for the return trip to Isley Field. So, prior to taking off for Saipan in the cargo plane, the crew stripped the Hog Wild of anything that remained and was considered sensitive (Campbell, 1945; Queen, 1945). Following that procedure and after the weather had cleared, the C-46 lifted off with the Hog Wild crew, observers and salvaged equipment on September 14th (Queen, 1945). On that morning Queen (1945) also reported that the Russians returned many but not all of the items that he had noticed were missing from the Hog Wild, such as the K-20 camera.

Based on the information provided by Campbell (personal communication, August 30, 1945), the first leg of the flight home took the Hog Wild flight crew and observers one hundred and fifty miles to Keizjo, which was the Japanese name for Seoul the current capital of South Korea. The flight crew and observers were put up in the stylish Tyosen Hotel, which quartered Allied military policy wonks. It all appears to have been a bit overwhelming as Campbell noted that “the Press correspond[ents] ’swooped’ down on us [.]. I’ve seen pictures where they flock around a man but I never though it would happen to me. The boys really felt their importance and they really gave out with all that happened to us."

The flight crew and observers lifted off in the C-46 aircraft around noon on September 16th (Sherrill, 1985). After a stop to unload salvaged parts at Kanoya, Kyushu (Japan) and a stop to take on more fuel at Iwo Jima (Campbell, 1945, Harwood, 1945), the thirteen crewmen and observers landed on Saipan at “2030K on the 16th” (Queen, 1945).

One of the later pieces of correspondence in my father’s holdings is a letter written shortly after Thanksgiving in 2001 by the right gunner on the Hog Wild, Joe Rinaldo. From his home in the Bronx (New York City), a been-there, done-that attitude along with feelings of irritation and bewilderment seem to ooze from this veteran airman’s words a little over fifty-five years after riding the Hog Wild down:
Dear Roberto: No doubt you have heard of the tragic destruction of the Twin Towers in lower Manhattan. There are still Madmen left in the world. I didn’t go see the aftermath; the smell of those things bother me. The downing of that reconnaissance plane in China, a few months ago, recalled another aircraft with a similar experience. I don’t remember any fanfare made for our incident. The present people working for the Public relations (Armed Forces) did a great job. Where were they then? Do you know we were the first US Armed Service people in North Korea?

So, what was the justification for forcing down the Hog Wild crew and observers? Citing from The History of United States Armed Forces in Korea (1978), Lawson (2005) suggests, the Russians had had enough of the property damage and near loss of life among Russian military personnel due to errant drops of humanitarian supplies as they related to the Konan camp. So this state of affairs resulted in a Russian order which demanded that aircraft carrying mercy mission goods land first and the supplies would be delivered overland. In a piece of correspondence to my father dated August 29, 1994, Australian POW Ted Roots recalls:

_I was in the camp hospital at the time the B-29’s came in. 2 or 3 times (and) when they dropped their cargo one of the parachutes came inside the camp (and) knocked some tiles off the toilet roof (and) the tiles hit one of the patients, nothing serious (and) we were told the Russians shot them down so that no one would get hurt...._

Perhaps the wandering Hog Wild was targeted and intercepted after the humanitarian “misdeeds” of one or both B-29s, which had made earlier drops; hence, violating the Russian order. British POW Kenneth Marshall stressed this point in his July 20, 1994 letter to the Russian Embassy in London, England.

Could the Russians have brought down the Hog Wild because they were interested in American military aircraft technology? After all the B-29 had been pillaged by the Russians and Grant (1945) wrote that, while living in the Konan camp, several people had assured him that “Russian B-29 pilots” (p. 84) were trained. Queen (1945) noted that a Russian ground-engineering officer “displayed superior knowledge of the B-29” (p. 58) by remarking that he could tell the Hog Wild was a later model of B-29. In his letter to the Russian Embassy, Kenneth Marshall (personal communication, July 20, 1994) also referred to the Russian intent to gain “a whole new warplane to be taken apart and copied.” To further support this theory to explain the downing of the aircraft, Baugher (1997) notes that the Soviet Tu-4, a carbon copy of the American B-29, was known to be successfully flown for the first time in 1947.

Maybe the Russians forced the Hog Wild down because the Yak fighter pilots mistakenly thought the super fortress was actually a Japanese, twin-engine, Mitsubishi G4M3 in disguise? This explanation does not appear to be too credible as Arthur (1945) and Weeks (1945) wrote that the Yak pilots were flying so closely to their aircraft that recognition should not have been an issue. In fact, Arthur (45) maintained that he could see the pilots’ “facial expressions” (p. 67).

Finally, much has been made of the so-called real mission for the Hog Wild: gathering intelligence data on what the Russians knew and controlled as they relate to a war-time Japanese program to develop chemical and nuclear weapons. I put little stock in this rationale for the B-29’s demise for two reasons. First of all, the Hog Wild was not outfitted for a reconnaissance
mission. That is to say it only had one camera on board, which was a regular piece of equipment to record bombing and humanitarian drops, as opposed to the six cameras and square-sighting windows normally associated with super fortresses designed for intelligence missions (World War II Air Power, n.d.). More importantly, the facts in the form of official Army Air Forces depositions, my father’s correspondence and interview data generated from him that appear in this piece do not even remotely suggest anything other than three members of the ground crew who wished to tag-along to form a courageous group of thirteen crewmen and observers intent on doing their duty to improve the conditions of British and Australian prisoners of war awaiting release from the Konan camp.

While questions about the status of the war-time Japanese program to develop chemical and nuclear weapons may linger, the data presented in this piece do help settle an issue related to the ill-fated mission of the Hog Wild on August 29, 1945. Simply put this mission was all about the convergence of a prisoner-of-war humanitarian relief effort and the near catastrophic action by a war-time ally.

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MEMORY OF A RB-29 CREWMEMBER
By Robert Halleran

Inasmuch as I was never informed of any security-level being assigned to any of this, I am assuming that the hush-hush was no more than an attempt to minimize the embarrassment of some pretty stupid "situation handling" by the Aircraft Commander & his superiors, perhaps up to and including some Base, Squadron, or USAF "brass hats". Here's the story and why I know about it.

Sometime in November, 1954, our RB-29 crew was briefed to fly a photo-mapping mission of the northeastern-most peninsula of the main Japanese Island of Hokkaido. On Yokota AB, all the time I was there (Spring '54 thru Spring '55), Japanese armed guards were employed to guard the flight line, the base gates and the scattered aircraft "hardstands". As a result, any crew could - and we all did this - do their basic preflight the day before a scheduled mission. You knew that whatever you left at the airplane would be there, untouched, the following day, waiting for you. In our case, that meant that all we had to do on the actual day of the assigned mission was collect parachutes, flight lunches, water & coffee jugs and haul them out to the assigned plane. Once there & the "last-minute" gear loaded aboard, the time for preflight was reduced to maybe a half hour or so, rather than two or three hours. We always had to do a "pressure check" of the four engines just before starting them and that was the gunners' chief chore on that final morning. The gunnery systems, ammo-loading, etc., had all been done the day before. So, in fairly short order, we loaded-up, closed the hatches and taxied out and took off. En-route north up Honshu, we diverted eastward out over the Pacific and test-fired our guns. You see, the Russians had 'officially' finally declared war against the Japanese in WW II five days before Japan was A-bombed into agreeing to "unconditional surrender". Then, they had the gall to claim all the Kurile Islands as "spoil of war". As I recall, that island chain had been shared between their two
countries before the war, but the "chess masters" foresaw a way to get all of the southern islands for themselves, so they finally declared war after they were sure the Japanese wouldn't have enough men, time or material to attack them - and, in fact, probably knew of the impending atomic attacks, too. Now, this situation effects our story because... the nearest of those islands to Hokkaido is only 8 miles across the sea and Russia has always claimed 12 miles of "territorial water". You can readily appreciate the likelihood of "trouble" for a slow-flying plane like the B-29 which repeatedly flies off the Hokkaido coast & right into what the Russkies would claim as their territory. Consequently, we were fully loaded for "bear", had all our gun turret control circuits activated and had test-fired all our weapons in preparation for a "show-down" that we fully expected to happen - although the official briefing barely mentioned the possibility. We were briefed to fly a series of "figure-8" type turns at the end of each run, and these runs were all exactly perpendicular to the direct-line to that nearest island. The State Dept wienies had decided that by never turning toward that island that the Russkies would be 'mollified' and wouldn't scramble any of their MiGs from the airbase that we knew was on that island. Typical State Dept. "wishful thinking"!! Not being blinded by any such pacifist ideology, we anticipated a fight and were as prepared as we could make ourselves!! Well, not too long thereafter, the A/C came on the interphone to tell all of us that he had just been informed of a solid layer of clouds covering the "target" area at 7,000 feet altitude. Since photo-mapping, as we did it, was accomplished by flying a "bomb run" at 15,000 feet, while the big cameras mounted under the floor in the aft Radar Compartment fed strips of big film through their interior 'works' to be later made into photo maps by the techno people back at base photo labs, that obviously meant that we were out of business for that day.

Our A/C decided to turn the mission into a training flight, so turned back south. I had a camera with me on the flight and leaning out into the side blister and pointing it downward, I got pictures (approximately vertical) of the Emperor's Palace in Tokyo, Hibiya Park, which is across a main blvd from the Palace, and - later - as we swung around SW to head back to our base (which was about 60 miles WNW of Tokyo) for some "touch-and-goes", before finally making a full stop landing and terminating our flight, I also got a great shot of Mt. Fuji. While we were unloading our gear at the hardstand where we had started, another crew on the next stand over starting yelling across and we were getting the old "Don't send a boy to do a man's job!" routine. It seems they were assigned to fly that same mission the next day and were out there getting another 29 preflighted. We knew these guys and - of course - didn't think they were anywhere near as good as we were! Even at that, however, I would never have expected what they did. After "work" that night, practically all the enlisted men on that crew went to the local town and made the rounds of the bars - of which there was no scarcity! The following morning, the Central Fire Control Gunner was pretty sick (how much of this was due to hangover, I wasn't told and didn't ask, but there was that commonly-accepted connection) and here's what boggles my mind to this day. The A/C, having been told about this gunner's condition, said - in effect - 'Well, we're just flying over Japan today so you can stand-down.' Now, if you don't know much about the gunnery system aboard the B-29 & B-50, the turrets are driven by heavy-duty electric servo motors. These draw a lot of amperage, so, with 5 different turrets aboard the plane, switching these circuits "on" has to be a timed sequential operation or the circuit breakers will "pop" and you have to start all over after they are reset! Each gunner, in turn, has 6 (as I recall) separate switches to turn on to activate his gun sight, the turret drives, the computer, the heater circuits and finally the actual firing circuits of the guns, themselves. This requires about a minute for
each gunner and the whole operation is controlled by the CFC gunner, as he is the "boss" gunner. From what I have already written, you can easily see that there is a serious "problem" here and for whatever reason, that A/C didn't call the squadron and request a substitute gunner or even assign someone else to take over the job of getting the gunnery system on line! Dumb, dumb, dummy!!

Long story short: they were jumped by a pair of MiGs, who made two separate firing passes on them from astern. On the first pass, they knocked out one of the two outboard engines (I don't know if it was #1 or #4, and it doesn't matter). Then they came around again and hit the other outboard engine, setting it on fire. By this time, the A/C had the plane almost back over Hokkaido and - evidently unable to extinguish the engine fire and aware of the huge fuel tanks in the wings of those planes, he hit the "bail out bell". Being right there in the cockpit and thus, obviously, hearing what was being said between the A/C & Pilot, the equivalent of their Bombardier (We called them "Photo-Navigators" in the Recon Squadron, but their jobs and equipment were identical. It was just that when one of our guys "pickled" his switch, we took pictures instead of dropping bombs.) was "ready" and as soon as the nose wheel was dropped, opening their escape hatch, he knew he was supposed to be the first man out and he may have jumped a fraction of a second too soon. I had always heard that his chute was "penduluming" as he came down and he was swung into the coastal cliff, knocked unconscious, dropped into the sea and drowned. My "Intel" source said, "No, he landed safely, but right on the lip of the cliff and as his chute was collapsing, it was caught by a sudden wind gust and he was dragged backwards off the cliff with the same result. All the rest of the crew landed safely on the mainland of Hokkaido and no one was seriously injured. The Tail Gunner told me later that those cannon shells coming in off to both sides of him looked the size of tennis balls and he had no way to even wiggle his guns to try to threaten the MiGs into leaving them alone, because they'd never turned anything on! He said all he could do was to drop down onto the floor and get behind the 20-inch round piece of armor plate that separated him from his guns. They were utterly defenseless, simply due to an over-sight that I blame on the A/C. Hell, our enlisted men knew better than to adopt such a stupid attitude in a case like that and he was the Officer in Charge!! I know the whole crew, at first, and later all of the Officers, were choppered into Tokyo every day for a couple of weeks, reportedly for debriefings and "investigation". But what finally came of it was - nothing! The State people probably didn't want to admit their own stupidity in setting us up for failure, when an escorting flight of Sabres could easily have eliminated the problem from ever developing. The Reds had radar and it worked just fine. We were regularly pinned by a strong searchlight on the Manchurian coast and we were 40 miles offshore at the time. If we had looked ready for a "fight", one would never have happened! You'd think that eventually - even those 'meatheads' in DC would learn that - but they never seem to do so!!

(Editor’s Note: The email below was sent to me by the author giving me permission to include the article above…..Gary, You have my permission to do whatever you want with the story - along with my assurance that it is absolutely true as far as I, personally, know. Whether an "official" version exists and whether it agrees with mine, I have no clue. But I have no personal stake in making it out to be anything that "spins" the news better - or worse - for any individual involved. Whether any official agency can say the same is in serious question! My opinion is that "they" screwed-up in a huge way - almost from the "Git-go!"  Bob H.)
COLD WARRIORS?
By Karl Priest (Kcpriest@aol.com)

A fellow Cold War vet called me a “Cold Warrior” and I pointed out that I was only a flunky. So who would qualify to be labeled a “Cold Warrior”?

Would it be a Navy SEAL who served as a sniper from his hidden perch in the trees? Or would it be the draftee who crawled up a hill with bullets buzzing by? Is a pilot dropping bombs more of a warrior than the pilot flying reconnaissance missions? Is a pacifist medic who serves with the Army in heavy combat less courageous than the soldiers beside him? Is a tank driver less brave than the man who drives a jeep along a mine infested road? In actual combat, is the guy knocked out by the percussion of a shell less worthy of praise than his buddy who charged forward and destroyed the enemy mortar crew?

For every combat veteran there are thousands of other military personnel doing the jobs they were ordered to do.

A friend of mine served in Vietnam and spent the entire tour in an air-conditioned building pushing papers. Should he not be proud of his service? Another friend of mine spent two years in the Navy and never went to sea.

Is the crew of a supply ship somehow of lesser value than the crew of a battleship that launches shells to a coast several miles away? Should the crews of the lone wolf ships Northampton and Wright (http://insectman.us/testimony/uss-wright.htm) be considered more heroic than the crews of the aircraft carriers which were heavily protected by escort ships? Were the officers aboard the Wright and Northampton who carried the code to launch nuclear weapons more important than the officers who sat deep in a bunker ready to press the button?

Should a veteran of the Marine Corps be honored more than an Air Force vet? What is the difference between a friend of mine who served as a Marine Reservist with a few months active duty and another Marine friend who completed several years with the regular forces?

I have no problem with calling some career Special Forces men “Warriors”. But, is there a hierarchy of warriors? Is a warrior with 20 notches on his rifle butt more of a warrior than another with only 10? Also, every warrior’s account of battle I have read describes his fear during the action. Does that make him cowardly and only able to succeed because he feared death?

I think you see where I am going.

It takes courage and determination to honorably complete a tour of military duty. Whether a soldier, sailor, airman, guardsman, or marine—they all are worthy of respect.

Every cook, clerk, mechanic, and musician should be proud of the service they gave to the United States of America.
COLD WAR EVENTS, REQUESTS, AND RELATED ITEMS

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

I am pleased to announce that I am working with the Automobile Association of America (AAA) to produce a Tour to Moscow and Yekaterinburg in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the U-2 Incident. This tour will depart on May 1 and return to the US on May 10. The trip itinerary is outlined below. Cost is estimated at $5600 per person including airfare from New York to Russia. If you would like to join me on this trip, please email me at gpowersjr@coldwar.org for more information.

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

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

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

Day 4, Tuesday
May 4 - Moscow & the Cold War Period
Buffet Breakfast at your hotel.
Visit Lenin’s Tomb and Gorky Park
Proceed to the US Embassy to meet with the Embassy officials for a lecture and conversation.
Tour the underground Civil Defense and/or Cold War related bunkers plus metro
KGB Museum visit
Note: Lubyanka Prison is a part of the FSB (previously known as KGB) building and currently tours of the Prison are not possible.
Overnight. Meals B, L

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 (see attached bio). 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.

I appreciate your time.

Respectfully,

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

INFO NEEDED ON MINUTE WOMEN PIN

I am researching the attached pin. Can you provide confirming references that this pin is either from the 1950s anti-communism group Minute Women or from a Red Cross associated group from WWII?

Thanks,

Bill Niemeier
niemeierw@bellsouth.net

FORMERLY CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS OPEN FOR RESEARCH

ABILENE, Kan. - The Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum announces the availability of thousands of recently declassified documents. These formerly security classified documents provide additional insight into key foreign policy issues during the Eisenhower presidency.

Eisenhower Library Director Karl Weissenbach states, "This particular release is part of an intensive effort to make more records available in response to increased scrutiny of Eisenhower foreign policy issues. There will be additional releases of formerly national security documents."
The newly-available records are from 16 Eisenhower Presidential Library manuscript collections, notably the papers of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, the National Security Council, and General Lauris Norstad.

Eisenhower appointed Norstad, as Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, in 1956. The Norstad records relate to strategic planning, the placing of missiles in France, Italy, and Turkey, the security of Berlin, Soviet nuclear striking power, and other important issues from the Cold War era.

The National Security Council records offer new documentation of psychological operations in Formosa (Taiwan) and Thailand, the threat of communism in Iraq, and the relationship between Islam and Soviet and Chinese Communism. "The records show the U.S. has long been concerned over its relationship with the Moslem world," Weissenbach said.

The new records touch on numerous subjects, including, Iraq, Iran, Vietnam, and NATO.

"The body of historical sources available for scholars working on the Eisenhower era and presidency is still growing," Weissenbach added, "and will continue to grow for many years to come." The records will grow in volume as the Library acquires the papers of Eisenhower's contemporaries and the impending declassification of more restricted records. In addition to the pre-presidential, presidential, and post-presidential records of General Eisenhower, the Library also holds the papers of more than 450 of his associates.

The recently declassified materials are available for research in the research room of the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum. Researcher application forms and other helpful information for conducting research at the Library are available on the web site. The research room is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., closing for lunch from Noon to 12:45 p.m.

For more information, please call 785-263-6700 or toll free 1-877-RING-IKE. The Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, a nonpartisan federal institution, is part of the presidential libraries network operated by the National Archives and Records Administration. To learn more, please visit www.eisenhower.archives.gov.

**NSA’S SYMPOSIUM ON CRYPTOLOGIC HISTORY**

NSA's Center for Cryptologic History sponsors the Symposium on Cryptologic History every two years. The next one will be held 15-16 October 2009. Historians from the Center, other parts of the Intelligence Community, and the Department of Defense will join distinguished scholars from American and foreign academic institutions, along with veterans of the profession and others interested in cryptology, for two days of reflection and debate on the cryptologic past.

Under this year's theme, "Global Perspectives on Cryptologic History," participants will consider the impact of cryptology within the context of transnational history. The panels include a range of technological, operational, foreign relations, organizational, counterintelligence, policy, and
even literary themes. Past symposia have featured scholarship setting out new ways of considering cryptologic history. The mix of practitioners and scholars on occasion can be volatile, but the result is a significantly enhanced appreciation for the context of past events. This year's symposium promises to tackle controversial subjects head-on. Breaks and luncheons, presenting rare opportunities for lively discussion and interaction with leading scholars and distinguished experts, will be included in the registration fees.

The symposium will be held at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory's Kossiakoff Center in Laurel, Maryland. Make plans to join us for either one or both days of this intellectually stimulating conference.

For more information, contact Dr. Kent Sieg, Symposium coordinator, at 301-688-2336 or kgsieg@nsa.gov.

THE COLD WAR AND ITS LEGACY CONFERENCE

On 18 & 19 November Churchill College will be hosting an internationally important conference on 'The Cold War and its Legacy'. Full details of subjects and speakers are available on the Churchill Archives Centre website: www.chu.cam.ac.uk/archives/exhibitions/home.php.

Sir Winston Churchill will, of course, feature prominently, and we have contributions from a number of prominent Churchill scholars, including Sir Martin Gilbert, Professor Christopher Andrew, Professor David Reynolds and Dr David Woolner. There will be witness testimony from Senator Howard Baker, Winston Churchill, Susan Eisenhower, Field Marshal Inge, Hugh Lunghi, Lord Powell, Francis Gary Powers, Jr., and Senator Warner to name but a few. There will be strong Russian representation, including Dr Alexander Likhotal, a former adviser and spokesperson to President Gorbachev, as well as key speakers from China, France, Germany, India, and Romania.

The conference is free and open to all, but you do need to register in advance. If you would like to attend on either or both days please email Julie Sanderson (julie.sanderson@chu.cam.ac.uk). This is a unique opportunity to question and engage with some of the major political, diplomatic, military, media and scientific figures who have helped to shape the modern world.

INFO SOUGHT ABOUT ARMY WOMEN ON MISSION READINESS

My name is Robynne Dexter, I am the archivist of the US Army Women's Museum, on Fort Lee. My FY2010 project is the Cold War era, specifically April 1975-Aug 1991. Essentially, what I am looking for is the effect of Army women on mission-readiness from the end of the Vietnam War to the collapse of the Soviet Union. I'm looking for primary sources from both men and women. Some of the question that I am looking to answer are-

-What were the experiences of men formerly unused to working with women?
-What were the changes that the now gender-integrated working environment underwent?
-What were the benefits of having women?
-What were the drawbacks?
-What were the most drastic of the policy changes?
-What was a “matter of policy” as opposed to “a matter of getting the mission accomplished”?

I know that looks like a large range of questions, but it will get condensed down through the course of time. I am curious to know what, if anything, you have that may help me in this project. I can best be reached by email robyn.k.dexter@us.army.mil or by phone at 804-734-4456.

Sincerely,

Robynne Dexter
Archivist, US Army Women's Museum

INFO SOUGHT ON COLD WAR AIR DEFENSE OF PITTSBURGH, PA

Prior to the deployment of the NIKE series missiles into the Pittsburgh AAA Defense network, the city relied upon the stationing of Batteries of 90mm antiaircraft guns. As part of the 53rd AAA Brigade, 18th AAA Group (Pittsburgh), Battery "B" of the 74th 90mm AAA Gun Battalion was stationed on McKnight Road, Millvale (Ross Township), on the property of Schramm's Farm. I am looking for any information about that unit, specifically any photos, images, maps, drawings, etc. I am researching this as a favor to Peter Schramm, 86, who grew up on the farm where the AAA site was located. Please advise if any assistance is available.

Thomas Koedel (tak3626@hotmail.com)

AUSTRIAN HISTORIANS PRESENT PLANS FOR AN AUSTRIAN SPY-MUSEUM

It is now well-known that espionage and intelligence services have greatly influenced international politics and the security of states for centuries. Austria is no exception. Quite the contrary, ever since Count Metternich had established a veritable police state for the Habsburg Empire after the Congress of Vienna, an Austrian tradition was created which has survived into the 21st century.

Vienna certainly became a European center for espionage and subversive activity already early into the 20th century. But despite Vienna’s solid reputation as the “romping place of spies” (just think of the “Third Man”) yet to this day in Austria and in Vienna no spy or intelligence museum exists.

This is why a group of citizens and specialists (See Photo), mainly from academia, but certainly not only, have formed an initiative to promote the idea of creating an “Austrian Espionage
Museum” (Oesterreichisches Geheimdienste-Museum”, OeGDM, www.oegdm.at ) through which accurate information and knowledge about the nature of intelligence work and its history in Austria can be made available to the interested and security-oriented citizenry. At a planning conference, held at the Institute of Current History, University of Vienna on October 2nd and broadly covered by the local media, historian and secret service expert Prof. Siegfried Beer (www.acipss.org) presented his ambitious plans.

"It’s almost too obvious that a museum is needed. People know too little about the activity of secret services," Beer explained. Beer said he was convinced such a museum would be a success, considering the interest in "Third Man” tours which are centred on the 1949 movie of the same name starring Orson Welles as Harry Lime who goes missing in the twilight scene of post-war Vienna. He added the museum would deal with the topic "seriously”, but also ensuring that people enjoy what they learn.

Although the OeGDM-project is in a rather early stage, it’s list of proponents already covers some interesting names from the “field”, like ex-Bundesnachrichtendienst (West Germany’s Federal Intelligence Service, BND) operative Wilhelm Dietl and Prof. James Olson who had been CIA station chief in Vienna in the Cold War period. Also Francis Gary Powers, Jr. is not only supporting the OeGDM-idea but was kind enough to provide a letter of welcome to the attendees of the planning conference (www.oegdm.at/html/proponenten.html).

Call For Exhibits
The OeGDM-project needs support from citizens, civil servants, politicians, the military, private sponsors and concerned individuals from all over the world, particularly from individuals of the former occupation forces (US, UK, Russia). If you agree with our efforts and can contribute to our initiative, if you have any artifacts, books and (personal) documents related to the topic of an Austrian Spy Museum please contact office@oegdm.at.

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
COALITION ON POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Latest evidence and research, authors, medical and ballistic experts, academics and researchers into modern political assassinations, including Malcolm X, John F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert Kennedy. Resource room with books, DVDs and digital collections. Films and presentations. All events open to public. Registration at door - $60 for all events, $25 per day, $20 for Adolphus events.

Speakers:
- Dr. Cyril Wecht, M.D., J.D., former president American Academy of Forensic Sciences
- Jim Douglass, author of JFK and the Unspeakable
- Walt Brown, author of Master Analytic Chronology: The Death of President Kennedy
- Russ Baker, author of Family of Secrets
- John Armstrong, author of Harvey & Lee will be available to sign his book
- Randy Benson, award-winning filmmaker, showing excerpts from The Searchers
- T Carter, author an upcoming book Jerry Ray: A Memoir of Injustice
- Ben Rogers, curator of the Penn Jones collection at Baylor University's Poague Library
- Jim DiEugenio, author of Destiny Betrayed and editor of Probe
- Lisa Pease, co-author of The Assassinations and editor of Probe
- Robert Groden, author of The Search for Lee Harvey Oswald and Absolute Proof

Schedule:
Friday, November 20
COPA keynote speaker
7:00 pm, Mezzanine level Adolphus Hotel, 1321 Commerce Street, (214) 742-8200
Movies, 10:00 pm, Second floor Rear
Hotel Lawrence, Houston & Jackson Sts., just off Dealey Plaza
Resource room open on 2nd floor rear Friday to Sunday, books and DVDs, authors

Saturday, November 21
Speakers 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Second floor Rear
Movies 10:00 pm, Second floor Rear

Sunday, November 22 46th anniversary
Speakers and discussions 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Second floor Rear
12:30 pm Moment of Silence
Commemorating the Assassination of President Kennedy
Grassy Knoll, Dealey Plaza, speakers following
Union Station and West End stations on DART rail.

Coalition on Political Assassinations
PO Box 772
Washington, DC 20044
copa@starpower.net
www.politicalassassinations.com

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INFO SOUGHT ON 1964 PAN AM INCIDENT FLYING OUT OF TEMPLEHOFF

I can not pin point down the exact date, but it was on the day after the Russians declared the airspace over the Russian occupied zone would be off limits to any aircraft.

I was on stand-by for the flight because the plane was booked solid. Got to the airport early in the morning, and to my surprise only a few people were there. I was checked in and boarded the Pan-Am flight and only noticed about 4 others on the plane (passengers). When the stewardess passed me in the aisle I asked her what was the problem, since I was told the plane was booked. She said OH! you didn't listen to the news. NO, I responded. Then she said that the Russians put out an ultimatum that any plane flying over Russian air space would be shot down.

The President of Pan Am I was told said something like "NUTS to you" and said that his plane would leave Templehoff on time and he expected no problem with a civilian aircraft. As soon as we left the allied sector two MIGS, clearly identifiable, flew very close to the wing tips of our plane. I could see the pilot's very clearly. We flew basically at close to tree level until we were out of their occupied airspace. The Pilot, leaving the cockpit after landing was visibly angered, his veins bulging out.

The press was covering the landing in Munich and pictures taken. I know it was about a month before I got married, which was August 29th.1964. Hope this helps. My memory may be declining.

Anyone with information on this Cold War event, please contact:

Royce A. Watson
15022- Snowden Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20905-5661
rawatson3@juno.com

EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE WORKSHOP OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST SECRET POLICE

The Czech institutions centered on the expert disclosure of the totalitarian mechanisms of Central European Communist regimes – the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the Security Services Archive – have organized the unique exhibition, “Prague Through the Lens of the Secret Police,” and released its companion eponymous English-Czech publication.

The exhibition introduces the visual outcome of the activities of a special unit of the Communist secret police (StB) – the Surveillance Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior – which performed important tasks in the surveillance of persons considered enemies or objectionable to the Communist regime. The secret police servicemen succeeded in capturing on film not only “subjects of interest,” but also the likeness of Prague in the 1970s and 1980s.
The exhibition and book’s American premiere symbolically takes place on the eve of the 41st anniversary of the occupation of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops at Washington, DC’s Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and is being organized in cooperation with the Embassy of the Czech Republic. The European premiere took place in Brussels in April of this year, within the scope of the Czech presidency of the EU Council.

One of the exhibition’s aims is to show those who themselves never lived through a totalitarian regime how the Communist secret police, which helped keep the regime in power for over 40 years, functioned. “Taking into account that interest in the photographs and exhibition has been expressed even by independent media in countries in which a strict dictatorship currently reigns, we see this project as carrying a specific type of message, illustrating which practices totalitarian systems made and make use of in order to maintain power. We hope that the exhibition, also to be on view in New York, Boston and other U.S. cities, contributes to a change in viewpoint in a country in which there is still unfortunately no democracy,” stated Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes Director Pavel Žáček.

In the event of interest in print quality publication and exhibition photographs, or additional information, please contact Institute spokesperson Jiří Reichl.

Jiří Reichl
Spokesperson
Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes
Siwiecova 2
130 00 Prague 3
mobile: +420 - 725 787 524
email: jiri.reichl@ustrcr.cz or press@ustrcr.cz

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.

VIRGINIA WAR MEMORIAL HOSTS COLD WAR TEACHERS INSTITUTE

“When I’m introduced to give a talk about the U-2, many students were surprised when they found out I was not going to talk about a rock band,” exclaimed Francis Gary Powers, Jr. to a group of teachers from Virginia at a one day series of presentations conducted at the Washington Navy Yard on August 6, 2009. Powers, the son of the pilot who was shot down over the Soviet Union in 1960, expressed his frustration with the level of understanding of this critical period of history in American history.

“When I speak in European classes they get it – they know immediately who my father was” added Powers. Determined to provide needed resources to better educate Americans about the Cold War, he formed the Cold War Museum Foundation with a long-term goal to build a facility that will interpret this important period.

The significance of the Cold War is shared by the Naval Historical Foundation, The Cold War Museum, and the Naval Museum of the United States Navy, organizations that teamed with the Virginia War Memorial to host a “Cold War Teachers Institute.”

Highlights of the program in addition to the Powers talk included a unique presentation of the Cuban missile crisis from Naval History and Heritage Command historian Curtis Utz. As the author of Cordon of Steel: The U.S. Navy and the Cuban Missile Crisis, Utz gave an overview of the October 1962 crisis and then took teachers on board the display ship Barry, a Forrest
Sherman class destroyer berthed at the Washington Navy Yard that actually participated in the quarantine of Cuba.

Later, Dr. David Winkler of the Naval Historical Foundation gave the teachers a behind the scenes look at the future Cold War Gallery of the National Museum of the United States Navy. Sitting in ready room chairs from the decommissioned aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy, the Virginia educators viewed a documentary on the Navy’s role in the Cold War and then looked at artifacts including a Trident C-4 missile, an Korean War vintage landing craft, a model of the USS Forrestal and artifacts from Americans who were prisoners of war in North Vietnam. “The Cold War Gallery represents the first new major exhibit for the museum since the 1980s,” stated Winkler. “It will be a valuable resource for not only telling the story of the Cold War but the science and technology behind the history.”

The Cold War Teachers Institute was organized by Candice Shelton of the Virginia War Memorial as part of that organization’s continuing outreach effort. Concluding the day, Shelton showed an outstanding documentary about the Korean War as told by Virginians and discussed the resources provided by the memorial. For successfully hosting the event, credit goes to the Navy Museum’s Assistant Education Director Laura Hockensmith

(Photo: David Winkler from Naval Historical Foundation briefs 40 Virginia teachers during the Virginia War Memorial’s Teacher’s Institute held at the Navy Museum in August 2009.)

NATIONAL SECURITY ARCHIVES UPDATES

PREVIOUSLY CLASSIFIED INTERVIEWS WITH FORMER SOVIET OFFICIALS REVEAL U.S. STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE FAILURE OVER DECADES

1995 Contractor Study Finds that U.S. Analysts Exaggerated Soviet Aggressiveness and Understated Moscow's Fears of a U.S. First Strike. For more information contact: William Burr – 202- 994-7032 or visit www.nsarchive.org/nukevault

Washington, DC, September 11, 2009 - During a 1972 command post exercise, according to top Soviet generals interviewed by Pentagon contractors at the end of the Cold War, General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev "trembled" when he was asked to push a launch button, asking Soviet defense minister Grechko "this is definitely an exercise?" During the exercise, leaders of the Kremlin listened to a briefing on the results of a hypothetical war with the United States, in which a U.S. attack killed 80 million Soviet citizens and destroyed 85 percent of the country's industrial capacity.
This story appears in a recently declassified two-volume study on Soviet Intentions, 1965-1985, prepared in 1995 by the Pentagon contractor BDM Corporation, and published today for the first time by the National Security Archive. Based on an extraordinarily revealing series of interviews with former senior Soviet defense officials -- "unhappy Cold Warriors" -- during the final days of the Soviet Union, the BDM study puts Soviet nuclear policy in a fresh light by highlighting the leadership's recognition of the catastrophe of nuclear conflict, even while it supported preparations for fighting an unsurvivable war.

BDM's unique interview evidence with former Soviet military officers, military analysts, and industrial specialists covers a wide range of strategic issues, including force levels and postures, targeting and war planning, weapons effects, and the role of defense industries. BDM staffers compared this new evidence with mainly official and semi-official U.S. interpretations of Soviet strategic policy and decision-making during the Cold War. The BDM analysts identified what they saw as significant failures of analysis, including:

* "Erring] on the side of overestimating Soviet aggressiveness" and underestimating "the extent to which the Soviet leadership was deterred from using nuclear weapons."

* Seriously misjudging Soviet military intentions, "which had the potential [to] mislead ... U.S. decision makers in the event of an extreme crisis."

* "Serious[ly] misunderstanding ... the Soviet decision-making process" by underestimating the "decisive influence exercised by the defense industry." That the defense industrial complex, not the Soviet high command, played a key role in driving the quantitative arms buildup "led U.S. analysts to ... exaggerate the aggressive intentions of the Soviets."

- The BDM study also shows that Soviet military high command "understood the devastating consequences of nuclear war" and believed that nuclear weapons use had to be avoided at "all costs." In 1968, a Defense Ministry study showed that Moscow could not win a nuclear war, even if it launched a first strike. Although Soviet ideology had insisted that survival was possible, no one in the leadership believed that.

- During the 1970s, Team B critics of CIA intelligence analysis argued that the Soviets believed that they could win a nuclear war. According to William Burr, a senior analyst at the National Security Archive, "these previously secret interviews show that inflated notions of the Soviet 'present danger' -- such as the Team B exercise -- were wrong, but that more conventional U.S. analysis -- Team A -- also misunderstood Soviet nuclear thinking and decision making."

U.S. INTELLIGENCE AND THE FIRST SOVIET NUCLEAR TEST, SEPT 1949

For more info contact William Burr at 202-994-7000 or visit www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/nukevault/ebb286

Washington D.C., September 22, 2009 -- Sixty years ago tomorrow, on 23 September 1949, President Harry Truman made headlines when he announced that the Soviet Union had secretly
tested a nuclear weapon several weeks earlier. Truman did not explain how the United States had detected the test, which had occurred on 29 August 1949 at Semipalatinsk, a site in northeastern Kazakhstan. Using declassified material, much of which has never been published, this briefing book documents how the U.S. Air Force, the Atomic Energy Commission, and U.S. scientific intelligence worked together to detect a nuclear test that intelligence analysts, still unaware of the extent to which the Soviets had penetrated the Manhattan Project, did not expect so soon.

Stalin and the Soviet Politburo were probably stunned by Truman's announcement; they did not know that Washington had a surveillance system for detecting the tell-tale signs of a nuclear test and they wanted secrecy to avoid giving the United States an incentive to accelerate its nuclear weapons activities. (Note 1) Joe-I (as U.S. intelligence designated it) was also a jolt for U.S. intelligence analysis, which for several years had asserted that the Soviets were unlikely to have the bomb before mid-1953, although mid-1950 was also possible. A few weeks after the test, CIA director Roscoe Hillenkoetter argued that "I don't think we were taken by surprise" because of an error of only a "few months," but not all of his Congressional masters accepted that.

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.


* 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
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)

DIE Nacht begann am Morgen
By Werner Juretzko

Preis: EUR 19,90 Kostenlose Lieferung.


(English Translation): What makes a spy to a spy? Simply so probably hardly one can be persuaded to set its life and perhaps also yet that of its members on the game. Werner Juretzko, born 1932, has lives through and describes the end of the second world war as a boy out of this experiences its way into the agent activity, its orders, that lead it into the newly created Soviet occupied zone, and in the end his arrest. Yet there the martyrdom starts first really: The Stasi wants all more than exact know. The methods that it uses at the same time wear down the young man. It and its fellow prisoner expect one longing: finally convicted to become and to be no longer in the hands of the Stasi, but rather to be able to dismount in a penitentiary the punishment. How terribly these months of the "ascertainment" must be, that a normal prison is looked at as a hoffnungsverheißende redemption, the shaken reader in the course of the story can understand.

(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)
THESE GUYS" COLD WAR STORIES TOLD BY COLD WAR WARRIORS
Collected and Edited by Trish Schiesser

The book contains 240 first person stories told by those who served in the military during the Cold War Era between Russia and the United States. "These Guys" is filled with stories by those men who were in the United States Air Force Security Service in intelligence communications, and stories of pilots in WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

Trish Schiesser collected and edited "These Guys" during her six and a half year research study about the USAFSS, among other entities. She began the book as a story about her brother, SSGT Phil Noland who was a Radio Intercept Analyst, one of the warriors who was a casualty of the unforgiving environment in which they all worked.

Schiesser soon discovered many good men who also served in the USAFSS that she decided to use their personal stories, hence the book, "These Guys." It has been highly praised by all of those who know it, and is in the Library of Congress, The Library of The Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, (Cold War History Project), in Washington, D.C.

Under separate cover are the high praise reviews of this fascinating history book of Cold War era intelligence. For ordering and pricing information, contact the author Trish Schiesser, directly via email: via email Clara19126@msn.com.

CZECHOSLOVAK POLITICAL PRISONERS
By Tomas Bouska and Klara Pinerova

The newly published book “Czechoslovak Political Prisoners” (2009) introduces ten victims of Stalinism who survived their own death in uranium mines of Central Europe. Political persecution changed lives of individuals, families and perhaps whole generations in many countries. In this case we are dealing with 1950s in former Czechoslovakia.

Young Czech authors, both doctoral candidates from Charles University in Prague, introduce five male and five female life stories of former political prisoners from their own country. Ten unique stories display not only the regime oppression, torture, show trials and forced labor in Stalinist prisons and uranium camps but also illustrate how active citizenship, patriotism and civil resistance of then youth were rewarded in the Soviet times. Oral histories of Czechoslovak political prisoners, predecessors of Václav Havel, show the everyday life behind the Iron Curtain where sudden captivity for ideological reasons was a daily bread.

All the narratives were recorded in 2007 – 2008 using the method of oral history interview and life story narrative. Witnesses of past eighty years describe what they had gone through in an
open and personal way. What and how are they telling us has one major aim: to share the secrets of those who were meant to be forgotten.

Here is an excerpt from the interview with Mr. Jozef Kycka:

Q- Could you describe in detail how the investigations went?

A- It went like this: in the beginning it was quite common, sweet things and reasoning that you have a family, a son, and that you will sit for a long time. My son was born in December 1950. Once there came a lady who brought in some papers. She hit me so hard that I fell down from my chair. It was a punch as from a canon shot. My teeth were broken so I spit them out. They let me be like that. I refused to give testimony the way they wanted so I wasn’t allowed to sit. I had to keep walking in my cell and if I stopped in a second they were banging on the door. At night they kept waking me up even though I wasn’t at any hearings or interrogations. Sometimes they would investigate, I would sit, and five or six people would exchange seats at the table. It was a circle. One would give you these questions and another would give you different ones to make one completely confused. Then I was practically sleeping, but I was still speaking and suddenly finding out that I didn’t know what I was saying. These things were quite unpleasant. I had to keep marching. I had sandals from which my legs were swollen. It was like standing on needles. My soles were swollen and I complained about it. They kept making up things about me all the time. At night they would kick my door, I would have to jump up, and report my presence every quarter of an hour. The light would be constantly on and we had to lay straight on our back with arms at the top of the cover. In a moment when I turned around there would be knocking at the door again. You had to jump up and report your presence once again. The arms had to be out because it was happening that someone would want to cut their wrists. We had to lie on our backs, the bulb was lit above our heads, but people still fell asleep because of the tiredness.

See www.politicalprisoners.eu for more information.

THE CLOAK AND DAGGER COOK: A CIA MEMOIR
By Kay Shaw Nelson
368 pp. 6 x 9 10 b/w photos  Index

“Kay Nelson’s memoir teaches us that food is a key to unlocking and understanding cultures other than our own. I know exactly what Julia Child of the OSS would say after reading Kay’s book: ‘Bon appétit!’” — Charles Pinck, OSS Society president

Upon graduating from college in 1948, Kay Shaw Nelson, a bright young woman with a yen for international travel, joined the newly founded Central Intelligence Agency. Within months, she received her security clearance, learned the difficulties associated with the life of a spy, fell in love, and set about traveling the world on assignment with her husband. At times under the cover
of a cookbook writer, Nelson sailed from one exotic locale to another, each more incredible than
the last. From Washington to Turkey and Cyprus, to Syria, Libya, France, Greece, and the
Netherlands, among many other ports, the Nelsons traversed the globe as Kay discovered her
passion for food, developed her journalistic abilities, and honed her exceptional palate.

With humor and panache, Nelson tells of her exploits gleaning intelligence while gathering
recipes and sampling the local cuisine. Kebabs in Turkey, kimchi in Korea, spargel in Germany,
eels in Spain, and Rumbledethumps in Scotland were among the delightful gastronomic surprises
she encountered. Dozens of unusual recipes with memorable histories pepper this irresistible
memoir of fascinating events, extraordinary corners of the globe, and clandestine culinary
pursuits.

About the Author
Kay Shaw Nelson is a nationally recognized writer/researcher of a variety of current and
historical subjects. The author of twenty cookbooks, she is a newspaper columnist, culinary
historian, member of the National Press Club, and contributor to Washington Woman and the
Scottish Banner. She is also a frequent lecturer on the history of food and travel subjects and is
the author of Pelican’s The Art of Scottish-American Cooking. She lives in Bethesda, Maryland.

WHEN THE NOISE HAD ENDED: GEISLINGEN’S DP CHILDREN REMEMBER
Compiled by Mai Maddisson
Edited by Priit Vesilind

The youngest victims of WWII search their memories to tell
how they and their families survived the assault on their
nation of Estonia, escaped from the invading Red Army, and
found refuge in a Displaced Persons camp in post-war
Germany, more than 60 years ago. With stories both searingly
honest and accepting, their book of childhood recollections
and intimate photographs is a rewarding read that is destined
to be a classic in the supporting literature of post-traumatic
children’s studies.

Surviving the end of World War II

Europe in 1945 was awash with more than a million refugees. Many would go home again, but
for those who had fled from newly occupied countries bordering the Soviet Union – Estonia,
Latvia, and Lithuania among them – war’s end meant exile from their homelands. To return
would mean banishment to Siberia, even execution at Soviet hands.
Their bitter option was to remain in post-war Germany, which was divided into four “Occupation
Zones” controlled by the victorious Allies – Great Britain, France, the USSR, and the United
States – until they could find other nations who were willing to accept them as immigrants. They
were housed in temporary “camps” in Germany, and the largest camp of Estonians was
established by the U.S. Army and UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency) in
the American Zone, in a mid-sized town in the scenic Württemberg region of southwest Germany, a town called Geislingen an der Steig.

Before the fighting had ended, Jüri Linask recalled his family’s journey through the front lines. His father was in Siberia. His mother, pushing a double pram with the baby and all the family belongings, was walking with her three other sons through the battlefront toward the West, even as Soviet troops encountered the German army. Jüri was six years old:

“We went with determination; I imagine also fear, along the crowded highway paralleling the tracks, along with Russian army caravans of American-made trucks, with released war prisoners… through Oberleutendorf, through Viesa to Brüx. Here we encountered horrors of revenge. Germans were being executed in the graveyard we passed. Ushered onto side streets, I vividly recall platform wagons piled with bodies, dripping blood. I don’t remember the German soldiers pulling them, nor them being pelted with stones and beaten with sticks. Soon we were advised to leave quickly and we did, as fast as possible with the elderly and small children…. Our direction now was over the Hertzgebirge Mountains on smaller roads, to distance us from Russian army caravans on the main roads. The mountain roads rose steeply, only to descend again.”

Months later, as the war was lurching to an end in the spring of 1945, the Linasks arrived in Geislingen. More than 5,000 other Estonian exiles, including 1000 small children, passed through Geislingen Camp in five years, from 1945-1950. Many had lost their men to the depredations of war. Many survived in shocked, dysfunctional families whose fathers or brothers had been conscripted into the German or Soviet armies, and were maimed or missing. Others were tightly sheltered by parents desperate to shield them from the austere conditions and dark realities around them.

The Soviets sent “repatriation” officers to the Baltic camps to recruit people back to occupied Estonia; no one would go.

Instead, they quickly transformed Geislingen into a small Estonian village in which every possible culture, sport, or craft was organized. This community of exiles included many of Estonia’s finest artists and professionals, and they created a network of doctors, professors, theater people, musicians, journalists, and politicians that simulated Estonian society, but at even a more intense level than back home.

The children, many not knowing any other reality, flourished. They lived in duplex homes and houses of Germans who had been forcibly removed by the U.S. Army to make room for refugees. They survived on donations from the UN, the Red Cross, and CARE. Some fathers had jobs at the nearby US Army post. But Geislingen’s children, from toddlers to grade-schoolers, were saturated with the values and cultural icons of their nation, even while surviving as homeless people in a hostile German town of defeated enemies. They were mostly isolated from the Germans that surrounded them, yet constantly exposed to the deep anxieties of their parents. Many were emotionally damaged by their untenable circumstances, others seemed unaffected.
When their families emigrated around the world, few of them kept in close contact, and the decades pulled them even further apart.

The children of Geislingen eventually emigrated from Germany and the camp was closed in 1950. Fortified by a large dose of Estonian culture, yet conscious of the sadness of war and the dislocation of their families, they grew up as overachievers in such nations as Australia, England, Canada, Sweden, and the United States.

Many earned doctorates and other advanced degrees. Some of the most successful and ardent of the émigré advocates for Estonian freedom in the early 1990s were Geislingen kids.

For more information, please contact P. Arne Vesilind at Lakeshore Press, PO Box 92, Woodville, NH, 03785. Tel: 603-747-8083, or 603-526-6011, www.lakeshorepressbooks.com.

THE HUSH HOUSE: COLD WAR SITES IN ENGLAND
By Frank Watson

The concept behind the work is an examination of the relationship between the English landscape and the architectural structures that remain from the Cold War. Military interests at the time re-shaped and re-appropriated large areas of land in the backwaters of the English countryside. These military interventions, many of which now lie abandoned can be seen in terms of 'the modern ruin.'

For more information, please contact Frank Watson at frank@thehushhouse.com or visit www.thehushhouse.com.

COLD WAR WEBSITES OF INTEREST

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

Cold War Memories & the Apologist President - http://teamronmiller.com/reflections/?p=123

NMCB 62 - www.nmcb62alumni.org

Place to order Documentaries - http://freedocumentaries.org/index.php?ct=41

The 39th Bomb Group (VH) Association - www.39th.org or www.39thbombgroup.org


Civil Disturbance Plan “GARDEN PLOT” - [www.govemmentattic.org/2docs/ArmyCivilDisturbPlanGardenPlot_1978.pdf](http://www.govemmentattic.org/2docs/ArmyCivilDisturbPlanGardenPlot_1978.pdf)


Abraham W. Bolden, Sr., Former Agent with United States Secret Service - [www.echomemfromdealeyplaza.net](http://www.echomemfromdealeyplaza.net)

Vietnam Baby Lift - [www.vietnambabylift.org/World_Airways.html](http://www.vietnambabylift.org/World_Airways.html)


Nike Hercules sites in south Florida - [www.Nike252.org](http://www.Nike252.org)

Nike Site Summit in Alaska - [http://home.att.net/~nikealaska/point/AADCP.html](http://home.att.net/~nikealaska/point/AADCP.html)

Polish Underground Soldiers 1944-1963 - The Untold Story - [www.doomedsoldiers.com](http://www.doomedsoldiers.com)


VQ-1 Website – [www.willyvictor.com/History/Korean_Shootdown/Korea.html](http://www.willyvictor.com/History/Korean_Shootdown/Korea.html)

This is an artist version of the shoot down that occurred on 15 April 1969. The aircraft was assigned to VQ-1 out of Atsugi, Japan. For more info go to the Squadron Website above.


Spoils of War - www.spoilsofwar.com

Navy Mysterious Cold War Structure –

LBJ and NAM - www.hpol.org/lbj/vietnam

Army History Publishing Division, U.S. Army Center of Military History –
www.history.army.mil/catalog/index.html

"The Cold War and Agriculture," Agricultural History, Vol. 83, No. 1

Escape from Berlin on Youtube:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2GRQP7K0iY&feature=related
www.youtube.com/watch?v=vS3Zc_l6JKk&feature=related
www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgGjw45pf_M&feature=related
www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jMwUDcM1h0&feature=related
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ywY67XU56KE&feature=related
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahMQ5IGsH4o&feature=related

Apollo/Advanced Range Instrumentation Aircraft Memorial – www.ARIAMemorial.com

The Men Who Killed Kennedy Series - www.judythvarybaker.com/pages/TMWKK.htm

Britain and Cyprus - www.britains-smallwars.com/cyprus/index.html

Book on Soviet Russia, by Danish Diplomat Joseph Douillet -
http://openlibrary.org/b/OL6754440M/Moscow_unmasked

Articles on Communism and Soviet Union -
http://townhall.com/columnists/RebeccaHagelin/2009/10/06/communisms_forgotten_victims
http://townhall.com/columnists/WalterEWilliams/2009/10/07/elites_and_tyrants
http://townhall.com/columnists/DrPaulKengor/2009/10/05/a_teachable_moment_on_communist_china
http://townhall.com/columnists/MattBarber/2009/10/06/commies_fascists_and_perverts_oh_my!

Chasing Loose Nukes - www.fdungan.com/duke.htm
Reagan Presidential Library exhibit on the tearing down of the Berlin Wall -
www.msnbc.msn.com/id/33301078/from/ET

Rutgers Oral History Archive - http://oralhistory.rutgers.edu

“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 priviledge 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 the opportunity to locate at Vint Hill and look forward to a successful conclusion to our lease negotiations with Vint Hill before the end of the year. 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

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

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

Thank you for your continued support.

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