

# ***Cold War Times***

***The Internet Newsletter for the Cold War Museum and  
Cold War Veterans Association***

**July / August 2002  
Volume 2, Issue 4**

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### ***About the Cold War Museum***

Founded in 1996 by Francis Gary Powers, Jr. and John C. Welch, the Cold War Museum is dedicated to preserving Cold War history and honoring Cold War Veterans.

For more information: Cold War Museum, P.O. Box 178, Fairfax, VA 22030 Ph: 703-273-2381

**Cold War Museum Update July—Aug 2002**  
**Francis Gary Powers, Jr.**

Dear Friends of the Cold War Museum,

The Cold War Museum continues to make progress in its ongoing efforts to preserve the history of the Cold War and honor those who participated in defending freedom and democracy. On 12 June 2002 I submitted written testimony to a Senate sub-committee in support of federal legislation related to the preservation of Cold War history. Our editor has re-printed my testimony as part of CWT's News Section.

The Cold War Museum held its second annual charity golf tournament to raise funds for the museum on June 26, 2002 at Fort Belvoir to raise money for the museum. Our thanks to the participants, sponsors and everyone else who helped make this event possible.

The U-2 Incident exhibit will be displayed at the EAA in Oshkosh, WI through March 1, 2003. We are currently looking for other locations to exhibit our U-2 incident display. If you know of any museums in your area that would like to host our mobile exhibit, please contact the Cold War Museum for dates and availability. In addition to the mobile exhibit, the Cold War Museum has permanent exhibits at the Fort Meade Museum in Fort Meade, Maryland and the Freedom Museum in Manassas, Virginia.

Recently, museum representatives meet with Congressman Tom Davis and with Virginia State Delegate Chap Petersen who both renewed their support of the Cold War Museum. On June 27, two companies, VOA and E&G Group, did a walk through of the Nike site in order to help with the creation of architectural plans, designs, and a study to determine the best way to utilize the facility in preparation for the proposal we plan to submit to Fairfax County in the near future.

Please consider making a donation to the Cold War Museum. Financial and artifact donations to the Museum will ensure that future generations will remember Cold War events and personalities that forever altered our understanding of national security, international relations, and personal sacrifice for one's country. Together we can make this vision a reality. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you should have any questions or want additional information, please visit [www.coldwar.org](http://www.coldwar.org) or contact us via any of the means mentioned on the preceding page.

The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of *Cold War Times*, the Cold War Museum, the Cold War Veterans Association, and/or their respective Board of Directors. As is the case with all history, the history of the Cold War is subject to some degree of interpretation.

## **Random Thoughts on the Cold War**

**By Bryan J. Dickerson, Editor, *Cold War Times***

In creating Cold War Times, we endeavor to offer you a variety of Cold War insights and information. Bill Craig gives us a synopsis of the development and deployment of atomic weapons. William Pruitt offers us his experiences as a crewman of Pershing medium range ballistic missiles in West Germany. CWT has already examined the service of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiments along the Inner-German Border during the Cold War. As a tribute to my friends in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Association, I have included an article about their regiment's service during the Cold War.

In particular, the July/August issue shows that the effects of the Cold War are still being felt today. For example, our good friends at the Cold War Veterans Association have provided us with some important insights into issues affecting Cold War veterans. Recent discussions between the United States, NATO and Russia seem to indicate a trend towards greater cooperation unthinkable just ten years ago. Kevin Kearney of the Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation tells us about their efforts to restore a C-97 transport aircraft. Thomas Page writes about efforts to restore an old Air Force radar station on Long Island. Gary Powers's testimony in support of federal efforts to preserve Cold War history is re-printed in its entirety. USS Saratoga Memorial Foundation is hosting a premiere of the new Paramount Pictures movie K19: The Widemaker on 18 July in Providence, R.I.

Ordinarily I would advise against visiting the city of Camden, New Jersey. However, as you will find in the Cold War Tourist section, Camden is now home to USS New Jersey, one of the four powerful Iowa-class battleships that served our country for four decades. I visited "Big J" in April and it was an outstanding experience that I highly recommend.

In the previous issue, I mentioned that this issue would contain a feature article about the 1967 Hollybush Summit between President Lyndon Johnson and Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin. Being a 1995 graduate of Glassboro State College (now known as Rowan University), the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this Summit is of special importance to me. I first learned about the Hollybush Summit at Freshman Orientation in July of 1991. My friend (and later fraternity brother) Mike Pearson and I were seated in the campus auditorium along with several hundred of our classmates. A short movie about the college's history was played for us. My initial reaction to learning of Glassboro's hosting of the Summit was 'Why here of all places?' Of course, as you will see from my article, Glassboro was an ideal location for the Summit.

## Cold War News & Notes

### Cold War Museum Founder Submits Testimony To Senate Sub-Committee

CWT Staff Report

On 12 June 2002, Cold War Museum Founder Francis Gary Powers, Jr., submitted written testimony to the National Parks Sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in support of Senate Bill S. 2157 and House Bill H.R. 107 which would require that the Secretary of the Interior conduct a study to identify sites and resources to commemorate and interpret the Cold War. His testimony is reprinted as follows:

"My name is Francis Gary Powers, Jr. and I am founder of The Cold War Museum, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization dedicated to education, preservation, and research on the global, ideological, and political confrontations between East and West from the end of World War II to the dissolution of the Soviet Union. I greatly appreciate this opportunity to provide this written statement in support of S.1257 to the National Parks Subcommittee and would like to express my gratitude to Senator Reid for sponsoring a bill that aims to preserve such a vital part of our country's history. Last year, I testified before the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands in support of H.R. 107.

This legislation means much to me personally. As the son of a famous Cold War figure, I grew up with the Cold War. The Cold War Museum began for me as a way to honor my father, but it soon took on a much greater life and purpose. I am working toward a museum that will honor all the men and women who worked for democracy and freedom during the Cold War. The Cold War Museum will dedicate resources to commemorating those whose deeds and understanding of the Cold War – one of the most intense periods of conflict, and most dangerous years in human history.

The Cold War Museum has collected over two million dollars worth of artifacts, currently in storage, and last year it became an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. While the Museum does not yet have a permanent home, it sponsors traveling exhibits that have been displayed throughout the U.S. and in Norway, Germany, and Russia. In the past two years, more than 250,000 people have visited the Museum's website ([www.coldwar.org](http://www.coldwar.org)). Presently we are in negotiations with Fairfax County officials to establish our permanent location at the former Nike Missile Base in Lorton, Virginia.

The growing popularity of the Cold War Museum underscores its commitment not to revive old hatreds, but rather to promote lessons learned. It's about teaching democracy and the pursuit of world peace.

The Museum's distinguished Board of Directors includes experts in museum manage-

ment, nonprofit management, and various aspects of Cold War history. It also has an Advisory Board, which includes Sergei Khrushchev, son of Nikita Khrushchev; former Eisenhower aide General Andrew Goodpaster; and renowned photographic interpreter Dino Brugioni.

Recently, the Cold War Museum developed a list of important Cold War sites, a focal point of both S.1257 and H.R 107, the House-passed companion bill. We believe that the goal of recognizing a Cold War site in every state is achievable and look forward to providing any assistance that could be useful to the Secretary of the Interior once this legislation is enacted.

We also believe that Section 3 of S.1257, which establishes a "Cold War Advisory Committee" is an excellent provision in that it will make available to the Secretary a broad range of persons with expertise in Cold War and U.S. history, and in historic preservation. We strongly urge the Subcommittee to include this recommendation as a means of assuring that the study will have the best possible input for its final report.

America has honored men and women from many wars who died for freedom, but whatever the reason, there has been almost no recognition of the Cold War, an era that history, and left America the only remaining superpower. However, the Cold War is virtually unknown to the current generation. This is a great disservice to all those who gave their lives during the Cold War.

James Billington, Librarian of Congress, said in a foreign policy speech,

"The Cold War was the central conflict of the second half of the 20th century, the longest and most unconventional war of the entire modern era and an unprecedented experience for Americans. We were faced for the first time in our history with an opponent who was both ideologically committed to overthrow our system and was equipped to destroy us physically."

Journalist Charles Krauthammer, in an Op-Ed piece in the Washington Post, entitled "Build a Cold War Memorial," had this to say:

"The Cold War did not have the dramatic intensity of World War II, but it was just as real and just as dangerous. Though often clandestine and subtle, it ranged worldwide, cost many lives, evoked much heroism and lasted what seemed like forever. Considering the stakes, the scope and the suffering, this was a struggle that deserves commemoration."

Although the Cold War periodically resurfaces in the news, as is evident by the Hanssen spy case, many people really don't understand the background and the history. The Cold War Museum's web site testifies to the public's desire for information. Krauthammer said this about a proposed Cold War Monument:

Krauthammer said this about a proposed Cold War Monument:

"It needn't be grandiose, but it must have a small museum for instruction. A gallery of heroes: Truman, Marshall, Churchill, Reagan. A hall for the fallen: the secret agents who died anonymously. A tribute to allies and friends... and a gulag display, so our children will learn the nature of evil."

We hope that the study that will be undertaken by Department of the Interior when this legislation is enacted will establish the value of a permanent Cold War Museum.

Our plans include the following:

- Display Cold War photos, artwork, and artifacts.
- Establish an endowed research chair at the Cold War Museum.
- Collect biographies on key figures of the Cold War.
- Record oral and written histories to capture the human side of the conflict.
- Create an inventory of key technologies that resulted from Cold War research and development.
- Develop a comprehensive inventory of significant Cold War sites and resources that need to be preserved such as military sites, homes of key figures, laboratories, test sites, and historic places.
- Erect a Cold War Memorial to honor our Cold War veterans and participants.

I am proud to say that the Cold War Museum is already addressing these needs. We are working with the Smithsonian to determine which artifacts from their national collection can be used in Cold War Museum exhibits and displays. We have received offers of support from a variety of sources including the Holocaust Museum, Voice of America, and the embassies of Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, and Slovakia. Earlier this year the Commonwealth of Virginia provided an initial grant to the museum in the amount of \$28,000 and a resolution of support stating that the Commonwealth supports the Cold War Museum locating at the former Nike Missile base in Lorton, Virginia.

The interest and support of James Billington, Charles Krauthammer, the Smithsonian Institution, the Voice of America, the Holocaust Museum, various embassies and schools, and the Commonwealth of Virginia provide strong evidence that this legislation will be of significant value in educating students, honoring Cold War veterans, and preserving Cold War history.

Mr. Chairman, the Directors of the Cold War Museum and I would like to express our strongest possible support for the enactment of either S.1257 or H.R. 107, although the establishment of an Advisory Committee by S.1257 makes that bill considerably more effective in our opinion.

We believe it is vital to begin immediately to preserve these historical resources. Records are being lost and historical sites fall prey to developers every day. S.1257 and H.R.107 represent an important step in the right direction. We urge the Congress to act expeditiously so that efforts to preserve this important part of American history and its historical sites can be preserved for all time.

Thank you for this opportunity to present our views."

## **The Last Rites for the Cold War?**

### **CWT Staff Report**

When the member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization meet in Prague, Czech Republic, this November, one of the major issues which they will be deciding is the expansion of the mutual defense organization. Ten Eastern European nations --- all of them either former Soviet bloc countries or former parts of such countries --- have formally applied for admission. To make matters more interesting, NATO and Russia have entered into an alliance of sorts pledging cooperation on such matters as counter-terrorism, peacekeeping, and nuclear, biological and chemical weapons proliferation.

The ten NATO aspirants are Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. On 1 May 2002, the ambassadors of all ten nations pitched their case for inclusion in NATO before the House International Relations Committee's Subcommittee on Europe. The Administrations of both former President William Clinton and current President George W. Bush have also been supportive of the NATO expansion.

Each of the ten NATO aspirants --- collectively known as the Vilnius Group --- was either a former Soviet bloc country or was a part of one. Albania, Bulgaria and Romania were all members of the Warsaw Pact. Croatia, Macedonia and Slovenia were formerly part of Yugoslavia. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were all forcibly annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940. Now each is an independent and democratic nation.

"We want to join NATO because we never want to repeat our past," Slovak Ambassador Martin Butora told the House sub-committee. "Believe me, each family in Slovakia remembers the horrors of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, when Slovaks underwent two world wars and lived under two dictatorships."

In his testimony before the House sub-committee, Lithuanian Ambassador Vygaudas

Usackas echoed similar sentiments. "My country has been occupied three times in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century," he stated. "It was under the yoke of communism for more than 40 years --- a political system that pushed hundreds of thousands of my countrymen and those of my Baltic neighbors into forced exile."

Two weeks later, NATO and Russia made significant steps towards greater cooperation. President Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the Treaty of Moscow which would reduce their respective nation's nuclear arsenals to about 2,000 warheads each over the next ten years. Also, Secretary of State Colin Powell and the foreign ministers of 18 NATO countries met in Iceland with Russia's foreign minister and established a NATO-Russia Joint Council to coordinate cooperative policy on military and political issues.

"These are the final rites of the funeral of the Cold War, with Russia as a friend and ally and no longer as an enemy," British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw was quoted as saying by *The Washington Times*.

## Historic C-97 Lands in NY for Restoration Work

By Kevin Kearney, Secretary, Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation

On 10 May 2002 at approximately 2 PM EST, Boeing C-97G 52-2718, *Angel of Deliverance*, touched down successfully at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, NY USA. This flight concluded the ferry process of the airplane which started in October 1998, when she was first flown by the Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation from Moses Lake, Washington, to Greybull, Wyoming. The second leg of her ferry flight commenced on July 2, 2001, as she departed from Greybull. This leg was cut short by an engine failure. The third leg commenced in October 2001, as the aircraft was flown from Aberdeen, South Dakota, to Millville, NJ. The airplane took off on May 10, 2002, from Millville, NJ for the final leg, which lasted all of about 35 minutes. This marks significant progress in the Foundation's C-97 program. The "*Angel*" will reside in Hangar B at Floyd Bennett Field for approximately 2 years, as she is inspected and repairs are made, if necessary. During the two year sheltering, a museum will be constructed in the fuselage's main cargo deck to commemorate 40 years of Cold War history, beginning with the Berlin Airlift of 1948 and concluding with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. We are in need of massive funding to replace the powerful 28 cylinder Pratt and Whitney R-4360-59B engines, which can be acquired at a cost of \$150,000 each. Help is needed. For more information visit the Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation website [www.spiritoffreedom.org](http://www.spiritoffreedom.org)



## The Ongoing Effort to Save a Cold-War Icon: The Montauk Air Force Station AN/FPS-35 Radar

Good News ... and Not-So-Good News ...

By Thomas Page

Background: Throughout the Cold War, the US Air Force, in support of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), established an extensive network of early-warning radars designed to detect Soviet bombers if they violated US air space. No doubt, this vast array of surveillance radars was one of the many factors that helped prevent a World War III.

One such surveillance radar facility was strategically placed at the far eastern end of New York state's Long Island, at Camp Hero near Montauk Point. The radar base was named Montauk Air Force Station. Manned by the 773<sup>rd</sup> Aircraft Control and Warning (AC&W) Squadron, later named the 773<sup>rd</sup> Radar Squadron (SAGE), Montauk AFS operated long-range air-defense radar equipment from 1948 until early 1981. Rendered obsolete by the shifting emphasis from the bomber threat to the ballistic-missile threat, and also a victim of budget shortfalls which forced the US Air Force and the FAA to combine and share radar facilities, Montauk AFS and most of its sister sites were deactivated and abandoned.

When Montauk AFS closed its doors permanently on 31 January 1981, its huge frequency-diverse, high-power, long-range search radar known as an AN/FPS-35 was abandoned in place. It was the last remaining one of twelve such models built in the late 1950's / early 1960's by Sperry Gyroscope, and was declared excess by the US Air Force. It was deemed more cost-effective to simply leave the huge radar on site than to expend any funds to remove it. It was probably assumed that sooner or later someone would buy the site and sell the remnants for scrap. That did not happen and so the massive antenna assembly has sat there all these years, abandoned, neglected, and generally forgotten, slowly corroding in the salt air of this ocean-side location. Well, not completely forgotten.

After being neglected for over 20 years, the AN/FPS-35 radar tower and its antenna assembly – true relics of the Cold War – are finally slated for historic preservation. The "Save-the-Montauk-AN/FPS-35-Radar" effort was first proposed about four years ago by Tom Page, co-founder of the Air Defense Radar Veterans' Association and its web-based Online Air Defense Radar Museum <http://www.radomes.org/museum/>. Efforts by Cold War history supporters such as Mr. Donald Bender, Mr. Gene McManus, and many, many other people, as well as endorsement by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), has finally culminated in this silent sentinel being saved from the scrap yard. But, the bigger question is, will it be saved from the elements?

The good news: According to Mr. James Warren of the New York State OPRHP the 85-foot tall AN/FPS-35 radar tower with its 70-ton antenna assembly has now been added to the New York State Register of Historic Places. New York State Commis-

sioner Bernadette Castro signed the nomination form on April 8<sup>th</sup>. That significant milestone placed this historic Cold War radar on the State Register of Historic Places. It will be submitted to the National Park Service in late April, and the NPS then will have 40 days to act after that. On a related note, the section of Montauk Point State Park that originally was the old Camp Hero, including the former Montauk Air Force Station, is scheduled to open to the public some time in late May.

**The not-so-good news:** Mr. Warren reports that there is no available funding – and hence no immediate plans – to fix up the antenna sail, now badly corroding. Its long-term preservation depends upon corrosion control being performed soon, followed by restoration (i.e., replacing corroded sections of the antenna assembly) and ongoing maintenance. Otherwise, the sail will eventually succumb to the elements. And, when it's gone, it's gone – it's the last one of its kind anywhere. The salt-water and high-wind environments of Montauk Point are no friend to exposed metal surfaces, and the -35 sail is no exception.

What is needed now is money in the form of donations, both private and corporate, and contacts within the State of New York Park Systems and the National Park Service to which to donate for this effort. After all, this remnant of the Cold War is one of many national assets that allowed us Americans to sleep safely every night, secure in the knowledge that the US military was watching our skies. The AN/FPS-35 deserves to be both preserved and restored, to serve as a monument to all Cold War era early-warning systems and the personnel whose lives depended upon them. For more information, visit [www.radomes.org](http://www.radomes.org)

### **2002 Conference of Army Historians "The Cold War Army 1947-1989" Update 6-8 August 2002**

This year's Conference of Army Historians will focus on the Cold War Army. The lineup of presenters for the Conference has been posted on Center of Military History website [www.army.mil/cmh-pg/CAH2002](http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/CAH2002). Over ninety presenters are scheduled to speak during the three-day conference covering such Cold War Army topics as air mobility, the war in Vietnam, Berlin, the Cuban Missile Crisis, missile defense and many others. Two of the days will feature a series of three concurrent sessions enabling Conference participants' greater flexibility in choosing their topics of interest.

The three day event is scheduled to be held from 6 - 8 August 2002 at the Crowne Plaza Washington on Jefferson Davis Highway in Arlington, Virginia. Registration options include \$45 for presentation panels and workshops for all three days to \$90 for the panels, workshops and two evening events. Registration information may be found on the Center of Military History website. Hotel accommodations are available by calling the Crowne Plaza at 1-703-416-1600 or 1-800-227-6963. For more information, contact Dr. Robert Rush at 1-202-685-2727 or e-mail [Robert.Rush@hqda.army.mil](mailto:Robert.Rush@hqda.army.mil)

## USS Saratoga Museum Foundation hosts K-19: The Widowmaker 's New England premiere

PROVIDENCE - June 21, 2002 The USS Saratoga Museum Foundation today announced it will host the New England Premiere of Paramount Pictures' K-19: The Widowmaker, a Russian submarine thriller starring Harrison Ford and Liam Neeson. Mirroring the peace and understanding theme of the Saratoga project, Brown University Professor Sergei Khrushchev and his wife Valentina head the list of event Honorary Co-Chairs. Francis Gary Powers, Jr., Katherine Quinn, Congressman James Langevin, former Congressman Bob Weygand and his wife Fran, and Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci Jr. round out the impressive team of co-chairpersons. The July 18 gala features a pre-film reception and a dinner after the movie, to which cast members and movie production crew have been invited. The event will benefit the USS Saratoga Museum Foundation, Save The Bay and Heritage Harbor Museum. WJAR Channel 10 and Citadel Communications are the official event broadcast partners. The evening begins at Hoyts Cinema in the Providence Place Mall at 6 p.m. with a reception preceding the 7 p.m. movie. Following the premiere, guests may attend a gala Russian buffet banquet at Federal Reserve restaurant in downtown Providence. Owner Bob Burke, who has visited Moscow to explore Russian cuisine, offers an exciting menu of classic Russian fare. Tickets for the event are \$50 per person for the reception and movie; \$125 for the reception, movie and Federal Reserve Russian feast. In addition, all guests will receive a pass good for a free tour of the Juliett 484. Tickets are on sale immediately by calling 401-331-5881. The premiere marks the Rhode Island big-screen debut of Juliett 484, the Russian cruise-missile submarine featured prominently in the motion picture. Collier Point Park on the Providence waterfront will be Juliett's home this summer. The only Russian sub of its class on display in the Western Hemisphere, Juliett is the bright new star of Rhode Island tourism. "We are thrilled to present an exciting, historic evening of fun and entertainment," said Saratoga Museum Foundation President Frank Lennon. "We have a world-class movie premiere that will support not only our efforts, but support our world-class partners, Save the Bay and Heritage Harbor Museum."

### **About The Movie**

K-19: The Widowmaker is presented by Paramount Pictures and Intermedia Films. It stars Harrison Ford, Liam Neeson, Peter Sarsgaard, and Rhode Island's own Juliett 484, the Russian cruise missile submarine used in the making of the film. Inspired by a true story, K-19: The Widowmaker follows the exploits of Captain Alexi Vostrikov (Harrison Ford) who, at the height of the Cold War is ordered to take command of the submarine K-19, pride of the Soviet Navy. His mission is to prepare his country's first nuclear missile submarine for sea and take her on patrol no matter what the cost. On this first mission, problems arise with K-19's nuclear reactor which threaten core meltdown and a detonation that will certainly kill all aboard and, if misinterpreted, could trigger a nuclear exchange. In a daring act of heroism, Captain Vostrikov must choose between his orders from the Kremlin and the safety of his men.

## **Cold War Veterans Association Update**

**By CWVA Chairman Vince Milum**

Greetings again fellow freedom lovers! Here is the latest Cold War Veterans News. THANKS to all of you who have helped make the Cold War Veterans Association a success. We continue to influence decision-makers. As we approach the mid-year point, we would like to highly encourage all of the "fence-setters" to climb aboard and join the Association ASAP. By joining, you help to ensure that "we have strength in numbers." To join the CWVA, simply visit our web site and complete the online application at: <http://www.coldwarveterans.com/application.htm> [NOTE: We DO NOT share your personal information with outside parties.]

FYI, here is an excerpt of an email we recently received from the Office of US Congressman Dennis Moore: "I would like your permission for this office to contact you in the future to get your input on what issues are concerning our Vets and also what you may see as possible steps for Congressman Moore to take in resolving those issues."

REMINDER: Cold War Veterans merchandise may now be ordered online or over the telephone. Order online at [http://www.idsardar.bizland.com/cold\\_war.htm](http://www.idsardar.bizland.com/cold_war.htm) You may Also CALL the Quartermaster TOLL FREE between the hours of 8 AM to 8 PM Central Time at 1-800-810-8122. Make sure to check out our Eagles Club shirts for family and friends!!!

TELEVISION COVERAGE: National CWVA adviser Gary Powers and CWVA Silver Club member, Charles "Nick" McDowell, were recently interviewed about the Cold War Medal and the Cold War Veterans Association by the Cox TV Network. The interviews aired over numerous station affiliates across the country over the Memorial Day weekend.

For the latest update(s) on the Cold War Medal, please visit our web site - [www.coldwarveterans.com](http://www.coldwarveterans.com). While there, be sure to check out our Honor Roll of men and women making a special contribution to our heritage. Take care for now and, once again, THANKS for making the Cold War Veterans Association a huge success!

## **The War The Government Refuses to Acknowledge**

**By Frank Tims, PhD -- Director of Public Affairs for the CWVA**

I recently received the following observation in an email:

"[T]he Defense Department once rejected the idea of a victory medal for veterans because it was 'politically inappropriate since the Cold War represented only an ideological battle against communism and not a clear victory for any one nation.' "

Not a victory? There was one hell of a celebration. In 1990, I was in Berlin for a meeting, and joined thousands in taking a hammer to the Berlin Wall. For the first time, we were able to pass through a new opening in the Wall for a stroll to the east side of the Brandenburg gate. The East German grenzpos saw our American passports, and tried to tell us to go over to Checkpoint Charlie and enter there. I told him that in a few days, it would not matter, there would be no wall, so why not let us cross there. He smiled and agreed, and a few minutes later we were having a beer at one of the celebrations on the east side. A woman in our group actually danced with one of the border guards at the crossing point near Schoenfeld Airport. I took a group of American and Dutch colleagues over to East Berlin and we had a wonderful dinner at the Moskau restaurant, with lots of good wine. It came to about \$10 a person.

The year before, in Budapest, I heard people promise that they would take the red star down from on top of the parliament building. The traffic circle on the Buda side of the chain bridge had red flowers planted in the shape of a star. Cars began driving across the circle to damage the design. The powers that be sent a work crew out to cut away the star points and make it a red disc rather than a star.

When I had been in Prague before, it had been very subdued, empty streets and red banners. I sat on a bench in the town square at 11 PM and had a cigar, and realized I was the only person there. Only an occasional car passed by. A few years later, everything began to change. Prague in 1988 and 1989 was one big party. People sensed change in the air.

During the Cold War, people in the East stayed home because it is safe there. Loose talk was dangerous because you never knew who might be an informer. People who could have had you arrested and shot last year were arrested, tried in secret for treason, and shot themselves. You read about it in the official newspapers after it happens. The government radio stations broadcasted crop statistics, news about the 5 year plan and such stuff. "News" was written by government employees, so it was always politically correct and full of the party line. Fear was a way of life, then you got used to it and it became caution. Then it became dull behavior that no one cares about. Efficiency is unknown, so there was full employment. People drank, one of the things that was allowed.

In the USSR itself, an object lesson is the life of Trotsky, one of the most talented members of the ruling elite. He organized the Red Army into a fighting force, and defeated the White Russians (Czarists) in the Civil War that followed the 1917 Revolution. He had a falling out with Stalin over matters of doctrine, but Stalin wanted him out anyway. Trotsky was expelled from the Politburo in 1925, from the Communist Party in 1926, and was exiled the following year. He found refuge in Norway, but that was too close for Uncle Joe to tolerate, so it was on to Mexico. In 1940, he was murdered by a man believed to be an agent of Stalin.

Then there was Beria, head of the USSR's secret police. In 1953, he had 1.5 million people working for him directly in the secret police, another 300,000 in militia units, and the forced labor camps which were under his authority. For comparison, the US Army in 1953 had a total strength of 1.5 million people. Beria was one of the most powerful people in the USSR when Stalin died in 1953. He was arrested by the army the following summer, tried on political charges, and executed.

When Khrushchev denounced Stalin in 1956, it created shock waves in Communist parties in the west -- many became disillusioned. Uprisings in East Germany, Poland, and Hungary followed. People have since forgotten that one of the great fears of the Soviets in those days was "revanchism," the resurgence of Germany as an enemy of the USSR. If the Warsaw Pact collapsed, there was a strong possibility that East Germany might join West, and any possibility of keeping East Germany in the Soviet Bloc depended on Poland, with its important lines of supply and communication to Germany, staying in the Pact. In October 1956, the Soviet tanks were already moving toward Warsaw to suppress an uprising, and turned back only when Poland committed itself to stay in the Warsaw Pact.

Fortunately, the United States and NATO did not conduct any overt military operations against the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact. The mission of deterrence succeeded in keeping western Europe free from Soviet conquest and domination. For the successful completion of that mission, a Cold War Medal is most appropriate as a means of recognition and appreciation for those who made that possible.

## **LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR POSITION UP AND RUNNING**

**By George Goodrow, CWVA**

I am a new member of the Cold War Veterans Association and have agreed to take on the responsibility of directing and implementing veterans' legislation on behalf of the CWVA. I propose to work for Veterans Legislation on the State and Federal levels. I live in New Jersey and have at this time a Veterans Bill in the New Jersey State Senate, years 2000-2001, Bill S971: Extends certain veterans' benefits to persons who performed active service in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Cold War. At the present time it is in the Budget and Appropriations Committee. There is also an identical Bill in the State Assembly, Bill A3586. I have a web site

(members.aol.com/dggoodrow/coldwarvets.html) which gives back-ground information on the Cold War with links to the Federal Government, Senate and House, State of New Jersey, and Cold War Veterans advocacy sites. Federal and N.J. State petitions are also available for any resident to sign.

Because of my past experience with veterans legislation, I was asked and agreed to lead the CWVA in it's legislative effort to have Cold War Veterans recognized for the contribution made by them to protect our country when called upon during those frightening years of the Cold War. THE COLD WAR CREATED TWO TYPES OF VETERANS (Which one are you, and should there be a difference?) The draft was in full swing until the 1970's when it ended due to the movement protesting the Vietnam War. The government then established arbitrary dates that officially ended the status of a Veteran with full rights under the G.I. Bill. The dates of 12/31/46 to 6/27/50 and 1/31/55 to 8/5/64 were chosen to eliminate all of those who were drafted during those years from the government's responsibility for full coverage under the G.I. Bill (even though the government had previously determined that there was a need to draft men into the military). For example, if you were drafted on 11/30/46 and released 11/29/48, you qualify as a WW-II veteran although you only spent one month in the WW-II time slot. Again drafted on 1/2/55 and released 1/1/57 you also qualify as a Korean veteran. There was no war going on during these time slots or during the 17 months following the WW-II or Korean wars but those service men do qualify. Men were drafted because of the Cold War. The need to draft was there and the men served their country like all of the others when asked to do so. Those men whose service fell between these dates are regarded by the government as second class veterans. On the Federal level they have some Veterans rights but not all. In some states like New Jersey, they are not considered veterans at all and do not receive any benefits due them as veterans. These benefits include property tax relief and veteran status for the state-sponsored retirement plans.

This is my personal story. I call it: PROFILE OF A COLD WAR VETERAN. I was 19 years old in 1953 when Uncle Sam first called me. It was during the Korean War and I was called to take my physical for induction into the military. I was classified as 1A and was told to be ready at any time to be called. Like many at that time and especially during wartime, I decided to marry my sweetheart before I got drafted and was shipped off to war. The Korean Armistice was signed on July 27, 1953. I was subsequently drafted in October 26, 1956 -- more than three years later. Here I was, living in a cold water flat, working in a machine shop as a toolmaker, trying to make a life for myself and my wife of three years.

This life ended abruptly by an invitation from the United States Government stating that my friends and neighbors have selected me to serve my country in the United States Army for a period of two years. I was in Fort Dix, N.J. when the British began bombing the Suez Canal. That was October 27, 1956, it was only one day after being drafted and I remember thinking "here we go." I did not like the thought of going to war in Africa because President Nasser of Egypt decided to block the Suez Canal . President Eisenhower demanded that the was reopened for all nations to use. After basic

training and advanced schooling, I was assigned to the 3rd Armored Division, 122 Ordnance Battalion, B Company in Germany. It was in 1958 that the next crisis occurred. This time it was in Lebanon, the Near East again, and again I thought, "here we go." Fearing that the Soviets would soon be massing troops on the Lebanon border for a possible invasion of that country, some men from the 3rd Armored Division were sent to Lebanon along with other army units and the Russians backed off.

World tension was high during those Cold War years and I feel lucky that we were able to avoid war considering the many more possible conflicts that were avoided. I finished my tour of duty in Germany and was released on October 15, 1958 at Fort Hancock, NJ. The Cold War went on. The Cuban missile crisis and the Berlin wall are examples of other conflicts that kept the pot boiling during the Cold War.

This story is not unusual. It is typical of what happened to the men who were drafted during the Cold War. The reason why I am an advocate of Cold War Veterans Rights is obvious. But not everyone understands the importance of being recognized for our contribution to the Cold War. When I mention to friends that I am not considered a veteran (e.g., for federal employment purposes), they cannot believe that the Federal or State Governments would exclude me. Well they have! That is why it is important for everyone to be advocates for veterans. I am new at this assignment and need all of the help I can get.

Perhaps you could begin veterans' legislation in your State or with your elected representatives in the Senate or the House of Representatives. Contact me (George Goodrow) at [legislation@coldwarveterans.com](mailto:legislation@coldwarveterans.com) and I'll be only too happy to work with you.

### **“What do you want, a medal?”**

## **NATO Says “Tense Times but No Military Action.”**

**By Frank Tims, PhD -- Director of Public Affairs for the CWVA**

Item: In a letter to the Joseph Martin of the Cold War Veterans Association, the NATO Secretary General refused to acknowledge the NATO service of the US Armed Forces and other nations that made possible the principal mission (and victory) of the Alliance. The mission of NATO was defined by their own pronouncements as “The defense of Europe.” To which we, the veterans of NATO, can say, “Mission accomplished.”

Writing for the NATO Secretary General, Mr. John Day stated:

“NATO has a policy of granting service awards to those that participated in actual alliance operations. Thus, we have awarded NATO Medals to those who took part in our several operations in the Balkans beginning in the 1990's. “Thankfully, NATO never had to take military action as an alliance during



the Cold War. Therefore, the alliance did not award medals to Allied Veterans of the Cold War. We have left the issue of recognizing service during that period to the individual NATO nations. The Secretary General nonetheless recognizes the crucial contribution that all men and women serving in Allied armed forces made to ensuring peace during that tense time”

Maybe I missed something. The whole purpose of NATO was to prevent a third world war by deterring Soviet aggression. NATO’s “military action as an alliance” was to prevent Soviet expansion, and permit the countries of Western Europe to rebuild while being protected by the shield of the alliance. Without the alliance, and the military forces that made it viable, the Soviets would certainly have taken over all of Berlin. We were told to get out more than once, and we stayed. In 1956, during the Hungarian and Suez crises, the USSR threatened both Britain and France with nuclear strikes. Yugoslav troops confronted ours in Trieste -- we kept them out and today that city is part of Italy, a NATO member. Turkey was threatened, but our backing enabled them to stand up to the Soviets.

Was NATO necessary to prevent war in Europe or Soviet political expansion? Let’s look at the record. Greece, before the formation of NATO, was the target of a Soviet-backed insurgency. The US helped Greece defeat it, and kept Greece out of the eastern bloc. Stalin pressured Turkey to allow stationing of its troops in the Dardanelles. Stalin ordered planning and preparation for conquest of Western Europe, beginning in 1951. He saw his opportunity as lasting three or four years, after which the US would be able to quickly reinforce NATO, and take advantage of its nuclear advantage.

The following excerpts from a meeting are from Kaplan (1978), based on notes of Czech Minister of Defense Alexej Cepicka, who participated in the meeting.

“Stalin took the floor to elaborate on the idea of the military occupation of whole of Western Europe, insisting on the necessity of preparing it very well. ‘During the forthcoming three or four years, all of our domestic and international policies will be subordinated to this goal. Only the total mobilization of our resources will allow us to grasp this unique opportunity to extend socialism throughout the whole of Europe.’”

At that time, NATO had only five member nations in addition to the US and Canada -- Britain, France, and the Benelux countries (Italy and West Germany would be admitted by 1955). With only two US divisions (1st Infantry Division plus 3 armored cavalry regiments) in Germany, General Eisenhower persuaded Truman to commit four additional divisions to NATO for defense of Europe. West Germany was necessary as a source of troops to defend the west, but Germany was not allowed to re-arm until 1955, when the occupation was ended and West Germany joined NATO. Shielding the Germans while they raised an army were the French, the British Army of the Rhine, the US Seventh Army, which had the equivalent of 6 divisions by 1955, plus air and naval forces. In addition to military confrontations and incidents, the Soviets operated on political fronts, trying to split the NATO alliance, raising doubts about the

American willingness to fight for Europe, and directing western communist parties in efforts to disrupt economic recovery in Western Europe. NATO estimates of Soviet and Warsaw Pact strength available for combat in Europe was placed at 175 divisions, though Halle (1965) argued that a lower number was more realistic – but the most conservative estimates still gave the Soviet bloc a 4 or 5 to 1 advantage.

Khrushchev told Italian Prime Minister Fanfani in 1961, “Within an hour of the outbreak of a war, West Germany would be annihilated...The US will start the war, and you will have to die...” (Soviet Record of Khrushchev-Fanfani conversations August 2-3 and 5, 1961, Moscow, from DDR Archive, Berlin).

Well, we should all be grateful that NATO had “no military operations during “those tense times.” Everybody stayed in their barracks, the ASA stopped monitoring enemy nets, and when the alert siren sounded, we simply dismissed it with a curt “no military operations today.” We did not keep our tanks fully loaded with ammo and fueled at all times, because everybody knew there was no military operation -- NATO hadn't ordered one. We did not patrol, and our submarines stayed in port at Holy Loch, they didn't go out and monitor Soviet submarines or deploy with nukes -- that would be a military operation. Aircraft stayed parked. We just ate a lot of bratwurst, did our Saturday parades, took pictures of the east, and drank a lot of beer to forget what tense times we were living in. At I that seems to be the impression at NATO headquarters. Thank you, Mr. NATO Secretary General! But without us, you might be working at the Brussels office of the Warsaw Pact.

Historian Vojtech Mastny (1999), writing in *Foreign Affairs*, said,

“European war has been avoided; who deserves the credit for that, as with anything that did not happen, will remain forever uncertain. Did NATO deter intended Soviet aggression? Did it curb the bellicosity of Germans and keep the lid on crises? The much-vaunted nuclear capability of NATO turns out, as a practical matter, to have been far less important to the eventual outcome than its conventional forces. But above all, it was NATO's ‘soft power’ that bested its adversary.”

The “soft power” to which Mastny alludes is the resolve and cohesiveness of NATO partners working together, and raising the price of aggression to the point that the Warsaw Pact alliance was less dependent on Moscow. NATO underwent growth and maturation, and resisted attempts to undermine it politically.

The fact that the Cold War had political, economic, and military aspects has led some politicians and revisionist historians to dismiss the role of the NATO military during that period. They tend to forget the importance of the US and British military commitment to NATO, at a time when most of Western Europe needed to rebuild – being in no position to raise large armies. They forget the understandable opposition to German re-armament -- especially among the French. They forget the strength of communist parties in Western European politics in the 1940s and 1950s, and the deliberate efforts by the USSR and the Cominform to sabotage the Marshall Plan. It was the will-

ingness of allied soldiers, particularly those who came from the US, Canada, and Britain, to defend the continent with their lives if need be, that gave Western Europe the will to stand as free nations.

NATO's official attitude toward its Cold War soldiers is shameful. You would think NATO was created in the 1990s. Their military action in the Balkans was very late, only after a great deal of dithering and death in that unfortunate region, with the UN standing idly by while his Lordship drew maps and there were even more atrocities. I happened to be in Noordwijk, Holland, in June 1993 when the NATO foreign ministers had their summit there. The flags flew and the ministers dined well, and had fine wines and coffee, while people starved in death camps in Bosnia. But I digress. I know statecraft is not easy or quick. Now, NATO pins an array of medals on its civil servants and politicians, and women who gave NATO its most shining success -- protecting Europe so that it could be free today.

If the NATO Secretariat had an ounce of decency, they would formally recognize the Cold War troops who served in the most significant military operation of the alliance -- the defense of Europe. We should never let them forget that we were there, and it made the difference.

Sources: Kaplan, Karel. *Dans les Archives du comité central: Trente ans de secrets du bloc soviétique*, translated by Vojtech Mastny. Paris: Michel, 1978.; Halle, L.J., *The Cold War as History*. New York: Harper, 1967.; Mastny, Vojtech. "Did NATO Win the Cold War?" *Foreign Affairs* (1999).

## On the Front Lines of the Cold War: A Pershing Missilier's Story

By William Pruitt

On 3 May 1978, at 17 years old, I left Biloxi, Mississippi for Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Basic Training with the U.S. Army. Little did I know I was starting a journey that would forever change my view of the world. Having been raised in a military family during the Vietnam era, I expected to find myself in situations that were both unfamiliar and frightening. Never did I expect was to become a part of some of the most significant events in world history over the next fourteen and a half years.

As a high school drop out, I figured that my best opportunity for my future would be military service. I tested for the Coast Guard without success, and then tested for the Army. I asked to be placed in the Military Police. At this point an interesting turn of events occurred in the Gulfport, Mississippi recruiting station. The other recruiters were watching a film as my recruiter set about securing a school date for me. This film was intended to update them on Army weapon systems. I watched and saw a group of men run to some equipment and start working. After a few minutes, the men ran away from the equipment. The next scene took my breath away; I watched a large rocket as it took flight. I knew this was what I wanted to do. I stopped my recruiter and said, "I have changed my mind. I want to work with what was on the film." I had expected him to say I needed a college degree. Instead he said "OK" and within minutes he had an assignment for me to become a Pershing Missile Crewman.

At Fort Sill, Oklahoma, I became an Army Private. My education in life had just begun. Basic training was just as I had seen in the movies. After eight weeks of sleepless nights, sweating days, and endless miles of walking, I graduated. The next day I started training on the Pershing Ia Missile system. Over the next five weeks and four days, I learned to assemble, operate and maintain the missile and its power generators, lasers, and launch computers. During one of these classes, an instructor stated "The Pershing System is the most powerful weapon system the Army has ever had." This in retrospect was an understatement. It was one of the most powerful systems in the world and that would be proven during my service.

Development of the original Pershing began in 1957 "four years before I was born," with an emphasis upon mobility and quick response time compared to its much slower and heavier "Redstone" predecessor missile which operated from a fixed base. The Pershing provided twice the range but one-fifth the weight of the Redstone. The first test firings began in 1960 with operational deployment started in 1964. In that year, the original Pershing (Pershing I) replaced the Redstone in the U.S. and (then) West Germany. A second generation system, the Pershing Ia began replacing the Pershing I in 1969. The improved system provided increased reliability and flexibility, additional ease of maintenance, lower mission cost, and enhanced operational time.

This led to the Pershing weapon system being adapted for transport by aircraft for the

QRA mission. The greatly improved Pershing II began its development by 1977 with test flights made that year and in 1978 at the White Sands proving Grounds, N.M. Deployment of the Pershing II began in December 1983, when it replaced the Pershing Ia in West Germany.

Completion of training in August 1978 found me moving to an assignment in the Federal Republic of Germany. I had been assigned to a subordinate unit of the 56th Field Artillery Brigade --- the 1st Battalion / 81st Field Artillery. Also known as "Pershing's Finest," this unit was located in southern Germany in the State of Bavaria near the City of Ulm/Neu Ulm. This city was the birthplace and/ or home of many well-known people from history, including Albert Einstein (1879-1955) and German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel (1891-1944). From this base I participated in field training exercises and served on Combat Alert sites where missiles were kept on standby --- ready for launch in a matter of minutes.

At the same time there were political battles being waged which would eventually lead to the 16th known nuclear crisis in history. During a twenty-four month period in the 1980s, the Pershing1a and Pershing II missile systems of which I had become a part were placed into an international spotlight. The missiles helped to open the doors that would later end the Cold war.

In the nuclear arms race the USA had always held a 5 to 10-year technological lead over the Soviet Union. In the 1980s a system for a FIRST STRIKE surprise attack on the USSR was nearly ready. It had 3 parts: Decapitation, Counter-Force, and Shield. Decapitation involved the Pershing II missiles. The flat trajectory Pershing II missiles were extremely accurate and designed to "decapitate" (behead) the Soviet leadership. Flight time to Moscow from bases in West Germany was 6 minutes. The second part was Counter-Force. It would be possible by the late 1980s to knock out all known Soviet missiles on land and at sea with MX and Trident-II missiles using the new very precise "Navstar" guidance system. In case a few Soviet missiles survived this First Strike, the USA needed a "shield." The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) or Star Wars, was intended to be the "shield." These very threatening plans meant that a world nuclear holocaust might result from a faulty Soviet radar warning. Six minutes gave the Soviets little time for analysis of U.S. intentions.

When on 1 December 1983, nine Pershing II's were delivered to Ramstein, Germany, there were massive demonstrations against the missiles. Hundreds of thousands of peace marchers paraded in West Germany. Some wore mourning clothes or displayed faces painted white to resemble death masks. Such protests continued from that point on. Whenever we deployed we were accompanied by protesters who often endangered themselves as well as the soldiers who operated the missile systems. Many of those protesters accused the soldiers of wanting to end the world. They said we were killing their families and polluting their land just by being there. This, in my opinion, was very much like the protesters faced by the returning veterans of Vietnam. The only difference was we had not experienced direct combat over an extended period. We instead were in a battle in which one shot fired by either side could be the

last for mankind. This was a battle fought over and over in each of our minds.

During this same time there were accidents and incidents that took place which caused both physical and mental casualties just as in a conventional war. On 23 February 1981, a Pershing-Ia (nuclear capable) missile caught fire in Germany, forcing evacuation of several nearby villages. In Heilbronn, Germany on 11 January 1985, a Pershing-II (nuclear capable) missile accidentally exploded during assembly, killing three soldiers and injures seven others. On 5 May 1987, a Pershing II missile ended up in a ditch after a transport accident. On 30 July 1986, human error causes the nuclear warhead to be knocked off a Pershing II missile. No physical injuries resulted, but fear of the possibilities of what could have occurred caused alarm among the soldiers that were present on the missile site.

A total of 108 Pershing II missiles were deployed in West Germany from May 1983 through December 1985. This accomplished by the U.S. and NATO allies. The Soviet Union --- who had previously walked out of negotiations on nuclear arms control --- returned with a proposal. Reacting to the Pershing threat, they proposed to the eliminate of that entire class of Nuclear weapons. In 1987, U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev signed the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. The treaty banned all land-based intermediate-range missiles, including the Pershing 1a and II.

The ratification of the INF Treaty meant that I would be reassigned to a new system to continue my Army Service. In August 1989 I received orders to report to Fort Bliss, Texas for training on the Patriot Missile System. Here I found I did not understand much of the conventional army. I found that those of us who had served in Pershing were different from soldiers in other systems. I felt out of place. I was a soldier of a different breed and I no longer had a Mission in the Army. In May 1991 the 56th Field Artillery Command (PERSHING) and subordinate elements were deactivated, ending three decades of Pershing service to the nation. The system's Mission was completed without a shot ever being fired.

In December of 1992 I left the Army as a Sergeant First Class, and as a man forever changed in life. Through this Service I helped "Give Peace A Chance." Today I am a Letter Carrier with the U.S. Postal Service, a somewhat forgotten front-line veteran, of a very different kind of war.

## When the Cold War Came to the 'Boro

By Bryan J. Dickerson, Glassboro State College / Rowan University '95

In June of 1967, Glassboro, New Jersey was just another sleepy small town home to farms and a state college. Yet at the end of that pivotal month, Glassboro was thrust into the international spotlight as U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson and Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin met there to discuss issues relating to the Cold War between their respective nations that had entered into its third decade.

June 1967 was a tumultuous month. Tensions between Israel and the Arab states of Egypt, Jordan and Syria escalated into a war which Israel won decisively in just six days of fighting. In the midst of this war, Israeli aircraft and torpedo boats attacked the U.S intelligence ship *USS Liberty* in international waters off the coast of Egypt. Some 34 Americans were killed and nearly 200 were wounded. The United States was embroiled in the Vietnam War and beset by anti-war protests at home. Later that month, Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin visited New York City to address the United Nations.

Kosygin's visit produced a dubious opportunity for a summit between the Superpowers' leaders. Johnson's advisors were somewhat skeptical about whether the summit would produce any substantive results. Nevertheless, they realized the significant political consequences if the President did not meet with Kosygin while he was here in the United States. Negotiations were undertaken with the Soviets to arrange for the summit.

One of the biggest obstacles to overcome was the exact location for the summit. President Johnson proposed Washington and Camp David. Premier Kosygin rejected both of these because of possible fall-out he might receive from the Arabs and the Chinese for meeting in the 'enemy's' capital. Instead, he preferred to meet in New York. Johnson rejected New York City because of the possibility of major anti-war protests there. Another possible location --- McGuire Air Force Base in south-central New Jersey --- was also rejected by the Soviets. With U.S. warplanes bombing North Vietnam, the Soviets were not keen on the idea of photo-ops at a U.S. air base.

On 22 June, New Jersey Governor Richard J. Hughes proposed a solution to the deadlock: Glassboro State College in Glassboro, New Jersey. The college had several advantages as a summit location. Located 18 miles south-east of Philadelphia, Glassboro was about half-way between New York and Washington. It was easily accessible for both Johnson and Kosygin. Unlike most colleges at the time, Glassboro State was relatively peaceful and devoid of anti-war activity. Since the Spring semester was over, few students and faculty were on campus. The actual summit would be held in Hollybush, the home of college President Thomas E. Robinson. The proposed location proved acceptable to Johnson and Kosygin. At 1835 that evening an announcement was made that the summit would be held at Glassboro State the following day.

The town and college of Glassboro had less than sixteen hours to prepare for the Summit. Esbjornson Gym was converted to a temporary media center which would be used by some 1,400 reporters. Since Hollybush lack air-conditioning, twelve were hastily installed over night to make the visiting dignitaries comfortable.

Hollybush was no stranger to presidential guests. Built in 1845, the house had previously hosted visits by Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Taft. Of course, this time the visit had international implications.

Late on the morning of 23 June, President Johnson flew to Philadelphia International Airport and then went by helicopter to Glassboro State College. Upon landing, he was met by Governor and Mrs. Hughes, and the college president Dr. Robinson and his wife. The group traveled the short distance to Hollybush by car. While awaiting the Soviets' arrival, Johnson greeted the crowd that had assembled outside the house. Kosygin and his entourage arrived around 1120.

Johnson, Kosygin and their interpreters met privately for about two hours. After exchanging pleasantries and conversing about their respective families, the two leaders discussed the recent events in the Middle East. Noting that the Soviets had successfully restrained the Arabs from attacking Israel, Kosygin criticized the United States for failing to do likewise with the Israelis. He also stated that the Israelis must withdraw from the areas they had recently occupied. Recognizing the weakness of his position in defending Israel, Johnson not so subtly changed the subject to arms control, the proposed nuclear non-proliferation treaty and anti-ballistic missile systems.

Eventually the discussion turned to the war in Vietnam. Johnson stressed how the North Vietnamese had violated the internationally sanctioned De-militarized Zone by invading South Vietnam. The United States, stated Johnson, was simply responding to South Vietnam's request for assistance in defending itself against the invasion. Kosygin charged the South Vietnamese government with corruption.

Following their private discussions, Johnson, Kosygin and their respective senior officials had a luncheon meeting. During this time, anti-ballistic missiles were the major topic of discussion. At one point, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara questioned the logic of one of Kosygin's assertions. "I guess you'll understand if and when you become a Marxist," the Soviet Premier replied. "Perhaps I will ---," answered McNamara. "if you'll ever become a capitalist."

After lunch, Johnson and Kosygin held another short round of private discussions during which both expressed their abhorrence of war and their desires for peace. They also noted with apprehension the growing threat posed by China. Both agreed to meet again on 25 June at Hollybush to continue the discussions.

The next couple days were a whirlwind for President Johnson. Leaving Glassboro, he flew by helicopter back to Philadelphia International Airport. There he transferred to Air Force One and flew out to Los Angeles to attend the President's Club Dinner at



the Century Plaza Hotel. Just after midnight, Johnson re-boarded Air Force One and flew to his ranch in Texas. Later on 24 June, he visited his daughter Luci and his newborn grandson Patrick at a hospital in Austin. Here he presented Luci with six small gold cups that Kosygin had given him for the baby. On the morning of 25 June, Johnson left Texas and flew to Philadelphia, arriving there around 1220 EST. After a short flight on Marine One, Johnson returned to Hollybush and resumed his discussions with Kosygin.

The discussions continued about the situation in the Middle East, reducing military budgets, Vietnam, and anti-ballistic missiles. These issues were also discussed at another luncheon in which officials such as U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and Ambassador Anatoliy Dobrynin also participated. Following lunch was another private meeting between Johnson and Kosygin. This meeting lasted three hours. Shortly after 1830, both the American and Soviet delegations left Glassboro. Later that night, Johnson appeared on television to inform the American people about his meetings with Kosygin.

As expected by Johnson's aides, the Hollybush Summit produced few substantive results. More importantly, however, Johnson had finally met with a Soviet leader face to face to discuss Cold War issues. "Meetings like this do not themselves make peace in the world," Johnson stated in his address to nation on 25 June. "It does help a lot to sit down and look at a man right in the eye and try to reason with him, particularly if he is trying to reason with you." Johnson stressed that the Summit had enabled both sides to gain valuable knowledge about each other which would help to lessen the differences between them.

When Johnson left Glassboro, he did so with better knowledge about the Soviets and his counter-part, Premier Kosygin. His people left with more than just knowledge, however. They also absconded with most of Hollybush's furniture.

Sources: H. W. Brands, *The Wages of Globalism: Lyndon Johnson and the Limits of American Power*. Oxford: U P, 1995; U.S. State Department. *Foreign Relations of the United States 1964-1968, Volume XIV: Soviet Union*. Ed. By David C. Humphrey, et. als. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 2001.; U.S. President. Lyndon B. Johnson. Daily Diary. Found at Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, National Archives and Records Administration, Austin, Texas.; Walt W. Rostow, Special Assistant to the President. Oral History Interview. Oral History Collection. Johnson Library. NARA. Both of the latter two documents may be found online at [www.lbjlib.utexas.edu](http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu); Sherada C. Rempe, "The Spirit of Hollybush: Looking Back to 1967." *Rowan Magazine*. Summer 1997.

[Author's Note: In the summer of 1992, Glassboro State College again made history when industrialist Henry Rowan donated \$100 million to the college, the bulk of which was dedicated for the establishment of an engineering school. Rowan's donation led to the very controversial renaming of the taxpayer-supported state college after him.]

## **The Atomic Bomb**

**by William O. Craig, Contributing Editor**

When Presidents George W. Bush and Vladimir Putin reached a new agreement in May for limiting the number of nuclear weapons in their countries' arsenals, some observers hailed it as another sign of the Cold War's end. At the very least it was a reminder of the many events during the Cold War that were influenced by the threat of nuclear warfare.

Development of an atomic bomb was made possible by basic scientific discoveries about atomic fission made in the 1930s. Refugee scientists from Europe were frightened by the possibility that Germany might produce an atomic bomb and persuaded President Franklin Roosevelt to order an attempt to build such a weapon. The result was the Manhattan Project which wedded vast resources marshaled by the U.S. government to the expertise of a brilliant group of scientists. They managed to develop the weapon in four years' time under the utmost secrecy. The first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945. It is credited with speeding the end of the war, although its use is still the subject of academic debate. President Harry S Truman announced the action, revealing the existence of the new weapon to a surprised world.

But there were some in the Soviet Union who were not surprised. In a series of sensational developments in the 1950s it was revealed that a spy ring operating for the Communists in the United States had passed on information about the bomb to the Soviets. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted of furnishing vital information to Soviet agents in 1944 and 1945. They were executed on June 19, 1953, providing a cause for international protests by Leftists. The major witness against them was Ethel's brother David Greenglass, an employee at the Los Alamos atomic bomb project, who was sentenced to 15 years in prison. The Rosenbergs' guilt is questioned by some, particularly their sons, but recent revelations from Russian documents have indicated that Julius, at least, was a spy. More valuable information, however, was provided to the Soviets by a German refugee scientist, Klaus Fuchs, who confessed in 1949 to theft of atomic secrets and received a 14-year sentence in Britain.

The Soviets exploded their first atomic bomb in 1949 and both nations and others continued to develop nuclear weapons. The Soviet arsenal reached rough parity with the United States in the early 1970s, ushering in the era of "mutually assured destruction" and paving the way for arms limitation treaties that followed. The Nuclear Test Ban Treaty of 1963 was considered a turning point in the Cold War. It was followed by Strategic Arms Limitations Treaties in 1972, 1975 and 1979 that slowed the nuclear arms race.

Sources: Academic American Encyclopedia; Encyclopedia Britannica Online; Society for the Historical Preservation of the Manhattan Project (<http://www.childrenofthemanhattanproject.org>)

## **“Always Ready” Along the German - Czech Borders**

**Bryan J. Dickerson, CWT Editor**

Since its creation by President Andrew Jackson in May of 1836, the 2nd Cavalry Regiment has lived up to its motto “Toujours Pret” or “Always Ready” in numerous wars and conflicts stretching from the Great Plains of the United States to the sands of the Middle East. For much of its history, the 2nd Cavalry maintained a vigilant watch along the East German and Czechoslovak borders during the Cold War.

The 2nd Cavalry’s association with the Czech border actually pre-dates the Cold War. The 2nd Cavalry first became acquainted with that border during Third U.S. Army’s rapid drive across central Europe in the closing weeks of the war in Europe. On 19-20 April 1945, the 2nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Group [Mechanized] -- as it was known at the time -- captured the Czech border town of Asch. This was the first Czech town captured by Third Army. For the next couple weeks, the 2nd Cavalry conducted screening operations along and just over the Czech border to protect the left flank of Third Army as it advanced into the National Redoubt area of south-eastern Bavaria. At the end of April 1945, the 2nd Cavalry conducted simultaneous operations into Czechoslovakia to liberate a group of 700 Allied prisoners of war and the famed Lippizanner performing horses of the Spanish Riding School in the vicinity of Hostau. In the closing days of the war, the 2nd Cavalry participated in Third Army’s drive into western Bohemia, liberating many towns including the city of Klatovy. After a short stay in the area around Zinkovy, the 2nd Cavalry returned to Germany for occupation duties.

A year later, the 2nd Cavalry Group took on a new mission. Re-designated as the 2nd Constabulary Regiment, the unit became responsible for maintaining law and order in south-central Bavaria as part of the United States Constabulary Force. The 2nd Cavalry / 2nd Constabulary also turned in most of its heavy equipment and relied upon jeeps and armored cars for its patrols. At one point they even resumed using horses in order to patrol the more rugged areas of its sector. Reportedly, the re-mounting of several 2nd Cavalry units on horse-back greatly displeased Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower when he witnessed it firsthand.

It was during the 2nd Cavalry’s time of service as part of the Constabulary Force that a Cold War broke out between the U.S. and Soviet Union. An occupied Germany was divided into East and West Germany with a hostile border between the two sectors. As a part of the U.S. response to growing Cold War tensions, the 2nd Constabulary Regiment was re-designated again and became the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR) in November 1948.

With the re-designation came significant upgrades in weapons and equipment. By now the U.S. / Soviet Cold War was well underway and U.S. Army senior commanders in Europe decided more firepower was needed along the Inner German Border and the German border with a now Communist Czechoslovakia.

The U.S. Army in Europe also underwent significant changes at this time in response to the growing Soviet threat. The U.S. Constabulary was de-activated in late 1950. Its place was taken by the Seventh U.S. Army with a shift in mission from policing to armed deterrence and defense.

The 2nd ACR remained in West Germany conducting border patrols until 1955. Under the U.S. Army's "Gyroscope" rotational plan, the 2nd ACR rotated back to the United States and was replaced by the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. The 2nd ACR's stay in the United States was relatively brief. By 1958, the regiment was back in Bavaria and back on the Czech and East German borders maintaining a vigilant watch again.

For the next three decades, the 2nd ACR was responsible for over 700 kilometers of the East German and Czechoslovak borders. Its units maintained several border camps from which patrols were sent out and reaction forces were kept ready to respond to any incidents along the borders. Patrols were made on foot, in vehicles and flown in helicopters. Operations were conducted cooperatively with German border control agencies. Their mission was to give warning of any Soviet / Warsaw Pact aggression and delay the enemy until other American / NATO forces could respond forcefully.

As 1989 came to a close, momentous events swept Eastern Europe. The Berlin Wall came down and soon the end of the Warsaw Pact and the Cold War appeared on the horizon. Due to these sweeping changes which ushered in democracy for East Germany, Czechoslovakia and other Soviet satellites, the 2nd ACR discontinued its regular border patrols in March of 1990. While still re-defining its post Cold-War mission, the regiment was ordered to Saudi Arabia as part of Operation Desert Shield. After distinguishing itself in Operation Desert Storm, the regiment returned to West Germany. At the end of 1991, the Soviet Union collapsed and soon after the 2nd ACR returned to the United States --- its Cold War mission completed.

Sources:

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## Cold War Tourist:

### Battleship *USS New Jersey* Museum Camden, New Jersey

Constructed at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and commissioned in May of 1943, the Iowa-class battleship *USS New Jersey* (BB-62) is one of the most distinguished warships ever to defend America's freedom on the high seas. As part of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, she helped defeat Imperial Japan. For much of her service life, *USS New Jersey* was placed in mothballs but repeatedly brought back when heavy ship firepower was needed. "Big J" provided gunfire support during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and for the U.S. Marines deployed to Beirut in the early 1980s. In the early 1980s, President Ronald Reagan had her and her three sister ships re-commissioned as part of his program to build a "600-ship" Navy. At various times during her career, *USS New Jersey* was a part of America's Cold War deterrent at sea and served the crucial final years of the Soviet Union. In February 1991, *USS New Jersey* was decommissioned for the final time. Eight years later, the Homeport Alliance in Camden, New Jersey acquired the storied warship and converted her to a museum.

*USS New Jersey* and her sister ships are among the most powerful warships ever constructed. She is 887 feet in length, 108 feet wide, draws 38 feet of water and displaces some 45,000 tons of water. Though armaments changed over the course of her career, her present configuration includes nine massive 16-inch guns, four Phalanx Close-In Weapons Systems for air defense, Tomahawk and Harpoon missile launchers, and 5-inch guns.

#### Hours / Admission Prices:

1 April – 30 Sept. 9 am to 5 pm 1 Oct. – 31 March 9 am to 3 pm

\$10 for adults \$7 for children under 12 and seniors and veterans with ID

The Battleship New Jersey is accessible via Interstate 676 and the Ben Franklin Bridge. Visit [www.battleshipnewjersey.org](http://www.battleshipnewjersey.org) for more information and directions.

