

COLD WAR TIMES

WHAT IS SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE (SIGINT)?

Signals intelligence centers around the interception and exploitation of enemy signals and communications, such as military orders, field reports, telemetry, and diplomatic messages. All of these types of enemy communications were intercepted here at Vint Hill from World War I to the end of the Cold War. On a tactical level, signals intelligence can reveal the location, composition, and disposition of the enemy's force. On a strategic level, intercepted communications can reveal elements of the enemy's strategy, diplomatic aims, and plans for future operations.

Related to signals intelligence is the science of cryptology, the making and breaking of codes. Almost all military and government communications are encrypted with codes and ciphers to protect them from exploitation if intercepted. Modern cryptology originated in World War I, with the invention of the first electromechanical cipher machines and flourished in World War II, where the first computers were invented to automate the codebreaking process.

In the present day, cryptology is used in our daily lives to protect important communications, such as when shopping and banking online. The National Security Agency (NSA), formed in 1949, does most of the U.S. government's signals intelligence and cryptologic work. The NSA can trace its origins back to the work done here at Vint Hill.

INTERWAR CRYPTOLOGY

The first U.S. codebreaking organization was the Black Chamber, founded in 1917 and led by Herbert Yardley. At the time, nations used manual codebooks for their diplomatic communications. Electromechanical cipher machines had just been invented, but had not yet been widely adopted. The German ENIGMA machine was first patented in 1918. Yardley's team set to work cracking these diplomatic codebooks.

One of the causes of World War I was a mutually repressive naval arms race. In 1921, nine nations including the United States and Japan convened in Washington DC to agree on limiting the size of navies in the Pacific Ocean to avoid another arms race. Yardley's Black Chamber successfully broke the Japanese diplomatic code books. With advance knowledge of the Japanese delegation's negotiating instructions, the US delegation was able to push them to the absolute limit and secure a favorable 5:3 ratio of warships.

However, the Black Chamber was abruptly shut down in 1929, and Yardley and his team were fired. The new Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson had declared:

"Gentlemen do not read each other's mail."

Penniless in the Great Depression, in 1931 Herbert Yardley wrote a book about his work, *The American Black Chamber*, to support himself and his family. In it, he detailed how his team attacked and broke the Japanese diplomatic codes at the Washington Naval Conference. The book was an immediate hit. Tens of millions of copies were sold in Japan and in the United States.



Herbert Yardley

William Friedman

THE RED MACHINE

Herbert Yardley's 1931 book, *The American Black Chamber*, publicly revealed how thoroughly the United States had compromised Japanese diplomatic codes. Shocked and embarrassed, the Japanese quickly intended to replace their book codes with a new generation of electromechanical encryption machines. The introduction of the Type A machine, codenamed RED in the US, ended the American cryptologic advantage.

A new team, the Army's Signals Intelligence Service, was founded in 1931 by eminent cryptologist William Friedman. Friedman put together a special team consisting of three men selected for their mathematical ability and language skills: Frank Rowlett, Agopos Senev, and Simon Kullback. In 1936, the team broke the RED machine's cipher.

Friedman's team discovered a fundamental flaw of the RED machine: it encrypted vowels and consonants separately. As a diplomatic machine, it was used to send messages internationally over commercial telegraph lines. These lines required the use of the Latin alphabet, as opposed to Japanese characters. Moreover, the lines charged less to send pronounceable words than to send unpronounceable code groups, as that was easier for the telegraph operators. By encrypting the vowels and consonants separately, they could be used more to form "vowels" that technicians qualified for the charge rate.

The RED Machine did not last long, however, and was replaced in service by the start of World War II. The lessons learned breaking the RED machine would guide some of the most important signals intelligence work done by the United States in World War II.



The RED machine, a Type A machine, was used by the Japanese to encrypt their diplomatic communications.

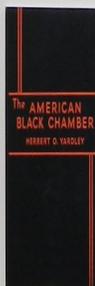
THE PURPLE MACHINE



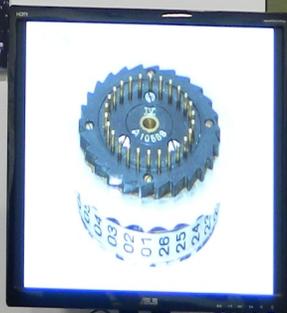
The Type B cipher machine, or PURPLE, was RED's successor. PURPLE was held in such secrecy by the Japanese that to this day, no one in the West has ever seen an actual PURPLE machine. However, the Japanese made a number of mistakes in PURPLE's design that allowed Friedman's team to break it. In fact, compared to RED:

- Friedman's team was gradually replaced by PURPLE machines, which meant for a time identical messages were sent to embassies on both the RED and PURPLE ciphers. This allowed for a direct comparison of how RED and PURPLE operated.
- Japanese diplomatic practice was to dictate messages in English in Tokyo before encrypting them on PURPLE. Once transmitted to the United States, they would be decrypted and passed on to the State Department. If the encrypted version of the message was intercepted, it could be compared to the plaintext version.
- Conversely, Friedman's team sometimes had US diplomats word their messages to include certain phrases in certain locations. By intercepting the encrypted version of the message, they could analyze the PURPLE's encryption that had phrases.
- PURPLE inherited the vowel/consonant split architecture from RED.

First introduced in 1938, PURPLE was broken by 1940, just in time for the United States entry into World War II. Friedman's team had done the seemingly impossible: They had reverse engineered, sight unseen, a functional copy of the Japanese Type B cipher machine through pure mathematical cryptanalysis.



Herbert Yardley, 1931



The rotor from the Purple machine, which was used to encrypt and decrypt messages.

FIELDS OF SECRECY: VINT HILL FARMS STATION

Can you escape East Berlin?
What is Remote Viewing?





ABOUT THE COLD WAR MUSEUM®

THE COLD WAR MUSEUM was founded in 1996 by Francis Gary Powers Jr., son of the famed U-2 Pilot, and John Welch to honor Cold War veterans, preserve Cold War history, and educate future generations about the Cold War and its legacy.

Since 2011, the Museum has been located at Vint Hill, Virginia, on the grounds of the former Vint Hill Farms Station, also known as Monitoring Station No. 1, which was a Top Secret Army signals intelligence base during WWII and the Cold War. The Museum shares a campus with Old Bust Head Brewery, Covert Cafe, and Vint Hill Craft Winery and other businesses.

The museum has a Midwest Chapter near Milwaukee, WI and Francis Gary Powers Jr.'s traveling exhibit on the U-2 Incident of 1960 helps promote the museum internationally. Artifacts from The Cold War Museum are on display in institutions such as the International Spy Museum in Washington D.C., the Strategic Air Command and Aerospace Museum near Omaha, NE, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Museum on Bolling AFB, and the Atom Muzeum in the Czech Republic.

Our collections are particularly strong in signals intelligence (SIGINT), image intelligence (IMINT), the history of Vint Hill during both WWII and the Cold

War, Cold War Berlin, Civil Defense, atomic weapons, the U-2, USS Liberty and USS Pueblo Incidents, Cold War cultural and Olympic competitions, Strategic Air Command, submarine detection (SOSUS), the Cuban Missile Crisis, the STASI (East German secret police), and Soviet and East German disinformation campaigns. Many of our artifacts are rare one-of-a-kind items while some of our exhibits were created and donated by those who did the work. The Cold War Museum is an all-volunteer organization, drawing upon our staff's extensive Cold War experience as professionals in the military and intelligence communities. *We are the Real People Explaining the Real Things.*

HOURS

11-4 PM Saturdays

1-4 PM Sundays

Other Hours by Appointment

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

7172 Lineweaver Rd
Vint Hill, VA 20187

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Vint Hill, VA 20187

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The Cold War Museum® is an all-volunteer operation. 100 percent of your contributions are applied to fulfilling the Museum's mission. Contributions to the Museum above and beyond membership are also fully deductible in accordance with IRS guidelines for contributions to 501(c)(3) organizations.

JOIN ONLINE: CWM_MEMBERSHIP

COLD WAR TIMES



OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE COLD WAR MUSEUM®

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Front cover photo courtesy of Cold War Museum®

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Cold War Museum® is 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.

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MUSEUM CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Hello Cold War Museum Members, Supporters, and Friends:

There are several important updates I would like to share with you. The last few months have been busy as we continue to advance the mission of The Cold War Museum® to honor Cold War veterans, preserve Cold War history, and educate future generations about this time period. Now more than ever we need to educate students on the history of the Cold War so that they understand the significance of the world today and how it relates to the Cold War time period. The war in Ukraine, the war in Gaza, and the many lesser-known conflicts around the world can be traced back to the Cold War, collapse of the Soviet Union, and the geopolitical divides that resulted.

Giving Tuesday: Our next major fundraising event, Giving Tuesday, is scheduled for Tuesday December 2, 2025. See page 22 for more information on donating. Giving Tuesday is one of our annual fundraisers that allows us to pay our bills throughout the year. I hope that you will join me on Tuesday December 2 and make a year-end tax-deductible donation to The Cold War Museum as part of Giving Tuesday 2025.

Potential to Partner with a Like-Minded Institution: Prior to becoming the Interim Chairman, the Cold War Museum board decided to investigate the potential to partner with a like-minded institution in order to help grow our efforts, better preserve and care for our collection, and strengthen our ability to go after grants and other funding sources. The museum is in talks with several organizations about the potential to join forces and work together as strategic partners. If you have any suggestions on like-minded institutions we should reach out to,

please let us know.

Docent Recruitment: The Cold War Museum is open from 11-4 on Saturdays, 1-4 on Sundays and midweek by appointment for school groups and private tours. The museum is staffed by a small, dedicated docent team. We are looking to recruit additional volunteer docents to help with staffing the museum during these hours. If you have an interest in becoming a docent for the museum, please let us know. You can send your cover letter and resume to gpowersjr@coldwar.org.

Lecture Series: Our next Cold War Conversation Lecture will take place on Sunday November 23 (5 pm EST) when László Nagy will talk about his involvement with the August 1989 Paneuropean Picnic that opened the border gate between Austria and Hungary. See page 5 to register.

New Cold War Book: My next book, *Cold War California* with co-author Chris Sturdevant, will be released in May, 2026. This book will give a great overview of California Cold War defense sites, military bases, think tanks, and Californians such as Ronald Reagan, Richard, Nixon, and Francis Gary Powers, that were instrumental in protecting the United States during the Cold War. There will be chapters on Howard Hughes' Glomar Explorer, Northrup Grumman, SAIC, Lockheed Skunkworks Plant 42, and Nike Missile sites including SF-88 in San Francisco. One of the chapters will deal with STARGATE and the Remote Viewing that the CIA and KGB did with documented success during the Cold War.

Remote Viewing: I attended the annual Remote Viewing Conference in Cloudcroft, NM at the invitation of Dale Graff, who did a talk on Remote Viewing as part of our Cold War Conversation



Lecture Series. See page 23 for an excerpt from the Cold War California book section on Remote Viewing:

Continuing the Mission: There is a lot to do to make sure that The Cold War Museum can continue to grow and fulfill its mission to honor Cold War veterans, preserve Cold War history, and educate future generations about this time period. The museum board, staff and docents cannot do it alone and we need your financial donations to help with our efforts and to fulfill our mission. Please consider making a year-end tax-deductible donation to the museum on December 2 as part of Giving Tuesday to show your support for our efforts. Donations can be made online at this link [Click Here](#) to Donate.

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

Thank you for your continued support.

FRANCIS GARY POWERS, JR.
Founder and Interim Chairman
The Cold War Museum

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is a 501 ©(3) charitable organization**

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www.zeffy.com

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Cold War Museum® Board of Directors is the governing body of our nonprofit organization. This governance is high level: strategy, oversight, and accountability of the overall activities of the museum. Our Board is made up of eight seasoned senior executives of varying professional backgrounds (USAF, CIA, Chamber of Commerce, Real Estate, Nonprofits, Accounting) who work pro bono for the benefit of the museum.



Kimberly Hartke
October 16 at 8:37 PM · 🌐

Commercial real estate icon [Pauline Thompson](#) is the headliner at this upcoming event for female entrepreneurs and professionals. It will be held at the newly redesigned [Tower Club - Tysons](#).

Pauline is a longtime friend of our family and a pioneer woman on the frontiers of real estate. She planted her flag in the Tysons Corner market and through the years became known as the go to broker for commercial deals. At this point she may have listed and sold most of the office buildings in the region. Investors from around the world trust her deep knowledge of our market.

Pauline is no nonsense, straight talking, and always protects the interests of her clients. She believes in ink-on-paper contracts rather than DocuSign!

Join her and my other friend [Dawn Peters](#) for an inspiring workshop on female leadership and mentorship, Thursday October 23!

<https://sheroepreneursarena.com/>



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MEET OUR BOARD: CWM_BOARD

COLD WAR CONVERSATIONS



The Cold War Museum's® Presentation Series, where we present eyewitnesses to, and expert accounts of, key Cold War events, has been a key method by which the Museum educates about the Cold War for our audience (which normally averages about 40-50 people), a resource for future scholars (since we film all these events including the question-and-answer sessions), and a significant source of income for our operations.

AS YOU KNOW, WE BEGAN this Series well before COVID and originally did all of them in-person. When COVID forced the closing of our doors and suspension of all of our activities, we had to rethink many things. Since people could no longer gather in large groups, we got a Zoom license and converted to 100% online. This has been highly successful for us, since it allows both audience and speaker to be from anywhere in the world, so we will continue with Zoom streaming but eventually also return to the in-person option where the speaker is local; we'll do that when COVID conditions allow, although not in our prior venue of the Old Bust Head production floor since that is no longer available. Because of the popularity and scope of the Zoom format, we've expanded to doing these about every 3 or 4 weeks.

UPCOMING LECTURES

November 23, 2025 – 5 pm EST: The role of the Paneuropean Picnic in the fall of the Berlin Wall: Speaker: László Nagy will talk about his involvement with the August 1989 Paneuropean Picnic that opened the border gate between Austria and Hungary. The opening of this border gate at the Pan-European Picnic was an event in the chain reaction which resulted in the fall of the Berlin Wall, the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the ultimate reunification of Germany. The history of the Pan-European Picnic is very didactic, from idea to realization. To have a true understanding of the interconnections, the weight of the events and their consequences, László Nagy will recall the age, the political

constellation of the time, which for many is already fading away. He will also discuss how the operation of the `iron curtain` was brought to an end.

[Click HERE for tickets](#) (NOTE: To avoid paying the suggested Service Fee of 17%, click on the drop-down menu and select "Other" to enter your own amount which could also be zero).

December 28, 2025 – 7 pm EST: Kaarlo Tuomi's Tale as a Communist Turned Counterspy: Speaker Carol James will talk about KGB / FBI double agent Kaarlo Tuomi's tale as a communist turned counterspy. In 1972, when she was editor of The Cooperative Builder, Tuomi shared with her stories about the role he played in the Cold War and how he felt as a participant. According to www.fi.wikipedia.org, Kaarlo Tuomi was recruited by the KGB in 1954. Because he could speak English fluently and still had a U.S. passport, he was trained by the KGB and the GRU and sent to the United States in 1958 as a spy. However, the FBI found out about Tuomi's actions and made him become a double agent. Tuomi worked under the direction of the FBI, but he still continued as a KGB/GRU spy, supplying the Russians with material provided by the FBI. This continued until 1963.

[Click HERE for tickets](#) (NOTE: To avoid paying the suggested Service Fee of 17%, click on the drop-down menu and select "Other" to enter your own amount which could also be zero).

January 25, 2026 – 7 pm EST: Hexagon: The history of film-based space intelligence: Speaker: Ricky Deutsch will talk about the evolution of US reconnaissance technology, resulting in today's real-time video capabilities. Initially, film was used in satellites to monitor treaty compliance and intelligence gathering of the Soviet Union and other "denied areas." The vehicle, HEXAGON, was 60-feet long and took pictures from 100 miles up. The program was urgent and required cooperation between the CIA and the Air Force, guided by the National Reconnaissance Office. This unclassified briefing by someone "who was there," gives a first-person historical look at how high-resolution images were not only taken, but returned via parachute to be caught in mid-air. Essential to success was the work of the launch team, command & control, tracking stations and the aircrews who made the daring catches of the film buckets.

[Click HERE for tickets](#) (NOTE: To avoid paying the suggested Service Fee of 17%, click on the drop-down menu and select "Other" to enter your own amount which could also be zero).

February 22, 2026 – 7 pm EST: In Extremis Project Management and Crisis Leadership: The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962: Speaker David S. Maurer will talk about his book which explores how the application of project management and crisis leadership principles led to the end of the Cuban Missile Crisis. In the balance was the fate of the entire world. The tumultuous and now famous thirteen

days that precipitated the negotiated peaceful resolution have been viewed and reviewed through thousands of interviews, hundreds of books and dozens of documentaries and movies, yet the ordeal has never been analyzed through the lens of project management and crisis leadership. This presentation examines the possible courses of action presented to and conceived by the President and his chosen advisors. On a deeper level, it considers how these advisors formed a team of sorts, identified a leader, developed a process, and presented a set of deliverables (in this case, options) to the President.

[Click HERE for tickets](#) (NOTE: To avoid paying the suggested Service Fee of 17%, click on the drop-down menu and select "Other" to enter your own amount which could also be zero).

March 22, 2026 – 7 pm EST: The Cold War Legacy of Arms Control Monitoring and Verification: Retired CIA, NRO and arms control negotiator, John Lauder, will talk about his time in these agencies and how intelligence was vital to all aspects of arms control during the Cold War. The US in particular built eye-watering technical intelligence capabilities for monitoring Soviet, and later Russian, activities and compliance with agreements which were adapted for use on other national security issues. Important human sources during the Cold War also increased confidence in strategic stability and the verification process. A combination of negotiated measures, intelligence monitoring, and analytical insights broke tough challenges into manageable pieces. A synergistic monitoring strategy and transparency measures refined approaches, methodologies, and definitions that remain relevant to future agreements. Join us to learn

how negotiations and agreements of the 70s, 80s, and 90s established international precedents, effective partnerships, and shared understandings that could provide the basis for new agreements to end the war in Ukraine or to manage great power competition in space.

[Click HERE for tickets](#) (NOTE: To avoid paying the suggested Service Fee of 17%, click on the drop-down menu and select "Other" to enter your own amount which could also be zero).

April 26, 2026 – 7 pm EST: My Father's Secrets: Author Marilyn Johansen will share stories from her unique upbringing as the daughter of an Air Force fighter pilot during the Cold War as recounted in her book, *My Father's Secrets*. Experience history through her eyes as she reveals the personal and untold stories of a military family navigating the realities of war, intelligence gathering, and the fight for freedom. Her father had been in WWII as a P-38 pilot and then a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft III. He would continue his military career in the Air Force as an F-84 fighter pilot in the Korean War, Cold War events in Europe and North Africa and Vietnam. World events would come to dictate her life. She never knew where she would live next. She was the "kid from nowhere and everywhere", always aware that the quality of their lives came second to the importance of protecting the United States.

[Click HERE for tickets](#) (NOTE: To avoid paying the suggested Service Fee of 17%, click on the drop-down menu and select "Other" to enter your own amount which could also be zero).

If you are interested in getting a list of our prior events and/or accessing the digital videos of any of them, please contact gpowersjr@coldwar.org, there is a modest charge for accessing the prior ones, all of which were videoed.

If you'd like your email address to be added to our notification list for coming events, please contact Gary for that as well.



**GIVING TUESDAY IS
DECEMBER 2, 2025**

**GI  ING
TUESDAY**



FIELDS OF SECRECY: VINT HILL FARMS STATION, BIRTHPLACE OF MODERN ARMY SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE



The Cold War Museum is proud to announce its newest exhibit, a full redesign of the Vint Hill room. The exhibit will open to the public on Saturday, November 22, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. to celebrate the 82nd anniversary of the Oshima Intercept. The Vint Hill room tells the story of Vint Hill Farms Station from its top-secret work in World War II in support of Arlington Hall codebreakers and D-Day to its Cold War transition to an electronic warfare R&D and support center. Vint Hill Farms Station was an active US Army base from 1942 to 1997. The Cold War Museum occupies one of Vint Hill's original barns used by the US Army during World War II.

The new Vint Hill room is painted to evoke the tarpaper barracks and Army-renovated barns that formed the top-secret intercept complex, Monitoring Station No.1, after the Army purchased Vint Hill Farms in July 1942. The exhibit's open floor space has been expanded to accommodate larger tour groups, families, and people with disabilities. Visitors can step up close to examine historic photos of Vint Hill Farms Station, or step back to take in the wider sweep of Vint Hill's history across the walls of the room.

The exhibit starts with an overview of cryptology in the interwar period, highlighting the efforts and setbacks of Herbert Yardley's Black Chamber and William Friedman's Signals Intelligence Service in breaking Japanese diplomatic codes before World War II, culminating in Friedman's team reverse engineering the Japanese PURPLE code machine from pure mathematical analysis in 1940. With the US entering World War II in December 1941 after Pearl Harbor, the Army's signal intelligence staff had to rapidly scale up from a few hundred personnel to tens of thousands. The Army's codebreaking center

at Arlington Hall also needed vast quantities of intercepted enemy communications to analyze and decrypt. Vint Hill was selected as the location to establish both – two hundred and fifty acres of shortwave antennas for intercepting enemy signals and a new code and cipher school to rapidly train Army personnel to perform signals intelligence work. The exhibit presents a photo survey of the rapid construction of Vint Hill Farms Station in 1942 and the subsequent operations of the base. A special section also examines how Vint Hill interacted with, and was generously supported by, residents of Fauquier County through the lens of newspaper articles. Fauquier residents donated furniture and Sunday roasts to support the service members but never learned what exactly was being done behind the barbed wire fences.



The new exhibit also highlights the wartime contributions of the Nisei and Women's Army Corps (WAC) service members at Vint Hill. The Nisei, second-generation Japanese Americans, performed vital work at Vint Hill translating decrypted Japanese messages despite prejudices and suspicions against them at every stage of their service. All had family members, friends, or neighbors imprisoned in internment camps due to racialized wartime

hysteria. The collections team is especially excited to display a photo collection of the Nisei translation team at Vint Hill taken by Shigeo Shiraishi, one of the Nisei translators.

Vint Hill was also a major facility for the Women's Army Corps. As signals intelligence jobs were both non-combat and not physically demanding, the Army saw Vint Hill as an ideal place for WAC volunteers to free up men for combat service. Over one hundred and fifty women served on Vint Hill's 24/7 intercept shifts, called "tricks", and hundreds more were trained in Morse code and codebreaking techniques at Vint Hill's code and cipher school. These women went on to do vital intelligence work at Arlington Hall as codebreakers or as intercept operators in California, Britain, and elsewhere. By the end of the war, 70 percent of Allied signals intelligence personnel were female, the highest percentage of any service in the war.



Major displays in the Vint Hill room include a cabinet of Morse code training equipment, including a telegraph key where visitors can try their hand at tapping out dots and dashes, and a rack of intercept receivers arranged to show the evolution of signals intercept technology from World War II until the end of the Cold War. In the corner of the exhibit is a recreation of an intercept operator's station, with a pair of rack-mounted SP-200 Super Pro radio receivers and a typewriter for transcribing

intercepted enemy messages, slangily called a "mill". One of the radios is a gray-faced military contract example, the other a black crinkle-finished civilian example. Vint Hill was established so quickly to meet the Army's signals intelligence that many of the intercept radios seen in photos were civilian units bought off the open market.



Radios like these were responsible for Vint Hill's biggest contribution to World War II. In November 1943, Private First-Class Leonard Mudloff intercepted a twenty-page report written by the Japanese Ambassador to Nazi Germany, Hiroshi Oshima. Oshima had recently taken a tour of the Atlantic Wall beach defenses in Northern France and interviewed German officers to learn their strategy and assumptions as to where and when the Allies would invade. When decrypted, Oshima's report contained a complete description of the German order of battle and their plan to repel the Allied invasion. It was immediately forwarded to Eisenhower's headquarters in London. Thanks to Vint Hill, Ambassador Oshima had become our best spy in Berlin, and he didn't even know it.

The Oshima intercept provided the foundation for the largest strategic deception operation in history, Operation Fortitude. Fortitude was designed to mislead the Germans into thinking we were invading at Calais, like they expected, instead of Normandy. Fortitude involved everything from fake

radio traffic, inflatable tanks, double agents, and imaginary divisions massing to invade Norway, Southern France, and Calais. On D-Day, Fortitude was a complete success. German commanders believed the D-Day landings were a diversion and withheld their armor and reserves for three weeks, expecting an attack at Calais that never came. Without Fortitude, D-Day would have undoubtedly been a far riskier and bloodier gamble.



Having swept across three walls of the Vint Hill room, the exhibit concludes by discussing the Cold War evolution of Vint Hill from a wartime intercept site to an electronic warfare research and repair depot from the late 1950s to the 1980s. Looking at Vint Hill's connections to the Army Security Agency, the National Security Agency, and later on the Army Intelligence and Security Command, the exhibit explores the new programs and technologies that came to define Vint Hill in the Cold War. Some of these once-secret military technologies like digital voice vocoders and GPS receivers have found their way into devices like smartphones, revealing one aspect of the Cold War's technological legacy.

This exhibit was the work of a team of Museum staff members: Curator Doug Harsha, Assistant Curator Jeff Proehl, and volunteers Jill Hallden, Kenzie Hool, Mike Washvill, and Bryan Zwanzig. Special thanks to Kenzie Hool for her exhaustive newspaper research on wartime Vint Hill, Mike Washvill for his innumerable fixes and improvements to the labels,

layouts, and exhibit spaces, and Jeff Proehl for his proofreading and generous donation of paint and painting supplies.

In designing the new exhibit, we wanted to center it around a strong narrative structure to link together the various aspects of Vint Hill's fifty-five-year history in a way that anyone could follow. In the end, we settled on a broad chronological framework wrapping around the room from left to right in a wall-to-wall arc. Special sections are woven into the narrative to highlight and honor the service and sacrifices of Vint Hill's servicemembers, especially the WACs and Nisei translators who faced special challenges in the social and cultural environment of wartime America. For the Cold War, we shift to the technological side of Vint Hill. Here we want to show the connections between Cold War-era military technologies and the devices we have come to rely on in the present day. Overall, the exhibit represents a newer, cleaner, and more cohesive history of Vint Hill, incorporating the latest scholarship and historical research. It is the prototype for a new generation of Cold War exhibits the collections team are currently working on. Vint Hill is just the start!

We warmly extend an invitation to join us at the official launch of the new Vint Hill exhibit on the 82nd anniversary of Pfc. Ludloff's intercept, Saturday November 22, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. .



US-U.K. TALKS ON DIEGO GARCIA



British government has stated that the islands have been “under continuous British sovereignty since 1814.”

During the Cold War, an agreement between the British and U.S. governments led to the creation of the British Indian Ocean Territory in 1965, intended to establish defense and communications facilities to counterbalance the Soviet military presence in the region.

In 1971, a major joint U.S.–U.K. military installation, Naval Support Facility Diego Garcia, was constructed, and the island’s plantations were shut down. Somewhere between 1967 and 1973, the Chagossians (Îlois) were relocated to Mauritius and other locations.

In 2000, the British High Court ruled that the expulsion of the Îlois had been unlawful. The decision granted them the immediate right to resettle on any of the Chagos Islands, with the exception of Diego Garcia. The Îlois, however, insisted that any lasting settlement must also include the right to return to Diego Garcia itself. At the time, their

Washington, D.C. — Newly detailed accounts of early 2000s bilateral discussions between the United States and the United Kingdom shed light on how military imperatives on Diego Garcia with its Naval Support Facility developed during the Cold War, were weighed against the long-contested rights of displaced islanders to return home.

Diego Garcia was first sighted by Portuguese sailors in 1512 and remained uninhabited

until the late 18th century, when it was settled as a French colony. Enslaved people from Madagascar and Mozambique were brought to the Chagos Islands to work on coconut plantations, first under French administration and later, in the early 1800s, under British rule. The Chagossians, or Îlois, are descendants of these enslaved populations, as well as of settlers of African, Indian, and Malay origin.

According to BBC News, the

community numbered around 4,000 to 5,000 people. This became a significantly contentious issue as the US-UK talks convened in 2002.

necessity of sustaining access to the Indian Ocean facility that has long served as a launching point for U.S. and Allied, air and maritime security operations vital to

discarded by Portugal and France before becoming a British Protectorate. As a matter of eminent domain, her (Queen Elizabeth) Majesty's Government generously proposed to relocate the former French British slaves that inhabited the islands to significantly better locations. But circumstances changed.



Wilson (in vest) leading the US delegation in the India Office Council Chamber within the [UK Foreign Office](#).

In 2002, Chuck Wilson, then Director of the Office of International Security Operations at the Department of State, led a 25 person U.S. delegation in annual political-military negotiations with British counterparts including the Honorable Alan Huckle, Commissioner of both British Indian Ocean Territory and British Antarctic Territory along with Mr. Charles Hamilton British Overseas Territories Administrator and their delegates. The meetings focused on the critical

regional stability.

But the talks also confronted a sensitive issue: the fate of the Chagossians, the native islanders relocated from the Chagos Archipelago in the late 1960s and early 1970s to make way for the base. By the early 2000s, legal challenges in British courts and mounting international pressure had revived questions over whether the displaced population could return, at least to the outlying islands. These desolate coral shoals have been owned and

Shortly after the attack on the US on September 11, 2001, allied air operations from Diego Garcia were crucial for Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. According to officials familiar with the negotiations, Wilson stated, "In light of the ongoing operations supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, the United States would not look upon the return of the Îlois with great favor." Wilson also asserted that "Any return to the island would undermine the mutual security interests of both the U.K. and the U.S., and, more importantly, regional stability." With that, the delegation delivered a clear message: Diego Garcia itself should remain off-limits to civilian resettlement. The U.S. signaled, however, that limited resettlement on outer islands might be compatible, provided it did not interfere with military activity of both countries.

For the U.K., the U.S. position was decisive. British officials leaned on Washington's

assessments to defend policies restricting resettlement, maintaining that security concerns outweighed so called humanitarian claims. This stance later shaped London's courtroom arguments and, ultimately, its negotiating posture in sovereignty talks with Mauritius.

The outcome established what insiders describe as a "red line" in U.S.–U.K. policy: Diego Garcia itself would remain a military-only zone, while displaced islanders could seek compensation or resettlement elsewhere.

Also during these 2002 discussions Wilson and Huckle reached agreement to add shelters for the [B-2 Spirit](#) bomber as well as upgrade existing infrastructure. B-2 facilities on Diego Garcia would allow the bombers to be based much closer to potential targets in the [Asia-Pacific](#)

region reducing round-trip flight time from their Missouri bases from 50 hours to approximately 15.

But the contentious security framework resurfaced in the October 2024 U.K.–Mauritius sovereignty deal, which permitted limited return to parts of the Chagos Archipelago but explicitly excluded Diego Garcia.

Critics argue the policy continues the islanders' decades-long exile and reflects a willingness by both governments to subordinate human rights to defense priorities.

Reason demonstrates the restrictions are vitally essential to safeguarding U.S., its allies and the 43 nations that border the 28 million square mile Indian Ocean in this volatile region.

Two decades after Wilson's negotiations, Diego Garcia

remains one of the most strategically valuable — and politically contentious — U.S. and U.K. operating locations overseas. The islanders' campaign for a true return to their homeland continues, but the groundwork laid in those early bilateral talks ensures that, for now, the military presence and operations security take precedence.



Colonel Charles P. "Chuck" Wilson, USAF Ret., Past-Chairman of the Board - The Cold War Museum®; KC-135Q Pilot & Flight Commander; U-2 Pilot, U-2 Instructor & 2-time U-2 Squadron Commander; also, AF Group and C2 Center (became 505 C2 Wing) Commander; Pentagon Bureaucrat; State Department Diplomat; later Corporate Business Development executive; NASM DOCENT

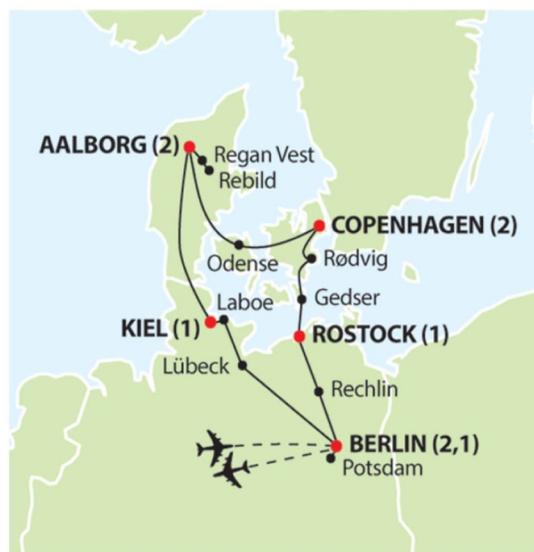


***Giving Tuesday
December 2, 2025***

Gary Powers Jr. 2026 Cold War Espionage Tour of Berlin, Northern Germany & Denmark

Travel Dates: April 16 to 26, 2026

11 days/9 nights



Join author, historian and lecturer Gary Powers Jr. on this exciting, 11-day tour of fascinating Cold War and espionage related sites in Germany and Denmark with overnight stays in Berlin, Kiel, Aalborg, Copenhagen and Rostock

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- Breakfast daily at hotels & six, three-course dinners
- On-tour transportation by private touring motorcoach
- Ferry crossing between Denmark and Germany
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Want more information? Ready to enroll?
Visit: www.cha-tours.com/garypowers/2026

Full Tour Price: \$5,995 per person

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Repeat Gary Powers travelers will receive a \$200 discount!

Prices above are based on double occupancy in hotels. A \$850 single room supplement is required for travelers without roommates.

Book by December 15, 2025 with a required deposit of \$495. Final payment is due by January 15, 2026.



THE LOST ART OF THE BERLIN WALL



Located in downtown Sylva NC you will find The Freedom Pavilion, a unique Historical Exhibit, Keepsake Shop and Art Gallery. Immerse yourself in a time past, during the Cold War Era of history as you tour our exhibit and Keepsake Shop with a largest selection of cold war literature, nostalgic keepsakes and authentic Berlin Wall from the east side in all different sizes and uses. The Freedom Pavilion is also host to the exclusive Collection of Lost Berlin Wall Art originally collected by Rainer Hildebrandt.

This collection will take you through the history of the time in abstract wonder originally designed by 3 soviet artists as well as some modern time unique pieces designed by an array of artists all on authentic pieces of the Berlin Wall. The Freedom Pavilion showcases historical facts and dates using the art as human element, including separation of families, people fleeing oppression and the general feeling of the citizen that lived in Germany during this historic time. There is truly no space like the Freedom Pavilion and a must see to any history lovers. Sylva NC is a beautiful town in



the Plott Balsam Mountains of Western North Carolina, United States. Sylva offers a wonderful small town feel with ample places to stay and to enjoy your surroundings. Whether you come for the day or stay for the week, The Freedom Pavilion, Lost Art of the Berlin Wall and Sylva NC will provide you everything you could imagine. We hope to see you soon.



The Freedom Pavilion
581 W. Main Street
Sylva NC 28779
freedompavilionsylva.com
828.559.6045

VISIT THE MUSEUM'S LECTURE SCHEDULE: CWM_LECTURE SERIES

MY U-2 FLIGHT— A PERSPECTIVE



James Michael Clash is an American participatory adventure journalist and author who has engaged in and written about various challenging exploits. He has written for Forbes, AskMen, Huffington Post, Bloomberg Businessweek, and Automobile.

It's been exactly one year since I took a rare U-2 backseat flight to the edge of space. I wrote about it at the time, of course - that was the point. It's an honor few civilians and non-pilots ever get.

Having had time to digest it now, I've been able to reflect on what happened and what it meant. First, patience - the flight was six years in the making. When I visited Beale AFB in 2018, the wheels were put in motion. I flew in a T-38 fighter jet, chased the U-2 in a Dodge Charger as it landed and was stuffed into the cramped pressure suit pilots wear for protection to see if I could handle claustrophobia. Little did I know at the time how much longer it would take to get an actual flight.



Jim Clash flanked by U-2 pilots Cory (left) and Jethro after their flight to the edge of space, Beale AFB, August 21, 2024. More recently the two pilots reportedly took a U-2 on its longest continuous flight ever, about 6,900 miles, zig-zagging across 48 states in a little over 14 hours. They did it on August 1, 2025, exactly 70 years after the U-2's first flight. The mission, appropriately enough, was named DRAGON70.... , *photo courtesy of Jim Clash*



Forbes writer Jim Clash trains for his August 21, 2024, U-2 flight to the edge of space, Beale AFB, *photo courtesy of Jim Clash*

There were promises and disappointments and postponements and changes of base personnel. The bureaucracy got to the point where I never thought the flight would happen. I almost gave up out of frustration, but I also knew from life experience that big things usually take time.

One example: It took me 12 years to convince Apollo 11's Neil Armstrong, first man on the moon, to grant

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an interview. But through perseverance and hard work, he finally agreed not long before his death.

So when my flight finally was scheduled in stone, I was still skeptical. It was hot in August at Beale, I was told. Didn't I just want to postpone until fall, when the weather was cooler? I really don't care about heat, I told them. Let's just get it done. And so with my contacts at the Pentagon and the public affairs chief at Beale, Charlene Spade, we did.

Once I arrived at the base for training, I was



View from above 70,000 feet in a U-2 spy plane over California, Beale AFB, August 21, 2024. (Note: For security reasons, the instrument dashboard has been blacked out.), *photo courtesy of Jim Clash.*

excited for sure, but wary. The three days of pre-flight training proved more difficult than I had anticipated. Again, I became frustrated, even paranoid. Perhaps this was God's insidious last-minute way of canceling my flight.

Looking back now, I realize that wasn't the case. The base personnel were thorough for my own good. A U-2 flight is serious business. When you go above 70,000 feet and something goes wrong with cabin pressurization, you're toast in a few seconds.

And then there's the reliability of the plane itself, Cold War-era, and the "coffin corner" that pilots must negotiate. At the edge of space, the air is so thin that an aircraft must stay within roughly a 6-mph window. Go too fast, and the wings fall off of the plane, too slow and the plane stalls. Both are real and deadly scenarios I needed to be prepared for.

When finally I was strapped into my cockpit by Cory just behind pilot Jethro, and with my claustrophobic Michelin Man space suit and breathing 100 percent pure oxygen, a thousand things went through my mind - fear, excitement, the ability to execute tasks I was given during flight training like arming and disarming the ejection seat, how to pee, taking photos and video, locking and unlocking the canopy, staying hydrated by drinking enough fluids through a straw in my helmet, etc.



Jim Clash prepares for his U-2 flight to the edge of space, Beale AFB, August 21, 2024, *photo courtesy of Jim Clash.*

The flight itself went off without a glitch (link below), but after two-and-a-half hours in the air, and five hours in the cramped suit, I was exhausted. Thank God for the after-flight debrief, the GoPro camera and what I could actually recall from memory so I could write my story.

I suddenly understood what my figure-skating friend, Sasha Cohen, once told me about her Olympic appearances. You have a few short moments to take it all in. But so much is happening so fast, you have little time to enjoy or remember it in detail.

Your name is called, then you get out on the ice knowing that the next four minutes are all you

have. You have to focus on your performance, while everything rushes by - the audience applause, the judge's scores, the media interviews. Then it's over, and you wait to see where you place.

Cohen, a little like me, had the aid of television film to help her remember it all after the fact. She ultimately took Silver for the U.S. at Torino in 2006, of which she is deservedly proud and has changed her life.

My experience also rushed by. Nothing I had feared beforehand went wrong, though. It has changed my life, too, not to the degree of Cohen's, of course. But since I've given Cold War speeches and recalled my unique experience on several podcasts and radio programs.



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COLD WAR LINKS OF INTEREST

ArcheoBiblioBase, Archives in Russia: <https://abb.eastview.com/>

Canada's Cold War Museum: <https://diefenbunker.ca/en/>

Cold War Conversations: <https://coldwarconversations.com/>

Cold War Spies: <https://www.coldwarspies.com/>

History repeats itself. Cold war aerospace defense strategies for the homeland become relevant again in today's threat environment: <https://www.podbean.com/ep/pb-yebw2-1997fdc>

Library of Congress: <https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/united-states-history-primary-source-timeline/post-war-united-states-1945-1968/cold-war/>

Looking Back at the Cold War: <https://skybluethoughts.com/>

National Reconnaissance Office: [> About NRO > history > more-historical-programs](https://www.nro.gov/Portals/135/Documents/history/csnr/NRO%20Story%20Comic%20Book%202024%20web-file-sm.pdf?ver=VBcm_zPkA8SmptExuD3ZvA%3d%3d)

Naval History Site: <https://www.history.navy.mil/>

Nike Missile Sites: <https://www.nikemissile.org/>

Nuclear Landscapes: <https://nuclearlandscapes.net/>

Remote Viewing: www.IRVA.org

Remote Viewing: <https://x.com/RobMin74/status/1925561725673173419?t=TKFtkISJLBEqldng9Ntx1g&s=19>

The Cold War Vault: <https://www.coldwarvault.com/>

The NRO Story: [https://www.nro.gov/Portals/135/Documents/history/csnr/NRO Story Comic Book 2024 web-file-sm.pdf?ver=VBcm_zPkA8SmptExuD3ZvA%3d%3d](https://www.nro.gov/Portals/135/Documents/history/csnr/NRO%20Story%20Comic%20Book%202024%20web-file-sm.pdf?ver=VBcm_zPkA8SmptExuD3ZvA%3d%3d)

U.S. Department of State – Office of the Historian: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/foreword>

U.S. Navy Patrol Squadrons: https://www.vpnavy.com/nadc_aircraft.html

U2 Sets New Record: <https://www.twz.com/air/u-2-dragon-lady-just-set-new-records-on-the-70th-anniversary-of-its-first-flight>

Wings of Freedom Aviation Museum: <http://www.wingsoffreedommuseum.org/>

PORT ARTHUR HISTORICAL MARKER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact:

Drieka DeGraff Phone: 248 535 6439

Email: portaustinhistorycenter@gmail.com

Michigan Historical Marker will commemorate Port Austin Air Force Station

PORT AUSTIN, Mich. – The Port Austin Area Historical Society is pleased to announce the approval of a Michigan Historical Marker to commemorate the Port Austin Air Force Station. Operational from 1951 to 1988, the station played a crucial role in national defense during the Cold War era. As part of the Air Defense Command's network, the station's primary mission was to provide early warning and tracking of potential Soviet bomber attacks.

The historical marker will be installed on the lawn of the U C I Club on Van Dyke Road, from which the remaining parts of the radar structures can still be seen. The historical society has begun raising money to fund the purchase and installation of the marker.

Contributions may be made by check or Venmo:

- Check: Mail check payable to PAAHS, with the memo "Air Force Station," to Port Austin History Center, PO Box 450, Port Austin, Michigan 48467.
- Venmo: Search for Port Austin Area Historical Society (@PAAHS) under charities and indicate that the payment is for "Air Force Station."

For more information email portaustinhistorycenter@gmail.com.

About the Port Austin Area Historical Society

The mission of the Port Austin Area Historical Society is to preserve and present the history of Port Austin, Grindstone City and Port Crescent. Our volunteers operate the Port Austin History Center, which comprises six historic buildings. We share our community's stories through exhibits that feature the rich heritage of the area, and speakers and events that bring people together at the history center. To learn more visit www.portaustinhistorycenter.com.

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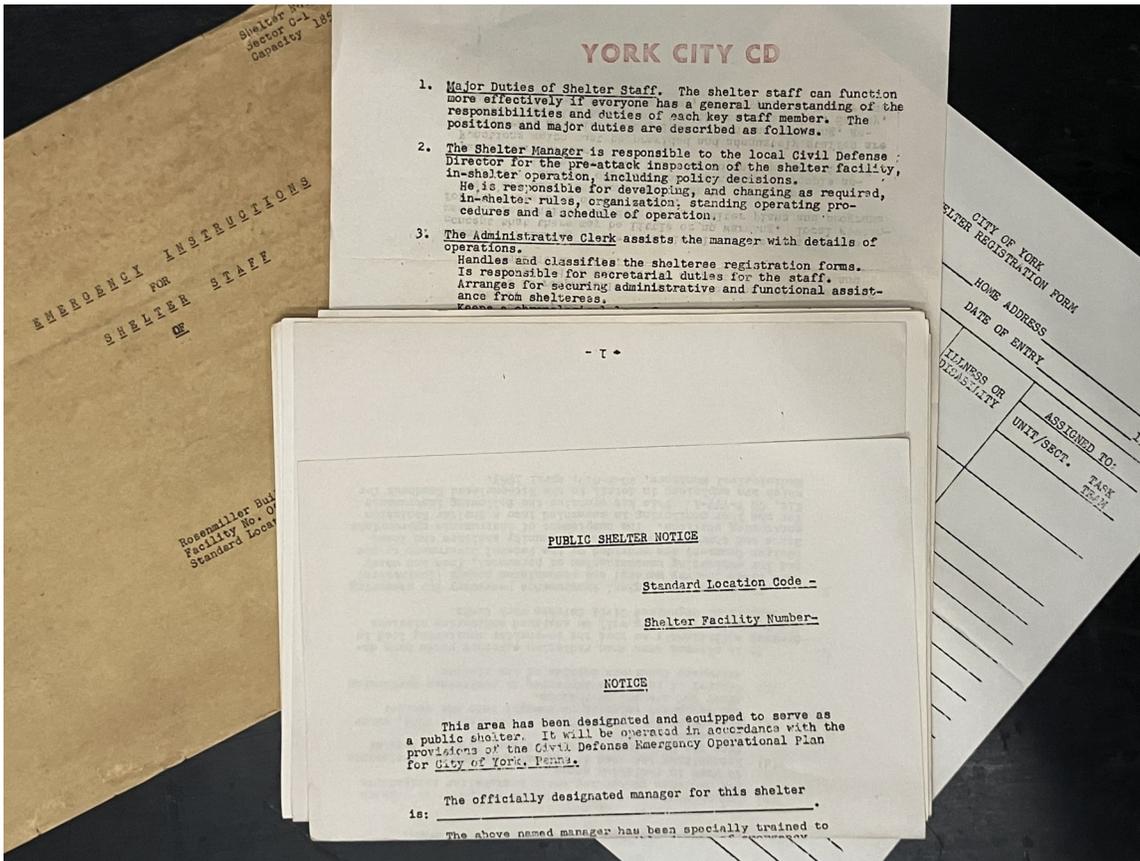
RECENT MUSEUM AQUISITIONS



Yashica Atoron subminiature camera carried by Joe Backofen with the 984th LCC in South Vietnam and Cambodia. It was damaged by mud during operations in March 1970. The 984th Land Clearing Company was an engineering unit that operated armored “Rome Plow” bulldozers to construct roads, clear jungle, and destroy enemy positions during the Vietnam War.

A GI's Germany in Sound and Music, an unusual vinyl record assembled out of live recordings of GI songs, beer hall verses, and other “sounds of Germany” familiar to many a veteran deployed to West Germany. It was mainly sold as an audio souvenir for GIs departing West Germany for back home. For the Museum’s purposes, however, it provides a snapshot of early 1960’s GI culture up and down West Germany, including some sounds and songs that probably weren’t recorded anywhere else. Donated by Robert L. Powers





Emergency instructions for fallout shelter occupants, produced by the City of York, Pennsylvania. These were recovered from an abandoned fallout shelter inside the Rosenmiller apartment building in York. The instructions were intended to be used in the immediate aftermath of a nuclear attack by the occupants of the fallout shelter. They give instructions on how to manage the shelter, ration supplies, manage conflicts, and determine when it was safe to leave. Donated by Steven Bumbar.

Two types of foil clippings leftover from installing the thermal blankets on the descent stages of the Apollo Lunar Module landers. These clippings were saved from the clean room in Plant 5 in Bethpage, Long Island, New York by Grumman aerospace engineer Joe Backofen. The silver foil is extremely thin aluminized mylar used to form 25-layer blankets to insulate the lander from extreme heat and cold. The copper-color foil is the thicker gold-coated mylar placed overtop. It gave the lunar lander's descent stage its iconic crinkled golden look. It has darkened in color over the decades.





Stolen Soviet flag and bartered belt buckle, mid 1980s. According to donor Peter Lupia, while on a trip behind the Iron Curtain in Prague, Czechoslovakia, his tour group saw an opportunity to “liberate” a Soviet flag from the road outside their hotel. Surprisingly, they were assisted in the “liberation” by their own Czech chaperone!

The belt buckle was acquired later through a covert trade at an East German checkpoint with a Soviet soldier. As exchanges between travelers and checkpoint staff were strictly forbidden, the donor bartered for the belt buckle by conveniently “forgetting” a winter hat at the checkpoint counter.



SPOTLIGHT ON FALL FUNDRAISING



Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of radical generosity. #GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. Help us to honor Cold War veterans, preserve our collection, and educate future generations about this time period! December 2 is #GivingTuesday – a Global Day of Philanthropy. I hope you will join me, as many supporters and veterans of the Cold War will, in supporting The Cold War Museum and our efforts to preserve and care for our collection. There are several ways to donate:

- ⇒ Credit Card donations can be made through our online portal. Click Here to Donate (www.zeffy.com).
- ⇒ Checks can be mailed, payable to The Cold War Museum, to PO Box 861526, Vint Hill, VA 20187.
- ⇒ If you are a retiree 70 ½ or older and are required to make a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your 401K retirement account up to \$100,000 can be transferred to

You can ensure the Cold War narrative continues by making a tax-deductible donation to the museum through Giving Tuesday. This one-day online giving event is December 2, 2025.

When you visit
www.zeffy.com

you will be able to make a tax deductible donation to The Cold War Museum®

The Cold War Museum® tax-free each year. These transfers, known as qualified charitable distributions or QCDs, offer eligible experienced Americans a great way to easily give to charity before the end of the year. And, for those who are at least 73 years old, QCDs count toward the IRA owner's required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. Visit Qualified charitable distributions for more information (<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/qualified-charitable-distributions-allow-eligible-ira-owners-up-to-100000-in-tax-free-gifts-to-charity>).

Zeffy Giving Tuesday Contest

We're donating \$10K for Giving Tuesday 🎉

Giving Tuesday is almost here, and we want to help one nonprofit make it extra special. We're bringing back our \$10K contest so one of you can win big!

Ready to enter? Here's how it works:

1. Head to our [Giving Tuesday Contest](#) and enter your nonprofit's name.
2. Complete a few simple actions, like tagging your friends on our [Facebook post](#) to earn extra chances to win.
3. Each completed action gives your nonprofit additional entries for the final \$10,000 draw.

The challenge closes on **December 1st at 11:59 pm EST.**

We'll announce the winner on December 8th!

WHAT IS REMOTE VIEWING?



STARGATE was the last of several special access code names for the remote viewing operational activity in the Department of Defense (DOD). Between 1969-1971, US intelligence sources concluded the Soviet Union was engaged in psychotronic research. Intel suggested the Soviets were spending 60 million rubles per year on research, and over 300 million yearly by 1975. Money and personnel devoted to Soviet psychotronics suggested they had achieved breakthroughs, even though the matter was speculative and controversial.

Remote viewing research began at the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in Menlo Park in 1972. Funding was subsequently provided by the CIA that extended remote viewing research until 1975. Work was undertaken by Russell Targ and Hal Puthoff, with the latter having worked with

the NSA. DOD provided funding for SRI's remote viewing research from 1976 until the program closed in 1995.

The effort originally focused on a few gifted individuals such as New York artist Ingo Swann, an OT Level VII Scientologist. Many SRI Empaths were from the Church of Scientology. Individuals who appeared to show potential were trained and taught to use talents for psychic warfare. The minimum accuracy needed by the clients was said to be 65%, and proponents claim that in the later stages of the training effort, this accuracy level was often consistently exceeded.

SCANATE (SCANning by the use of geographic earth coordinATES) related to how coordinates were used as cues or prompts for linking psi perception to the actual earth locations CRV which stands for Controlled Remote Viewing today, used to be called Coordinate Remote Viewing. Due to

extensive criticism and potential memory of detailed maps, this targeting method was abandoned. Instead, abstract prompting was used for focusing on psi/RV objectives. Some of the key Cold War era Remote Viewers. Joe McMoneagle and Lyn Buchanan were key Cold War era Remote Viewers in the Operational Remote Viewing unit at Ft. Meade Maryland, along with other key Remote Viewers, Angela Ford, Paul Smith, Bill Ray, Mel Riley, and others. Ingo Swann and Pat Price were key Remote Viewers for the Stanford Research Institute's (SRI) remote viewing research activity. Ingo Swann also participated in a few operational projects. Hal Puthoff was SRI's remote viewing project manager. Lyn Buchanan currently runs the Remote Viewing Ranch near Alamogordo, NM. For more information visit www.IRVA.org and <https://remoteviewranch.com>

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STARGATE

Best Kept Secret of the Cold War

ESP Espionage and Remote Viewing

A Surprising Reality

SECRET INITIATIVE REVEALED

- Remote Viewing - Stargate -

- ABC News - Ted Koppel, November 1995
- 20+ Years Hidden Project (1972-1995)
- Stunning Results
- Accessed Top-Secret Soviet Weapons Data
- Provided Advanced Warnings
- Talented Civilian and Military Personnel



Remote Viewing (RV):

- Extension of Intuition/ESP
- Mental Ability to Perceive Distant Places
- Accuracy Not Limited by Space or Time
- Research at Stanford Research Institute, CA
- Funding Initiated by CIA, then by DOD
- "Statistical Results Demonstrated Reality"

J. Utts, Statistician

Stargate:

- Special Access Code Word for RV Operations
- Initiated by US Air Force/Foreign Technology Division (FTD) in 1976
- Continued by US Army Unit at Ft. Meade, MD, 1979
- Expanded by Defense Intelligence Agency, 1985
- Developed RV Training Methods
- Publicly Acknowledged by Former President Carter, 1980, and in book, *A Full Life*, 2015



STARGATE MISSIONS

Locate

- US Army General Held by Terrorists
- Hostages, Fugitives
- Missing Airplanes, Ships
- Smugglers' Tunnels
- Clandestine Equipment
- Surveillance Devices
- Illicit Drugs, Arms Shipments

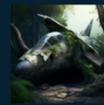
Describe

- Missile/Aircraft Test Areas
- Terrorist Activities
- Laser Development Sites
- Nuclear Test Status
- Surface-To-Air Missile Sites
- Chemical/Biological Warfare Development

Predict

- New USSR Submarine
- Release of Hostage
- Attack on US Naval Vessel
- Advanced Technologies
- Emerging Terrorist Tactics
- Defecting MIG Aircraft
- Location of Cargo Ship Carrying Illegal Drugs in Pacific

Examples:



Located Crash Site of Defecting Soviet Airplane in African Jungle



Predicted Advanced Technological Developments in Soviet Union



Located US Army General Held by Terrorists

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<https://www.irva.org/>



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PACT ACT: VIETNAM ERA VETERANS COLD WAR ERA VETERANS



The **PACT Act**, signed into law August 10, 2022, expands health care and benefits for Vietnam era Veterans.



PACT Act Health Care Eligibility

Veterans who served in these countries during specific time periods are eligible to enroll in VA health care **effective August 10, 2022**.

Republic of Vietnam

January 9, 1962 - May 7, 1975

Guam or American Samoa

(or in their territorial waters)
January 9, 1962 - July 31, 1980

Cambodia

at Mimot or Krek,
Kampong Cham Province
April 16, 1969 - April 30, 1969

Thailand

Any U.S. or Royal Thai base
January 9, 1962 - June 30, 1976

Laos

December 1, 1965 -
September 30, 1969

Johnston Atoll

(or on a ship that called there)
January 1, 1972 - September 30, 1977



Toxic Exposure Screenings

As a general matter, there are several types of possible exposures or hazards Veterans may have experienced during their military service, including:

- Air Pollutants
- Chemicals
- Radiation
- Warfare Agents
- Occupational Hazards

ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022: VA will begin incorporating toxic exposure screenings. Every Veteran enrolled for VA health care will receive an initial toxic exposure screening and a follow-up screening at least every five years. Eligible Veterans not enrolled will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.



The law **expands eligibility for health care and benefits** for Veterans who participated in **certain nuclear response or cleanup activities**.

Enewetak Atoll

January 1, 1977 -
December 31, 1980

Palomares, Spain

January 17, 1966 -
March 31, 1967

Thule, Greenland

January 21, 1968 -
September 25, 1968



PACT Act Benefits

The PACT Acts adds two new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

- **Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)**
- **High blood pressure (hypertension)**

Family members or dependents of a deceased Veteran may qualify for various VA benefits due to the additional disabilities defined in the PACT Act if they meet eligibility requirements. More information for survivors is available online at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT).

4 EASY WAYS TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTH CARE



Apply online at
[VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction](https://va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction)



Call the toll-free hotline
877-222-8387 Mon – Fri,
8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. ET



Mail a completed, signed
Application for Health Benefits
[VA Form 10-10EZ](https://va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction)



Bring a completed, signed [VA Form 10-10EZ](https://va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction) to the nearest VA Medical Center or clinic.

4 EASY WAYS TO GET STARTED WITH CLAIMS



Learn more at
[VA.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/](https://va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/)



Visit a VBA Regional Office
[VA.gov/benefits/offices.asp](https://va.gov/benefits/offices.asp)



Call the Benefits hotline
(for specific questions)
at 1-800-827-1000



Work with an accredited VSO
[VA.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation/index.asp](https://va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation/index.asp)



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT)
Download the [VA Health and Benefits App](https://va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction)
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)
Find a VA at [VA.gov/find-locations/](https://va.gov/find-locations/)

CAN YOU ESCAPE EAST BERLIN?



A Teacher's New Game Puts You Behind the Iron Curtain

By Katie Sanfield

Imagine you're a 20-year-old growing up in East Berlin in communist East Germany in the early 1980s. In order to maintain control, East Germany, officially known as the Democratic Republic of Germany or GDR, created one of the most expansive and invasive surveillance states to ever exist. It was led by the Ministerium für Staatssicherheit, or Ministry for State Security, better known by the abbreviation Stasi. The Stasi had files on every citizen, filled with documents from authorities, observations from state agents, and even being reported by fellow citizens. People were sorted into jobs, had mandatory military service, and lived under the control of the state - and kept inside by the Anti-Fascist Protective Rampart, better known as the Berlin Wall. To break the law risked imprisonment and torture, perhaps never to be seen again. To attempt to escape was certain death. And yet, you want to escape anyways. Then imagine you're a 17-year-old growing up in Chantilly, Virginia, sitting in an AP European History class after the College Board's exam is over, and your teacher pitches a ridiculously large project that might even get used by the Cold War Museum - to make a game, as a class, where you make the choices to show what life was like in East Berlin and what it actually took to escape it. That's what happened last year

at Westfield High School.

Escaping East Berlin places the player of this text-based game at the center of that conflict, navigating the challenges of East Berlin from the perspective of Eric Speiser, a fictional 20 year-old factory worker determined to find new life in the West, first in a normal day of work and then as things get much darker. Decisions range from choosing individuals to trust, places they might travel to, or how to prepare themselves for the road ahead, all the way through which thing do you say to



satisfy a border agent, which way do you go to avoid being spotted in a military yard, or what weather conditions will best cover a night swim. Decisions, some light puzzles, and extensive use of logic in this historic setting creates an engaging game with educational value.

What sets this game apart is not its content, but rather where it came from; the collaborative efforts of 22 AP European History students and their history teacher, John Baranowski, over at

Westfield High School. Baranowski explained that "most of these kids had AP World History or World History II before then, so we did a lot more active learning, simulations, and projects than your typical class." After the College Board AP European History exam was administered on May 5th, the students needed a project that would engage not only their passions and genuine interest for history, but also provide flexibility in supporting their schedules for the remaining month of school. The Cold War is the last unit the students work through in depth, but since it is more recent history, materials that are engaging or gamified are harder to come by. This made it the ideal content for the assigned project. The idea was pitched to the Cold War Museum and was received with positive views and support. From this, the idea of *Escaping East Berlin* developed. "The student's excitement," says Baranowski, "was off the charts."

The game itself is built on a unique platform, Google Forms, which is conducive to both the tools the students are used to in addition to providing the decision-based features needed. Based on a decision a user makes on a multiple choice question, they are automatically directed to a page unique to that answer. This feature allowed what eventually became the 400 pages, 10 methods of escape, 50 unique-game overs, and four distinct endings, to work as successfully as they do.

The methods for creating the game were straightforward. “We began drawing out branching paths on the board, based on the escape stories we could find,” explains Baranowski. “We started with figuring out the steps that had to happen in each story - some more obvious than others, and then we’d think about what other choices could have been made and where those choices would have taken them.” The students had many ideas, so early collaboration was key. “Every time a student had a comment about ‘what if I could’ or ‘why can’t I,’ we worked to put that option in there.” Most initial options led to a game over, where the user was caught, trapped, or so on.

When it came to the real content, there was so much research to be done. Students worked tirelessly to ensure that the choices they created were as historically accurate as possible. In one instance, there was a plotline involving the main character’s brother. In building his backstory, the obvious thought was that he worked at a factory building Trabants, the famous East German car. But a good while later, one of the students discovered that the closest Trabant factory was three hours away from East Berlin, which obviously put a kink in the storytelling. “We had to audible there, we turned the brother into an inspector of factories, and he had just come home from a trip there. It opened up some other avenues for the plot.”

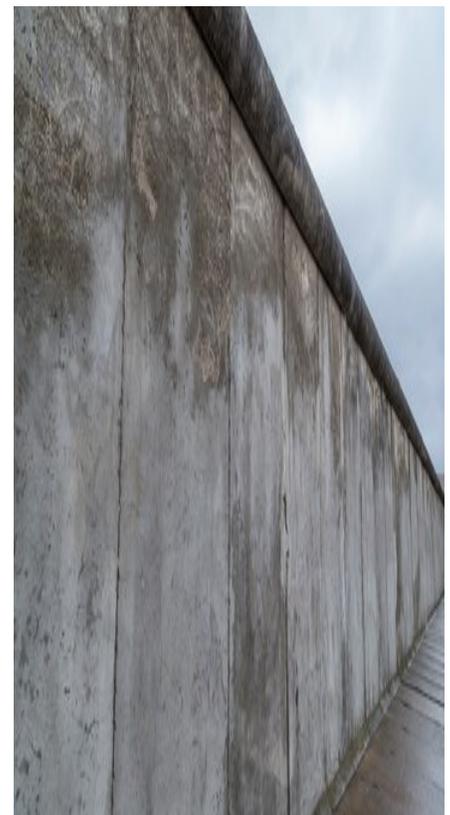
Baranowski does not doubt there

are some errors though. “There is also a lot of knowledge that simply isn’t out there,” he laments. “The Cold War Museum tried to set us up with some options, to use their archives, but unfortunately we couldn’t get that to work in the time we had. Field trips become limited as the year goes on and testing is happening and so on.” Baranowski hopes that historians and the people who lived that experience can share their expertise to help shape this game to be as accurate as possible. Some things have also been adapted for artistic license - the metric system is replaced with units that American students would be more likely to know. “Anything to help these kids better understand and relate - they are the target audience, after all.”

The beauty of the project is in its adaptability as time goes on. The initial phase project lasted well into the summer, with Baranowski finishing some of the tougher paths in August, and then there0 was a good amount of play-testing from his now-former students who wanted to see the game finished through. “As they graduate and become adults, I’ll add their names to the credits. They deserve so much recognition for the hard work that they did to make this happen.” Baranowski hopes that endeavors continue to improve this project and build new ones, utilizing future classes and their expertise to improve on the content, delivery, and support. “I think we’ve established some connections with the Cold War Museum now and I hope that

relationship can be a big help. And I sure hope this gets out to other schools and more students can use it to learn through gaming.” In the future, Baranowski hopes to add a lot more images, read-aloud options, and to build curriculum pieces like worksheets and guides for teachers to use alongside the digital game. “I hope this project, a crazy idea cooked up among my favorite nerds, *my* nerds, as something we ought to do because we could, becomes something that can be enjoyed all over for years to come.”

Click here to play [Escaping East Berlin](#)



Katie Sanfield is a teacher at Westfield High School in Fairfax County, Virginia.

VISIT THE MUSEUM’S LECTURE SCHEDULE: CWM_LECTURE SERIES



The Southeastern Pennsylvania Cold War Historical Society (www.ColdWarHistory.org) is a non-profit organization founded in 2010 by a group of motivated women dedicated to preserving the contributions that current/former residents of southeastern Pennsylvania (and nearby regions) made toward protecting the United States during the Cold War.

While our primary mission is collecting and preserving oral histories, we have become involved in related historical preservation efforts related to the Dynamic Flight Simulator, aka Johnsville Centrifuge, and the former Naval Air Development Center, both located in Warminster, PA.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Cold War Historical Society also sponsors or participates in a number of community events which are free and open to the public. Since 2012, we have hosted lectures and webinars on the Cold War and the Space Race. Here is our 2025 “History in Our Backyard” Lecture Series:



The Southeastern Pennsylvania Cold War Historical Society
proudly announces its
 2026 “History in Our Backyard” Webinar/Live Lecture Series



January 8 (Live)	Gary Campbell	A History of the A-10 Warthog
February 12	Buz Carpenter	The Ageless SR-71 Blackbird
March 12	David Stumpf	Sounding Rockets and Re-Entry Vehicles
April 9 (Live)	Roger Mola	Operation Skyshield: Grounding the National Airspace System
May 14	Mark Polmar	Cold War Radio
June 11 (Live)	Dan Basta	Among Honest Communists: Yugoslavia and Slovenia 1973-1975
July 9 (Live)	John Coyne	A Cold War Sailor: From Vietnam to the War on Terrorism
August 13	Matt Polner	BF Goodrich Flight Suits
September 10 (Live)	Arthur Llese	The Fleetwings Seabird
October 8	Don Stanton	Cold War Atlantic and Pacific Airborne Radar and ASW Patrols
November 12 (Live)	SPECIAL EVENT! 16 th Annual Veterans Tribute	
December 10	John Lemza	The UFO Experience During the Cold War

Events (webinar/live lecture) begin promptly at 7:30pm EDT/EST

Live events held at The Fuge/780 Falcon Circle/Warminster, PA 18974 (most livestreamed)

Zoom link shared via email distribution list *only* on the day of the program

Inquiries/add to email list: mail@ColdWarHistory.org

If you would like to participate in these events, please kindly email us at mail@ColdWarHistory.org in order to be added to our email distribution list. We also are grateful for the generosity of those who wish to donate to our organization. Thank you for your support.

OLD ARMY SECURITY AGENCY



Monthly meetings in Winchester/Purcellville

The history of Military Intelligence in this country goes all the way back to the American Revolutionary War with spies and scouts, informants, etc. Since then, technology has dictated just how intelligence on the enemy was collected, where today, spy satellites are used extensively – in addition to continued use of “spies and scouts, etc. Over the years, the U.S. Army Security Agency (ASA) was a very significant player for the nation in collecting intelligence on actual and potential adversaries by intercepting radio signals. The ASA existed between 1945 and 1977 and was the successor to the Army Signals Intelligence Service, with specialized operations that date to World War I. Initially, this involved the interception of radio transmissions used by enemy forces communicating, sometimes by happenstance, but this capability has evolved to very sophisticated means as technology improved. Tens of thousands of ASA soldiers have been enlisted to conduct these operations, playing a significant role in WW I, WW II, the Korean Conflict, and Vietnam, not to speak of the Cold War.

Following WW II, the Army established a direct link between the Army Security Agency with the newly created National Security Agency when it was created in 1952. Note also, that the Navy and Air Force developed their own “signal interception” capabilities and organizations.

With an Army Intelligence reorganization, the ASA was integrated into the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) organization in January 1977. While the ASA retired as an organization in 1977, there continued to be a few organizations designated as ASA, but importantly, there remain many Veterans still alive and well (mostly) throughout the country that continue to identify as proud “ASA Veterans.” The comradeship of this group of men and women is strong. Much of what they did over the years serving our country is now declassified from previously highly classified status, and they are now able to discuss what they did, and even “where they were deployed”. As in the case of Vietnam, “ASA was never there”, but they were, as “Radio Research (RR)” units. In fact, President Johnson termed ASA’er Jim

Davis as “the first American to fall, in December 1961, in defense of our freedom in Vietnam”. He was at least one of the first U.S. soldiers to lose his life during this conflict.

With fewer and fewer ASA’ers still alive today, reconnecting with fellow ASA service members is therapeutic in many ways, especially for those of the Vietnam era, never welcomed home and never able to discuss the very classified work they did for our nation. The United States military is truly a brotherhood and sisterhood. Because military men and women are required to make sacrifices well beyond anything expected of their civilian counterparts, it is understood that the friendships established may also be much stronger. The reality is that the needs of the armed services come first, and personnel change duty locations at the pleasure of the military – one member of this group served 20 plus years and moved 22 times. During an individual’s time in the service, there are always fellow military members to rely on for support. Military families have a unique understanding of the challenges and can relate in ways that civilian support systems cannot. Those who serve together form

a common sense of purpose and devotion to duty. These military friendships last forever. But when people leave the military, they often lose touch with those dear old friends. Across the country, groups of these Veterans have gathered, to the benefit of the individuals. One such group is the Winchester/Northern Virginia Group that meets for lunch once per month.

Tracking down old friends, particularly if you have been out of the service many years, is not always easy. Four years ago, during the pre-COVID era, former ASA'ers, Bill (Jake) Jacobson (residing in Leesburg, VA) and Harry Newman (from Stephens City) connected via an ASA Facebook page (The National Army Security Agency Association) and met for lunch one day. During discussions, it was realized that many more ASA Veterans were probably located in the area. So, it was decided that they would try to organize a monthly gathering, a lunch, perhaps. A notice was put out on the ASA Facebook page, and it was astounding to see how many of this relatively unheralded group of Veterans responded and joined the luncheons. Today, there are 38 members that periodically join for lunch, sometime five, sometimes as many as 12 of the 38, depending on individual schedules. The luncheons have

seen individuals attend that served as far back as 1956, when the Suez Canal was an international crisis in the Middle East, precipitated when the Egyptian president, Gamal Abdel Nasser, nationalized the Canal. And recently there was an individual join this merry band of brothers AND sisters that dates back to 1953 when he worked at Mount Weather in western Virginia.

While considered the Winchester/Northern Virginia Area ASA lunch bunch, ASA Veterans from Virginia Beach, Ashland, Richmond, Woodbridge, Front Royal, Herndon, Stanley, Emmitsburg, MD, Falling Waters, WVA, and even Fairfield, PA, have joined the group to share lunch and unrivaled "stories from the past." Friendships have been established and, in some cases, renewed – one of those, "I wondered what happened to you!" moments. "Often, former military members can experience a corporate retirement, death of a spouse, or children and grandchildren may move out of state. One's health and happiness can benefit from reconnecting and staying connected with former military associates with whom you shared those unforgettable moments," said meeting co-organizer, Harry Newman.

The luncheon group meets the

first Friday of each month at 11:30 a.m., alternating between Winchester's Mission BBQ and the Purcellville's Smokin Willy BBQ. For more information regarding the monthly luncheons, contact Harry Newman at harry.newman@comcast.net or Bill (Jake) Jacobson wmjake01@gmail.com.



**DEADLINE FOR
SPRING ISSUE IS
MARCH 15, 2026**



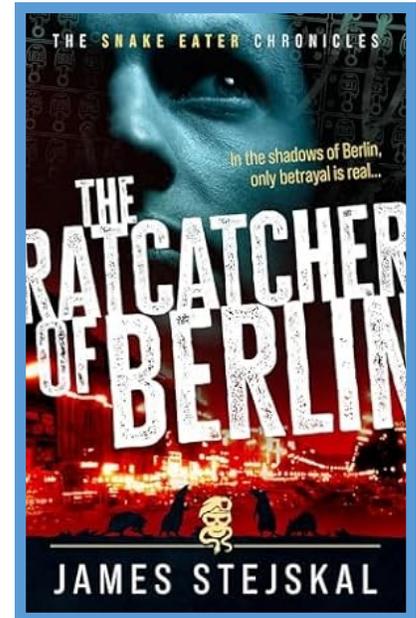
The Cold War Museum's® book reviews are written by Brigadier General Chad Manske, USAF (Ret.), 30th Commandant of the National War College at Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

James Stejskal's *The Ratcatcher of Berlin* is an immersive plunge into the world of Cold War espionage—a novel that not only thrills but also dissects the uneasy alliances and razor-thin margins for survival that defined Berlin in 1957. With the city carved in two by ideology and occupation, Stejskal crafts a taut narrative brimming with danger, duplicity, and desperate bargains. Stejskal, himself a former Special Forces and CIA veteran, brings formidable authenticity to his storytelling. His Berlin is a city perpetually on the edge—where the threat of an international flashpoint is never more than a heartbeat away. At the novel's core are two uneasy allies: a hardened CIA officer and a

The Ratcatcher of Berlin by James Stejskal

Published by Double Dagger Books, 348 pages, 2025

Special Forces soldier with their own secrets and scars, forced into partnership by a brutal murder that could spark geopolitical catastrophe. Together, they hunt a killer through the grim shadows of communist East Berlin, navigating landscapes as psychologically treacherous as the alleys and bunkers they traverse. The novel excels through its deft blend of action and atmosphere. Berlin's palpable tension and the omnipresence of betrayal render every encounter suspect and every alliance precarious. Stejskal's eye for operational detail—dead drops, coded messages, the choreography of surveillance and countersurveillance—elevates the book above standard spy fare. Yet he's equally adept at plumbing the interior doubts and treacheries that haunt his protagonists, making them as vulnerable as they are formidable. Where Stejskal shines brightest is in his rendering of the city as an active, almost sentient presence—its bombed-out ruins, garish neon, and bleak tenements all feeding the sense of moral and literal fog. The “ratcatcher” metaphor



astutely captures the paranoia of the era: everyone hunting—and being hunted—in a maze of shifting loyalties and unnamed dangers. *The Ratcatcher of Berlin* is more than just a Cold War thriller; it's an incisive meditation on the costs of espionage and the fragility of trust in fractured times. Meticulously researched and relentlessly gripping, Stejskal's latest cements him as a master of the genre—perfect fare for readers who crave both intellectual challenge and pulse-pounding suspense.

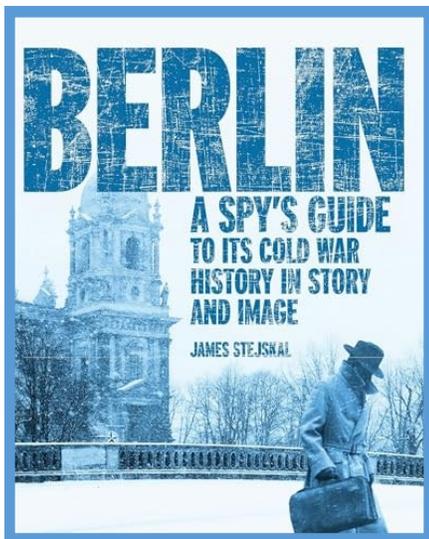
VISIT THE MUSEUM'S LECTURE SCHEDULE: CWM_LECTURE SERIES

Berlin: A Spy's Guide to its Cold War History in Story and Image

by James Stejskal

Published by Double Dagger Books, 172 pages, 2025

James Stejskal's *Berlin: A Spy's Guide to its Cold War History in Story and Image* delivers an engrossing foray into the shadowy world of espionage that defined Berlin during the Cold War era. Fusing narrative storytelling with striking imagery,



Stejskal, himself a veteran of US Army Special Forces and the CIA, is uniquely positioned to unravel the secrets embedded in Berlin's war-torn streets. His background infuses the account with authenticity and a nuanced appreciation for the historical terrain. Berlin, a city once cleaved by ideology and barbed wire, was a playground—and battlefield—for spies from the East and West. Stejskal meticulously charts the city's transformation from World War II's ruin to the epicenter of 20th-century intelligence

operations. Readers are guided through pivotal landmarks such as Friedrichstraße Bahnhof, Checkpoint Charlie, and shadowy back alleys used by clandestine operatives. The book excels at blending personal stories with historical context, giving life to the anonymous figures who shaped the fate of nations. What distinguishes Stejskal's guide is its use of evocative images alongside gripping text, immersing readers in the atmosphere of paranoia, bravery, and betrayal. Photos, archival documents, and maps bridge the gap between past and present, inviting readers to walk the same paths once threaded by agents of the CIA, KGB, Stasi, and MI6. These visual elements are more than illustrative—they are integral, making history tangible and immediate. For both scholars and casual enthusiasts, the book delivers accessible yet detailed analysis on Cold War operations, city geography, and the intertwining of intelligence and politics. Coverage of forgotten missions and the mechanics behind legendary spycraft—dead drops, disguises, coded exchanges—are enriched by firsthand insights. Stejskal also ensures the lessons extend beyond mere intrigue, showing the tensions and realities ordinary

Berliners faced in a divided city. *Berlin: A Spy's Guide* is an essential companion for any traveler, historian, or espionage aficionado. By combining vivid imagery with expert storytelling, the book provides not just a guide to Cold War Berlin, but a compelling window into the stakes and stories that made the city a crucible of spy history.

Robert Hutton's "Agent Jack: The True Story of MI5's Secret Nazi Hunter" is a gripping plunge into one of the most bizarre and enthralling corners of World War II espionage. If you think the story

Agent Jack: The True Story of MI5's Secret Nazi Hunter

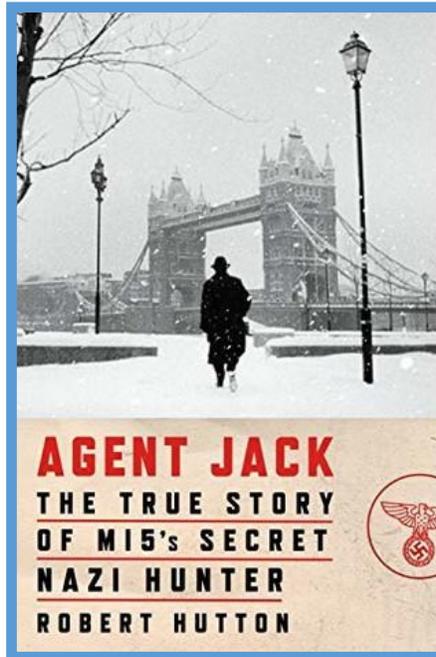
by Robert Hutton

Published by St. Martin's Press, 336 pages, 2019

of Britain's struggle against the Nazis is already well told, Hutton proves otherwise with this real-life tale of eccentricity, deception, and extraordinary undercover work. At the heart of the book stands Eric Roberts, an unassuming suburban bank clerk who, by night, transformed into "Jack King," an MI5 agent charged with luring and entrapping Nazi sympathizers across Britain. While James Bond dazzles with tuxedos and gadgets, Roberts instead wielded patience, guile, and the talent to convince fascist dreamers that he was the Reich's man in London. The result is a narrative both chilling

and absurd—homegrown traitors divulging their secrets in drab English parlors, oblivious to the fact they were feeding information to MI5. Hutton recounts Roberts’ dangerous masquerade with a novelist’s flair, capturing the shadows-and-cigarette-smoke atmosphere of wartime Britain. The banal English settings—boarding houses, garden suburbs, office desks—are beautifully contrasted with the perilous stakes of Nazi infiltration and mass treachery. Astonishingly, Hutton reveals how close these sympathizers came to betraying operational details, and how Roberts’ steady deception prevented disaster. Yet he is no cartoonish hero; Hutton paints him as a lonely, conflicted man, wading through moral ambiguities that would fray the nerves of anyone trapped in such a duplicity. What makes “Agent Jack” so compelling is how it humanizes both sides of espionage. The fascist network, far from glamorous, is portrayed as a sad cadre of misfits—dangerous, yes, but also faintly ridiculous in their pipe-smoke conspiracies. This oscillation between menace and absurdity keeps the tension simmering, as readers wonder whether Roberts’ cover will hold. Ultimately, Hutton delivers more than a spy story. He exposes the fragility of loyalty, the banality of betrayal, and the courage of unsung

individuals whose improvisation secured Britain from within. “Agent Jack” reads like le Carré crossed with a dark comedy of manners—riveting, unsettling, and immensely entertaining.



GIVING TUESDAY

DECEMBER 2, 2025



VISIT THE MUSEUM’S LECTURE SCHEDULE: CWM_LECTURE SERIES



Chris Pocock is a British full-time writer, specialising in aerospace. He started working life in the airfreight business at Heathrow, and then helped to start the outsize cargo business with Heavylift Cargo Airlines. He became a full-time writer, editing two air cargo magazines and a military aviation newsletter. He was the defence editor of AVIATION INTERNATIONAL NEWS for 30 years until retiring in mid-2018 and now is a commentator on aerospace/defense issues, and an occasional contributor to other aerospace media.

The Life of Bob Ericson: CIA and NASA U-2 Pilot by Chris Pocock is a biography of Bob Ericson, a most notable U-2 pilot who amassed 4,306 hours on the type during his 30 years flying for the CIA followed by NASA. Pocock was commissioned by Bob's sons, who felt that his contributions to national security and airborne science were not widely appreciated. How right they are!

Shadow Flyer **by Chris Pocock**

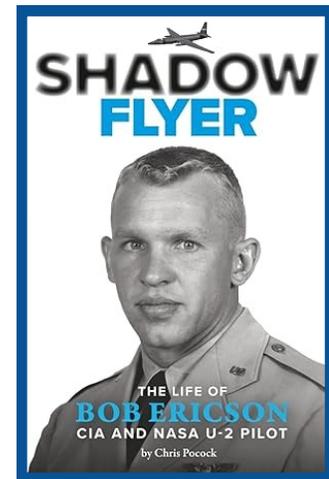
Independently published, 263 pages, 2025

The book tells the story of how a smalltown boy grew up to serve his country with distinction, how he survived a crash in this most difficult-to-fly airplane, and how he was nearly shot down over the Soviet Union. It also describes Bob's flight over Cuba in 1962 that set off the Cuba Missile Crisis; his missions over Tibet, China and North Vietnam, and his remarkable save of a crippled U-2 for NASA.

Bob's exploits were mentioned in part in Pocock's previous books on U-2 history, particularly *50 Years of the U-2*. He did a lot more research to produce this new paperback, which contains 250 pages with 170 photographs. In particular, it contains detailed descriptions of his most notable flights, and of The Black Cat Squadron in Taiwan, where Bob spent a lot of time as a well-regarded instructor pilot for the brave pilots who flew over mainland China during the 1960s. There's also plenty of human interest about a man whose personal life was inevitably affected by his obligations to

deploy far from home, and to keep the many secrets entrusted to him.

The book is available from Amazon in the US for \$20, in the UK for £15, and in other countries on their local Amazon websites at equivalent prices. Pocock will also be signing and selling copies at various events and lectures.



December 2, 2025



2026 PRINCE WILLIAM HISTORY LECTURE SERIES

January 22

Desegregation in Northern Virginia Libraries

Chris Barbuschak and Suzanne S. LaPierre
Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas

March 26

**Shipwreck on the Potomac: Disaster in Pursuit
of Lincoln's Killer**

Karen E. Stone
Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas

May 28

**'Better Known than Acknowledged':
The Lees of Stratford and the Cause of Liberty**

Dr. Gordon Blaine Steffey
Williams Ordinary, 17674 Main St, Dumfries

July 23

**Opening Manassas: The Iron Brigade, Stonewall
Jackson, and the Battle on Brawner's Farm,
August 28, 1862**

Bill Backus
Pat White Center at Ben Lomond
10501 Copeland Dr, Manassas

September 24

Cold War Virginia

Francis Gary Powers Jr. and Christopher Sturdevant
Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas

November 19

True Crime Prince William County in the 1950s

Zachary G. Ford
Occoquan Town Hall, 314 Mill St, Occoquan
703-792-1731

Each program is free and will begin at 7 pm

PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation



www.pwcva.gov/history
HistoricPreservation@pwcgov.org
www.historicprincewilliam.org
703-792-1731

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YouTube: Prince William Office of
Historic Preservation

IN MEMORIAM



Here are the stories of a few of the many Cold Warriors who have passed on recently. Some you may have heard of, some not. All are worthy of our remembrance and respect, most because of what they did to protect the rest of us during the Cold War. In many cases they were ordinary people who were called upon to do extraordinary things, and who were then happy to step back from any spotlight, knowing that they'd done their duty. We also include other notable Cold War figures, including some from the East and some who are historically important because of their treachery.

ANDONIAN, Lt Col Harry



The Society was saddened to learn of the “Last Flight” of Lt Col Harry Andonian, USAF (Ret) (F) on 20 June 2025. He was 101 years old.

Harry passed away peacefully in Canton, Georgia. Born on February 11, 1924, in Detroit, Michigan, Harry lived an extraordinary life filled with courage, dedication, discipline, and deep love for his family and country.

Born to Armenian immigrants, from a young age, Harry was drawn to the skies. He began his distinguished aviation career during World War II with the Ferrying Division of the Air Transport Command, flying nearly every aircraft in the Army Air Forces' inventory during 1944 and 1945. His service included deployment to the China-Burma-India Theater and later participation in the Berlin Airlift.

A graduate of the Empire Test Pilot

School, Harry became a key figure at the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base. As Chief of the Special Projects Operations Branch, he led testing for the U-2 program, logging 340 development flights in the U-2A/B/D and conducting evaluations of the U-2C. His work shaped Cold War reconnaissance capabilities.

He also served as an F-4 squadron commander in Vietnam, amassing nearly 300 combat flight hours. He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1971 with the rank of Lt. Colonel and ultimately flew more than 27,500 hours in over 300 types of aircraft in his lifetime—including the B-47, B-52, KC-135A, CH-47, and C-141. Following his military career, Harry continued working with E-Systems until 1988 and later served as an FAA-designated pilot examiner. He flew his beloved Beech Debonair regularly until the age of 97. When asked if he'd had a good day, he would tell his grandson, “Any day that I fly is a good day”.

Harry's distinguished career earned him numerous honors, including the FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award and induction into the Flight Test Historical Foundation Gathering of Eagles. He was a proud member of a generation that pushed the boundaries of aviation. He was inducted into the Aerospace Walk of Honor in Lancaster, California in September 2009, one of only 100 honorees. As part of his lifelong love of learning, Harry received his Doctorate in Education in 1992 at the age of 68.

Beyond his achievements in flight, Harry was a man of routines, humor, and great

heart. He read voraciously, completed daily crossword puzzles in pen, and was known for his expertly made Bloody Marys. He loved movies, stayed sharp with Words with Friends, and remained dedicated to morning exercises and healthy living well into his 90s.

He is survived by his five children, daughter, Andrea (Hilary) Griffiths, son, Gary (Suzanne) Andonian, daughter Leslie (Marc) Andonian-Bouwsma, son Keith (Kathy) Andonian, daughter Stacy, and many loving nieces and nephews. He was a loving grandfather to Nathan, Nicholas, Tyler, Jason, Ian, Kelli, Daniel and Christopher, and a joyful great-grandfather to Owen, Adrian, Morgan, Lucas, Theodore and Reese.

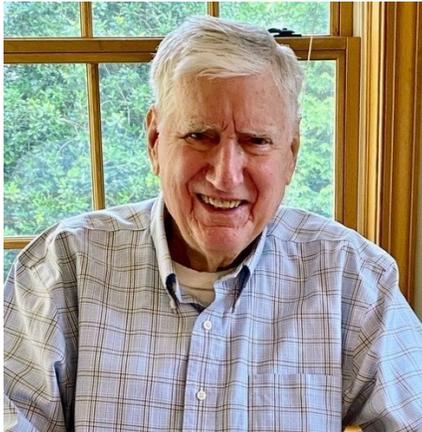
A memorial service will be held in Greenville, Texas, at a date to be announced later.

BENFER, COL (RET) RICHARD HUNT

In loving memory Col (Ret) Richard Hunt Benfer, U.S. Army, 94, of Warrenton, Virginia, passed away peacefully at the Capital Caring Health Adler Center on October 7, 2025. Born on June 11, 1931, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Richard—known to friends and family as Dick—lived a life marked by service, love, and generosity.

Dick proudly served his country in the United States Army for a distinguished 30 year career. A 1954 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, he went on to pursue graduate studies in Nuclear Physics at Columbia

University. He later returned to his alma mater as an instructor in the Department of Electrical Engineering where he met his future wife Jeanneane White. His



military career took him to assignments in Germany, Korea, Vietnam, California, Vint Hill Farms Station (where he was post commander), and Fort Belvoir. Outside of his military service, Dick was deeply devoted to his family and home. An avid skier in his younger years, he continued to embrace adventure well into his nineties.

He piloted a plane at age 92, flying with his grandchildren over the familiar Warrenton countryside and pointing out landmarks along the way. He enjoyed reading, gardening, and tackling home improvement projects, always finding joy in creating a warm, welcoming home for those he loved. Dick will be deeply missed and forever cherished by his family and all who knew him, and will be remembered for his kindness, humor, and generous spirit.

He is survived by his loving wife, Jeanneane W. Benfer, and their three sons: Richard; Jim (Cheryl); and Jack (Pam). He also leaves behind his cherished grandchildren: Andrew Benfer (Samantha); Jackson Benfer; Katharine Benfer; and Davis Benfer (Elisia); as well as his nieces: Jeannine Cummings, Kathleen Geneva, Jannelle Murray and his nephews David Benfer, Keith Benfer and Eric Benfer. He was preceded in death by his parents, Wilbur and Florence Benfer; his brothers, David and Donald Benfer; and his daughter-in-law, Meredith Goodwin Benfer.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to Lisa Thornley of Capital Caring Health Adler Center, Beth and Steve Herholtz, and Bill and Pat Miller for their loving support and compassion. A memorial service will be held on 11 October 2025 at Moser Funeral Home. Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m., followed by the service at 2:00 p.m. Interment at Arlington National Cemetery will take place at a later date. Family and friends are invited to attend and celebrate Dick's remarkable life.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Capital Caring Health Adler Center (<https://www.capitalcaring.org/get-involved/donate>) or the West Point Association of Graduates. (<https://westpointaog.giftplans.org/>)

CHICK, William Anderson

Founder and Chairman
Emeritus of U.S. Radar Sites
Iceland

WILLIAM ANDERSON CHICK, better known as "Chick", passed away on September 22, 2025 at home after a long and hard-fought battle against Parkinson's disease.

Chick was born on July 13, 1939 to the late Roland Anderson Chick and Nannie Bell Gray. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister Mary Dorothy "Dottie" Nisbet.

He is survived by his loving wife of more than 48 years, Constance "Connie" Chick; Children (from his 1st wife, Jeanette Walker Holcomb) Sharon Ann Chick and Scott Anthony Chick (Connie); Grandchildren Dr. Rebecca Pace (Beau) and Jason Chick; Great-grandchildren Samuel, Miriam, and Ethan Pace; Nephew Edward Nisbet; Great-nephew Matthew Nisbet (Laura) and great-niece Sarah Nisbet. He is also survived by dear cousins (especially "Dot") and other extended family, as well as a host of great friends and colleagues.

Chick joined the Air Force in 1959 and served on active duty, which included working at an isolated mountain-top

radar site in northern Iceland. He finished out his military career in reserve duty, which included serving as the Director of the Virginia Civil Air patrol. He retired in the grade of Master Sergeant in 1986. Chick graduated from Central



Virginia College, became a Virginia State Tax Agent, and then formed his own tax/bookkeeping business until he retired in 2000. Chick's passions were community service and continuing service to the military. He was a member of American Legion for 53 years – being honored as Man of the Year in Virginia, and he won the same award twice in South Carolina. He was awarded the Pilgrim Degree, which is the highest honor in the Loyal Order of Moose association. He was one of the founders of the Radar Sites of Iceland veteran's group and led that organization as its chairman for 22 years. During this time he was presented by his staff with one of the American Flags that flew over the US Capitol building. He initially retired to Chapin, SC, where he was named Volunteer of the Year several times and was elected to the Chapin Hall of Fame. All his dedication to South Carolina led to his receiving South Carolina's "Order of the Palmetto" (which is the state's highest civilian honor and recipients are personally selected by the state's Governor).

After being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, he and his wife, Connie, moved to Sun City in Indian Land, SC, for medical and community purposes. Again he dove feet first into the community, our wonderful neighborhood, and his buddies at the Table of Knowledge group. Chick thrived on being with people. We are thankful for family, friends, and the outstanding doctors that kept him going thru a very tough disease. Chick fought hard to overcome.

An inurnment ceremony will be held at a National Military cemetery in Mississippi along with a celebration of life in Sun City later this year. Please consider donating to American Parkinson Disease Association, the Parkinson's Foundation, or the Michael J. Fox Foundation to continue the fight.

DELP, Robert "Bob" Odes



May 19, 1929 — September 20, 2025,
Great Falls, Montana

CMSGT ROBERT "BOB" ODES DELP (RET.) was born May 19, 1929, to Lasco B. Delp and Gladys M. Townsden in Conrad, MT.

After graduation in 1947, he worked as a Telegraph Operator for Burlington Northern before joining the United States Air Force. During that time, he wed Sylvia Idell Erickson in 1950; they remained married for 75 years.

In 1951 he joined the USAF and played a critical role in communications, early

warning radar, and all things radio during the cold war. He served not only in the cold war but specifically during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. He was very involved in un-named operations that shaped the global security we all enjoy today.

He completed basic training at Keesler AFB and served at multiple Air Bases; his remote assignments without his family were Japan, Aleutian Islands Alaska, and Thailand. His assignments with his family were in New Mexico, Washington State, Wisconsin, Malmstrom AFB Montana, Sembach and Wiesbaden Germany, then back to Malmstrom AFB in Great Falls, MT. Bob earned several accommodations and medals throughout his career. He retired in 1978 as Command Chief Master Sergeant.

After retirement he moved to Havre, Montana and operated an H&R Block office. He used his mathematical abilities and leadership acumen to help his fellow citizens. He also moved to be closer to his elderly mother who passed away in 1989, and his sister, Helen (Joe) Heavey and her two sons, Jimmy Heavey and Wayne Heavey. In 1994, Bob & Sylvia moved back to Great Falls to be closer to their kids and grandkids.

Bob was an avid HAM radio operator, advocate and mentor for others that were curious about radio and communications. He volunteered countless hours and showed incredible dedication to forwarding his knowledge to the next generation. He was also a member of Good Sam Camping Clubs in Havre and then later in Great Falls. He had a lot of stories and adventures with Good Sam.

Bob will be deeply missed by his loving wife, Sylvia; sons, Roger Delp, Gail (Adele) Delp, and daughters, Rebecca (Richard) Skinner, Constance Delp Kromarek; grandchildren, Angela (Kevin) Dusko, Lindsey (Corbin) Lehman, Christina (Nathan Whitzel) Kromarek, Leslie (Ian) Foley, Danielle (Matt) Mangold, Ashley (Aaron) Wise, Benjamin Skinner, Kevin Kromarek, and Andrew Kromarek; and great-

grandchildren, Kiran Dusko, Jackson Flesch, Peter Elford, Laine Foley, Samuel Dusko, Lillia Foley, Anastasia Barber, Willow Wise, Destry Lehman, Courtlynn Lehman, and Esmae Mangold. Bob was preceded in death by both parents; his sister, Helen; brother, Jimmy Delp; and a grandson, Vincent L. Kromarek Jr.

W7ETP - "NO TRAFFIC, SIGNING OFF"

FREEMAN III, Winfield Scott LtCol, USAF, Ret. Cold War Veteran



Winfield Scott Freeman III, known as Scott, passed away on September 8, 2025 at the age of 78.

He was devoted to his wife, Jackie; a loving father to his daughter, Kelly (Howland) and his sons, James and Ryan; a beloved brother to his sister, Jane Bittner; a proud grandfather to Eli and Maci Howland; a cherished brother-in-law to Gary Noto; and a caring uncle to Danny Bittner.

Scott served 24 years in the Air Force, retiring in 1993 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His distinguished career concluded at the Pentagon where he contributed to the Intelligence Community.

He served as an Electronics Warfare Officer (EWO) on the B52 aircraft. Scott flew 262 combat missions in Vietnam. He played a vital role in the Linebacker II aerial campaign which secured release of American prisoners. He was deeply honored to serve his country as

evidenced by his many service medals with Oak Leaf clusters.

In his retirement, Scott enjoyed playing golf, skeet shooting, rooting for the NY Giants football team, and watching science fiction movies.

From one of Scott's friends, "Scott was a B-52D EWO stationed at March AFB. He flew 262 combat missions during ArcLight including five Linebacker II missions. After leaving March, Scott was a Raven flying RC-135s followed by assignments to Mather teaching Electronic Warfare following by assignments to Randolph and the Pentagon. Scott wrote a story in "We Were Crewdogs, Vol VII" about his mission on the fourth night of Linebacker II. The target was the Bac Mai Storage Facilities, flying Blue 2. Blue 1 was shot down that night along with Scarlet 3, about 4 minutes ahead of Scott's plane".

WILLIFORD, James V., Col USAF, Ret.



Jim Williford, the beloved Executive Secretary of the Super Sabre Society, "Headed West" on January 13, 2025, after a prolonged illness. He was preceded in death by his wife Cissy.

Colonel James V. Williford was commissioned in the Air Force after graduating from the United States Naval Academy in 1966 with a bachelor's degree in engineering. He also earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of Northern Colorado

in 1975. After graduation from pilot training at Reese AFB, TX and fighter training at Clovis AFB, NM he spent the next 30 years flying F-100's, F-4 D&E's and F-16. Jim retired from the Air Force in 1996 with more than 3,000 flying hours.

His Words: "My Dad was an AF pilot for 32 years and I always wanted to fly. The jets got more powerful, more forgiving, and more capable ... but they were never as much fun as flying the Hun."



Stock photo

PRIVATE TOURS OF THE MUSEUM

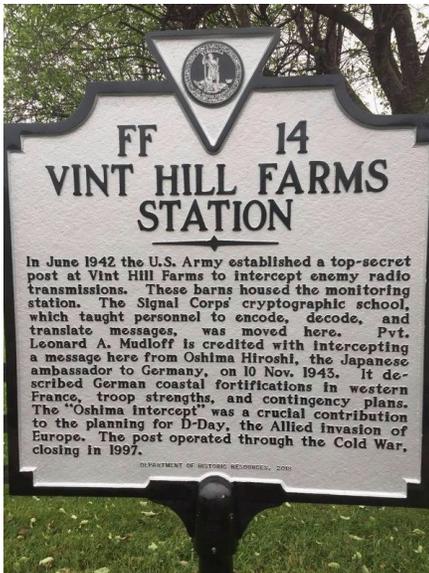


One of the ways the Cold War Museum fulfills its key mission of educating about the Cold War is via presentations to local community groups. We are receiving more and more of these invitations as the museum gets better known locally. The purpose of such events is of course to attract people to the museum, encouraging them to visit either during public hours on the weekend when admission is free, or to arrange for private group tours during the week, for which there is a per-person fee, depending on the size of the group.

PRIVATE TOURS Are An Important Source of Museum Income

THE INCREASING NUMBER of private tours we arrange provides a significant percentage of the Museum's yearly operating income, so it's an important part of our many income streams, helping to stabilize our operating income from month to month.

- ◆ July 16, 2025 – Jackie McMillan
- ◆ July 29, 2025 – Booth at the Fauquier County Public Schools Benefits and Well-Being Fair held at Fauquier High School
- ◆ August 15, 2025 – Dan Friend
- ◆ August 18, 2025 – A. Blaire
- ◆ September 16, 2025 – Marine Corps Group
- ◆ October 3, 2025 – Chris Sylvester and five others
- ◆ October 9, 2025 – Company B Cubed
- ◆ October 21, 2025 – Chris Nader



To arrange a private tour led by one of the museum docents, please contact

Bryan A. Zwanzig

703-408-2039

bryan.z@coldwar.org

Cost:

\$20/person for groups of 10

or fewer

\$15/person for larger groups

No cost for active duty military personnel ever!

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GROUP VISITS TO THE MUSEUM



July 24, 2025 — Group from Ashby Ponds Senior Living, *photo courtesy Cold War Museum®*



August 14, 2025—Westminster at Lake Ridge, *photo courtesy Cold War Museum®*



American Legion, August 16, 2025, photo courtesy Cold War Museum®



September 5, 2025 – State Department Group, photo courtesy Cold War Museum®



September 9, 2025 — Shelley Wetter (Vint Hill Farms Station Veteran) and her sister, *photo courtesy Cold War Museum®*



September 19, 2025 – Immanuel Anglican Church, Manassas, VA – Cold War Museum® Fundraiser, *photos courtesy Cold War Museum®*





October 9, 2025 – Members of BCubed Engineering,, photo courtesy Cold War Museum®





October 15, 2025, Charles Mayer's group, *photo courtesy Cold War Museum®*



October 21, 2025, Ladies from Lake of the Woods, *photo courtesy Cold War Museum®*



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CARRYING THE MESSAGE



Three Main Goals of the Museum

- ◆ To keep knowledge of the Cold War and its significance alive for coming generations.
- ◆ To honor the service of those who had professional Cold War roles.
- ◆ To use the Museum's extensive collection of rare and, in some cases, unique artifacts in Cold War signals intelligence (SIGINT) and image intelligence (IMINT) to show how intelligence collection and analysis supports our policy, diplomacy, and military action. CARRYING THE MESSAGE Home of The Cold War Museum®: Vint Hill Farms, Virginia.

One of the ways the Cold War Museum fulfills its key mission of educating about

the Cold War is via presentations to local community groups. We are receiving more and more of these invitations as the museum gets better known locally. The purpose of such events is of course to attract people to the museum, encouraging them to visit either during public hours on the weekend when admission is free, or to arrange for private group tours during the week, for which there is a per-person fee, depending on the size of the group.



GIVING TUESDAY
DECEMBER 2, 2025

THE COLD WAR MUSEUM® MEMORIAL CHALLENGE COIN!

The Museum's Challenge Coin is available for \$15 per coin plus \$10 shipping if mailed.

The coin pays homage to Vint Hill Farms as an active listening post from 1942—1997 and features the Cold War Museum® on the reverse side.



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