



# Cold War Times®

The Internet Newsletter Produced for The  
Cold War Museum and Cold War Veterans

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### About The Cold War Museum

*Founded in 1996 by Francis Gary Powers, Jr. and John C. Welch, The Cold War Museum is dedicated to preserving Cold War history and honoring Cold War Veterans. For more information, call 540-341-2008, go online to [www.coldwar.org](http://www.coldwar.org), or write The Cold War Museum, P.O. Box 861526 – Vint Hill, VA 20187. To contact The Cold War Times or to submit articles for future issues, email the editor at [editor@coldwar.org](mailto:editor@coldwar.org) or visit [www.coldwartimes.com](http://www.coldwartimes.com).*

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

## **A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR ([www.Spy-Coins.com](http://www.Spy-Coins.com))**

### **OLD SCHOOL SPY GEAR MEETS HIGH TECH STORAGE MEDIA**

New Hollow Spy Coins Will Encapsulate the Micro SD Memory Card. A local firm (Dereu Manufacturing & Design) has brought back the Cold War hollow spy coin with a new twist. Back in the days of the Cold War, hollow coins were used to transfer and hide secret messages and microfilms. While the data holding capacity of a small microfilm was very generous, it holds no candle to micro memory cards available today. A Micro SD Memory card has capacities of up to 16 GB of data. The Dereu Manufacturing Company produces these hollow coins in their own shop in Missouri, one at a time using manual metal working machinery. When assembled, these coins are absolutely indistinguishable from a solid coin to the naked eye. They can be safely handled without danger of separation, and a special tool is included to take them apart. With this marriage of old and new technology, the bearer of one of these hollow coins can conceal in his pocket change enough government, corporate or personal data to fill several hundred volumes, and carry this data unfettered through airports and across International borders. The complete line of these items can be found at [www.Spy-Coins.com](http://www.Spy-Coins.com). (Editors Note: Enter the Code Word "powers" without the quotes and readers of The Cold War Times will receive a 20% discount on any order.)

## **THE COLD WAR MUSEUM**

### **Winter/ Spring Update 2012**

By John C. Welch, Co-Founder and Board Chair



Happy 2012! This promises to be a watershed year in the development of our museum!

As you may know, Dr. Jason Hall joined us late last year as Executive Director. Among Jason's early priorities, he has orchestrated a meeting of museum professionals with impressive credentials in all areas of museum operations. From better care of our artifacts (your donations) to improved displays and web content, this marks an important step toward professionalizing our efforts and establishing a world-class museum.

We anticipate a series of "soft" openings at the Vint Hill, VA location in 2012. **If you served at Vint Hill or can help us find others who did, please get in touch because we'd like Vint Hill Veterans to be our honored guests at one such event.** This and other soft openings will lead up to a grand opening at Vint Hill this Fall – in time for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis. If you have ideas or suggestions on how to make that a success, please write me.

Of course, we don't want those of you located far from Virginia to feel ignored. We plan to enhance our website and our internet-based virtual museum to involve everyone with a Cold War story, regardless of location. And you may recall that we are working on a network of Cold War-related sites to preserve their stories and involve as many people as possible in the telling of the Cold War's history and lessons. Our chapters play a vital role in this effort; please support them.

With these and other growth changes at the museum it is more important than ever that we remain connected with you through this newsletter, on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and directly through correspondence and museum membership.

**Please become a Founding Member of the museum ([here](#)) today.** Introductory dues are only \$25 per year, and the Museum needs your support. We now face monthly rent and overhead expenses in addition to the costs of building displays and enhancing the online museum. Soon, we will update our strategic plan and business plan and become eligible for grants. Until then, **the museum's continued operation**

**(including this newsletter) is entirely dependent on you and the friends you encourage to join.** If everyone receiving this newsletter became a Founding Member, we could finance our current volunteer-based operations and start new initiatives for preserving Cold War history. And if you or someone you know has the ability to support the museum's growth with a larger donation or an estate gift, please [contact me](#).

I wishing you all good things in 2012, and look forward to working with you to build our Cold War Museum. And remember to [JOIN!](#)

Sincerely,  
John C. Welch, Co-founder and Board Chair  
The Cold War Museum  
[John.welch@coldwar.org](mailto:John.welch@coldwar.org)

### **CALLING COLD WAR VETERANS – TV SERIES – INTERVIEWS NEEDED**

*A respected cable channel is considering a television series featuring the Cold War. Of particular interest to producers are little-known, first-person narratives. If the Cold Warrior is willing and able, his or her story will be captured during an on-camera interview to be aired as part of the series. All facets of the 50-year period are under consideration, including military, political, cultural, scientific, and espionage personalities and events. Human interest accounts would be especially appealing; so too, would be still photos and film footage. Cold Warriors with **unclassified** stories and/or graphics to share are invited and encouraged to contact us at their earliest convenience:*

Linda McCarthy  
[coldwarseries@coldwar.org](mailto:coldwarseries@coldwar.org)  
540- 622-2074 (phone and fax)

### **THE COLD WAR MUSEUM – BERLIN**

By Baerbel E. Simon – German Affairs

The Cold War Museum-Berlin announces the unveiling of a memorial plaque for Adjutant-Chef Philippe Mariotti, a member of the French Military Liaison Mission (FMLM) to the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, who was killed on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1984 in Halle/Lettin in a deliberate collision provoked by the GDR Ministry for State Security and the National People's Army. We will not forget his sacrifice and we will honour his memory.

The ceremony will take place:

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012 at 11:00 AM  
At the Bunker Kunersdorf  
16269 Bliesdorf, OT Kunersdorf, Waldweg 2

Special guests will include Veterans of l'Amicale des Anciens de la Mission Militaire Française de Liaison, who all served in the French Military Liaison Mission in Potsdam.

Patronage: Herr Karsten Birkholz, Amtsdirektor Barnim-Oderbruch

***Background, Baerbel Simon:***

The basis for the Military Liaison Missions was the Agreement on Control Machinery in Germany, signed on November 14, 1944. Part of the agreement was the accreditation of the Military Liaison Missions with the supreme command of the other occupation forces. In 1946/47 by bilateral agreements Soviet and Allied Military Liaison Missions were established. Accredited personnel could freely travel in each other's zones of occupation.

The Western Military Liaison Missions were granted access to large areas of the Soviet Zone of Occupation. PRAs (Permanent Restricted Areas) around military installations and TRAs (Temporary Restricted Areas) during military exercises were marked on special maps issued to the MLMs. After the 1948 Berlin crisis and blockade, the primary task of the MLMs became surveillance and reconnaissance of the Soviet Forces and National People Army on the ground and by air. It was not allowed to enter the prohibited areas (marked with signs)

The GDR authorities, in particular the VOPO (People's Police) and MfS (Ministry of State Security) had responsibility to keep watch on MLMs and had frequent confrontations with members of the Allied Military Liaison Missions while they were on tour in East Germany. The MfS had put up outside the PRAs and TRAs thousands of "anti-Missions signs" prohibiting access to large areas, but the MLMs did not recognize the legitimacy of these prohibiting signs which were not mentioned in the original agreements, nor officially marked on the PRA maps issued by the Soviet command to the MLMs. They were source of frequent incidents

In the case of an incident, the VOPO had immediately to inform the Soviet commander in charge of the district. The officer of the responsible Soviet command area had to report the details of the incident. Unfortunately, many of the serious incidents occur, mainly caused by the State Security of the GDR, by shootings, total damaged Mission vehicles and in addition killed and injured Liaison Mission crews.

### ***The fatal incident in March 1984***

On March 22, 1984, Adjudant-Chef Philippe Mariotti, a member of the French Military Liaison Mission in Potsdam, lost his life near Halle/Saale in a traffic accident provoked by the East German army, and instructed by the State Security Service of the GDR. East German army heavy trucks were purposely used to blockade the French Mission vehicle by all kinds of options. That this could change into a fatal accident by this reckless blockade against the French vehicle was calculated, in addition.

The object of the reconnaissance tour was the NVA barrack "Otto Brosowski", the 11th Motorized Infantry division of the National People Army. There ought to hold at the end of March 1984 military exercises in the company of Polish and Soviet armed forces. The Mission vehicle came from Lettin, slowly passing the barracks; the observation posts realized the car and the alert activated. The "Juwel 852" truck blocked the Mission vehicle No.32 from behind, so it could escape forward only. The second "Juwel 853" truck with trailer came on the middle of the road, facing the car. Adjudant-Chef Mariotti was trying to evade the army truck in accelerating along the right curb of the road. Then the driver of "Juwel 853" deliberately turned hard left to hit the car, and the huge bumper of the truck smashed the front left-hand side of the Mission car. The force of the impact threw out the French vehicle 4 meters off the road.<sup>1</sup> On the road, no tracks of breaking or skidding from the Mission car.

"Unfortunately too late the car touched the military truck on the bumper and skidded under the truck" was the Stasi-Vopo version of the incident, but is against the truth. The Adjudant-Chef Philippe Mariotti died immediately. The two other passengers of the crew, the team officer Captain Staub and Adjudant-Chef Blancheton survived heavily injured. The Mission car was totally damaged. It was the first fatal incident

in the history of Western Military Liaison Missions. A car accident is the official version of the GDR officials about Mariotti's death. The blame, according to the official written report by the People's Police later was the French MVM vehicle, "because the driver had violated the traffic regulations of the GDR".

For more information, visit [www.coldwar.org/BerlinChapter](http://www.coldwar.org/BerlinChapter), [www.atombunker-16-102.de](http://www.atombunker-16-102.de),  
Or contact:

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## **THE COLD WAR MUSEUM – MIDWEST CHAPTER**

By Chris Sturdevant, Chairman

### **Satellite Locations:**

**"Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow: Living with the Atomic Bomb, 1945-1965"** The Elmhurst Historical Museum (<http://www.elmhurst.org>) hosts a fabulous exhibit through March 18, 2012. Werner Juretzko spoke at the first installment of a series of Cold War discussions on January 26th at 7 p.m. The second Cold War focused program will feature the film "The Woman on Pier 13" on Wednesday, February 15. Chris Sturdevant will address the organization on the topic of "The Cold War in Our Own Backyard" on Friday March 15.

**DANK Haus Chicago** Chris Sturdevant and Werner Juretzko attended the grand re-opening of the DANK Haus, German American Museum, in Chicago, IL on Saturday January 21. The Museum is undergoing a \$500,000 renovation of its façade. The DANK Haus also headquarters our Illinois location and has large meeting facilities to accommodate future presentations.

Fall programming and exhibits continue to maintain interest and viewership at the New Berlin Public Library Veterans Room, 15105 Library Lane, New Berlin, WI. A Nike missile exhibit and discussions hosting 007 author Raymond Benson are underway.

**EAA AirVenture 2012:** Are you making plans yet? Do not hesitate on being there in July 2012 as hotels book fast and the excitement comes too quickly! The Cold War Museum has submitted its yearly application to host a booth on the grounds.

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

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## **THE COLD WAR MUSEUM – CARRIBEAN**

**Raul Colon - Director**

If you have any questions or would like to join our chapter, please contact me at:

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## **THE COLD WAR MUSEUM – CALIFORNIA**

**Richard Neault - Director**

If you have any questions or would like to join our chapter, please contact me at:

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## **THE COLD WAR MUSEUM – NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATES (NIS)**

**Jason Smart - Director**

The Cold War Museum - NIS (Chapter of the Countries of the Former Soviet Union) continues to progress.

Anyone with information regarding parties in Russia and the surrounding independent states that may be interested in working with CWM-NIS, should contact Jason at [jasonjaysmart@gmail.com](mailto:jasonjaysmart@gmail.com).

## **COLD WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

**Chairman's Corner**

With Vince Milum - Chairman – CWVA

For more information on the Cold War Veterans Association, please visit them online at: [www.coldwarveterans.com](http://www.coldwarveterans.com)

## **THE INDOCHINA WARS (1946-1975) REMEMBRANCE ASSOCIATION (IWRA)**

Come join us while we honor our fathers and forefathers, who fought Communist aggression, 1946-1975. Visit our website online at:

[www.legionetrangere.us/indochina\\_wars\\_remembrance\\_association\\_1946\\_1975.html](http://www.legionetrangere.us/indochina_wars_remembrance_association_1946_1975.html)

Michael W. (Mick) Stewart, IWRA Secretary

The Indochina Wars (1946-1975) Remembrance Association (IWRA)  
5909 Fairdale Lane, Suite 3 \* Houston TX 77057 \* 713.785.5126

## **AMERICAN COLD WAR VETERANS**

Jerry Terwilliger, National Chairman, ACWV

Albert J. Lepine, Secretary-Treasurer ACWV

Frank M. Tims, Ph.D., Historian, ACWV

For the most recent updates on American Cold War Veterans, please visit  
[www.americancoldwarvets.org](http://www.americancoldwarvets.org).

## **Cold War Memories**

(Editor's Note: Send us your Cold War Memory for posting in future issue.)

Captain Don C. East (USN, Ret) shares his story

Written by Amy K. East

Full Story available [online](#) at coldwar.org

“An Analysis of the Bilateral United States/Soviet Union Navy Agreement on the Prevention of Incidents On and Over the High Seas (INCSEA)”

On a steamy day in July of 1991, I brimmed with excitement as I made my way down to Mayport Naval Station, in Florida, to witness a historic event. As a gesture of goodwill and friendship, the United States Navy was playing host to the Soviets as they brought several of their naval warships to visit an American port. This was the Soviet fleet's fourth U.S. port visit since the end of World War II, but as it would turn out, it was to be the last visit under the Soviet regime. As I stood near the pier, looking up at the impressive Soviet missile cruiser, the Marshal Ustinov, I wondered how the warships of our “rivals” managed to make their way here, to dock at an American port, in times of such tension and mistrust between our two countries.

Little did I know at the time, this show of good seamanship and gesture of friendship between two rival countries got its start in the midst of the Cold War. The leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States decided, during this time, to step up to the plate and make a concerted effort to ease the ever increasing tensions between these two superpowers over the world's oceans. It all began with a bilateral agreement hammered out between the navies of the two nations in 1972, called the United States/ Union of Soviet Socialist Republic Agreement on the Prevention of Incidents On and Over the High Sea, or INCSEA agreement, as it is commonly referred to. The goal of this agreement was to codify a protocol of behavior (for military ships and aircraft), that was designed to reduce the number of inflammatory and harassing incidences that occurred when the navies of these two superpowers competed for domain on and over the high seas. With the successful implementation of the 1972 agreement, a precedent was set that would open up a new pathway of diplomacy between nations.

## **MEETINGS, REUNIONS, AND UPDATES**

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

**Roger A Babler, webmaster for [www.a-2-562.org](http://www.a-2-562.org) , sends along this Nike reunion update:**

We have expanded the scope of the A-2-562 "Moose Creek Nike" reunion to include all Alaska Nike vets. We met at the Anchorage "Site Summit" event enjoyed the event. Our reunion will be in your area this year as we move across the country to different locations. This year it will be held at Sandy Hook NJ on Sept 19th. We have 2 contacts there that seem to be very helpful: Peter De Marco and Don Woods. Don served at A-2-562. With the addition of the Anchorage vets I will be contacting as many of them that I can find using the attendance list from the Anchorage Reunion and those posted at "Ed's Nike Site" that will be a good base to start with. At the present I think we have a distribution list of somewhat over 200 names that served in the Fairbanks / Eielson units.

We have done an overhaul of our website to add additional pages dedicated to our reunions a direct link is: [http://www.a-2-562.org/reunion\\_r/index\\_r2.html](http://www.a-2-562.org/reunion_r/index_r2.html)

**Charles D. Carter, Nike Historian, sends along this Nike missile reunion ([www.Nike252.org](http://www.Nike252.org))**

The Nike veterans who served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missile Battalion 52<sup>nd</sup> Air Defense Artillery from 1962 – 1983 in south Florida and Ft Bliss (and family and friends) are invited to attend the Nike252 Veterans Reunion and Commemorative Ceremony October 20-21, 2012. This event coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis which was the basis for the Homestead-Miami Air Defense Network.

In addition to a meeting and dinner on Saturday evening, a tour of the former A Battery inside Everglades National Park will be conducted after a ceremony in the administration mess hall to commemorate and honor the service of the Nike veterans who served in the Homestead-Miami Air Defense Network.

To view the reunion agenda, and register, visit the Nike 252 website at [www.Nike252.org](http://www.Nike252.org)

## REUNION WEBSITES

Visit these following websites for additional reunion information:

[www.raymack.com/usaf/buddies.html](http://www.raymack.com/usaf/buddies.html)

[www.radomes.org](http://www.radomes.org)

[www.vets.org/airforce.htm](http://www.vets.org/airforce.htm)

[www.thewall-usa.com/reunion](http://www.thewall-usa.com/reunion)

[www.uasf.com/reunions.htm](http://www.uasf.com/reunions.htm)

[www.reunionmag.com/military\\_reunions.html](http://www.reunionmag.com/military_reunions.html)

[www.military.com/Resources/ReunionList](http://www.military.com/Resources/ReunionList)

[www.navweaps.com/index\\_reunions/reunion\\_index.htm](http://www.navweaps.com/index_reunions/reunion_index.htm)

[www.usaf.com/reunions.htm](http://www.usaf.com/reunions.htm)

[www.leatherneck.com/links/browselinks.php?c=23](http://www.leatherneck.com/links/browselinks.php?c=23)

[www.jacksjoint.com/cgreunion.htm](http://www.jacksjoint.com/cgreunion.htm)

## Cold War Articles

(Please send article submissions for review to: <mailto:editor@coldwar.org>)

### Stasi chief's office reopened in new exhibition



*[Großansicht des Bildes mit der Bildunterschrift: The Stasi controlled GDR citizens from Haus 1](#)*

Until 1989, it was the Stasi's job to spy on East German citizens. The office of Erich Mielke, who led the secret police for more than 30 years, has been restored for a new exhibition on the body's dark past.

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,15667988,00.html>

## US Intelligence and Soviet Space Activities

- ▶ [www.GriffithObservatory.org](http://www.GriffithObservatory.org)
- ▶ Griffith Observatory
- ▶ [www.intelforum.org](http://www.intelforum.org)
- ▶ Intelforum / by Peter Pesavento

Jan 1 2012 ▶ Dec 30. A new article has recently been published by me about recent declassification disclosures about what the US Intelligence Community knew about Soviet space activities during the Cold War "Space Race."

It is entitled "Excavating for America's Secret Knowledge of the Soviet Space Program," and is the cover story and main feature. It appears in the January 2012 issue of Griffith Observer, published in Los Angeles.

The article is heavily illustrated, including facsimiles of pages from declassified reports. There are also Russian materials used as illustrations as well, with a number of the images appearing in print for the first time.

The main subheadings of the article include:

- In the Trenches of Twentieth-century Archaeology
- Zond 5: Stumbling Upon a Previously Undisclosed Secret
- New NSA Documents Reveal In-depth, Blanket Monitoring of Soviet Space Events-from the Pad, All

## the Way to the Moon

--Hidden US Knowledge about the USSR's Undeclared Moon Rocket

--Towards a More-accurate Recounting

As the reader can infer, there has been a batch of materials released by the NSA. As with the CIA materials discussed in the text as well, it took some time to extract these documents from their bureaucratic hiding places. As in years and years.

One of the themes of the article is the rectification of miss-told Soviet space history. (As more materials are released by such declassification authorities like ISCAP, these will become more and more capably applied to the currently accepted chronologies-and it will change them.) As I can vouch for (with additional documents that have been released in the interim, since I originally wrote this article in December 2010), the US intelligence documents that I now have in hand (as well as burgeoning number currently with ISCAP, and that I anticipate to receive over the near term, say next 24 months or so) provide data as well as a narrative that Russian official disclosures have not-whether not at all (in some cases), or with few details (in more cases), or selective releases (that have the ultimate effect of misleading space historians, due to an incomplete record). At times, the released US materials provide a narrative that directly contra-indicates what Russian disclosures have "officially" stated took place (or was the intent of events).

A case in point (as discussed in the Observer piece) is the fourth N-1 rocket (the USSR's Saturn V- class rocket to take cosmonauts to the Moon, for a landing) that lifted off from the Tyuratam space center in late November 1972. We now know via NSA disclosures that it was not a mission intended to selenocentric space at all, but rather away from the Moon altogether (the NSA figured out it was very similar in profile to the Zond 4 mission, that was launched to lunar distance, but directly opposite the Moon). Additionally, we learn from SIGINT captures that the rocket may have had its second stage ignite temporarily for approximately seven seconds, and then shut down. Furthermore, we learn from NSA SIGINT acquisitions that, despite an explosion in the lower part of the rocket during its ascent, it continued to coast upwards to 37.7 nautical miles before falling back to the ground-an excellent indication that the rocket was not blown to smithereens. These new facts are not reflected in the current Russian space histories (published post 1990) about what is claimed to have happened during the launch failure.

What this means is that the data acquired by the US Intelligence Community was high fidelity, and that data garnered by the Americans may have been better than what the Russians acquired themselves. Indeed, in a number of the NSA reports that I have in hand, when official Soviet government releases were in error about times or coordinates (for example, dealing with lunar missions), the NSA reports correct them. (There are other examples of the NSA's meticulous data- keeping in the article. What it demonstrates is that the "technical means" to monitor Tyuratam activity-as well as beyond Earth orbit--was on-going 24/7. This included ground-based monitoring, as well as space-based monitoring.)

More such corrective data is in hand presently from even more recent document disclosures (and some of these cover manned Soviet missions), and will appear in another article, currently under preparation.

So these are exciting times for those who engage in the (re-)writing of Cold War Space History.

For more information about issue availability and ordering, please contact the Griffith Observatory.

The URL link to their organization is [www.GriffithObservatory.org](http://www.GriffithObservatory.org)

## **Breathe easier and celebrate 20 years since the Cold War**

Jim Renkert | Dec 25, 2011

*Originally published in the Alaska Dispatch. Reprinted with permission of author*

It started with Stalin. It ended with a phone call. On Christmas morning 1991 Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev phoned President George H.W. Bush at Camp David and let him know that the Soviet Union had ceased to exist and that the President could “enjoy a very quiet Christmas evening.” Thus, the long standoff came to a close. The specter of nuclear holocaust from the world’s first two superpowers was vanquished.

As time ran out on the rest of the century and the millennium, historians engaged in spirited debate on the most significant events of both. The general consensus for the 20th century was not of a singular event but of a singular movement. The most important event of the 20th century was the triumph of democracy. For the first half of the century, before the Allied victory in Europe and Japan, it was by no means certain democracy would prevail outside of America. In 1941, the unfolding of history we sometimes take for granted was an open ended question. The blitzkrieg of the Nazi war machine had swept over Europe. Democratic England stood alone in Europe. Japan’s stunning surprise attack at Pearl Harbor found America outmanned, outgunned and out maneuvered. If U.S. aircraft carriers had been at Pearl Harbor instead of out on patrol, the intended Japanese knockout blow might have succeeded. But the allies did win World War II.

And then the two most important Allies broke up. The break up wasn’t dramatic or forced. It was inevitable, however, and both sides knew it would happen. The two unlikeliest of World War II allies, the Communist Soviet Union and the representative democracy of the United States, had joined forces to defeat the foe that threatened both ideologies. With the defeat of Nazi Germany, our opposing ideologies turned us from allies to enemies.

The Cold War was on.

For the next 45 years, the U.S. and NATO would face off with the Soviets in the costliest and highest stakes game ever. The Cold War and the arms race would cost trillions and the proliferation of nuclear weapons would threaten our very existence. Words like “holocaust,” “nuclear winter,” and “mutually assured destruction” characterized the danger. Phrases like “red scare,” “red menace,” “Ban the Bomb,” “pinko” and “McCarthyism” characterized the fear. Nine presidents would assume the helm as Commander In Chief to face down the threat: Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan and Bush. The Soviet Union countered with Stalin, shoe-pounding Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Andropov, Chernenko, Gorbachev and Yeltsin.

The fear was real. American schoolchildren practiced duck-and-cover drills, families built bomb shelters, American spy planes were shot down over the Soviet Union, and people fleeing East Berlin were shot. The posturing was real. International sports turned into a surrogate stage to prove the superiority of each ideology and its people. An Olympic hockey game would become the most iconic of Cold War sporting events.

The shadow of destruction was real. It flip-flopped in our consciousness. Sometimes in the forefront, other times not. But it was never far away. It was an ominous shadow.

The Cold War would also occasionally turn hot with proxy wars in Korea, Vietnam and Afghanistan. It would come perilously close to real nuclear action in our backyard during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Yet it all ended peacefully. The missiles never left the silos. Democracy triumphed.

Today we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the end of the Cold War. The red and yellow Hammer and Sickle was lowered from the Kremlin for the last time and the tricolor white, blue and red flag of the Russian Federation rose. A new era began. Russians would begin their own experiment in Democracy. An experiment in progress to be sure; nevertheless, it is another triumph of a people yearning to be free. It all ended peacefully. And that is a Christmas miracle unto itself.

On Christmas Day 1991 there was peace on earth. The world received the second best Christmas present ever.

## **NSA Releases Further Transcripts and Recordings of USS Liberty Incident**

[http://www.nsa.gov/public\\_info/declass/uss\\_liberty/index.shtml](http://www.nsa.gov/public_info/declass/uss_liberty/index.shtml)

On 08 June 2007, the National Security Agency (NSA) finalized the review of all material relative to the 08 June 1967 attack on the USS Liberty. This additional release adds to the collection of documents and audio recordings and transcripts previously posted to the site on 02 July 2003.

The attack on the USS Liberty, like others in our nation's history, has become the center of considerable controversy and debate. It is not NSA's intention to prove or disprove any one set of conclusions, many of which can be drawn from a thorough review of this material. Instead, through these public releases, we intend to make as much information as possible available for the many scholars, historians, academia, and members of the general public who find interest in analyzing the information and forming their own conclusions.

## **Nicola Bolzan, Major - IT AF/ Nike TCO sends this information on Base Tuono in Northern Italy:**

<http://www.basetuono.it/>

At the end also in Italy we have our Nike museum, a base in the mountains of North-East of Italy, that was closed in 1977. Now we have a complete section, with 3 missile and different FCA components. Last summer a lot of people visited "base tuono" (tuono means THUNDER, the call sign of the base). You can also find on FACEBOOK a page about BASE TUONO. Please send this link also to other Nike veterans, if someone is planning an holiday in Italy, do not miss a visit to BASE TUONO (just 2 hrs from Venice), located in a very lovely place of Italian mountains.

## **Robb Hoover of Bellevue NE and 55th Wing Veteran, shares an editorial with the World-Herald:**

The World-Herald's editorial ( Dec 26th, 2011) on the recent posthumous award of the Silver Star to Cold War U-2 pilot Gary Powers was well stated. Gary Powers had been a Strategic Air Command pilot before he was selected for the special national security program that led to his 1960 overflight of the Soviet Union at the height of the Cold War. It is good to see that the Air Force has recognized his valorous service with such a deserving award.

Two veterans of the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing ( predecessor of the 55th Wing now stationed at Offutt AFB) were similarly recognized in 2004 by the Air Force for the award of the Silver Star. Bruce Olmstead and John McKone were RB-47 crewmembers whose plane was shot down by the Soviets over international waters in the Barents Sea on July 1,1960. They were imprisoned in the infamous Lubyanka Prison in Moscow for six months and threatened with trial. Prime Minister Khrushchev then had the men

released in January 1961 as a goodwill gesture toward the newly-elected American President John F. Kennedy. A Soviet condition of that release was that the Americans would not “celebrate” the release.

Given the subsequent demise of the Soviet Union the time had come to properly reward these valiant crewmembers for their stalwart conduct while imprisoned.

Bruce Olmstead and John McKone are now retired on the East Coast and still attend 55th Reunions as do the widows of some of their other crewmembers who did not survive.

As George H.W. Bush said “The Cold War didn’t just end. It was won.”

**Rob Vaneker of the Netherlands passes along this colorful and insightful look of “The Wall: A Border Through Germany”**

[http://www.nato.int/nato\\_static/assets/pdf/nato\\_archives/20110803\\_expo-thewall-a-border-through-germany.pdf](http://www.nato.int/nato_static/assets/pdf/nato_archives/20110803_expo-thewall-a-border-through-germany.pdf)

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

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

### **DIARY OF A COLD WAR PATRIOT**



Thomas Bullock, a Cold War Patriot, has published his nonfiction eBook, *The Diary of a Cold War Patriot*; the book takes the reader on a fascinating journey through the United State’s nuclear weapons complex with a view from behind the curtain of secrecy that was prevalent for more than forty years during the Cold War. This book provides a unique, eyewitness, hands-on account of the nation’s weapons complex during those tumultuous times, and the nascent nuclear fuels industry.

The Cold War was fought not only by military personnel but also by a large contingent of dedicated patriots risking their own health and safety in the design, production and testing of nuclear weapons.

Since 1942 more than 700,000 Americans worked to maintain the nation’s nuclear deterrent. In the process, many contracted illnesses from radiation or toxic exposures. The Cold War Patriots were scientists, engineers and production workers at the far-flung United State’s weapon complex. Nuclear scientists at Los Alamos and Livermore designed the weapons; engineers, designers, construction workers, and production personnel designed, built and operated the facilities that made up the nuclear weapons complex. The book not only describes the challenges and dangers faced by the workers, it also portrays the arrogance of government agencies towards residents (Downwinders) in communities bordering the weapons facilities while hiding behind a veil of secrecy. It provides an intimate view of the woefully, inadequate approach to the managing the enormous volumes of radioactive waste generated during the production of nuclear weapons that requires massive efforts to safely mediate the glut of waste and restore the land for unlimited access.

**Available from Barnes&Noble and at Smashwords:**

<http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/84648> Contact: Thomas by email: [tpbullock@aol.com](mailto:tpbullock@aol.com)

## The Reagan Files

By Jason Saltoun-Ebin



*Ronald Reagan and his advisers wage a twilight struggle with a decaying Soviet Union—and each other—in this fascinating documentary history.*

-- *Kirkus Discovery Reviews* [Click here to read the entire Kirkus Review](#)

[www.thereaganfiles.com](http://www.thereaganfiles.com)

[Jasonebin@gmail.com](mailto:Jasonebin@gmail.com)

<http://twitter.com/TheReaganFiles>

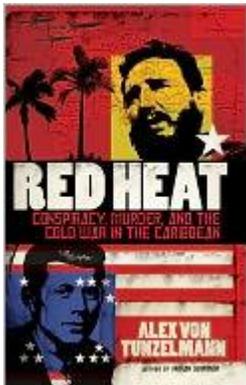
[http://web.me.com/jasonebin/The Reagan Files/The Reagan Files.html](http://web.me.com/jasonebin/The_Reagan_Files/The_Reagan_Files.html)

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## RED HEAT: CONSPIRACY, MURDER AND THE COLD WAR IN THE CARIBBEAN

By Alex Von Tunzelmann

Review by Frank DeBenedictis



It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that Fidel Castro brought the Cold War to the Caribbean. Some academics alternatively see 19<sup>th</sup> Century American imperial interests, south of the continental US, seminal for understanding US policy. They would still agree that other nations like Guatemala never measured up to Cuba under Fidel Castro, for its ability to wrack mayhem on US foreign policy. British historian Alex Von Tunzelmann, writes about the Caribbean in a Cold War context, even though she acknowledges, US involvement dating back to the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Von Tunzelmann's book *Red Heat: Conspiracy, Murder and the Cold War in the Caribbean* explain both periods. She justifies much of America's traditional repulsion against the idea of empire, and its European connotations. But she also shows American influence and interference in the support of brutal Caribbean dictatorships. Rafael Trujillo of the Dominican Republic, Haiti's Papa Doc Duvalier, and Cuba's Fulgenico Batista were instinctively anti-Communist, and additionally sought expansive American support. The corrupt dictators enriched and entrenched themselves in power, using American largess for living opulently, while stifling homegrown dissent.

When Fidel Castro's Cuban revolution reigned triumphant, change came. American Anti-Communism became more focused, as US foreign policy aggressively attempted to remove the rebellious Cuban leader. Cuba's growing ties to Communist bloc nations intensified Cold War concerns, eventually leading to a break in diplomatic relations with the US and culminating in the Bay of Pigs invasion of 1961 and the Cuban Missile Crisis a year later. For the Tunzelmann book, it became a somewhat muddled question, as she debates whether traditional US interests in the area, and Cold War anti-Communism were one in the same. But, more importantly, she sees Soviet involvement in Cuba, and particular Cuban Missile Crisis as a defining moment in the Caribbean Cold War. Yet this European author also points out that the Cuban Communist government did have diplomatic relations with Francisco Franco's Falangist Spain.

This book falls down in one of its defining areas, as it attempts to link the Cold War in the three Caribbean nations. Tunzelmann's writing style jumps from Cuba to Haiti to the Dominican Republic and then repeats this sequence again throughout the book. It does this, interestingly, without building a logical

relationship within the context of Communist insurrection. Haiti and the Dominican Republic were in no danger of going Communist. Cuba, however, was very much a player in the world wide Cold War. Castro had a desire to spread and aid other nations seeking socialist systems. But Tunzelmann can be misleading in her chronological island hopping, acknowledging the importance of Castro's revolution, but failing to show what it has to do with Haiti and the Dominican Republic. She successfully does something else in her narrative, which is to show why Trujillo and Duvalier were what I call instinctively anti-Communist. She writes about Trujillo's allowing Nazi spies to operate in the Dominican Republic prior to World War II. She similarly treats Papa Doc Duvalier—who ruled a nation under the threat of Vou Dou. In doing so, Tunzelmann brings a European perspective to this geographical region, while successfully seeing the relevance of anti-Communism. For just as fascism and communism were incompatible in Europe, and ended up going to war against each other, the Caribbean dictators also proved instinctively anti-Communist, and hostile toward their newfound Communist neighbor.

**Available at Barnes and Noble and Amazon**

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## **COLD WAR EVENTS, REQUESTS, AND RELATED ITEMS**

### **Calls for Papers**

#### **Adams - Collins Dissertation Prize**

The John A. Adams '71 Center  
For Military History and Strategic Analysis  
Department of History  
Virginia Military Institute  
Lexington, Virginia 24450

For the academic year 2012-13, the John A. Adams '71 Center for Military History and Strategic Analysis at the Virginia Military Institute will offer a grant to support dissertation research in the history of the U.S. military during the Cold War era. Entitled the Adams - Collins Dissertation Prize, the award of \$3000 recognizes the generosity of VMI alumni John A. Adams and George Collins, Jr., in furthering Cold War studies.

The inaugural winner of the Adams-Collins Dissertation Prize last year was Mr. Faith Tokatli of Istanbul, Turkey who is writing about "Turkish-American Military Cooperation and Transformation of Turkish Military in the Cold War, 1947-1954."

To be considered, eligible graduate students should submit a brief proposal delineating their doctoral research, its relevance to the U.S. military during the Cold War, a proposed time-line, and their credentials.

Deadline for submissions: 31 March 2012

Direct materials electronically to:

Dr. Jim Adams, Director

540-464-7447/7338; [adamsjl@vmi.edu](mailto:adamsjl@vmi.edu)

## 2012 Mutual Concerns of Air and Space Museums Conference

The dates for the 2012 Mutual Concerns of Air and Space Museums Conference will be Thursday, April 26 – Sunday April 29, 2012, with optional fieldtrips being planned for Monday, April 30 and Tuesday, May 1.

As discussed at the 2011 meeting, we are pleased to confirm that the 2012 conference will be based in Reston, Virginia with visits to the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center and the National Museum of the Marine Corps. General details and highlights about the conference can be found at <http://www.nasm.si.edu/getinvolved/mutualconcerns/?hp=m>

The Program Committee is bringing together a strong and well-rounded agenda that will feature many important topics to the air and space museum community, as well as highlight the meeting's restoration theme. We are also very excited about this year's location in the Reston Town Center, the guest rate extended by the Hyatt Regency Reston (details can be found at link above) and the opportunity to take the entire conference to the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

The full agenda, details on the fieldtrips and registration information will be on our site in January 2012. Registration will also open at that time. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thanks for your interest in Mutual Concerns.

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