List of CWM Presentation Series Events

(As of 5/2/22)

(For more information, please contact Jason Hall, jason@coldwar.org )

1. 11/6/16--Former Military Attaché at the Moscow Embassy Bruce Slawter, on being an eyewitness to the 1991 coup attempt against Gorbachev.
2. 1/22/17--Former U-2 pilot Chuck Wilson on flying the U-2.
3. 3/19/17--Former NSA and CIA Director Mike Hayden on the view from the top at both agencies.
4. 5/7/17--Former STASI prisoner Werner Juretzko, and Francis Gary Powers, Jr., the son of former KGB prisoner Francis Gary Powers, on being an East Bloc prisoner; with Chris Sturdevant.
5. 7/23/17--Former SR-71 Blackbird pilot Buz Carpenter on flying the SR-71.
6. 9/24/17--Former FBI and DIA interrogator Cal Carnes, on his personal knowledge of key US spies Robert Hanssen and Aldrich Ames, and his debriefing of many Soviet defectors.
7. 1/14/18--Former Special Forces Berlin member James Stejskal on his book *Special Forces Berlin*; he went on to be a field operator for the CIA for 25 years.
8. 3/18/18--Former intelligence analyst for State and CIA and former chief historian for the Spy Museum Mark Stout, on his new book *Spy Chiefs*, about the Cold War leaders of the US and British intelligence agencies.
9. 4/15/18--Former *New York Times* reporter Howard Blum on his new book *In the Enemy’s House*, about how an unorthodox FBI agent teamed with a genius codebreaker at Arlington Hall to out and bring down the Rosenbergs and their network.
10. 5/6/18--Former *Washington Post* reporter Liza Mundy on her new book *Code Girls*. US use of women in this area was a direct outgrowth of use of women for substantive code work at Bletchley Park.
11. 5/20/18—Ohio State University historian Mitch Lerner, a Cold War Korea expert, on his book *The Pueblo Incident: A Spy Ship and the Failure of American Foreign Policy.*  Lerner argues that the North Koreans were operating with a domestic agenda rather than serving a global Communist conspiracy, and that the U.S. misunderstanding of this amplified the crisis.
12. 6/17/18—Gettysburg College historian David Hadley, an expert on the CIA’s relations with the U.S. media during the Cold War, on his forthcoming book (mid-2019) on this subject.
13. 7/22/18—Former Deputy Chief Scientist at NSA Dr. John O’Hara on NSA’s technological innovations and their effects in the non-secret world.
14. 9/2/18—Dr. Julia Bailey, a Curator of the Victoria and Albert Museum and expert on Cold War propaganda art, presents on *Art of the Cold War: Diplomacy, Propaganda and Resistance*.
15. 9/16/18—Col. Barry Colassard (USMC, Ret.) on being an eyewitness to the Cuban Missile Crisis as a Marine officer sent in mid-Crisis with his men to face down the Russians and Cubans while guarding the perimeter at Guantanamo.
16. 11/4/18—Col. Jeff Caton (USAF, Ret.) on Inside Cheyenne Mountain—what it’s like and serving there just after the Cold War.
17. 1/20/19-- Former Deputy Chief Scientist at NSA Dr. John O’Hara on The Intelligence Community's Presence in Space during the Cold War.
18. 2/10/19—Former CIA analyst Aris Pappas, who debriefed Col. Ryszard Kuklinski after we extracted him and his family, on Kuklinski’s career as our greatest Warsaw Pact spy during the Cold War and what he was like as a person.
19. 3/3/19—Chris Sturdevant, head of the Museum’s Midwest Affiliate, on his new book about the effects of the Cold War in one midwestern state (Wisconsin). He is joined by Gene Eisman, the Museum’s expert on Soviet and US Cold War aircraft and author of *Epic Rivalry: Inside the Soviet and American Space Race,* on the US Space program.
20. 3/24/19—Capt. Jim Donovan, USN (Ret.) does a presentation on SOSUS, on which he worked. (As noted in Wikipedia, **SOSUS**, an acronym for sound surveillance system, is a chain of underwater listening posts located around the world in places such as the Atlantic Ocean near Greenland, Iceland and the United Kingdom—the GIUK gap—and at various locations in the Pacific Ocean.)
21. 4/14/19—Col. Charlie Simpson, USAF (Ret.) presents on what it was like to be part of the US missile command when US intercontinental missiles went on high alert during the Cuban Missile Crisis.
22. 5/12/10--Former U-2 Squadron Commander and Flight Instructor Chuck Wilson on flying the U-2. (This a revised, updated version of his 1/22/17 presentation, including information on how the U-2 is used in the present day for surveillance missions.)
23. 6/9/19--Gary Powers, Jr. does a presentation on his new book *Spy Pilot*, about his dad, famous U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers.
24. 7/14/19—Bruce Slawter repeats his Gorbachev coup presentation—see item 1.
25. 9/8/19—Rick Estberg on *Berlin Daze*, his memoir of life in military intelligence and then as a civilian NSA employee in Cold War Berlin.
26. 10/20/19—Lonnie Long and Gary Blackburn on *Unlikely Warriors*, their history of the Army Security Agency during the Cold War. (Lonnie was ASA, and Gary was Air Force Security Service.)
27. 11/3/19—Dr. Martin Nekola, a Czech historian of the early Cold War, on what life looked like for Cold War refugees from E. Europe who lived in Displaced Persons camps in the West.
28. 11/10/19—Jack Manclark on the Red Eagles, the Air Force pilots who flew MiG 21s as an opposition force against our pilots, using Soviet tactics. This was Operation Constant Peg, a Top Secret—Special Access program out of Tonopah Test Range near Area 51, and Jack was their Squadron Commander. [Tent. title: Being the Bad Guys: The Top Secret Red Eagles vs. US Pilots]
29. 12/8/19—Dave Bena, former navigator/bombardier on a A-6A Intruder who was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross for his bombing work in Laos and N. and S. Vietnam, will describe that experience. He’s now a retired Anglican Bishop.
30. 1/12/20—FBI Historian John Fox on Cold War counterintelligence by the US.
31. 1/26/20—Buz Carpenter repeats his Flying the SR-71 presentation-see item 5.
32. 2/9/20—Greg Nedved and Laura Murray, NSA China Experts and Historians, with Ken Allen, former USAF attaché in Beijing during Tiananmen, on Tiananmen Square events (30th anniversary) and their relationship to recent Hong Kong events.
33. 2/23/20—Steve Vogel presents on his recent book *Betrayal in Berlin*, about the Berlin Tunnel under the Soviet Embassy that tapped into Embassy communications and how it was betrayed even before its use by a mole in MI6.
34. 8/30/20—Ambassador Charles Ray on how Ambassadors work with their station chiefs and other intel professionals to provide accurate information at the local level and for State to inform U.S. diplomacy. POSTPONED; occurred on 8/30/20 in 100% virtual format on Zoom.
35. 9/27/20--Col. Hork Dimon (USAF, ret.) on the preparations for a secret 2nd Berlin Airlift during the 1961 Berlin Crisis. POSTPONED; occurred 9/27/20 in 100% virtual format on Zoom.
36. 10/21/20—Prof. Kevin Riehle of the National Intelligence University on Soviet defectors in WWII and the early Cold War, with a focus on the Cold War and discussion of what they were able to do for us. Zoom presentation.
37. 11/15/20—Prof. Volker Benkert of Arizona State University on Youth Behind the Wall: Socialization of East German Youth During the Cold War. What life was like growing up in the East Bloc. Zoom presentation.
38. 12/6/20—Jonna Mendez on her career at CIA with her husband Tony; disguise in intelligence work during the Cold War. Zoom presentation.
39. 1/17/21—NSA Historian David Hatch on VENONA—origins during WWII, critical importance in the early Cold War with respect to the Rosenbergs, the Cambridge Five, and others.
40. 2/7/21-- FBI Historian John Fox on Robert Hanssen, one of the damaging Soviet spies in U.S. history, including on how he was caught and what we learned from that.
41. 2/28/21—General Bob Parker (USAF, ret.) on what he saw as Director of Site Inspections for many of our Cold War Arms Control treaties and being in charge of all U.S. ICBMs.
42. 3/21/21—CIA Chief Historian David Robarge on CIA covert actions during the Cold War.
43. 4/11/21—Dr. Boria Sax on *Stealing Fire*, his book on a Cold War childhood in the U.S. where his father was an atomic spy for the Soviets who was NOT caught, and how he learned the truth as result of his documentary research much later. [https://smile.amazon.com/Stealing-Fire-Memoir-BoyhoodEspionage/dp/0915474131/ref=sr\_1\_1?dchild=1&keywords=stealing+fire%2Bboria+sax&qid=1610482468&sr=8-1](https://smile.amazon.com/Stealing-Fire-Memoir-BoyhoodEspionage/dp/0915474131/ref%3Dsr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=stealing+fire%2Bboria+sax&qid=1610482468&sr=8-1)
44. 5/16/21—Buz Carpenter on his most important Cold War SR-71 mission—a faster-than-a-speeding-bullet flight over the Middle East during a crisis that was ordered and monitored directly by the President.
45. 6/6/21—Chris Pocock, the world authority on the history of the U-2, from its Cold War origins to present day continuing operations—the story of one of the successful and adaptable airborne intelligence platforms ever created.
46. 6/27/21—Dori Jones Yang, former *Business Week* Hong Kong bureau chief for eight years in the 1980’s, on the effects of Deng’s radical economic changes in the 80’s that created the modern Chinese economic powerhouse. Fluent in Mandarin, she witnessed those changes on the ground in Hong Kong, Beijing, and elsewhere on the mainland.
47. 7/18/21—Olga Sheymov on *Tower of Secrets*, the story of how her husband, Victor Sheymov, a high-ranking KGB officer, became disenchanted with the Soviet system and started working for the West, with the two of them being exfiltrated as the KGB closed in.
48. 8/8/21--Col. Bud Traynor (USAF, Ret.), the pilot of the C-5A that crashed in South Vietnam during Operation Babylift, on that mission. Half the hydraulics and all controls to the tail surfaces failed at 23,000 ft.—with hundreds of Vietnamese orphans onboard. Astonishing courage, ingenuity, and teamwork saved most from certain death.
49. 8/29/21—Former USAF Generals David Deptula and Al Mink on the air war during Desert Storm, the last major conflict of the Cold War period—they oversaw the strategic and the operational sides respectively.
50. 9/19/21—TD Barnes on his new book on Area 51 as a CIA station. TD served with the Agency on special projects at Area 51.

1. 10/10/21—John Schell on his *Air Power History* article presenting and commenting on Soviet source information never published in English on the shoot-down of Francis Gary Powers on 5/1/60.
2. 10/24/21—Marvin Kalb on his time as a major Cold War Moscow correspondent for network TV, drawing from his recent book *Assignment Moscow.*
3. 11/7/21—Naval aviator and Vietnam veteran Don Stanton on how we got into and got out of the Vietnam War—a event he’s researched, taught, and lived.
4. 11/21/21—Pulitzer Prize-winning author Louis Menand on *The Free World,* his new book on the art and thought of the first part of the Cold War.
5. 12/12/21—Jim Goodall on the history of Lockheed’s Skunk Works in the Cold War.
6. 1/16/22—Don Smith on a neighborhood in Cold War Berlin that was caught between East and West, from his book *Steinstuecken: A Little Pocket of Freedom.*
7. 2/6/22—Aden Magee on his book on the history of the U.S. and Soviet Military Liaison Missions.
8. 2/27/22—Tom Scott on the Law and the Glomar Explorer—what the Glomar was, and what it did for CIA, then the legal case around it and the ongoing issue of getting a just result on the merits in a legal case when much of what’s at stake is classified.
9. 3/20/22—Brian Morra on the key facts about Able Archer, a Western military exercise that inadvertently almost led to nuclear war with the Soviets; how he as a historical novelist learned those facts for his recent novel *The Able Archers*; and how he crafted characters and a story that could engage while remaining true to those historical circumstances.
10. 4/10/22—John Ramirez, former CIA, on contacting intel agencies about UFOs during the Cold War.
11. 5/1/22—Chris Pocock, world authority on the U-2, on the Black Bats (Wikipedia: “**Black Bat Squadron** ([Chinese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traditional_Chinese_characters): 黑蝙蝠中隊; [pinyin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinyin): *hēi biānfú zhōngduì*), formally the **34th Squadron**, was a [squadron](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squadron_%28aviation%29) of [CIA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CIA) [reconnaissance plane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reconnaissance_plane) pilots and crew based in [Taiwan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taiwan) during the [Cold War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_War). Citizens of the [Republic of China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_of_China) flew missions over [mainland China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mainland_China) controlled by the [People's Republic of China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People%27s_Republic_of_China) (PRC) to drop agents and gather military signal intelligence around military sites.”)
12. 5/22/22—John Pomfret, on a key incident in the late Cold War period when help from Polish intelligence was critical during a Gulf War situation in the Middle East—drawing from his recent book *From Warsaw With Love.*

6/12/22—Ned Cummings on Briefing the Leaders—doing Top Secret briefings for heads of state, U.S. and otherwise. (PULLED FROM SCHEDULE; RELUCTANT TO DO ZOOM)

1. 7/10/22—Don Stanton on sub-chasing as a P-3 pilot in the Atlantic and Med.

7/31/22—Mark Nixon on the Great Seal bugging by the Sovs. (PULLED FROM SCHEDULE—FINE WITH ZOOM BUT ONLY WITH IN-PERSON AT SAME TIME).

1. 9/11/22—Andrew Krepinevich on Andrew Marshall, the first Director of the Office of Net Assessment at DoD, and the principal architect of the U.S.’s defense strategy for nuclear weapons under eight Presidents. He draws from *The Last Warrior,* his book on Marshall.
2. 10/9/22—U.S. Army LTC (Ret.) Dewey Browder on the crisis around the Soviet murder of Arthur Nicholson, the last casualty of the Cold War. Dewey was the Ass’t POLAD [foreign policy advisor to senior military] at HQ USAREUR [US Army—Europe] (1982-1986) and “worked the crisis day and night for a few weeks,” confronting the Soviets about Nicholson’s death.
3. 10/30/22-- Former Special Forces Berlin member James Stejskal on his book *Special Forces Berlin*; he went on to be a field operator for CIA for 25 years.
4. TENT—11/20/22--Understanding East Germany. Cold War Germany historian Sam Huneke of GMU on *The Lives of Others* (film), *Deutschland ’83* (TV mini-series), and other award-winning media depictions of East Germany during the Cold War—where they are historically accurate and where they aren’t.