



# Cold War Times®

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

Spring 2017

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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).*

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



## Letter from the Chairman

Charles Ray  
Chairman

We're well into 2017, and while I'd like this message to be one of all good news, honestly, I have good news, bad news, and a few challenges.

First, the good news. Thanks to the efforts of our executive director, Jason Hall, and his crew, private tours of the Museum (which generate income) are on the upswing, and the Museum presentations (which also generate revenue) have been well-attended over the past year.

On the bad news front, we are still far short of our fund-raising goal to enable the Museum to continue to provide the important service that it provides. We need more space for our growing collections, and economic realities also dictate that we find new quarters. A site at Vint Hill has been identified, fortunately not far from where we're presently located, but we need \$500,000 in order to renovate it to a level that would allow occupancy. To bring it up to world-class museum standards, we would need an additional \$500K to \$1 million—that, however, is not as pressing a need as the move-in money. We urgently need the support of our members and individual, corporate, and institutional donors if the Museum is to survive.

Which leads me to my challenges to you. First, I encourage each member to give generously to the Museum, and if you're not already a Founding Member, please join us. It's all tax deductible. Encourage your friends to give as well—and, while you're at it, encourage them to become members. If you know people in the corporate world, especially those working for defense industries that played a key role in the Cold War (aerospace, communications, etc.) give us their contact information, or encourage them to contact us. In addition to helping keep the Museum alive, they will have another venue to showcase their contributions to national security during the Cold War period.

May 2 is the Give Local Piedmont Campaign. Most of you will have received a notice and donations instructions from either Jason Hall or John Welch. This is the major local giving opportunity of the year in this area, and your contributions, along with the matching funds, are a huge shot in the arm. This year, we hope to exceed \$15,000 in donations, and with your help I'm sure we can.

Here's wishing each and every one of you a happy, prosperous year.

*Charles A. Ray*

Charles Ray  
Chairman, The Cold War Museum

## I. The Cold War Museum Operations Team – A Growing Corps of Volunteers Telling the Cold War Story:

- Jason Hall, Ph.D., CAE, Executive Director
- John DePerro, Chief Curator (Army)
- JP Feldman, Signals Intelligence Specialist (Navy)
- Brittany Fischer, Visitor Databases
- Bill Rinehart, Chief Exhibit Builder & Collections Lead (Air Force)
- Ben Crew, Imagery Intelligence
- Steve Roper, Assistant Curator
- Paul Schaya, Imagery Intelligence & Collections/Exhibits
- John Suter, Imagery Intelligence & Collections/Exhibits
- Gene Eisman, Director, Public Relations and *Cold War Times* contributor
- Chris Sturdevant, *Cold War Times* contributor and Chairman, Midwest Chapter (Air Force)
- Kevin Knapp, special events support
- Signals Intelligence Technology Specialist
- Stan Manvell, Chief Fabricator
- John Welch, membership records, website, newsletter, Board of Directors

Please join us in thanking these dedicated volunteers for investing their time, talent and treasure in The Cold War Museum. We are indebted to them and their families. Their continued support is vital to the stability and growth of The Cold War Museum.

## II. The Cold War Museum Collections – A Growing Body of Artifacts Telling the Cold War Story

**Here are some of the artifacts donated to the Museum since the Fall 2016 newsletter:**

- A variety of Soviet military uniform items
- Three photos relating to the Liberty incident
- An East German flag
- A model of Spandau prison
- Barbed wire and a portion of fence attachment from the Berlin wall
- A jacket from service on Crete by a member of the 6938<sup>th</sup>-6830<sup>th</sup> radio squadron
- Materials made by CIA for an agency presentation to honor the service of CIA medal winner Walter Szuminski and two others captured in Havana on mission and imprisoned at Isle of Pines in Cuba.
- A copy of *The Spygame Trilogy*

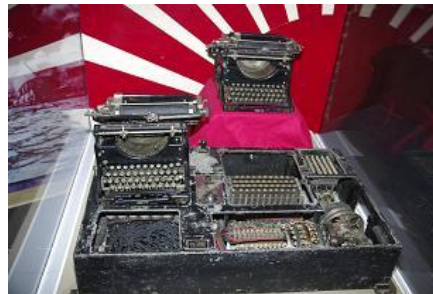
### III. The Cold War Museum Visits & Tours – Capturing and Telling New Perspectives on the Cold War

*Normally we use this space to report on visit and tours to The Cold War Museum. However, in this issue we're reporting on an exciting visit by Museum staff and volunteers to our colleague museums, the National Cryptologic Museum and the CIA Museum. We thought you'd like to know that we're doing our best to build these relationships in the museum world. By sharing information and loaning artifacts to kindred organizations, we're educating more people about the Cold War and strengthening our programs and theirs.*

On March 8, 2017, eight members of the CWM staff joined members of the CIA Museum staff for a special joint tour of the National Security Agency's National Cryptologic Museum at Fort Meade, MD. Our tour was led by Chief Curator Patrick Weadon, who gave us 1.5 packed hours covering the highlights of the Museum's collections.



Particularly noteworthy were the Enigma machine exhibit; the story of the cracking of the Japanese Red and Purple codes, the latter led by Frank Rowlett's team; Rowlett's design of the U.S.'s own electro-mechanical coding machine, SIGABA, which was such an improvement on Enigma that it was NEVER compromised; and a cast of the famous bugged Great Seal of the United States which provided information to the KGB for many years from the study of US Ambassador at his Moscow residence.



This is a great museum for anyone interested in the history of SIGINT and coding, and it's open to the public and free. It's located at Ft. Meade, MD, next to one of the NSA gates. You can get the current hours at the Museum's website: [www.nsa.gov/about/cryptologic-heritage/museum](http://www.nsa.gov/about/cryptologic-heritage/museum).



In an earlier tour – on December 2 – several Cold War Museum Board Members visited CIA Headquarters in Langley, VA for a private tour of the CIA Museum. The Museum is not open to the public; visits are by invitation only. It was an amazing experience for us all; our tour was conducted by the Museum’s Deputy Director for Collections.

After gaining admission to the CIA complex, we were permitted to park in the VIP lot in front of the oldest (dating to the 1960s) building in the CIA complex. This is the building with the CIA’s Great Seal embedded into the floor of the lobby and contains memorial plaques dedicated to CIA and OSS (the CIA’s predecessor agency, the Office of Strategic Services) personnel who died in service to the Nation. There is also a statue of Wild Bill Donovan, who started it all.

Some board members who arrived early observed the Air Force Chief of Staff and James Clapper, the then-director of National Intelligence (DNI), striding across the lobby.

The CIA Museum exhibits are incorporated along the corridors of the building, so the people we passed in the hallways were CIA, or “company,” folks.

These exhibits, among the many we saw, stood out:

- The actual scale model of bin Laden’s compound that the CIA built for Seal Team Six to guide their mission to kill Osama bin Laden in Pakistan in 2011, along with part of the life-size reproduction of that model used by the Seals to practice their assault. The exhibit includes an AK-47 believed to have been used personally by bin Laden.
- Specially commissioned, very dramatic paintings of various key agency operations, including an underwater -up view of the “Glomar Explorer” raising to the surface half of a sunken Soviet submarine from the ocean floor far below the surface in 1974. This mission yielded valuable intelligence information to the U.S.
- Outside the CIA building, a real A-12 CIA spy plane, precursor of what became the famous two-seat SR-71 Blackbird, mounted on a plinth, tilting, as if it were banking in flight.
- A series of framed original letters, signed by virtually all U.S. presidents since the CIA was created, thanking the agency for its service and achievements.

While photographs inside the CIA Museum are not permitted, you can view images of the collection at the Museum’s website:

[www.cia.gov/about-cia/cia-museum](http://www.cia.gov/about-cia/cia-museum)

#### IV. The Cold War Museum News & Events – Sharing the Cold War Story

##### 1. CWM Presentation Series – U-2 Pilot Chuck Wilson

Jan 22, 2017 Vint Hill, VA

The Cold War Museum and Vint Hill Winery hosted a special fundraising event featuring U-2 Pilot Chuck Wilson, who spoke on the history of the Cold War, the role of U-2 missions during the Cold War, the U-2 today, and what the U-2 is like to fly. The U-2 has the reputation for being the most difficult airplane in the world to fly. The funds raised are largely going to the not-profit Cold War Museum.



Remarkably, this event was “Sold Out” back on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Due to the large response, the winery opened the upstairs for view of the presentation. About 70 people packed the space. Members of the audience came from many backgrounds and disciplines including the Central Intelligence Agency, National Reconnaissance Office, National Security Agency and Office of Secretary of Defense. There were even a few Air Force “Graybeards.” The level of interest was high, as the audience engaged Wilson for more than three hours.



The area has a local tie in to the Cold War, as the site of the museum is a former Top Secret signals intelligence (SIGINT) base near Gainesville, VA. The museum is housed inside one of the Vint Hill Farm Station buildings that were in use during the Cold War by the United States Army, National Security Agency, and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Wilson, who is the Executive Director of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Occoquan, has diverse executive experience in Politico Military Affairs and National Security Policy, has piloted the U-2 on very sensitive missions around the world, plus commanded U-2 Squadrons at Taif Air Base, Saudi Arabia, and Osan Air Base, South Korea. Subsequent to his popular talk, Wilson became a Founding Member of The Cold War museum and a member of the Museum’s Board of Directors.



## 2. CWM Presentation Series – Michael Hayden

March 19, 2017, Vint Hill, VA

The Cold War Museum and Old Busthead Brewery hosted General Michael Hayden (USAF, Ret.). General Hayden spoke from his knowledge and perspective as a retired four star general, former director of the CIA, and former director of the NSA.



In this, the third address in CWM's Presentation Series, Hayden offered a talk titled: *CIA and NSA: A View from the Top*. Many of General Hayden's comments were connected to his recent New York Times-bestselling book *Playing to the Edge: American Intelligence in the Age of Terror*. A very knowledgeable and enthusiastic sellout audience of 132 followed the talk with interesting questions, which was to be expected, as many were retired CIA officers. General Hayden was very gracious throughout, including in fulfilling many requests for photos with him, and later signing copies of his book which he donated to the Museum. He also took the time to come briefly to the Museum, despite a need to get home to deal with a family concern, and said that he would visit again for fuller tour.



General Mike Hayden and  
Executive Director Jason Hall

Old Bust Head brewery, next door to the Museum, hosted this fundraising event for CWM on their production floor and provided great cooperation with us for it, including providing a \$7 ticket for credit towards their excellent draft beer as part of the event ticket. We expect to continue working with both the Vint Hill Winery and the brewery to host coming Presentation Series events.



### 3. Upcoming events in the CWM Presentation Series:

May 7, 2017, Vint Hill, VA

The Cold War Museum, in cooperation with Old Bust Head Brewing Company, invites you to attend a presentation by Werner Juretzko; Francis Gary Powers, Jr.; and Chris Sturdevant on:

*Stasi Prisoner, Soviet Prisoner: Former Prisoners Tell You What It Looked and Felt Like*

**Werner Juretzko** was a G-2 Intelligence Service operative for the U.S. Army arrested in 1955 by the KGB and STASI during an authorized military espionage mission in East Germany. He spent a month of brutal interrogations in the secret underground KGB interrogation prison, Berlin-Hohenschoenhausen. In a secret trial, he was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment. He served six years in maximum security prisons in East Germany until released in 1961. He is the author of many political and historical publications in various languages including his prison memoir *Years Without Hope* (Hertford, NC: Crossroad Press, 2012).

**Francis Gary Powers, Jr.** is the son of downed U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers and an expert on the life of his father, who served for 21 months in Soviet prisons before being released in a prisoner exchange in 1962. Gary Jr. was a Technical Advisor for the recent Steven Spielberg movie, *Bridge of Spies*, in which he has a cameo role. He will use letters from his father, other family records, and additional sources to provide his father's account, as much as possible in his father's own words from these written records. Powers will speak to his father's imprisonment, three months of interrogation in the KGB's Lubyanka Prison in Moscow and 18 additional months in Vladimir Central Prison, about 150 miles east of Moscow. Powers and Juretzko will compare and contrast the STASI and KGB imprisonment experiences. Gary is the co-author of *Letters from a Soviet Prison: The Personal Journal and Correspondence of CIA U-2 Pilot Francis Gary Powers*.

**Chris Sturdevant** is the head of the Midwest Chapter of the Cold War Museum in Wisconsin. He will talk briefly about the Midwest Chapter's activities and his Cold War legacy trips to North Korea and Chernobyl. He will present part of the U-2 camera that he has brought to the Museum as its latest artifact acquisition.

This is the fourth in a series of presentations sponsored by the Museum in cooperation the Old Bust Head Brewery and the Vint Hill Craft Winery featuring expert eyewitnesses to significant Cold War events and activities. The Juretzko-Powers-Sturdevant presentation will occur at the Old Bust Head Brewery, followed by special access to the Museum with a tour for event participants.

**Date:** Sunday, May 7th

**Time:** 2:00 PM (Arrival: 1:15-2:00 PM)

**Cost:** \$35 ([advance sales online](#)), \$45 at the door (limited seating)

**Location:** Old Bust Head Brewing Company, 7134 Farm Station Road, Vint Hill, VA 20187, <https://www.oldbusthead.com/>, and the Cold War Museum, 7142 Lineweaver Road, Vint Hill, VA 20187, [www.coldwar.org](http://www.coldwar.org).

[Click here for more information/tickets](#) or go to [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) and search for "Stasi Prisoner"

#### 4. Other Cold War Museum News:

- **Cold War Museum Receives Anonymous \$5000 Gift**

Cold War Museum Executive Director Jason Hall reports that the Museum recently received an anonymous gift of \$5,000. “We are extremely grateful for this contribution to our efforts to preserve and honor the history of the Cold War and those who served the country during this period.”

- **Number and Scale of Private Tours at the Museum is Growing Steadily, Supporting Our Operations**

In addition to the new Presentation Series noted above, private tours have been providing an increasing percentage of the Museum’s operating support over much of 2016 and to date in 2017. The Museum is free to the public on weekends for individuals and small family groups, and groups of active-duty military are always free—this is to maximize public exposure to our mission and encourage drop-ins on the weekends by families, including those with small children who might otherwise hesitate to enter. But the Museum also does a growing business in opening the Museum by special appointment on weekdays for arranged tours of as many as 90 people, often in direct cooperation with the Vint Hill Winery, Old Bust Head Brewery, and the Covert Café. In addition to getting their date and tour time of choice, groups get the Museum to themselves, and a tour customized to the group’s interests, often with more than one tour guide so that tours can operate on both Museum floors simultaneously. The Museum has been charging \$20/person for groups of 10 or less, and \$15/person for groups of 11+. These are often bus tours of 20-50 people, including retirees, students with their professors, former and current military and intelligence personnel, staff from related museums such as the CIA Museum and National Air & Space Museum, and employees from defense and intelligence-related businesses. We set a new record several weeks ago with three private tours in one week, totaling almost \$1,000 net for the Museum in earned income from that source alone.

- **Museum’s Storage for Collections Soon to Improve—But With Additional Costs Attached.**

The Museum has long need improved space and climate conditions for its collections in storage—which, due to continuing artifact donations to the Museum, must be an increasing percentage of our total holdings until we can move into the larger intended new home for the Museum (if we can raise the funds). We are delighted to announce that we will have that improved space, with excellent new electrical and HVAC service, within the next several months. With these needed improvements to protect our collections come new monthly operating costs, so we are trying to diversify and increase operating income from a variety of new sources. Nonetheless, as is the case with virtually all US museums, we must continue to rely on our members and friends to provide the core of our operating support, even as we try to increase support from earned income. If you would like to go beyond helping us with general operating support and would like to be recognized as a special supporter of our collections conservation and preservation efforts, please contact Executive Director Jason Hall ([jason@coldwar.org](mailto:jason@coldwar.org), 703-283-4124). We can’t tell the Cold War story without artifacts, so conserving those artifacts for future generations of Museum visitors is essential to mission fulfillment for us. Please consider investing in the preservation of this artifact heritage. We would be happy to honor those who help in this area with recognition in the Museum—or not if you chose to remain anonymous, like some of the people whose service we honor at the Museum.



## THE COLD WAR MUSEUM – MIDWEST CHAPTER

Chris Sturdevant and Werner Juretzko of The Cold War Museum Midwest Chapter will be joining Museum Founder and Board Chair Emeritus Francis Gary Powers, Jr. on May 7 for a presentation at The Cold War Museum. See page 9 for more information.

[Click here for more information/tickets](#) or go to [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) and search for “Stasi Prisoner”



Werner Juretzko in front of a Stasi cell door.

### **Midwest Chapter Contact**

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

Chris Sturdevant  
The Cold War Museum - Midwest Chapter  
PO Box 1112  
Waukesha, WI 53187-1112  
262-729-3601 voicemail  
csturdev@hotmail.com

## **The Cold War Museum Founding Members**

The Cold War Museum's Founding Members sustain our mission and ensure that our programs will endure to tell the Cold War story and remember those who sacrificed for our Freedom. We are grateful for their continued support:

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Raleigh, NC

Andy & Ruth Anderson  
Puyallup, WA

Ms. B.L. Lindley Anderson  
Huntsville, AL

Mr. Samuel Arnold  
Kutztown, PA

Mr. Donald G. Audette  
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Mr. Ken Austin  
Stafford, VA

Captain James F. Bard, Jr., USAF (Ret.)  
Westminster, MD

Mr. Douglas Barrett  
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Ms. Gayle Bartos-Pool  
Tujunga, CA

Mr. Stephen L. Bennett, Lt. Col., USAF (Ret.)  
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Mr. Richard L. Bernard  
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Mr. Ronald Bielen  
,

Mr. Michael S. Binder  
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Jeffersonton, VA

Mr. David W. Brown  
Warrenton, VA

Mrs. Gileen Brown  
Nokesville, VA

Mr. Jim Brown, Col., USA (Ret.)  
Fredricksburg, VA

Mr. Terry G. Brummond  
Chippewa Falls, WI

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Marshall, VA

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Sterling, VA

Frank and Jean Debrot  
Spotswood, VA

Mr. Fred Deitz  
Gainesville, VA

Major Bill Dennis, USAF (Ret.)  
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Vint Hill Station, VA

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Mr. Gil Steiner  
Warrenton, VA

Mr. Irv Stetter  
Cary, NC

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Milwaukee, WI

Bruce and Mary Summers  
Annandale, VA

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Delaplane, VA

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**Membership Form: [www.coldwar.org/membership-mb.asp](http://www.coldwar.org/membership-mb.asp)**

**To Join or ask questions email: [membership@coldwar.org](mailto:membership@coldwar.org)**

Membership contributions are deductible pursuant to Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Is Your Name Missing?**

Please contact John Welch with any concerns over your membership status:

[John.welch@coldwar.org](mailto:John.welch@coldwar.org)  
919-500-9383

## VETERANS ASSOCIATIONS, 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 a future issue.)

American Cold War Veterans: [www.americancoldwarvets.org](http://www.americancoldwarvets.org).

Buddies/Reunion (USAFSS) - [www.raymack.com/usaf/buddies.html](http://www.raymack.com/usaf/buddies.html)

The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration  
[http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/media\\_center/vwc\\_sitrep/](http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/media_center/vwc_sitrep/)

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

### Find These Facebook Pages of Interest:

The Cold War Museum (page) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/81117532053/>

The Cold War Museum (group) <https://www.facebook.com/The-Cold-War-Museum-108152349227027/>

American Cold War Veterans (group)

Chaumont US Memory (page)

### **Don't Miss The Cold War Museum On-Line Gift Shop!**



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## **COLD WAR NEWS, PUBLICATIONS and EVENTS**

(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.)

*The following article was written by Executive Director Jason Hall and published by the American Intelligence Journal in February, 2017 and is reproduced here with the author's permission:*

### **The Cold War Museum: Telling the History of the Vint Hill and Cold War Intelligence to the Public**

Synopsis: Vint Hill Farms Station, known as Listening Post #1 and the birthplace of the National Security Agency, was also one of the primary sources of Allied interception, decryption, and translation of coded Japanese signals during WWII, including the interception of the message that stimulated the creation of the famous WWII deception called the Ghost Army. It continued to play a key role in US signals intelligence (SIGINT) during the Cold War, and also processed much of the U-2, A-12, SR-71, and satellite imagery intelligence (IMINT) product of that era, only closing as an intelligence base in 1996. The Cold War Museum, located in one of the former SIGINT processing barns at Vint Hill, tells the Vint Hill story and also the story of Cold War SIGINT, IMINT, Berlin activities, Civil Defense, the development of advanced atomic weapons, Area 51, US military flying saucers, the East German secret police (STASI), the Liberty and Pueblo incidents, Soviet propaganda, the cultural and Olympic competitions between East and West, the Man Who Saved the World (Vasili Arkhipov) during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and much more. Telling the history around these topics to the general public creates challenges in terms of engaging and holding the attention of people who often have little personal experience or knowledge of that history. This article provides a brief background on Vint Hill itself, followed by a discussion and photos of some of the museum's most significant exhibit topics and artifacts. It concludes with coverage of some of the key ways the museum has found effective to date in helping increase public interest in the significance of Cold War history, particularly as it relates to SIGINT and IMINT, and in honoring the service of those who served professionally in Cold War activities.

## VINT HILL FARMS STATION: A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1942, a farmer at Vint Hill, which lies between Gainesville and Warrenton in what is now rolling horse farm country, invited a friend of his, an officer in the Army Signal Corps, to lunch at his farmhouse. The farmer was an amateur radio operator, and after lunch he showed his friend something interesting: that he could hear the taxi dispatchers in Berlin talking to their cabs on his ham radio set.

Shortly thereafter, in June 1942, the Army bought the farmer's land and that of some adjacent small farms and very quickly created the Vint Hill Farms Station, a Top Secret SIGINT facility at what turned out to be one of the four best places in the world to listen to radio signals. It became a large-scale antenna farm, taking advantage of very unusual geology that made the entire facility a giant underground antenna. Since Bletchley Park in Britain was already successfully decoding German signals, and the US had some urgent need to do the same with Japanese coded messages, the base became a full-service facility to intercept, decode, and translate such messages.

After WWII, the base first went to the Army Security Agency, then the Central Intelligence Agency, and eventually to the National Security Agency; Vint Hill, "Listening Post #1," was the place where NSA originated. The base actively produced intelligence product, both SIGINT and imagery processing, throughout the Cold War, finally decommissioning as a government facility in 1997.

Many of the buildings at the heart of Vint Hill are historic, with some, called the Barns, dating to before the arrival of the Army; these were the farm's barns where the Army retrofitted the interiors to serve SIGINT purposes but maintained the original exteriors. The Cold War Museum is in one of the Barns, while the Vint Hill Craft Winery now occupies the Barn that was the chief intercept facility, and the Covert Café occupies a third. Adjacent brick buildings were also built by the Army, and one of them still houses a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF). Another, renovated inside, houses Old Bust Head Brewing Company, a craft brewer. All of these entities are next door to each other.

## THE COLD WAR MUSEUM: USING ARTIFACTS TO CONVEY THE VINT HILL STORY AND KEY ELEMENTS OF COLD WAR HISTORY, WITH A FOCUS ON INTELLIGENCE.

History and Purpose of the Museum: The Cold War Museum was founded as an entity in 1996 by Francis Gary Powers, Jr., the son of the famous U-2 pilot, and John Welch. After the creation of a website ([www.coldwar.org](http://www.coldwar.org)) and the accumulation of collections, the Museum signed a lease with the Vint Hill Development Authority in December 2009 and opened its doors in a renovated facility in 2011 at Vint Hill. The Museum's collections are particularly strong on signals intelligence, image intelligence, aerial surveillance, civil defense, Berlin, the East German secret police (STASI), the Cuban Missile Crisis, and events such as the Pueblo and Liberty incidents.

The 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. Its specific mission is twofold: to assure that coming generations understand the significance of the Cold War, and to honor the service of those who served professionally in Cold War activities. The Museum is open Saturdays 11-4pm, Sundays 1-4pm, and by appointment. Weekend admission and the orientation tour are free, but we welcome donations; visits by appointment have a small fee.

The Museum's vision is to be the premier source of information and education for the general public about the Cold War and its significance, using multiple channels such as its website, its Presentation Series, the physical museum with its artifacts, and a distributed network of partner museums with related missions which would ultimately have a unified collection online. To realize this vision, the Museum intends in the future to move to a larger space, probably also within one of historic buildings at Vint Hill, which will allow it to present Cold War history more systematically and in greater depth, to collect more artifacts in subject areas such as human intelligence and proxy wars to allow it present in the full range of Cold War subjects, and to bring its Presentation Series into the Museum facility.

Presentations in that series, which began in Fall 2016, focus on eyewitness accounts by experts of key Cold War and Cold-War-related events. The sold-out first two were an eyewitness account by one of our Moscow embassy military attaches of the 1991 coup attempt against Gorbachev, and a description of what it takes to fly the U-2 (which we still use for surveillance) by a former U-2 Flight Instructor and Squadron Commander. The third, on March 19th, will be by General Michael Hayden and his wife (a former NSA staffer) on his time as Director of both NSA and CIA. On May 21<sup>st</sup> will be *Eyewitness As the Wall Falls: a Fateful Week in Berlin*; the presenter, Jim Gray, was an Army intelligence officer who was there for that week and observed the events. The fifth is set for July

23<sup>rd</sup>; Buz Carpenter, a former SR-71 pilot, will talk about flying that very difficult and exotic aircraft, the fastest AND highest-flying air-breathing piloted aircraft ever built. All of these events have a similar format to the Eventbrite posting for the Hayden presentation: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cia-nsa-a-view-from-the-top-tickets-31045844958> Those interested in being on the Museum's notification list for coming presentations can send a brief email to [jason@coldwar.org](mailto:jason@coldwar.org) expressing their interest.

### A Selection of Some of the Museum's Artifacts Used to Tell the Cold War Story.

- The Vint Hill Room. Museum tours typically start here, where we focus on the WWII history of Vint Hill and SIGINT. The photo below shows part of what is displayed in that room.



Topics covered in this part of the tour include:

- The discovery of the sensitivity of the site and the Army's creation of the SIGINT base.
- Explanation of how the site related to Bletchley Park and the process of intercept, decryption, and translation at Vint Hill, using WWII photos of aspects of the base in operation.
- A description of the most famous event in Vint Hill's WWII history, the interception of the detailed report to Tokyo of Japanese Ambassador to Berlin Baron Oshima on the order of battle (troops and fortifications) along the entire northern coast for France, and that was directly responsible for the creation of the famous Ghost Army, one of the great deceptions of WWII.
- How and why Vint Hill was the first place in the U. S. Army to provide opportunities for women to do more than routine clerical and cleaning tasks for women, using the WWII photograph visible above.



- Explanation of a photograph of soldiers cutting records at Vint Hill while in the background are 40 towers of complex technology far more expensive and sophisticated than is necessary for this task. (This leads to an explanation of what was really going on, as in making the SIGSALY system run at Vint Hill, how that was related to solving the problem of wartime coding of voice transmissions using an analogue to one-time pads, etc. See the website of the National Cryptologic Museum for an explanation of SIGSALY.)
- Discussion of the purpose-built surveillance receivers visible in the illustration, from the beginning of the Cold War with the Collins 390A, the standard for air, sea, and land interceptions from c. 1955-1975, to the end of the Cold War, with our 1989 Watkins-Johnson receiver (blue housing), tuned to intercept real-time Morse messages from contemporary amateur radio operators.
- Recounting the story we have from a former W-J employee of how 1972 W-J gear figured in the Watergate break-in, and how its misuse led to their capture. (We have recently confirmed this story via an independent source.)

Civil Defense. The tour typically continues in the larger adjacent main room on the first floor, where we show a small selection of our extensive Civil Defense collections. (When the DC Civil Defense Headquarters at former Lorton Prison closed, we were offered and took their entire contents, including their office equipment and all of their records along with a plan of the whole office, such that we could reconstruct if we had sufficient room in a larger building.)



Here we typically cover:

- The famous *Duck and Cover* movie that played in virtually every U.S. public elementary school in the 50's, teaching children how to assume the position in virtually any situation; we have running on a loop.
- Various pieces of Civil Defense equipment, including their Geiger counters, sirens, and dosimeters used in pocket protectors to test for radiation exposure. We usually tell another story here, which we have from an expert in this area when he visited the museum, that these were so inaccurate that if you saw any reading at all, you were probably close to death, and how such readings at places like Fukushima are taken with extremely sensitive electronic sensors.

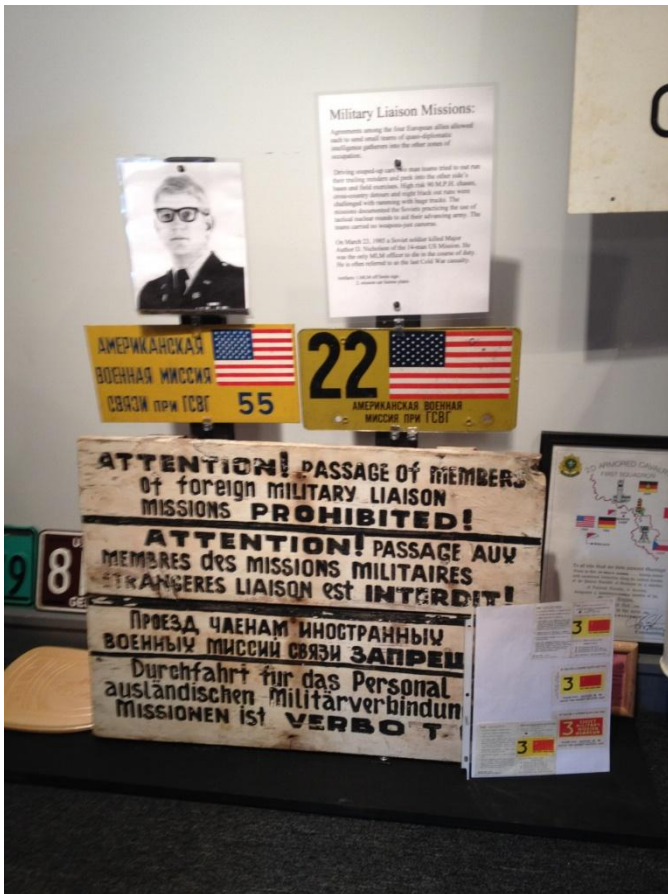
Soviet Anti-Aircraft Missiles and the U-2. The Museum owns an entire Soviet SA-2 missile—the first Soviet missile with the capability to successfully attack a U-2. For floor space reasons we are only able to display the missile’s booster in our current facility; the missile itself, which is about 34 feet long, is in its protective canister in our storage facility next door and is rented periodically to larger museums, including the American Museum of Energy and Science and COSI, for their exhibits. We own it because this was the type of missile that brought down U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers, and his son was one of the Museum’s founders. This is how it looked on display at COSI; we have room to exhibit the booster, which you can see at the far left of the illustration:



The Movie *Bridge of Spies* and Glieneke Bridge Itself. We run *Bridge of Spies* on a loop, both because we know from Francis Gary Powers, Jr., who was a Technical Advisor to the film, that it is an accurate account of the events with the exception of the few minor details, and because the Disney Company underwrote a fundraiser for the Museum at the Angelika Theater (VA suburbs of DC), where we had a leading U-2 pilot speaking on Powers and the U-2 prior to the showing the film (two days before it opened to the public), and Gary Powers, Jr. and his sister, as well as the granddaughter of James Donovan, speaking afterwards. In the audience, for recognition, was a former CIA officer who was actually on the Bridge for the exchange.



Berlin and Military Liaison Missions. The Museum has considerable holdings relating to East Germany and Berlin, including STASI artifacts. On the ground floor we display a large piece of the Wall, a variety of East German Border Patrol uniforms, and an actual Military Liaison Mission license plate and MLM sign in four languages. This allows us to tell the story of the Military Liaison Missions and of last casualty of the Cold War, Army Intelligence Major Arthur Nicholson.



Using these artifacts, we typically cover:

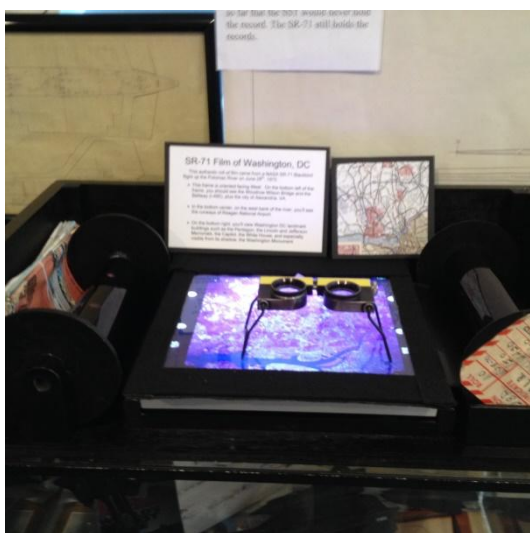
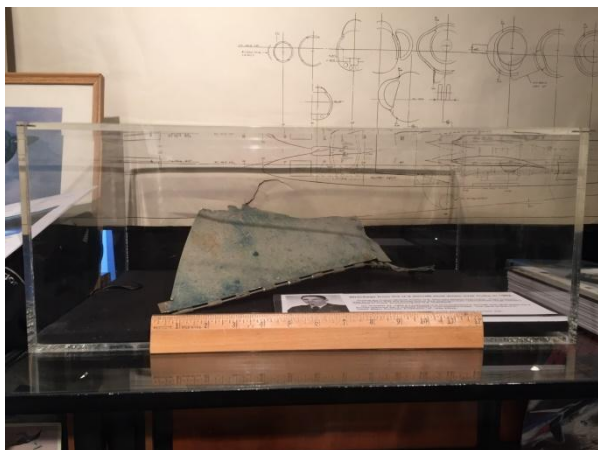
- What Military Liaison Missions were about—their ostensible reason, and how both sides used this opportunity.
- Major Nicholson’s amazing success at his real mission, which had true-life James Bond elements.
- The price he paid (summary execution) when he next crossed the border in March 1985.
- The larger significance of his death—representative of the many people who lost their lives performing their duty during the Cold War even when there was no “hot war” being fought.

Aerial Surveillance (both from aircraft and satellites) and Image Intelligence (IMINT). The Museum has



considerable collections relating to IMINT, including some extremely rare artifacts, such as film from an SR-71 Blackbird (one of the few rolls of unclassified film, from a training mission over DC) on display on a light table with a stereo viewer, and film that was in outer space on a Corona satellite, which is interpreted by a former career CIA IMINT analyst who explains what it was like to look down at Dolen Airfield every day to view the Bear strategic bombers. We have enough of the relevant artifacts to tell the IMINT story from the immediate post-WWII period through the development of the U-2 and SR-71 to problems around developing and securing the product from the Corona series, and how that differed from treatment of KH series product. We have too many exhibits in this subject area to show via pictures for this article, but here are examples of our coverage of the Privateer incident in the early Cold War period, a

fragment of the U-2 piloted by Major Rudolf Anderson that was shot down over Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis, our SR-71 film on display, and our Corona and later satellite coverage:



- In the Privateer exhibit photo, please note the black POW jacket that was given to the Museum by Mrs. Reynolds, the wife of the Privateer pilot (top row, middle photo) who, with his crew, was listed as Missing in Action but actually survived to live out his life in Soviet prison camps. Mrs. Reynolds visited the Museum, and we tell the story she told us of how, after many years of effort, she was finally able to get a response from Moscow once the Soviet Union fell, and what she found from the Soviet archives when she visited Moscow—wearing this jacket.
- With respect to the SR-71 film and story, our visiting friends from the CIA Museum have happily reminded us that the original aircraft made for the agency was the A-12, and that the SR-71 two-seater only came into being when USAF later insisted on its own version. To the extent time allows, we tell the amazing



stories of the technical problems overcome by Lockheed's Skunk Works in developing the U-2 and especially the A-12, drawing on our U-2 plans from Lockheed and Kelly Johnson's memoirs *Skunk Works*.

What is above covers some of the main exhibits on the Museum's first floor. The entire second floor has many additional exhibits. Some of the topics we cover using those artifacts include:

- Area 51: what didn't happen there (aliens and flying saucers) and what did (testing our most exotic aircraft like the U-2 and SR-71, and the USAF one-upping of the Navy's Fighter Weapons School with a Top Secret program using advanced MIGs secretly acquired from the Indonesians to fly against US pilots.)
- Where we actually DID build flying saucers, why they couldn't be produced by a US contractor or tested in the US, the extent to which they worked and didn't work and why, and how that ultimate failure actually was a success in advancing technologies we use today.
- The STASI and the total surveillance society they produced, eclipsing even KGB efforts in domestic surveillance, and the disinformation help they provided to the KGB to damage the reputation of the US in the Third World.
- The Liberty and Pueblo incidents, using an actual Liberty crew member's uniform, and the North Korean POW jacket worn by one of the Pueblo crew. In telling the Pueblo story, we draw the connection to the Walker family spying which at the time of the incident was not known, and the overwhelming damage the two together created to the security of our missile submarine fleet.
- Soviet propaganda posters for Russian domestic consumption.
- The Cold War at sea, SAC, missile technology, why the East Bloc used so many civilian as well as military medals, the Berlin Airlift and the Candy Bomber, Cold War toys for kids, etc.
- We usually conclude with our exhibit on Vasili Arkhipov, who has rightly been called The Man Who Saved World during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

#### ENGAGING THE PUBLIC: WHAT HAS WORKED FOR US

It's not difficult to arouse real enthusiasm for the museum from veterans of professional Cold War activities when they see what we have and the stories we can tell around those artifacts. Reaching people who have no experience of the atmosphere of threat that hung over life when there was a realistic possibility that nuclear weapons might be used is more of a challenge, especially with the coming generations.

We continue to learn what works and what doesn't in that area. Some of the more successful approaches we've found are:

1. Interactivity. Researchers have observed for a long time that children, especially younger children, learn best by interacting tangibly with their environment, especially when they are emotionally engaged, as in play. More recent research on adult learning shows quite a bit of similarity, especially with the out-of-school adult population. Thus explaining about the Cold War in ways that break up the stream of facts from the tour guide with questions, touching, viewing, etc. seems to work well. There are multiple ways we seen this approach work, including:
  - a. Via the artifacts. We have artifacts that literally amaze, without much explanation. The attention they provoke encourages curiosity, which we can usually satisfy with additional verbal information. An example: the Corona film, and the photos we have relating to its recovery in air.
  - b. Via proactively asking visitors questions. Saying to visitors that Vint Hill is one of the four best places in world to listen to radio signals (as it is) usually leads one or more to ask where the other ones are (as we did when first hearing this from an ASA expert), and why Vint Hill is so sensitive. When it doesn't, we ask visitors the question, and they engage with different ideas from different people. Then what we say about the nature of radio waves and the geology that produces this effect at Vint Hill tends to penetrate more.
  - c. Via spontaneous first-hand testimony both by other visitors in this group and by prior expert visitors where we can recount what they said. There is a shock value to such testimony that gets people's attention, and the providing of third-party credibility that draws more attention from that time on to what the Museum's staff says. Visitors can then ask questions directly to the experts who happen to be in the group, enhancing their learning experience. We see this quite a bit.
2. A focus on stories. Wherever possible we try to relate the artifacts to the stories of particular individuals to who used them, both to honor those people's service and to create a greater sense of reality. I know as someone both trained as an academic (Ph.D in Modern European History from University of Michigan) and working as an academic (part-time professor in the Masters in Public Administration program at George Mason University) that teaching in a museum environment is very different. Abstractions and systematic learning can and do work in a university environment, but that's not the case with informal learning. Most people of all ages respond much better to narratives, especially about real, individual people, and the more unusual the actions of those people, whether for good or evil, the more the attention.

So if you come to the Museum, you will see us again and again explaining the significance of the artifacts by talking about how particular, named individuals used them. Those people can't be there in front of visitors, but the objects that are part of their story ARE in front of them, so then the named people become more real, and in turn the artifacts now have more significance because of the roles in those people's lives.

Here are a few of the many ways that works:

- In the Vint Hill Room:
    - The farmer and his Army Signal Corps friend
    - Private Mudloff, who intercepted the Oshima message that led to the Ghost Army
    - Helen Weiss, one of the women who had significant jobs at Vint Hill, and how she was the first person in the U. S. to hear the Japanese message of surrender.
    - The use of W-J gear in the Watergate burglary, from a former W-J employee.
  - In the main ground floor room:
    - An expert on civil defense dosimeters and their flaws who told us about that when he visited the Museum.
    - Gary Powers, Jr. and his sister, James Donovan's granddaughter, Chuck Wilson (U-2 Flight Instructor), Joe Murphy (on the bridge at the exchange—people involved in the Powers exchange.
    - Major Nicholson's personal story as a way to explain about Military Liaison Missions and how one kind of HUMINT was gathered.
    - The first-hand account of Mrs. Reynolds about seeking the fate of her husband—also from when she visited the Museum.
    - Kelly Johnson's account of the creation of the U-2 and A-12/SR-71.
    - What kind of award pilots ACTUALLY got for successfully capturing a Corona canister, from two veterans of the Corona program who were Museum visitors.
    - There are many more examples relating to our second floor exhibits as well.
3. The credibility of our tour guides. With the exception of me, all of our tour guides have direct professional experience in Cold War activities on the military side, the intelligence side, or both. They add their own perspectives beyond the labeling to the learning process. There's a "horse's mouth" factor that tends to draw attention.

For more information, please see [www.coldwar.org](http://www.coldwar.org).



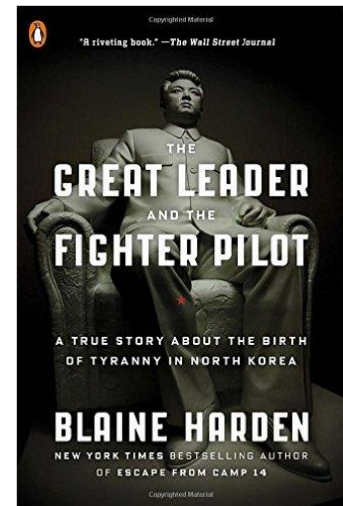
## COLD WAR PUBLICATIONS: BOOK REVIEW

By Eugene Eisman

*The Great Leader And The Fighter Pilot*, by Blaine Harden (VIKING; New York, 2015)

With a nuclear-armed North Korea and the highly unstable nature of its ruling family much in the news these days, this book is a most timely read. It offers fascinating details on the nature of the brutal family dynasty that has ruled North Korea for decades, now in its third generation. The regime is currently much in the news for its testing of nuclear weapons and the development of missiles to deliver them.

It tells the story of how, during the time of the first post-WWII leader of North Korea, Kim Il Sung, a young North Korean pilot defected in 1953 in a Soviet MiG-15, flying to South Korea. This bold act by No Kum Sok gave the U.S. the opportunity to fly and access the Mig-15, the primary opponent of the legendary U.S. Air Force F-86 Sabre jet in the world's first jet-to-jet dogfights over Korea during the war.



The MiG-15 he defected in is on display at National Museum of the U.S. Air Force in Dayton, OH. Today, No Kum Sok lives in the U.S., under a new name, in Florida.

###

## Cold War Museum Founder Francis Gary Powers Jr. Profiled by Northern Virginia Magazine

By Eugene Eisman

[An article in the January 2017 issue of Northern Virginia Magazine](#) profiles the life and struggles of Cold War Museum founder Francis Gary Powers, Jr., 51. The article's focus is on the younger Powers' efforts to learn as much as he could about his father, Francis Gary Powers. Powers was shot down over the-then Soviet Union, on May 1, 1960, while piloting an American U-2 spy plane on a photo reconnaissance mission at the height of the Cold War.

Powers survived ejection from his aircraft and was captured, imprisoned and later exchanged by the U.S. for Rudolf Abel, a convicted KGB spy. The U-2 shoot-down and the exchange, on a bridge connecting Potsdam with Berlin, was an iconic Cold War episode. The story was brought to the screen by Steven Spielberg in the 2015 film, *Bridge of Spies*.

Given his background and fascination with all things connected to the Cold War, he became a lifelong student of that epoch. At college, he spent countless hours in the school library looking for information on his father. This culminated with Powers joining John C. Welch in 1996 to start the Cold War Museum. He chaired the Museum until 2010, remaining as chairman emeritus.



## IN MEMORIAM

### Former U.S. Air Force MSGT JAMES D. FAHEY, WHO SUPPORTED 'OPERATION OVERFLIGHT,' DIES



Former U.S. Air Force CMSGT James D. Fahey, who supported Operation Overflight, the U.S. U-2 spy planes flights over the former Soviet Union during the Cold War, passed way in February, and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on Feb. 13, 2017. Mr. Fahey's parents visited the Cold War Museum in February.

Mr. Fahey is mentioned in *Operation Overflight: A Memoir of the U-2 Incident*, by Francis Gary Powers, which was republished in 2005, some 30 years after it originally appeared. In the book, Powers describes his May 1, 1960 recon mission over the then-Soviet Union: his shoot down by a Soviet ground-to-air missile, rigorous interrogation by the Soviet KGB, public trial, conviction for espionage, and sentencing to 10 years in jail. He was subsequently released in exchange for convicted Soviet spy Rudolph Abel in Potsdam, Germany.

Powers' son, Francis Gary Powers Jr., subsequently founded the Cold War Museum.

# # #

*We hope you will help us fill this space in future issues with your own stories – not to dwell on our losses but to celebrate our heroes and remind us that we're family.*

## TAIWAN MOURNS PASSING OF HEROIC PILOT WHO FLEW U-2 SPYPLANE MISSIONS OVER CHINA

Hua ‘Mike’ Hsi-chun, a dedicated Republic of China (Taiwan) fighter pilot, who flew U.S.-supplied U-2 spy planes over mainland China, died January 24, in Taiwan, at the age of 92. Hua, a graduate of the Republic of China Air Force Academy, studied in the U.S. in the 1960s, and obtained a Ph.D. from Perdue University’s School of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Between 1959 and 1971, 30 Taiwanese came to the U.S. to train to fly the U-2, including Hua, who ultimately retired as a 4-star general. President Eisenhower made the decision that it would be better to have Taiwanese pilots fly the U-2s over mainland China, rather than American pilots.

He also authored a book, *Lost Black Cats: Story of Two Captured Chinese U-2 Pilots* available on amazon.com and at Barnes & Noble bookstores.

Images from General Hua’s funeral:



## The Cold War Museum Founding Member Campaign

### Membership Levels:

**Basic Yearly Membership: \$25**

**Museum Friend: \$75**

**Museum Patron: \$150**

**Museum Benefactor: \$300**

**Museum Guardian: \$600**

**Freedom Circle: \$1,200**

### Sustaining Membership

Higher membership levels can be more affordable by making The Cold War Museum part of your monthly budget.

### Membership list and forms available at:

[www.coldwar.org/membership-mb.asp](http://www.coldwar.org/membership-mb.asp)

### Mission Statement:

The Cold War museum is 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 in 1992.

Help Tell the Story!

*Honoring Cold War Veterans...*

*It's one of the primary purposes of The Cold War Museum.*

*We intend to create a virtual Wall of Honor on the internet. A place to recognize and remember our heroes.*

*If you have suggestions on how to structure it or technical knowledge on how to build it, please contact John Welch at [john.welch@coldwar.org](mailto:john.welch@coldwar.org).*

Membership contributions are deductible pursuant to Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.