

The Cold War Times

The Newsletter of The Cold War Museum

Winter 2019/2020



Cold War Museum Board Elects New Chairman

Retired Air Force Senior Officer and former U-2 Pilot Charles P. Wilson elected to head the board of directors of The Cold War Museum. Wilson succeeds Ambassador Charles Ray, who served as chairman of the board for three years.

Charles P. “Chuck” Wilson has been elected Chairman, Board of Directors of The Cold War Museum (CWM). Wilson replaces US Ambassador Charles Ray, who had served as chairman for the past three years.

Chuck Wilson possesses diverse experience in politico-military affairs, national security policy, defense acquisition, and business development. Wilson is a retired Air Force Senior Officer, a former U-2 Pilot and U-2 Instructor Pilot, who held four commands (chief executive) at multiple operational levels. He served in key positions on the Joint Staff, in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and at the Department of State, where he led U.S. delegations to facilitate diplomatic arrangements for U.S. Forces to deploy Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. The assignment at State was a key position following the 9/11 attacks on the U.S.

Wilson retired from the Air Force to look after his parents and was a business executive with both Raytheon and L-3 Communications specializing in intelligence systems. He is currently a consultant with the Goyak Group.

Wilson has served as the elected commander and executive director of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) District 10, Virginia’s largest district with over 8,000 veteran and auxiliary members, and as past commander of VFW Post 7916 in Occoquan, Virginia. Additionally, Wilson was Chairman of the Potomac Region Veterans Council representing as many as 15,000 veterans in 25 veteran service organizations. In his spare time, Wilson is a docent and military aviation lecturer at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum. Wilson is also a frequent speaker and featured commentator on C-SPAN and the Smithsonian Channel’s “Air Warriors” program.

A rated Air Force Command Pilot, Wilson holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana University and a Master of Science Degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Staff College and the Air War College. As the 1997 National Defense Fellow, Wilson authored the book, *Strategic & Tactical Reconnaissance in the Near East*.

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Unlikely Warriors Presentation @ Old Bust Head Brewery



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Lonnie Long and Gary Blackburn

The Army Security Agency (ASA) and the War in Vietnam

20 October 2019

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The Cold War Times

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**Deadline for Spring issue:
30 March 2020**

To request publication guidelines, please contact the editor:

Joseph Felice

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CORRECTION:

In the summer issue of The Cold War Times, the name of book reviewer Yakir Lubowsky was spelled incorrectly as Yakir Lubowski. Our deepest apologies to Mr. Lubowsky for this unintended mistake.

Joe Felice, editor

Birgitte Tessier, production staff

Upcoming: New Book on the Pueblo Incident

Authors Bill Streifer & Irek Sabatov seek information

A new book on the Pueblo Incident is in the works. Authored by Bill Streifer (a researcher and independent scholar) and Irek Sabatov (a Russian journalist and former newspaper editor in Ufa, Russia), *The Pueblo Incident: In the Midst of the Cold War* emphasizes possible and well-documented Soviet involvement in the Pueblo Incident -- from before the incident began, through the Soviet naval response to the seizure of the Pueblo, to the Soviet role in U.S.-North Korean negotiations for the release of the crew.

In response to the North Korean seizure of the USS Pueblo on January 23, 1968, an armada of U.S. ships and aircraft carriers were sent into the Sea of Japan in a show-of-force known as Formation Star. Meanwhile, the Joint Chiefs of Staff directed the Pacific Command to deploy up to nine diesel and nuclear attack submarines to the Korean area for "surveillance and patrol...as early as practicable." In addition to the USS Ronquil, the following U.S. submarines were sent: Bonefish, Caiman, Flasher, Gudgeon, Queenfish, Segundo, and Swordfish. Unfortunately, the last two failed to complete their missions as originally planned.

In reaction to this armada of U.S. ships and subs (and in defense of North Korea, their Communist ally), the Soviet Pacific Fleet, commanded by the "strong-willed and competent" Admiral Nikolay Amel'ko, was transferred to full combat readiness. All available combat-capable surface warfare ships sailed into the sea. About 25 to 27 Soviet diesel and nuclear submarines were deployed into the depths of the Sea of Japan.

According to Captain I rank (Post Capitan) Aleksandr Samokhvalov (Ret.), a veteran Soviet submariner and participant, the Sea of Japan literally "boiled" from the propellers of warships and auxiliary vessels of the American and Soviet Pacific Fleet there. Underwater, while observing secrecy, Soviet submarines prowled about their areas in low-noise mode, while everyone on board waited for a signal to deploy their weapons.

Though this naval confrontation under the sea is now long forgotten, Samokhvalov said "the world stood on the brink of thermonuclear war."

The book's last chapter is an exposé on the U.S.-Soviet cooperative effort during the search-and-rescue operation following the North Korean downing of a U.S. Navy reconnaissance plane over the Sea of Japan in April 1969, four months after the crew of the Pueblo returned home.

Unlike other books on the topic, the upcoming book relies heavily on newly-declassified U.S. Navy, CIA, and NSA documents, and multiple Russian/Soviet sources, including interviews with former U.S. and Soviet naval officers and men, including submariners.

If you have any knowledge (first- or second-hand) concerning the U.S. submarines sent into the Sea of Japan following the seizure of the USS Pueblo, including the USS Ronquil (SS-396), please contact the American author (Bill Streifer) at bill.streifer@gmail.com.



Museum Staff

Jason Hall, Ph.D., CAE
Executive Director (Historian)

John DePerro, Chief Curator
(Army veteran)

Bill Rinehart, Collections Chief &
Chief Exhibit Builder
(Air Force veteran)

Paul Schaya, Imagery Intelligence
Collections/Exhibits
(CIA imagery veteran)

John Suter, Imagery Intelligence
Collections/Exhibits
(NRO imagery veteran)

Gene Eisman, Director
Public Relations
Cold War Times contributor

Chris Sturdevant, Chairman
Midwest Chapter
Cold War Times contributor
(Air Force veteran)

Kevin Knapp, Special Events Support
(Army Special Forces veteran)

[Name withheld], Signals Intelligence
Technology Specialist

Stan Manvell, Chief Fabricator
(construction industry)

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Birgitte Tessier, Registrar/Archivist
newsletter production

Mike Washvill, Full Tours Docent
Presentation Series staffing
electronics engineer
(Vint Hill Army veteran)

Bryan Zwanzig, Lead Staffer
Private Tour Arrangements &
Presentation Series staffing
(Vint Hill Army veteran)

Doug Harsha, Assistant Curator,
Civil Defense Expert,
Social Media Lead Staffer

John Welch, Board of Directors
Co-Founder of CWM
Membership Records, Website

Joseph Felice, Newsletter Editor



Center for Nonprofit Excellence Provides Guidance to Cold War Museum

The next steps to advance the mission of the CWM

By Jason Hall, Executive Director

The Center for Nonprofit Excellence, located in Warrenton, Virginia, near the Cold War Museum at Vint Hill, provides free, customized one-on-one advice by their experts to local nonprofits on the next steps they should consider to advance their institutions, given their current circumstances. The center is able to do this through funding from the PATH Foundation, a local health-oriented foundation.

As a first step in the process, CWM Executive Director Jason Hall gave a private tour of the museum to center staffer Jenn Sweigart and provided her with basic information about the museum budget as well as a copy of the current draft of the museum's business plan.

After studying the information and considering her tour, Sweigart was able to provide the museum with a number of good insights:

- ◆ Since the cadre of people with direct experience of the Cold War is aging out, the museum needs to consciously tap into the many present-day concerns with roots in the Cold War, such as disinformation campaigns, theft of intellectual property, etc. In many ways, we need to EXTEND the lifespan of interest in the Cold War.

- ◆ The museum needs to extend the reach of its programs into not just the schools, but also into local universities and government agencies like the FBI Academy by developing curriculum materials on the Cold War that they could use, for example a video or other item to be used on their websites, etc.

- ◆ Distance education could provide more revenue streams.

- ◆ More consciously reach and tap tourism potential—private tours for CIA, State Dept., defense contractors, etc.

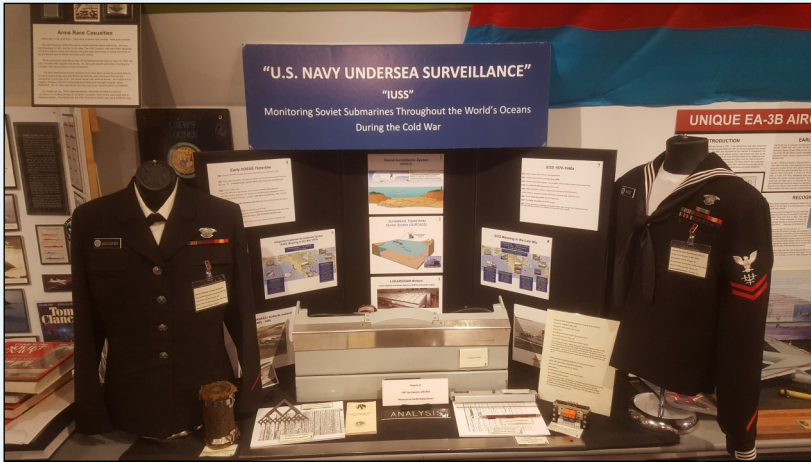
- ◆ Foreign travel—engage directly with travel companies that arrange tours for overseas visitors to the D.C. area—get CWM more on their radar.

- ◆ With the help of major military museums like the Marine Corps Museum, tap into the many military affinity groups in the DC area.

- ◆ Seek one of PATH Foundation's technical assistance grants to hire a contractor to upgrade the CWM website.

- ◆ Various specific suggestions for systematically researching the contacts of Board and staff members

We expect to continue to seek and apply advice from Jenn and other Center staff in a variety of areas, and to increase our attendance at training events on various aspects of nonprofit management.



New SOSUS Exhibit

By Jason Hall, Executive Director



By U.S. Navy - OPNAVINST 1020.5, Public Domain

During the period since our last newsletter, the Cold War Museum has received many more donated artifacts that are connected to key Cold War activities and events. Some of the most recent came to us last October from Jim Donovan, a former SOSUS Naval officer.

SOSUS stands for “Sound Surveillance System,” a passive acoustic system developed by the U.S. Navy to track Soviet submarines during the Cold War. It was implemented as a chain of underwater hydrophone arrays linked by cable, based on commercial telephone technology, to shore stations located around Western Atlantic Ocean and later also in the Pacific.

Prior to donating the artifacts to the museum, Jim Donovan gave a presentation on SOSUS at one of the sessions of the museum presentation series. Donovan served as part of a panel that included his wife, also a former SOSUS officer, and one of their SOSUS colleagues.

The new SOSUS display explains what SOSUS was and how it worked, complete with artifacts, photos, and labels. The museum thanks Jim Donovan for his generous donation of time and artifacts.

We have a few other displays like this, where the artifacts come to us along with explanatory materials created by the professionals who did this work, so that the artifacts are ready to educate as soon as we receive them. Our board and museum staff are extremely grateful to those who continue to provide these displays and for the many hours, and sometimes considerable expense, that they represent. No one can speak about these activities better than the people who engaged in them. As we say about our own museum staff, “The Real People Explaining the Real Things.”

From dairy farm to spy station:

This local winery has a secret past dating back to WWII

News of the Japanese surrender to end WWII was first heard at Vint Hill Winery, who named their signature red wine "Enigma" as a tribute to the encryption machine.

By Laura Geller

If you missed the February 2020 piece on WUSA9 on the Vint Hill Winery and the Cold War Museum, you can read the story by Laura Geller and see the news clip here:

<https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/history/northern-virginia-secret-code-monitoring-facility-now-a-winery-vint-hill/65-807cceb-d673-4bbd-b488-1e7d0fbc1912>



Cold War Museum Expands Scope of Presentation Series

CWM Member Support Ensures Success of Program

By Jason Hall, Executive Director

The Cold War Museum's Presentation Series featuring eyewitness and expert accounts of key Cold War events continues to be a success for the museum. The presentations, averaging an audience of 40 to 50 people, do three important things:

- ◆ Provide a key means of fulfilling our central mission of educating about the Cold War and its significance;
- ◆ Create an audio/visual record for future scholars of important eyewitness and other expert testimony, since we film all of these events; and
- ◆ Provide one of the most important of the museum's diverse income streams.

Thanks to the continuing support of our members, the museum has been able to mount six Presentation Series events since late summer:

7/14/19—Bruce Slawter, former USAF attaché at the Moscow Embassy, presented his eyewitness account of the 1991 Gorbachev coup attempt.

9/8/19—Rick Estberg presented on *Berlin Daze*, his memoir of life in military intelligence and as a civilian NSA employee in Cold War Berlin.

10/20/19—Lonnie Long and Gary Blackburn gave the highlights of *Unlikely Warriors*, their history of the Army Security Agency during the Cold War. (Lonnie was ASA, and Gary was Air Force Security Service.)

11/3/19—Dr. Martin Nekola, a Czech historian of the early Cold War, gave a presentation on what life looked like for Cold War refugees from Eastern Europe who lived in Displaced Persons camps in the West.

11/10/19—Col. Jack Manclark (USAF, ret.) talked about 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.

12/8/19—Dave Bena and Ray Burns, both former navigator/bombardiers on A-6A Intruders, presented on the Air War in the Vietnam War, including their experiences in A-6As. Dave is now a retired Anglican Bishop.

The museum currently has seven additional presentations on a variety of topics already posted on Eventbrite through the end of March 2020. Please click here to have a look at what your support makes possible: <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/va--centreville/cold-war-museum/?q=cold+war+museum&lc=1>.

And there's more to come! Two more presentations are scheduled, which means the Presentation Series is set through late June 2020. Details to follow later.



Upcoming Events

1/12/2020—**U.S. Counterintelligence in the Cold War: Its Successes and Failures, and Why.** Presentation by FBI Historian John F. Fox Jr. on what it took to find, catch, and convict expert spies during the Cold War.

01/26/2020—**Faster than a Speeding Bullet: Flying the SR-71 Blackbird.** Presentation by noted SR-71 pilot Col. Buz Carpenter (USAF, Ret.) who flew the SR-71 worldwide as an aircraft commander and later instructor pilot.

02/23/2020—**Betrayal in Berlin: The Berlin Tunnel and the Mole in MI6.** Presentation by former Washington Post reporter Steve Vogel on his new book, "Betrayal in Berlin."

03/08/2020—**The CIA's Covert Actions During the Cold War.** Presentation by Dr. David Robarge, CIA Chief Historian, on one of the perhaps most controversial and least understood functions of the CIA.

03/29/2020—**Ambassadors & Spies: How U.S. Ambassadors Deal with Intelligence Agencies.** Presentation by former CWM Chairman Charles Ray, who joined the diplomatic service in 1982 after retiring from a 20-year career in the U.S. Army.

All lectures in the Presentation Series start at 2 p.m. and take place at the Old Bust Head Brewery, adjacent to the museum.

Tickets to all events are available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/>

Private Tours of the Museum: An Important Part of Museum Income

By Jason Hall, Executive Director

Within the Cold War Museum's multiple income streams, the increasing number of private tours has been important in stabilizing our income from month to month. Here are some examples of the tours conducted by museum docents since the last newsletter:

8/1—Judy Lamana, head of the Fauquier History Coalition and a big fan of the museum, toured the facility with four of her family members and friends.

8/14—Private tour for six seniors, a result of the presentation by Executive Director Jason Hall at their retirement home.

8/24—Private tour for a dentist, her husband, and two friends. The dentist is part of the practice used by Executive Director Jason Hall. She liked the Museum so much that she persuaded the rest of the dentists in the practice and their assistants to arrange a private tour as a bonding event.

8/26—Private tour for Cindy Sharp, veteran.

9/17—Private tour for ten seniors from the Homewood Retirement Facility in Frederick, MD. (Note: we do a lot of repeat business with retirement homes).

10/4—Chief Curator John DePerro hosted a private tour for a staff group from the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO).

10/28—Special tour for Jenn Sweigert of the Center for Nonprofit Excellence (see p. 4)

Private Tours

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

Bryan A. Zwanzig

703-408-2039 || bryan.z@coldwar.org

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\$15/person for larger groups

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Carrying The Message

CWM Staff Talk about the Museum and the Cold War in the Local Community

By Jason Hall, *Executive Director*

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

Executive Director Jason Hall carries out many of the presentations to local groups and organizations. In August, Hall made a presentation to eight seniors at the Wellington (retirement home) in Gainesville, which resulted in a private tour for the residents and others that brought in several hundred dollars in fees to the museum. In September, Hall's presentation to the MENSA regional meeting drew more than 100 attendees with standing room only and seemed to generate a lot of interest in the museum. During the fall, Hall presented several talks about the museum, including at a Rotary meeting in Bethesda, at a men's breakfast at the Fairfax Presbyterian Church, and at a history camp event at George Mason University, where his session drew 40 of the 100 attendees.

Hall also gave a presentation in November on the history of Vint Hill to a group at the [Germanna Foundation](#) in Locust Grove, Virginia, south of Culpeper, carrying the message to an area at a good distance from the museum. The presentation included images of some of the museum's most important artifacts and resulted in a number of people afterwards engaging in conversation with Hall and expressing an interest in visiting the museum.

Executive Director Jason Hall works continually to connect with other local museums, institutions, and organizations to improve cooperation and exchange of ideas.

Jason Hall and museum staffer Mike Washvill set up a Cold War Museum exhibit at the [National Cryptologic Museum Foundation's](#) Annual Symposium in Maryland in October. One of the featured speakers at that event will be speaking at one the museum's upcoming Presentation Series events.

Mike Washvill is an electronics engineer, who served at Vint Hill when it was operational base. He and John DePerro, also on the museum staff, take a number of presentations to the local community, especially to audiences with a technical background, such as local ham radio operators. And to capture the interest of the youngest generation, Washvill and DePerro make several presentations year-round aimed at school-age children.

While attending an event representing the museum can result in signing-up a new speaker for the Lecture Series presentations, inviting a specific speaker to the Presentation Series may also result in the museum acquiring new artifacts. Recently the museum received items for a SOSUS exhibit (the Cold War underwater Sound Surveillance System used to track Soviet submarines) from former Presentation Series speaker Jim Donovan, Capt. USN (Ret.). **What else can we say?**

Together with CWM board member Pauline Thompson, Hall attended the Arts Fairfax Awards event in October and made nonprofit arts people in the Fairfax area more aware of the museum. Thompson is one of the most active board members helping to promote the museum and its mission, and together with Hall, she

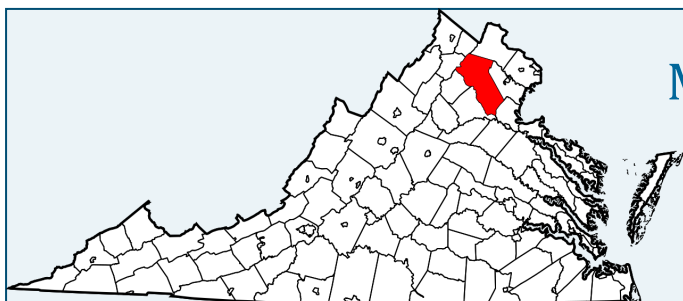
(Cont. p. 13)

(Carrying the Message cont. from p. 12)

attended the *Triumph of Liberty Conference and Gala Dinner* hosted by the [Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation](#) in November to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall.

Hall works continually to connect with other local museums and institutions to improve cooperation and exchange of ideas. At a September meeting, Hall met with the Director of the [Freedom Museum](#) in Manassas to discuss ways for the two institutions to support each other.

In September, Hall also attended a training session on fundraising organized by the local PATH Foundation (see p.), an event useful both for the excellent information from a fundraising expert and for the networking with other local nonprofits.



Museum Stays Active in Fauquier County History Coalition

By Jason Hall, Executive Director

Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/>

On the last Thursday of every month, representatives from a varied group of Fauquier County history organizations meet to share news from their institutions and ideas that have worked for them. Members include the Old Jail Museum in Warrenton, VA; various National Park Service sites; the City of Warrenton's Preservation Office; the Afro-American Historical Association of Fauquier County; the Weston historic house; and many others, as well as the Cold War Museum. That's because Fauquier County is unusually rich in historic sites and events, from Revolutionary War times through the Civil War to the present.

CWM staff have found these meetings very helpful for a variety of reasons, not least that with growing mutual trust and aid, as well as personal relationships, comes a greater potential for the group to act as one in advocating for the importance of private and public support, both in visitation and finances, for Fauquier's large number of history institutions.

Here are just one of the many highlights of the Coalition's meetings since our last newsletter:

One of the most interesting presentations at the last meeting of 2019 for this group came from five people from the Family Search project of the Mormon Church. They are in the business of digitizing vast quantities of genealogical and other historical records. They digitize a nonprofit's historical records FOR FREE, and the organization gets a digital copy of its records. They also have a special focus on the Commonwealth of Virginia, given its richness in historical records. They bring a crew to the site and train local volunteers how to do this as well. They said that "Our goal is to digitize as many records of Virginia as we can," and "Much of the work can be done on your home computers." You can also become an Affiliate of FamilySearch and get access to "everything we have."

We will be following up with the FamilySearch representatives, as the Museum has a lot of archives that are not indexed and exist only in originals and hard copies. If we can get them digitized, especially our complete papers from the DC Civil Defense Headquarters when they decommissioned, scholars will be able to word-search this material, get it in chronological order, and otherwise be set to write one or more Cold War books based on original research in these primary sources.

Read more about FamilySearch at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/home/about>

Book Review

By Gregory Johnson, *Cold War Times Contributor*



Rachel Yarnell Thompson: *Marshall: A Statesman Shaped in the Crucible of War*

Marshall: A Statesmen Shaped in the Crucible of War is a biography of Secretary of State George Marshall by Rachel Yarnell Thompson, a Marshall Scholar and Director of Special Projects at the George C. Marshall International Center in Leesburg, Virginia. This book is a detailed life of Marshall, demonstrating the critical role he played in the Allied victory in World War II, the Economic Recovery Program (i.e., The Marshall Plan), and the Cold War. It does this through clear factual demonstration. The reader sees that Marshall was at the center of and one of the key decision makers in several of the most consequential events of the twentieth century. The reader is left with no doubt about Marshall's historical significance. The story effectively merges facts from his life and his thoughts into a narrative of the momentous events of World War II and the early Cold War. The book reads much like a newspaper article. The text is full of factual detail reported without a great deal of elaboration, creating a compelling portrait of integrity and competence.

Marshall opens with a description of his childhood in Pennsylvania, his entrance into Virginia Military Institute, and his obtaining a commission in the Army after graduation. It follows him through the years as he rose through the ranks as an officer, his work with General John J. Pershing in World War I and his success in assisting the Meuse–Argonne offensive. It follows him through the interwar period where he tragically loses his first wife to illness and later remarries. It describes his lectures at The Army War College, instructing an enormous number of future World War II leaders. It follows him to his appointment as Chief of Staff of the Army on the very day World War II broke out in Europe. His “outstanding service” led to President Roosevelt giving him an indefinite extension in this position at the same time he became a Five-Star General. All of his major war activities are explained including his using American scientists to accompany U.S. troops and question scientists in Italy about how far Germany had advanced toward possession of atomic weapons. It also relates how Marshall cabled President Truman news of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

After a brief stint with the Red Cross after leaving the Army, he returns to government as Secretary of State, spearheading the Marshall Plan. This facilitated Western Europe's economic recovery with outstanding effectiveness and probably prevented Communist expansion into the region. After initially retiring in 1949, he is called back into service as Secretary of Defense a year later. He helps direct the Korean War and oversees Douglas MacArthur's dismissal. In 1951, he retires for good, living out his final years in Leesburg, Virginia, passing away in 1959.

One of the book's strengths is demonstrating Marshall to be a person of exemplary character. Throughout his entire life he is looked up to and trusted implicitly by people of all political persuasions. Seemingly above politics, he is the epitome of the military officer or civil servant who places ideals above partisanship or personal gain.

That this is more than mere inspiration is proved by so much U.S. history since Marshall's time. Starting with Lyndon Johnson's “credibility gap” and extending through Watergate, Iran-Contra, the Clinton Impeachment, and Trump's Impeachment Inquiry, we've seen repeatedly how poor ethics, or at least the appearance of poor ethics, undermines effective government. The accused official becomes distracted, unable to deal with anything but self-preservation. The affairs of state take a back seat to issues of integrity, while the press and public are absorbed by the unfolding scandal.

This isn't just relevant to U.S. Presidents or other powerful officeholders. These political scandals illustrate how important it is to calculate a person's trustworthiness when conducting any type of private or official business. Most people are constantly monitoring the social environment for threats and suspicions that a colleague or adversary is deceitful. Suspicions of dishonesty can destroy an otherwise productive working environment. Marshall's longstanding reputation enabled his political and administrative effectiveness.

Perhaps the strongest aspect of the book is its meticulous documentation. Every detail of Marshall's life is precisely laid out in over six hundred pages of text. Such thoroughness not only gives the reader a complete understanding of Marshall's life, it also limits the possibility of the development of revisionist historical accounts. The book's exhaustive detail prevents the reader from seriously entertaining the possibility, for example, that Marshall was really corrupt or that he was a mere figurehead without a real effect on events. Such natural suspicions are laid to rest by a vast amount of documentation.

If there is one weakness to the book it is a lack of historical context. The reader is left wondering how Marshall compares to other Secretaries of State, what would have happened if someone else had held the positions he occupied, whether Western Europe would have remained free without the Marshall Plan, and so on. While such questions may be definitively unanswerable, even a modest attempt to address them directly would have added substance to the book.

Finally, it should be pointed out that the book is a rare and fortunate combination of history and biography. Because Marshall was at the center of so many important events, any biography of him provides the reader with an understanding of a great deal of history. These include both World Wars, the interwar period, the Marshall Plan, the Red Scare, and the Cold War. So much history in a single biography is a rare find.

In conclusion, this is a thorough and impressive treatment of a crucial figure in the Cold War. While it suffers slightly from insufficient historical context, it effectively narrates the story of one of the founders of America's Cold War policies and it powerfully demonstrates the importance of character. *Marshall* is an important addition to any collection of books about the Cold War.

###

Editorial opinions expressed in book reviews are the opinions of the individual reviewers. Such opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the museum board or the editor and staff. The museum and the editor are not responsible for errors of fact or opinion. Proven errors of fact will be corrected.



The Cold War Times

The official newsletter of The Cold War Museum

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To request publication guidelines, please contact the editor.

Obituary

Frederic L. Pryor, 86

The Third Man in the 1962 Powers-Abel Prisoner Exchange

Frederic L. Pryor, age 86, died at his home in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania on 2 September 2019. Pryor was part of the American-Soviet prisoner exchange in 1962, when U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers was exchanged with convicted Soviet spy Rudolf Abel. At the time, Pryor was a 28-year-old graduate student who had been detained in East Berlin for nearly six months. The exchange of prisoners took place on the Glienicke Bridge between West Berlin and Potsdam, East Germany, a scene made famous in the 2015 Steven Spielberg film “Bridge of Spies.”

Frederic LeRoy Pryor was born in Owosso, Michigan, on 23 April 1933. His father was the wealthy owner of a manufacturing company, his mother a homemaker. He graduated in 1955 from Oberlin College in Ohio with a degree in chemistry, received a master’s degree in economics from Yale in 1957, and then spent much of his time in Europe studying for his doctorate.

In mid-August 1961, East German authorities closed off their half of the city of Berlin with barbed wire and concrete walls, a barricade quickly named the “Berlin Wall.” Less than two weeks later, Frederic Pryor drove to East Berlin on what he expected to be a final visit.

Working on completing his PhD dissertation in economics, Pryor had been going into Berlin to conduct research on the trade policies of the countries in the Communist bloc, to attend conferences and meet colleagues for almost two years. On 25 August, when Pryor entered Berlin for the last time, he intended to listen to a speech by East German leader Walter Ulbricht and deliver a copy of his dissertation to a professor who had helped with his research. He was also going to visit the sister of a friend. Unfortunately for Pryor, the friend’s sister was not at home. It turned out that the young woman had fled to the West and the STASI, the East German secret police, was staking out her apartment. Pryor was literally in the wrong place at the wrong time. When he came out of the apartment building, the STASI arrested Pryor and accused him of economic espionage after seeing his dissertation. He was taken to prison and interrogated up to ten hours a day for more than four months.

Meanwhile, the U.S. government was working to negotiate the release of Francis Gary Powers, whose U-2 plane had been shot down over the Soviet Union in 1960. In exchange, the U.S. would turn over Rudolf Abel, a British-born Soviet spy, who had been serving a prison sentence for espionage since 1957. Under pressure from the Soviet Union, the East German authorities agreed to release Pryor as part of the exchange deal. Pryor said at the time that he didn’t know about the Power-Abel switch until he crossed the border, and he never particularly enjoyed the attention that followed his release.

Shortly after Pryor’s return to the United States, Yale University conferred his PhD in 1962. Pryor taught at University of Michigan and worked in research at Yale before joining the faculty at Pennsylvania’s Swarthmore College in 1967. He published more than a dozen books and more than 100 scholarly papers, examining the economics of Eastern Europe, agriculture, and income inequality among other subjects. He retired in 1998.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, Dr. Pryor returned to the former East Germany, where he had a warm reunion with the attorney assigned to his case.

His wife of 44 years, economist Zora Prochazka, died in 2008. Survivors include a son, Daniel Pryor, of Washington, and three grandchildren.

Dr. Pryor seldom spoke of his Berlin experiences to his family or colleagues and said he was not consulted by Spielberg, the director of the “Bridge of Spies,” before the film was released. He had to buy a ticket and see it in the theater like everyone else.

Information extracted from the obituary of Frederic L. Pryor published in the Washington Post on 13 September 2019.



Mission Statement

The Cold War Museum is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to education, preservation, and research on the global, ideological, and political confrontations between East and West from the end of World War II to the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

The Three Main Goals of the Museum:

- ◇ Develop permanent Cold War museums to preserve local and regional Cold War history with the headquarters and national museum facility located in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.
- ◇ Erect Cold War memorials with the National Cold War Memorial located near Arlington National Cemetery to honor the men and women who were killed as part of Cold War events and activities.
- ◇ Establish a reference library and research center to help maintain the historical accuracy of the Cold War.

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(including all prior issues)
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