



# The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — Spring 2021



## The Passing of Elliot Deutsch – A Key Builder of the CDSG – January 14, 2021

Terry McGovern



The CDSG Board of Directors sadly advises the membership of the death of Elliot Deutsch, one of our earliest and most active members, on January 14, 2021, at the age of 87. Elliot, Member No. 39, served as chairman of the Board of Directors and as chairman of the CDSG Membership Committee, as well as serving as the organization's Secretary/Treasurer for many years. He attended 31 conferences and trips since 1986 and was a chairman of the 1996 Annual Conference to Harbor Defenses of the Delaware. The many members who met Elliot at conferences and trips will certainly remember his contributions, including his artillery punch, his sense of humor, and his cheerful personality. He was a former Ordnance Museum Foundation trustee, museum volunteer, and a member of the APG Centennial Celebration Association. He also played a pivotal role in the 1988-89 restoration of the 16-inch/50 MK III Mod 1 gun and its proof carriage, converted from an M1919 barbette carriage Mod. 1, that still rests on the former museum grounds. Elliot, who lived in Bel Air, Maryland, is survived by his widow, Elaine, and children Michael, Lydia, and Eric.



Elliot Deutsch, points to "The Big Gun" he helped restore and relocate on the grounds of the former U.S. Army Ordnance Museum. U.S. Army Photo by Yvonne Johnson, APG News

## CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

Please advise Terry McGovern of any additions or changes at [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

### 2021 FSG - CDSG Special Tour

August 21 - 29 and August 25 - September 3, 2021  
Sweden

Terry McGovern, [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

### 2021 CDSG Conference

October 12 - 17, 2021

Charleston/Savannah

Gary Alexander, [oozlefinch@att.net](mailto:oozlefinch@att.net)

### 2022 CDSG Conference

March 30 - April 3, 2022

New Orleans

Quentin Schillare, [qschillare@kc.rr.com](mailto:qschillare@kc.rr.com)

### 2023 CDSG Special Tour

September

Northern Poland

Terry McGovern, [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

### Other Meetings and Tours

June 7 - 11, 2021

Annual Congress Association Vauban

Rocheffort, France

Charles Rofort, [c.rofort@orange.fr](mailto:c.rofort@orange.fr)

September 11- 19, 2021

ECCOFORT Study Tour

Kotor/Montenegro

Hans-Rudolf Neumann, [hrv.neumannqt@online.de](mailto:hrv.neumannqt@online.de)

September 23 -27, 2021

Piemont - Val D'Aoste, Italy

Association Vauban Annual Congress

Charles Rofort, [c.rofort@orange.fr](mailto:c.rofort@orange.fr)

September 24 - 26, 2021

Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Festungforschung Annual Meeting

Wesel, Germany

Andres Kupka, [akupka@juelich.de](mailto:akupka@juelich.de)

October 12 - 15, 2021

Council on America's Military Past Annual Conference

Charleston

Bridget Hart, [brigethshea@hotmail.com](mailto:brigethshea@hotmail.com)

October 14 - 15, 2021

Luxemburg

International Fortress Council Annual Meeting

Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org

April 10 - 23, 2022

ECCOFORT Study Tour

Morocco

Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

May 29-30, 2022

Assn Saint-Maurice d' Etudes Militaires Tour

Ticino &amp; Lake Como

Pascal Bruchez, president@asmem.ch

June 2022

ECCOFORT Study Tour

Armenia

Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

September 2022

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting

Jülich, Germany

Andres Kupka, akupka@juelich.de

September 2023

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting

Kufstein, Austria

Andres Kupka, akupka@juelich.de

### Excerpts from “Curiosity Led to Restoration of ‘The Big Gun’” (April 27, 2017) by Yvonne Johnson, *APG News*:

Elliot Deutsch always liked dabbling in the unknown and said he blames his parents for his curious nature. Deutsch grew up in Stamford, CT, the son of parents who loved to travel. He remembers them as “amazingly inquisitive explorers who visited almost 100 countries.” For example, after reading about the discovery of King Tut’s tomb, his parents couldn’t rest until they received special non-archaeologist permission to visit the tomb, Deutsch said.

His aspirations were modest at first— he attended New York University after high school, majoring in dentistry— but he surrendered to inner yearnings and switched to mechanical engineering halfway through. Deutsch, who was enrolled in the school’s ROTC program, rather than traveling spent two summers taking additional army coursework.

#### Missile School

Deutsch became a research assistant for the Physics Department. He graduated in 1954, entered the army in 1955 and was stationed at Edgewood Arsenal. He was two years into his commitment when the NIKE battalion commander at Edgewood offered to send him to missile school at Fort Bliss, TX. “I was one of only two lieutenants in the class,” he said, “and the only one of the two with any missile experience, thanks to pre-school training at the Edgewood NIKE site.” “We learned everything there was to know about missiles, from fixing them to firing them,” he said.

Deutsch returned to Edgewood and was assigned to C Battery, 1st Battalion, 4th Artillery Regiment. The battery had two areas, radar control and missile launchers, about one-half mile apart. After six months, Deutsch was appointed battalion missile officer, responsible for day and night training of the battalion’s four batteries. “You had 15 minutes to perform simulated fire to perfection,” he said. “The computer would tell you if you had at least 95 percent perfection, and we had to report the results to the battalion commander the next morning.” Much of the training was due to the Russian Cold War threat to the U.S. At Fort Meade, Deutsch had \$70 million on his property book. He would inspect outlying radar sites in Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia, as well as personnel and equipment.

“Nobody had ICBMs yet, these were all antiaircraft,” he said. Because only two or three people, including himself, knew how to fire the AJAX missiles, they were constantly on call, he explained. They had to check in from every location they went to so the unit could reach them at all times. But the HERCULES put him out of a job. When NIKE-HERCULES missiles replaced the NIKE-AJAX, “Edgewood was the 1st Battery of the Baltimore-Washington defense converted to HERCULES,” he said. “They really didn’t need me anymore,” he said, adding that he eventually became executive officer of Headquarters Battery, 35th Artillery Brigade, at Fort Meade. “This all happened between Korea and Vietnam,” Deutsch said. “Promotions were pretty slow and there was no real incentive to stay in.”

#### Transition to civilian life

Deutsch left the army in late 1960 and took a job as an engineer with defense contractor Westinghouse at BWI Airport. He had friends in Bel Air, where he and his wife found a home and settled. Deutsch moved on to Bendix just before the government canceled its contract, and after much searching found a position as a mechanical engineer with the U.S. Postal Service in Washington, D.C. “It was working on parcel sorting equipment,” he said. “These were some of the biggest multi-story buildings you ever saw with conveyors going in all directions.”

Soon, a thought that had been brewing in his mind took root, and he decided to act on it. A friend who rented tools on weekends gave him the idea and he wrote up a proposal, showed it to a lawyer friend, and the rest is history. Deutsch opened Harford Rental Service, Inc. in 1966 and two of his children operated the family-owned business. (Ed. note-Hartford Rental Service was sold to Sunbelt Rentals, a national rental chain, in 2021).

#### Tracking down the 16-inch gun

He still loved to travel and on visiting an army post while vacationing in Hawaii, he came across a book about coast artillery. He had visited forts and castles around the country and overseas. When he returned home, his curiosity continued and during trips to Forts Eustis and Monroe in Virginia, he expressed interest in seeing a 16-inch gun – at Aberdeen Proving Ground.



CDSG Balt-Wash Conference visit with Elliot's 16-inch gun on April 2, 2009.  
Elliot (in his signature red shirt) and Elaine are surrounded by CDSG members.

It was during these inquiries he learned about the Coast Defense Study Group, a non-profit organization that promotes the study of coast defenses and fortifications. He joined the group and remains a key member today.

The US 16-Inch Gun, Mark III Mod 1, Number 138, was originally intended for use on battleships that were never built. It is the largest surviving U.S. Army gun and was placed at Aberdeen Proving Ground for testing. It came to symbolize the US Ordnance Corps and today represents APG and, for many, the installation's centennial celebration. For many years, however, "The Big Gun" sat abandoned and deteriorating on an APG "Plate" test range.

#### Restoring 'The Big Gun' at APG

A well-known engineer and a professional with tools, Deutsch was recruited by Capt. Lawrence Lentz and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael D'Antonio to help relocate and restore the one-of-a-kind artifact from the restricted range to a public area.

"The barrel alone weighed 150 tons," he said, adding that 300 tons of pulling power was needed just to slide the gun barrel out of the mount. He said they had to "blast it loose" from its concrete pad. Then-Congresswoman Helen Bentley learned about the project and joined the effort," Deutsch said. "That's when the post commander put his weight behind it and assigned officers and teams to the project," Deutsch said. The restoration took 14 months and Deutsch said it seemed the gun was on his mind night and day until it was finally relocated and anchored in its current resting place. "It's a treasure – a wonderful treasure and

the last of its kind," he said. "That whole operation was a labor of love and the most fun I ever had in my life."

Nothing he has done or will ever do, however, compares to the 16-inch gun project, a memory he said he'll always treasure. "Sometimes, something can mean so much to you, you don't even care if it means you die doing it," he said. "I would not have minded dying doing that." Deutsch was commended by numerous politicians and historical groups for his role in the restoration and relocation of the gun. The story was even translated into German and appears in the book *The Adolf Guns*, by Harald Isachsen.

He joined the Ordnance Museum Foundation at the invitation of former Ordnance Museum director Dr. Jack Atwater and volunteered several hours a week at the museum. He is now the longest-serving member, and his dream is to see another museum established. "I have so much personal stuff, anything I don't want I'm going to donate to our future museum off post in Aberdeen," he said.

Deutsch says he enjoys serving on the APG Centennial Celebration Association, just as he enjoyed the Ordnance Museum Foundation—which has been renamed the Aberdeen Military Museum Foundation—where he served as secretary, treasurer, and vice-chair, and on which his wife serves as a trustee.

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**CDSG Fund Report 2020**

Terrance McGovern, Trustee

The 2020 CDSG Fund year closed with a record amount contributed by members, a total of \$9,532 to this important aspect of Coast Defense Study Group operations. Donations to the CDSG Fund have grown by 59% over the past five years. The fund supports grants to worthy organizations engaged in technical research, documentation, education, and preservation of historic seacoast defense artifacts and structures. It serves to enhance the accurate interpretation and understanding of an important part of American military history.

The CDSG Fund supports the efforts of the Coast Defense Study Group, Inc., by raising funds for preservation and interpretation of American seacoast defenses. The fund is seeking donations for projects that support these goals. Donations are tax-deductible for federal tax purposes as the CDSG is a 501(c)(3) organization, and 100% of your gift will go to our project grants. Major contributions are acknowledged annually. You can use our website (via PayPal) to make donations or you can send checks payable in US funds to the CDSG Fund at the address below. The trustees for the fund for 2020 were Terry McGovern, Mark Berhow, and Quintin Schillare.

The fund is always seeking proposals for the monetary support of preservation and interpretation projects at former coast defense sites and museums. A one-page proposal briefly describing the site, the organization doing the work, and the proposed work or outcome should be sent to the address below. Successful proposals are usually distinct projects rather than general requests for donations. Ideally, we desire to fund several \$1,000 to \$3,000 grants per year. Upon conclusion of a project a short report suitable for publication in the *CDSG Newsletter* is required as part of the grant.

During 2020, the fund made one grant during the year, granting \$3,000 to the Fort Monroe Foundation for interpretive signs at Battery Parrott and Battery Irwin per the request from the Fort Monroe Authority (FMA). Please see the February 2020 *CDSG Newsletter* for a story on these signs. While not a fund grant itself, we transferred \$2,000 donated by members to help fund the restoration of the solar lighting system on the Eternal Flame of Freedom monument at the Pacific War Memorial on Corregidor in August 2020. See the May 2020 *CDSG Newsletter* for story.

The CDSG Fund still has a 16-inch/50 battleship barrel Trustee's Challenge outstanding for the USS *Iowa* Veterans Association, and based on our members restricted giving so far, we have met the challenge (so along with the CDSG Fund matching), the fund has earmarked \$10,000 for this effort to provide the last of these historic barrels a "good home" at JEB Fort Story, next to the Old Cape Henry Lighthouse and within 500 yards of Battery Ketcham (2-16in BC). We also still have grant funds on hand (up to \$2,500) for the clean-up of Battery Guenther at Fort Canby.

While we have heard about possible grant requests from various former forts during the year, we request our membership, especially our CDSG Reps, to reach out to organizations that are working to preserve and interpret coast defense sites to send

use written requests for funding. Some of the possible projects discussed, but with no formal requests made so far, are for WW2 fire control tower stabilization at Fort Michie, historic signage at Pulpit Rock Fire Control Tower, stabilization of the last standing WW2 Battery Commander's Tower at Fort Wool, movement of 12-inch M1895 barrel from "Bottomside" on Corregidor to Battery Parrott at Fort Monroe, and historic signage at Appledore Island's WW2 fire control tower in New Hampshire.

The fund did not recognize the efforts of CDSG volunteers by hosting a dinner at our annual conference to the harbor defenses of New Orleans as that conference was postponed to 2022. We also continued a program to supply public fort sites with copies of our publications to aid their understanding and preservation of the structures in their care.

The CDSG Fund received \$9,532 in donations during 2020 while making \$3,000 in grants plus a \$2,000 transfer, leaving the fund with a balance of \$27,947 at the end of 2020. The outstanding commitments for grants are \$12,500, so we have \$15,447 that is not currently committed to CDSG-funded projects at the end of 2020.

The Fund Trustees and Board of Directors wish to publicly thank the following individuals for making contributions to the fund during 2020:

Barnhouse, Nelson	Minter, John
Berhow, Mark	McGovern, Terry
Binau, Douglas	Mycek, Jonathan
Bogart, Charles	Nangano, Mike
Case, John	Nickerson, Eric
Crone, Tina	Olasky, Larry
Drennon, Clarence	Page, David
Duchesneau, Robert	Panayotoff, Ted
Everett, Bart	Percy, Peter
Fanciullo, Stephen	Perreault, Mark
Fiorini, Mike	Piper, William
Floyd, Dale	Prostak, Jonathan
Fritz, Karl	Pugh, Kevin
Frey, Michael	Rollings, Raymond
Frizzell, Glenn	Scanlon, Gene
Grimm, Robert	Scarpula, Norm
Hansen, Dave	Schillare, Quent
Hardey, Alan	Seeger, Mark
Heinze, Marv	Sella, Joseph
Hunter, Gary	Vaitkunas, James
Kirchner, Dave	Vandiver, E.B. III
Kocsur, Joseph	Walk, Bob
Kurtz, Richard	Walk, Angie
Larsen, David	Williford, Glen
Lindley, Daniel	Wolf, Gregory
Lowenthal, William	Woodman, Charles
Maier, Renny	Amazon Smiles Program

Send donations to (and made out to):

CDSG Fund c/o Quentin Schillare  
24624 West 96<sup>th</sup> Street, Lenexa, KS 66227-7285 USA  
qschillare@kc.rr.com

Or use your credit card via PayPal on the cdsd.org website.



Send grant requests to:

CDSG Fund c/o Terry McGovern  
1700 Oak Lane, McLean, VA 22101-3326 USA  
tcmcgovern@att.net

Please prepare a written request of your need and how your request relates to the goals of the CDSG.

*Please note that the CDSG Fund has become a member of Amazon Smile donation program where Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of your transactions through Amazon, if you indicate on your Amazon account that you want the Coast Defense Study Group to receive these amounts. Please make sure to make the CDSG your charity of choice as this program should generate considerable amount of funding for the CDSG Fund if all of our members sign up*

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## Coast Defense Study Group Press 2020 Annual Report

Terrance McGovern, Chairman

### 2020 Reviewed

The CDSG Press and ePress only exists because of the volunteer efforts of its committee members. We need to thank all current the members of the CDSG Press - Mark Berhow, Terry McGovern, Jon Prostack, Tom Kavanagh, and Tom Batha, for their long-term volunteer work for our organization.

### CDSG ePress

We have added "Volume 34" (2020) of the *Coast Defense Journal* with the *CDSG Newsletter* to our list of back issues. This volume is only available via USB or a download containing our entire *Journal/News* collection, which represents over 14,000 pages of coast defense articles for only \$55. Once you purchase the CDSG Publications 1985-2020, you can get yearly updates. Our coast defense document collections, known collectively as "HD Records" (such as RCWs, Engineer Notes, Quartermaster documents, and Annexes) is also available under our CDSG ePress label in PDF format (see references page at our web site.). The complete collection of these digital files is available for \$250. These USB/downloads are a digital collection of key National Archives coast defense documents. These are great reference items and can help you write articles for our *CD Journal*. Single harbor defenses collection of these documents is also available at the cost of \$50. A companion digital product is our CDSG Documents USB/download with a great collection of key coast artillery reports and manuals for only \$50.

### CDSG Gear

While actually part of our Membership Committee activities, the CDSG Press handles the distribution of CDSG gear, such as T-Shirts (\$18), patches (\$4), and hats (\$20). Please purchase these items so you promote the CDSG to others and help our membership grow.

### CDSG Press

Traditional printing of hundreds or thousands of copies of books and storing them in warehouses to be mailed to purchasers

has greatly diminished in the publishing world with the advent of "print-on-demand" (POD) services. The CDSG Press has migrated to "print-on-demand" as well, allowing us to reduce upfront payments and eliminate almost all storage requirements. The impact on the printing industry has been so great that the printing company that CDSG Press used for many years has gone out business. We only have our legacy reprints still in inventory and as these titles sell out, we are switching to "print-on-demand."

Here is a summary of legacy reprint efforts to date: We have sold a total press run of 376 copies (100%) of our 1994 reprint book, *Notes on Seacoast Fortification Construction*. We have several "reserve" copies that we are selling, but we need to decide whether we will create a POD version. Our 1996 reprint book, *Seacoast Artillery Weapons*, has sold the press run of 471 copies (100%). We have gone ahead and created a POD version which is available today for sale. Our 1997 reprint, *Service of Coast Artillery* has sold 360 units (68%) out of 532 printed, leaving 172 copies on hand. Our 1998 reprint book, *Permanent Fortification and Seacoast Defenses* which covers the Third System of U.S. fortifications has sold 186 units (54%) out of a press run of 344, leaving 158 copies on hand. Our 2001 reprint project, *American Coast Artillery Material* has sold 280 copies (69%) to date, out of 404 books printed, leaving 124 copies on hand. Our 2007 project, *Endicott-Taft Report* has sold 250 books/plates (59%) to date out of a press run of 427, leaving 217 copies on hand. This leaves us with four reprint titles with large stocks on hand, so please purchase a copy.

The CDSG Press's first original book was *American Seacoast Defenses* – 1st Edition (ASD1) in 1999. This book sold very well, 418 copies. Replacing ASD1 was our 2004 project, *American Seacoast Defenses* – 2nd Edition (ASD2), which has sold 503 books (100%) out of a press run of 503 by 2015. We now have ASD-3rd Edition as a POD replacement.

Our "print-on-demand" efforts began 2011 with *Artillerists and Engineers* by Arthur Wade, which is printed by Lulu.com and sold by the CDSG Press, Lulu.com, and Amazon. Based on that experience, we undertook a larger "print-on-demand" project, the 3rd Edition of *American Seacoast Defenses* (ASD3) which is printed by Lulu.com, but only sold by the CDSG Press and we only order a limited number of copies each time to handle member's orders as we can always have more printed on demand. Mark has updated and expanded the range of seacoast defense information for the 3rd Edition (it is also available in PDF digital form for \$40 via FTP file transfer). Please place your order for the ASD3 so you will have the most comprehensive guide on your favorite subject.

We plan to continue to offer our reprint books as "print-on-demand," but we do need to consider the number of future sales to justify the set-up costs to have these print-on-demand titles. We have turned *Seacoast Artillery Weapons* into a "print-on-demand" book, although this edition is softbound. This title is now for sale through Amazon and other online retailers, and you can also still order this book through the CDSG Press. We are considering doing the same for *Notes on Seacoast Fortification Construction*, but need to consider the demand for this title in making that decision.

### 2021 Plans

The CDSG Press is working on a companion volume to *American Seacoast Defenses: A Reference Guide* (ASD3). This publication is currently titled *American Seacoast Forts: A Directory to Modern American Seacoast Forts (1885-1950)*. This will focus on the history, key features, location, and the current status/access of each American coast defense fort, using site maps and old and current aerial photos. The book will also include an introduction, battery listing, and sources. Terry McGovern and Mark Berhow are assembling this work. Once we finish the 1st draft, we will be circulating it to various regional CDSG members for their review and comments. Please contact Terry McGovern at [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net) if you have information about your local fort or forts that you want to include and/or if you would like to review the manuscript.

We are also working on a POD book entitled *World War II Harbor Defenses of San Diego* by Bart Everett. This impressive 536-page work provides many details about coast defense efforts during WW2 that are only available because of Bart's research over the last 15 years. Bart is allowing the CDSG Press to publish this work and is donating his author's royalty to the CDSG Fund. We plan to have this book available to our members by the middle of 2021.

Several proposals have been offered for future CDSG Press projects. One such proposal is a collection of rare ordnance photographs and drawings from the archives of the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. This collection has been donated to CDSG Fund by the late Elliot Deutsch. This publication would be professionally printed and bound, which to allow high-quality gray-scale and/or color illustrations (not currently possible in the *Coast Defense Journal*). We ask our membership to keep offering new ideas for the CDSG Press.

We plan to add "Volume 35" (2021) of the *Coast Defense Journal* and *CDSG Newsletter* to our USB/download collection of back issues for \$55. While the CDSG Press does not print new works on coast defenses that require a payment of royalties at this time, Redoubt Press will publish such works. An example is the recently published, *Pacific Rampart – A History of Corregidor and Harbor Defenses of Manila and Subic Bay*, by Glen Williford. Please contact Terry McGovern at [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net) or 703/538-5403 if you have a title that you would like considered.

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### Preservation Committee Report

Gordon Bliss

It looks like there may finally be a light at the end of the pandemic tunnel and we should soon be more able to get out in the field, see coast defense sites more readily, and take more action to help preserve them. With vegetation returning, there should be more opportunities for people to get out and help keep sites from being overgrown.

On preservation, the Washington State Parks Historic Fortification Preservation Handbook can now be ordered through the CDSG website in physical form as well as being available as a free PDF download.

One of the main current preservation issues, which I first mentioned last year, is the situation at Fort Wool, VA, on a

small island in Hampton Roads off Fort Monroe. Because of construction in connection with the expansion of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, the fort has been taken over by the state and turned into a bird nesting area, resulting in covering a large part of the fort with sand and banning visitors. A coalition of groups, including the CDSG, has been formed to bring concerns about the future of the fort and potential damage to the historic structures to the state agencies involved. One of the major newspapers in the area featured an article about it on their website and the state has started to respond. My thanks to Terry McGovern for taking the lead on this.

That is all for this time, but I look forward to being able to report on much more activity in the next newsletter.

If you have a preservation issue or question, or for further information on any of the items I have mentioned, contact the Preservation Committee Chair, Gordon Bliss, at [preservation@cdsg.org](mailto:preservation@cdsg.org).

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### New Lighting for Battery Gadsden

Mike Walsh



Battery Gadsden Cultural Center was born on Sullivan's Island, South Carolina, in the wake of Hurricane Hugo. It soon leased a portion of Battery Gadsden, a part of the island's existing Endicott fortifications, from the Town of Sullivan's Island to use as its headquarters. Due to the loss of its original founder and dynamic leader, the group went dormant in 2007. However, it re-emerged in 2014 with new life and energy and has been successful ever since, conducting monthly programs, an oral history project, and other community-oriented activities.

When the new group took the reins, there were many challenges in making the space usable for programs and events. Among those was the fluorescent lighting that had been installed in the late 1990s. It was both unreliable and inefficient. Thanks to a grant from the CDSG Fund, the lighting has now been replaced with a modern LED system that provides excellent illumination at a lower operating cost. At the same time, the board authorized installation of outdoor lighting, enhancing the security of the facility.

The Board of Battery Gadsden Cultural Center extends its sincere thanks to the CDSG Fund for its generous support of this project!

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## The Defenses of New Orleans and the Lower Mississippi Conference Quiz

The Coast Defense Study Group visits New Orleans from March 30 to April 3, 2022. As a warmup to the conference in this historic region, here are some questions. (Answers on page 9.)

A. Which fort was the first designed and built in the Third System?

1. Fort St. Philip.
2. Battery Bienvenue.
3. Fort Livingston.
4. Fort Pike.

B. Which fort was named for a ship?

1. Fort Jackson.
2. Fort Macomb.
3. Fort Massachusetts.
4. Proctor's Tower.

C. The fort with interior iron structural support girders?

1. Proctor's Tower.
2. Fort Livingston.
3. Fort Massachusetts.
4. Fort Jackson.

D. One of the New Orleans forts was shelled by the British in 1815:

1. Fort Massachusetts.
2. Fort St. Philip.
3. Fort Jackson.
4. Fort Pike.

E. The fort that was recaptured by the U.S. Army from Confederate forces in April 1862.

1. Fort St. Philip.
2. Battery Bienvenue.
3. Fort Massachusetts.
4. Fort Livingston.

F. The forts in the defenses of New Orleans accessible only by boat:

1. Fort Livingston.
2. Fort Massachusetts.
3. Battery Bienvenue.
4. Fort St. Philip.

G. The fort seized by secessionist state forces while under construction in 1861:

1. Fort St. Philip.
2. Fort Macomb.
3. Fort Massachusetts.
4. Fort Jackson.

H. Which part of the former defenses of New Orleans is closest to the city?

1. Fort Macomb.
2. Fort Livingston.
3. Battery Bienvenue.
4. Fort Pike.

I. Two of the forts in the defenses of New Orleans have both masonry and concrete fortifications:

1. Proctor's Tower.
2. Fort St. Philip.
3. Fort Jackson.
4. Battery Bienvenue.

J. The fort that is on the Gulf of Mexico:

1. Fort Livingston.
2. Fort Pike.
3. Fort Macomb.
4. Fort Jackson.

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## Fortifying Guam

Charles H. Bogart

During the 1930s, both the War and Navy Departments petitioned Congress, without success, for money to fortify Guam. Today, in 2021, the Navy and Air Force are again petitioning Congress to fortify Guam. The threat today is not Japan but the People's Republic of China. Guam, today, houses some 170,000 American service personnel and citizens, and unlike in 1940, it contains a deepwater port that can accommodate a carrier, a naval base and shipyard, strategic fuel and munition storage areas, and Anderson Air Force Base with an airfield that can host every aircraft in the U.S. inventory. In 2021, since the abandonment of Subic Bay in the Philippines, Guam is the key United States forward Pacific base for responding to any conflict in the Asia-Pacific region. To defend Guam, the navy and air force want to build an Aegis Ashore surface-to-air missile defense system on the island and a marine Corps manned surface-to-surface anti-ship, boat, submersible missile defense system.

Admiral Phil Davidson, commander of the Hawaii-based United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), America's largest military combatant command, recently told the Senate Armed Services Committee, "Guam is a target today. It needs to be defended, and it needs to be prepared for the threats that will come in the future. China's own Air Force has put out a propaganda video showing their H-6 bomber force attacking Anderson Air Force Base. A Guam based Aegis Ashore system would counter ballistic missiles or cruise missiles launch from the air, land, and sea. Guam's existing anti-ballistic missile capability, the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system, is not capable of meeting the current trajectory of threats from China."

The proposed \$1.6 billion Guam Defense System, if funded in 2021, would be brought on line in 2026, and be built around Lockheed Martin's Aegis Combat System Baseline 10; using solid-state radar such as the Raytheon SPY-6 or a variant of the Lockheed SPY-7; the BAE Systems Mark 41 Vertical Launching System, and either the Raytheon SM-3 or SM-6 missile. This air defense system would be similar to the air defense system the United States has installed in Poland and Rumania.

In January 2021, the Missile Defense Agency allocated \$29 million in research funding to begin the architecture design for the Guam Aegis Combat Defense System.



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## Fort Pickens Site Report

David Ogden

The NPS has removed the BCS/CRF from its support tower at Battery 234 in Fort Pickens. After multiple studies and years of stabilization and restoration efforts, the structure was disassembled in July of 2020, with cranes lowering the BCS/CRF to the ground next to the tower. The fencing that has surrounded the structure for years was expanded to enclose both structures, which allowed the park to reopen the road to Batteries 234 and



Cooper that had been closed for 18 months or so out of concerns the tower might collapse onto the road. Prior to the disassembly, the park hired a drone operator to create a three-dimensional image of the structure, and completed a Historic American Engineering Report (HAER) to complement the Historic Structure Report (HSR) completed in 2017. Options being considered by the park include: restoration of the tower and remounting the BCS/CRF, presumably replacing the non-historic staircase in the process; placing a lighter replica of the BCS/CRF on a stabilized tower; and leaving it as is.

The park also completed an HSR on Batteries Cullum-Sevier in 2018, the last project I began before my retirement in December 2017. This led to a structural engineering study being commissioned, although the park website does not indicate its completion, and in any case, the batteries remain closed to the public pending future funding.

As has been the case for many years, hurricane recovery has hampered preservation efforts at Gulf Islands National Seashore, and the impact of Hurricane Sally making landfall on the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hurricane Ivan continues the pattern. Both the ferries and the Fort Pickens dock were damaged by Sally, as well as Fort Pickens Road and Highway 399 through the park between Pensacola Beach and Navarre Beach. Although the road to Fort Pickens has reopened, the visitor center and museum remain closed. Fort Barrancas and the Advanced Redoubt also remain closed due to the pandemic-related closure of Naval Air Station Pensacola.





Our quick trip through Fort Pickens also revealed a large equipment mount within the shield of the west gun at 234 had collapsed. The deck plates continue to deteriorate, although the gun and shield are in pretty good shape. The east gun at 234 was not visited, but the gun at Battery Cooper appeared to be in good shape as well.



The combined HECP/HDCP atop Battery Worth was open and in decent shape at Fort Pickens itself; scaffolding and fencing around the NW front indicate preservation work in progress, likely repointing mortar joints due to regular deterioration of the lime putty mortar used in the 1829-34 construction.

Anyone considering a visit to Fort Pickens should note that the Pensacola Bay Bridge was heavily damaged during Hurricane Sally and remains closed. Current projections are to reopen the bridge on Memorial Day.



(Answers to quiz on the previous pages: A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2, E-1, F-all, G-3, H-3, I-2&3, J-1)

## A 2021 Visit to Corregidor and the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Flag Raising

Karl Weltekel

First Day, February 15, 2021

Due to the Covid virus, I needed permission to travel. I got documents from my Barrio Barretto Barangay Captain, his Medical Department, and then from the Police Head Quarters of Olongapo City. It is conveniently located at Barrio Barretto, so that was easy. It went smoothly; I have done that drill now three times, although for other purposes.

I had to communicate with the Corregidor Foundation Inc. (CFI) Coordinator, Madam Melody, get that office's permission, and submit a signed age waiver form. That also went very smoothly and Madam Melody informed the Villa Carmen boat people that I was cleared to visit Corregidor.

Left home by car, arrived at Villa Carmen about 0745. Imelda's husband was waiting for me and told me where to park. I drove down to the beach and offloaded my stuff, including 21 liters of water.

The waters of the North Channel were very calm, and it seemed the ship traffic was busier now. At the north shore, Bottomside, a lonely Coast Guard man checked my arrival. He asked me where I was from. I said from Olongapo and that I was coming home to Corregidor. Then he checked the passenger list, I saw I was the only one, and said: Oh, Sir Karl, welcome back! By the way, my boat fee was 3000 pesos for this trip and I had to pay that again when I left on Friday, Feb. 19. When I did leave on the 19<sup>th</sup>, I had to pay 300 pesos for parking.

Then I checked in at the CFI Admin, paid the 300 pesos entrance fee and 4000 peso for four nights stay in the rooms of the former Gen. MacArthur Café. The previous café manager is now a CFI employee and I was to pay my food and drink bill at the CFI Admin. A light beer was 80 pesos; a Red Horse Grande 1 liter bottle was 135 pesos. Other charges: Carlos meal (2 eggs, rice, small pork & beans, can) 220 pesos; rice with fried chicken or pork chop 250 peso; 2 slices of toasted bread, butter, 2 eggs, 150 pesos).



After I checked in into the room, I met the CFI on-island manager Fidel, who briefed me that the flagpole at the First Flag Memorial/Marker was ready and he would meet me there at 1 pm after his men prepared the grounds for visitors. He and the CFI Office had informed me earlier, that the next day, Feb. 16, the tourist traffic was to start again. During the day I had other indications that things were picking up. Men arrived from Bataan and said they were the trolley drivers for tomorrow. The former Gen. MacArthur Café manager said she had an order to prepare 14 lunch plates. Apparently, the visitors had the option to order that or bring their own.

I learned the café specially ordered pork and beans for me, so I had to order the "Carlos Meal." After that famous meal I was ready to march, since no transportation was available.

I marched off and walked 15 km, up the road to Middleside. the Pacific War Memorial Zone gate is still in good shape but without guards. I also noticed that the South Road that starts there is completely overgrown with grass, but that has been the case for many years now. From the on-island manager I learned that there is no longer a security contract. He also said that there is a maintenance contractor to run the power generator (from 6 PM to 6 AM) and the water pump at James Ravine. In the morning, I saw about four or five sweepers, and during the walks, I saw single sweepers, here and there.

I had a close look at the former Aviary Park residence, once occupied by the Kwiecinski family for 7 years plus and now sometime used by the CFI Executive Staff or as a VIP lodge. Took a number of shots of Middleside Barracks; they are beginning to lose the fight against vegetation overgrowth. Battery Way looks OK. The "Mile Long Barracks" looks good for the most part, but at the east end, it is also beginning to lose the fight against vegetation overgrowth, as is the telephone exchange.



Then I had a look at the museum, from the outside, as it was closed, then the cine, the Pacific War Memorial, and the Eternal Light (light was on from solar power). Then it was time to remember Tom Aring, "Phantom," his ashes are resting here. I remember his lovely family who I met here on their solemn journey with his ashes. Next was the bachelor officer quarters. I had never gone inside before. Then I had a close look at the lighthouse area. Not too much has changed except that most of the tourist spots were closed. This darn virus, we've got to win that battle!

Then it was almost 1 pm and I had a rendezvous with the CFI personnel at the First Flag Memorial/Marker. They were preparing the site for tomorrow's visitors. One dead tree was cut out of the way and the grounds were swept.



I then proceeded to Battery Cheney through the woods, along the rail line to the battery. Battery Cheney is also losing the battle against the vegetation. Then my camera ran out of battery power. Without my functioning camera I started my return trip, following the road, counterclockwise, down to Middleside. At the Youth for Peace Marker, I met the CFI crew again; cleaning up that marker. The short cut from Middleside down was in good shape, then the shortcut to the rowhouse from the former Middleside Memorial; one could tell it is not being used anymore. I had trouble finding the start and had to use my bolo.

The post-war Corregidor schoolhouses are still there, as are the plaques. The end unit which was used as a residence by various



people in the past is now empty. At the CFI employee residence building there was also no change, except maybe more dogs.

Then down to the south side where I met my only monkeys today, one did not run away and was watching this Americano interestingly. Then back to my room, to clean up and enjoy the evening. My meal tonight was fried chicken, not bad. The trolley driver sent over some polutan (snack bites for while one is drinking, talking, socializing). I sent back a Red Horse Grande.



Second Day, Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021

Today is the day to raise the 48-star flag on the spot where it was raised 76 years ago. The Corregidor Foundation went out of their way to support it. They got permission from higher authority to open tourist visits to Corregidor. They hired the Camaya ferry to bring visitors Tuesday and Wednesday, the two days that the ferry boat was available. Visitors will come to the First Flag Memorial and they asked me to say a few words.

The ferry will arrive about 0915 hours, so I used the morning to walk around Bottomside. I learned that the navy and the marines had small detachments on the island for security and they have been here about nine months. Naturally as a retired serviceman I talked to them. Both detachments had a noncom in charge. They are bunked in two separate structures, south side, at Bottomside.

I noticed the tower for the hotel zipline (wire to slide down on) is gone. I looked at the Gen. Wainwright's and Nurses Memorial and the chapel, then got some Bataan view shots. I also got some shots of people getting ready to receive the first tourist boat this year. The Camaya ferry arrived and met the CFI staff personnel; we got acquainted and made plans for today's events. A PTV camera crew also came along and interviewed a few people, including me.

The CFI on-island person in charge dropped off his boss at the VIP lodge and took me topside. He said he would meet me at 1 pm at the First Flag Memorial and we raised the 48-star flag, ready for the tourist visitors. I waited for the tourists to arrive and took some pictures of the Rock Force Memorial, the Aggi Muster, etc. When the tourists arrived, we walked to the First Flag Memorial and I said a few words, which the people enjoyed, before continuing their visit schedule.



In the afternoon, I walked to Corregidor's tail, had a look at the Coast Guard Station, the enlisted men beach, the former President Quezon Memorial, and the Malinta Tunnel East Entrance. The light & sound show was used today and the next few days.

I took the shortcut down to the 92<sup>nd</sup> Garage, had a good look at the club house, the beach, and the tunnel at the east end of the area. The shortcut trail changed at the bottom. Some people were staying in one or two of the cottages and even had a truck, I believe. I did not learn who they were or what their plans were, but they have a deal with the CFI.

Next was the Japanese Garden of Peace, the Philippine Heroes Memorial, and the Navy Intercept Tunnel entrance. The Mindanao Garden of Peace looked like it is being taken care of. The Kindley Field runway was overgrown with grass and cannot be used.

Finally, I called it a day, walked back, cleaned up, and joined Jerry Rollin for supper at the former MacArthur Café. We got more acquainted and talked about the present Corregidor situation. He is an elderly gentleman. I did not catch his age, but he said he has 30 years plus experience in the Philippines and was a business man in Mariveles. I heard him mention several times that he is the CFI Operations Consultant. I observed that he very much plays the same role on the island as Lt. Col. Matibag. It was a great day weather-wise; the North Channel was very calm. I found one URL: <https://459771193278830287.weebly.com/jerry-rollin.html>.

Third Day, Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021

I Started early, at 6 AM. I wanted to look for Col. Bunker's Dugout and C1, on the way there and on the way back I wanted to look at a number of sites up close and perhaps mark them. I did in this order:

The water tank across the street from the former Friendship Memorial is still the same. The 1917 AA gun block and magazine, just below Middleside. Battery Ramsey was difficult, but some people had rigged fishing line to No. 3 gun. The recycle area near Battery Ramsey and the Government Ravine Road is blocked with trash and it will take a walker some doing to get on that road.

The Mason's Memorial is OK. At Karl's and John's Fox-holes, the age shows. Battery Geary is over grown, the trail from the road is overgrown. Battery Crockett, a tourist spot, is OK.

The Fort Mills Flagpole is OK, but has no lanyard; I think the pulley and sheave on top is gone or does not operate.



The road to Battery Wheeler needs four-wheel drive. The road to Battery Cheney needs to have fallen trees cleared and grass and scrubs cut. At Battery Wheeler, the rear of the gun is overgrown. Wheeler Tunnel was OK, someone rigged fishing line to find it. Battery Boston's 3-inch gun pedestal base is OK.

At Col. Bunker's Dugout, the trail to C1 is practically gone. At the gun control near C1, I had to use my bolo. At C1, Fort Mills' gun control, on the right side and front I had to use my bolo; the rear and left side are hopeless. The 1917 AA 3-inch gun block and magazine are OK. The rusty rebar is damaging the passageway walls. Col. Bunker's Tunnel is OK. On the road to the point above the tunnel entrance, I had to use my bolo a lot, and I lost the road once.

At the 1945 Paratrooper First Flag Memorial, the new flagpole is leaning and maybe should be straightened.

The steps from Mile Long Barracks to the Fort Mills Commissary are beginning to be overgrown. I had to use my bolo and dug under a fallen tree. The Fort Mills commissary is getting overgrown, hard for a vehicle to pass it now on the road in front.

The Fort Mills Hospital cannot be visited with a vehicle unless the road that passed the commissary gets cleared. The grassy area all around the hospital is badly overgrown, and vegetation is attacking the hospital directly now, the two entrance stairways are now blocked by vegetation. The hospital-to-Middleside Shortcut is getting bad and I had some trouble finding it.

The entrance to the Middleside Tunnel is still there, and OK. The Stairway to Heaven looks bad because of overgrowth. I had plans to check out the YMCA and the Youth for Peace buildings, but gave up because of the vegetation.

Observed the Camaya Ferry departing, from the road to the CFI Rowhouse. I wanted to be there but I misjudged my time. Jerry Rollin and Madam Melody Bondoc were departing and I wanted to say thank you and good bye. After that I had my Carlos Meal at the former MacArthur Café, I relaxed, cleaned up, and worked on my pictures.

A very important event was happening at our new family house today, the concrete for the deck of the second floor and all the beams was being poured today. Our workers will be working late. I ordered four large pizzas by long distance.

Fourth and Last Day, Thursday, Feb. 18, 2021

My goal for this day was mainly to check on sites on Morrison Hill, but to also check on a few things in James Ravine first, and in the process to check on the conditions of the roads and trails.

At the Engineering Ravine, most of the derelict vehicles were gone, and vegetation is advancing. The Engineering Trail to Middleside is getting bad.

The road to Battery James and James Ravine can be used by motorbikes only. I had a look at the gun storage on the road to Battery James, clearing growth for a better look. At Battery James, the situation was hopeless. At James Ravine the water pumping site and the mouth of the ravine, pumping, apparently, needs to be some of the time. I found no trail to the beach; it would take some effort to get there. At James Ravine, I found the three Philippine Scout graves head stones and the bridge to the mine casemate. I looked at the 1918 underground barracks, using new ways to and back from it; it is harder now.

I returned via the road and went to Battery Morrison; you need a boloman to get there. I looked at Telephone Hub No. 11 first. I went up Morrison Hill and found the northern 1917-gun block. I looked at various Battery Chicago sites, including under two concrete slabs, and the two entrances to the 1917 AA magazine.

Next, I looked the West Defense HQ Station. I just got distance shots of the concrete fuel storage and the in-the-open fuel tank concrete resting bases before descending further to find the 7<sup>th</sup> of 8 magazine structures, the bombproof one.





I then descended through the woods, down the slopes, through some difficult vegetation to find the large discarded concrete blocks. We once surprised some scrappers getting the rebar; no one else has been there since. This location is near the only remaining Japanese artillery gun, still at its original location. A tree fell on it but caused no damage.

I descended to the Engineering Ravine via Defense Position VII-F-2 near the Japanese gun, the ammunition storage of the pistol range on the Corregidor South Road and the short cut down to Engineering Ravine between the Fort Mills Diesel Power Plant and the two in-the-open steel fuel tanks, which are hidden now due to overgrowth.

I watched a Philippine Coast Guard ship and its Corregidor visiting party load and depart, about 3 pm. The Corregidor Inn is locked up but one can get to patio dining area.

Then I went to the south side of Bottomside, talked to a four-person camping party, and took pictures of the two structures where the Philippine Navy and Marines are staying. Then had a look at the two west entrances of Manila Tunnel. The movie and sound show was put on today for 17 people from the Coast Guard visiting party.

The last item I looked at today was the Corregidor Chapel, which is beginning to need attention. Then I called it a day, my legs and arms were scratched up pretty good from walking thru the woods; I forgot to put on my long-sleeve shirt today.

It got windy today and I began to fear that my boat tomorrow would be cancelled. During the night when the wind was rattling things outside, I continued to fear that, but like so many times before, the Villa Carmen boat showed not only on time but like always, early. The boat crews know their stuff, when to slow down, speed up, what course to gain a lee, etc. One final shock, the Villa Carmen gate keeper, the husband of Imelda who took care of this in the past asked for 300 pesos as a parking fee and I parked there 50 times plus before for free. I considered it part of the Villa Carmen deal.

It was another great Corregidor History trip. I was glad I did it, especially to continue the tradition of raising the 48 star flag on Feb. 16, like the paratrooper did in 1945, and like the marines on Iwo Jima. "Hooyah" to all service men and women of WWII and all the people who supported them.

Also, I am thankful that the authorities gave me permission to travel during this virus crisis and to CFI who are enthusiastically supporting this tradition. And thanks to CFI who succeeded in combining this tradition with the opening of tourist visits to Corregidor.



For more photos of Karl's 2021 trip visit: <https://corregidor.proboards.com/thread/2317/first-flag-anniversary-2021-76th>  
The main website "Corregidor Then and Now" has a wealth of information and photos regarding the harbor defenses of Manila Bay at <https://corregidor.org>.





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*Notes on Seacoast Fortification Construction*, by Col. Eben E. Winslow (GPO, 1920), hard cover reprint, with 29 plates included in a separate paperback. Both items: \$35 / \$45

*Seacoast Artillery Weapons* (Army Technical Manual 4-210, 13 Oct. 1944), paper back reprint. \$25 / \$35

*The Service of Coast Artillery*, by F. Hines and F.W. Ward (1910), hardcover reprint \$40 / \$60

*Permanent Fortifications and Sea-Coast Defenses*, Congressional Report No. 62, U.S. House of Rep. (1862), hardcover reprint \$30 / \$45

*American Seacoast Matériel*, Ordnance Dept. Doc. #2042, (1922), Hardcover reprint \$45 / \$65

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