

March 2006

Next USIAAA

Meeting

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Woman's National Democratic Club

1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW, Washington, DC

Speaker:

Richard H. Solomon

... details at right

- Cash bar 11:30
- Lunch 12 noon
- Speaker 1:00 pm

\$25.00 per person

Reservation deadline:
Wednesday, March 22

To reserve please return coupon on p. 11, or the form at

www.publicdiplomacy.org/MeetingAnnounce.htm

Inside this issue:

Commitment to Service 2

Name Change for USIAAA? 4

INSERT: Ballot—name change

President's Notes, Member Updates 5

In Memoriam, Appreciations 6

New USIAAA members 9

Directory updates 10

USIAAA TODAY

USIA Alumni Association

Volume 25, No. 1

“Peace-building” the Focus of USIAAA March Meeting

Richard H. Solomon PhD, former Assistant Secretary of State and current President of the United States Institute of Peace, will address USIAAA members at its next luncheon meeting on Wednesday, March 29, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., at the Woman's National Democratic Club, 1526 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The luncheon will be preceded by a social time with a cash bar beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Dr. Solomon will describe the U.S. Institute of Peace programs to promote research, policy analysis, education, and professional training on issues in international conflict management and peace-building and outline the legislative origins of the Institute as an independent, nonpartisan organization created and funded by Congress .

Prior to joining the Institute in 1993, Dr. Solomon held government posts for a dozen years. His assignments included Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs (1989-1992), Director of State's Policy Planning Staff (1986-1989) and U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines (1992-1993).

As Assistant Secretary of State, Dr. Solomon negotiated the first U.N. Security Council peace agreement (for Cambodia), had a leading role in the dialogue on nuclear issues among the United States and South and North Korea, helped establish the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) initiative, and led U.S. negotiations with Japan, Mongolia, and Vietnam on important bilateral matters. As Ambassador to the Philippines, he coordinated the closure of the U.S. naval bases and developed a new framework for bilateral and regional security cooperation.

Before joining State Department, Dr. Solomon headed the RAND Corporation's Political Science Department (1976-1986). He also directed RAND's research program on International Security Policy from 1977 to 1983.



Richard H. Solomon

From 1971 to 1976, he was Senior Staff Member for Asian Affairs on the National Security Council, involved in the process of normalizing relations with the People's Republic of China. He began his professional career as a professor of political science at the University of Michigan (1966-1971).

Dr. Solomon earned his doctorate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, specializing in political science and Chinese politics. He has authored seven books, including *Exiting Indochina* (2000); *Chinese Negotiating Behavior: Pursuing Interests Through "Old Friends"* (1999); *The China Factor* (1981); *A Revolution Is Not a Dinner Party* (1976); and *Mao's Revolution and the Chinese Political Culture* (1971, 1999).

To reserve a place at the March luncheon meeting, please return the coupon on p. 11 of the newsletter, or the form online at www.publicdiplomacy.org/MeetingAnnounce.htm

A Continuing Commitment to Service

John Kordek

"I have found that there are, indeed, professionally rewarding jobs available to retired FSOs," says John Kordek. In the following article Kordek describes how he has applied the unique experiences and contacts that he gained in the Foreign Service to a highly successful second career in the private sector.

Sixteen years ago, I retired from the Foreign Service following a 29-year career in the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) and the U.S. Department of State. Since leaving the Foreign Service, I have had a career in academe as an administrator and a teacher. It has also been my good fortune to be appointed to two five-year terms by President Clinton to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council in Washington.

I took retirement in 1990 while serving as the Chief of Mission in Botswana. Botswana, the oldest democracy in Sub-Saharan Africa, has been made famous recently by author Alexander McCall Smith through his excellent and award-winning series of books about "The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency" depicting the exploits of the female sleuth, Mma.

Ramotswe.

Although I spent most of my career working in Eastern Europe (Poland and Yugoslavia) and in Washington on U.S.-East European and Soviet Affairs, the longest tours of duty I had included a five-year stint at U.S. Mission to European Communities in Brussels in the early 1970s and a challenging four years as European Area Director during the Charles Wick era.

When I left the Foreign Service and returned to Chicago, my hometown, I expected to continue to work in some capacity drawing on my foreign service experience. My hope was realized since I have been working for the past 16 years at De Paul University; the longest "assignment" I have had in my career.

My university career began shortly after retirement from the Foreign Service when I did some pro-bono work for DePaul by assisting the school's vice president and busi-

ness school to establish a presence in Poland. This resulted in a job offer to "internationalize" DePaul and to develop and maintain contact with the Illinois members of the U.S. House and Senate as well as with senior officials in the White House, U.S. Department of Education, and other Washington organizations.

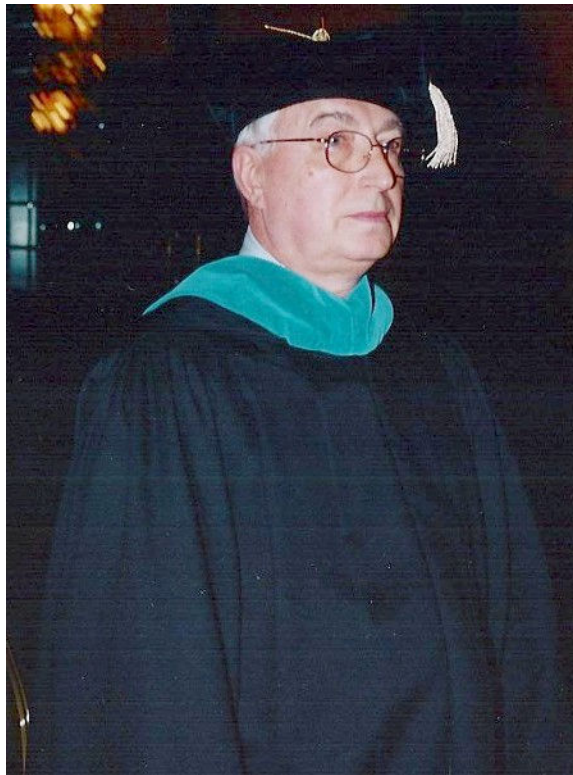
My initial effort at the university was to coordinate the institution's international efforts by writing a comprehensive strategy (not dissimilar to a USIS county plan) for international programs and then chairing a university-wide faculty committee dedicated to implementing the school's programs abroad.

I was lucky to work directly for, report to, and travel with the University president who understood the importance of providing students with an international perspective. The school's president also supported the idea of giving opportunities to faculty to gain much sought after global experience by teaching in DePaul's degree-granting programs which I helped establish in Hong Kong, Poland, Bahrain, the Czech Republic, and Thailand.

When I retired from the Foreign Service, I thought that extensive travel abroad would be a thing of the past. What I experienced was the opposite.

I traveled frequently to areas of the world (e.g. East Asia, the Persian Gulf, and South East Asia) where I had never been posted during my Foreign Service days. In fact, I spent nearly one-third of my time overseas negotiating agreements, participating annually in three or more of our University's graduations abroad, and arranging new contracts and agreements with international firms such as the International Bank of Asia in Hong Kong; governments such as the Kingdom of Bahrain; and private universities in Thailand and Poland.

My duties at DePaul widened to include working with our lobbyists in Washington and Springfield to obtain funding earmarks for domestic University projects and contracts and grants for international legal and human rights training programs implemented by the



[Continued on page 3]

Commitment to Service (cont'd)

University's International Human Rights Law Institute in the Middle East, Central America, and Eastern Europe.

Additionally, I worked with organizations, locally and nationally, whose aim is to improve Catholic-Jewish relations. While co-chairing a national council, I wrote detailed memoranda in the 1990s for former President Clinton about the importance of U.S. government participation in the 50th anniversaries of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. This resulted in my being placed on several presidential delegations traveling abroad and my appointment by Clinton to two five-year terms on the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, which oversees the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

During my tenure on the presidential council, I served on its Executive Committee and chaired the Museum's Collections and Acquisitions Committee. This provided me with an opportunity to work a few days in Washington almost every month for several years. Although I completed my second five-year term on the Council a few months ago, I was re-appointed for a three-year term on the Council's Committee on Conscience, which monitors genocide on a worldwide basis.

Often, I have been asked if I missed working in the Foreign Service. My answer is both yes and no. I found that there are, indeed, professionally rewarding jobs available to retired FSOs. Our unique experiences and contacts are often sought by private firms including universities. Settling down in one place near family is of great importance to me. I have been fortunate to use many of my USIA/State-acquired experiences within a university setting in a world-class city. I traveled extensively throughout the world and negotiated with ministers and ministries in several countries.

Recently, I retired, after 16 years as Associate Vice President of DePaul but I continue to teach at the University. (DePaul hired another retired U.S. Ambassador for the position I established).

I now have more time to spend time with my grandsons, enjoy the music and theatre offerings in Chicago, tend my garden, and continue to tour the world with my wife of 41 years. How lucky can a guy be!

USIAAA Author Seeks Member Input on Public Diplomacy Project

USIAAA member Bill Rugh, who recently published a book on U.S. public diplomacy in the Arab world, is seeking further contributions from public diplomacy professionals for what has become an ongoing project. Rugh is a 30-year veteran of USIA and the State Department, including assignments as U.S. ambassador to Yemen and United Arab Emirates. His book, *American Encounters with Arabs*, came out in November 2005, published by Greenwood Publishing Group.

The publisher describes the book as follows ...

For sixty years, U.S. government officials have conducted public diplomacy programs to try to reach Arab public opinion -- to inform, educate, and understand Arab attitudes. American public affairs officers have met serious challenges in the past, but Arab public criticism of the United States has reached unprecedented levels since September 11, 2001. Polls show that much of the negative opinion of the United States, especially in the Middle East, can be traced to dissatisfaction with U.S. foreign policy

This struggle for the "hearts and minds" of the Arab world, so crucial to the success of American efforts in post-occupation Iraq, is carried out through broadcasting, cultural contacts, and educational and professional exchanges.

Rugh describes the difference between public diplomacy and propaganda. He points out that public diplomacy uses open means of communication and is truthful. Its four main components are explaining U.S. foreign policy to foreign publics; presenting them with a fair and balanced picture of American society, culture, and institutions; promoting mutual understanding; and advising U.S. policy makers on foreign attitudes

See <http://www.publicdiplomacy.org/59.htm> for a more complete description and table of contents.

Rugh says this book is part of a continuing project to document American public diplomacy activities in this critical region. He would appreciate feedback and further input on public diplomacy with the Arab world from current or former public diplomacy professionals. For more details, contact the author at billrugh2003@yahoo.com.

Board Sets Membership Vote on Change of USIAAAA Name

The USIAAAA Board in its December 7 meeting voted to propose a change of the Association's name to Public Diplomacy Alumni Association. In the same action, the board agreed to poll the membership on the proposed name change.

At the December 7 meeting, the Board considered two possible new names: three members voted for Association of Public Diplomacy Alumni, while six voted for Public Diplomacy Alumni Association. There was no Board opposition to the name change proposal.

In adopting the name change proposal, the Board endorsed a suggestion by Ed Scherr that the new name carry the subtitle, "Formerly the USIA Alumni Association."

Members may vote on the name change proposal by completing and mailing the ballot enclosed in this issue of the newsletter, OR by completing an electronic ballot which you may access by logging on to <http://www.publicdiplomacy.org/NameComment.htm>.

The Board action followed a report by a working group comprised of Mike Canning, Chandley McDonald and Elinor Green Hunter who reviewed membership comments in response to the President's Notes column in the November Newsletter. In that column, members were to comment on the name change proposal. Green Hunter reported that "less than a dozen" members responded. "The majority of respondents expressed dismay about losing the cherished reference to USIA, but understood the Board's need to propose the change," Green Hunter said.

It was clear from Board discussion that action on the name change proposal was being taken reluctantly and only because of the awkwardness of recruiting new members whose primary association is now with State PD into an organization so closely identified with the former USIA. USIAAAA President Gene Nojek commented, "I fear that USIAAAA in its present form could come to resemble one of those associations of World War II military units that have yearly reunions whose participants steadily decline in number under the impact of actuarial realities until just a few show up."

Public Diplomacy Comes of Age

Allen C. Hansen

It is now forty years since the term "public diplomacy" entered the vocabulary whenever the varied activities of USIA were discussed. While it has not been accepted by all of its practitioners these past four decades, mainly on the grounds that the term was not well understood by many people, and various definitions as to what it meant were expressed, it is today enjoying (if I may use this term) its heyday. Ironically, since the demise of USIA in 1999, and especially since the 9/11 tragedy, it appears almost daily in the media and is a relatively frequent subject of discussion in the Congress, other government entities, and academia.

According to a Library of Congress study of U.S. international information and cultural programs and activities prepared for the Committee on Foreign Relations of the U.S. Senate, "public diplomacy" was first used by Dean Edmund Gullion of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University when the Edward R. Murrow Center for Public Diplomacy was established* The year was 1965.

Since 9/11 many special committees, in and out of government, were organized to study and advocate how current U.S. public diplomacy programs and activities could be made more efficient. Some universities now include the study of public diplomacy as a separate field of study and at least one university in California now offers a degree in public diplomacy. Here in Washington, the Public Diplomacy Foundation has changed its name to the Public Diplomacy Council associated with George Washington University. Wilson Dizard's latest book, *Inventing Public Diplomacy, The Story of the U.S. Information Agency*, is another example of its current usage.

Some PD practitioners have in the past taken the view that "public diplomacy" refers only to cultural activities. As a 32-year veteran of USIA, having begun my "public diplomacy" career as a member of the second JOT class in 1954 (long before "public diplomacy" became familiar even within the Agency), I always considered the term to include almost all USIA activities.

Given the increased public use of the term "public diplomacy" in recent years, one might now argue that in 2006 "public diplomacy has come of age."

*USIA, *Public Diplomacy in the Computer Age*, Allen C. Hansen, 2nd edition, 1989, p.2

President's Notes

By Gene Nojek

In recent memory, the Board has asked for yearly membership renewals by placing a renewal form in the newsletter with a "renew now" plea. As the year progressed to the summer months, the president would send a personal reminder letter to the several dozen members who had not yet renewed. This informal, low-tech, low pressure system served the Association fairly well in the past.

Last year the system broke down. By our September, 2005 meeting, only about 200 members had renewed. The Board responded in desperation by authorizing a separate mail reminder in October to the over half of our members still delinquent for 2005. Although the notice resulted in a flurry of renewals, it also caused some confusion and generated a few angry protests. The confusion was understandable, considering that our renewal notice for the 2005 year was mailed late in 2005. And many members, myself included, don't remember whether they have renewed or not without getting a separate notice. Also, our records were not entirely accurate, so some paid-up members also got the dunning notice.

Beginning this year, the Board has undertaken several changes that we hope will improve the renewal process. First, we now have a new, automated membership database. Beginning this year we will begin entering renewals into that database. When you pay your 2006 membership dues, our database manager will enter the code (2006) after your name on the address label of your newsletter. Lifetime members will be coded with (LIFE). If you have paid your dues for 2006 and don't see (2006) after your name on your newsletter address label, contact our treasurer, Jim Whittemore, to update your records.

The second change the Board has authorized is the mailing of a yearly renewal notice in spring of each year. While we will still carry a renewal form in the newsletter (see page 11), the Board has recognized that most of us depend on a separate reminder and has authorized the expense of a separate renewal reminder mailing relatively early in the membership year.

We hope that these changes will make renewing easier on everyone.

Member Updates

Eddie Deefield for the past eight years has edited the quarterly newsletter of his old WW II unit, the 303rd Bomb Group (H) Association. Eddie flew 30 combat missions on B-17 bombers during the war. In 2002, he was the editor of a two-volume, 1,250-page set of books titled "Hell's Angels Newsletter Silver Anniversary Collection – a World War II Retrospective." The books are historical references to aerial combat.

Bob Proctor lives in La Luz, New Mexico. His short stories, poems, commentaries and travel memoirs have appeared in many publications including *Border Senses*, *SERAPE*, *Sparrow Forum*, the *Foreign Service Journal* and the *La Cruces Poets and Writers Magazine* and on various Web sites. A book, *Selected Poems, 2001-2004*, was published in July 2004 by the Mesilla Valley Press.

John Reid and Ben Fordney are board members of the Shenandoah Civil War Associates, a group dedicated to the study of the Civil War. The Associates are sponsoring a program on June 9-12 called "Mayhem in the Mountains, the First Campaign." Battlefields in West Virginia will be toured with Civil War historians. Those interested can visit the Web site: shencivilwar.org or contact Ben Fordney (540-433-2275 – benffordney@verizon.net).

Hans Tuch has a chapter entitled "American Cultural Policy Towards Germany, 1960 – 1990" in a two-volume study: *The United States and Germany in the Era of the Cold War, 1945 – 1990*, Cambridge University Press, 2004 (a publication of the German Historical Institute). The chapter by Hans includes an explanation of the U.S. practice of public diplomacy.

Wanted: Member News, Tributes, Appreciations

USIAAA Today now carries updates -- one to three paragraphs each -- on the activities of USIA alumni. Any submission should include the date you retired or left USIA.

We will also accept short articles on your activities that would be interest to the membership. Topics could include continued work in public diplomacy and related fields. Please continue to let us know about deaths in the USIA family. Articles of tribute and appreciation are welcomed.

Please send your contributions by e-mail to Ed Scherr at: edscherr@earthlink.net

In Memoriam

- ◆ Everet Bumgardner, 80, a retired USIA foreign service officer and photographer, died December 18, 2005 at his home in Arlington, Va. He first joined the Agency as a photographer and later the Foreign Service. He headed USIA's field operation offices in Laos and later in South Viet Nam.
- ◆ Frances Ellen Coughlin, 84, of La Jolla, Ca., died March 26, 2005. During her 28 years of service, she was CAO in Argentina, Italy, Chile, Peru and Spain. During WW II, she joined the WASPs (Women Air Force Service Pilots), ferrying planes to wherever they were needed.
- ◆ James "Jim" Elliot, 87, died November 28, 2005 at his home in Harrisonburg, Va. He had lung cancer. During WW II, he served with the Office of War Information in China. After USIA was created, he was stationed in Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. He later headed VOA's Chinese Service.
- ◆ Sri Sadeli Kuhns, a long-time broadcaster for VOA's Indonesian service, died in a traffic accident December 11, 2005. She created and hosted a popular and prize-winning radio show that explained American idioms and slang.
- ◆ Bob Lincoln, 84, died of cancer December 14, 2005. He lived in McLean, VA. His Foreign Service career included postings as PAO in Syria and Sri Lanka and head of JUS-PAO in Saigon. Lincoln also served as deputy director of the agency's Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, and later the Bureau of West European Affairs. He was a past president of USIAAAA. (See appreciation, this page)
- ◆ George Miller, 80, died October 22, 2005 in Tucson, Az. His USIA career focused on Latin America with postings there and media assignments in the regional bureau. (See appreciation, page 7)
- ◆ Hilda Mosley, 82, died October 24, 2005 of congestive heart failure in Las Vegas, Nv. She worked at the State Department before transferring over to USIA In 1953. Her service included executive secretary in the office of personnel and administrative assistant at the VOA.
- ◆ Daniel Oleksiw, 84, died January 2, 2006 at his home in North Palm Beach, Fla. He suffered from a stroke and other ailments. His 37-year career with USIA took him to Turkey, Egypt, Iran and India. He served as East Asia and Pacific area director and minister-counselor in New Delhi. (See appreciation, page 8)
- ◆ Marvin Sorkin, 90, of Santa Rosa, CA, a former Deputy Director of RIAS, Berlin, died November 3, 2005. He held several public information positions for the State Department in post-war Greece, before he joined the independent USIA in 1953.
- ◆ Clifford Southard, 80, died of congestive heart failure December 17, 2005 at his home in Silver Spring, Md. His overseas assignments included Japan, Burma, Nigeria and the Philippines.
- ◆ Frank Strovas died the summer of 2005 at a retirement home in South Africa. He retired in 1994 while assigned to USIS Pretoria. (Information from newsletter of University of Colorado's journalism school).
- ◆ Alexander Sullivan, 75, former USIA White House correspondent, died November 4, 2005. Sullivan, who lived in Spring Lake, NJ, covered the White House for the Wireless and Washington Files for more than 30 years. (See appreciation, page 7)

Bob Lincoln, An Appreciation

R. T. (Ted) Curran

Adapted from remarks delivered at Mr. Lincoln's January 21, 2006 memorial service

Bob Lincoln was known for his energy, dedication, and intelligence. It was these traits that caught Ed Murrow's eye and placed Bob as Director of Near East South Asia (NEA) in 1962.

Despite the high-powered jobs he held, Bob never lost his interest in the individuals he was leading. In my own case, my family and I were assigned to open the first USIS post in Yemen in 1962 during Bob's NEA incarnation. We worried about the primitive health care available, especially for our small children. Somehow, Bob heard about these concerns and made a point of phoning my wife to provide reassurance.

This gesture by a busy executive was much appreciated and it turned out that the job was a family and career highlight.

Bob Lincoln served in some of the most demanding jobs in the foreign service including a stint with Ellsworth Bunker in Saigon. When he retired from the service, he was active in the USIAAAA leadership as well as serving his alma mater, Yale, and community groups in Virginia. Incredibly he also found time to be an exhibited painter, a published poet, AND a restorer of antique cars!

For those familiar with Kipling's IF, Bob Lincoln was that man!

Appreciation, Al Sullivan

Philomena Jurey

Alexander (Al) Sullivan, the former USIA correspondent who covered presidents from Johnson to Clinton, was revered by his colleagues in the White House press corps and in the Agency's press service. We were all deeply saddened when we learned of Al's death last November 4 -- especially those of us who had our workspace in the basement press room at the White House and were the beneficiaries of his wisdom. Even if he was busy typing, he never failed to respond when asked for his thoughts on the stories of the day.

In sharing our memories of him, Roger Gittines, then with UPI-Radio, said: "Al was a master at connecting the dots. As complicated, multifaceted stories played out over the course of long and contentious White House press briefings, he never lost track of the central points and how they were related. At the height of Watergate and many other momentous stories, I knew I could rely on Al to remind me, bluntly, of what was what, who was who, and WHY it all mattered."

Roger's remembrance is similar to my appreciation of Al's talents during the years I covered the White House for VOA. He was our basement philosopher, counselor, and provider of perspective when it came to presidential rhetorical excesses.

Don Fulsom of UPI-Radio (and later VOA) said that "aside from being the best-informed member of the press corps," Al was "a reliable political analyst." He recalled: "We were all watching the [Senator Sam] Ervin [Watergate] hearings on television. When [Alexander] Butterfield disclosed there was tape of every Nixon conversation, Al tossed his newspaper in the air and declared: 'It's all over!'"

Al's editor for many years at the Agency's press service, Peg McKay, said he "was a true professional who could be counted on in every instance to get the story and get it right. Even in the hectic atmosphere of the many fast-moving presidential trips he covered, Al consistently did a first class job of reporting the president's activities and explaining U.S. foreign policy to USIA's overseas audience. Yet through it all, he managed to be one of the warmest human beings I have ever known."

When they were not covering the White House, Al and Roger Gittines had worked together on a novel, which, as described by Roger, "featured a hard-charging, truth-telling, U.S. Army officer, the kind of guy you wanted on your side when the going got ugly."

Al obviously loved writing, as a reporter for newspapers in New Jersey before joining USIA, as White House correspondent, and then in retirement at his home in Spring Lake, N.J., where he completed the manuscript of a spy novel.

In the White House press corps, Al ranked second to UPI's Helen Thomas in seniority. Saddened when she heard of his death, she said: "He was a wonderful man. An honest man." Candy Crowley of AP-Radio (later CNN) said "he was everything you wanted in a journalist and a person, and he wrote like a dream." And Jane Berger of VOA cited his "kindness and great, infectious sense of humor."

To quote Peg McKay again, "I was privileged to call him a friend. I will miss him greatly." His former colleagues in the White House press corps feel the same way.

George Miller, An Appreciation

Robert Chatten

George Miller was a nomad. He said he didn't want a obit, so this is a fond appreciation.

It is hard to imagine George Miller in any other foreign affairs agency. He was the kind of totally American, but world wise officer, who made USIA unique for so many years.

He grew up on a farm in western Missouri and rode a horse to a one-room school. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge. The GI Bill took him to Northwestern and Tulane, but "how are you going to keep 'em down on the farm" spirit led him aboard again as a merchant seaman.

Like many of the Agency's Latin American hands of his era, George landed in Mexico at the Universidad de las Americas, where he earned two degrees. He thought of teaching, but answered the call of journalism. George wrote for the New York *Telegram*, the Chicago *Sun-Times* and UPI. After some years as a public relations executive, he itched for more participation in foreign affairs. He and USIA found each other, and a succession of assignments in the ILA bureau followed at home and abroad.

As PAO in Caracas, the stream of visiting VIPs brought him into regular contact with Leonor Arreaza, the protocol director at the international airport.

They wed and, in retirement after 1986, moved to Tucson, where he wrote articles for national magazines, became a Democratic Party activist and, to his consternation, an unpublished novelist. Never shying away from reinventing himself, he turned to autobiography. His *Tales of a Nomad* will be published posthumously by Xlibris.

Dan Oleksiw, An Appreciation

David Hitchcock

Adapted from remarks delivered at Mr. Oleksiw's memorial service, February 7, 2006

Dan Oleksiw was a force. At over 6'4", he could hardly have been otherwise. But he possessed in combination a mischievous wit and a fascination with people and words, rare in a man of any size. Dan had a reputation for being goal-oriented and determined. He could be difficult for those who appeared to be in the way when he was trying to carry out his objectives, especially those laid out by USIA Director Leonard Marks and Special Assistant Howard Chernoff.

As Area Director for East Asia and the Pacific in 1966, Dan's top assignment was to place about 10 percent of USIA's foreign service in Vietnam as soon as possible. For some, the process must have been brutal, but Dan charged ahead. Much later, he regretted that those being assigned to Vietnam in this very tough time had not received more preparation, especially about the larger political and strategic purposes the United States was committed to in Vietnam and beyond.

I think Dan always sought the truth, whether about the effectiveness of programs or about the quality of the officers whose possible assignment to Vietnam he was considering. Or about how much of a difference USIA could really make in certain instances. He was sometimes uneasy hearing others exaggerate USIA's latest spectacular accomplishments.

He worried later what such a heavy Vietnam commitment would mean to other agency objectives and programs, a concern that led Director Marks, according to Dan's memories, to begin to feel that USIA should not get any further involved in Vietnam. The most famous heavyweight wrestling match I recall was when Dan, perhaps reflecting Marks's concerns, ordered an equally distinguished and influential Bangkok PAO to sharply reduce his own programs and staff, especially those in tasks beyond standard USIS post activity.

Dan was a good manager; he certainly had excellent vision and could quickly spot program weaknesses, wasted efforts, and people in the wrong jobs. At the heart of his style of direction were people, rather than ideas. Personnel assignments seemed sometimes to consume much of his day. But if you tried to capture his attention on political issues and policies, his eyes would soon wander.

Dan could easily become absorbed in some totally unrelated story that he thought was really funny. He liked to be near colleagues who shared his wacky sense of humor. It is perhaps his wackiness that I recall most fondly:

- Dan would slowly stomp down our IAF (EAP) narrow hallway -- you could hear the doors shaking; was it my turn to be accosted, or another desk officer? Then suddenly a half-smiling, massive head would appear, dropping paper on my desk, and as quickly, disappear, shouting back: "wrong, wrong," or, occasion-

ally, "good, you've got it!" Usually, just in case you missed his verdict, he would scrawl on the first page of the draft: GOOD! Or, "NO, NO!"

- Getting Dan's attention was just about impossible. Ivan Izenberg was the only one who succeeded: he would clip to the top corner of a memo to Dan a small package of mustard or ketchup, and for sure, the memo would be read immediately!
- If Dan could reach someone by shouting, he would, with help from his charming, long-suffering secretary, Alberta, sometimes adding a mirthful note: "Alberta, would you please get me someone in the P Bureau above the level of an idiot!"
- Dan even loved people he did not know. He would stroll down a shopping street and murmur in a loud voice: "Look, there goes Winston Churchill!" Or, "Huey Long"! Faces would turn puzzled, and the rest of us would pretend we did not know the character walking near us.
- Dan would stop his car in Georgetown, in the commute to work, reach over me to utter some remark to a totally puzzled tramp by the curb, never mean-spirited but not necessarily funny to all concerned, and then drive on down the street, continuing his people-shopping!

In Jerusalem's Arab souk, the PAO took Dan down a narrow street into a tiny jewelry store, really a niche in the wall. The attending elderly gent told him the price of a precious-looking item; Dan stood almost upright, turned, and disappeared up the alley-way, roaring with laughter, the poor attendant skipping along behind him, shouting up at him increasingly lower prices. Alas no wand to help the PAO escort to disappear!

The Israel inspection came just before Dan's retirement in 1978. I think he probably had been a superb inspector. He had all the qualities needed: the power of analysis, a clear understanding of objectives to be weighed against results, and a remarkable writing gift. And you could be sure that the Inspection would not evade important truths. In one case, the final report allegedly began: "This is a sick post".

When I called on him in Florida in more recent years, Dan would be sitting back in a huge armchair nursing his aching bones, waving the latest USIAAA Member Directory. He would run right through it, crestfallen that I could not update him on every single person.

Dan was not only a large man; he had a big heart, a Falstaffian sense of humor and a deep affection and desire to see USIA work well. He had an extremely keen sense of what was best about USIA, and about the sort of USIS efforts that could truly be effective and important.

A magnificent character, a remarkable man, a memorable colleague.

Welcome New USIAAA Members

Mary ASHLEY
1635 Morrill Court
McLean, VA 22101
(703) 821-8396
fashley@cosnet

Carl SCHULTZ
PO Box 804
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
(304) 728-8459
carliii1@earthlink.net

Richard A. VIRDEN
10950 56th Ave North
Plymouth, MN 55442
(763) 559-7129
virden@hotmail.com
fax: (320) 363-3298

Barbara M. GRANT
3825 Upland St
Arlington, VA 22207

Lynn G. SEVER
6748 Baron Rd.
McLean, VA 22101
(703) 821-4292
lynnsever@verizon.net

David WHITTEN
4100 S. 16th Street
Arlington, VA 22204
(703) 920-6788
dwhitten@bellatlantic.net

Catherine R. LINCOLN
7389 Hallcrest Dr.
McLean, VA 22102

Dr. Nancy SNOW
Clg of Communications, Cal State Univ –
Fullerton
800 N. State College Blvd
Fullerton, CA 92834-6846
(714) 521-1863
nsnow@fullerton@edu
nsnow@usc.edu

Jacqui PORTH
307 W. Montgomery Ave
Rockville, MD 20850
301-738-8764
jacquiporth@hotmail.com

USIAAA Member Directory Updates

Please note the following updates and corrections to the most recent (December 2004) USIAAA member directory:

Dexter A. ANDERSON
186 Jerry Browne Rd
Unit 3311
Mystic CT 06355-4011

James L. BULLOCK
(20-2) 380-3479

Philip C. COHAN
(347) 275-5366
philco10@optonline.net

Cecilia D. BELLINGER
bellceil@aol.com

Robert S. BYRNES
(703) 351-9184
rsbyrnes@verizon.net

Lawrence S. FEIN
larryfn@comcast.net
fax (609) 714-8260

Michael BROWN
bbrownhi@aol.com

R. Dabney CHAPMAN
dabney@frontiernet.net

Eugene C HARTER
eharter@bluecrab.org

Sharon CLIFFORD-CARROLL
carrolls@bevcomm.net

John J. JASIK, Jr.
JasikJJ@state.gov

[Continued on page 10]

USIAAA Member Directory Updates (cont'd)

Robert R. LAGAMMA
rrlagamma@msn.com

Irving LIND
irvlind@att.net

Leslie M. LISLE
lisle3@sbcglobal.net

Robert L. NICHOLS
rlnichols@comcastnet

Louis T. OLOM
louisolom@aol.com

Dolores E. PARKER
AUA Language Center
179 Rajdamri Rd.
Bangkok, THAILAND 10330
dir-ed@auathailand.org

Robert W. PROCTOR
(505) 439-0017
bobbolaluz@charter.net

Wendy ROSS
Tom EICHLER
189 Hinks Road
Jefferson, ME 04348
(207) 549-3869

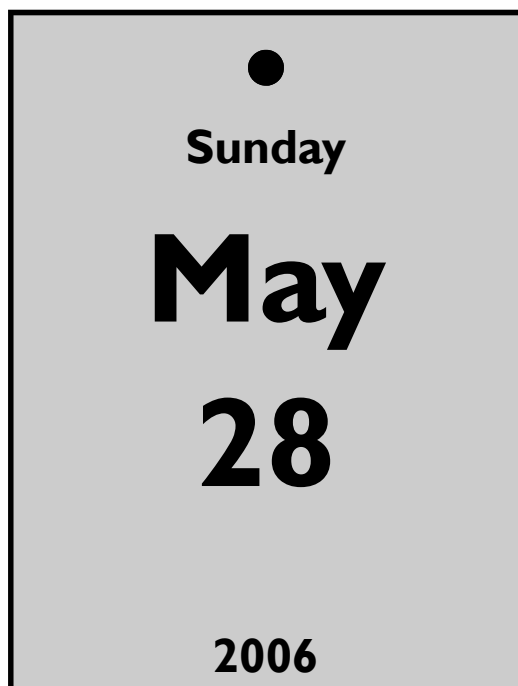
P. Paul ROTHMAN
rhrppr480@netzero.com

Carl SHAREK
4101 Cathedral Ave., NW #604
Washington, DC 20016
(202) 362-1394
crsharek@msn.com

Dudley O. SIMS
dudleyosims@hotmail.com

James E. SMITH
twojss@cox.net

Arthur A. VAUGHN
avaughn5@verizon.net

Save This Date ...**Sunday, May 28, 2006**

For the annual USIAAA Member Dinner

Maggiano's Little Italy
5333 Wisconsin Ave., NW
One block from Friendship Heights
Metro Station.

Social hour 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

\$50 per person.

Reservation forms in the next *USIAAA Today*

USIAAAA Meeting Reservation Form

March 29, 2006 - Woman's National Democratic Club (See page 1 for program details).

1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW, Washington, DC

Deadline for reservations: **Wednesday, March 22, 2006**

Please complete the form below and mail with your check for **\$US 25.00** for each person to:

James C. Whittemore

USIAAAA Treasurer

3320 Quebec Pl. NW

Washington, D.C. 20008

Name(s) _____

Street address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone number _____

Email address _____

Date _____

Number of people ____ x \$US 25.00

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

USIAAAA Membership Renewal for 2006

Please complete the form below and mail the completed form with your check for **\$US 25.00** to:

James C. Whittemore

USIAAAA Treasurer

3320 Quebec Pl. NW

Washington, D.C. 20008

Name(s) _____

Street address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone number _____

Email address _____

Date _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

USIA Alumni Association Board of Directors

USIA Alumni
Association

Address:

4521 N. 41st Street

Arlington VA 22207-2936

E-mail:

admin@publicdiplomacy.org

Web site:

http://

www.publicdiplomacy.org

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USIAA Today
USIA Alumni Association
4521 N. 41st Street
Arlington VA 22207-2936

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