

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

# NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



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## **Cold Days Ahead at the Hampton Roads Naval Museum**

-Navy's official museum to unveil a new exhibit depicting the Navy's role during the Cold War-

(Norfolk, Va., April 19, 2004) – The Hampton Roads Naval Museum in Norfolk, Va. will unveil a new permanent exhibit at 9 a.m. on April 26th that spotlights how the second half of the twentieth century was shaped by the confrontation between two great powers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

The exhibit depicts the role of Hampton Roads-based naval units in the various conflicts of the Cold War era. Among the exhibit sections are “Crisis at the 38th Parallel,” marking the invasion of South Korea by the communist North Korea; “To the Brink of World War,” focusing on the communist revolution in Cuba; “A War 8,000 Miles Away,” highlighting U.S. Navy forces in Vietnam; and “The Navy Spies: More Than Secret Agents,” describing the birth of modern naval intelligence.

Every nation and locality was affected in some way by the Cold War. Despite cultural and governmental differences between both countries, the atomic weapons possessed by both nations caused a common fear among citizens of the world – nuclear devastation. War was unthinkable, but never far away.

Naval units from Hampton Roads steamed to the front lines of this war, patrolling far off stations and fighting in conflicts across the globe. In the end, the struggle between two economic systems and two different ways of life ended when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991.

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The new exhibit will officially open during a ribbon cutting ceremony officiated by Rear Adm. Stephen Turcotte, Commander, Navy Region, Mid-Atlantic. Cold War veterans, many of whom now serve as volunteers at the museum and aboard its chief artifact, USS Wisconsin, will be on hand to provide a first hand account of events during the Cold War.

The Hampton Roads Naval Museum is one of eleven U.S. Navy museums and is located inside Nauticus, The National Maritime Center at One Waterside Drive in Norfolk, Va. Admission to the Hampton Roads Naval Museum and its chief artifact, USS Wisconsin, is FREE. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Both the Hampton Roads Naval Museum and Nauticus are closed on Mondays. For additional information, please visit [www.hhrnm.navy.mil](http://www.hhrnm.navy.mil) or call 757.322.2987.

***NOTE TO MEDIA:** Interview opportunities will be available to interested media April 26 during and following the ribbon cutting ceremony.*

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