



***Accidental Armageddons:***

***The Nuclear Crisis and the Culture of the Second Cold War, 1975-1989***

Conference at the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC  
November 4 - 6, 2010

Co-sponsored by the New School for Social Research/Eugene Lang College, New York University,  
the Heinrich Böll Stiftung, and the National Security Archive, Washington, DC

Conveners: Eckart Conze (University of Marburg), Martin Klimke (GHI Washington),  
Jeremy Varon (New School for Social Research, New York City)

**Program**

**Thursday, November 4**

4:00 pm           **Welcome**

4:15 – 5:45 pm   **Panel 1: DOOMSDAY IDEOLOGIES**

Chair: **Martin Klimke** (GHI)

**Michael Foley** (University of Sheffield)

*No Nukes and Front Porch Politics: Environmental Protest Culture and Practice on the Second Cold War Home Front*

**Wilfried Mausbach** (Heidelberg)

*Nuclear Winter: Prophecies of Doom and Images of Desolation During the Second Cold War*

**Eckart Conze** (Marburg)

*The Role of National Socialism and the Second World War in the Discourse on Nuclear Armament*

5:45 – 6:00 pm   **Coffee Break**

6:00 – 7:00 pm      **Keynote Address**  
**Lawrence Wittner** (State University of New York at Albany)  
*The Rise of the Hawks and Revolt of the Doves: Writing the History of the Second Cold War*

7:00 – 9:00 pm      **Reception at the GHI**

## Friday, November 5

8:30 – 9:00 am      **Breakfast at the GHI**

9:00 – 10:00 am      **PANEL 2: Film & Popular Culture**

Chair: **Jeremy Varon** (NYU)

**Tony Shaw** (Hertfordshire, UK)  
*Exposing America's Media-energy Industry Complex during the late Cold War: Hollywood's The China Syndrome, 1979*

**William Knoblauch** (Athens, OH)  
*Selling the Second Cold War: British Anti-Nuclear Pop, 1980-1987*

10:00 – 10:15 am      **Coffee Break**

10:15 – 11:15 am      **PANEL 3: Music & The Arts**

Chair: **Eckart Conze** (Marburg)

**Martin Klimke** (GHI Washington)  
*Exporting German Angst: 99 Red Balloons and 'A little bit of Peace'*

**Laura Stapane** (HCA Heidelberg)  
*Artists for Peace: The Fine Arts and Nuclear Disarmament*

11:15 – 11:30 am      **Coffee Break**

11:30 am – 1:00 pm      **PANEL 4: Literature & The Press**

Chair: **David Lazar** (GHI Washington)

**Philipp Baur** (Augsburg)  
*Writing Against the Bomb: German Nuclear Fiction in Between Authenticity and Utopia*

**Thomas Goldstein** (Clemson, SC)  
*A Tenuous Peace: Anti-Nuclear Activism Within the East German Writers Union in the 1980s*

**Dolores Augustine** (Jamaica, NY)  
*The Peace and Anti-Nuclear Movements in German Print Media  
 During the New Cold War*

1:00 – 2:30 pm      **Lunch Break**

2:30 – 4:00 pm      **PANEL 5: Establishment Reactions**

Chair: **William Burr** (National Security Archive, Washington)

**Jan Eric Hansen** (Berlin)  
*The Political and Cultural Discourse on Nuclear Weapons in the  
 German SPD, 1979-83*

**Tim Geiger** (Berlin)  
*Did Protest Matter? About the Influence of the Peace Movement in the  
 Federal Government, 1977-1980*

**Reinhild Kreis** (Augsburg)  
*Peace and Power: U.S. Attempts to explore and to Deal with  
 Public Attitudes Towards Nuclear Armament in West Germany*

6:30 – 8:00 pm      **Panel Discussion**

Jonathan Schell (New Haven, CT)

Moderator: Frida Berrigan (New York) and Philipp Gassert (Augsburg)

8:00 – 10:00 pm      **Conference Dinner**

## **Saturday, November 6**

8:30 – 9:00 am      **Breakfast at the GHI**

9:15 – 10:45 am      **PANEL 6: Security Cultures**

Chair: **Philipp Gassert** (Augsburg)

**Natasha Zaretsky** (Carbondale, IL)  
*Atomic Nightmares and Biological Citizens at Three Mile Island*

**Tim Warneke** (Heidelberg)  
*The Ubiquitous Dr. Strangelove: Madness as a Central Topos  
 of Cold War Discourse*

**Katrin, Ruecker** (Geneva)

*Why is there no 'Accidental Armageddon' Discourse in France?  
How Defence Intellectuals, Peace Movements and Public Opinion  
Rethink the Cold War during the Euromissile Crisis*

10:45 – 11:00 am **Coffee Break**

11:00 am – 12:30 pm **PANEL 7: Local Activism and the Politics of Difference**

Chair: **Marianne Zepp** (Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin)

**Stephen Milder** (Brattleboro, VT)

*Create two, three... many Wyhls!: How Grassroots Protest in the  
Rhine Valley Inspired the Anti-Nuclear Movement*

**Kyle Harvey** (Sydney)

*Radical Feminism and the Anti-Nuclear Movement:  
The Politics of Difference*

**Susanne Schregel** (Darmstadt)

*Small Spaces for Peace:  
A Transnational History of Nuclear Free Zones, 1970-1985*