



THE
**DEFENSE
INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY**
MUSEUM





MISSION DIA

DIA's mission is to provide intelligence on foreign militaries and their operating environments so the United States and its allies can prevent and decisively win wars. DIA serves everyone from the president to soldiers in combat through a combination of expert analysis, intelligence gathering, and cutting-edge science and technology. The DIA Museum provides a unique, declassified look at DIA's roles that include exposing the truth, supporting operations, enabling diplomacy, and supporting every effort to safely return U.S. troops home.



MISSION DIA:

THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY MUSEUM

WELCOME TO MISSION DIA, THE OFFICIAL MUSEUM

OF THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

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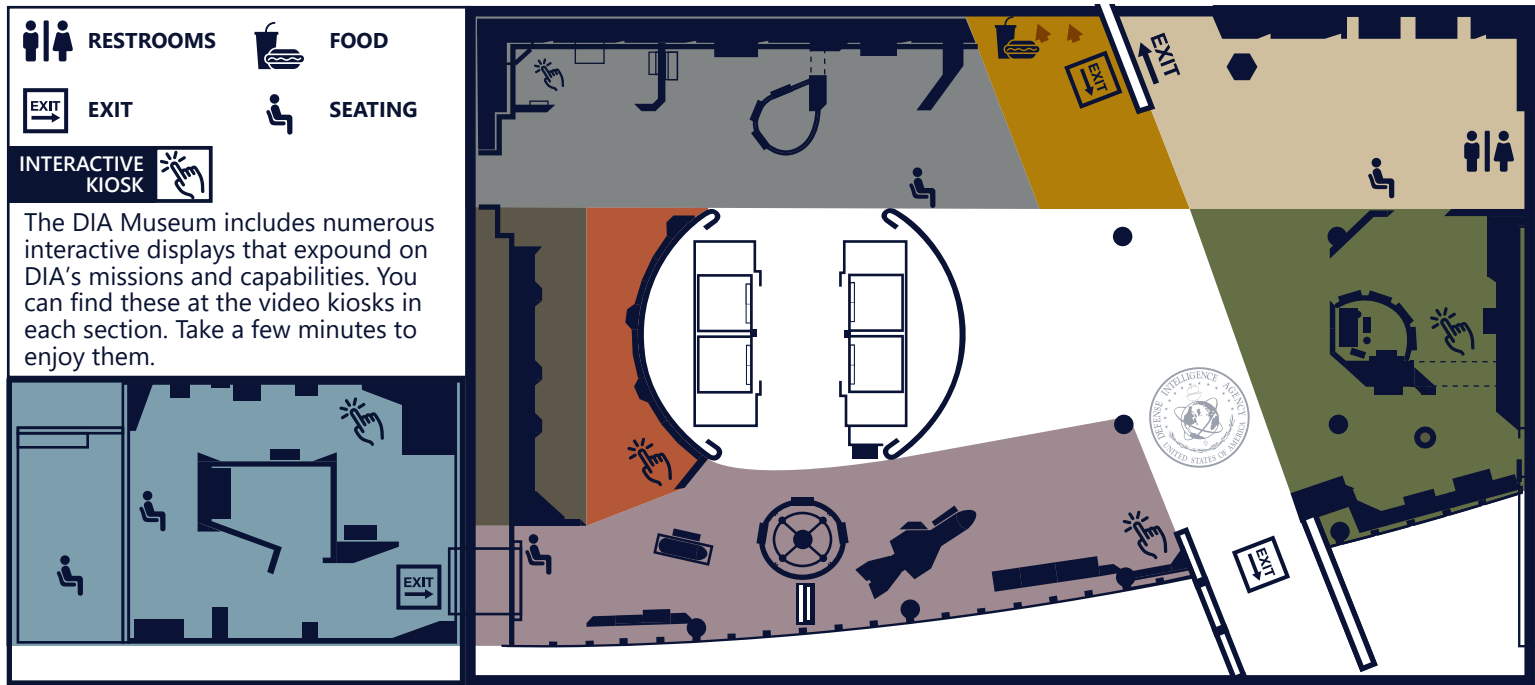
Initiated in 2016 under the leadership of Lt. Gen. Vincent Stewart, and in close collaboration with Smithsonian Exhibits and Emmy Award-winning Interface Media Group, the DIA Museum was completed in 2020. Exceeding 10,000 square feet, the museum's 44 exhibits, dozens of artifacts, eight interactive displays, six missiles, mannequins and many videos convey six decades of DIA history, including its chartered missions in honor of its workforce. With compelling storytelling, the museum shows visitors about DIA's global presence and how it shapes world history. Additionally, the museum's Heritage Gallery takes visitors back to the founding of American military intelligence with George Washington, speaks to the successes of DIA's predecessors — the Bureau of Military Information and the Office of Strategic Services — and shows how DIA formed from the bomber and missile gap controversies of the 1950s. With a better understanding of why DIA exists and the range of missions it fulfills, visitors will appreciate the Agency's vital role in supporting national security.

MUSEUM

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The DIA Museum is designed around several themes, each addressing DIA's key role in the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community. These include: Exposing the Truth, Supporting Operations, Bringing Them Home, Enabling Diplomacy, and Staying Ahead Through Technology and Innovation. The museum also has three galleries and a Heritage Theater. The Patriots Gallery honors DIA's patriots who died in the line of duty, the Heritage Gallery addresses DIA's origins, and the Lower Lobby Gallery features the Torch Bearers Hall of Fame and other exhibits.

							
EXPOSING THE TRUTH	PATRIOTS MEMORIAL	LOWER LOBBY GALLERY	SUPPORTING OPERATIONS	BRINGING THEM HOME	ENABLING DIPLOMACY	HERITAGE GALLERY	STAYING AHEAD THROUGH TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION
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Because the DIA Museum is thematic, visitors can start anywhere. But when entering the museum from the Creed Corridor, it is recommended that visitors begin their journey at Exposing the Truth. From Exposing the Truth, there is a natural flow through the rest of the exhibits.

For those seeking to purchase DIA gifts or memorabilia, a gift shop is available during business hours near the top of the ramp on the second floor. If visiting the museum using only a museum badge, an escort is required.

EXPOSING THE TRUTH

DIA's foremost mission is to expose adversary intentions and capabilities to decision makers. Following overinflated assessments of Soviet bomber and missile capabilities by military services in the 1950s, DIA was established in 1961 to provide impartial, unified intelligence for the Department of Defense. This section provides visitors with several examples where exposure by DIA helped to secure the United States.



SOVIET MILITARY POWER

With Soviet military build-up in the late 1970s, DIA was called on to provide the world with an unclassified take on the threat.



DIA AND THE U-2 DRAGON LADY

Known to few, DIA played a vital role in one of the most significant surveillance programs in history.



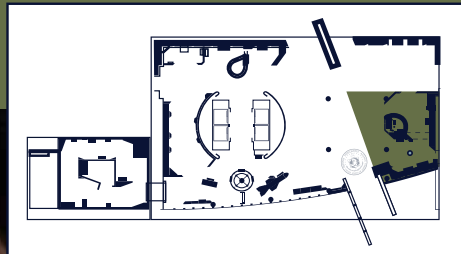
THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

From driving the intelligence requirements to first notifying leadership, DIA led the way in exposing the Soviet introduction of nuclear missiles to Cuba.



BRIEFING BOOK TO PRESIDENT JFK

The DIA Museum showcases the actual briefing book used in a nationally televised briefing with photographic proof that the Soviets had, in fact, removed their offensive strategic weapons systems from Cuba.



PATRIOTS MEMORIAL & GALLERY

DIA remembers and honors its fallen heroes through the Patriots Memorial and Gallery.

The stories behind DIA's patriots can be seen in the large interactive display in the Patriots Gallery. DIA lost its first teammate, Maj. Robert Perry, in Amman, Jordan, in 1970. Since then, 26 others have fallen while serving in Syria, Iraq, Greece, Austria, Guatemala, the Pentagon and several other locations.

The mural at the Patriots Memorial, drawn by DIA's own artist Patrick Dowden, is meant to represent and honor those who lost their lives while performing their duties in support of DIA missions. The mural is split into four areas:



OPERATION BABYLIFT

DIA played a key role in evacuating children from Saigon, Vietnam. Tragically, the first Air Force plane carrying children crashed shortly after takeoff.



FOLDED GOLD STAR FLAGS

Honoring the Gold Star families.



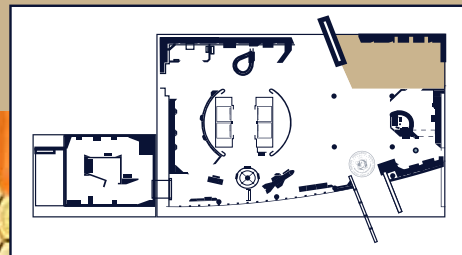
THE PENTAGON

Remembering the DIA officers lost in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.



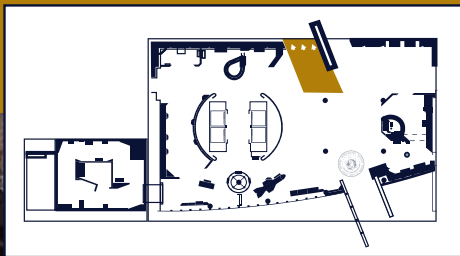
THE SOLDIER'S CROSS AND BUGLE

Honoring the sacrifice of military service members.



LOWER LOBBY GALLERY

The Lower Lobby, directly adjacent to the cafe, showcases seminal historic events and people who have made outsized contributions to DIA and the Nation. This area hosts two permanent and two rotating exhibits.



U.S. NAVY RENDERING OF THE USS SEA DOG

DIA was founded and led by an extraordinary group of military heroes. Among them were Lt. Gen. Sam Wilson and Vice Adm. Vernon Lowrance, who earned a combined five Silver Stars for valor in combat. The exhibit also displays DIA's Office of Strategic Services Congressional Gold Medal.



TORCH BEARERS HALL OF FAME

Coming in 2022, this exhibit will host the Torch Bearers Hall of Fame, highlighting some of DIA's most influential personnel.



FRANCIS GARY POWERS AND THE U-2 SHOOT DOWN

Shot down over the USSR just before DIA's establishment, this rotating exhibit highlights the role this important Cold War event played in DIA's eventual surveillance mission.



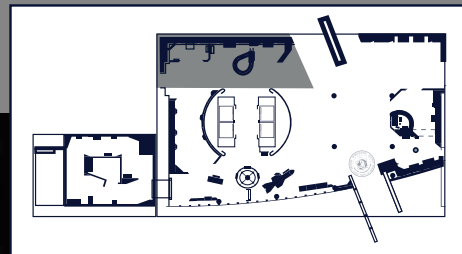
BERLIN WALL AND COLD WAR

This permanent display recognizes the strong relationship between the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany during the Cold War, and features several artifacts donated by Germany related to the Berlin Wall.



SUPPORTING OPERATIONS

After 25 years of supporting operations, DIA became an official combat support agency in 1986. This section highlights the many facets of supporting operations, including document exploitation, interrogations, analysis, HUMINT, targeting and biometrics. From conventional support, as in Operation DESERT STORM, to special operations like the Abbottabad raid against Osama bin Laden, DIA has made a difference.



IRAQI PLAYING CARDS

Thinking outside the box, several DIA analysts ranked Iraqi leaders by level of importance and assigned them positions in a standard deck of 52 playing cards. In May 2003, the cards were released to U.S. troops with about 1,900 decks initially distributed.



OSAMA BIN LADEN'S NOTEBOOK AND WILL

These February 2010 handwritten notes contain plans for executing future terrorist operations inside the United States. Bin Laden's will details the disbursal of his \$29 million fortune. Among his directives is a request for his family to spend funds on jihad in Sudan.



FEDAYEEN HELMET

Saddam Hussein's most elite troops wore these striking helmets and quickly became targets for all coalition forces. As a result, many Fedayeen abandoned these helmets and U.S. forces found many discarded on the ground.



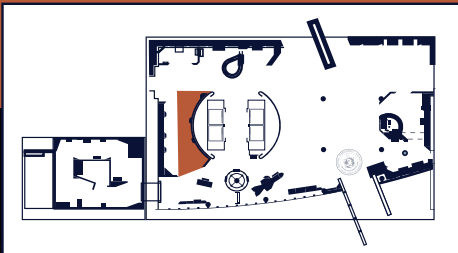
TALIBAN HARD DRIVE

Captured hard drives like this one, taken from a Taliban safehouse, are exploited by DIA forensic experts and can provide a wealth of valuable intelligence on enemy organization, plans, contacts, etc.



BRINGING THEM HOME

DIA's involvement in the POW/MIA mission goes back to 1967 and the Vietnam War. Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the Intelligence Community POW/MIA Analytic Cell was established with DIA as the executive agent. Today, DIA maintains its global POW/MIA intelligence support mission to ensure that military and civilian personnel are returned home.



SON TAY PRISON CAMP RAID PATCH

DIA compartmentalized intelligence for the Son Tay prison camp raid so no one would know too much of the plan. Mission members showed frustration with the secrecy by wearing a patch with a mushroom denoting: "Kept In The Dark, Fed Only Horse Sh--".

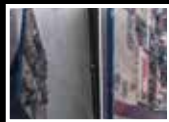


PHOTO ALBUM OF "BARBARA"

Marine Corps 1st Lt. James Brinson created precise maps of the Son Tay prison camp and worked with a CIA model maker to develop a model, code-named "Barbara," used during the planning and rehearsal operation. This photo album was produced after the model's completion.



JESSICA LYNCH RESCUE BAG

Pfc. Jessica Lynch, a POW during the Iraq War, was rescued with help from an Iraqi lawyer, who provided Lynch's location and agreed to carry a hidden camera into the hospital where she was held. The hidden camera was placed inside a gym bag and used to gather vital intelligence on ingress/egress routes and prove she was still alive.

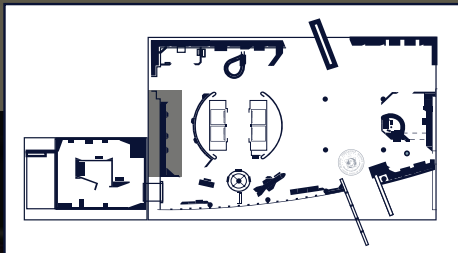


SPEICHER'S F-18 REMAINS

Where is Speicher? DIA led a nearly 20-year search for F-18 pilot and Navy Capt. Michael Speicher, the first casualty in Operation DESERT STORM. Wreckage from Speicher's downed plane is displayed against Iraqi sand taken from the crash site in Iraq.

ENABLING DIPLOMACY

DIA has a long history of diplomatic efforts. Supporting mutually beneficial endeavors and handling incidents abroad before they escalate have been core missions of DIA since its earliest days. One of the most effective ways DIA protects the Nation is by preventing war and conflicts, aiding our allies, and encouraging disarmament.



SS-20 FRAGMENTS

A piece of destroyed SS-20 ballistic missile, produced in 1983 and destroyed in 1989 as part of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. Many Americans working the negotiation and verification mission received a small piece of a destroyed SS-20 as a souvenir.



EP-3 AIRCRAFT STRUCTURE SKIN

An American EP-3 reconnaissance aircraft was on patrol over the South China Sea when a Chinese pilot, attempting to intimidate the American crew, flew too close and collided with the plane. The American plane was forced to land at a Chinese military base. This piece of the aircraft was eventually returned to the United States.



BRIG. GEN. SEALOCK'S NOTEBOOK

Brig. Gen. Neal Sealock used this notebook while serving as the defense attaché in Beijing. He took notes to record direct discussions with President George W. Bush, work out strategies, and track daily requirements during the EP-3 negotiations.



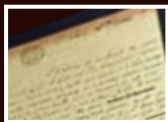
INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES TREATY

Analysts tasked with assessing Soviet compliance with the groundbreaking 1987 INF Treaty were given copies of the final agreement.



HERITAGE GALLERY

Long before the establishment of DIA, the Nation relied on defense intelligence for its creation, in defense of its sovereignty, and to protect its citizens. DIA continues this long legacy of support. The gallery takes visitors through 250 years of defense intelligence and relates key moments in Agency history.



GEORGE WASHINGTON'S LETTERS

Original correspondence from George Washington during the American Revolutionary War to recruit and direct various spies in espionage operations against British forces.



USS MONITOR TURRET SIGHT

Part of the gun turret sight mechanism from the USS Monitor, a Union ship that fought in the "Battle of the Ironclads" against the Confederate ship CSS Virginia during the American Civil War.



U.S. EMBASSY MOSCOW TILE

A structural piece from the former U.S. Embassy building in Moscow, showing an electronic spying device inserted into the concrete structure. Ultimately, the Embassy was torn down and rebuilt to address this counterintelligence threat.



PENTAGON WALL FRAGMENT

A piece of limestone from the Pentagon building, recovered from the damaged section struck in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.



STAY AHEAD THROUGH TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

DIA is a constantly evolving agency by necessity and design. Historically, DIA has been a technological innovator. DIA's push to stay ahead involves adapting new technologies, exploiting adversaries' technology, and creating new technology. When clandestine use is required, DIA's Office of Technical Operations camouflages sensors to blend into the environment.



SCUD MISSILE

The Soviet-produced SCUD missile was among the first major weapon systems analyzed by DIA when the Agency was established in 1961. The SCUD missile has proliferated to over 30 countries and remains a threat after more than 50 years in service.



HY-2 SILKWORM MISSILE

DIA exploitation of this missile provided invaluable insight into its range and accuracy, allowing countermeasures to be taken to protect shipping during the Tanker Wars in the 1980s.



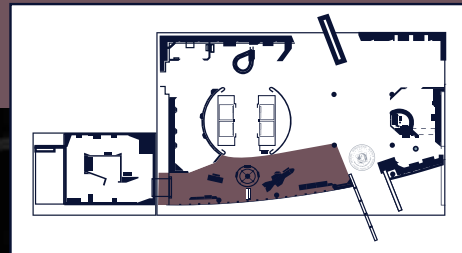
FIND THE CAMERA CAR BUMPER

Designed to perfectly fit a 2003 Hyundai Accent, this car bumper was made to highlight DIA's collection capabilities. Thanks to its large size, it can be fitted with a number of different sensors, including GPS antennas, transmitters and cameras.



THE NIBBLER

DIA's Nibbler was the first 3D-printed intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance drone. The quadcopter's simple design, including a motor, batteries and smartphone brain, keeps it small enough to allow for transport in a backpack. It can be configured to carry multiple sensors and communication payloads.



"They run the risks; they bear the tensions; they serve in silence. They cannot fully be thanked in public, but I want them to know that their job is vital and that the American people, and their president, are profoundly grateful for what they do."

- Ronald Reagan, December 1981







Be part of the mission.



DIA.mil



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN DEFENSE OF THE NATION