

Technological Innovation and the Cold War



A one-day conference sponsored by the Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society at the Hagley Museum and Library

Friday, March 9, 2007

8:30-9:00 Coffee

9:00-11:00 Panel 1: Concepts and Frameworks

Philip Scranton, Rutgers University and Hagley Library
"The Challenges of Technological Uncertainty"

David Edgerton, Imperial College of London
"Science, Technology and the British Warfare State"

John Krige, Georgia Institute of Technology
"Impediments to Military Innovation in a Transnational European Context"

11:15-12:45 Panel 2: Procurement and Innovation

Glen Asner, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
"Military Research and Commercial Innovation at Boeing, Westinghouse, and Sperry Rand"

Jonathan Ayles, PREST, Manchester Business School
"Bloodhound on My Trail: Ferranti's Adaptation of Military Hardware to Process Control Computer"

Comment: John Krige, Georgia Institute of Technology

12:45-1:45 Lunch

1:45-3:45 Panel 3: Things

Hyungsub Choi, Chemical Heritage Foundation and Johns Hopkins University
"Integrating the Circuit, Integrating the Military: Politics of Electronic Miniaturization in Cold War America"

Jonathan Coopersmith, Texas A&M University
"Military Support of the Fax Industry: Opportunity or Obstacle?"

Eric S. Hintz, University of Pennsylvania
"The Button Cell Battery: From Wartime Necessity to Commercial Giant"

Comment: Martin Collins, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution

4:00-5:30 Panel 4: Ideas

Dima Adamsky, Harvard University
"Strategic Culture and Emulation of Military Ideas: The Conceptual Interaction between the Soviet Military-Technical Revolution and the American Revolution in Military Affairs"

Till Geiger, University of Manchester
"The Mutual Weapons Development Program and the Failure of Transatlantic Co-operation in Weapons Procurement, 1954-1961"

Comment: David Edgerton, Imperial College

5:30-7:00 Reception

7:00 Dinner

The conference is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. Lunch is \$15 and dinner is \$40. To register or obtain more information contact Carol Lockman at (302) 658-2400, ext. 243, or clockman@hagley.org. All sessions will take place in the Soda House of the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, Delaware.

We recommend the Best Western Brandywine Inn (800)-537-7772 for overnight accommodations, as it will provide shuttle service to and from Hagley during the conference.

Image: Air Force Delta Wing in production, 1952, Hagley Pictorial Collections