

September 2014



Secretary of State John Kerry, center, accompanied by five former Secretaries of State, participates in the groundbreaking ceremony for the U.S. Diplomacy Center (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

GROUNDBREAKING UPDATE

The U.S. Diplomacy Center (USDC) celebrated its official groundbreaking on September 3. Secretary of State John F. Kerry hosted five of his predecessors – former Secretaries Henry Kissinger, James A. Baker III, Madeleine Albright, Colin Powell and Hillary Rodham Clinton – at a ceremony, followed by a symbolic shoveling of the ground at the site of the USDC on the 21st Street side of the State Department’s Harry S Truman building.

Secretary Kerry expressed his appreciation to the former Secretaries for their dedication to the first museum devoted to diplomacy, and commended the USDC for its mission to tell “the story of the power that comes not from the muzzle of a gun or from the belly of a B-52, but from the force of diplomacy.”



(AP Photo)

The distinguished group was joined on stage by Under Secretary for Management Patrick Kennedy, Ambassador Elizabeth Bagley, Senior Advisor for Secretary’s Initiatives and Ambassador William Harrop, Chairman of the Diplomacy Center Foundation. Opening in 2016, the USDC will invite visitors to explore, on site or virtually, the impact of diplomacy through interactive exhibits, compelling artifacts, hands-on education programs, diplomatic simulations, and the expertise of foreign affairs specialists.

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The USDC staff poses for a photo prior to the ceremony

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR...

The photo on the cover really says it all! Secretary Kerry and former Secretaries Kissinger, Baker, Albright, Powell and Clinton breaking ground for the United States Diplomacy Center's Pavilion. All the years of hard work by the USDC staff, the Diplomacy Center Foundation, the Bureaus of Public Affairs and Administration in the Department, AFSA, and all of our friends and contributors – have finally come to fruition.

Like so many of us at the USDC, I was deeply moved by the groundbreaking ceremony. As both a Foreign Service Officer and the daughter of a retired FSO, I am really pleased that we will have a museum and education center that recognizes the vital contribution that American diplomacy and the Foreign Service have made to our country's history, peace and prosperity. I worked on the museum when the idea was first born, and personally share the deep commitment of Secretary Kerry and all of our former Secretaries to bring our construction phase to a successful and timely completion.

While construction proceeds, our other important work continues. Behind the scenes, our experts spend each day augmenting and cataloging our collections as we finalize exhibit designs that will embody the all-important thematic content that weaves our collections into a visual representation of the importance of American diplomacy.

Thank you for your interest and support of the USDC. As we take the Pavilion from ground-breaking to the finish line, we look forward to your continued support, thoughts and contributions. I hope you will follow our progress on our website, on Facebook and via Twitter.

Kathy Johnson,
USDC Director

THE DIPLOMACY CENTER FOUNDATION

*A note from the Chairman of the
Diplomacy Center Foundation*

On behalf of the board of directors of the Diplomacy Center Foundation, I'd like to acknowledge the many donors who are helping us realize the vision of the late Ambassador Stephen Low and the late Senator Charles "Mac" Mathias. Building the first public museum dedicated to American diplomacy is an historically significant project. The Diplomacy Center Foundation and its predecessor, the Foreign Affairs Museum Council, have been and are working with the Department and the U.S. Diplomacy Center staff to make it a reality. Beginning with Secretary Madeleine Albright in 1999, all of the Secretaries of State have supported this project. All of them are honorary directors of our board.

I'm pleased to report that collectively we have raised \$38 million. Former ambassadors Elizabeth Bagley and Stuart Bernstein are leading the effort to raise the additional funds needed to complete the design, fabrication and installation of the exhibitions in the Pavilion that is under construction and two halls in the northeast wing of the Department of State building.

We are counting on all of you to help complete the Center that will be a fitting tribute to the history, practice and challenges of American diplomacy, and the United States Foreign Service.

William C. Harrop (Ambassador Ret.)

BUILDING THE DIPLOMACY CENTER



Screenshot of the new issues page showing the 2014 *Special 301* countries as designated by the US Trade Representative (above) and the nations PEPFAR is working in (below)



ARTIFACTS OF DIPLOMACY

What are the Artifacts of Diplomacy? Are you curious to know about some of the 6,000+ items in the U.S. Diplomacy Center's collections? Here are a few ways to find out.

Next time you are at the Harry S Truman building (Main State), take a swing through the Exhibit Hall in the center of the building on the 1st floor. You will find a special exhibit featuring several artifacts contributed by folks like you. All of them were donated by an individual diplomat, a Department of State office, or an embassy or consulate.



This tagine dish on display in the special exhibit was donated by the U.S. Embassy Tunis, Tunisia. In January 2012, the embassy organized a "Doing Business with the U.S.A." roadshow,

Tunisian Tagine Dish, donated by Embassy Tunis (USDC Collection)

Artifacts of Diplomacy cont....

WEBSITE NEWS: DISCOVER DIPLOMACY

Why does the Department of State engage in issues such as *climate change*, *non-proliferation* and *human trafficking*? To help audiences better understand that U.S. diplomats work on these issues to create a better world for Americans, the USDC will launch a newly redesigned issues map, featured on the *Discover Diplomacy* website.

With the guidance of our resident Foreign Service Officers, the USDC team worked collaboratively with the Office of eDiplomacy in IRM to redesign the new issues section of *Discover Diplomacy*, our education website. The website, which receives over 100,000 hits per month, provides a primer on what the State Department is and what U.S. diplomats do.

This new section will allow teachers and students to easily browse issues the Department is engaged in, and read the stories of diplomats who are at work on those issues.

The issues are organized under the headers *Securing Peace*, *Promoting Prosperity*, *Protecting Resources*, *Respecting Rights*, and *Saving Lives*. So, for example, under the header *Protecting Resources*, a user will find the issue *Endangered Species*, and read stories of diplomats who present programs and projects that promote animal protection in embassies around the world. In addition, this new issues page will be integrated into the future U.S. Diplomacy Center's map wall interactive, located in Hall I.

Coming soon at:

<http://diplomacy.state.gov/discoverdiplomacy>



Screenshot from the new issues section, showing the number of non-immigrant visas issued by Consular Affairs

which featured the Tunisian company Bachmara as a Tunisian exporter success story. The roadshow provided information to over 400 Tunisian companies on the Generalized System of Preferences, a program which allows Tunisian handicrafts – such as pottery – to enter the U.S. duty-free. Bachmara’s tagine dish was featured on the cover of the February 2011 Williams-Sonoma catalog.



Coca plant remover (USDC Collection)

Have you checked out <http://diplomacy.state.gov> recently? There you’ll find plenty of highlights from the USDC collections, such as this “cococho” transferred to the USDC by the INL Bureau of the Department of State. The Government of Peru’s eradication agency, CORAH, uses this innovative tool for manual eradication of the coca plant, the only required ingredient for cocaine. Senior Eradication Advisor Francisco “Paco” Alvarez developed the cococho while serving in Bolivia in the late 1990s.

This summer, the USDC launched an “Artifacts of Diplomacy” Facebook series. Follow us on Facebook to see new and hopefully surprising artifacts featured weekly, such as this trip book. Trip books are used by U.S. diplomats during conferences, foreign travel by high-level officials, and other important events, so that the numerous participants know the “who, what, where and when” details of the trip – helping to ensure it goes off without a hitch. This trip book from the USDC’s collections was used by Ambassador Eileen A. Malloy during President George H.W. Bush’s July 1992 multi-stop trip to Europe.



Planning Book for President Bush’s visit to Europe in 1992, gift of Ambassador Malloy (USDC Collection)

Katie Speckart



SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

USDC is now also on Twitter! @DiplomacyCenter

Whether on the web, in a social media feed, or in-person at Main State, there are several ways to stay connected to the Diplomacy Center and find out more about the Artifacts of Diplomacy.



USDC Director Kathy Johnson and Pathways Intern Matthew Pickett send out the USDC’s first tweet

ABOUT THE U.S. DIPLOMACY CENTER

The USDC is a privately-funded, non-partisan museum and education center dedicated to bringing the story of American diplomacy to life. Located at the Department of State’s historic headquarters, the Harry S Truman Building, the Center will invite visitors to explore the history, practice, and challenges of American of diplomacy through interactive exhibits, artifacts, hands-on education programs, diplomatic simulations, and the expertise of foreign affairs specialists.

Comments or questions? Email us at: usdc@state.gov

U.S. Diplomacy Center, Bureau of Public Affairs,
U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520