



April 2008

## NATO Summit Endorses Missile Defense

The Bucharest NATO Summit on April 2 – 4 concluded with a strong endorsement for U.S. missile defense facilities in Europe and the U.S. and the Czech Republic announced the completion of the Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Agreement.



*Czech delegation at the Bucharest Summit April 4*

Foreign Minister Karel Schwarzenberg said after meeting with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice that the BMD agreement will be signed in Prague. Consensus was reflected in the Summit's final communiqué, stating that the U.S. missile defense facilities in Europe will "make a substantial contribution to NATO's collective capability to counter existing and future threats" and that they "will be an integral part of any future



NATO-wide missile defense architecture."

The alliance is expected to announce further

developments in its own fledgling missile defense system at the next year's summit. On April 6, Ambassador Richard Graber appeared on Czech Television in the Sunday noon news show where he underscored the strong, clear allied support for the current bilateral missile defense negotiations and reiterated that the decision to host the radar or permit foreign inspectors rests with the Czech Republic.

## Ambassador Visits Olomouc, Kutna Hora, Brdy

During a two day visit to **Olomouc** in late March, Ambassador Richard Graber met with Palacky University

rector Lubomir Dvorak and discussed the U.S. presidential elections with students at the Faculty of Arts. Graber also spent time at a high school in Hejcin, where students showed great interest in upcoming U.S. presidential elections, global warming, the threat of terrorism, as well as missile defense and visa-free travel. On April 9, the Ambassador spoke with local high school students at **Kutna Hora**. On April 21, he visited a small village of **Misov** near the planned radar site in Brdy where he met with three mayors of nearby municipalities and some 15 residents and journalists. The Ambassador updated them on U.S.-Czech negotiations and the NATO Summit. Residents were most interested in learning more about possible Russian inspections at the U.S. facility, investment in local infrastructure, job opportunities related to the radar construction and maintenance, and where the U.S. personnel would live and shop.



*Ambassador Graber talks to local mayors in Misov restaurant*

## Embassy Official Speaking on Intellectual Property Rights

On April 9, Senior Economic Officer Karen Choe spoke to an audience of law enforcement officials, government officials, industry representatives and journalists about how America protects intellectual property rights. She explained the Congressionally-mandated U.S. Special 301 process, which evaluates the adequacy of intellectual property rights protection and enforcement around the world. The Czech Republic is currently on the Special 301 Watch List for continued intellectual property rights violations at the



open-air markets near the German and Austrian borders. The U.S. government is working closely with Czech industry and authorities on an IPR Action Plan to improve the situation.

## Come to Las Vegas and Develop Your Business

For the first time, the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA) hosted a trade mission in Prague on April 28 designed to court Czech participation in Las Vegas-based famous trade shows. “The Czech Republic demonstrates business vitality and potential that is attractive to an international convention destination like Las Vegas, and it is among a small handful of emerging international markets with which we are pursuing closer relations,” said Chris Meyer, vice president for the LVCVA. As one of the premiere convention destinations in the world, Las Vegas hosted 24,000 meetings and trade shows in 2007, attracting approximately 6.2 million visitors.



## Multimedia Journalist Lectures in Prague on Internet Media

U.S. multimedia journalist **Laurel Hertel** met with Czech students and reporters April 9 to discuss the latest developments in **online reporting**. At the Syndicate of Journalists, she discussed popular Internet-based innovations like mash-ups, Facebook, and Second Life. Hertel also visited Nova Television and the Faculty of Social Sciences of Charles University in Prague. “Those who don’t adjust to new trends will find themselves without jobs within a couple of years,” she told students. “It’s important to experiment. If you do nothing, you will find it hard to catch up later.” Hertel is the Academic Director for the U.S. State Department's Institute on Journalism and Media and teaches multimedia journalism at the University of Florida.

## American Center Photo Competition: "The U.S. Flag through Your Eyes"

The American Center in Prague announces a photo competition for students and young tourists who will travel to the United States in summer 2008. The theme of the competition is the American flag in various places, in



different situations and of different shapes.

**What’s the deadline?** Please send your most interesting photos by September 30, 2008, to [acprague@state.gov](mailto:acprague@state.gov). A selection of the best pictures will remain on display in the representational rooms of the American Center, Tržiště 13, Prague 1 until the end of 2008. The award includes publications, photographs and a personal guided tour of the U.S. Embassy grounds, including the famed Glorietta. For more details about the conditions and rules of the competition click [here](#) or visit the Embassy website.

## Meet America’s Best-Loved Native American Photographer

The American Center cordially invites you to a **presentation of photographs, "White Man's Moccasins,"**



by **Lee Marmon**, widely acclaimed Native American photographer, who lives in Laguna Pueblo in New Mexico. He has achieved global recognition for his distinguished black-and-white portraits of his tribal leaders. His works have appeared in galleries, books and magazines, including the Time,

New York Times and others. A collection of Lee Marmon’s best-known works are featured in his latest award-winning book, *A Pueblo Imagination* (2004) which he wrote in collaboration with poets Joy Harjo and Simon Ortiz, and his daughter. **Wednesday, April 30, 5 p.m., American Center, Prague.** (Pictures courtesy of Lee Marmon)



## Upcoming Events

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| April 30 | Presentation of Photographs “White Man’s Moccasins” by Lee Marmon, American Center, 5 p.m.   |
| May 2    | Liberation Convoy, Prague 10-11 a.m.   |
| May 6    | Pilsen Liberation Celebration  |
| May 13   | “Refuge or Refusal: A History of American Immigration Policy,” 4 p.m. at the American Center |
| May 19   | Marshall Islands Exhibition starts   |

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