1956 and Its Impact on the Soviet Bloc

2-3 November 2006

Sponsored by Columbia University’s
East Central European Center
Harriman Institute
and the
Institute for the Study of Europe

Thursday, November 2
1501 International Affairs Building, 420 West 118th St., NYC
9 am. - 10:15
Welcome by Volker Berghahn and Donald Blinken
Keynote Lecture by Charles Gati (Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University)
The Cold War In Europe and the 1956 Hungarian Revolt

10:15 am. -1 pm.
Panel I: The Secret Speech and its Impact in Russia
Chair: Catharine Nepomnyashchy (Columbia University)
Presenters: William Taubman (Amherst College)
The Place of the Secret Speech in Khrushchev's Biography
Pavel Litvinov (Friends of Memorial, Irvington, NY)
Khrushchev's Secret Speech and Dissent in the Soviet Union
Robert Legvold (Columbia University)
The Legacy of 1956 in Soviet Foreign Policy
Discussant: Nina Khrushcheva (New School University)

2:30 – 5:30 pm.
Panel II: Events in Poland
Chair: Zdzislaw Krasnodebski (Columbia University)
Presenters: Pawel Machelewicz (Nicholas Copernicus University, Torun)
1956: Long Term Consequences For Poland
Krzysztof Persak (Institute of National Remembrance, Warsaw)
The Polish-Soviet Confrontation in 1956
Andrzej Paczkowski (Institute of Political Studies, Warsaw)
1956: A Caesura for the Security Apparatus
Mark Kramer (Harvard University)
The Soviet Union and the 1956 Polish Crises

6:00 pm.
Feature Film: Freedom’s Fury
Introduced by Ivan Sanders

Friday, November 3
1501 International Affairs Building, 420 West 118th St., NYC
9 am. – 12 noon
Panel III: Events in Hungary
Welcome: Ambassador Gabor Horvath, Hungarian Consulate General, New York
Chair: Charles Gati (Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University)
Presenters: Csaba Békés (1956 Institute, Budapest)
Illusions And Reality: Did The Hungarian Revolution Have A Chance?
László Borhi (1956 Institute, Budapest)
The USA and Hungary In 1956
Attila Pok (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest)
What Were They Up To? Historical and Political Controversies about the Origins and Program of the Hungarian Revolution
Discussant: István Deák (Columbia University)

2 – 4 pm.
Concluding Remarks and Discussion
Chair: John S. Micgiel (Columbia University)
Robert Jervis (Columbia University)

 Concurrent exhibits: The Institute of National Remembrance, Warsaw
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