

# *the* Roosevelt *review*




*With the opening of the Western frontier, farmers flocked to the prairies to carve out new lives. But the wide open spaces of the American West were often inhospitable, subject to wind, sun and cold. The homes and schools of the pioneers reflected the ruggedness of the terrain. Pictured here, Nine Mile School, Meade County, South Dakota, a one-room schoolhouse, perched in the middle of nowhere.*

## At the Frontier of Research & Education

The history of the United States has been one of dramatic change. Starting as a predominantly rural nation at the time of its independence in the late eighteenth century, the country in the last 125 years, and especially since World War II, has witnessed a rapid transformation into a highly industrialized society and a leading world power. At this year's European Historians Conference the cultural, political and territorial frontiers and boundaries of America's history were examined. In addition, the conference was accompanied by a fascinating photo exhibit on the "Prairie Schoolhouse," which provided an understanding of the importance of education in the opening of the West and the social mobility of the nation.

The availability of public education is an integral element in the expansion of American democracy. As President Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "The real safeguard of democracy is

education." The same spirit that initiated the one-room schoolhouses on the prairies of the U.S. frontier, was also reflected in the motivation for establishing the Roosevelt Study Center in the mid-1980s: A belief in the positive influence of education and research.

This quest for knowledge continues to drive RSC's programs such as the Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards, the RSC research grants, the various RSC graduate seminars and international conferences. It is of course most obviously reflected in the RSC's affiliation with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. The twentieth century has been an era of immense changes in American society and, through its programs and conferences, the RSC is at the forefront of scholarly research about this remarkable time and always fascinating country. 

*Newsletter of  
the Roosevelt  
Study Center*

2003





*The activities and research programs of  
the Roosevelt Study Center in the year 2003  
have been made possible by financial  
and in-kind contributions.*

*The RSC gratefully acknowledges  
the generosity of the following contributors:*

*Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences*

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*The Netherland-America Foundation*

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*David Bruce Centre for American Studies*

*Amsterdam Municipal Archives*

*Mr. Curtis Roosevelt*



*“History, taught for a directly and immediately useful purpose to pupils and teachers of pupils, is one of the necessary features of a sound education in democratic citizenship.”*

*Theodore Roosevelt, Presidential Address, American Historical Association, Boston, Massachusetts, 1912.*

## The Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards

The annual Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards (TRAHA) were initiated in 1987, for the purpose of promoting the study of American history in the Netherlands in general and to encourage the use of the RSC's unique historical collections by Dutch university students in particular. The program is sponsored by the Theodore Roosevelt Association in Oyster Bay, New York, and each year recognizes the three best Masters theses on an American history topic written by Dutch graduate students.

Theodore Roosevelt not only served as the twenty-sixth president of the United States, but was a noted historian. As a prolific writer of history books, in 1912 he was honored for his achievements by being elected to be president of the American Historical Association. In this context, it is fitting that these American history awards presented by the RSC should be named in his honor.


Since its inception, including this year's entries, a total of 140 M.A. theses have been submitted by various Dutch universities. This year the universities of Leiden, Groningen, Nijmegen, and Amsterdam nominated a total number of six M.A. theses, covering aspects of U.S. cultural, social and political history, as being the best of the past academic year. Historians Berteke Waaldijk (University of Utrecht) and Tity de Vries (University of Groningen) served as members of the jury. On June 18, 2003 the awards ceremony took place at which time the jury presented its report. All six theses were reviewed and jury members agreed that the authors had provided interesting and, in many ways, challenging arguments. At the jury's discretion, two theses were awarded the 2003 Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards.

Margreet Sangers (University of Groningen) won second prize for her thesis “We Did Not Fight the Enemy, We Fought Ourselves: An Inquiry to American Myths in Oliver Stone's Vietnam Films.” According to the jury members, the author had convincingly demonstrated that Oliver Stone had used his Vietnam films to question the myths both of the Frontier and of Manifest Destiny. For this reason, the author argued, and the jury agreed, these films are an important source for historians studying the effects of the Vietnam War on the American psyche.



*From left to right: jury member Tity de Vries, with first prize winner Annelieke Dirks, second prize winner Margreet Sangers, and jury member Berteke Waaldijk. The winners proudly display the Theodore Roosevelt Inauguration Medal.*

First prize was awarded to Annelieke Dirks (University of Leiden) for her thesis “White Brother, Black Power: The Changing Role and Position of White Activists in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, 1960-1967.” The jury was of the opinion that the author of this thesis, based on meticulous research of new historical sources at the RSC (*Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee Papers*), had very successfully presented a clear picture of an important aspect of the Civil Rights Movement in the South.

The two winners received a Theodore Roosevelt Inauguration Medal, a certificate, and a copy of *The Man in the Arena*, a collection of Theodore Roosevelt's speeches. In addition, the second prize winner received a cash prize of € 250. The first prize winner won a trip to New York where she was hosted by the Theodore Roosevelt Association and the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and visited a number of Roosevelt sites, including TR's house “Sagamore Hill,” in Oyster Bay, New York, Eleanor Roosevelt's house “Val-Kill,” and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York. About her trip Annelieke Dirks reported, “I have tremendously enjoyed being immersed for five days in the world of the Roosevelts. I was especially impressed by the achievements of Eleanor Roosevelt who became my new role model. Though I am now working as a journalist, this trip made me realize once more how close U.S. history and politics are to my heart.” 



*Annelieke Dirks at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York.*

# A Word About the Roosevelt Study Center



*On 25 April 2003 the RSC Advisory Board had its annual meeting in the Abbey. From left to right: RSC Director Cornelis A. van Minnen, Professor Anthony J. Badger (Cambridge University, U.K.), Professor Detlef Junker (University of Heidelberg, Germany), Professor Doeko Bosscher (University of Groningen, the Netherlands), and President of Utrecht University (the Netherlands), Jan Veldhuis.*

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The Roosevelt Study Center is a research institute and conference center for modern American history and European-American relations. It is named after three famous Americans: President Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), and Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962), who trace their roots to the Dutch Province of Zeeland from where their common ancestor left for the New World in the mid-seventeenth century.

The Roosevelt Study Center is affiliated with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and a founding member of the American Studies Network, a cooperation of the twenty foremost American Studies centers in Europe. In developing its activities and building its collections the RSC is supported by the Provincial Government of Zeeland, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute at Hyde Park, New York, the Theodore Roosevelt Association in Oyster Bay, New York, and an Advisory Board of prominent European scholars.

The RSC offers European students and advanced scholars of American history:

- a research library with collections of historical documents and books on modern U.S. history not available anywhere else in Europe;
- a grants-in-aid program for European researchers;

- an annual prize for the best Dutch M.A. theses on American history topics;
- a program of exhibitions, international conferences and seminars on American history, U.S.-European relations, and the contemporary meaning of FDR's Four Freedoms;
- conference rooms with audio-visual facilities;
- a publication series;
- an annual newsletter.


The RSC library may be used year round for research, but by appointment only. Please contact the secretariat in advance of your visit. Office and library hours: 9.30 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 16.30. The RSC exhibition hall is open April through October, Monday through Friday, from 11.00 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 16.30.

## Important notice

Renovations of the RSC in 2004, will result in the reduction of library hours. For an updated schedule of new opening hours as well as for information on the RSC holdings, please visit our homepage on the Internet: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl) or contact the Roosevelt Study Center, Abdij 9, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands, tel. +31 (0)118-631590, fax +31 (0)118-631593, e-mail: [rsc@zeeland.nl](mailto:rsc@zeeland.nl).

## New Cooperation Between the RSC and Sorbonne Nouvelle

An agreement of cooperation between the International Relations Office of the Sorbonne Nouvelle and the RSC has recently been signed. The agreement allows for an annual visit to the Roosevelt Study Center by M.A. students in American history from this prestigious university. This is similar to the regular group visits of Heidelberg University M.A. students to the RSC, which last took place in January 2003.

Although Professor Serge Ricard of the Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France, who serves on the RSC Advisory Board, was unable to attend this year's annual meeting at the RSC because he spent the spring semester in the U.S. teaching at the University of Texas at Austin, he played an important role in preparing this agreement of cooperation between his university and the RSC. 



# Conferences on Old and New Amsterdam and on the Post Cold War Era

## Parallel Cities: Amsterdam-New York 1653-2003

On January 31, 2003, U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands Clifford M. Sobel opened a two-day conference, "Parallel Cities: Amsterdam-New York 1653-2003." The program, with more than eighty participants, featured sixteen speakers from the United States, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Germany. They focused on various aspects of art, culture, religion, diplomacy, trade, and economy in the 350 years of relations between Amsterdam and New Amsterdam, otherwise known as New York.

Organized by RSC Assistant Director Hans Krabbendam in cooperation with the Amsterdam Municipal Archives and representatives of the University of Amsterdam and Vrije Universiteit, the meeting was held in the historic building "De Bazel" in Amsterdam, the new location of the Municipal Archives. The papers




*Early map and depiction of New Amsterdam, now known as New York.*

delivered at this conference are expected to be published in 2004 by the VU University Press.

## NASA Conference on "Post Cold War Europe/Post Cold War America"

With the end of the Cold War in the 1990s and the terrorist attack of 9/11/2001, relations between the U.S. and Europe have changed significantly, with deepening signs of separation and disengagement. Also, not to be

overlooked, the relations amongst European countries have been affected by recent historical changes. Therefore, at the annual Netherlands American Studies Association (NASA) conference held on June 4-6, 2003 at the Roosevelt Study Center, the theme was "Post Cold War Europe/Post Cold War America."

This three-day meeting was organized by Professors Rob Kroes and Ruud Janssens of the University of Amsterdam and was attended by some fifty participants from the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, the United Kingdom, Italy, Japan, and the United States, including the Public Affairs Counselor of the U.S. Embassy in The Hague. The program featured twenty-six papers organized in sessions focusing on international relations, security issues, media and changing notions of citizenship, changing opinions on the public and the private, the state and the market, Post Cold War fiction and popular culture. One session focused especially on changes in Post Cold War Germany. Keynote addresses were delivered by Maarten Brands (Professor Emeritus of the University of Amsterdam), Professor Marilyn Young (New York University, U.S.A.), and Professor Philip Schlesinger (Stirling University, U.K.). The conference volume is scheduled to be published in 2004. 

*The fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 was an overwhelming moment and marked the beginning of the end of the Cold War era.*

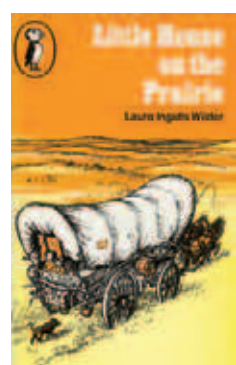


*The Sixth Middelburg Conference once again provided a venue for European and American scholars of American history to network and communicate.*

## Conference on “Frontiers and Boundaries in U.S. History”



*Public Affairs Officer of the U.S. Embassy in The Hague, Jess Baily (left), who opened the RSC exhibit on the Prairie School, shown with other participants in the Sixth Middelburg Conference at the RSC.*



*Laura Ingalls Wilder's autobiographical book is a classic description of the frontier and the solitary, rugged daily lives of the pioneers. The book provided the basis for a highly acclaimed television series broadcast both in the U.S. and abroad.*

Since 1993 the RSC has hosted a series of conferences of European historians of the United States, aimed at providing these scholars with an opportunity to meet their European and American counterparts. The discussions at these conferences cover broadly defined themes ranging from Colonial America to the present-day situation. Known as the Middelburg conferences, they are held in odd-numbered years and have resulted in a series of publications containing a selection of the papers delivered at these meetings.

Thus far the following volumes have been published: *Reflections on American Exceptionalism* (1994), *Aspects of War in American History* (1997), *Religious and Secular Reform in America* (1999), *Federalism, Citizenship, and Collective Identities in U.S. History* (2000), and *Nation on the Move: Mobility in U.S. History* (2002).

### “Middelburg 6”

This year, from April 23–25, some forty historians from the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, the United States and Canada, gathered at the RSC for the Sixth Middelburg Conference. The three-day program featured twenty papers examining the conference theme, “Frontiers and Boundaries in U.S. History,” in sessions on frontier concepts, political backgrounds of territorial expansionism, ethnic, urban and overseas frontiers, ideological and cultural frontiers. Sponsored by grants from the RSC, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, U.S. Embassy in


The Hague, and the David Bruce Centre for American Studies at Keele University (UK), this was again a most stimulating conference. Conference organizers Sylvia Hilton (Complutense University, Madrid) and RSC Director Cornelis van Minnen will edit a selection of the papers presented at Middelburg 6 and publication is envisioned in 2004.

### The Prairie Schoolhouse: The American Schoolhouse at the Frontier, 1880–1940

In connection with the theme of the Sixth Middelburg Conference, the RSC featured a photo exhibit on American frontier schools, which was officially opened in the RSC exhibition hall on April 23 by U.S. Embassy Public Affairs Officer Jess Baily. On display were some thirty-five black and white photos made in the 1990s by anthropologist and photographer John Martin Campbell of New Mexico. Most show the characteristic one-room school buildings at the frontier in the American prairie states which were built between 1880 and 1940.

With the passage of the Homestead Act of 1862, the migration of would-be farmers to the West began in earnest. By 1900 almost six million homesteads had cultivated about 127 million acres of prairie lands. Even though children were expected to work on the farm, the benefits of education were clearly important. A natural outgrowth of this was the need to find teachers and suitable accommodations for schoolchildren. Starting with schools in tents, cabins or sheds, the pioneers eventually formed communities in which a schoolhouse was built, frequently functioning as a church, dance hall and general meetingplace. Most often the prairie school had only one classroom for pupils of all grades and ages and one teacher who taught them all.

Slowly the idea of standardization of school facilities became the norm, and in the 1930s, as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal, school standards were established and construction workers from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) renovated many buildings. Mr. Campbell's photographs are a valuable record of this by-gone era.

In addition, teaching materials, school books and toys on loan from the Dekker House Museum in Zeeland, Michigan, were displayed. The exhibit was open to the public from April through the end of October 2003. 



# ry” and Photo Exhibition on “The Prairie Schoolhouse”



*Diploma from the Half-Way School, Bighorn County, Montana, 1915. At the end of the eighth grade, the pupils had to take an exam in which 140 questions had to be answered. This took two days. A couple of examples: “give the composition of the blood”; “name six powers of Congress” or “write sentences showing five uses of the noun.”*



*Teachers also had to have diplomas. After finishing “normal school” the teacher was able to teach eight grades simultaneously, in all subjects, in the same classroom. Prairie School Teacher, Colorado, 1934.*



*Moord School, Slope County, North Dakota, built around 1910. A typical Northern school built from the same materials and in the style as houses in the area: small, with a gabled roof on a wooden frame.*



*Pathfinder School, Cheyenne County, Nebraska, built around 1908, photographed around 1991. The pupils were typically seated in wooden desks two by two, or in a row.*



*Prairie Dale School, Union County, New Mexico, built around 1910, gone to ruin. During the Great Depression and the Dustbowl of the 1930s, many prairie schoolhouses were abandoned. With a minimum of five pupils such prairie schoolhouses may stay open. In the year 2000 there were about 800 such schools remaining.*

*“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.”*

*Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Statement on the observance of Education Week, September 27, 1938.*


## The RSC Research Grants Program

Thanks to a generous contribution from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and from Mr. Curtis Roosevelt, the RSC is able to offer European students of American history a unique opportunity to do research in the attractive and pleasant ambiance of the RSC library. The library holdings include numerous U.S. historical documents not available anywhere else in Europe. In addition to a per diem of € 30, the RSC grant covers travel expenses and a lump sum of € 45 for photocopies. The research period at the RSC covered by a grant ranges from a minimum of one week to a maximum of four weeks. The maximum grant is € 950.

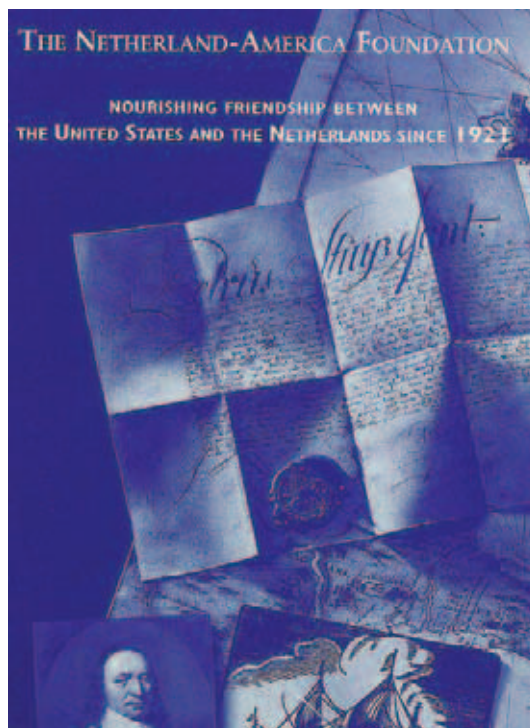
In 2003 the following persons received an RSC Research Grant for their projects:

- Francis Vlieghe (Ghent University, Belgium), “The Influence of World War I on Belgian-U.S. Relations”(M.A.);
- Maëlle Challan Belval (University of Lille III, France), “Mutations of the Jewish Vote in New York in the 1970s Since the Ocean Hill-Brownsville Crisis of 1968” (M.A.);
- Monika Kowalczyk (Pultusk School of Humanities, Pultusk, Poland), “Kennedy’s Road to The White House: The Importance of Televised Presidential Images” (M.A.);
- Ron Robin (University of Haifa, Israel),

- “Academic Scandals: Why Do They Happen and What Do They Mean?” (book);
- Radu Cazac (University of Iasi, Romania), “Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the U.S.A. in the Second World War” (Ph.D.);
- Robert Mason (University of Edinburgh, U.K.), “America’s Minority: The Republican Party and the U.S. Electorate from Hoover to Reagan” (book);
- Marco Sioli (University of Milan, Italy), “Franklin D. Roosevelt and Islam: The Publication of the Naval Documents Related to the United States Wars with the Barbary Powers in 1939” (book);
- Thomas Gijswijt (University of Heidelberg, Germany), “Transatlantic Networks, European Integration and Atlantic Cooperation. The Role of the Monnet Committee and the Bilderberg Group, 1955-1966” (Ph.D.);
- Eduard Lathioor (Ghent University, Belgium), “The Nixon Administration and the AFL-CIO and UAW” (M.A.).


European students seeking a masters or doctorate in American history as well as advanced scholars are invited to apply for the 2004 Research Grants. Application forms and relevant information on the RSC archival collections can be downloaded from the RSC website: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl). 

## NAF-Roosevelt Grants to Two Scholars



*Cover of The Netherland-America Foundation brochure*

The Netherland-America Foundation (NAF) in New York has enabled the RSC to offer a Dutch student/researcher in the field of American history and culture a grant of US \$3,000 to help cover research expenses. A condition for the grant is that applicants submit a proposal based on research to be conducted in both the RSC library in Middelburg and in archives in the United States. This research grant aims especially to support M.A. and Ph.D. candidates.

In 2003 the NAF-Roosevelt Grant was awarded (US \$1,500 each) to Ingrid Kalkhoven (Ph.D. candidate University of Utrecht) for her study, “The Implementation of Johnson’s Civil Rights Acts by the Nixon Administration,” and to Giles Scott-Smith (postdoctoral researcher RSC) for his book project, “The Foreign Leader Program of the U.S. Department of State in the Netherlands, 1950-1970.” Both historians used this grant toward their expenses for research at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. 




# Graduate Seminars at the RSC



*Some of the participants at the April 22 seminar held at the RSC for Ph.D. candidates from Cambridge and Heidelberg universities, and the RSC.*

Some forty-five Ph.D. candidates, graduate students and senior scholars from the Netherlands participated in the seminar “American Cultural History from a European Perspective” on January 16 and 17. Organized by RSC Ph.D. candidate Gonny Pasaribu in cooperation with the Huizinga Instituut (the Dutch graduate school for cultural history), presentations were held by Ph.D. candidates and advanced scholars on the origins of and developments in the field of American Studies in the United States. These included papers on the different approach in Europe to American Studies, aspects of American popular culture (music and theater), gender and ethnicity,

architecture, Cold War politics, the U.S. Foreign Leader Program in the Netherlands, Dutch views on the Vietnam War, U.S. views of and relations with the Netherlands East Indies/Indonesia, and culture studies in relation to American Studies.


The seminar closed with a discussion of the future of American Studies in the Netherlands. The two-day seminar was most productive and clearly filled a need of the participants as there is no graduate school in the Netherlands for American Studies. For this reason, the Huizinga Instituut and the RSC have agreed to organize a similar seminar in the near future. 

## Networking Among Doctoral Candidates

On April 22, the RSC hosted a seminar for Ph.D. candidates of the RSC, Cambridge University and the University of Heidelberg. Organized by RSC Director Cornelis van Minnen and Cambridge Professor Anthony Badger, the one-day meeting offered fourteen Ph.D. candidates the opportunity to present their research projects and to get to know each other.

The presentations covered such diverse subjects as John Collier’s New Deal, Feminist Networks in the Harlem Renaissance, Cultural Politics of the Black Arts Movement, the U.S. periodicals *The Reporter*, *Commentary*, and *The Paris Review*, Henry Kissinger and Germany, European Integration and Atlantic Cooperation, and American Ethnic Foreign Policy and Greek Americans. A film documentary on the

1960s and a tour of the RSC library were also offered.

The seminar was held as a prelude to the European Historians Conference (which was held from April 23-25; see page 6) and was a first attempt to determine the interest level of the Ph.D. candidates. Much to the delight of the organizers, all participants were very much in favor of making this RSC/Cambridge/Heidelberg program a recurring event. Plans are thus being developed to hold this pre-conference for Ph.D. candidates in two years time at the following European Historians Conference. This would not only help strengthen the bond between the three institutions, but also be useful in building a network among the individual Ph.D. candidates. 

## New Acquisitions at the RSC Library

The microform collections at the RSC form an invaluable primary reference resource for scholars of American history. At present they cover many aspects of U.S. twentieth-century history beginning with the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt and continuing through that of Gerald R. Ford. Also housed at the RSC are the U.S. State Department records on U.S.-Dutch diplomatic relations from the 1780s through the 1960s. In 2003 grants from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the Zeeland Library enabled the RSC to add the following new collections to its already unique holdings.



*W.E.B. DuBois, pioneer in the American civil rights movement.*

### ***The Papers of W.E.B. DuBois, 1877-1965***

As one of the earliest and most influential spokespersons for African-American liberation, W.E.B. DuBois pioneered many of the strategies and programs of the American civil rights movement. This comprehensive collection reveals the broad range of DuBois's illustrious career as the nation's first African-American sociologist, an early leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a historian and a prolific writer. Researchers can trace the changes in DuBois's political and social philosophy over the years as he became more and more radical and eventually joined the Communist Party of America. As an adjunct to this collection, the RSC also acquired the FBI File on W.E.B. DuBois.



*Mary McLeod Bethune, African-American activist, with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.*

### ***Mary McLeod Bethune Papers, 1922-1955***

For more than a quarter of a century, Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955) was one of the most powerful African Americans in the U.S. She earned national prominence as an organizer, administrator, educator, fundraiser, advocate, spokesperson, orator, and activist. In addition to serving as president of Bethune-Cookman College, Bethune was president of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs and founder and president of the National Council of Negro Women. In Washington, as a member of the National Youth Administration and founder of the Federal Council of Negro Affairs (the so-called "black cabinet"), she played a key role in ensuring that the New Deal was cognizant of the needs of minorities.

### ***FBI File on the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)***

SNCC was organized in 1960 to encourage voter registration for African Americans in the Deep South. Because Communists were believed to be infiltrating its leadership, the FBI maintained a file on SNCC activities and members, which comprises reports from

nineteen cities, including Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, and San Francisco. This is a valuable addition to the SNCC Papers at the RSC library.

### ***The Right Wing Collection***

This collection, including periodicals, newsletters, pamphlets, flyers, and broadsides (anti-minority, anti-Communist, anti-Semitic, conservative, Christian fundamentalist) offers a broad body of right-wing literature encompassing every geographic region of the U.S., from the 1920s to mid-1970s.




*President Eisenhower's presidential diaries are now available at the RSC library.*

### ***The Diaries of Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1953-1961***

These diaries and supporting documents from the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas, shed light on virtually every issue that concerned Eisenhower during his presidency. They also reveal much about his political philosophy, as well as his private views on such matters as McCarthyism, Indochina, civil rights, and disarmament. The RSC also acquired the collection *President Eisenhower's Meetings with Legislative Leaders, 1953-1961*.

### ***CIA Research Reports: Europe 1946-1976 and OSS State Department Intelligence and Research Reports on Europe 1945-1961***

A treasure trove for historians studying U.S.-European relations in the postwar era, these intelligence and research reports present many postwar European developments seen from an American perspective. Included are such subjects as the occupation and division of Germany, the reconstruction of Europe under the Marshall Plan, Soviet control of Eastern Europe, the Berlin Wall, de Gaulle and the Fifth Republic, Conservative Party governments in Britain, and the formulation of the Common Market.

To facilitate research, printed finding aids accompany the microform collections. A complete list of the RSC archival materials and audio-visual collection on modern American history is available on the RSC website on the Internet: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl). 




# The Roosevelt Family Reunion at the RSC



*Roosevelt family at the entrance of the Roosevelt Study Center.*

On June 14, 2003 some thirty descendants of President Theodore Roosevelt and President Franklin D. Roosevelt assembled in Middelburg, the Netherlands as guests of the RSC. This was the first time that the family had gathered at their ancestral home since 1986. In that year, delegations of descendants of both presidents


met for the very first time in Middelburg during the celebration of the official opening of the Roosevelt Study Center. Since then both branches of the Roosevelts have organized several family reunions in the United States. This year's event in the Netherlands featured a special program for the family at the RSC. 

## A New Neighbor in Middelburg: Roosevelt Academy

For many years, the Roosevelt Study Center, situated in the monumental city of Middelburg, Zeeland, with its beautifully preserved historical center, has provided a venue for serious scholarly research. The staff of the RSC welcomes a new educational neighbor, Roosevelt Academy.

Scheduled to open in September 2004, Roosevelt Academy will be an international undergraduate college with an academic program in liberal arts and sciences. It will offer small-scale, intensive English-language education to students with extraordinary ambitions and a pronounced international orientation. The school is founded by the University of Utrecht and the Hogeschool Zeeland, and is supported by the Province of

Zeeland, the municipalities of Middelburg and Vlissingen, and the Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences. Roosevelt Academy will offer an "honors" bachelors study program for 600 students from the Netherlands and abroad. Graduates of the three-year course will receive an accredited diploma that is nationally and internationally recognized and should form the basis for further academic or professional education, and careers all over the world.

The Roosevelt Study Center and Roosevelt Academy will certainly benefit from this proximity and their shared values in the furtherance of high-quality education and the pursuit of knowledge and intellectual excellence. 

## Information

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For free copies and information on the Center's activities, please contact the Roosevelt Study Center, Abdij 9, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands, tel. +31 (0)118-631590, fax +31 (0)118-631593, [rscc@zeeland.nl](mailto:rscc@zeeland.nl) or visit our website on the Internet: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl)

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## Editor:

Cornelis A. van Minnen

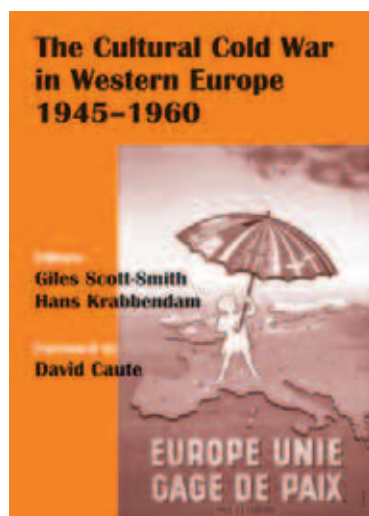
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Anda van Riet

# Just Published

*The Cultural Cold War in Western Europe 1945-1960* (London: Frank Cass, 2003).

Long seen as a military confrontation, the Cold War is increasingly being accepted as a major propaganda battle and a contest of ideas as well. This has led scholars in recent years to re-evaluate the relationship between economic policies, political agendas, and cultural expression in Western Europe after 1945. Edited by RSC scholars Hans Krabbendam and Giles Scott-Smith, this book includes contributions from a broad group of European and American scholars, who met at the Roosevelt Study Center in 2001. The cross-section of case studies presented here highlights the connections between overt/covert activities and cultural/political agendas in Western Europe between 1945 and 1960. New research has demonstrated that anti-communism was promoted both through overt political discourse and organizations, and via covert activities across a whole range of social activities, from youth and women's groups to artists and trade unions.



*Cover of the new book on the Cultural Cold War*

*Religion in America: European and American Perspectives* (Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2003).

This volume, edited by RSC Assistant Director Hans Krabbendam and Derek Rubin of Utrecht University, is based on the 2001 NASA conference held at the Roosevelt Study Center. The book presents the newest approaches to religion as a key topic in American Studies. Since September 11, 2001, American and European scholars alike have rediscovered the importance of religion for understanding the United States. While acknowledging the diversity of religious traditions in America, the essays in this volume provide a coherent focus on the central traditions in U.S. religion and their relations with Europe.

# A Look Ahead

*Upcoming events at the RSC in 2004*



*The Roosevelt Study Center is located in the medieval Abbey of Middelburg in the Province of Zeeland in the Netherlands.*

## RSC Renovation

The building in which the RSC is located is undergoing extensive renovations and therefore RSC's usual program of conferences and exhibitions will be limited during 2004. The library service will continue but will be restricted. Consequently, potential visitors are requested to call or email the secretariat for up-to-date information about opening hours and accessibility.

## Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards, April 21

Selected by a distinguished jury, the RSC presents an annual prize for the best M.A. theses on an American history topic written by Dutch university students in the preceding academic year. Replicas of Theodore Roosevelt's 1905 Inaugural Medal and prize money will be awarded to the winners, as well as a trip to "Roosevelt sites" in the U.S. for the first prize winner.

## Four Freedoms Awards Ceremony, May 8

Middelburg's Abbey is the venue for the biennial presentation of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute to a number of world citizens who are honored for their commitment to FDR's Four Freedoms.

The essays in this volume cover a wide range of subjects, including topics such as the role of religion in shaping American diversity; the lasting legacy of Puritanism in a multicultural society; the appropriation of religious space and national symbolism; the changing intersections of religion, race, and gender in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; religious paradigms in ethnic autobiographies; religion and consumer culture; the religious imagination of American and European women; and the religious exchange between Europe and the United States as shown in illustrations, hymns, evangelism, and contemporary worship practices. 