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(U) Powers Display Opens in CIA Exhibit Center

Agency employees are welcome to visit the CIA Exhibit Center, which is featuring a new display marking the 35th anniversary of U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers' release from a Soviet prison. Titled Return to "Glorie" Land, the production features memorabilia and graphics loaned by the Powers family and by H. Keith Melton, who has assembled one of the largest collections of OSS and CIA artifacts in the country. Among the items showcased in the Center are scraps of wreckage from the ill-fated spy plane that crashed on a collective farm on May 1, 1960, the Distinguished Flying Cross awarded to Powers by the Air Force, one of three hand-woven rugs he made during his 21-month imprisonment, and the poison pin the pilot carried for use in the event he was subjected to intolerable mental or physical torture.

Exhibit Center curators and worked closely with Powers' son, Gary, Jr., to create the display in time for the start of CIA's 50th birthday year. Return to "Glorie" Land will run through March 1997.

A short film on the U-2 incident, **Solo Over Russia**, will be shown every Tuesday and Thursday through March at 3 p.m. on Channel 12 on the Agency grid.

The Center's staff is also preparing another major exhibit as part of its commemoration of CIA's golden anniversary. Produced at the request of and with support from the Agency's Quality of Life Working Group, this unique display, entitled Answering the Call, will appear in the NHB fourth floor entrance. Artifacts from famous and former OSS and CIA members will be highlighted, including actor Sterling Hayden's Silver Star, jazz musician Miles Copeland's trumpet, and operative Virginia Hall's Distinguished Service Cross and field radio. Making their second appearance at the Agency will be four of famed Hollywood director John Ford's Academy Awards. Rare wartime photographs of Julia Child, television's "French Chef," and presidential advisor Walt Rostow round out the display. Scheduled to open in March, this special exhibit is expected to generate considerable interest throughout 1997. (This is UNCLASSIFIED)

Photo: (U) Powers during his trial--August 17, 1960. From Operation Overflight. Courtesy of Powers' family.

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