

Nate Jones is the Director of the Freedom of Information Act Project for the National Security Archive. He oversees the thousands of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Mandatory Declassification Review (MDR) requests and the hundreds of FOIA and MDR appeals that the Archive submits each year. An active member of the American Society of Access Professionals (the professional association of government FOI officers), he acts as liaison between Archive analysts and agency FOIA offices, and serves as the Archive's FOIA counselor to the public. He is editor of the Archive's blog *Unredacted* where he writes about newly declassified documents and FOIA policy. He has authored the Archive's past five government-wide FOIA Audits, including *The 2015 E-FOIA Audit: Most Agencies Falling Short on Mandate for Online Records*. He earned his MA in Cold War History from The George Washington University, where he used FOIA to write his thesis on the 1983 "Able Archer" nuclear war scare. He has produced The Able Archer 83 Sourcebook, the comprehensive declassified collection of documents on the incident. His article, "Countdown to Declassification" in the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, examines the intersection of Able Archer 83, nuclear miscalculation, and government secrecy.

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Work Experience

National Security Archive, Freedom of Information Act Coordinator, Washington DC, 2009-present.

- Researcher and analyst on the Cold War, primarily the 1983 US-Soviet War Scare. Overseer of the National Security Archive's database of more than 50,000 FOIA requests, replies, and documents. Author of four comprehensive FOIA audits of 100 US federal agencies. Chief Editor of the National Security Archive blog, *Unredacted*, and primary social media coordinator. Specialist in outreach to private and government organizations to advocate for freedom of information and share FOIA best practices.

Cold War International History Project, Researcher, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, Washington DC, 2008-2009.

- Cold War archival researcher at the National Archives, Library of Congress, Presidential Libraries, and other depositories. Acquired and annotated each known conversation held between Stalin and foreign representatives between 1944 and 1953. Read, translated, and summarized Russian intelligence documents and presented them on the Project's website. Maintained the Project's physical and virtual archive.

Education

- 2007 – 2009 The George Washington University, Washington, DC. Master of Arts. History with a concentration on the Cold War and Russian language.
- 2007 Moscow State University. Intermediate Level Russian Language Certificate.
- 2001-2005 Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon, Bachelor of Arts. Cold War History and Russian Language.

Articles and Presentations

- "Operation RYaN and the Vicious Circle of Intelligence," Cold War International History Project, November 2014.
- "Countdown to Declassification: Finding Answers to a 1983 Nuclear War Scare," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, November 2013.
- "The Able Archer 83 Sourcebook," a compilation and analysis of more than 1,000 pages of declassified documents on the 1983 War Scare, National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book, November 2013.
- "'One Misstep Could Trigger a Great War:' Operation RYaN, Able Archer 83, and the 1983 War Scare," Master's Thesis for The George Washington University, May 2009.
- "Clandestine Reading Room FOIA Workshop," presenter, Cooper Union, November 2014.
- *Department of State FOIA Training*. "Advice from Frequent FOIA Requesters," panelist, October 2014.
- "Black Holes in the Predecisional Universe: Agencies Gain a New Justification for Secrecy," *Perspectives on History*, August 2014.
- *Einstein Forum Potsdam*. "At the Brink of Nuclear War? The Forgotten Able Archer Crisis of 1983," contributor, May 2014.
- *Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research*. "FOIA for Historians," George Washington University, presenter, May 2014.
- "The Menace of Overclassification," Sunshine Week Syndicated Column, March 2014.

- "Able Archer 83 and the 'Dangerous Red Line' of Nuclear War," paper presented at the Universitat Tubingen Conference on Threatened Order, Societies Under Stress – Challenges, Concepts, Ideas During the Cold War of the 1970s & 1980s, September 2013.
- "Declassifying State Secrets," panelist at the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations annual meeting, June 2013.
- *Open Government Partnership in Armenia*, "Access to Information Laws in Open Governments," presenter at conference held by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, USAID, and the Freedom of Information Center of Armenia, Yerevan, June 2014.
- "War Scare: The Real-Life War Game that Almost Led to Nuclear Armageddon," ForeignPolicy.com, May 2013.
- Freedom of Information Regulations: Still Outdated, Still Undermining Openness," National Security Archive FOIA Audit, March 2013.
- Нейт Джонс: «Права журналистов и блогеров должны быть защищены законодательно» (Nate Jones, "Rights of Journalists and bloggers should be protected by law) Freedom of Information Foundation, www.svobodainfo.org, March 2013.
- "No One Ensuring Agencies Comply with FOIA," *The Brechner Report*, February 2013.
- "'Dynamite' Pentagon Interview Behind 'Zero Dark Thirty,'" ForeignPolicy.com, January 2013.
- "The Zero Dark Thirty File: Lifting the Government's Shroud Over the Mission that Killed Osama bin Laden," National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book, January 2013.
- "The True Spy Story behind Argo," ForeignPolicy.com, October 2012.
- "The National Declassification Center: Will it Meet Our Expectations?" presenter, American Association of Law Librarians, July 2012.
- "The Zelikow Memo: Internal Critique of Bush Torture Memos Declassified," National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book, April 2012.
- "Classification Reform Key to Obama's FOIA Vision," *The Brechner Report*, August 2011.
- "Eight Federal Agencies Have FOIA Requests a Decade Old," National Security Archive FOIA Audit, July 2011.
- "The Osama bin Laden File," National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book, May 2011.
- *A World of (wiki)Leaks*. "Freedom of Information and the National Security Apparatus," panelist, April 2011.
- "Agencies Slow to Implement Obama's FOIA Policy," *The Brechner Report*, August 2010.
- "The Missiles of November: Able Archer 83 and Reagan's Turn from Confrontation to Rapprochement," for the Center of the Study of the Presidency, April 2009.
- "The Study and Implementation of Benzedrine by the United States Army Air Forces in World War II," presented for the George Washington University Military History Group, December 2008.
- "Operation RYaN, Able Archer 83, and Miscalculation: The War Scare of 1983," presented at the 2008 University of California Santa Barbara International Graduate Conference on the Cold War, April 2008.
- "The Missiles of November: Able Archer 83," *The Meridian Journal of International and Cross-Cultural Perspectives*, April 2005.
- *The Old Tiger and The Aged Mother Who Nurtured Noble Sons. Calvin and Julia Brown Mateer: Letters from China*. The Presbyterian Missionary Archive, Philadelphia (2005). A 30-page annotated collection of letters from missionaries in China, 1864 to 1900, April 2005.