

—Slug:.....COMM-0865.wc.WWAC_MarshallPlan
—Contributor.....
—Contributor email.....
—For section..... Town and Village
—Format..... News - no byline
—Dateline.....
—Article Number:.....43577



Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 WWAC examines history and legacy of the Marshall Plan

####END HED####

####BEGIN SUBHED####

2

####END SUBHED####

3 TEXT BODY:

####BEGIN TEXT####

4 The Windham World Affairs Council (WWAC) will host a
5 talk by Paul Vincent, “Unwrapping the Marshall Plan,” Friday,
6 May 15, at 7 p.m. at 118 Elliot.

7 Vincent, Professor Emeritus of Holocaust and Genocide
8 Studies at Keene State College, will examine how the United
9 Sstates supported Europe through the Marshall Plan, a timely
10 topic in light of recent U.S. interventions in Venezuela and Iran.

11 In 1948, the United States launched one of the most
12 ambitious foreign policy programs in history: a massive economic
13 aid package designed to rebuild Western Europe after World War
14 II.

15 In striking contrast to the terms of the peace settlement
16 after World War I, which exacted severe reparations from
17 Germany, “the Marshall Plan provided sixteen nations with \$13.2
18 billion, what amounts to roughly \$135 billion today,” wrote
19 organizers in a news release. The program ran for four years. “By
20 most measures, it worked. Economies recovered, governments
21 stabilized, and the feared spread of Soviet influence was
22 contained,” they said.

23 But the Marshall Plan was “more than a simple act of
24 generosity. It was a calculated bet, shaped by specific political
25 pressures, economic interests, and ideas about what postwar
26 Europe needed to survive.”

27 Vincent’s work addresses questions such as: Who
28 designed it? Who benefited? Who was excluded? What did it aim
29 to accomplish?

30 “It’s also a strikingly different kind of American
31 intervention from what we’re used to seeing,” organizers said. As
32 speaker John Feffer discussed at WWAC’s event in April, “lately
33 those have consisted primarily of attempts at regime change and
34 opportunities for self-enrichment.”

35 Paul Love, board member emeritus at WWAC, undertook
36 to organize a talk on the Marshall Plan because it is so different
37 from many other modern U.S. interventions: “It seemed to me
38 that in the recent past, in this century, the U.S. has made several
39 missteps in other countries, either in the regimes we’ve supported
40 or in ones we’ve worked to change. I thought it would be
41 important to look at an effort which supported what we believe
42 in.”

43 This event is a chance to understand what the Marshall
44 Plan actually was, how it worked, and why that history is worth
45 knowing right now.

46 Vincent taught history and Holocaust studies at Keene
47 State College for 32 years. He directed the Cohen Center for
48 Holocaust Studies, helped establish Keene State's academic
49 major in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and has been a fellow
50 at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and a Fulbright
51 Scholar at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. He is the
52 author of *The Politics of Hunger* and *A Historical Dictionary of*
53 *Germany's Weimar Republic*.

54 There is a suggested donation of \$10. No one will be
55 turned away for lack of funds. Seats can be reserved at bit.ly/865-
56 vincent. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further
57 information, visit windhamworldaffairsCouncil.org.

####END TEXT####

BIO/COATTAIL:

####BEGIN BIO/COATTAIL####

58

####END BIO/COATTAIL####

LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

####BEGIN MAXISSUE####

59

0

####END MAXISSUE####

LINKS:

####BEGIN LINKS####

60

####END LINKS####

VIDEO:

####BEGIN VIDEO####

61

####END VIDEO####

LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

###BEGIN LOGLINE###

62

###END LOGLINE###