

***RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
invites you to attend its meeting, on Wednesday, Nov.23, 2013.
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Pl., Greenwich.***

DR. PAUL STRASSMANN

THE ANTI-NAZI PARTISAN FIGHTERS OF SLOVAKIA



Slovak partisans were an anti-fascist militia formed in 1939 to fight against the Nazis and their collaborators. Men and women, and Christians and Jews, fought in the ranks of partisan units. The most famous Slovak partisan brigade, with 1300 members, was the M.R. Stefanik Brigade, led by the Slovak partisan hero Villiam Zingor.

Following the capture and eventual murder of his family by the Nazis in 1944, 15-year-old Paul Strassmann sought out and joined a band of partisan forces who received support from Stalin and Soviet forces. He will tell us firsthand of his experiences as a guerrilla fighter and saboteur, and later as a 16-year-old Corporal of the Czechoslovakian Army. He will describe the geography, the casualty rates, and the change in operations from raids on railroads until his squad retreated into the high mountains to survive one of the coldest winters ever. He received the General Stefanik Medal for his efforts. His book "Paul's War" provides a new lens on the experiences that have shaped his thinking, while presenting an expert's view and firsthand perspective on some of the lesser-known or understood history of WW II--- the Eastern Front, the treatment and fate of Eastern European Jews, and the realities of totalitarianism.

Dr. Strassmann is a prolific writer on matters of business productivity and information technology. He has taught at the U.S. Military Academy and George Mason University, where he is a Distinguished Professor of Computer Science. He recently addressed the RMA on Cyberwarfare. Until his retirement, he worked as the Chief Information Officer at Xerox. Afterward, he served as the Director of Defense Information at the Department of Defense. He is the holder of the highest medal a civilian can receive from the Secretary of Defense. He was the Chief Information Officer at NASA, receiving the NASA Exceptional Service Medal. His father was a combat officer in World War II and his grandson is a U.S. Navy Officer responsible for nuclear propulsion on an attack submarine.

RMA members and their guests should arrive by 9:45 AM for our full meeting. The general public should plan to arrive at 10:45 AM. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwich. No Charge and No Reservations are required. For additional information, call Bernard Schneider, 203-698-2558; bgsesq@gmail.com.