



The Legacy: Celebrating the 3rd Anniversary

"Learning to defend our history"

Madrid, July 7th, 2019

Today marks the third anniversary of the founding of The Legacy Association. We began our journey in 2016 with a foot in the North American Naval Academy in Annapolis. There we requested an space in some of the walls of its exceptional Museum.

The reason was for historical justice because the minimum mention of Spanish support in the country's naval history and the success of its independence was non-existent.



Spain only appeared due to the turbulent and mysterious matter of the sinking of the Maine in Havana that provoked the war of Cuba of the 98. The scrapping was not only of the ship but also of the relations between the two countries that had shared so much before the birth of the North American nation.

The superintendent of the Academy, the Vice Admiral Carter gave me the pleasure to implement a plan and compensate for that absence, without a doubt an excellent way to show his gratitude to the

Spanish people. In September of 2017 we placed a plaque in the noble area of the museum and presented the book *"Farragut and Menorca. The Spanish Legacy in the US Navy"*. It was an event attended by more than 3000 people, in the presence of a broad representation of civil and military authorities, including the Chief of Staff of the Navy, Admiral Lopez Calderón and CNO (Chief Naval Operation of the US Navy) Admiral Richardson, together with the Spanish Defense Minister Cospedal.

The next day, that same book, made its entry into the White House as an Institutional gift from the Spanish President to the North American President.

This was the first of our projects and three years have passed since our foundation. The advances of The Legacy have multiplied and we continue working so that our mission and objectives continue to grow and its dissemination becomes exceptional. In a recent interview I was asked about how the foundation of The Legacy came. *"The encounter with our fascinating story came to my door through several channels. In all of them without exception there was a common denominator: the absence of historical rigor and the ignorance of the greatness of our people. I started to work with determination, respect for our ancestors and with many support from Spanish citizens. They wanted exactly the same as me, that future generations are well informed and break the infamous circle of stories unfounded and rooted by the Black Legend... and perhaps also by the lack of interest in going beyond what tell us the history books... and here we are "learning to defend our History", trying to infect our enthusiasm.*

We want to continue mitigating the damage of the Black Legend. We must stop telling our past in the version that others tell. It is Our History, investigate it, tell it, spread it

and teach it is everyone's task. We have much to do and discover, to achieve success, we must continue without truce and without pause but mainly we need many more citizens and institutions to join in the reconstruction of our legacy. "



The Legacy publishes this year, again together with the Ministry of Defense, its second book. **“George Washington and Spain. The Legacy of the Spanish Army in the United States of America”**. We hope it will be available to the public in September.

Inspired by this new book, next Friday July 12th, within the framework of collaboration signed on November 8th with the Ministry of Defense, opens in the Alcázar de Toledo, in the Museum of the Army, the temporary exhibition: **“The Battle for Independence. The contribution of the Spanish Army to the birth of the USA”**

Additionally, I am pleased to inform you that The Legacy has on going cooperation agreements with the city councils of Seville, Malaga, Jerez de la Frontera and Rota. We are also planning to request an appointment with the Madrid City Council, with the aim of continuing to accumulate support for the dissemination of our legacy "

We celebrate this anniversary with the illusion of endless possibilities for a new year full of success.

Thank you

Eva Garcia
President and Foundress