

## Author A.C. Frieden Interviews Herma Marksman, Author and Former Mistress of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez

**CARACAS, Venezuela (July 12, 2007)** – Novelist A.C. Frieden arrived in Caracas to continue his research for his upcoming political thriller, *Where Spies Go To Die*. In hopes of better understanding the complex political environment in Venezuela, which is an important part of his book, Frieden interviewed key personalities from the country's political, diplomatic, academic, business and literary communities. One such interview was with Herma Marksman, a historian of Spanish and German descent who spent nearly ten years as “the other woman” at the side of President Hugo Chávez Frías during his rise to power in the late 1980s and through his imprisonment in the early 1990s.



Above: Author A.C. Frieden meets Herma Marksman, author and former mistress of President Hugo Chávez Frías, during their meeting at the Gran Melia Hotel in downtown Caracas.

Herma once shared Hugo Chavez's passion for a new Bolivarian revolution, having helped Chavez organize his political movement and the 1992 coup. But now she considers herself part of the opposition, disillusioned by Chavez's empty promises and what she characterizes as his ever-growing hunger for power. In 2002, she and noted political analyst Alberto Garrido co-authored the book *El Otro Chavez*, a portrayal of Hugo Chavez through her eyes.

**About the author:** A.C. Frieden is a Swiss-Brazilian mystery novelist and lawyer living in Chicago. For more information about A.C. Frieden, visit the official website at [www.acfrieden.com](http://www.acfrieden.com) and his literary travel blog.

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