

Frieden Researches Scenes in Vietnam

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (Jun. 20, 2008) -- After a brief stopover in Hong Kong, I arrived in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, to begin his 10-day on-site research for his novel *Woman At The Citadel*, a political/historical mystery set in 1951 Indochina. "Since I'm about a quarter into the manuscript," said Frieden, "this is the right time to visit the country and get more information about its colonial past, understand the rich culture, and find off the beaten path places to make the novel more interesting." His research included visiting sites in and around Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, the village of Co Loa, and Halong Bay. He also spent much time searching for materials not readily available back home, such as limited edition books, archived documents, and old maps.



Above: The **Citadel at Co Loa** was first built during the end of the **Hồng Bàng Dynasty**. It will be the setting in one of first scenes in Frieden's novel. Below: The luxurious **Bhaya Cruise junk**, where Frieden stayed three days researching Halong Bay.





Above: Inside the largest chamber of the **Sung Sot Cave** in Halong Bay.
Below: Frieden photographing and researching sites in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.



Above: Frieden stayed at the historical **Sofitel Metropole Hotel** in Hanoi.



Above: Hanoi's **Military Museum**, located on Dien Bien Phu Street, features a large number of weapons, equipment, uniforms, aircraft, and other relics of the country's long history of conflict.



Above: (left) Hanoi's largest bookstores (perhaps a future book signing venue!); (right) Hanoi's **Saint Joseph Cathedral**, opened in 1886.

About the author: A.C. Frieden is a novelist and lawyer living in Chicago. His background as an attorney, molecular biologist, martial artist, pilot and army marksman, as well as his experiences abroad, comes together in his political and espionage novels, including his latest, *Tranquility Denied*. For more information, visit his official website www.acfrieden.com or his literary travel blog at <http://ac-frieden.travellerspoint.com>.

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