

Khrushchev, Corn, and Cold War Diplomacy:
Garst Grows Relations With Russia One Ear At A Time

Caleb Sinnwell
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In July, I began my National History Day project by looking for a topic related to my passion, agriculture. I searched for a lesser known topic with meaningful theme connections, but struggled to find one. Finally, I experienced a breakthrough during a family tour at the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates where I was introduced to many acts of agricultural food diplomacy. After seeing a painting of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's 1959 visit to Roswell Garst's Iowa farm, I knew I had found the perfect topic. Garst and Khrushchev's relationship was forged through food diplomacy and played a significant role in thawing icy cold war relations. I was immediately hooked and couldn't wait to learn more about this unlikely friendship.

I started my research by reading books and journal articles on my topic to build knowledge. Next, I visited the Iowa State University Archives, where Garst's papers are located, to review and scan folders full of pictures, correspondence, and newspaper articles documenting Garst's and Khrushchev's diplomatic relationship and the debate surrounding it. Additionally, the archives had digitized raw footage and television broadcasts from Khrushchev's 1959 Iowa visit, which deepened my understanding and provided impactful media for my project. Later, I utilized Newspapers.com, Newspaper Archives, and Iowa Community Archives to find newspaper articles from the time period that provided first-hand perspectives on my topic. Also, I obtained primary source documents, photographs, and newsreels in online collections from the National Archives, Library of Congress, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, Michigan State University, Ohio History Connection, Wisconsin Historical Society, and TASS: The Russian News Agency. Finally, I conducted personal interviews with Sharon Long, whose farm the Soviet delegation visited in 1955; Patty Staudt and Ann Martin, who

were both present during Khrushchev's 1959 Iowa visit; Roswell Garst's granddaughter, Liz Garst, who met the Soviet delegation and is the family's historian; U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, who deepened my understanding of agricultural diplomacy and aided my topic analysis; and Dr. Kenneth Quinn, President Emeritus of the World Food Prize, who enhanced my ability to represent my topic's historical significance.

With my research complete, I began creating my project. I picked the individual website category because I felt I could best portray my topic through a combination of pictures, documents, quotes, audio clips, video clips, and my own words. I created my project using NHD WebCentral, used green and yellow as the main colors to represent agriculture and corn, which were the source of Garst's and Khrushchev's diplomatic relationship, and utilized iMovie to edit interview, film, and audio clips for use in my project.

My thesis presents a strong argument concerning my topic and its historical significance. From 1955-1960, Iowa agricultural businessman Roswell Garst and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev forged an unlikely friendship through food diplomacy and ongoing agricultural exchanges that, despite sparking fiery public debate, successfully spurred Russian adoption of modernized farming methods, created a thaw in otherwise icy Cold War relations, and promoted a pattern of establishing peace through agriculture.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

Personal Interviews

Garst, Liz. Interview by the author. January 3, 2022.

I interviewed Liz Garst, the granddaughter of Roswell Garst, who was present on several occasions, including 1959, when Soviet delegations visited Garst's farm. I consider this interview to be one of my best sources because Garst shared her personal memories of Khrushchev's visit to her family's farm, described in detail the factors that built their diplomatic relationship, and discussed how their shared love of corn helped thaw Cold War relations. I used an audio clip from this interview on the "Seeds of Diplomacy" page and two quotes that shed light on Roswell Garst's relationship with Khrushchev and the 1959 Coon Rapids visit.

Long, Sharon. Interview by the author. November 14, 2021.

I interviewed Sharon Long about her memories of a Soviet agricultural delegation's visit to her family's Mount Ayr, Iowa, farm in 1955 after a *Des Moines Register* editorial suggested the need for an agricultural exchange. Long shared that the purpose of bringing the Soviets to a farm with mostly poor land was to show them that all farms could be successful using American farming methods. I used a quote and an audio clip from this interview on the "Seeds of Diplomacy" page of my website because it was on this trip that the Soviets first met Roswell Garst, the man who developed many of those ideas.

Martin, Ann. Interview by the author. January 4, 2022.

I interviewed Ann Martin, who was 15-years-old when Khrushchev visited the Garst farm in 1959. Martin shared her memories of the motorcade that traveled by her home just outside Coon Rapids, Iowa, and the fear she felt seeing the Soviet leader in-person after participating in Cold War bomb drills at school. I used a quote from her interview on the "Cold War" page of my website because it showed the far-reaching effects of Cold War tension that Garst helped overcome through food diplomacy.

Staudt, Patty. Interview by the author. December 31, 2021.

I interviewed Coon Rapids, Iowa, native Patty Staudt, who was a young girl during Khrushchev's 1959 Garst farm visit. While she didn't remember many specifics concerning Khrushchev's visit, Staudt discussed growing up during the Cold War, explained Garst's support of the Coon Rapids community, and provided several contacts in the Coon Rapids area that greatly helped in the development of my project.

Archival Collections

Munroe, Joe. Roswell Garst and Nikita Khrushchev Collection, 1959. Joe Munroe Archives, Ohio History Connection, State Library of Ohio.
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll15/search/searchterm/garst>.

Photographer Joe Monroe was present and documented Khrushchev's 1959 trip to Roswell Garst's Iowa farm by taking pictures, a number of which are part of this collection. These photographs deepened my understanding of the two men's interactions during that visit and provided good options for use in my website.

Roswell Garst Papers, 1919-2005. RS 21/7/12. Special Collections and University Archives, Iowa State University Library, Ames, IA.

I spent a day in August at Iowa State University Library in Ames, Iowa, reading and scanning documents, pictures, letters, newspapers, and various magazine articles from Roswell Garst's papers, which helped me build and provide support for my historical argument. This collection took me step-by-step through the formation of their relationship and their many diplomatic exchanges that helped thaw Cold War relations. I used various items from this collection throughout my website to illustrate my own words and provide evidence for my argument.

Book

Khrushchev, Nikita. *Statesman*. Vol. 3 of *Memoirs of Nikita Khrushchev*. University Park, Pennsylvania/United States: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2007.

Khrushchev's book discussed many topics involving the United States, including the deterioration of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and USSR following the U-2 spy plane incident and Cuban Missile crisis. Despite this tense situation, Khrushchev and Garst maintained a warm relationship due to their shared interest in agriculture. I used a photograph from this book on my website's "Thesis" page and a quote from Khrushchev on the "Growing Diplomacy" page.

Journal Articles

Dichter, Ernest. "The Khrushchev Visit: The Role of Social Research." *Political Research, Organization and Design* 3, no. 1 (September 1959): 17-18.

This article discussed the possible psychological dangers of Khrushchev's 1959 visit to the United States from a social research point of view. The author pointed out that the main problem concerning people becoming too friendly with the Soviets was that they might forget the dangers the Soviet Union presented to the United States. Because this article was written before Khrushchev's visit, it helped me better understand how much fear was present during the Cold War and the significance of Garst's actions in warming relations with the Soviets.

Khrushchev, Sergei. "The Cold War Through The Looking Glass." *American Heritage* 50, no. 6 (October 1999): 34-45.

This article is a primary source because it was written by Sergei Khrushchev, Nikita Khrushchev's son, who traveled with his father to Iowa in 1959. Sergei recalled in detail growing up during the Cold War and how differently the two superpowers were viewed depending on whose perspective was being considered. This journal article provided two valuable quotes I used on the "Debating Diplomacy" and "Impact" pages of my website.

Films

"Eisenhower & Khrushchev, New Diplomacy." August 3, 1959. Video, 01:56. YouTube. Posted by Universal Newsreels, September 15, 2006. Accessed December 3, 2021. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_LSJDoQY0JM&t=49s.

This 1959 Universal Newsreel showed President Eisenhower announcing that Khrushchev would be making a September diplomatic visit to the United States followed by Eisenhower traveling to the USSR later that fall. Eisenhower stated the exchange would build trust and mutual understanding that would aid diplomatic relations. This video provided important context for understanding how Garst and Khrushchev's relationship fit into and helped overall diplomatic relations between the U.S. and USSR.

"Khrushchev at Garst's Farm." Oct. 1959. Video, 05:00. YouTube. Posted by Iowa State University Library, June 28, 2015. Accessed October 12, 2021.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nsYhICE-4A>.

This film was created by Iowa State University to document Khrushchev's 1959 visit to the Garst farm. It had lots of good, color footage showing their farm tour and friendly interactions, which deepened my understanding about their agricultural exchange and the strength of their relationship. However, because the narration was a little hard to understand, I didn't use any clips from it on my website.

Khrushchev's Visit to Iowa. 1959. WOI-TV Film Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, Iowa State University Library.

This news segment, which focused on Khrushchev's 1959 visit to Garst's farm in Coon Rapids, Iowa, provided useful footage of Khrushchev's motorcade driving into town, as well as showed the Soviet leader touring Garst's corn and sorghum fields, examining farm machinery, and discussing hybrid seed corn with Garst. I used a clip from this film on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website because it showed the friendly nature of their relationship that helped thaw U.S. Cold War relations with the USSR.

Memo

Garst, Roswell. *Roswell Garst to All Salesmen Everywhere, December 10, 1955*. Memo. MS579, Box 43, Folder 10, Garst Family Papers, Iowa State University Special Collections and University Archives, Ames, Iowa.

Garst wrote this memo after traveling to the Soviet Union in 1955 where he met Nikita Khrushchev for the first time. I used a quote from this primary source document on "The Diplomats" page of my website because it discussed how Garst viewed business relationships as the key to peaceful relations, as long as both people were benefitting. In the case of Garst and Khrushchev, Garst's business profited while Khrushchev gained benefits for Soviet agriculture from their diplomatic interactions.

Letters

Garst, Roswell. Letter, August 26, 1959. MS579, Box 43, Folder 10, Garst Family Papers. Iowa State University Library, Ames, Iowa.

This 4-page form letter was written and sent by Roswell Garst to people who wrote letters to him about Khrushchev's upcoming visit to his farm. Garst communicated that Khrushchev's purpose for the visit was to learn more about American agriculture and that the visit would not only add to the personal relationship they'd built through other diplomatic exchanges, but also to overall relations between the U.S. and USSR. I used a quote from this letter on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website concerning Garst's hope that the visit would contribute to world peace.

Khrushchev, Nikita. Letter, December 31, 1959. MS579, Box 43, Folder 10. Garst Family Papers. Iowa State University Library, Ames, Iowa.

Khrushchev wrote this two-page letter to Roswell Garst recalling his trip to Iowa and expressing happiness that it had reduced tensions between the two countries. This source was important because it shared specific details about the ongoing diplomatic relationship between Garst and Khrushchev that centered around agriculture and continued through letters and additional visits for years after Khrushchev's 1959 visit. This also provided support that their interactions really were warming Cold War relations, which was a key point in my thesis.

Mickey, Cristy. Letter, September 14, 1959. Box 172, Folders 4-6. Bourke B. Hickenlooper Papers. Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, West Branch, Iowa.

Cristy Mickey, who was a teenager at the time of Khrushchev's visit to the U.S., wrote this letter to U.S. Senator Bourke Hickenlooper of Iowa, in support of having Khrushchev visit her home state. Mickey stated that, because she had experienced living abroad with a foreign family, she realized the importance of personal contacts and how they could deepen understanding among people from different countries. I used a quote from her letter on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website to show a positive perspective concerning Garst and Khrushchev's diplomatic relationship.

Mitchell, Tom. Letter, September 13, 1959. Box 172, Folders 4-6. Bourke B. Hickenlooper Papers. Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, West Branch, Iowa.

Tom Mitchell, an Iowan from Cedar Falls, wrote this letter to U.S. Senator Bourke Hickenlooper of Iowa, which stated he strongly opposed Khrushchev's visit to the United States. Mitchell wrote that he felt Khrushchev was pretending the trip was about promoting peace, when in reality he had a secret agenda to look at the land he wanted to take. I used a handwritten excerpt from his letter on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website as an example of criticism concerning Garst and Khrushchev's diplomatic relationship.

Editorials

Garst, Roswell. "Bob Garst Tells of Benefits He Feels Khrushchev Derived From Visit to Coon Rapids." Editorial. *Coon Rapids Enterprise* (Coon Rapids, Iowa), October 1, 1959, 1.

Roswell Garst wrote this editorial in the weeks following Khrushchev's 1959 visit to his Coon Rapids farm. Garst explained the benefits both men obtained from the visit and discussed the topics they talked about during the visit, including the arms race and the need for disarmament. This editorial provided important first hand details, which were useful in building my knowledge about Garst and Khrushchev's diplomatic exchanges that, in addition to agriculture, included controversial Cold War political topics.

Garst, Roswell. "Garst Views Behind the Iron Curtain On Six Weeks Tour." *Coon Rapids Enterprise* (Coon Rapids, Iowa), November 4, 1955, 1. Digital file.

Roswell Garst wrote this editorial following his 1955 six-week tour of Russia, Romania, and Hungary where, in contrast to U.S. mechanized farming methods, he saw outdated Soviet farming methods that relied mostly on manual labor. Garst shared what he learned through this diplomatic visit and his belief that the U.S. needed to work with and support Soviet farmers. I used this headline on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website because it provided an introduction to Garst's early diplomatic exchanges.

Grand Rapids Press (Grand Rapids, MI). "Khrushchev to Miss Heart of America?"
August 20, 1959.

This editorial discussed disappointment among Michigan residents that Khrushchev's U.S. tour itinerary left out Detroit, the automobile production capital of the world, which they felt represented America's economic strength. This provided important context concerning Khrushchev's U.S. diplomatic tour and how significant it was that he chose to visit Garst's farm over other places.

Marietta Journal (Marietta, GA). "Krush Will Enjoy It, Anyway." August 20, 1959.

In the debate surrounding Khrushchev's U.S. tour, this editorial took the position that the Soviet premier had everything to gain and the U.S. everything to lose because he was "dictator of half of the globe and [had] made his intentions quite clear concerning the other half." By discussing his rise to power and desire to keep it, this editorial provided important background information that helped me make important theme connections to strengthen my project.

Soth, Lauren. "If the Russians Want More Meat." Editorial. *Des Moines Register* (Des Moines, Iowa), February 10, 1955, 10.

Lauren Soth's editorial sparked the first act of agricultural diplomacy between the United States and Russia in 1955 by suggesting that the two nations send agricultural delegations to visit each other's countries. I used the headline and a quote from this editorial on the "Seeds of Diplomacy" page of my website because it triggered a diplomatic relationship between Garst and Khrushchev built through agriculture.

Newspaper Articles

Associated Press. "Khrushchev's U.S. Itinerary Set Up." *Rochester Times Union* (Rochester, NY), 24 August 1959.

This article provided the itinerary for Nikita Khrushchev's 12-day tour of the United States, including dates and places he was traveling. Coon Rapids, Iowa, really stood out from Khrushchev's other stops because it was the only non-major city he planned to visit. I used a map from this article on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website, as his stop in Coon Rapids showed how much Garst's diplomatic relationship with Khrushchev influenced his trip itinerary.

Belair, Felix, Jr. "Truman Acts to Save Nations From Red Rule." *New York Times*, March 13, 1947. Accessed December 18, 2021. <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/learning/aol/onthisday/big/0312.html>.

This article was published the day after U.S. President Harry Truman proposed to Congress a policy of containment (later known as the Truman Doctrine) against communist aggression by the Soviet Union. I used the article's headline on the "Cold War" page of my website because this policy was a main reason for the Cold War between the U.S. and USSR, and the icy relations that Garst helped thaw through his diplomatic relationship with Khrushchev.

Considine, Bob. "On the Line: No 'Nikita Go Home' Trend." *Tyler Telegraph* (Tyler, Texas), August 22, 1959.

Considine's article reported that the U.S. State Department had received very few letters opposing Khrushchev's U.S. trip, while many more expressed support and interest in having the Soviet leader visit their homes, businesses, and farms. I used this headline on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website to show the surprising amount of support for the Soviet leader's visit during a tense time.

Coon Rapids Enterprise (Coon Rapids, IA). "Mr. and Mrs. Bob Garst Take Trip Abroad." October 5, 1956, 12.

This article reported on a 3-month trip Roswell Garst and his wife took to agricultural regions of Russia, Romania, the Scandinavian countries, and England in 1956. It was one of several trips the Garsts made to Soviet Bloc countries from 1955-1959. I used this article on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website to show how Garst's many acts of agricultural diplomacy helped Soviet food production, his own business, and relations between the two nations.

Coon Rapids Enterprise (Coon Rapids, IA). "Soviet Chief, Garst Dine; Talk of Corn." April 3, 1959, 3.

This article covered a 1959 event at which Nikita Khrushchev hosted Roswell Garst and his wife for a dinner and the topic of discussion was growing corn. Soviet news agencies reported that Soviet Agricultural Minister Vladimir Matskevich also attended to hear Garst answer questions about his corn growing methods. I used the headline from this article on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website because it showed one of many diplomatic interactions between the two men that helped thaw Cold War relations.

Dekalb Chronicle (De Kalb, IL). "Cold War Is Chief Topic." August 20, 1959.

This article discussed planned Cold War talks between President Eisenhower and Nikita Khrushchev during Khrushchev's twelve-day American tour, which included a visit to Garst's Iowa farm. I found it interesting that Khrushchev refused to visit U.S. military installations on his tour and later avoided showing similar facilities to Eisenhower when he visited the USSR in the fall of 1959. This deepened my understanding of the tensions surrounding the Cold War and the diplomatic role Garst played that helped improve relations.

Des Moines Register (Des Moines, Iowa). "Many Iowans Feel Khrushchev Visit a Good Thing." November 22, 1959.

This article summarized the results of an Iowa poll that was completed immediately following Khrushchev's 1959 visit to Garst's farm in Coon Rapids. It provided a statistical breakdown of Iowan's thoughts concerning Khrushchev's visit and Garst's diplomatic relationship with the Soviet leader. I shared the poll results on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website because it provided a measurement of Iowan's positions in the debate concerning this diplomatic event.

Des Moines Register (Des Moines, IA). "25,000 Greet Khrushchev: He Challenges U.S. to Contest in Corn and Meat." September 23, 1959, 1.

This article described the massive crowd of people who lined Khrushchev's travel route in Des Moines, and held up signs with mostly positive comments about the Soviet leader. It also gave detailed information about his tour of the Des Moines Packing Company and John Deere Works, where Khrushchev seemed to enjoy learning how mechanization had improved U.S. agricultural production. I used the headline from this article on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website to show how much interest was created by Khrushchev's visit.

Des Moines Sunday Register (Des Moines, Iowa). "U.S. Admits Plane Was 'Spy.'" May 8, 1960, 1.

This article discussed the unarmed U-2 spy plane that was shot down over the Soviet Union in May 1960. This incident, and the U.S. government's initial denial that they had authorized the spy plane to fly over the USSR, created an immediate rise in tensions between the U.S. and USSR. I used this headline on the "Impact" page of my website to show why Cold War relations returned to dangerous levels after they had shown great improvement following diplomatic activities during Khrushchev's 1959 trip to the U.S.

Eleazer, Frank. "Khrushchev Gets Hundreds Of Invitations to Visit in U.S." *Washington Journal* (Washington, IA), August 19, 1959.

This article showed that, despite Khrushchev's negative view of the U.S. government, there were many American citizens who wanted him to visit their towns, clubs, and businesses on his twelve-day tour of the United States in 1959. This helped me better understand different American perspectives concerning Nikita Khrushchev and his popularity among Americans, even though he was the leader of the United States' greatest political enemy. I used this headline on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website because it shows how big a deal it was that Khrushchev decided to visit Roswell Garst's farm in Iowa.

Faltermayer, Edmund. "Farmer Khrushchev: He Has Better Luck in Space than with Milk and Meat." *Wall Street Journal*, August 10, 1959.

This article discussed how the USSR impressed the world with its scientific and technological achievements yet still came up short in agriculture. Under Khrushchev's leadership, the Soviets made major gains in agriculture as meat, milk, and eggs became more plentiful, but they still trailed the U.S. in overall agricultural production. I used this article's subtitle on the "Impact" page of my website to show why Khrushchev was viewed as a failure by the Soviet government.

Lincoln Evening Journal (Lincoln, Nebraska). "World's No. 1 Communist Sees Earth's Most Productive Land." September 23, 1959, 1.

This article discussed Garst and Khrushchev's exchanges about hybrid seed corn and other agricultural matters that demonstrated a deep mutual respect for one another. It was their shared agricultural interest that helped bridge the political conflict dividing the Cold War enemy nations, which was a key point I emphasized in my thesis and throughout my project.

Mills, George. "Nikita to See Garst Cattle, Machines Even If It Rains." *Coon Rapids Enterprise* (Coon Rapids, Iowa), September 17, 1959, 12.

This article discussed that, rain or shine, Garst planned to show Khrushchev his machines, corn, and cattle eating corn cobs during his Coon Rapids farm tour. It also discussed debates concerning the trip, including a church board that opposed Khrushchev's tour and planned to protest, which is why I used an excerpt from this article on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website.

Minneapolis Tribune (Minneapolis, Minnesota). "Iowa Governor Opposes Visit by Khrushchev." August 23, 1959.

This article shared the viewpoint of Iowa Governor Herschel Loveless who opposed Soviet leader Khrushchev's Iowa visit. Governor Loveless believed Khrushchev was using the tour for propaganda purposes and, as a result, wanted no part of it. This article provided one of many opposing viewpoints in the debate regarding Garst and Khrushchev's diplomatic exchanges, so I used the article's headline on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website.

Montrose Press (Montrose, CO). "Khrushchev to Visit 6 Cities, Corn Farm." August 20, 1959.

This article identified stops for Khrushchev's twelve-day, 1959 U.S. tour. It listed six cities, all located in major metropolitan areas, and Coon Rapids, which was the only rural stop. I used this information in my project because it demonstrated the strength of the diplomatic relationship between Garst and Khrushchev that influenced the Soviet leader's decision to visit Garst's farm over other cities.

Mount Ayr Record News (Mount Ayr, IA). "Russian Delegation to Visit Long Farm This Afternoon." July 28, 1955, 1.

After my interview with Sharon Long, she sent this article about the Russian delegation's visit to Ralph Long's farm where they saw soil conservation practices. This was important because it showed what a farmer could do with poor land if they used good agriculture methods. I used this headline on the "Seeds of Diplomacy" page because this 1955 agricultural delegation marked the start of agricultural diplomacy between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Oxnard Press-Courier (Oxnard, CA). "Soviet Premier to Visit Farm, Los Angeles on American Tour." August 20, 1959.

This article provided insight regarding the growth of Garst's relationship with the USSR through many diplomatic visits to the Soviet Union, during which he advised Russian farmers on corn production and importing hybrid seed corn to aid agricultural growth. Also, it discussed how Garst personally invited Khrushchev to visit his Coon Rapids, Iowa, farm after hearing about the Soviet leader's planned visit to the United States. Because this article provided some new and specific details about their relationship, it helped me build additional theme connections in my project.

Perkes, Dan. "Carroll County Man Believes Food Key to Peace-Corn Big Drawing Card for Khrushchev at Coon Rapids, Garst Says." *Carroll Daily Times Herald* (Carroll, IA), August 21, 1959, 1.

This article focused on the reasons why Khrushchev planned to visit Roswell Garst's Coon Rapids, Iowa, farm during his trip to the United States. Garst, who had come to know Khrushchev well, had given an open invitation for Khrushchev to visit anytime and see his hybrid seed corn, advanced machinery, and well-fed cattle. I used this article's headline on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website because it showed the role of agricultural diplomacy in building peace.

Perkes, Dan. "Corn, Corn and More Corn Bringing Khrushchev to Iowa." *The Daily Iowan* (Iowa City, IA), August 22, 1959.

This article explained how Khrushchev's interest in visiting the 160-acre Garst farm in Coon Rapids, Iowa, was sparked by the new and effective farming methods Garst used at the time, such as planting hybrid seed corn, feeding corn cobs to his cattle, and erecting the first sorghum drying building in the world. Because the USSR suffered food shortages in the years before his visit, Khrushchev hoped visiting Garst's farm would offer ideas for overhauling Soviet agriculture and increasing food production. This article helped me see how food diplomacy came to play such an important role in thawing Cold War relations.

Press-Democrat (Santa Rosa, CA). "Nikita's Itinerary Mapped Out." August 20, 1959.

This article discussed the places Khrushchev planned to visit during his 1959 twelve-day tour of the United States, which culminated in Cold War diplomatic discussions between President Eisenhower and Soviet Premier Khrushchev at Camp David. This helped me better understand the reason for Khrushchev's lengthy trip and the significance of his decision to visit Coon Rapids, Iowa.

Salisbury, Harrison. "Soviet Plans to Copy U.S. Corn Economy." *New York Times*, February 4, 1955. Digital file.

This article deepened my understanding of the Soviet economy through discussing plans Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev had for advancing Russian agriculture by increasing corn acres, as well as improving livestock production by raising grains to feed them. Khrushchev looked to the United States for answers to Soviet agricultural problems, which is why I used this article's headline and a quote from it on "The Diplomats" page of my website.

Scali, John. "Coon Rapids Welcomes Khrushchev." *Carroll Daily Times Herald* (Carroll, Iowa), September 23, 1959, 1.

This article had pictures of Khrushchev at Garst's farm with captions describing the agricultural mechanization he saw there. Also, it discussed the presence of huge crowds and their positive feelings about the Soviet leader's visit to their small community. I used the headline from this article on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website to show local support for Khrushchev's visit.

Strohm, John. "To Startle K. in Iowa: Machines, Chemicals, Incentive." *Ames Daily Tribune* (Ames, Iowa), September 16, 1959.

This article compared the number of people an American farm could feed versus the number a Soviet farm could feed in 1959. It required the labor of many more people to perform agricultural tasks in the USSR than the number needed in the U.S., highlighting inefficiencies in the Soviet system. I used a photo from this article on the "Impact" page of my website that showed wasted Soviet manpower, a problem Garst addressed through mechanization.

Weeks, Harlan L. "Khrushchev and Party Learn of America's Agriculture Might." *Boone News-Republican* (Boone, Iowa), September 24, 1959, 1.

This article explained events that took place during Nikita Khrushchev's visit to the Garst farm. The huge number of police and reporters present demonstrated the significance of this 1959 visit. I used this article's headline on my "Growing Diplomacy" page to communicate that Khrushchev's visit to the Garst farm was about bringing the two men together around a topic for which they had mutual interest and was beneficial to them both.

Magazines

Harriman, Averell. "Khrushchev in the U.S.A." *Look*, September 15, 1959, 22-25.

This article discussed Khrushchev's ideas about the U.S., its citizens, government, and capitalist economy before his 1959 American tour. Also, it had a quote from Khrushchev stating he didn't intend to destroy the U.S. with bombs, but instead by outdoing them in agriculture. I used this quote on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website because it showed how agricultural diplomacy helped shift the focus from nuclear weapons to food production.

"Historic Visit of Peace and Friendship." *USSR*, October 1959, 30-33.

This magazine was published by the USSR and distributed in the United States right after Khrushchev's 1959 U.S. tour. It included many photographs taken during his Garst farm visit, two of which I used on the "Home" and "Debating Diplomacy" pages of my website, and articles that discussed how his diplomatic exchange with Garst boosted world trade and promoted peace. While this magazine was designed to influence American opinion concerning the USSR, it did provide an important look at the Soviet perspective, or at least the one the government wanted to portray.

"How Khrushchev Was Invited-A 'Mystery' Solved." *U.S. News & World Report*, August 17, 1959, 56.

This article discussed how Nikita Khrushchev was invited to visit the U.S. near the end of the Geneva Conference and that President Eisenhower's agreement to also visit Moscow could provide a diplomatic breakthrough. This article helped me understand the diplomatic reasons behind these visits and how important they were to the countries involved, which is why I used a quote from this article on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website.

"The Khrushchev Visit - As the World Sees It." *U.S. News & World Report*, September 28, 1959, 56-57.

This two-page article was filled with European perspectives concerning the Soviet leader's visit to the United States. Comments from citizens in France, Germany, and Britain, deepened my understanding of different views people had concerning this diplomatic visit, which included a stop at the Garst farm.

Langer, Peter. "Khrushchev and the Free World." *The Harvester World*, October 1959, 2-15. Accessed January 17, 2022.
<https://content.wisconsinhistory.org/digital/collection/ihc/id/20187>.

Langer's article discussed Khrushchev's highly anticipated visit to the Garst farm where it didn't take long for the two men to disagree on corn planting methods, but in a surprisingly respectful way. The article also had lots of pictures and funny stories about the visit, such as a reporter's request for a pig to squeal on cue for an authentic sound. This was useful because, in addition to the agricultural discussions the men had, it showed the more human and personal side of their diplomatic relationship.

“N.S. Khrushchev: We Go to the USA With An Open Heart.” *USSR*, September 1959.

This magazine was published by the USSR and distributed in the United States before Khrushchev’s 1959 visit to the U.S. It provided multiple perspectives from Soviet leaders and citizens about a U.S. and Soviet exchange. I used a quote from this magazine on my website’s “Debating Diplomacy” page and a picture of a Russian combine harvesting crops on the “Impact” page.

Osborne, John. "A Cornball Act Down on the Farm." *LIFE*, October 5, 1959, 35-43.

Life’s magazine’s cover photo and many articles inside covered Khrushchev’s farm visit to Coon Rapids. The fact that Garst and Khrushchev appeared on the cover showed their diplomatic relationship was regarded as highly important, which is why I put it on the “Growing Diplomacy” page of my website.

Speech

Truman, Harry S. "Truman Doctrine, 'Recommendations for Assistance to Greece and Turkey'." March 12, 1947. History and Public Policy Program Digital Archive. Truman Library. <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/116182>.

In 1947, after a telegram from George Kennan, American diplomat in Moscow, warned of Soviet aggression in spreading communism, President Truman requested Congress contain communism by giving aid to vulnerable foreign governments. This reset the direction of U.S. diplomatic policy and sparked the Cold War, which is why I included this speech on my website’s “Cold War” page.

Telegram

Kennan, George. *Long Telegram*. History and Public Policy Program Digital Archive. National Archives and Records Administration. Department of State Records (Record Group 59), Central Decimal File, 1945-1949, 861.00/2-2246. February 22, 1946. <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/116178>.

American diplomat to the USSR, George Kennan, sent his 1946 Long Telegram to President Truman warning about communist expansion and making policy recommendations to contain it. Because Kennan’s message provided important context concerning the events that led up to the Truman Doctrine, which guided diplomatic policy towards Russia for the next 25 years, I used a quote from it on the “Cold War” page of my website.

Posters

Ershov, Igor Aleksandrovich. "Corn Is a Priceless Treasure." 1963. Poster. State Publishing House, Tajik SSR. Accessed December 18, 2021. <https://www.posterplakat.com/the-collection/publishers/state-publishing-house-tadjik-ssr>.

"Corn is a Priceless Treasure" is a propaganda poster created as part of Khrushchev's 1954 corn campaign focused on the issue of hunger in the Soviet Union. Khrushchev used different kinds of media, including posters and animated cartoons, to show the Russian people the need to plant more corn. I included this poster on "The Diplomats" page of my website because Khrushchev saw Garst as someone who could help him improve corn production in the Soviet Union.

Govorkov, Viktor. *Make Way for the Corn*. 1955. Poster. Soviet History Archive, Michigan State University. Accessed December 18, 2021. <http://soviethistory.msu.edu/1961-2/corn-campaign/corn-campaign-images/#bwg158/848>.

I found this propaganda poster, which was created as part of Khrushchev's corn campaign, in an online archive of Soviet history at Michigan State University. It shows ears of corn marching with farm animals watching from the side and smiling, as a way to influence Soviet people to plant corn. I included this picture on "The Diplomats" page of my website to show Khrushchev's many efforts to lessen hunger in the USSR, which led to the development of a diplomatic relationship with Roswell Garst.

Soloviev. *Hybrid Seeds Are the Rule for High Corn Harvests*. 1956. Poster. Soviet History Archive, Michigan State University. Accessed December 18, 2021. <http://soviethistory.msu.edu/1961-2/corn-campaign/corn-campaign-images/#bwg158/846>.

This propaganda poster was one of many I found in an online archive of Soviet history at Michigan State University. It was part of Khrushchev's corn campaign that ran from 1954 through the early 1960s and promoted planting corn as the solution to hunger in the Soviet Union. I included it on "The Diplomats" page of my website in the Khrushchev section because it promoted hybrid seed corn, which was an idea Khrushchev developed through an early diplomatic encounter he had with Iowa farmer Roswell Garst in 1955.

Photographs

Chudakov, Gregori. *Nikita's Argument*. 1957. Photograph. Michigan State University. Accessed December 18, 2021.

<http://soviethistory.msu.edu/1961-2/corn-campaign/corn-campaign-images/#bwg158/849>.

This photograph shows Soviet Premier Khrushchev holding an ear of corn at a conference shortly after he started his corn campaign in 1954. I used this photo on "The Diplomats" page of my website because Khrushchev's plan to grow corn as a way to end Soviet hunger and strengthen his people, was a major factor that contributed to the development of his relationship with Roswell Garst.

Garst and Thomas Hybrid Corn Company. *Hybrid Grain Bag*. c. 1955. Photograph. Worthpoint. Accessed January 2, 2022.

<https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/garst-thomas-sorghum-hybrid-cloth-1746969875>.

This Garst & Thomas Hybrid Corn Co. grain bag was used to hold and distribute hybrid grain, which was the result of Garst's genetic innovations. Because Garst had developed cutting edge agricultural inputs, Khrushchev wanted to form a relationship with him to help the struggling Soviet agricultural economy. As a result, I used this photo on "The Diplomats" page of my website as a visual representation of Garst's agricultural innovations.

Herrick, Gene. *Roswell Garst examines an ear of corn on his experimental plot at his Coon Rapids, Iowa farm*. September 9, 1959. Photograph. TASS. Accessed December 20, 2021.

<https://www.tassphoto.com/en/asset/fullTextSearch/search/khrushchev%201959%20iowa/page/1>.

This photograph shows Roswell Garst examining corn at an experimental plot on his Coon Rapids farm, where he regularly tested hybrid seeds, fertilizer, and chemicals. I used this photograph on "The Diplomats" page of my website because it shows Garst in his element, looking at the corn he worked so hard to develop and that became the foundation of his diplomatic relationship with Khrushchev.

Iowa State University Students Greet Nikita Khrushchev During His Visit to the Campus.

Photograph. 18 Historic Photos: Nikita Khrushchev's 1959 Visit to Iowa. Des Moines Register. September 28, 2018. Accessed January 30, 2022.

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/06/16/18-historic-photos-nikita-khrushchevs-1959-visit-to-iowa/28824211/>.

This photograph is part of a *Des Moines Register* archival gallery of photographs and is a primary source since the photograph was taken at the time of Khrushchev's visit to Iowa State University. It shows a large group of smiling students gathered to greet Khrushchev and to take pictures of the Soviet leader. I used this photo on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website to show how these students supported Khrushchev's visit.

Joseph Stalin (right center, rear in white uniform) listens in on the discussions at the Potsdam Conference in 1945 following the German surrender. 1945. Photograph. Library of Congress. Accessed November 30, 2021. <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/archives/sovi.html>.

This is a 1945 photograph of Joseph Stalin and other Allied leaders taken during the Potsdam Conference where they met to discuss the division of Europe following World War II. It was also where Stalin first showed his ideas for aggressive expansion of communist ideals. I used this photograph on the "Cold War" page of my website because postwar communist aggression sparked the Cold War between the U.S. and USSR that Garst's food diplomacy helped to thaw.

Long, Ralph. *Vladimir Matskevich at Long Farm.* July 28, 1955. Photograph. Long Family Photograph Collection.

This photograph shows first Deputy Minister of Agriculture Vladimir Matskevich visiting the Ralph Long farm in Mount Ayr, Iowa, with a 1955 Russian delegation. After the visit, he insisted Khrushchev invite Garst to the USSR. As a result, I used this picture of Matskevich on the "Seeds of Diplomacy" page of my website.

Munroe, Joe. *Garst and Thomas Hybrid Corn Company.* September 1959. Photograph. Iowa State University Archives, Ames, IA.

This photograph shows the Garst & Thomas Seed Corn Company hybrid seed corn plant where Garst manufactured hybrid corn seed and, as a result, was of great interest to the Soviet delegation. I used this picture on "The Diplomats" page of my website because it was Khrushchev's and Garst's common interest in agriculture that brought them together in a successful diplomatic relationship.

Munroe, Joe. *Garst farms mass feedlots*. September 23, 1959. Photograph. Ohio History Connection, State Library of Ohio, Columbus, OH.

This photograph shows one of the mass cattle feedlots on the Garst farm that Khrushchev saw when he visited on September 23, 1959. I used this photograph on the “Growing Diplomacy” page of my website to show the agricultural innovations that Khrushchev learned about during his diplomatic exchanges with Garst.

Munroe, Joe. *Khrushchev watches corn unload at Garst farm*. September 23, 1959. Photograph. Iowa State University Archives, Ames, IA.

This photograph shows Khrushchev inspecting picked corn as it was being unloaded from a grain truck. He appeared happy to finally see Garst’s hybrid corn in person, which was the original reason why he wanted to meet Garst and what helped them develop a diplomatic relationship. That is why I used this photograph on the “Growing Diplomacy” page of my website.

Nikita Khrushchev with Reporters. September 23, 1959. Photograph. Wisconsin Historical Society. Accessed January 17, 2022. <https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Image/IM11244>.

This photograph shows Khrushchev and Garst walking through a swarm of reporters and other spectators while touring the Garst farm in Coon Rapids, Iowa. Khrushchev received the heaviest press coverage of his entire U.S. trip at Garst’s farm, which showed the degree to which their unlikely diplomatic relationship captured the world’s attention. I used this photograph on the “Growing Diplomacy” page of my website to show the importance of this visit.

O'Halloran, Thomas. *Crowd Gathered on Street to See Soviet Leader Nikita Khrushchev in Des Moines, Iowa*. September 23, 1959. Photograph. Library of Congress. Accessed January 31, 2022. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2015647177/>.

This photograph shows a crowd gathered in the streets of Des Moines, Iowa, with a very large sign that clearly opposed the arrival of Khrushchev because he was a communist. It demonstrated the widespread hatred many American citizens had for the communist leader. I used this photograph on the “Debating Diplomacy” page of my website to represent a major reason why many people were opposed to the Soviet leader’s visit.

People protest Nikita Khrushchev's arrival to Des Moines. September 1959. Photograph. 18 Historic Photos: Nikita Khrushchev's 1959 Visit to Iowa. September 28, 2018. Accessed January 30, 2022. <https://www.desmoinesregister.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/06/16/18-historic-photos-nikita-khrushchevs-1959-visit-to-iowa/28824211/>.

This is a photograph showing people protesting Khrushchev's arrival in Des Moines, by holding signs with different messages about why they were against the communist leader's visit. I used this primary source photograph on the "Debating Diplomacy" page of my website to show the harsh feelings expressed by many when Khrushchev visited.

President Harry S. Truman addressing a joint session of Congress asking for \$400 million in aid to Greece and Turkey. March 1947. Photograph. Truman Presidential Library and Museum. Accessed November 15, 2021. <https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/photograph-records/59-1252-4>.

This photograph shows President Harry Truman addressing a joint session of Congress asking for aid to help Greece and Turkey. This historic address, later known as the Truman Doctrine, sparked the Cold War and became the backbone of American diplomatic policy for the next 40 years, which is why I used it on the "Cold War" page of my website.

Soviet Breadline. 1963. Photograph. Scrapushka-nsk. Accessed February 8, 2022. <https://scrapushka-nsk.ru/en/nachalo-kukuruznoi-epopei-god-kak-sssr-realizoval-znamenityi-kukuruznyi/>.

This photograph shows Soviet citizens waiting in line to receive bread that had become scarce due to crop failures caused by a drought that hit hard in 1963. This led the Soviet people to conclude Khrushchev's corn campaign was a failure and resulted in his removal from power in 1964. I used this photograph on the "Impact" page of my website to show that, despite progress due to agricultural exchanges with the West, Soviet agriculture failed to meet the goals of his seven year plan, and was judged a failure.

Yegorov, Vasily. *Soviet Leader Nikita Khrushchev Visits United States*. September 23, 1959. Photograph. 567268. TASS Russian News Agency. Accessed November 29, 2021.
<https://www.tassphoto.com/en/asset/fullTextSearch/search/khrushchev%201959%20iowa/page/1>.

This photograph shows Roswell Garst linking arms with Soviet Leader Nikita Khrushchev at Garst's farm, which symbolized their growing friendship built on food diplomacy. This relationship not only modernized Russian agriculture, it also created a thaw in otherwise icy Cold War relations, which is why I used it on the "Thesis" page of my website.

Secondary Sources

Interviews

Quinn, Dr. Kenneth. Interview by author. March 22, 2022.

It was an honor to interview Dr. Kenneth Quinn, President Emeritus of the World Food Prize Foundation, retired United States Ambassador, and a career United States Foreign Service Officer. Dr. Quinn's extensive knowledge about the role of agriculture and food diplomacy in foreign relations was very interesting and useful in better understanding the impact of Garst and Khrushchev's relationship on Cold War relations. Additionally, Dr. Quinn explained the scope of Garst and Khrushchev's food diplomacy very clearly and how the same principles can be applied today, which is why I used quotes from this interview on the "Growing Diplomacy" and "Impact" pages of my website.

Vilsack, Tom. Interview by author. December 2, 2021.

My interview with current U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack was crucial to better understanding the significance of Garst's food diplomacy during the Cold War, as well as agricultural diplomacy's overall role in international relations both past and present. Vilsack, who previously served as the Governor of Iowa and participated in the 50th anniversary celebration of Khrushchev's visit to Garst's farm, had deep knowledge on my topic, as well as the political significance of agricultural diplomacy for building peaceful relations. This was helpful in my topic analysis and, as a result, I used a clip from this interview on the "Impact" page of my website.

Books

Autio-Sarasma, Sari. "Khrushchev and the Challenge of Technological Progress." In *Khrushchev in the Kremlin: Policy and Government in the Soviet Union, 1953–64.*, edited by Jeremy Smith and Melanie Ilic, 133-149. BASEES/Routledge Series on Russian and East European Studies. Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2011.

This book explained Russia's long history of adopting foreign ideas and technology to overcome their backward ways, and the diplomatic exchanges between Garst and Khrushchev were a prime example. It was Khrushchev's willingness to adopt new ideas that set the stage for the establishment of his diplomatic relationship with Garst, which deepened my understanding of the factors that sparked their friendship.

Carlson, Peter. *K Blows Top: A Cold War Comic Interlude Starring Nikita Khrushchev, America's Most Unlikely Tourist.* New York: Public Affairs, 2009.

This book recalled the Cold War visit made by America's most unlikely tourist, Nikita Khrushchev, and included a section on Khrushchev's visit to the Garst farm. Carlson's book was written in a humorous way and provided important historical context for understanding the significance of Roswell Garst's actions that helped establish peace through corn and forged an unlikely relationship between the two men.

Shapoval, Lurii. "The Ukrainian Years, 1894-1949." In *Nikita Khrushchev*, edited by William Taubman, 8-43. New Haven, Conn: Yale University Press, 2000.

Shapoval retold Nikita Khrushchev's life journey, including his early years as a poor child in Ukraine and the challenges he faced growing up, which later influenced his views as a Soviet government official. This helped me understand why Khrushchev had compassion for the poor people of the Soviet Union and how it played into his desire to work with Garst to improve Soviet agriculture and the lives of all classes of Soviet people. As a result, I included information about Khrushchev growing up in a poor agricultural region of Ukraine on "The Diplomats" page of my website.

Streliański, Anatolii. "Khrushchev and the Countryside." In *Nikita Khrushchev*, edited by William Taubman, 113-137. New Haven, Conn: Yale University Press, 2000.

Streliański wrote this informative chapter in Taubman's book about Khrushchev and the Russian countryside. It discussed how Khrushchev addressed the USSR's poor agricultural production and diets through his corn campaign. This provided some important information that I included in the Nikita Khrushchev section of "The Diplomats" page on my website.

Taubman, William. "Khrushchev, Nikita Sergeevich." *Encyclopedia of Russian History*, edited by James R. Millar, vol. 2, Macmillan Reference USA, 2004, pp. 745-749.

Taubman wrote this four-page entry on Khrushchev in the *Encyclopedia of Russian History*, which built my overall understanding of Nikita Khrushchev as both a person and a leader. It covered many aspects of Khrushchev's life, gave details of his early years under Stalin, discussed his path to top leadership, and addressed why he was removed from power in 1964.

Journal Articles

Brown, Peggy A. "Diplomatic Farmers: Iowans and the 1955 Agricultural Delegation to the Soviet Union." *The Annals of Iowa* 72, no. 1 (2013): 31-62.

This journal article provided a detailed account of the 1955 agricultural exchange between the U.S. and USSR. This peaceful diplomatic exchange was sparked by an editorial in the *Des Moines Register*, which led to an even bigger diplomatic event at Garst's farm in 1959. I used a quote and a photograph from this article on the "Seeds of Diplomacy" page of my website because they showed first hand the importance of these diplomatic actions for international relations.

Carlson, Peter. "Comrade Khrushchev's American Road Trip." *American History* 44, no. 4 (October 2009): 38-43.

Carlson's article provided information concerning Khrushchev's 1959 U.S. tour, including where he went and speeches he gave as the first Soviet premier to visit the U.S. It also contained many interesting photos and quotes from Khrushchev and others concerning the trip and directed me to other available sources on my topic for use in my project. Although the author stated the overall trip provided no major diplomatic benefits at the time, Khrushchev's visit to Garst's farm was an important step in thawing Cold War relations through food diplomacy.

Carlson, Peter. "Eisenhower Defrosts Khrushchev." *American History* 50, no. 3 (August 2015): 18-19.

This article provided a glimpse of Eisenhower's and Khrushchev's personalities during the Cold War and the many interesting successes and failures that happened during diplomatic meetings on the trip. I used a quote from President Eisenhower's welcome speech on the "Growing Diplomacy" page of my website to establish that the nature of the visit was to be one of peaceful diplomacy.

Frese, Stephen J. "It's Not Every Day You Get to Call the Son of a Soviet Leader." *Iowa Heritage Illustrated* 85 (2004): 154-155.

This article discussed a high school student in 2004 who interviewed Sergei Khrushchev and Liz Garst while researching Khrushchev's 1959 visit to Garst's farm. The author discussed how interviewing people present during Garst's and Khrushchev's diplomatic exchanges provided important perspectives about their relationship. As a result, I decided to contact and interview Liz Garst, who was personally present for Khrushchev's 1959 Iowa visit.

Grant, Tina. "Garst Seed Company, Inc." *International Directory of Company Histories* 86 (2007): 156-159.

This article explained the history of the Garst Seed Company and how its founder, Iowa agricultural businessman Roswell Garst, became a leading innovator in farming technologies over several decades. Garst had a deep love of farming, which kept him striving to improve techniques and sell hybrid seed corn around the world. This information was helpful for understanding why Garst bonded with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev and for years traveled to the Soviet Union and surrounding countries to help improve Soviet corn production.

Hale-Dorrell, Aaron. "The Soviet Union, the United States, and Industrial Agriculture." *Journal of World History* 26, no. 2 (June 2015): 295-324.

According to this article, Khrushchev had two major goals as the Soviet leader – peaceful coexistence and competition with capitalist rivals. Khrushchev's relationship with Garst, which centered on improving Soviet agriculture through better farming methods, checked the box for both goals. This helped me see that their relationship wasn't as random as it seemed, and was very goal focused.

Knock, Michael. "Khrushchev in Iowa." *Humanities* 30, no. 4 (July/August 2009).

Accessed November 2021.

<https://www.neh.gov/humanities/2009/julyaugust/statement/khrushchev-in-iowa>.

This journal article presented the perspective of Liz Garst, Roswell Garst's granddaughter, about her grandfather's relationship with Khrushchev forged through agriculture. She emphasized that Roswell Garst helped thaw Cold War relations and captured the interest of the Soviet people who still recall images of Iowa's spectacular cornfields. This deepened my understanding of the interactions between the two men and the impact of their diplomatic relationship.

Kordon, Kyle A. "Khrushchev Comes to America: The Advent of Mutual Understanding."

Voces Novae 1, no. 1 (2009): 147-180.

Kordon's article explained why Khrushchev's visit to the United States was such a big deal by pointing out that it was a turning point in Cold War relations. Although the success of the trip is debated by scholars, Sergei Khrushchev, Nikita Khrushchev's son, believed the trip to the United States, and particularly Garst's farm, built mutual understanding that helped reduce Cold War tension. This helped me understand the role that personal relationships can play in politics, which is why Garst and Khrushchev's agricultural exchanges were so important.

Mueller, Sherry L. "A Half-Century of Citizen Diplomacy: A Unique Public-Private Sector Partnership." *The Ambassadors REVIEW* (Fall 2009): 46-50.

This journal article discussed Garst's personal exchanges with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev as a significant example of citizen diplomacy. Garst's actions demonstrated that private citizens could build constructive relationships with foreign leaders that were as good as, if not better than, those established by government officials. This article was useful in shaping my understanding regarding the significance of Garst's person-to-person diplomacy that provided a replicable approach to achieving peace in international relations, which is why I emphasized it on the "Impact" page of my website.

Pezzullo, Phaedra C., and Kathleen P. Hunt. "Agribusiness futurism and food atmospheres: Reimagining corn, pigs, and transnational negotiations on Khrushchev's 1959 US tour." *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 106, no. 4 (2020): 399-426.

This journal article showed the important connection between food and power. While Khrushchev's 1959 diplomatic visit to the U.S. was a key event in Cold War relations, the importance of Khrushchev's visit to Garst's farm and to Iowa State University's Swine Research Center on that trip have often been wrongly ignored. This article deepened my understanding of how very important agriculture was, is, and will continue to be for international relations, which is why I ended my project discussing the concept of "Peace Through Agriculture" on the "Impact" page of my website.

Sorrels, Charles A. "Khrushchev in America." *The National Interest*, no. 6 (1986): 53-65.

Sorrel's article explained how Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev manufactured crises and used these events to spark talks with President Eisenhower. The article especially focused on the Soviet leader's insistence on visiting the United States and President Eisenhower's views on the subject. This helped me better understand the greater debate at the time concerning the possibility of Khrushchev touring the U.S.

Magazine

O'Keefe, Eric. "America's Best Diplomats? Farmers!" *Successful Farming*, September 2021, 34-37.

I found this article in my grandpa's *Successful Farming* magazine and I was excited to learn that Iowa farmers have often hosted visits for world leaders from the Soviet Union and many other places, including the People's Republic of China. This article shared the stories of American farmers, such as Roswell Garst, Norman Borlaug, and other less recognizable individuals, who changed the course of history by using agriculture to build peace. I used the headline from this article on the "Impact" page of my website to show the very important role of agriculture in achieving peace.

Newspapers

Cedar Rapids Gazette (Cedar Rapids, Iowa). "Roswell Garst Laid to Rest." November 9, 1977.

This article announced the death of 79-year-old Roswell Garst and stated that the Iowa farmer and agribusinessman would always be remembered for hosting Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev at his Coon Rapids farm in Iowa. Garst's dedication to modernizing agricultural methods in the U.S. and abroad, along with his desire to improve the lives of others, made him successful at creating peace through agriculture. As a result, I used a quote from this article on the "Impact" page of my website.

Malcolm, Andrew H. "Coon Rapids: Unchanged Since Khrushchev." *New York Times*, May 23, 1972.

Malcolm's article provided information about the significant role the Garst family played in Coon Rapids, Iowa, and the world. Edward Garst, Roswell Garst's father, started the general store and Roswell owned or managed 3,000 cattle and 4,500 acres of land, all of which impacted the seed company, the dry goods store, the feed company, the insurance agency, the bank, and the grain elevator. I used a quote from this article on the "Thesis" page of my website because it discussed the importance of agricultural diplomacy in helping solve world problems.

Muhm, Don. "Garst Helped to Spur Big Changes in Farming." *Des Moines Register* (Des Moines, IA), November 8, 1977, B1.

This article recalled the life of Roswell Garst, all the agricultural changes he lived through, and how he impacted both U.S. and foreign agriculture through innovation and diplomatic exchanges. It helped me understand how Garst waged a one-man effort that helped achieve better relations with the Soviets due to his determination that no person should go hungry. I used the headline from this article on "The Diplomats" page of my website because it captured how Garst impacted agriculture during his lifetime.

Perkins, Jerry. "Two Sons Revisiting History: Garst, Khrushchev Recall Their Fathers' Famous Meeting." *Des Moines Register* (Des Moines, Iowa), February 6, 1995.

This article discussed Khrushchev's historic 1959 visit to the Garst farm 35 years later through memories shared by Nikita's son, Sergei, and Roswell's son, David. Sergei Khrushchev shared his father's thoughts about agriculture, communism, and how the visit opened his eyes to the ways of a free country, while Garst discussed their fathers' unique relationship and how it impacted Cold War relations. I used part of this article on the "Impact" page of my website because it discussed how Khrushchev failed to achieve his seven year plan's agricultural goals, which led to his removal from power in 1964.

Thesis

Belin, Laura. "Secret Agents 301, 329, and 345: The Introduction of Hybrid Seed Corn In the USSR." Undergraduate thesis, Harvard College, 1991.

Laura Belin is an Iowan and Harvard graduate whose undergraduate thesis was suggested to me by Liz Garst, Roswell Garst's granddaughter, during my personal interview with her. Belin's thesis helped confirm facts and information I had previously obtained, expanded my historical understanding of Soviet agriculture, and provided a very detailed account of Garst and Khrushchev's relationship, especially as it related to Khrushchev's Corn Campaign. This expanded my understanding of the successes, failures, and consequences of their relationship on Soviet agriculture, which was helpful in developing the "Impact" page of my website.

Hill, Jacob. "Khrushchev in the Cornfields." Master's thesis, Tufts University, 2019. Accessed February 6, 2022. <https://sites.tufts.edu/fletcherrussia/files/2019/09/Jacob-Hill-Khrushchev-in-the-Cornfields.pdf>.

Jacob Hill's thesis was easy to follow and provided the whole story of events leading up to Khrushchev's and Garst's relationship, including its impact on Soviet agriculture and Cold War relations. Hill's writing discussed public debate concerning Khrushchev's visit to Iowa and tipped me off about letters written by Iowans to U.S. Senator Bourke Hickenlooper, which I later obtained by contacting the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library. Additionally, this paper provided an important statistic about Soviet agricultural productivity that I used on the "Impact" page of my website when discussing successes and failures.

Painting

Tom Agran. *Nikita Khrushchev's Visit to the Garst Farm*. Painting. World Food Prize Hall of Laureates (Des Moines, Iowa), 2011.

While visiting the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates, I saw Agran's incredible painting that showed Khrushchev, with an ear of corn, and Roswell Garst, surrounded by a crowd during this historic diplomatic event. It was this painting and the tour guide's discussion of Garst and Khrushchev's relationship formed through food diplomacy, that caused me to select this as my project topic. This painting is seen in the video sponsored by the World Food Prize Foundation on the "Impact" page of my website.

Videos

Chrystal, John. "Experiences in the USSR." February 15, 1990. Video. C-SPAN. Accessed February 10, 2022.
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?11166-1/experiences-ussr>.

This C-SPAN video featured a speech by John Chrystal, Roswell Garst's nephew, telling about his experiences as an informal agricultural ambassador to the USSR for several decades. His speech deepened my understanding of Soviet agriculture during the Khrushchev years, which marked the beginning of many agricultural exchanges that helped improve the world economy. I used two quotes from this video on the "Impact" page of my website that discussed the successes of Garst's diplomacy for Soviet agriculture and Cold War relations.

"Nikita Khrushchev's Visit to the Garst Farm." Video. YouTube. Posted by World Food Prize Foundation, September 27, 2018. Accessed February 5, 2022.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M1CULnRGqqk&list=PLJmPUHZcH-ubuwycWADyD3af0hFVtop5F&index=19>.

In this video, Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, President Emeritus of the World Food Prize Foundation, explained the importance of Garst and Khrushchev's agricultural exchanges and how it opened the door to diplomatic talks and a thaw in Cold War tensions that prevented nuclear weapons from being fired. I used a clip from this video on the "Impact" page of my website because it brought home the significance of Garst's food diplomacy for Cold War relations.

Websites

"The Beginning of the Corn Epic Year. As the USSR Implemented the Famous Corn Project. I'm Capable of Anything." Scrapushka-nsk. Accessed November 12, 2021. <https://scrapushka-nsk.ru/en/nachalo-kukuruznoi-epopei-god-kak-sssr-realizoval-znamenityi-kukuruznyi/>.

This website shared unique information and memorabilia from the Soviet corn campaign, including statistics, badges for corn farmers who achieved productivity goals, and corn propaganda. I watched a 1957 Russian propaganda cartoon that featured talking animals and vegetables to show the importance of planting more corn. Additionally, the website included many propaganda posters that added to my understanding of Khrushchev's corn campaign and why he was interested in forming a diplomatic relationship with Garst.

Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. "Khrushchev's Visit to Iowa." Cold War in the Heartland. Accessed November 5, 2021. <https://coldwarheartland.ku.edu/documents/krushchev-visit-to-iowa>.

This website deepened my knowledge concerning the visit Khrushchev made to the Garst farm in Iowa during his 1959 U.S. tour. Besides giving details about the events leading up to, during, and after the visit, it also included valuable perspectives from Iowans that focused on the positives and negatives of Khrushchev's visit. Additionally, it referred to different newspaper articles that I later found and read to build additional knowledge on my topic.

Dougherty-Maulsby, Darcy. "Citizen Diplomacy through Corn." Farm News. Last modified September 11, 2009. Accessed December 30, 2021. <https://www.farm-news.com/2009/09/11/citizen-diplomacy-through-corn/>.

This website discussed the 50-year anniversary of Khrushchev's 1959 visit to the Garst farm and its significance for Soviet agriculture, as the nation was struggling to feed its people at that time. This helped me understand Garst's belief that hungry people are dangerous people and, by sharing his knowledge of farming, he could successfully promote peace between the USSR and U.S. I used a quote from Liz Garst I obtained from this website on "The Diplomats" page of my project concerning Garst's and Khrushchev's mutual passion for agriculture and food production, which created the foundation for their diplomatic relationship.

Egorov, Boris. "How a U.S. Farmer Became Khrushchev's BFF." *Russia Beyond*. Last modified November 12, 2019. Accessed October 20, 2021. <https://www.rbth.com/history/331263-how-us-farmer-became-soviet>.

Egorov's article provided details on the diplomatic friendship Khrushchev and Garst formed from their shared love for agriculture and mutual obsession with corn. Their road to friendship was easy as they were both so much alike and could discuss anything from agriculture to politics. This article deepened my knowledge of Khrushchev's corn campaign and how Garst's efforts to improve Soviet agriculture helped ease tensions during the Cold War.

Michigan State University. "Corn Campaign." *Seventeen Moments in Soviet History*. Accessed December 18, 2021. <http://soviethistory.msu.edu/1961-2/corn-campaign/>.

This website provided helpful information about Khrushchev's corn campaign, which began in 1954. It helped me understand why he started his corn campaign and the successes and failures that resulted from it. I used a quote from this website on "The Diplomats" page of my project because it showed the importance of the Soviet corn campaign and provided context for understanding Khrushchev's interest in forming a diplomatic relationship with Iowa agribusinessman Roswell Garst.

Swoboda, Rod. "50th Anniversary of Khrushchev's Visit to Iowa Is Celebrated." *Wallaces Farmer*, April 3, 2015. Accessed February 6, 2022. <https://www.farmprogress.com/story-50th-anniversary-khrushchevs-visit-iowa-celebrated-9-31177>.

This website discussed the 50th anniversary of Khrushchev's visit to Garst's farm and their diplomatic relationship which, although it didn't end the Cold War, broke down barriers between the two countries and promoted peace. It also talked about Khrushchev's desire to reform Soviet agriculture through gaining knowledge of U.S. farming methods and applying them in the USSR. I used a quote from this article by Victor Lishchenko, director of Russia's Center of International Agribusiness, on the "Impact" page of my website that described how Garst's farming methods led to improvements in Soviet agriculture.

Photographs

Peoples Realty Company LLC. *Garst Farm Today*. Photograph. Absolute Farmland Auction. Accessed November 19, 2021. <https://garstfarmsauction.com/>.

I used this photograph of the Garst farm today as the background on the homepage of my website, along with an overlaid photo of Garst and Khrushchev holding an ear of corn, to show that food diplomacy was the foundation of their friendship. Also, the green and gold colors in the photograph established an agricultural color scheme that I used throughout my entire website to provide a consistent website appearance and viewing experience.

Smith, William L. *Iowa Corn Field*. Photograph. The KINNICK Project. August 25, 2014. Accessed November 19, 2021. http://thekinnickproject.blogspot.com/2014/08/75-years-ago-today-eileens-diary-august_25.html.

I used this corn field photograph in my website header to reinforce the theme of agricultural diplomacy in my project. This header photograph provided a clear and consistent visual message that corn was the foundation for the friendship forged between Garst and Khrushchev.