

1026-01-234 **Peggy A. Kidwell*** (kidwellp@si.edu), Smithsonian Institution, PO Box 37012, Washington, D.C. 20013. *Brainpower for the Cold War: Mathematics Education in the Age of Sputnik*.

October 4, 2007 will be the fiftieth anniversary of the Soviet Union's launch of Sputnik, the first artificial satellite to orbit the

earth. In the years immediately before and particularly after, Sputnik, American teachers, university professors, parents, philanthropists and

legislators devoted time, attention and money to improving the general

level of mathematics education in the United States. Audiovisual aids, toys for young children, and new elementary and high school curricula all were part of this effort. Searching the collections of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and consulting with colleagues has revealed a rich array of treasures relating to the topic, some of which will soon be shown in an on-line exhibition. (Received March 06, 2007)