



**The Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce of Washington, DC, Inc.**  
**proudly presents the**  
**Wilhelm Wachtmeister Award 2010**

**to**



**Sven-Olof Hökberg**

Major General Sven-Olof Hökberg, Swedish Air Force (ret.), is recognized with the Wilhelm Wachtmeister Award 2010 for his lifelong commitment and extraordinary contributions to strengthening Swedish–American relations, with a focus on the sector of defense industry cooperation.

General Hökberg served two terms at the Embassy of Sweden in Washington, D.C. Specifically, during the years 1970-1973 he served as Assistant Air Attaché and from 1994 to 1998 he served as Defense Attaché and as head of the Swedish Defense Staff at the Embassy. Further, General Hökberg served as Vice Chairman of the Swedish Government Committee on U.S.-Swedish Defense Cooperation from 1993 -1999. He has negotiated a number of cooperative agreements between Sweden and the United States regarding defense research and development. Between 2005 and 2009 General Hökberg also served as Chairman of The Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce, Washington, D.C.; devoting his time to promoting trade relations between Sweden and the U.S.

From a historical perspective, General Hökberg graduated from the Pilot Training School of the Swedish Air force in 1962. After graduation, he served at different fighter wing squadrons in the Swedish Air Force. Early on in his distinguished career, he became interested in flight safety and served as an expert assigned to the Swedish Defense Department Commission for Accident Investigations. The general has earned academic degrees in different disciplines. In 1965, he earned a Master's Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm. He later attended the University of Stockholm, where he obtained a Master's Degree in Business Administration in 1969. After flight safety research and studies at the University of Southern California (U.S.C.), Los Angeles, he graduated with a Master's Degree in Systems Management in 1972.

From 1973 to 1993 he held different key positions in Research, Development and Acquisition as well as Project Management at the Defense Materiel Administration (FMV), Headquartered in Stockholm. During the Cold War period in 1980, he became Director of the Swedish Aircraft Directorate, and as such was responsible for research and development and acquisition of aircraft and helicopters for the entire Swedish Armed Forces. This included the Viggen Fighter Program (37 Viggen), as well as the Gripen Fighter Program (JAS-39 Gripen). The ongoing Gripen Program is Sweden's largest hi-tech defense development program ever undertaken by Sweden, with a total magnitude of well over hundred billion Swedish crowns (SEK).

In 1989 General Hökborg was appointed by the Swedish Government to Commander of the Air Force Materiel Command. In this position he also was responsible for the airworthiness of the Swedish Air Force.

In 1995, General Hökborg was recognized with the Thulin Medal in Gold from the Swedish Society of Aeronautics and Astronautics for "Aeronautical Achievement of the Highest Merit." Moreover, in 1998 he received the distinction "The Program Manager of the Year", by the Swedish Academy for Projects, for his management and leadership of the JAS-39 Gripen Program.

In 1999, he was awarded the U.S. Legion of Merit. The Legion of Merit is a military decoration of the United States armed forces that is awarded for exceptionally meritorious conduct and is issued both to United States military personnel and to military and political figures of foreign governments.

After retiring from the Air Force in 1998, he has been representing Saab and Gripen International in Washington, D.C. and has served as Chairman and CEO of Saab Technologies, Inc. In addition, the General has been Chairman of the Board of Saab Nyge Aero AB, Sweden.



*Sven-Olof Hökborg in 1968*

General Hökborg is still an active pilot who has logged more than 6000 flight hours –in aircraft such as SAAB 35 Draken, 37 Viggen and 39 Gripen, Gulfstream GIV, and a number of US and European fighter Aircraft. His flying experience also includes the solo crossing of the Atlantic in his own Piper Twin Comanche.

General Hökborg currently resides in Vienna, VA with his wife Ingalill Hökborg. Daughter Alexandra and grandchild reside in Gothenburg, Sweden.

---

## The History of the Wilhelm Wachtmeister Award



When Swedish Ambassador Wilhelm Wachtmeister, and his wife Ulla, returned to Sweden in 2001, the Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce of Washington, DC established an award (now given biennially) in their honor for their many contributions in the area of government, business, the arts, and for their efforts to promote closer ties between the United States and Sweden. Since then, the following individuals have received the award for their efforts to promote Swedish-American relations.

- 2001 Ambassador Wilhelm Wachtmeister, former Ambassador of Sweden to the United States
- 2002 Mr. Ove Dahlén, founding chairman of SACC Washington DC and SACC-USA, as well as the former chairman of SAAB Aircraft of North America
- 2003 Count Peder Bonde, former chairman of Investor International and the European-American Business Council
- 2004 Mr. and Mrs. Norman R. Augustine, he the former chairman of Lockheed Martin
- 2005 Lt. General Philip C. Gast, former Director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency and former Vice President of Burdeshaw Associates, Ltd.
- 2006 Ambassador Jan Eliasson, former Ambassador of Sweden to the United States, as well as to the United Nations.
- 2008 Hon. Michael M. Wood, former U.S. Ambassador to Sweden.

---

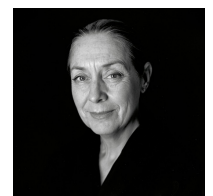
## Orrefors *Minus 10*, designed by Ingegerd Råman



*Minus 10°*

Photo: Jonas Lindström

SACC Washington, DC is proud to present Gen. Sven-Olof Hökborg with the Orrefors crystal piece *Minus 10°*, designed by renowned Swedish artist Ingegerd Råman who also was responsible for the artistic decor in House of Sweden. Ms. Råman's work can be viewed at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, Stedelijk in Amsterdam and the Corning Museum of Glass, USA, amongst others.



*Ingegerd Råman*  
Photo: Lena Koller