**Cheyenne Mountain Tour**

* They call it Cheyenne Mountain after the native Americans that lived here
* No ordinary mountain – It’s the primary warning center for air, space, and missile threats to north America
* A serpentine road leads to the first security checkpoint
* Security is high not unlike the Pentagon visitor entrance
* Prior to 9/11 there used to be periodic visitor tours into the mountain but discontinued for security reasons
* Non-cleared visitors have been very rare to catch a glimpse at this highly classified facility
* Going inside is a journey in itself at 7,500 feet
* Everything is designed to survive a nuclear attack
* The city built inside a mountain accessible from three entrance tunnels with the main from the east, one to the north and the other from the south
* Entering past three ton blast doors build of solid steel, weighing twenty five tons each that can close in thirty seconds last time shut on Sept 11, 2001.
* Passing a maze of hallways leads to the command center at one of the buildings
* Primarily built to house the military and its staff for thirty days in isolation with all the food and water needed.
* Buildings sit on giant springs more than thirteen hundred of them to absorb the shock of a nuclear explosion
* Six gigantic generators fueled from a 510,000 gallon diesel fuel tank power 4,000 batteries to supply emergency power to all facilities
* Water comes from a natural spring inside the mountain
* Air is circulated to remove any chemical and biological or radioactive agents
* Interconnecting pipes are different. They are made of flexible material to bend in a blast
* Holding the mountain together are a hundred ten thousand bolts drilled into the rock to hold the mountain together from caving in
* All this to support the two hundred men and women of the American and Canadian military that have to live here in case of a nation crises
* It’s a sprawling military community two thousand feet under solid rock
* The command center is the central nervous system for Cheyenne mountain and its mission for integrated tactical warning and threat assessment
* The mission is to detect and deter threats to Canada and the United States
* The people are also watching space for man made or asteroid objects
* Since 9/11, a new mission was instituted – monitoring all civilian air traffic within north America
* Information comes from a network of radar and satellites around the world as well as sensors and detection systems
* If it’s in space, it will be observed by the command center
* In case of a space intrusion or hijacked plane, interceptor fighters are immediately dispatched into the air and to follow