

DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING ACTION	
	S E C R E T		MARKED FOR INDEXING
TO	Chief of Station, Germany	X	NO INDEXING REQUIRED
INFO.			ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
FROM	Chief, EUR		MICROFILM
SUBJECT	CALL CARAVEL Headquarters's Visit		
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES			
Reference: EGPW-18454, 2 July 1968			
<p>1. Forwarded under separate cover is a memorandum covering the discussions held with CARAVEL on 11 September 1968. The identities are also forwarded under separate cover. A second memorandum covering his talks with the Office of Public Safety, AID is being prepared and will be pouched separately.</p> <p>2. The remainder of the time spent with CARAVEL by different interested Headquarters officers entailed discussions over dinner covering various political and security subjects of which CARAVEL has knowledge. A brief discussion was held on CAMKW, with particular emphasis on the training of Afghan police officials. In CARAVEL's opinion, these officers were the brightest, best prepared and linguistically best qualified of all foreign students attending. This information has been passed to the interested desk in Headquarters.</p>			
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Distribution: Orig. & 2 COS, Germany W/ATTS USC			
Attachments: A/S USC A. Memo B. Identities			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> CLASSIFICATION REVIEW Conducted on <i>16 Nov 68</i> E - IMPDET CL BY <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification </div>			
DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2007			
CROSS REFERENCE TO	OFFICIAL SYMBOL AND NUMBER	DATE	
	EGNW-7757	7 November 1968	
	CLASSIFICATION	HQ'S FILE NUMBER	
	S E C R E T		
Hqs. Distribution: 1 - RI 1 - E/G/IS 2 - E/G/CE 1 - DDP/SG 1 - RID/TR <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> AN AC AB X EB EB EB E/G/CE </div>	ORIGINATING		
	OFFICE	SR	TYPIST
	E/G/CE		EXT. 1172
	COORDINATING		
	OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE	OFFICER'S NAME
	DDP/SG		
RID/TR	8 Nov 68		
RELEASING			
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AC/E/G	2/8/68		

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Attachment A to EGNW-7757, 7 November 1968

SUBJECT: Discussions with CARAVEL, 11 September 1968

1. C spent a morning with CARAVEL on the occasion of his recent visit to the States to discuss data processing problems. CARAVEL soon made it clear that he was under the most severe pressure from the public and press in general, and from the parliamentary group which is responsible for the operations of his office, to automate. This pressure was being applied because of general misconceptions that automation solves all information retrieval problems. CARAVEL stated that, in his opinion, automation was confused with communication, and stated that he had a very rapid, effective internal communication system so that that aspect of automation was fully taken care of in his present operation.

2. As for the automation of his files, he stated that he had approximately 1.7 million dossiers. There are around 40 index clerks in the central index section who search and maintain these dossiers, which by federal law contain data from the various Laender relating to any serious crime. He said the files were effectively maintained and because the individuals in this section were experienced, they were able to solve with astonishing frequency cases of identities which depended more in recollection and long experience than on simple name searching, as such. He said the files were organized in such a fashion that once a file was located, color-coded sheets enabled the user to quickly scan the file for pertinent information.

3. A group of 15 men had been assigned for nearly one year with the Univac Corporation to develop a preliminary model of an automated identification of individuals on the basis of modus operandi. He said that they had loaded the data base with 2,000 cases and had determined that it took approximately one day per case to code the distinguishing characteristics which they had settled on. Among the distinguishing characteristics he mentioned was physical description, the general marginal value of which he did, however, recognize.

4. It was suggested to him that if he felt he must undertake more than he had towards automating, he might take the 150,000 files on individuals who had been established as hardened criminals and attempt to use these cases as a working file, but it was pointed out that, at the rate of coding one case a day, nearly 800 man years would be required for this. We further explained that we had attempted some years ago a system seeking to recover the identity of individuals

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on the basis of non-name characteristics and had come to the conclusion that the input costs were so enormous and the difficulty of assuring uniformity of interpretation of reports and uniform codification had made us abandon these schemes as being valueless.

5. While we could offer no further suggestions to him, he seemed grateful for the opportunity to be advised of our experience and to feel that he could return with reinforced inner conviction to oppose wild schemes to mechanize his efficient existing process. The specific advice we gave him to, under no circumstance, consider abandoning the existing manual system until the machine system had been thoroughly tested and had, proved itself, was welcome. He also added that he hoped a representation from his office, who will visit WOFIRM during the coming winter can be similarly briefed.

6. We adjourned for lunch, where he met old friends and seemed in fine fettle.

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Attachment B to EGNW-7757, 7 November 1968

Identities

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B. [] []

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S/C att. 2, EGNW-7757

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