

file: Liaison/State

ADMINISTRATIVE INTERNAL USE ONLY

9 June 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

FROM: Chief, Classification Review Division

SUBJECT: Declassification Review of State Department
Records for Foreign Relations of the U.S. Series

1. During a recent conversation, Mr. Dwight Ambach of State requested that we consider the feasibility of returning to our earlier practice of reviewing only those portions of the FRUS manuscripts which the State classification reviewers have identified as containing information of interest to CIA. At present, we are reviewing the entire manuscript in CRD, but send only the documents of interest to the DO and DI to their respective IROs for coordination. FRUS manuscripts average about 2,000 pages of which 10 percent or less contain information of interest to CIA. (U)
2. The CIA is the only agency that requires a copy of the entire manuscript for review. We believe that, in view of the relatively small percentage of documents in a given volume that contain CIA information, a more efficient use of CRD reviewer time can be achieved by reverting to our former procedure. Equally important is relieving State's Classification and Declassification Center of the burden of photocopying literally thousands of pages of material that contain no CIA equities. Also, implicit in the current procedure is the assumption that State reviewers cannot be depended upon to identify all material of CIA interest, and therefore the reaffirmation of our trust in them will remove this negative factor in our relationship.
3. We should point out that we depend on others, personnel at the Presidential Libraries and NARA for example, to identify records of interest to CIA. Experience over that last few years has shown that the State reviewers, as opposed to the Historian's Office, are quite attentive to identifying any possible CIA equities that need protection, and are able to spot anything that we would be interested in. Naturally, if we ever find an instance where something slips by, we would bring it to State's attention. Mr. Ambach stated that he would instruct his reviewers to be very conservative and to earmark for the Agency's review any information which even remotely appears to have interest to CIA. I am confident that, as in the past and as is done in other areas where records contain information of interest to CIA, that both we and State will profit from the return to our former practice. (U)
4. Your approval is requested. If granted, we will run this idea past the Directorate IRO's if you believe that is necessary. (U)

SK
C/CRD