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Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 12-16 January 2004

Executive Summary

Future Planning Calendar

(U//~~ATUO~~) **27 January 2004:** Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Liaisons' meeting at EEOB in Washington, DC.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **24 February 2004:** Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Principals' meeting at EEOB in Washington, DC.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **31 December 2006:** The Automatic Declassification Date per Executive Order 12958, as amended.

Overview of IRR Activities--Last Week

(U//~~ATUO~~) **ISOO Visits** [redacted]

(U//~~ATUO~~) On 14 January 2004, CIO/Information Management Services (IMS) hosted two ISOO (Information Security and Oversight Office) staff members—Laura Kimberly (Deputy Director for Policy) and Linda Ebben (Program Officer responsible for the CIA)—for a day-long briefing. The effort allowed ISOO to learn more about selected IMS programs and initiatives and was a useful forum for exchanging information. Various IRRG components participated. [redacted] Chief, CIA Declassification Center, covered the 25-Year Program by discussing: 1) the 111-million page internal workload and the 20-million page external workload; 2) CDC's on-site partnership with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA-formerly, NIMA), 3) the CDC business process, and progress against workload (93 million pages reviewed, 27-million pages released), 4) CDC's recently submitted declassification plan to ISOO and FY 2004 through FY 2011 projections—the latter being the automatic declassification date for special media (microfilm, audio and video tapes, etc.), and 5) program challenges (i.e., declining budgets, prioritization of the remaining workload—38-million pages) and the complexities of reviewing external equities (i.e., records requiring review by agencies other than the primary record owner).

(U//~~ATUO~~) Also, CDC's Senior Program Analyst briefed ISOO on the CIA Records Search Tool (CREST)—the CIA public access system installed at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland. It contains over 8.7-million released CIA and NGA pages from the CDC output. [redacted] Chief, Declassification Review Branch, CDC, discussed the Remote Archive Capture (RAC) program—a NARA-funded effort executed by CDC to scan classified records at Presidential Libraries for review [redacted] by CIA and other government agencies, as appropriate. The CIA review takes place on our Image Workflow Automation System (IWAS), and the other government agency review takes place on the stand-alone STAIRS system—the State-of-the Art Information Retrieval System. To date, about 1.9-million Presidential Library pages have been scanned for all agencies. CIA has reviewed about 300,000 pages. [redacted] Chief, Declassification Services Division briefed on IWAS, the Management of Officially Released Information (MORI) System, the Electronic Records Web Interface (ERWI) repository search system, and the new CIA Automated Declassification Review Environment (CADRE) system—currently under development as a replacement for IWAS, MORI, and ERWI. The IMS briefing included another topic that is central to CDC's processing of external referrals—the Information Technology Group's (ITG) Program Manager briefed on the new Equity Notification Database (END) project. This Congressionally-directed effort to establish a database of information on external equities is still in an early development stage. [redacted]

(U//~~ATUO~~) **FOIA Requests**

(U//~~ATUO~~) **Firm Seeks 'Smart Pay' Card Holder List**

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(U//~~ATUO~~) A government list development firm is requesting "a complete list of all individuals who are Smart Pay small purchase credit card holders, including their mailing addresses and phone and fax numbers where possible [at] the Central Intelligence Agency. We prefer that the information be provided by email or disk."

- The FOIA case manager informed the requester that the information sought must be denied, because it is classified under the provisions of Executive Order 12958. In addition, Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949 exempts from disclosure "the organization, functions, names, official titles, salaries, or numbers of personnel employed by the Agency. Exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3) apply. An explanation of these exemptions accompanied the response. [redacted]

(b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) Request for Secret File—Giovanni Montini

(U//~~ATUO~~) A Newton, Kansas, requester seeks a reference document or transcript (perhaps made with a listening device) titled: "Secret File named 'Giovanni Montini'"—issued on 07/20/1953 and declassified on 02/28/1975. The document allegedly is cited in the footnotes of a recently published book about the Vatican, and is referenced in several books by Avro Manhattan.

- [redacted]

Editor: Giovanni Montini later became Pope Paul VI. Avro Manhattan (1914-1990) authored a number of exposes on the Vatican. The requester is asking for a fee waiver because "the information will contribute to the public's understanding of papal politics and their effect [sic] on the world today." However, fee waivers are only granted after satisfying certain criteria: 1) The disclosure must "significantly" contribute to public understanding of government operations or activities. [Four factors apply: a) The subject matter of the requested records must specifically concern "identifiable operations or activities" of the government; b) Disclosable portions of the requested information must be "meaningful" information in relation to the subject of the request; c) Disclosure of the information must contribute to the understanding of the public at large—not a narrow segment of interested persons; and, d) Disclosure must contribute "significantly" to public understanding of government operations or activities] and 2) Disclosure of the information must not be primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. [Quotes added for emphasis] She has three other open cases on this general topic. Sometimes, requesters write separate requests to avoid fees.

(U//~~ATUO~~) CDC Declassification Center

(U//~~ATUO~~) From The Archives:

(U//~~ATUO~~) Iraqi Looting in Baghdad

(U//~~ATUO~~) A November 1952 Current Intelligence Bulletin reports: "Iraqi soldiers cheered the mob as it looted the US Information Service premises in Baghdad. Soldiers had been stationed there in three armored cars to protect the building. The [US] Ambassador had repeatedly protested to Iraqi authorities concerning the inadequate police protection given the building. The Chief of Police refused to fire on the people who were shooting at the fireman attempting to save the building. The day after the rioting, Embassy employees visiting the USIS [domestically, "USIA"] offices were hissed and booed and two of them received minor injuries. The sympathy exhibited by police and army elements for the anti-American, anti-British rioting shows the growing strength of intemperate Iraqi nationalism."

- This 1952 item demonstrates that anti-Americanism and looting are not new in Baghdad. [redacted]

(b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) US Intelligence on Cuba—What Did JFK Know?

(U//~~ATUO~~) A CIA Memorandum for the Record (20 September 1962) from the DI's Office of Current Intelligence (OCI) discusses an article appearing in the 24 September issue of *Newsweek* . The article states, "US intelligence on Cuba still bogs down, at least in getting word to the top. A question about the Soviet buildup on the island, for instance, came up at JFK's press conference last month. The President answered it, but in general terms. It was not

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until the next day, when his aides checked further, that he learned about the 60 ships scheduled to arrive in Cuba this month." The OCI memo notes that OCI assumes "that the press conference alluded to was the one that took place on 29 August. This was the occasion for the famous statement, 'We are not at the present time planning an invasion of Cuba.'" The OCI memo states that the CIA reported on the flow of military cargo to Cuba to the President, but "that the figure 60 did not crop up until after the press conference on 29 August and was a State concoction referring to Soviet dry cargo shipments," not exclusively military transfers. The memo adds... "during the entire month of August, DIA consistently refused to accept the idea that Soviet military shipments were involved. DIA considered the shipments to be economic goods. Despite repeated briefings and arguments throughout the month by CIA analysts, DIA adhered to this view, made CIB reporting difficult and less categoric, and regularly advised the White House of their view. DIA analysts maintained this position until at least 5 September."

- *On 3 September, CIA reported the construction of SAM sites in Cuba and the appearance of Soviet-guided missile boats and additional land armaments, according to the unclassified History Staff publication, "Cuban Missile Crisis 1962." The mid-October detection of the early stages of deployment of Soviet MRBMs (medium range ballistic missiles) triggered the Cuban Missile Crisis.*

(b)(3)

~~(U//AIUO)~~ Afghanistan to Convene Grand Tribal Assembly

~~(U//AIUO)~~ A Current Intelligence Bulletin (CIB), dated 8 November 1955, reports: "The calling by Afghan king Zahir Shah of a Grand Assembly of the Tribes (Loe Jirgah) to discuss the Pushtoonistan issue indicates a major policy decision is pending in Kabul. The last two such assemblies were called in 1930 to approve Zahir's father as king and in 1941 to affirm Afghanistan's policy of neutrality in World War II."

- *The DI certifier came across this item during the first week of January 2004, at the very time that Afghanistan was concluding a Loya Jirga (updated spelling) to agree on a new constitution for Afghanistan.*

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