Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 16 - 20 June 2003 Executive Summary

Immediate Calendar:

(U//AHUO) 9 July 2003: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Liaisons' meeting at Crystal City.

Future Planning Calendar:

(U//AIUO) 22 July 2003: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Principals' meeting at EEOB in Washington, DC.

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

Overview of IRR Activities Last Week:

(U//AIUO) EO Mandatory Declassification Review

(U//ATUO) From the Archives: Japanese Government in 1945: "100 Million Japanese Must Die Before Defeat"

(U//AILIO) "Every phase of Japanese life has been constricted by the war," was the theme of a May 1945 Current Intelligence Study written by the Research and Analysis Branch of the OSS. According to the Intelligence Study, which was written just two and a half months before US forces dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the people of Japan had just finished the country's coldest winter in 25 years. Even so, the Japanese government "demanded increased sacrifices of all kinds from the citizenry, including a 7-day work week." School children were assigned potato and rice gardens and carried out "the work formerly done by janitors." "Schools and temples were being transformed into vegetable gardens," and the cages of the zoo were adapted "for the raising of rabbits, goats, and hogs." The citizens developed a table butter made from silk worms. Even with these hardships, the Japanese Government told the citizens that the "war may last ten or twenty years" and "100 million Japanese must be killed before Japan can be defeated."

• This OSS document is one of many from a collection gathered by the late Ray Cline, who was DDI from 1962 to 1966. The document was reviewed and declassified in response to an EO Mandatory Declassification Review request submitted by Mr. Cline's daughter.

(U//AIUO) FOIA Requests

(U//ATUO) Associated Press Wants International Terrorism Sit Rep

(U//AIUO) An investigative researcher from the Associated Press seeks the "Weekly Situation Report on International Terrorism" for the month of July 1973.

(U//AIUO) Canadian Wants Information on Jimi Hendrix' Manager

(U//ATUO) A requester from Ontario, Canada requests "records and reports on Michael Frank Jeffery covering the period January 1960 to May 1973." The requester states Mr. Jeffery, a British citizen, was the manager of rock and roll star Jimi Hendrix. Mr. Jeffery died in an Iberian Airlines crash over Nantes, France in 1973.

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(U//ATUO) National Security Archive Interested in East Timor

(U//ATUO) The National Security Archive asks for finished intelligence reports generated between January and December 1977 on Indonesian military operations in East Timor.

• The National Security Archive is a non-profit research library/institute on international affairs located in Washington DC --- and arguably the most frequent requester of CIA information under the FOIA and EO programs. According to a National Security Archive information sheet, they are "the world's largest non-governmental library of declassified documents, and use the Freedom of Information Act and other release programs to create comprehensive collections on specific topics of greatest interest to scholars and the public."

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(U//AIUO) CIA Declassification Center

(U//AIUO) RAC Scanning Team Completes 101,000 Pages at Carter Library

(U//AIUO) On 16 June 2003, the Remote Archive Capture (RAC) scanning team at the Carter Library completed 101,000 pages.

• A five-person team from the CIA Declassification Center began scanning operations at the Jimmy Carter Library near Atlanta, Georgia on 22 July of last year. The team's goal is to complete 300,000 pages.

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(U//AIUO) From the Archives: Light At The End of The Tunnel in Viet Nam in 1966

(U//AIUO) A provocative and foreboding Central Intelligence Bulletin (CIB) article of February 1966 reviewed and certified by the DI Team at the CIA Declassification Center this past week discusses Hanoi's latest assessment of the situation in Vietnam and of Communist prospects in the conflict. Writing in the North Vietnamese Communist Party's theoretical journal, Hoc Tap, North Vietnam's legendary military strongman -- Defense Minister Vo Nguyen Giap -- says that despite what Hanoi anticipates will be the introduction of "over 700,000" American troops into South Vietnam (US troop strength actually peaked around 500,000), he believes the Vietnamese Communists can still win the war. Giap argues that there are basic political and military weaknesses in the American position in Vietnam which will bring about a US defeat. US troops, he notes, are thinly deployed throughout the world and Washington "cannot send to the South whatever number of troops" it would like without reckoning with "worldwide difficulties." Additionally, the US cannot decide whether to make its main military efforts along the coast, where the full power of American weapons can be brought to bear, or in the hinterlands where the effectiveness of US firepower is limited. More importantly, US troops possess "low morale and the US Army is not organized or trained to fight successfully against a people's war." As for US air attacks against North Vietnam, Giap acknowledges the possibility of more "fierce" aerial bombardments, but maintains that the raids cannot "by any means cut off the North's main communications routes" and cannot shake Hanoi's determination to continue support of the Viet Cong insurgency in the South.

(U//AIUO) Giap's articles were designed to provide Vietnamese Communist cadre, military personnel, and the informed populace with the latest official regime view of the war, formulated by a wildly popular North Vietnamese leader who had successfully led the North's armed forces since their founding, including, perhaps most notably, defeat of the French in the First Indochina War.

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(U//AIUO) From the Archives: Senator Prescott Bush Praises DCI in 1961

(U//AIUO) DCI Allen Dulles wrote in September 1961 to Senator Prescott Bush, father of future DCI and President George Bush and grandfather of President George W. Bush, to say he was "deeply touched by (Senator Bush's) kind remarks in the Senate." The document was reviewed recently at the CIA Declassification Center. An item from the Congressional Record was attached to the memo that contained the following remarks: "The Central Intelligence Agency is an organization of which really little is known; but from what I know of it, as a member of the Committee on Armed Services and through my personal contact with many members of that Agency, I believe it has rendered outstanding service for the United States." He went on to praise DCI Dulles, noting he had known him for 30 years and that the DCI sometimes comes in for strong criticism: "If something happens to go wrong, the blame is often placed on him, as with the Cuban invasion fiasco. From what I know of that action, I do not believe the blame belongs on his shoulders. However, he is a man who never says anything to defend himself. For that reason, he is apt to bear a large amount of unjust criticism. I rate him a brave, dedicated, and brilliant American with a long record of distinguished service to the United States."



Senator Prescott Bush

This is a record.

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Sent on 24 June 2003 at 02:31:20 PM

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