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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON OIS/DA REVIEW
OF AQUATONE AND OXCART RECORDS OF OSA/DS&T

1. In December 1985-January 1986 consultations between DS&T/OU, on the one side and CRD/OIS, on the other, agreement was reached for OIS to include in the CIA Historical Review Program (HRP) OSA's [] holdings dealing with projects AQUATONE and OXCART. (See DCI memorandum of 18 June 1985). The HRP has the objective of reviewing selected CIA permanent records for possible declassification and transfer to the National Archives and Records Administration. These records meet the prime requirement of the HRP for records of high historical interest. []

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2. As a preliminary to historical review, [] of DS&T/OU will first screen out material that he, in compliance with the Records Control Schedule of the DS&T, identifies as temporary records. He will also screen out records that are under special high classification controls (BYEMAN and others as encountered); The HRP is limited to records that combine high historical interest with high degree of declassifiability. He estimates that the HRP will review some 500 of the total of 950 linear feet of AQUATONE records and some 40 of the total of 100 feet of OXCART RECORDS. []

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3. OIS's review is to begin as soon as possible. For AQUATONE, the records to be included will be those dated from late 1954 to 1 May 1960, when the Soviets downed the U-2 piloted by Powers. The OXCART records to be included are dated from August 1957 to July 1968. Following initial review by OIS, the results will be coordinated with the DS&T, and then with other Agency components or outside agencies as necessary. The DS&T will have the ultimate authority to decide which documents will be declassified and transferred. []

4. OIS/CRD intends, actual staffing levels permitting, to assign two reviewers of long CIA experience to AQUATONE and OXCART records until the job is done. In making its recommendations for action document by document, the CRD will apply the provisions of Executive Order 12356, 6 April 1982, National Security Information. This E.O. will be applied to AQUATONE and OXCART records with the same standards for judging protection of national security interests that OIS uses in the review of mandatory requests, referrals, and official manuscripts. There will be no attempt to maximize the number of documents for release to NARA by relaxing CIA's established standards in applying E.O. 12356. []

5. All steps in OIS's review will be taken in coordination and agreement with the DS&T. The DS&T at each step will have the ultimate authority to make the relevant decision. Thus, the HRP will not infringe on the DS&T's control of the records in its custody. OIS will, in effect, be the agents for the

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SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON OIS/DA REVIEW
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DS&T. OIS will apply the DS&T's guidelines for review of its documents and perform the exacting and time-consuming work of initially reviewing documents one by one, coordinating the actions taken with any other Agency component that has equities in the documents, and then by presenting the results from those actions to DS&T for a final decision. By its actions, OIS aims to lay before the DS&T pre-digested packages of reviewed and coordinated records that will minimize the time and effort the latter will need to decide what to release to NARA.

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6. The CRD will record the final coordinated results of review in a computerized system whose characteristics will be determined in conjunction with the DS&T and other involved components.

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7. When the records have been fully reviewed, recorded, and approved for release by the DS&T, the Information Resources and Management Division of OIS will, together with the DS&T, effect the transfer to NARA.

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8. This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective upon signature of the parties as shown below.

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Director of Information Services, DA

Chief, Management Staff, DS&T

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