

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: SEP 2000

F(b)(1)  
F(b)(3)

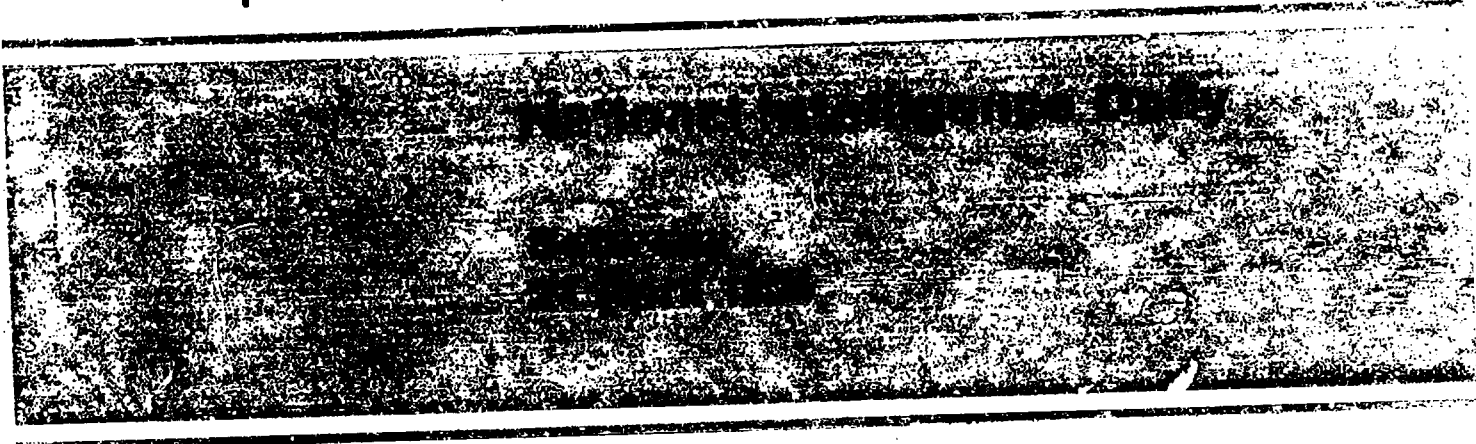


Director of  
Central  
Intelligence

~~TOP SECRET~~ TUV TG

~~NOFORN-NOCONTRACT-ORCON~~

CIACPAS (NID 84-094JX)



~~TOP SECRET~~

CPAS NID 84-094JX  
TCS 278/84  
21 April 1984

Copied 553

0000

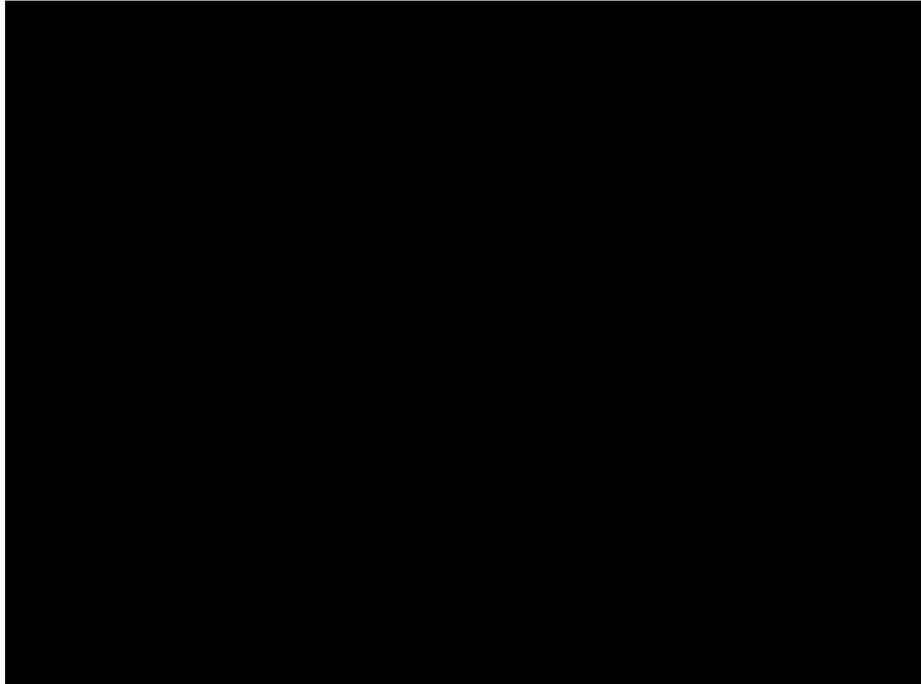


~~Top Secret~~  
RUFFUMBRA

**ITALY-BULGARIA: Status of the Antonov Case**

The new Italian Ambassador to Bulgaria has told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] although his government will try Sergey Antonov—the Bulgarian implicated in the papal assassination attempt—he believes the evidence is too weak for a conviction. Other Italian officials also say that Antonov will be brought to trial, but they disagree among themselves about the outcome. Earlier this month Rome and Sofia exchanged ambassadors for the first time since Antonov's arrest in November 1982. [REDACTED]

**Comment:** The Ambassador's comments presumably reflect extensive briefings before his departure for Sofia, although the Foreign Ministry is not officially privy to the investigating magistrate's report. The magistrate believes the evidence against Antonov is solid, but other government officials question his objectivity in the case. Although the Antonov case remains a continuing irritant, the exchange of ambassadors reflects the desire of both countries to normalize relations. [REDACTED]



~~Top Secret~~  
TCS 2794/84  
21 April 1984

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]