

Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 14 January 2002 - 18 January 2002
Executive Summary

Immediate Calendar:

~~(U//ATUO)~~ **31 January - 1 February 2002:** DCI Historical Review Panel meeting at

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Future Planning Calendar:

~~(U//ATUO)~~ **13 February 2002:** **Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP):** Next Liaisons' meeting at EEOB, Washington, DC.

~~(U//ATUO)~~ **21 February 2002:** **Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP):** Next Principals' meeting (site to be determined).

~~(U//ATUO)~~ **April 2003:** The Automatic Declassification Date per Executive Order 12958, as amended, for unreviewed intelligence-related or multi-agency records.

Overview of IRR Activities Last Week:

~~(U//ATUO)~~ **Litigation**

~~(U//ATUO)~~ **CIA Releases Documents in *DeVine v. CIA* Litigation**

~~(U//ATUO)~~ In December 2001, CIA released the final set of documents in response to the *DeVine v. CIA* FOIA litigation. The plaintiff, Carole DeVine, sued the Agency under the Freedom of Information Act in 1995 for the release of information involving the murder of her husband, Michael DeVine, a US citizen who was killed in Guatemala in 1990. In response, the CIA released redacted copies of six volumes of a seven-volume Inspector General (IG) report on Agency activities in Guatemala prepared in 1995, and a redacted copy of another 1995 IG report titled, "Guatemala: 1984-1995, Alleged Human Rights Abuses Concerning Selected US Persons and Myrna Mack."

- *The CIA has received several requests under FOIA for copies of the seven-volume IG report that was released in the DeVine case.*

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~~(U//ATUO)~~ **FOIA and Privacy Act Requests**

~~(U//ATUO)~~ **Professor Interested in Drug Trafficking Organizations**

~~(U//ATUO)~~ A professor with Winthrop University in South Carolina sought information on "the international drug trafficking organization known as the Cali Cartel and its money laundering activities. The cartel operated primarily from about 1975 to about 1996." The requester further asked for documents that "pertain to the relationship and interaction between the Cali Cartel and another major trafficking organization known as the Medellin Cartel [and] the formation and activities of a group known as Los PEPES (People Persecuted by Pablo Escobar)."

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~~(U//ATUO)~~ **National Security Archive Seeks Documents on Clinton Visit to Colombia**

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(U//~~ATUO~~) The National Security Archive requested information pertaining to "the visit of President Bill Clinton to Colombia in August 2000."

[Redacted]

(U//~~ATUO~~) Frequent Requester Interested in NIEs/SNIEs on Nuclear Weapons Programs

(U//~~ATUO~~) Frequent requester and noted author Jeffrey Richelson submitted a request for "all 1960-1980 NIEs/SNIEs on the nuclear weapons programs of India, Israel, or South Africa."

[Redacted]

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

(U//~~ATUO~~) CDC Team Travels to Pennsylvania to Survey CIA Referrals

(U//~~ATUO~~) On 10 and 11 January, a team from the CIA Declassification Center (CDC) traveled to Pennsylvania to survey CIA referrals at the Army's Military History Institute (MHI) at Carlisle Barracks and at the National Archives and Records Administration's Mid-Atlantic Federal Records Center (FRC) in Philadelphia. At MHI, the CDC team surveyed some 280,000 pages of CIA collateral referrals reported by the Army Declassification Activity consisting of a broad collection of papers of general officers, speeches given by guest lecturers, student papers and other course materials, National Intelligence Estimates and Summaries, Vietnam war materials, CIA intelligence reports, and telegraphic communications. At the FRC, the team reviewed a collection of referrals to CIA, which consisted of NIS and Consolidated Translation Surveys. [Redacted]

(U//~~ATUO~~) External Referral Working Group Holds January 2002 Meeting

(U//~~ATUO~~) On 16 January, the External Referral Working Group (ERWG) was convened for its monthly meeting by the ERWG Chairman, Rich Warshaw of the CIA Declassification Center. The January meeting was hosted by the Department of State. The ERWG members heard several formal reports including: 1) an update by the Information Security Oversight Office on efforts to revise EO 12958, and to find a new ISOO director to replace Steve Garfinkel, who retired on 3 January; 2) the case for holding a joint Automation Working Group (AWG)-ERWG meeting, possibly in April 2002, in order to examine useful technological solutions for automatic declassification; 3) US Air Force program developments and DTRA equities processing; 4) current USAID equity notification efforts. [Redacted]

(U//~~ATUO~~) From the Archives: 1,295 US Aircraft Damaged During Tet Offensive in 1968

(U//~~ATUO~~) The North Vietnam and Viet Cong forces put 27 percent of US aircraft deployed in South Vietnam out of service during the Tet Offensive in early 1968, according to a DI report titled "Damage and Destruction to US Aircraft During the Tet Offensive" that was recently reviewed by the DI team at the CIA Declassification Center. The report detailed damage to 1,295 fighter aircraft, transports, and helicopters during the communist offensive between 30 January and 11 February 1968 -- over half suffered major damage or were declared destroyed, according to the report.

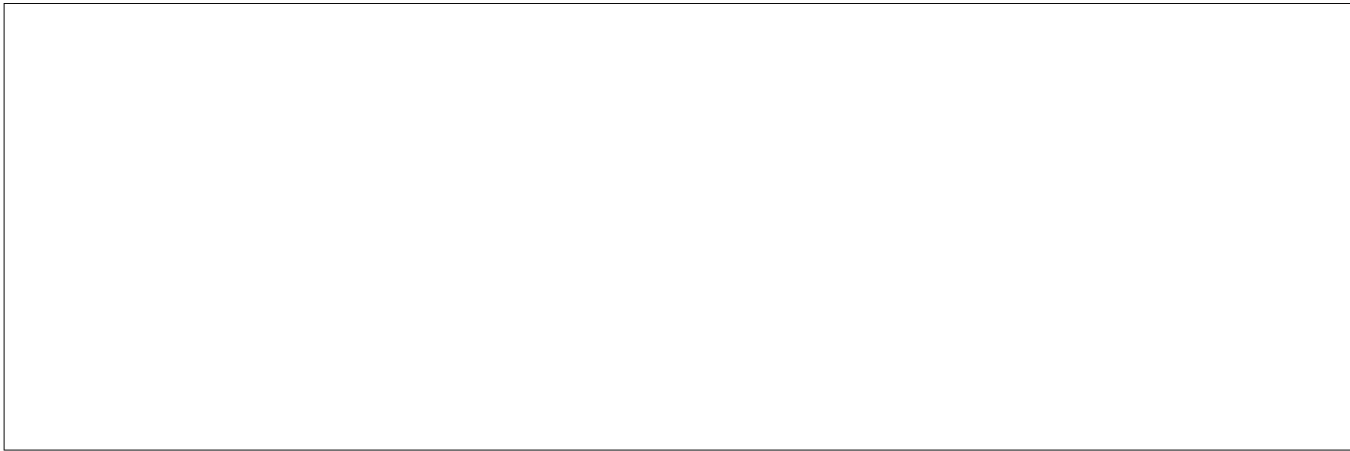
- *The Tet Offensive surprised the US forces in Vietnam but was a military failure for the communists, who lost 58,000 combatants during the offensive, and failed to take or hold any major cities during the offensive, except for Hue, for more than a few days. However, Hanoi achieved one success as a result of the Tet Offensive -- President Johnson announced he would not seek reelection in March, 1968. Up until Tet, President Johnson had claimed the US was winning the war.* [Redacted]

(U//~~ATUO~~) Publications & Policy Review Division

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~~(U//~~FOUO~~)~~ **PPRD Performs QA Review to NIEs**

~~(U//~~FOUO~~)~~ The Publications and Policy Review Division (PPRD) is performing a quality assurance review on 17 National Intelligence Estimates (NIEs) and other interagency intelligence issuances that were recently reviewed and redacted by the Special Collections Division (SCD).

- *The Agency will release the 17 NIEs to the public once the quality assurance review is complete. In the past, SCD has done an outstanding job redacting NIEs, so PPRD anticipates few problems.*

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