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Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 24 - 28 March 2003 Executive Summary

Immediate Calendar:

(U//AHUO) 16 April 2003: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Liaisons' meeting at Crystal City.

Future Planning Calendar:

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

(U//AIUO) 4-5 June 2003: Historical Review Panel: Next meeting at State Department and CIA Headquarters.

(U//AHUO) 31 December 2006: 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) President Bush Signs Order Amending EO 12958

(U//AIUO) On 25 March, President Bush signed a document amending President Clinton's EO 12958 titled "Classified National Security Information." Some of the changes to the Order are:

- The date on which unreviewed material that is over 25 years old becomes automatically declassified was changed from 17 April 2003 to 31 December 2006 (Sec. 3.3).
- A new classification category was added at the request of Homeland Security to emphasize that information involving, "defense against transnational terrorism" is classifiable. (Sec. 1.4 g)
- The DCI's authorities to protect sources and methods at ISCAP were bolstered. In Section 5.3 (f), the following was added: When the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP) "reaches a conclusion that information owned ... by the DCI should be declassified, and the DCI notifies the Panel that he objects to its conclusion ... the information shall remain classified unless (ISCAP appeals) to the President, and the President reverses the determination." Previously, if the ISCAP and DCI didn't agree, the DCI had to initiate an appeal to the President.

(U//AHUO) Number of EO Mandatorys Positioned to Set Three-year High

(U//AIUO) As of 31 March 2003 -- the mid-point of the fiscal year -- CIA has received 362 EO Mandatory Declassification Review (MDR) requests. If the current rate of MDR receipts continues, CIA will receive in fiscal year 2003 11.9% more MDRs than in fiscal year 2002, and 10.7% more than in fiscal year 2001.

• The procedures for EO MDRs are outlined in the new amended EO 12958 in Section 3.5 (Section 3.6 in original EO), which states "... all information classified under (EO 12958) shall be subject to a review for declassification ... (if) the request ... describes the ... material ... with sufficient specificity to enable the agency to locate it with a reasonable amount of effort, (and) the information is not exempted from search under ... the National Security Act of 1947, ... and the information has not been reviewed for declassification within the past two years." If the requester of an EO MDR disagrees with the agency's declassification decision, he/she may appeal that decision to the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP).

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• The vast majority of EO MDRs received at CIA are from requesters asking for declassification of material held in presidential libraries.	(b
(U//AHUO) South Carolina Lady Writes About Implants (U//AHUO) A lady from South Carolina wrote to CIA, "I have been implanted with devices to read my mind and torture me." She wrote five pages about the problems the implants have caused her and asked, "please tell me how to get these implants out of me." She concluded with a request that would make it difficult for us to contact her, "P.S. Don't let anyone tell you that they are me." The CIA receives many letters each year from persons who make unusual requests.	
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(U/ /AIUO) FOIA Requests	
(U//AIUO) Massachusetts Requester Wants Information on Israel Perlstein (U//AIUO) A requester from Cambridge, Massachusetts, seeks records "on Israel Perlstein (1897-1975), a New York book dealer in the 1920s-1960s."	
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(U//AIUO) National Security Archive Interested in Intelligence on Iraq (U//AIUO) Frequent requester, The National Security Archive, seeks "all NIEs (National Intelligence Estimates), SNIEs (Special National Intelligence Estimates), and IIMs (Interagency Intelligence Memorandums), produced between 1975 and 1985, that have the word 'Iraq' in the title."	(b)
	(b)(3) (b)(5)
(U//AIUO) UVA Professor Requests NIEs on Yugoslavia (U//AIUO) A Professor Emeritus from the University of Virginia, asks for all National Intelligence Estimates (NIEs) concerning the former Yugoslavia, "as part of a retrospective examination of the foreign policy of the United States toward Yugoslavia in the 1980s" The requester indicates he is co-author of the book <i>The War in Bosnia: Ethnic Conflict and International Intervention</i> .	
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(U//AIUO) National Security Archive Looking for 1962 CIA Document About Soviet Buildup in Cuba (U//AIUO) Frequent requester, The National Security Archive, seeks "a report by Richard Lehman to DCI John McCone, titled, 'CIA Handling of the Soviet Buildup in Cuba,' 14 November 1962 (part of this report was declassified by the CIA in 1992 in the publication CIA Documents on the Cuban Missile Crisis)."	
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(U//ALLO) One of the meetings DCI Allen Dulles held during the 1950s was called the Senior Staff Meeting, which included 40 to 50 of the top agency people from various directorates. Unlike his Directors' Meetings and Deputies' Meet which tended to deal with more important matters, DCI Dulles covered more mundane affairs in the Senior Staff Meeting Following is a nonscientific sample of meeting minutes that were recently reviewed by the DCI team at the CIA Declassification Center: Records Management (6 Aug 1956) One of the management people who presented at the meeting "emphasized the importance and value of records management." He cited a then-recent IG report that said "Area Records Management Officers are [not fully qualified] were chosen at too low a grade level are without sufficient authority and have too many other duties." "He then asked that those present take whatever action was necessary to put qualified people in these positions and see that they carried out their functions effectively." Hope Springs Eternal (18 Dec 1957) Inspector General Kirkpatrick was speaking on the need to try to decrease paperwork and noted "Mr. Dulles felt that when we get to our new building a great deal of this paperwork should be reduced." "Clyde the Cloak" (6 Aug 1956) The last, and probably least, example of Senior Staff Meeting agenda items concerns "Clyde the Cloak," about whom little is known. Mr. Wisner, DDP, "indicated that some posters that have been placed in headquarters buildings create a bad impression on our own people and on visitors. He stated that these were in some instances undignified and juvenile and that they seemed to carry on a concept that this is a 'cheap organization.' " The entry notes it was subsequently evident that Mr. Wisner was upset with a Consolidated Charities poster "Clyde the Cloak." Unfortunately the poster was not reproduced and we can only speculate what this poster might have resembled.	which tended to deal with more important matters, DCI Dulles covered more mundane affairs in the Senior Staff Meetin Following is a nonscientific sample of meeting minutes that were recently reviewed by the DCI team at the CIA Declassification Center: Records Management (6 Aug 1956) One of the management people who presented at the meeting "emphasized the importance and value of records management." He cited a then-recent IG report that said "Area Records Management Officers are [not fully qualified] were chosen at too low a grade level are without sufficient authority and have too many other duties." "He then asked that those present take whatever action was necessary to put qualified people in these positions and see that they carried out their functions effectively." Hope Springs Eternal (18 Dec 1957) Inspector General Kirkpatrick was speaking on the need to try to decrease paperwork and noted "Mr. Dulles felt that when we get to our new building a great deal of this paperwork should be reduced." "Clyde the Cloak" (6 Aug 1956) The last, and probably least, example of Senior Staff Meeting agenda items concerns "Clyde the Cloak," about whom little is known. Mr. Wisner, DDP, "indicated that some posters that have been placed in headquarters buildings create a bad impression on our own people and on visitors. He stated that these were in some instances undignified and juvenile and that they seemed to carry on a concept that this is a 'cheap organization.' " The entry notes it was subsequently evident that Mr. Wisner was upset with a Consolidated Charities poster "Clyde the Cloak." Unfortunately the poster was not reproduced and we can only speculate what this poster might have resembled. This is a record.					
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