

Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 18 February 2002 - 22 February 2002
Executive Summary

Immediate Calendar:

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

Future Planning Calendar:

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

(U//~~ATUO~~) **June 2002: Historical Review Panel:** Next meeting at

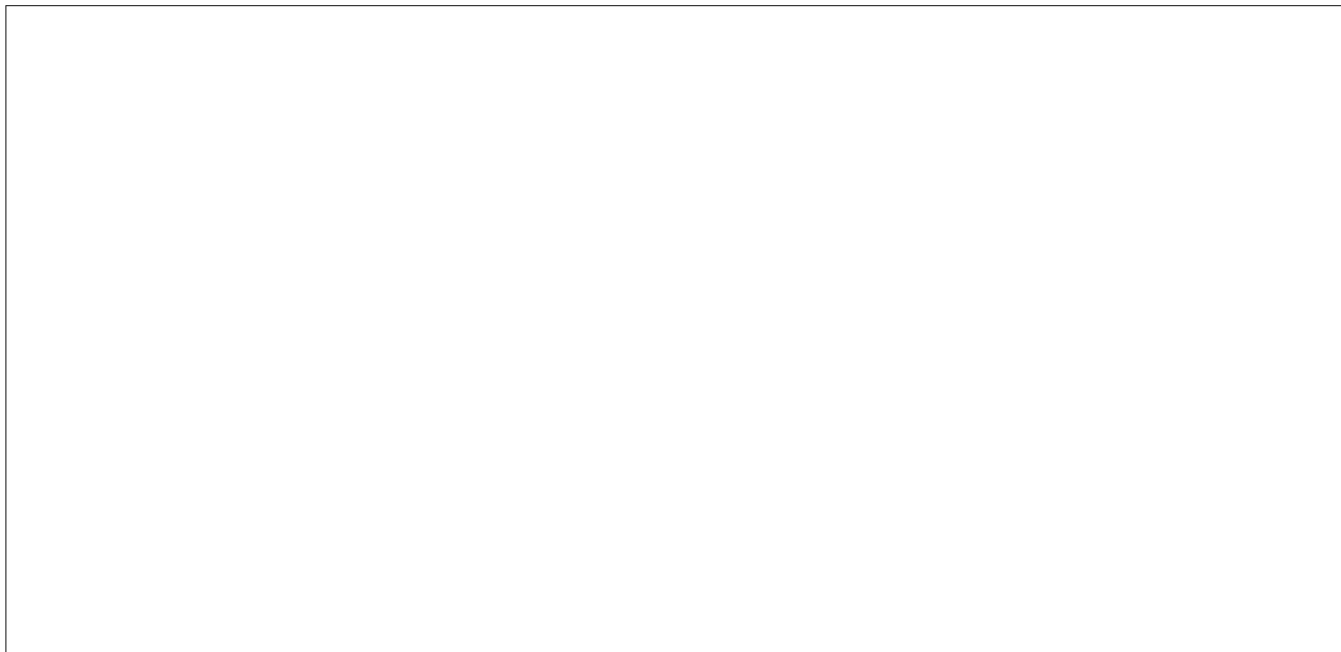
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(U//~~ATUO~~) **April 2003:** The Automatic Declassification Date per Executive Order 12958, as amended, for unreviewed intelligence-related or multi-agency records.

Overview of IRR Activities Last Week:

(U//~~ATUO~~) **Executive Order & FOIA Requests**

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(U//~~ATUO~~) **Former CSI Director Seeks Declassification Review of NIC Memoranda**

(U//~~ATUO~~) A former Director of the Center for the Study of Intelligence requested a declassification review of four memoranda originated at the National Intelligence Council concerning Cuba in which "[he] was the author or principal drafter." The subjects of the memoranda include "Cuban-Soviet relations and the relationship and succession planning of Fidel and Raul Castro" and "the trial and execution of General Arnoldo Ochoa."

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(b)(5)**(U//~~ATUO~~) Frequent Requester Asks for Copy of Interrogation Report**

(U//~~ATUO~~) A German requester, who submits frequently on UFO topics, sought a copy of "a CIA report prepared in April 1956 with the title 'Communist Control Techniques.'"

- The FOIA case officer provided the requester with a copy of the requested report from the MORI database of previously released documents.

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(U//~~ATUO~~) CIA Declassification Center**(U//~~ATUO~~) From the Archives: In 1953 Report, "Stalin's Cows" Look Like Goats**

(U//~~ATUO~~) Stalin's Communist regime was particularly harsh in the Baltic republics, according to a 1953 intelligence report that was recently reviewed by the DO team at the CIA Declassification Center. The report outlined some of the conditions suffered by the inhabitants of Latvia and Lithuania in 1950 and 1951.

- In March 1950, the Moscow government began nighttime arrests of inhabitants, eventually deporting 60 truckloads of people from the Baltic region. Prior to the nighttime arrests, though, the authorities requisitioned all the automobiles in the area. Many local men took this as a warning and escaped into the forests, avoiding deportation.
- In fall 1950, private farmers -- those who had refused to join collectives -- had cut their grain and piled it in the fields for harvest. The government sent trucks during the night and "requisitioned" all of it. Early in 1951, the government gathered up the private farmers and deported them to Siberia.
- Priests who had been deported to Siberia were allowed to write only one letter per year back home to Lithuania. They were not allowed to receive packages, and were prohibited from doing any work.
- Stalin banned religious rites at funerals. If a priest officiated at burial services, relatives of the deceased were deprived of any allowances or pensions. In fall 1950, when a local militiaman was killed by a partisan unit, he was buried without a priest in attendance in order to preserve the 5,000 ruble allowance for those killed in action. However, a priest went to the cemetery at night and consecrated the grave.
- Basic items became scarce. It was reported, for example, absorbent cotton was sold only by prescription.
- In the winter of 1950-1951, there was an acute shortage of fodder in the region. A large number of cows had to be butchered because the collective farmers were unable to feed them. Because of the lack of fodder and the drastic drop in the price of beef after the slaughter, many farmers kept goats instead. The farmers referred to these goats as "Stalin's cows."

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