Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 21 January 2002 - 25 January 2002

Executive Summary

| Immediate Calendar: | |
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| (U//AHUO) 31 January - 1 February 2002: DCI Historical Review Panel meeting at | (b)(3) |
| Future Planning Calendar: | |
| (U//AFUO) 13 February 2002: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Liaisons' meeting at EEOB, Washington, DC. | |
| (U//AIUO) 21 February 2002: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Principals' meeting (site to be determined). | |
| (U//AIUO)—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//AIUO) Public Information Programs Division - FOIA Requests | |
| (U//AIUO) CIA Receives First Request about Enron Corporation (U//AIUO) A correspondent with Reuters, the international news agency, requested documents related to "any CIA efforts last year on behalf on Enron Corporation to settle a dispute with the government of India; CIA efforts last year on behalf of Enron Corporation in China [and] any Directorate of Intelligence analysis this year on the impact of Enron's implosion." | |
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| (U//AIUO) ISOO Receives Bizarre Letter from "Mrs. George J. Tenet" (U//AIUO) A woman claiming to be Mrs. George J. Tenet sent a letter to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) in Washington, DC, who forwarded the letter to the Public Information Programs Division (PIPD) at IMS. The writer alleges to be the Judge Advocate General at the "CIA Base Station" in North Hollywood, California and was informing ISOO that "we are here for you." She described her CIA Base Station as an independent, non-union, military district court, but the Station doesn't have a telephone and the utilities have been cut off. ISOO, like PIPD, receives many bizarre letters each year. | |
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| (U//AHUO) Canadian Student Interested in Germ Warfare (U//AHUO) A student of history at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada sought copies of documents on germ warfare. The requester cites "[a] January 13, 2002 New York Times report that federal agencies have been selling documents on germ warfare to researchers and historians for years." | |
| • The FOIA case officer provided the requester with a previously released DI report on biological warfare as well as a listing of previously released material on this topic from which the requester may select documents that interest her. The requester was also advised that she should contact the web sites of the Department of Defense and the Government Printing Office for further assistance. | (b)(3) |
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| (U//AIUO) NBC Seeks Information on Stargate Program (U//AIUO) A requester with NBC/Discovery asked for information pertaining to "Operation Stargate and Project Scanate." |
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| • The FOIA case officer provided the requester with a listing of previously released documents on these subjects, which relate to the parapsycholological phenomenon known as "remote viewing." The requester was also advised of the forthcoming declassification and release of Stargate records to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). |
| (U//AHUO) CIA Declassification Center |
| (U//ATUO) Interest Is on the Increase at NARA for CIA's 25-Year Product (U//ATUO) Working level personnel at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) report that public demand for the CIA material on the CIA Records Search Tool (CREST) system has increased significantly during the last two weeks as many new researchers have requested access to the CREST database. |
| • CREST is a database of CIA declassified records available to the public on terminals located at NARA in College Park, Maryland. The CREST system currently contains about 3 million declassified pages; an additional 2 million pages processesd in FY 2001 are awaiting delivery. |
| (U//ATCO) From the Archives: Sampling of DCI Correspondence from 1958 (U//ATCO) The DCI team at the CIA Declassification Center currently is reviewing correspondence from the Allen Dulles era. Following is a sampling from 1958 that gives a general flavor of the types of correspondence generated by this high level public official. A letter turning down an offer by a film organization that wanted to do a film "utilizing the files of the CIA, that have dramatic merit and reflect favorably upon your agency;" A note to the head of the Far East Division thanking him for his hard work and sending best wishes on his new overseas posting; A thank you note to an author who had sent a copy of his book on the Mideast; A thank you note to a member of his security staff who was transferring; Several letters to lawyers and legal societies expressing interest in their ideas and activities; A letter of condolence to a former colleague's widow and another to a staffer whose young daughter had contracted tuberculosis in an overseas assignment; A few job recommendations for staffers departing the Agency and others whom he was interested in hiring; Numerous "social/business related" thank yous for dinners; A note to John Foster Dulles, his brother who at the time was Secretary of State; A note to John McCone congratulating him on his appointment to head the Atomic Energy Commission (McCone would replace Allen Dulles as DCI in 1961;) A request to the Baltimore Sun for a copy of a cartoon from their newspaper. |
| (U//AIUO) Publications Review Board |
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