

Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 12 March - 16 March 2001 Executive Summary

Immediate Calendar:

(U//~~ATUO~~) **2 April 2001: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP):** Next Liaisons' meeting at NARA, Washington, DC.

Future Planning Calendar:

(U//~~ATUO~~) **19 April 2001: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP):** Next Principals' meeting at EOB, Washington, DC.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **June 2001: Historical Review Panel (HRP):** Next meeting at CIA.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **October 2001:** The Automatic Declassification Date per Executive Order 12958, as amended, for unreviewed general material older than 25 years.

(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~~) FOIA Requests

(U//~~ATUO~~) Requester Seeks Information on US Assistance to the Philippines

(U//~~ATUO~~) A requester from The Sunshine Project in Austin, Texas, asked for information "mentioning US Government assistance to the Government of the Philippines for research on biological agents to control illicit crops."

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- *The FOIA Case Officer advised the requester that because US assistance to foreign governments is the province of the Department of State, he should contact that agency for further assistance.* [redacted]

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(U//~~ATUO~~) National Security Archive Shifts Interest to Argentina

(U//~~ATUO~~) Changing their focus this week from Colombia to Argentina, the National Security Archive submitted requests for information on "the February 3, 1976 meeting of the Argentine army high command in its headquarters at El Libertador Building, Buenos Aires, Argentina," "the April 20, 1977 visit of Argentine President Rafael Videla to Paraguay," and "the January 14, 1976 Buenos Aires meeting of the commanders of the three branches of the Argentine military."

- *CIA accepted the requests* [redacted]

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(U//~~ATUO~~) Students Request Copies of National Security Action Memoranda

(U//~~ATUO~~) Four separate requests were received from Indiana high school students for copies of "National Security Action Memorandum 263 of October 11, 1963, which deals with the removal of all American soldiers from Vietnam, as written by President Kennedy, and National Security Action Memorandum 273 of November 26, 1963, which deals with the United States commitment to the Vietnamese conflict, as written by President Johnson."

- *The FOIA Case Officer advised the requesters to submit their requests to the National Security Council as well as the JFK and LBJ presidential libraries.* [redacted]

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~~(U//ATUO)~~ **Freedom Magazine Interested in MKULTRA Researcher**

~~(U//ATUO)~~ A requester from *Freedom Magazine* asked for information relating to Dr. Harris Isbell, who was a figure in the MKULTRA program of the 1950s-60s. Specifically, Dr. Isbell was involved with the CIA sponsored work at the US Public Health Hospital/Prison in Lexington, Kentucky testing LSD and other drugs on witting, volunteer prisoners.

- *The CIA provided the requester with an extensive list of previously released documents on Dr. Isbell from the Management of Officially Released Information (MORI) database, and invited the requester to select those of interest to him.*

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~~(U//ATUO)~~ **OIM Declassification Center**

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~~(U//ATUO)~~ **From the Archives: In 1973 CIA Recognizes Value of Former Employees in Its Workforce**

~~(U//ATUO)~~ Former employees are a valuable resource of the CIA, according to several 1973 memos to the DCI that were recently reviewed by the DCI Team at the OIM Declassification Center. The memos were apparently in response to Agency management requests to document the value of using former employees in order to head off "legislation to prohibit transactions between former CIA employees and the Agency above and beyond purely routine administrative matters," a proposal termed "unnecessary and unduly restrictive" in one of the memos. In one memo the author argued that, "former employees of this Agency constitute a unique pool of abilities and capabilities for use in pursuit of our statutory responsibilities and functions." Former employees were cited as most valuable in areas such as performing background investigations, providing advice on developing managerial problems, and other highly specialized skills. One author argued that, "it is highly impractical and costly to maintain an in-house capability in technical and other skills that are highly specialized. It has been found to be beneficial to maintain liaison with former Agency employees who have moved into such specialties ..."

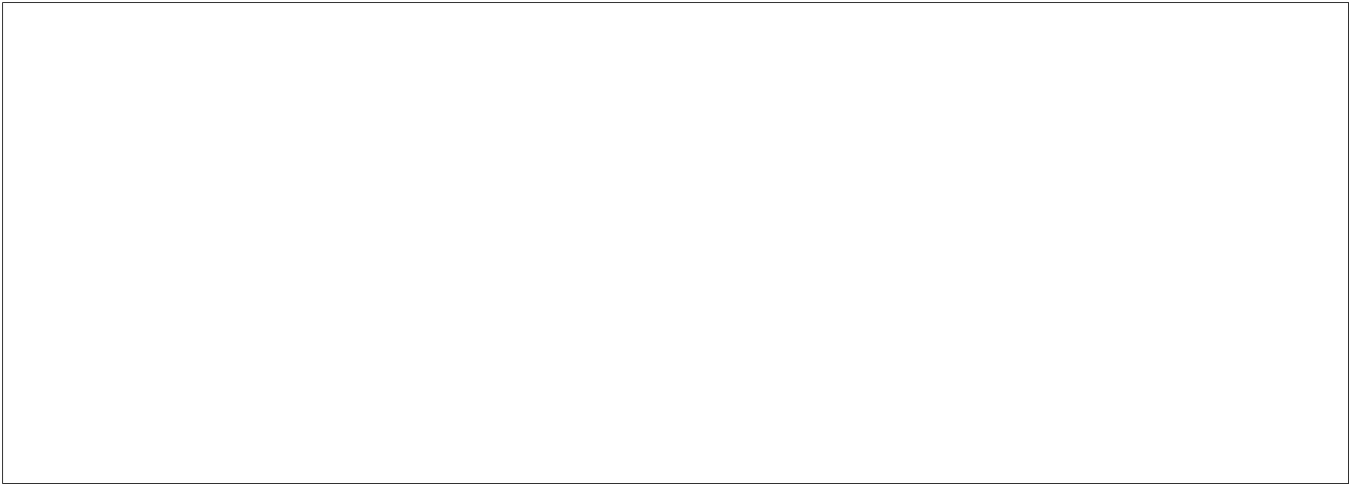
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~~(U//ATUO)~~ **Publications Review Board**

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This is a record.



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