

***Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 24 January-04 February 2005
Executive Summary***

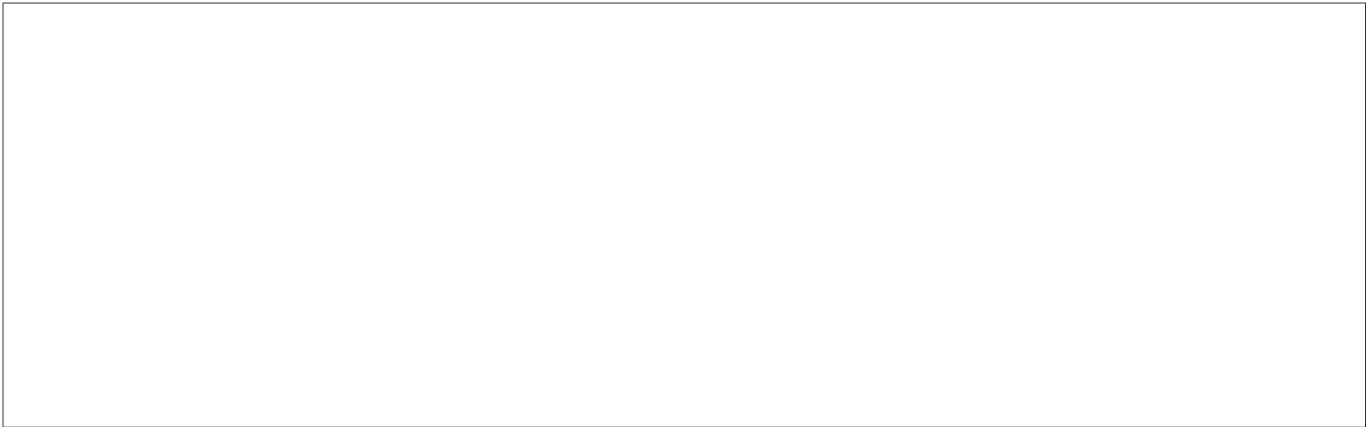
Future Planning Calendar

(U//~~ATUO~~) **16 February 2005:** Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Liaisons' meeting at NARA in Washington, DC.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **22 February 2005:** Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Principals' meeting at EEOB in Washington, DC.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **31 December 2006:** The Automatic Declassification Date per Executive Order 12958, as amended.

Overview of IRR Activities--Last Two Weeks



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(U//~~ATUO~~) **FOIA Requests**

(U//~~ATUO~~) **Interest in Bay of Pigs Episode**

(U//~~ATUO~~) An Assistant Professor at California State University requests the following for one of his students: "Information and/or records on the Bay of Pigs, and the Cuban coup against Fidel Castro in 1961." The Professor indicates that the University "works in a quarter system; therefore I implore that you send the information as quickly as possible so that I could site [sic] it before the end of winter quarter."

- *The FOIA case manager informed the requester that more than 3,000 pages of material concerning the Bay of Pigs episode are available for review at the National Archives. The requester was also informed that these records may be viewed at the CIA's World Wide Web site on the internet.*

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(U//~~ATUO~~) **Contacts Between CIA and Outside Firms**

(U//~~ATUO~~) A requester with the Associated Press is interested in "copies of all contracts and any other agreements between the Central Intelligence Agency and any public relations firm, advertising agency, consultant, commentator, journalist or any other outside entity or person entered into in whole or in part between January 1, 2001, and the present for the purpose of advertising, publicizing, or in any other way promoting the work of the CIA."

- *The FOIA case manager informed the requester that her request could not be processed due to a lack of specificity. The FOIA provides for public access to "reasonably described" records and does not require*

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federal agencies to perform research or to conduct unreasonable searches through a body of material to see if any of it is related to a particular request. [redacted]

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

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~~(U//FOUO)~~ External Referral Working Group Meets [redacted]

~~(U//FOUO)~~ On 19 January, the External Referral Working Group (ERWG) met [redacted]

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[redacted] Forty-two representatives from 19 federal agencies attended.

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~~(U//AFOU)~~ From the Archives:

~~(U//AFOU)~~ Providing Warning on Palestine

~~(U//AFOU)~~ From the Nixon Library comes a CIA report on "The Consequences of the Partition of Palestine," dated 28 November 1947. "Armed hostilities between Jews and Arabs will break out if the UN General Assembly accepts the plan to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab States as recommended by the UN Special Committee on Palestine. The US, by supporting partition, has already lost much of its prestige in the Near East. In the event that partition is imposed on Palestine, the resulting conflict will seriously disturb the social, economic, and political stability of the Arab world, and US commercial and strategic interests will be dangerously jeopardized." The report goes on to say that "poverty, unrest, and hopelessness" will increase "through out the Arab world." [redacted]

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~~(U//AFOU)~~ South Vietnamese Offshore Oil Discovery

~~(U//AFOU)~~ From the Ford Library comes the following White House Situation Room "Information Item" for traveling Secretary of State Kissinger, dated November 1974: "The Shell Oil Company has reportedly discovered oil at an unidentified drilling site in South Vietnam's offshore waters. Preliminary tests show a potential flow of at least 1,000 barrels per day of high-quality, low-sulphur oil. If the site proves out, it would take at least three years for development. The discovery, along with detection of oil-bearing rock at Shell's first drilling site last August, is expected to spur further exploration in this area. This in turn could attract other foreign investors, thereby bolstering the country's depressed economy." [redacted]

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~~(U//AFOU)~~ But Seriously

~~(U//AFOU)~~ From the Carter Library comes the following, sent IMMEDIATE NSC White House, from a USIS/TEL AVIV "Media Reaction Collective," dated February 1978. "Heart transplant performed in an Israeli hospital. Patient, reported in satisfactory condition, is awaiting a special anti-immunological drug from abroad. Media report case in detail, mostly because "a Jewish heart has been transplanted in an Arab, and Germany is asked to provide the medicine to arrest the natural rejection process. (Israel Radio)."

- *Comment: "Bizarre!" was the NSC observation scrawled in the margin alongside the heavily underlined piece.* [redacted]

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