Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D.C. 20505

CCA2005-00201

28 June 2005

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Mr. Mike Meermans
Staff Director
Permanent Select Committee
   on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.   20515

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE
DATE: FEB 2006

Dear Mike:

SUBJECT: Notification

COUNTRY: None

ISSUE: Decennial Review of CIA Operational File Exemptions

    Enclosed is a background paper regarding the subject mentioned above.

    Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to call.

                              Sincerely,

                              Joe Wippl
Director of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure

SUBJECT: Decennial Review of CIA Operational File Exemptions

1.   Background: From the time it was signed into law on
15 October 1984 until the 21 April 2005 effective date of its
amendment by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention
Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458)[1], the Central Intelligence
Agency (CIA) Information Act (50 U.S.C. 431) authorized the
Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) to exempt CIA operational
files from the search, review, publication, and disclosure
provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).   The CIA
Information Act also required that not less than once every ten
years, the DCI review the operational files exemptions then in
force to determine whether such exemptions could be removed from
any category of exempted files or portion of those files, and
whether any new categories of files should be designated as
exempt.   The DCI completed the first such review in March 1995.

2.   On 13 April 2005, based on the decennial review
required by and conducted in accordance with the CIA Information
Act of 1984, and taking into account the review criteria set
forth in the Act, the then-DCI designated the following
categories of CIA operational files as exempt from the search,
review, publication, and disclosure provisions of the FOIA:

Files within the Directorate of Operations

* Personality Files
* External Organizations Files
* Operational Interest Files
* Operational Activity Files
* Policy and Management Files (Including Clandestine
  Service History Program Files)
* Cover Arrangements Files

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[1] Effective 21 April 2005, section 1071(a)(6) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004
amended the CIA Information Act, to provide that the Director of CIA (D/CIA), with the coordination of the
Director of National Intelligence (DNI), may exempt CIA operational files from the FOIA search, review,
publication, and disclosure provisions; and that not less than once every ten years, the D/CIA and the DNI shall
review the exemptions in force, in order to make the determinations noted above.

SUBJECT: Decennial Review of CIA Operational File Exemptions

Files within the Directorate of Science & Technology

- Signal Intelligence Activities Files
- Operational and Technical Support Files
- Intelligence Collections Systems Files
- Imagery Analysis and Exploitation Files

Files within the Security Center

- Covert Security Approval/SECRET Files
- Provisional Covert Security Approval/SECRET Files
- Operational Approval Files
- Provisional Operational Approval Files
- Anonymous Personnel Actions Files
- Approval To Polygraph for Operational Purposes Files
- Diversified Cover Officer Files
- Contract/External Files
- Covert Security Approval/SECRET Files
- National Resources Division and Name Check/Operational Program Files
- Industrial Special Security Approval/Covert, Industrial Security Approval/Covert, and Industrial Special Security Approval/Covert Reinvestigation Files
- Internal/Covert Files
- Consultant External/Operations and Consultant Internal/Operations Files

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Mr. Mike Meermans, HPSCI              OCA 2005-00201
Mr. David Buckley, HPSCI              OCA 2005-00201/1
Mr. Bill Duhnke, SSCI                 OCA 2005-00201/2
Mr. Andy Johnson, SSCI               OCA 2005-00201/3
Mr. C.W. "Bill" Young, HAC/DEF       OCA 2005-00201/4 (VIA
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Mr. Ted Stevens, SAC/DEF             OCA 2005-00201/5
Mr. William H. Frist, SEN. MAJ. LDR  OCA 2005-00201/6
Mr. Harry Reid, SEN. MIN. LDR        OCA 2005-00201/7
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