



MDR Forum

May 9, 2023
Information Security Oversight Office
National Archives and Records Administration



Agenda

- I. Opening Remarks: ISOO Director Mark A. Bradley
- II. Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP) Update: William Carpenter
- III. Agency Mandatory Declassification Review Panel
 - A. Stephannie Oriabure, National Archives and Records Administration
 - B. Don McIlwain, National Archives and Records Administration
 - C. Keri Lewis, Office of the Director of National Intelligence
 - D. John D. Smith, Office of the Secretary of Defense
- IV. Commentary: William Burr, National Security Archive
- V. Questions and Answers



ISOO Director Mark A. Bradley



ISCAP Update

- ISCAP Membership
 - Department of Justice
 - Department of Defense
 - Office of the Director of National Intelligence
 - National Archives and Records Administration
 - National Security Council
 - Department of State
 - Central Intelligence Agency
- Four Functions
 - Appeals of classification challenges
 - Declassification exemptions
 - Mandatory declassification review appeals
 - Inform agencies and the public of decisions



ISCAP Productivity, 2020-2022

- 2020: 2 appeals, 3 documents, 214 pages
 - 2011-003 (Soviet Space)
 - 2015-107 (USAF Oral History)
- 2021: 6 appeals, 43 documents, 1929 pages
 - 2012-156 (1000+ pages of 9/11 Commission materials)
 - 2012-001 (History of Telemetry)
- 2022: 21 appeals, 137 documents, 1791 pages
 - 2017-189, -190, -191 (Victor Butt)
 - 2012-163 (Bush-Cheney 9/11 Commission Interview)



ISCAP Outlook for 2023

- Year to date: 9 appeals, 9 documents, 964 pages
- Korea Policy Review, 1969
- “Hearts and Minds,” a classified CIA history of clandestine support to anti-communist groups during the Cold War
- 9/11 Commission interview with Prince Turki bin Faisal, Saudi intelligence chief
- Number of incoming appeals remains low; number of unresolved appeals remains high
- Focus on prioritizing declassification breakthroughs and appeals that have been through the complete agency appeal process



Declassification Guide Update

- Agencies are required under 32 C.F.R. Part 2001.32(c) to conduct their own internal review and update of their declassification guide at least once every five years
- Agencies need only seek ISCAP approval if agencies are seeking:
 - A new exemption element, like a weapon system coming due for automatic declassification at 25 years that was not covered in the current guide
 - A new exemption milestone, like a 50X exemption for a sensitive intelligence program now coming due for automatic declassification at 50 years that is currently only covered by a 25X exemption
- The ISCAP has already approved revised declassification guides for the Department of the Army and the Office of the Secretary of Defense
- See [ISOO Notice 2022-02](#) for details



ISOO MDR Assessment Pilot

- 2008-2019: ISOO conducted assessments of agency automatic declassification programs
- ISOO is planning a new oversight initiative for agency MDR programs
 - Best practices
 - Authorized use of exemption authority
 - Application of ISCAP decisions
- ISOO Staff will be gathering information and developing a pilot program this summer



Agency MDR Panel

- A. Stephannie Oriabure, National Archives and Records Administration
- B. Don McIlwain, National Archives and Records Administration
- C. Keri Lewis, Office of the Director of National Intelligence
- D. John D. Smith, Office of the Secretary of Defense



Commentary

William Burr, National Security Archive



Questions and Answers