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Message from Section Chief David M. Hardy

It's been a while since the last Buzz and a lot has happened. Like all you, I've been following the news about the federal budget and the federal work force. I don't see any immediate impact on our operations. We were well placed for the hiring moratorium, having only a few vacancies within the section. Our budget will not grow in the near future, but we are at present robustly supported by the FBI. This is in recognition of the importance of the work we are performing. We are making great progress towards reducing the number of pages that need to be processed. We're just under 2 million pages, that number is down from 2.8 million ten months ago. Our pending numbers have dropped to 2,237 from 3,500 in that same time period.

I believe this trend will continue, although not as dramatically as the last ten months. That said, we're not going to run out of work. As the numbers fall, the backlog will dry up, and there will be no waiting in the backlog. The time required to process requests will start to decrease until we reach a steady state. At the same time our quality will improve.

We've never gotten to that point before. We were working towards that point in 2005, but the losses incurred in the move plus the loss of our vacant positions reversed our progress. The impact of the AG memo further delayed our recovery. Now, we're on our way. Even with the uncertainties of future litigation and the impact of lowering of FOIA fees, I like the way it looks.

Release Congressman William "Bill" Dickinson files

FOIPA Unit #1 recently made a release of FBI documents regarding the late Congressman William "Bill" Dickinson of Alabama. The requester was only seeking documents before 1973. This release consists of 500 pages of documents from two main files. The first consist of alleged bribery payments made to the Congressman by the fuel company Spear Services. This company was one of three which submitted a fueling of aircraft contract at the Fort Rucker Army Base located in Alabama in 1969. The highest bidding company was awarded the contract but had inadequate machinery and manpower to do the job. Executives from Spear Services contacted Congressman Dickinson to obtain his help to find out why Spear was not the chosen company, despite having the low bid. Even though Spear Services didn't have the equipment or trained personnel to handle the job, they were willing to purchase new equipment and have people trained to handle the fueling job. Congressman Dickinson met with two Spear Services executives after a rally in Alabama to discuss their concerns pertaining to the awarded contract. Continued on page 2.
Cont’d Release Congressman William “Bill” Dickinson Files

The Spear Services executives then contributed a check in the amount of $1,000 to the Congressman’s campaign after listening to their concerns. Syndicated columnist Jack Anderson claimed in a column that ran in the local paper that Spear Services paid Congressman Dickinson $5,000 for the contract. Spear was awarded the last five months of the year-long contract when the original contractor was terminated for lack of operation equipment. An investigation was opened and several people were interviewed. At the end of the investigation, Congressman Dickinson was cleared of any wrongdoing.

The second file consists of documents concerning a request made by Congressman Dickinson to the FBI concerning marches held in Alabama.

Release of Daniel Schorr Files by LAS

Daniel Schorr (1916-2010) was an acclaimed journalist who worked for CBS, CNN, and most recently, National Public Radio. Mr. Schorr was known for his work as a foreign correspondent working in the Soviet Union. During his 23-year career at CBS, he became a focus of the Nixon Administration. The FBI was drawn into this effort when the White House requested a background investigation on Schorr. The effort was ended as soon as the FBI realized what had happened. Subsequently, Schorr regularly reported on the Watergate scandal, winning three Emmy awards for his coverage.

This release consists of two files. File 97-HQ-1405 is a “Foreign Agents Registration Act” investigation initiated during World War II, when Schorr took a job as a foreign correspondent for a Dutch news service. Additional information on Schorr is included in the file as he became a U.S. reporter assigned to Moscow.

File 161-HQ-8258 is the FBI’s Special Inquiry (SPIN) Investigation of Schorr. A SPIN investigation examines the background of a high-level nominee to ensure that there are no factors in their background that would render them unsuitable for such an appointment. In this case, the Nixon Administration requested the investigation for fraudulent reasons.

97-HQ-1405 July 1942 to September 1957, eight pages
161-HQ-8258, August 1971 to September 1976, 291 pages

Release of Material Pertaining to the DIOG by LAS

The FBI posted material pertaining to Section 4 of the Domestic Investigations and Operations Guide (DIOG), Privacy and Civil Liberties, and Least Intrusive Methods on its website at www.fbi.gov. This material is largely comprised of presentations which were created to provide instruction regarding the concepts and principles underpinning section 4 of the DIOG.

Section 4 of the DIOG outlines the FBI’s oversight, self-regulation, and strict adherence to the Constitution of the United States. Section 4 recognizes that it is the FBI’s responsibility to protect the American public, not only from crime and terrorism, but also from incursions against their constitutional rights. Accordingly, throughout section 4, the DIOG discusses the protection of First Amendment rights (Freedom of Speech, Freedom of the Press, Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and to Petition of Government for Redress of Grievances, and Exercise of Religion), civil liberties and privacy issues, and equal protection of all Americans under the Fourteenth Amendment.

298 pages were released.

Go the HOT TOPICS link at foia.fbi.gov for further information.
RIDS Q & A/New Contacts/Reminder

Please note the following change when corresponding with U. S. Army's FOIA Office at Fort George Meade, MD. The new FOIA Director is Brad S. Dorris who replaced acting Director Joanne Benear. RIDS personnel are required to complete 18 Continuing Education Credits (CEP) for this rating period. Ten of those CEP's must be within the employees pay grade.

February is Black History Month! Programs will be held in the Public Conference Room from 11:30 a.m. until noon on the following dates:
February 9, 16, & 23, 2011
Participants are encouraged to bring their lunch. Contact U. S. Bureau of Prisons FOIA Service Center telephone number is:

U. S. Bureau of Prisons FOIA contact:

Legal Assistant/Tech. Office of General Counsel 320 First Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20534

Release of George M. Steinbrenner III Files by LAS

George Steinbrenner III (930-2010) was best known as the principal owner and managing partner of the New York Yankees for 37 years. In 1974, he pled guilty to conspiring with his employees to make illegal campaign contributions to President Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign and to obstruction of justice. He was not sentenced to jail time, but was fined $15,000. He later received a presidential pardon. His release contains three files. Headquarters File 56-4737 was an investigation into illegal campaign contributions made by Steinbrenner and his company, the American Shipbuilding Company, to the Nixon presidential campaign. Headquarters File 95-189353 pertained to a laboratory analysis for the Federal Highway Administration of several anonymous letters concerning possible fraud in the federal aid highway program in Ohio, while Baltimore Division File 73-841 related to Steinbrenner's appeal for a pardon from his conviction for illegal campaign financing and obstruction of justice.

BA 73-841: June to July 1986, five pages.

DEFINITION OF Elephant; the WPU Scope Queue. We are eating the cases up, especially the cases that are 90 days or older in the Queue. In February 2010, the WPU Scope Queue was at 1700 cases. As of February 1, 2001, the WPU Scope Queue is 761 cases. Additionally, WPU had 178 cases that were 90 days or older (1/3 of these cases are the ACLU requests for DIOG information that were sent to 48 separate Residence Agencies and Field Offices). How do you eat an elephant? ONE BITE AT A TIME!

WPU has chipped away at the number of cases in the Scope Queue overall and the number of cases that are 90 days or older.

Work Process Unit = “WPU Elephant Eater”

This is why we are ELEPHANT EATERS!

Submitted by:
LAS Work Process Unit

“I couldn’t wait for success, so I went ahead without it.” Jonathan Winters
"Accomplishment is easiest when we work the hardest, and it is hardest when we work the easiest."  
Source unknown

FOIA Processing “Hot Topics”

Recent FOI/PA requests:

Don Meredith, the former Dallas Cowboys quarterback who served as a folksy foil for Howard Cosell on ABC’s “Monday Night Football” passed away after suffering a brain hemorrhage and lapsing into a coma in Santa Fe. "Dandy Don," as he was known, was 72.

Ron Santo, the famed Chicago Cub baseball player died on December 2nd.

Elizabeth Edwards, who as the wife of former Senator John Edwards gave America an intimate look at a candidate’s marriage by sharing his quest for the 2008 presidential nomination as she struggled with incurable cancer and, secretly, with his infidelity, died on December 14th at her home in Chapel Hill, N.C. She was 61.

Blake Edwards, the Hollywood director who directed the famous "Pink Panther" movies died on December 15th.

Richard C. Holbrooke, the Obama administration’s special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan since 2009 and a diplomatic troubleshooter who worked for every Democratic president since the late 1960s and oversaw the negotiations that ended the war in Bosnia, died on December 13th in Washington. He was 69 and lived in Manhattan.

HOT TOPICS continued

Customs Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry who was recently killed in the line of duty during a confrontation with individuals while on patrol near the U.S./Mexican Border.

The shooting incident of Rep. Gabrielle Gifford and Judge John Roll has sparked several requests, including files related to threats against members of Congress.

General Van Pao, the former Laotian general who commanded a secret army of his mountain people in a long, losing campaign against Communist insurgents, then achieved almost kinglike status as their leader-in-exile in the United States, died on January 7, 2011 in California. General Pao was born in December 1929 in a village in northeast Laos.

John Wheeler, a former Pentagon official whose body was discovered in a Delaware landfill and whose death has been ruled a homicide. Mr. Wheeler, a West Point cadet, a Yale and Harvard graduate and former general’s aide in Vietnam, disappeared from his residence in New Castle, Del. He was 66 at the time of his death.

The following LAS’ have completed their Disclosure training and have reported to their assigned units.

Front Office FOIA 4
FOIA 4
SRU/SST
SRU/SST

Please welcome a new LAS member to RIDS [black out]. He started in WPU on December 6, 2010.

LAS [black out] is now serving a TDY as the Pre-publication Review Office Coordinator. He can be contacted at [black out].

John Wheeler, a former Pentagon official whose body was discovered in a Delaware landfill and whose death has been ruled a homicide. Mr. Wheeler, a West Point cadet, a Yale and Harvard graduate and former general’s aide in Vietnam, disappeared from his residence in New Castle, Del. He was 66 at the time of his death.

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Message from Section Chief David M. Hardy

Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS)

I received a comment in the RIDS’ suggestion box concerning unit bulletin boards. In contemplating my response, I thought this a good opportunity to talk about bulletin boards in general. A couple of things to start out with; we have posted on the section board the names and numbers of our EEO and EAP representatives should you desire to contact them. For section information, we are now using the two newly mounted large screen monitors. If you have something you think is of section interest, please contact me or

We have a public face and an internal face. Our public face is seen in the ICRC entryway where each unit periodically provides a poster on something of interest relating to that particular unit. This provides the public (and the rest of the division) with a look into the work we perform. Without fail, visitors to the ICRC stop to look at our poster. While there is wide leeway for the content of the entryway poster, we (front office) look at each one before it is displayed.

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The unit posters in the Great Room are both informative and a place where a unit can express its identity. This expression varies from WPU’s “eating elephants one bite at a time” (if you don’t know what this means, ask someone in WPU) to CU3’s poster on icons of the civil rights movement. They are positive, help build cohesiveness, and generate enthusiasm within units. I think they’re great.

Release of Alaska Senator Theodore “Ted” Stevens files

RIDS received good notice on the fbi.gov News Blog on February 11, 2001: “The FBI today released approximately 3,600 pages of material in response to a Freedom of Information Act request related to the senator from Alaska [who] died last August in a plane crash. He had been the target of an FBI public corruption case.”

Theodore "Ted" Stevens died on August 9, 2010 at the age of 86.


Over 2,700 pages of the release on Stevens consists of public source material from the media file associated with the pending POLARPEN public corruption investigation conducted by the Anchorage Field Office.

The remainder of the release consists of 11 main files from the Anchorage and Washington Field Offices and from FBI Headquarters.

The files include material on extortion threats to the senator, press reports and newspaper articles about public corruption, and correspondence between Stevens and the FBI.

Continued on Page 2.
Continued Release of Alaska Senator Ted Stevens

194A-AN-13620-M...This is a compilation of press reports and newspaper articles regarding public corruption in Alaska. There are nine sections.

Stevens Main Files:
This document combines a number of small investigative files.

9-HQ-68722...This file involves an investigation into threatening letters received by several congressmen, including Senator Stevens, in 1985. It was determined that the letters were similar in nature, and the investigations were combined.

9-WF-4751...This file concerns an investigation into threatening letters sent to Senator Stevens' office in Washington, D.C. in 1982.

9-WF-5230...This file involves an investigation of a threatening letter mailed to Senator Stevens in 1986.

9-WF-5281...This file concerns a 1985 investigation of a threatening letter sent to Senator Stevens.

80-AN-195...This file records correspondence between Senator Stevens and FBI officials, including Bureau Directors and special agents in charge of the Anchorage Field Office.

89A-AN-83...This file involves a threatening voice mail message left for Senator Stevens at his congressional office in Fairbanks, Alaska in 1986.

Continued below.

Continued Release of Alaska Senator Ted Stevens

89A-AN-8663...This file is the Anchorage version of 9-HQ-68722, which centered on a 1985 investigation of threatening letters sent to Stevens.

89A-AN-90...This file concerns an investigation of a threatening voice mail left at Senator Stevens office in 1987.

89-HQ-6020...This file is the Headquarters copy of Anchorage file 89A-AN-89, concerning a threatening voice mail.

94-HQ-64562...This file records correspondence between Senator Stevens and FBI officials from 1989 to 1989. It includes requests for information, constituent responses, and invitations to different events.

89A-WF-21251...This file involves an investigation into a threatening e-mail received by Senator Stevens' office in 1998.

Stevens Reference Files...
This document contains references to Senator Stevens derived from nearly 100 FBI files. In most of these references, there is only slight mention of Senator Stevens.

This request was processed by LAS [b6\b7c] as-signed to SRU/SST.

The release was posted on our HOT TOPICS link.

OUT IN THE OPEN—CIA FOIA

There was an interesting article in the February 2011 issue of Government Executive, about "OPEN SECRETS-The nation's spy agency steps into the public eye, releasing documents and airing candid assessments of past operations." In April 2010, some of the most secretive professionals in government launched their contribution to the Obama administration's transparency campaign. CIA officials released their open government plan on the agency's website, "mindful," as it states, "that continued public support for CIA is very much dependent upon public understanding of its mission and activities."

Joe Lambert, director of information management services, stated that "deciding when a secret is no longer a secret is a very difficult job." Since 1995, his office has processed about 130 million pages while responding to requests under FOIA, the Privacy Act and mandatory declassification orders. In 2009, his team processed 11 million pages. It also received 1,796 FOIA requests and processed 2,042, making up for a backlog. In 2010, the office received 1,942 FOIA requests and processed 1,806. In all, the CIA receives about 4,000 requests for document review each year!
RIDS Q & A/New Contacts/Reminder

The Annual Financial Disclosure Statement for individuals with SCI access are due on April 20, 2011. Individuals must complete the Online Security Financial Disclosure Form (SFDF).

Social Insurance Specialist, Privacy & Disclosure Social Security Admin. Baltimore, MD Phone Fax # 301-966-5694

U.S. Depart. Of State A/GIS/IPS/RU/RC SA-2, #8004 515 22nd Street, NW Washington, DC 20523

Paralegal Specialist, U.S. General Services Office Inspector General Room 5332 1800 F. Street, N. W. Washington, D.C. 20405 Phone:

Mailing address:
FAA Aviation Careers Division, AMH-300 Attn: P. O. Box 25082 Oklahoma City, OK 73125

Black History Month 2011 by LAS

Black History Month is dedicated to remembering the role that African-Americans have played in shaping history and culture in the U.S. and around the world. We take a look back, so that we can see forward to our promised future. We look back and remember, not to fall into the negative stigmas of the past, but to marvel at our humble beginnings, many accomplishments however were not gained without cost or consequence. The Tuskegee Airman lost 66 pilots who were killed in combat, and 32 more were shot down and became prisoners of war.

A well-known military motto used by the U.S. Marine Corps is Semper Fidelis, which is dated back to the 16th century. It is Latin for, "Always Faithful." So to those who have paved the way, to the Tuskegee Airman who spanned the sky, to the trailblazers who spoke out and rallied the masses for equality for ALL mankind, and to you as you recognize in your own life the knowledge that we are ALL connected and leave your mark on society, Semper Fidelis! Because you have and continue to be, "Always Faithful" to your fellow brethren.

Black History Month Trivia:

Q: What was the name of the first slave ship built in the English Colonies?
A: The Desire
FOIA Processing “Hot Topics”

Recent FOI/PA requests:

Milton Rogovin, a social documentary photographer who built a life’s work by looking through a lens at people who were invisible to others, died in January at age 101. After being blacklisted in the communist scare of the 1950s, Rogovin dedicated his life to photography. His pictures documented the lives of the poor, the dispossessed, the working class—in particular those living in a six-square block neighborhood in Buffalo near his optometry practice. “He referred to these people as the ‘forgotten ones,’” his son said.

Dagmar Wilson, the founder of Women Strike for Peace, a cold war movement that helped organize demonstrations around the world calling for nuclear disarmament, died January 6th in Washington. She was 94 and lived in Leesburg, VA. On November 1, 1961, about 50,000 women brought together by Women Strike for Peace marched in 60 cities in the U.S. and abroad. Judicial Watch filed an FOIA request on Ms. Wilson on January 26th.

Stephen N. Shulman, a Washington lawyer who in 1973 helped his client, a onetime Nixon loyalist, negotiate a guilty plea in a case that became a turning point in the Watergate scandal, died on January 22nd of cancer at George-town University. He was 77. Mr. Shulman served an early clerkship with the U.S. Supreme Court and by age 30 had become general counsel for the Air Force. In 1966, he became the second chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

HOT TOPICS continued

Anatoly F. Dobrynin, the Soviet ambassador to Washington from 1962 to 1986, whose behind-the-scenes diplomacy was credited by many historians with helping to resolve the Cuban missile crisis and ease tensions in the cold war era, died, the Kremlin announced. He was 90.

Sargent Shriver, a former Democratic vice presidential candidate and Peace Corps founder, died in January at age 95. President Obama hailed Sargent Shriver as “one of the brightest lights of the greatest generation.” Serving the Kennedy and Johnson administrations in 1960s, Shriver ran the War on Poverty, and was involved with the Job Corps.

Rene Verdon, whose position as the White House chef during the Kennedy administration helped him project the allure of classic French cuisine to the American public, died on February 9th in San Francisco. He was 86.

Back Page Buzz!

Another FOIPA training class will begin on March 7th through the 25th at the ATB.

The following LASes have been selected to attend and upon completion will be assigned to their respective new units.

New Disclosure training classmates:

- FOIA 4 SST
- FOIA 4 SST
- SST

The FBI Records: Freedom of Information/Privacy Act website at fbi.gov, sported a new look on February 28, 2011 to align its format with the new fbi.gov.

You can access the website at:

fbi.gov
http://www.fbi.gov/foia/
Message from Section Chief David M. Hardy
Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS)

One of the absolute maxims in any organization is that great ideas initially flourish, but will over time lose momentum. While there are some exceptions, it usually happens. A manager should always watch for this phenomenon and move to re-energize the effort. We have such an initiative with the Sharepoint site. It has been highly successful, but I notice that its use is diminished in some quarters. I'd like to go over the purpose of this site briefly.

Its primary purpose is to provide a site in which knowledge can be shared within the section. In the past knowledge was gained by employees over the course of many years of experience. This is vertical learning. We don't have that luxury nor is it very efficient. The Sharepoint site provides a medium in which we can accelerate the amount of knowledge available to all employees. I think there is the perception that the site is only for asking questions. Not so, in fact, if a question is asked and answered outside of the Sharepoint site, that answer should be put on the site for others. By being open, the site also promotes consistent approaches to issues. From my perspective, keeping all 270 employees consistent in their efforts is a principal goal of the section. It is very important! Your participation give you the opportunity to directly contribute to these goals.

I'm often asked about how an individual can make a visible contribution to the section's mission. Here is one way.

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- On the Lighter Side!
- FOIA Processing
- Hot Topics
- Bolos
- Back Page Buzz

Release of Senator Thomas J. Dodd Files

Connecticut Senator Thomas J. Dodd died on May 24, 1971 of a heart attack in his home. Dodd was an FBI Special Agent from 1933-1934 who later became a United States Senator (1952-1970).

In February 1966, the late Senator Dodd requested of the Attorney General, a complete investigation of the charges and allegations made against him by Columnists, Jack Anderson and Drew Pearson in a series of articles written in the 1960's. The charges against Dodd were in relation to his association with General Julius Klein, a public relations representative for various West German institutions and the West German government. Dodd had a close relationship with General Klein, who provided him with prepared speeches and written instructions of meeting with West German officials. Dodd also allegedly accepted expensive gifts, including a Persian rug, and that in a trip to Germany in his official capacity, Dodd allegedly acted as a representative of Klein. The Senator also asked that the FBI investigate the theft of documents and correspondence from government offices by several of his former employees. He believed the articles written by Anderson and Pearson were based on these stolen documents.

As a result, the Attorney General reviewed the requests and
Senator Thomas J. Dodd Files

determined that a complete FBI investigation would not be conducted on the allegations made by the columnists. However, in March 1966, he approved the investigation into the alleged theft of documents and correspondence from the Senator's office. Private investigator and former SA was hired by Dodd to investigate this case. This investigation led to further investigation of Senator Dodd and members of his office on conflict of interest, bribery violations and accounting and tax fraud which began in March 1967. Several of the files and documents stolen by LAS from Senator Dodd's Connecticut office were distributed to newspaper columnists Jack Anderson and Drew Pearson. This material later, appeared in Pearson's column in The Washington Post, entitled "The Washington Merry-Go-Round." The files taken from the office contained information on the Senator's actions in matters to other agencies and outside persons as a loyalty to their country over loyalty to their employer.

1961 Letter from Director Hoover to one of his Assistant Directors

Here is an interesting letter that came across the work flow of LAS assigned to FOIA 4. The letter is addressed to an Assistant Director and marked "personal" Dear Mr. AD, You and your subordinates in the Files and Communications Division were certainly most derelict in failing to detect the fact that (employee's name removed), a File Clerk in your Division, did not measure up to the standards of personal appearance expected of FBI employees. In addition, the attitude of (employee) with regard to his Bureau responsibilities and future in the FBI was most unsatisfactory when he was interviewed on January 25, 1961. This employee was obviously a complete misfit and yet nothing was done in your division to correct the situation.

I shall expect you to make certain that if there are any similar cases under your supervision that they are dealt with promptly.

Very truly yours,
John Edgar Hoover-Director

Litigation Support Unit (LSU)

Ever wonder what LSU does? Recently, major newspapers reported on the life and activities of Senator Ted Kennedy. Many of you worked on FOIA requests received after his death. RIDS released a great deal of material but also withheld some from disclosure consistent with FOIA. One requester disagreed and filed suit to compel release of some material. LSU's role in the resolution of the Kennedy case.

LSU is the interface between RIDS and the FBI's Office of General Counsel (FOIA Litigation Unit), and the U. S. Attorney's Office. LSU's mission is to ensure that the search, classification review, and FOIA processing are legally defensible. The work is not done in a vacuum—collaboration, coordination, and support by and among all RIDS units is critical to successfully defending any case.

In Kennedy, after months of hard work, and with the exceptional support of LSU and a host of RIDS teammates, our counsel was able to narrow plaintiff's objection to our use of several exemptions on just six pages - out of a production in excess of 2,600 pages.

Source—UC
Referral Reminder:
Recently we have had referrals that have been improperly referred. When sending a referral make sure you are using the OGA Referral List that is located on the SharePoint site, FOIA Tab. This list is updated on a regular basis and will contain the most up-to-date information. In particular, be mindful of DOD and DOJ entities. It can be hard to decipher where their information goes, for example, the Defense Security Service has two different contacts, one for FOIA requests and one for Privacy act requests.

Dead List Reminder:
When submitting people for the "Dead List" to be added in Savannah, please be sure to include their name, DOB, and DOD. If you have any other identifying information, that is icing on the cake. This will ensure that he is able to compile an accurate list.

A new Disclosure training class started on 6-13-2011 which includes the following LAS:

- FOIA 4
- FOIA 6
- FOIA 4
- FOIA 6
- FOIA 6
- FOIA 6

The Discovery Channel airs three FBI Civil Right Cold Cases

The program "The Injustice Files" which airs on the Investigative Discovery Channel (Channel 192 on Dish Network), recently aired three FBI Civil Rights Cold Cases during the month of February. The shows were produced by Director Keith Beauchamp, who worked with the FBI's Civil Rights Division and OPA in collecting data for the shows.

The first program aired on February 18, 2011 at 9:00 p.m. and was titled, "The Secrets of Natchez", and involved the murder of Wharlest Jackson for taking a promotion in Natchez, MS.

The second program was titled, "The Ghosts of Bogalusa", which aired on February 25, and detailed the murder of the 2 first African-American police officers in Bogalusa, LA. The police officers were gunned down while sitting in their patrol car. Officer Young Moore was killed but Officer David Rogers survived but severely wounded.

The final program aired on March 4 and was titled, "He Walked Alone", which described how William Lewis Moore, a civil rights activist who planned a peaceful protest walk to hand deliver a letter to the governor of Mississippi but was murdered along the roadside in Alabama.

FBI Civil Rights Division Unit Chief provided details on the show about the tireless hours FBI spent conducting these investigations. It is certain that these shows will have a positive outcome in assisting the FBI investigations.

Included here are more than 25 new files that have been released to the public but never added to this website; dozens of records previously posted on our site but removed as requests diminished over time; and files carried over from our previous electronic reading room.

The Vault includes several new tools and resources for your convenience.

You can access "The Vault" by accessing:
http://vault.fbi.gov/
http://www.fbi.gov/foia/ or
http://www.fbi.gov/
Recent FOI/PA requests:

Warren M. Christopher, the courtly and reserved secretary of state in President Bill Clinton's first term and the chief negotiator for the 1981 release of American hostages in Iran, died on March 18, 2011. Mr. Christopher was 85 and lived in Los Angeles.

William Donald Schaefer, who dominated Maryland politics as governor, state comptroller and Baltimore mayor with a trademark style that was impatient, autocratic and sometimes offensive, died on April 18, 2011. Mr. Schaefer was 89.

Geraldine A Ferraro, died on March 25, 2011 at the age of 75. Ms. Ferraro was born on August 26, 1935 and was an American attorney, a Democratic Party politician and a former member of the United States House of Representatives. She was the first female Vice-Presidential candidate representing a major American political party. She grew up in New York and was a former District Attorney.

Sidney Harman, an audio pioneer who built the first high-fidelity stereo receive, dabbled in education and government, and made a late-in-life splash by acquiring an antiquated Newsweek magazine and wedding it with a sassy Web site, The Daily Beast, died on April 12, 2011 in Washington. Mr. Harman was 92.

Actress Elizabeth Rosemond "Liz" Taylor (1932-2011) release consisting of 154 pages was recently added to "The Vault".

In conjunction with 'The Vault' requesters can now check the status of their FOI/PA request online by simply entering their FOI/PA request number on the FBI's FOI website.

Requesters will be provided one of the following STATUS RESULTS:

The FBI's FOI/PA Program is processing your request in accordance to the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act guidelines.

The FBI's FOI/PA Program is searching the FBI's indices for potentially responsive documents. You may be contacted via form letter for all fees and/or negotiation issues that may apply.

The FBI's FOI/PA Program has identified potential responsive information to your request(s) and is forwarding this request(s) for assignment to a FOI/PA

The request is currently in appeal status with OIP.

The request is currently in litigation with Federal Court.

Updates are posted weekly.

Please welcome two new LAS' to RIDS who are undergoing WPU training.

RMD FAMILY DAY 2011 will be held on Thursday, June 23rd from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Message from Section Chief David M. Hardy

RIDS FOIA BUZZ
Volume 2, Issue 12
July 2011

Inside this issue:

Message from Section Chief
DRC Visit
FBI Suggested Investigative Techniques
Plane Crash into IRS Office, Austin, TX
U. S. Representative Daniel Rostenkowski
FOIA Mystery Requests
Breaking News on fbi.gov "The Vault"

Special Topics:
- RIDS Q & A
- Classification
- Litigation
- On the Lighter Side!
- FOIA Processing Hot Topics
- Bolos
- Back Page Buzz

Message from Section Chief David M. Hardy

Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS)

First in-first out, or FIFO, is one of the central elements in the management of our dynamic FOIA process. I want to explain why and how we use it beyond the fact that it is a requirement in FOIA. As to the why, our goal is to get information to the most requesters as soon as possible. As to the how,...

We measure the "first in" time based on the date of receipt of a request. After requests are made date ready and placed in the backlog, they are assigned to a Disclosure Unit using FIFO based on that receipt date. After that, the process resembles a boiling rapid. At any one time, we have about 1,000 requests that are being reviewed, comprising of 1.8 million pages. We have in our queues requests that range from one page to several hundred thousand pages. A large percentage of the requests require additional declassification, sensitivity, and/or subject matter expert reviews. Requests in litigation may be subject to court-ordered deadlines. In short, once assigned to a Disclosure Unit, the requests can't move at the same speed because there are so many other factors that enter into the equation.

There is one more variable that is very important. We can process about 10% of the pending pages (approximately 160,000 pages) in any given month. Take all of this, throw it together, and the result is a complex process.

The statute and regulations assist our goal of getting information to as many requesters as soon as possible by providing for separate queues-each with its own FIFO order-based on the size of the request. Each LAS should work on multiple requests using FIFO; making interim releases. Continued on page four.

Department Review Committee (DRC) Visit by LAS

The visit on June 21, 2011 to observe the DRC meeting was very insightful. This was a great opportunity to see how serious this committee takes our work and the professionalism reflected by in the presentation and explanation. Though it does take us away from work for a day, it's important to see how our day to day work has an impact in the bigger scheme.

Several of the DRC members have been on board for years and their questions were to the point and they offered background information to the issue being discussed in reference to prior cases. One can see that we have really built a reputation on our presentations for justifying material which became apparent with an appeal. cited the categories within the auto-declass guide corresponding to the reasoning and referenced the GF-1 guide for information provided and relationship. The committee accepted that we have done our homework and we are processing in light of the current Executive Order.

I thank both and for allowing me to be an observer, it was worthwhile.

Submitted by:
LAS U-1
Real FBI Suggested Investigative Techniques by LAS

In 1947, the FBI prepared a memo where special agents submitted suggestions for investigative techniques and methods to Headquarters. These suggestions included special techniques to apprehend fugitives, sample pretexts, conducting surveillance, obtaining confessions, and other topics. This material was prepared for distribution to all agents as a regular bulletin. Some of the suggestions are as follows:

"It is possible at times to determine from a child member of a family the whereabouts of a fugitive thereof by acquiring his friendship through a small gift of candy."

"Night surveillance of automobiles are simplified if it is possible to previously make a small crack in the tail light of the subject's automobile."

"Practically no noise is made in walking through the woods if feet are wrapped in food bags."

"Where dogs guard a house, consider obtaining a female dog in heat to act as a lure."

"It has been found to be of assistance to carry an extra man's and woman's glove in order to provide a suitable pretext to approach doormen in exclusive clubs and apartments for the purpose of inquiring as to the identity of unknown contact who has entered the house or club."

As stated in the memo, "It is believed that this procedure will serve to correlate such material, stimulate voluntary participation by the Agents, maintain a fresh flow and interchange of investigative ideas and in time create a reservoir for future reference."

Plane Crash into IRS Office, Austin, Texas by LAS

On February 18, 2011 Andrew "Joseph" Stack flew a small engine plane loaded with extra fuel and crashed into Building I of the Echelon office complex in Austin. Mr. Stack was killed during the attack, which also killed an IRS employee (Vernon Hunter), as well as injuring several other individuals. The IRS field office was located in the four-story office complex along with other state and federal agencies.

Mr. Hunter was a Vietnam veteran. The FBI's investigation revealed that Mr. Stack was having marital problems and being audited for the second time by the IRS. Nothing in the investigation revealed that Mr. Stack was part of any homegrown terrorist, or anti-government movement and acted alone. In June, RIDS released 539 documents, 412 photographs, and one audio CD.

Former U. S. Representative (Illinois) Daniel David Rostenkowski

The FBI made it's first interim release of 725 responsive records to twelve requesters. Daniel Rostenkowski, former United States Representative from Illinois, from 1959 to 1955. He served as chairman, Committee on Ways and Means (Ninety-seventh through One Hundred Third Congress), and Joint Committee on Taxation (Ninety-seventh through One Hundred First Congresses).


Four of the five main investigative files contain information regarding telephonic and written threats by Rostenkowski's offices.

The main investigative file consists of volumes 1 through 4 of an investigation which was initiated by the U. S. Capitol Police in April 1991 regarding a single embezzlement charge against a single employee of the Congressional Post Office. The FBI investigation was composed of allegations in two areas. One case involved the use of the House Post Office to obtain cash from their campaign fund accounts. The other case involved the use of U. S. Post Office boxes to circumvent campaign fund laws. The request is being processed by the Savannah team.
RIDS Q & A/New Contacts/Reminder

CONTACTS:

U. S. Secret Service
Liaison Division
FOIA/PA Unit

Paralegal Specialist, Broadcasting
Board of Governors, USA
330 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC
20237
Fax (202) 203-4585

Due to the introduction of the FBI's new Electronic Reading Room, "The Vault", requesters have been requesting a copy of "ALL" files currently placed in the reading room. For those interested in copying "ALL" files please access the following link:

http://vault.fbi.gov/pdf-feed.xml

The XML feed will show all PDF's and their links for downloading "ALL" of "The Vault's" current files.

Referral Contact:

USCENTCOM FOIA Team
MacDill AFB-Florida

FOIA Counselor Service:
OIP provides individualized advice to agency personnel and other interested parties regarding FOIA-related issues. You may contact an OIP FOIA Counselor at

FOIA Mystery Requests (Can you answer, solve or explain?)

Can you answer, solve or explain the following which were actually received as FOIA requests: Solve the Mystery?

Request #1-Greetings from Sweden! I have a question regarding the 9/11? Let us say that a plane crashed into Pentagon, how come the hole is approximately 70 feet if the length between the wing tips on a Boeing 747 is 124 feet?

Request #2-Do you know how I can search for an email that was sent to an email address with the domain name @fbi.gov from a person?

Request #3-I am requesting an emergency Death Certificate from the Province of Manitoba because I have no ID (lost wallet). My name (redacted), a victim of war on terror, U. S. terrorist attack on Air Canada flight #### shot down. I perished on January 8, 2000 and my remains are located somewhere in between Cairo, Egypt and Amsterdam, Holland. I was resurrected by God.

Breaking News on fbi.gov June 14, 2011

Visit the FBI Vault was listed as one of the Breaking News stories on fbi.gov for June 14, 2011.

The Vault, at vault.fbi.gov, is our new electronic reading room, containing more than 3,000 documents that have been scanned into digital copies so you can read them in the comfort of your home or office. You can browse or search for specific topics or persons (like Al Capone or Marilyn Monroe). Thanks to new technology we have developed, you can now search for key words or phrases within some individual files. You can also bookmark our Recently Added page or subscribe to its feed to get the newest files when they are released.

"If Columbus had turned back, no one would have blamed him.
Of course, no one would have remembered him either."
Source Unknown
FOIA Processing "Hot Topics"

Recent FOIA/PA requests:

Dr. Jack Kevorkian, died on June 3, 2011 at the age of 83. Dr. Kevorkian was known as a fierce advocacy and practice of assisted suicides. Kevorkian was convicted in 1999 of second-degree murder and served eight years of prison time. He admitted being present at about 130 suicides. Since his first acknowledged assisted suicide in 1990, authorities had tried to rein in Kevorkian as the toll of his clients soared. Kevorkian was charged four times with murder only to have three juries acquit him and one case collapsed in mistrial.

Fazul Abdullah Mohammed, a terrorist who was shot dead on June 7, 2011 at a checkpoint in Somalia. Mohammed was a native of Comoros Islands and was on the FBI's most wanted list for nearly 13 years. Mohammed was known as the leader of al-Qaeda in Africa and the alleged mastermind of attacks on two U.S. embassies in Africa that killed 224 people. Mohammed had been on the run for more than a decade with a $5 million U.S. bounty on his head.

"LulzSec", a group of computer hackers who control the twitter account http://twitter.com/LulzSec.

Recently Added' files to "The Vault"

June 14, 2011-Morton Sobel was an electrical engineer who was found guilty in 1951 of spying for the Soviet Union. These files range from 1942 to 1977. The bulk of material consists of the investigation into Sobell's connections to the Rosenberg spy ring.

June 7, 2011-Mario Savio was a political and human rights activist from the University of California at Berkeley who became the voice of the Free Speech Movement. He was investigated by the FBI from July 1964 until January 1975, following his arrest in March 1964 at a civil rights demonstration in San Francisco.

June 6, 2011-Louie Louie (The Song). In 1963, a rock group named the Kingsmen recorded the song "Louie, Louie." The popularity of the song and difficulty in discerning the lyrics led some people to suspect the song was obscene. The FBI was asked to investigate whether or not those involved with the song violated laws against the interstate transportation of obscene material. The limited investigation lasted from February to May 1964 and discovered no evidence of obscenity.

Back Page Buzz!

Section Chief's Comments Continued from Page One.

This process maintains "relative FIFO" while compensating for any delays due to reviews, etc., thereby ensuring that requesters receive materials as soon as possible. The focus on "must dos" ensures consistent overall FIFO processing. Our goal is to complete 99.5% of our requests within two years by end of this fiscal year and to have no requests over three years old. We're doing it.

A new addition to RIDS?

A recent envelope was mailed to RIDS from the National Security Staff containing FOIA related material. The envelope was sent via "registered mail" and was addressed to:

FBI, RIDS, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA?
Message from Section Chief David M. Hardy
Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS)

Based on my informal poll, I believe the recent presentation by the Counter Intelligence Division was very well received. It was a great reminder of the sensitivity of much of the information we see every day and the interest others may have in that information.

One of the lessons I took away was it is not just a matter of physical security, but that security requires us to be vigilant for "socialization" efforts. Please heed the warnings about placing information about what you do on Facebook and other social media.

As we strive to make FBI FOIA "requester friendly," be mindful of the amount of information about yourself that you disclose. Unfortunately, about six years ago, we did have one of our employees passing information to criminal elements. So, this is not theoretical at all and requires all of us to be vigilant.

The presentation on the "Russian Illegals" was also well received. The presentation gave a great overview of counterintelligence trade-craft and should assist us in our processing.

Recognizing the benefit of this presentation and those we received already on polygraphs and financial records, we will schedule a session on counterterrorism investigations overview as well. We will also bring back organized crime and domestic terrorism investigations overviews.

We're open to any of your suggestions regarding other topics. On a somewhat unrelated topic, requesters can now check the status of their requests on the Vault, eliminating the need for the 90-day status letters. In your next letter to a requester, please inform them that they can check the Vault at any time to get the status of their request. While the time to generate one 90 day letter is not all that much, our volume is such that time saved overall does add up to something meaningful.

New York Congresswoman Geraldine Anne Ferraro

Geraldine Ferraro was a congresswoman from New York who later became the first female candidate for vice president. After teaching in public schools, Ms. Ferraro earned a law degree from Fordham Law School in 1960. She took several years off from working full-time and later joined the Queens prosecutor's office in 1973 as an assistance district attorney. In 1978 she ran for and won a seat in the House of Representatives, representing Queens as a Democrat.

By 1984, Ms. Ferraro had made a name for herself in Washington politics and was chosen to be the Democratic Platform Committee leader. A few months later, she was chosen by Walter F. Mondale to be his running mate in the 1984 presidential election against Ronald Reagan. There were constant concerns about Ms. Ferraro's financial records, which eventually led to an FBI investigation into how she raised some of her campaign funds. President Reagan won in a landslide.

After her failed run for vice president, Ms. Ferraro ran several more times for public office. She ran for seats in the Senate in 1992 and 1998, but lost both attempts. President Clinton selected Ms. Ferraro as an ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, and she also hosted news programming for CNN.
Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.

Abraham Lincoln

The greatest tragedy in America is not the destruction of our natural resources, though that tragedy is great. The truly great tragedy is the destruction of our human resources by our failures to fully utilize our abilities, which means that most men and women go to their graves with their music still in them.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Geraldine Anne Ferraro

Investigative files outline several threats made toward Ms. Ferraro and include a look into how she funded her 1978 bid for Congress.

164-HQ-5694: In this file, a man threatens the lives of Presidential candidate Walter F. Mondale and Ms. Ferraro, in addition to acting erratically on a flight. No charges were filed as the subject was being transported between Veteran's Affairs facilities for treatment of mental disorders at the time of the incident.

46-HQ-75010: This is the investigation into Ms. Ferraro’s campaign finances. It alleges that she took a loan from a family member and paid it back by selling real estate. Prosecutors decided that there was not enough ill intent or evidence to file charges.

89-HQ-5794: In this file, an unknown male associated with the Ku Klux Klan calls an FBI field office and says that Ms. Ferraro will never become vice president.

9A-HQ-9215: This threat file investigates a letter sent to Congressman Norman F. Lent, which includes threats against a list of people in the public eye, including Ms. Ferraro and Frank Sinatra.

89-HQ-5813: This file investigates a letter sent by a man in Texas to his sister which threatens Ms. Ferraro’s life.

183A-NY-2934: These documents are a reference within the file, as Ms. Ferraro is only mentioned in the newspaper articles concerning her husband.

The Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA)

ASALA was a militant organization that operated from 1975-1986 and was listed as a terrorist organization by the United States during the 1980s. Like many other terrorist organizations, ASALA was supported financially by contributions from individuals from around the world and through criminal activities such as robberies, kidnappings and extortions. The group engaged in assassinations attempts and attacks throughout the Middle East, United States, and Canada, which killed 46 people and injured 299.

Due to law enforcement intervention and internal conflicts, the group became relatively inactive by the 1990’s, although it claimed an unsuccessful attack on the Turkish ambassador to Hungary. The organization has not engaged in militant activity since then.

Operation SOLO

In April 1958, a representative of the Communist Party of the United States (CPUSA) named Morris Childs made important trips to the Soviet Union and China. His purpose: to re-establish formal contact between the CPUSA and these countries.

First, Morris visited with key Communist Party and Soviet leaders in Moscow. He learned of their wider political goals, their concerns and fears, and their deep interest in restoring connections with the CPUSA. Then he went to Beijing, where he made similar inroads and met with Premier Mao Tse Tung.

After three months, Morris returned home and reported all he’d learned to CPUSA leaders. But, as a new Freedom of Information Act release in the FBI Vault makes clear, he was also secretly talking to President Dwight Eisenhower, the vice president, the secretary of state, and a select group of other U. S. officials.

Morris, you see, was actually one of the FBI’s greatest Cold War agents.

To read more please visit the FBI’s Vault and access the word ‘SOLO’.

http://vault.fbi.gov/
RIDS Q & A/New Contacts/Reminder

CONTACTS:

Paralegal Specialist
National Records Center
P. O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010

USCIS FOIA/PA Program Office

Program Analyst
BIA OJS District IV
(Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Office of Justice Services)
1001 Indian School Road
Albuquerque, NM 87104

BIA, Assistant Special Agent in Charge/FOIA Coordinator

Staff Action Officer
US Army Medical Research and Material Command (USAMRMC)
Attn: MCMR-SG
504 Scott Street
Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5012
Off: (301) 619-2982
Fax: (301) 619-2982

Coming soon... Field Office Training

A project is underway to launch training for the field offices about what we do here in RIDS. This training will be set up in a website that the field offices can access. Included on the site will be training materials (examples: What is RIDS?, FOIA v. PA), "talking heads," contact information for the field etc.

The purpose of this site is to aid the field in understanding who we are and why we need their assistance with our FOIPA cases. Stay tuned for the launch of this site!

Death Row—Three prisoners are on death row. The night of the execution they are asked what they wish to have for their last meal.

The first asks for lobster, which he is served and then taken away.

The second requests a filet mignon, which he is served and also taken away.

The last requests a plate of strawberries. The warden is surprised and replies "STRAWBERRIES?"

"Yes," replies the inmate, "strawberries."

"But they are out of season!" responds the warden.

"That's OK. I'll wait...."

Off the Beaten Path

Please note the new change of address for a requester who has numerous pending requests.*

*Information also placed on Sharepoint

"Good management is the art of making problems so interesting and their solutions so constructive that everyone wants to get to work and deal with them."

—Paul Hawken
FOIA Processing “Hot Topics”

Recent FOIA/PA requests:

Charles Manatt, a lawyer who founded one of the country’s largest law firms and served as chairman of the Democratic National Committee during the Reagan administration, died on July 22nd. He was 75. Mr. Manatt served as co-chairman of Bill Clinton’s presidential campaign in 1992, and he was rewarded with an ambassadorship to the Dominican Republic.

Robert Ettinger—A physics teacher and science fiction writer who believed death is only for the unprepared and unimaginative, died July 23 at his home in Michigan. He was 92. Mr. Ettinger is widely considered the father of the cryonics movement, whose adherents believe they can achieve immortality through quick-freezing their bodies at death in anticipation of future resurrection. His frozen body is presently being stored in a vat of liquid nitrogen at a facility near Detroit.

Recently Added to The Vault

July 22 Machine Gun Kelly (1895-1954): George “Machine Gun Kelly” Barnes was a notorious criminal during the gangster era. This release covers the investigation of the Charles Urschel kidnapping and the resulting court case. The release covers the years 1933-1959.

July 29 William Walter Remington (1917-1954): A government economist accused by Elizabeth Bentley of cooperating in espionage for the Soviet Union during World War II. He was convicted of perjury in 1953 for denying that he had provided Bentley with technical data related to war production and earlier ties to a communist group. Remington was murdered in jail in 1954.

Back Page Buzz!

New RIDS employee: Please welcome LAS [Redacted] to the RIDS family, began his WPU training on August 3.

QSI Awards: Congratulations to all RIDS personnel who recently received a QSI award on August 3, 2011. The awards were presented by AD Michelle Jupina and SC David Hardy.

Time is running out! Personnel must complete their CEP’s prior to September 30, 2011.

CEP Credit Hours for Books: 1 page = 2 min. 30 pages = 3 hrs. 100 pages = 3 hrs. 300 pages = 10 hrs.
The flooding of the FBI’s records warehouse in Alexandria on September 9 certainly came out of nowhere. Near the facility was what best could be described as a drainage ditch. By my calculations, it filled with more than ten feet of water, spreading across a parking lot and into the warehouse.

The current was strong enough to float boxes from their shelves into open spaces in the aisles. It also lifted a car and two mini-buses in the parking lot and floated them downstream. There was a slick layer of mud across the parking lot and throughout the warehouse.

RMD had to move fast to prevent mold from growing in the files. Wet files from the bottom two rows of warehouse shelving were placed in freezers before any mold grew. The FBI moved nine rented truck trailers to the site, constructed shelving in each one, then loaded the wet boxes with files into them. Six freezer pods were also brought in to hold files. The file boxes were nasty, often coming apart and soaking the person carrying them. Because the water could contain not so nice stuff, everyone wore plastic gloves and had the option to wear protective overalls. Thanks to the mud, footing in the warehouse and parking lot was slippery at best.

By Saturday evening the parking lot was clear of mud, and the pods were full. We had loaded six trailers. Two more were loaded that night and the last one was loaded on Tuesday. The files now sit frozen in their trailers and pods waiting to have the water removed from them.

We were asked to provide support late Friday. I know many of you were already engaged with something else, but I am very appreciative of those who came all the way down to Alexandria to assist. I know AD Jupina is likewise. I came Friday night and worked the entire night. On Saturday, " and all hauled boxes.

Thanks!!!

SC Hardy’s Comments Continued
Believe it or not? RIDS recently received a request from a female who stated that a group of men were attempting to steal her intellectual properties and wanted to know their identities! This is a true statement.

"Don’t find fault, find a remedy”
John D. Rockefeller

"Good enough never is”
J. P. Morgan

RIDS recently received a request from a female who stated that a group of men were attempting to steal her intellectual properties and wanted to know their identities! This is a true statement.

Believe it or not, RIDS recently received the following FOIA request for records related to the “Lizard Creature.” The requester lists under Description of Records: “Any investigation reports, correspondence, etc. concerning a reported 'lizard creature' sighting in or near Branch Hill or Loveland, Ohio in March of 1955. The witness reported to local law enforcement seeing three manlike "trolls" kneeling on the side of the road. They were about three feet tall, had gray skin, and seemed to be wearing tight-fitting gray clothes or had skin that appeared so. They had froglike faces, long slender arms, normal eyes, but no eyebrows. Oddly, they seemed to have lop-sided chests. One of the things held a dark object, which emitted blue flashes, between its raised arms.

Do you believe?

New RIDS Assistant Section Chief (ASC)

Please welcome RIDS’ new ASC [ ] ASC [ ] entered on duty with the FBI on March 17, 1996 and as a Computer Specialist in the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division. ASC [ ] started his career with the FBI in 1996 and was instrumental in developing the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). He created the IAFIS Transition Plan and subsequently coordinated transition activities that directly impacted approximately 2,000 staff members. He also oversaw the conversion to the new system of 35 million subjects in the criminal master data base. He and his team also planned for the orderly transition of CJIS services, consisting of over 50,000 fingerprint submissions in per day and daily criminal history file inquiries in excess of 150,000.

The permanent provisions of the Brady Act, which went into effect on November 30, 1998, required the Attorney General to establish the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). The permanent provisions served as the first Operations Manager and played a key role in transi-

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Do you believe?
RIDS Q & A/New Contacts/Reminder

CONTACTS:
Intelligence Specialist (OPS Support)
USA INSCOM
Attn: IAMG-C-FOI
4552 Pike Road
Fort Meade, MD 20755
COMM: __________________________
FAX: (301) 677-2956*
*Unsecure

FOIA Analyst, Information Disclosure
Office of Resource Management
Office of Foreign Assets Control
Department of the Treasury
Annex, FOIA Office, Room 2004
Of: __________________________
Fax: (202) 622-6957

The next FOIA training will begin on October 17, 2011. Trainees will include:

- The new Disclosure analysts will report to FOIA 3's new Single Station Processing Team.
- Thanks to all of you for your wonderful contributions and hard work in WPU.
- FOIA looks forward to having you!

Checking the Status of your FOI/PA Request

Need to know how to check the status of a FOIA request? There are four options available.

First: www.fbi.gov. Click the Freedom of Information Act link at the bottom of the page, which directs you to the FOIA webpage.

Second: www.fbi.gov/foia links directly to the FBI's FOIA website (FBI Records: Freedom of Information/Privacy Act). From the FOIA site follow the instructions above.

Third: vault.fbi.gov links directly to The Vault. Scroll down the page until you see "Check Status of Your FOI/PA Request."

Fourth: The direct web link to 'Check Status of Your FOI/PA Request' is vault.fbi.gov/fdps-1@search-fdps.

Closed requests are not listed on the site.
Status reports are updated weekly.

Off the Beaten Path (Can you name the baseball player?)

Recently an individual submitted an e-mail to RIDS seeking the following:

"I am a researcher working on a book about 1952 Topps baseball cards. Stunningly, I have discovered a partial fingerprint that was actually printed on one of the cards itself (the printer must have touched the printing press, left a partial print, and then ran the print run—recording his print for all to see!).

I know it's a long shot that the FBI would have his print on record, but it would be a huge discovery for the baseball community to identify the printer of the most famous baseball cards produced. Is there any way that I could request that this partial print be searched for?

I know this is not your normal request, but I didn't know who else to contact."

When in doubt, contact RIDS!
Recent FO/PAs requests:

Clair George: A widely respected veteran of the CIA's clandestine service who oversaw all global espionage activities for the agency in the mid-1980s and was later convicted of lying to Congress during investigation into the Iran-Contra scandal. Mr. George was the highest-ranking CIA official to stand trial over the biggest White House scandal since Watergate. Mr. George died on August 11, 2001, of cardiac arrest.

Mark O. Hatfield: The former governor and senator who transformed Oregon's economy and landscape while becoming one of the nation's most prominent opponents of the war in Vietnam. Senator Hatfield once served as the chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He died in August 2011. He was 89.

FOIA Weekly: RIDS SharePoint Team Site: If you are posting a discussion board question, remember to include details about the file (date frame, file classification etc.). Also, it may be useful to include the FOIA number and FDPS page number. Ultimately, we want to ensure that questions are getting answered correctly and the only way to do that is to have a good idea of what you are encountering.

Recently Added to The Vault

September 12, 2011—The FBI posted to The Vault a number of 9/11 videos and other materials related to the 9/11 attacks. The videos and images show only the terrorist attack on the Pentagon, and do not cover the World Trade Center or Shanksville, PA, attacks.

vault.fbi.gov

August 18 RYMUR (The Leo Ryan Murder/Jonestown Investigation). On November 18, 1978, while investigating human rights abuses by a large cult led by James Warren "Jim" Jones (1931-1978), Congressman Leo Ryan (1925-1978) and several companions were murdered by Jones' followers. At the behest constituents with family members in the cult, Ryan had traveled to Jonestown, the cult's South American compound, to investigate. Following Ryan's murder, Jones ordered his followers to commit mass suicide; more than 900 bodies were later found, most having died by taking poison. The FBI conducted a violence against public officials investigation.

Back Page Buzz!

Reminder—Please be sure to send your DOJ referrals to the correct location within DOJ. Many referrals should go to the ISD and not the Criminal Division. SharePoint has instructions and samples to follow. Thank you.

A BIG THANK YOU to ASC for all of his guidance and accomplishments while assigned to the RIDS family. We wish you nothing but the best in your new assignment as the Records Automation Section's new ASC.

Good luck in all your future endeavors.
Message from Section Chief David M. Hardy
Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS)

We finished the fiscal year in excellent shape. October brought a rush of new requests that present new challenges, both in numbers and complexity. In addition, we have to dedicate more processing to litigation. This all reflects that our work flow is dynamic and never routine. That said, we have in place a great team that I'm certain will adjust to the new pressures. That is a great feeling from the front office perspective.

We are going to continue to improve our capabilities through IT enhancements and creating greater flexibility through additional single station processing. The transition of FOIAP 3 to single station has started already and will be complete by end of the FY. Correspondingly, we need to increase our consistency and quality. From a systematic perspective, the certification process will continue to be our basic building block for both consistency and quality. In this regard, the certification program will be fully implemented at OSC Savannah/FOIPA 5 and OSC Butte. There will be continuing emphasis on use of the share point site, on quality assessments, training opportunities, and peer reviews.

As this is all moving forward, we are trying to lay the ground work for the future. The future is not systems or work flows, but the leadership and innovation potential within the section. We are deliberate in encouraging the growth of this potential. In addition to participation in the share point site and peer review groups, we will be providing more opportunities for growth. This includes continuing mentoring assignments in WP. We will expand the declassification liaison responsibilities. We already are establishing teams to resolve very complex processing challenges-including litigation. We will put in place new working groups to assist in identifying and resolving inconsistencies and inefficiencies in our work process. While we will provide opportunities, the single most important indicator of leadership potential is reflected in your everyday work and interaction with your team. The FBI's new leadership development program emphasizes this point as well.

Be engaged, think of new ways of doing business, encourage your team and peers, and don't accept the so-so, marginal way of doing business.

Former Texas Senator John Goodwin Tower

RIDS recently released responsive records regarding the late Senator John Goodwin Tower who served as a United States Senator from Texas from 1961-1985. Senator Tower was also selected to lead the Tower Commission, the investigative body looking into the Iran-Contra Affair.

President George H. W. Bush nominated Senator Tower to become Secretary of Defense, which was Tower's life-long goal. Senator Tower was denied the nomination due to conflicts of interest with defense contracting companies that he was involved with, but other major considerations were widespread and highly publicized accusations of infidelity and alcohol abuse.

Senator Tower died along with his daughter, Marion, and several other passengers, in the crash of a small airplane in Georgia on April 5, 1991.

The responsive investigative files on Senator Tower consist mostly of the background investigation to support his Cabinet nomination. There are 40 separate files and additional interim releases will be forthcoming.
Former U. S. Attorney General and Ohio Senator William Saxbe

RIDS recently released the files of William Bart Saxbe who served as the Attorney General of the State of Ohio and Senator before being appointed to the position of Attorney General of the United States by President Richard Nixon in January 1974. Mr. Saxbe’s overall political career held very little scandal, and his FBI investigative files revealed the same:

9-HQ-57083 and 9-WF-58919: Investigation into whether or not Mr. Saxbe’s representation of long time client’s estate before the IRS while serving as U. S. Senator was a conflict of interest. It was determined that he did not violate Section 203 of Title 18 or any other statute.

9-HQ-57083: William Saxbe and other major public figures of the 1970’s received threatening and harassing letters from a California psychiatrist named... was eventually found guilty of trespassing, served 6 months in jail, lost his probation, and was forbidden to distribute defamatory material.

White House Pledges To Expedite FOIA Requests

New ‘Open Government’ Initiative Supports Transparency article by John Eggerton-Multichannel News on 9-20-11. The White House said Tuesday it will leverage technology to try to expedite Freedom of Information Act requests. That came in the announcement of the latest open government initiative. As anyone who follows the FCC knows, openness and transparency are the watchwords/catch phrases of government agencies under the Obama administration, which pledged to make government information more accessible. The new Open Government Partnership is described as “a new multilateral initiative that supports national [and international] efforts to promote transparency, fight corruption, strengthen accountability, and empower citizens.” Participating countries (38 are signed on so far) pledged to: Promote openness, engaged citizens in decision-making, implement the highest standards of professional integrity and increase access to new technologies.

For its part, the U. S. also pledged to “expand the use of technology to achieve greater efficiencies in FOIA administration, including utilization of technology to assist in searching for and processing records.”

“Nigeria’s New FOIA”

If you ever wondered if foreign countries operate under FOIA laws similar to the U. S. A., here is an interesting news article about Nigeria’s New FOIA (Reporters enjoy new freedoms in a long-repressive society). Journalism in Nigeria has never been easy work, and the new Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which finally became law in May twelve years after the bill was first drafted, isn’t about to change that overnight. But having struggled through decades of repression under military rule, advocates of press freedom in Nigeria are in unusually optimistic mood. “This law will help to shred the web of silence,” the Nobel-Prize winning writer Wole Soyinka, who once had an underground newspaper operating out of his garage, told a public meeting in Lagos this summer. The new law overrides the antiquated Official Secrets Act, which was imposed by imperial Britain in 1911. For the first time, public institutions are legally obliged to keep proper
RIDS Q & A/New Contacts/Reminder

CONTACTS:
CPT [ ]
FOIA Officer
Chief, Operations
U. S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
(USAMRIID)
1425 Porter Street
Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5011
Comm [ ]

An RMD Day for Pizza, Salad & Baked Goods!
Thursday, November 17, 2011 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Proceeds will be donated to #59860 (Big Brothers Big Sisters of Winchester-Frederick-Clarks Counties)
Value Meal Deal...$5.50 (2 slices of Pizza, Salad, & Drink)
Pie Only Meal...$4.00 (2 Slices of Pizza & Drink)
Salad Only Meal...$4.00 (Dinner Salad & Drink)
Tickets should be purchased in advance from your CFC keyworker. Pizza-$2.00 a slice

Movie-Public Enemies
RIDS is hosting a Training Event on December 1st. RIDS will show Public Enemies for this learning experience and a small homework assignment will be distributed immediately following.
Movie schedule:
Session 1: 0745-0945-CU1, CU2, and CU 3
Session 2: 10-12-LSU, FOIA 1, FOIA 2
Session 3: 1215-215-FOIA 3, FOIA 4
Session 4: 230-430-FOIA 6 & WPU

‘Nigeria’s New FOIA” Continued

records and must respond to requests for information within seven days. There is also a provision for the protection of whistleblowers from prosecution.

Senior figures in Nigerian journalism have celebrated the law’s passing, but stress that the work of opening up their country has only just begun.

“It’s a remarkable achievement,” said Kunle Aijabade, publisher of TheNEWS, a venerable weekly magazine. “For journalists, it’s an empowering thing, but for this law to work we, as a society, will have to do extraordinary things, perhaps even amounting to a complete overhaul.”

Omoyele Sowore who is the publisher of Sahara Reporters, a popular citizen journalism site that he runs from New York says, “There is nothing in the FOIA law anywhere that makes a genius of journalism,” says Sowore. “It is the passion, individual hard work, diligence, and most importantly the conscience of a reporter that will [make for good reporting], not the FOIA.”

To access the entire article: http://www.cjr.org/behind_the_news/nigerias_new/foia.php.

Source-Elliott Ross, Center on Media, Crime & Justice

RIDS recently received a FOIA request from an individual residing in the country of Australia concerning Old Saint Nick. The request list Description of Request: Records/files confirming the existence of the supernatural or paranormal phenomenon called Santa Claus and records/files detailing a sighting of a flying sleigh being pulled by reindeer during the night of either 24 December or 25 December.

Please search the FBI’s indices to the Central Records System...for above records and for the individual called Santa Claus, possible aliases (Father Christmas). The requester provided various internet links regarding the alleged real ‘Santa Claus sightings’ over the years by people who claim when they were children to have seen the real Santa Claus on Christmas Eve.

The requester states that he is willing to pay $0 for the processing of this request. The legendary figure Santa Claus existences depends on the results of this FOIA request. No pressure for RIDS here!
Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy."

— Norman Vincent Peale

Recent FOI/PA requests:

Clair George: A widely respected veteran of the CIA’s clandestine service who oversaw all global espionage activities for the agency in the mid-1980s and was later convicted of lying to Congress during investigation into the Iran-Contra scandal. Mr. George died on August 11, 2001, of cardiac arrest.

Anwar al-Awlaki, an American-Born Al Qaeda Leader was killed in Yemen on September 30, 2011. Reports indicate that Awlaki was killed while traveling between Marib and al-Jawf provinces in northern Yemen which is known of having an Al Qaeda presence. Mr. Awlaki and several of his bodyguards were killed during an alleged drone aircraft strike. Mr. Awlaki has been linked to numerous plots against the U.S., including the botched underwear bombing.

Leaves by Elsie N. Brady

How silently they tumble down
And come to rest upon the ground
To lay a carpet, rich and rare,
Beneath the trees without a care,
Content to sleep, their work well done,
Colors gleaming in the sun.

At other times, they wildly fly
Until they nearly reach the sky.
Twisting, turning through the air
Till all the trees stand stark and bare.
Exhausted, drop to earth below
To wait, like children, for the snow.

Samir Khan, an American who was the editor of Inspire Magazine was also killed during the airstrike which killed Anwar al-Awlaki. Mr. Khan wrote an article in the October 2010’s issue of the magazine entitled, “I Am Proud to be a Traitor to America.” FOIA requests have been received requesting records that explain and justify the standards of evidence for killing a U.S. citizen without judicial process.

The RIDS

Welcome-New WPU class

Please welcome the following new LAS’ to the RIDS family.

Four additional contractors have also joined WPU.

Back Page Buzz!

Recently added to The Vault:

Ghost Stories: Russian Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) Illegals..videos and images are included
2011 version of the DIOG
George Orson Wells
General George S. Patton
Mickey Mantle

A FOIA requester from the country of Argentina sent an e-mail to RIDS...Congratulations to the FBI for avoiding an Iranian attempt to assassinate the Saudi Arabian Ambassador...The press here is talking about a possible attack to the Israeli and Saudi embassies at Buenos Aires.