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Mr Tracy



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

Serial: N1120
26 September 1975

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY AND DEPUTY
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Preliminary Statement of Robert J. Tracy before the
Senate Select Committee on 24 September 1975

As requested by Mr. Fred Ward, Court Reporter, inclosed is the
Preliminary Statement of Robert J. Tracy before the Senate Select
Committee on 24 September 1975 to be delivered to Mr. Barry Carter.

David D. Lowman

DAVID D. LOWMAN
Special Assistant
to the Director
for Congressional Reviews

Incl:
a/s

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cc: DIR (Less Incl)
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ESS (Mr. Lowman)
NCRDEF (Less Incl)
C52 (Mr. Tracy) ←
L221 (Less Incl)



DAVID D. LOWMAN/O/ESS/x3161s/26 Sep 75/kjb

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Mr. Chairman:

I have a preliminary statement I'd like to read.

HISTORY OF RHYMING DICTIONARY

The Rhyming Dictionary is an index to the biographic files and was begun in 1945 using punched cards to record names of personalities appearing in or likely to appear in SIGINT product. From the file of punched cards, printed lists were made by forward and reverse alphabetical sort of personal surnames.

In December 1958, a machine printout of the complete Rhyming Dictionary was microfilmed for subsequent reference and a new Dictionary was begun in 1959. First occurrences of personal names were first recorded on log sheets and later transferred in batches to magnetic tapes for computer manipulation and listing as required; e.g. forward and reverse alphabetical sorts of surnames.

By mid-1973, the collection of personal names had decreased dramatically as the responsibility of providing biographic file service was transferred in phases to CIA, under implementation of Project MILLSTREAM over the years 1970-73. Thus, since no new information was entering the files and index, the useful application and maintenance of the Rhyming Dictionary became increasingly inefficient and unnecessary. It was terminated in December 1973.

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HOW WAS RHYMING DICTIONARY USED AND BY WHOM

Created by International Information Division (C52 and predecessor organizations), the Rhyming Dictionary was an index to biographic files and served as a reference tool for researching names of personalities mentioned in communications. This information like all other data was collected and organized by C52 in order to respond quickly to the various types of requests generated by SIGINT production analysts.

The Rhyming Dictionary was used as a master index to personalities that appeared in Central Information Biographic Files which were maintained on over 150 countries and which contained the names of personalities that appeared in SIGINT plus those of personalities in collateral and open sources most likely to appear in SIGINT. The Dictionary covering the period 1959-1973 contained 1,667,396 names of which 73,141 were U.S. personalities.

In response to requests from translators, cryptanalysts and SIGINT reporters, a Central Information analyst used the Rhyming Dictionary, in its various sorts, to either complete the name of a personality when it was misspelled, or garbled or to determine his nationality which, in turn, would lead to the country file containing information on the particular individual; e.g. his location, official position, or association with activities (international travel, conferences, organizations, negotiations, conversations, and speeches of international significance). An example of another sort of the names in the dictionary was one which reversed the

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DISCUSSIONS OF PROJECT MILLSTREAM

My understanding is that in 1967-68, an internal-NSA study was undertaken to evaluate the intelligence information support files of the Central Information Center (CIC) in order to determine the most feasible and effective system to support SIGINT processing. The study recommended that immediate steps be taken by CIC to establish closer working relationships with the CIA Office of Central Reference with a view to eliminating NSA's biographic information services and rely on CIA biographic file support via secure telephone communication. This was in line with an overall intelligence community effort to reduce duplication in biographic files.

Accordingly, arrangements were made between NSA and CIA in the second quarter 1968 to conduct a Biographic Support Feasibility Test. This test was held from July through October 1968 and thereafter it was recommended that the information resources of the Information Services Group, Central Reference Service, CIA be used to answer NSA requests for biographic information.

In April 1969, it was formally agreed between NSA and CIA to implement this recommendation by collocating Central Information personnel with CIA/CRS. Implementation was to be phased as training of Central Information (C5) personnel permitted and several C5 people were immediately detailed to CIA/CRS to learn about CRS resources and prepare for transfer of biographic responsibilities to CIA.

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Accordingly, biographic information support provided by NSA was gradually phased out and transferred to CIA. In August, 1970 biographic support concerning Latin America and South America was absorbed by CIA/CRS. Answering NSA requests for Western Europe biographic support was assumed by CIA in November 1970. In February 1971, CIA/CRS began biographic support services for Africa (excluding North Africa) plus the Free-World countries of India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. By May 1971, CIA had taken over Eastern Europe biographic support. One year later, in June 1972, NSA's needs for biographic support on Turkey, Greece and Cyprus were being provided by CIA. In another year, June 1973, biographic support to NSA on countries of the Middle East and North Africa was also being performed by CIA. Finally, in October 1973, CIA/CRS assumed responsibility for providing NSA with biographic support to the of China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Korea, Burma, and Thailand.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~STATEMENT OF U.S. BIOGRAPHIC FILES

By December 1973, these files had become inactive because their utility in answering questions had gradually diminished as Project MILLSTREAM was implemented in phases. Additionally, between early 1973 and October 1973, my Division was physically relocated three times into successively smaller work spaces resulting in a loss of 3,200 sq. ft. In turn, this loss dictated destruction of large quantities (3,000 cu. ft.) of information materials no longer considered necessary to our SIGINT support mission.

Furthermore, my key researchers were collocated in an area where the files could not be accommodated. This area contained open source resource materials such as Who's Who, commercial directories, and other open source aids that are used to identify U.S. personalities.

With the Division's final move and space constriction of October 1974, I consulted with Mr. Robert J. Welday, Chief, C5 concerning the possible disposition of these files. At the same time, I informed him that, when world-wide biographic information files covering the period of approximately 1940-1958 were reviewed during 1971 for final disposition, neither the NSA SIGINT producers, the NSA Historian nor CIA and DIA expressed any further requirement for such files.

Therefore, Mr. Welday approved the disposal of the U.S. biographic files because: (1) they had ceased to be useful; (2) no other element had previously registered any interest in their retention; and (3) reduced work space would accommodate only the most necessary resource materials.

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