

THE FED PAGE



In the Loop

Al Kamen, Columnist

National security blanket

The older things get, the more they're secret? The Pentagon has been holding back some documents, requested by the independent researchers at the National Security Archive 18 years ago, about a project that has come to be known as "Poodle Blanket." This is about contingency plans in 1961 for a possible confrontation over West Berlin. That would be "a city that is no longer divided, a confrontation with a country that no longer exists and a war that ended 20 years ago," said the archive's director, Thomas Blanton.

Apparently the Pentagon's poodle documents, although many related papers were released years ago by the State Department, somehow could still damage national security.

Lore has it that the project initially generated so many plans and paper that someone complained they were



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The Kennedy administration's secrets about West Berlin remain safe for now.

the effort's code name became "Pony Blanket." From there it got further abbreviated, and the code name became "Poodle Blanket."

Maybe they'd give up the documents if the code name became "Teacup Yorkie Blanket"?

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