

## MEMORANDUM

November 12, 1997

To: Jeremy Gunn  
Executive Director

cc: Tom Samoluk  
Deputy Director

Bob Skwirot  
CIA Coordinator

From: Michelle Combs  
Special Assistant for Research and Review

Subject: Name/Crypt Documents in the CIA Sequestered Collection and HSCA Staff Notes

The CIA Sequestered Collection and HSCA Staff Notes contain a number of documents which consist of lengthy lists of names and cryptonyms. These lists originated in a variety of ways. In some cases lists were made by HSCA staff employees, in other cases lists originated from computer listings of cable, name, or cryptonym traces which were provided to the HSCA, computer generated lists of all documents within particular files provided to the HSCA, or internal CIA memoranda responding to HSCA requests through the Counterintelligence Staff. The HSCA staff originated lists are clearly working memory aides. The computer listings were provided to the HSCA for the most part as evidence of good faith on the part of the Agency in completing the file, cable, name, or cryptonym trace requested. The internal memoranda were prepared to assist the CI Staff in responding to HSCA requests. Many of the lists were released in a dramatically sanitized form in 1993 and 1994.

On November 4 and November 10, 1997, I reviewed five of these types of lists. These documents, and others like them which may exist in the Collection and the Staff Notes, would require extensive research and preparation tying up time and resources to release a very small number or names and/or cryptonyms. In many cases either the name or the cryptonym would be released; in the majority of cases, both the name and the cryptonym would be protected, particularly in the computer listings which cover a wide variety of subjects. The information which would be released is, by definition, already available in context in documents already voted on by the Board or released under the JFK Act.

Given the time and resources which would be expended to release a comparatively few names or cryptonyms, I recommend that the Agency be required to process these documents, and any additional similar documents which may be located within the Sequestered Collection, for inclusion in the JFK Collection at NARA by the year 2000.