RECOMMENDATION FOR HONOR OR MERIT AWARD (Submit in triplicate - see HR 20-37)

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SECTION D

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Award for Heroic Action or Acceptance of Hazard: Was act valuntary? Describe why act was outstanding, and if it was more than normally expected. Explain, why, and how. If an aerial or marine operation, describe type and position of craft, crew position of individual, and all unusual circumstances. Indicate results of the act. Enclose unclassified citation.

Award for Achievement, Service, or Performance: State character of service during period for which recommended. (Give complete description of administrative, technical, or professional duties and responsibilities if not covered in Section C; include dates of assignment and relief.) What did the Individual do that merits the award? Why was this outstanding when compared to others of like grade and experience in similar positions or circumstances? If appropriate, include production records and assistance rendered by other persons or units. What obstacles were encountered or overcome? Indicate results of achievement, service, or performance. Include reference to Fitness Reports, Letters of Commendation, or other documentation already on file which supports this recommendation. Enclose unclassified citation.

Mr. David L. Christ is recommended for the Intelligence Medal of Merit in recognition of his career of especially meritorious service which has contributed significantly to the missions of CIA.

Mr. Christ joined CIA in November of 1950 as the first research and development electronics engineer in what has evolved as TSD. He created an Applied Physics Branch setting high standards for himself and the R&D engineers he recruited. His accomplishments included the anti-disturbance mine and the time pencil, both of which are still Agency stock items, and an IR beacon. As a pioneer in audio surveillance devices, he recognized very early that the use of systems concept would be most productive in meeting Agency needs. As part of his development program, his efforts led to the establishment of specialized contract facilities such as which in 1953 was the first Agency source of transistorized equipment. 4

In early 1957, Mr. Christ was made Chief of what is now the Audio Operations Branch of TSD and, realizing that a drastic upgrading of the caliber of field technicians was required, began aggressively recruiting and training graduate engineers. His high standards and efforts in this area are reflected in the fact that the majority of TSD Audio mid-management personnel were recruited by him. In September 1960, he and two associates were apprehended while on an operation in

46. ENCLOSURES (List individually) IF ORIGINATOR IS NOT AN EYEWITHESS OR DOES NOT HAVE PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE ACT OR PERFORMANCE. ATTACH AFFIDAVITS OF EYEWITHESS OR INDIVIDUALS HAVING PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS.

CONTINUED ON ATTACHED SHEET

1. PROPOSED CITATION 48. TITLE AND SIGNATURE OF EXPLOYEE MAKING RECOM-47. RECOMMENDATION INITIATED 27. C Director of Research and 2 NOV 1970 Robert M. Chapman Development SECTION E RECOMMENDATION FORWARDED THROUGH OFFICIALS CONCERNED FOR THEIR INFORMATION TITLE AND SIGNATURE Carl E. Duckett, Deputy Director HEAD OF CAREER SERVICE (Career service of nominee) for Science and Technology 51. TITLE AND SIGNATURE DATE Carl E. Duckett, Deputy Director DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICE for Science and Technology TITLE AND SIGNATURE 52. DATE Carl E. Duckett, Deputy Director DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATING COMPONENT for Science and Technology

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Section D (Cont'd)

a denied area. His exemplary conduct and personal courage during the resulting two and one-half years incarceration permitted the maintenance of a very difficult cover situation and successful extraction of all three men.

Upon his return, Mr. Christ joined the Office of Research and Development soon after its inception, assisting in the definition and establishment of the various divisions. his early guidance, the over-the-horizon radar program developed finally into an operational system. His sensitivity to the needs of Agency operational elements based upon his experience, his technical expertise and his dedicated desire to broaden the technological capabilities of the Agency precipitated his development of a major coordinated program of accelerated R&D to provide the clandestine services with a number of new audio surveillance techniques of which the laser probe is an . example, and his conception and direction of the Microtechnology R&D program. Within this program, the success of the micropower transistor led to the award of Medals of Merit to two scientists under his supervision. Other progeny of the microtechnology concept are three novel intelligence gathering systems to function in the air, in space, and in the sea environments, one of which is approaching operational status. Mr. Christ has also been responsible for pioneering efforts in the area of Audio Surveillance Countermeasures, first proposing the application of computers to the problem.

Mr. Christ's imaginative leadership and inspiration to those working with him, his broad scope of interest, his resource-fulness, and philosophical devotion to the cause of the Agency and the United States have provided this Agency with an individual whose unique efforts and accomplishments over his 20 years service are worthy of this recognition.