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ACIPSS-newsletter

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that will become intelligence history of tomorrow -

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1046/08 -----
Media Alerts



am So, 31.08. um 00:10 Uhr auf arte

Simon im Widerstand

Thriller

Dauer: 100 Minuten (a)

Kurzbeschreibung: Niederlande, 2004: Als eine Ex-Widerstandskämpferin des Zweiten Weltkriegs von Jugendlichen brutal ermordet wird, die unbestraft ausgehen, beschließt die ehemalige Widerstandsgruppe wieder aktiv zu werden und das Recht in die eigene Hand zu nehmen ...



am Di, 02.09. um 21:02 Uhr auf arte

Waffenhandel - Ein Bombengeschäft

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 93 Minuten (b)

Inhalt: Im Zuge der Globalisierung hat sich auch der Handel mit Waffen weiter internationalisiert.

In einem kaum zu durchdringenden Geflecht agieren skrupellose Waffenhändler, bewaffnete Banden und Beauftragte blutrünstiger Diktatoren. Doch Hilfsorganisationen wie Amnesty International, Oxfam und IANSA (International Action Network on Small Arms) decken immer mehr versteckte Handelswege auf und organisieren den Widerstand gegen das Töten.



Mi, 03.09. um 23:30 Uhr auf Das Erste

Planspiel Atomkrieg - Adenauers Kampf um die Bombe

Dokumentation

Folge: 1

Dauer: 45 Minuten

Für viele war es ein Schock, als Mitte des Jahres durch die Zeitungen ging, dass auch heute, 20

Jahre nach Ende des Kalten Krieges, noch immer US-Atomwaffen in Westdeutschland lagern. Alte Ängste kamen wieder hoch und die Erinnerung an die Zeit des Kalten Krieges, in der sich die Supermächte waffenstarr und feindselig gegenüberstanden und ein Krieg mit Atomwaffen drohte.

am Do, 04.09. um 12:00 Uhr im hr

Spione im Talar - Der Stasistreit in Polen

Wissen und mehr

Dauer: 30 Minuten

Beschreibung: Nach dem Rücktritt des gerade ernannten Erzbischofs von Warschau, Stanislaw Wielgus, ist die polnische Kirche tief gespalten. Die einen wollen die Vergangenheit, die Verstrickungen polnischer Geistlicher mit dem Geheimdienst aufarbeiten. Die anderen wollen die Akten verschlossen halten, um den einstigen Geheimdienst-Funktionären nicht auch heute noch Macht über Kirche und Gesellschaft zu geben. Der Film begleitet einen polnischen Priester, der vom Geheimdienst verfolgt wurde und der sich für die Veröffentlichung der Akten einsetzt. Unterstützer und Widersacher kommen zu Wort.

- (a) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-20543326>
- (b) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-20543432>
- (c) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-20591852>
- (d) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-20591243>

1047/08

U.S. intelligence sources: Iranian attempt to launch satellite fails

Iran failed in an attempt to launch a satellite into space late Saturday night, according to American intelligence sources. The sources said Iran tried to cover up the failure and claimed that the launch was a test for a two-stage missile; earlier this week, Iran's state media reported that a rocket for carrying a research satellite had been successfully test-launched. But the intelligence sources say the purpose of the launch was to send a satellite into orbit.

The U.S. Navy destroyer USS Russell, cruising in the Persian Gulf, monitored the launch and recorded its failure. According to the available data, the plan was to launch the missile to an altitude of 650 kilometers, but the rocket broke apart at 150 kilometers. Parts of the missile landed in Iran and the Gulf of Oman.

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1013755.html>

1048/08

NATO and the invasion of Georgia: How to contain Russia

There is no quick fix, but an over-confident Russia is weaker than it looks: From Brussels this week NATO brandished a fist at Russia, warning it that there could be no "business as usual" so long as Russian forces remained in Georgia. The Russians, oddly, did not quail.

If anything, President Dmitry Medvedev and his mentor and prime minister, Vladimir Putin, seem to be enjoying the world's impotent indignation in the face of their new-found machismo. And why not? They know that **the West will not fight** for the territorial integrity of Georgia, a trisected statelet of only 4m people in the faraway Caucasus. They also know that they will face **no serious economic punishment**. As a collective, NATO may huff and puff, but the cold fact is that many of its big members need a lot of business with Russia to continue. Germany and others in Europe need to keep buying Russia's oil and gas. America needs Russia, too, in order to secure vital foreign-policy objectives of its own, such as preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

Does this mean that Russia will get away with its smash-and-grab operation? In one sense it does.

<http://www.opensourcesinfo.org/journal/2008/8/22/nato-and-the-invasion-of-georgia-how-to-contain-russia.html>

1049/08

ISI, Pakistan's 'rogue' military intelligence agency: Analysis

Senior US officials have leaked to the media Washington's frustration with the Pakistani government's inability to control the Taliban's alleged backers, the Inter-Services Intelligence directorate (ISI). US officials claimed that **intelligence intercepts prove that the agency was involved in the July 7 bombing** of the Indian embassy in Kabul. The Pakistani army strongly denies the allegation.

But the civilian government is powerless to confront the agency. The ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP) prime minister, Yusuf Raza Gilani, announced on the eve of a trip to Washington last month that the ISI had been brought under the control of the interior minister.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/pakistan/2602927/ISI-Pakistans-rogue-military-intelligence-agency-Analysis.html>

1050/08

CIA Officially Responds to Suskind Book

In a statement to be released on its Web site later this afternoon, the Central Intelligence Agency has officially responded to charges in the current Ron Suskind bestseller, "The Way of the World," related to the agency taking part in falsifying evidence related to WMD in Iraq.

Suskind has responded strongly to earlier denials by the CIA, referring to on-the-record taped interviews with CIA personnel and other evidence. He recently posted part of a transcript of an interview with the CIA's former Deputy Chief of Clandestine Operations Robert Richer. A congressional committee is looking into the matter.

- (a) report: http://www.editorandpublisher.com/eandp/news/article_display.jsp?vnu_content_id=1003841861
- (b) official statement: <https://www.cia.gov/news-information/press-releases-statements/hardly-the-way-of-the-world.html>

1051/08 -----

The Google Controversy (from FAS)

The easy availability of high-resolution imagery of much of the Earth's surface through Google Earth has presented a significant challenge to longstanding secrecy and national security policies, and has produced several distinct types of reactions from concerned governments, according to a **recent report** from the DNI Open Source Center (OSC). "As the initial shock wore off, five main responses to the 'Google threat' emerged from nations around the world: negotiations with Google, banning Google products, developing a similar product, taking evasive measures, and nonchalance," the OSC report said.

The report documents these responses with citations to published news sources. It also notes several incidents in which terrorists or irregular military forces reportedly used Google Earth to plan or conduct attacks.

<http://www.fas.org/irp/dni/osc/google.pdf>

1052/08 -----

Pentagon's intelligence arm steps up lie detecting

The Pentagon's intelligence arm is adding more polygraph studios and relying on outside contractors for the first time to conduct lie detection tests in an attempt to screen its 5,700 prospective and current employees every year. The stepped-up effort by the Defense Intelligence Agency is part of a **growing emphasis on counterintelligence**, detecting and thwarting would-be spies and keeping sensitive information away from America's enemies.

A polygraph is not foolproof as a screening tool. The test gives a **high rate of false positives on innocent people**, and guilty subjects can be trained to **beat the system**, according to expert Charles Honts, a psychology professor at Boise State University. The National Research Council noted these deficiencies in a 2003 report. The council, an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, found that lie detectors can be useful for ferreting out the truth in specific incidents, but are unreliable for screening prospective national security employees for trustworthiness.

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5inbyhV0XKlrfLqggqFIUUKB7Dx1PgD92038080>

1053/08 -----

Yuri Nosenko, KGB defector, said to be dead in U.S.



Yuri Nosenko, a former Soviet agent who was at the center of some of the most dramatic espionage episodes of the Cold War, died Saturday under an assumed name, somewhere in the southern United States, a senior American intelligence official said on Wednesday. He was 81. In a statement with fittingly sparse information, given Nosenko's earlier life as a KGB spy and his later life in the shadows, the senior

official said he could provide no details about the cause of death or Nosenko's survivors, if any. The official himself would speak only on the condition of anonymity.

Only last month, several senior officials of the Central Intelligence Agency visited Nosenko to present him with an American flag and a letter from Michael Hayden, the director of central intelligence, thanking him for his service and, by implication, offering a final apology for the way he was treated after he defected to the United States in the winter of 1964.

<http://www.iht.com/articles/2008/08/28/america/obits.php>

1054/08

Fatal flaws found in US terrorism database



One of the country's most important terrorism databases is on the verge of failure after suffering from gross mismanagement and technical design flaws that went ignored for months, a congressional investigation found.

A congressional committee on Thursday called for an investigation into a program called "Railhead," which was supposed to upgrade the

National Counterterrorism Center's integrated terrorist intelligence database, called Terrorist Identities Datamart Environment (TIDE). The database serves the United States' 16 separate intelligence agencies, and as of January, contained more than 500,000 names (PDF), according to the NCTC. The program has cost an estimated \$500 million.

http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578_3-10023848-38.html

1055/08

CIA used Swiss family to thwart foreign N-programmes

The United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) recruited a family of Swiss engineers to help it check the nuclear programmes of Muslim states. The family was used to stop the Libyan and Iranian nuclear programmes as well an underground supply network of Pakistani nuclear scientist Dr Abdul Qadir **Khan**, The New York Times reported on its website late on Sunday.

Over four years, the CIA paid the **Tinners** 10 million dollars, some of which was delivered to them in a suitcase stuffed with cash, said the report, citing unnamed officials. In return, said the paper, the engineers delivered a flow of secret information that helped undo Dr Khan's nuclear supply network. CIA spokesman Mark Mansfield declined to comment on the Tinner case, but noted that "the disruption of the AQ Khan network is a genuine and very significant intelligence success -- a success that has helped make the world a safer place". (a-d)

- (a) http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2008%5C08%5C26%5Cstory_26-8-2008_pg7_60
- (b) <http://oraclesyndicate.twoday.net/stories/5148892/>
- (c) <http://www.iht.com/articles/2008/08/25/news/25nuke.php>
- (d) <http://jer-zentrum.org/ViewNews.aspx?ArticleId=397>

1056/08

A UK Window into CIA Abuses

This Wednesday, unless the UK foreign secretary takes rapid action, Britain's High Court will hold a hearing to assess whether the UK government should be ordered to hand over secret documents to lawyers for a Guantanamo detainee. The detainee in question, Binyam Mohamed, faces possible charges of conspiracy and material support for terrorism before a military commission at Guantanamo. According to the UK High Court, the military commissions case against Mohamed is based on confessions Mohamed made while in military custody—after May 2004—not on anything he said while being interrogated by the CIA. Mohamed claims, however, that it was the abuse in CIA custody that induced him to confess while in military custody, and so proof of those CIA abuses are crucial to his defense.

<http://writ.news.findlaw.com/mariner/20080825.html>

1057/08

UK intelligence report: Terror stereotype wrong

The majority of people involved in terrorism in Britain aren't loners or religious zealots, an intelligence report has suggested, challenging stereotypes of extremists in hopes of better understanding what prompts attackers to strike. The report by MI5, Britain's domestic security service, was leaked to the Guardian newspaper, which published details on Thursday. It concludes that there's no simple method for figuring out who might be involved in terrorist activities.

"Crucially, the research has revealed that those who become terrorists are a diverse collection of individuals, who fit no single demographic profile, nor do they all follow a typical pathway to violent extremism," the newspaper quoted the report as saying. (a-c)

- (a) <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/08/21/europe/EU-Britain-Terrorist-Study.php>
- (b) http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5gpGsXMH02_1SZq5qQQv2uG55AKaw
- (c) <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/0,1518,573611,00.html>

1058/08

Panama creates controversial intelligence force

Panama, which has no army, is creating a new intelligence agency and a border police force, prompting concerns of a return to its militarized past. President Martin Torrijos says the intelligence force is needed to combat growing drug crimes. He signed an executive order Wednesday creating the intelligence force and border police and combining the naval and air police forces. Lawmakers are expected to approve the initiatives.

But opposition lawmakers and civil rights advocates say the laws would give the government unprecedented surveillance powers. Warrants are still required to set up wiretaps, but critics say the rules are too loosely defined.

<http://www.centredaily.com/news/world/story/791325.html>

1059/08

Dt. Bundesregierung: Weitere Details zur Bündelung der TK-Überwachung

Die Bundesregierung hat neue Einzelheiten zur geplanten Bündelung der Telekommunikationsüberwachung bekannt gegeben. Die umstrittene

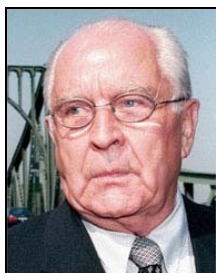
Neustrukturierung soll ein technisches Service- und ein übergeordnetes Kompetenzzentrum umfassen, schreibt das federführende Bundesinnenministerium in einer jetzt veröffentlichten Antwort (a) auf eine Anfrage der Bundestagsfraktion der Grünen. In Ersterem sei beabsichtigt, gemeinsame Abhörtechnik für das Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz, die Bundespolizei und das Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) aufzubauen. Davon verspricht sich das Ministerium geringere Kosten, eine flexiblere und schnellere Anpassung an die sich mit dem Internet verändernde Übertragungstechnik und höhere Kapazitätsreserven. (b)

Für Wolfgang Wieland, Sprecher für innere Sicherheit der Grünen, versucht das Ministerium mit dieser Ansage die Vorbildfunktion der NSA und des GCHQ "in einem Wortnebel zu verhüllen". Geplant sei ein "**Abhörzentrum**", mit dem Polizeien und Nachrichtendiensten des Bundes **ohne Einbezug des Parlaments** auf administrativem Weg "ein großes gemeinsames Ohr" gegeben werde.

- (a) <http://dip21.bundestag.de/dip21/btd/16/101/1610137.pdf>
- (b) Bericht: <http://www.heise.de/newsticker/Bundesregierung-verraet-weitere-Details-zur-Buendelung-der-TK-Ueberwachung--/meldung/115107>

1060/08

Wolfgang Vogel, Negotiator in Spy Swaps, Dies at 82



Wolfgang Vogel, a lawyer in Communist East Germany who became a wealthy man in the cold war by opening cracks in the Berlin Wall to swap captured spies and release political prisoners, died Thursday. He was 82.

His second wife and former assistant, Helga, said he died after a long illness in Schliersee, the lakeside Bavarian Alps resort where they went to live after the wall came down and Germany was reunified a year later in 1990. For three decades before then, Mr. Vogel was an **operator** who could pull strings in Moscow as effectively as in Washington, useful to each side because he was trusted by the other. He was taken into the confidence of the West German chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Bonn and also that of Erich Honecker, the Communist leader in East Berlin, who made Mr. Vogel join the Communist Party in 1981.

Mr. Vogel's first spy-swapping case began in 1959, when he represented an East German woman who said she was the wife of Rudolf Ivanovich Abel, a convicted Soviet master spy imprisoned in the United States. Three years later, negotiations resulted in the exchange of Mr. Abel for the captured American U-2 spy plane pilot Francis Gary Powers at the Glienicke Bridge outside Berlin. At the same moment, at Checkpoint Charlie, the East Germans released another client of Mr. Vogel's they had arrested, an American Ph.D. student named Frederic L. Pryor.

In later years, Mr. Vogel often materialized out of the mists at German border crossing points, his wife at the wheel of their gold-colored Mercedes, for spy swaps, releases of political prisoners – 33,755 in all – and family reunifications for 215,019 people, their freedom bought from the Communists by the West German government under Mr. Vogel's auspices.

The trade **brought in \$2.4 billion in western currency**, badly wanted in East Berlin; Mr. Vogel also got annual payments of more than \$200,000 from the West Germans.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/23/world/europe/23vogel.html?ref=obituaries>

1061/08

Polen ermittelt wegen geheimer CIA-Gefängnisse

In Polen hat die Staatsanwaltschaft erstmals Ermittlungen wegen der mutmaßlichen Existenz von CIA-Gefängnissen auf polnischem Gebiet in den Jahren 2003 bis 2005 eröffnet. Ein Sprecher des Justizministeriums sagte in Warschau, das Dossier unterliege strenger Geheimhaltung. Er machte keine Angaben dazu, weshalb die Ermittlungen erst jetzt eingeleitet wurden; die ersten Vorwürfe gegen Polen wegen der Gefängnisse des US-Geheimdienstes waren bereits Ende 2005 erhoben worden.

Sämtliche polnischen Politiker haben unabhängig von ihrer Parteizugehörigkeit bisher stets die Angaben des Europarates sowie Medieninformationen zurückgewiesen, wonach Mitglieder der Terrororganisation al-Qaida von der CIA in Polen gefangen gehalten wurden. Die „New York Times“ hatte im Juni berichtet, der mutmaßliche Drahtzieher der Terroranschläge vom 11. September, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, sei auf dem nordpolnischen Luftwaffenstützpunkt Szymany verhört und gefoltert worden. Der Zeitung zufolge wählte die CIA Polen als Standort, weil dort das Risiko eines Einsickerns von al-Qaida-Mitgliedern als gering eingestuft wurde.

<http://www.welt.de/politik/article2348555/Polen-ermittelt-wegen-geheimer-CIA-Gefaengnisse.html#reqNL>

(Special thanks to Harald Knoll for this info!)

1062/08

Tschechen streiten über Internet-Pranger

Just zum 40. Jahrestag der Niederschlagung des Prager Frühlings ist in Tschechien ein Streit über den Umgang mit der sozialistischen Vergangenheit des Landes entbrannt. Eine staatliche Behörde stellt seit kurzem die Namen von mutmaßlichen früheren Geheimdienstmitarbeitern und Informanten der Staatssicherheit unverschlüsselt ins Internet. Dort können die Tschechen jetzt per Online-Suchmaschine nach ihren Nachbarn, Kollegen und Verwandten suchen - auch einige führende Politiker stehen in dem Verzeichnis. Die ersten Betroffenen setzen sich jetzt gegen die Veröffentlichung zur Wehr. Sie fühlen sich zu Unrecht an den Pranger gestellt.

http://www.fr-online.de/in_und_ausland/multimedia/aktuell/1580855_Tschechen-streiten-ueber-Internet-Pranger.html

1063/08

Österreich: Neue Enthüllungen über Terrorkonten-Prozess in Wien



Ein spektakuläres, der Wiener Stadtzeitung Falter vorliegendes erstinstanzliches Urteil in einem Wiener Terror-Prozess empört die Opfer des Terroristen Abu Nidal und es verstört Staatsanwälte und Geheimdienstler. Wie gestern verlautete, wurden vom Wiener Landesgericht ein eingefrorenes Sechs-Millionen Euro freigegeben, weil es doch nicht der Abu-Nidal Gruppe (ANO) gehöre, so eine Gerichtssprecherin. Doch in der schriftlichen Fassung des Urteils liest es sich völlig anders. Das Geld, so führt Richter Thomas Hahn aus, sei unter der "Verfügungsgewalt" der ANO gestanden und von dieser in Wien gebunkert worden. Nun seien die Terroristen von einst aber nur noch "privat" und daher ungefährlich. "Die mutmaßlichen Terroristen bekommen das Geld und wir gehen leer aus", protestiert ein Opfer der Anschläge auf die Wiener Synagoge im August 1981. Der Anwalt der verdächtigen Halime N.,

Farid Rifaat, begrüßt das Urteil. Seine Mandantin sei nur eine **unschuldige Hausfrau**.

Das Gericht sieht es anders: Abu Nidals Vertrauter, der Geschäftsmann Samir Najmeddin, habe die Millionen durch Waffendeals mit der DDR für die Terrororganisation beschafft. Seine Frau, die in Wien angeklagte Halime N., habe es das Vermögen in den Achtziger Jahren auf Wiener Konten angelegt. Diese Halime N., genannt die "Sanfte" wurde im Jahr 2000 wegen Mitgliedschaft in der Abu-Nidal Gruppe in Wien verhaftet. Sie kam auf Kautionsfrei - und floh in den arabischen Raum. Nun erhält sie auch ihre Millionen zurück.

"Eine naive, eine gefährliche Entscheidung", sagt ein in den Fall eingearbeiteter hoher Justizfunktionär, der namentlich nicht genannt werden will, zum Falter. Das Geld, so behauptete es auch der Wiener Staatsanwalt Walter Geyer in einem Schriftsatz, der dem Falter exklusiv vorliegt, werde im Falle einer Freigabe ja **"unzweifelhaft", "für terroristische und damit für kriminelle Anschläge im Nahen Osten verwendet werden"**. Der Prozess offenbarte auch, dass die **Tochter Abu Nidals jahrelang in Wien Alsergrund lebte**. (a, b)

(a) Presseaussendung:

http://www.ots.at/presseaussendung.php?schluessel=OTS_20080826_OTS0047

(b) <http://www.falter.at/web/print/detail.php?id=759>

1064/08

Buch: „Nazis auf der Flucht“



Zahlreiche NS-Kriegsverbrecher, unter ihnen Josef Mengele, Adolf Eichmann und Erich Priebke, entzogen sich der drohenden Strafverfolgung nach dem Zusammenbruch des NS-Regimes durch Flucht nach Übersee. Als Fluchthelfer dienten vor allem internationale Organisationen wie das Rote Kreuz, das vielen ehemaligen Nationalsozialisten neue Identitäten beschaffte. Aber auch kirchliche Kreise spielten eine entscheidende Rolle bei der Flucht von Kriegsverbrechern nach Südamerika oder in arabische Staaten.

Präzise zeichnet Gerald Steinacher die Fluchtwege von NS-Tätern nach, insbesondere die von den US-amerikanischen Geheimdiensten als „Rattenlinie“ bezeichnete Fluchtroute über Südtirol nach Rom oder Genua und von dort weiter nach Übersee. Er hinterfragt die Beteiligung der katholischen, aber auch der evangelischen Kirche sowie humanitärer Organisationen und beschreibt die vielfältigen Beziehungsgeflechte, auf die ehemalige Nationalsozialisten auf ihrer Flucht zurückgreifen konnten. Der Band trägt so entscheidend dazu bei, eines der dunklen Kapitel der europäischen Nachkriegsgeschichte zu beleuchten. (a-c)

(a) Gerald Steinacher: "Nazis auf der Flucht - Wie Kriegsverbrecher über Italien nach Übersee entkamen", StudienVerlag

(b) Verlagsseite:

<http://www.studienverlag.at/titel.php?nr=885241&bl=885621,885241,885421,884657,884472,884202,885824,884571,884719,884495,-1>

(c) Rezension: <http://oe1.orf.at/highlights/125054.html>

1065/08

Intelligence and Dictatorships - 2008 Annual Conference of the IIHA

International Intelligence History Association, Reinbek bei Hamburg
17.10.2008-19.10.2008, Schloß Reinbek, Schloßstr.5, 21465 Reinbek Deadline:
10.10.2008

The 2008 Annual Conference of the International Intelligence History Association will examine the interactions between intelligence services and dictatorships, the role of intelligence in propping up dictatorial regimes and the roles of intelligence in political change from dictatorship towards democracy. Our international speakers will present original papers on a wide range of topics covering Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

To offer historical perspectives on the conference's theme, the first panel will offer papers on intelligence activities in the ancient and early modern periods. On Saturday, three separate panels will then explore the role of intelligence organizations in supporting or undermining fascist, communist, and military dictatorships, while Sunday's first panel will be dedicated to the problem of transitioning intelligence services of dictatorial regimes to new roles in democratic societies. More recent developments in the Middle East and Zimbabwe will be the topic of the final session.

The keynote speaker on Friday night will be Dr. David Robarge, Chief Historian of the CIA.

For additional information and registration please visit our website www.intelligence-history.org

(Special thanks to Harald Knoll for this info!)

Deadline for application: 2 September 2008

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