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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE  
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 75374A  
16 May 2016

JOHN GREENEWALD

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 30 October 2013 for "Intellipedia entry (from all three Wikis that make up the Intellipedia) for the following entry(s): BENGHAZI." As stated in our initial response letter, dated 23 December 2013, your request was assigned Case Number 75374. A copy of your request is enclosed. Your request has been processed under the FOIA.

As indicated in our previous letter, NSA provides a service of common concern for the Intelligence Community (IC) by serving as the executive agent for Intelink. As such, NSA provides technical services that enable users to access and share information with peers and stakeholders across the IC and DoD. Intellipedia pages are living documents that may be originated by any user organization, and any user organization may contribute to or edit pages after their origination. Intellipedia pages should not be considered the final, coordinated position of the IC on any particular subject. The views and opinions of authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government.

We conducted a search of all three levels of Intellipedia for "Benghazi" and located one document that is responsive to your request. This document required consultation with elements external to NSA. The consultation has been completed and the responsive document is enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the enclosure

The CIA has determined that some of the information deleted from the document is currently and properly classified in accordance with Executive Order 13526. This information meets the criteria for classification as set forth in Subparagraph (b) of Section 1.4 and remains classified SECRET as provided in Section 1.2 of the Executive Order. The information is classified because its disclosure could reasonably be expected to cause serious damage to the

national security. Because the information is currently and properly classified, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the first exemption of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(1)).

The CIA has also indicated that information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 U.S.C. §403g, as amended.

These CIA-directed deletions have been marked with the code "OGA" (Other Government Agency). Any appeal of the denial of CIA information should be directed to that agency.

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities (in this case, internal URLs), as well as the names of its employees. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). We have determined that such information exists in these records, and we have excised it accordingly.

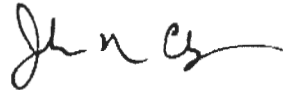
In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosure in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you request against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. You may appeal this decision. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the following way.

- The appeal must be in writing and addressed to:  
NSA/CSS FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (DJ4),  
National Security Agency,  
9800 Savage Road STE 6248,  
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248.
- It must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days of the date of this letter.

- Please include the tracking number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial [of information] was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Chapman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

JOHN R. CHAPMAN  
Chief  
FOIA/PA Office

Encls:  
a/s

**Blacker, Cindy S**

75374

31 OCT 2013

**From:** donotreply@nsa.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2013 1:32 PM  
**To:** donotreply@nsa.gov  
**Cc:** john@greenewald.com  
**Subject:** FOIA Request (Web form submission)

Name: John Greenewald

Email: [john@greenewald.com](mailto:john@greenewald.com)

Company: The Black Vault

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Postal 2nd Line: -

Postal City: [REDACTED]

Postal State-prov: California

Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Country: United States of America

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

Work Phone: [REDACTED]

Records Requested: Dear Sir,

This is a non-commercial request made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 5 U.S.C. S 552. My FOIA requester status as a "representative of the news media." I am a freelance television producer often working on documentaries related to my FOIA requests, my work is commonly featured throughout major news organizations, and I freelance writer for news sites as well. Examples can be given, if needed.

I hope a full fee waiver for this request can be considered, because all documents received will be available FREE OF CHARGE in their entirety on <http://www.theblackvault.com>. This site, run entirely by me, has been around for 17 years, and literally served more than 8,000 people a day on average. I have a unique way of disseminating this information, and can offer additional details, if needed. If a full fee waiver is denied, I please ask you contact me with a quote on how much fees will be.

I prefer electronic delivery of the requested material either via email to [john@greenewald.com](mailto:john@greenewald.com) or via CD-ROM via postal mail. Please contact me should this FOIA request should incur a charge.

I respectfully request a copy of the Intellipedia entry (from all three Wikis that make up the Intellipedia) for the following entry(s):

BENGAZI

Please include all entries that include references to the BENGAZI as well.

Particularly, I am interested to the entry, and references, to the 9/11/12 Benghazi terrorist attack.

Thank you so much for your time, and I am very much looking forward to your response. Please know that electronic delivery of the requested material or correspondence related to this case is preferred and accepted in lieu of paper copies via snail mail.

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.

[REDACTED]

# (U) Benghazi

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

From Intellipedia

You have new messages (last change).

**(U) This page may not comply with Intellipedia:Classification policy.**

(U) Please add or correct the classification markings. Mark the front of all portions, including paragraphs, section titles, tables, links, and image captions. The banner classification should match the classification of the contents.

(U) Per ICD 710 Paragraph G, Foreign Disclosure & Release (FD&R) markings are mandatory on classified intelligence information.

(U) **Benghazi** (Arabic **بنغازي**, transliterated **Bangāzī**) is a seaport in Libya, Africa and is Libya's second largest city. The present name is derived from that of a pious benefactor of the city named Ghazi or "Sidi Ghazi," as the locals called him, who died about 1450. The city was renamed "Bani Ghazi". The population was 500,120 in 1995 (census) and has increased to 660,147 in the 2004 census.

**Benghazi**  
 — {{{type}}} —  
 {{{official name}}}  
 Coordinates: 32°07'N 20°04'E

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## (U) History

(U) Modern Benghazi, on the Gulf of Sidra, lies a little southwest of the site of the ancient Greek city of **Berenice** or **Berenicis**. That city was traditionally founded in 446 BC, by a brother of the king of Cyrene, but got the name Berenice only when it was refounded in the 3rd century BC under the patronage of Berenice (*Berenike*), the daughter of Magas, king of Cyrene, and wife of Ptolemy III

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Euergetes, the ruler of Egypt. The new city was later given the name **Hesperides**, in reference to the Hesperides, the guardians of the mythic western paradise. The name may have also referred to green oases in low-lying areas in the nearby coastal plain. Benghazi later became a Roman city and prospered for 600 years. The city superseded Cyrene and Barca as the chief center of Cyrenaica after the 3rd century AD and during the Persian attacks, but when the Arabs came, in 642-643, it had dwindled to an insignificant village among magnificent ruins.

(U) In 1200s, the small settlement became an important player in the trade growing up between Genoese merchants and the tribes of the hinterland. In 16th century maps, the name of Marsa ibn Ghazi appears. Benghazi had a strategic port location, one that was too useful to be ignored by the Ottomans.

(U) It was in 1578 that the Turks invaded Benghazi and it was ruled from Tripoli by the Karamanlis from 1711-1835, then it passed under direct Ottoman rule until 1911. Under the Ottomans, Levantines, Maltese, Greeks and Jews formed the trading community, Turks, Arabs and Berbers formed ruling castes, and Black Africans acted as laborers and domestics. The city was a port in the slave trade that supplied Islamic markets, until European consuls agitated for its suppression not long before World War I. Under later Ottoman rule Benghazi was the most impoverished of the Ottoman provinces. It had neither a paved road nor telegraph service, and the harbor was too silted to permit the access of shipping. Greek and Italian sponge fishermen worked its coastal waters. In 1858 and again in 1874 Benghazi was devastated by bubonic plague.

(U) In 1911 Benghazi was freed from the Ottoman empire, and became part of Italy. Under Italian colonial occupation, particularly under Mussolini, Cyrenaica suffered ruthless repression of the Libyan resistance. In 1931 the Libyan patriot Omar al-Mucktar was hanged at Souluk, a village just west of Benghazi, effectively ending Libyan resistance. Heavily bombed in World War II, Benghazi was later rebuilt with the country's newly found oil wealth as a gleaming showplace of modern Libya.

(S) [redacted] Benghazi has historically been a city of unrest for the ruling Libyan regime. In March 2006, a government-sanctioned protest against the Danish Cartoon Controversy turned into an anti-Qadhafi demonstration. [redacted]

[redacted] The government's harsh response fueled spontaneous unrest and protests that continued for several days, with demonstrators shouting anti-regime slogans--virtually unheard of in Libya, according to the US Liaison Office in Tripoli (USLO)<sup>[2]</sup>. Libyan witnesses said anger over the cartoons had merged with widespread outrage about the political and economic neglect of Benghazi residents, according to press reports<sup>[3]</sup>. Protests occurred outside the hospital where most of the victims were being treated, and there were unconfirmed reports of violence at police stations and Revolutionary Committee offices, a bank, and the European school, according to press reports and the USLO. Qadhafi suspended the Minister of Interior and ordered an investigation into the shooting of protesters, according to the Libyan ESO and press reports. The General People's Congress issued a statement acknowledging Libyans' right to protest peacefully and denounced the police officers' use of force. Qadhafi will probably not address Benghazi residents' political and social grievances.

(b) (1)  
 FOIA(b)3 - 50 USC 403g Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949  
 OGA



## (U) Geography

(U) Benghazi is one of the sub regions of the area referred to as Cyrenaica, the others being the Jabal Akdhar and the coastal plain running east of Apollonia. Cyrenaica is surrounded by desert on three sides, hence in ancient times the most accessible civilization was to the North, across the Mediterranean, in Crete and Greece, only 400km away.

(U) Benghazi is surrounded by the 'barr', arid steppe. The Jabal Akdhar, literally, 'the Green Mountain', just north of Benghazi, rises to the east. Here the vegetation and climate is more Mediterranean in feel with none of the desert landscapes found further south. A large section of the western Jabal Akdhar is taken up by the fertile Al Marj plain. Further east is the second level of the Jabal Akdhar, between 500m and over 875m above sea level, often thickly wooded and cut by ravines. Annual rainfall here, especially around Cyrene, can reach 500mm. It was this fertile site North-East of Benghazi that the Greeks chose for their settlement. The soil in Benghazi is a rich red color and very clayey.

(U) To the north, below the steep cliffs of the plateau, lies a narrow belt of Mediterranean farmland. Here olives and other Mediterranean fruits and vegetables are grown. To the south, the forest and farmland gives way to juniper bush maquis and pre-desert scrub with some winter grazing.

## Culture

(U) Benghazi is one of Libya's major cultural centers. It is the country's second city and principal city of Eastern Libya. Benghazi is thus also a bustling port and commercial center.

(U)As with other cities of Libya there is reasonable amount of racial diversity in Benghazi. The people of eastern Libya, Benghazi included, have in the past always been proud to be mainly Arab. In recent times however there has been an influx of African immigrants into Benghazi. There are also many Egyptian immigrants in Benghazi due to the fact that Benghazi is very close to Egypt and Sudan and enjoys a stronger economy. Libya's Greek community is also concentrated in Benghazi largely due to distance. The Greek island of Crete is a short distance from Benghazi and many families in Benghazi today bear Cretan surnames. The predominant religion in Benghazi is Islam although there is a small Greek Orthodox church found in the centre of the city that serves Benghazi's Christian community. For Muslims there are many mosques in and around the medina (<https://wikipedia.gchq/wiktionary/index.php/medina>) including the Atiq and Osman mosques as well as others.

(U) Education in Benghazi, as is throughout Libya, is compulsory and free. There are many public primary and secondary schools scattered throughout the city as well as some private schools and a European school. The largest university in Benghazi, Garyounis University, was founded in 1955. The country's largest library containing over 300,000 volumes is also affiliated to the University. Benghazi is also home to the country's first university Al-Jami'a al-Libiya.

## (U) University

(U) The University of Benghazi, named *Garyounis* after the Palestinian refugee, was founded in 1955.

### (U) See also

- 2011 Libya crisis
- Benghazi Six
- Benina International Airport

### (U) External links

- Benghazi City official homepage (<http://benghazi.ly>)
- Libya lifts 'HIV medics' sentence (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/4558844.stm>)

### (U) References

1. [Redacted] (S) [Redacted]
2. ↑ State | Tripoli 000058 | 200602241801
3. ↑ Steven Hurst, "Diplomats, witnesses say anti-Gadhafi forces joined protest", AP | 21 February 2006

Retrieved from [Redacted]  
 Category: Libya

Classified By: [Redacted]  
 Derived From: [Redacted]  
 Declassify On: ~~October 10, 2037~~

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

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- 3 [Redacted] watching users
- This page was last modified 16: 5, 10 October 2012 by [Redacted] Most recent editors: [Redacted] and [Redacted] and others.

(b) (6)

lnipedweb7j

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