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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-5100



SEP 25 2013

U-13-7597/FAC2A1 (FOIA)

Mr. John Greenewald, Jr.



Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated January 20, 2013, that you submitted to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) requesting a copy of all documents pertaining to Operation Gladio. I apologize for the delay in responding to your request. In order to properly respond, it was necessary to consult with another office within the agency.

A search of DIA's systems of records located 44 documents (176 pages) responsive to your request. Of these responsive records, 36 documents (143 pages) were referred to another government agency for their review and direct response to you. This referral is necessary because the documents did not originate with DIA.

Upon review, I have determined that some portions of two documents (9 pages) must be withheld in part from disclosure pursuant to the FOIA. The withheld portions are exempt from release pursuant to Exemptions 1 and 3 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1) and (b)(3). Exemption 1 applies to information properly classified under the criteria of Executive Order 13526. Exemption 3 applies to information specifically exempted by a statute establishing particular criteria for withholding. The applicable statutes are 10 U.S.C. § 424 and 50 U.S.C. § 403-1(i). Statute 10 U.S.C. § 424 protects the identity of DIA employees, the organizational structure of the agency, and any function of DIA. Statute 50 U.S.C. § 403-1(i) protects intelligence sources and methods.

Further, I have determined that six of the responsive documents (24 pages) must be withheld in full pursuant to the FOIA. These withheld documents are exempt from release pursuant to Exemptions 1 and 3 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1) and (b)(3).

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you may exercise your right to file an administrative appeal by writing to the address below and referring to case number 0137-2013. Your appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 days after the date of this letter.

Defense Intelligence Agency
ATTN: FAC2A1 (FOIA)
200 MacDill Blvd
Washington, D.C. 20340-5100

Sincerely,

Alesia Y. Williams
Chief, Freedom of Information Act Staff

2 Enclosures

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PAGE:0001

INQUIRE=DOC12D
ITEM NO=00686075
ENVELOPE
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HEADER

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INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
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RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC
424,(b)(3):50
USC 403-1(i)

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CONTROLS

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

SERIAL: (U)

BODY

PASS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

COUNTRY: (U) ITALY (IT).

SUBJ: (b)(3):10 USC 424

ITALIAN TV NEWS CITES
PART OF SUPPOSED SECRET NATO STRUCTURE KNOWN AS "GLADIO"

(b)(3):10 USC
424,(b)(3):50
USC 403-1(i)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY
EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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PAGE:0002

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 901120.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE: (U) //OPEN//ITALIAN NATIONAL TELEVISION NEWS
BROADCAST, 901120.

(b)(3):10 USC
424,(b)(3):50
USC 403-1(i)

SUMMARY: (U) ITALIAN TELEVISION NEWS SPECIFICALLY CITES

INVOLVEMENT IN THE SUPPOSED SECRET NATO STRUCTURE (b)(3):10 USC
THE ITALIANS HAVE NAMED "GLADIO". PURPORTED 424,(b)(3):50
INVOLVEMENT IN THE 1973 REMOVAL OF ALLENDE IN CHILE WAS USC 403-1(i)
ALSO MENTIONED.

TEXT: 1. (U) NATIONAL ITALIAN NEWS BROADCAST OF 901120 (b)(3):10 USC
CITED 424,(b)(3):50
USC 403-1(i)

THAT PURPORTEDLY WORKED TOGETHER WITH ITALY IN "GLADIO,"
THE SUPPOSED SECRET NATO STRUCTURE.

2. (U) SOURCE ATTRIBUTED THE COMMENTS ABOUT TO
GENERAL ((SERAVALLE)), THE 1971-1974 HEAD OF THE 5TH
SECTION, OFFICE "R" AT "SID," (THE ITALIAN INTELLIGENCE
SERVICE PRESENTLY KNOWN AS SISMI). SERAVALLE'S REMARKS
WERE MADE IN THE COURSE OF HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION OF
SLAUGHTERS, TERRORISMS, AND DISASTERS AS PART OF THE
COMMISSION'S INVESTIGATION OF "GLADIO."

(b)(3):10 USC
424,(b)(3):50
USC 403-1(i)

3. (U) FURTHER IDENTIFIED BY SOURCE AS THE
SECRET SERVICE BEHIND THE REMOVAL OF ((ALLENDE)) IN
CHILE IN 1973."

(b)(3):10 USC
424,(b)(3):50
USC 403-1(i)

(b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC 424,1.4 (c)

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Last redacted in full IAW FOIA b1
and b3 exemptions. Page not
included.

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FROM

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

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SERIAL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

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PASS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424, (b)(3):50
USC 403-1(i)

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COUNTRY: (U) NETHERLANDS (NL); BELGIUM (BE).

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SUBJ (b)(3):10 USC 424 GLADIO ORGANIZATION MAY BE
DEBATED IN PARLIAMENT (U)

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WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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-- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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DOI: (U) 901114-901116.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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SOURCE: A. (U) OPEN SOURCE--DAILY NEWSPAPER, "DE
VOLKSKRANT", 901114 (U), IN DUTCH.

-- B. (U) OPEN SOURCE--DAILY NEWSPAPER, "DE
TELEGRAAF", AMSTERDAM, NL, 901115 (U), IN DUTCH.

-- C. (U) OPEN SOURCE--DAILY NEWSPAPER,
"ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD", 901115 (U), IN DUTCH.

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)

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(b)(1), (b)(3): 50 USC 403-1(i), 1.4 (b)

TEXT:

1. (U) SOURCE A IS FRONT PAGE ARTICLE CONTAINING TEXT OF LETTER PRIME MINISTER LUBBERS SENT TO PARLIAMENT FOLLOWING DISCLOSURE OF **GLADIO** ORGANIZATION IN ITALIAN PRESS. TRANSLATION FOLLOWS--

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(QUOTE) "PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER TO HOUSE ABOUT MYSTERIOUS ORGANIZATION" - FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FROM THE HOUSE ABOUT A SO-CALLED SECRET ORGANIZATION I WISH TO INFORM YOU, ALSO ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENSE MINISTER, ABOUT THE FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS. IN THE NETHERLANDS, IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT FIRST, THERE IS NO SECRET COMMAND UNIT, NOR AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS FITTED FOR WIDE-SCALE SABOTAGE ACTIVITIES IN TIMES OF WAR. IN THE WAKE OF THE EXPERIENCES DATING BACK TO THE 1940-1945 OCCUPATION PERIOD OF THE NETHERLANDS, AN ORGANIZATION WAS SET UP, HOWEVER, DURING THE FIFTIES, UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE DEFENSE MINISTER. THAT ORGANIZATION WAS CHARGED WITH THE TASK OF PROVIDING A DUTCH GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE WITH THE NECESSARY INFORMATION ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE NETHERLANDS IN CASE OF AN OCCUPATION. THAT ORGANIZATION WAS ALWAYS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT. NOT AT ANY TIME, WAS IT PUT UNDER FOREIGN OR NATO AUSPICES OR SUPERVISION. SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD NOT FIT INTO THE DUTCH SET-UP AS SKETCHED HEREABOVE. CONSEQUENTLY, THE CONTACTS OF THAT ORGANIZATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN NATO COUNTRIES (SOME OF WHICH ARE STRUCTURED DIFFERENTLY, OR ARE OF A DIFFERENT NATURE) WERE RESTRICTED TO THE QUESTION HOW THE ABOVEMENTIONED AIMS COULD BEST BE REALIZED IN TIMES OF AN OCCUPATION. THE SUCCESSIVE PRIME MINISTERS AND DEFENSE MINISTERS ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A WISE THING NOT TO INFORM OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SUCCESSIVE

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DUTCH CABINETS, OR THE HOUSE, ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION. THE MODERATE SUMS OF MONEY THAT WERE INVOLVED WITH THE ORGANIZATION, FORM PART OF THE SO-CALLED SECRET FUNDS LISTED IN THE DUTCH DEFENSE MINISTRY'S BUDGET. THEY ARE CHECKED PERSONALLY AND DIRECTLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE DUTCH AUDITS OFFICE. THE ORGANIZATION IS OF A MIXED CIVIL AND MILITARY NATURE. AND ALTHOUGH, AS SAID BEFORE, MODERATE SUMS OF MONEY WERE INVOLVED, THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT DECIDED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO TO START ASSESSING, OR CHECKING, THE SIZE OF THE ORGANIZATION, IN ORDER TO REDUCE IT TO WHAT IT FELT TO BE AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY. THIS ORGANIZATION DOES NOT BELONG TO THE SO-CALLED INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCIES, BUT THE UNDERSIGNED, TOGETHER WITH THE DEFENSE MINISTER, CONVEYED INFORMATION TODAY TO THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE BEARING THAT NAME. THE AIM OF THIS LETTER IS TO INFORM YOU, THE HOUSE, WHILE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ON THE ONE HAND THE OPENNESS REQUIRED, AND ON THE OTHER HAND THE CAREFULNESS REQUIRED AS TO THE INTERESTS AT STAKE IN THIS CASE. THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF GENERAL AFFAIRS, DRS. R.F.M. LUBBERS. (END QUOTE)

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2. (U) SOURCE B IS NEWSPAPER ARTICLE THAT ATTEMPTS TO CONNECT **GLADIO** ORGANIZATION TO RETIRED NAVY PERSONNEL AND OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION. TRANSLATION FOLLOWS--

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(QUOTE) HOUSE WANTS DUTCH SECRET ORGANIZATION TO BE DISMANTLED FOR THE GREATER PART" - THE LOWER HOUSE OF DUTCH PARLIAMENT WANTS THE DUTCH SECRET ORGANIZATION, THE EXISTENCE OF WHICH WAS CONFIRMED BY PRIME MINISTER LUBBERS TWO DAYS AGO, TO BE DISMANTLED FOR THE GREATER PART. THIS WOULD IMPLY THAT THE GROUP, WHICH CONSISTS OF A FEW DOZEN PEOPLE (MAINLY PENSIONED-OFF NAVY MEN) SHOULD NO LONGER BE ARMED AND SHOULD NO LONGER BE PERMITTED TO TRAIN. THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMAND, WHO INTER ALIA WORK UNDER THE NAME "OPERATIES INLICHTINGEN" (OI) (OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE), OPERATE UNDER A FALSE NAME AND WITH FALSE ID DOCUMENTS. IT IS EVEN UNCERTAIN WHETHER THE DUTCH AUTHORITIES KNOW WHAT

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THEIR REAL NAMES ARE. A SMALL NUMBER OF THE MEN ARE ON A PAYROLL. THE ARMS CACHES OF THE ORGANIZATION ARE AT GUARDED LOCATIONS. EARLIER THIS WEEK, LUBBERS SAID THE ORGANIZATION, SET UP IN THE EARLY FIFTIES, WAS NOT ONLY MEANT TO BE ENGAGED IN SABOTAGE ACTIONS IN CASE OF OCCUPATION BY A FOREIGN FORCE, BUT ALSO HAD THE TASK OF BRINGING MEMBERS OF THE DUTCH ROYAL FAMILY, AS WELL AS DUTCH CABINET MEMBERS TO SAFETY. A DUTCH "GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE" SHOULD BE KEPT WELL-INFORMED BY THE ORGANIZATION ABOUT WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THE NETHERLANDS. LABOR PARTY MP'S HOLD THE VIEW THAT THE SECRET ORGANIZATION SHOULD AT MOST BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE "DORMANTLY". THE LIBERAL PARTY VVD ALSO FAILS TO SEE WHAT USE THE ORGANIZATION CAN HAVE NOW, GIVEN THE PRESENT EAST-WEST DETENTE. GREEN LEFT WANTS THE ORGANIZATION TO BE DISBANDED ALTOGETHER. THE CHIEF WHIP OF GREEN LEFT, MRS. RIA ((BECKERS)), WANTS THE HOUSE TO DEBATE THE ISSUE WITH PRIME MINISTER LUBBERS NEXT WEEK. ALMOST THE ENTIRE HOUSE THINKS IT IS INCORRECT THAT THE PRESENT AND PREVIOUS DUTCH POSTWAR CABINETS NEVER INFORMED PARLIAMENT ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION'S EXISTENCE.

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"INCIDENTAL DISCOVERY" - ON JUNE 11, 1980, THE THEN PACIFIST-SOCIALIST PARTY LOWER HOUSE MP FRED ((VAN DER SPEK)) QUESTIONED THE THEN DUTCH DEFENSE MINISTER YNSO ((SCHOLTEN)) ABOUT AN "INCIDENTAL DISCOVERY" IN A FOREST NEAR ROERMOND. THE ARMS CACHE THERE WAS FOUND TO CONTAIN ONE HUNDRED BRAND NEW AUTOMATIC PISTOLS, A VAST QUANTITY OF AMMUNITION, AND EXPLOSIVES, ALL STORED IN 20 CRATES. THAT DISCOVERY WAS, FROM THE START, BELIEVED TO POINT AT THE EXISTENCE OF A SECRET ORGANIZATION. AT THE TIME, HOWEVER, DEFENSE MINISTER SCHOLTEN REFUSED TO ELABORATE ON THE SUBJECT "IN THE INTEREST OF THE STATE". DURING THE SAME MONTH OF JUNE 1980, THE THEN DUTCH CABINET INFORMED THE CHIEF WHIPS OF THE MAJOR DUTCH POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE LOWER HOUSE, TO SOME EXTENT, ABOUT THE BACKGROUND OF THE HEYTHUYSEN ARMS CACHE NEAR ROERMOND, DUTCH LIMBURG PROVINCE. THE CHIEF WHIP OF THE LABOR PARTY, THE LATER PRIME MINISTER DR. JOOP ((DEN UYL)), WROTE A LETTER WHICH SAID THAT THE CHIEF WHIPS WERE CONTENT

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WITH WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TOLD THEM. IN 1980, DEN UYL AND THE PRESENT PRIME MINISTER RUUD LUBBERS (THEN CHIEF WHIP OF CDA IN THE HOUSE) WERE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCIES AND SERVICES. ALL MEETINGS OF THAT COMMITTEE TAKE PLACE BEHIND CLOSED DOORS. (END QUOTE)

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3. (U) SOURCE C IS NEWSPAPER ARTICLE DISCUSSING EXISTENCE OF **GLADIO** ORGANIZATION IN ALL NATO COUNTRIES. TRANSLATION FOLLOWS--

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(QUOTE) "STAY BEHIND" - THE PRIME MINISTER OF LUXEMBOURG, JACQUES (SANTER)), TOLD PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY THAT THE SECRET ORGANIZATION "**GLADIO**" HAD BRANCHES IN ALL NATO COUNTRIES IN WESTERN EUROPE AND WAS INTENT ON OFFERING RESISTANCE AFTER A POSSIBLE SOVIET INVASION. HE SAID THAT EACH OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED WAS FREE TO CHOOSE ITS OWN ORGANIZATION'S STRUCTURE. IN BRUSSELS LAST NIGHT, THE BELGIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ((COEME)) SAID THAT, IN THAT COUNTRY, **GLADIO** CONSISTED OF THREE RESISTANCE UNITS AND ONE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT. FORTY CIVILIANS AND 20 MILITARY MEN WERE ACTIVE IN THE BELGIAN BRANCH. THE RESISTANCE UNITS, COEME SAID, WERE DISSOLVED A FEW YEARS AGO, BUT THE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT IS STILL INTACT. IN BELGIUM, **GLADIO** OPERATES UNDER THE CODENAME "STAY BEHIND". (END QUOTE)

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(b)(1), 1.4 (b), 1.4 (c)

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