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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

18 November 2016

Mr. John Greenewald, Jr.

Reference: F-2016-02557 / NSA 84075-R1

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

In the course of processing your 30 March 2016 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the National Security Agency (NSA) for records pertaining to **a copy of the Intellipedia entry (from all three Wikis that make up the Intellipedia) for the following entry(s): TRAILBLAZER and/or THINTHREAD**, NSA located one CIA document and referred it to us on 8 August 2016 for review and direct response to you.

We reviewed the one document and determined that it can be released in segregable form with deletions made on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3). A copy of the document and explanation of exemptions are enclosed. Exemption (b)(3) pertains to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant statutes are Section 6 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, and Section 102A(i)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended. As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 90 days from the date of this letter. Please include the basis of your appeal.

If you have any questions regarding our response, you may contact us at:

Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505  
Information and Privacy Coordinator  
703-613-3007 (Fax)

Please be advised that you may seek dispute resolution services from the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) of the National Archives and Records Administration. OGIS offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. You may reach CIA's FOIA Public Liaison at:

703-613-1287 (FOIA Hotline)

The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
202-741-5770  
877-864-6448  
202-741-5769 (fax)  
[ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)

Contacting the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS does not affect your right to pursue an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael Lavergne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Lavergne" clearly distinguishable.

Michael Lavergne  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

## **Explanation of Exemptions**

### **Freedom of Information Act:**

- (b)(1) exempts from disclosure information currently and properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;
- (b)(2) exempts from disclosure information which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;
- (b)(3) exempts from disclosure information that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld. The (b)(3) statutes upon which the CIA relies include, but are not limited to, the CIA Act of 1949;
- (b)(4) exempts from disclosure trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) exempts from disclosure inter-and intra-agency memoranda or letters that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) exempts from disclosure information from personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy;
- (b)(7) exempts from disclosure information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of the information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source or, in the case of information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source ; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger any individual's life or physical safety;
- (b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising financial institutions; and
- (b)(9) exempts from disclosure geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

**April 2012**



# Trailblazer Award

 (b)(3)~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From Intellipedia

(Redirected from Trailblazer)

You have new messages (last change).

The **Trailblazer Award** honors CIA officers, from the Office of Strategic Services days to present, who by their actions, example, innovations, or initiative, have taken the CIA in important new directions and helped shape the Agency's history. The Trailblazer Award recognizes individuals and teams who have made exceptional contributions to the Agency mission and who epitomize the One Agency, One Community culture.

*"The title 'Trailblazer' is reserved for those whose contributions to national security are truly extraordinary. In an organization of important work, their work stands out. It shapes the way we pursue our mission. And it influences not only how we operate now, but well into the future,"*

Director Panetta, 17 September 2010



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## 1997 Trailblazer Awards

The CIA 50 Trailblazers, proposed by the CIA50 Steering Committee, was a way to recognize 50 officers, from the earliest days to 1997, who took the Agency in important new directions and helped shape our history through example, innovations or initiative.

Three hundred nominations were submitted by CIA staff employees, contractors, and retirees. A panel of retired officers from each of the four directorates, the CIA History Staff, OEE0, OGC, and OPS reviewed the list and selected the top 100 candidates.

The list of 100 was reviewed by a Selection Committee, who made the final difficult choice of the 50, who were honored in a ceremony on 18 September 1997.

The criteria for eligibility was that the individual:

- Distinguished themselves as leaders in any field, at any grade level, and at any time,
- Made a significant difference or had a strong impact in furthering the Agency's mission,
- Set an example, or standards for others,
- Cleared a path for others to follow.

## CIA 50 Trailblazers



☐ CIA Trailblazers

(b)(3)

(with their years of Agency service as of September 1997)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Robert C. Ames (1960-1983)</li><li>■ Joseph A. Baclawski (1972-1991)</li><li>■ Col Matthew Baird (1953-1965)</li><li>■ Richard M. Bissel, Jr. (1954-1962)</li><li>■ David H. Blee (1947-1985)</li><li>■ Paul A. Borel (1947-1972)</li><li>■ Patricia L. Brannen (1952-1964, 1977-1994)</li><li>■ Archie Roy Burks (1956-1984)</li><li>■ Joseph B. Castillo, Jr. (1971-2002)</li><li>■ David E. Coffey (1968-1995)</li><li>■ John E. Craven (1968-2008)</li><li>■ James H. Critchfield (1948-1974)</li><li>■ Benedetto DeFelice (1953-1987)</li><li>■ Leslie C. Dirks (1961-1982)</li><li>■ William F. Donnelly (1954-1990)</li><li>■ Janet V. Dorigan (1989-)</li><li>■ Carl E. Duckett (1964-1977)</li><li>■ Allen W. Dulles (1951-1961)</li><li>■ Agnes D. Greene (1947-1972)</li><li>■ Howard P. Hart (1966-1990)</li><li>■ Earl M. Harter (1950-1972)</li><li>■ Richard M. Helms (1947-1973)</li><li>■ R. Evans Hineman (1964-1989)</li><li>■ Lawrence R. Houston (1947-1973)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Paul L. Howe (1956-1987)</li><li>■ Sherman Kent (1950-1967)</li><li>■ Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, Jr. (1947-1965)</li><li>■ George G. Kiselvalter (1952-1970)</li><li>■ Lloyd Lauderdale (1963-1969)</li><li>■ Richard Lehman (1949-1982)</li><li>■ Henry S. Lowenhaupt (1947-1990)</li><li>■ Arthur C. Lundahl (1953-1974)</li><li>■ Maj Gen Harold M. McClelland (1951-1965)</li><li>■ John N. McMahon (1951-1986)</li><li>■ Antonio J. Mendez (1965-1990)</li><li>■ Cord Meyer, Jr. (1951-1977)</li><li>■ Eloise R. Page (1947-1987)</li><li>■ John Parangosky (1948-1974)</li><li>■ Walter L. Pforzheimer (1947-1974)</li><li>■ Carol A. Roehl (1967-1996)</li><li>■ Linus F. Ruffing (1962-1976)</li><li>■ Howard Stoertz, Jr. (1949-1980)</li><li>■ John R. Tietjen (1947-1975)</li><li>■ Omega J. C. Ware (1955-1982)</li><li>■ John S. Warner (1962-1976)</li><li>■ Albert D. Wheelon (1962-1966)</li><li>■ Col Lawrence K. White (1947-1972)</li><li>■ Frank G. Wisner (1948-1962)</li></ul> |
|---|---|

☐ Note that two individuals are not listed as they had to remain under cover.

(b)(3)

They received their award medallions in private ceremonies. Fourteen awards were posthumous.

☐ As of April 2008, less than half of the Trailblazers are alive; 18 Trailblazers have passed away since 1997:

(b)(3)

Kiselvalter, Blee, Meyer, Dirks, Stoertz, Page, Helms, Pforzheimer, Critchfield, DeFelice, Parangosky, Lowenhaupt, Howe, White, Lehman, Borel, Coffey, and Craven.

## 2007 Trailblazer Awards



In observance of its 60th Anniversary, the CIA recognized individuals or teams who made exceptional contributions to the Agency mission. The awards were to be a continuation of the "Trailblazer" awards presented during CIA's 50th anniversary celebration in 1997. All Agency staff employees and teams were eligible for nomination.<sup>[1]</sup>

☐ On 13 September 2007 Gen. Hayden announced the recipients of the 60th anniversary Trailblazer medals. These individuals were recognized on 18 September 2007 at an awards ceremony in the Headquarters Auditorium. The individuals and a representative of each team were presented with the Trailblazer

(b)(3)

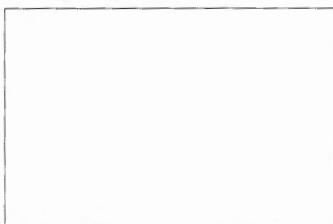
medal. Those who contributed to a team success did not receive individual medals but took pride in knowing that they were part of a path-breaking effort that made a crucial difference to America's security.

☐ ADD/CIA Michael Morell led a selection board comprised of senior Agency leaders from all Directorates and the DCIA area, as well as a senior DNI officer who reviewed almost 150 nominations and selected the Trailblazers based on the following criteria: (b)(3)

- Exceptional leadership
- Innovation
- Promotion of collaboration within the Agency and across the IC
- A significant positive and long lasting impact on the national security mission<sup>[1]</sup>

### CIA 60 Trailblazers

- Charles E. Allen



(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

- John E. McLaughlin
- George J. Methlie II
- James H. Rhyne



(b)(3)

### Annual Trailblazer Awards

☐ Following on the 2007 Trailblazer Awards, Gen. Hayden decided that CIA would select one or two new Trailblazers as part of the Agency's annual birthday celebration to be held around 18 September each year. Gen. Hayden has asked each directorate, the Office of Diversity Plans and Programs, and the History Staff to name a senior officer to serve on a nominating committee that will identify individuals and teams deserving of a CIA Trailblazer Award. (b)(3)

#### 2008



(b)(3)

#### 2009



(b)(3)



[redacted]

(b)(3)

**2010**

- Jack Downing

[redacted]

- Helene L. Boatner<sup>[7]</sup>

(b)(3)

**2011**

[redacted]

- John McCone<sup>[8]</sup>

(b)(3)

**2012**

- Walter Bedell Smith

[redacted]

(b)(3)

**2013**

- Jack Davis

[redacted]

(b)(3)

**2014**

- Thomas J. (T.J.) Thompson
- Donald R. Cryer<sup>[11][12]</sup>

**See also**

- [redacted] Watch the 60th Anniversary Trailblazers awards ceremony [redacted]

(b)(3)

**References**

1. ↑ 1.0 1.1 1.2 [redacted] Trailblazer Awards Honorees [redacted] CIA What's News, October 3, 2007 (b)(3)
  2. ↑ 2007 Trailblazers [redacted] (b)(3)
  3. ↑ [redacted] The 60th Anniversary Trailblazers [redacted] September 10, 2008 (b)(3)
  4. ↑ [\* 'Trailblazers' and Years of CIA Service [redacted] (b)(3)
- [redacted], CIA Press Release, [redacted] (b)(3)

- [redacted] September 10, 1997 (b)(3)
5. [redacted] Anniversary Celebrated and Trailblazer Honored [redacted] (b)(3)
- [redacted], CIA What's News, (b)(3)
- September 22, 2008
6. [redacted] CIA Names Two Trailblazers during 62nd Birthday Celebration [redacted] (b)(3)
- [redacted] CIA What's News, (b)(3)
- October 1, 2009
7. [redacted] Three Officers Honored as "Trailblazers" at Agency's 63rd Birthday Celebration [redacted] (b)(3)
- [redacted], CIA's (b)(3)
- What's News, September 24, 2010
8. [redacted] CIA Celebrates 64th Birthday, Names Two Trailblazers [redacted] (b)(3)
- [redacted], CIA What's News, (b)(3)
- September 28, 2011
9. [redacted] 18 September: CIA Trailblazer Awards Ceremony and CIA's 65th Birthday Celebration (b)(3)
- [redacted] (b)(3)
- [redacted] 6, What's News, September 12, 2012 (b)(3)
10. [redacted] The CIA Trailblazer Awards Ceremony is on 18 September [redacted], CIA (b)(3)
- What's News, September 9, 2013
11. [redacted] Two New Trailblazers to be Honored on 18 September [redacted], CIA What's (b)(3)
- News, September 5, 2014
12. [redacted] D/CIA Celebrates Two New Agency Trailblazers [redacted], CIA What's News, (b)(3)
- September 24, 2014

## Useful Links

- CIA History & Heritage [redacted] (b)(3)
- Intelligence History
- Center for the Study of Intelligence
- [redacted] (b)(3)
- CIA Museum
- Studies in Intelligence
- Intelligence Community Oral History [redacted] (b)(3)

**Intelligence History Portal**

(b)(3)

[redacted]

Categories: History of Intelligence | Historic Photos | Studies in Intelligence | CIA History Staff | Recipients of the CIA Trailblazer Award | Best Practices | CIA Museum | Awards and decorations | History of the Intelligence Community | Intelligence Community Awards | Intelligence Lessons Learned and History | People of the Central Intelligence Agency | CIA Honor and Merit Awards

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