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Subject: June 2-4 declass/equity i.d. process
CALL REPORT DOCUMENT'S AUTHOR: Christopher Barger/ARRB Date Created: 05/13/97 The Flayers Description of the Call Date: 05/13/97Subject: June 2-4 declass/equity i.d. processSummary of the Call:I telephoned Toni Bowie this morning to set up the June 2-4 process of document review of the Califano papers. I told her that my boss had just spoken to George Donovan, and that he had committed her for three days. I asked if June 2-4 worked for her, and she said, "I guess." I asked if there was a problem, and she said, "You know and I know it's going to take more than three days to declassify those documents." I told her that we were going to try and declassify what we could, and identify other agency equities where we had to. She said, "Well, you and I looked at them together, so you know that almost all of them have other agency equities." I told her that this was true, but that we would just do our best to get through as many as we could in the three days. She then said, "And if those documents aren't 'schedule 4', then they can't be automatically declassified." I reminded her that the JFK Act superseded other declassification regulations, and that we had different criteria, so it would be possible to declassify these even if they weren't schedule four. She then asked why we hadn't just identified the other agency equities ourselves and brought everyone in at the same time. I told her that as the Act was passed in 1993, this was the Army's responsibility to have done and that they had had four years to do it; that we had neither the time nor the resources to do it ourselves; and that if it wasn't done, we would have no choice but to present them to the Board with a recommendation for full release. She told me that she felt it would have been faster for us to i.d. equities ourselves, and said, "I thought you guys had a deadline?" I told her that while we did have a deadline, we could not set the precedent of doing the work of other agencies; such a precedent would only hinder our ability to meet that deadline in the long run. She then asked, "If the Board can overrule anything we say anyway, then why are we doing this? Doesn't it seem like a waste of time?" I informed her that the purpose of agency review was to give the Army and other agencies an opportunity to protect information provided they could provide proper justification under the Act; that this was our way at giving them a crack at it before we took it to the Board. I told her that we would just do as much as we could, and attempted to confirm that we would work with her on June 2-4. She said that she would be here, "for whatever good it will do." She promised to discuss with others in declassification ways that we might make this process a little smoother. We ended the conversation by confirming the dates June 2-4.As one can see by our conversation, we may be in for a rough road with this particular declassifier. Our cause might be helped by a telephone call from Doug (as the military team chief) to George Donavan (as Bowie's boss) reminding him that a) the Act supersedes all other declass schedules; and b) identifying third

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