

NR_key_name: 6EB75E6938D06047852565E1007351F1

SendTo: CN=Jeremy Gunn/O=ARRB @ ARRB;CN=Bob Skwirot/O=ARRB @ ARRB

CopyTo:

DisplayBlindCopyTo:

BlindCopyTo: CN=R ecord/O=ARRB

From: CN=Eileen Sullivan/O=ARRB

DisplayFromDomain:

DisplayDate: 04/09/1998

DisplayDate_Time: 5:00:08 PM

ComposedDate: 04/09/1998

ComposedDate_Time: 4:59:36 PM

Subject: Re: Is the CIA still keeping their secrets? /from the New York Times
EILEEN_SULLIVAN @ JEREMY.GUNN.GOVCC.BCC: EILEEN_SULLIVAN/ARRB/FROM.WEBACKS @ AOL.COM @ INTERNET @ INTERLIANT Date:04/09/98 04:46:22 PM ASTSubject:Re: Is the CIA still keeping their secrets? /from the New York Times4/ 9: Panel Says CIA'sSecrecy Threatens to Make History a LiePanel Says CIA's Secrecy Threatens to Make History a LieBy TIM WEINER WASHINGTON -- The official record of U.S. foreign policy stands in danger ofbecoming "an official lie" if the CIA keeps refusing to release cold-war documents from the 1950s and 1960s, a State Department historians' committeewarns in a forthcoming report. The refusal to publish cold-war history is "a violation of the law and ofAmerican standards," the committee and its chairman said in a report and aletter to Secretary of State Madeline Albright. "This Republic cannot surviveif government is secret and not held accountable for its actions." At the core of what the committee calls the "crisis" over the control ofgovernment history is the CIA's continuing refusal to publish documents on itsbest-known cold-war covert activities, including paramilitary actionsinvolving Cuba, Indonesia and Tibet, despite continuous promises of opennessby the agency dating back six years. "If sufficient documentation cannot be declassified to provide the broadoutlines of those covert activities, any U.S. government documentary compilation about our foreign policy in situations where such activities tookplace will be so incomplete and misleading as to constitute an official lie,"the chairman of the historians' committee, Warren Kimball, a professor ofhistory at Rutgers University, told Albright in a letter accompanying thecommittee's report. Kimball's letter said a new panel with the potential power to resolve someaspects of the problem met for the first time on Feb. 16. The three-personpanel, with high-ranking members of the CIA, the State Department and theNational Security Council, has the power to decide whether covert operationsmay be acknowledged by the U.S. government. If the White House agrees todisclose the existence of these operations from the late 1940s, the 1950s andthe 1960s, documents about them can be declassified. "It's taken a long time to get to this point," a senior intelligenceofficial said Wednesday. "The developments are positive, though there's notthat much to show for it yet." The State Department has published the official record of American foreignpolicy, "The Foreign Relations of the United States," continuously since 1861. These thick books contain primary documents from which history is written. Continued publication of the series is imperiled by secrecy, the committeesays. The panel, created by the State Department to insure the historicalintegrity of the official record, can recommend the Department preventpublication of volumes. Under the law, government records should be available to the public after 30years, once they have been cleansed of potentially harmful secrets like thenames of covert agents. But the Record

Body:

recstat:

DeliveryPriority: N

DeliveryReport: B

ReturnReceipt:

Categories: