

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Since the last issue of *Disclosure*, those agencies most critical to the IWG's efforts have continued to identify, review, and declassify a broad array of records in response to both the disclosure statutes and the continuing encouragement and prodding of the IWG members and staff. The undiminished interest and involvement of the IWG's public members, Elizabeth Holtzman, Thomas Baer, and Richard Ben-Veniste, continue to pay huge dividends in our goal and responsibility to maximize public disclosure of relevant records.

During this most recent period, the effort and product of one agency in particular, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, deserve the special recognition they receive in an article this bulletin. The involved staff of the FBI has done an extraordinary job in declassifying records on a wide variety of subjects that will further the work of researchers for many years to come. I want to note the leadership in this effort of FBI Assistant Director John Collingwood, the Bureau's former member on the IWG, and of his successor as the FBI member on the IWG, Assistant Director William Hooton.

Even as we continue to add significant new resources to our collection of relevant historical materials, we have begun preparing for the IWG's final report to Congress, the President, and the American people. Although the Congress has authorized the IWG to continue until early 2004, the preparation of our final report will require the input of a number of entities and individuals, and will take some time to complete. We now envision a final report comprised of two products. The first will detail what the IWG has achieved and what it has not achieved, and will highlight the strategies and efforts of the agencies, the IWG members and staff toward its accomplishments. The second product, written by our associated academic historians, will comprise individual chapters devoted to particular subjects that use portions of the newly declassified materials as resources and describe how they add to our historical fund of knowledge.

Finally, I would like to bid a fond farewell and best wishes to David Holmes, who is retiring shortly from the CIA, and therefore has stepped down as the CIA member on the IWG. During his tenure as the CIA representative, Mr. Holmes has championed the work of the IWG within the Agency. His leadership and persistence have contributed most significantly to the CIA's product and thus to the IWG's mission. This product most assuredly will be among the most important resources brought to light by the disclosure statutes and the efforts of many individuals to fulfill our statutory and historical mandate. •



Under the auspices of the IWG, the Central Intelligence Agency reviewed and declassified “Name Files” of many Nazi figures and related subjects. In May, the IWG opened an additional 380 CIA files on individuals and subjects associated with Nazi war crimes or war criminals. This opening, taken together with the April 2001 release of 20 files, brings the total number of Name Files released by the CIA to 400. (List available online at http://www.archives.gov/iwg/declassified_records/record_group_263_main.html.) The new collection undoubtedly will yield valuable details about the Nazi regime and U.S. wartime intelligence.

The records in the new release include documents on many high-level Nazis, such as Walter Schellenberg (Head of the Reich Security Main Office Foreign Intelligence Service) and Otto Skorzeny (Hitler’s favorite commando, having snatched Mussolini from captivity). They also provide new insight into such individuals as Walther Rauff, Krunoslav Draganovic, and Reinhard Gehlen.

Walther Rauff

The CIA’s name file on Walther (Walter) Rauff, one of Nazi Germany’s notorious war criminals, contains some new information about Rauff’s wartime efforts and detailed, if unconfirmed, reports about his postwar travels and career. As an official of the Criminal Technical Institute of the Reich Security Main Office, Rauff designed gas vans used to murder Jews and persons with disabilities. He later was involved in persecution of Jews in North Africa, and there is a postwar report in the file that he tried to arrange the extermination of Jews in Egypt during late 1942.

Near the end of the war, Rauff, then an SS and police official in northern Italy, tried to gain credit for the surrender of German forces in Italy, but ended up only surrendering himself. After escaping from an American internment camp in Italy, Rauff hid in a number of Italian convents, apparently under the protection of Bishop Alois Hudel. In 1948 he was recruited by Syrian intelligence and went to Damascus, only to fall out of favor after a coup there a year later. According to one report, he tortured Jews in Syria. He and his family then settled in Ecuador, later shifting to Chile, where he may have served in Chilean intelligence. CIA officials could not determine Rauff’s exact position. In any case, the government of General Augusto Pinochet resisted all calls for his extradition to stand trial in West Germany, and he died peacefully in southern Chile in 1984.

Krunoslav Draganovic

Father Krunoslav Draganovic was a Franciscan priest who actively served the Nazi satellite regime in Croatia, which was responsible for the deaths of between 330,000 and 390,000 orthodox Serbs and about 32,000 Jews. Following the war, Draganovic facilitated the escape of numerous Croatian war criminals to South America via the College of Saint Jerome in Rome. From 1959 to 1962, especially tense years in the Cold War, Father Draganovic worked as a spy for U.S. Army intelligence against the Yugoslav regime. Draganovic’s CIA file shows the CIA’s skepticism regarding Draganovic’s reliability—skepticism that resulted in the termination of his employment with the U.S. Army. Additional information is being processed for release in the Draganovic Army IRR file.

Reinhard Gehlen

This release includes a substantial collection of high-level documents on the origins and first years of the relationship between Generalmajor Reinhard Gehlen and the United States Government. As Nazi Germany collapsed, Gehlen turned himself in to the U.S. Army. During the war he had led the Fremde Heeren Ost, the intelligence unit that collected and analyzed information on the Eastern Front for Hitler and the Wehrmacht. In the summer of 1945, Gehlen offered to continue the same work for the United States.

Much has already been written on the 25-year relationship that ensued when American officials accepted Gehlen’s offer; but these documents detail the complexity of that relationship as well as the strategic gamble made by the United States in sponsoring the rebirth of Gehlen’s wartime organization. The U.S. Army remained Gehlen’s sponsor until 1949, when the Central Intelligence Agency, after much internal debate, took over as Gehlen’s patron. According to one CIA official, though Gehlen was “chiefy

Continued on page 5.

The records in the new release include documents on many high-level Nazis



Gerhard L. Weinberg

Gerhard L. Weinberg
Chairperson of the IWG Historical Advisory Panel

Gerhard Weinberg has strong opinions about Government secrecy: “The fewer secrets you are trying to keep, the more likely it is that you can actually keep them secret.”

“The reason,” he says, “is very obvious. If you’ve got ten cops for a 100-yard fence, they can guard it. You stretch the ten-cop fence to five miles, you can guarantee that people who want to get through, will get through. The only people who are left out are the harmless historians.”

Harmless, perhaps. Helpless, hardly. Weinberg is not only shaping our understanding of World War II as one of the nation’s leading historians of the period, he is also significantly involved in efforts to make U.S. Government records on World War II publicly accessible.

The retired history professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is widely esteemed among other experts of modern German and European diplomatic history for his scholarship and writing, which includes a 1994 history of World War II, *A World at Arms*. A large part of his career has been spent helping U.S. Government agencies recover, declassify, and make accessible to the public, historic records, most recently through his chairmanship of the IWG Historical Advisory Panel and membership in the Defense Department’s Historical Records Declassification Advisory Panel.

A bit of chance was involved in bringing Weinberg’s talents into the arena of 20-century German history. Weinberg’s family lived in Germany and experienced the period firsthand. In 1938, when Weinberg was 10, his immediate family was able to flee Germany for England to escape Nazi persecution, later settling in upstate New York in September 1940; unfortunately, other members of his family were unable to escape. At 18 he was drafted into the U.S. Army, enabling him later to use the G.I. Bill to pursue an advanced degree.

Gerhard Weinberg went to the University of Chicago intending to study 19th-century German diplomatic history from one of the recognized masters in the field. The young student’s interest was in the diplomacy of the period that led to World War I. When he arrived, however, he learned that the expert’s views on the Iron Chancellor, Otto von Bismarck, were so far from his own that he either had to change universities or change centuries. Students of 20th-century diplomatic history are thankful for Weinberg’s switch.

Before Weinberg could begin teaching, fate again stepped in and steered him in a different direction, one that would eventually go hand-in-hand with his scholarship. Weinberg completed his Ph.D. through the university’s accelerated program in 1951, but the academic market that year was in a severe slump, and there was little chance of getting a teaching position. Having several recognized publications already under his belt, he drew the attention of a recruiter for a documents project. The recruiter interviewed Weinberg between airplanes at Chicago’s Midway Airport. Finding the young graduate interesting, the recruiter extended their interview and ultimately missed his connecting flight, but he landed a new employee for the War Documentation Project of Columbia University and the U.S. Air Force.

Weinberg spent the next 3 years in the old Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, Virginia, reviewing and arranging classified captured German records from World War II. Fresh out of school, with a security clearance and fluency in German, Weinberg was one of the first scholars to view some of the millions of pages of captured Nazi documents. He worked with other analysts to prepare the finding aid *Guide to Captured German Documents*.

When his work with the German records was completed, temporary university positions followed, first at the University of Chicago, then at the University of Kentucky. Only 2 years later, however, Weinberg was again recruited to examine the captured German records. In 1955, the U.S. Government had decided to open some of the records and return many to Germany. The American Historical Association responded by raising private funds and forming a committee of senior scholars in the field, including Profs. Reginald Phelps, Lynn Case, and Oron Hale, to establish an unusual public-private microfilming project. The goal was to microfilm the historically valuable materials after the Government had declassified them, but before the materials were shipped to Germany, so that scholars would not lose access to these historical documents.

“It was an incredible feeling to be asked to run this program. I was 27 and had not even held a regular academic job yet”

“I met with Verner Clapp, who was the assistant Librarian of Congress when the initiative was first organized and discussed in October 1955,” said Weinberg, “It was a meeting of the government agencies and private scholars—very senior people—who were interested in this project and I was there because I was one of the very few people in the country who had the qualifications needed and they thought I was the person to do this project.” Earlier Weinberg had published the guide to the captured German records as well as a book on German-Soviet relations, had studied modern German history and diplomacy, and had already examined the then-classified records.

“It was an incredible feeling to be asked to run this program. I was 27 and had not even held a regular academic job yet,” said Weinberg. “It was an honor to have the responsibility of the specific issues and questions concerning what should and shouldn’t be filmed, what procedures should and shouldn’t be used. These people listened to me and paid attention.”

Having examined the material previously, Weinberg did have an advantage, making judgments on what knowledge was coming out, whether better material might later emerge, or if nothing more would come out later, and how what was being declassified and returned to Germany fit into the broader picture of the era.

In 1956, Weinberg began his academic career in earnest, with an assistant professorship at the University of Kentucky. He soon joined the faculty at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he stayed until 1974, when he became the William Rand Kenan, Jr., Professor of History at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Yet, as he puts it, “I have in one way or another never gotten out of the records business.” He returned several summers to the microfilming project as a consultant. In the 1970s, he served on the Joint Committee of the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, and the Society of American Archivists on Historians and Archives. In 1982, he was asked to chair the American Historical Association’s conference group for Central European History. And from 1982 to 1984, he was vice president for research at the American Historical Association.

Weinberg believes that his understanding of archival issues such as deteriorating paper, security classification, and declassification, led to his inclusion on the Department of Defense Historical Records Declassification Advisory Panel. The panel was set up in 1995 to deal with Executive Order 12958, requiring automatic declassification of historically valuable 25-year-old records. Chair Alfred Goldberg and the other Government and citizen members have helped the Defense Department respond to Executive Order 12958 requirements.

What was striking to Weinberg in the early days of the Defense Department declassification panel, was how uncertain the Department was of the number of 25-year-old secret documents it held. The number reported to the panel would change from time to time—by the millions.

Locating and identifying records that are relevant under the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Acts—given the sheer volume of agency holdings—has been a challenge for the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Government Interagency Working Group. It is one that Weinberg has helped the group understand.

In February 2000, Weinberg was named Chair of the Historical Advisory Panel (HAP) of the IWG. The group provides advice to the IWG public and agency members and to the IWG historians for the effort to locate and declassify records. Meeting twice a year, the HAP suggests to the IWG where agencies may find records relevant under the legislation and how they can most effectively conduct their searches. Under Weinberg’s leadership, the members tap into their own experience conducting historical research and their knowledge of the current body of World War II scholarship to provide the IWG with perspectives privy only to historians.

He makes no secret of his concern about the dangers of maintaining ever-larger numbers of secret Government documents. While there are some documents that need to be kept classified, he says, many materials—especially those that fall under the blanket exemptions because they contain foreign government information or point to intelligence sources and methods—no longer warrant security classification. “Under the general rule,” he says, “that was lifted only temporarily by the disclosure laws, these materials don’t have to be looked at for declassification. The whole pile [of secret documents] simply grows unexamined.”

Fortunately, these records, as a result of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Acts, are being fully examined. Weinberg said, “It’s clear that massive amounts of material are coming out, which will be of enormous interest to historians in the future.” He predicts that “the IWG will result in the substantial filling-out of our understanding of many very important events of WWII and the early part of the Cold War, when various dubious characters either were recruited by our government—or not recruited on the basis of careful checking.” He said, “I think that’s all going to look rather different in 20 years when people have worked on the newly opened records.” ●

The IWG Historical Advisory Panel

The HAP recommends measures to improve the effectiveness of the IWG and the Federal agencies in implementing the disclosure laws.

Gerhard Weinberg, professor emeritus at the University of North Carolina, Chairperson

Rebecca Boehling, professor of history at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and author of *A Question of Priorities: Democratic Reform and Economic Recovery in Postwar Germany*

James Critchfield, U.S. Army officer from 1939 until 1956, subsequently head of Eastern European and Middle East Operations for the Central Intelligence Agency

Peter Hayes, professor of history at Northwestern University and author of *Industry and Ideology: IG Farben in the Nazi Era*

Linda Goetz Holmes, former editor at CBS Television and author of *4000 Bowls of Rice: A Prisoner of War Comes Home* (1994) and *Unjust Enrichment* (2001), a study of Japanese companies’ use of American prisoners of war in the Pacific in World War II

Christopher Simpson, instructor at the American University’s School of Communication and author of *Blowback: America’s Recruitment of Nazis and Its Effects on the Cold War*

Ronald W. Zweig, senior lecturer in Jewish History at Tel Aviv University and author of *German Reparations and the Jewish World*

More CIA Name Files Released

Continued from page 2.

motivated by a desire for personal success” and would not be “an American or Allied puppet in office,” he was “sincerely interested in harmonious cooperation between the Germans and the Western Allies.” Gehlen ultimately became the first head of the Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND), the West German foreign intelligence service, and relations between the BND and CIA were good. But, as these documents illustrate, the relationship entailed certain problems. In building his organization, Gehlen recruited some former members of the SS. Besides the troubling moral issues involved, these recruitments opened the West German Government, and by extension the United States, to penetration by the Soviet intelligence services.

Among these new documents is a formerly classified two-volume CIA history “Forging an Intelligence Partnership: CIA and the Origins of the BND, 1945–49.” The history is a compilation of key documents on the U.S. relationship with Gehlen and his organization in the early postwar period. Besides this history, material includes the name files of some of Gehlen’s associates, including the former SS officer Heinz Felfe, who was exposed as a Soviet mole in 1963. Additional information about Gehlen will be available from the forthcoming Army IRR Gehlen file. ●

Since 1999, the IWG has overseen the identification, declassification review, and release of formerly classified U. S. Government records as required by the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act. Under the auspices of the IWG, U.S. Government agencies have declassified more than 5 million pages to date. These records will take their place among the many millions of pages of related documents previously made available for research in the National Archives.

Among these new documents is a formerly classified two-volume CIA history

THE EXPLOITATION OF CAPTURED JAPANESE RECORDS

by Greg Bradsher, Senior Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration

In January 2002, I met Duval A. Edwards, an Army Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) veteran of World War II in the Pacific, and learned that he had been involved in the capture of Japanese records, beginning in Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, with the 41st CIC during the spring of 1944. Because of my interest in the disposition of the captured Japanese records, I asked him what he did with them. The answer was that they were turned over to ATIS, Allied Translator and Interpreter Section (SWPA), under General Douglas MacArthur. With this information, I began a search of the National Archives' holdings of ATIS records to learn more about the capture and exploitation of Japanese records.



Central Interrogation Center was one of the most important operation sections of ATIS during the occupation of Japan. Seated is Chief of Section, Maf G. L. Disharoon; standing (L to R) are 1st Lt R. J. Fair, 1st Lt T. D. Kihara, 1st Lt H. H. Tsutsui, 1st Lt H. Masuyama, 1st Lt W. G. McKechnie. RG 544, Records of the Far East Command.

I quickly learned that during World War II, the United States and its Allies established numerous organizations throughout the Pacific Theater to translate captured records and to conduct interrogations. There was, among others, the Southeast Asia Translation and Interrogation Center (SEATIC), the Sino Translation and Interrogation Center (SINTIC), and the Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific Ocean Area (JICPOA). Perhaps most important in terms of organizational size and quantity of captured records was ATIS. The records of these organizations are located at the National Archives and Records Administration, in various Record Groups, and provide a wealth of information to researchers about Japanese activities and Allied knowledge of those activities.

Established on September 19, 1942, and headquartered in a suburb of Brisbane, Australia, ATIS eventually would grow to include more than 2,500 personnel. ATIS worked closely with the U.S. Army Counter

Intelligence Corps (CIC) and Allied military forces in obtaining documents and interrogating prisoners of war.

There were two major components of ATIS's work. Interrogation was one. ATIS produced 779 interrogation reports, based upon information elicited from more than 10,000 prisoners of war. The other major component was translation and publication. Documents flowed from military operations to Brisbane, where a document conference was held to discuss the importance of every document in terms of priority and degree of translation. Based on these discussions, the form of dissemination of the newly gained intelligence was determined.

ATIS produced numerous types of publications, and these were widely distributed to Allied military and intelligence organizations. There were ATIS bulletins, more than 2,000 of them, issued two or three times a week. They highlighted newly acquired documents, often with a brief translation, and what ATIS planned to do with the information. Detailed translations followed weekly in the form of "current translation and enemy" publications. ATIS also produced research reports, based on documents related to a single subject. Among them: Report No. 84, dealing with The Japanese and Bacterial Warfare; Report No. 117, Infringement of the Laws of War and Ethics by the Japanese Medical Corps; Report No. 119, on the Japanese Military Police Service; Report 133, The Palawan Massacre; and Research Report No. 72, Japanese Violations of the Laws of War.

In the United States, there were also several units translating captured Japanese documents. The Washington Document Center (WDC), jointly run by the Navy and War Departments, began in 1943 and became a major center of translation. Work also took place at the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Fort Snelling, Minnesota; the Far Eastern Unit of the Office of Naval Intelligence in Washington, DC; and at the Pacific Area Command Military Intelligence Research Service (PACMIRS) at Camp Ritchie, Maryland.

Because of the multitude of translation agencies, the increasing quantity of captured Japanese documents, and the high demand for translators in the Pacific Theater, a Japanese Document Conference was held at the Pentagon from December 1944 to January 1945 to sort out the division of labor. Based on conference recommendations, the WDC became, on February 14, 1945, the central agency for initially handling the lower-priority captured Japanese documents, and it was tasked with passing on material

The surrender of the Japanese did not bring about the end to the work of WDC, ATIS, or PACMIRS.

to PACMIRS and Navy Intelligence, as necessary. Although a joint-service operation, the WDC ultimately reported to the Director of Naval Intelligence. Higher-priority documents, those of often-immediate tactical or strategic purposes, continued to be translated and exploited in the Pacific Theater.

In early 1945, the floodgates opened with thousands of documents being sent to the WDC. During the period March 4, 1945, through October 21, 1945, the WDC received, processed, and disseminated 146,324 Japanese documents ranging from military records to encyclopedia sets. By the time of the Japanese surrender, ATIS itself had processed more than 350,000 captured documents, equivalent to an estimated 4.2 million pages or about 1,500 cubic feet.

The surrender of the Japanese did not bring about the end to the work of WDC, ATIS, or PACMIRS. One major focus was war crimes prosecution assistance. On August 29, 1945, a second Japanese Document Conference was convened in Washington, DC, where it was agreed that an advanced echelon of WDC be established in Japan to assist in the scanning, screening, and transferring of selected Japanese documents to the United States. Full-scale operations for the WDC Advanced Echelon began on December 24, 1945. The Echelon processed documents from various ministries, shipping some to the United States. The documents or reproductions of them were available to theater agencies, with priority given to the urgent work of the International Prosecution Section and the Army Counter Intelligence Corps.

Around the same time, ATIS War Crimes Echelons were established in both Manila and Tokyo to supply information needed in the prosecution of Japanese war criminals. And in the United States, PACMIRS was also quite busy. During the spring of 1946, the unit produced 20 PACMIRS War Crimes Information Series publications.

By the end of March 1946, the main work of the WDC Advance Echelon was completed, and it returned to Washington. A newly organized ATIS Document Section continued its work. By November 1946, 477,894 documents (some 2,000 cubic feet of records) and numerous books and periodicals were shipped from Japan to the Washington Document Center.

When the records got to the WDC, detailed accessioning lists were prepared and widely distributed. Some of the documents were translated and published. By mid-1947, the work of the WDC, then operated by the Central Intelligence Group (a predecessor organization to the CIA), was completed, and in 1948 the records were transferred to the National Archives. The WDC also sent the Library of Congress a substantial quantity of books, newspapers, and periodicals, some of which were subsequently sent to the

National Archives. The records the National Archives acquired were returned to Japan a decade later, with the approval of Congress and the military and intelligence agencies that had either captured them and/or might have further need to exploit them.

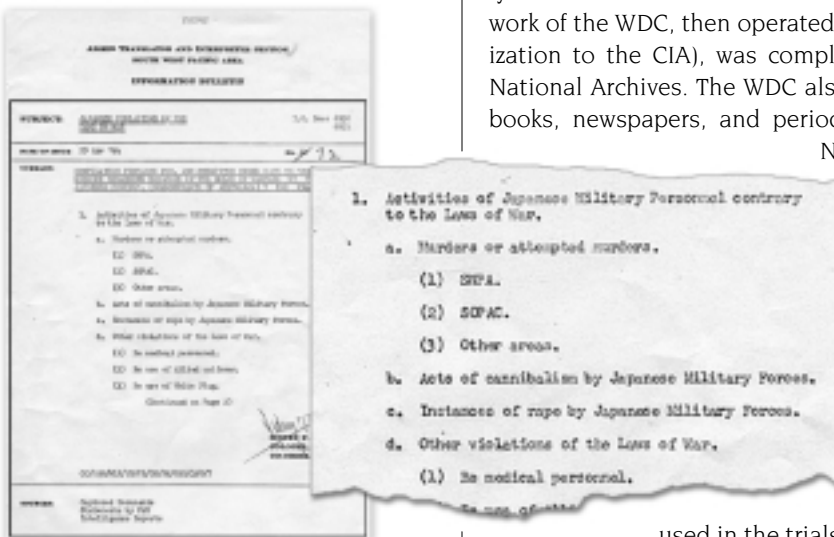
During the wartime and postwar periods, the U.S. Government certainly knew what captured or seized Japanese records its agencies had and that these records were exploited for a variety of purposes. There is also no doubt that these records were available and exploited at the time for war crimes prosecution efforts. Many of the captured documents were

used in the trials, and these records now reside at the National Archives.

Although the National Archives does not have the original Japanese documents received from the WDC, the agency does have microfilm of some of the records and copies of the WDC accessioning lists. The Library of Congress has microfilm of that portion of the WDC/National Archives collection that was filmed by historians before the records were returned to Japan.

Another substantial and significant body of records held by the National Archives consists of the thousands of boxes containing the documentation created by ATIS, the WDC, and the other involved agencies. These records are based on information from the Japanese documents as well as translations of all or part of many of the important files.

Continued on page 9.



RG 407, *Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1917–, Unit Reports, ATIS Research Report No. 72, dated April 29, 1944.*

Mr. Ikeda advises that the Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan is quite different from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in the United States.

Prior to and after the end of World War II, the United States military captured and confiscated a large quantity of Japanese records to prepare for war crimes trials as well as for intelligence purposes. After numerous requests from Japan, the United States returned those records in the 1950s and 1960s.

Members of the U.S. Congress and several IWG members have been concerned that the return of the captured documents meant that classified information related to war crimes (and to the work of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group) may have been included in the shipments.

In the fall of 1999, Congressman Tom Lantos wrote to Keizo Obuchi, who was Japanese Prime Minister at that time, and queried Japanese policy in regards to “open access” to Japanese military and diplomatic archives. The Japanese Ambassador to Washington at that time, Shunji Yanai, exchanged letters with Mr. Lantos. They eventually met in the spring of 2000, and the Ambassador provided information about the archives in Tokyo.

As a result of those exchanges, the IWG, with assistance from the State Department in Washington and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, contracted with Naotaka Ikeda, a specialist in Japanese Diplomatic History (1930s–1970s) at Kokugakuin University in Shibuya, Tokyo, to visit the Tokyo archives to clarify what is openly available to researchers. He visited the following archives to review document holdings and access requirements:

1. Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan (the National Archives of Japan), Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo.
2. Boei-toshokan (the National Institute for Defense Studies Library), Meguro-ku, Tokyo.
3. Gaikou-shiryokan (the Diplomatic Records Office), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Azabudai, Minato-ku, Tokyo.
4. Homu-Toshokan (the Ministry of Justice Library), Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo.

In addition to visiting the above-listed Japanese archives, Mr. Ikeda also reviewed the index for the Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan-bekken (Annex of the National Archives of Japan and equivalent to the National Archives at College Park), Tsukuba-city—60 kilometers from Tokyo.

Mr. Ikeda advises that the Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan is quite different from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in the United States. He has worked at the National Archives building in College Park, Maryland, over the years and is aware that NARA holds most official U.S. documents. He notes that unlike NARA, Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan does not house most Japanese Government documents. Rather, since it was founded as Naikaku-bunko, the Cabinet Library, it mainly has documents relating to the cabinet, Imperial household, and very old documents (for example, from the Tokugawa dynasty). Diplomatic documents are found at the Gaikou-shiryokan, and military documents are found at the Boei-toshokan. In short, unfortunately, there is no single Japanese archive with documents relating to every field.

Further, from his research, Mr. Ikeda describes two different classes of documents in these archives:

- (1) There are Henkan-shiryō (*the returned documents* from the United States) files. He learned that there are at least 2,736 Henkan-shiryō files (numbers of pages are not reported) that are located in Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan (the National Archives of Japan), Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo. In the Boei-toshokan (The National Institute for Defense Studies Library), Meguro-ku, Tokyo, he found that there are 19,000 Japanese Imperial Army and 21,000 Japanese Imperial Navy Henkan-shiryō files. And he reports that in the Gaikou-shiryokan (Diplomatic Records Office), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Azabudai, Minato-ku, Tokyo, there are at least 719 Henkan-shiryō files. According to Mr. Ikeda, each archive is fully open to all researchers (American, Japanese, and/or other nationality) who wish to work in them. There is no single index, however, that includes all the documents that the United States returned to Japan. Only the Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan seems to have a fairly helpful index, while a researcher has to depend on the assistance of the archive staff at the other two archives.

At some point in the 1990s, these documents were collected from the various archives and are now all housed at the Kokuritsu-kobunshokan-bekkan

(2) There are Senpan-shiryō (the *war criminals' documents*) files. According to Mr. Ikeda, these are documents made by the lawyers defending the accused Japanese or made by Japanese officials operating under the MacArthur regime. At some point in the 1990s, these documents were collected from the various archives and are now all housed at the Kokuritsu-kobunshokan-bekkan, which is the National Archives of Japan Annex, some 60 km northeast of Tokyo. There is an index for the Senpan-shiryō at both Kokuritsu-kobunsho-kan (Tokyo) and Kokuritsu-kobunshokan-bekkan (Tsukuba). He reports that at present these Senpan-shiryō documents are *not open* to researchers due to privacy concerns. This problem is evidently being addressed by the National Archives of Japan, but he has been unable to get a definitive date or even estimated date when the privacy concerns will be resolved. Thus, researchers cannot access these files at this time. These files, of course, are not covered by the IWG statutes. •

Mr. Naotaka Ikeda is a specialist in Japanese Diplomatic History with the Kokugakuin University in Shibuya, Tokyo. His specialty deals mainly with Japanese diplomatic relations with the United States (from the Nixon period to the present), European countries, and China. He has conducted research at the National Archives facility in College Park, Maryland, and at various other libraries and archives in the United States and Japan.

It was through Dr. Robert Eldridge of Osaka University in Japan that Mr. Ikeda became involved with the IWG assignment to determine the location and accessibility of the Japanese documents brought to the United States and returned to Japan by the United States in the 1950s and 1960s. The project took him 2 months, working 7 hours a day, including weekends.

He recommends that Americans interested in accessing the files make contact with a Japanese researcher—many are affiliated with universities—for help with the process. While he notes that many of the Japanese archives have staff who speak English, he recommends that researchers plan ahead. He says American researchers should write a letter to the Japanese libraries to inform them of their inquiry subjects and research goals.

Mr. Ikeda has found for his own research into diplomatic history that archives on both sides of the Pacific hold useful materials. Yet he notes that “there are many Japanese records that are still not open that deal with this topic” and that he would expect to find many more records on this subject accessible to the public in the United States.

In discussions with IWG members and staff, Mr. Ikeda has described a Japanese law, passed in April of 2002, that is modeled after the American Freedom of Information Act. It is too soon to tell, he said, how the law will affect access to historical materials in Japanese repositories.

The implementation of the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act, in Mr. Ikeda's view, has been beneficial to scholars and students of history. He said, “The law will make it easier for researchers to find and get what they need. It's a good idea and it is a good thing that it came about.”

The Exploitation of Captured Japanese Records

Continued from page 7.

The vast majority of the National Archives holdings of records relating to the exploitation of captured Japanese were declassified long ago but were not fully utilized by researchers. This can be explained in part because many of the records are scattered throughout many Record Groups and are frequently difficult to locate.

To help researchers better locate records relating to the capture/seizure and exploitation of Japanese records during and after World War II, as well as to records relating to Japanese war crimes and war criminals, I began in February to create a special finding aid. By the end of September this draft finding aid numbered over 450 pages. Undoubtedly, it will grow in size as more previously declassified records are identified and as more records are declassified in response to current declassification legislation. •

FBI COLLECTS MORE THAN 380,000 PAGES OF WAR CRIMES RECORDS FROM ITS CENTRAL FILES

In the 3 years since the creation of the IWG, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has undergone changes in leadership, fundamental reorganizations, and the major realignment of resources to respond to new threats of global terrorism. Yet through it all one unit has worked continuously to comply with the mandates of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records disclosure laws.

Over the course of 2 1/2 years, the staff of the Historical and Executive Review Unit reviewed more than 3,300,000 pages from the agency's central files for records relevant under the disclosure acts. In September 2002, with the final shipment of declassified records to the National Archives and Records Administration, the number of pages the unit had declassified under the acts totaled 381,154. After these materials are fully processed, they will be opened to the public.

As the principal investigative arm of the United States Department of Justice since 1908, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's jurisdiction has included counterterrorism, foreign counterintelligence, organized crime, white-collar crime, and violent crime. During World War II, the Bureau's work explored such areas as espionage, domestic security, foreign funds, alien property, and treason.

Records released under the disclosure acts come from the FBI's Central Files, dating from 1921 to 1998. These investigative files are organized under a case classification system corresponding to specific Federal crimes (such as bank robbery), investigatory responsibilities (domestic security), or subjects. With files on such topics as Abwehr (German Intelligence), PAPERCLIP (the U.S. hiring of German scientists), Secret Intercepts (British Intelligence Overhears), and Tokyo Rose, the records are expected to be extremely interesting to researchers, says NARA Archivist William Cunliffe. He expects that they will be useful to researchers who are reviewing similar topics in the investigative files of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) and Army Investigative Records Repository (IRR).

The success of the Bureau's declassification is largely due to the expertise of the Historical and Executive Review Unit, a team that Stephen Baker, Supervisory Paralegal Specialist with the FBI, says was particularly well suited to the job. The group, which varied between 28 and 40 people, included specialists with expertise in applying classification principles, determining redactions, and searching FBI indexes. Its original assignment had been the location and declassification of records responsive to the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act of 1992.

"We had all the necessary components to fulfill the requirements of the Act," said Baker, who also noted that the Bureau hired no special contractors and appropriated no supplemental funds for the work.

The process began with a search for the universe of files pertaining to individuals, entities, and organizations specified on a list of 60,000 entries provided by the Office of Special Investigation. This effort included a labor-intensive search through manual indexes containing more than 65 million index cards.

Once a file was identified as relevant, it was sent through the declassification and processing stages, each of which involved two reviews. The FBI unit did not stop with the original 60,000-entry list. It was able to identify, for example, an additional 600 files about German scientists who were not on the original lists.

Of the hundreds of thousands of pages declassified and transferred to the National Archives, only five pages that had been determined relevant were withheld in their entirety from release. Only 1.8 percent of the declassified documents contained portions that had to remain classified; these documents have blocked-out words and paragraphs, called redactions. The FBI redaction basis for deleting material, both classified and unclassified, was based directly on the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act. The vast majority of the redactions relate to the protection of either confidential sources or information that would impair relations between the United States and a foreign government.

The unit had to take additional steps with the records containing information from foreign governments. It became clear that during the World War II era, the FBI worked most closely with Britain, Canada, and France. The FBI unit contacted the British, Canadian, and French embassies and set up face-to-face meetings with their government officials who could make judgements about materials to be opened to the public. These were often intelligence officers or their equivalent to American FOIA officers.

The governments reviewed some portion of the classified material either in the United States or in their countries and they decided what elements in the documents were most

"We had all the necessary components to fulfill the requirements of the Act"

“We were never told that this wasn’t important or to stop our work.”

sensitive and needed to remain closed. After reviewing a selection of the material in the United States, the British provided the FBI with guidance for protecting sensitive information in their material, typically information related to intelligence gathering. Due to concerns over privacy for French citizens mentioned in the documents, the French Government requested that officials in Paris review the documents. After this review was complete, the French Government authorized the release of their documents almost in their entirety.

The delegation of Canadian officials met with the FBI unit on the morning of September 11, 2001, in the FBI Headquarters building on Pennsylvania Avenue, in Washington, DC. The Canadians and staff of the Historical and Executive Review Unit stopped their meeting short once they received news of the terrorist attacks. Although the foreign visitors had to leave the building that day, the meeting resumed the next day.

As staffing priorities shifted within the FBI after the September 11 attacks, the Historical and Executive Review Unit at times lost staff to other divisions. Yet Baker said that the group always kept an eye on getting the material declassified and processed. He said, “We were never told that this wasn’t important or to stop our work.”

John Collingwood, the initial IWG representative of the FBI, captured the spirit of the agency’s response to the disclosure laws when he wrote, “There are few, if any, causes more noble and more deserving of a robust response from the government [than the IWG’s].” •

FBI IWG Representatives:

John E. Collingwood, Assistant Director, Office of Public and Legislative Affairs
(May 1999–March 2002)

William L. Hooton, Assistant Director, Records Management Division
(March 2002–Present)

Approximate volume in pages searched: 3,325,745

Pages of files and index cards declassified and shipped to the National Archives (99% of files shipped were originals):

Nazi phase: 24 shipments: 354,916 | Japanese phase: 9 shipments: 3,683

Records Characteristics: Investigative files from the FBI Central File, 1921–1998

Other products resulting from effort: Several tracking systems were developed to enable the Bureau to chart the course of every file through the process.

I W G N E W M E M B E R P R O F I L E

William L. Hooton

Assistant Director, Records Management Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mr. Hooton became the FBI representative to the IWG in April 2002. He was born and raised in Austin, Texas, earning a degree in Business Administration from the University of Texas in 1975. He began his government service with the IRS in 1970, while still in school. While at the IRS, he designed one of the very first practical systems utilizing digital images and optical disks in a system that processed 85,000 tax returns a day. In 1983, he moved to the National Archives, where he directed a program that tested the feasibility of substituting digital images for physical records and microform. In 1990, he left Federal service and worked in the commercial sector in a number of senior executive assignments including President and CEO of Tower Software, a records management software company, and Corporate Vice President of Science Applications International Corporation.

Mr. Hooton has been a director on a number of boards of high-tech companies both public and private. He joined the FBI in January 2002 as Assistant Director, Records Management Division, and is also the FBI’s Record’s Officer. •

**Nazi War Crimes and Japanese
Imperial Government Records
Interagency Working Group**

8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

Address Service Requested

PRSR STD
Postage & Fees
P A I D
National Archives &
Records Administration
Permit No. G-293

I W G N E W M E M B E R P R O F I L E

Christina Bromwell

*Deputy Director for Classification Management
Office of the Secretary of Defense*

Ms. Bromwell, who joined the IWG in August 2001, has significant leadership experience in facilitating international and interagency working groups on a variety of security-related subjects. For 17 years, she developed security policy at OSD at military department headquarters and at international levels, with primary focus on information, personnel, and information systems security areas, and nuclear classification/declassification management. In her current position, Ms. Bromwell represents the DoD at committees on amendments to Executive Order 12958, "Classified National Security Information"; serves as the DoD liaison for the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel; and is the primary liaison with the Department of Energy on classification and declassification matters. She was the United States representative to the NATO Security Committee working groups on all of the security disciplines and the alternate U.S. representative to the NATO Security Committee from 1995 to 2000.

Ms. Bromwell received her M.A. in International Relations and U.S. and Comparative Foreign Policy and her B.A. in Communications, Law, Economics, and Government from American University. She is the recipient of the OSD Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service, the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, and the OSD Award for Excellence. ●

Disclosure is a free publication of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group (IWG). The Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act created the IWG to oversee declassification and public release of U.S. Government records related to war criminals and crimes committed by the Nazi government and its allies during World War II. In enacting the Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Act of 2000, the U.S. Congress renamed the IWG, extended its mission through March 2004, and emphasized the need to find, review, and declassify U.S. Government records pertaining to Japanese Imperial Government war crimes and war criminals.

For more information visit the IWG Website: www.archives.gov/iwg or contact IWG Executive Director Larry Taylor: 202-756-2277 or iwg1@starpower.net. For address correction or to be removed from this mailing list, please contact the IWG Staff Director, National Archives and Records Administration; 8601 Adelphi Road; College Park, MD 20740, or at iwg@archives.gov.

Steven Garfinkel <i>Chair, National Archives and Records Administration</i>	William H. Leary <i>National Security Council</i>
Thomas H. Baer <i>Steinhardt Baer Pictures Company</i>	David Holmes <i>Central Intelligence Agency</i>
Richard Ben-Veniste <i>Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP</i>	Paul Shapiro <i>United States Holocaust Memorial Museum</i>
Elizabeth Holtzman <i>Herrick, Feinstein, LLP</i>	Eli M. Rosenbaum <i>Department of Justice</i>
William Hooton <i>Federal Bureau of Investigation</i>	Marc J. Susser <i>Department of State</i>
Christina M. Bromwell <i>Office of the Secretary of Defense</i>	

Disclosure was edited by Giuliana S. Bullard and
designed by IconoGraph Designs, Inc.