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From [redacted] Tue Apr 19 16:28:37 1994
Sender: [redacted] Reply-To: [redacted]
To: rlbens1 [redacted]
Subject: VENONA and FOIA
Classification: (TSC) ~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~ X-Skyway-In: [redacted]
<940419202840.baaa005Un> X-Skyway-Out: rlbens1 [redacted]
<940419202841.baaa002GG> Content-Length: 2817 X-Lines: 58
Content-Length: 2767
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Sender: [redacted] Reply-To: [redacted]
Date: Tue, 19 Apr 94 16:24:03 EDT From: [redacted]
[redacted] Message-Id: <9404192024.AA06087@dome.noname> To: wpcrowe [redacted]
Subject: VENONA and FOIAs Cc: [redacted] [redacted] rlbens [redacted]
Classification: ~~TSC~~ X-Skyway-In: [redacted] <none> X-Skyway-Out: [redacted]
[redacted]

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

Mr. Crowell,

[redacted] of the General Counsel's office, called to ask about VENONA, because a party who asked for FOIA disclosures appealed our decision not to release. I was wondering whether, in today's age we should consider releasing some VENONA material. At a minimum, the boxes and other raw materials that, I think, the release of which can not be claimed to be a threat to our national security. The actual memos and reports that the British published would have to be coordinated with them, but I really doubt whether we can justly continue to claim that even their release would be a threat. The reasons for this change of mind are:



-----Just a thought, I'm of the opinion that the best thing we can do for our country is to let the VENONA materials be released, let history tell its story, and let the chips fall where they may. I very much doubt that it would cause the Russians to change anything they haven't decided to change already, and the U.S. citizen would benefit in the

Approved for Release by NSA on 07-03-2014, FOIA Case # 42771

(b)(1)
(b)(3)-50 USC 3024(i)
(b)(3)-18 USC 798
(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

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end. What do you think?

--Maureen
Chief of the new A952 (4247s)

----- End Included Message -----

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