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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

memorandum

DATE: 21 FEB 1984

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: M509

SUBJECT: Civil Suit, American Library Association et al, vs
General Faurer (Friedman Collection)

TO: Q43
ATTN: Mike Levin

1. (U) You have asked me to provide information on the plaintiffs' complaint that NSA personnel caused certain material in the Friedman Collection to be removed or sealed before Ronald Clark was allowed to see the Collection (he was writing a biography of Mr. Friedman). See paragraphs 19-22 of the complaint.

2. ~~(C)~~ You have a copy of my Memorandum for the Record of 22 Sep 1982 relating to this subject. That memo provides additional information. It is classified TOP SECRET.

3. ~~(C)~~ Vince Wilson, Hank Schorreck and I visited the Marshall Library in May 1976 to review the Friedman Collection. Mr. Wilson was Chief of E51 (History and Publications) and Mr. Schorreck was the NSA historian (also E51). I was assigned to their organization on a Cryptologic Fellowship, 1975-1976, participated in the review because of my historical research into U.S. SIGINT policy 1940-1945 and because I was familiar with Mr. Friedman's career during that period. According to Mr. Wilson the visit to the Marshall Library was at the direction of D/DIR (Mr. B. K. Buffman, I believe). D/DIR wanted to be sure that no sensitive material was in the open (or soon to be opened) portion of the Friedman Collection. He was specifically concerned about papers relating to certain very sensitive activities (see my memo for the record of 22 Sep 1982).

4. (U) I now believe, but cannot state from personal knowledge, that NSA people had been to the Friedman Collection shortly prior to our May 1976 visit to screen out sensitive documents. Perhaps Mr. Wilson himself had been there. I cannot recall for certain, but I believe that Mr. Clark too had already been there. Therefore, our job was to make a thorough, item-by-item review to be absolutely certain that nothing sensitive remained in the "open" Collection and to try to find out what documents Mr. Clark may have had access to, because, said Mr. Wilson, Mr. Clark had learned - somewhere - of sensitive, highly classified matters. To summarize:

- a. Clark apparently visited the Friedman Collection sometime prior to May 1976.
- b. Someone from NSA reviewed the Friedman Collection prior to May 1976. I don't know who got there first - NSA or Clark.
- c. Then Wilson, Schorreck and I visited the Collection in May 1976.

Classified by NSA/CSSM 123-2

Excluded from Originating Agency's Determination R (19273-80)

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(19273-80)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-114

☆ U.S. G.P.O. 1983-381-526/8401

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5. (U) This is what Wilson, Schorreck and I did in May 1976:

a. We worked inside a vault-like room that housed the "open" portion of the Friedman Collection. The closed portion consisted of classified papers kept in a safe(s) elsewhere in the Marshall Library. I believe the Marshall Library was authorized to store SECRET material. We did not look at what was already in the safe(s).

b. We looked at every paper twice and checked each other's work. We were looking for certain sensitive material. We pulled some - this is a guess - 15-20 items: notes, letters, documents, and gave them to Tony Crawford, Library Archivist. Tony and Vince agreed that these items would be placed in the safe(s). Tony said he would withdraw the index cards pertaining to these items or mark the cards closed to the public. He told us that the items we delivered to him would thus be sealed and not available to researchers or the general public.

c. We did not take any material from the Collection (except that we made some copies for unrelated historical research purposes).

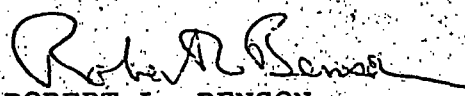
d. We had complete cooperation from Tony Crawford and the Library Director (name unrecalled - he was a retired ambassador).

6. ~~(S)~~ As I've said to you before the materials that Wilson, Schorreck and I pulled were classifiable, i.e., not marked with a classification but containing classified information, e.g., indications of a UKUSA cryptologic connection.* I don't recall seeing anything that could have been the source - by itself - for what is on pages 322-324 and 428 of Mr. Bamford's book. It is my guess that if Clark and Bamford saw especially sensitive material it was that which was already (in May 1976) in Marshall Library safes, and which, as I've said, we did not review.

7. ~~(C)~~ I recommend that you look at the papers from Mr. Friedman's M5 file that I sent in Sep 1982. These papers describe M5 assistance in 1970 in transporting the Friedman Collection to Lexington and what M5 representatives were told about the security of the Collection.

8. The classification of this memo is provisional.

PL 86-36/50 USC 3605


ROBERT L. BENSON
Chief, M509

* Classified in 1976 but "fact of" since declassified
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