Approved for Release by NSA on 12-01-2011, Transparency Case# 63852

(U) Cryptologic Almanac 50th Anniversary Series

(U) William Hunt

(U) Mr. William Hunt's background in cryptology is unique in America and most likely unique in the world. He served with honor in the national SIGINT services of three separate countries -- United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States -- during a career spanning four decades.

(U) Born in Ireland in 1917, Mr. Hunt began his cryptologic career in 1940 as a civilian intercept operator with the British Admiralty and worked in that capacity throughout World War II in England, Iceland, and Bermuda. After the war he immigrated to Canada, and upon recommendation from the British Admiralty, became an early member of Canada's new SIGINT organization, the Communications Research Committee, which evolved into the Communications Security Establishment. Mr. Hunt worked for the Canadians from 1948 to 1950.

(U) After marrying a U.S. citizen, Mr. Hunt came to the United States in 1950. Based on his experience, he was quickly hired by the USAF Security Service, itself only a year old. With the establishment of the National Security Agency in 1952, he was hired by the DIRNSA, LTG Ralph J. Canine. As a matter of interest, he reported for duty one day before NSA actually came into being, therefore technically also serving with NSA's predecessor, the Armed Forces Security Service, albeit only for one day.

(U) In a major production element, he headed up all reporting and release of product, both current reporting and longer-term analytic studies on his target areas. From this role he moved to deputy of the Production (PROD) reporting staff and led NSA efforts in developing reporting policy, standards, and procedures that formed the basis of the later U.S. Signals Intelligence Directives (USSIDs) governing the reporting and dissemination parts of the SIGINT cycle. In short, Bill Hunt could arguably be called, "the Father of modern U.S. SIGINT reporting."

(U) Among his other assignments, he was tapped to represent DIRNSA among NSA's early cadre of integrated advisors to the Service Cryptologic Elements as NSA Representative to Army Security Agency, Europe (ASAEur) in Frankfurt. He served there from 1958 to 1960.

(U) Upon his return to NSA, Bill Hunt became involved in developing NSA's ELINT mission. He participated in a task force and drafted NSA's report to the deputy secretary of

defense on the new National ELINT Plan.

(U) Following the ELINT effort, Bill Hunt, by this time an NSA senior executive, returned to the Directorate of Operations where he reorganized SIGINT summary reporting, updating reporting guidelines and improving documentation to assist in achieving greater consistency in overall Agency product reporting. He served for a time as special assistant to Frank Raven to oversee all reporting and development of new reporting and dissemination guidelines during and after changes in the law and regulations following the Church and Pike Committees in the mid-70s.

(U) During the late 1970s Bill Hunt joined the newly established Directorate for Field Management, first as chief, European Field Operations and later as special assistant to the deputy director for field management, developing and improving corporate communications processes to keep field elements current on policy and operational developments at NSA headquarters. During this period he was also asked by the director to establish and chair the first-ever NSA Collection Association, a professional society to advance the art and science of signals collection. Following his assignment in the Field Directorate, he was recruited as special assistant to the deputy director for research and engineering (DDR) to provide a similar corporate communications function in the area of research.

(U) William Hunt retired from NSA on 31 January 1980, after four decades of service to the extended cryptologic enterprise. After he retired, the NSA Collection Association recognized his contributions and service by establishing the Collection Technical Literature Award, and naming it in Bill Hunt's honor.