



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
*Washington, D.C. 20535*

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January 23, 2019

MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.  
SUITE 1203  
27305 WEST LIVE OAK ROAD  
CASTIC, CA 91384

FOIPA Request No.: 1425614-000  
Subject: MITROKHIN, VASILII NIKITICH

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

Records responsive to your request were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Below you will find informational paragraphs relevant to your request. Please read each item carefully.

Enclosed are 5 pages of previously processed documents and a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions.

Please be advised that additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your information needs for this request, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail or fax to – Work Process Unit, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, fax number (540) 868-4997. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S. C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA online portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov). Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Hardy  
Section Chief,  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)

This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault

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The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth** at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**

## **EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS**

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

~~SECRET~~ (U)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 11/10/1999

b6  
b7C  
b7E

To: All Field Offices

Attn: [REDACTED] Supervisors  
Terrorism Squad Supervisors

From: National Security  
NS-1A, Room 4439  
Contact: SSA [REDACTED]

(202) 324-8350

Approved By:

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Drafted By:

[REDACTED]

Case ID #: (S)  
(S)

[REDACTED]

b1  
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Title: (S)

[REDACTED]

To SSRA's and  
NSD SSA's -  
This is forwarded  
for your information  
only - No Actions  
required - interesting  
historical material  
NSD-1

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Synopsis: (U) Information on surveys conducted by the  
Russians for sabotage and infiltration in the U.S. during the  
1950s and 1960s.

(U) (S)

~~Derived From : G-3~~  
~~Declassify On: X1~~

Administrative: (U) Reference "60 Minutes" television  
program on September 12, 1999 regarding the recent release of  
the book titled Sword and the Shield: Secret History of the  
KGB, co-authored by Christopher Andrew and Vasili Mitrokhin.

Enclosure(s): (S) (U)

Enclosed for all offices is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] reporting on the RIS surveys for possible  
infiltration and sabotage of the U.S. during the 1950s and  
1960s.

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Details: (U) As recipients are no doubt aware, a former  
"archivist" of the KGB, Vasili Mitrokhin, defected from Russia during  
the early part of this decade. Mitrokhin had access to many of the

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UPLOADED  
WITH/TEXT  
WITHOUT TEXT  
BY [REDACTED]  
DATE 11-15-99

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ASAC

[REDACTED]

NSD-1

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(S)  
RICK  
PLS do  
SSA/SSRA's as you  
and TFS

To: All Field Offices From: National Security  
Re: (S) [REDACTED] 11/10/1999

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KGB's files and, more often, serials for these files as they passed through his hands to the KGB's equivalent of the Special File Room. Mitrokhin took notes from the serials in a personal code and smuggled them out. When Mitrokhin defected to the British, he had notes from files dating back to the Russian revolution up until his retirement from the KGB in 1984.

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(U) Prominent British historian Christopher Andrew wrote, "with" Mitrokhin, about the KGB activities and intentions revealed from the files in a new book, Sword and the Shield. As part of the publicity, Andrew was interviewed on "60 Minutes" about some of the highlights of the book. Among other matters featured in the story was one which has generated considerable and understandable interest -- preparations by the KGB, during the 1950s and 1960s, for sabotage and infiltration into the West, including the U.S., should the Cold War turn hot. The KGB surveyed the United States for the best routes of infiltration by paramilitary forces from Canada and for the placement of arms caches along those routes for the time of activation. The KGB also surveyed elements of our national critical infrastructure for possible disruption.

(S) ~~(S)~~ (U) The intelligence community has known of these activities and intentions [REDACTED]

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(U) Some of the details were included in Sword and the Shield and were featured on the "60 Minutes" piece. Andrew mentioned that the Russians specifically targeted the oil pipeline from El Paso to Costa Mesa, Flathead Dam and Hungry Horse Dam. Unfortunately, these discussions of Russian **survey recommendations** were juxtaposed against the **actions** taken by the KGB in Western Europe. Andrew relates that an arms cache was located in Switzerland with specific directions to the location and to the dismantling of the explosive device covering it. The program features Swiss attempts to

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To: All Field Offices From: National Security  
Re: (S) [redacted] 11/10/1999

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dig up this cache by turning a firehouse on it and thereby triggering an explosion.

(U) The portion of Sword and the Shield on surveys and infiltration plans for the U.S. (pages 363 & 364) is likewise sandwiched between information on buried arms caches in Europe. The section on Europe contains very specific directions, including highway mile markers as guides, and relates in print the story of the Swiss arms cache. The U.S. section refers to several generic targets, including those included in the "60 Minutes" piece, but provided a few more specifics including, for Flathead Dam, a specific point of vulnerability. Other targets were the Port of New York and the New York power grid. The book references a Mexican hotel located 50 miles from California for agent infiltration; possible infiltration routes "in three place on the American coast;" through Glacier National Park, Montana; and Lake of the Woods and International Falls, Minnesota.

(U) ~~(S)~~ The "60 Minutes" program and the way the U.S. information is presented in the book might lead one to believe that more than just surveys were conducted in the United States. [redacted] There is no information to indicate the Russians proceeded beyond surveys.

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(U) ~~(S)~~ The survey of U.S. critical infrastructure is not surprising, during the 1950s and 1960s and beyond. [redacted]

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~~(S)~~ (U) [redacted] While the information in Sword and the Shield is obviously declassified, [redacted]

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[redacted] (S) The Bureau provides this data for review by recipient offices to assist in resolving any local concerns [redacted]

(U) Questions concerning this matter, including questions about further dissemination or use of the classified information, can

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To: All Field Offices From: National Security  
Re: (S) [REDACTED] 11/10/1999

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be referred to SSA [REDACTED] NS-1A, Room 4439,  
(202) 324-4591.

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~~SECRET~~ (U)

To: All Field Offices From: National Security  
Re: (S) [REDACTED] 11/10/1999

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LEAD(s) :

Set Lead 1: (Adm)

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

(U) Read and clear lead.

♦♦

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