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Commission Sensitive

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Event: Interview of Morrie Berez, DHS senior officer in the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services. Interviewed in his former capacity as architect of the original student tracking program at INS.

Date: Thursday, October 2, 2003

Special Access Issues: [none]

Prepared by: Janice Kephart-Roberts on October 6, 2003

Team Number: 5 (Border Security)

Location: GSA

Participants - Non-Commission: Morrie Berez, 202-616-7862
Tom Muther, 202-307-8119, BCIS counsel's office

Participants - Commission: Janice Kephart-Roberts
Tom Eldridge

Note: no classification required

Documents received: See Appendix Two

Documents requested at interview under pending document request:

"Functional requirements" document

Originally drafted fee reg, and one Wyrsh required changes on.

Recording: a tape recording can be found on Team 5, Folder A, Track 5.

NOTES:

Interviewee. Morrie Berez. DHS senior officer in the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services. Interviewed in his former capacity as architect of the original student tracking program at INS, the CIPRIS Task Force.

Background. Received a bachelor's in business and econ, amaster's in public administration. Spent two years with the Peace Corps in Africa. Did health care fraud detection for HCVA. From 1974-1980, worked for GAO where did investigations of programs in violation of their mandate: funeral home industry, veterans administration, the federal health benefit program. 1980-85: Worked on the DOE Fed Regulatory Commission. In Nov. 1985, joined the INS where assigned to try to centralize then decentralized functions. Set up the telephone service centers which verified the validity of green card holders and border crossing cards into a system called ACTION on a 24/7

basis. System received 100,000 queries per year via the CLAIMS or Central Index System. (IBIS is different; that's a lookout system rec'g info from 26 different agencies.)

In 1994, assigned to the Office of Examination student unit which did oversight over the regulations and policies pertaining to foreign students. These regs would become the basis for the initial work of the CIPRIS task force, prior to the statute of section 641 in IIRIRA. Regulations governing students were:

- 8 CFR 214.2 (f), (m), and (j)
- 214.3 re approval of institutions
- 214.4 re withdrawal of approval of institutions
- 22 CFR re rules governing 14 categories of schools and exchange programs.

The story of CIPRIS.

1994. On April 16, the student unit received a query via Deputy Commissioner **Chris Sale** (now a comptroller at OMB) from DAG **Jamie Gorelick** in re to the **Louis Freeh** memo on behalf of the DOJ enforcement task force noting that tracking of students would be helpful to law enforcement. Gorelick wanted to know what the INS was doing about it and Berez was tasked with writing the response.

On **April 19**, The Murrah building is bombed in Oklahoma City. The FBI wants student information for all the surrounding areas from 9 MidEast countries. Upon querying the "Student School System" (STSC), Berez found that this data storage system was a disaster: not every school was entered into the system, not all students, and info was old and unreliable. The records had been updated in 1988, but not since.

Berez already knew students information should be important to law enforcement since one conspirator of the 93 WTC case was an out of status Wichita State student. Luckily for that case, an I-20 and I-94 were found. His student status had enabled him to acquire breeder documents for legitimacy in US.

Even more recently a Hamas terrorist was caught trying to cross the SW border with a coyote (alien smuggler).

- 1995.** In **May**, Berez was the primary author of a paper detailing what needed to happen to update the STSC. Berez recommended an interagency task force, and stated his vision for it. In it would include the CIA and FBI, but later told only INS liaisons would be allowed. Program Office also said no to including intel.
- a. In **late May 1995**, **Greg Bednarz** was Sales' special assistant and **Amy Jeffres** was Gorelick's. Jeffres liked the paper and Gorelick gave the go-ahead to begin the interagency task force.
 - b. **Michael L. Aytes** was an Assistant Commissioner and very supportive of Berez. "He was a visionary and could see how helpful it would be to track aliens student history from cradle to grave with the help of biometrics."
 - c. **June.** Berez put together an agenda for the task force meeting of two weeks at hdqtrs. It was a top down assessment of the current STSC to

determine if it was fixable and identified all the issues necessary to be covered by a student system. Aytes provided Berez with 2 EDS tech consultants who were really good. At this meeting, everyone's ideas were taken. Berez was intent that the document produced be a full consensus document. At end of week one, had the following consensus: the current process was so broken that it was irretrievable. A new system was needed, and the one mapped out became CIPRIS (Coordinated Interagency Partnership Regulating International Students). The system was to be wholly electronic, real time, data sharing with an automatic check in IBIS and would identify source of students funding, including the bank and the originator of the funds. Each student would be assigned a risk value and an intel analyst would conduct this analysis full time, similar to a DIA national security unit. (Donna Hamilton was the DOS rep, now retired.)

- d. **December.** The CIPRIS report is completed and goes to DAG Gorelick. The report gets Hill attention via Senator Simpson's staffer Radigam, a former DOS consul general. Berez worked with **John Ratigam** [redacted] via Joyce Chang of Congressional Affairs (now deceased). In considering revisions to student tracking system, Berez had to deal with the issues of student fees and the Buckley law, a privacy law "protecting" students. The task force had found 1000s of fraudulent I-20s, that language schools especially were making money selling I-20s, and that designated student officers at schools were corrupt.

1996. a. **March.** Chris Sales organizes a presentation to **Commissioner Meissner** to present the interagency task force results. Berez made the presentation. The Comm'r didn't like the enforcement nature of the proposal, didn't like the intrusion on the schools or students. "Strong concern that CIPRIS was too enforcement oriented." She especially didn't like the biometrics of photo and fingerprint, and thought too intrusive. The attendees, who were all supportive of the task force at that time b/c, as Berez says, Sales was in favor of it, told Meissner that the DAG wanted an answer. To which Comm'r replied that she wanted more study and more options. Persons in attendance: **Mike Manuel, Chris Sale, George Bohlinger, Bill Slattery, maybe Bob Bach.**
- b. July. Berez writes an option paper for Meissner. Sales tells Berez that Comm'r sitting on it.
- c. **September 30.** Section 641 of IIRIRA becomes law and requires the INS to develop student tracking.
- d. **October 11.** Meissner signs off on option recommendation no. 5, a pilot project in Atlanta. Berez picked Atlanta because the city was already familiar with high tech after a summer Olympics there; the port director and district director of INS in Atlanta were very good and supportive; and there were big schools like Duke, Clemson, Auburn, an all black college, 4 and 2 yr. colleges, a flight school (concern about piloting of drugs into US), tech colleges, and exchange programs all in region. (Berez had

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wanted recommendation #5, but told not politically viable. This option included a scanner at a POE. Had only recommended option no. 4)
Option #4 is now US Visit, with the smart card of CIPRIS now the visa card of US Visit. However, the technology was available technically and financially in 96.

- e. During this time, CIPRIS was competing against other INS projects for resources and support.

1997. January 8. A federal register notice was approved by OMB for the pilot. The task force was brought back at this time after the Comm's approval to implement proposal of the summer. The only restriction OMB put on it was only college age alien kids, no high school or lower. To this notice, 50 or 60 schools said they wanted to participate.

April. Berez convenes a mtg in Atlanta with the task force and all the players in the pilot. Only needed about \$3 mil per year at this point. Berez says Sale the project's guardian angel, and whatever Berez needed he got.

June. Launched the pilot with the readers in the Atlanta airport and the Texas Service Center and USIA (got readers too for scanning bar coded I-20s for I-539 change of status applications). **Tom Fisher** was a great district director and implemented the pilot in Atlanta. The budget went up to \$5 mil, as technical glitches needed straightening. EDS wasn't doing a good job and replaced 3 project mgrs during this time thru IT INS. In '99, Berez permitted to participate in selection and picked a former IBM VP, John Smith.

During 1997, **PDD-42** mentions student tracking and Berez asked to coordinate with **Dan Cadman** on the CT side of the project.

1998. January. Chris Sales leaves after being blamed for the failure of Citizenship USA. (Was a PR disaster for the administration, as criminals were getting citizenship.) The word out was "don't mess with the widow". The reference was to Meissner who had recently lost her husband.

February. **Mary Ann Wyrsh** takes Sales' place as Deputy Commissioner.

March. By this time, CIPRIS pilot functionality was working and glitches taken care of. The prototype card worked. The prototype was created via dummy records, a card, and use in Atlanta. The prototype never made it out to the embassies because the task force wasn't permitted to produce it. However, on Feb. 2 Berez received a stop work order on the project. Sen. Kyl's office via Kyl's judiciary subcommittee intervened and got funding restored. Such interruptions in work became commonplace thereafter.

Paul Rosenberg was Wyrsh's special assistant, and didn't like CIPRIS because he had a project of automating I-94s, a project that was tested in Philly with USAir.

August. Berez feels ready to develop a national system, as the system, scanning, database sharing and Texas Service Center issues had been worked out). Berez believed that the system could've been up and running by January '01. Berez is able to obtain a briefing with Meissner. Berez believes that Meissner will love the project, as it has great potential to act as a template for A files. In addition, the project was interagency task force and field tested, and

both DOE and DOS on board, as well as U of TX Austin, who was willing to have CIPRIS use its system to develop the national beta test. "Action officers" at DIA (**Stephen French**), CIA and FBI would have been recipients of CIPRIS data. Berez was going to call the national program was to be called SEVIS, the Student Exchange and Visitor Information System.

At the briefing, Berez was asked questions by Wyrsh and Meissner. Many people were in the room, including Dan Cadman. Berez's impression at the end of the meeting was that everything was okay and he had the go-ahead to develop the national project. The prototype card worked, but then Berez not permitted to replace it with an actual card. Nobody criticized the project. Mike Hrinyak was there, as was Jackie Bednarz, who was supportive until the political winds changed. Wyrsh said she wanted to learn more.

How the system would've worked:

- Alien seeks admittance to school.
- If alien accepted, then school submitted data on alien to INS via SEVIS and SEVIS would've sent information to IBIS, the INS lookout systems against data provided about individual, including all family members of alien and alien's spouse, so if anyone related to system came up with a hit, would alert DOS that a full investigation would need be done. If a "bigger" hit, DIA/FBI/CIA would be notified.
- An authorizing message would sent to the school, so the school could print off receipt to send student either hard copy or electronically, eliminating the I-20, and the receipt would be machine readable for hard copy with a confirmation number on it for both electronic and hard copy. This information the student uses to acquire a student visa overseas, and DOS would only need to call up the confirmation number to adjudicate the visa. "My philosophy was that the earlier a warning you could get, the better."
- Once the student applied for a visa, the INS would have 30 days to check the financial information submitted by the student on his visa application. This would only happen if the student had a prior hit in the system. Also if a hit, a full background, including a 10 print, would be conducted prior to issuance and run v. that country's criminal databases (only DOS has this access, not INS) and Interpol, etc.
- System would then send a notice to school advising that a visa was issued. The type of visa issued would be a visa not in a passport, but a visa "smart card" that would be machine readable at POE. Included in this card was photo and one right index finger print, which the consular officer took. Would've been able to interact with Ident and check FBI NCIC system if hit situations.
- Once visa issued, SEVIS would be updated to include that visa card issued. The card no. would have a master card number.

- At the POE, the student arrives with his smart card and master number. Inspector runs card through reader and can question student or not. The inspector then does an electronic admission record that runs v. master record and visa card becomes evidence of status in US. (Could only verify biometric if pull into secondary.) The entry of student triggers an automatic notice to the school of the entry.
- The system then starts a clock and student must start his program within 60 days of admittance. The system would've sought an acknowledgement from school of enrollment. Would've been connected to the registrar's database.
- If no acknowledgment from school, SEVIS says if don't tell us where student is within 10 days, first a warning letter that in violation and if adverse action, fines or no certification. Meanwhile, INS interior enforcement would be notified of no shows, and they'd prioritize them and warrant would be issued for arrest for no show. That warrant puts the alien in NCIC which enables local law enforcement to stop aliens.

1999. January.

- a. The Wyrsh meeting doesn't happen until January, 4 months after the request. Berez makes presentation to Wyrsh. In attendance are Jackie Bednarz, Tom Cook, Paul Authors. Every question she had we had an answer, so Berez thought things had gone fine.
- b. During this time, "on high" was anti-enforcement. Greg Bednarz and Dan Cadman can speak to that.
- c. Berez said that rumor was that Wyrsh's alma mater had gotten to her. NAFSA saw to blocking CIPRIS in anyway possible.
- d. Afterwards Berez was queried as to how he rec'd authorization to do CIPRIS and told by Wyrsh that should've gotten approval for it. Berez responded that he thought he done that in the briefing he'd provided her and the Commissioner in 8/98.
- e. During this time as well, Wyrsh created a "Policy Council" who did official sign-offs on programming resourcing. This Council didn't disapprove the smart card of CIPRIS, but deferred the national system and said you can't have the card tested beyond the prototype in the pilot. This instruction came down verbally.

February. Berez then goes to the general counsel's office to flesh out the section 641 statutory requirements to determine if the fee could be collected directly from the student or from the schools. Berez definitely didn't think it should be an overseas operation, as that was highly complicated. Wyrsh states that she wants schools 100% compliance in collecting fees b/c she believed that statute required it and if schools failed, lost their certification. This is the rule that Berez is forced to publish for comment in the CFR, and he receives 5,000 comments back from schools decrying process.

May. Berez at a NAFSA conference with over 1000 attendees from schools around the country. In front of a 1000 people, he tells them that CIPRIS is inevitable so you better get on board, and said how much better this system is for legitimate students and schools. He also says, "look, some day a foreign student national will do something bad and then a national tracking system will be dictated to you without your say." Berez, during the course of this conference, has lunch with Marlene Johnson who heads the lobby for NAFSA in Washington. Berez is trying to have a friendly conversation with Johnson when Johnson says to him: "I wonder what would happen to CIPRIS if you weren't leading it." Berez says that there were large schools that NAFSA represented that had very large foreign student populations, such as U of Michigan and Ohio State that had unhealthy foreign student operations (ie weren't wholly complying with the law on I-20s) that really wanted CIPRIS killed. However, other large schools with large foreign students populations were behind the program, such as UCLA, Auburn, and Brigham Young.

August. Berez sets up internet based fee collection with the banks using an I-906 using Mellon Bank's lock box and permitting the student to pay on the Internet.

October. Bob Bach calls Berez's boss in and tells Cook that the decision has been made to replace Berez now that going to a national program b/c Berez is considered to be too controversial by NAFSA. Bach says Cook and Cook tells Berez that Bach wanted Berez out of CIPRIS no matter what. Berez was told Wyrsh said: "It won't be the first time we haven't done something mandated by law." Berez says he was only controversial internally at INS, not externally amongst the task force. Bach represents to Cook that now pilot will be taken to national development. Berez says INS then divided his job into many parts, so fragmenting CIPRIS with unknowledgable people that it couldn't go forward. The only piece of CIPRIS that Berez to retain was the fee regulation. Cook found \$3 mil and put a dumbed down CIPRIS on life support behind Wyrsh's back.

Also in 1999:

- "Functional requirements" document that discussed perceived potential threats of students coming to this country. This is where the country of origin field comes into the student form b/c of concerns about ME terrorism, and also because section 641 requires the identification of five state sponsors of terrorism. Berez wanted to do more than statutorily required, as didn't want to discriminate amongst aliens; figured it was silly to spend all this money on development and only capture a small number of students, and that terrorists aren't just from state sponsors. [redacted] of the DIA had provided input on how to target and mix and match data on individuals, and wanted CIPRIS to be able to cull out Mideast aliens for analysis. Paul Rosenberg dumped all over it.
- Meeting at White House. Via Cadman's prior meeting with the CSG Group at the White House, Berez was to support Cadman on the presentation. But no one had the detailed knowledge of the program, so Berez was verbally

authorized to go make presentation by Wyrsh (via Cronin). Berez went and did run through. Jackie bednarz went with Berez. Both **Simon** and **dan Benjamin** liked it. Heard back the **Dick Clarke** responded via Tom Cook that Clarke wanted more than F,M, and J visas covered and more proactive analysis and data.

January 2001. Was to begin national deployment. Flight schools would've been part of the deployment as well as vocational schools. Was to begin with a mass data transfer of all schools with current students and run those names through NIIS and identify those w/o departure records and recertify schools.

Post Sept. 11. Berez received many emails from supporters saying that now, for sure, Berez would be put back in charge of the CIPRIS task force and the CIPRIS would be taken off life support. But **Mike Becraft**, who had been COS under Wyrsh and was now acting deputy commissioner under Ziglar, said there was no way Berez would ever be involved again, as he'd gone outside the chain of command and couldn't be trusted. **Bill Yates** had this conversation with Becraft.

If CIPRIS had been deployed on a national level by early 2000, would CIPRIS have captured the following 9/11 hijacker information?

- a. **Atta, Hanjour and Alsehhi.**
 - i. Would a pending I-539 applications to change status from a B2 to an M-1 (Atta and Alsehhi) student be available to an immigration inspector upon entry? yes
 - ii. Would a pending I-539 applications to change status from an F1 to an M-1 (Atta and Alsehhi) student be available to an immigration inspector upon entry? yes
 - iii. If yes, would the record indicate that the applicant was already attending school pending the application's approval? yes
 - iv. Would that information require an automatic referral to secondary inspection? yes
 - v. What would the legal result of attending school prior to adjudication of the change of status application? Law was unequivocal that if an alien leaves while an application is pending, that application is abandoned and no entry is permitted.
 - vi. What was INS policy under such circumstances in 2000 and 2001? Policy was to let in.
- b. **Hanjour.**
 - i. Would historical records (this one of an F-1 issued in Nov. 1997) have been available in CIPRIS upon a December 2000 entry into the US? no

Atta. Assuming that that flight school had been entered into the system, would've caught his credit card information and learned he was being financed by a terrorist financier. This would've happened b/c Atta's I-539 was pending upon his last entry

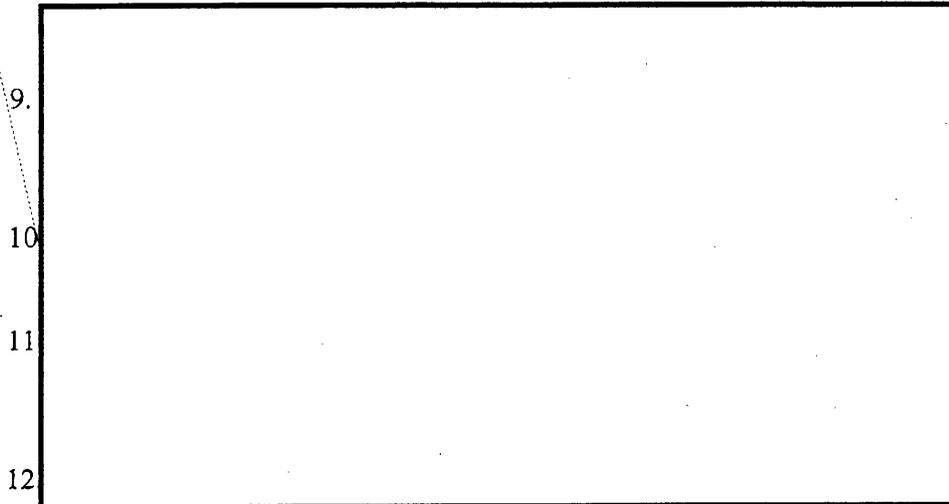
in July 2001, but Atta had already attended and completed flight school by this time, but since the application for change of status was pending, would've captured his data and had that available when referred to secondary inspection.

If CIPRIS had been in place prior to 9/11, (MB says it would've been in place by early 2000), what information would it have been available to law enforcement and intelligence agencies? Law enforcement and intel would've, theoretically, been able to provide the financier information b/c the task force vision was that there would have been a point of contact officer in DIA, CIA and FBI who would've had access to the information on a need-to-know basis. *Q: but that doesn't answer how that POC would've known he needed to know about Atta's financing at all, and how that information may have made it back to the inspector in Atlanta who interviewed Atta in secondary.*

If CIPRIS had been in place prior to 9/11, do you think it would have had an effect on discouraging members of Al Qaeda from coming to the US to attend flight training or language centers? yes

CIPRIS characteristics that would have been included in the nationally deployed SEVIS program as developed by Berez's task force, but NOT included in the current "dumbed down" version of SEVIS:

1. I-515s: form that an inspector uses when a student comes in, if don't have all there papers or not in SEVIS b/c of some kind of fluck, the inspector, will send to 2ndary, and admit for 30 days as students and the I-515 will require the student to a deferred inspection within 30 days to provide all papers. [redacted]
2. [redacted]
3. biometrics. No smart card, no verification of identity and much less ability to track.
4. [redacted]
5. no method of payment (credit card or cash)
6. [redacted]
7. [redacted]
8. [redacted]



Berez work since 9/11.

FTTTF. Developed the data elements and the electronic all online flight students seeking admittance. The school has to designate that they want the student, and ones checked by flight school, the FTTTF runs v. risk assessment value.

Exceptions: pilots receiving inservice recerts and no pilot seeking to fly less than 5500 pounds is checked.

Developed national anti-fraud strategy for CIS. That the areas where fraud, wherever a individual could obtain under false pretenses legitimate immigration docs is a national security concern. Most virilant fraud is H-1B, by ginning up bogus resume, bogus DOL papers, and INS has no method of determining truth b/c don't look at employer or alien, just adjudicate on paperwork.

Solution that to develop ongoing benefit assessment that totally random. This random sampling, where found fraud, look at characteristics/patterns in those case, to determine factors that would require site visits or interviews.

Now. Reassigned F, M, J regs or any CIS policy interpretation of regs. for current SEVIS operation.

Section 326 of the Patriot Act requires the alien's immigration information be verified. Biometric would be helpful here....

APPENDIX ONE
Questions for Morrie Berez

Topics: CIPRIS pre- 9/11 *The following questions were covered during the course of this interview.*

1. Please describe the evolution of student tracking, including what the original regulations on foreign students were and how that differed, if at all, from section 641 of IIRIRA?
 2. What was CIPRIS and what was the **mission** of CIPRIS?
 3. What was the **relationship of CIPRIS to counterterrorism**?
 4. How did you first become involved in student tracking?
 5. What was your position?
 6. When appointed?
 7. Who asked you to take the position?
 8. What were your marching orders?
 9. What was your impression of the commitment of management to CIPRIS when you first took the job? How much did that commitment change over time?
 10. How much discretion did you have in developing the components and timetable for producing CIPRIS?
 11. In discussing discretion in developing the program, could you explain some of the early discussions on whether the program should only cover state sponsors of terrorism or not? What was your position on that?
 12. What were the key characteristics of CIPRIS?
 13. What was the timetable for developing CIPRIS?
 14. Were you able to stay within the timetable?
 15. According to your timetable, when would CIPRIS have been nationally deployed?
- The pilot project.**
16. When was the pilot deployed? When was it deemed to have fulfilled its mandate?
 17. What were the problems and successes with the pilot?
 18. Did CIPRIS have enough resources to fulfill its mandate? What problems did you encounter?

Please talk about the White House and Congress here.

19. Who supported CIPRIS and your work?
 - a. Within the INS
 - b. Outside the INS
20. Who do you find unhelpful?
 - a. Within the INS
 - b. Outside the INS
21. Did there come a point when the pilot was complete and you and the task force felt ready to move on to a national deployment?
22. Who were the contractors on the project?

23. Were the characteristics you sought to include, like biometric identity cards and automatic checks of financial records, really doable from a technology standpoint? From a financial standpoint?
24. How did the levying of the fee come about?
25. What ultimately happened to CIPRIS?
26. What happened to your position at CIPRIS?
27. Who made the decision to fragment CIPRIS?
28. Who, if you know, influenced that decision?

APPENDIX TWO
Documents Entered into the Record 10/2/03

Law

- U.S. law mandating the creation of a foreign student tracking system, P.L. 104-208, Section 641 (pages 162 (law) and 165 (appropriations) of JKR hearing record)

Internal INS Documents (JKR in possession while in Senate employ)

- DOJ/INS Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1/F-2/M-1/M-2) Student
- 9.26.94: Memorandum to Jamie Gorelick (DAG DOJ) from Louis Freeh (Director Office of Investigative Agency Policies) re improving DOJ's law enforcement capabilities re aliens entry and departures from the U.S.
- 1.01.95: Memorandum on Receipt of Final Report of the Task Force on Foreign Student Controls to HQADN Michael Aytes to Chris Sale, Deputy Commissioner through T.Alexander Aleinkoff, Exec Assoc. Comm'r for Programs and through Louis Crocetti, Jr., Associate Comm'r for Examinations
- 5.11.95: Executive Summary to DOJ DAG from Commissioner INS re Immigration Controls on Foreign Students
- 9.26.95: Status Report on the Foreign Student Controls Task Force to Amy D. Jeffress, Special Assistant to DAG from Chris Sale, Deputy Commissioner INS (transmittal letter and report)
- 10.11.95: INS Commissioner Doris Meissner's Approval for Student Registration Initiative with discussion of key elements
- 12.22.95: Memorandum on Formal Report of the Task Force on Foreign Student Controls to Michael Aytes from Maurice Berez, Task Force Coordinator through Yvonne Lafleur, Chief, Nonimmigrant Branch HQADN
- 12.22.95: INS Final Report by the Task Force on Foreign Student Controls "Controls Governing Foreign Students: and Schools That Admit Them" (served as roadmap for CIPRIS)
- 5.13.96: Ltr from INS Adjudication Officer Rachel Figueroa-Colon to INS Chief of Business and Trade Services Branch Yvonne LaFleur re CIPRIS Task Force Leader Maurice Berez
- 9.30.96: Public Law 104-208, Section 641: Program to Collect Information Relating to Nonimmigrant Foreign Students and Other Exchange Program Recipients.
- 1.8.97: Regulation Notice, Request for volunteers to Participate in a Foreign/Exchange Visitor Program.
- 9.97: Washington Institute for Near East Policy, "U.S. Issuing Visas to Students from Terrorism-Supporting Countries in Middle East to Study Weapons-Related Sciences

- 9.26.97: www.ins.usdoj.gov/cipris/general.htm
- 2.98: President's budget and fact sheets on implementing the President's Immigration Initiative
- 2.9.98: Email from Kenneth Kreutter to Mike Hatcher directing a stop-work on CIPRIS due to funding cuts
- 2.19.98: Fax to Janice Kephart re "the impending death of a national CIPRIS-student tracking system"
- 2.19.98: Ltr from Rep. Charles Schumer to Hon. Janet Reno re student visas and implementation of CIPRIS
- 3.31.98: Ltr from Sen.s Jon Kyl and Rick Santorum to Comm'r Doris Meissner re implementation of CIPRIS (p.176 JKR hearing record)
- 7.16.98: Ltr from Allen Erenbaum, Director of Congressional Relations, INS, to Sen. Jon Kyl re implementation of CIPRIS and inviting staff for a demonstration.
- 8.7.98: Memo to the INS Policy Council from Michael Cronin, Acting Associate commissioner, Programs re the use of the student /exchange visitor card in the CIPRIS Pilot.
- 8.20.98: Ltr from Comm'r Meissner to Sen. Jon Kyl re implementation of CIPRIS (p.177 JKR hearing record)
- 8.21.98: CIPRIS briefing materials received by JKR at demonstration, with notes
- 12.10.98: INS Memorandum on Coordinated Interagency partnership regulating International Students (CIPRIS) for the Deputy Commissioner from Maurice Berez, Project Lead through Executive Associate Comm'r for Policy and Planning
- 2.5.99: DOS Memorandum Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services Nancy Sambaiew to CA/EX Frank Moses re CIPRIS requesting DOS support in maintaining CIPRIS timetable with signature of Moses approving
- 2.22.2000: Ltr from Sen. Spencer Abraham and 20 other Senators to Doris Meissner re INS Student Tracking system (postpone levy of fees)

Congressional documents

- 10.9.2001: U.S. House Memorandum from Keith Ausbrook and Brian Zimmer, Senior Investigators for House Judiciary Committee to Members, Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims re Subcommittee Oversight Hearing on INS Information Technology
- 2.24.98: Relevant portions of Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Government Information 1998 hearing record: "Five Years After the World Trade Center: Foreign Terrorist Operations in America"
- other relevant hearings/staff reports or memos

NonProfit Reports

- Dec. '99: Washington Institute for Near East Policy "Tracking Students from Terrorism-Supporting Middle-Eastern Countries: An Update" by Benjamin Orbach

Articles

- 1.8.97: DOJ/INS "Request For Volunteers to Participate in a Foreign Student/Exchange Visitor Program Pilot" [INS No. 1800-96]
- 3.9.98: U.S. News & World Report "American Colleges are 'Weapons U.' for Iraq; No one tracks thousands of students from terrorism sponsoring countries" (mentions CIPRIS) by Douglas Pasternak
- Summer 1997: International Educator "Trial Balloon or Trojan Horse? For CIPRIS Pilot Schools the Future Is Now" by Kyna Rubin
- 9.19.97: Chronicle of Higher Education "A Close Watch on Foreign Students: U.S. Tests a New System That Critics Call Orwellian" by Amy Rubin