

Screened	By:
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02-02-2011	DOCID:

CREST

(CIA Records Search Tool)

Executive Overview

A tool for searching and viewing
records released by
CIA and NGA under
Executive Order 12958 Section 3.3.



Property of U.S. Government
Do Not Remove



August 5, 2008

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CREST
Document Retrieval
Overview

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What is CREST?

- **CIA Records Search Tool**
- Database of U.S. government records released by the CIA and the NGA
- EO 12958 and other directives
- Technical
 - Laserfiche
 - Windows

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What's on CREST?

- ~ 657K docs
- ~10.5 M pages
- Types of docs
 - Memos (internal, external)
 - Reports (finished intel)
 - Letters
 - Cables

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Collections

- Consolidated Translations
- General CIA Records
- Ground Photo Caption Cards
- Joint Publication Research Service
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
- National Intelligence Survey
- Scientific Abstracts
- STARGATE
- Berlin Tunnel

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Types of Searches

- Basic Text
- Advanced Text
- Metadata Field
- Combination Text and Field
- Fuzzy
- Advanced Field

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Basic Text Search

- No more than two words or phrases
- Operatives
 - And
 - Or
 - Not
 - Within
- Combination

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Advanced Text Search

- More than two words or phrases
- Operatives
 - & (And) India & Pakistan
 - | (Or) India | Pakistan
 - - (Not) India - Pakistan
 - ^# (Within) ^5 India & Pakistan
 - () (Parentheses) (India & Pakistan) – Central Intelligence Bulletin
- Combination

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Metadata Field Search

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| • Document Title | • Parent Doc# |
| • Name (ESDN) | • Folder Title |
| • Document Date | • Job Number |
| • Orig Classification | • Box Number |
| • Document Type | • Folder Number |
| • Pages | • Document Number |
| • Copyright | • Media ID |
| • Decision | • Collection |
| • Exemption Code | • Year Released |

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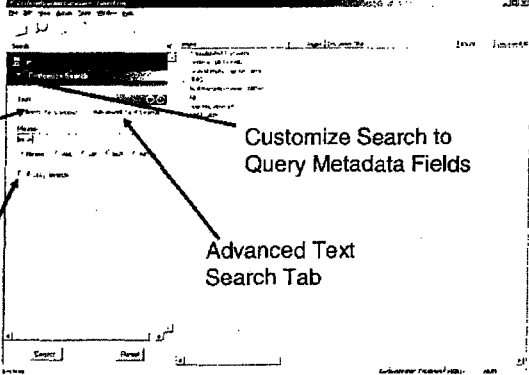
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Search Window Tabs






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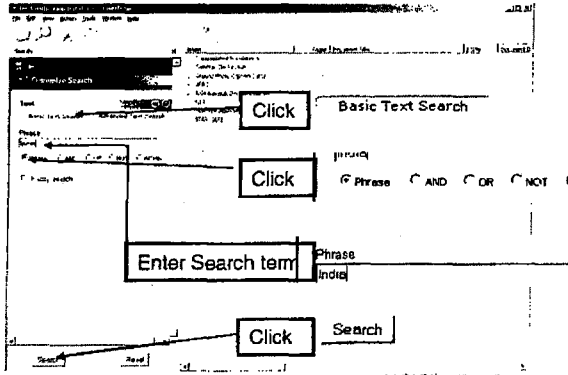
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Basic Text Search





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CIA Declassification Center Search Results Window



- Hit List in Windows Explorer View Details
- Sortable Hit List
- Re-sizable Hit List
- Document Metadata Fields
- Number of Hits with Number of Occurrences
- Displays Occurrences within Document

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CIA Declassification Center Search Results Window



The screenshot displays the search results interface. At the top, there are navigation icons and a search bar. The main area contains a table with the following columns: 'Doc#', 'Document Title', and 'Occurrences'. Below the table, there is a section titled 'Number of Responsive Documents & Number of Occurrences' which includes a search bar and a 'Search' button. To the right of this section, there is a box labeled 'Hit w/page No. of highlighted doc above' with an arrow pointing to a specific row in the table.

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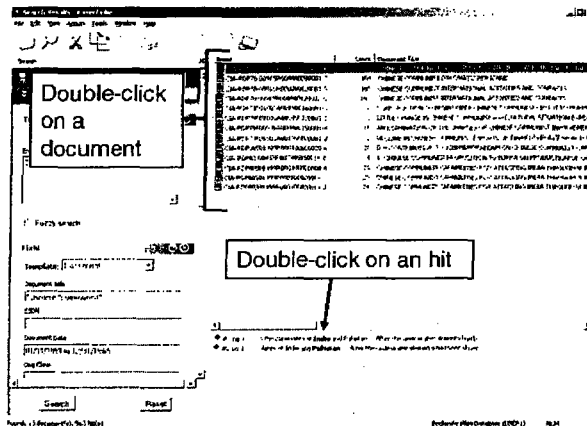


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Open Documents



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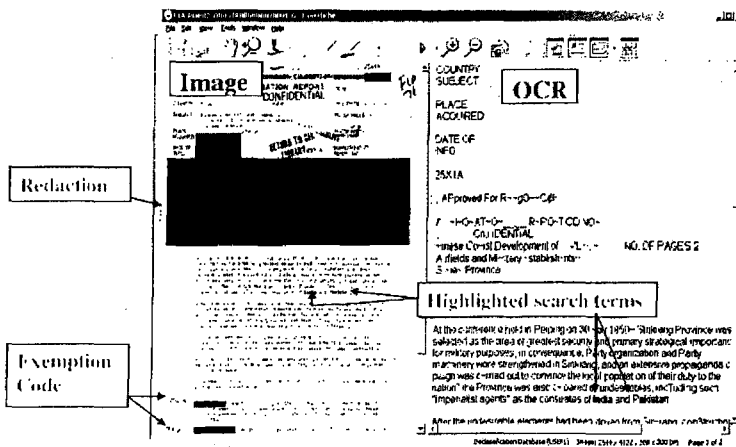


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Viewing Documents



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CIA Declassification Center Advanced Text Search



Click Advanced Text Search To get

Enter search terms using operatives (&, |, -, and ^#) and Wild Cards

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CIA Declassification Center Search Example



Enter search terms	
India & Pakistan	All docs with both India and Pakistan
India Pakistan	All docs with either India or Pakistan
India - Pakistan	All docs with India but not Pakistan
India ^5 Pakistan	All docs with India within 5 words of Pakistan

Click Search

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Metadata Field Search

- Document Title
- Name (ESDN)
- Document Date
- Orig Classification
- Document Type
- Pages
- Copyright
- Decision
- Exemption Code
- Parent Doc#
- Folder Title
- Job Number
- Box Number
- Folder Number
- Document Number
- Media ID
- Collection
- Year Released

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Metadata Field Search

The screenshot shows the search interface with two callout boxes:

- Click [icon] for Customize Search.** This points to a small icon in the search bar area.
- Click [checkbox] for [field name]** This points to a list of search fields with checkboxes. The fields listed are: Name, Document/Folder Name, Full, Information, Home Name, Sticky Note, Creation Date, Multimedia Data, Electronic Documents, Map Page, Classification, Title, Created By, Version, and Original Doc Number.
- Use Scroll bar to expose all index fields** This points to the scroll bar on the right side of the search results area.

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CIA Declassification Center Metadata Field Search Example



Search Criteria:

- Text** contains words "India" and "Pakistan"
- Title** contains "Chinese" and "Communist" in that order
- Dates** are between 1 Jan 1950 and 31 Dec 1965
- Click **Search**

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CIA Declassification Center Displaying Other Documents in a Folder



**Right click on the document,
e.g. CIA-RDP80S01499R000100020019-8**

Click

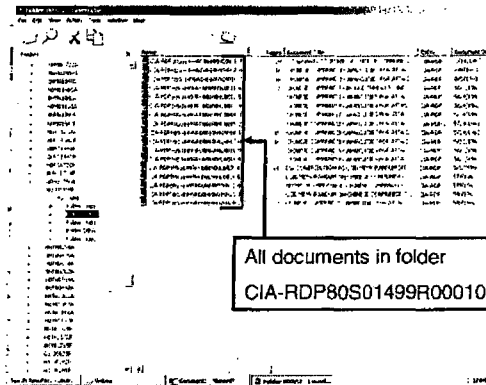
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CIA Declassification Center Displaying Other Documents in a Folder



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CIA Declassification Center Fuzzy Search



- Finds similar words or phrases
- Not recommended
- Time consuming
- Useful because of bad OCR
- Two types
 - Number of letters
 - Percentage of word

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CIA Declassification Center Fuzzy Search



Click Fuzzy Search

Enter search term

Number of letters

or

Percentage of word

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CIA Declassification Center Fuzzy Search



Search result contains documents in which India is misspelled or was OCR'd incorrectly. Search hits are in bold type, e.g., lda-; mnda; sindi; ini; idi; etc.

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CIA Declassification Center Browsing CREST



- Time consuming
- Combine with other search strategy
- Useful in some situations
 - OCR bad
 - Finds documents as organized in CREST
- Like Windows Explorer
- Expand hierarchy

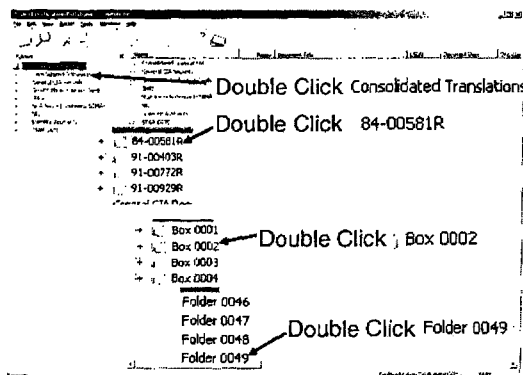
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CIA Declassification Center Browsing CREST: Example



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