2 August 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: CIA Fine Arts Commission

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Sculpture for the Agency.

Attached is a petition that I recently circulated regarding the new sculptures being placed at the entrance to the new building and in the courtyard outside the cafeteria. The signers are primarily from SOVA, with a couple of exceptions. I don't know how other divisions feel about the new sculpture, but the depth of sentiment among these signators is obvious. We would be interested in finding out how much the sculptures cost and the operating budget of the Fine Arts Commission.



Approved for Release Date _____JAN 1993



We, the undersigned, register our strong disapproval of the alleged artwork going up around the agency headquarters. It is unconscionable to us, in an era of massive budget deficits, the homeless, and likely reductions in the defense budget, that funds should be so grossly misappropriated. The expenditure of funds on any type of art would be inappropriate under these circumstances. The particular examples of art being forced upon us in this case come in for special scorn and ridicule because of their meaninglessness. Such meaningless art is out of place at an institution whose mission is to defend the meaning of the nation in the form of the constitution. The displeasing qualities of this art degrade rather than enhance our workplace and we have more important things to discuss than expensive conversation pieces.

We suggest that, if there is any real value to them at all, the sculptures be sold and our tax dollars be put to better use. The various geometric patterns strewn about the corridors would also be well disposed of in this manner. Some examples of employee art from the various exhibits that have appeared would better serve to decorate our halls and use our limited funds morally and wisely.





