

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
ARLINGTON, VA 22230



Office of
Inspector General

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 20, 1995 [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED], Special Agent

VIA: [REDACTED] Special Agent-in-Charge
Investigations Section

SUBJECT: Theft of [REDACTED] at University of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

TO: Case No. I94070032

On July 19, 1994, we were informed by Dr. [REDACTED] of NSF's Division of Mathematical Sciences, a theft of [REDACTED] had recently occurred at the [REDACTED], located on the campus of the University of [REDACTED]. The stolen equipment, valued at approximately \$57,000, included eight personal [REDACTED] a [REDACTED] a [REDACTED], and other items. All of this equipment was purchased with NSF funds under grant no. [REDACTED].

We contacted the [REDACTED] police department, which was conducting an investigation into the theft. According to detectives, the equipment was stolen from [REDACTED] offices on July 9, 1994. There were no signs of forced entry found, and detectives speculated that entry was gained by the use of spare or missing keys. After interviews with [REDACTED] workers, a former [REDACTED] worker was identified as a suspect, but the suspect had vanished from the area and could not be located. [REDACTED] detectives told us they had no further leads.

At OIG's request, the [REDACTED] police department entered the serial numbers of the missing equipment into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) to increase the possibility of recovering it. [REDACTED] police also informed us that security at the [REDACTED] facility would be tightened to prevent future thefts. However, on January 3, 1995, another, similar theft of [REDACTED] equipment again occurred at the [REDACTED]. This stolen equipment, valued at between \$13,000 - \$15,000, was bought to replace the equipment missing from the first theft. [REDACTED] detectives had no suspects in this latter theft, but stated they would inform us of any developments in the case.

Due to a lack of investigative leads, and because local law enforcement will inform us of any new developments, this case does not warrant further OIG investigation at this time.

This case is closed.