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# *China: Origins of COVID-19 Outbreak Remain Unknown*

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE | 27 MARCH 2020

(b)(1); (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(e)

<sup>i</sup> (U) For this product, we define genetic engineering as using a set of biotechnologies to manipulate or “edit” an organism or virus’s genome; it does not include directed evolution by other means such as the use of repeated passage through animals or cell culture.

~~Classified By:~~ [redacted]  
~~Derived from Multiple Sources~~  
~~Declassify on:~~ [redacted]

(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); (b)(6)

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(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(e)

- > (U) WIV and Wuhan CDC scientists collect SARS-like coronaviruses from bats in the wild, according to a news article and a Chinese pre-published academic article.<sup>20 21</sup> While collecting coronavirus samples, a Wuhan CDC researcher was accidentally exposed to bat blood and urine and subsequently self-quarantined for 14 days, according to the same Chinese pre-published academic article.<sup>22</sup> The Wuhan CDC's discarded infected animal tissue samples could be the source of the initial COVID-19 patient infections, according to the same source.<sup>23</sup>

(b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(d)

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

The next 3 pages are withheld in full pursuant to Exemptions 1, 3 (10 USC 424 + 50 USC 3024(i)), and (7)(E) and are not provided.

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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(U) Prepared by

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(b)(3):10 USC 424;  
(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

The final 5 pages are withheld in full pursuant to Exemptions 1, 3 (10 USC 424 + 50 USC 3024(i)), and (7)(E) and are not provided.

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(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)