



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION DIVISION
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155**

Ref: 21-FR-0964
March 29, 2024

Mr. John Greenwald
The Black Vault
27305 West Live Oak Road
Suite 1203
Castaic, United States 91384

Dear Mr. John Greenwald:

This is a final response to your May 5, 2021 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience. We received your request from the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency on February 3, 2022, and assigned it FOIA case number 21-FR-0964. We ask that you use this number when referring to your request.

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence & Security (OUSD(I&S)), conducted an additional search of their records systems and located 2 documents totaling 2 pages determined to be responsive to your request. The Initial Denial Authority, has determined that portions of the pages are exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), as disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of individuals. Please note that we have considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing records and applying exemptions under the FOIA in the processing of this request.

In this instance, fees for processing your request were below the threshold for requiring payment. Please note that fees may be assessed on future requests.

If you have any questions or concerns about the foregoing or about the processing of your request, please do not hesitate to contact the Action Officer assigned to your request, Tyra Howard, at (571) 372-0467 or tyra.d.howard.civ@mail.mil. Additionally, if you have concerns about service received by our office, please contact a member of our Leadership Team at 571-372-0498 or Toll Free at 866-574-4970.

Should you wish to inquire about mediation services, you may contact the OSD/JS FOIA Public Liaison, Toni Fuentes, at 571-372-0462, or by email at OSD.FOIALiaison@mail.mil. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, MD 20740
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Telephone: 202-741-5770
Fax: 202-741-5769
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

You have the right to appeal to the appellate authority, Ms. Joo Chung, Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy Civil Liberties, and Transparency (PCLT), Office of the Secretary of Defense, at the following address: 4800 Mark Center Drive, ATTN: PCLFD, FOIA Appeals, Mailbox #24, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

Your appeal must be postmarked within 90 calendar days of the date of this response. Alternatively, you may email your appeal to osd.foia-appeal@mail.mil. If you use email, please include the words "FOIA Appeal" in the subject of the email. Please also reference FOIA case number 21-FR-0964 in any appeal correspondence.

We appreciate your patience in the processing of your request. As stated previously, please contact the Action Officer assigned to your request, Tyra Howard, and reference FOIA case number 21-FR-0964, if you have any questions or concerns.


Sincerely,

Stephen L. Fisher
Stephanie L. Carr
For Chief

Enclosures:
As stated

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: <http://www.theblackvault.com>

From: Elizondo, Luis D CIV (US) <luis.d.elizondo.civ@mail.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 8:30 AM
To: Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: DRAFT DepSECDEF letter (UNCLASSIFIED)

Perfecto!

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

From: Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL (US)
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 8:19 AM
To: Elizondo, Luis D CIV (US)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DRAFT DepSECDEF letter (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Getting spun back up. Will read and get thoughts back today or tomorrow (at Ft Meade half the day today).

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizondo, Luis D CIV (US)
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:23 AM
To: Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL (US) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: DRAFT DepSECDEF letter (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Greetings Neil,

Per SECDEF's Front Office guidance to you and me, I took the liberty of drafting a memo at the Unclassified level that helps you better assume the new responsibilities for AATIP. At your convenience, please review (it's very short on purpose) and let me know if you want me to put more meet on it.
[REDACTED] same with you please...No pride in authorship, just want to make sure we answer the mail for the front office.

Standing by...

V/R
Lue

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

5000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-5000

MEMORANDUM FOR: RECORD

SUBJECT: Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program

The Department has maintained a strategic advantage over its adversaries by remaining cognizant of, and investing in new, emerging technologies, especially in the area of aerospace. In 2008, U.S. Congress provided DoD funding for the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP), focusing on beyond next generation technologies in the areas of lift, propulsion, cloaking, and human effects. DoD continues to consider AATIP a priority, especially given recent advancements with Unmanned Aerial Surveillance (UAS) platforms that are becoming widely available.

As the Principal Staff Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for all intelligence and security functions, the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence has a demonstrated interest for any and all reporting involving anomalous UAS threats from the Departments and Defense Agencies for the purposes of intelligence analysis and exploitation. As such, all DoD elements are hereby required to provide a courtesy copy of any data and information obtained from the field that relates to unexplained or unknown aerial systems to the Director of Defense Intelligence for Technical Collection & Special Programs, Office of the under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

Please direct any questions to (b) (6)