



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 6, 2020

Case No. F-2015-05056

Ms. Kate Bailey
Judicial Watch
425 Third St. SW. Suite 800
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Ms. Bailey:

We refer you to our letter dated February 25, 2020, regarding the release of certain Department of State (“Department”) materials under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552.

Upon further review, the Department has determined that additional material may be released in six documents that were previously released in part. Of these six documents, five documents may again be released in part and one document may be released in full. All released material is enclosed. In addition, the Department has decided to remove FOIA Exemption 5 as a basis for protecting certain withheld information in two documents (C05791052 and C05790432). However, that information continues to be protected by FOIA Exemption 6. These documents are enclosed with revised markings.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made excisions, the applicable exemptions are marked on each document. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released in the enclosed pages.

If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Trial Attorney Andrew Warden at (202) 616-5084 or Andrew.Warden@usdoj.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan C. Weetman".

Susan C. Weetman
Deputy Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2011 5:01 PM
To: H
Subject: Landler

I bugged him about his piece. This is what he said: "Donilon said flatly that he was the Paulson of this administration when it comes to China."

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 8:21 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: CIA comment

FYI

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

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 8:15 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Reines, Philippe I
Subject: CIA comment

B6

Here's what CIA is telling reporters off the record about findings in general, NOT about any finding in particular:

Presidential findings establish a framework of legal authorities for covert action. They can authorize specific actions and/or can establish authorities under which future actions might be taken AFTER permissions after given to undertake them. To use a totally absurd example, a finding could authorize me to take a vacation to the Caribbean in August—or it might authorize me to plan a vacation but require me to go to the White House for permission on how I would get there and what I would do when I arrived.

RELEASE IN PART B5,B6

From: Donilon, Thomas E. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 11:14 AM
To: H

B6

[redacted]

B5

Tom (from 40degrees and Sunny Idaho).

RELEASE IN PART B5,B6

From: H <hrod17@clintonemail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 5:28 PM
To: 'Thomas_E_Donilon' [redacted]
Subject: Re: [redacted]

B5

Thx.
Are you in the yurt yet?

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

From: Donilon, Thomas E. [redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 11:14 AM
To: H
Subject: [redacted]

B6

B5

Tom (from 40degrees and Sunny Idaho).

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Barnett, Robert <[redacted]>
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2012 10:42 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Fw: Idea

B6

Long time. I miss you. I welcome your suggestion as to how best to answer this. It is coming. We start at

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

From: H [mailto:HDR22@clintonemail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2012 10:16 AM
To: Barnett, Robert
Subject: Re: Idea

I appreciate your following up.

Also, Jake and I were discussing the Benghazi security issue since he tried to tell the WH Biden would be asked about it but they didn't think so. Might be good for you to call Jake too.

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

From: Barnett, Robert [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2012 10:08 AM
To: H
Subject: Re: Idea

B6

We spoke. Thank you.

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

From: H [mailto:HDR22@clintonemail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2012 07:47 AM
To: Barnett, Robert
Cc: 'pennrhodeen' [redacted]
Subject: Idea

B6

Bob--

A friend of mine, Penn Rhodeen, copied above, has an idea about how to discuss the 47% remark and asked me if I could give him a contact who could pass it on.

So, I'm connecting the two of you and wishing all of us a good debate!

Onward-----H

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RELEASE IN PART B5,B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 11:33 PM
To: H
Cc: Abedin, Huma
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]

B5

sigh

From: Reed, Bruce N. [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 7:20 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Subject: [REDACTED]

B6

B5

Cheryl –

[REDACTED]

B5

[REDACTED]

B6

Sorry about Rio, and let me know if we can help find someone else –
Bruce

RELEASE IN PART B6

From: Campbell, Kurt M <CampbellKM@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 8, 2012 8:22 AM
To: H
Subject:

B6

B6