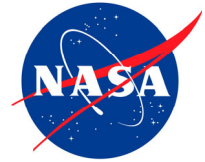


National Aeronautics and Space Administration



**Headquarters**

Washington, DC 20546-0001

September 16, 2021

Reply to attn. of: Office of Communications

Mr. John Greenewald  
27305 W. Live Oak Road  
Suite #1203  
Castaic, CA 91384  
[john@greenewald.com](mailto:john@greenewald.com)

Re: NASA FOIA Tracking Number 21-HQ-F-00660

Dear Mr. Greenewald,

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), dated August 10, 2021, and received in this office on August 11, 2021. You seek the “‘OIIR Weekly Update’ email sent out on July 25, 2021.”

In response to your request NASA’s Office International and Interagency Relations (OIIR) conducted a search using the information provided in your request. That search identified the responsive record. We reviewed it under the FOIA to determine whether it may be disclosed to you. Based on that review, this office is providing the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ page(s) are released in full (RIF);  
  2   page(s) are released in part (RIP);  
\_\_\_\_\_ page(s) are withheld in full (WIF);  
\_\_\_\_\_ page(s) not provided were referred to another entity.

NASA redacted from the enclosed record certain information pursuant to the following FOIA exemptions:

**Exemption 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5)**

Exemption 5 protects “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). Courts interpret Exemption 5 to incorporate various privileges. NASA invokes the deliberative process and presidential communications privileges to withhold portions of the enclosed record.

The deliberative process privilege is intended to protect the decision-making process of government agencies and to encourage frank discussion of legal and policy issues. The scope of the privilege covers documents reflecting advisory opinions, recommendations, and deliberations comprising part of a process by which government decisions and policies are formulated. To qualify for the deliberative process privilege, a document must be both “pre-decisional” and “deliberative.” Documents are pre-decisional when they precede an agency decision and are prepared in order to assist an agency in arriving at its decision. Documents are deliberative when they comprise part of the process by which government decisions are made.

The presidential communications privilege protects advisory communications between the President and his close advisers. This privilege also extends to information prepared for a presidentially created committee organized to advise the President on policy. In this case, NASA is protecting information concerning the activities and agendas of such advisory committees.

NASA, considered the foreseeable harm that would result from the release of this withheld information and determined that its release would hinder the decision-making process, create a chilling effect on deliberations, lead to uninformed decision-making, and public confusion. Please note that none of the withheld information mentions or relates to unidentified flying objects (UFOs) or unidentified aerial phenomena (UAPs), which we understand has been the topic of your recent requests to NASA.

#### **Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)**

Exemption 6 allows withholding of “personnel and medical files and *similar files* the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)(emphasis added). NASA invokes exemption 6 to protect the cell phone number of a NASA employee.

#### **Appeal**

You have the right to appeal my action regarding your request. Your appeal must be received within 90 days of the date of this response. Please send your appeal to:

Administrator  
NASA Headquarters  
Executive Secretariat  
ATTN: FOIA Appeals  
MS 9R17  
300 E Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20546

Both the envelope and letter of appeal should be clearly marked, “Appeal under the Freedom of Information Act.” You must also include a copy of your initial request, the adverse determination, and any other correspondence with the FOIA office. In order to expedite the

appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this initial determination should be reversed. Additional information on submitting an appeal is set forth in the NASA FOIA regulations at 14 C.F.R. § 1206.700.

### **Assistance and Dispute Resolution Services**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [stephanie.k.fox@nasa.gov](mailto:stephanie.k.fox@nasa.gov). For further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request you may also contact Nikki Gramian, Principal Agency FOIA Officer, at [nikki.n.gramian@nasa.gov](mailto:nikki.n.gramian@nasa.gov).

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

**Important:** Please note that contacting any agency official including myself, NASA's Principal Agency FOIA Officer, and/or OGIS is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90 day appeal clock.

Sincerely,




Stephanie K. Fox  
Chief FOIA Public Liaison

Enclosure

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>

**McKay, Meredith (HQ-TA000)**

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**From:** Feldstein, Karen C. (HQ-TA000)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 25, 2021 5:08 PM  
**To:** Cabana, Robert D. (HQ-Associate Administrator) (KSC-AI000)  
**Cc:** Melroy, Pamela A. (HQ-AB000); Saunders, Melanie (HQ-AA000); Quinn, Susie Perez (HQ-AH000); Dalton, Bale (HQ-AH000); Lal, Bhavya (HQ-AA000); Cremins, Tom (HQ-AJ000); Etkind, Marc R. (HQ-NA000); Stephenson, Johnny F. (MSFC-NA000); Jacobs, Bob (HQ-NA000); Kerwin, Mary D. (HQ-IA000); Brown, Alicia N. (HQ-VA000); Flaherty, Christopher J. (HQ-VA030); Zurbuchen, Thomas H. (HQ-DA000); Lueders, Kathryn L. (KSC-CA000); McKay, Meredith (HQ-TA000); Swails, Casey L. (HQ-LE030)  
**Subject:** OIIR Weekly Update

Bob,

Below is a list of top-level, OIIR-supported activities of interest this week and some upcoming activities.

**National Security Council (NSC) b5**

**Working Group:** On July 27, the NSC will hold a b5 Working Group b5

b5

**NSC Restricted b5 Meeting:** On July 28, the NSC will hold its weekly in-person restricted b5 meeting to continue the development of b5

**OSTP National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Research Security Meeting:** At a meeting on July 28, the NSTC Research Security Subcommittee will continue developing b5

**British and Iraqi Ambassadors at OFT-2 Launch:** On July 30, the British Ambassador to the U.S., Karen Pierce, and Iraq's Ambassador to the U.S., Fareed Yasseen, will the Orbital Flight Test 2 (OFT-2) launch at the invitation of the Administrator.

**SMD AA Travel to French Guiana:** On July 30, Dr. Zurbuchen, on the invitation of Arianespace CEO Stephane Israel, will attend a commercial launch from the Kourou Space Port in French Guiana. While in Kourou, he will visit launch facilities in preparation for the launch of JWST and meet with Mr. Israel and the ESA Director of Space Transportation, Daniel Néuenschwander. While in transit, Dr. Zurbuchen will participate in an airborne science flight of the NASA Laser Vegetation Imaging Sensor (LVIS) mission. Dr. Zurbuchen plans to highlight JWST as well as LVIS on social media.

**NSC Homeland and Critical Infrastructure Resilience (HCIR) Meeting:** On July 30, the NSC will host the next HCIR b5 meeting b5

b5

NSC b5 Working Group: On July 30, the NSC will hold a b5  
b5

**Upcoming Activities**

| AUGUST 2021              |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Aug 4-5<br>(Proposed)    | Administrator virtual meeting with President, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency President               |
| Aug 4-5                  | ISS Advisory Committee joint meeting with Roscosmos Advisory Expert Council (virtual)                    |
| Aug 5                    | Administrator Nelson meeting with Director, National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)                         |
| Aug 11 (to be confirmed) | OSTP Director roundtable with academia to discuss implementation of b5<br>b5                             |
| Aug 17                   | Briefing to Administrator on Task Force Report on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena                          |
| Aug 18                   | Administrator Nelson meeting with NOAA Administrator   |
| Aug 22-26                | 36th Space Symposium, Colorado Springs   |
| Aug 25-Sep 3             | UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)  |
| Aug 30-Sep 4             | SMD AA Zurbuchen travel to Europe for meetings with CNES and ESA and remarks at the Swiss Economic Forum |

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Regards,  
Karen

*Karen C. Feldstein*  
Associate Administrator for  
International and Interagency Relations  
NASA Headquarters  
300 E St SW, Washington DC 20546  
Tel: (202) 358-0400  
Mobile: b6