

[redacted]
From: donotreply@nsa.gov
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2014 1:43 AM
To: donotreply@nsa.gov
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FOIA Request (Web form submission)

Name: John Greenewald

Email: [redacted]

Company: Mr.

Postal Address: [redacted]

Postal 2nd Line: None

Postal City: [redacted]

Postal State-prov: [redacted]

Zip Code: [redacted]

Country: United States of America

Home Phone: [redacted]

Work Phone: [redacted]

Records Requested: To whom it may concern,

This is a non-commercial request made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 5 U.S.C. S 552. My FOIA requester status as a "representative of the news media" however due to your agency's denial of this status, I hereby submit this request as an "All other" requester.

I prefer electronic delivery of the requested material either via email to [redacted] or via CD-ROM or DVD via postal mail. Please contact me should this FOIA request should incur a charge.

On January 21, 1968, a US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashed into the frozen ocean in North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base. An escalating cabin fire had forced the crew to eject from the aircraft. The nuclear payload ruptured and was dispersed during the subsequent explosion and fire atop the ice, resulting in widespread radioactive contamination.

I respectfully request a copy of all releasable documents, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to this event, which includes, but is not limited to, letters, reports, photographs, memos, etc.

Thank you so much for your time, and I am very much looking forward to your response.


Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.

Approved for Release by NSA on 11-21-2018, FOIA Case # 102804

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>**



(b)(6)



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

(b)(6)

FOIA Case: 79540
29 October 2014

JOHN GREENEWALD



Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is an initial response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 25 October 2014, which was received by this office on 27 October 2014, for records on the "January 21, 1968, a US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashed into the frozen ocean on North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base. An escalating cabin fire had forced the crew to eject from the aircraft. The nuclear payload ruptured and was dispersed during the subsequent explosion and fire atop the ice, resulting in widespread radioactive contamination. Copy of all releasable documents, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to this event, which includes, but is not limited to, letters, reports, photographs, memos, etc.."

This letter acknowledges that we have received your request and provides some administrative information. Your request has been assigned Case Number . Due to a significant increase in the number of requests being received by this Agency, we are experiencing delays in processing. We will begin to process your request and will respond to you again as soon as we are able.

Correspondence related to your request should include the case number assigned to your request, which is included in the first paragraph of this letter. Your letter should be addressed to National Security Agency, FOIA Office (DJ4), 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Ft. George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248 or may be sent by facsimile to 443-479-3612. If sent by fax, it should be marked for the attention of the FOIA office. The telephone number of the FOIA office is 301-688-6527.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Blalock".

FOIA Customer Representative

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36
(b)(5)

Page Denied

To: DL archives (ALIAS) DJP6 [REDACTED] DL ERM (ALIAS) DC [REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED] NSA-DJ4 USA CIV
Doc ID: 6641572
Sent: Thur 7/14/2016 3:54:12 PM
Subject: (U) FOIA Action: Case 79540 - Suspense Date 28 July 2016
[79540 Request.pdf](#)
[FOIA Cost Estimate DJ6.docx](#)

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

Good Afternoon-

(U) **SUSPENSE:** 26 July 2016

(U) **ACTION:** Please conduct a reasonable search for records related to the crash noted in the attached FOIA request. Please complete the attached FOIA Cost Estimate form documenting the time expended in your office's search.

(U) **INFORMATION:** Please do not expend more than two hours in your search.

Thank you,

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(U//~~FOUO~~)

[REDACTED]
DJ41
FOIA, Initial Processing Team
Phone: 966-4073/s [REDACTED]

~~Privacy Sensitive any misuse or unauthorized access may result in disciplinary action~~

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

[REDACTED]

From: donotreply@nsa.gov
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2014 1:43 AM
To: donotreply@nsa.gov
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOIA Request (Web form submission)

Name: John Greenewald

Email: [REDACTED]

Company: Mr.

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Postal 2nd Line: None

Postal City: [REDACTED]

Postal State-prov: [REDACTED]

Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Country: United States of America

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

Work Phone: [REDACTED]

Records Requested: To whom it may concern,

This is a non-commercial request made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 5 U.S.C. S 552. My FOIA requester status as a "representative of the news media" however due to your agency's denial of this status, I hereby submit this request as an "All other" requester.

I prefer electronic delivery of the requested material either via email to [REDACTED] or via CD-ROM or DVD via postal mail. Please contact me should this FOIA request should incur a charge.

On January 21, 1968, a US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashed into the frozen ocean in North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base. An escalating cabin fire had forced the crew to eject from the aircraft. The nuclear payload ruptured and was dispersed during the subsequent explosion and fire atop the ice, resulting in widespread radioactive contamination.

I respectfully request a copy of all releasable documents, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to this event, which includes, but is not limited to, letters, reports, photographs, memos, etc.

Thank you so much for your time, and I am very much looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.



(b)(6)

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FOIA Cost Estimate

FOIA Case: 79540

DATE: 14 July 2016

REPLY TO ATTN OF: DJ4

SUBJECT: (U) ESTIMATE OF COSTS FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA) REQUEST - ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: DJ6 and [REDACTED] (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(U) Please document the manpower costs that your office would incur (or did incur) by searching for the information requested in the attached correspondence. Please perform a search, **expending only up to 2 hours**. If after 2 hours, the search is not complete, please estimate the remaining time over 2 hours that it would take to complete your search. Please note that your searches and estimates must include holdings in both your office files and your office's records stored at the [REDACTED] Records Center

(U) After reviewing your cost estimate, if applicable, and corresponding with the requester, DJ4 will notify you if a further search for the materials must be conducted.

(U) Please complete **all** applicable information on the following pages, providing as much detail as possible, and return the completed form to DJ4 by 28 July 2016. If the cost estimate/search cannot be completed within the allotted time frame, please notify Cindy Blacker (Chief, DJ41 - [REDACTED]) or, in her absence, John Chapman (Chief, DJ4 - [REDACTED]) by email or phone of the reasons for the delay and the expected date of completion.

(U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]

FOIA CASE OFFICER

DJ41, 966-4073

[REDACTED]

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

Encls:
a/s

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FOIA Case: 79540

When responding, please complete ALL applicable blanks below.

1. NO RECORDS:

____ I reasonably believe that my organization does not have records in our office files or in the Records Center that are responsive to the request; therefore, I am not conducting a search or providing a search/cost estimate. The time expended to reach this decision was _____ (please enter the actual time in minutes against grade, e.g. 15 min/GS13),

2. SEARCH/NO RECORDS FOUND (within the 2 hours):

____ No responsive records were found in our files or in the Records Center, within the allotted 2 hours; no additional search is necessary (please enter actual time expended on page 3).

3. SEARCH COMPLETED/RECORDS FOUND (within the 2 hours):

____ All responsive records are attached, which were located within the allotted 2 hours (please enter actual time expended on page 3).

4. PARTIAL SEARCH COMPLETED/SOME RECORDS FOUND (within the 2 hours)/ADDITIONAL SEARCH REQUIRED:

____ An initial search of 2 hours was performed, and the responsive records located to date are attached. Additional time is required to complete the search and determine if there are additional responsive records. My additional search costs are estimated on pages 3 & 4.

5. PARTIAL SEARCH COMPLETED/NO RECORDS LOCATED (within the 2 hours)/ADDITIONAL SEARCH REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF RESPONSIVE RECORDS EXIST:

____ An initial search of 2 hours was performed which did not locate records but additional time is required to determine if any responsive records exist. My additional search costs are estimated on pages 3 & 4.

(U//~~FOUO~~) _____
Signature/Office/Secure Phone/Date

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FOIA Case: 79540

SHOW DETAILS of ACTUAL/ESTIMATED COSTS FOR SEARCH

a. (U) List the various organizations/divisions in your directorate (e.g., S2A, I71), which contributed to your evaluation:

b. (U) Briefly describe the types of records that are/may be responsive (e.g., correspondence, intelligence reports, etc.):

c. (U) Indicate the **NUMBER OF FILES** which were or would have to be searched for each category of file listed below (e.g., 2 file drawers and 1 safe):

_____ file drawers	_____ file cabinets
_____ large flippers	_____ safes
_____ desk drawers	_____ shinn boxes
_____ small flippers	

d. (U) Tell us the accessibility of the responsive files:

_____ Files were/are centrally located
_____ Files were/must be recalled from storage
_____ Files were/are contained in readily accessible folders
_____ Files were/are scattered throughout several folders, drawers, cabinets, and would require a page-by-page search for proper retrieval
_____ Files were/are located in various offices
_____ Files were/are organized chronologically rather than by subject matter

e. (U) Other unique conditions that affect/affected the processing of this request:

f. (U) Machine/media files that were or will be searched:

_____ Databases, e-mails, CD Rom, DVD, Video/Audio tapes, limited access servers and the NSA Web (restricted web pages). Briefly describe system: _____

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FOIA Case: 79540

g. (U) Indicate the number of systems/media which were or would have to be searched for each category listed below (e.g., 2 classified workstations and 1 unclassified workstation):

_____ Databases	_____ CD Rom/DVD
_____ Laptop	_____ Video tape
_____ Classified workstation	_____ Audio tape
_____ Unclassified workstation	_____ Servers

h. (U) **ACTUAL SEARCH COST:** If a complete search or partial search was conducted within the 2 hours, please show actual time below. Also, please complete those applicable items shown in "Attachment 1" below.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hours of Search</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
_____ E9/GS8&below	_____ x	\$20.00 =	_____
_____ 01-06/GS9-15	_____ x	\$44.00 =	_____
_____ 07/SCE/SLE/SLP	_____ x	\$75.00 =	_____

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONSIVE PAGES LOCATED: _____

i. (U) Complete if required: **Estimate** the additional number of hours, over 2, that you believe are required to complete a reasonable search.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hours of Search</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
E9/GS8&below	_____ x	\$20.00 =	_____
01-06/GS9-15	_____ x	\$44.00 =	_____
07/SCE/SLE/SLP	_____ x	\$75.00 =	_____

TOTAL COST OF ESTIMATE IS: _____

(U)/~~FOUO~~ _____

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FOIA Case: 79540

Signature/Office/Secure Phone/Date

Encls:
a/s

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ATTACHMENT 1
Agency Cost Information

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(U//~~FOUO~~) The Agency may only charge a FOIA requestor fees for specific steps in the completion of a FOIA request. One of those is charging a fee for Search for responsive material, which we've asked for your help with in the above form. There are many things that we cannot charge a requestor for, such as time that it takes to stand at the copier and make copies, or the time that it takes for a computer (after human input) to run a query (exception is). However, we can record this information to produce an accurate number of how much it costs the Agency to perform these parts of the FOIA process. This information is valuable as it is reported to Congress each year, and provides an accurate picture of just how much it costs the Agency to respond to FOIA requests as one large, extended team.

(U) Please estimate the time that it took to complete the following process(es) (for each person involved), and indicate the grade level of the individual completing the work:

Task	Hours Spent on Task by Grade
Coordination with someone in your office or other offices to locate/discuss responsive materials	E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
Time to complete this form if items 2, 3, or 4 was selected on page 1	E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
Time to stand at the copier and reproduce copies of the material	E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
Time spent coordinating with FOIA office representatives to clarify the information that is asked for in the FOIA request, or to provide SME advice on the topic of the request	E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
	Total hours: _____ E9/GS8 & below _____ 01-06/GS9-15 _____ 07/SCE/SLE/SLP

(U)

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(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

From: [redacted] SA-DJ6-USA CIV
To: [redacted] M NSA-DJ4 USA CIV
Cc: DL archives (ALIAS) DJP6
Subject: (U) FOIA Action: Case 79540 - Suspense Date 28 July 2016
Date: Friday, July 15, 2016 2:05:02 PM
Attachments: 79540.xlsx
FOIA Cost Estimate DJ6.docx

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[redacted]
(U) I did complete the FOIA case referenced below. I did not find any results.

I searched our [redacted] system both for the archives and records center and did not find any relevant material.

I did search ADMS and did not find any results.

I did reasonable research on this topic and felt from the articles I read I was able to find good search terms to use and did not get any results.

Attached is a spreadsheet with search terms and results.

Attached is the cost estimate form.

(U//FOUO)

[redacted]
Archivist (DJ6)

972-2604 (s), [redacted]

[redacted] Suite 6884, [redacted]

DropBox [redacted]

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

From: [redacted] NSA-DJ6 USA CIV
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 12:13 PM
To: [redacted] NSA-DJ6 USA CIV [redacted]
Cc: DL archives (ALIAS) DJP6 [redacted]
Subject: FW: (U) FOIA Action: Case 79540 - Suspense Date 28 July 2016

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[redacted] (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

Over to you. If you need any help, please let us know. SUSPENSE: 26 July 2016

Thanks!

(U//~~FOUO~~)

[REDACTED]

DJ6

Records Management Policy

972-2508x [REDACTED] Suite 6884

(U//~~FOUO~~)

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

From: [REDACTED] NSA-DJ4 USA CIV

Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2016 11:54 AM

To: DL archives (ALIAS) DJP6 [REDACTED]; DL ERM (ALIAS) DC [REDACTED]

Subject: (U) FOIA Action: Case 79540 - Suspense Date 28 July 2016

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

Good Afternoon-

(U) **SUSPENSE:** 26 July 2016

(U) **ACTION:** Please conduct a reasonable search for records related to the crash noted in the attached FOIA request. Please complete the attached FOIA Cost Estimate form documenting the time expended in your office's search.

(U) **INFORMATION:** Please do not expend more than two hours in your search.

Thank you,

(U//~~FOUO~~)

[REDACTED]

DJ41

FOIA, Initial Processing Team

Phone: 966-4073/s [REDACTED]

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

~~**Privacy Sensitive** any misuse or unauthorized access may result in disciplinary action~~

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FOIA # 79540

Archives Search				
Search Terms	Field Searched	Results	Results (Accession Numbers)	Potentially Responsive Pages
North Star Bay	Accession Description and Accession Title	0 Hits		0
hydrogen bombs		0 Hits		0
Thule		8 Hits	3279 (out of date range, 1952), 19534 (out of date range, 1956) 19822 (out of date range, 1956), 24041 (out of date range, 1954), 24781 (out of date range, 1957), 26238 (out of date range, 1965) 29855 (out of date range, 1957) 39386 (out of date range, 1980)	0
B-52 Bomber		0 Hits		0
Haug		12 Hits	2901 (out of date range, 1948), 22962 (out of date range, 1976), 25990 (out of date range, 1987), 35321 (unrelated subject, Norway), 48268 (out of date range, 1984), 48758 (1995), 48783 (out of date range, 1977), 48807 (out of date range, 1994), 48865 (unrelated subject, product organization), 49107 (out of date range, 1991), 49511 (out of date range, 2005), 49525 (out of date range)	
Project Crested Ice		0 Hits		
		0 Hits		
		0 Hits		
		0 Hits		

Search Terms	Field Searched	Results	Results (Collection Number, Box Number, Date Range, ORG, RMO)	Potentially Responsive Pages
Project Crested Ice	Collection Description	0 Hits		0
Thule		1 Hit	20030012 (out of date range, 2011)	0
Haug		17 Hits	19961650, 1997521, 20010019, 20010019, 20030295, 20040717 , C0001601, C0000929, C0000533, C0000384, C0000352, 20070329, 20070021, 20060037, 20050411 (most boxes out of date range, non-responsive and unrelated subjects)	0
				0

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FOIA Cost Estimate

FOIA Case: 79540

DATE: 14 July 2016
REPLY TO ATTN OF: DJ4

SUBJECT: (U) ESTIMATE OF COSTS FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA) REQUEST - **ACTION MEMORANDUM**

TO: DJ6 and [REDACTED] (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(U) Please document the manpower costs that your office would incur (or did incur) by searching for the information requested in the attached correspondence. Please perform a search, **expending only up to 2 hours**. If after 2 hours, the search is not complete, please estimate the remaining time over 2 hours that it would take to complete your search. Please note that your searches and estimates must include holdings in both your office files and your office's records stored at the [REDACTED] Records Center

(U) After reviewing your cost estimate, if applicable, and corresponding with the requester, DJ4 will notify you if a further search for the materials must be conducted.

(U) Please complete **all** applicable information on the following pages, providing as much detail as possible, and return the completed form to DJ4 by 28 July 2016. If the cost estimate/search cannot be completed within the allotted time frame, please notify Cindy Blacker (Chief, DJ41 [REDACTED]) or, in her absence, John Chapman (Chief, DJ4 - [REDACTED]) by email or phone of the reasons for the delay and the expected date of completion.

(U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]
FOIA CASE OFFICER
DJ41, 966-4073
[REDACTED]

Encls:
a/s

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

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FOIA Case: 79540

When responding, please complete ALL applicable blanks below.

1. NO RECORDS:

____ I reasonably believe that my organization does not have records in our office files or in the Records Center that are responsive to the request; therefore, I am not conducting a search or providing a search/cost estimate. The time expended to reach this decision was _____ (please enter the actual time in minutes against grade, e.g. 15 min/GS13),

2. SEARCH/NO RECORDS FOUND (within the 2 hours):

X No responsive records were found in our files or in the Records Center, within the allotted 2 hours; no additional search is necessary (please enter actual time expended on page 3).

3. SEARCH COMPLETED/RECORDS FOUND (within the 2 hours):

____ All responsive records are attached, which were located within the allotted 2 hours (please enter actual time expended on page 3).

4. PARTIAL SEARCH COMPLETED/SOME RECORDS FOUND (within the 2 hours)/ADDITIONAL SEARCH REQUIRED:

____ An initial search of 2 hours was performed, and the responsive records located to date are attached. Additional time is required to complete the search and determine if there are additional responsive records. My additional search costs are estimated on pages 3 & 4.

5. PARTIAL SEARCH COMPLETED/NO RECORDS LOCATED (within the 2 hours)/ADDITIONAL SEARCH REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF RESPONSIVE RECORDS EXIST:

____ An initial search of 2 hours was performed which did not locate records but additional time is required to determine if any responsive records exist. My additional search costs are estimated on pages 3 & 4.

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(U//~~FOUO~~) DJ6 972- 2604 07.15.2016

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FOIA Case: 79540

Signature/Office/Secure Phone/Date

SHOW DETAILS of ACTUAL/ESTIMATED COSTS FOR SEARCH

a. (U) List the various organizations/divisions in your directorate (e.g., S2A, I71), which contributed to your evaluation:

b. (U) Briefly describe the types of records that are/may be responsive (e.g., correspondence, intelligence reports, etc.):

c. (U) Indicate the **NUMBER OF FILES** which were or would have to be searched for each category of file listed below (e.g., 2 file drawers and 1 safe):

_____ file drawers	_____ file cabinets
_____ large flippers	_____ safes
_____ desk drawers	_____ shinn boxes
_____ small flippers	

d. (U) Tell us the accessibility of the responsive files:

- ☒ Files were/are centrally located
- ☐ Files were/must be recalled from storage
- ☐ Files were/are contained in readily accessible folders
- ☐ Files were/are scattered throughout several folders, drawers, cabinets, and would require a page-by-page search for proper retrieval
- ☐ Files were/are located in various offices
- ☐ Files were/are organized chronologically rather than by subject matter

e. (U) Other unique conditions that affect/affected the processing of this request:

f. (U) Machine/media files that were or will be searched:

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FOIA Case: 79540

 X Databases, e-mails, CD Rom, DVD, Video/Audio tapes, limited access servers and the NSA Web (restricted web pages). Briefly describe system: _____

g. (U) Indicate the number of systems/media which were or would have to be searched for each category listed below (e.g., 2 classified workstations and 1 unclassified workstation):

<u> 2 </u> Databases	<u> </u> CD Rom/DVD
<u> </u> Laptop	<u> </u> Video tape
<u> </u> Classified workstation	<u> </u> Audio tape
<u> </u> Unclassified workstation	<u> </u> Servers

h. (U) **ACTUAL SEARCH COST:** If a complete search or partial search was conducted within the 2 hours, please show actual time below. Also, please complete those applicable items shown in "Attachment 1" below.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hours of Search</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u> </u> E9/GS8&below	<u> </u> x	\$20.00 =	<u> </u>
<u> X </u> 01-06/GS9-15	<u> 1 </u> x	\$44.00 =	<u> 44.00 </u>
<u> </u> 07/SCE/SLE/SLP	<u> </u> x	\$75.00 =	<u> </u>

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONSIVE PAGES LOCATED: 0

i. (U) Complete if required: **Estimate** the additional number of hours, over 2, that you believe are required to complete a reasonable search.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hours of Search</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
E9/GS8&below	<u> </u> x	\$20.00 =	<u> </u>
01-06/GS9-15	<u> </u> x	\$44.00 =	<u> </u>
07/SCE/SLE/SLP	<u> </u> x	\$75.00 =	<u> </u>

TOTAL COST OF ESTIMATE IS: \$44

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FOIA Case: 79540

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(U//~~FOUO~~) — DJ6 972-2604-07.15.2016

Signature/Office/Secure Phone/Date

Encls:
a/s

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ATTACHMENT 1
Agency Cost Information

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(U//~~FOUO~~) The Agency may only charge a FOIA requestor fees for specific steps in the completion of a FOIA request. One of those is charging a fee for Search for responsive material, which we've asked for your help with in the above form. There are many things that we cannot charge a requestor for, such as time that it takes to stand at the copier and make copies, or the time that it takes for a computer (after human input) to run a query (exception is). However, we can record this information to produce an accurate number of how much it costs the Agency to perform these parts of the FOIA process. This information is valuable as it is reported to Congress each year, and provides an accurate picture of just how much it costs the Agency to respond to FOIA requests as one large, extended team.

(U) Please estimate the time that it took to complete the following process(es) (for each person involved), and indicate the grade level of the individual completing the work:

Task	Hours Spent on Task by Grade
Coordination with someone in your office or other offices to locate/discuss responsive materials	<input type="checkbox"/> E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
Time to complete this form if items 2, 3, or 4 was selected on page 1	<input type="checkbox"/> E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
Time to stand at the copier and reproduce copies of the material	<input type="checkbox"/> E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
Time spent coordinating with FOIA office representatives to clarify the information that is asked for in the FOIA request, or to provide SME advice on the topic of the request	<input type="checkbox"/> E9/GS8 & below _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 01-06/GS9-15 _____ hrs <input type="checkbox"/> 07/SCE/SLE/SLP _____ hrs
	Total hours: _____ E9/GS8 & below _____ 01-06/GS9-15 _____ 07/SCE/SLE/SLP

(U)

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 79540A
3 November 2016

JOHN GREENEWALD
THE BLACK VAULT



(b)(6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 25 October 2014, which was received by this office on 27 October 2014, for records related to the "January 21, 1968, a US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashed into the frozen ocean on North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base. An escalating cabin fire had forced the crew to eject from the aircraft. The nuclear payload ruptured and was dispersed during the subsequent explosion and fire atop the ice, resulting in widespread radioactive contamination. Copy of all releasable documents, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to this event, which includes, but is not limited to, letters, reports, photographs, memos, etc." As stated in our original letter to you, dated 29 October 2014, your request has been assigned Case Number 79540. There are no assessable fees for this request.

Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA and some of the documents you requested are enclosed. These documents are press clippings and portions of press clippings from our holdings that are responsive to your request. Additionally, two documents responsive to your request have been referred to another agency for their action and direct response to you.

One document responsive to your request has been reviewed by this Agency as required by the FOIA and has been found to be currently and properly classified in accordance with Executive Order 13526. This information meets the criteria for classification as set forth in Subparagraph(s) (c) of Section 1.4 and remain classified TOP SECRET as provided in Section 1.2 of Executive Order 13526. The information is classified because their disclosure could reasonably be expected to cause exceptionally grave damage to the national security. The information is exempt from automatic declassification in accordance with Section 3.3(b) of E.O. 13526. Because the documents are currently and properly classified, they are exempt from disclosure pursuant to the first exemption of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(1)).

In addition, this Agency is authorized by various statutes to protect certain information concerning its activities. We have determined that such information exists in these documents. Accordingly, those portions are exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statutes applicable in this case are Title 18 U.S. Code 798; Title 50 U.S. Code 3024(i); and Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). No portion of the information is reasonably segregable.

Since a document was withheld in its entirety, you may construe this as a partial denial of your request. You are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures.

You may appeal this decision. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

§ The appeal must be in writing and addressed to the:

NSA/CSS FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132),
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

- § It must be postmarked no later than 90 calendar days of the date of this letter.
- § Please include the case number provided above.
- § Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial of requested information was unwarranted.
- § NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. R. Chapman" with a stylized flourish at the end.

JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief
FOIA/PA Office

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(b)(5)

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 79540

3 November 2016

[Redacted]

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

Dear [Redacted]

(U) This office is in receipt of a FOIA request (Encl A) from John Greenewald requesting records related to the "January 21, 1968, a US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashed into the frozen ocean on North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base," which was received by this agency on 25 October 2014.

(U) In our review of NSA records responsive to the above request, the following was surfaced:

(U) For your direct response to the requester:

2 documents (246 pages) which originated with your agency (Encl B). Although we will advise the requester of this referral, we will not identify your agency.

(U) We have been unable to identify any information pertaining to this Agency. If, as a result of your review of the documents, information is identified which relates to this Agency, please coordinate this information with us prior to its release.

(U) If you have any questions concerning this referral, please contact [Redacted] or email the NSA FOIA office at [Redacted] via JWICS or DL [Redacted] via SIPRNet.

Sincerely,

CS Blacker for

JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief, FOIA/PA Office
NSA Initial Denial Authority

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

Encl(s): a/s

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(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

[REDACTED]

From: foiajsc, foiajsc
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2016 7:51 AM
To: 'John Greenewald'; foiajsc, foiajsc; foialo, foialo
Subject: RE: FOIA REQUEST 79540

Hello Mr. Greenewald,

Your request 79540 was closed on 3 Nov. 2016. Our response was mailed on or around that same date.

Best Regards,
Cindy
NSA/CSS FOIA Requester Service Center
(301)688-6527

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

From: John Greenewald [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2016 7:02 PM
To: foiajsc, foiajsc <foiajsc@nsa.gov>; foialo; foialo <foialo@nsa.gov>
Subject: FOIA REQUEST 79540

Hello,

I am seeking a status for FOIA case 79540, which according to my records, never got a final response?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.
Owner/Founder
The Black Vault
<http://www.theblackvault.com> <<http://www.theblackvault.com/>>

Toll Free: [REDACTED]

International: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

FOIA APPEAL

John Greenewald, Jr.

Owner/Founder

The Black Vault

<http://www.theblackvault.com>

Toll Free:

International:

Fax:

(b)(6)

To whom it may concern,

This is an official appeal to the final decision of FOIA Case 79540. In your letter, dated 3 November 2016, you informed me that one document would remain entirely classified (while others were forwarded to other agencies).

I would like to bring up the fact, that this event, and the documents referenced in your letter, is nearly 50 YEARS old. I believe by just denying the entire document as "TOP SECRET" – shows a lack of interest in the passing of this years FOIA Improvement Act. This document is well over 25 years old, and at least should have some sort of releasable portion of it.

I believe that in this case, the NSA has taken the path of secrecy, instead of transparency, in regards to releasing responsive material.

I please ask that you reconsider your decision, re-review the document, and offer the releasable portions of the document, which are nearly five decades old.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.



FAX



(b)(6)



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

Case: 79540/Appeal: 5010
28 November 2016

JOHN GREENEWALD JR
THE BLACK VAULT

(b)(6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This acknowledges receipt of your correspondence, with a facsimile header of 26 November 2016, appealing the National Security Agency/Central Security Service's (NSA/CSS') decision to withhold one document related to the January 21, 1968 US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs that crashed into the frozen ocean on North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base associated with your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 25 October 2014. Your appeal was received by the NSA/CSS FOIA/Privacy Act (PA) Appeal Authority Staff on 28 November 2016 and has been assigned Appeal Number 5010.

Please be advised that appeals are processed in the order in which they are received, on a first-in, first-out basis. At this time, there are a large number of appeals ahead of yours in our queue. We will begin to process your appeal and will respond to you again as soon as we are able. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Correspondence related to your request should include the case and appeal numbers assigned to your request and be addressed to the National Security Agency, Office of Information Management, FOIA/PA Appeals, 9800 Savage Road, Suite 6932, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932; or it may be sent via facsimile to 443-479-3612. If sent by fax, it should be marked for the attention of "FOIA Appeals." **For inquiries regarding the status of your appeal, please contact this office via email FOIA_Appeal_Status@nsa.gov**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Deb E.", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

NSA/CSS FOIA/PA Appeal Authority Staff
Office of Information Management



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

Case: 79540/Appeal: 5010

Date

Mr. John Greenewald



(b)(6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

Thank you for your 26 November 2016 letter appealing the response from the National Security Agency (NSA or Agency) to your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for a copy of all releasable documents (electronic or otherwise) pertaining to the 21 January 1968 crash of a US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs, into the frozen ocean, in North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base. NSA reviewed the responsive material to your request and partially denied the release.

I have reviewed your initial request, the Agency's 3 November 2016 response to you, and your letter of appeal. Based on my review, I have determined the Agency's response was correct to withhold the one document in its entirety pursuant to the first¹ and third² exemptions of the FOIA as noted below. No portion of the information is reasonably segregable. Your appeal is therefore denied.

You are hereby advised of your right pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B) to seek judicial review of my decision in the United States District Court in the district in which you reside, in which you have your principal place of business, in which the Agency records are situated (U.S. District Court of Maryland), or in the District of Columbia.

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

they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

¹ 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1); Executive Order 13526, Sections 1.2 and 1.4(c).

² 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(3). The applicable statutory provisions with regard to the information at issue are 18 U.S.C. § 798; 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i); and Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S.C. § 3605).

Case: 79540/Appeal: 5010

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Rd - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740
ogis@nara.gov / (877) 684-6448 / (202) 741-5770 / Fax (202) 741-5769

Sincerely,

DAVID J. SHERMAN
Chief, Strategy, Plans and Policy
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Appeal Authority

To: [redacted] NSA-P132 USA CIV [redacted]; DL FoiaLegal (ALIAS) D28 [redacted]
Cc: Doc ID: [redacted] DL P132_appeals (ALIAS) P132 [redacted]
From: [redacted] NSA-D28 USA CIV
Sent: Wed 9/27/2017 2:05:51 PM
Subject: RE: (U) ACTION: For OGC Review by 28 Sep 2017 Appeal 5010/ FOIA 79540 - Full Denial

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[redacted] (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36
I concur that the proposed response for appeal 5010 is legally sufficient.

Thanks,

(U//FOUO)
[redacted]
Attorney – Litigation
Office of General Counsel
[redacted]
966-1597(s) [redacted]

May contain ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT//ATTORNEY CLIENT COMMUNICATION
PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION
Not to be released without OGC approval

From: [redacted] NSA-D28 USA CIV
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 11:47 AM
To: [redacted] NSA-P132 USA CIV [redacted]; DL FoiaLegal (ALIAS) D28 [redacted]
Cc: DL P132_appeals (ALIAS) P132 [redacted]; [redacted] NSA-D28 USA CIV [redacted]
Subject: RE: (U) ACTION: For OGC Review by 28 Sep 2017 Appeal 5010/ FOIA 79540 - Full Denial

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ASSIGNED [redacted]
(U//FOUO)
[redacted] M.P.S
Litigation Paralegal Specialist
Office of General Counsel
Litigation, D28
963-2170, [redacted]
[redacted] Suite: 6278
[redacted]

ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT//ATTORNEY CLIENT COMMUNICATION
PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION
Not to be released without OGC approval

From: [redacted] NSA-P132 USA CIV
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 11:46 AM
To: DL FoiaLegal (ALIAS) D28 [redacted]
Cc: DL P132_appeals (ALIAS) P132 [redacted]
Subject: (U) ACTION: For OGC Review by 28 Sep 2017 Appeal 5010/ FOIA 79540 - Full Denial

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

Doc ID: 6641572

[redacted] (U) Please assign to [redacted] Thanks, [redacted]

++++++

[redacted] (U//~~FOUO~~) Dr. Sherman agrees that we should uphold the full denial determination for the one page document under appeal. Please review the draft appeal response in [redacted] and let us know if the response is legally sufficient.

SUSPENSE: 28 Sep 2017

Thanks! [redacted] (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

[redacted]
FOIA/PA Appeals Team

720-1892s [redacted]
[redacted] Suite 6932

Drop Box [redacted]

PRIVACY SENSITIVE – Any misuse or unauthorized disclosure may result in disciplinary action

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

Case: 79540/Appeal: 5010
27 September 2017

Mr. John Greenewald

(b)(6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

Thank you for your 26 November 2016 letter appealing the response from the National Security Agency (NSA or Agency) to your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for a copy of all releasable documents (electronic or otherwise) pertaining to the 21 January 1968 crash of a US Air Force B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs, into the frozen ocean, in North Star Bay, Greenland near Thule Air Base. NSA reviewed the responsive material to your request and partially denied the release.

I have reviewed your initial request, the Agency's 3 November 2016 response to you, and your letter of appeal. Based on my review, I have determined the Agency's response was correct to withhold the one document in its entirety pursuant to the first¹ and third² exemptions of the FOIA as noted below. No portion of the information is reasonably segregable. Your appeal is therefore denied.

You are hereby advised of your right pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B) to seek judicial review of my decision in the United States District Court in the district in which you reside, in which you have your principal place of business, in which the Agency records are situated (U.S. District Court of Maryland), or in the District of Columbia.

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² 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(3). The applicable statutory provisions with regard to the information at issue are 18 U.S.C. § 798; 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i); and Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S.C. § 3605).

Case: 79540/Appeal: 5010

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Rd - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740
ogis@nara.gov / (877) 684-6448 / (202) 741-5770 / Fax (202) 741-5769

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David J. Sherman".

DAVID J. SHERMAN
Chief, Strategy, Plans and Policy
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Appeal Authority

Comments for Case 79540

[REDACTED] on 09/27/2017 01:11:11 PM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Appeal Authority signed the response letter. Ltr dated, printed and placed in the outgoing mailbin this afternoon. Appeal closed.

[REDACTED] on 09/27/2017 10:30:05 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) OGC concurred with the draft appeal response. Ltr is ready for the Appeal Authority's signature as of this am.

[REDACTED] on 09/20/2017 11:43:27 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Draft appeal response ready for OGC's review. Suspense: 28 Sep 2017.

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

[REDACTED] on 11/28/2016 09:30:24 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Validated appeal; dated - printed letter; ready for mailing.

[REDACTED] on 11/03/2016 12:14:20 PM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Applied date to referral letter and final response and placed both in outgoing mail bins. Case closed.

[REDACTED] on 11/01/2016 04:13:35 PM

(U) Signed referral letter, and final response.

[REDACTED] on 11/01/2016 03:00:11 PM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Updated MR and LTR to reflect referral of [REDACTED] docs. Drafted a referral letter. Sent to approval queue.

[REDACTED] on 10/17/2016 03:37:13 PM

(U) Minor tweak to MR. Need to check with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on 10/06/2016 01:58:12 PM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Updated MR and LTR to reflect PD. Need some guidance on [REDACTED] Sent to approval queue.

[REDACTED] on 10/04/2016 04:23:46 PM

(U) Revised MR and returned for updates to release

[REDACTED] on 07/28/2016 02:43:28 PM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Drafted backlog response letter and fee estimate. Sent to approval queue.

[REDACTED] on 07/06/2016 02:56:01 PM

(U) Assigned from backlog. See prev. comments.

[REDACTED] on 10/29/2014 08:50:38 AM

(U) 20-Day Letter is sent, sending to SEQ

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

[REDACTED] on 10/29/2014 08:46:09 AM

(U) Discussed at FACO, retask [REDACTED] and also task DJ6. Sent a 20-Day today

[REDACTED] on 10/28/2014 05:25:16 AM

(U) Found a previous case from this Req for this topic. Submitting as A&A and redirect. Due 5 Nov

[REDACTED] on 10/27/2014 09:57:27 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Process Note: standards searches, if records come up in ADMS search we may need to regroup or refer to USAF FOIA.