

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

> Ref: 23-F-0740 August 29, 2024

Mr.John Greenewald The Black Vault, Inc. 27305 W. Live Oak Rd. Suite #1203 Castaic, CA 91384

Dear Mr.Greenewald:

This is a final response to your April 25, 2023 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience. We received your request on April 26, 2023, and assigned it FOIA case number 23-F-0740. 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)), a component of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, conducted a search of their records systems and located # pages determined to be responsive to your request. The IDA, in their capacity as an Initial Denial Authority, has determined that portions of the two responsive pages are exempt from release. The redacted information is exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1), currently and properly classified in the interest of national security. This classified information is withheld in in accordance with Executive Order 13526, as amended, applying Sections 1.4(a) military plans, weapons, or operations; 1.4(c) intelligence activities (including covert action), intelligence sources or methods, or cryptology; 1.4(g) vulnerabilities or capability of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans or protection services relating to the national security.

Additionally, the withheld unclassified information, when compiled, would reveal classified information as defined in E.O. 13526, Section 1.7(e), compilations of unclassified material that reveal a classified association or relationship. If the unclassified information was disclosed, it would yield classified information as defined in E.O. 13526, Sections 1.4(a) military plans, weapons, or operations; 1.4(c) intelligence activities (including covert action), intelligence sources or methods, or cryptology; 1.4(g) vulnerabilities or capability of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans or protection services relating to the national security. 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, Shannon Cooper, at shannon.a.cooper.civ@mail.mil or 571-372-0412. 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 23-F-0740 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, Shannon Cooper, and reference FOIA case number 23-F-0740, 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 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.

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