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

FOIA Case: 74299
6 September 2013

Mr. John Greenewald
[redacted]

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your 15 August 2013 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request which was received by this office on 16 August 2013, for a copy of all records this Agency maintains on Dr. Lincoln LaPaz. Your letter has been assigned Case Number 74299. Please refer to this case number when contacting us about your request. Because there are no assessable fees for this request, we did not address your request for a fee waiver. Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA.

Personnel management files are maintained on NSA/CSS affiliates. Therefore, a search of our most comprehensive filing systems which include applicant, personnel, security, medical, and training was conducted. Our records reflect that Dr. Lincoln LaPaz has never been affiliated with this Agency; thus, no records were located in a search of those filing systems.

In furtherance of a reasonable search for records, we conducted a database search of historical records for information written by or about Dr. Lincoln LaPaz since you indicated that he was a noted mathematician. However, no records responsive to your request were located.

To the extent that you are seeking intelligence information on Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, we have determined that the fact of the existence or non-existence of the materials you request is a currently and properly classified matter in accordance with Executive Order 13526, as set forth in Subparagraph (c) of Section 1.4. Thus, your request is denied pursuant to the first exemption of the FOIA which provides that the FOIA does not apply to matters that are specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign relations and are, in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order.

In addition, this Agency is authorized by various statutes to protect certain information concerning its activities. The third exemption of the FOIA provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. Thus, your request is also denied because the fact of the existence or non-existence of the information is exempted from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption. The specific statutes applicable in this case are Title 18 U.S. Code 798; Title 50 U.S. Code 3024(i) (formerly 50 U.S. Code 403-1(i)); and Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605, formerly 50 U.S. Code 402 note).

The Initial Denial Authority for NSA information is the Associate Director for Policy and Records, David J. Sherman. Any person notified of an adverse determination may file an appeal to the NSA/CSS Freedom of Information Act Appeal Authority. The appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days after the date of the initial denial letter. The appeal shall be in writing addressed to the NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority (DJ4), National Security Agency, 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248. The appeal shall reference the adverse determination and shall contain, in sufficient detail and particularity, the grounds upon which the requester believes that the determination is unwarranted. The NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority will endeavor to respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt, absent any unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,

PAMELA N. PHILLIPS
Chief
FOIA/PA Office