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

FOIA Case: 103839
30 March 2018

JOHN GREENEWALD
27305 W LIVE OAK ROAD SUITE 1203
CASTAIC CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 20 March 2018, which was received by this office on 20 March 2018, for "Copy of records, electronic or otherwise, of all records pertaining to FOIA Case 77487A and 77487B. Include all processing notes, letters, memos, inter-agency communications etc., that pertain to or were generated by the FOIA request." Your request has been assigned Case Number 103839. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an "all other" requester. There are no assessable fees for this request.

Your request has been processed under the FOIA and the document you requested is enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the enclosure.

Information which would reveal NSA/CSS functions and activities and names of NSA/CSS employees have been deleted from the enclosure. These deletions 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 statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605).

Also, some of the information has been deleted from the enclosure pursuant to the fifth exemption of the FOIA. This exemption applies to inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than in litigation with the agency, protecting information that is normally privileged in the civil discovery context, such as information that is part of a predecisional deliberative process.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosure in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you request against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption. Also, regarding the (b)(6) exemption, you may notice that your personal information has been deleted from the enclosure. While we understand the information pertains to you and would not invade your privacy when released to you, we reviewed the

document knowing that it may be requested in the future, and we want to ensure the protection of your privacy in subsequent releases.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

- The appeal must be sent via U.S. postal mail, fax or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

NSA/CSS FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932
The facsimile number is (443)479-3612.

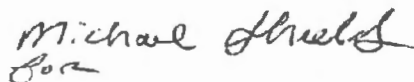
The appropriate email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov

- The request must be postmarked no later than 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe this partial denial was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

You may also contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. 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:

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,



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

Encls:
a/s

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

[Redacted]

From: donotreply@nsa.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 1:24 PM
To: donotreply@nsa.gov
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FOIA Request (web form submission)

Name: John Greenwald

Email: [Redacted]

Company: The Black Vault

Postal Address: [Redacted]

Postal 2nd Line: None

Postal City: [Redacted]

Postal State-prov: [Redacted]

Zip Code: [Redacted]

Country: United States of America

(b) (6)

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. § 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.

I respectfully request a copy of all records, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests, the media, and any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information.

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

Sincerely,

John Greenwald, Jr.

[Redacted]



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

FOIA Case: 77487
15 April 2014

JOHN GREENEWALD



(b) (6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is an initial response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 10 April 2014, which was received by this office on 11 April 2014, for "a copy of all records, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests, the media, and any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information." This letter acknowledges that we have received your request and provides some administrative information. Your request has been assigned Case Number 77487. 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,

Laura M.

FOIA Customer Representative

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

[Redacted]

From: foiarasc, foiarasc
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 6:56 AM
To: foiarasc, foiarasc, [Redacted]
Subject: CORRECTION: FOIA Request - CLARIFICATION NEEDED

Importance: High

Sir,

My apologies - this request has been assigned Case Number 77487.

(b) (6)

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

From: foiarasc, foiarasc
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 6:44 AM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: foiarasc, foiarasc
Subject: RE: FOIA Request - CLARIFICATION NEEDED

Good Morning Mr. Greenewald,

This email is in response to your FOIA request submitted via the web on 10 April 2014. We have received your FOIA request, copied below, and have assigned your request Case Number 77488. We have broken down your request as follows for "all records, electronic or otherwise":

1. Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests
2. Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with the media
3. Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information

In order to begin processing this case, we ask that you clarify the following (Item 1) regarding the documents you seek for "how the agency would deal with FOIA requests... after Edward Snowden released classified information."

- do you seek documents that represent internal discussions on how the FOIA office would deal with the volume of requests since June 2013, [OR]
- do you seek documents that represent internal discussions on how the FOIA guidance related to media coverage of NSA (likely stemming from the leaks).

We will hold this request in abeyance for 30 days pending a response from you. If we have not heard back from you, we will eliminate Item 1 from this request and continue processing Items 2 and 3.

V/R,

Cindy B
NSA/CSS FOIA Requester Service Center
(301)688-6527

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

From: donotreply@nsa.gov [mailto:donotreply@nsa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 1:24 PM
To: donotreply@nsa.gov
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FOIA Request (Web form submission)

Name: John Greenewald

Email: [redacted]

Company: The Black Vault

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.

I respectfully request a copy of all records, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests, the media, and any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information.

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

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.

[redacted]

(b) (6)

[Redacted]

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

From: foiajsc, foiajsc
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 6:56 AM
To: foiajsc, foiajsc; [Redacted]
Subject: CORRECTION: FOIA Request - CLARIFICATION NEEDED

Importance: High

Sir,

My apologies - this request has been assigned Case Number 77487.

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

From: foiajsc, foiajsc
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 6:44 AM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: foiajsc, foiajsc
Subject: RE: FOIA Request - CLARIFICATION NEEDED

(b) (6)

Good Morning Mr. Greenwald,

This email is in response to your FOIA request submitted via the web on 10 April 2014. We have received your FOIA request, copied below, and have assigned your request Case Number 77488. We have broken down your request as follows for "all records, electronic or otherwise":

1. Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests
2. Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with the media
3. Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information

In order to begin processing this case, we ask that you clarify the following (Item 1) regarding the documents you seek for "how the agency would deal with FOIA requests... after Edward Snowden released classified information."

- do you seek documents that represent internal discussions on how the FOIA office would deal with the volume of requests since June 2013, [OR]
- do you seek documents that represent internal discussions on how the FOIA guidance related to media coverage of NSA (likely stemming from the leaks).

We will hold this request in abeyance for 30 days pending a response from you. If we have not heard back from you, we will eliminate Item 1 from this request and continue processing Items 2 and 3.

V/R,

Cindy B
NSA/CSS FOIA Requester Service Center
(301)688-6527

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

From: donotreply@nsa.gov [mailto:donotreply@nsa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 1:24 PM
To: donotreply@nsa.gov
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOIA Request (Web form submission)

Name: John Greenewald

Email: [REDACTED]

Company: The Black Vault

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.

I respectfully request a copy of all records, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests, the media, and any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information.

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

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.

[REDACTED]

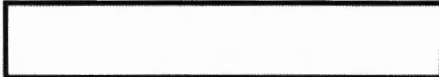
(b) (6)



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

**FOIA Case: 77487A
10 February 2016**

JOHN GREENEWALD



(b) (6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is an interim response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 10 April 2015, which was received by this office on 11 April 2014, for “a copy of all records, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests, the media, and any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information.” On 15 April 2014, Cindy Blacker sent you an email breaking down your request as follows: “all records, electronic or otherwise...

- 1 Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests;**
- 2 Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how the agency would deal with the media, and;**
- 3 Pertaining to the internal discussion by the National Security Agency on how they agency would deal with any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information.”**

She also asked for clarification of Item 1 and informed you that if you did not respond back within 30 days from the date of email we would proceed by only addressing Item 2 and Item 3. Since you did not respond, we are proceeding as stated by only processing Items 2 and 3 of your request.

As previously informed, your request has been assigned Case Number 77487. This letter indicates that we have begun to process your request. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an “all other” requester. You must pay for search time in excess of 2 hours and duplication in excess of 100 pages. There is certain information relating to this processing about which FOIA and applicable Department of Defense (DoD) and NSA/CSS regulations require we inform you.

FOIA Case: 77487A

Concerning Item 1 of your request, as a courtesy we are informing you that there are documents located on the www.nsa.gov web site that may be responsive. To locate these documents, from the web site home page refer to "Public Information/Declassification and Transparency/Media Leaks/FOIA Guidance."

The documents responsive to Item 2 and Item 3 of your request have been located in several prior FOIA requests that are in the backlog awaiting review. Your request has been placed in the first-in, first-out processing queue along with the prior FOIA requests; Case Numbers 75718, 78963, and 78442. As review of the responsive material is completed for the prior requests, interim responses will be sent providing you with any released documents.

The material responsive to your request requires review prior to release. However, prior to initiating the review, we require that you provide us with an amount you are willing to pay for the cost of duplication in the event that all of the material is deemed releasable. In accordance with DoD Regulation 5400.7-R, duplication fees are assessed at \$.15 per page.

Please be advised that your agreeing to incur these fees will not necessarily result in the disclosure to you of the information you seek. The records responsive to your request may be classified or otherwise exempt from release in accordance with the exemption provisions of the FOIA. The application of these exemptions to NSA information has been consistently approved by the Federal Judiciary.

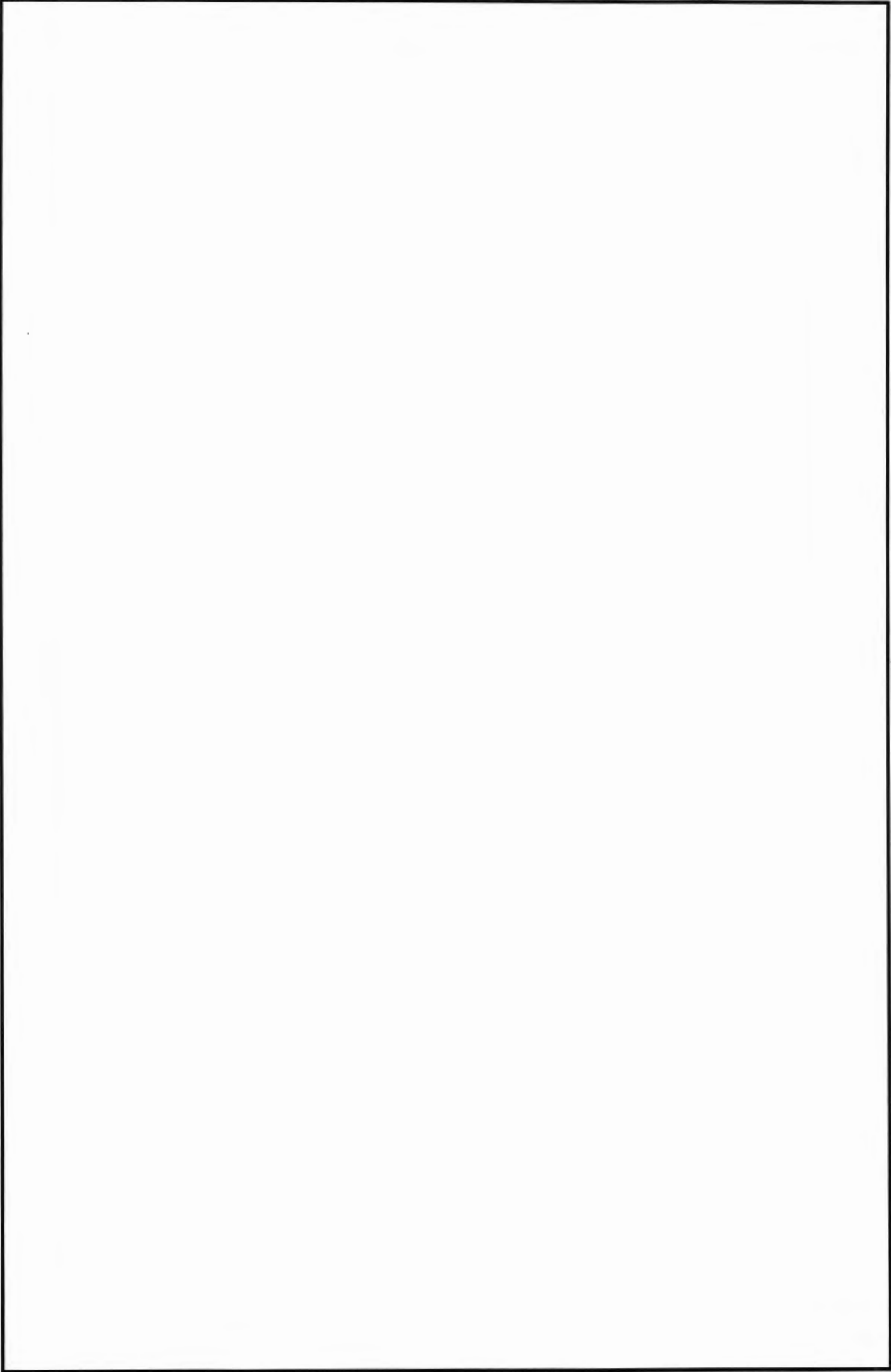
If we do not receive a statement of the amount that you are willing to pay for duplication costs within 30 days of the date of this letter, we will continue to process your case as-is and provide you with a total of 100 pages of duplication to which you are entitled to receive free of charge.

Correspondence related to your request should include the case number assigned to your request. 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.

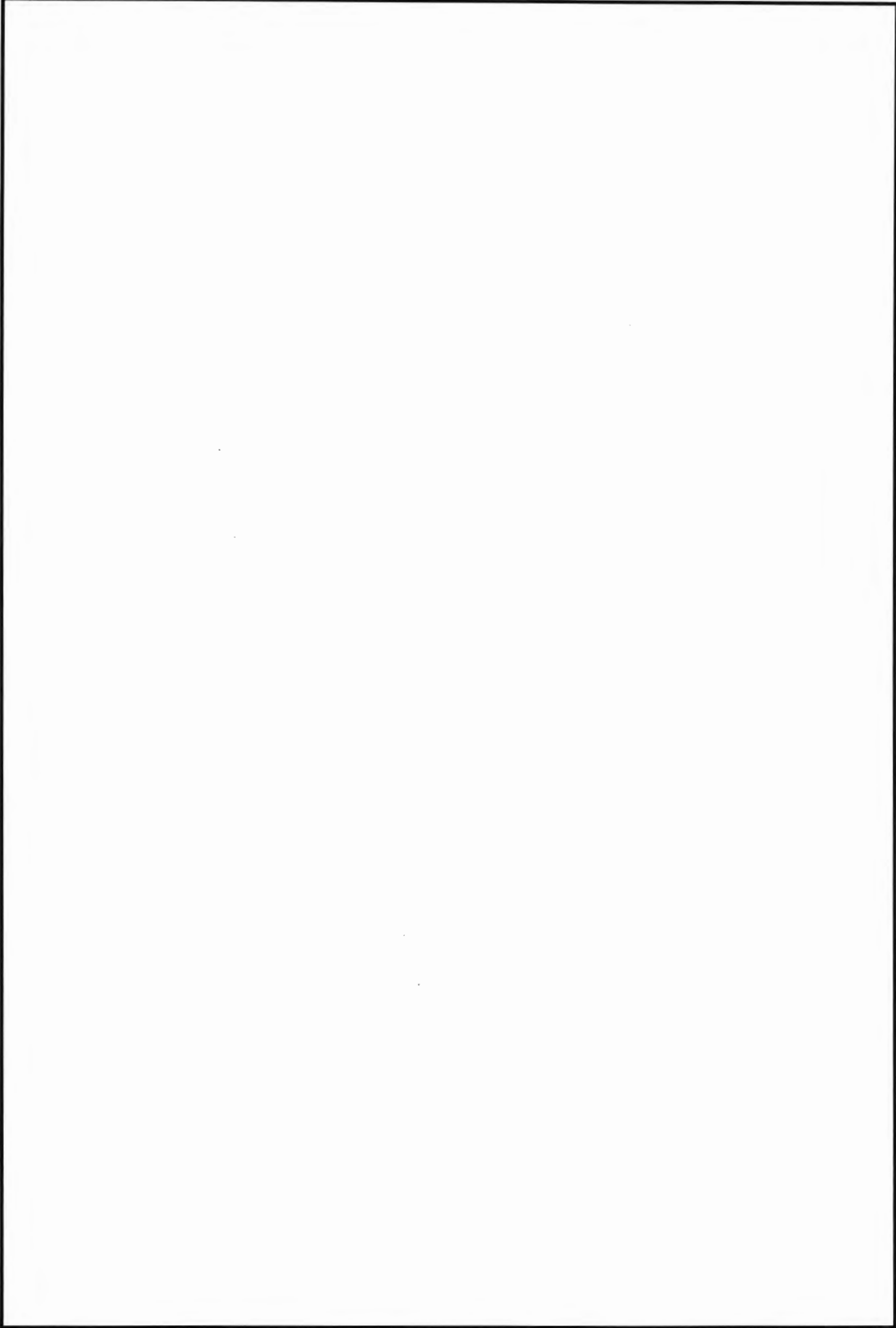
Sincerely,

CS Blacker FOR

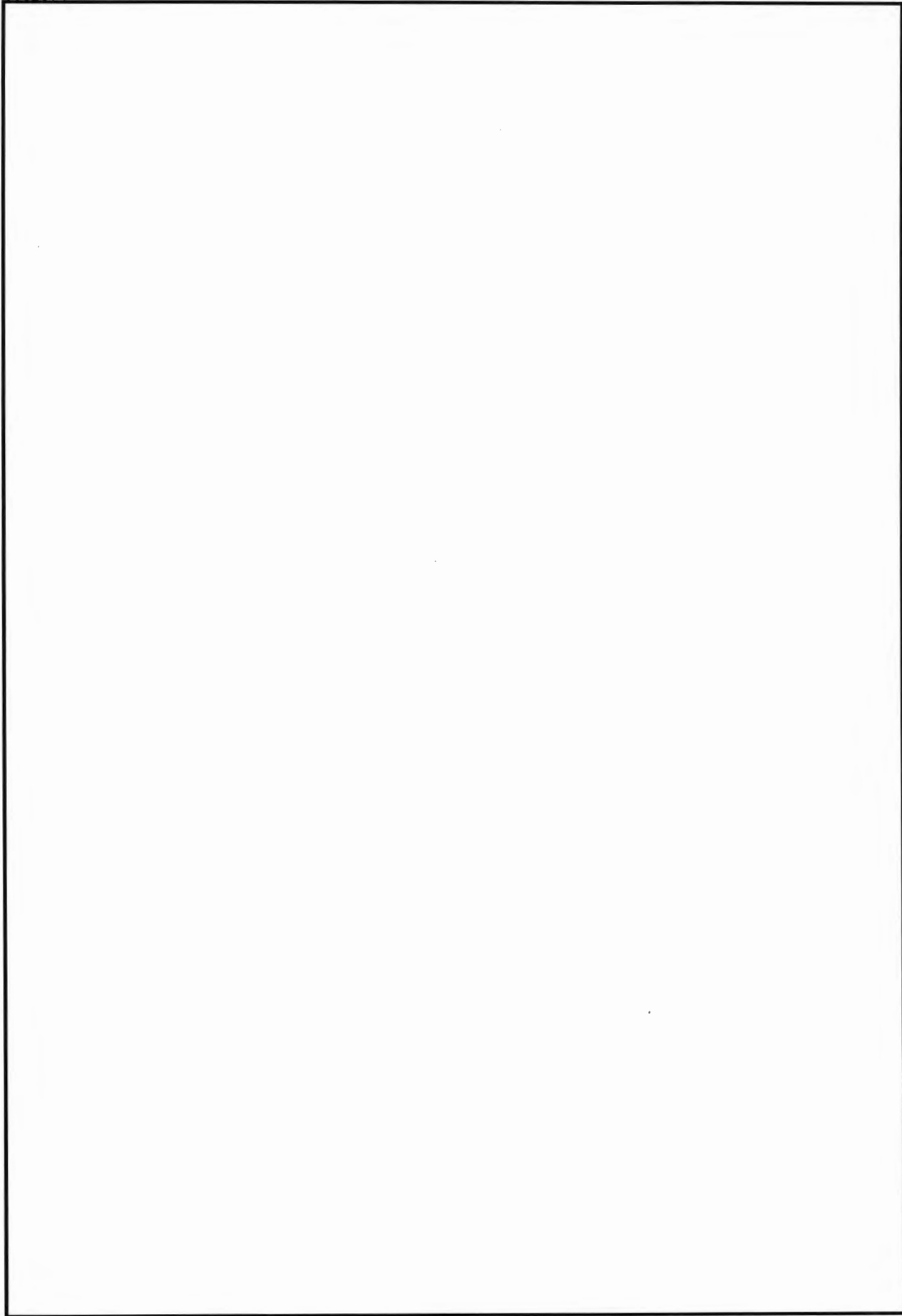
**JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief
FOIA/PA Office**



(b) (5)



(b) (5)



(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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

From: foiarsc, foiarsc
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 7:23 AM
To: 'John Greenewald'; foiarsc, foiarsc
Subject: RE: FOIA CASE 77487A

Good Morning Mr. Greenewald,

One portion of your original request in Case 77487 sought documents on the internal discussion on "how the agency would deal with FOIA requests." I attempted to clarify that portion via email (15 Apr. 2014), asking if you sought records on how the FOIA office would deal with the volume of FOIA requests [OR] how the FOIA office would deal with FOIA requests related to the media leaks. As noted in our interim response letter, dated, 10 Feb. 2016, we have posted email documents on NSA.gov that pertain to the media leaks and FOIA guidance at https://www.nsa.gov/public_info/declass/media_leaks.shtml

If the documents posted on NSA.gov do not respond to your original intent/request, we ask that you submit a new request and include as much detail as possible so that we may conduct a reasonable search. The details should include a reasonable timeframe for search, and the specifics or context of the internal discussion documents you seek.

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

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

From: John Greenewald [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 5:39 PM
To: foiarsc, foiarsc
Subject: FOIA CASE 77487A

Hello,

[redacted] (b) (6)

I am sorry but must have missed an email regarding Item #1 on this request. I would still like it processed as is. What did I miss? What can I help with?

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.

The Black Vault
<http://www.theblackvault.com> <<http://www.theblackvault.com/>>

Government Secrets

<http://www.governmentsecrets.com> <<http://www.governmentsecrets.com/>>

Phone:



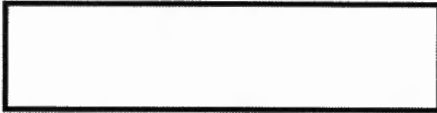
(b) (6)



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

**FOIA Case: 77487B
20 September 2017**

JOHN GREENEWALD



(b) (6)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is an interim response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 10 April 2014, which was received by this office on 11 April 2014 for "Copy of all records, electronic or otherwise, pertaining to the internal discussion by the NSA on how the agency would deal with FOIA requests, the media, and any and all inquiries into the NSA after Edward Snowden released classified information."

One document that you have requested was/were recently reviewed and released under FOIA case 78963. Therefore, the material is enclosed and is being released to you just as it was released in FOIA case 78963. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the documents.

Section 6.2 (d) of E.O. 13526, allows for the protection afforded to information under the provisions of law. Such information exists in these documents and has been deleted in accordance with Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. 3605, formerly 50 U. S. Code 402 note). This information is also exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA.

Please be advised that additional documents responsive to your request have been located in prior FOIA request case numbers 75718 and 78442 that are in the backlog awaiting review. As review of the responsive material is completed for the prior requests, interim responses will be sent providing you with any released documents.

You may appeal this decision. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the following way.

- The appeal request must be in writing and addressed to the:**

**NSA/CSS FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932**

FOIA Case: 77487B

Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248

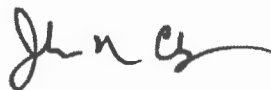
- **The facsimile number is (443)479-3612.**
- **The appropriate email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov.**
- **It must be postmarked no later than 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. Decisions not appealed within 90 days will not be addressed.**
- **Please include the tracking number provided above.**
- **Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial of the requested information was unwarranted.**

NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

You may also contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. 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:

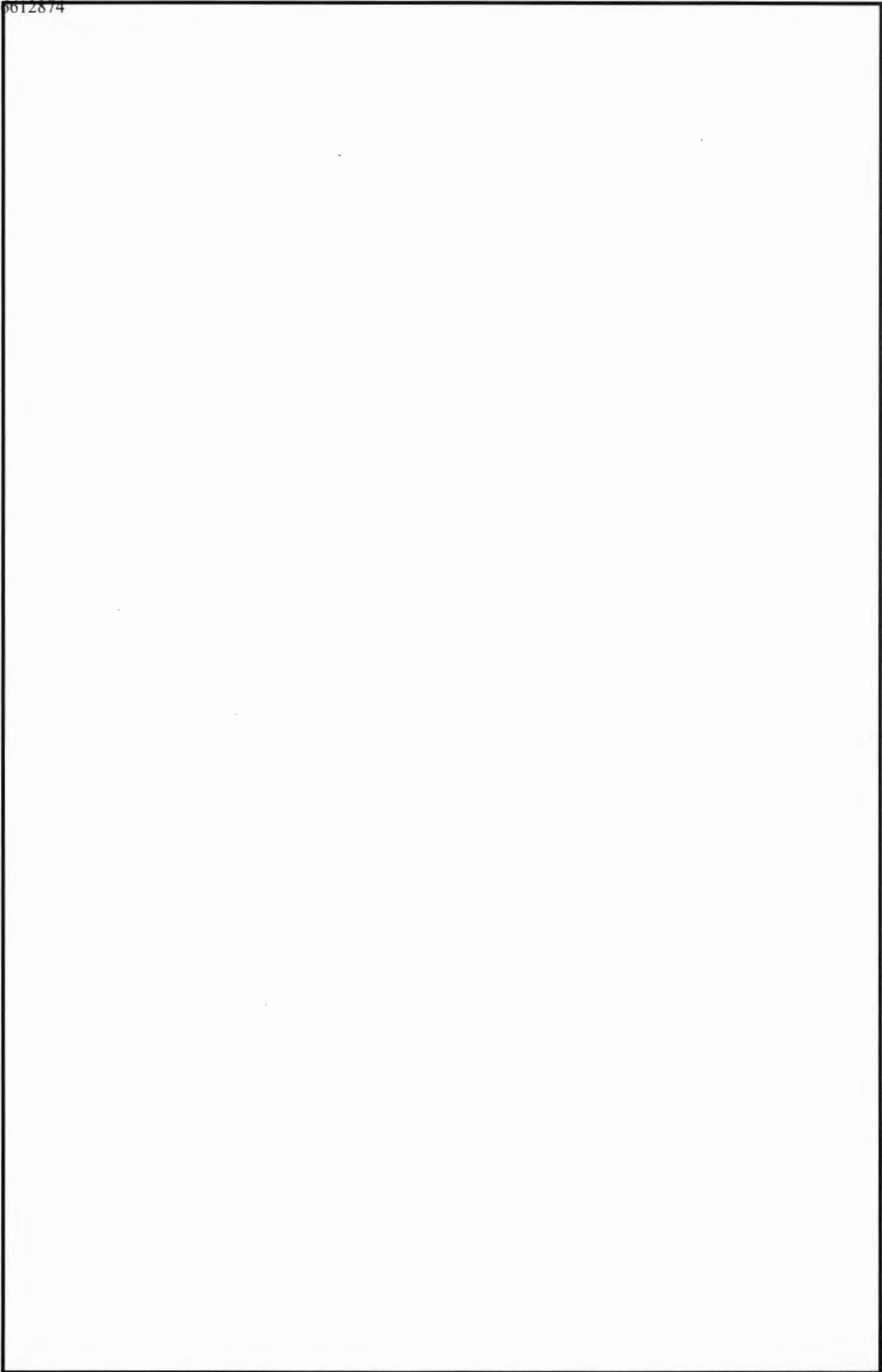
**Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Rd - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740
ogis@nara.gov
(877)684-6448
(202)741-5770
Fax (202)741-5769**

Sincerely,



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

**Encl(s):
a/s**



(b) (5)



Comments for Case 77487

[Redacted] on 09/20/2017 07:42:50 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Letter / document printed and placed in outgoing mail. Case put back in backlog.

JRCHAPM on 09/19/2017 02:34:47 PM

(U) Interim letter signed, case forwarded.

[Redacted] on 08/03/2017 12:04:21 PM

(U//~~FOUO~~) 1 document from case 78963 (closed) was dragged into the case and exported. Letter / MR created and forwarded for approval.

CSBLAC2 on 08/03/2017 11:17:38 AM

(U) Doc Ref A4152060 released in Case 78963. Reassigned to be released in this case too.

[Redacted] on 03/17/2016 04:46:59 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Queue Points: 3

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

[Redacted] on 03/17/2016 04:45:27 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Sending case to the complex processing backlog to await review. Notified Sharon of this action.

[Redacted] on 03/17/2016 04:43:28 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Cindy verified that Mr. Greenwald did not respond to our 10 Feb. 2016 letter that asked for him to send us a "willingness-to-pay" statement regarding duplication fees so I removed the case from "toll." Since he did not provide this information to us, only send Mr. Greenwald the first 100 pages that are reviewed and deemed releasable. (U//~~FOUO~~) This case is piggybacking cases #75718 (see spreadsheet in correspondence tab), #78963 (A4152060), and #78442 (A4221134, A4221136, and A4221138).

[Redacted] on 02/10/2016 05:50:59 AM

(U//~~FOUO~~) Applied the date to the signed letter and put this case into "toll" status for 30 days to await a response from the requester regarding his willingness to pay for duplication. If no response is received, his case will be sent to the processing backlog and he will be provided the first 100 pages reviewed.

CSBLAC2 on 02/05/2016 05:44:18 AM

[Redacted]

(U) Signed with a few tweaks.

[Redacted] on 01/21/2016 09:43:53 AM

(U/~~FOUO~~) Drafted a piggyback M/R and letter that also asks the requester for a willingness to pay statement for duplication. Sending the case to the initial FOIA queue for review, approval, and signature.

CSBLAC2 on 09/16/2015 04:51:30 AM

(U) Re-assigned. Did the requester respond to our email? Other cases like this one? Update, check and let me know

[Redacted] on 04/15/2014 06:36:59 AM

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

(U/~~FOUO~~) Reviewed request. Sent 20 Day Letter.

CSBLAC2 on 04/15/2014 02:52:44 AM

(U) Emailed requester to clarify what documents he seeks re: Item 1 (how the agency deals with FOIA requests after media leaks). Once he clarifies references cases 75757, 75743, and 75752 for Item 1. Task [Redacted] and [Redacted] for Items 2 and 3, once he clarifies.

CSBLAC2 on 04/15/2014 02:50:13 AM

(U) Notified Pamela/Paul on 4/11/2014.