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

FOIA Case: 78914A
17 May 2016

JOHN GREENEWALD
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 24 August 2014 for "All records, electronic or otherwise, that were generated for FOIA case #73445 and MDR #73494. This would include, but not limited to, emails, letters, memos, inter-agency communications, etc." Your request was received on 25 August 2014, and has been assigned Case Number 78914. 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.

We have completed our search for records responsive to your request, and some of the material is enclosed. This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities, as well as the names of its employees. Such information is 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). We have determined that such information exists in these records, and we have excised it accordingly.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you may appeal this decision. However, as your case processing is not yet fully completed, our appeal procedures will be provided with our final response letter.

The remaining material responsive to your request requires further review prior to release and has been placed in the first-in, first-out processing backlog queue. Please be aware, there are a significant number of cases ahead of yours in the backlog queue. We appreciate your patience with our efforts to treat all requesters fairly by responding to each on a "first-in, first-out" basis.

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

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

Case Number: 73445

User: Cindy [redacted] Blacker

Date: 08/25/2014

Comment: (U) Responded to requester's email regarding the portion of this request for UFO docs covering 1996-pres; our final response indicates that all info on UFOs and similar topics has been put on the web. I also provided him with the direct link and noted his new request for (what is interpreted to be) processing notes of this case and MDR #73494. Email correspondence to CPC

User: [redacted]

Date: 08/16/2013

Comment: (U//FOUO) Dated, printed, and placed response letter in mail bin. Closed case.

User: Pamela N Phillips

Date: 08/16/2013

Comment: (U) Signed.

User: Cindy [redacted] Blacker

Date: 08/12/2013

Comment: (U) Sent to F/O for signature. Copy of signed letter to be placed in MDR Case 73494

User: [redacted]

Date: 08/09/2013

Comment: (U//FOUO) Completed response letter and MR, forwarded to approval queue for review & sig.

User: [redacted]

Date: 07/30/2013

Comment: (U//FOUO) Reviewe request and case comments, conducted CTS searches, began drafting response letter and MR.

User: Cindy [redacted] Blacker

Date: 07/29/2013

Comment: (U//FOUO) Created the 2nd part of the request for MDR as Case 73494, notified [redacted]

User: Cindy [redacted] Blacker

Date: 07/25/2013

Comment: (U//FOUO) All UFO info is on the web - no other information is available that we would search for. I am checking with [redacted] in DJ5 re: the MDR portion.

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

Approved for Release by NSA on 05-10-2016. FOIA Case # 78914

The National Security Agency/Central Security Service (NSA/CSS) is the nation's cryptologic organization, and we have a twofold mission. Our Information Assurance mission is to provide solutions, products, and services to protect U.S. information infrastructures critical to national security interests. In response to requirements set at the highest levels of government, our Signals Intelligence mission is to collect, process, and disseminate intelligence information from foreign signals for national foreign intelligence and counterintelligence purposes and to support military operations.

Please be advised that "UFO's," "extra-terrestrials," and "paranormal activities" do not relate to NSA's mission. NSA documents that have been located in searches for "UFO" documents generally fall into two categories. The first category of records includes foreign intelligence reports that contain words such as "unidentified aircraft" or "unidentified (flying) object" or the like. These are simply terms that are used to describe conventional aircraft or objects (possibly weather balloons) that have not been identified as such at the time of the report. The second category of "UFO" documents includes items written by NSA employees with an interest in UFOs or open source publications (magazine/newspaper articles) that were placed into "agency" files by employees. These records are subject to the provisions of FOIA only because they became "agency records" once they were placed in official agency files.

NSA has reviewed and declassified over 450 pages of material related to UFOs and has made the material available on the Internet. You can access the NSA FOIA Home Page at the Internet URL: http://www.nsa.gov/public_info/f_oia/index.shtml. The releasable UFO material is found by clicking on "Public Information," then "Declassification and Transparency." Once there, click on "Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs)" or simply go to URL: http://www.nsa.gov/public_info/d_eclass/ufo/index.shtml. This will take you to an index where you will find a listing of UFO related documents. In addition, there is also a listing of UFO terms for which we hold no records, at URL: http://www.nsa.gov/public_info/f_oia/freq_req_info/ufo_topics.shtml.

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

From:

Sent:

To:

Cc:

Subject:

Tuesday, July 22, 2014 8:45 AM

(U) MDR-73494, 21 JUL 2014

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

MAILED Tuesday, July 22, 2014.

Thanks,

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

Approved for Release by NSA on 05-10-2016. FOIA Case # 78914