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Washington, D.C. 20505

4 November 2013

Mr. John Greenwald
The Black Vault

Reference: F-2013-02459

Dear Mr. Greenwald:

This is a final response to your 16 August 2013 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for "a copy of all documents pertaining to the decision and declassification of this reference to Area 51 – in the document 'The Central Intelligence Agency and Overhead Reconnaissance: The U-2 and Oxcart Program.'" We processed your request in accordance with the FOIA 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431, as amended. Our processing included a search for records as described in our 24 September 2013 acceptance letter.

We completed a thorough search for records responsive to your request and located one document, consisting of one page, which we can release in segregable form with deletions made on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and (b)(5). A copy of the document and an explanation of exemptions are enclosed. Exemption (b)(3) pertains to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant statute is the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 U.S.C. § 403g, as amended, Section 6, which exempts from the disclosure requirement information pertaining to the organization and functions, including those related to the protection of intelligence sources and methods.

As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 45 days from the date of this letter. Please include the basis of your appeal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michele Meeks".

Michele Meeks
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

Explanation of Exemptions

Freedom of Information Act:

- (b)(1) exempts from disclosure information currently and properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;
- (b)(2) exempts from disclosure information, which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;
- (b)(3) exempts from disclosure information that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld. The (b)(3) statutes upon which the CIA relies include, but are not limited to, the CIA Act of 1949;
- (b)(4) exempts from disclosure trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) exempts from disclosure inter-and intra-agency memoranda or letters that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) exempts from disclosure information from personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy;
- (b)(7) exempts from disclosure information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of the information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source or, in the case of information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger any individual's life or physical safety;
- (b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising financial institutions; and
- (b)(9) exempts from disclosure geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

April 2012



(b)(1)
(b)(3)
(b)(5)

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From: Patricia B. Cameresi
DST/BSRC/IRS
Associate Information Review Officer
[Redacted]
Date: 05/06/2010 08:02 AM
Subject: Re: A-51 decision? [Redacted]
To: Frances M. Schilling

Francie...thanks so much for helping us resolve this issue. Patty
Frances M. Schilling/STF/AGENCY



Frances M.
Schilling/STF/AGENCY
D/Business Strategies &
Resources Center/DS&T
[Redacted]
05/05/2010 05:30 PM

To Patricia B. Cameresi/STF/AGENCY@WMA
cc Dwight E. Wallace/STF/AGENCY@WMA, [Redacted]
Subject Re: A-51 decision? [Redacted]

Patty,

The DS&T front office agrees to acknowledge Area 51 as associated with reconnaissance programs during the 1950-1960s as related to the U-2 and A-12 programs.

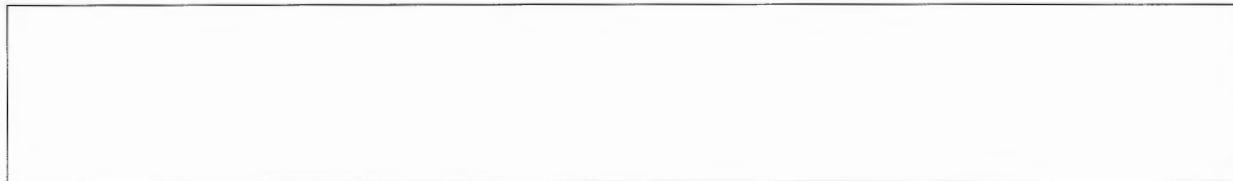


Appreciate Dwight and your patience on this.

Francie.
Patricia B. Cameresi/STF/AGENCY



Patricia B.
Cameresi/STF/AGENCY
DST/BSRC/IRS
Associate Information Review
Officer
[Redacted]
05/03/2010 12:40 PM
To Frances M. Schilling/STF/AGENCY@WMA
cc Dwight E. Wallace/STF/AGENCY@WMA
Subject A-51 decision?



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~