

ATTACHMENT 15

The National Security Archive

The George Washington University
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

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nsarchiv@gwu.edu
www.nsarchive.org

December 22, 2005

By Facsimile and First Class Mail

To the Agency Release Panel
c/o Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505
Fax: (703) 613-3007

RE: Appeal of Adverse Fee Categorization Determination
for FOIA Requests:

F-2005-01811 20051294CIA165
F-2005-01773 20051224CIA157
F-2006-00057 20051507CIA192
F-2006-00039 20051114CIA141
F-2006-00052 20051500CIA189

To the Agency Release Panel:

I am writing to appeal the denial of representative of the news media status for the purpose of fee determinations with respect to each of the above referenced FOIA requests. My November 10, 2005, letter responding to the CIA's query about news media status for these requests is attached, as well as the agency's November 25, 2005, denial of news media fee status. (Enclosure A)

As an initial matter, the November 25, 2005, denial appears to be denying the Archive's right to an administrative appeal within the CIA. Under the unambiguous terms of the Freedom of Information Act and the CIA's own FOIA regulations, the Archive has a right to an administrative appeal before the CIA Agency Release Panel. *See, e.g.*, 32 C.F.R. Sec. 1900.42 ("A right of administrative appeal exists whenever ... a request for a fee waiver is denied."). If the CIA is denying the Archive's appeal rights, then please inform me immediately.

Federal Recognition of the Archive as a Representative of the News Media

In *National Security Archive v. U.S. Dep't of Defense*, 880 F. 2d 1381, 1387 (D.C. Cir 1989), *cert. denied* (Mar. 19, 1990), the D.C. Circuit held that the National Security Archive is entitled to a waiver of all search and review fees under the FOIA as a "representative of the news media." The D.C. Circuit's decision was based on the fact the Archive had published one book and intended to publish document sets in the future. The now-Chief Judge of the D.C. Circuit, Judge Ginsburg, writing for a unanimous court, explained: "A representative of the news media is, in essence, a person or entity that gathers information of potential interest to a segment of the public, uses its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into a distinct work, and distributes that work to an audience." *Id.* at 1387. Since the time of the court decision, the Archive's publication activity has expanded dramatically and the Archive's journalistic work had

An Independent non-governmental research institute and library located at the George Washington University, the Archive collects and publishes declassified documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act. Publication royalties and tax deductible contributions through The National Security Archive Fund, Inc. underwrite the Archive's Budget.

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received numerous awards, including most recently, the 2005 Emmy Award for Outstanding Achievement in News and Documentary Research, presented by the National Television Academy at the 26th Annual News & Documentary Emmy Awards.

In *National Security Archive*, the D.C. Circuit also held that FOIA requests submitted by the National Security Archive in furtherance of its publication activities are not for a "commercial use," *Id.* at 1388. Each of the FOIA requests referenced above is for documents that will directly further the publication activities of the National Security Archive.

Further, the D.C. Circuit held that "[a]bsent [] a change in circumstances ... the Archive is entitled to preferred [news media] status." The *National Security Archive* decision was based on a full consideration of the statute and the legislative history. The language of the FOIA prohibiting search and review fees for representatives of the news media is no different today than it was at the time of the *National Security Archive* decision. Moreover, as explained in the next section of this letter, the facts today are even more supportive of the Archive's news media status than they were at the time of the decision.

And, in fact, the D.C. Circuit is bound by that decision. As the Supreme Court has frequently explained, considerations of *stare decisis* are particularly forceful in the area of statutory construction, especially when a unanimous interpretation of a statute has been accepted as settled law for several decades. With respect to the FOIA there is no argument that the CIA is entitled to deference, as the statute and legislative history makes clear that this is not an area of statutory interpretation that is within the particular expertise of the CIA or that has been delegated to the agencies. Recently, Justice Scalia explained how this works: "The Court's unanimous holding in *Neal v. United States*, 516 U.S. 284 (1996), plainly rejected the notion that any form of deference could cause the Court to revisit a prior statutory-construction holding: 'Once we have determined a statute's meaning, we adhere to our ruling under the doctrine of *stare decisis*, and we assess an agency's later interpretation of the statute against that settled law.' *Id.*, at 29."

Moreover, the CIA – and indeed every other federal agency – has for 15 years abided by the *National Security Archive* decision and recognized the National Security Archive as a "representative of the news media" for similar FOIA requests based on our continuing publication of articles and books. This includes the Department of Defense and all of its component agencies, every other intelligence agency, and the Department of State. The CIA's sudden change in policy, without any explanation, is arbitrary and capricious, and appears that way to all the news media organizations we have spoken with. An agency acts arbitrarily and capriciously when it abruptly departs from a position it previously held without satisfactorily explaining its reason for doing so. "Indeed, where an agency departs from established precedent without a reasoned explanation, its decision will be vacated as arbitrary and capricious." *ANR Pipeline Co. v. FERC*, 71 F.3d 897, 901 (D.C. Cir. 1995); *see also Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company v. FERC*, 236 F.3d 738 (D.C. Cir. 2001) (finding sudden imposition of fees on a licensee that was not previously subject to fees arbitrary and capricious and vacating the fees); *AT & T v. FCC*, 974 F.2d 1351, 1355 (D.C. Cir. 1992) (faulting the FCC for failing to explain why it "changed the original price cap rules" and concluding that the Commission's "Reconsideration Order is arbitrary and capricious for want of an adequate explanation"). As the Supreme Court has put it, "an agency changing its course must supply a reasoned analysis..." *Motor Vehicle Mfrs. Ass'n v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 463 U.S. 29, 57 (1983) (citation omitted). It is hard to imagine, under the circumstances presented here, that the CIA will be able to come anywhere close to meeting this standard.

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The Archive's News Media Activities

The regulation cited in the denial letter, 32 C.F.R. § 1900.02 (3) states, "[r]epresentative of the news media means a request from an individual actively gathering news for an entity that is organized and operated to publish and broadcast news to the American public pursuant to their news dissemination function and not commercial interests." As you undoubtedly know, this language is drawn from Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") guidelines applicable to all agencies subject to the FOIA. OMB has indicated that news media be "defined generically as "an entity that is organized and operated to publish or broadcast news to the public." See Uniform Freedom of Information Act Fee Schedule and Guidelines, 52 Fed. Reg. 10,012, 10,012-17 (1987). Furthermore, when establishing qualification as a member of the "news media," OMB advised, "a history of continuing publication... would suffice." *Id.*

Here, the National Security Archive unquestionably qualifies for "news media" status. The National Security Archive has an extensive publication history, including the production of over 40 books. These include, *The Pinochet File: A Declassified Dossier on Atrocity and Accountability*, by Peter Kornbluh (New York: The New Press, 551 pp.), *The Kissinger Transcripts: The Top Secret Talks with Beijing and Moscow* by William Burr (New York: The New Press, 515 pp.), *Bay of Pigs Declassified: The Secret CIA Report* by Peter Kornbluh (New York: The New Press, 340 pp.), *Atomic Audit: The Costs and Consequences of U.S. Nuclear Weapons since 1940* by Stephen I. Schwartz with Thomas S. Blanton, William Burr et al. (Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, 680 pp.) A more complete list of books by Archive analysts is attached. (Enclosure B) As you can imagine, the books are available to the public in bookstores, libraries, and for purchase over the Internet.

The decision to recognize the Archive as a representative of the news media in the *National Security Archive* case was based on the Archive's intention to publish document sets, along with indexes and finding aids. Our most recent document sets, which publish documents obtained through the FOIA, along with commentary, indexes and finding aids, include *U.S. Policy in the Vietnam War, Part I, 1954-1968*, *U.S. Policy in the Vietnam War, Part II: 1969-1975*, *Japan and the United States: Diplomatic, Security, and Economic Relations, Part II, 1977-1992* and *Guatemala and the United States, 1954-1999*. A list of our 26 published document sets is attached as well. (Enclosure C) These sets are available digitally and on microfiche, and are distributed to a broad range of libraries, universities, research institutes, and the like. In addition, any member of the public is able to access these for free in our own public reading room.

Articles written by National Security Archive analysts have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Congressional Quarterly*, *The LA Times*, *Harpers Magazine*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Nation*, *The Guardian*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, *World Policy Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *Newsweek*, *The International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence*, *International Security*, *Intelligence and National Security* and other publications.

Additionally, the National Security Archive actively distributes electronic newsletters, at no cost, on an almost weekly basis to over 7,000 subscribers. These newsletters directly link to documents recently released through the National Security Archive's FOIA activities or update the public on issues pertaining to the operations and activities of the U.S. government. A complete list of our electronic briefing books is available at <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/index.html>.

Archive's Satisfaction of CIA's Additional Criteria for News Media Status

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The CIA's definition of "news media" contains additional requirements not found anywhere in the OMB Fee Guidelines or in other agencies' FOIA regulations. Although Congress, in the FOIA, directed that agency fee schedules should "conform to the guidelines ... promulgated, pursuant to notice and receipt of public comment, by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget," 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(a)(4)(A)(i), the CIA's regulations do not meet this standard. Interestingly, when the CIA added additional criteria to its regulations in an Interim Regulation published in the Federal Register eight years ago, it stated that the revised regulations would "not alter substantially any existing rights of members of the public." 62 C.F.R. 32479 (June 16, 1997).¹ We and the other news media organizations we have consulted believe that the new interpretation that the CIA is applying to its regulations does just the opposite. Of course, many of the other news media outlets are profoundly interested in definitions of news media because they have been actively pursuing an expansion of news media definitions to include non-traditional news media, such as the definition in the OPEN Government Act proposed by Senators Cornyn and Leahy.

It is the Archive's position that it meets the standards of the CIA's regulation, even though those standards are not the appropriate ones by which to judge whether a FOIA requester is a representative of the news media. With the exception of the following points, I incorporate by reference my letter of November 10, 2005 (Enclosure A) as an explanation of the manner in which these requests satisfy the CIA's regulations for news media.

In general, when new information concerning important events is released it is "news" even if the underlying events took place long ago so long as it is of "current interest to the public." See OMB Guidelines ("The term 'news' means information that is about current events or that would be of current interest to the public.") (emphasis added); 32 C.F.R. 1900.02 ("the term news means information which ... would be of current interest to the general public"). That is the case with many of the requests described below. The public's desire for knowledge is not satisfied with the mere passage of time. For example, a few weeks ago *The New York Times* published a story about the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin incident and the role intelligence failures at the National Security Agency's played in that incident. Just this week recently uncovered documents from Guatemala's civil war in the late 1970s and 80s made major news, including an Associated Press story "Official Says Guatemala Killed Leftists," from December 14, 2005, which was reproduced in over twenty print publications. New, definitive or official information on these events, some of which took place decades ago, are still some of today's most important news stories because the information is revelatory for the public's understanding of their own histories, and of events that have changed the course of history and that impact current events.

In addition, as to how the Archive will disseminate the information to a significant element of the public at minimal cost, the same response applies to every one of the Archive's FOIA requests. As the National Security Archive has repeatedly done in the past, publication and public dissemination of these documents will be accomplished by one or more methods, all with the explicit goal of reaching the largest audience possible at the lowest cost possible. If the document is released and contains new information not previously widely known to the public, or policy not previously widely documented in the public

¹ The CIA's additional criteria appear to be drawn from the FOIA's definition of what would qualify for a public interest fee waiver, and the cases decided under that provision. The Archive is requesting news media status and is not requesting a public interest fee waiver. Congress was well aware of how to limit applicability of a fee waiver to information meeting content criteria, as demonstrated by its definition of the standard for a public interest fee waiver. Under elementary principles of statutory construction, it is clear that Congress declined to impose such content criteria for the news media fee waiver.

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record, we will immediately publish a briefing book explaining the significance of the document and providing relevant historical background with the document. We also publish short electronic briefing books (collections of 5-50 documents that describe a specific event or a specific U.S. government policy). These are circulated at no cost to our over 7000 subscribers and made available at no cost on our Web site for all members of the public. See www.nsarchive.org. The documents themselves will be available on our Web site, at no cost, indefinitely, for anyone with Internet access to view, copy, download, disseminate and further utilize. We provide a comprehensive full-text keyword search so that people can locate documents related to their research even if they don't know exactly what document they are looking for.

In addition, the Archive's centerpiece publications are its document sets. If the requested documents contain substantive information, they will be included in a published document set. These document collections are published in microfiche (available at any of the hundreds of libraries that purchase access to our sets), paper copies of documents (available in our reading room to anyone present or via mail to anyone who sends an inquiry), or through the Digital National Security Archive, a database that contains full-text searchable and chronologically organized images of released government documents. For these published sets, the National Security Archive will take between 2-5 years to gather all recently declassified documents on a particular issue. Each set focuses on specific U.S. government policies on a region or an issue and provides an unparalleled resource of declassified government documents to the public.

For the benefit of the Agency release panel, I wish to note that the CIA has now questioned news media status with respect to 36 FOIA requests filed since August 2005. As a matter of policy, it appears to the Archive that the CIA's sudden reversal of longstanding policy, and its apparent eagerness to elevate this matter to a judicial forum (as evidenced by its invitation to the Archive to address this immediately in court rather than through the agency appeal process), betrays a purpose of harassing the Archive and discouraging its FOIA requests. This is exactly what Congress forbade agencies to do under cover of fee determinations. S. Rep. No. 93-1200, Conference Reports on the 1974 Amendments to the FOIA ("The conferees intend that fees should not be used for the purpose of discouraging requests for information or as obstacles to disclosure of requested information"). As you can imagine, the Archive will appeal each one of these fee determinations to the Agency Release Panel and any future denials. As a matter of good government, it does not appear sensible to use taxpayer money to clog up the CIA's administrative appeal process or cause frivolous legal defenses to be litigated through three courts.

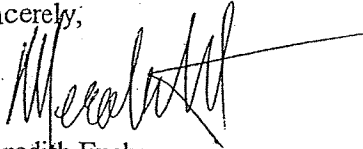
I hope to receive your favorable response to this appeal granting news media fee status related to FOIA requests F-2005-01811 20051294CIA165; F-2005-01773 20051224CIA157; F-2006-00057 20051507CIA192; F-2006-00039 20051114CIA141; and F-2006-00052 20051500CIA189.

Furthermore, if you decide to deny news media status for any of the above listed requests, please specifically indicate which of the criteria in 32 C.F.R. Sec. 1900.02 you have determined is not met. Your failure to specify which criterion has not been satisfied will be viewed by the Archive, as well as the news media organizations that have been briefed, as evidence that the CIA intends to interfere with legitimate news media use of the FOIA.

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December 22, 2005

Please feel free to contact me by telephone if you wish to discuss this further. I can be reached on my direct line at 202-994-7059.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Fuchs', with a long horizontal line extending to the right across the signature.

Meredith Fuchs
General Counsel

ATTACHMENT 16

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

8 February 2006

Ms. Meredith Fuchs
General Counsel
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Re: Appeal of Freedom of Information Act Fee Categorization Determinations

F-2005-01773 20051224CIA157 F-2006-00039 20051114CIA141
F-2005-01811 20051294CIA165 F-2006-00052 20051500CIA189
F-2006-00057 20051507CIA192

Dear Ms. Fuchs:

We have received your letter of 22 December 2005 ostensibly appealing to the CIA's Agency Release Panel our fee categorization of the above-referenced requests. You asserted that the five requests above met the definition of news and therefore warranted placement in the news media fee category. Based on the information you provided in your letter, we determined that the requests did not deal with news as our regulations define the term. We therefore placed these requests in the "all other" fee category.

I regret that our published regulations provide no right of administrative appeal for a fee categorization decision. The applicable and publicly available provision of 32 C.F.R. § 1900.42 (a) limits administrative appeals to three circumstances: denial of access to records or any portion thereof; searches that locate no records; and denials of requests for fee *waivers*. In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, you have the right to seek judicial review of these decisions in a United States district court.

Our regulations require a fee commitment for cases in which we estimate fees will exceed \$100. We estimate that fees in the above-cases will exceed \$100, and therefore require the Archive's commitment to pay them before we can begin processing the cases. The search fees for each item in a request usually approximate \$150.

We will hold the five requests above in abeyance for 45 days pending our receipt of the Archive's commitment to pay fees. Once we receive the Archive's commitment,

20051224CIA157 CIA
RECNO:31804 SEQCOR:119150
2/13/2006 FOISG: Elias, Barbara
Taliban Members (Omar, Rabbani)

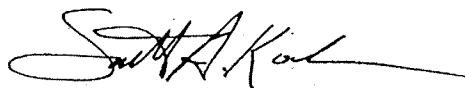
Ms. Meredith Fuchs
General Counsel

Page 2

8 February 2006

we will place these five requests in the processing queue using the date of the initial request letter. They will not lose their place in line.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott A. Koch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Scott A. Koch, Ph.D.
CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator

ATTACHMENT 17

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

10 April 2006

Ms. Barbara Elias
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: Enclosed List of 40 FOIA Requests

Dear Ms. Elias:

On 8 February 2006 I informed you and Ms. Meredith Fuchs, your General Counsel, that we would hold the enclosed list of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) cases in abeyance for forty-five days pending our receipt of the National Security Archive's commitment to pay fees. That time has expired. In an effort to be certain that you have had an adequate opportunity to consider whether you wish to make such a commitment, I am extending the period until Friday, 21 April 2006, *for the enclosed list of forty cases only.*

If we do not receive your fee commitment by Friday, 21 April 2006, we will close all forty cases in accordance with our regulation published at 32 C.F.R. § 1900.13(e). Please be assured that you may resubmit these requests at any time thereafter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Koch".

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosure

20051224CIA157
RECNO:31804
4/14/2006
CIA
SEQCOR:120330
FOISG: Elias, Barbara
Taliban Members (Omar Rabhani)

Enclosure

Ms. Barbara Elias
The National Security Archive

10 April 2006

**List of 40 FOIA Requests: Pending Fee Commitment - Response
Extended through Friday, 21 April 2006**

CIA FOIA Reference Number	The National Security Archive Number
F-2005-01773	20051224CIA157
F-2005-01811	20051294CIA165
F-2006-00039	20051114CIA141
F-2006-00051	20051502CIA190
F-2006-00052	20051500CIA189
F-2006-00057	20051507CIA192
F-2006-00058	20051505CIA191
F-2006-00081	20051532CIA193
F-2006-00083	20051545CIA195
F-2006-00084	20051541CIA194
F-2006-00087	20051562CIA199
F-2006-00088	20051564CIA200
F-2006-00098	20051548CIA196
F-2006-00099	20051551CIA197
F-2006-00100	20051559CIA198
F-2006-00104	20051576CIA204
F-2006-00105	20051574CIA203
F-2006-00106	20051573CIA202
F-2006-00107	20051568CIA201
F-2006-00114	20051582CIA207
F-2006-00116	20051580CIA206
F-2006-00118	20051586CIA208
F-2006-00121	20051593CIA210
F-2006-00122	20051591CIA209
F-2006-00126	20051595CIA211
F-2006-00127	20051598CIA212
F-2006-00129	20051601CIA213
F-2006-00173	20051612CIA214
F-2006-00186	20051619CIA215
F-2006-00187	20051622CIA216
F-2006-00190	20051645CIA220
F-2006-00191	20051637CIA219
F-2006-00194	20051632CIA218
F-2006-00195	20051629CIA217
F-2006-00198	20051655CIA223
F-2006-00199	20051658CIA224
F-2006-00202	20051652CIA222
F-2006-00286	20051686CIA225
F-2006-00293	20051693CIA226
F-2006-00296	20051700CIA227

ATTACHMENT 18

The National Security Archive

The George Washington University
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

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nsarchive@gwu.edu
www.nsarchive.org
Direct: 202-994-7059
E-mail: mfuchs@gwu.edu

April 21, 2006

By Facsimile

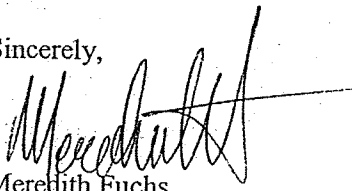
Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505
Fax: (703) 613-3007

Dear Mr. Koch:

Thank you for your letter dated April 10, 2006. As we have expressed in prior correspondence to you and to the CIA Agency Release Panel, the Archive disputes the CIA's determination that it is not entitled to news media status for the 40 FOIA requests referenced in your letter. See, *inter alia*, Letters Dated November 10, 2005, November 22, 2005, and December 22, 2005. It is our view that these determinations were made for the purpose of discouraging requests for information by the Archive or as obstacles to disclosure of requested information to the Archive.

You have informed us that we are not entitled to an administrative appeal of the denial of news media status and, accordingly, our only option is to litigate the matter. Because we continue to evaluate and research our options, we request that you continue to hold these requests in abeyance for an additional 45 business days. This request should not be construed as a waiver of any legal rights or remedies available to the Archive. The Archive continues to object to the non-processing of these FOIA requests by the CIA and objects to these requests being closed.

Sincerely,



Meredith Fuchs
General Counsel

ATTACHMENT 19

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

1 May 2006

Meredith Fuchs
General Counsel
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

VIA FACSIMILE (202) 994-7005 AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dear Ms. Fuchs:

I have received your facsimile letter of 21 April 2006 requesting an additional forty-five business days in which to evaluate and research your options whether you will pay the FOIA fees associated with being in the "all other" category. My letter of 8 February 2006 held your original requests in abeyance for forty-five days pending my receipt of your fee commitment.

The National Security Archive did not make a fee commitment within the forty-five days our regulations require. Nonetheless, given the importance of the issue to you, by letter of 10 April 2006, I extended that deadline an additional 27 days from the original expiration date of 25 March 2006. This second deadline expired on 21 April 2006. Under the circumstances, I cannot extend the deadline an additional forty-five days; but as an act of good faith I will extend it an additional fourteen days.

I must therefore receive your commitment to pay the fees associated with the forty outstanding requests on or before Friday, 12 May 2006. If I do not receive your commitment by then, I must close them. You, of course, are free to refile your requests at any time thereafter.

Should you decide to pay the nominal fees you will likely incur, we will process your cases as of the date we received them, which will not prejudice your interests or cause you to lose your place in line. You also will retain all your appeal rights in the

20051224CIA157	CIA
RECNO: 31804	SEQCOR: 120940
DATER: 5/5/2006	Elias, Barbara
Taliban Members (Omar, Rabbani)	

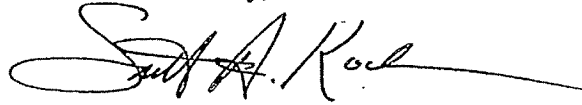
Meredith Fuchs
General Counsel

Page 2

1 May 2006

event we must deny any information in whole or are unable to locate responsive records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott A. Koch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Scott A. Koch, Ph.D.
CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator

ATTACHMENT 20

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, DC 20505

31 May 2006

Mr. Michael Evans
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037

Reference: F-2006-00622 / Archive # 20060134CIA012

Dear Mr. Evans:

This responds to Ms. Fuchs' 8 May 2006 letter concerning your 3 February 2006 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records pertaining to:

**The recent peace negotiations on or about
December 2005 between the government of
Colombia and the Ejercito de Liberacion Nacional
(National Liberation Army, or ELN).**

In our 5 April 2006 letter we asked that you explain how the request satisfies the criteria required to be placed into the fee category of "news media," particularly with regard to "enhancing the public understanding of the operations or activities of the U.S. Government." We have considered carefully the reasons you gave on pages 1 and 2. I have determined that this request does not meet the criteria.


Your request therefore falls into the "all other" fee category, which means that you will be required to pay charges which recover the cost of searching for and reproducing responsive records (if any) beyond the first 100 pages of reproduction and the first two hours of search time, which will be furnished without charge. Copying costs will be assessed at the rate of ten cents per page.

Before we can begin processing your request, we must receive your commitment to pay fees incurred under the conditions stated above. The search fees for each item in a request could amount to as much as \$150.

20060134CIA012
RECNO:32636
6/6/2006
CIA
SEQCOR:121485
FOISG: Evans, Michael
Demobilization Peace Talks in Cuba

We will hold your request in abeyance for 45 days pending receipt of your commitment to pay the fees associated with your request. If, however, we do not hear from you within 45 days from the date of this letter, we will assume that you are no longer interested in receiving the information requested, and we will close your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Koch", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

ATTACHMENT 21

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, DC 20505

31 May 2006

Mr. Michael Evans
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Reference: F-2006-00623 / Archive # 20060132CIA011

Dear Mr. Evans:

This responds to Ms. Fuchs' 8 May 2006 letter concerning your 3 February 2006 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records pertaining to:

1. **The agreement between President Alvaro Uribe of Colombia and President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela authorizing the construction of a 215-kilometer gas pipeline between the Paraguana Refinery Complex in Venezuela and Punta Ballenas in Colombia, signed on or about November 24, 2005;**
2. **Further discussions concerning a possible extension of the pipeline to other Andean countries; and**
3. **The agreement to create a Binational Border Development Fund to improve living conditions along the Colombian-Venezuelan border.**

In our 5 April 2006 letter we asked that you explain how the request satisfies the criteria required to be placed into the fee category of "news media," particularly with regard to "enhancing the public understanding of the operations or activities of the U.S. Government." We have considered carefully the reasons you gave on pages 2 and 3. I have determined that this request does not meet the criteria.

Your request therefore falls into the "all other" fee category, which means that you will be required to pay charges which recover the cost of searching for and reproducing responsive records (if any) beyond the first 100 pages of reproduction and the first two hours of search time, which will be furnished without charge. Copying costs will be assessed at the rate of ten cents per page.

20060132CIA011
RECNO:32634
6/6/2006
CIA
SEQCOR:121486
FOISG: Evans, Michael
Colombia-Venezuela pipeline construction

Before we can begin processing your request, we must receive your commitment to pay fees incurred under the conditions stated above. The search fees for each item in a request could amount to as much as \$150.

We will hold your request in abeyance for 45 days pending receipt of your commitment to pay the fees associated with your request. If, however, we do not hear from you within 45 days from the date of this letter, we will assume that you are no longer interested in receiving the information requested, and we will close your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Koch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

ATTACHMENT 22

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, DC 20505

15 December 2005

Ms. Emilene Martinez
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Reference: F-2006-00203 / Archive 20051649CIA221

Dear Ms. Martinez:

This is further to our 2 December 2005 letter concerning your 9 November 2005 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for:

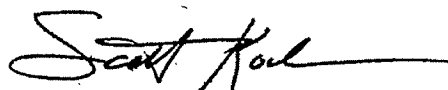
“all documents in any medium relating in whole or in part to the potential impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on the illegal migration of Mexican citizens to the United States, actions by coyotes, or smugglers of illegal migrants, to take advantage of the future agreement, and U.S. and Mexican government attempts to control NAFTA’s impact on migration..”

This request satisfies the criteria for receiving preferential fee treatment as a representative of the news media. Based on The National Security Archive’s agreement to pay copying costs for requests placed into that category, we have accepted your request; it will be processed in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431. Unless you object, our search will be for CIA documents existing through the date of this acceptance letter. We note your request to be notified before incurring any photocopying costs over \$100.

20051649CIA221 CIA
RECNO:32363 SEQCOR:118396
1/4/2006 FOISG: Martinez, Emilene
NAFTA and illegal migration

The large number of FOIA requests CIA receives has created unavoidable delays making it unlikely that we can respond within the 20 working days the FOIA requires. You have the right to consider our honest appraisal as a denial of your request and you may appeal to the Agency Release Panel. A more practical approach would permit us to continue processing your request and respond to you as soon as we can. You will retain your appeal rights and, once you receive the results of our search, can appeal at that time if you wish. We will proceed on that basis unless you object.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Koch", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

ATTACHMENT 23

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

14 March 2006

Ms. Joyce Battle
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: F-2006-00667 (Archive No. 20060203CIA016)

Dear Ms. Battle:

The office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator has received your 14 February 2006 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for copies of the following documents:

1. Senior Publish When Ready, Iraq's Expanding BW Capability (July 13, 2002)
2. Senior Executive Memorandum, Key Milestones in Our Assessments of Iraq's Nuclear Program (September 14, 2002)
3. Senior Executive Memorandum (September 16, 2002)
4. Senior Executive Memo, In Response to an Inquiry About What the Iraqis are Likely to Disclose if They Use the US and British "White Papers," as a Guide (November 27, 2002)
5. Senior Executive Memorandum, What We Think of the IAEA's Analysis of Iraq's Attempt to Purchase Aluminum Tubes (December 26, 2002)

We have assigned your request the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding so that we can identify it easily.

Regarding items 1, 3 and 5, we received a previous request for these same documents. We recently reviewed the material and determined that it is properly classified and must be denied in its entirety on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3).

20060203CIA016
RECNO:31774
3/23/2006
Iraqi WMD Memos

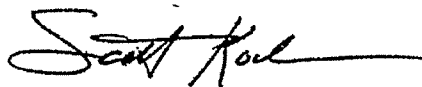
CIA
SEQCOR:119950
FOISG: Battle, Joyce

With regard to items 2 and 4, we accept your request and will process it in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431. Unless you object, we will limit our search to CIA-originated records existing through the date of this acceptance letter.

We determined that your request falls in the "news media" fee category because it meets the criteria our published regulations require. You will be required to pay only for the cost of reproducing released records. You will be assessed for document copies at the rate of ten cents per page for pages in excess of the first 100, to which you are entitled free.

The large number of FOIA requests CIA receives has created unavoidable processing delays making it unlikely that we can respond within the 20 working days the FOIA requires. You have the right to consider our honest appraisal as a denial of your request and you may appeal to the Agency Release Panel. A more practical approach would permit us to continue processing your request and respond to you as soon as we can. You will retain your appeal rights and, once you receive the results of our search, can appeal at that time if you wish. We will proceed on that basis unless you object.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Koch", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

ATTACHMENT 24

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

22 March 2006

Ms. Joyce Battle
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: F-2006-00728 (Archive No. 20060339CIA032)

Dear Ms. Battle:

The office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator has received your 7 March 2006 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for copies of:

All assessments, intelligence memoranda, intelligence reports, national intelligence estimates, special analyses, and special national intelligence estimates concerned in whole or in part with 1) the Ayatollah Ali Sistani's July 1, 2003 fatwa (interpretation and declaration) stating that an election in Iraq was necessary to choose representatives to write a new constitution; 2) U.S. policy in response to the fatwa.

We have assigned your request the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding so that we can identify it easily.

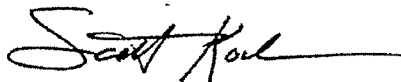
We accept your request and will process it in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431. Unless you object, we will limit our search to CIA-originated records existing through the date of this acceptance letter.

We determined that your request falls in the "news media" fee category because it meets the criteria our published regulations require. You will be required to pay only for the cost of reproducing released records. You will be assessed for document copies at the rate of ten cents per page for pages in excess of the first 100, to which you are entitled free.

20060339CIA032	CIA
RECNO:32899	SEQCOR:120088
4/3/2006	FOISG: Battle, Joyce
Sistani Fatwa	

The large number of FOIA requests CIA receives has created unavoidable processing delays making it unlikely that we can respond within the 20 working days the FOIA requires. You have the right to consider our honest appraisal as a denial of your request and you may appeal to the Agency Release Panel. A more practical approach would permit us to continue processing your request and respond to you as soon as we can. You will retain your appeal rights and, once you receive the results of our search, can appeal at that time if you wish. We will proceed on that basis unless you object.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott Koch". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

ATTACHMENT 25

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

990130CIA036

OCT 27 1999

RECEIVED OCT 29 1999

Ms. Joyce Battle
National Security Archive
The Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: F-1999-00850

Dear Ms. Battle:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your 30 March 1999 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (Archive File No. 990130CIA036) for the following **Central Intelligence Bulletins**:

1. **Communist China-Pakistan: Aid, May 4, 1971**
2. **Communist China-Pakistan: Aid, May 13, 1971**
3. **Communist China-Pakistan: Military, July 15, 1971**
4. **Communist China-Pakistan: Diplomacy, August 24, 1971**
5. **Communist China: Military, August 25, 1971**
6. **Communist-China-India: Diplomacy, October 23, 1971**
7. **Pakistan-Communist China: Diplomacy, November 4, 1971**
8. **Pakistan-China: Diplomacy, November 5, 1971**
9. **Communist China-Pakistan: Diplomacy, November 9, 1971**
10. **India-Israel: Military, November 16, 1971**
11. **India-Poland: Military, November 19, 1971**
12. **India-Pakistan-Communist China: Diplomacy, November 19, 1971**
13. **Pakistan-Communist China: Military, November 19, 1971**
14. **India-Pakistan: Military, December 4, 1971**
15. **India-Pakistan: Military, December 6, 1971**
16. **India-Pakistan: Military, December 7, 1971**
17. **India-Pakistan: Military, December 8, 1971**

990130CIA036

RECNO:20209

10/29/1999

CIA

SEQCOR:47342

FOISG: Battle, Joyce

Intelligence Bulletins on India-Pak-China

18. India-Pakistan: Military, December 9, 1971
19. India-Pakistan: Military, December 10, 1971
20. India-Pakistan: Military, December 11, 1971
21. India-Pakistan: Military, December 13, 1971
22. India-Pakistan: Military, December 14, 1971
23. India-Pakistan: Military, December 15, 1971
24. India-Pakistan: Military, December 16, 1971
25. *India-Pakistan: Military, December 17, 1971*
26. India-Pakistan: Military, December 19, 1971.

For identification purposes we have assigned your request the number referenced above. We apologize for the delay in our response caused by an administrative oversight and will therefore place your request in its rightful place in our processing queues based on the 30 March 1999 date of your original request.

Based on The National Security Archive's agreement to pay copying costs as a requester in the category of "representative of the news media," we accepted your request; it will be processed in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431. Our search will be for documents in existence as of and through the date of this acceptance letter.

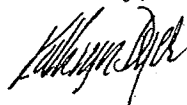
However, we also searched our database of previously released material and located item 25 of your request titled "India-Pakistan: Military, dated December 17, 1971." Please find the enclosed 9 page document which counts towards the first 100 pages to which you are entitled free of charge.

Concerning your request for a fee waiver, the FOIA, 50 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4)(iii), specifically provides that "documents shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established under the clause (ii) if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the [United States] government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester."

We have reviewed your request and have determined that the information you seek from Agency files would not contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations or activities of the United States Government. Accordingly, in this instance, your request for a fee waiver is denied.

The heavy volume of FOIA requests received by the Agency has created delays in processing. Since we cannot respond within the 20 working days stipulated by the FOIA, you have the right to consider this a denial and may appeal to the Agency Release Panel. It would seem more reasonable, however, to have us continue processing your request and respond to you as soon as we can. You can appeal any denial of records at that time. Unless we hear from you otherwise, we will assume that you agree, and we will proceed on this basis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn I. Dyer', written in a cursive style.

Kathryn I. Dyer
Acting Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosure

Search Title/Keywords - Find ALL search terms
SEARCH TERMS: "Central", "Intelligence",
"Bulletins"

Requester Report

Database Transactions from: 01/01/1971 to 12/31/1971

F-1999-0850

Sorted by Document Number

(Only includes UNCLASSIFIED documents with Final Release Status of RIFPUB, RIPPUB, RIFPUBND or RIPPUBND) Date of Report: 10/25/1999

Mori ID #	Pub Date	Pages	Document Title
96392	12/17/1971	9	CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN 17 DECEMBER 1971

Total # Documents: 1 Total # Pages: 9

ATTACHMENT 26



Washington, D.C. 20505

9 March 2006

Ms. Joyce Battle
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: F-1999-00850 / Archive #990130CIA036

Dear Ms. Battle:

This is a final response to your 30 March 1999 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for 26 listed **Central Intelligence Bulletins**. Your request was processed in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431. Our processing included a search for records as described in our acceptance letter, existing through the date of that letter, 27 October 1999.

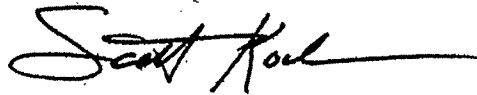
We completed a thorough search for records responsive to your request, located material and made the following determinations. We provided a 17 December 1971 document as an enclosure with our acceptance letter; we were unable to locate the 15 July 1975 Bulletin requested. However, regarding the other dates, we found two and sometimes three versions of the requested information. Enclosed are 47 responsive documents that we have determined can be released in segregable form with deletions made on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3).

As a requester in the "all other" category, you are required to pay charges which recover the cost of searching for and reproducing responsive records (if any) beyond the first 100 pages of reproduction and the first two hours of search time, which are furnished without charge. Copying costs are assessed at the rate of ten cents per page. The cost associated with processing your request amounts to \$17.20. This consists of reproduction of 272 pages at a cost of \$17.20. Since this request has taken additional time, we are waiving charges for the search time. Please send me your check or money order in the amount of \$17.20 *payable to the Treasurer of the United States*, citing Reference Number F-1999-00850 to ensure proper credit to your account.

We apologize for the time it has taken us to answer your request. We have received and accumulated a large number of requests during the past several years. Under the circumstances, we have done our best to be fair to all of our requesters. Thus, some years ago we established the policy of first-received, first-answered. Thank you for your patience and consideration while we were processing your request.

You have the right to appeal our decision within 45 days of the date of this letter. Please address your appeal, in my care, to the Agency Release Panel. You may include the reasons you think our initial decision is wrong.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Koch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

ATTACHMENT 27

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, DC 20505

14 June 2006

Ms. Barbara Elias
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Reference: F-2006-00119 / Archive # 20051578CIA205

Dear Ms. Elias:

This is further to our 8 November 2005 letter concerning your 26 October 2005 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for:

"all documents pertaining in whole or in part to memoranda from National Intelligence Officer for Soviet Affairs Arnold Horelick to CIA Director Admiral Stansfield Turner from March 28, 1979, April 5, 1979, and April 24, 1979 referenced in...*From the Shadows.*"

We note Ms. Fuchs' statement in her 12 May 2006 letter that the National Security Archive agrees to pay fees attendant to this request in the "all other" fee category. Therefore, we accept your request and will process it according to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431. Unless you object, we will limit our search to CIA-originated records existing through the date of this acceptance letter. We also note her statement that you wish to be informed before incurring costs above \$250 for this request. We do not anticipate that the fees will be greater than that amount.

The large number of FOIA requests CIA receives has created unavoidable processing delays making it unlikely that we can respond within the 20 working days the FOIA requires. You have the right to consider our honest appraisal as a denial of your request and you may appeal to the Agency Release Panel. A more practical approach would permit us to continue processing your request and respond to you as soon as we can. You will retain your appeal rights and, once you receive the results of our search, can appeal at that time if you wish. We will proceed on that basis unless you object.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Koch".

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator

20051578CIA205
RECNO:32277
6/22/2006
CIA aid to the Mujaheddin in Afghanistan

CIA
SEQCOR:122188
FOISG: Elias, Barbara

ATTACHMENT 28

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

14 June 2006

Mr. Peter Kornbluh
The National Security Archive
The Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: F-2000-01884 (Archive File No. 20000582CIA091)
F-2000-01885 (Archive File No. 20000583CIA092)
F-2000-01886 (Archive File No. 20000580CIA089)
F-2000-01887 (Archive File No. 20000581CIA090)

Dear Mr. Kornbluh:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter dated 17 May 2006 wherein you confirm your continued interest in the above four referenced Freedom of Information Act requests submitted by you to the CIA in August 2000 pertaining to the Chile Declassification Project. Specifically, your requests are as follows:

F-2000-01884 (Archive File No. 20000582CIA091)

1. **“Any and all correspondence, including ‘written assurances,’ transmitted from the CIA to National Security Council personnel working on the Chile Declassification Project in September or October 1999, which committed the CIA to search its operational files for documents on covert operations, pursuant to the February 1, 1999 tasker on Chile.”**
2. **“The guidance paper sent by Director George Tenet in the fall of 1999 to the Directorate of Operations requesting compilation of documents relating to the entire history of U.S. covert operations in Chile.”**
3. **“Any and all documents, including but not limited to memoranda, progress reports, recommendations, evaluations generated by CIA reviewers between October 1999 and August 2000 who were conducting the review and redaction of hundreds of records on CIA covert operations in Chile.”**

20000582CIA091
RECNO:21502
6/22/2006
Written assurances from CIA to NSC

CIA
SEQCOR:122308
FOISG: Kornbluh, Peter

F-2000-01885 (Archive File No. 20000583CIA092)

1. **"All documents including but not limited to all memoranda, reports, evaluations, submitted by officials in the Directorate of Operations to the office of the director, George Tenet which argued that documents gathered and reviewed and redacted on covert operations in Chile for declassification on September 14, 2000 should be withheld."**
2. **"All memoranda of conversation, meeting minutes, notes, e-mail messages, agendas or other records relating to meetings between officials of the Directorate of Operations and Director Tenet and/or his deputies in August, 2000, to discuss recommendations to withhold hundreds of documents on U.S. covert operations in Chile."**
3. **"All memoranda of conversation, telcons, e-mail messages, meeting minutes, notes, agendas or other records relating to phone conversations, e-mail exchanges, or meetings between the Director and/or his deputies and National Security Advisor Samuel Berger in August, 2000, regarding the CIA decision to withhold hundreds of documents on U.S. covert operations in Chile."**

F-2000-01886 (Archive File No. 20000580CIA089)

1. **"All documents on CIA covert operations in Chile, dated from 1962-1975, that were gathered and reviewed and redacted as part of the Clinton Administration's Chile Declassification Project - but withheld from release on September 14, 2000."**
2. **"All lists, titles, coversheets, indexes, catalogues and/or other types of documentation recording documents that were compiled, reviewed, and redacted as part of the Clinton Administration's Chile Declassification Project -- but withheld from release on September 14, 2000."**

F-2000-01887 (Archive File No. 20000581CIA90)

1. **"All Directorate of Operations documents on covert action in Chile, compiled and reviewed but withheld from further consideration for declassification on September 14, 2000."**
2. **"All lists, titles, coversheets, indexes, catalogues and/or other types of documentation recording documents that were reviewed but withheld from further consideration or submission for declassification under the Chile Declassification Project."**

We accept your request and will process it according to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431. Unless you object, we will limit our search to CIA-originated records existing through the date of this acceptance letter. We will insert these requests into the appropriate place in our processing queue.

The large number of FOIA requests CIA receives has created unavoidable delays making it unlikely that we can respond within the 20 working days the FOIA requires. You have the right to consider our honest appraisal as a denial of your request and you may appeal to the Agency Release Panel. A more practical approach would permit us to continue processing your request and respond to you as soon as we can. You will retain your appeal rights and, once you receive the results of our search, can appeal at that time if you wish. We will proceed on that basis unless you object.

We determined that your request, based on similar cases that we processed for The National Security Archive in 2000, falls into the "news media" fee category. Therefore, you will be required to pay only for the cost of reproducing released records. You will be assessed for document copies at the rate of ten cents per page for pages in excess of the first 100, to which you are entitled free.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Koch", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator