

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

5 March 2014

Mr. Jason Leopold



(b)(6)

Reference: F-2014-00746

Dear Mr. Leopold:

This is further to our 4 February 2014 letter concerning your 21 January 2014 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for **disclosure of any and all records that were prepared, received, transmitted, collected and /or maintained by the Director's Review Group for Rendition, Detention, and Interrogation.**

The records [you] seek, should they exist, include:

- 1. The Review Group's Charter.**
- 2. Dates, times and locations for public meetings.**
- 3. Detailed minutes and transcripts of each meeting.**
- 4. All records, reports, transcripts, minutes, appendixes, working papers, drafts, studies, agenda, or other documents which were made available to or prepared for or by the group.**
- 5. Letters, memos, emails sent to members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence by Review Group officials and letters, memos, emails the Review Group received from Senate Select Committee on Intelligence members.**

With respect to Item 4, we cannot accept your FOIA request in its current form because it would require the Agency to perform an unreasonably burdensome search. The FOIA requires requesters to "reasonably describe" the information they seek so that professional employees familiar with the subject matter can locate responsive information with a reasonable amount of effort. This could include identifying records on a particular event, circumstance, organization, or document title. Commonly this equates to a requirement that the documents must be locatable through the indexing of our various systems. Extremely broad or vague requests or requests requiring research do not satisfy this requirement.

We will accept Items 1, 2, and 5 as written; we interpret Item 3 to be a request for minutes and transcripts of each "public meeting." The CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431, as amended, exempts CIA operational files from the search, review, publication, and disclosure requirements of the FOIA. To the extent your request seeks information that is subject to the FOIA, we accept Items 1, 2, 3, and 5 of your request, and we will process it in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended. We will limit our search for records up to and including the date the Agency starts its search. In accordance with our regulation, as a matter of administrative discretion, the Agency has waived the fees for this request.

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 "Michele Meeks", written in a cursive style.

Michele Meeks
Information and Privacy Coordinator

(b)(3)
(b)(6)

IMS/IRRG/PIPD [redacted] 18 February 2014

Distribution:

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Noted: This request has been reviewed by FOIA and PIPD Chief.