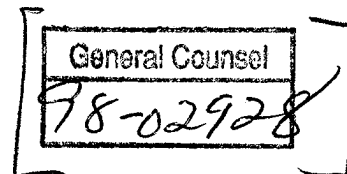


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Mark S. Zaid, Esq.  
Suite 1175  
1501 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Reference: F-1998-00456 (Arianna Huffington)

Dear Mr. Zaid:

This is in response to your 7 April 1998 letter concerning your 10 March 1998 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records pertaining to the following persons:

- "1. Ambassador Maurice Larry Lawrence, former U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland, who died in January 1996.
2. Shelia Davis Lawrence, former U.S. Special Representative to the World Conservation Union and widow of Ambassador Lawrence."

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. Our search will be for documents in existence as of and through the date of this acceptance letter.


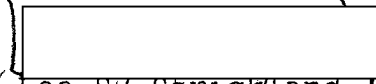
We will be conducting item 2 of this search without authorization from the subject. If we should locate relevant records, we might have to withhold information that, if released, would be an unwarranted invasion of Mrs. Lawrence's privacy.

As you were informed in our 1 April letter, your client Arianna Huffington qualifies for the "representatives of the news media" fee category, which means she will be assessed fees only for the reproduction of documents at the rate of ten cents per page for pages in excess of the first 100.

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 Act, you have the right to consider this as 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 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,

Lee S. Strickland  
Information and Privacy Coordinator