

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

21 May 2002

Mr. Al Newman



(b)(6)

Reference: F-2002-00591

Dear Mr. Newman:

This acknowledges receipt, on 25 April 2002, of your 12 December 2001 letter requesting records under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Specifically, your request is for records pertaining to:

MKULTRA subproject 127 "voting behavior"

For identification purposes we have assigned your request the number referenced above. Please refer to this number in future correspondence.

As you may know, the discovery of anthrax in a letter mailed to the United States Senate on 15 October 2001 led to a series of escalating safety concerns about opening, handling, and even being in the proximity of mail, especially in government offices in Washington, D.C. These concerns, in turn, led to disruptions in, and then total curtailment of, mail delivery service, to include Freedom of Information Act-related correspondence, at many federal agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency.

Under such extraordinary circumstances, the administration of the Freedom of Information Act has inevitably been delayed at all affected federal agencies. As a matter of both common sense and legal precedent, when mail delivery is delayed, so is the commencement of the process of FOIA administration, regardless of the time at which a FOIA request is placed into the mail by the requester or postmarked thereafter. Simply put, the FOIA process cannot begin until the personnel of an agency FOIA office are able to open any belatedly delivered item of mail.

With regard to MKULTRA, as you might expect, we have already conducted exhaustive searches and reviews on human behavior, including LSD testing, and have located and released over 20,000 pages of documents on the general subject of human behavior studies. Much of the MKULTRA material is very limited in scope and consists primarily of financial records. These records concern approvals for the expenditure of funds to support research projects which are described in general terms. Clinical records generated under Project MKULTRA were retained by the persons or institutions that actually conducted the research.

In response to your inquiry, we searched our database of officially released records, and determined that the material you seek comprises 36 pages. Based upon the information provided in your letter, we have determined that your request falls into the "all other" fee category, which means that you are required to pay charges which recover the cost of reproducing responsive records beyond the first 100 pages, which will be furnished without charge. Therefore, there will be no fee associated with this request since the total number of pages is under the 100-page threshold and are furnished free of charge.

Sincerely,



Kathryn I. Dyer
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

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CIO/IMS/IRRG/PIPD, [redacted] /13 May 2002

Signature assigned by: [redacted]

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Enclosures:

MORI ID 17385 (20 pages)

MORI ID 20476 (16 pages)