

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

23 August 2002

Professor James A. Albert
Drake University Law School
2507 University Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50311-4545

Reference: F-2002-01252

Dear Mr. Albert:

This is further to our letter of 6 August 2002 concerning your 24 July 2002 request for records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). This also acknowledges your 20 August 2002 letter wherein you provide additional information pertaining to your request. Specifically, you are requesting any information including, but not limited to, documents, records, studies, reports, letters, and photographs in any way relating to the following:

1. **"The project, apparently undertaken during 1960s...in which cats were implanted with eavesdropping devices...commonly referred to as 'acoustic kitty'."**
2. **"Any projects involving implanting eavesdropping devices in cats or dogs; and the testing of those animals; and the field experiments or field testing when those animals were actually taken outside CIA headquarters; and any information about the laboratory experiments themselves and the tests that were done on such animals and the procedures that were done on them in implanting those devices; any laboratory notes or records involving the procedures employed in implanting those devices; and any evaluation or memoranda in which the projects involving cats and dogs to which [you] have referred were evaluated, explained or in any way referred to."**
3. **Any information that relates to "the use of birds, including hawks and crows, to carry cameras or any other way be useful in eavesdropping or spying", to include mechanical birds.**

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.

As you know, the FOIA authorizes federal agencies to collect fees for records services. Based upon the information provided in your letter, we have determined that your request falls into the "educational and non-commercial scientific institution" fee category, which means that you will be required to pay only 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. In the unlikely event it is determined that fees will exceed the \$50.00 you have agreed to pay, we will notify you.

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,



Kathryn I. Dyer
Information and Privacy Coordinator

CIO/IMS/IRRG/PIPD/[redacted]/.../22 August 2002

(b)(3)

Signature assigned by: [redacted]

(b)(6)

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1 - PIPD/F-2002-01252 ACC (ready to process under FOIA;
educational fee category)

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