

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

5 February 2016

Mr. Leslie G. Kinney



Reference: F-2015-02398

Dear Ms. Kinney:

We received your 15 September 2015 correspondence requesting an administrative appeal under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for the personnel file and any other documents about James Harold Nichols, who “worked for the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War Two.” Please continue to use this case reference number so that we can more easily identify your FOIA administrative appeal.

You are appealing our failure to locate records that would reveal an openly acknowledged Agency affiliation with Mr. James Harold Nichols and our determination to neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of records that would reveal a classified connection between the CIA and Mr. James Harold Nichols. ***Your appeal has been accepted and arrangements are being made for its consideration by the Agency Release Panel.***

You will be advised of the panel’s determination. In order to afford requesters the most equitable treatment possible, we have adopted the policy of handling appeals on a first-received, first-out basis. Despite our best efforts, however, the large number of public access requests CIA receives creates processing delays making it unlikely that we can respond to you within 20 working days. In view of this, some delay in our reply must be expected, but every reasonable effort will be made to respond as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Lavergne".

Michael Lavergne
Information and Privacy Coordinator