

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

15 January 2013

Mr. Donald Vance



(b)(6)

Reference: F-2013-00492

Dear Mr. Vance:

This is a final response to your undated Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, postmarked 26 December 2012, received in the office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator on 3 January 2013, for “any and all records pertaining to operation/project/codename CAVATA.” Further, CAVATA was a CIA cryptonym for LfV, which were the Field Offices of the BfV (Office for the Protection of the Constitution, Internal Security Service). Many of the records in which this cryptonym appears have already been released as part of the JFK Assassination Records Collection and the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act (NWCDA).

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. 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.

However, in an effort to assist you, please be advised that the records in the JFK Assassination Records Collection have been reviewed and re-reviewed under the less restrictive classification guidelines for assassination-related records of the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Record Collection Act of 1992. The Agency transferred these records to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in compliance with this Act.

In addition, these records, along with assassination-related records of other government agencies, have been re-reviewed by the Presidentially-appointed Assassination Records Review Board. The Board had the authority to make new determinations regarding the release of information on this subject. Following review by the Board, these records were returned to NARA to be made available to the public through NARA’s JFK Assassination Records Collection. Therefore, in an effort to assist

you in the most efficient way possible, unless you object and insist that we conduct a search in our portion of the collection, it is recommended that you submit your request to NARA at the following address to obtain the most complete set of the records you seek:

JFK Assassination Records Collection
National Archives at College Park
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

In addition to the records of the CIA, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and numerous other Executive Branch agencies and offices, the collection contains the records of relevant Congressional committees, related court cases, and records private entities donated. The collection currently contains more than 2,000 cubic feet of records or five million pages from more than 30 different U.S. Government offices. This documentation is also searchable electronically through the NARA website on the Internet at www.archives.gov/research/jfk.

Also, please be advised that requests for records related to the Nazi War Crimes and Nazi Officials have been reviewed under the NWCDA. The collection of records was transferred to NARA to be made available to the public through the NARA's NWCDA. For your information, our collection does not include the records from other agencies. Therefore, in an effort to assist you in the most efficient way possible, unless you object and insist that we conduct a search in our portion of the collection, it is recommended that you submit your request to NARA at the following address:

Chief, Textual Reference Division
The National Archives at College Park
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Optionally, NWCDA records released by the CIA are also available for purchase on a set of seven DVDs, which include the records of the Japanese Imperial Government Records Act (JIGRA) of 2000. If you would like to purchase your own copy of this collection, please send a check or money order to me for U.S. \$70, made payable to the Treasurer of the United States. Please cite reference number F-2013-00492 to ensure proper credit to your account.

We hope this information is useful to you.

Sincerely,



Michele Meeks
Information and Privacy Coordinator

IMS/IRRG/PIPD [] 4 January 2013

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Distribution:

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CAVATA is used as stated in the Crypts and Terms in declassified CIA Files NWC and JIGRDA pg 21 [LfV, which were the Field Offices of the BfV (Office for the Protection of the Constitution, Internal Security Service)]