



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

5720
Ser DNS-HGC/23U113458
March 28, 2023

Sent via email to: john@greenewald.com

Mr. John Greenewald
The Black Vault
27305 W. Live Oak Rd, Suite #1203
Castaic, CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald

This is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)/Privacy Act (PA) request dated June 22, 2022. Your request was received in our office on the same day and assigned case number DON-NAVY-2022-009713

In the course of processing your FOIA request this office contacted the UAP Task Force office to conduct a search for applicable records. Accordingly, those offices searched their local files for records relating to I respectfully request a copy of all budgetary material, budget breakdowns, financial records, financial reports, payroll costs, records outlining breakdowns of personnel number/paychecks, and all other financial breakdowns etc., that went into running and operating the UAP Task Force. In August of 2020, it was announced here: <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/2314065/establishment-of-unidentified-aerial-phenomena-task-force/>. Now that the task force is disbanded, I believe there should be no restrictions on the budget material, payroll cost, etc., I ask that you include all unclassified and classified records as responsive to this request."

The UAP Task Force has informed this office that any records located are "at resourcing/budgetary information that does exist were mostly draft planning documents and classified per the ODNI Classification Guide." Based off of the response provided by the UAP Task Force office it has been determined that the records you seek are exempt in their entirety under exemptions **5 U.S.C. § 552 (b) (1)** which protects national security information concerning the national defense or foreign policy from disclosure, provided that it has been properly classified in accordance with the substantive and procedural requirements of Executive Order 13526. As well as **5 U.S.C. § 552 (b) (5)** These records contain drafts, are predecisional in

nature and/or proposals of documents not in their final form, and, therefore, are exempt from disclosure.

Because your request is fully denied, you have the right to an appeal within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Please provide the appellate authority (see below) the following:

There are two ways to file an appeal: through FOIAonline or by mail.

(1) Through FOIAonline. This will work only if you set up an account on FOIAonline before you make the request that you would like to appeal. To set up an account, go to FOIAonline (this is a website that will appear as the top hit if you search the internet for "FOIAonline"), click "Create Account" (a link located within the blue banner at the top in the upper right corner), enter your data into the field that subsequently appears, and click "Save" (at the bottom left of the screen). With your account thereby created, you will have the power to file an appeal on FOIAonline to any request you file on FOIAonline thereafter. To do so, locate your request (enter a keyword or the request tracking number in the "Search for" field on the "Search" tab), click on it, then the "Create Appeal" tab in the left-hand column. Complete the subsequent field, click "Save," and FOIAonline will submit your appeal.

(2) By mail. Address your appeal to:

The Judge Advocate General (Code 14)
1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

In this instance, the fees associated with processing your request were below the minimum threshold and have not been assessed. Please be advised, however, that fees, fee categories, and fee waivers are determined on a case-by-case basis; a previous determination has no influence on future determinations.

For this determination, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services from either the DoD Navy Component FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Chris Julka, at: Christopher.a.julka@navy.mil, via phone: (703) 697-0031; or by contacting the Office of Government Information Services at: (<https://ogis.archives.gov/>), (202) 741-5770, ogis@nara.gov.

Questions regarding the action this office has taken to process your request may be directed to our FOIA Service Center at (202) 685-0412 or via email at donfoia-pa@navy.mil.

Sincerely,

Gregory M Cason

Gregory M. Cason
Deputy Director,
DON FOIA/PA Program Office

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
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