



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 69164
20 November 2012

Electronic Privacy Information Center
ATTN: Amie Stepanovich, Esq.
1718 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Ms. Stepanovich:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 14 November 2012, which was received by this office on 15 November 2012, for "The public release of Presidential Policy Directive 20." Your request has been assigned Case Number 69164. A copy of your request is enclosed. For the purpose of fee assessment, you have been placed into the "media" fee category for this request. There are no assessable fees for this request.

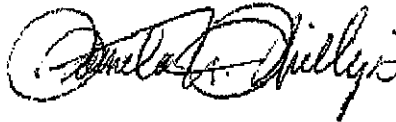
Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA. The document responsive to your request did not originate with this Agency. Because the document is under the control of the National Security Staff (NSS), this Agency consulted with the NSS. The document was reviewed by the NSS as required by the FOIA and was determined by the NSS to be exempt from release pursuant to the fifth exemption of the FOIA. This exemption applies to inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters which would not be available by law to a party in litigation with the agency, protecting confidential communications between the President and his advisors.

In addition, the NSS determined that the document is currently and properly classified in accordance with Executive Order 13526. This document meets the criteria for classification as set forth in Subparagraphs (a), (c), (g), and (e) of Section 1.4 and remains classified TOP SECRET and SECRET as provided in Section 1.2 of Executive Order 13526. The document is classified because its disclosure could reasonably be expected to cause exceptionally grave damage to the national security. Because the document is currently and properly classified, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the first exemption of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(1)).

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The Initial Denial Authority (IDA) for NSA information is the Deputy Associate Director for Policy and Records, D. M. Janosek. The NSA IDA is denying the document on behalf of the National Security Staff. Since your request has been denied, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. Any person notified of an adverse determination may file an appeal to the NSA/CSS Freedom of Information Act Appeal Authority. The appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days after the date of the initial denial. The appeal shall be in writing addressed to the NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority (DJ4), National Security Agency, 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248. The appeal shall reference the initial denial of access and shall contain, in sufficient detail and particularity, the grounds upon which the requester believes release of the information is required. The NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority will endeavor to respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt, absent any unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,



PAMELA N. PHILLIPS
Chief
FOIA/PA Office

Encl:
a/s