



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION DIVISION  
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155**

Ref: 20-F-1484  
September 30, 2021

Ms. Melanie Sloan  
American Oversight  
1030 15th Street NW  
Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Sloan:

This is a final response to your August 13, 2020 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience. We received your request on August 13, 2020, and assigned it FOIA case number 20-F-1484. We ask that you use this number when referring to your request.

The Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (PA), a component of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, conducted a search of their records systems based on the information provided in your request. After thorough searches of the electronic records and files of PA, no records of the kind you described could be identified. We believe that search methods were appropriate and could reasonably be expected to produce the requested records if they existed. However, if you have additional event or file-related information that indicates that we should have such information or that could assist us in conducting a further search for responsive records, please provide that information to us at your earliest convenience.

In this instance, fees for processing your request were below the threshold for requiring payment. Please note that fees may be assessed on future requests.

If you have questions about the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact your Action Officer assigned to your request, Raymond Hartwick, at [Raymond.j.hartwick.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Raymond.j.hartwick.civ@mail.mil) or 571-372-0432. Additionally, if you have concerns about service provided by our office, please contact a member of our Leadership Team at 571-372-0498 or Toll Free at 866-574-4970.

Should you wish to inquire about mediation services, you may contact the OSD/JS FOIA Public Liaison, Tonya R. Fuentes, at 571-372-0462 or by email at [OSD.FOIALiaison@mail.mil](mailto:OSD.FOIALiaison@mail.mil) or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

You have the right to appeal to the appellate authority, Ms. Joo Chung, Director of Oversight and Compliance, Office of the Secretary of Defense, by writing directly to the following address: 4800 Mark Center Drive, ATTN: DPCLTD, FOIA Appeals, Mailbox# 24, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

Your appeal must be postmarked within 90 calendar days of the date of this response. Alternatively, you may email your appeal to [osd.foia-appeal@mail.mil](mailto:osd.foia-appeal@mail.mil). If you use email, please include the words "Privacy/FOIA Appeal" in the subject of the email. Please also reference FOIA case number 20-F-1484 in any appeal correspondence.

We appreciate your patience in the processing of your request. As stated previously, please contact the Action Officer assigned to your request, Raymond Hartwick, and reference FOIA case number 20-F-1484, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*for Pamela Andrews*  
Stephanie L. Carr  
Chief

Enclosure:  
As stated