United States Department of State



Washington, D.C. 20520

DEC 17 2004

Case No. 200303827 DRL1

Mr. Amrit Singh American Civil Liberties Union Foundation 125 Broad Street, 18th Floor New York, NY 10004-2400

Dear Mr. Singh:

I refer to our previous correspondence regarding the release of certain Department of State material you had requested under the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5 USC Section 552) in your letters of October 7, 2003, and May 25, 2004.

The search in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor has now been completed, resulting in the retrieval of 133 documents that are responsive to your request. They have been grouped as Segment DRL1. The search in the other files has been completed and we will let you know as the review of each of the various segments has been accomplished.

After reviewing the documents of Segment DRL1, we have determined that ten may be released, one may be released with excisions, and 110 may not be released. The released documents are enclosed. A decision on two documents requires coordination with another government agency. We will inform you when we receive the results of that coordination. Ten documents originated with another government agency and have been referred to that agency for review and direct reply to you.

The material in six of the documents withheld in full is currently and properly classified under Executive Order 12958 in the interest of national defense or foreign relations. As such, it is exempt from release under subsection (b)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Information in the excised portions of the document released in part and in 106 documents withheld in full is exempt from release under subsection (b)(5) of the Freedom of Information Act because it is protected by the deliberative process privilege, attorney client privilege, attorney work product privilege, and/or another privilege incorporated by subsection (b)(5).

Material in two of the documents withheld in full is of such a nature that its release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. As such, it is exempt from release under subsection (b)(6) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The material in the excised portions of five of the documents withheld in full is information compiled for law enforcement purposes which, if produced, could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings. As such, it is exempt from release under subsection (b) (7) (A) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The material in the excised portions of five of the documents withheld in full is information compiled for law enforcement purposes which, if produced, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. As such, it is exempt from release under subsection (b) (7) (C) of the Freedom of Information Act.

In some cases, two or more exemptions apply to the same document. In the case of a document released in part, all

non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released.

Sincerely,

Margaret P. Grafe

Director

Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures:
As stated.