



General Services Administration National Archives and Records Service Washington, DC 20408

5 OCT 1979

Mr. Edward J. Becker
2506 Cliffbourne Place, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Mr. Becker:

This is an additional reply to your Freedom of Information Act request of June 4, 1979, regarding seven Joint Chiefs of Staff documents. These materials have now been reviewed by the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (OJCS) has determined that the information in the documents falls in the category of information encompassing strategic and tactical cover and deception plans, policies, procedures, and organization for which the Secretary of Defense has authorized classification beyond twenty years.

Release of the information contained in the requested documents would reveal techniques, concepts, and procedures that are used today in formulating unconventional warfare plans, strategy, and tactics. In addition, the assignment of roles and missions among US Government Departments, and their cooperation with foreign government organizations, has always been classified information and should not be released. Divulgence of this information identifies US targets for potential enemy collection and counterintelligence efforts, and breaks faith with foreign governments with regard to the information they have provided to the US in confidence.

Release of the documents to you is, therefore, denied by the OJCS in that they are currently and properly classified. The applicable FOIA exemption is 5 USC 552 (b) (1).

The Initial Denial Authority is Vice Admiral Thor Hanson, USN, Director, Joint Staff. An appeal of this decision may be addressed, within 45 days, to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs), the Pentagon, Washington, D. C. 20301.

Sincerely,

DANIEL J. REED
Acting Assistant Archivist
for the National Archives