DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Washington DC 20420

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Mr. William Ferroggiaro
Director, Freedom of Information Project
The National Security Archive
The George Washington University
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Ferroggiaro:

As the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), I received your September 4, 2002, FOIA request in this office on February 28, 2003. You requested all records, including but not limited to guidance or directives, memoranda, training materials, or legal analyses, concerning the US Department of Veterans Affairs' implementation of US Attorney General John Ashcrofts's October 12, 2001 memorandum on the US Freedom of Information Act. You requested us to notify you if the cost of processing the request would exceed \$100.00.

It should be noted that correspondence and communication records may be destroyed as authorized by the General Records Schedule 14, National Archives and Records Administration. Depending on the type of correspondence/communication, records under Schedule 14 may be destroyed when they are three months or up to three years after the date of the reply. Therefore, VA offices may no longer have records pertaining to your request.

Your request has been sent to VA components to search their files for records pertaining to your request. For fee purposes, your request falls under the "news media" category. As such, there will be no charge for search time and the first 100 pages (single-sided) of duplicated documents. Additional pages are 15 cents each. If we determine the cost of processing your request is over \$100.00, we will inform you before proceeding further.

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In the meantime, if you have any questions or require further assistance, please call Bobby Wright at (202) 273-8068.

Sincerely,

Martin L. Hill, Acting Director Records Management Service