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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, DC

Sainath Suryanarayanan, PhD
U.S. Right To Know
4096 Piedmont Ave #963
Oakland, CA 94611-5221

December 29, 2020

Reference: ODNI Case DF-2020-00325

Mr./Ms. Suryanarayanan,

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 12 August 2020 and received by the Information Management Office (IMO) on 12 August 2020, in which you seek, *“finished intelligence produced since January 2015, which addresses biosafety research with potential dual-use applications in Canada, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Iran, Israel, the Netherlands, Russia, former countries of the Soviet Union, South Africa, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and Thailand. We are particularly interested in finished intelligence about the accidental or deliberate release of biological agents, containment failures in biosafety-level (BSL)-2, BSL-3 or BSL-4 research facilities, and other incidents of concern related to dual-use biosafety research in BSL-2, BSL-3 or BSL-4 research facilities in these countries.”*

Your request was processed in accordance with FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and three documents responsive to your request were located. Upon review, we have determined that the three documents must be withheld in their entirety pursuant to the following FOIA exemptions:

- (b)(1), which applies to information that is currently and properly classified pursuant to Executive Order 13526, Section 1.4 (c).
- (b)(3), which applies to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant statute is the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1), which protects information pertaining to intelligence sources and methods; Section 6 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended; and Section 102A(i)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended.

If you wish to appeal our determination on this request, please explain the basis of your appeal and forward to: Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Information Management Office, Washington, DC 20511, within 90 days of the date of this letter.

However, you may find it helpful to contact 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: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

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If you have any questions, feel free to email our Requester Service Center at DNI-FOIA@dni.gov or call us at (301) 243-1499. You can also contact ODNI's FOIA Liaison by email at DNI-FOIA-Liaison@dni.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally A. Nicholson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Sally A. Nicholson
Chief, Information Review &
Release Group
FOIA Public Liaison
Information Management Office

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