



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-5100



August 23, 2023

U-23-11537/IMO-2 (FOIA)

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

Dear Mr. Suryanarayanan:

This is an amendment to the Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA) August 22, 2023 response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests dated August 17, 2020, that you submitted to DIA requesting a copy of the DIA report titled ***"China: Origins of COVID-19 Outbreak Remain Unknown"*** dated March 27, 2020. This case is the subject of litigation in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division in case number 23-cv-02936-TSH.

A search of DIA's systems of records located one record (11 pages) dated March 27, 2020 responsive to your request

Upon review, it has been determined that some portions of the record must be withheld from disclosure pursuant to the FOIA. The withheld portions are exempt from release pursuant to Exemptions 1, 3, 6 and 7 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1), (b)(3), (b)(6) and (b)(7)(E). Exemption 1 applies to information properly classified under the criteria of Executive Order 13526. Exemption 3 applies to information specifically exempted by a statute establishing particular criteria for withholding. The applicable statutes are 10 U.S.C. § 424 and 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i). Statute 10 U.S.C. § 424 protects the identity of DIA employees, the organizational structure of the agency, and any function of DIA. Statute 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i) protects sensitive intelligence sources and methods. Exemption 6 applies to information which if released would constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of other individuals. Exemption 7(E) applies to information that could disclose law enforcement techniques, procedures and guidelines that could aid in circumventing the law.

DIA has not withheld any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the record.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Cross-Davison  
Chief, Records and Open Government

Enclosure: a/s

(b)(1); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(e); (b)(3);10 USC 424; (b)(3);50 USC 3024(i)

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~~(S)~~

[Redacted]

# China: Origins of COVID-19 Outbreak Remain Unknown

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE | 27 MARCH 2020

[Large redacted area]

(U) For this product, we define genetic engineering as using a set of biotechnologies to manipulate or "edit" an organism or virus's genome; it does not include directed evolution by other means such as the use of repeated passage through animals or cell culture.

(b)(3);10 USC 424; (b)(3);50 USC 3024(i); (b)(6)

Classified by [Redacted]  
Derived from [Redacted]  
Declassify on: ~~COMINT~~

ICOD: 24 March 2020  
DIA\_F\_14317\_A  
CORE Version 5.1

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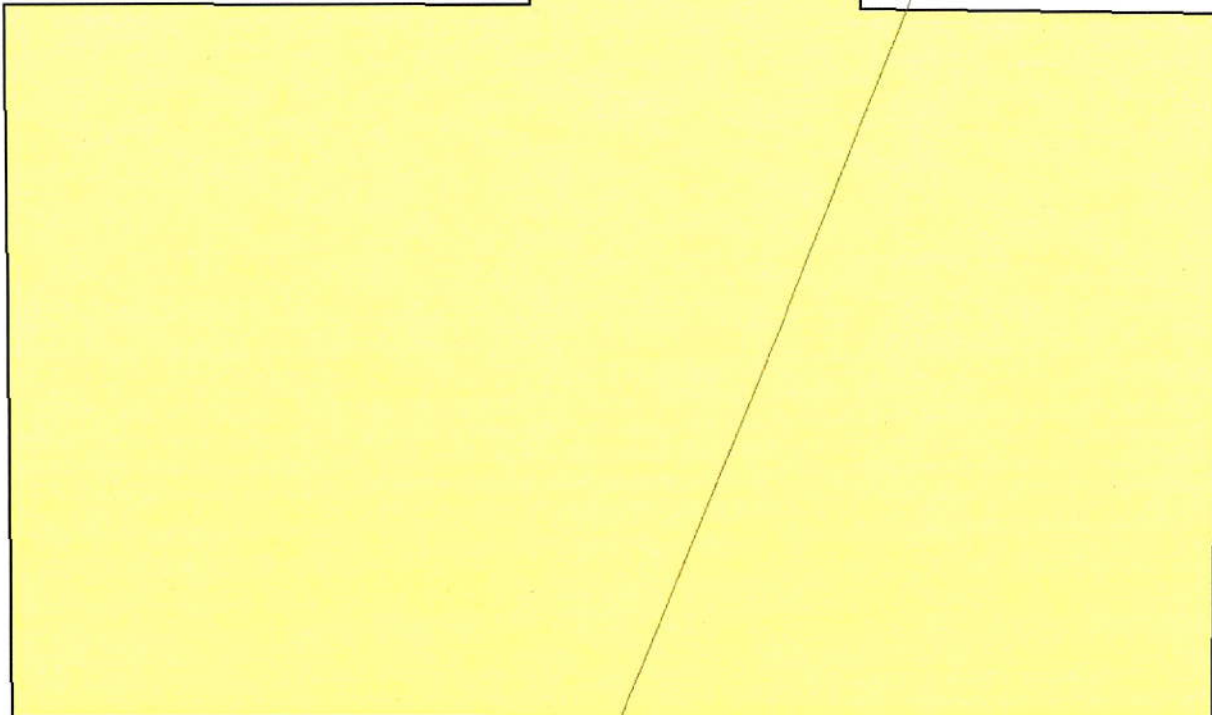
[Redacted]

Exhibit 1 CCN

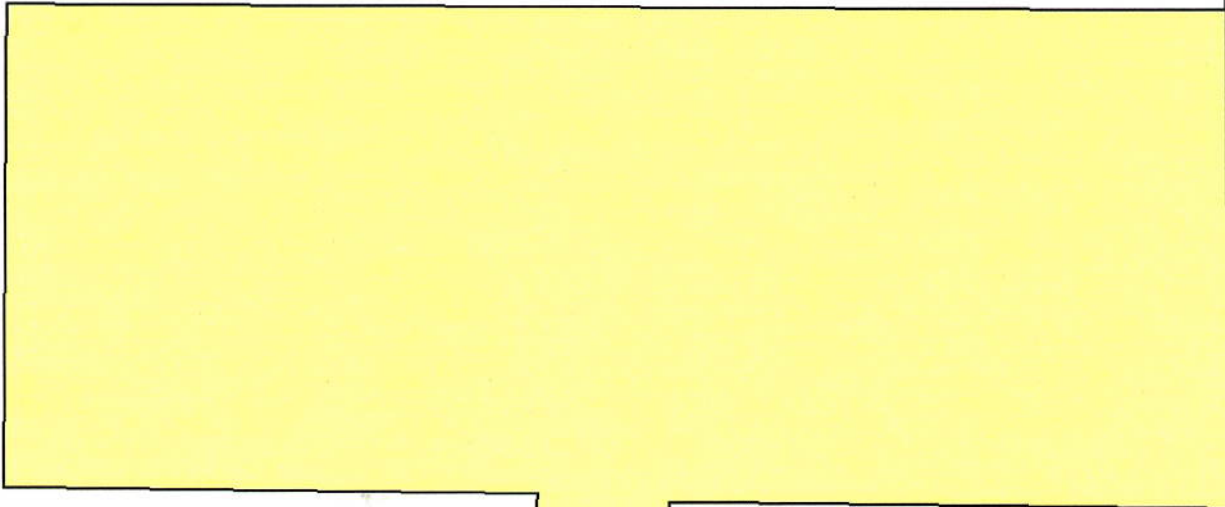
(b)(7)(E) [Redacted]

(b)(1); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(e); (b)(3);10 USC 424; (b)(3);50 USC 3024(i)

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> (U) WIV and Wuhan CDC scientists collect SARS-like coronaviruses from bats in the wild, according to a news article and a Chinese prepublished academic article.<sup>20 21</sup> While collecting coronavirus samples, a Wuhan CDC researcher was accidentally exposed to bat blood and urine and subsequently self-quarantined for 14 days, according to the same Chinese prepublished academic article.<sup>22</sup> The Wuhan CDC's discarded infected animal tissue samples could be the source of the initial COVID-19 patient infections, according to the same source.<sup>27</sup>

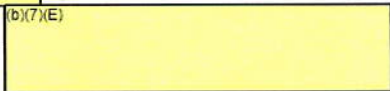


The next three pages are denied in full pursuant to FOIA exemptions b1, 1.4(c)(e), b3 10 USC 424, 50 USC 3024(i) and 7(E) and are not provided.

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Exhibit 1 CCN



(b)(7)(E)

(b)(3);10 USC 424; (b)(3);50 USC 3024(i)

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[Redacted]

Any reproduction, dissemination, or communication (including, but not limited to, oral briefings) of this information must be accompanied by a statement of these restrictions.

(U) Prepared by [Redacted]

(U) Coordinated with: [Redacted]

The next five pages are denied in full pursuant to FOIA exemptions b1, 1.4(c)(e), b3 10 USC 424, 50 USC 3024(i) and 7(E) and are not provided.

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Exhibit 1 CCN

[Redacted] (b)(7)(E)