Freedom of Information Act Request

December 13, 2010

Alesia Y. Williams
Chief, Freedom of Information Staff
Defense Intelligence Agency
FOIA Staff, DAN-1A (FOIA)
Washington, DC 203405100

Re: Request under the FOIA, in reply refer to Archive#: 20101402DIA143

Dear Ms. Williams:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), I hereby request the following:

All documents from December 1, 2010 to the present regarding the two following incidents of arrest of Mexican drug cartel members:
- Mexican army’s capture of eight Zetas in San Luis Potosí. Police confiscated 84 kilograms of cocaine, US$115,239, and various communication devices. Among the eight detained was Felipe Ramos Cárdenas, coordinator of the Zetas’ finances and administrative resources and the assistant to an important lieutenant for the cartel, Jesús Enrique Rejón Aguilar; and
- The five members of the Gulf Cartel cell detained in Villaldama, Veracruz, Mexico after an arrest warrant from the Attorney General’s office. The men had in their possession firearms and cartridges for the exclusive use of the Mexican military. The five suspects are: Leonardo Mancha Capetillo "Leo", William David Castillo Francisco Castillo Gramajo, Jesús Guadalupe de la Cruz de León "El Ojitos", Abdiel Lucio Carlos Hernández, and Pedro Martínez Quiroga "Polaris."

If you regard any of these documents as potentially exempt from the FOIA's disclosure requirements, I request that you nonetheless exercise your discretion to disclose them. As the FOIA requires, please release all reasonably segregable non exempt portions of documents. To permit me to reach an intelligent and informed decision whether or not to file an administrative appeal of any denied material, please describe any withheld records (or portions thereof) and explain the basis for your exemption claims.

As a representative of the news media, the National Security Archive qualifies for "representative of the news media" status under 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II) and, therefore, may not be charged and review fees. (See National Security Archive v. U.S. Department of Defense, 880 F.2d 1381 Cir. 1989), cert denied, 110 S Ct. 1478 (1990)). This request is made as part of a scholarly and research project that is intended for publication and is not for commercial use. For details on the Archive's research and extensive publication activities please see our website at www.nsarchive.org.

To expedite the release of the requested documents, please disclose them on an interim basis as they become available to you, without waiting until all the documents have been processed. Please notify me before incurring any photocopying costs over $100. If you have any questions regarding the identity of the records,
their location, the scope of the request or any other matters, please call me at (202) 994-7000 or email me at foiamail@gwu.edu. I look forward to receiving your response within the twenty day statutory time period.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Willard