DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155

23 APR 2008

Ref: 06-F-1532

Mr. David Barstow
42 Stephen Street
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

Dear Mr. Barstow:

Enclosed is an interim release of material in response to your April 28, 2006, Freedom of Information Act request, as modified by your letter dated February 13, 2007.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs (OASD (PA)), has provided the enclosed documents as responsive to your request. These 2774 pages of OASD (PA) e-mails have been 'Bates Stamped' from 5264 to 8037 to assist you in reviewing this response.

Ms. Allison Barber, an Initial Denial Authority for the OASD (PA), has determined that some of the redacted information is exempt from release because it pertains to internal matters of a relatively trivial nature that do not shed significant light on an agency personnel rule or practice. In this instance, the redacted information consists of non-public DoD telephone and room numbers. Also, some of the withheld information is exempt from release because it pertains solely to the internal rules and practices of the agency. Release of this information would allow circumvention of an agency rule, policy, or statute, thereby impeding the agency in the conduct of its mission. Additionally, portions of the withheld information are specifically exempted by 10 U.S.C. § 130b, which applies to personally identifiable information of personnel in overseas, sensitive or routinely deployable positions. Other deleted information exempt from release pertains to certain inter- or intra-agency communications protected by the deliberative process privilege. Finally, some information is withheld because release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of individuals. The redacted information under this exemption consists primarily of home/e-mail addresses, social security numbers and personally identifying information of DoD personnel. It has been DoD policy to withhold lists of names and other personally identifying information of DoD personnel since the President declared a national emergency following the terrorist attacks on the United States in 2001. Consequently, this information is denied pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(2)(low)(high), (b)(3), (b)(5) and (b)(6).

We are also releasing six audio files in their entirety. The files are recordings of several roundtable discussions with the military analyst group. You have previously been provided with the paper transcripts of these sessions. Also, the OASD (PA) conducted a search for official photographs taken during the military analyst trips abroad. They located no photographs responsive to your request.

As you requested, we are providing the information to you in hard copy and on the enclosed compact disk.

Sincerely,

Will Kammer

Will Kammer
Chief

Enclosures:
As stated