Mr. Young,

It's been my pleasure. Your refined/narrowed request should be sufficient as worded. It is much appreciated!

Regards,
Cindy B
NSA/CSS FOIA Requester Service Center
(301)688-6527

-----Original Message-----
From: John Young [mailto:jya@pipeline.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 8:05 AM
To: foiarsc, foiarsc
Subject: RE: FOIA Request 81305 - CLARIFY

Cindy B
NSA/CSS FOIA Requester Service Center

Dear Cindy B,

Thank you again for a prompt reply and helpful advice.

For further clarification I will limit my request to these names of journalists who reportedly first communicated with Edward Snowden and published stories about documents provided to them by Mr. Snowden which were allegedly taken by him from the NSA and who, according
to Mr. Snowden, "agreed, prior to publication, to run these stories by the government."

documentary maker of "Citizen Four."
Ewen MacAskill, The Guardian.

Regards,

John Young
Cryptome.org
251 West 89th Street
New York, NY 10024
212-873-8700

At 07:08 AM 5/21/2015, you wrote:
>Mr. Young,
>
>Thank you for your prompt reply. I will check with our Public Affairs
>office (PAO) on the clarified scope of your request, to determine if it
>still represents an overly burdensome search.
>
>Also wanted to provide you with some additional details, by way of
>explanation for overly broad and burdensome. While the information you
>seek is clear, the search still represents a "keyword" search using
>variations of the information you provided such as a reporter's name or
>a media outlet. Most if not all contacts to our PAO were likely made
>via email, and Agency email is decentralized. This requires an
>individual search by each person using each of the keywords. While
>this does not present a problem for the more specific and uncommon
>items/names, it could be overly broad for more common terms. For
>example, a search using "The Guardian" will likely return hundreds of
>hits simply because an individual mentions the new site somewhere in
>the email, which would necessitate an individual search of each email
>to determine if it qualifies for a "run-by" type of correspondence. In
>the year or so
>(estimated) after the media leaks, it's quite feasible that PAO
>received thousands and thousands of contacts from the public and media
>outlets. Multiply that number of contacts by the number of PAO
>representatives who respond or "field" emails, and then multiply this
>by two years could very likely constitute an impermissibly broad search
>under the FOIA.
>
>I will consult with our PAO experts and get back to you soonest.
Dear Cindy B,

Thank you for a prompt response and advice for clarification.

If this attempt at clarification is still too burdensome and voluminous
I will be pleased to try again. I would appreciate your advice on how
to most quickly receive a response.

My request differs in scope and intention from the pending request you cite.

Mr. Snowden claimed in the quote I provided to require journalists to
"run stories by the government" to avoid harm. Records only of this
run-by is what I request, not the more extensive information in the
pending request cited.

Specifically I request records of publishers, editors and journalists
requesting comments from the NSA and US government departments on
prospective stories based on material provided by Edward Snowden. And
comments, if any, made in response to the requests by the NSA and US
government departments.

Time frame: Late May 2013 to May 19, 2015.

Principal publishers, editors, journalists and publications involved in
Snowden releases and stories are:

Publishers
>Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, Jr, The New York Times, and/or legal
>representatives Katharine Weymouth, The Washington Post, and/or legal
>representatives Alan Rusbridger, The Guardian, and/or legal
>representatives
>
>Editors
>
>Janine Gibson, The Guardian
>Marty Baron, The Washington Post
>Jill Abramson, The New York Times
>Dean Baquet, The New York Times
>
>Journalists
>
>Place to Hide."
>Spiegel and documentary maker of "Citizen Four,"
>Barton Gellman, The Washington Post
>James Risen, The New York Times
>Journalists associated with and/or by-lined in the following
>publications
>
>Publications
>
>The Guardian
>The Washington Post
>Der Spiegel
>O Globo Fantastico
>The New York Times
>ProPublica
>Le Monde
>Dagbladet
>NRC Handelsblad
>Huffington Post
>Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) SVT (Swedish TV) L'Expresso
>Information.DK NBC News The Intercept Heise SÃƒÂ¼ddeutsche Zeitung New
>Zealand Herald New Zealand Star Times
>
>For further clarification of dates and names, my website has
>tally of the Snowden material releases:
>
>http://cryptome.org/2013/11/snowden-tally.htm
>
> Good Afternoon Mr. Young,
>
> This email pertains to your FOIA request submitted on 19 May 2015, copied below. You request has been assigned Case Number 81305, but is ON HOLD. As it is currently worded, the search for responsive material constitutes an overly broad and burdensome search such that it would impede the daily operations and missions of the NSA Organization(s). Department of Defense (DoD) Regulation 5400.7-R states that the requester must provide a description of the desired record(s) so that the Government is able to locate the record(s) with a reasonable amount of effort. Even where a request sufficiently describes the records sought (contacts/correspondence between NSA and journalists), an Agency is not required to comply with a request so broad that it would impose an unreasonable burden upon the Agency. As noted in the U.S. Courts, the FOIA is not intended to reduce government agencies to full-time investigators for each requester. You have not stated your request in such a manner that we could reasonably determine the appropriate files to search.
>
> The topic of your request would involve an overly broad and burdensome search, particularly for responsive documents that are email documents. Specifically it would require several individuals to conduct a manual search to determine if the email was to or from a member of the media. A manual search would equate to viewing each and every to/from cc' and subject line to see if it fits the broad topic of media/journalist communicant, and then reading each of those emails to determine if it pertains to a "the release of Snowden-provided material." Please note that we anticipate the scope of this search to be voluminous, which could translate to considerable assessable fees to you.
>
> We ask that you narrow the subject of this request by specifying a particular media outlet, and identifying a journalist/reporter in the specified media outlet. Furthermore, we ask that you explain further what the topic or context of the
correspondence pertained to, in greater detail than discussions of
alleged media leaks. Finally, we ask that you identify a reasonable
timeframe for which you believe the records exist.

Alternately, you may wish to accept the negotiated scope of
your request to an existing FOIA request that is
quite similar to your request. In the other FOIA request, we are
processing for records from June 2013-Aug. 2014 that pertain to:

* Media inquiries by the
Times, The Guardian and the Associated Press. The reporters would be
Barton Gellman, Glenn Greenwald, Charlie Savage, James Risen, Scott
Shane, Matt Apuzzo.

The programs discussed would be
the (a) monitoring of emails and other communications of Muslim
American citizens as alleged in various media reports during July
2014, (b) XKEYSCORE program, (c) PRISM program,
(d) the Section 215 and (e) Section 702 programs

Please note that, although we have negotiated the scope of the
other FOIA case, we anticipate the material and processing time to be
exceptionally voluminous and complex.

Please advise how you wish to proceed. In accordance with DoD
regulation, processing of your request is being held in abeyance
pending a response from you within 30 days of this email. If we have
not heard from you within 30 days, we will assume you are no longer
interested in pursuing this request, and your request will be
administratively closed.

Regards,

Cindy B
NSA/CSS FOIA Requester Service Center
(301)688-6527

-----Original Message-----
From: donotreply@nsa.gov [mailto:donotreply@nsa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2015 8:19 PM
To: donotreply@nsa.gov
Cc: jya@pipeline.com
Subject: FOIA Request (Web form submission)

Name: John L Young
Records Requested: Edward Snowden was quoted in Forbes online

May 10, 2015:


"What I did was that I worked in partnership with the journalists who received the material. As a condition of receiving the material they agreed, prior to publication, to run these stories by the government. Not for the government to censor them, but for the government to be able to look at these and go ‘Who cares?’, this isn’t going to get anybody killed, this isn’t going to put a human ageagent behind enemy lines at risk or something like that. This isn’t going to make Al Qaeda be able to bomb buildings. And I think the value of this model has been proven to be quite effective."

In response to this Snowden statement I request all records of journalists and/or their representatives contacting the National Security Agency, other US intelligence agencies and US Government departments about the release of Snowden-provided material, responses by NSA, other US intelligence agencies and US Government Departments.
> to the journalists'
> and/or their representatives contacts, any and all agreements
> and/or understandings between the journalists and/or their
> representatives and NSA and US intelligence agencies about the
> material to be released.
>
> The response to this request will be published on the public
> education website Cryptome.org.
>
> I agree to pay for the cost of this request.
>
> Thank you.
>
> John Young
>