

## **United States Department of State**

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUL 2 5 2005

Case No. 200500848 FBI1

Ms. Amrit Singh American Civil Liberties Union 125 Broad Street, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10004

Dear Ms. Singh:

I refer to your letters dated October 7, 2003 and May 25, 2004 to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), requesting the release of certain material under the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5 USC Section 552). The FBI determined that four of the relevant documents retrieved by them in response to your request either originated with the Department of State or were of primary interest to the Department of State. Those documents were therefore referred to us for appropriate action.

We have determined that three of the documents may not be released. The fourth document has been referred to its originating agency for direct reply to you.

Material in all of the documents withheld in full is currently and properly classified under Executive Order 12958 in the interest of national defense or foreign relations. As such, it is exempt from release under subsection (b) (1) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Information in two of the documents withheld in full is exempt from release under subsection (b)(5) of the Freedom of Information Act because it is protected by the deliberative process privilege, attorney client privilege, attorney work product privilege and/or another privilege incorporated by subsection (b)(5).

In some cases, two or more exemptions apply to the same document.

The FBI has informed us that their FOIPA number for this case is 999626. They have also informed us that FBI

information in two of the documents withheld in full is exempt from release under subsections (b)(6) and (b)(7)(c) and that FBI information in the third document withheld in full is exempt under subsections (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(6), (b)(7)C) and (b)(7)(E) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Sincerely,

Margaret P. Grafeld

Director Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.