

**DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE**1340 BRADDOCK PLACE  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-1651**SEP 11 2002**

Mr. William L. Pollak  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
American Lawyer Media  
345 Park Ave. South  
New York, NY 10010

**RE: FOIA/PA# 22-0079**

Dear Mr. Pollak:

This is in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (Attachment 1) submitted to the Defense Security Service (DSS) by a Mr. Michael Ravnitzky, American Lawyer Media.

This Directorate considers all FOIA requests made by Mr. Ravnitzky to DSS on American Lawyer Media (ALM) letterhead to be the property of ALM and not that of Mr. Ravnitzky. Accordingly, DSS will send our responses to these requests directly to ALM.

Enclosed (12 pages) (Attachment 2) is a copy of all releasable documents responsive to ALM's request. Where blacked out and noted within the documents, information has been withheld that is exempt from the mandatory disclosure provisions of the FOIA for the following reasons:

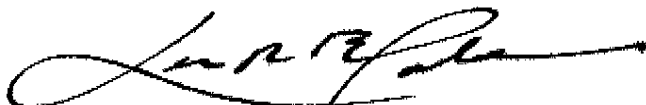
- a. Exemption (b)(6) is used to protect personal information, any release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of another individual's privacy.

Aside from the enclosed material, no additional records responsive to your request were located. Since this constitutes a partial denial of your request, we are required to inform you that ALM is entitled to file an administrative appeal if you so desire. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Defense Security Service, Attn: Office of FOIA/PA, 1340 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314-1651. In any such appeal, you should also provide a copy of this letter, along with sufficient justification upon which the Director may base a decision.

Your correspondence indicates that you have requested this information to help inform the public on how the FOIA program is being carried out within DSS. Although it is

unclear to the DSS how ALM is going to obtain an accurate assessment of our program based solely on this request, should you have any questions concerning our FOIA program, please feel free to contact my office at (703) 325-9450 or our Office of Public Affairs. I would be glad to discuss our FOIA program at any time.

Sincerely,



LESLIE R. BLAKE  
Chief, Office of Freedom of Information  
and Privacy

Attachments  
As stated



# AMERICAN LAWYER MEDIA

August 5, 2002

Defense Security Service  
Les Blake  
Chief, Office of FOIA and Privacy, GCF  
1340 Braddock Place  
Alexandria, VA 22314-1651  
telephone number: (703) 325-9450 fax number: (703) 325-5341  
e-mail address: leslie.blake@mail.dss.mil

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & PRIVACY ACT REQUEST

Dear Mr. Blake:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request a copy of the following records:


1) A copy of all email in computers of staff within the DSS FOIA Office that contains the word "**Ravnitzky**", or the alternative spellings: "Ravnitsky", "Ravnitzki", "Ravnitski", "Ravintsky" or "Ravintzky".

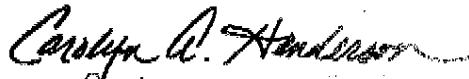
and also:

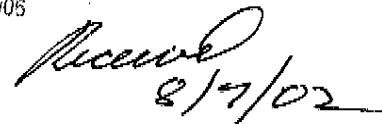

2) A copy of all email in computers of staff within the DSS FOIA Office that contains the phrase: "American Lawyer Media".

I also invoke the Privacy Act (if necessary) for this request, and this request is notarized to provide proof of identity.

We agree to pay up to \$40 for costs associated with this request. These records are being requested by our news organization, publishers of the National Law Journal, Legal Times and The American Lawyer, for news reporting and news publishing purposes. We request these records to help us inform the public of how the Freedom of Information program is being carried out within the agency. Please place this request into the "newsmedia" fee category for processing purposes.

Sincerely,  
  
Michael Ravnitzky  
Reporter

  
Carolyn A. Henderson  
Notary Public, District of Columbia  
My Commission Expires 06-30-2008

  
Received  
8/7/02  


Michael J. Ravnitzky, Director of Database & Computer-Assisted Reporting, mjr@amlaw.com  
1730 M Street N.W. Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036 • tel: 202-828-0328 • fax: 202-457-0718

ATT 1

**Subject: RE: FOIA Requests for DODPI Tapes**

**Date:** Thu, 27 Jun 2002 14:17:15 -0400

**From:** "Arledge, Genni" <[redacted]>

**To:** "Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil" <Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil>

**CC:** "Kraus-Guasta, Beth" <[redacted]>

"Norris, William" <[redacted]>

(b)(7)(b)

63 of the tapes on this list have already been weeded from the collection and destroyed.

Genni Arledge  
Librarian  
DoD Polygraph Institute  
7540 Pickens Ave  
Fort Jackson SC 29207

[redacted]

(b)(7)(b)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil [mailto:Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2002 1:50 PM  
**To:** Beth, Kraus,; Genni, Arledge,; WILLIAM F. NORRIS  
**Cc:** Leslie.Blake@mail.dss.mil; JAY P. FRAUDE  
**Subject:** FOIA Requests for DODPI Tapes

Hello to All,

This office recently received via Jay Fraude (forwarded to him by Beth Kraus), a copy of an email apparently authored by one Mr. Michael Ravnitzky.

As a short background: Mr. Ravnitzky was a reporter with the now defunct internet news site of APB News, Inc. APB News filed for bankruptcy in approximately the 2000/2001 timeframe. However, previous to that timeframe, Mr. Ravnitzky on behalf of APB News, filed several FOIA requests seeking DoDPI information amongst other Agency documents and information. Previous to the bankruptcy filing, one of the FOIA requests which he filed was for a copy of the DODPI videotape listing (which was released). And now, I do believe that is the list which he has either placed on a website or is circulating in some other manner.

To date, I have received several telephone calls regarding this list and 2 formal written FOIA's requesting several tapes. (Beth/Genni - I will forward these later for your review) I have explained to the telephonic inquiries that (a) Mr. Ravnitzky is incorrect when he says "None of these tapes is classified" because though they may not be deemed "classified" in the definition of the word, there's a possibility they may not be releasable for other reasons; (b) Informed them that there may be a substantial fee involved for the review, duplication, etc.; and (c) There may also be a substantial amount of time involved in the review/duplication of any of these tapes, before actual release.

After consultation with Les, it was determined that it may be in the best interest of all involved if those tapes that are no longer utilized by DODPI for any reason, be destroyed in accordance with the DODPI or DSS records retention regulation.

Further, for those tapes that are reviewed and deemed releasable to the public, multiple copies would be made and a listing of only the releasable tapes would be placed on the DSS public website specifically stating that those are the only tapes available for release to the public, and should the requester wish to receive a copy, to contact DODPI directly. This would sway many requesters if they actually saw first hand what is releasable without actually having to file a direct FOIA request. In the longrun it would mean less work and headaches for everyone involved.

ATT 2

I'd like to hear feedback/comments from everyone at your earliest convenience.

If anyone needs to contact me, please do at 703-325-9448 or Les at 703-325-9450.

Thanks,

Tanya

Subject: RE: DoDPI Tape requests to date,

Date: Mon, 15 Jul 2002 13:02:53 -0400

From: "Arledge, Genni" [redacted] (b)(6)  
To: "Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil" <Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil>

[redacted] (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil [mailto:Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil]  
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2002 12:59 PM  
To: Arledge, Genni  
Subject: Re: DoDPI Tape requests to date,

Thanks Genni,

Can you please give me a good fax number for you and Beth? Thanks again.

Tanya

"Arledge, Genni" wrote:

> Vt 315 Interrogation Techniques is listed in our inventory as lost.  
>  
> Genni Arledge  
> Librarian  
> DoD Polygraph Institute  
> 7540 Pickens Ave (b)(6)  
> Fort Jackson, SC 29207  
> [redacted]  
> [redacted]  
> [redacted]

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil [mailto:Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil]  
> Sent: Monday, July 15, 2002 9:56 AM  
> To: Beth, Kraus,; Genni, Arledge,  
> Cc: Leslie.Blake@mail.dss.mil  
> Subject: DoDPI Tape requests to date,

> Goodmorning Ladies,

> I'm in the process of faxing copies of the Freedom of Information Act  
> (FOIA) requests that have been received to date, requesting copies of  
> DoDPI tapes. I've sent a letter to Mr. Ravnitzky informing him that the  
> information he has on his website is incorrect.

> I'm only asking that one of the 4 requests be expedited in review and  
> copy (if possible). If this tape is deemed not releasable, please  
> inform me in detail what areas in the tape are deemed unreleasable and  
> submit a copy of the tape to my attention. The requester information  
> is:

> Mr. Robert [redacted] (b)(6)  
> VT 315 Interrogation Techniques

> One of Mr. Ravnitzky's tape requests is "Satanic Rituals" VT 086. I  
> already have a copy of this tape from a previous release.

> If there are any questions once you receive the fax's, please give me a  
> call.

> Thanks in advance,

**Subject: RE: DoDPI Tape requests to date,**  
**Date: Mon, 15 Jul 2002 10:26:39 -0400**  
**From: "Arledge, Genni" <[REDACTED]>** (b)(6)  
**To: "Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil" <Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil>**

Vt 315 Interrogation Techniques is listed in our inventory as lost.

Genni Arledge  
Librarian  
DoD Polygraph Institute  
7540 Pickens Ave  
Fort Jackson, SC 29207

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----  
From: Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil [mailto:Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil]  
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2002 9:56 AM  
To: Beth, Kraus,; Genni, Arledge,  
Cc: Leslie.Blake@mail.dss.mil  
Subject: DoDPI Tape requests to date,

Goodmorning Ladies,

I'm in the process of faxing copies of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests that have been received to date, requesting copies of DoDPI tapes. I've sent a letter to Mr. Ravnitzky informing him that the information he has on his website is incorrect.

I'm only asking that one of the 4 requests be expedited in review and copy (if possible). If this tape is deemed not releasable, please inform me in detail what areas in the tape are deemed unreleasable and submit a copy of the tape to my attention. The requester information is:

Mr. Robert [REDACTED] (b)(6)  
VT 315 Interrogation Techniques

One of Mr. Ravnitzky's tape requests is "Satanic Rituals" VT 086. I already have a copy of this tape from a previous release.

If there are any questions once you receive the fax's, please give me a call.

Thanks in advance,

Tanya

Subject: RE: FOIA

Date: Tue, 8 Aug 2000 08:08:46 -0400

From: "Cook, Karen ." [REDACTED]

To: "Michael Ravnitzky" <mikerav@ix.netcom.com>, "Cook, Karen ." [REDACTED]

CC: tanya.layne@mail.dss.mil, "Green, Gwendolyn." [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

As we discussed yesterday, your request will continue to be processed by the DSS FOIA office. Any questions or requests for information should be directed to Ms. Tanya Layne, (703) 325-9488 or tanya.layne@mail.dss.mil.

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Ravnitzky [mailto:mikerav@ix.netcom.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 08, 2000 2:15 AM

To: Cook, Karen .

Cc: tanya.layne@mail.dss.mil; greeng@jackson-dpi.army.mil

Subject: Re: FOIA

Thank you. Please notify total cost, if any, before shipping. Furthermore, please assess the fee waiver issue before issuing an invoice. Finally, please let me know how many of the tapes are being released in full, and how many in part, and how many are being withheld.

My decision of whether to appeal will depend upon the degree of conscientiousness in the response I get, i.e. how partial denials are handled. Nothing personal intended at all.

I very much appreciate your assistance, and that of your capable staff.

Michael Ravnitzky

-----  
>From: "Cook, Karen ." [REDACTED]  
>To: "'mikerav@ix.netcom.com'" <mikerav@ix.netcom.com>  
>Subject: FOIA  
>Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2000, 12:10 PM  
>

(b)(6)

> I checked this morning on the status of your APBNews FOIA request for  
> videotapes from DoDPI. The tapes will be reviewed, copied and forwarded  
> to  
> the DSS FOIA Office for release no later than two weeks from today.

-----  
This email server is running an evaluation copy of the MailShield anti-spam software. Please contact your email administrator if you have any questions about this message. MailShield product info: www.mailshield.com



**Subject: RE: Video's**

**Date:** Wed, 24 Jul 2002 09:38:54 -0400

**From:** "Arledge, Genni" [REDACTED]

**To:** "Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil" <Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil>

(b)(6)

We really have the whole set 386-390. The computer thought they were copies so didn't show their numbers. I recheck the whole list and also found 114 and 118.  
Genni

-----Original Message-----

From: Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil [mailto:Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil]

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2002 5:55 AM

To: Genni, Arledge,

Subject: Video's

Goodmorning Genni,

I have a question regarding the listing of tapes you sent me which are no longer in the DoDPI library.

RE: The series of tapes numbered 386 through 390: Brisbane, Bob. 1988 Oversight Committee Meeting

On your list everyone one of that series was listed except VT 386, which is the first videotape of 5. Is it safe to assume that that one has also been destroyed or it hasn't been destroyed yet?

Please advise at your earliest convenience, I'm in the process of submitting your list to Mr. Ravnitsky.

Thanks in advance,

Tanya

**Subject: Re: FOIA**

**Date:** Tue, 08 Aug 2000 02:14:38 -0400

**From:** "Michael Ravnitzky" <mikerav@ix.netcom.com>

**To:** "Cook, Karen ." [REDACTED]

**CC:** tanya.layne@mail.dss.mil [REDACTED]

(u) (b)

Thank you. Please notify total cost, if any, before shipping. Furthermore, please assess the fee waiver issue before issuing an invoice. Finally, please let me know how many of the tapes are being released in full, and how many in part, and how many are being withheld.

My decision of whether to appeal will depend upon the degree of conscientiousness in the response I get, i.e. how partial denials are handled. Nothing personal intended at all.

I very much appreciate your assistance, and that of your capable staff.

Michael Ravnitzky

-----  
>From: "Cook, Karen ." [REDACTED]  
>To: "'mikerav@ix.netcom.com'" <mikerav@ix.netcom.com>  
>Subject: FOIA  
>Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2000, 12:10 PM  
>

(u) (b)

> I checked this morning on the status of your APBNews FOIA request for  
> videotapes from DoDPI. The tapes will be reviewed, copied and forwarded to  
> the DSS FOIA Office for release no later than two weeks from today.

**Subject:** Tapes for APB News

**Date:** Wed, 25 Oct 2000 11:17:45 -0400

**From:** "Green, Gwendolyn" [REDACTED]

**To:** "Tanya Lane (E-mail)" <tanya.layne@mail.dss.mil>

Hi Tanya!

How are you? Our library tech is wanting to know whether we will be getting the tapes back that were sent there on behalf of APB.News? There are trying to update their catalogue and didn't know whether they were to take the numbers out of their database or what. Could you please advise.

Thanks!

Gwen Green  
Administrative Support Assistant  
DoD Polygraph Institute  
7540 Pickens Avenue  
Ft. Jackson, SC 29207

[REDACTED] 04

(b)(6)

**Subject:** <no subject>

**Date:** Tue, 08 Aug 2000 08:40:18 -0400

**From:** "Michael Ravnitzky" <mikerav@ix.netcom.com>

**To:** tanya.layne@mail.dss.mil

Dear Ms. Layne:

Thank you for the update on the films.

could you please tell me, approximately, what percentage of the films are expected to be released in full, what percentage in part, and what percentage denied.

I won't hold you to any numbers, I just want to get a sense of what numbers we are looking at...

thank you very much for all your assistance and support.

Mike Ravnitzky  
mikerav@ix.netcom.com  
718-826-8728

**Subject: Re: FOIA Request**

**Date:** Thu, 01 Aug 2002 15:07:00 -0400

**From:** "Leslie R. Blake" <leslie.blake@mail.dss.mil>

**Organization:** Defense Security Service (DSS)

**To:** "Arledge, Genni" <[REDACTED]@mil>

*(b)(6)*

Thank you  
Les

"Arledge, Genni" wrote:

> The package went up for the director's signature this morning, it should be  
> in the mail Monday.

>  
> Genni Arledge  
> Librarian  
> DoD Polygraph Institute  
> 7540 Pickens Ave  
> Fort Jackson, SC 29207

> [REDACTED]

*(b)(6)*

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Leslie R. Blake [mailto:leslie.blake@mail.dss.mil]  
> Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 4:13 PM  
> To: GENNI B. ARLEDGE  
> Subject: FOIA Request

> Genni

> What is the status of Mr. Ravnitzk's request for DoDPI tapes. After  
> your email to Ms. Layne listing what you no longer have in your  
> collection, it appears from his list we are waiting on the following:

- > VT 086 Satanic Rituals
- > VT 120 Use of Polygraph in Courts-Martial
- > VT 370 America at Risk

> Please put a rush on the processing of this request.

> Thank you  
> Les

> --

> This electronic mail (e-mail) transmission is meant solely for the  
> person(s) to whom it is addressed. It contains confidential information  
> that may also be legally privileged. Any copying, dissemination or  
> distribution of the contents of this e-mail by anyone other than the  
> addressee or his or her agent for such purposes is strictly prohibited.  
> If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately  
> by telephone, facsimile or e-mail and purge the original and all copies  
> thereof. Thank you.

> Les Blake  
> Defense Security Service (OGCF)  
> (703) 325-9450  
> (703) 325-5991 fax

--

RE: FOIA Request

**Subject: RE: FOIA Request**

**Date:** Thu, 01 Aug 2002 14:57:54 -0400

**From:** "Arledge, Genni" [REDACTED]

**To:** "Leslie R. Blake" <leslie.blake@mail.dss.mil>

(b)(6)

The package went up for the director's signature this morning, it should be in the mail Monday.

Genni Arledge  
Librarian  
DoD Polygraph Institute  
7540 Pickens Ave  
Fort Jackson, SC 29207

[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Leslie R. Blake [<mailto:leslie.blake@mail.dss.mil>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 30, 2002 4:13 PM

**To:** GENNI B. ARLEDGE

**Subject:** FOIA Request

Genni

What is the status of Mr. Ravnitzk's request for DoDPI tapes. After your email to Ms. Layne listing what you no longer have in your collection, it appears from his list we are waiting on the following:

- VT 086      Satanic Rituals
- VT 120      Use of Polygraph in Courts-Martial
- VT 370      America at Risk

Please put a rush on the processing of this request.

Thank you

Les

--

This electronic mail (e-mail) transmission is meant solely for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. It contains confidential information that may also be legally privileged. Any copying, dissemination or distribution of the contents of this e-mail by anyone other than the addressee or his or her agent for such purposes is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately by telephone, facsimile or e-mail and purge the original and all copies thereof. Thank you.

Les Blake  
Defense Security Service (OGCF)  
(703) 325-9450  
(703) 325-5991 fax

**Subject:** Videos

**Date:** Wed, 17 Jul 2002 13:29:07 -0400

**From:** "Arledge, Genni" [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

**To:** "Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil" <Tanya.Layne@mail.dss.mil>

The attached file is a list of the tapes we no longer have in our collection that appear on the list Ravnitzky's is distributing.

<<VT LIST.doc>>

VT 435 Your time has come is produced by the Air Force and VT 285 Protecting Critical Defense Information is produced by Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence & Security).

We are working on getting the other requested videos copied and reviewed.

Genni Arledge  
Librarian  
DoD Polygraph Institute  
7540 Pickens Ave  
Fort Jackson, SC 29207

[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

VT LIST.doc	<b>Name:</b> VT LIST.doc <b>Type:</b> Microsoft Word Document (application/msword) <b>Encoding:</b> base64
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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
**DIRECTORATE FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND SECURITY REVIEW**  
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155

**09 SEP 2002**

Ref: 02-F-1948

Mr. Michael Ravnitzky  
American Lawyer Media  
1730 M Street NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Ravnitzky:

This is in response to your August 5, 2002, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). On August 9, 2002, DISA referred your request with responsive document to this Directorate for review and response directly to you.

The enclosed document is provided as responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

  
H. V. McIntyre  
Director

Enclosure:  
As stated





er, Robin

From: Hogan, James, CIV, DOD/WHS/DFOISR [James.Hogan@dfoisr.whs.mil]  
 Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2002 11:40 AM  
 To: MacDonald, Debra (E-mail); Al Kremer (E-mail); Joyce Neidlinger (E-mail); Kathryn Meeks (E-mail); Maureen Jones (E-mail); MSgt Frank G. Richartz (E-mail); Sharon Law (E-mail); SSgt Ramon Aragon (E-mail); SSgt Scott Miller (E-mail); Terry Flesher (E-mail); Doris Lama (E-mail); Jenkins, Rhonda; Rollins, Anne; Rose Marie Christensen (E-mail); Angela Ashton (E-mail); Cathy Alphin (E-mail); Dave Henshall (E-mail); Freimann, Barbara, NRO; Kelly Akers (E-mail); Krabbenhoft, Linda, DFAS; Patricia Cirino (E-mail); Phillips, Pamela, NSA/CSS; Richardson, Paul, DIA; Robin Berger (E-mail); Rose Bird (E-mail); Salus, Susan, DLA; Sandy Ford (E-mail); Slattery, Mary, NIMA; Thompson, Barbara, Marine Corps  
 Cc: Maier, David, CIV, DOD/WHS/DFOISR; Curry, Shirley, CIV, DOD/DFOISR/WHS; Kammer, William, CIV, DOD/DFOISR/WHS  
 Subject: Guidance for fee status of Michael Ravnitzky ~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

For those of you who receive FOIA requests from Mr. Ravnitzky, you know that there has been much discussion lately on whether he should be considered an "other" or a "media" requester. Specifically, the issue is that even though he works for what seems to be a legitimate media organization (American Lawyer Media), it appears that they have not disseminated any of his requested information. As many of you know, DOJ OIP has taken up this issue with him and his employers. Concerning one specific request that he has with DOJ, he has been granted media status (NOT a fee waiver, however) because his employers have promised to DOJ that they will disseminate what he requests.

Concerning FOIA requests from Mr. Ravnitzky, this Directorate is taking the view that unless American Lawyer Media spells out how they intend to disseminate the information that he requests, he will be considered an "other" requester. This determination will be made on a case-by-case basis. For our requests hanging around from his pre-American Lawyer Media days, we will consider him as other.

This guidance is provided to assist you in your efforts to classify Mr. Ravnitzky as a FOIA requester. It is not policy. Our specific policy is spelled out in DoD 5400.7-R. If you have any questions, please call me. For those agencies who receive this message after it was forwarded from a parent component, please contact your component for guidance.

Jim Hogan  
 Deputy Chief, FOIA Division  
 Directorate for Freedom of Information and Security Review  
 Room 2C757  
 1155 Defense Pentagon  
 Washington, DC 20301-1155  
 (703) 697-4026, DSN 227-4026  
 James.Hogan@dfoisr.whs.mil