



Washington, D.C. 20505

11 December 2006

Mr. Michael Evans
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Reference: F-2007-00018

Dear Mr. Evans:

We received your 16 November 2006 letter appealing our 11 October 2006 response to National Security Archive's Freedom of Information Act request for all documents from 1980 to the present relating in whole or in part to the Colombian paramilitary and drug trafficker José Vicente Castaño Gil, and all documents on the Bloque Centauros or Centauros Bloc faction of the United Self Defense Forces of Colombia (Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia or AUC) that he leads.

Specifically, you appealed our determination that we can neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of records responsive to your request on the basis of Freedom of Information Act exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3).

Your appeal has been accepted and arrangements will be made for its consideration by the appropriate members of the Agency Release Panel. You will be advised of the determinations made.

In order to afford requesters the most equitable treatment possible, we handle appeals on a first-received, first-out basis. At the present time, our workload consists of approximately 180 appeals awaiting completion. In view of this, some delay in our reply must be expected, but I can assure you that every reasonable effort will be made to complete a response as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Scott Koch

Information and Privacy Coordinator

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: 02-Mar-2011

