

OCT 29 2014

Mr. Joel Westphal
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington DC 22350

Dear Mr. Westphal,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has received information regarding the unauthorized destruction of U.S. Navy records. According to an article in the October 12 issue of *The Washington Post*, two Navy security officers destroyed records of the Navy Directorate for Plans, Policy, Oversight and Integration. These records potentially related to the purchase of automatic-rifle silencers which, at the time, was the subject of an ongoing Federal investigation.

Pursuant to NARA's responsibilities under 44 U.S.C. 2905 to investigate allegations related to the unauthorized disposal or alienation of records, we request that you look into this matter. After your review, please provide us with a report as required by 36 CFR 1230.14 within 30 days of the date of this letter. If you are unable to provide your report within this time, please provide us with an interim report indicating what actions you have taken and when you expect to submit a final report.

We look forward to your response and thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Steven B. Rhodes at 301-837-3055 or steven.rhodes@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

PAUL M. WESTER, JR.
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government

cc:
Official file – ACNR ✓
Reading file – AC, ACNR
Day file – CRO
James Willson-Quayle - DON
Rhodes
File 1301-1b Unauthorized Disposal – Department of the Navy
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Drafted by Steven B. Rhodes