



National Archives and Records Administration

8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

December 10, 2007

Mr. Joseph Lambert
Director, Information Management Services
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Lambert:

According to recent reports in the media, the Central Intelligence Agency destroyed video tapes of the interrogations of two al-Qaeda terrorism suspects. As you are aware, no Federal records may be destroyed except under the authorization of a records disposition schedule approved by the Archivist of the United States. We are unaware of any CIA disposition authority that covers these records. Also, your response to this letter should take into account the fact that if the tapes had been requested under FOIA, GRS 14, Item 11(b) precluded their destruction until resolution of the FOIA case(s).

Pursuant to NARA's responsibilities under 44 U.S.C. 2905 to investigate allegations of unauthorized destruction of records, we would appreciate it if you would investigate this matter and report the circumstances of the destruction of the records. If there was an unauthorized destruction of Federal records, please provide us with the report required under 36 CFR 1228.104 (copy enclosed) 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 the final report.

We appreciate your cooperation. Please call David Langbart on 301-837-3172 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul M. Wester, Jr." in a cursive style.

PAUL M. WESTER, JR.
Director
Modern Records Programs

Enclosure