National Archives and Records Administration

§1250.12

IF YOU WANT ACCESS TO	THEN ACCESS IS GOVERNED BY
(C) Records of Congress	Parts 1254 through 1260 of this chapter. FOIA does not apply to these records.
(D) Presidential records (created by Presidents holding office since 1981).	This part and parts 1254 through 1270 of this chap- ter. FOIA applies to these records 5 years after the President leaves office. However a Presi- dent may invoke exemptions under the Presi- dential Records Act which would extend this up to 12 years after the President leaves office.
(E) Documents created by Presidents holding office before 1981 and housed in a NARA Presidential library.	The deed of gift under which they were given to NARA. These documents are not Federal records and FOIA does not apply to these mate- rials.
(F) Nixon Presidential materials	Part 1275 of this chapter. FOIA does not apply to these materials.

§1250.8 Does NARA provide access to all the executive branch records housed at NARA facilities?

(a) NARA provides access to the records NARA creates (operational records) and records originating in other Federal agencies that have been transferred to the legal custody of the Archivist of the United States (archival records).

(b) Twentieth-century personnel and medical records of former members of the military and of former civilian employees of the Federal government are held at NARA's National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), located in St. Louis, Missouri. These records remain in the legal custody of the agencies that created them and access to them is governed by the FOIA and other access regulations of the creating agencies. The NPRC processes FOIA requests under authority delegated by the originating agencies, not under the provisions of this part.

(c) In our national and regional records centers, NARA stores records that agencies no longer need for day-to-day business. These records remain in the legal custody of the agencies that created them. Access to these records is through the originating agency. NARA does not process FOIA requests for these records.

§1250.10 Do I need to use FOIA to gain access to records at NARA?

(a) Most archival records held by NARA are available to the public for

research without filing a FOIA request. You may either visit a NARA facility as a researcher to view and copy records or you may write to request copies of specific records.

(b) If you are seeking access to archival records that are restricted and not available to the public, you may need to file a FOIA request or a mandatory review request (see part 1254 of this chapter for procedures for accessing classified records) to gain access to these materials. If you make a reference request for restricted records, we may ask that you change your reference request to a FOIA request or a mandatory review request. See 36 CFR 1254.46 for information on filing mandatory review requests.

(c) You must file a FOIA request when you request access to NARA operational records that are not already available to the public.

§1250.12 What types of records are available in NARA's FOIA Reading Room?

(a) NARA makes available for public inspection and copying the following materials described in subsection (a)(2) of the FOIA:

(1) Final NARA orders;

(2) Written statements of NARA policy that are not published in the Federal Register;

(3) Operational staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect members of the public;