



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTORATE FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND SECURITY REVIEW
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155

16 MAR 2001

Ref: 01-CORR-025

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: DoD Policy on the Processing of DoD Hotline Cases

Questions have arisen within the Department of Defense (DoD) concerning the processing of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests for Hotline investigations. DoD components are reminded that Section C1.5.9.1. of DoD 5400.7-R, "DoD Freedom of Information Act Program" states that "the DoD FOIA referral policy is based upon the concept of the originator of a record making a release determination on its information." Although the DoD Inspector General has policy oversight regarding DoD Hotline investigations, the component that conducts a Hotline investigation is considered the originator of the information and is, therefore, responsible for its processing under the FOIA. Hotline investigations conducted by components other than the DoD Inspector General shall not be referred to the DoD Inspector General for their response to the requester.

DoD components are encouraged to consult the DoD Inspector General's FOIA Office when processing Hotline investigations, but the release determination rests with the originator of the document. Please disseminate this to all appropriate offices within your organization.


H. J. McIntyre
Director

