

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legal Policy

Office of Information and Privacy

Washington, D.C. 20530

DEC 5 1988

Mr. Gustavo Gorriti Center for International Affairs Harvard University 1737 Cambridge Street Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Re: Appeal Nos. 88-0585, 88-0584, 88-0583 RLH:PAK:JPA

Dear Mr. Gorriti:

You appealed from the actions of the Drug Enforcement Administration on your requests for access to records pertaining to Guillermo Cardenas Davila, Reynaldo R. Lopez, and Carlos Langberg Melendez.

With respect to your requests for records pertaining to Mr. Davila (Appeal No. 88-0585, DEA No. 87-1936-F) and Mr. Lopez (Appeal No. 88-0583, DEA No. 87-1934-F), the DEA has now determined that it does have responsive records. Accordingly, the DEA will process those records and any non-exempt information will be released to you. If you are dissatisfied with the ultimate action taken by the DEA with respect to these records, you may appeal again to this Office. Inasmuch as my actions on Appeal Nos. 88-0585 and 88-0583 do not constitute complete grants of access, I am required by statute and Departmental regulations to inform you of your right to judicial review. Such review is available to you in the United States District Court for the judicial district in which you reside or have your principal place of business, or in the District of Columbia, which is also where the records you seek are located.

With respect to your request for records pertaining to Mr. Melendez (Appeal No. 88-0584, DEA No. 87-1935-F), after careful consideration of your appeal, I have decided to affirm the initial action of the DEA in refusing to confirm or deny the existence of responsive records. Lacking an individual's consent, an official acknowledgment of an investigation, or an overriding public interest, even to acknowledge the existence of investigatory records pertaining to an individual could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(7)(C).

Judicial review of my action on Appeal No. 88-0584 is available to you in the United States District Court for the judicial district in which you reside or have your principal place of business, or in the District of Columbia, which is where the records you seek, if any exist, would be located.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Huff, Co-Director Office of Information and Privacy