

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

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5720
FOIA 10-2771
11-0530
December 9, 2010

Ms. Katherine Gallagher
Center for Constitutional Rights
666 Broadway, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10012-2399

Dear Ms. Gallagher:

This letter is the final response to your June 30, 2010 and September 13, 2010 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request addressed to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). You requested information regarding the May 31, 2010 Israeli military operation that occurred in the Mediterranean Sea involving a six-boat flotilla. You requested any and all records since January 1, 2010 that related to and reflect any and all plans, reports, documents, etc. that mention or relate to any vessels or a flotilla of boats destined for Gaza in May 2010. Your request includes but is not limited to any and all records reflecting communications in any format with the Israel Defense Forces, or any other division, department or representative of the Government of Israel prior to, on or after May 31, 2010 in relation to the U.S. registered vessel CHALLENGER I or any vessel in the flotilla. Your request was received in this office on July 13, 2010.

We conducted a comprehensive search of files within the FOIA and Data Administration Division (CG-5453) for records that would be responsive to your request. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate or identify any responsive records. We searched for any references to "Gaza", "flotilla", "Israel", the vessels CHALLENGER or MAVI MARMARA, "military", "mayday", "injury" or "casualty". The search also looked at all activities in the Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement (MISLE) database that occurred during the month of May and by the names of the above mentioned vessels. This search was conducted on December 7, 2010 by Mr. Rodney Levy, IT Specialist.

While an adequate search was conducted, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist within the Data Administration Division that would be responsive to your request. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 60 days of the date of this letter, to:

COMMANDANT (CG-611)
US COAST GUARD
ATTN: FOIA/PA OFFICER
2100 2ND ST SW STOP 7101
WASHINGTON DC 20593-7101

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Following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 CFR § 5.9. Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS regulations are available at www.dhs.gov/foia.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$14 minimum, there is no charge.

If you need to contact our office concerning this request, please contact Ms. Dawn Patterson at the email address or phone number above.

Sincerely,



D. PATTERSON
Chief, Data Administration Division
U.S. Coast Guard
By direction