

Bates Number	#Pgs	Doc Type	Title	Doc Date	Class	Final Release Determination	Attachments	Explanation of Exemptions
CENTCOM/003-005	3	Email	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Concerns intelligence</i>	27-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4a, (b)(5), (b)(6)	Attachment 1: CENTCOM/001-002 ATTACHMENT 2: CENTCOM/048-053 ATTACHMENT 3: JS/047 ATTACHMENT 4: Located attachment processing one page for release	Attorney-Client privilege, deliberative process privilege, (b)(5) exemptions: Email discussions extracted from an Attorney's email account forwarding points made by DoD lawyers group regarding legal issues relating to aspects of the al Ghayil Raid. Predates agency decision on the matters being discussed. Contains opinions and recommendations as to legal issues relating to the yet to be executed raid. (b)(1)1.4a: Operation description, name, and planned details withheld. (b)(6): No public interest in personnel under the grade of Flag officer or equivalent non-public figures or email addresses.
CENTCOM/015-018	4	Email	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Deals with CONOP</i>	3-Feb-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5), (b)(6)	ATTACHMENT 1: JS/063-81 ATTACHMENT 2: CENTCOM/043-044 ATTACHMENT 3: CENTCOM/045-053	Email discussing pre-strike authorities and options; the discussion is not related directly to the al Ghayil Raid. (b)(5), Deliberative Process Privilege: email thread among DOD attorneys containing general discussions and deliberations regarding military operations and plans. (b)(1)1.4a: Operation description, information, and name would reveal operational plans and details. (b)(6): No public interest in personnel under the grade of Flag officer or equivalent non-public figures or email addresses.
CENTCOM/019	1	Email	[subject redacted as classified] <i>RFIs</i>	28-Feb-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5), (b)(6)	CENTCOM/340-343	(b)(5): Attorney-Client privilege. Email from deputy staff judge advocate to department lawyers forwarding information about the completed Raid that was provided in response to RFIs. (b)(1): contains operational name and information regarding the completed Raid. (b)(6): contains names, email addresses, and other personally identifying information. No public interest in personnel under the grade of Flag officer or equivalent non-public figures. NOTE: As described in the July 20, 2018 Declaration of Major General Terry Ferrell, the message could not be retrieved in its entirety by CENTCOM.
CENTCOM/020-026	7	Email	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Concerns operations</i>	1-Feb-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(d), (b)(5), (b)(6)	CENTCOM/287	Email thread discussing military options post-al Ghayil Raid. (b)1.4a and 1.4d: Protecting operation name and subject of the conversation concerning pre-operation coordination. (b)(6): No public interest in personnel below general officer of equivalent or email addresses. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Some information is withheld per (b)(5) as its constitutes legal advice provided by an attorney regarding a military operation, and is attorney client privileged.
CENTCOM/027-030	4	Email	[subject redacted as classified] <i>DoD Support</i>	26-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(6)	n/a	Email forwarding military order setting forth detailed operational approval. (b)(1)1.4a: Protecting operation message approving the Raid, including detailed information about operational specifics and plans. (b)(6): No public interest in personnel below general officer of equivalent or email addresses.
CENTCOM/031	1	Email	[subject Redacted as classified] <i>Follow up reporting</i>	30-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5), (b)(6)	n/a	Email discussing pre-strike issues; the discussion is not related directly to the al Ghayil Raid. (b)(5), Attorney-Client Privilege: relaying information to DoD lawyers for advice and/or analysis relating to a future operation. (b)(1)1.4a: Operation description, information, and name would reveal operational plans and details. (b)(6): No public interest in personnel under the grade of Flag officer or equivalent non-public figures or email addresses.
CENTCOM/032	1	Email	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Follow up reporting</i>	30-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a) (b)(5), (b)(6)	n/a	Email discussing pre-strike authorities; the discussion is not related directly to the al Ghayil Raid. (b)(5), Attorney-Client Privilege: Relaying information to DoD lawyers for advice and/or analysis relating to a future operation. (b)(1)1.4a: Operation description, information, and name would reveal operational plans and details. (b)(6): No public interest in personnel under the grade of Flag officer or equivalent non-public figures or email addresses.
CENTCOM/033	1	Email	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Follow up reporting</i>	30-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5), (b)(6)	n/a	Email from DoD attorney to lawyers group discussing pre-strike legal issue; the discussion is not related directly to the al Ghayil Raid. (b)(5), Attorney-Client Privilege: attorney providing legal advice and/or analysis. (b)(1)1.4a: Operation description, information, and name would reveal operational plans and details. (b)(6): No public interest in personnel under the grade of Flag officer or equivalent non-public figures or email addresses.
CENTCOM/036-038	3	Email	[subject Redacted as classified] <i>Operations</i>	26-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(5), (b)(6)	Located attachment (email string), CENTCOM is processing 4 pgs for release	(b)(6), (b)(1), 1.4 a,c,d, (b)(5) Attorney-Client privilege (b)(5) exemptions: Email discussions extracted from an Attorney's email account discussing legal issues relating to one aspect of the al Ghayil Raid, and providing analysis and opinions. Email sent between lawyers assigned to various echelons of commands within DoD, predates agency decision on the matter being discussed. (b)(1)1.4a: Operation description, information, and name would reveal operational plans and details; 1.4c discussion includes intelligence regarding the raid target and sources; 1.4d release of the discussion would most likely disrupt foreign relations and activities; (b)(6): No public interest in personnel under the grade of Flag officer or equivalent non-public figures or email addresses and phone numbers.
CENTCOM/045-053	9	Memo	[subject redacted as classified] <i>DoD Support</i>	24-Jan-17	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(5)	n/a	Memorandum from Secretary of Defense to National Security Advisor seeking approval for detailed operational proposal relating to al Ghayil Raid, and attaching detailed DoD operational proposal. Exemption (b)(5): Deliberative process privilege and presidential communication privilege, because this is a communication of recommendations and options directly to the President's aide for national security matters, and forms part of the Presidential decision-making process. (b)(1)a,c,d: Classified information related to military operations is withheld per (b)(1). The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations.

CENTCOM/060-130	71	Briefing	[subject redacted as classified] Support	20-Oct-16	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5)	n/a	(b)(a)1.4a: Briefing fully addressing every aspect of the offensive to anticipated to take place which became the al Ghayil Raid in Yemen. Sets forth pre-strike assessments, plans, including maps, diagrams, and photographs. (b)(5), Deliberative process privilege: lays out detailed options, suggestions, and recommendations relating to the anticipated military operation in the planning stage, as part of the deliberative decision-making process regarding the operation.
CENTCOM/155-156	2	Email	[subject redacted as classified] RFI	30-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5),(b)(6)	n/a	Attorney-Client privilege, (b)(5): Email between staff attorney and staff judge advocate discussing legal issues relating to DoD operation, and making recommendations. Discussion not directly related to al Ghayil Raid. (b)(1)1.4a: Operational details, execution, and briefing preparation would reveal information regarding a military operation. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/164-166	3	Email	[subj redacted as classified] Assessment	2-Feb-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5),(b)(6)	CENTCOM located attachment; processing 5 pgs. for release.	Attorney-Client privilege, (b)(5): Email between staff judge advocates coordinating credibility assessment of civilian casualties pending approval, and discussing relevant legal issues. (b)(1)1.4a: Significant operational details and post strike assessment techniques withheld. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/184-186	3	Email	[subj redacted as classified] Assessment	2-Feb-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5),(b)(6)	Located attachment it is a duplicate of attachment to CENTCOM/164 being processed for release.	Attorney-Client privilege, (b)(5): Email between staff judge advocates coordinating credibility assessment of civilian casualties pending approval, and discussing relevant legal issues. (b)(1)1.4a: Significant operational details and post strike assessment techniques withheld. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/187-189	3	Email	[subj redacted as classified] CONOP	26-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5), (b)(6)	Attachment is CENTCOM/253-268.	Deliberative process privilege, (b)(5): Email to staff judge advocates forwarding operational details relating to upcoming military action for general discussion and deliberation regarding plans. (b)(1)1.4a: Operational details, execution, and CONOP preparation between staff judge advocates, operators, planners, and senior leaders. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/193-201	9	Email	CENTCOM - SecDef/CJCS Weekly Update	7-Apr-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(6)	n/a	Email from staff judge advocate to lawyers group forwarding follow-on detailed operational report regarding multiple DoD operations, only partly related to Yemen, being shared up the chain of command, including intelligence information and other specifics. (b)(1)1.4a: Email forwarding senior commander briefing on the operation to SECDEF. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/218-244	27	Briefing	[subj redacted as classified] Briefing on operations	9-Feb-17	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5)	n/a	(b)(1)1.4a: Full narrative of operational details, execution expectations, plans, assessments, and tactics relating to military action not directly related to al Ghayil Raid. Draft, redlined information paper is attached. (b)(5): Deliberative process privileged. Sets forth suggestions and options to be considered as part of the government decision-making process regarding a military operation, and also contains a draft, redlined information paper.
CENTCOM/246-268	23	Briefing	[subj redacted as classified] Rules of engagement	9-Feb-17	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5)	CENTCOM/262 is the attachment to CENTCOM/170-173	Backup slides to 20 Oct briefing. (b)(1)1.4a: Full narrative of operational details, execution expectations, plans, assessments, and tactics, only partly related to Yemen raid. (b)(5) Deliberative process privilege: contains options and recommendations for consideration during the government decision-making process regarding a military operation.
CENTCOM/280	1	Email	[subject redacted as classified] Follow Up	31-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5), (b)(6)	n/a	(b)(1)1.4a: Operational details with discussion of authorities for the execution of an offensive, not directly related to al Ghayil Raid. (b)(5) Deliberative process privileged - relates to an upcoming offensive, discussion reflects considerations and opinions that form part of the decision-making process relating to a military action. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/286	1	Email chain	[subj redacted as classified] Follow Up	30-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5),(b)(6)	Attachment 1: CENTCOM/001-002 Attachment 2: identical to CENTCOM/11, 15, & 167 Attachment 3: identical to CENTCOM/151, 167, 168, & 174.	Attorney-Client privilege (b)(5): Email between staff judge advocates coordinating the reporting and post operational coordination with superior commands discussing legal issues relating to future operations. Deliberative process privileged - relates to an upcoming offensive, discussion reflects considerations and opinions that form part of the decision-making process relating to a military action. (b)(1)1.4a: Operational details, execution expectations, preparation between staff judge advocates, operators, planners, and senior leaders. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/294	1	Email chain	[subj redacted as classified] Follow Up	30-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5),(b)(6)	n/a	Attorney-Client privilege (b)(5): Staff coordination with operational law attorneys following up on other emails regarding the same subject, reflecting discussion of legal issues relating to future operations. Deliberative process privileged - relates to an upcoming offensive, discussion reflects considerations and opinions that form part of the decision-making process relating to a military action. (b)(1)1.4a: Operational details including name of operation. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/295-296	2	Email chain	[subj redacted as classified] Operation	2-Feb-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a), (b)(5),(b)(6)	Attachment is a signature block image	Attorney-Client privilege (b)(5): Email between staff judge advocates concluding a Tandberg discussion on operation authorities legal approach moving forward. (b)(1)1.4a: Operational details including name of the operation. (b)(6): No public interest in the addressees of personnel copied on the message or receiving the message.
CENTCOM/304-307	4	Email	FW Post Op Review	30-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1) 1.4a, 1.4c, 1.4d, (b)(5), (b)(6)	NA	Email from staff judge advocate to lawyers group forwarding post-operation report with detailed assessments, discussion of vulnerabilities, etc., and including analysis regarding a legal issue for future operations. (b)(5) Attorney-Client privilege: Document contains legal advice from staff judge advocate on internal discussions and recommendations regarding classified post operation matters pertaining to additional actions proposed by leaders and being evaluated for legal authorities. (b)(1): Sets forth significant detailed information relating to military operation, intelligence, DOD assessments. (b)(6): Withheld names and personally identifying information of low level personnel.
CENTCOM/329	1	Email Attachment to Bates 003-005.	.PDF	Undated	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1) 1.4b, 1.4c, 1.4d; (b)(5)	NA	(b)(1): Draft memorandum of points containing operational proposals and foreign government information the release of which would disclose intelligence activities and hamper foreign releases or foreign activities of the U.S. (b)(5) - Deliberative process privileged: Memo is described as a "draft" in parent document CENTCOM/003-005, and forms part of the decision-making process relating to formulating a military operation.

CENTCOM/330-334	5	Email Attachment to Bates 164-166	CIVCAS Assessment	1-Feb-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1) 1.4a, (b)(6)	NA	Post-operation memorandum to file outlines the operation in question and details an initial assessment by the task force commander reporting his own opinion that no further action is necessary; includes significant operational detail, including maps and diagrams and intelligence regarding aspects of the operation. There is no indication this assessment constituted a final agency action. (b)(6): Withheld names and personally identifying information of low level personnel.
JS/001-006	6	Paper	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Operational Proposal</i>	Undated	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/106-108	Detailed operational proposal by the Secretary of Defense. Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. (b)(5): This document is deliberative process privileged because it sets forth information, options, and recommendations to be used in the governmental decision-making process regarding a proposed military operation. (b)(1) a,c,d: Classified information related to military operations is withheld per (b)(1). The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations.
JS/009-011	3	Memo	[subject redacted as classified] <i>DoD Support</i>	Undated	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(b)(c)(d), (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/400-401	Memorandum from Secretary of Defense to National Security Advisor making recommendations and seeking approval of military operation, and containing detailed operational information. Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. Classified information related to military operations is withheld per (b)(1)1.4a,c,d. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Classified foreign government information is also withheld per (b)(1). Exemption (b)(5), deliberative process privileged and presidential communications privileged: this document constitutes a predecisional, closely held communication between a Cabinet secretary and the President's aide for national security to aid in the President's decision-making process about a military operation, and its release would cause harm to deliberative processes related to these operations.
JS/022-023	2	Memo	[Redacted as classified] <i>Authorization on Proposals</i>	27-Jan-17	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(5)	This is the attachment to JS/161-164.	Memorandum from the National Security Advisor to the Secretary of Defense communicating the President's approval of a DoD operation, and conveying the details of the scope of that approval. (b)(1)a,c,d: Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. (b)(5) - presidential communication privilege: This communication conveying Presidential approval is closely held between the President's aide for national security and the Secretary of Defense.
JS/037-040	4	Email Chain	SHABWAH Bi-Lateral Raid	26-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(d), (b)(5), (b)(6)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/120-122	Email containing detailed plan for Yemen raid. (b)(1)a, (b)(6): Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Redacted portions contain information withheld in the interest of the privacy of JS personnel. Personally Identifiable Information (PII) - to include names, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers - is withheld per (b)(6) in order to protect privacy rights. (b)(5) deliberative process privileged: predecisional document setting forth recommended plans, options, and proposals relating to the anticipated Raid., as part of the governmental process of making decisions about a planned military operation.
JS/041-042	2	Msg	DOD Support to UAE Shabwah Offensive in Yemen	26-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(6)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/424-429	Military order from the JS to CENTCOM providing authorization for operation approved by the President. (b)(1)a,c,d: Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Redacted portions contain information withheld in the interest of the privacy of JS personnel. Personally Identifiable Information (PII) - to include names, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers - is withheld per (b)(6) in order to protect privacy rights.
JS/048-053	6	Doc	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Operational Proposal</i>	Undated	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/240-242 JS/245-248	Detailed operational proposal by the Secretary of Defense. (b)(1)a,c,d: Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. (b)(5): This document is deliberative process privileged because it sets forth information, options, and recommendations to be used in the governmental decision-making process regarding a proposed military operation.
JS/054-056	3	Memo	[subject redacted as classified] <i>DoD Support</i>	24-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/240-242, JS/245-248	Memorandum to National Security Advisor setting forth operational proposals for DOD military operation. (b)(1)a,c,d: Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Classified foreign government information is also withheld per (b)(1). Some information is also withheld per (b)(5) as it constitutes a protected presidential communication between a Cabinet secretary and the President's aide for national security to aid in the President's decision-making process, and its release would cause harm to deliberative processes related to these operations.
JS/057-058	2	Msg	DOD Support to the UAE Shabwah Offensive (Corrected Copy)	26-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(c)(d) (b)(6)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/236	Military order from the JS to CENTCOM providing authorization for operation approved by the President. (b)(1)a,c,d: Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Redacted portions contain information withheld in the interest of the privacy of JS personnel. Personally Identifiable Information (PII) - to include names, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers - is withheld per (b)(6) in order to protect privacy rights.
JS/059-062	4	Doc	[subject redacted as classified] <i>Briefing Narrative</i>	Undated	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(c)(d), (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/059-062, JS/204-207, JS/400-404	Detailed briefing narrative regarding the planning of DOD military operation. (b)(1)a,c,d: Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. (b)(5): This document is deliberative process privileged because it sets forth information, options, and recommendations to be used in the governmental decision-making process regarding a proposed military operation.

JS/188-191	4	Email chain	FW (INFORMATION) USCENTCOM intent for Shabwah Kinetic Fires	30-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(g), (b)(5), (b)(6)	n/a	Email reflecting, in part, legal advice from the Office of General Counsel. (b)(1) a.g; (b)(6): Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, vulnerabilities and capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to the national security. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to DoD operations, DoD activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is withheld as its release could subject the individuals to harassment, targeting or unwanted attention and would not shed light on the operations of the Department of Defense. (b)(5): A portion of this document reflects legal advice from the Office of General Counsel, and is therefore attorney client privileged. Because this advice is predecisional and forms part of a decision-making process regarding military operations, it is also deliberative process privileged.
JS/240-242	3	Email chain	SHABWAH AND BAM INTELL SHARING	27-Jan-17	Secret	RIP (b)(1),Sec. 1.4(a), (b)(5), (b)(6)	ATTACHMENT AT JS/047, JS/007-008, JS/048-056	Email summarizing lawyers' group discussion. (b)(1)a, (b)(6): Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to DoD operations, DoD activities, and U.S. foreign relations. PII is withheld as its release could subject the individuals to harassment, targeting or unwanted attention and would not shed light on the operations of the Department of Defense. (b)(5): This document also summarizes legal points and analysis made during an interagency lawyers' discussion. This document is therefore attorney client privileged. Because the legal advice was predecisional and also part of agency decision-making regarding a proposed military operation, this information is also deliberative process privileged.
JS/260-269	10	Paper	Tab A - DoD Operational Proposal [redacted] and Secretary of Defense Memorandum to Special Assistant to the President, DoD Support [subject redacted as classified]	Undated	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(c)(d) (b)(5)	n/a	This document contains a detailed DoD operational proposal by the Secretary of Defense (261-266), as well as a memorandum from the Secretary of Defense to the National Security Advisor making recommendations and seeking approval for a DOD military operation (267-269). (b)(1)(a)(b)(c),(d). Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Classified foreign government information is also withheld per (b)(1). PII is withheld as its release could subject the individuals to harassment, targeting or unwanted attention and would not shed light on the operations of the Department of Defense. (b)(5): The DoD operational proposal and the Secretary of Defense memorandum both set forth recommendations and options for consideration and approval, and therefore are part of the governmental decision-making process regarding a proposed military operation. These documents are deliberative process privileged. Furthermore, the Secretary of Defense Memorandum to the National Security Advisor (267-269) is presidential communication privileged because it conveys information to an aide to the President in order to help the President in his decision-making process regarding the proposed operation.
JS/270-278	9	Memo	Tab D - Memo with attached proposal [subject redacted as classified]	24-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(b)(c)(d); (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/378-382	This document contains a memorandum from the Secretary of Defense to the National Security Advisor in which the Secretary seeks approval to share specific intelligence with a foreign government (271-272), with an attached detailed operational proposal (273-278). (b)(1),a,b,c,d. Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, foreign government information, and intelligence activities. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Classified foreign government information is also withheld per (b)(1). (b)(5): The memorandum is presidential communication privileged because it is a request from the National Security Advisor to the Presidential aide for national security matters seeking approval for a recommended action, and is therefore part of the Presidential decision-making process. The attached DOD operational proposal is deliberative process privileged because it presents recommendations and options for predecisional consideration.
JS/279-282	4	Memo	Tab C - Memorandum with attached request [subject redacted as classified]	24-Jan-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(c)(d); (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/378-382	This is a memorandum to the National Security Advisor from the Secretary of Defense seeking approval of a recommended military operation. (b)(1),a,c,d. Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, intelligence activities, and foreign activities of the U.S. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations. Classified foreign government information is also withheld per (b)(1). (b)(5): This document is a pre-decisional proposal in which information is provided to a senior advisor to the President to aid in the President's decision-making process regarding a recommended military action. Therefore, the document is deliberative process privileged and presidential communication privileged.
JS/324-329	6	Email Chain	RE: For Approval: Joint Proposal PPG Variance Request for Direct Action in Yemen	6-Jan-17	Top Secret//HCS- P/[redacted]// ORCON/NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec1.4(a)(b)(c), (b)(5),(b)(6)	n/a	Email chain regarding joint proposal for military action, requesting authorization of recommended action, and including analysis and recommendation from government attorneys. (b)(1)a,b,c, (b)(5), (b)(6). Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, foreign government information, deal with intelligence activities. Attorney client privilege and deliberative process privilege apply because the document reflects legal advice on a non-final proposal, which forms part of the government decision-making process regarding military matters. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations and would negatively affect the DoD's ability to execute similar sensitive operations. PII is withheld as its release could subject the individuals to harassment, targeting or unwanted attention and would not shed light on the operations of the Department of Defense.
JS/330-336	7	Joint Proposal	[subject redacted as classified]	N/A	Top Secret//HCS- P/[redacted]// ORCON/NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec1.4(a)(b)(c), (b)(5)	n/a	Proposal setting forth significant detail regarding proposed operation, and requesting approval of recommended actions. Exemption (b)(1) a,b,c. Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, foreign government information, and intelligence activities. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations and would negatively affect the DoD's ability to execute similar sensitive operations. (b)(5): This document is deliberative process privileged because it sets forth information, options, and recommendations to be used in the governmental decision-making process regarding a proposed military operation.

JS/339-345	7	Joint Proposal	[subject redacted as classified]	N/A	Top Secret//HCS-P/[redacted]//ORCON/NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(b)(c), (b)(5)	ATTACHMENT TO JS/339-345	Proposal setting forth significant detail regarding proposed operation, and requesting approval of recommended actions. (b)(1)a,b,c. Withheld information concerns planning-stage operational information, foreign government information, and intelligence activities. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to DoD operations, DoD activities, and U.S. foreign relations and would negatively affect the DoD's ability to execute similar sensitive operations. PII is withheld as its release could subject the individuals to harassment, targeting or unwanted attention and would not shed light on the operations of the Department of Defense. (b)(5): This document is deliberative process privileged because it sets forth information, options, and recommendations to be used in the governmental decision-making process regarding a proposed military operation.
JS/383-387	5	Memo	[subject redacted as classified]	26-Jan-17	TOP SECRET	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(b)(c)(d), (b)(5),(b)(6)	n/a	Memo with attached agenda detailing multiple national security matters to be discussed at Deputies Committee meeting, only one of which relates to the al Ghayil Raid. (b)(1)a,c,d,(b)(5),(b)(6). Redacted portions contain planning-stage operational information, foreign government information, intelligence activities. The public release of this information would cause serious damage to operations, activities, and U.S. foreign relations and would negatively affect the DoD's ability to execute similar sensitive operations. PII is withheld as its release could subject the individuals to harassment, targeting or unwanted attention and would not shed light on the operations of the Department of Defense, and is therefore exempt from disclosure under (b)(6). (b)(5): Some information, including the information provided on the agenda about the items to be discussed, is withheld as protected by the deliberative process privilege, as this information was provided as part of the deliberative process and would tend to disclose the proposed matters, options, and recommendations being discussed as part of the government's decision-making process about national security matters. Additionally, the presidential communications privilege applies to that same information and to the references in the document to other, non-Yemen matters to be discussed at the meeting, because the document reveals the matters on which the President sought the advice of the Deputies Committee, and reflects the internal discussions of senior advisors to the President in deciding what advice to provide to the President.
JS/400-404	5	Email Chain	UAE Shabwah Offensive CONOP CAO & [redacted as classified] FOLLOW UP 29 JAN 17	30-Jan-17	Secret // [redacted]	RIP (b)(1)Sec.1.4(a)(g), (b)(3) 130b, (b)(5), (b)(6)	ATTACHMENT AT JS/009-011, JS/059-062, JS/096-099, JS/100	Email chain reflecting post-operation discussion and details of the military action. One portion of the email reflects the provision of legal advice by a government attorney regarding a new operational proposal. (b)1a,c,d,g, (b)(3) 130b, (b)(5), (b)(6): The information identifies decision making US military planning discussions on an ongoing foreign operation, equipment vulnerability, and privacy concern of personnel in sensitive units. (b)(5): The document is attorney-client and deliberative process privileged, because it reflects the provision of legal advice from a government attorney to a government client regarding a new operational proposal, which also forms part of the deliberative process with respect to that new proposal.
STATE/0030-0044	14	Memo	[subjects redacted as classified]	25-May-17	Secret//NF	RIP (b)(1)Sec. 1.4(a)(b)(c)(d), (b)(5)	n/a	This document contains: an approval memorandum from the National Security Advisor to a small group of DOD officials conveying approval of a request for extension of prior approval of military operations (31-32); the memorandum from the Secretary of Defense requesting the extension of approval (34-35); a memorandum from the Secretary of Defense to the National Security Advisor recommending the DOD operation referred to as the Raid and requesting approval (36-38); and a detailed DOD operational proposal setting forth considerable operational detail (39-44). State: (b)(1), 1.4(b) and (d): The documents contain foreign government information and information relating to the United States' foreign relations or foreign activities. The ability to obtain information from foreign governments is essential to the formulation and successful implementation of U.S. foreign policy. Release would cause foreign officials to believe that U.S. officials are not able or willing to observe the confidentiality expected in such exchanges. Governments could reasonably be expected to be less willing in the future to furnish information important to the conduct of U.S. foreign relations, and in general less disposed to cooperate with the United States in the achievement of foreign policy objectives of common interest. Also concerns sensitive aspects of U.S. foreign relations, including discussions of sensitive national security topics involving Yemen. Material reflects information about the nature of U.S. engagement with other countries. Confidentiality of this information is vital to the conduct of successful foreign relations. Disclosure of this information could inject friction into, or cause serious damage to, a number of our bilateral relationships with countries whose cooperation is important to U.S. national security, including some in which public opinion might not currently favor close cooperation with the United States. The risk of harm to national security from disclosure of this information is exacerbated by the political and security instability of the region in question. Also withheld under FOIA Exemption (b)(5), pursuant to the deliberative process privilege and the presidential communications privilege. Release of the requests and proposals sent to the National Security Advisor, which are pre-decisional and deliberative with respect to military operations (and also constitute closely held communications among senior Presidential advisors), could reasonably be expected to chill the open and frank expression of ideas that occurs when officials are crafting guidance on a sensitive subject. The approval memorandum sent by the National Security Advisor to a small group of Defense officials is a closely held presidential directive protected by the presidential communications privilege. The DOD operational proposal is predecisional and sets forth options and recommendations relating to an anticipated military action, and is deliberative process privileged. Personnel names and identifying information of certain State Department officials are also withheld under FOIA Exemption (b)(6), because release of this information could subject the individuals to harassment or unwanted attention and would not shed light on the operations of the U.S. government.
OGC/030-031	2	Memo	[subject redacted as classified]	26-Jan-17	Secret//NF	DIF (b)(1)Sec.1.4 (a), (b)(5)	n/a	This authorization from the President for military operations contains classified information regarding specific military assets and how they may be deployed and is exempt under 1.4(a) of the executive order. It conveys not only the President's authorization but also operational details of the request and recommendations made to the President, and was provided to the President by the National Security Advisor to aid in the Presidential decision-making process regarding a military operation. Because this document was closely held between the President and the National Security Advisor and it represents a part of the Presidential decision-making process, it is protected by the presidential communications privilege.

