Chicago Tribune
Washington News Bureau
1325 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

John Crewdson
Senior Writer
Tel: (202) 824-8261
Fax: (202) 628-1915

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VIA FAX 202 216 3070

Willette L. Smith
Freedom of Information Officer
USAID M/AS/IRD
Room 2.7C
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington DC 20523-2701

Dear Ms. Smith:

This is a request, under the Freedom of Information Act, for copies of the following USAID grants and/or contracts, and for copies of all documents associated with these grants or contracts, including but not limited to memorandums, correspondence, cables, electronic mail, amendments, evaluations and audits.

PDC-0230-G-SS-6104-00
PDC-0000-G-SS-8131-00
PDC-0000-G-SS-8130-00
DAN-0045-G-SS-7109-00
656-0215-G-SS-0006-00
656-0217-G-SS-3244

As you know, the Freedom of Information Act provides that if some parts of a file are exempt from release then "reasonably segregable" portions shall be provided. We are, therefore, requesting that if you determine that some portions of the requested documents are exempt, you provide us with a copy of the remainder of the document in question. We reserve our right to appeal any such decision.

The Chicago Tribune is prepared to pay reasonable costs for locating the requested files and reproducing them. However, the Freedom of Information Act permits you to reduce or waive the fees if that "is in the public interest because furnishing the information can be considered as primarily benefitting the public."
Because we plan to use this information in articles we are preparing for the Chicago Tribune, a daily newspaper with a paid circulation of five million copies per week, we feel this request plainly fits that category and ask you to waive any fees. If you rule otherwise, and if the fees will exceed $50, we reserve our rights under the statute to review and inspect the records that are responsive to this request and to select those which we want copied.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me by telephone or fax at the number listed above. Otherwise, we expect to receive a reply within twenty working days specifying whether the requested documents exist and whether you intend to produce them.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

John Crewdson