# CRYPTOME

17 May 2014

On April 5, 2014, Cryptome applied to the Department of Justice, Foreign Agent Registration Agency (FARA.gov) for registration as a foreign agent.

## http://cryptome.org/2014/05/cryptome-fara-14-0507.pdf

The purpose was to determine if a website which published information like that on Cryptome could be charged with espionage due to failure to register as a foreign agent as has been done in offline cases.

Cryptome supposed this threat looms for any online disclosure site which publishes unauthorized information accessible to readers around the world.

DoJ's National Security Division, Counterespionage Section, responded with the attached letter dated May 14, 2014, which states:

This office has reviewed your submission and has determined that there is not the requisite agency under the [FARA] Act. Therefore, you have not incurred an obligation to register under FARA.

Also sent were three copies of the letter apparently intended for inter-office distribution.



National Security Division

Washington, D.C. 20530

MAY 1 4 2014

Mr. John Young 251 West 89<sup>th</sup> Street Suite 6E New York, NY 10024

Dear Mr. Young:

This is in reference to your recent attempt to register under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 <u>et seq.</u> (FARA or the Act). Your response to Item 7 of the Registration Statement (Form NSD-1) you electronically filed on April 5, 2014 listed the name of the foreign principal as "Global readers of web site, principal address unknown."

FARA is a disclosure statute which requires an "agent of a foreign principal," as defined in Section 611 (c), to register when the person engages within the United States in certain activities at the request of, or under the direction and control of, a foreign principal. Absent this agency relationship, registration under FARA is not required.

This office has reviewed your submission and has determined that there is not the requisite agency relationship under the Act. Therefore, you have not incurred an obligation to register under FARA. Since you do not have an obligation to register under the Act, this office will not process the registration forms you submitted.

Sincerely,

Heather H. Hunt Chief Registration Unit Counterespionage Section



National Security Division

Washington, D.C. 20530

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HHH:TJP:tjp Typed 05/02/2014 No.RegistrationObligation.John\_Young.wpd

cc:Records Chron TJPugh



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