

The National Security Archive

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8 June 2012

FOIA Requester Service Center
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

JUN 11 2012 01

SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL/NEWS MEDIA
NO FEE PAGES

Re: Request under the FOIA, in reply refer to Archive # 20120586DOE012

Dear Ms. Kolb:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), I hereby request disclosure of a report prepared in early 1960 by the Atomic Energy Commission's Richland Operations Office evaluating the natural uranium-graphite reactor route for the production of plutonium for nuclear weapons.

If you regard any of this material as potentially exempt from the FOIA's disclosure requirements, I request that you nonetheless exercise your discretion to disclose them. As the FOIA requires, please release all reasonably segregable nonexempt portions of documents. To permit me to reach an intelligent and informed decision whether or not to file an administrative appeal of any denied material, please describe any withheld records (or portions thereof) and explain the basis for your exemption claims.

As a representative of the news media, the National Security Archive qualifies for "representative of the news media" status under 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II) and, therefore, may not be charged search and review fees. (See *National Security Archive v. U.S. Department of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381 (D.C. Cir. 1989), cert denied, 110 S Ct. 1478 (1990)). This request is made as part of a scholarly and news research project that is intended for publication and is not for commercial use. For details on the Archive's research and extensive publication activities please see our website at www.nsarchive.org.

To expedite the release of the requested documents, please disclose them on an interim basis as they become available to you, without waiting until all the documents have been processed. Please notify me before incurring any photocopying costs over \$100. If you have any questions regarding the identity of the records, their location, the scope of the request or any other matters, please call me at (202) 994-7000. I look forward to receiving your response within the twenty-day statutory time period.

Sincerely,
William Burr
William Burr

HQ-2012-01456-F

View



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 11, 2012

Mr. William Burr
The George Washington University
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Re: HQ-2012-01456-F

Dear Mr. Burr:

This is in response to the request for information that you sent to the Department of Energy (DOE) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552. You requested a copy of a report prepared in early 1960 by the Atomic Energy Commission Richland Operations Office evaluating the natural uranium graphite reactor route for the production for nuclear weapons.

Documents that may exist at the DOE that are responsive to the request are under the jurisdiction of the Richland Operations Office (ROO). For this reason, I have sent the request to Ms. Dorothy Riehle, the FOIA Officer at that location, to conduct a search of the files.

If you have any questions about the processing of the request, please contact Ms. Riehle at the ROO at P.O. Box 550, MS A7-75, Richland, WA 99352. She also can be contacted on (509) 376-6288.

This is the final response that you will receive about your request from this office. You may contact Ms. Vera Dunmore of my staff on (202) 586-4047 with any questions about this letter.

I appreciate the opportunity to assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex C. Morris", is written over the typed name.

Alexander C. Morris
FOIA Officer
Office of Information Resources



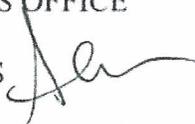


Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 11, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: DOROTHY RIEHLE
FOIA OFFICER
RICHLAND OPERATIONS OFFICE

FROM: ALEXANDER C. MORRIS 
FOIA OFFICER
OFFICE OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

SUBJECT: FOIA REQUEST OF WILLIAM BURR
(HQ-2012-01456-F)

The attached request submitted by Mr. William Burr is transferred to your office for action. Mr. Burr submitted the request under the Freedom of Information Act. Please conduct a search for responsive documents and inform him of the results of the search.

For your information, I also attached a copy of our correspondence to Mr. Burr. If you have any additional questions about this transmittal, please contact Ms. Vera Dunmore of my staff on (202) 586-4047.

Attachments

