

**Freedom Of Information Act
Electronic FOIA Request Detail**

Request Number: 2018021107313981
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Country: United States
Phone Number:
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Reasonably Describe Records:

Description: I am interested in any records pertaining to a death that took place as part of the Hanford site work on the Manhattan Project. Specifically, a US Atomic Energy Commission report* describes the death in the following terms: 7/22/1944 - Hanford (Operations) - While driving at a high rate of speed, the driver, an instrument engineer, was thrown from the truck and killed when it turned over twice. He died of multiple internal and skeletal injuries. I do not know the name of the victim or any other circumstances. I am requesting all releasable records on this incident. * Operational accidents and radiation exposure experience within United States Atomic Energy Commission, WASH-1192 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Division of Operational Safety, 1975), 42.

Optional Information:

Describe Yourself: Affiliated with an educational or noncommercial scientific institution, and this request is made for scholarly or scientific purpose and not for commercial use.

Cost Information: I request a waiver or reduction of fees.

Waiver Request:

The subject of the request: Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government."

The Manhattan Project was an activity of the federal government, and its safety record is a matter of public interest. I am investigating a rumor as to whether this death was truly accidental or not; the answer, either way, will shed light on governmental activities during the war.

The informative value of the information to be disclosed: Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

The rumor is that this death was not accidental, but caused by security forces. If true, that would obviously contribute new understanding of wartime operations of the government. If not true, it would similarly illuminate such understanding, if only by constraining it.

The contribution to an understanding by the general public of the subject likely to result from disclosure, taking into account your ability and intent to disseminate the information to the public in a form that can further understanding of the subject matter.

This information will be part of a book I am writing on the history of nuclear secrecy in the United States for an academic press. It will be disseminated to a wide audience through publication. Any records obtained will also eventually be distributed through my blog, which is read by millions of readers per year.

The significance of the contribution to public understanding: Whether the disclosure is likely to contribute "significantly" to public understanding of government operations or activities.

Same answer as above: The rumor is that this death was not accidental, but caused by security forces. If true, that would obviously contribute new understanding of wartime operations of the government. If not true, it would similarly illuminate such understanding, if only by constraining it.

The existence and magnitude of a commercial interest: Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure, and, if so

I assure you that any sales of my academic book will not offset the costs involved in writing it.

The primary interest in disclosure: Whether the magnitude of the identified commercial interest of the requester is sufficiently large, in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester."

My primary interest is scholarly. I am a professor at a not-for-profit educational institution, I am writing this for an academic publisher, and I am a professional historian of science by education and position.

Waiver Cost Information: I agree to pay
\$200

Expedited Processing: n/a
n/a
n/a

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