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Mr Carroll
Request-42397-
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Please reply to:

Our Reference:
21-07-2010-154332-002
Date:
3 September 2010

Dear Mr Carroll

Thank you for your e-mail enquiry of 21 July 2010 about Defence contracts with the former UK chemical company of Albright and Wilson during the periods 1914-18, 1938-48 and post World War Two. This is considered to be a Request for Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

As you are no doubt aware the company name of Albright and Wilson ceased to trade in 1999. Following extensive research of our internal records, I regret that we can find no record of any contracts or documentation with the former company. External examination of records however, has revealed specific references to Albright and Wilson in the National Archive that may be of interest to you:

WO 189/3575 Rough usage and climactic test of sixty six 4.5 inch howitzer shell charged WP (white phosphorous) by Messrs Albright and Wilson 1925 Sep 01 – 1925 Sep 30

WO 189/3661 Report on phosphorous smoke candles by Messrs Albright and Wilson 1926 Sep 01 – 1926 Sep 30

A further reference in the National Archive that also might be of interest to you is:

WO 106/5496 Purchase of certain chemicals and minerals for the manufacture of munitions 1933 Feb – May.

I apologise for the delay in providing this response and I am sorry that we cannot be more helpful.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Head of Corporate Information, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution had come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely,

Tony Dudman

Defence Equipment & Support

