



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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Ref: FOI 2020/09757

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K. Keeley-Jones
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2nd November 2020

Dear K. Keeley-Jones

Please accept my apologies for the delay in the response to your request for information.

Thank you for your correspondence of 1st September 2020 requesting the following information:

All documents and reports relating to the planning of duties for all members of the Met Branch leading up to, during, and after each Grapple Z detonation;

All information held regarding Fleet Air Arm Met Branch duties for the Grapple Z tests at Christmas Island;

The details about the type of recordings or measurements that were made by Met branch personnel as part of their duties;

The training logs/materials for Met branch personnel;

The number of Fleet Air Arm Met branch personnel (and their titles/roles) that were stationed at Christmas Island from 1 August 1958 to 14 February 1959; and,

The location of Met branch personnel's sleeping quarters on the island.

In addition, please can you also kindly provide details about where these Met branch personnel were stationed at each of the Grapple Z tests- at detonation and immediately afterwards.

A search of the MOD Archive has not identified any information in the scope of your request. Any information of that age that has survived will be held at The National Archives.

Their address is:

The National Archives,
Kew,
Richmond,
Surrey,
TW9 4DU.

Web Address: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

Its catalogue (<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/SearchUI/>) is available on the web so you will be able to search for files, although you will not be able to view any documents online.

If you decide to visit the National Archives you will either need to bring your Reader's Ticket, or if you do not possess one you will have to obtain one at the registration desk. For this you will require some form of identification, a passport, driving licence etc. The National Archives does not charge for reader's tickets. Alternatively, you may consider employing a researcher to carry out the work for you. If you do decide to do this, then the National Archives will supply you with a list of independent researchers who will make a charge for their time. The National Archives do not carry out research on individual members of the public's behalf.

By way of advice and assistance I have attached to this email some information that The Fleet Air Arm Museum has been able to provide.

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 Information Rights Compliance Team, 1st 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 has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of section 50 of the Act. Further details of the role and powers of the Commissioner can be found on the website at: <https://ico.org.uk>. The address is: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, WILMSLOW, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

DBSKI-RRFOI Team