

DE&S Policy Secretariat Submarines



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Mr Joseph Pasquini

Via: request-107916-c3f8c237@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference: 01-03-2012-150550-008

Date: 29 March 2012

Dear Mr Pasquini,

Request for Information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000

Further to the email of 7 March 2012, I should like to provide you with an update on your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act in which you ask for the following:

Please provide me with the Standard Operating Procedures for:

- 1. Issuance of Radiation recording/monitoring devices to personnel, and the recording of device type and serial number.
- 2. Collection of Film Badges and Quartz Fibre Electroscopes (QFE) from exposed personnel.
- 3. Development and assessment of film badges radiation doses and QFEs, and recording of the doses received by individuals.
- 4. Decontamination of personnel.
- 5. Decontamination of RAF aircraft involved with the nuclear tests.
- 6. Removal of Radioactive Samples from the 76 Squadron Sampling Aircraft.
- 7. Cloud sampling operations.
- 8. Processing and transfer of Radioactive Samples to the UK (AWRE).
- 9. Decontamination of Balloon detonation sites.

It is considered that qualified exemptions Section 22 (information intended for future publication) and Section 24 (national security) plus absolute exemption Section 40 (personal information) may apply to the information you have requested. Qualified exemptions are

subject to the application of a balance of public interest test. Under Section 10(3), of the Act, where public authorities have to apply this test in relation to a request, they do not have to comply with the request until such time as is reasonable in the circumstances. The Ministry of Defence has not yet reached a decision on the balance of the public interest test in this case. I will write to you again by 30 April 2012 with either a substantive response or a further update on your request.

If you have any queries about this request do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you have any queries about this request, please, do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. 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, 2nd 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 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

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