

Ref: FOI2024-058

05 December 2024

Dear Ms [REDACTED],

Further to our previous correspondence regarding your request for the following information:

** A copy of the Lord Chancellor's Instruction signed earlier this year, 2024, allowing for the departmental (AWE) retention of pages from a MoD document reference DEFE13/1870*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

A search has been carried out for the information you requested and we can confirm that AWE does not hold a copy of the Lord Chancellor's Instruction signed in 2024.

Under Section 16 of the FOI Act (advice and assistance) you might find it helpful to note that all LCIs are held centrally by The National Archives (TNA).

Regarding the record itself (DEFE 13/1870); as per TNA entry (link [Nuclear tests, including British underground nuclear tests and the Nuclear Test Veterans... | The National Archives](#)) the record is retained by the Ministry of Defence (MOD); it is not held nor retained by AWE. The Lord Chancellor's Instrument (LCI) that it is retained under (LCI 118) series DEFE 13 is a MOD entry. For awareness, LCI 118 includes records from a variety of government departments, not solely AWE.

Please redirect the request to the Ministry of Defence at CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled you have a right to request an internal review within 40 days of receiving this letter, by writing to information.requests@awe.co.uk or our postal address: Information Requests Team, AWE Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PR. If you are still unhappy after an internal review has been completed, under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you have the right to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. Please note the Commissioner will generally not consider a complaint until you have exhausted AWE's internal complaints process.

Yours sincerely,

AWE Information Requests Team