

Ref: FOI2025-032

24 July 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

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

- * A copy of a document with the title ES010100_004.pdf, 'Operation Hurricane Plan Pt 4', dated April 1952*
- * A copy of a document with the title ES011278_004.pdf, 'Operation Hurricane Plan Pt 4', dated April 1952*
- * A copy of a document with the title AustC_Bk06_091.pdf, 'Radiological Health during Operation Hurricane', by AD Thomas, dated 1/12/53*
- * A copy of a document with the title AustC_Bk07_031.pdf, 'Medical Fitness No 82 (B) Wing Personnel, by RHB Sacks, dated 21/1/54*
- * A copy of a document with the title AustC_Bk07_064.pdf, 'Letter O'Conner to PM's Secretary; medical fitness of 82(B) wing personnel,', dated 15/1/54*
- * A copy of a document with the title AustC_Bk07_075.pdf, 'Medical Fitness No 82 (B) Wing Personnel, dated 26/3/54*
- * A copy of a document with the title AustC_Bk07_083.pdf, 'Medical Fitness', by Wg Cdr Dunstone, dated 4/3/54*
- * A copy of a document with the title AustC_Bk07_159.pdf, 'Letter Dley to ANP/DCAS', by AVM Daley, dated 25/5/54*
- * A copy of a document with the title AustC_Bk17_055.pdf, 'Radiation Hazards - precautions for protection of personnel', dated 4/5/56*

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

We can confirm that AWE holds all of the requested information; however sections 22(1)(a)(b)(c); 'Information Intended for Future Publication' exemptions have been applied to the data thereby exempting its release.

AWE has reviewed your request for information under the Act and applied Section 22(a)(b)(c); 'Information intended for Future Publication'.

Section 22(a): The information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not).

Section 22(b): The information was already held with a view to such publication at the time the request for information was made, and

Section 22(c) It is reasonable in all circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph (a).

Section 22 is a qualified class-based exemption and consideration must be given as to whether there is a public interest in providing the information prior to the anticipated publication.

AWE is committed to recognise there is a strong public interest to demonstrate openness, transparency and accountability with regards to the Freedom of Information legislation particularly in relation to an individual's right to know. We recognise that disclosure would provide reassurance that AWE is processing the requests that it receives in a timely manner particularly as it would indicate how we are meeting our obligations as outline in the provisions of the Act.

Considerations favouring Non-Disclosure; AWE is committed to publishing information however we do not consider that it is in the public interest to place information into the public domain, prematurely, before pre-publication procedures have taken place. We have therefore reached the view that, on balance, the public interest is better served by withholding this information under Section 22 of the Act at this time.

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