



Ministry of Defence

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Via email: [REDACTED]

11 July 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence of 17 June 2024 requesting the following information:

"On page 214 of "Britain and the H-Bomb" by Lorna Arnold, it states that "They noted that both the American laboratories had done calculations on the Grapple Z Flagpole shot, and had predicted substantially the same fusion and fission yields as had Corner's staff."

This FOI request is for the titles, report numbers, dates of publication and authors of the two reports produced by Los Alamos and Livermore labs associated with the above calculations. If an unclassified abstract of these reports is available, this FOI request includes these abstracts.

Item 2:

If the Flagpole device was proposed to the JOWOG-2 committee (500 to 600 lb one-megaton warhead committee) as a candidate device by the British delegation.

Item 3:

If the Livermore lab adapted the Flagpole device as the US device known as Fife."

Your correspondence has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). A search for the information has been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and we can confirm that the MOD holds some information in scope of your request.

Please see below the titles, report numbers, dates of publication and authors of three reports which contain the outcomes of US calculations on the performance of Flagpole.

Report Title	Report Number	Date of Publication	Authors
Flagpole Explosion Calculations	LRL Report COPDD-59-8	3 rd April 1959	No named author
Summary of SNEGG Z-5	LRL Report COPJA 16-59	22 nd April 1959	D. L. Braff
Listings for Flagpole Tom and Burgee	LASL Report T-1105	31 st March 1959	David F. Woods

The MOD does not hold unclassified abstracts of these US reports and no information is held by the MOD regarding items 2 and 3 of your request. Under Section 16 of the Act, public authorities should provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to do so. You may find it helpful to note that the three reports listed above are classified US reports and that they would fall within the scope of appropriate exemptions allowed under the Act.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

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 Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has completed. They can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on their website, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Nuclear Organisation Secretariat