



NORTHERN
ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

FOIPA REQUEST

Case No.: 2012-0277
Date Rec'd: 7-5-12
Specialist: Blaney
Related Case: _____

School of Forestry

SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL RETURN RECIEPT REQUESTED

July 3, 2012

Attn: NRC Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) Officer

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-5 F09
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer,

I am a professor at Northern Arizona University, and I am conducting research involving experimental design and geospatial analysis. I also teach courses in these areas. The Trinity test, conducted at what is now the White Sands Missile Range in 1945, is a seminal example of sophisticated experimental design. My interests are in the geographic layout of the instruments used to measure the blast, and in the analytical techniques which were used to draw the necessary conclusions from the data.

Sources currently available in the public domain (including published books and government-distributed reports) are incomplete and/or contradictory with respect the actual placement of the instrumentation at and around Ground Zero at the time of the test. Specifically, there is significant disagreement between sources over the general layout of the site, and there is very little detailed information available about the actual placement of much of the instrumentation.

I am seeking the maps referenced in the Los Alamos National Laboratory publication "Trinity" by K.T. Bainbridge (LA-6300-H, Special Distribution, May 1976). Reference is made therein to maps which show the locations of the instruments which were set up for the Trinity test. The specific reference is in Section 4.2 of the document, under the title "Timing and Wiring Layout –

My request is for:

- In the course of my research, I have received information indicating that most records from the Trinity test, probably including these maps, were transferred around 1959 from New Mexico to the archives at the new headquarters of the former AEC, in Germantown, Maryland,. K.T. Bainbridge was Test Director for the Trinity test, and these maps were probably in his files at some point. I requested information on these maps from the library at Los Alamos National Laboratory, but received no reply.

1. The archives of the former AEC: housed at Germantown, Maryland, or other locations
2. Los Alamos National Laboratory
3. The official files of K.T. Bainbridge, Trinity Test Director, location unknown

The Trinity Site

- NORTH 10,000 Yd. shelter (personnel, instruments, searchlights)
- JUMBO • SHOT TOWER
- McDonald Ranchouse (assembly)
- SOUTH 10,000 Yd. shelter (CONTROL CENTER - V.I.T.s, instruments)
- BASE CAMP
- LAB CRUISES
- MOCKINGBIRD GAP AND ALAMOGORDO
- COMANITA HILL 20 MI.
- TOPE R.R. SIDING 2 1/2 MI.
- 20 MILES
- 10 MILES
- DOURO MTS.

The maps themselves will probably be large (36 inches or more in length and width).

Request For Fee Waiver:

I am a full-time, permanent faculty member at Northern Arizona University, and I am seeking access to this information for research and historical purposes. I believe that I fall into the following fee category:

- (2) Educational or noncommercial scientific institutions and representatives of the news media are charged only for copying, and only in excess of the first 100 pages. The NRC currently charges \$0.20 per page for copying.

I believe that the documents that I have requested should be less than 100 pages. The maps themselves may require special copying procedures. I would be satisfied with a digital photo of the maps (laid out flat) of sufficient resolution and quality to read the annotations thereon. I am also aware that the National Archives has facilities for copying large format documents such as these. In the event that reproducing the maps is a problem from a practical point of view, I am willing to discuss with the NRC how they might be made available to me with a minimum of inconvenience or cost to the Government.

In the event that substantial fees will be associated with making the maps available, I request a waiver of these fees. I believe that release of this information, which is now almost 60 years old, will contribute to further public understanding of the contributions of the Manhattan Project to the advancement of science and technology. In the event that these maps can be located, I would like to discuss the possibility of them being transferred to the National Archives for conservation and public access purposes.

My contact information is as follows:

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Thank you for any assistance you may be able to provide.