

NUCLEAR CONTROL  
INSTITUTE

1000 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, SUITE 704 WASHINGTON, DC 20036 202-822-8444

July 21, 1992

Mr. Donnie H. Grimsley  
Director, Freedom of Information  
& Publications Services Division  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Room P370A, Maryland National Bank Building  
7735 Old Georgetown Road  
Bethesda, MD 20555

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
ACT REQUEST

FOIA-92-370  
Rec'd 7-27-92

Dear Mr. Grimsley:

The following is a request being made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552) on behalf of the Nuclear Control Institute (NCI). NCI is a non-profit, public-interest, research organization that engages in public education on the subject of nuclear proliferation.

We request all documents, including records, analyses, cables, reports, and memoranda that pertain to one or more of the following:

1. A seismic event recorded on May 16, 1983 at 16:30 GMT, at these approximate geographic coordinates: latitude 43.758 degrees north (plus or minus 2.9 kilometers), longitude 87.263 degrees east (plus or minus 1.9 kilometers), in the People's Republic of China;
2. Whether this seismic event resulted from an underground nuclear explosion;
3. Whether this explosion was a test conducted by the People's Republic of China to demonstrate a nuclear explosive device for Pakistan;
4. Information on the design, origin, and manufacture of such a device;
5. Whether one or more Pakistani observers were present at the site of such a test;
6. The whereabouts of Mr. Sahabyada Yaqub Khan, then-Pakistani Foreign Minister, in China on May 15, 16 and 17, 1983.

In accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, we expect a response to this request within ten working days. As a non-profit, public-interest organization, we believe that furnishing the documents requested can be considered as primarily educational and benefitting the public as opposed to the requestor. Consequently, we feel that any applicable fees for the search for or reproduction of documents should be waived as permitted under the Act. If such fees cannot be waived, please notify us before conducting the search so that we can establish a ceiling on the costs.

NCI fulfills its public-education role in a number of ways. NCI has testified before Congress; issued reports that have been disseminated at no charge to government officials, public-policy experts, and the general public; written articles and letters to the editor and prepared public service advertisements for publication in major newspapers to educate readers on issues not widely known to the public; and published books on nuclear proliferation and terrorism issues. We intend to disseminate the information in the documents requested above in some or all of the same ways.

Much of this information is not otherwise available to the public. NCI extracts the substantive content of released documents and presents it in a manner that is accessible free of charge to the general public. Our staff has extensive experience in public policy, international affairs, nuclear matters and communications, which qualifies it to perform such tasks.

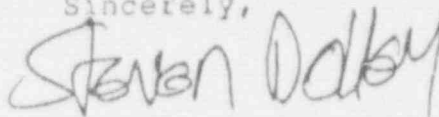
NCI is a 501(c)(3) organization and, therefore, has no commercial or private interest in the requested documents. We believe that disclosure of the information contained in these documents is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the nuclear proliferation problem and of the responsibilities and activities of the Government under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, to promote, defend, and secure "the common defense and security" and to protect "the public health and safety."

If you determine that some or all of the records requested are exempt from release, please state which exemptions you believe cover the material you are not releasing. We also request that you identify by title, author, and date all documents that you determine are exempt from release. Further, if you determine that some portions of the requested records are exempt, we ask that you make available the remainder of the records, to the extent that the records determined to be exempt are "reasonably segregable" as provided in the Freedom of Information Act.

To expedite the release of the listed documents, we ask that you release them as they become available to you, without waiting until all the documents have been assembled.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steven Dolley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long vertical line extending downwards from the end of the name.

Steven Dolley  
Research Director