



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING COMMAND
5183 BLACKHAWK ROAD
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND MD 21010-5424

April 28, 2004

Office of the Chief Counsel

Mr. Edward Hammond
The Bioweapons and Biodefense
Freedom of Information Fund
101 West 6th St., Suite 607
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. Hammond:

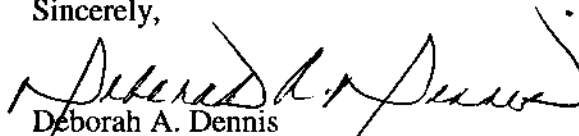
This is final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for a copy of the final report of the project "Front End Analysis for Non-Lethal Chemicals."

This document was classified SECRET in December 2002, in accordance with Army Regulation 380-5, Department of the Army Information Security Program and Executive Order 12958. As such the document is being withheld in its entirety under FOIA exemption (b)(1). Exemption (b)(1) allows the withholding of those documents properly and currently classified in the interest of national defense or foreign policy.

If you consider this response to be an adverse action you may administratively appeal in writing to the Secretary of the Army. Since all appeals must first go through the Initial Denial Authority (Patrick R. Sheldon, of this office), any such appeal should be addressed to this office for forwarding to the Army General Counsel, which is the U.S. Army appellant authority. You are advised that any appeal should reach the appellant authority no later than 60 days following receipt of this letter.

Should you have questions regarding this response, I can be reached at (410) 436-2289.

Sincerely,


Deborah A. Dennis
FOIA Officer, RDECOM