



**DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY**

1400 WILSON BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22209



15 September 1977

Honorable Warren G. Magnuson  
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,  
Science, and Transportation  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Reference is made to your letter dated 12 August asking a number of questions concerning Project Pandora.

In response to these questions, the following information is furnished:

1. Project Pandora was classified at the direction of the Department of State and the United States Intelligence Board because of the sensitivity of the radiation problem of the United States Embassy in Moscow at that time.
2. The total cost of Project Pandora was \$4,615,000. A detailed breakout of the costs of the Walter Reed facilities and of the projects undertaken within the facility is not available.
3. All the raw data of Project Pandora was amassed by the technical researchers with only technical progress reports being furnished this agency. We would have no knowledge of what disposition was made of the raw data.
4. This agency has available a number of technical documents identified as "Minutes of Pandora Meetings" as well as several technical reports. These documents have been declassified.
5. This agency has no knowledge as to whether the data collected at Walter Reed were destroyed and, if so, the reasons for its destruction. Documents containing research, development, test and evaluation information or data are handled by this agency in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Records Act of 1950, Public Law 754, 81st Congress, as implemented by Department of Defense Instructions.

6. Project Pandora was terminated by DARPA in March 1970 and all assets were transferred to Walter Reed Army Institute for Research (WRAIR) for disposition. Since that time, there has been no DARPA interest in the work being carried on at WRAIR and consequently we would have no knowledge as to the project currently being undertaken, or that the facilities were being rebuilt, the reasons for rebuilding and the cost.

7. With the exception of Project Pandora, this agency has not sponsored any research projects, either classified or unclassified, on the biological or behavioral effects of non-ionizing radiation.

8. As stated earlier, classification of Project Pandora was a foreign relation rather than a national security matter. While it is likely that the technical aspect of such research efforts would be unclassified, the determination of a security classification must consider the potential application of the research and its effect on our national security.

9. This agency is not aware of any research projects, classified or unclassified, conducted under the auspices of the Defense Department, now on-going or in the past, which would have probed possibilities of utilizing microwave radiation as a form of what is popularly known as "mind control."

10. We do not foresee the development, by DARPA, of weapons using microwaves and actively being directed toward altering nervous system function or behavior. Neither are we aware of any of our own forces or possible adversary forces developing such weapons.

11. Although this agency is not presently involved in developing any directed energy microwave weapons, we do know that the United States, in the past, has conducted research and exploratory development on the generation of high power microwave radiation and its effect on electronic components.

12. This agency has no evidence that Eastern Block research on microwaves is being actively directed toward altering nervous system functions from a weapons point of view.

Sincerely,

  
George R. Heilmeyer  
Director