Bill, Cheryl.

Robin Pitman from the UK Embassy in Washinton called me this morning to say that UK newspapers are reporting that UK nuclear weapons information may have been part of the information that was found in the drug raid. See story below.

Who should I ask to get back to Robin about this. He is under some pressure to provide something before the end of the day UK time.

John H.

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From: Robin Pitman [mailto:bdsw-nsd-hd@moduk.org]
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2006 8:25 AM
To: Harvey, John R
Subject: internet-authorised: FW: Daily News for 30 Oct 06

John -

We spoke. 
Your assistance / guidance much appreciated.

Regards -

Robin
Nuke secrets stolen
By Gordon Thomas, Daily Express, 29 Oct 06

The secrets of Britain's Trident nuclear deterrent are feared stolen, the Sunday Express can reveal.

It is claimed they disappeared from a high-security base in the US.

CIA and FBI agents launched an inquiry after top-secret material was found under a mattress in a caravan near the base during a drugs raid.

Security services fear the material includes details of Britain's Trident submarine-launched missiles, as well as other nuclear weapons.

Under a pact negotiated during the Cold War, British secrets are kept at the base. The caravan was used by a known dealer who sold drugs to staff at the base in New Mexico.

Shocked agents uncovered computer drives under the mattress. These were traced to a rogue technician at the complex.

Both the woman technician and the drug dealer have been arrested.

Last night the director of the Los Alamos base, Michael Anastasio, said: "Unfortunately, my ability to discuss the details of this matter is constrained due to the nature of the situation. What I can say is that this is a serious matter, and we are taking immediate steps to address it.

"First, we are fully co-operating with the FBI and we intend to do everything possible to guard against any criminal activity.

"Second, in conjunction with the FBI, we began, and will continue, to pursue the facts surrounding this incident in order to fully assess necessary immediate and long-term actions. We have already taken a number of steps to address potential security risks."

A Los Alamos police spokesman said: "The stolen classified documents were found during a drug raid. The woman holds a responsible position in the facility."

Senior British intelligence sources said the nuclear data would be "priceless to a terrorist group like Al Qaeda."

MI6 and the CIA - both involved in the FBI-led investigation - want to know if the woman stole the material to feed a drug habit, or if she was working for a terror group or a foreign intelligence service.

They also want to know how she smuggled the hard drives past such tight security.

Nuclear weapons expert Professor Paul Rogers, of Bradford University, said: "The relationship between the US and the British has always been very close. In the days of nuclear testing our tests were done in America. It would be more than likely this information was being held at Los Alamos."

David Dastych, a veteran CIA specialist in nuclear terrorism, said: "The theft is a very serious threat to the security of both Britain and the United States.

"For a long time we have known that Los Alamos has been a prime target for Osama Bin Laden
nuclear deterrent was discovered by the PFI.

The Ministry of Defence said: "There is no suggestion that details of the UK's independent

defence posture are included in the document."

"We can confirm that an internal document exists, and that it was distributed to staff within

the Ministry of Defence."

"The operations of the Ministry of Defence are conducted in accordance with the laws of the

United Kingdom, and in the interests of national security."