



NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
8601 ADELPHI ROAD COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001  
[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

June 1, 2018

Ms. Luz Ortiz  
Department of Defense  
Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)  
OSD Records Administrator  
Washington Headquarters Service  
4800 Mark Center Drive  
Suite 02F09-02  
Alexandria, VA 22350-3100

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

Thank you for your letter dated May 9, 2018 notifying the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) of the removal from OSD custody of the Wound Data Munitions Effectiveness Team (WDMET) electronic database of information extracted from WDMET case files, the electronic index to WDMET slides, and the system documentation for both.

Upon review of the attached inquiry dated April 12, 2018 from the Washington Headquarters Services/Records Privacy and Declassification Division (WHS/RPDD) to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) and the internal review dated April 13, 2018 from the USUHS, NARA has determined that USUHS is responsible for the unauthorized destruction of these permanent records since they are unable to be located and there is no specific documentation that the electronic records were transferred to the National Museum of Health and Medicine (NMHM) in 2007 with the other WDMET records.

While the supplied documentation fulfills the reporting requirements of 36 CFR 1230.14 (a)(1, 2, 3, and 4), it does not provide information regarding actions taken to retrieve or reconstruct the records as specified in 36 CFR 1230.14 (a)(5).

In addition, while the complete description of the records provided in 36 CFR 1230.14 (a)(1) for all the WDMET records includes the case files, slides of wounds, and x-rays of wounded soldiers, it does not include the reel-to-reel audio recordings (original and preservation copies) also scheduled as permanent by NARA Job No. N1-330-95-001, item B, and listed in OSD's Administrative Instruction -15 (AI-15) as File Number 924-07.2

We request that you report within 30 calendar days all actions taken to retrieve or reconstruct the electronic database of information extracted from WDMET case files, the electronic index to WDMET slides, and the system documentation for both in accordance with in 36 CFR 1230.14 (a)(5). We also

request that the report include information on the status of the reel-to-reel audio recordings (original and preservation copies) in accordance with in 36 CFR 1230.14 (a)(1).

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Jobson, Senior Records Analyst, at (301) 837-2977 or by email at [scott.jobson@nara.gov](mailto:scott.jobson@nara.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence M. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style and is contained within a light gray rectangular box.

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government



NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
8601 ADELPHI ROAD COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001  
[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

December 11, 2018

Ms. Luz Ortiz  
Department of Defense  
Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)  
OSD Records Administrator  
Washington Headquarters Service  
4800 Mark Center Drive  
Suite 02F09-02  
Alexandria, VA 22350-3100

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

Thank you for the response dated December 6, 2018 reporting that subcomponents of the Defense Health Agency (DHA) and Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS) were unable to locate any databases that contain re-coded data from the original electronic database of information extracted from the Wound Data Munitions Effectiveness Team (WDMET) case files.

In addition, your letter dated July 5, 2018 reports that an extensive search by USUHS and the National Museum for Health and Medicine (NMHM) could not locate the reel-to-reel audio recordings (original and preservation copies).

As stated in our letter to you dated June 1, 2018, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has determined that USUHS is responsible for the unauthorized destruction of these permanent records.

As a result, the Washington Headquarters Services/Records Privacy and Declassification Division (WHS/RPDD) has stated they will monitor the USUHS's compliance with the implementation of its safeguards to prevent further loss of Federal records, which include the completion of OSD's online records management training by senior leadership, faculty, staff, military, volunteers, and contractors and the direction of Records Management staff to educate other staff on their records management duties.

As the reporting requirements of 36 CFR 1230.14(a) have now been fulfilled, NARA now considers this matter closed.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Jobson, Senior Records Analyst, at (301) 837-2977 or by email at [scott.jobson@nara.gov](mailto:scott.jobson@nara.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence V. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a distinct 'V'.

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government