Dear Mr. Stillman:

I have received your letter of 7 June 2000 regarding the security review of your manuscript *Inside China's Nuclear Weapons Program*.

You have presented us with a challenging albeit interesting project. Your manuscript is voluminous and while it has been in the review process for some five months now, it has NOT been denied for publication. The review process is on-going. By now you have received the letter dated 2 June 2000 from in which he spells out exactly where in the process your manuscript stands. While you have noted that the Department of Energy has completed its review of your manuscript, DIA, OSD and other USG agencies have a crucial role in this clearance process because of your own varied career and background.

It is premature for you to begin an appeal right now. If the manuscript is denied for publication, the actual process would begin with a letter from you challenging a decision to deny publication. Your appeal would have to provide substantiation and justification for why the denied materials should be reconsidered for publication. At that point, the entire manuscript would be reviewed.

I repeat that at this time your manuscript is still in the review process. Until that process is complete, I urge you to bring the entire manuscript under control until we are able to make a final determination of its status.

Sincerely,

(b)(3):10 USC 424