

ENC NO	NAME	DATE RECD	DATE REPLIED	CODE REQUEST	ANSWERED WITHIN 20 WORKING DAYS?	OA LETTER?	SOURCE OF CODE REQ	OPS LEAFLET USED?
1	Section 40	11.5.98	13.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
3		12.5.98	14.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
4		27.4.98	14.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
5		12.5.98	14.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
7		14.5.98	18.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
8		18.5.98	18.5.98	YES	YES	NO	PI	NO
9		29.4.98	18.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
10		5.5.98	18.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
11		13.5.98	18.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
12		18.5.98	18.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
15		14.4.98	20.5.98	NO	NO	NO		
17		28.4.98	27.5.98	NO	NO	YES		
18		27.5.98	28.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
21		22.5.98	29.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
22		28.5.98	29.5.98	NO	YES	NO		
23		29.5.98	29.5.98	NO	YES	NO		

PI: PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL

ENC NO	NAME	DATE RECD	DATE REPLIED	CODE REQUEST	ANSWERED WITHIN 20 WORKING DAYS?	OA LETTER?	SOURCE OF CODE REQ	OPS LEAFLET USED?
24	Section 40	20.5.98	2.6.98	NO	YES	YES		
25		28.5.98	2.6.98	NO	YES	YES		
26		11.5.98	1.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
27		21.5.98	2.6.98	YES	YES	NO	PI	NO
28		5.5.98	3.6.98	NO	NO	NO		
29		28.5.98	5.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
30		27.5.98	10.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
31		22.5.98	11.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
32		12.6.98	15.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
33		11.6.98	15.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
36		5.6.98	16.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
37		5.6.98	16.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
38		9.6.98	16.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
39		16.6.98	17.6.98	NO	YES	YES		
40		16.6.98	17.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
43		17.6.98	19.6.98	NO	YES	NO		

ENC NO	NAME	DATE RECD	DATE REPLIED	CODE REQUEST	ANSWERED WITHIN 20 WORKING DAYS?	OA LETTER?	SOURCE OF CODE REQ	OPS LEAFLET USED?
45	Section 40	1.6.98	24.6.98	NO	YES	YES		
46		10.6.98	25.6.98	NO	YES	NO		
50		12.6.98	6.7.98	NO	YES	YES		
51		29.6.98	6.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
52		18.6.98	6.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
53		30.6.98	6.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
54		3.7.98	10.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
55		23.6.98	13.7.98	NO	YES	YES		
56		1.7.98	15.7.98	NO	YES	YES		
57		3.7.98	15.7.98	NO	YES	YES		
58		6.7.98	15.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
59		1.7.98	15.7.98	NO	YES	YES		
61		6.7.98	24.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
63		29.7.98	30.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
64		30.7.98	30.7.98	NO	YES	NO		
65		20.7.98	6.8.98	NO	YES	NO		

4

ENC NO	NAME	DATE RECD	DATE REPLIED	CODE REQUEST	ANSWERED WITHIN 20 WORKING DAYS?	OA LETTER?	SOURCE OF CODE REQ	OPS LEAFLET USED?
67	Section 40	23.7.98	6.8.98	NO	YES	NO		
68		6.8.98	6.8.98	NO	YES	NO		
70		6.7.98	17.8.98	NO	NO BUT HOLDING REPLY SENT WITHIN 20 DAY POINT	NO		
69/1		3.8.98	12.8.98	YES	YES	NO	P.I.	NO
73		24.7.98	19.8.98	NO	YES	NO		
74		7.8.98	19.8.98	NO	YES	YES		
75		28.7.98	19.8.98	NO	YES	NO		
76		19.8.98	24.8.98	NO	YES	NO		
77		14.8.98	27.8.98	NO	YES	NO		
78		20.8.98	27.8.98	NO	YES	NO		

NAME:

DATE OF REPLY:

ENC NO:

Section 40

13 MAY 1998

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13 MAY 1998

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14 MAY 1998

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14 MAY 1998

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3 JUNE 1998

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5 JUNE 1998

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10 JUNE 1998

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Registered File Disposal Form

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc) <p style="font-size: 1.2em; text-align: center;">UFOs Public Correspondence</p>	Reference: (Prefix and Number): <p style="font-size: 1.2em; text-align: center;">D/SEC (AS) 64/3</p> Part: N
--	---

PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors): UNCLASSIFIED - Staff

Date of last enclosure: 27.8.98	Date closed:
--	--------------

PART 1. DISPOSAL SCHEDULE RECOMMENDATION (To be completed when the file is closed)	FOR CS(RM) USE ONLY
Destroy after _____ years <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of 1st review: <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Forward to CS(RM) after <u>10</u> years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date of 2nd review: <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
No recommendation <input type="checkbox"/>	Forward Destruction Date: <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
fa Permanent Retention	Reviewer's Signature: _____
	Reviewer's Signature: _____

PART 2. BRANCH REVIEW
(To be completed not later than 4 years after the date of the last enclosure)
(Delete as appropriate)

a. Of no further administrative value and not worthy of permanent preservation. DESTROY IMMEDIATELY (Remember that TOP SECRET and Codeword material cannot be destroyed locally and must be forwarded to CS(RM)).

b. (i) To be retained for _____ years (from date of last enclosure) for the following reason(s):

LEGAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEFENCE POLICY + OPERATIONS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CONTRACTUAL <input type="checkbox"/>	ORIGINAL COMMITTEE PAPERS <input type="checkbox"/>
FINANCE/AUDIT <input type="checkbox"/>	MAJOR EQUIPMENT PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/>
DIRECTORATE POLICY <input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>

PPQ = 100

(Continued overleaf)

(ii) Key enclosures which support the recommendation are:

(iii) At the end of the specified retention period the file is to be:

Destroyed

Considered by CS(FM) for permanent preservation

a. Of no further administrative value but worthy of consideration by CS(FM) for permanent preservation.

PART 3. BRANCH REVIEWING OFFICER

Signature: _____

Name: _____
(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: CI Date: 4/4/03
(Not below HEO/equivalent)

Branch Title and Full Address:

Tel No:

PART 4. DESTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

It is certified that the specified file has been destroyed.

Signature: _____

Name: _____
(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: _____ Date: _____

Witnessed by (TOP SECRET* and SECRET only)

Signature: _____

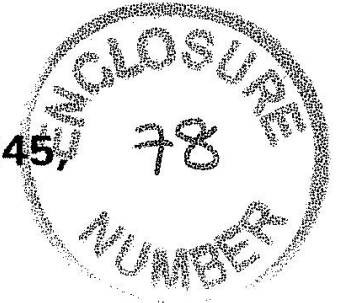
Name: _____
(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: _____ Date: _____

(FOR CS(FM) USE ONLY)



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
Main Building, Whitehall, London. SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Stockport,
Cheshire.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
27 August 1998

Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 15 August addressed to Heathrow Airport regarding reports of unexplained aerial sightings. Your letter has been passed to the Ministry of Defence as Heathrow Air Traffic Control do not maintain records of 'UFO' reports they have been sent; any reports they receive are forwarded to this office.

I have looked back through our sighting report files and have found that no reports were received by the Ministry of Defence for 28 June from the Middlesex area.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Rec'd 20-AUG-1998 10:35 FROM AIS(M)

TO SEC (AS)

P.02/03

B.U.F.O.R.A.

The British, Unidentified, Flying, Object, Research, Association.

To; SENIOR OFFICER,
NATS-AIS CENTRAL OFFICE,
FIRST FLOOR,
CONTROL TOWER BUILDING,
HEATHROW AIRPORT,
HOUNSLOW,
MIDDLESEX,
TW6 1JY.

From; Section 40

High peak,
Section 40

Telephone number
Section 40

7 5 AUG 1998

Dear Sir/Madame;

Please find enclosed details, covering sightings, of an unusual Ariel nature, - sent to myself from members of the public, whom have asked myself to assist themselves, within finding possible and plausible explanations for these sightings.

I enclose a copy of these reports to yourself, for your own perusal, and I would like to inquire if either your staff or yourself, is aware of any aircraft or air traffic, scheduled or otherwise, that would tie in with the time/date or location of the sighting by the witness, that could explain the sighting.

Please do not treat this as an urgent matter, as I am aware of the responsibility to more important matters that you must attend towards, within your operations.

I would welcome any comments that you could give as regards this matter.

I may be contacted at any time at the above address or telephone number.

All information given is treated under the data protection act, a copy of which can be produced upon request.

I would like to also extend this opportunity to ask if any persons wishing to speak to someone involved within either paranormal or ufological investigations, presents themselves to you and wishes to take this matter further, then I would be pleased to attend to those persons inquiries, and to relieve yourself of that duty, should those persons wish me to assist themselves, within that matter.

Report compiled by investigator; Section 40

Yours faithfully

Section 40

FAX
Facsimile
Transmission
Label

To:	Section 40
Attention of:	MAIS
From:	AIS HEATHLOW Ext No Section 40
Admin 1257 100022 URGENT/ROUTINE Page 1 of 2	

20-AUG-1998 10:36 FROM AIS(M)

TO SEC (AS)

P.03/03

B. U. F. O. R. A.

The British, Unidentified, flying, Object, Research, Association.

SIGHTING REPORT;

RECEIVED.

FINALISED BY INVESTIGATOR:

QUESTIONNAIRE SENT, Y / N.

RECEIVED BACK Y / N.

To ;

From: Section 40

High peak,

Section 40

Telephone number

Section 40

Sighting location; PINNER, MIDDLESEX.

Time of occurrence; 23:25 HRS.

Date of occurrence; SUNDAY 28TH, JUNE 1998.

The witness, a gentleman noted a bright orange light, brighter in luminosity than the visible stars upon the night of the sighting, which was apparently attached to a brilliantly illuminated white oval object below, the orange light.

The whole object was sighted travelling east south east, for approximately fifteen seconds, at around 200 feet altitude, and around 30 to 50 mph estimated speed and height.

The gentleman commented that he thought the location of the object was around one half mile from his location within bridge street, Pinner, Middlesex.

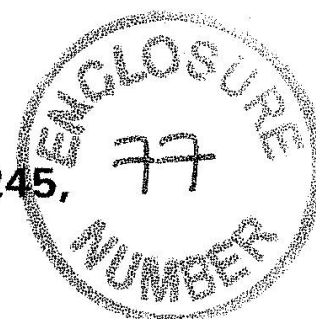
If you can think of any plausible causes as for this sighting, then I would be pleased to hear your comments

TOTAL P.02

TOTAL P.03



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Your reference

London.

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date

Section 40

27 August 1998

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 12 August with which you enclosed a video.

The video has been viewed and was found to contain nothing of defence significance which is, as you are aware, the only interest the MOD has in sightings of unusual aerial activity.

You also enclosed a report of a sighting dated 8 August to tie in with the video footage. I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that the MOD did not receive any reports from the Wiltshire area for the date in question.

I am returning your video with this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted] London

Section 40

Tel/Fax: Section 40 [redacted]

Mobile: [redacted]

12.8.98

Sec(As)2a
Room 8245
M.O.D.
SW1A 2HB

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I am writing primarily to report a sighting of an unusual craft which was sighted on August 8 1998 in Wiltshire. The craft appeared to resemble a large triangle of at least 100 ft in length and was also totally silent. Neither did it exhibit any flashing identification lights that are compulsory to all commercial aircraft. As you will see from the enclosed video footage that I myself shot, the craft resembles nothing that I have ever seen before and this does concern me somewhat.

Unless you or your department can identify this craft, then I must assume that unauthorised craft of unknown origin are penetrating British airspace. I hope you will give this matter your urgent attention.

I have also written to the CAA regarding this matter.

Yours faithfully

Section 40 [redacted signature block]

video watched on
17 August by

Section 40 [redacted]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC (AS) 2
14 AUG 1998
FILE

Sighting of Flying Triangle

Date: Saturday 8th August 1998
Time: Approximately 10.30pm
Location: Silbury Hill, Wiltshire.
Weather: Cloudless night sky with some haze. Minimal wind.
Length of sighting: 45 seconds.
Elevation: 70 deg.
Object(s) Observed: Black Triangle-shaped object with three bright lights at each edge and a central red light. Several other lights on both leading edges also observed. A secondary light behind the main triangle was also observed which may have been a totally separate object.
Estimated Height: 1500-2000 ft.
Estimated distance: Half a mile.
Object speed: 300mph.
Object trajectory: Object(s) first observed approaching from a north westerly direction and banked sharply before heading off north easterly increasing in speed.
Witnesses: Section 40 and Section 40
Photographs taken: Yes.
Video footage shot: Yes.
Video Camera: Sony CCD-TR840E HI-8XR
Zoom: 18x optical. 72x digital.
Electronic Stabiliser: Switched on.
Camera Mode: Infra-red and normal.

Summary of Events.

Myself and Section 40 had been sitting at the summit of Silbury Hill observing the sky since about 9pm and at about 10pm, we decided to walk down the narrow path back to our vehicle which was parked in the nearby car park.

Once we had reached the bottom, we began walking along the road toward the car park when we both noticed a very bright object out toward the north which very rapidly diminished from view within a matter of seconds. The object was much brighter than a star and did not seem to move appreciably.

At this point, we were distracted by an elderly couple who had moments earlier, noticed a meteor enter the atmosphere and we entered in a brief conversation with them, lasting no more than five minutes or so.

After bidding farewell, we entered the car park and then noticed a fairly large object heading in from the north which I initially mistook for an aeroplane. I then noticed the three large and very bright lights on the underside of the object. I then decided to quickly get out my video camera and began filming.

As I zoomed on to the object, I immediately noticed that it appeared to be of a triangular shape as the three large underside lights were illuminating the belly of the craft and there also appeared to be a trailing light slightly behind the main triangle. The camera was operating in the infra-red mode which I then disabled. I then noticed that there were several other lights around the front sides of the craft as well as a central red light.

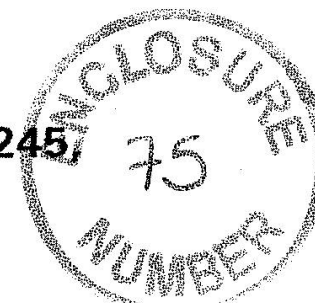
As the triangle began to bank and head away from us, I noticed that the trailing light appeared to change its relative distance to the main object which suggested that it may have been a discrete object.

I then briefly stopped filming for a few seconds as my hand was suffering from cramp due to the effect of trying to hold the camera steady and as I resumed filming, the object had considerably shrunk in size indicating that it had gained a great distance during the intervening few seconds. After a few minutes of discussion, we got into our car and left the area.

This enclosure has been taken off and placed on File 64/3/3 Part A *Enclosure 6*
(76)



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Blackpool,
Lancashire.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
19 August 1998

Dear

Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 23 July in which you have enquired whether the Ministry of Defence had received any unexplained aerial sighting reports for 10 July following an article about a 'UFO' sighting in a Lancashire newspaper.

I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we did not receive any reports from anywhere in the UK for 10 July 1998. As you are aware from previous correspondence with this office, unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. It is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Blackpool
Lancashire

Section 40

Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a1
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

23/7/98

Dear Section 40

I enclose a copy of a local newspaper article about an unexplained formation of lights seen in the sky on July 10th. I have also heard of similar activity in the Leeds/Yorkshire area as well.

This bizarre "Z" shape must have been very distinctive, yet from the article it seems no firm explanation is on offer, even the RAF rescue controller is baffled.

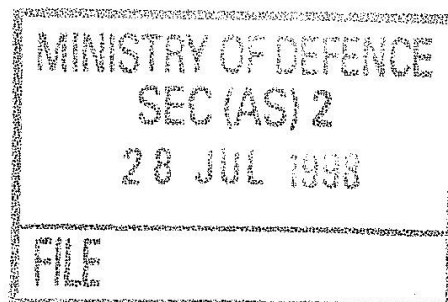
Have you investigated the sighting? Have you had any reports from the authorities connected with the incident?

Looking forward to your reply on this matter.

Yours Faithfully

Section 40

Section 40





UNSEEN HER?: Amanda [Name obscured], missing from Fleetwood.

Spotters are left feeling light headed

HUNDREDS of people across the Fylde Coast and Wyre inundated the emergency services with calls last night after spotting mysterious lights in the sky.

Coastguard stations and the police were flooded with calls from concerned residents who spotted the bright display late last night, from around 10pm onwards.

Mystery today surrounded the unexplained spectacle, which could be seen high in the sky along the length of western Britain.

Fleetwood Police said they received a lot of calls from the public reporting 'flares' and 'explosions' over the Irish Sea.

Liverpool Coastguard say that they too were kept busy

By NEIL BATEY

on the phones, adding that many reported the lights taking the shape of the letter 'Z'.

Councillor Mark Bamforth, from Warton Street in Lytham, was one of those who saw the lights.

He said: "At first I thought it was something falling from the sky. Then there was this huge 'Z' shape. All the clouds around it were very dark and I had no idea what it was."

Meteorites

A spokesman for Liverpool Coastguard said: "One of the explanations given is that a couple of meteorites collided in space causing this lights display in the sky."

"A lot of people must have seen it and wondered what it was, as the emergency ser-

vices were inundated with calls.

"A lot of people were very concerned as they thought that perhaps aircraft had collided. We checked with air traffic control and no such accident had occurred.

"Apparently a large 'Z' could be seen, like Zorro's signature! It could have been anything from space debris, to comets or fireballs."

While the lights were seen from Scotland to Cornwall, the largest number of calls came from the Irish Sea area.

One high-flying aircraft reported what appeared to be a large explosion in the sky above the Isle of Man.

An RAF rescue controller said that there were no reports of meteorites and so far no explanation for the sightings.

Coastguards in Belfast also reported dozens of 999 calls.

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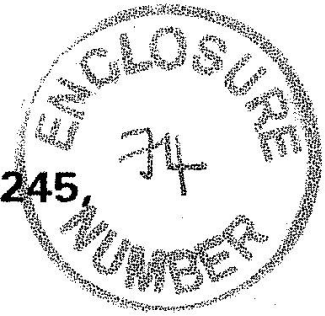
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From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
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 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Fareham,
 Hampshire.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 19 August 1998

DDW **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 30 July addressed to the Secretary of State for Defence regarding an unexplained aerial sighting over Fareham on 27 July. Your letter has been passed to this office as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of this nature. I have been asked to reply.

The Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to your particular observation, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of 'UFO' sightings for 27 July from the Hampshire area, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40



MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To Sec(AS)2

Ref No 4808 /1998

Date 6/8/98

The Secretary of State, / _____ has received the attached letter from a member of the public. It has not been acknowledged by this office.

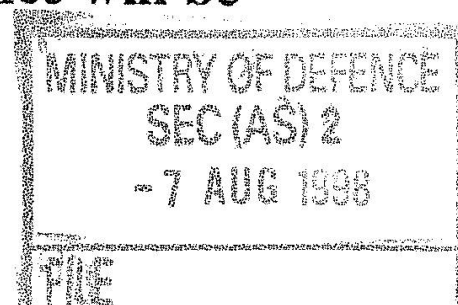
Please send a reply on behalf of the Minister concerned. All Ministers attach importance to such letters being answered promptly, your reply should therefore be sent **within 20 working days** of the date of this minute. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale.

A new Open Government Code of Practice on Access to Government Information came into force on in January 1997. All replies to members of the public must be in accordance with the procedures set out in the Code. A full explanation of the Code of Practice is contained in DCI(Gen) 54/98; further information is available from DOMD on extension **Section MB**.

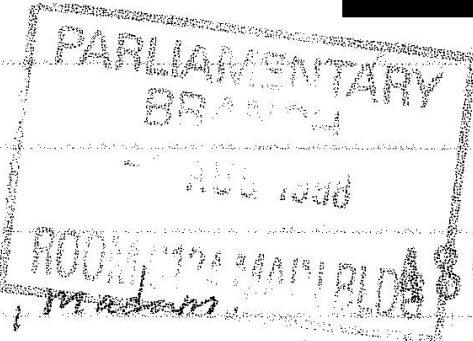
Under the Citizens' Charter, Departments are now required to keep records of their performance. All branches and Agencies are required to keep information on the number of **requests for information which refer to the Code of Practice** including details of the correspondent and the nature and date of the reply. In addition, the Department is required to provide a record of the total number of letters from members of the public and provide statistics (which may be used on a valid sample) of its performance in providing replies within their published targets.

As part of our monitoring procedure, random spot checks on the accuracy of your branch records on correspondence will be performed throughout the year.

MB 6140 EXT **Section MB**



Section 40



FAREHAM.

HANTS.

Section 40

Dear Sir, Madam,

30/7/98

On Monday, 27th July - 1998,
 between 7-15 pm and 8-20 pm. I along
 with two friends were doing band
 practise in my bedroom. When to our
 astonishment upon looking out of my
 bedroom window. Saw coming out of
 a cloud not, one, but six, silver
 cigar shaped aircraft, there was a
 two or three minute interval between
 each one. So we ran downstairs to
 watch from the back, front gardens
 they flew past the left of
 my house, going towards Portdown Hill.
 When one came back and went
 over my house, to wherever it came
 from.

P.T.O.

2

As the sky was clear, we saw the objects quite clearly as they were low in the sky.

After all this excitement we resumed our band practice, with a cup of coffee. Still we are wondering if you can offer an explanation as to what we saw.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40



To /
No. [Redacted]

Section 40

Parochian.

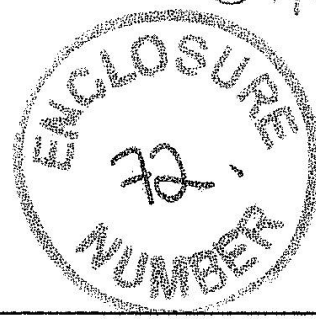
Hants

Section 40

This enclosure has been taken off and placed on File 64/3/2 Part A *Enclosure 4*

UNCLASSIFIED
~~RESTRICTED~~

64/3



Mon 17 Aug, 1998 15:01 mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
17/08/98	OMD/AD(Management)	Reply to Section 40	[]

Intended:

Sent: 17/08/98 at 14:56 Delivered: 17/08/98 at 14:58

To: SEC(AS)2A1

CC:

Ref: /GUID:5DBC13D59A35D2119C9800A02461F4C4

From: OMD/AD(Management)

Auth by:

Subject: Reply to **Section 40**

Text:

Priority: Normal
Reply Request []

SEE PAGE
View Acknowledge []

Attachments [1]
Codes []

UNCLASSIFIED
~~RESTRICTED~~

~~RESTRICTED~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Section 40

Thanks for your letter to **Section 40**. From an Open Government point of view it looks fine. It did strike me though, that the second half of the third para is incompatible with the fourth para. The former states that MOD "believes that rational explanations...could be found", whereas the latter says that we remain "totally open-minded". I wonder if it would be more logical, and accurate, to omit the sentence beginning "The Ministry of Defence believes that...". Just a thought.

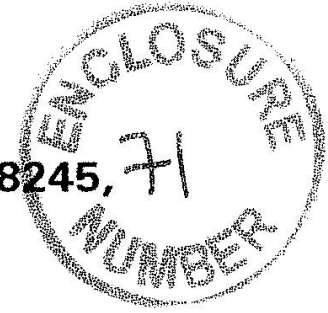
Section 40

One refers to sights in the sky
the other refers to life on other
planets - two different things.

~~RESTRICTED~~
UNCLASSIFIED



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
Main Building, Whitehall, London. SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Your reference

Barry.

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Section 40

Date
17 August 1998

DEAR

Section 40

I am writing with reference to your recent report of an unexplained aerial sighting which you observed on the evening of 12 August. The details of your report have been passed from RAF St Athan to this office as we are the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects."

The Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to your particular observation, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of "UFO" sightings for 12 August from anywhere Wales, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

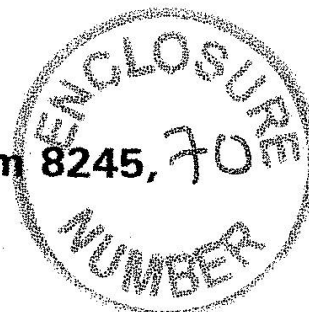
Report held on

6412 pt H

enc 25



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245, 70th
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Farnborough,
 Hampshire.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 17 August 1998

Dear

Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 3 July in which you have asked whether the UK is to have a Freedom of Information Act.

The Government is committed to the introduction of a Freedom of Information Act as part of its programme of constitutional reform and in fulfilment of its manifesto pledge. The FOI Act will apply to MOD as a whole, encompassing the Armed Forces, Agencies and Non-Departmental Public Bodies, and requests for information on any aspect of the Department's business will need to be considered with a predisposition towards openness.

The Freedom of Information White Paper 'Your Right to Know' was published last December, and the consultation period ended in February. The White Paper can be ordered by telephoning the HMSO Publication Line on (0171) 873 9090 and quoting CM 3818. It can also be accessed on the Internet at: <http://www.open.gov.uk/m-of-g/foihome.htm>. A draft Bill is currently being produced, which it is proposed will be published later this year for further consultation. The Bill is currently intended to be placed before Parliament in the 1998/99 Session and will come into force sometime thereafter, although the precise timings are not yet known. Until this time, the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information will remain unchanged as the reference for the provision of information.

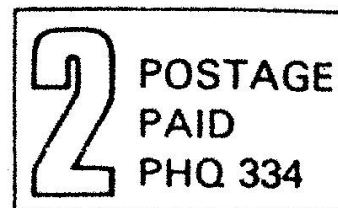
The Ministry of Defence already operates in accordance with the existing Code of Practice on Access to Government Information which encourages the provision of information unless its disclosure would, for example, cause harm to defence, invade on an individual's privacy, or if it would take an unreasonable diversion of resources to respond to a request. This branch, therefore, deals with requests in this light, within the Department's remit, and with a predisposition towards openness. Details of the MOD's Open Government policy can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/policy/opengovt/dci5498.htm>.

I hope this explains the current position. I have enclosed your SAE as we have our own postal arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

On Her Majesty's Service



Section 40
[Redacted]

Farnborough,
Hampshire.

Section 40
[Redacted]

Ministry of Defence
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A
Room 8245
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Dear Section 40
[Redacted]

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter/complaint of 3 July 98 about "UFOs" + a Freedom of Information Act.

We aim to reply to such letters/complaints within four working weeks from date of receipt. However, owing to current administrative difficulties it may not be possible to reply to you within this timescale.

Nevertheless, you may be assured that you will receive a substantive reply as soon as is practicable.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
[Redacted]

Sent on 5 August 98

3.7.98

Section 40

Secretariat (Air staff)2a1a,
Room 8245,
MoD,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A 2HB.

Dear **Section 40**

Regarding the group of scientists in America who have been given the task of investigating the UFO phenomena. I am interested to find out if Britain is involved or conducting similar research.

My last letter to you came via the Prime Minister Mr Tony Blair asking if this country was going to have a freedom of information act enforced whereby UFO information could be accessed, like they have in other countries. Will such an act be available considering the closeness of the Millennium or will people like myself and others continue to face an archaic country when it comes to such *important* matters.

I enclose a SAE for your reply.

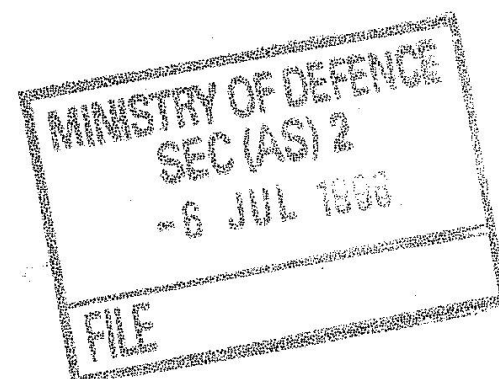
Thank you for your help in this matter.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

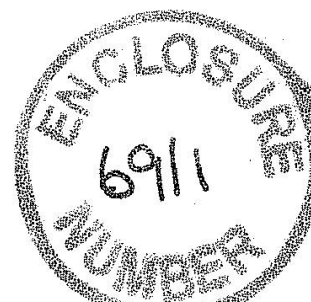
Section 40

Farnborough,
Hants, **Section 40**





From: **Section 40** Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a1
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

IGUFOA

Section 40

Germany

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3
 Date
 12 August 1998

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 28 July addressed to the Ministry of Defence Press Office about 'unidentified flying objects'.

I think it would be helpful if I first explained in detail the extent of the Ministry of Defence's interest in these matters. The Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, no attempt is made to identify the precise nature of each reported sighting. The Ministry of Defence believes that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not a function of the Ministry of Defence to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources to do so.

The Ministry of Defence does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

In your letter you request a search of all Departmental files in order to obtain all documents associated with 'UFOs' or the 'UFO phenomenon'. To meet your request would involve considerable

Hidden Copy:

Section 40

1

DOMD / AD (Management)

(As discussed with **Section 40**)

staff effort over a period of time to search a large number of manual files. This would be an unreasonable diversion of staff effort and your request is therefore refused under exemption 9 of the Code of Practice for Access to Government Information.

I can assure you that your request has been fully considered but, should you wish to make a complaint that it has not been properly dealt with, you can appeal to: Ministry of Defence, DOMD, Room 619 Northumberland House, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BP.

Yours sincerely

Section 40



UFOs/Germany/1

Check with
Section 40

Section 40

IGUFOA

Section 40

Germany

DRAFT

Thank you for your letter of 28 July addressed to the Ministry of Defence Press Office about 'unidentified flying objects'.

^{UK}
I think it would be helpful if I first explained in detail the extent of the Ministry of Defence's interest in these matters. The Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, no attempt is made to identify the precise nature of each reported sighting. The Ministry of Defence believes that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not a function of the Ministry of Defence to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources to do so.

The Ministry of Defence does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

In your letter you request a search of all Departmental files in order to obtain all documents associated with 'UFOs' or the 'UFO phenomenon.' To meet your request would involve considerable staff effort over a period of time to search a large number of manual files. This would be an unreasonable diversion of staff effort and your request is therefore refused under exemption 9 of the Code of Practice for Access to Government Information.

I can assure you that your request has been fully considered but, should you wish to make a complaint that it has not been properly dealt with, you can appeal to: Ministry of Defence, DOMD, Room 619 Northumberland House, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BP.

Hidden Copy to:

DOMD - Section 40 (As discussed with Section 40)



G.E.A.S. Autorisierter Partner MELDESTELLE der G.E.A.S. e.V.

Ministry of Defence Press Office
Room 0389
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Section 40
c/o IGUFOA
Section 40
Section 40
Altmühlweida
Deutschland/Germany

Telefax:
Section 40
eMail:
Section 40
eMail der Meldestelle:
Section 40
Homepage:
<http://www.gigapolis.com/geas/IGUFOA>

Datum: 98-07-28
(gegründet im Mai '96)

Dear sir,
dear miss,

I request a waiver of all fees for this request. Disclosure of the requested information to me is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in my commercial interest. It will also contribute to the public understanding of present day technologies in our Aircraft.

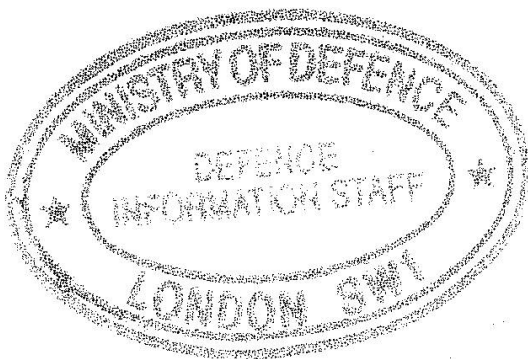
If my request for a full fee - waiver is denied, so will pay I also on order no reproduction.

I request a complete and thorough search of ALL filing systems and locations for all records maintained by your agency, pertaining to and/or captioned Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) or the Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) phenomenon.

I wish to make it clear that I want all records in your office "identifiable with my request." I do not want just "interim" documents. I want all documents as they appear in the "main" files and "see references" of all units of your agency.

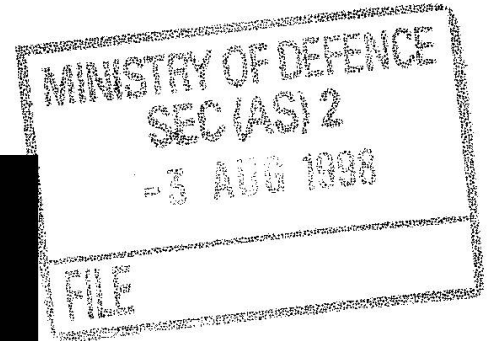
If documents are denied in whole or in part, please specify which exemption(s) is (are) claimed for each passage or whole document denied. Give the number of pages in each document and the total number of pages pertaining to this request and the dates of documents withheld. Please send a memo (with a copy or copies to me) to the appropriate unit(s) in your office to assure that no records related to this request are destroyed. Please advise of any destruction of records and include the date of and authority for such destruction. As I expect to appeal any denials, please specify the office and address to which an appeal should be directed.

I can be reached at the address listed below. I expect a response to this request thirty (30) working days. I would like to have in any case an answer of you! Thank you.



Sincerely,

Section 40
[Redacted signature]



Section 40
Leader of UFO Community
IGUFOA, Germany

IGUFOA
Interessengruppe für
UFO Angelegenheiten,
Autorisierter Partner und
Meldestelle der GEAS eV

Postadresse:
Section 40
c/o IGUFOA
Section 40

Außenstelle:
Section 40
c/o IGUFOA
Section 40

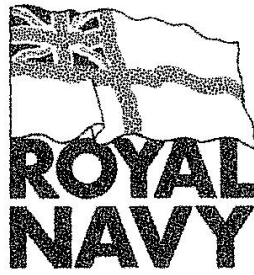
Leiter und Sprecher
Section 40
Mitarbeiter:
Section 40

nteressengruppe für UFO Angelegenheiten
Community for UFO Affairs

IGUFOA • Chemnitz • Germany
Section 40 Section 40



Ministry of Defence Press Office
Room 0389
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB



See A S.

Enclosed letter for
action. Acknowledged
today 3 Aug. Thanks.

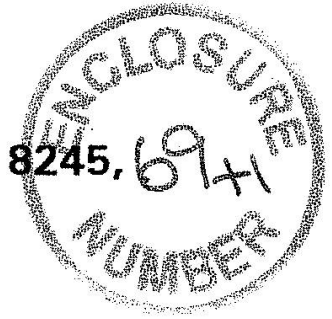
Section 40

DPR(N)-A0

See the World. *Differently.*



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245, 69/1
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
 Main Building, Whitehall, London. SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Dagenham,
 Essex.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 10 August 1998

DDW **Section 40**

I am writing with reference to your message left on the Secretariat (Air Staff) answerphone on 7 August in which you reported an unexplained aerial sighting observed the previous day from the Dagenham Motor Works. This office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects."

First I should explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to your particular observation, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of 'UFO' sightings for 6 August from anywhere in the UK, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

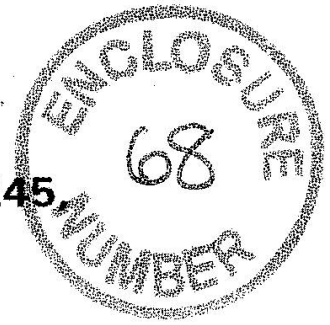
Yours sincerely,

Section 40

*Report held on
 64/2 pt A
 enc. 16*



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Marlborough,
Wiltshire.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date

6 August 1998

Dear

Section 40

I have received your letter in which you have asked Sec(AS)2a to forward your thesis entitled 'The Einstein/Rosen Bridge and How It Connects To Crop Circles' to Lord Hill-Norton. I have returned your thesis so you may send it to him yourself. His address is as follows:

Section 40

Hampshire.

Section 40

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DEAR

Section 40

COULD YOU PLEASE FORWARD MY THESIS
TO MR LORD PETER HILL NORTON, OBVIOUSLY
I HAVE NO CONTACT ADDRESS. I WOULD
BE MOST GRATEFUL.

YOURS SINCERELY

Section 40

P.S PLEASE READ IF YOU SO WISH.

ADDRESS:

Section 40

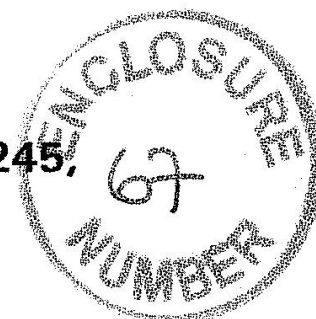
MARLBOROUGH.

Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC (AS) 2
- 6 AUG 1998
FILE



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**



Section 40

Charing,
Kent.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date

6 August 1998

Dear

Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 22 July in which you have asked what the response would be if the United Kingdom's airspace were to experience an 'Independence Day' 'type' scenario.

The situation would be handled in the light of the circumstances which prevailed at the time. I am afraid there can be no definitive answer to this hypothetical question.

I am sorry I cannot be more helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted] Charing
Kent Section 40 [redacted]
Telephone: [redacted]

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a,
Room 8245,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London
SW1A 2HB

22nd July 1998

Dear Sir/Madam,

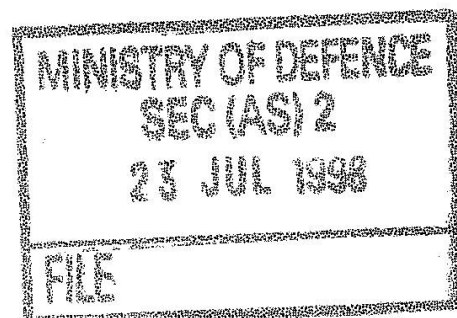
I am enquiring about a rather interesting matter. If we were to experience an 'Independence Day' type scenario on a global scale, which department would deal with it in the United Kingdom? Would it be the duty of the Ministry of Defence or the Home Office?

If it is for the Home Office to deal with, could you kindly forward my letter or send me the address at which I could contact them.

Thank you for your co operation in this matter.

Yours Faithfully,

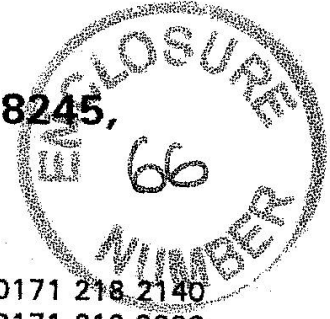
Section 40 [redacted]



previous letter
64'3 pl L enc 37



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

St Osyth,
Essex.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
6 August 1998

Dear

Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 18 July regarding an unexplained aerial sighting on 8 October.

My letter of 6 July explained the MOD's limited interest and remit in respect of reports of 'unidentified flying objects' and that unless there is evidence of an incursion of the UK's airspace by unauthorized or hostile foreign military activity, no attempt is made to determine the precise nature of each report received.

In the case of the particular observation you are referring to, as there was no evidence to suggest such an incursion of the UK's airspace had occurred, within the terms of the Department's remit no further action is deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

ESSEX UFO &
METAPHYSICAL
RESEARCH GROUP

Section 40

Secretary/Treasurer

Section 40

St. Osyth, Essex.

Section 40

Tel.No. Section 40

President: Section 40

Chairman: Section 40

18 July 1998

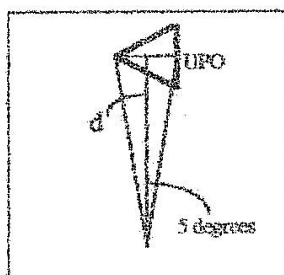
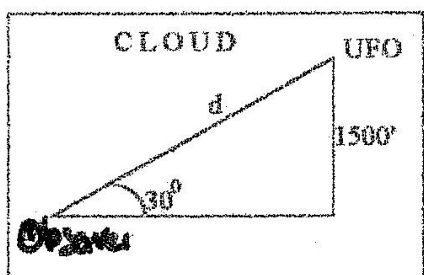
Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 6 July 1998, which I very much appreciate.

I am surprised that you have no evidence to corroborate the particular sighting of 8 October 1997, since details in its report allow an estimate of its dimensions:

- 1 - angle of elevation 30 degrees.
- 2 - length of object from tip to tail 10 degrees.
- 3 - full cloud of the fluffy grey/white type (order of 1500 feet)

Calculation



Assuming the object was at an estimated height of 1500 feet, the distance away, d, of the UFO would be:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{sine } 30 \text{ degrees} &= \frac{1500}{d} \\ d &= \frac{1500}{\text{sine } 30} \\ d &= 3000' \end{aligned}$$

Now half of the UFO's length, s, can be found:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tangent } 5 \text{ degrees} &= \frac{s}{3000} \\ s &= 262.46' \\ \text{length} &= 2 \times s \\ &= 525' \end{aligned}$$

This is nearly twice the length of a football pitch, of colossal proportions when compared with a Boeing 747 which is around 232 feet long.

If the cloud was higher, then the UFO would have been longer. Conversely if the cloud had been lower, then the object would have been shorter.

I should be grateful if you could advise me of the known types of aircraft which approximate to the estimated value, since I am unable to find a suitable reference to identify it

Thank you for your help with this matter.

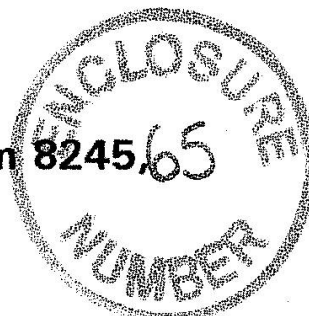
Yours sincerely,

Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 SEC (AS) 2
 20 JUL 1998
 FILE



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,65
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
 Main Building, Whitehall, London. SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Rossett,
 Wrexham.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 5 August 1998

DDW **Section 40**

I am writing with reference to your recent report of an unexplained aerial sighting which you observed on 2 August. The details of your report have been passed from the Low Flying Complaints cell to this office which is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects."

First I should explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of "unidentified flying objects" it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential military threat, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to your particular observation, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of "UFO" sightings for 2 August from the Cheshire, Shropshire or North Wales region, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

*Report held on
 6462 pt H
 enc 13.*



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Warrington,
 Cheshire.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3
 Date

30 July 1998

DDW **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 27 July in which you have asked for information on reports of 'unidentified flying objects'. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of this nature.

The Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

The MOD does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

WARRINGTON,
CHESHIRE,

Section 40

27 July, 1998

Ministry of Defence
Room 7230,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A 2HB

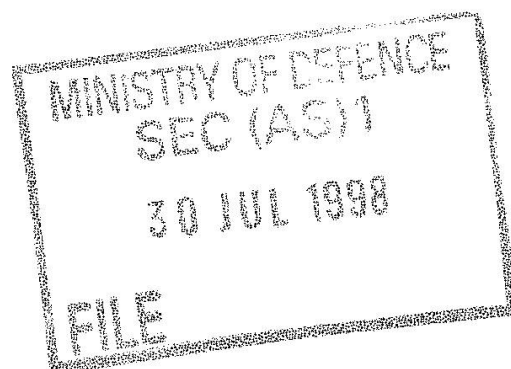
To Whom It May Concern:

UFO DOCUMENTS

I am writing to you inquiring about any recent UFO sightings, I am a young enthusiast who would like to learn more about the subject. I am a member of the Air Training Corps in my area and hope to one day become a pilot or navigator in the RAF. I am very keen to know about any reports or documents on UFO sightings from pilots or any Armed Forces group, as they will be most reliable and interesting. Any documents, reports, photos or media would be very much appreciated. Thankyou.

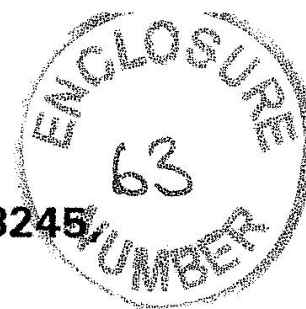
Sincerely,

Section 40





From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Birmingham

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3
 Date

30 July 1998

DAW **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 20 July in which you have asked for further information on a report of an unexplained aerial sighting seen over Wolverhampton on 23 August 1995. The details of the report are as follows:

Date: 23 August 1995

Time: 2150 hrs

Duration of sighting: 'A few seconds'

Description of object: 'One star-like, white object, as bright as venus'

Position of observer: 'NE of Wolverhampton'

Angle of sight: 'Low down'

Movement of object: 'Stationary then moved to east rapidly'

Met conditions: 'Clear sky'

Secondly, you have asked if the Ministry of Defence received any reports for 16 March 1997 from the Worcestershire area. I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that the MOD did not receive any reports from anywhere in the UK on that date.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Ministry of Defence,

Section 40

BIRMINGHAM,

Section 40

20th July, 1998

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your previous reply, regarding a UFO reported to you from the Wolverhampton area (23.8.95). Is it possible to furnish us with more details of this, please?

Secondly, have you received any reports of a UFO seen over the Alcester area of Worcestershire on the 16th March, 1997, at 9.40 p.m., as we have a report to this effect?

Thanking you once again for your assistance in this matter.

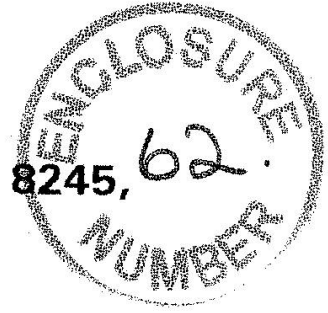
Yours sincerely,

Section 40





From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
Main Building, Whitehall, London. SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Your reference

Suffolk.

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Section 40

Date
27 July 1998

DDAV **Section 40**

I am writing with reference to your message left on the Secretariat (Air Staff) answerphone on 24 July in which you reported an unexplained aerial sighting observed on 23 July over the Suffolk/Cambridgeshire border. This office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects."

First I should explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of "unidentified flying objects" it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to your particular observation, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of "UFO" sightings for 23 July from the Suffolk/Cambridgeshire area, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

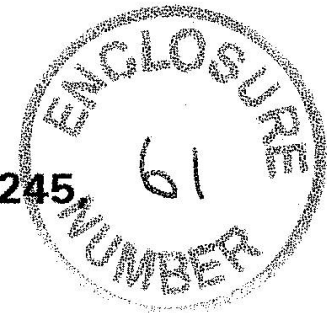
Yours sincerely,

Section 40

*Report held on
64/2 pt H
enc. 5*



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40
[Redacted]
Paignton,
Devon.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
24 July 1998

Dear **Section 40**
[Redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 3 July regarding your sighting of an unexplained aerial object on 11 February.

My letter of 16 June explained the MOD's limited interest and remit in respect of reports of 'unidentified flying objects' and that unless there is evidence of an incursion of the UK's airspace by unauthorized or hostile foreign military activity, no attempt is made to determine the precise nature of each report received.

In the case of your particular observation, as there was no evidence to suggest such an incursion of the UK's airspace had occurred, within the terms of the Department's remit no further action is deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
[Redacted]

Section 40

PAIGNTON
Devon Section 40Tel Section 40
Ref: Section 40
3 July, 1998

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a1a
Room 8245
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON SW1A 2HB

Dear Section 40

Thank you for yours of the 16th. I was aware that the Secretariat was the "schwer punkt", as Air Marshal Dowding famously said "that's why I wrote it".

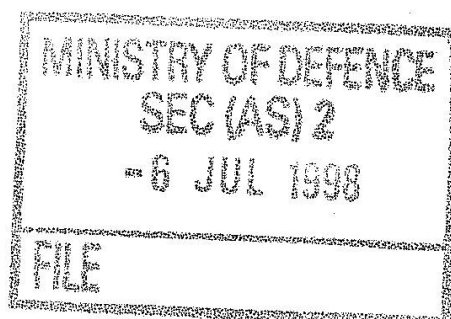
Under notes (g) I expressed concern at such an event close to, what I considered, a sensitive air concentration.

Your sweeping generalisation that "diversion of resources could explain all reports" is an overstatement. Having experience of government 'experts', I have often found them lacking, both in resources and expertise, due to financial constraints and managerial misdirection. To plug the gap, industrial and commercial research are 'trawled'. For commercial reasons, only limited co-operation is forthcoming. Thereby, industry and commerce retain their sharp leading edge and, consequently, MOD are somewhat blunter. Ministry contracts are ring-fenced and what is delivered is only that within the fence.

I digress! Reverting to the matter in hand. Aircraft lights? No! Natural phenomena? No! In any case, nature does not enclose 120 cubic feet of space in a gaunt Euclidean form, involving 24 right angles. Nature doesn't work that way.

Thank you for the information, that no other sighting was made on the date in question. Section 40 sighting ties in with what I saw, and, does nothing to undermine that which I reported, other than to compound the identification problem. There is no difficulty in constructing scenarios, even if one was not present. The difficulty is their credit rating; viz.

'Two constipated Shetland ponies in book-end formation, mounted on 'perspex' stilts under a carton or crate. Ponies trained to blink at all speeds in unison, through suitable holes. Ponies trained to jump hedges and banks, sideways, also in unison'.



1

Common sense dictates that MOD must have attempted to solve those occurrences-with-substance. Probably, they have; either failed and accepted the fact, or they have positive information leading to the present policy of benign acceptance.

I just hope, for the country's sake, that it proves to be the right one. What I saw what technically awesome.

Yours sincerely,

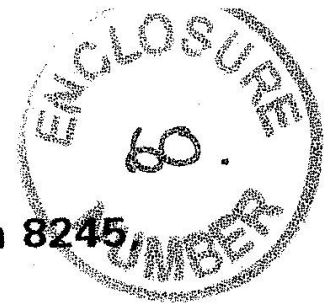
Section 40

Section 40

Enc.



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
 Main Building, Whitehall, London. SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Lavenham,
 Suffolk.

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 17 July 1998

DMW **Section 40**

I am writing with reference to your recent report of an unexplained aerial sighting which you observed on 15 July over Acton near Sudbury. The details of your report have been passed from the Suffolk Constabulary to the Ministry of Defence. This office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects."

First I should explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of "unidentified flying objects" it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to your particular observation, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of "UFO" sightings for 15 July from the Suffolk area, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

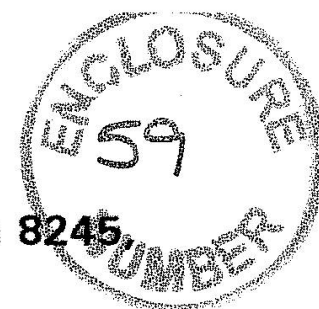
Report held on

64/2 pt G

enc-129.



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Edinburgh.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 15 July 1998

Don **Section 40**

Thank you for your recent letter addressed to the Prime Minister regarding 'unidentified flying objects'. Your letter has been passed to the Ministry of Defence for reply; this office is the MOD focal point for correspondence of this nature.

The MOD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, the MOD does not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported. The MOD believes that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service.

I should make clear at this point that the MOD has no interest or role with respect to 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms about which it remains open-minded. To date, however, the MOD knows of no evidence which might substantiate these alleged phenomena.

You have asked about events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980. When the MOD was informed of the events in question, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the MOD/RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a number of allegations have subsequently been made about these reported events, nothing has emerged over the last 17 years which has given any reason to believe that the original assessment made by the MOD was incorrect.

Your letter mentions an alleged 'UFO' sighting over the home of the former Home Secretary, Michael Howard, near Folkestone. Although the MOD received reports of such an occurrence near Michael Howard's home on 8 March 1997, MOD Air Defence staff have confirmed that there is no evidence to suggest any unauthorized incursion of the UK Air Defence Region on that date.

You also seek information about an alleged aircraft crash at RAF Boscombe Down on 26 September 1994. On 1 December 1994 the then Minister for State for the Armed Forces, the Hon Nicholas Soames MP, answered a Parliamentary Question from the late Martin Redmond about this alleged incident. I enclose an extract from the Official report for your information.

Finally, your letter refers to animal mutilations. The MOD does not investigate this phenomena. Criminal aspects of animal mutilations are matters for the civil police, and could only be investigated in light of any evidence associated with such an occurrence. I understand that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food sometimes receives queries about animal mutilations. However, they would only conduct an investigation into animal mutilation from an animal welfare perspective.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

HANSARD EXTRACT - 1 DECEMBER 1994

Column 907 - WRITTEN ANSWERS

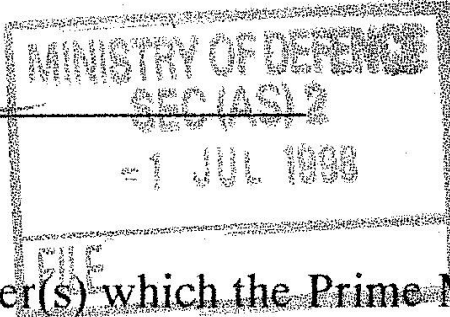
Mr. Redmond: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence if he will make a statement on the air crash at Boscombe Down airfield on the evening of 26 September.

Mr. Soames: I am aware of a press report of such an incident. Staff at Boscombe Down have confirmed, however, that there was no crash at the unit on that date or, indeed, so far this year. The only flying which took place that night was the launch of two Royal Navy Sea King helicopters in support of an exercise.

low flying/UFOs



MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To Sec(AS)2Ref No 3818 /1998Date 24-6-98

The attached letter(s) which the Prime Minister has received has been forwarded to this Department for official action. No.10's letter codes are as follows:

- A - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please send a full reply **within 20 working days**.
- B - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and action accordingly.
- C - No acknowledgement has been sent. In this case, however, it is obviously important that both an acknowledgement and a full reply are sent.

Unless specifically asked to do so, there is no need for you to copy your replies to this office.

A new Open Government Code of Practice came into force on January 1997. All replies to members of the public must be in accordance with the procedures set out in the Code. A full explanation of the Code of Practice is contained in DCI(Gen) 54/98; further information is available from DOMD on extension **Section MB**.

Under the Citizens' Charter, Departments are now required to keep record of their performance. All branches and Agencies are required to keep information on the number of requests for information which refer to the Code of Practice including details of the correspondent and the nature and date of the reply. In addition, the Department is required to provide a record of the total number of letters from members of the public and provide statistics (which may be based on a valid sample) of its performance in providing replies within their published targets.

As part of our monitoring procedure, random spot checks on the accuracy of your branch records on correspondence will be performed throughout the year.

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT
MB 6140 EXT **Section MB**

R 2/6/98

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

(3)

Section 40

Edinburgh

Section 40

PARLIAMENTARY
BRANCH

22 JUN 1998


ROOM 631 MAIN FLOOR

3818

Dear Prime Minister

For many years the MoD has said that the subject of UFOs has no defence significance but I find that to be untrue.

For instance in December 1980 over one of our frontline NATO bases RAF Woodbridge UFOs were observed for quite some time and yet the MoD still say it has no defence significance.

Another case involving an important person was in England again. MP Michael Howard had a UFO hovering less than half a mile from his house and this can be confirmed by  of UFO monitors East Kent.

Now I and many others believe that a massive cover up is going on which I am sorry to say. But a very good example of this is an incident at Boscombe Down on the night of 26th September 1994 when on the take off the craft crashed on runway 23. On that same evening London air traffic control centre was alerted that a serious incident had taken place. Eye-witnesses said 'the craft was covered with tar pokalins and surrounded by emergency vehicles.

The SAS arrived twice and on the 27th a giant C-5 Galaxy aircraft landed and on the following day flew the mysterious craft to another country.

Mr Nicholas Soames has admitted to ~~some~~ some things: The MoD has accepted the fact their fastest aircraft have been overtaken by UFOs

- That UFOs have overflown military bases
- That UFOs have provoked RAF planes to scramble.
- That UFOs did cause RAF fighters to divert from missions.

Still the MoD say this has no defence significance

~~Now~~ Now I have a few questions:

- ① What are the MoD and CAA going to do about this?
- ② Can the MoD give me any information on the Michael Howard case?
- ③ Can the MoD or CAA give me any kind of explanation for the UFO phenomena.
- ④ Can the MoD ~~or~~ give me an explanation for Cattle mutilations?

I will look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely

Section 40



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Manchester.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3
 Date

15 July 1998

DAW **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 30 June in which asked about the Ministry of Defence's stance on the 'alien abduction' phenomenon. This office is the MOD focal point for correspondence relating to the 'unidentified flying object' phenomenon.

First I should explain that the MOD has no interest or role with respect to 'UFO'/flying saucer issues or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which the MOD keeps an open-mind. To date, however, the MOD knows of no evidence which might substantiate these phenomena.

The MOD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. The MOD believes that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service.

As the MOD is not aware of any evidence which might substantiate the existence of extraterrestrial lifeforms, the subject of human abduction by 'alien lifeforms' is a non-issue. Abduction/kidnap in the general sense is, of course, a criminal offence and as such would be a matter for the civil police to investigate, based on any available evidence that such a incident had occurred.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Manchester

Section 40

30 June 1998

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am currently undertaking an Msc in Counselling Psychology at the Manchester Metropolitan University. The subject of my dissertation is the relationship between psychosis and reports of alien abduction, and I am contacting you to see if you can help me in my research.

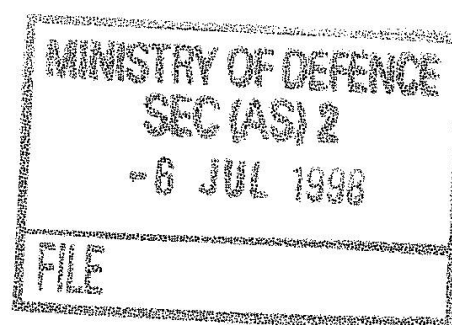
In the course on my investigations some accounts have suggested that the Ministry is investigating reports of both U.F.O.'s and abductions. However, I have read much material, including Section 40 work, that makes it very clear that the Ministry has no official position on these matters.

Would it be possible therefore for you to send me a letter confirming this so I can include it in the appendix of my dissertation? Could you also tell me what procedures the Ministry recommends to staff and the public if they wish to report an unexplained encounter?

Thank you very much for your help,

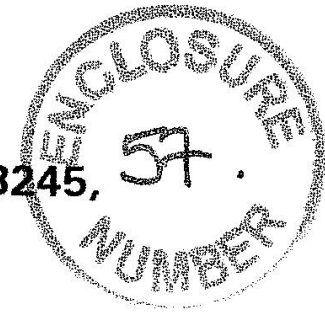
Yours sincerely,

Section 40





From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Austin,
 Texas.

Section 40
 USA

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 15 July 1998

DSW **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail of 22 June regarding a report of an 'unidentified flying object' over the North Sea. Your e-mail has been passed to this office as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of this nature.

The UK Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

Turning now to the articles claiming that an 'unidentified flying object' was tracked over the North Sea; the press reports at the time were incorrect and speculative. There was no evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom Air Defence Region was compromised as alleged.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40



MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To Sec (AS) 2

Ref No 4095 /1998

Date 3-7-98

The Secretary of State, / _____ has received the attached letter from a member of the public. It has not been acknowledged by this office.

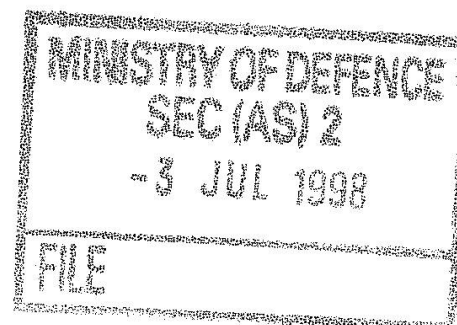
Please send a reply on behalf of the Minister concerned. All Ministers attach importance to such letters being answered promptly, your reply should therefore be sent **within 20 working days** of the date of this minute. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale.

A new Open Government Code of Practice on Access to Government Information came into force on in January 1997. All replies to members of the public must be in accordance with the procedures set out in the Code. A full explanation of the Code of Practice is contained in DCI(Gen) 54/98; further information is available from DOMD on extension **Section 40** MB.

Under the Citizens' Charter, Departments are now required to keep records of their performance. All branches and Agencies are required to keep information on the number of **requests for information which refer to the Code of Practice** including details of the correspondent and the nature and date of the reply. In addition, the Department is required to provide a record of the total number of letters from members of the public and provide statistics (which may be used on a valid sample) of its performance in providing replies within their published targets.

As part of our monitoring procedure, random spot checks on the accuracy of your branch records on correspondence will be performed throughout the year.

MB 6140 EXT **Section 40** MB



From: Section 40
Date sent: Mon, 22 Jun 1998 17:46:07 EDT
To: Section 40
Subject: UFO

PARLIAMENTARY
BRANCH
- 2 JUL 1998
ROOM 6134 MAIN BLDG

hi i heard over the radio the other day (here States) about a craft the RAF tracked, the report said it was the size of a battleship and was traveling 18,000 mph and zigg-zagging around on thier radar then the Dutch tracked it after it entered their air space then accelerated to 24,000 mph and 2 F-16's scrambled to intercept but could not keep up then the craft shot out toward the Atlantic and disappeared is this report true?

4095

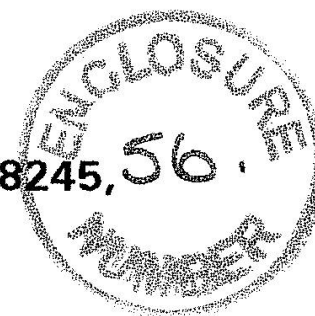
From: Section 40 [REDACTED]
Date sent: Tue, 23 Jun 1998 17:24:08 EDT
To: Section 40 [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: UFO

certainly thank you very much,

Section 40 [REDACTED]
Austin ,Texas Section 40 [REDACTED]



From: **Section 40** Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1a, Room 8245, 56.
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 2140
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Lancaster,
 Lancashire.

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 D/Sec(AS)/64/3

Date
 15 July 1998

DOAN **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 4 June addressed to the Prime Minister regarding reports of 'unidentified flying objects'. Your letter has been passed to the Ministry of Defence and this office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence of this nature. I have been asked to reply.

As you know from previous correspondence with this office, the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no "UFO" report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us.

The MOD does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40