

Section 40

E29/1/1

Ref:- PUFOIC 60/85.

12th August 1985.

Dear Sir ~~of Madam~~, Section 40

I am writing to you, after writing two letters to R.A.F. St Mawgan, in Newquay, Cornwall. These letters were sent to the Air Base during May and July, this year.

The subject of this correspondence dealt with brief details of a reported UFO sighting, that was observed very close to this Air Force Base earlier this year.

Their replies to me, and my then Organisation, Plymouth UFO Investigation Centre (PUFOIC), they told me that they had forwarded both my letters onto "the M.O.D. in London", which I presume is yourself. They apparently decided to do this, after taking advice from Headquarters of Provost and Security Services (U.K.). They stated that I would hear from you, however as to date I have not done so.

Because of the length of time taken from first contacting the Area Military Authorities, and the apparent lack of progress, I have decided to write to ask whether your department has in fact, received my previous two letters to R.A.F. St Mawgan? (The Ref ..PUFOIC 38/85).

If this 'reported UFO Sighting' had not been observed so close to a strategic Military Air Base, I would have waited for another few weeks, before writing to you. However, this is a sighting which was observed less than one mile (1.609Km) away from the Air Base. From directions given to us from the witness, we calculate that whatever this phenomenon was, it might very well have passed through the Air Force Base itself.

In our early stages of our investigations into this case, we thought that this phenomenon might have landed, or hit the ground and nearby trees in an area close to the base, but we found out two possible causes for the burned areas of grass and trees, and have now dismissed the 'landing' theory from our enquiries. But, we do know the phenomenon came very close to the ground, and minor roads because of what the witness stated, and we have discovered a tree, close to the sighting area and fire damaged trees and ground which has obviously been hit by an airborne object of some mass, hitting the tree at some speed. We know this from damaged major twigs of the tree which have been examined.

I do not believe in wasting postage money in sending reports to you about mere 'Lights in the sky, etc', but this sighting proves to be very different from most of the reports we receive. The tree which was 'hit' was only 20ft (6.09M) tall, and was hit at a height of 15ft (4.57M).

PUFOIC 60/85 (Cont).

There is a possibility that it hit the tree, prior to being seen. It also nearly hit the car the witness was travelling in, and could have caused an accident! The phenomenon bobbed and weaved about the road, above the hedgerow to the tarmac on the road.

I am sure you will agree to my concern over this sighting, which was obviously not an aircraft. I also doubt the possibility of a stray missile although after the fiasco at the American Air Force Base in Suffolk a few years ago, this explanation is always a possibility!

I hope that you will be able to deal with this letter soon, taking into consideration the time I have waited since May. Because of my research into 'U.F.O's' I belong to BUFORA, who you will be aware of. They, some local people and a Fleet Street journalist are becoming concerned at the lack of progress and identification of this phenomenon. My own concern is the danger to the local people and housing etc, if a similar phenomenon were to collide with a habitable building, or even a car.

There are some similarities between this case, and the one at USAF Woodbridge, Suffolk. Information gained by Investigators was confused by the American way of dealing with 'Public Relations', but I would hope that this is not the case with this sighting.

The two Officers who dealt with my letters were ... Flt Lt **Section 40** and Flying Officer **Section 40**

Lastly, although I was the previous Chairman of PUFOIC I have since moved to Cheshire to take up a post. However I have been asked to continue the investigation of this sighting because of my now close distance to BUFORA's Director of Investigations (Manchester). I have sent a letter to R.A.F. St Mawgan, telling them of this change of address, since to my original letter to them in May.

Section 40

BUFORA INVESTIGATOR and PUFOIC.

- a) Copy retained in files.
- b) Copy BUFORA DOI.

Section 40

E29/1

Section 40

UFO RESEARCH, BROADCASTS & LECTURES

Section 40

Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a
Room
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1 2HB

12 August 1985

Dear

Further to my letter of 24 July, I am now writing to enquire if there is any possibility of the Ministry releasing to me a sketch of an unidentified object which was made by PC at Stanmore, Middlesex, on the night of 26 April 1984.

I understand from Scotland Yard Press Bureau that a full report of the incident (which involved at least half a dozen police officers and four witnesses) was sent to the MoD and Civil Aviation Authority. , the Police Area Press Officer (Harrow) told me that the sketch would not be released, and that this was more properly a matter for the MoD.

In view of the Ministry's oft-repeated statement that no defence significance has been found to date, I am puzzled why a drawing of a flying saucer should remain classified, especially since the officer concerned has given a detailed description to the newspapers.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec.(AS)2
14 AUG 1985
FILE

FROM: Section 40 Secretariat (Air Staff), Room Section 40

Ed 7.
41



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB
Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
Section 40 (Switchboard)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)/12/3 ✓

Date 9 August 1985

Dear

Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 6 January 1985, I am sorry that I have been unable to reply before now.

With regard to the concern you express about the book "Sky Crash", the only information we have on the alleged "UFO sighting" at Rendlesham Forest in December 1980 is the report by Colonel Charles Halt, of the United States Air Force. We are satisfied that the events described are of no defence significance. I can assure you that there is no question of attempting to cover up any incident or mishap, nor are we attempting in any way to obscure the truth.

Under the rules laid down by the Public Records Acts, files must remain closed until 30 years have elapsed since the last action taken on them. The earliest UFO files of which we have records are dated 1962. However, any files which do remain from 1954, or earlier, may be obtained direct from the Public Records Office at Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat (Air Staff), Room Section 40 E28

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB
 Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
 (Switchboard)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)/12/3 ✓

Date 9 August 1985

Dear

Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 3 June 1985. I am sorry that I have been unable to reply before now. You may find it useful if I explain that the sole interest of the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence in reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) is to establish whether they have any bearing on the defence of the country.

There is no organisation in the Ministry of Defence appointed solely for the purpose of studying reports of such objects, and no staff are employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive are referred to the staff in the Department who are responsible for the air defence of the United Kingdom, and they examine the reports as part of their normal duties.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications we have not carried out a study into the scientific significance of these phenomena. Unless there are defence implications we do not attempt to identify sightings and we cannot inform observers of the probable identity of the object seen. The Department could not justify the expenditure of public funds on investigations which go beyond the pure defence interests.

We have to recognise that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, but we believe there are adequate explanations for them. They may be satellite debris re-entering the earth atmosphere, ball lightning, unusual cloud formations, meteorological balloons, aircraft lights, aircraft at unusual angles or many other things.

Whilst I appreciate your concern about the possibility of an aircraft colliding with a UFO, I can assure you that RAF pilots and crews are well aware of the dangers of collision with any identified object including such things as hang-gliders and even birds. Procedures are therefore designed to protect aircraft, as far as possible, from this kind of risk. I am sure similar standards are applied by the CAA in respect of civil aircraft.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat (Air Staff), Room Section 40 627



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB
 Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
 (Switchboard)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)/12/3 ✓

Date 9 August 1985

Dear

Section 40

Your letter to RAF Boulmer of 16 March 1985 has been passed to me in view of your interest in Unidentified Flying Objects. You may find it useful if I explain that the sole interest of the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence in reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) is to establish whether they have any bearing on the defence of the country.

There is no organisation in the Ministry of Defence appointed solely for the purpose of studying reports of such objects, and no staff are employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive are referred to the staff in the Department who are responsible for the air defence of the United Kingdom, and they examine the reports as part of their normal duties.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications we have not carried out a study into the scientific significance of these phenomena. Unless there are defence implications we do not attempt to identify sightings and we cannot inform observers of the probable identity of the object seen. The Department could not justify the expenditure of public funds on investigations which go beyond the pure defence interests. I am afraid we could not therefore undertake to provide you with information on sightings in the Boulmer area. Nevertheless, we are prepared to release reports of specific incidents on request and if there are any recent cases in which you have a particular interest, I would be happy to see if we have any information.

I attach copies of two recent Parliamentary Questions on the Ministry of Defence's interest in UFO reports, which you may be interested in.

yours sincerely

Section 40

P.S. Thank you for your kind words about the RAF. In view of your interest in the Red Arrows, I enclose some information on the team.

HANSARD EXTRACT

13 MARCH 1984

Cols. 132 & 133

Unidentified Flying Objects

Sir Patrick Wall asked the Secretary of State for Defence (1) how many alleged landings by unidentified flying objects have been made in 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983, respectively; and how many have been investigated by his Department's personnel;

(2) how many unexplained sightings there have been in 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983, respectively; and which of these had been traced by radar and with what result.

Mr. Lee (*pursuant to his reply, 9 March 1984, c. 723*): For the years in question, the Ministry of Defence received the following numbers of reports of sightings of flying objects which the observer could not identify: 350, 600, 250, and 390. Reports of alleged landings are not separately identified. The Department was satisfied that none of these reports was of any defence significance and, in such cases, does not maintain records of the extent of its investigations.

HANSARD EXTRACT

24 OCTOBER 1983

Col. 62

RAF Woodbridge (Alleged Incident)

Sir Patrick Wall asked the Secretary of State for Defence (1) if he has seen the United States Air Force memo dated 13 January 1981 concerning unexplained lights near RAF Woodbridge;

(2) whether, in view of the fact that the United States Air Force memo of 13 January 1981 on the incident at RAF Woodbridge has been released under the Freedom of Information Act, he will now release reports and documents concerning similar unexplained incidents in the United Kingdom;

(3) how many unexplained sightings or radar intercepts have taken place since 1980.

Mr. Stanley: I have seen the memorandum of 13 January 1981 to which my hon. Friend refers. Since 1980 the Department has received 1,400 reports of sightings of flying objects which the observers have been unable to identify. There were no corresponding unexplained radar contacts. Subject to normal security constraints, I am ready to give information about any such reported sightings that are found to be a matter of concern from a defence standpoint, but there have been none to date.

E26

*Mtg rearranged for 26/9
time to be agreed.*

Section 40

18/9

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)12/3

9 Aug 85

GE3
DI55UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Reference:

A. D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4 dated 1 Aug 85

1. As you will see from Reference A (copy attached), Lord Trefgarne has agreed to meet Lord Hill-Norton to discuss UFO's. Arrangements have been made for the meeting to take place on 25 September 1985 at 15.00 in the House. Sec(AS) will be represented at the meeting and we see considerable advantage in having further support from yourselves. Would you please let me know whether you would be willing to attend.

2. We have drawn up the attached brief for US of S(AF) which attempts to answer most of the questions posed by Lord Hill-Norton. I should be grateful for your comments on these and, particularly, for guidance from GE3 on how we might respond to question (d). The answer to question (e) may also require some alteration depending on the answer to question (d).

3. In addition to the attached brief we believe it would be helpful to provide Lord Trefgarne with a speaking note describing exactly how the MOD handles UFO reports. Provided you are content, this will include a summary of the interests of GE3 and DI55 and would presumably need to be at least CONFIDENTIAL because of the Tech-Int aspects. I should be grateful to know if you are content for Lord Hill-Norton to be briefed in this way, and would be grateful for short contributions describing your own areas of interest.

4. May I please have your replies by cop 30 August 85.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a

Section 40

MEETING BETWEEN US of S(AF) AND LORD HILL-NORTONUFOs

a. I accept that there are strange phenomena to be seen in the sky, however I believe there to be adequate explanations for them. Experience has shown that most reported sightings can be attributed to things such as aircraft, meteorological balloons or natural phenomena like ball lightning. Of course there are many other equally straightforward explanations. However, there are a small number of cases where a simple explanation cannot be found immediately and on these occasions we are careful to ensure ^{so far as possible} that they are of no Defence significance. Having satisfied ourselves of this, as you know, we do not attempt any further investigations. Clearly some reports remain unexplained but we have found no evidence that these phenomena represent a threat to national security and therefore cannot justify devoting Defence resources to their investigation.

b. All reports received by the MOD are channelled through Sec(AS)2. They are passed to the Air Staff who examine them for Air Defence implications. In some cases, where (on the face of it) there could be a defence interest, enquiries are made of relevant radar establishments etc in order to obtain more information. All reports are also passed to the Defence Intelligence organisation who have a keen interest in any sightings of unusual objects. We have no specialist group in Whitehall or anywhere else involved in UFO's and no civilian advisers ^{other than Sec(AS)2} are involved.

The Flying Complaints Flight at Rudloe Manor are concerned with receiving and investigating flying complaints. In the course of their duties they occasionally receive UFO reports (as do many other units) but they have no specific role with regard to this subject.

Secretariat (Air Staff) is the Division which provides secretariat support to CAS and the Air Staff and in this capacity is responsible for correspondence with members of the public and answering PQs etc on many subjects, including UFO's. Sec(AS)2 is the branch which amongst other things handles UFO's, there is no such branch as Air Staff Secretariat 8. You may be thinking of Defence Secretariat 8 which no longer exists and from which Sec(AS) evolved as a result of reorganisation of MOD last January.

c. Many of the UFO reports received in MOD come through Defence establishments, although most of these come originally from members of the public. Very few reports are made by military pilots; for instance, in the last 12 months Sec(AS) has received only one such report.

d. [GE3 to provide advice please]

e. The Department is happy to release what information we have on specific incidents. However we could not justify the effort involved in searching for or collating information of a more general nature.

From: Section 40 Secretariat (Air Staff), Room [redacted]



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
[redacted] (Switchboard)

Section 40
[redacted]

Your reference

Our reference

D/Sec (AS) 12/3 ✓
Date

9 August 1985

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 18 July 1985. During 1984 we received a total of 211 reports of unidentified flying objects from various sources. I attach a copy of Colonel Holt's report dated 13 January 1981, as requested. I also enclose a Hansard extract of 23 October 1983 which mentions the alleged incident, I assume this is the answer to which you refer in your letter.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
[redacted]

HANSARD EXTRACT

24 OCTOBER 1983

Col. 62

RAF Woodbridge (Alleged Incident)

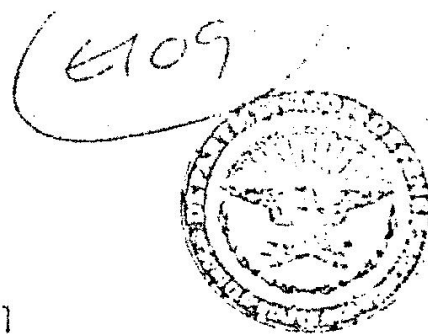
Sir Patrick Wall asked the Secretary of State for Defence (1) if he has seen the United States Air Force memo dated 13 January 1981 concerning unexplained lights near RAF Woodbridge;

(2) whether, in view of the fact that the United State's Air Force memo of 13 January 1981 on the incident at RAF Woodbridge has been released under the Freedom of Information Act, he will now release reports and documents concerning similar unexplained incidents in the United Kingdom;

(3) how many unexplained sightings or radar intercepts have taken place since 1980.

Mr. Stanley: I have seen the memorandum of 13 January 1981 to which my hon. Friend refers. Since 1980 the Department has received 1,400 reports of sightings of flying objects which the observers have been unable to identify. There were no corresponding unexplained radar contacts. Subject to normal security constraints, I am ready to give information about any such reported sightings that are found to be a matter of concern from a defence standpoint, but there have been none to date.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 81ST COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (USAF)
APO NEW YORK 07155



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: CD

13 Jan 81

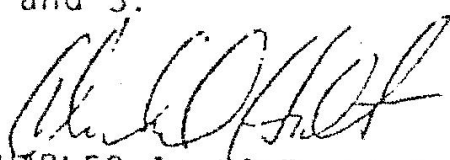
SUBJECT: Unexplained Lights

TO: RAF/CC

1. Early in the morning of 27 Dec 80 (approximately 0300L), two USAF security police patrolmen saw unusual lights outside the back gate at RAF Woodbridge. Thinking an aircraft might have crashed or been forced down, they called for permission to go outside the gate to investigate. The on-duty flight chief responded and allowed three patrolmen to proceed on foot. The individuals reported seeing a strange glowing object in the forest. The object was described as being metallic in appearance and triangular in shape, approximately two to three meters across the base and approximately two meters high. It illuminated the entire forest with a white light. The object itself had a pulsing red light on top and a bank(s) of blue lights underneath. The object was hovering or on legs. As the patrolmen approached the object, it maneuvered through the trees and disappeared. At this time the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy. The object was briefly sighted approximately an hour later near the back gate.

2. The next day, three depressions 1 1/2" deep and 7" in diameter were found where the object had been sighted on the ground. The following night (29 Dec 80) the area was checked for radiation. Beta/gamma readings of 0.1 milliroentgens were recorded with peak readings in the three depressions and near the center of the triangle formed by the depressions. A nearby tree had moderate (.05-.07) readings on the side of the tree toward the depressions.

3. Later in the night a red sun-like light was seen through the trees. It moved about and pulsed. At one point it appeared to throw off glowing particles and then broke into five separate white objects and then disappeared. Immediately thereafter, three star-like objects were noticed in the sky, two objects to the north and one to the south, all of which were about 10° off the horizon. The objects moved rapidly in sharp angular movements and displayed red, green and blue lights. The objects to the north appeared to be elliptical through an 8-12 power lens. They then turned to full circles. The objects to the north remained in the sky for an hour or more. The object to the south was visible for two or three hours and beamed down a stream of light from time to time. Numerous individuals, including the undersigned, witnessed the activities in paragraphs 2 and 3.


CHARLES I. HALT, Lt Col, USAF
Deputy Base Commander

E24

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/12/3

9 Aug 85

AHBUFOs - RECORDS HELD BY PRO - ENQUIRY FROM MR R NOYES

1. I attach a copy of a letter I have received from a Mr Ralph Noyes concerning UFO's. I also enclose a copy of my reply. Mr Noyes is an ex Head of DS8 and retired from the MOD as an AUS in the late seventies, he is a regular correspondent on UFO matters and, because of his background, is quite influential in "UFO" circles.
2. As you will see, he raises two points on which I should be grateful for your advice. The first concerns 2 reports which he claims to have obtained from the Public Records Office. In view of our often repeated assertion that our records only go back to 1962 (a line which I believe you have confirmed in the past) this could clearly become slightly embarrassing. I therefore feel that we should try to identify exactly what files PRO still hold on the subject and perhaps you could suggest the best way of doing this. In the meantime I propose to take the same line with other correspondents as I have in the attached.
3. Mr Noyes' second point is a request for information relating, I assume, to events in 1956. If he was shown photographs in 1970 as he claims it may be that these files have also been retained. I have told him that we would need further information in order to identify these incidents but I am sure that more details will be forthcoming. However, if you are able to shed any light on the "clips", or indeed, the incidents themselves at this stage, I would be most interested to know.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a

Section 40

No reply

ph 12/3

545

WIGAN ARIEL PHENOMENA INVESTIGATION TEAM:
(CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES 1985)

DIRECTOR

CHAIRMAN

Secretary

Section 40

Section 40

Dear Sir,

May I say how disappointed I was by not getting a reply of you from my last letter to you dated 22nd Aug 1984.

During one of our annual meetings I was asked by one of my colleagues, "if the MINISTRY OF DEFENCE had a Code of PRACTISE to follow in the event of an actual ALIEN INVASION? Let me break this up into categories,

- 1/ what steps would be taken to determine if the Alien's were friends or foes?
- 2/ who would actually be informed about the invasion?
- 3/ Would UFO INVESTIGATORS be allowed to examine and take part in the events?
- 4/ if the invasion was meant as an aim on destroying our defence: then would I be right in assuming that we would in fact destroy the invasion?

My many thanks for your time and Co-operation in your response to this letter.

Yours Sincerely

Section 40

DIRECTOR-WAPIT

From: Section 40 Secretariat (Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

122
Section 40



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB
Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
Section 40 (Switchboard)

file

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)/12/3

Date 22 July 1985

Dear Section 40

Your letter of 11 June addressed to Lord Trefgarne has been passed to me for reply. I have also seen your letters of 3 December 1984, 8 March and 4 April 1985, but I regret there is little I can usefully add to the reply Section 40 sent you on 28 November last year.

While we are happy to try to provide copies of reports of recent incidents in response to specific requests, the Department could not justify the effort and expense involved in detailed research into individual inquiries on UFOs. Moreover, as you already know, the MOD's records on UFO matters only go back to 1962 and there is therefore no further assistance we can give you on matters relating to reports received before then.

It is possible, however, that some earlier papers have been retained by the Public Records Office and you may wish to consider pursuing your investigation there.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

HIDDEN COPY TO: APS/US of S(AF)

(E21/5) (file 12/3)

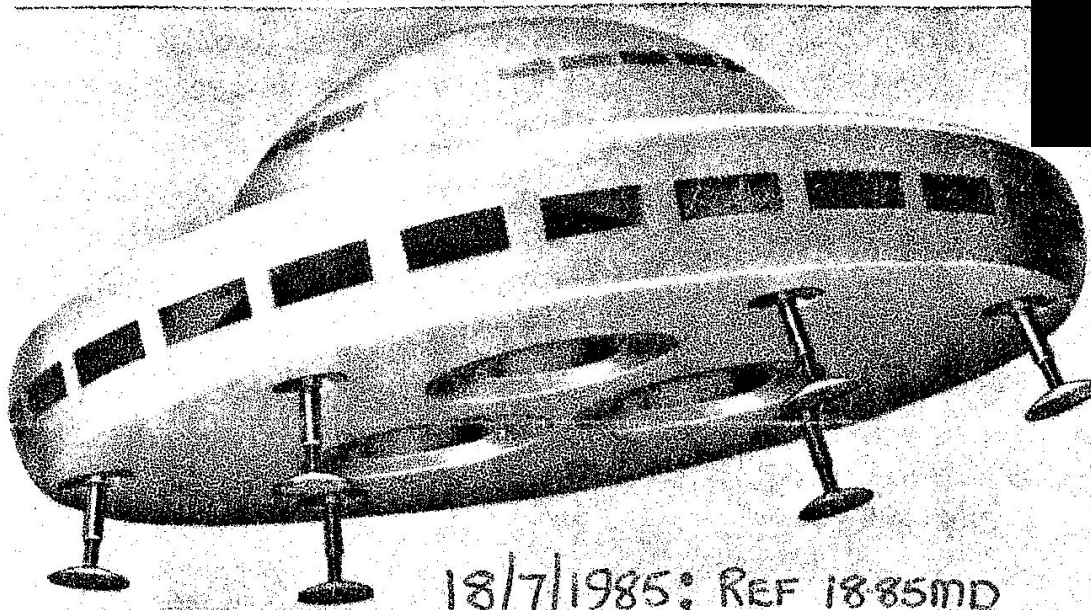
WIGAN • ARIEL • PHENOMENA • INVESTIGATION •

TEAM: TEL

Section 40

INVESTIGATIONS CENTER;

Section 40



18/7/1985; REF 1885MD

DIRECTOR.

Section 40

ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR.

Section 40

CHAIRMAN.

Section 40

Dear sir,

Once again I find myself writing to your department
Could you please supply me a copy of Col. HOLT'S official
USAF, UFO SIGHTING REPORT, plus the Hansard answer
to this.

Could you also inform me to the number of ufo sightings
you received during 1984?

I would appreciate a speedy reply as this information
is for my personal research. many thanks indeed.

Good morning

Section 40

- DIRECTOR.

(COPY LETTER AVAILABLE ON REQUEST C10WT).

Copy on 12/2

(E21/4/1)



Headquarters Director Army Air Corps
Middle Wallop Stockbridge Hants SO20 8DY

Andover Section 40

Telephone Middle Wallop Military }
Andover }
STD Section 40 } ext Section 40

MOD Sec(AS) 2 - RAF
Main Building Room Section 40
Whitehall
LONDON

Your reference
Our reference - D/DAAC/23/GA
Date 6 Aug 85

UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - MIDDLE WALLOP AREA

Reference:

A. Telecon Col Section 40 051730A Aug 85.

1. Enclosed are a brief report and polaroid photographs of the scene together with an extract from the HAMPSHIRE CHRONICLE reporting similar occurrences.
2. Four films, 2 x 100mm Colour, 2 x 35mm Black and White, of ground and aerial photographs of the scene have been given to MOD CS(Rep S) Photography Section 40 with instructions to forward prints and negatives to you.
3. The films are the private property of Section 40 and I would therefore be grateful if the negatives could be returned to me as soon as possible so that I can give them back to him. (With some prints if possible for services rendered).
4. Purely incidentally, Section 40 was an official observer and film camera man at the BIKINI ATOL Atomic Explosion in 1952.

Section 40

Lt Col
SO2 Avn Stds HQ DAAC

UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE (UFO?)

1. On Monday 5 Aug 1985 **Section 40** CLATFORD who farms near the AAC Centre, Middle Wallop telephoned to report some extraordinary depressions in a field of near ripe wheat, and asked, "What on earth we (THE AAC) were up to now?" I took the Aircraft Accident Investigation Officer (AIFSO) Maj **Section 40** REME with me and went to inspect the scene.

2. The site, Grid Reference 346392 was a vergin, un-weather damaged, near ripe field of wheat. We found the following:

a. An exactly circular hole in the wheat in which the wheat had been laid flat in a clockwise twist 40 ft in diameter. (As if a plank had been put with one end at the centre and then swept round in a complete circle). There were one or two stalks of wheat standing which had sprung upright again. The wheat on the edge of the circle was completely upright and undamaged.

b. Four separate, smaller circles approx twelve feet in diameter, exactly similar to the larger one. These were set in a precise square, NORTH/SOUTH and EAST/WEST, with their centres 43 paces from the centre of the large circle.

c. There were absolutely no tracks in the wheat. To have set the holes in such a precise pattern manually would have required a tape measure or string, and the users would have been bound to leave tracks in the wheat.

d. All but one of the holes touched onto the main furrows in the wheat, and could therefore be approached from the edge of the field without leaving tracks. However there was no way of moving from one to the other without leaving tracks in the wheat, except by going some 200 yards to the edge of the field, and then back down another main furrow. One of the smaller holes was completely isolated.

Section 40

3. Maj **Section 40** took some polaroid photographs which are included with this report. **Section 40** a semi professional photographer, took some 120mm colour photographs. I subsequently took **Section 40** and we photographed the scene from the air. By that time some half a dozen sight-seers were on the scene and a track, which had not been there when we were on the ground, had been made out to the isolated hole.

4. Present at the initial viewing were:

Lt Col **Section 40** AFC AAC

Maj **Section 40** REME

Section 40 (Farmer **Section 40**)

Section 40 (Farmer **Section 40**)

And two others

None of us could offer any reasonable explanation.

Section 40

Lt Col
802 Avn Stds HQ DAAC

5 Aug 8

Chilbolton Church Fete

Expanding the usual fancy dress competition at Chilbolton Church Fete, a parade with the theme "Children of the World" and its way from the Green, Rise and through the village, led by the Test Valley Brass Band. Children ranging from pre-school to teenagers were dressed in costumes from various parts of the world for a mounted contingent in the local riding school. Outriders on BMX bikes, children rode through the village on a haywain, decorated motor and trailer, kindly loaned by Mr. Edward Painter.

The entries were judged by Rev. C. Hubbard, Mr. David Merridale and Mrs. Angela Merridale, and prizewinners were Charles Coats, Katherine Coats, Thomas Batchelor and Nicola Jones.

In addition to the theme of "Children of the World," there was a competition to make something from another country, and prizewinners were Rachel Prevett, Thomas Batchelor and Katherine Lewin. Pre-school children were invited to paint a picture on the theme and the winner in this section was Andrew Lewin.

The village street was gaily decorated with bunting by village organisations and groups, and there was an excellent attendance and all the stalls were well supported.

This year's very successful fete was held in the recently restored threshing barn and the lovely grounds of Bannetts Farm, with the kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. R. Youell, and towards of £1800 was raised.

brought to an abrupt end the ball hunt, but the day was saved when a new ball was hurriedly produced from a nearby house. The Plough were the victors with a score of 2-1, and this obviously did not prove popular with the Dolly Birds who proceeded to pour water over the referee. Vera Woodruff captained the Plough team of Pat Casey, Sharon Kemoster, Sally Nicholson, Melanie Gerrard, Debby Welch, Sue Ruff and Fran Piper. Dolly Birds were Sue Rees (captain), Kate Denehy, Georgina Wilson, Wendy Denehy, Julie Harris, Ivy Wright, Sue Smith and Sally Rees.

The Children's Fancy Dress Competition was judged by Miss Dorothy Hunt from Alresford, and her task was made harder by such a variety of excellent costumes. In the Under Five Class the most original was Lara Colvill as "Night and Day," the most attractive Sarah Kennedy as a Clown, and the best made Liam Brozman as a Cowboy. In the six to nine years age group the most attractive was Katie Kennedy as a "Sugar Plum Fairy," and the most original Rose Smith as a Cat.

Strawberry teas were served in the Village Hall, and the final item on the programme was a tug-of-war refereed by Dave Bulpitt. Only four teams entered this year, from the Plough at Bishop's Sutton, the H.M. at Cheriton, and two from the Jolly Farmer at Bramdean. The victors were the Jolly Farmer A, with the Hat second, the Plough third and the Jolly Farmer B fourth.

At the end of a very successful afternoon £330 had been raised by the Village Hall Committee, who had organised the fete.

Bishop's Waltham, who works for Solent Excavations, was married to Miss Carol Joy Millier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Millier, of "Fair View," Winchester-road, Bishop's Waltham, on June 29th, at St. Peter's Church, Bishop's Waltham. The Rev. John Willard conducted the service.



The bride, who is a receptionist with T.N.T. Roadfreight, wore a cream three-quarter length gown, a pillbox hat and carried a bouquet of mauve and pink silk flowers when she was given in marriage by her father. She was attended by her sister (Patricia Millier), her niece (Virginia Whiting), both attired in lilac dresses with cream accessories, and her nephew, Gareth Millier.

The best man was Mr. David Grove; 146 guests attended the reception at the Jubilee Hall and when the couple left for an undisclosed destination, the bride wore a red suit with white accessories.

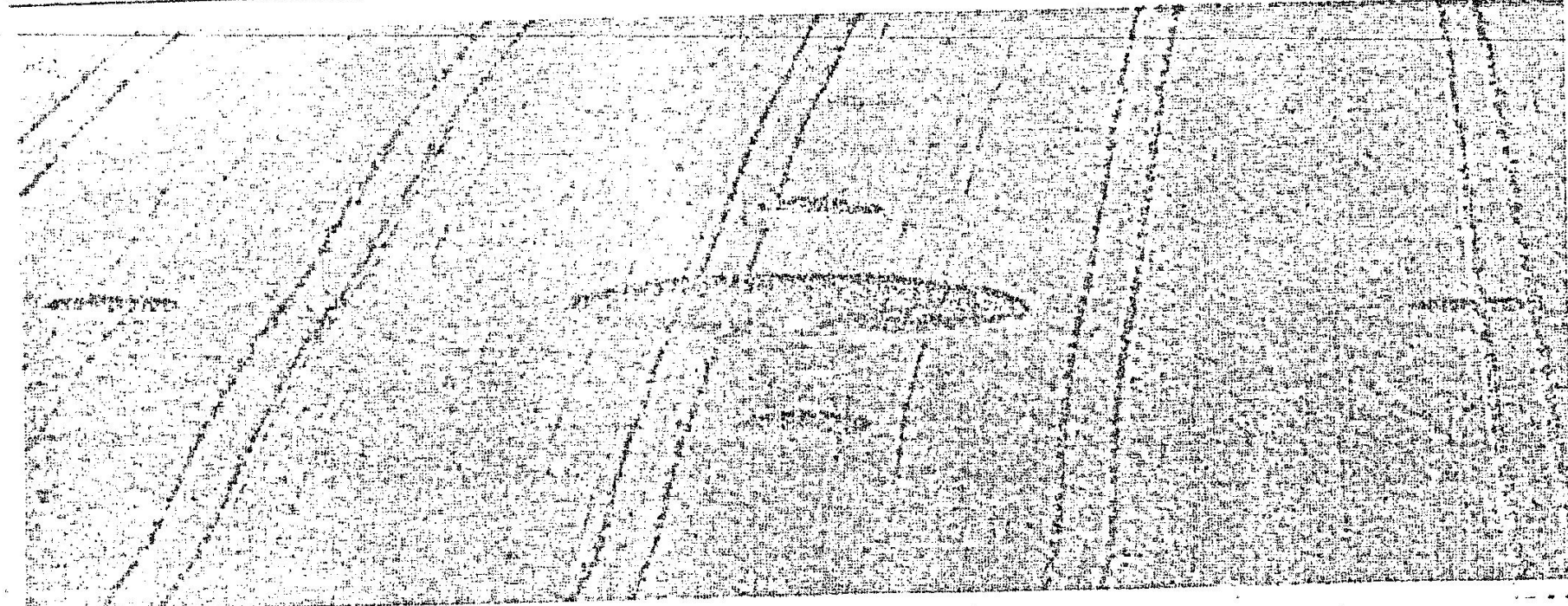
Founder's Day at Hordle House School

The parents of nearly all the local day children from Hordle House Prep. School, at Millford-on-Sea, together with many boarders' parents who had made long journeys, went to the school on June 29th, for Founder's Day, and the main event of the morning was a performance by some of the senior children of scenes from "The Merchant of Venice." At a previous performance, one of the infants from the Pre-Prep. School had been terrified by Shylock's realistic effort to get his pound of flesh from poor Antonio!

Country dancing by some of the junior children was supported by rhythmic clapping from the enthusiastic parents, and the last set piece was an exhibition of aerobics by a group of barefoot girls.

The school was open for parents to walk round, and the working models and computer displays in the Science Laboratory attracted great interest. Most of these had been made by senior children, and the exhibition in the Art Department was much admired.

Picnic lunches were eaten in the grounds, and the parents' cricket team, captained by Mr. Peter Tilby, home on leave from Nigeria, was defeated by the school 1st XI by 16 runs. The balance of parental power was restored by the ladies' shooting team scoring 357 against the school's 296, and justice was maintained by the tennis match ending in a draw.



It's happened again! The Mystery Circles have returned. Nobody knows why or whence they come, but every year since the last war, the perfectly regular circles have appeared somewhere. For the last five or six years, they have materialised between Alresford and Winchester, first at Cheesefoot Head, this year at Matterley Farm, just off the A31. Similar phenomena have been reported in Australia, Canada, Sweden and in other parts of the British Isles including Westbury and Warminster. The largest in this group is about 40 feet across, the rest are 11 or 12 feet. In each the corn is swirled clockwise round the rings, whilst outside it is untouched. Normally — if anything about them can be called normal — they are in this configuration, the largest in the centre of a square, the smaller at each corner, although in 1982 at Cheesefoot, there were only three in a straight line. Theories abound about the cause, from vandalism to UFOs by way of micro-tornadoes. The truth is, we just don't know, but if they run true to form they will be back next year...

Hants Chron
12/17/85

E21/4 Section 40
+1
file 12/3



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

LOOSE MINUTE

D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4

Sec (AS)2

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Reference:

A. D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4 dated 1 Aug 85

Further to reference A, I write to confirm that the meeting between Lord Trefgarne and Lord Hill-Norton will take place at the House of Lords on Wednesday 25 September at 1500 hours.

I have set aside half an hour immediately previous to this for a pre-brief. Thank you for your assistance.

Section 40

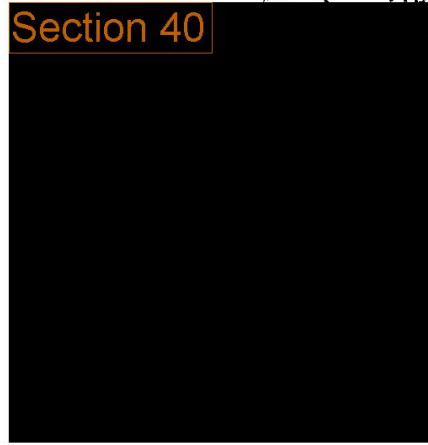
Captain WRAC
MA/US of S(AF)

Section 40

6 August 1985

File 12/3

Section 40



Dear Sir,

Many thanks for sending information recently regarding the Rendlesham Forest UFO incidents of 27. Dec. 80.

Regarding the above mentioned incidents, as I am a UFO researcher I have managed to obtain a re-recording of the events at R.A.F. Woodbridge of the original ^{*}tape that was recorded as the sightings happened by Base personnel outside.

I would like to ask if you at the M.O.D. know of the existence of the mentioned tape recording as the UFO events took place outside R.A.F Woodbridge? ^{*}(KNOWN AS HOLT TAPE)
I would be pleased to receive your reply.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40



.....



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

1. Hd Sec (40) (821/2/1)
- to be anal
2. Section 40
O/R - pre discuss
as soon as comment.

LOOSE MINUTE

D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4

Sec(AS)2

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

With apologies for ruining your summer I attach a letter that Lord Trefgarne has received from Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton in reply to Lord Trefgarne's letter of 17 July. You will see that Lord Hill-Norton accepts the offer of a meeting and we will be in touch with him shortly to arrange this. I will let you know the time and place as soon as possible, and in the meantime I should be most grateful if you could set in hand a briefing for Lord Trefgarne in the form of answers to Lord Hill-Norton's specific questions a-e.

Section 40
[Redacted]

PS/US of S(AF)

Section 40
[Redacted]

August 1985

30 JUL 1985



26th July, 1985

The Lord Trefgarne,
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
for the Armed Forces,
House of Lords,
London, SW1.

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 17th July about our correspondence on the UFO question. I would greatly welcome an off-the-record talk with you. Parliament rises on Tuesday, but I would be delighted to come up to London at any mutually convenient date during August when you have had time to consider this letter and to take any further briefing from officials which you think might be useful. (Perhaps your office would care to be in touch with me by telephone at my home address Tel: **Section 40**)

It may be helpful if I list the questions which I, at any rate, would like to explore. I know you will understand that I do not ask them frivolously or without a good deal of careful thought about the evidence - or supposed evidence - which appears to exist for a persistent phenomenon which, as I see it at present, cannot be wholly without Defence significance. I need hardly add that if there were sensitive Defence questions at issue, I would be the last to press them in public.

The ground which I hope we might cover in an informal discussion is indicated by the following questions:

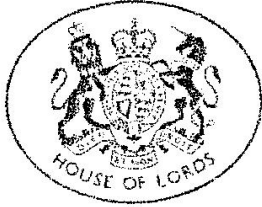
- a. Does the Ministry of Defence acknowledge - by way of reports from the public, the civil police, the Civil Aviation Authority, other civil authorities or its own establishments - that traces are obtained from time to time of the intrusion into British airspace (and sometimes territory) of phenomena for which no prosaic explanation can be given? (I should add that although I am always willing to be dissuaded, the evidence accumulated by civilian researchers for the persistence of some such phenomena - amounting on occasion to apparently structured 'vehicles' - seems to me at present overwhelming. I shall be glad to give you instances. The events reported by Lt. Col. Halt of the United States Air Force in a report to your Department dated 13th January 1981 are among them).



- 2 -

- b. Assuming, as I hope, that the Ministry of Defence does not ignore the reports reaching it (and we have been told in reply to Parliamentary questions that they amount to some hundreds a year from civilian sources alone), what steps are taken by the Department to investigate them? In particular:-
- i) Are they dealt with solely ad hoc, using routine staff channels? or is there some specialist group, either within the Whitehall establishment or elsewhere, which is charged with taking an expert view? If so, to whom do they report? And what is their composition? Do they include civilian advisers from outside your Department?
 - ii) What part is played, if any, by the Flying Complaints Flight at RAF Rudloe Manor?
 - iii) What part, if any, is played by Air Staff Secretariats 2 & 8?
- c. How many of the reports of unusual phenomena have been received from Defence establishments, including reports from the pilots of military aircraft?
- d. What material does your Department have of traces left on military radar or in photographic form either from sorties by military aircraft or from ground-based or ship-based facilities?
- e. Can any such material be released either to me or to responsible persons outside your Department for purposes of scientific study?

In troubling you with these questions I am well aware that their subject matter has often been thought easy to ridicule, especially when associated with some of the wilder notions which are current among the civilian research groups. I am not wedded to any particular theory myself. I do, on the other hand, believe that there is overwhelming evidence for a persistent phenomenon of a highly unusual character. This is, at the least, of considerable scientific interest; and I have not yet heard anything from your Department which convinces me that it is wholly without Defence significance. I would be reassured to know either that it is being adequately gripped as a Defence matter (and, if so, by precisely what means) or that material held by your Department can be release



- 3 -

to serious civilian researchers under arrangements which do not impose unacceptable administrative burdens.

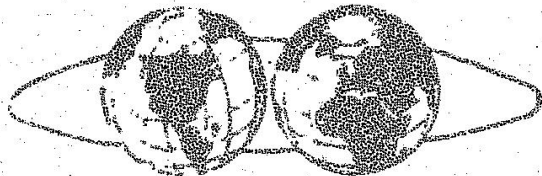
Thank you again for the offer of a discussion. I look forward to our talk.

*Yours,
P. H. R.*

PS. I ought perhaps to let you know that Aubrey Buxton is currently considering the possibility of an extended programme on Anglia Television dealing, among other things, with the incidents reported to your Department by Lt. Col. Halt, which were the subject of my letter to the Defence Secretary.

1/2
file
12/3
71

YUFOS Research Division



CIVILIAN AERIAL PHENOMENA
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Your Ref:

Section 40

Our Ref:

Sec (AS)2,
Room **Section 40**
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A 2HB.

27 July 1985

Dear Sir,

It has now been over a month since my letter to you which was dated 19.6.85 and as yet I have received no reply apart from a small post card.

I must say I find this totally ridiculous. I would like to remind you of 1 of the comments that your department is quite good at banding about and that is that you are quite ready to release information on specific UFO reports.

In my letter to you dated 19.6.85. I asked for information on 4 specific reports none of which has been forthcoming. I would once again like to request the release of all the information you have on these 4 reports.

There is simply no excuse for taking so long to reply to requests such as mine and I sincerely hope that the information I have requested will be forthcoming before too long as it will soon be Christmas.

Yours Hopefully,

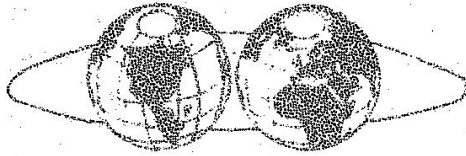
Section 40

The Yorkshire UFO Society.

YUFOS Research Division (International)

E21/1/3

YUFOS



IR/MOD

CIVILIAN AERIAL PHENOMENA
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Section 40 [redacted] -Secretariat,
(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A 2HB

Section 40 [redacted]

Your Ref: D/Sec(AS)/12/3

26 July 1985

Our Ref: BL/RD1-E

No. of Pages: One (1)

Subject: INFORMATION REQUEST

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Many thanks indeed for your letter dated 22 July 1985, the contents of which have been noted.

I am quite certain that you are aware of the fact, that our organisation is interested only in UFO research. I believe there is a real phenomenon which does on occasions, defy logical explanation. If the MOD's interest, relates firmly on the defence angle, so be it.

I have known for a number of years pre-1962 UFO reports existed, but I cannot understand why for so many years the MOD has denied this was the case. Either way, I would appreciate the address of the Public Records Office, and the name of the Officer in charge.

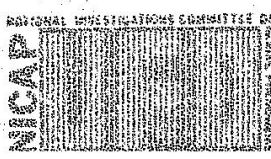
In respect of recent UFO sightings reported to the MOD by various official authorities, I request the following information:-

- 1) Unknown lights seen over the Northeast May 1985
- 2) Large structure observed near Exeter May 29 1985 (See enclosure)
- 3) Nocturnal light over Chesterfield July 23 1985

On behalf of YUFOS/QUEST, thank you for your valuable time and assistance, I look forward to receiving this information.

Yours Sincerely,
Section 40 [redacted]
[redacted]
Director of Research

Section 40 [redacted] British Representative of NICAP USA



A Private, Nonprofit Corporation Founded in 1962

British
Airports
International

EXETER AIRPORT

E21/V2

EXETER AIRPORT, EXETER, DEVON EX5 2BD

TELEPHONE
TELEX

Section 40

From the Airport Director

Section 40

Director Of Research,
Civilian Aerial Phenomena
Research Organization,

Section 40

Section 40

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH
YUFOS RESEARCH DIVISION

A2/1

16th July 1985

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of the 8th July.

Your deductions are correct. Our ATC did hear of reports of "stationary lights" and there were no corresponding stationary returns on our radar. We would not expect any, of course, since our radar eliminates stationary targets; this is a common feature of most modern radars.

We do see a great deal of traffic that we have nothing to do with; not surprising, since the radar covers an area of about 10,000 square miles. We do not endeavour to establish the identity of all targets seen in this area, absurd though this failure may seem to you.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

EVALUATION Y.R.D.

UNEXPLAINED

17 JUL 1985

RECEIVED

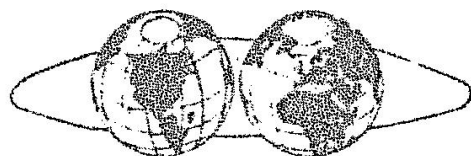
29 MAY 1985

REPORT

Section 40

E21/VI

YUFOS



MF27085

CIVILIAN AERIAL PHENOMENA
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Public Relations Officer,
Royal Air Force Chivenor,
North Devon.

Your Ref: CD/P

Our Ref: BL/RD1-E

UNEXPLAINED

Section 40

11 July 1985

No. of Sheets: One (1)

SUBJECT: UNEXPLAINED LIGHTS MAY 1985

Dear Sir,

With reference to the above named subject;

After reading with some interest the Exeter Express newspaper report and confirmation of the lights by several independent sources, this is a direct request for information, pertaining to this incident.

- 1) It would appear the light source was of extreme size in relation to ground observation. This being the case, how does Civil and Military advanced radar, receive no indication of the subject image?
- 2) In-flight refueling does take place in this vicinity, yet the local R.A.F. base, claims no knowledge of such an operation. Does this imply, a genuine unknown target was in the locality?
- 3) Does R.A.F. Chivenor agree that this multi-witness sighting of an unknown, portray, unusual airborne light configurations? and what in the opinion of Chivenor, do you feel the lights were representative of?

The strange concealment of information surrounding this case, has worried many civilians, and I do not think for one moment, both Exeter Airport and your base failed to track the unknown. Exeter Airport claim this is a matter for the Police and Military, if this is the case, such a large sized structure should have been recognised.

Thank you for your valuable time, the information supplied will be used for research purposes only. If Chivenor submitted a report to SEC (AS) 2, we would be grateful for your signal (copy). Look forward to your reply.

Yours Sincerely, Section 40

Section 40

Director of Research

Section 40

British Representative of NICAP USA



E211
file +3
12/3

Section 40

UFO RESEARCH, BROADCASTS & LECTURES

Section 40

Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a
Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1 2HB

Your ref: D/Sec (AS)/12/3

24 July 1985

Dear Section 40

Thank you very much for your helpful letter of 10 July 1985 in reply to mine of 18 May 1985.

I am grateful to you for having gone to the trouble of providing me with a list of sightings reported from all sources for the period 1978-1984, but note that my question remains unanswered. While I realise that my request for the number of military sightings from 1959-1984 was a tall order, I still need to have some idea of the number of these - particularly concerning the RAF - in a given period. May I therefore re-phrase my question as follows: How many reports of UFOs have been made by RAF personnel from 1965-1975? If that's too time-consuming, may I ask: How many reports of UFOs were made by RAF pilots in 1967?

As you point out, there has been no evidence to date to indicate a defence threat or significance, so would your department have any objection to releasing details in order to assist me in my researches? As already mentioned, I have obtained a few reports from the early Fifties which have obviously been declassified under the 30-year rule, but it is well known that pilots in the RAF have been seeing these things since then: certainly the Bentwaters case (1956) is a good example.

I am glad to note that AS-2 is now the point to which all reports of UFOs are sent. But what about AS-8, which was mentioned to me by a reliable source? What are its functions, please?

Finally, I was interested to note that your department recognizes that there are "phenomena", even if you think there is no defence significance to them, and that no scientific study has been carried out.

If possible, I would appreciate a reply within four weeks. Thank you.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Section 40



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone **Section 40** (Direct Dialling)
(Switchboard)

Sec(AS)2a, Room **Section 40**

EQ
15

R N Noyes Esq

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference

Date 18 July 1985

Dear Mr Noyes ,

Thank you for your letter of 31 May 1985, I am sorry that I have been unable to reply before now. I was interested to learn that you have obtained from the Public Relations Office copies of reports written in the early fifties. I can only assume that they are from Air Ministry files; if so that may be the reason we have no record of their retention. I am grateful to you for drawing my attention to them, and I shall be asking Air Historical Branch to do some "digging" in case we receive other enquiries about them. I will also consult AHB about the gun-camera 'clips' which you mention but without further details, I am afraid it may be difficult to determine if we still have the information you ask for.

You also requested a copy of the proforma on which we record UFO reports and one is enclosed. As a general rule we are prepared to release reports in this format in answer to requests for information on specific incidents (although we do edit them slightly so that, for obvious reasons, personal details of the informant are not included). However we clearly cannot devote undue time and effort to locating particular reports, nor are we able to issue them in bulk.

On the subject of reports, I must thank you for the one you submitted on 25 May and for your letter to RAF Rudloe Manor of 28 May. Your information has been passed in the usual way to those responsible within the department.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. Date, time and duration of sighting. (Local times to be quoted).
- B. Description of object. (Number of objects, size, shape, colours, brightness, sound, smell, etc).
- C. Exact position observer. (Geographical location. Indoors or outdoors. Stationary or moving).
- D. How observed. (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie camera).
- E. Direction in which object was first seen. (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing).
- F. Angle of sight. (Estimated heights are unreliable).
- G. Distance. (By reference to a known landmark wherever possible).
- H. Movements. (Changes in E, F and G may be of more use than estimates of course and speed).

J. Meteorological conditions during operations. (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc).

K. Near-by objects. (Telephone lines; high voltage lines; reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh; river; high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts; airfields; generating plant; factories, pits or other sites with flood-lights or other night lighting).

L. To whom reported. (Police, military organisations, the press etc).

M. Name and address of informant.

N. Any background on the informant that may be volunteered.

O. Other witnesses.

P. Date and time of receipt of report.

From: **Section 40** Secretariat (Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone **Section 40** (Direct Dialling)
(Switchboard)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)/12/3 ✓

Date 10 July 1985

*Dear***Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 4 June 1985, addressed to the Prime Minister, which has been passed to me for reply. I have also received your earlier letter to Sec(AS)2. Since the letters cover essentially the same subject, I will reply to them both here.

As you say in your letter to the Prime Minister, you are familiar with official policy on UFO matters. I can confirm that there have been no changes to this policy as a result of transfer of responsibility from DS8 to Sec(AS)2 and that the sole interest of the MOD is to establish whether reports have any bearing on the defence of the country. I should immediately point out that Sec(AS) is the only branch within MOD which is responsible for receiving reports of UFO's from both military and civilian sources (including the Police and CAA). The reports we receive are referred to those in the Department responsible for air defence of the UK in order to establish whether they hold any defence significance. As you mention, there has been no evidence to date which would suggest a defence interest. For this reason, and in view of our limited interest, we have not carried out a study into the scientific significance of these phenomena. I can assure you that there is no question of "Top Secret research" being carried out.

With regard to your request for information on the number of reports received since 1959, I'm afraid we could not justify the time and effort involved in obtaining these figures for the years before 1978. However I attach figures which show the total number of reports received from all sources for each year from 1978 to 1984.

You also mention in your letter of 18 May the fact that you have obtained a number of Air Ministry reports from the Public Records Office. I am sure you will appreciate that I cannot go into the detailed arrangements for the disposal of our files. Nevertheless given the length of time since these documents must have been passed to the Air Ministry's archives (I assume before 1955), it is quite possible that some may have been retained prior to the setting up of the Ministry of Defence, even though we have no record of this.

*Yours sincerely***Section 40**

NUMBERS OF UFO REPORTS RECEIVED
1978-1984

1978	750
1979	550
1980	350
1981	600
1982	250
1983	390
1984	214

E19/1



ROYAL AIR FORCE
St Mawgan Newquay Cornwall TR8 4HP
Telephone Newquay **Section 40**

MOD Sec (AS) 2b
Room **Section 40**
MOD Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

*Please reply to
Officer Commanding*
Your reference

Our reference SM/1627/1/Org

Date 4 July 1985

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFOs)

Reference:

A. SM/1627/1/Org dated 23 May 1985.

1. Reference A forwarded letters from the Plymouth UFO Investigation Centre regarding an alleged UFO incident in the local area.

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

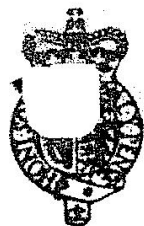
2. Enclosure 1 contains a further letter from Mr [redacted] giving his new address and requesting a reply. I forward this letter for your information.

Section 40
[Redacted signature area]

Fg Off
CRO
for OC

Enclosures:

1. Letter PUFOIC 56/85 dated 22 June 1985.

C17
(+1)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Sec(AS)2a, Room **Section 40**Telephone **Section 40** (Direct Dialling)
(Switchboard)**Section 40**

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3 ✓

Date 2 July 1985

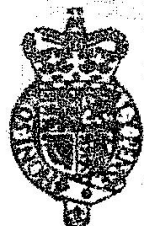
Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your report on 2 June 1985 to RAF Upavon of an object you were unable to identify. I should explain that the sole interest of the Ministry of Defence in reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) is to establish whether they have any bearing on the defence of the country.

In order for us to establish whether there are any defence implications, we make every effort to take account of all available information. It is sometimes useful if we can see any photographs which are taken and I should therefore be most grateful if you be willing to send us the photograph you took, together with the negative if possible. I will, of course, return both photo and negative in due course.

Yours sincerely

Section 40



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE Sec(AS)2a, om Section 40
 Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB
 Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
 (Switchboard)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference

Date

D/Sec(AS) 12/3 ✓

28 June 1985

Dear Section 40

Thank you for letting us see the enclosed photograph which you took in November 1984. I must apologise that I have been unable to return the picture before now.

You may find it useful if I explain that the sole interest of the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence in reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) is to establish whether they have any bearing on the defence of the country.

There is no organisation in the Ministry of Defence appointed solely for the purpose of studying reports of such objects, and no staff are employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive are referred to the staff in the Department who are responsible for the air defence of the United Kingdom, and they examine the reports as part of their normal duties.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications we have not carried out a study into the scientific significance of these phenomena. Unless there are defence implications we do not attempt to identify sightings and we cannot inform observers of the probable identity of the object seen. The Department could not justify the expenditure of public funds on investigations which go beyond the pure defence interests.

However I have consulted one or two people here in an attempt to identify the object which appears in your picture. I am afraid my enquiries have met with little success. Although we are convinced that this is not, in fact, a tangible object, I can offer no explanation as to what caused it to appear in the negative.

Yours sincerely

Section 40



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE Sec(A.), Room Section 40
 Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2J
 Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
 (Switchboard)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference

Date

D/Sec (AS) 12/3 ✓

28 June 1985

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 16 May concerning lights seen over the Solway Firth. I am returning the press cuttings forwarded with your letter. You may find it useful if I explain that the sole interest of the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence in reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) is to establish whether they have any bearing on the defence of the country.

There is no organisation in the Ministry of Defence appointed solely for the purpose of studying reports of such objects, and no staff are employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive are referred to the staff in the Department who are responsible for the air defence of the United Kingdom, and they examine the reports as part of their normal duties.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications we have not carried out a study into the scientific significance of these phenomena. Unless there are defence implications we do not attempt to identify sightings and we cannot inform observers of the probable identity of the object seen. The Department could not justify the expenditure of public funds on investigations which go beyond the pure defence interests.

We have to recognise that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, but we believe there are adequate explanations for them. They may be satellite debris re-entering the earth atmosphere, ball lightning, unusual cloud formations, meteorological balloons, aircraft lights, aircraft at unusual angles or many other things.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

Coastwatch investigates . . .

Yuletide lights in the Solway

DURING recent weeks people living along the West Cumbrian coast have been fascinated by a series of lights which have sprung up on the Scots side of the Solway in the region of Auchencairn.

At times they appear to be 'at sea; at other times on the mainland.

Has Scotland decided to brighten up the lives of recession-hit Maryport and Workington this Christmas?

Because so many have been asking about the Scots-side illuminations, we decided to try to solve the mystery.

But even the Scots we spoke to were undecided just what the lights are — though they were adamant that the source was not extra-terrestrial.

Dumfries and Galloway council environmental chief Ken Stewart believes them to be from a giant carrier, anchored off Whithorn Island.

TRANSPORTED

"The carrier, bringing chemicals from North Africa for use at Marchon at Whitehaven, is too large to get into Whitehaven docks," he explained.

"So it anchors off Whithorn and the cargo is off-loaded on to smaller freighters and transported back to Cumbria," he said.

But neither Marchon nor J. B. Moffat and Co., the ship brokers at Whitehaven, have any knowledge of large shipping in the Whithorn area. The plot thickened.

Then Castle Douglas's environmental chief Bill Davidson suggested that the lights might be from the Dundrennan army gunnery range directly across from Maryport.

"The army have been carrying out night-firing practice for the past two months and this would surely require massive illumination," he suggested. Well, he was

An Army spokesman at Dundrennan said this week that there had recently been an extensive installation of new security lights round the range.

"And as we can see the lights of Workington and Maryport on a clear night and even watch vehicles moving along the

coast road between the towns, it is highly likely that what you are seeing over there are our new installations," he said.

So the mystery is apparently solved. But if anyone sees the lights begin to move this Christmas, don't ring us; ring Dundrennan . . . or put the top on the bottle.

JOHN WRIGHT'S COASTWATCH

Solway lights mystery

RED LIGHTS seen over the Solway Firth this week have officially been logged as UFOs — unidentified flying objects.

The lights were spotted at intervals during the early hours of Monday by members of the public and the police.

Interpreted as red flares from a stricken boat, Workington and

Silloth Lifeboats were launched to search the Solway.

However, no vessel in distress was found nor was one reported missing, according to Coastguard headquarters near Liverpool.

Solway Sector Auxiliary Coastguard, Mr Ashley Wintherpe, said: "We thought it might have been meteorites but the meteorologists say it is the wrong time

of the year.

"In the official report we have put the lights down as UFOs. There is no explanation for them."

Driving on the marsh road at Skimburness, Carlisle baker Mr Dick Gardiner saw a huge crimson ball. "Pieces were shooting off it, then it just vanished. The whole thing lasted about 15 seconds," he said.

TIMES & STAR

14 / SEPT / 84

E16/m

file
12/3

Ref .D.G.T./O.A.100/1256
(D.G.T 4884 Attached)

Sec (AS).....

Section 40

The attached letter from . [redacted] ...

DATED 22/6/85..... is forwarded to you for official
action. this letter has/~~has~~ not been acknowledged from this
office. The Minister attaches great importance in prompt replies
to correspondence he receives and would like this letter answered
by COP 10.7.85.....

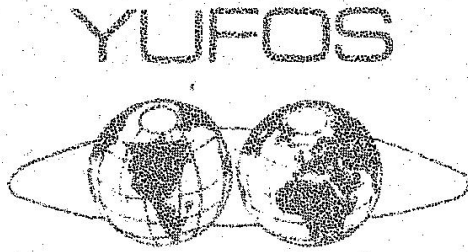
Would you please let us see a copy of your reply quoting our
reference. If this correspondence is transferred, then this office -
should be notified.

Section 40

26 JUN 1985

for APS/US of S(AF)

Section 40



pp's ?

CIVILIAN AERIAL PHENOMENA
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

OA Sec(AS)

Lord Trefgarne
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
For the Armed Forces
MoD
Whitehall
SW1A 2HB



Your Ref: D/US of S(AF)DGT 4884

22 June 1985

Our Ref: BL/RD1-E

No. of Pages: One (1)

Subject: UFO Documentation

Dear Sir,

I enclose a photo-stat copy of a letter submitted to the Rt. Hon Merlyn Rees MP in relation to a specific request by a **Section 40** who is a research member of the above named UFO organisation.

Within this letter, you state specific enquiries will be dealt with by the fairly new dept named Sec (AS) -2. This is your department. Unfortunately, I have to complain, that this said office does not even reply to genuine research enquiries made by civilian UFO groups. I can name, date and submit to you personally, at least six such requests for data which have not even acquired an acknowledgement, this I feel is a disgrace.

This organisation once again requests that all letters forwarded to your dept, dating back to December 1984 (form'y DS8) should be looked into. We feel the UFO phenomenon is a serious problem which at times does afford a defence interest and as such the public has a right to view for themselves such documents.

The United States, France (G.E.P.A.N.), Spain and even Australia offer a much better service to scientific establishments like ourselves. The sooner all UFO documentation is released the better.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours Faithfully,

Section 40

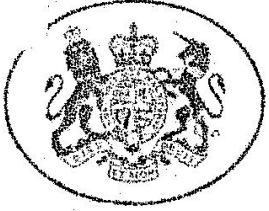


Director of Research

Section 40

British Representative of NICAP USA





MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone **Section 40** (Direct Dialling)

Section 40 (Switchboard)

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)DGT 4884

11 June 1985

Dear Mr Rees,

Thank you for your letter of 14 May which enclosed a further letter from **Section 40**

I am afraid I have little to add to what I said in my letter of 20 February 1985 in reply to your original enquiry on this matter. We remain satisfied that the events reported by Colonel Halt on 13 January 1981 are of no defence significance. The report was, like all other UFO reports, examined at the time by those in the Department responsible for the air defence of the UK and we have since seen nothing to alter our views.

Turning to **Section 40** request for copies of all UFO reports we have received since 1980, I am afraid that the Department could not justify the effort involved in acceding to this request. However, **Section 40** will already know that we are prepared to release reports of specific incidents to interested parties and, if he has any particular reports in mind, **Section 40** can obtain copies of these from Sec(AS)2 in my Department, whose address is room **Section 40** Ministry of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB.

Section 40

Yours sincerely,

Trefgarne

Lord Trefgarne

Rt Hon Merlyn Rees MP

E16/21

Section 40
[Redacted]

to Flight Lieutenant Section 40
Community Relations Officer,
R.A.F. St Mawgan,
NEWQUAY,
Cornwall,
TR8 4HP.

Ref PUFOIC 56/85.
Your Ref SM/1627/1/Org.

22 June 1985.

Dear Flight Lieutenant Section 40

Thank you for your letter to PUFOIC; of 23 May 1985.
As you will notice, I have since moved to Cheshire earlier this month,
from my previous residence in Plymouth, Devon. I hope that you will
note my new address.

Although I have moved some 270 miles North!, I am still in
charge of the investigation into the, as yet, Unidentified Flying Object
which was observed very close to your Air Force Base, during early
February this year.

I fully appreciate your attention to my correspondence,
although as yet, I have not had any correspondence from the Ministry
of Defence. I presume that this was to their department in London.
If they have replied to my previous Plymouth address, I have left
firm instructions to forward any mail on to me here in Winsford.

Since my last letter to you, we have discovered other local
people in the St Mawgan vicinity who probably observed this same
phenomenon as the original witness, and naturally they are a little
concerned from a safety angle.

I would be most grateful if the Ministry of Defence would
either provide an explanation for this incident, or admit that there
are, as yet, no explanations as to what several people observed.
Unfortunately, the longer their reply takes, UFO Associations, and the
general public grow in suspicion that a more sinister aspect was
the explanation. I wonder if you could accelerate their reply to us.?

Section 40
[Redacted]

BRITISH U.F.O. RESEARCH ASSOCIATION.

E16/2

OA Sec/AS

YUFOS RESEARCH DIVISION



Sec (AS) 2,
 Room **Section 40**
 Ministry of Defence,
 Main Building,
 Whitehall,
 London,
 SW1A 2HB.

19.6.85.

Section 40

Overseas Liaison Officer

Section 40

Dear Sir/Madam,

Could you please furnish me with all the information that your department has on the following reports of Unidentified Flying Objects.

Date: 10 September 1976.

Source: British European Airways (BEA) flight number **Section 40**

Location: En-route from Moscow (USSR) to London.

Time: Between 1800 and 1900 hours.

Date: 23 July 1984.

Source: Evening Post Newspaper (Leeds), Leeds and Bradford Airport, Gipton Police Station (Leeds) and civilian witnesses.

Locations: West Yorkshire and Humberside.

Time: Between 1900 hours and 2400 hours (23 July) and 00.00 hours to 04.00 hours (24 July).

Date: Summer 1980.

Source: Confidential.

Location: RAF Fylingdales North Yorkshire.

Time: Daylight.

Date: 19 June 1980.

Source: Civilian, Scarborough Police and RAF Fylingdales.

Location: Scarborough.

Time: 2.00 pm.

I would appreciate all the information your department has on all four of the above reports of Unidentified Flying Objects. I look forward to your reply, until then I am,

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

E167

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Reference to papers { C.O.
 DISTRICT/BRANCH..... Q
 Harrow
 STATION.....

Dist. 6/QA/136/2, 6Q/65/84

Registry Folio No. 3 May 19 84

G.O. Police Order s.36 P.1 & 2..... refers

15 MAY 84
 4 TR 162

Re UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

Chief Superintendent

On Thursday, 26 April 1984, PC Section 40 was on duty at Edgware Police Station when at approximately 10.20pm he received a telephone call from Section 40 aged about Section 40 of Section 40 Stanmore. As a result of what Section 40 told the officer, he went to Section 40 where he met Section 40 and Section 40, of Section 40 Stanmore. They stated in the presence of PC Section 40 and PC Section 40 that they had seen an object of an unusual nature in the sky above her rear garden.

Both officers accompanied Section 40 and Section 40 into the rear garden of Section 40 where Section 40 pointed east towards a flashing light, approximately 45° up in the sky from where they were standing. The officers obtained a pair of binoculars and studied the object through them and saw that the object was circular in the middle with a dome on the top and underneath. The middle of the object had blue lights around the middle and a red/pink lights on the extreme right of the middle. The dome on the top and blue and white flashing lights, the dome underneath was blue, green and red/pink with white flashes. They observed the object for an hour and during that time the object moved erratically from side to side, up and down and to and fro, not venturing far from the original position. During the time the officers observed the object it moved up to the right to a position of approximately 50° from where they were standing.

SC Section 40 was also present during this time and observed the object. The object appeared to be over Borehamwood or Mill Hill.

Section 40 stated "At 9.45 approximately, I opened my back door to let the dog in, when I noticed a bright light in the sky about 45° up above the trees in my back garden that was flashing blue, white, green and pink and it seemed to have things flashing off it. I called my friend out to show her. We both stood and watched for about 5-10 minutes. I ran out to tell my neighbours but saw two young boys walking by and asked them if they could see it they said they could. I ran back into my friend, we watched a little longer. I then ran next door and told them, we went in their garden. They also saw it and the light flashing off it. I ran back in again and my friend and I stood watching it when a blinding white ball with a trail behind went above from left to right, we both screamed at the same time our neighbours heard us. The light at this time was going further back in the sky and throughout the whole time the object was moving very fast and very erratic the whole time. I am not a nutter. I 'phoned the police who sent three officers round, who all witnessed and agreed this was not a plane or a star and that it was flashing colours and moving very erratic. This object was also viewed through binoculars by the police and myself".

7512

Section 40 stated "My friend called me into her back garden at 9.45pm and we both saw a large flashing object, much larger than a star in the sky between two trees. The object was flashing bright pink, blue and white and small white objects were shooting away from the main object while it moved in a triangular motion. We watched it for 55 minutes and in this time it faded almost away and then came back and started to fade slowly. After watching for about 20 minutes a bright white light flashed rapidly past us about 100 feet from the house from left to right leaving a bright white trail.

I saw one white object go back to the main red, white and blue one after about 20 minutes."

Air Traffic Control informed. OB 168 and SM 63A of 26.4.84. and SM 3 of 27.4.84. refer.

Section 40

Inspector

2

Section 40

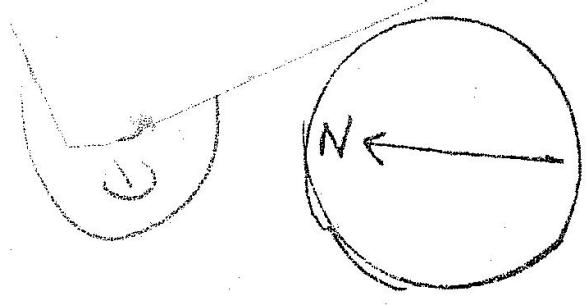
B1 Branch (thro' Commander 'Q')

I have interviewed both officers in this case and I am satisfied as to the veracity of their statements. The civilian witnesses have not been interviewed in depth. However, they are willing to be seen by Ministry of Defence authorities should this be considered necessary.

QA
3.5.84.

Section 40

Chief Superintendent

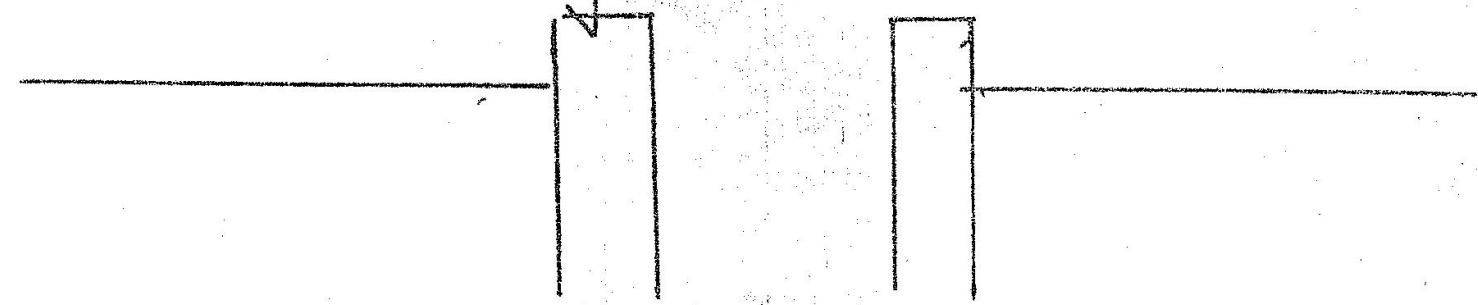


Approximate position
of vehicle object.

Unidentified
object.



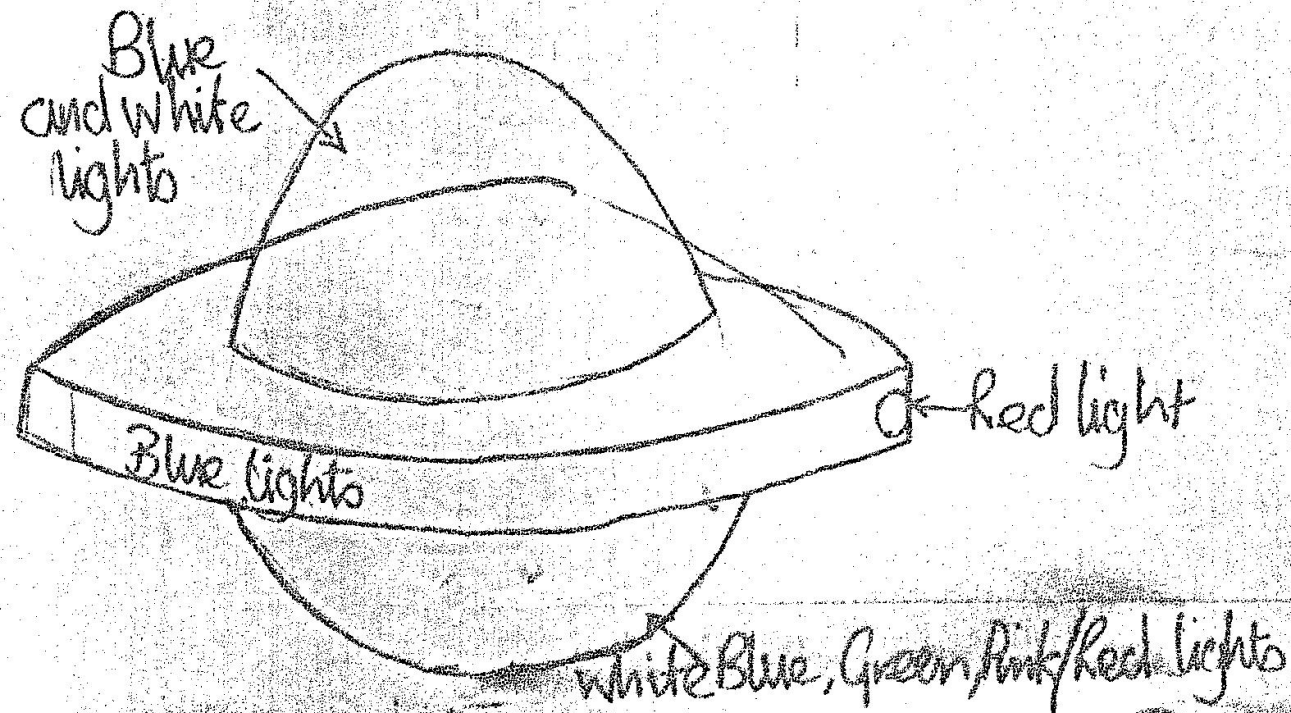
45°



VE
K

Unidentified object as seen by PC [Section 40] and PC [Section 40] through binoculars at approximately 11pm Dated 26TH April 1984.

1/1/84



6144
No. 991A
XN

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act, 1967, ss. 2, 9; M.C. Rules, 1968, r. 58)

Statement of..... **Section 40**
Age of Witness (Date of Birth) Over 21
Occupation of Witness..... **Section 40**
Address and Telephone Number..... Wealdstone Police Station
..... **Section 40**

This statement,* consisting of 2 pages each signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated the 2nd day of JUNE, 1984.
Signed .. **Section 40**
Signature witnessed by **Section 40**

On Thursday 26th April 1984 I was on duty in full uniform at Edgware Police Station. When as a result of what **Section 40** told me over the telephone. I went to **Section 40** Stanmore, where I met **Section 40** and **Section 40**. They stated in the presence of P.C. **Section 40** and myself that they had seen an object of an unusual nature in the sky above her rear garden. P.C. **Section 40** and myself accompanied the females into the rear garden where she pointed east towards a flashing light approximately 45 Degrees up in the sky from where we were standing. A pair of binoculars were obtained and I studied the object, through them. I saw that the object was circular in the middle with a dome on top and underneath. The middle Section of the object had bright blue lights around it with a red or pink light on the extreme right. The Dome on the top had blue and white flashing. Underneath the bottom dome was or appeared to be covered in blue green

Signed **Section 40** Signature witnessed by **Section 40**
*Delete as applicable.

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act, 1967, S. 9; M.C. Act, 1980, S. 102; M.C. Rules, 1981, r.70)

Continuation of statement of **Section 40**

red, pink and white flashing lights. We observed the object for one hour, during this period of time the object moved erratically from side to side, up and down and to and fro, not venturing far from its original position. During the observation I saw the object move up to the right approximately fifty degrees up in the sky, S.P.C. **Section 40** also observed the object. The object appeared to be over the Borehamwood or Mill Hill area. There was a prevailing easterly wind.

Signed **Section 40** Signature witnessed by **Section 40**