

EDWARD LEIGH, M.P.

ES.



Sec AS2a - PE
with PPS

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA



Section 40

Mr Michael Neubert
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Defence
Whitehall
SW1

4 April 1989

John Michael

I am sorry but there is a follow-on letter from Section 40
Section 40

If your office think this claim is rubbish it would be better to say so.

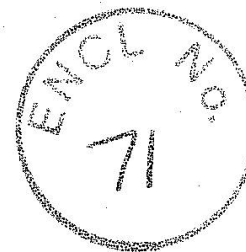
Thank you for your courtesy in sending such a long detailed letter in response to my earlier letter about him.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Leigh

Edward Leigh

*ack'd
7/4/89*



Section 40

1st April 1989.

Dear Mr Leigh,

Thank you for your letter dated 14th March 1989, with the enclosed letter from Michael Neubert MP.

I appreciate the trouble you have gone to and I agree with you that Mr Neubert's letter was most interesting, particularly his reference's to the Cosmos 1900 and the re entry of the satellite of the 21/22 December 1988.

His reference to ^{one}~~one~~ aspect of the Cosmos 1900 seems to conflict with other information I have in my possession .

Regarding his confirmation that a satellite did actually re enter on the 21/22 December 1988 (although he refers to it landing in Russia) leads me to ask you Mr Leigh to request that Mr Neubert carry out an investigation into space debris re entering the earths atmosphere over Britain for the period of the 21/22 December 1988 because I have personal evidence and other strong evidence that a large amount of space debris could have re entered the atmosphere spread over a large area of Britain during this period (which included Lincolnshire).

I repeat, as I did in your office that I believe strongly that this could hold an important question over the Lockerbie disaster and that I believe the said plane could have been hit by space debris and an investigation would prove valuable either way.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

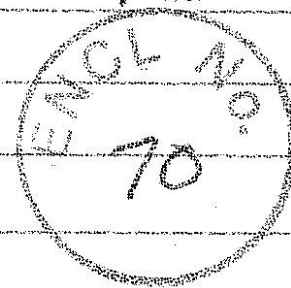
Mr Edward Leigh MP.,
House Of Commons,
London,
SW1A 0AA.

12/4

File Note

Section 40

12/4



Pls see 800 yrs.

Ja

Section 40

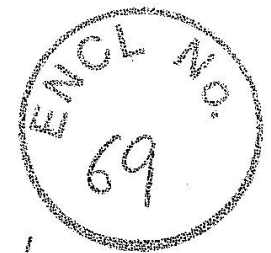
We ~~spoke~~. 800 yrs was deleted. May I have your initials please?

Section 40

12/4

D1/1

12/4



file copy

M2

APS/US of S(AF)
through J S Wright

1. I attach at E2 a draft response to Andrew Mitchell's letter of 20 March.

2. Given the MP's understanding that **Section 40** has an academic interest in the subject of UFOs, we have endeavoured to answer his questions comprehensively. Consequently the draft reply is rather longer than usual. Nevertheless the majority of questions posed by the constituent are fairly straightforward and have largely been covered before in correspondence with the public. Those which we have not answered are, as far as we are aware, unanswerable; certainly we do not have the information to answer them and any answers would only be speculative.

12 Apr 89

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a

Section 40

D1/1

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/MJN 809

April 1989

(1 OF 4 PAGES)

Thank you for your letter of 20 March with the enclosed from your constituent **Section 40** on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs).

Section 40 letter covers a lot of ground and I will endeavour to answer his questions in the order received. Nevertheless, before I do so, I should say that the Ministry of Defence's sole interest in these matters is to establish whether or not reported sightings of UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom using a judgement based on military expertise and an analysis of the available information. Unless we judge that they do present a threat, and this is not normally the case, no further attempt is made to investigate or identify the phenomenon. Moreover, I am sure you will appreciate that we do not have the resources to undertake in depth studies and that we could not justify the use of Defence Funds on scientific investigations unless a clear threat to the security of the UK had been identified. This necessarily limits the amount of information we are able to provide.

Moving now, however, to points raised in your constituent's letter, I regret that it would be impossible to establish the number of UFO sighting reports that the MOD has ever received but can give an idea of the number received over the last ten years. These figures are attached. As the MOD's involvement with the subject only extends to these sightings which may present a threat to the air defence of the UK, we do not have details of sightings witnessed outside of this country nor can we quantify how many reports could be considered to be misinterpretations or hoaxes. Nevertheless, our experience is that most sightings can be adequately and

rationally explained in terms of natural occurrences such as satellite debris, meteorological balloons and aircraft lights to mention just a few.

The MOD does not possess any positive evidence to suggest that "alien" spacecraft have landed or crashed on the planet nor are we aware of any form of communication with extraterrestrials. It would not, of course, be appropriate for me to comment on the official US position with regard to UFOs.

Your constituent is indeed correct to say that the department's Air Staff Secretariat, in addition to its other duties, acts as our focal point for those members of the public who wish to correspond about UFOs. Reports are referred to the staffs responsible for the air defence of the UK who examine them as part of their normal duties.

I was interested to read the account of **Section 40** experiences on the night of 12 August 1983 but would like to confirm that we did not receive any reports which might have supported his story, and because no threat to national defence had been demonstrated, the MOD did not investigate the incident.

The only information we have on the unusual display of lights witnessed at Rendlesham Forest in December 1980 is the report by Lieutenant Colonel Charles Halt of the United States Air Force, which drew no firm conclusions and, significantly, did not recommend further investigation. Our own view corresponded with this and we are satisfied that the events described were of no defence significance.

Section 40

last question asks about the possible release of information on UFOs in order that any public concern can be dispelled. Firstly, and as I mentioned earlier, I must stress that the vast majority of information we have as the subject is limited to sighting reports that we have received from the public and that this material is unclassified. The second point I would like to make is that, like all Government Departments, MOD files are subject to the Public Records Act which, as you may know, states that official files generally remain closed from public view for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Obviously, this does not allow the MOD to release material 'en bloc' before the 30 year point, although we will be happy to try to answer any specific queries individuals may have about particular incidents which have occurred recently and can advise whether we have received a report on the incident and if so what it contains.

Lastly, I can assure your constituent that the MOD is not trying in any way whatsoever to obscure the truth about UFOs from the public nor do we attempt to cover up any incident.

I hope that you will find this helpful.

Michael Neubert

Andrew Mitchell Esq MP

D1/1a

NUMBER OF UFO SIGHTING REPORTS RECEIVED BY MOD OVER PERIOD 1978-1988

1978	750
1979	550
1980	350
1981	600
1982	250
1983	390
1984	215
1985	180
1986	120
1987	155
1988	400

ANDREW MITCHELL, MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

ENCL 2

Sec A

RECEIVED No. 67

20 March 1989

One for you

Section 40

Dear Richard,

I enclose an interesting letter, together with its enclosures, from my constituent, **Section 40** on the subject of UFO's.

I should be most grateful if you would let me have a response, which I could pass on to **Section 40** in respect of the specific questions raised in his letter.

I understand my constituent to have an academic interest in these matters; his letter has no direct connection with the proximity of April 1st!

Yours sincerely,

Michael Neubert Esq MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
for the Armed Forces
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON SW1 2HB

Telephone **Section 40** Secretary **Section 40**
Constituency Office Nottingham **Section 40**

ack'd
20/3/89

ENCL No.
66

(1 OF 2 PAGES)

Section 40

Andrew Mitchell, MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

10th March 1989

Dear Andrew,

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (U.F.O's)

Thanks for your letter, dated 7th March 89, regarding the advice session in Arnold Library on Saturday 4th March 1989. I am writing to ask if you can obtain answers to the following questions, please :-

1. How many U.F.O's have been seen :-
 - a. in this country?
 - b. throughout the World?
2. What percentage of those reported can be explained as misidentifications, hoaxes, hallucinations or delusions?
3. Of those remaining, which cannot be included in the above, are there some which are beyond our comprehension with our current scientific and technological knowledge?
4. Have any unidentified craft crashed in this country or elsewhere in the World? If so, were the craft and any occupants recovered for examination? Please see the enclosed photocopies of released American documents concerning the alleged recovery of alien bodies and the wreckage of their disc-shaped craft from near Roswell Army Air Base in New Mexico during July 1947.
5. Do we have any idea why U.F.O's visit our World and do we think that they will be friendly towards us when greater contact is made?
6. Has any contact been made with extraterrestrials either by means of remote radio communication (or other similar method) or by close encounter at a meeting with representatives from our planet?
7. Is there a department within the Ministry of Defence ie " Air Staff 2" which studies the most interesting / promising sightings of U.F.O's?
8. Have any U.F.O's been tracked on radar and if so do we have any estimates of the speeds attained within our atmosphere?

9. One of the most impressive alledged close encounters was that experienced by **Section 40** in the early hours of 12th August 1983, beside the Basingstoke Canal, in Aldershot, Hampshire. **Section 40** claimed to have been led, along the tow path, from his fishing site by the "forms" and taken to their craft which he described externally and internally. Luckily for **Section 40** perhaps, he was told by the "forms" that he was too old and infirm for their purpose - whatever that might have been! Please see the enclosed photocopies of that account. Was this case investigated by the authorities and if so what conclusions were reached?
10. What is the true story concerning the alledged landing of a U.F.O in Rendlesham forest, just outside the perimeter of RAF/USAF Woodbridge, near Ipswich, Suffolk on the 27th December 1980?
11. Is Britain likely to introduce a Freedom of Information Act, as the Americans have done?
12. Will some information on U.F.O's be released to the public soon? This would, I am sure, confirm what a lot of people have suspected is happening in recent years - even if those people "in the Know" don't yet have all the answers regarding the phenomenon.
13. Do we know about, or have any ideas on, the nature of the propulsion system(s) used by the U.F.O's?
14. Do we know from which planet(s), the extraterrestrials, might be from or how they manage to travel such vast distances so quickly?
15. Despite any apparent cover-up/debunking of information on the subject of U.F.O's, sitings still occur. The phenomena refuses to give up despite the doubters! Too many intelligent people with highly responsible jobs report incidents that defy explanation by the experts. They do this despite the embarassment or worse that they will suffer as a result of their reports. Would it be possible for the information gathered on U.F.O's to be released gradually so that the public is better educated on this topic and is therefore more able to adapt?

I thoroughly recommend the book "Above Top Secret - The Worldwide U.F.O Cover-Up" by Timothy Good which was published by Sidgwick and Jackson Limited in 1987.

I hope that you will be able to answer my questions on this very intriguing subject. Thanks, in anticipation,

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

} ENCLOSURES }



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DEFENCE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

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



D/US of S(AF)MJN 0765

202 March 1989

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 27 February to George Younger, enclosing a letter from your constituent, **Section 40** **Section 40** about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs).

First of all, I should say that the Ministry of Defence has no department which is appointed solely for the purpose of studying reports of UFOs and we have no staff who are employed on the subject full time.

The Ministry of Defence's sole interest in these matters is to establish whether or not reported UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom, using a judgement based on military expertise and an analysis of the available information. Unless we judge that they do present a threat, and this is not normally the case, no further attempt is made to investigate or identify the phenomena, nor could we justify the use of defence resources for this purpose, although the reports that we receive are referred to the appropriate staff, including those responsible for air defence, who consider them as part of their normal duties.

It is clear from the reports that we receive that many strange things have been and are being observed in the sky, although we believe that natural phenomena such as ball lightning, satellite debris, meteorological balloons, aircraft lights, or many others may explain many such incidents.

I hope this is helpful.

*Yours ever
Michael Neubert*

Michael Neubert

Sir John Stradling Thomas MP



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DEFENCE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone **Section 40** (Direct Dialling)
[Redacted] (Switchboard)



(1 of 2 PAGES)

D/US of S(AF)MJN 0412

~~28~~ February 1989

Dear Edward,

Thank you for your letters of 9 and 15 February which were prompted by an approach by your constituent **Section 40** **Section 40** saying that a Russian satellite descended over Lincolnshire on the night of 21/22 December 1988. Your later letter mentioned that he believed the incident was associated with the satellite Cosmos 1900.

Taking the subject generally, I think your constituent may find it helpful if I explain that there are many pieces of old and derelict satellites orbiting the earth, each slowly decaying and falling inexorably back to earth. Indeed, on any one day the satellite tracking station at RAF Fylingdales tracks approximately 7000 items of "space junk" and of these 6 or 7 re-enter the atmosphere, disintegrating as they do so.

More specifically, your constituent asked if the sighting he witnessed could have been Cosmos 1900. However, although I can confirm that this particular Russian Ocean Reconnaissance satellite did return to earth recently, I fear that your constituent has his dates muddled as COSMOS 1900 broke up and re-entered the atmosphere on 1 October last year. As you may know, this particular re-entry gave rise to considerable media interest worldwide, mainly because its ultimate fate was uncertain. In the event, the satellite's debris burnt up without incident over the Indian Ocean, although, in common with many other parts of the World, the debris passed over the United Kingdom during its final orbits. No articles of debris were known to have survived re-entry.

Nevertheless, as far as the night of 21/22 December is concerned, I would like to assure **Section 40** that although a Russian satellite did re-enter the atmosphere, we know this to have landed in the Soviet Union. Furthermore, as far as we are aware no satellite debris, Russian or otherwise came down over Lincolnshire, or indeed the Western Hemisphere at that time although it is possible your constituent may have witnessed the tell-tale bright light associated with the re-entering satellite as it crossed the

Edward Leigh Esq MP

night sky. Alternatively he may have seen one of the many satellites in low orbit, some of which are visible as they pass overhead.

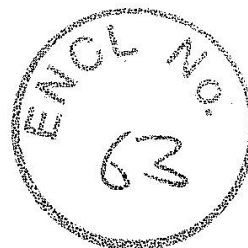
I hope that you and your constituent will find this helpful.

*Yours ever,
Michael*

Michael Neubert

D6/11

12/4



M2

file copy

APS/Minister(AF)
through **Section 40**

I attach at E2 a fairly straightforward draft response to Sir John Stradling Thomas' letter of 27 February 1989. However, you may wish to be aware that US of S(AF) usually answers letters concerning this particular topic and as such it might be more appropriate to pass it to his office for signature.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a

Section 40

Section 40

1989

D6/11

DRAFT

D/Min(AF)69/89

March 1989

(1 OF 2 PAGES)

Thank you for your letter of 27 February to George Younger enclosing a letter from your constituent **Section 40** **Section 40** about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). As this subject falls within my area of responsibility, I have been asked to reply.

First of all I think it would be helpful to say that the Ministry of Defence has no department which is appointed solely for the purpose of studying reports of UFOs and we have no staff who are employed on the subject full time.

I feel it would also be beneficial if I explain that the Ministry of Defence's sole interest in these matters is to establish whether or not UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom, using our judgement based on military expertise in analysing the information available to us. Unless we judge that they do present a threat, and this is not normally the case, no further attempt is made to investigate or identify the phenomena, nor could we justify the use of defence resources for this purpose. Instead, such reports as we receive, are referred to appropriate staff including those responsible for air defence, who consider them as part of their normal duties.

Nevertheless it is clear from the reports that we receive that many strange things have been and are being observed in the sky, although we believe that natural phenomena such as ball lightning, satellite debris as well as meteorological balloons, aircraft lights amongst many others may explain many such incidents.

I hope that your constituent will find this helpful.

Rt Hon Sir John Stradling Thomas MP

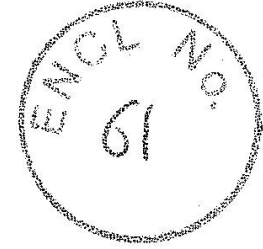
SIR JOHN STRADLING THOMAS, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

27th February 1989

6th Mar 89
Minister (AF)



Dear George,

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from my constituent

Section 40

I should be most grateful for your response to the second question posed by **Section 40**

Yours ever

John.

The Rt Hon George Younger TD MP
Secretary of State
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall SW1 2HB

22ND FEB 1989

Section 40

F.A.O. RT Hon JOHN STRADLING THOMAS MP.

DEAR SIR,

Can You please advise me on a few queries I have:

- (A) With all these I.R.A murder attempts etc etc etc, we all know that the likes of Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinn are their leaders and advise and plan all these atrocities etc - why aren't they arrested! Why isn't the Government's Security forces Acting unless this is acted on it will never, never die down.
- (B) Please enquire with your fellow Members in the M.O.D. and please confirm that the M.O.D. as a U.F.O. dept and investigates sightings and reports to high Security as and when necessary.

Yours faithfully

Section 40

D5/37



file copy

M2

APS/US of S(AF)
through **Section 40** [redacted]

I attach at E2 a fairly straightforward draft response to Edward Leigh's letter of 9 and 15 February 1989.

27 Feb 89

Section 40 [redacted]

Sec(AS)2

Section 40 [redacted]

D5/37

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)MJN 412

February 1989 (1 of 2 pages)

Thank you for your letter of 9 and 15 February which were prompted by an approach by your constituent **Section 40** **Section 40** saying that a Russian satellite descended over Lincolnshire on the night of 21/22 December 1988. Your later letter mentioned that he believed the incident was associated with the satellite Cosmos 1900.

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I hope that you and your constituent will find this helpful.

Michael Neubert

Edward Leigh Esq MP

EDWARD LEIGH, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

207318
4/2
Great ...
went out ...



Due back 1/3/89

Michael Neubert Esq MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1

S. D. G.

Section 40

15 February 1989

Dear Michael

Further to my letter of 9 February concerning

Section 40

, who visited me at my surgery and told me that a Russian Satellite had come down over Lincolnshire! He has this week telephoned my secretary with further information. He told her that the space debris was cosmos 1900 - 'nuclear device'. He wants to know where it came down and when it separated from the 1900 and where it is now!

My secretary asked him whether other people had commented on this - he said "I am not wasting Mr Leigh's time - other people know of this".

I have to pass this on to you as he telephoned especially from Lincolnshire to inform me.

Yours sincerely,

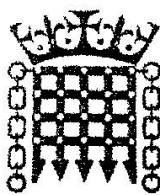
Edward

Edward Leigh

Recd 21/2/89

EDWARD LEIGH, M.P.

Sec 40
ENCL NO. 56
ENCL NO. 1



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Michael Neubert Esq MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1

9 February 1989

Ed Leigh

I have to write this letter to you! I can assure
you it seems most strange to do so!

A constituent **Section 40**
Section 40 near Market Rasen visited me at my surgery
last Saturday. He claims that on the night of 21/22
December a Russian Satellite came down over
Lincolnshire. Can you comment please.

*Yours
Edward Leigh*

Section 40
Section 40 He claims that he saw 'bits falling'.

Acad 15/2/89



12/3

ENCL No.
55

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)17/6/1

18 November 1988

APS/Minister(AF)

Section 40
[Redacted]

21/11
22/11

Copy to: APS/S of S
SO/ACAS
D Air Off Section 40
DPR(RAF)
Head of Sec(NATO/UK)(C)
Sec(AS)2
SRAFLO - RAF Mildenhall

PQs FROM MR TEDDY TAYLOR MP

1. Mr Taylor's questions seem to relate to the recent media speculation that the USAF "Stealth" aircraft has been exercised in the UK (see Annex A). In fact, the F-117A has not flown outside the United States. Any USAF plan to deploy this aircraft to the UK would most certainly have to be cleared with MOD Ministers. (This has been confirmed by the US Embassy and by HQ 3AF.)
2. The draft reply at Annex B is self-explanatory.

Section 40

[Redacted]

Sec(AS)1

Section 40

THE INDEPENDENT

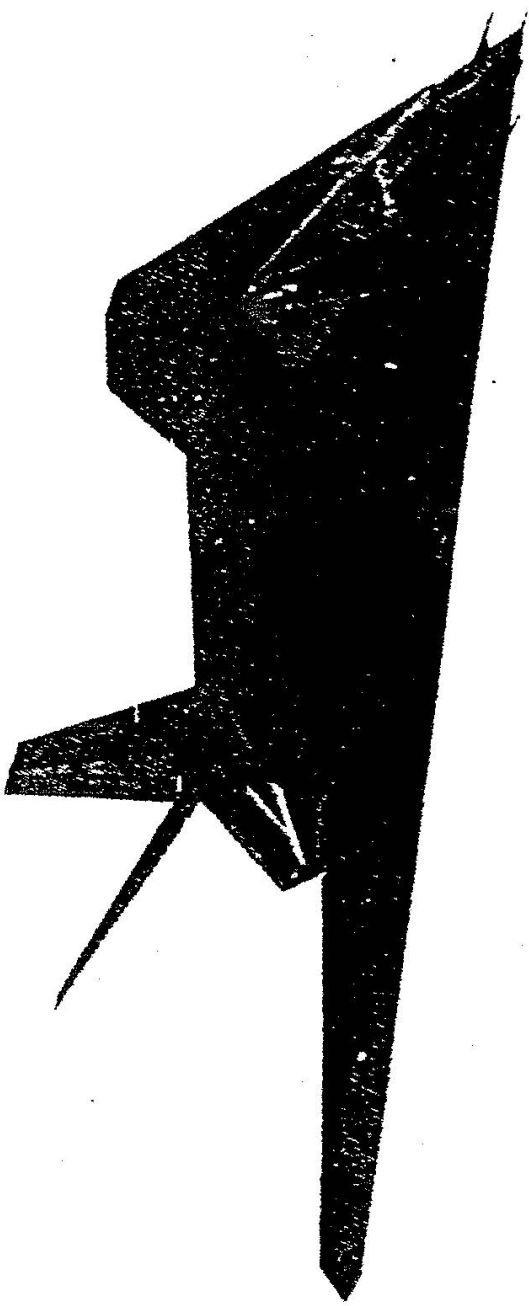
RAF pilot flies Stealth fighter at Nevada base

From Marc Champion
in Washington

THE US Air Force has acknowledged that dozens of Stealth fighter aircraft, whose existence was top secret until now, have been operating since 1983, and that a British pilot is attached to the squadron which flies them.

In a terse statement, the Air Force said it had chosen to lift the veil of secrecy which has surrounded the fighters, so that they can be stretched to their full potential in daytime flight exercises. Although they have flown regularly from the Nellis Air Force base in Nevada, the nominally classified aircraft have operated only at night.

The aircraft have been an open secret for several years. There were reports that one had been sighted in 1986 at the RAF Lossiemouth base in Scotland. A US Air



The first photograph of the hitherto secret Stealth fighter, released by the Pentagon this week.

Force spokesman, Major Pat Melaney, declined to comment on whether the Stealth fighter has made test flights to Britain, but he confirmed that an RAF pilot is attached, as part of an exchange programme, to the 450th squadron.

Manufactured by the Lockheed Corporation in California, the twin-engine Stealth fighter, officially named the F-117A, uses sim-

ilar technology to the B-2 Stealth bomber, to be unveiled later this month. Both are made from a collection of substances known as RAM (Radar Absorbent Materials), and are designed to penetrate enemy defences undetected

by radar. US aviation experts speculate that the F-117A is a relatively slow attack plane, which would be used to strike strategic command posts by hugging the ground and evading detection until it was too late to retaliate.

Stealth fighters have crashed twice — in July 1986 and October 1987. Both times the Air Force was forced to acknowledge the accidents, but refused to confirm the existence of a Stealth fighter.

The programme to build the aircraft began in 1978, during President Carter's administration, and has cost \$7bn so far. The Air Force has ordered 59 F-117A's — 52 in operation and seven more under construction. Workers at the construction plant in California have filed suit against the Lockheed Corporation, claiming to have suffered from unexplained health problems, including cancer, which they attribute to the aircraft's unusual materials.

ANNEX A
ENCL NO. 54

(1 OF 2 PAGES)

Daily Mail

Stealth bomber to be based in Britain

From WILLIAM LOWTHER
in Washington

THE Pentagon's secret new fighter bomber is to be based in Britain.

Up to 30 of the Stealth planes are ultimately expected at U.S. bases here.

Defence sources in Washington believe one may be housed in this country already.

At least four have been flown over remote areas of Britain at night. It is understood that they were dismantled and shipped in crates to avoid detection by Soviet spy satellites.

A senior RAF pilot is currently assigned to the U.S. Air Force squadron flying the fighters from a remote desert base in Nevada.

Targets

Military analysts said last night the only reason for involving Britain so closely in the most clandestine of Pentagon projects was that the plane is destined to use this country as its take-off point for Soviet targets in time of war.

The Stealth first flew in 1981 and has been ready for combat since 1983 but the Pentagon has kept it so secret that a first photograph was released only this week.

Although called a fighter, the Stealth is primarily a strike plane that uses highly classified technologies that make it invisible to all detection devices.

Its job is to penetrate enemy territory and destroy selected important targets, such as command posts.

Officially known as the F117a, the Stealth is a slow-flying single-seater capable of manoeuvres at low altitude.

Some 52 of the angular, black planes are in operation and seven more will be completed by the Lockheed Corporation in the next few months.

EXPRESS

NEWSLINE

Soldier in IRA terror attack shot by mates

AN off-duty soldier who ran out of his base to help a patrol under IRA attack was shot by his comrades, it was disclosed yesterday.

The 23-year-old soldier was in plain clothes when he went out with his rifle to tackle IRA terrorists attacking his base in Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

He was mistaken for a sniper firing on the Rosemont army base

from the Creggan part of the city.

The soldier, who has not been named, was hit twice by a quick-response Army unit and needed emergency operation.

A joint police and Army statement said: "The soldier reacted with initiative and courage by taking his weapon and going out into the Creggan Road after a number of high-velocity rounds had been fired at the base."

THE INDEPENDENT

Soldier is shot by Army

A soldier injured during an IRA attack in Londonderry on Thursday night was hit by shots fired by another soldier, the RUC said yesterday. He was seriously ill last night.

Police said the 28-year-old soldier was off duty when a number of high-velocity shots were fired at the Rosemount RUC-Army base, which stands between the Bogside and Creggan housing estates. He took a gun to investigate the source of the shots.

He was hit twice by shots fired by an army patrol which believed it was firing on the IRA. Police denied a claim that the injured soldier had been shot by the IRA.

A university student from West Belfast became the 22nd person to be charged in connection with the murders of two army corporals at an IRA funeral last March. Paul Magee, 24, from Tullagh Park, Andersonstown, was re-manded in custody.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

FINANCIAL TIMES

Patrol shoots soldier

An off-duty British soldier was seriously injured in Northern Ireland after an army patrol mistook him for an IRA gunman and shot him.

The Guardian

Soldiers shoot officer

An off-duty officer was shot and seriously wounded by fellow-soldiers in a British Army patrol yesterday after they mistook him for a gunman whom they had both been pursuing.

THE Sun

Pals shoot

squaddie

A YOUNG British soldier was seriously ill last night after comrades mistook him for an IRA terrorist and shot him TWICE.

The accident happened during a shootout between troops and terrorist snipers who were attacking a Londonderry police station.

ANNEX B

(1 of 2 pages)

DRAFT LETTER FROM MINISTER(AF) TO T TAYLOR ESQ MP

You tabled the attached Parliamentary Questions to the Secretaries of State for Transport and the Environment. As these both seem to relate to matters which are covered by the Ministry of Defence, I have agreed to answer them.

Taking first your question about "streak" aircraft, I assume that you are referring to the United States Air Force F-117A "Stealth" aircraft, which has been the subject of much media speculation. I can assure you that this aircraft has not flown in the United Kingdom. Should the US authorities wish to deploy the F-117A to this country in future, a request for approval would be submitted to MOD Ministers in the usual way.

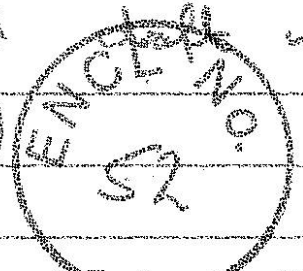
Turning now to your second question, during the past four weeks 9 reports have been received from witnesses in the South East of England about flying objects emitting blue lighting, 4 suggesting a particularly bright blue light. Reports referring to blue lights are not uncommon. Indeed, in certain meteorological conditions the bright white - sometimes strobe - anti-collision lights on civil aircraft often appear blue on refraction. We have no reason to suspect that these reports indicate anything which could be considered a threat to national security. In view of this no specific investigations to identify

the source of the various reports have been initiated, and none are considered necessary.

I hope that this is helpful.

Section 40

The final draft was sent by (1 of 2 pages)



draft reply from Minister (AF) to Teddy Taylor MP

You also asked what reports my department received from the South East about flying objects emitting strong blue lighting. I should explain, of all, that our interest in unidentified flying objects is to determine whether or not they present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this is not usually the case, we do not attempt to investigate or identify whatever they have been seen.

During the four week period from 18 October to November we received nine UFO reports from witnesses at various locations in the South East which mentioned blue or blue/white lights. Reports of flying objects emitting bright blue or white lights are however not unusual and are not confined to the South East of England. One explanation for the phenomenon is the refraction of bright white light from the anti-collision lamps on aircraft. Under certain meteorological conditions this refraction occurs at the blue wavelength and can cause white lights to appear blue to observers. [I regret however, I have no definite information as to the origins of the objects reported but can confirm that no military aircraft were operating in the vicinity of the witnesses at the times in question.]

Section 40

enquired whether we would be
 a position to make an input to the
 reply to Teddy Taylor later today. I
 indicated that we would.

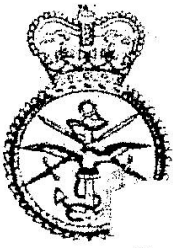
I have spoken to CAA and DISS
 regarding possible explanations for blue lights and
 we are most probable to be aircraft anti-
 collision strobe lights which can appear blue
 through refraction effects.

I have yet to receive any advice from
 the Manor regarding a/c operations in the
 vicinity of our nine reported sightings. However,
 in respect to this confirming the presence of
 military aircraft or confirming that no
 military aircraft were operating at the times
 in question, I believe we should offer a
 standard line on the possible explanation for the
 sightings. If no military aircraft were operating
 when the sightings were made perhaps we can
 say so.

I stand ready to discuss further on
 or from the FCO meeting on the Soviet visit

Section 40

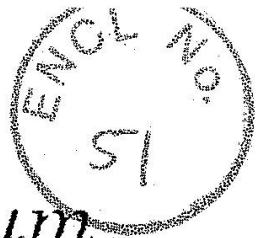
15/11



Ministry of Defence
DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE STAFF
DIRECTORATE GENERAL of SCIENTIFIC
& TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE
METROPOLE BUILDING LONDON WC2N 5BL

DI55c1

Memorandum



From Section 40
Tel
Our ref

To Section 40
SEC (AS) 2
Date 15 NOV 88
Your ref TELECON

Dear Section 40

I hope you manage to sort this lot out.

Don't forget 99 means unknown.

Best of luck

Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec. (AS) 2
16 NOV 1988
FILE

Talk to DISS

1. - are reports of blue lights usual?
2. Any views on the reports from the past few weeks?
3. A/C lighting patterns - do blue/white lights feature?



MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

LOOSE MINUTE

D/MIN(AF)/AH/1/1

15 Nov 88

Head of Sec(AS)

Copy to:
APS/SofS

1. copy immediate to
D Air Off
Sec(AS) 2

ENCL 50

Section 40
ms
ms
ms

2. return to

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

about X below, we have called for a record of reports for the past 4 weeks. We should be able to give a factual answer on the number of reports received and offer the usual line on the question of "origins".

PQs FROM MR TEDDY TAYLOR ABOUT US STEALTH AIRCRAFT

Section 40
16/11

1. We spoke about two Parliamentary Questions which Mr Teddy Taylor has tabled. You kindly agreed to take them on.

2. I attach a copy of the one he originally tabled for the DTp. We agreed that he probably meant "Stealth" rather than "streak". The other question, to which the DoE have given a holding answer but which will be transferred to us, is as follows:

"What reports he has received within the past four weeks from the South East about flying objects omitting strong blue lighting; and if he has any information on the origins of the objects".

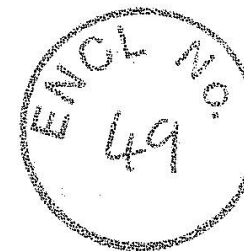
Print to
15 Nov 88

X

3. These questions will have to be answered in a letter to Mr Taylor and, in order to fit in with the Minister's travel arrangements, I should be grateful if you could let me have a draft by 1500 on Friday, 18 November. Please let me know if there is any difficulty in meeting this deadline.

Section 40
APS/Minister(AF)
Section 40

MINISTER OF DEFENCE
15 Nov 88
1988



TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 1988

MR TEDDY TAYLOR (CONSERVATIVE)(SOUTHEND EAST)

111 Mr Taylor

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, if he will make a statement on the routes covered by the experimental United States Streak aircraft in the United Kingdom in recent weeks; and if any of these involved journeys over the South East of England

A N S W E R

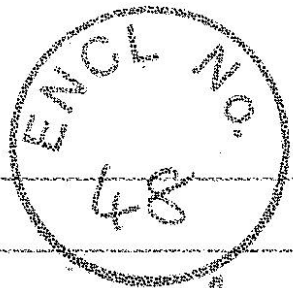
(Mr Archie Hamilton)

I have been asked to reply.

I shall write to my hon Friend.

Ministry of Defence

15 November 1988



Since 1st October - 9 reports received which refer to presence of blue light.

Four of these were over the period 26/27 October at Aylesford, Biddenden, Havel Hempstead and Wickford. Two of these occurred on 14 October at Southend and Levensden.

Two of these occurred on 19 October and were clearly the same event.

Blue lights are not an unusual phenomenon but noted in connection with UFOs. They are observed fairly regularly.

Main reason for blue light being observed is refraction of bright, white landing lights, (states) occurs along blue wavelength in certain meteorological conditions.

Reports around 26/27 October may relate to events especially the two from Aylesford which relate a falling object like a flare or flame.

Similarly the the Biddenden sighting was of an object falling to earth.

1/10 - present date.

9 reports of blue light
42 reports in total.



Record#	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	DURATION	PROFESSION
* 446	<u>AL27 SOUTHEND</u>	14/11/88	0515	20.00	BRIT AEROSPACE
- 432	<u>AYLESFORD</u>	27/10/88	2306	0.00	UNKNOWN
438	<u>AYLESFORD</u>	27/10/88	2306	0.02	UNKNOWN
440	<u>BEDDENDEN KENT</u>	23/10/88	1950	5.00	UNKNOWN
433	<u>BIDDENDEN</u>	23/10/88	1950	2.00	UNKNOWN
* 439	<u>BIDDENDEN</u>	28/10/88	0505	0.00	LORRYDRIVER
450	<u>BISHOPBRIGGS</u>	01/11/88	0400	5.00	UNKNOWN
415	<u>CILIAU AERON</u>	21/10/88	1900	0.02	UNKNOWN
- 412	<u>DUNSTABLE</u>	19/10/88	1930	0.00	UNKNOWN
428	<u>DUNSTABLE</u>	19/10/88	1930	0.03	UNKNOWN
451	<u>EAST GRINSTEAD</u>	31/10/88	2235	5.00	POLICE SGT
423	<u>GLASGOW</u>	01/11/88	0400	5.00	UNKNOWN
447	<u>HANWORTH</u>	12/11/88	2105	0.06	UNKNOWN
* 416	<u>HEMEL HEMPSTEAD</u>	27/10/88	0345	0.05	UNKNOWN
424	<u>HEMEL HEMPSTEAD</u>	29/10/88	0304	1.00	UNKNOWN
435	<u>HULL</u>	02/11/88	1405	4.00	UNKNOWN
442	<u>HULL</u>	02/11/88	1405	4.00	UNKNOWN
405	<u>ISLE OF MAN</u>	01/10/88	0614	3.00	UNKNOWN
419	<u>ISLEWORTH</u>	27/10/88	1745	75.00	UNKNOWN
* 445	<u>LEAVESDEN</u>	14/11/88	0045	1.00	
429	<u>LEICESTER</u>	24/10/88	2155	63.00	UNKNOWN
421	<u>LONDON</u>	27/10/88	0345	0.05	S/LDR RAF
434	<u>LONDON</u>	29/10/88	1845	15.00	ASTROLOGY
431	<u>MARGATE</u>	29/10/88	2300	0.00	UNKNOWN
441	<u>MARGATE</u>	29/10/88	2300	4.00	UNKNOWN
414	<u>MOGGERHANGER</u>	25/10/88	1150	3.00	UNKNOWN
422	<u>NEATH</u>	01/11/88	1730	5.00	UNKNOWN
436	<u>NEATH</u>	01/11/88	1730	5.00	UNKNOWN
449	<u>NEW CROSS</u>	10/11/88	1730	5.00	UNKNOWN
448	<u>PETWORTH</u>	13/11/88	1810	0.00	UNKNOWN
413	<u>RAMSGATE</u>	19/10/88	2355	0.00	UNKNOWN
418	<u>RAMSGATE KENT</u>	27/10/88	0345	0.00	POLICE SERGEANT
444	<u>READING</u>	04/11/88	1920	15.00	UNKNOWN
426	<u>READING</u>	30/10/88	1740	40.00	UNKNOWN
427	<u>READING</u>	30/10/88	1845	240.00	UNKNOWN
443	<u>READING</u>	30/10/88	1915	75.00	UNKNOWN
425	<u>SALISBURY</u>	01/11/88	2017	0.20	UNKNOWN
437	<u>SHEWSBURY</u>	31/10/88	2000	60.00	UNKNOWN
410	<u>SLOUGH</u>	06/10/88	2315	0.06	SECURITY GUARD
417	<u>WICKFORD</u>	26/10/88	1815	0.00	UNKNOWN
420	<u>WIMSLow</u>	27/10/88	1730	2.00	UNKNOWN
430	<u>WORTHING</u>	29/10/88	1900	0.30	UNKNOWN

* - One steady light
- Bright blue white flame
- v bright blue/white flame

- Bluish lge bright ball

- Vivid blue/green v bright
- " " " "

- Blue oblong object

- Ball shaped, blue

One, big, blue light

MATO asked
for any reports of
military a/c operations.

446 } both on 14/11 different locations
445 }

432 } on 26/27/28/10 different locations
438 }
416 }
417 }

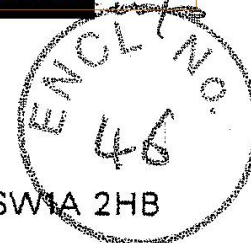
412 } both on 19/10 same location
428 }



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

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

Section 40



(1 OF 2 PAGES)

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
 FOR DEFENCE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 6123 and 6278

19th September 1988

Dear Gill,

Thank you for your letters of 15 June and 4 July on behalf of a number of your constituents, about unusual sightings witnessed in the Stafford area during the evening of 16 May 1988.

As you may know, the Ministry of Defence receives and co-ordinates information about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), usually in the form of brief reports of the sightings which have been passed onto us by those individuals who witnessed them. Our sole concern is then to establish whether or not the sightings present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this is not normally the case, we do not usually attempt any further investigation.

As far as the 16 May sightings are concerned, I can confirm that we received a number of reports from members of the public, which appear to correspond roughly with the details given by your constituents and I enclose copies of these, which your constituents may find of interest. In order to maintain the privacy of the report originators, you will see that some details have been obscured.

Although as I have said above, we do not normally find it necessary to investigate specific sightings, and could not justify the use of scarce MOD resources to this end, I am advised by my staff that the reported phenomenon is quite likely to be connected with civil air traffic going into Birmingham Airport, which was exceptionally busy at the time in question. The differing times of the sightings could thus correspond to aircraft following a holding

William Cash Esq MP

pattern around the airport, and the descriptions could relate to a modern jet aircraft. Our experience is certainly that most sightings can be adequately explained in term of natural occurrences such as aircraft observed at unusual angles, satellite debris, meteorological balloons to mention just a few.

I hope you and your constituents will find this helpful.

I apologise for the delay in replying but hope this letter is helpful.

Yours truly
Roger
Roger Freeman

Encl:
UFO Reports

D12/20

File

E45

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 6123 and 6278

September 1988

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I hope you and your constituents will find this helpful.

Roger Freeman

William Cash Esq MP

Encl:

UFO Reports

12/4



M2

file copy

(1 of 7 PAGES)

APS/US of S(AF)

I attach at E2 a self explanatory draft response to William Cash's letter of 15 June 1988. I also enclose copies of the sighting reports we received that relate to the details given by Mr Cash's constituents, which US of S(AF) may wish to send with his reply. In line with our usual policy of maintaining the privacy of the report originators, identifying details have been obscured.

12 September 1988

Section 40

Sec (AS) 2

Section 40

D15/20

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 6123 and 6278

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I hope you and your constituents will find this helpful.

Roger Freeman

William Cash MP

Encl:

UFO Reports

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

ALL REDACTIONS ON THIS PAGE ARE ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REPORT FORM

12/2

2

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A. 16/05/88 2150 10 MIN

B. TRIANGULAR IN SHAPE. TWO OBJECTS IN FORMATION, WHITE LIGHT AT FRONT OF EACH ONE. THE TWO OTHER CORNERS OF THE OBJECTS WERE REDDISH ORANGE IN COLOUR.

C. OUTDOORS. [REDACTED] CANNOCK STATIONARY.

D. NAKED EYE.

E. IN THE DIRECTION OF 'PENKRIDGE FROM POSITION OF THE OBSERVER.

F. 30°

G. UNCERTAIN.

H. THE TWO OBJECTS MOVED IN FORMATION KEEPING SAME DISTANCE APART HEADING NORTH TOWARDS CANNOCK CHASE.

J. CLEAR, FINE AND DRY.

K. HOUSING ESTATE.

L. CANNOCK CHASE POLICE.

M. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

N. NONE.

O. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

P. 16/05/88 2325 UTC.

Q.

Copy sent to HAIS 17.00.25Z date/time

from ATC Civil Watch Supervisor.

ALL REDACTIONS ON THIS PAGE ARE ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

REPORT FORM

12/2

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. 16/05/88 2150 10 MIN
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L. CANNOCK CHASE POLICE.

M. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

N. NONE.

O. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

P. 16/05/88 2325 UTC.

Q.

Copy sent to IMAIS 17 00 25 Z date/time
from ATC Civil Watch Supervisor.

E72 Section 40

17/5

U N C L A S S I F I E D

CABOZZ 17/0650 13600000

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 170612Z MAY 68

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO NCOUR AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC ZAF

SUBJECT: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

- A. 162140Z MAY 68. 15 MIN
- B. ONE. UNDETERMINABLE. UMBRELLA SHAPED. YELLOW AND GREEN. WHITE SPOTS. NIL. NIL
- C. BACK SERIES OF HOUSES. OUTLOOKS. STAIRWAYS
- D. BARE EYE AND BINOCULARS
- E. NORTH WEST FROM LUDLOW
- F. 30 TO 40 DEGREES
- G. UNKNOWN
- H. CHANGING
- I. SKY CLEAR
- K. HOUSES AND TREES
- L. LAND.
- M. [REDACTED]

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

PAGE 2 RSDAID 002 UNCLAS

- N. NIL
- O. [REDACTED]
- P. 162140Z MAY 68
- BT

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

MINISTRE OF DEFENCE
 830/83/2
 17 MAY 1968
 FILE 12/2

(E71) Section 40
17/5

U N C L A S S I F I E D

CABV21 11/22-48 138510.0

PER CAB

ACU:INE 178510Z MAY 66

FROM RAF WEG, GRAYTON
TO MODUR AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D

SIC Zor

SUBJECT: AERIAL FREMNIENE

A. 162140Z MAY 66 FOR 2 MINS

B. TWO TAN SHARPE OBJECTS WITH VERT. BRIGHT GREEN, BLUE AND AMBER COLOURS. LOW DRUMING SOUND

C. OUTDOORS STATIONARY [REDACTED] BROMSGLOVE

D. NAKED EYE

E. FROM BROMSGLOVE TO KILDEERLANDIA

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

F. +3 DEGREE

G. NONE GIVEN

H. STEADY

J. SKY CLEAR

K. HOUSES TREES AND LAMPPOSTS

L. WEST MERSEA POLICE

M. [REDACTED]

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

PAGE 2 REBLAL 001 SALERS

N. NIL

O. [REDACTED] REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

P. 16210Z MAY 66

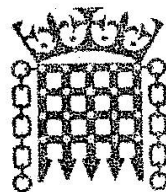
BT

[REDACTED] REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

[REDACTED]

FILE 12/2

WILLIAM CASH, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

ENCL No. 1

Sec

ENCL No. 13

Section 40

4 July 1988

Special

Don Bogg

I enclose some eye witness reports on the question of the unidentified flying objects in the vicinity of Stafford which you may wish to consider when replying to my letter to you on this matter.

Yours truly,

Bee

Roger Freeman, Esq., MP
Under Secretary of State for
the Armed Forces
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

ACKN
5/7/88

MR B. CASH. MP.
CASTLE STREET,
STAFFORD.

Section 40

ENCL NO.
42

Dear Sir,

I am writing in reply to the plea in the Newsletter regarding the object seen in the sky on approximately 16 May this year. I too saw this object for a good four minutes from start to finish.

My house is situated at the front of Section 40 with an unrestricted view over Moss Pitt, Highfields and across to the castle. Sitting by my lounge window, I observed two bright lights at approximately 9.40pm approaching from the Acton Trussell / Penkridge direction. At first my thoughts were of a low flying plane, (very low) with lights on the wings coming towards my direction. The lights were at first horizontal to each other but after about one minute they very steadily moved in an arc from horizontal to vertical and then climbed up vertically. (see sketch)

On seeing this I was intrigued as to what manoeuvre this "plane?" was taking and wanted to get a better view. I walked out on to the lawn and after a further minute or so the two bright lights started to dim, I could see the object was to come overhead. By now I could make out numerous coloured lights but no shape. As it flew overhead I started to make out two perfect triangles, but in line not one over the other as stated in the Newsletter. However, the lights were as stated but still none flashing as conventional lights do on aircraft. There was sound but very very faint. The sound was of a very high aircraft, 30 - 40 thousand feet but the object was nowhere near this altitude, if it was it would have been very big.

It moved overhead in the direction of Baswich House and out of view. I cannot begin to explain what it was but I know of no plane that can manoeuvre in this manner at such a slow speed. The triangles were equal in size and the distance apart did not fluctuate at all. If it had not been in the air I would have said that it could not fly at all.

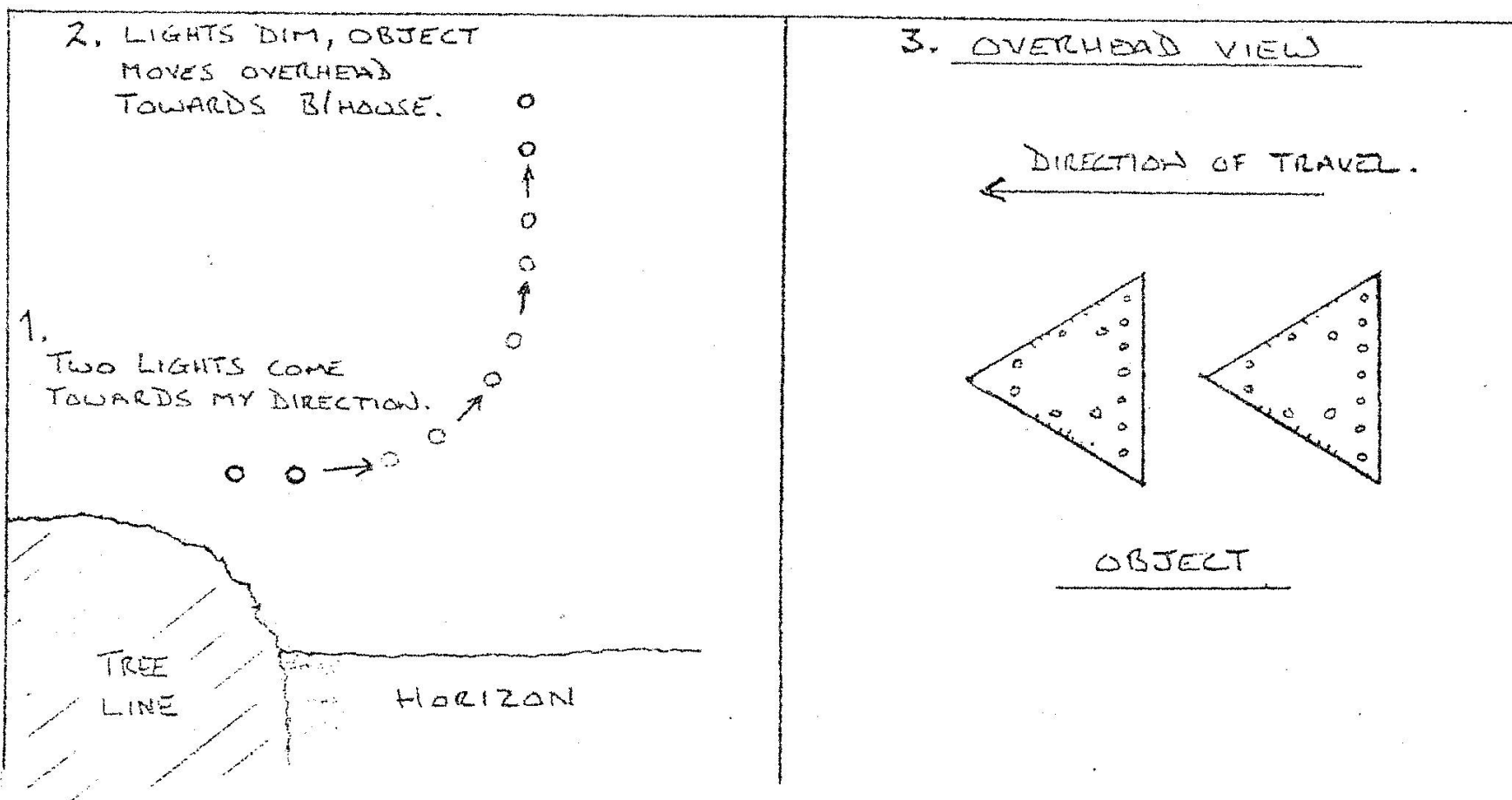
A real eye opener, lets hope for more! I hope this has been of some use to you,

Regards.

Section 40

25.6.88

Section 40



UFOs

Section 40

She was mentioned in one of the Newsletter articles. She was standing in a front garden with 5 other people and the objects were seen in a northerly direction over the town. They were below the height that a microlight would fly. There was no noise. They moved slowly towards them and then banked round. She said a normal plane would not have banked in the same way. She phoned Shawbury RAF Station who told her that there were no movements that they knew of.

Section 40

Not a constituent.

9.45 pm was in the garden and saw two lights in the shape of a cross. There was no noise and they came over where she lives in went off in the direction of Uttoxeter. She ran into the house to phone her sister and when she came out again they had gone.

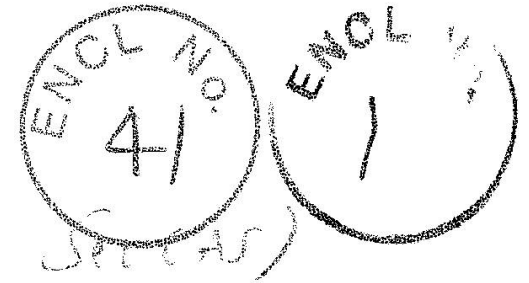
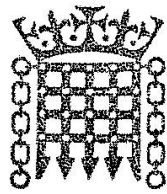
Section 40

Section 40 knows her and says she is perfectly sane. She was out walking with her son in law who is a policeman at 9.30. It looked like 2 headlights coming towards them, no sound. When it came overhead there was a mass of lights underneath. Moved very slowly and appeared to go in an eastward direction.

Section 40

They were sitting in their lounge approx 10pm. Suddenly saw two delta shaped objects coming from the south, which then turned southeast before Stafford. They were at about 5,000 ft, close together and silent.

WILLIAM CASH, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

15 June 1988

Dear Roger

I have been requested to write to you by constituents of mine regarding reports in my constituency of sightings of unidentified objects and lights in the vicinity of Stafford on 16th May at 9.45 pm.

I have to confess to being highly sceptical about UFOs but apparently a number of people who saw these things were very emphatic and, therefore, I feel it is right to raise this matter with you.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Bill

Roger Freeman, Esq., MP
Under Secretary of State for
the Armed Forces
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

*added
20/6/88*

Section 40

- sorry haven't had time to study.

E40/1

Section 40

1/7

FILE COPY
12/42 RE FROM BILL CASH MD

attach a draft reply for US & S (AF). We have several reports on file which correspond (approximately) to the details given by Cash. I intend to send copies with the reply.

have tried to find a definitive answer for the sightings but can't. The three reports do not correlate easily with each other on either description or direction of flight. It is likely therefore that they could be coincidental sightings of separate a/c.

My reply suggests that the sightings could possibly be a/c going into Birmingham Airport - who have confirmed that they were particularly busy at the time: (20 movements during period 2100 - 2200 hours.) They also confirmed that a/c come in from all directions and "stack" prior to entry into the airport. I have also spoken to BRSS who agree that an a/c using B'ham airport is a possibility. Also spoke to the Police Flying Unit based at B'ham airport - but they said that they were not flying at the time.

Section 40

30/6

OIC pd

file

ENCL No.
40

(41)



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

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

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DEFENCE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)RNF 4651

20th June 1988

Dear Martin,

Thank you for your letter of 13 April enclosing a further letter from **Section 40** about Unidentified Flying Objects.

I was sorry to learn that **Section 40** was disheartened by my earlier reply, although I believe that it explained the Ministry of Defence's position and the extent of our interest in UFOs quite clearly.

Section 40 said that he failed to elicit replies from MOD officials about specific incidents. I am afraid that we can find no record of any previous communications from **Section 40** (other than his earlier letter to you). My officials do however correspond with a number of UFO Groups fairly regularly and should **Section 40** require any further assistance, within the provisos given in my letter of 9 March, he should write to the following address:

Ministry of Defence
Sec(AS)2a
Room **Section 40**
Whitehall SW1A 2HB

I hope you will find this helpful.

Roger Freeman

Roger Freeman

Martin O'Neill Esq MP

14/22

M2

file copy
12/4
Grids
39

Section 40

APS/US of S(AF)

I attach at E4 a self explanatory draft response to Martin O' Neill's letter of 13 April 1988.

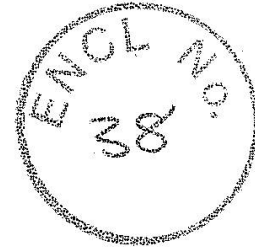
Section 40

16 June 88

Sec(AS)2

Section 40

D14/52

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 4651

June 1988

Thank you for your letter of 13 April enclosing a further letter from your constituent **Section 40** **[REDACTED]** **[REDACTED]** about Unidentified Flying Objects.

I was sorry to learn that **Section 40** **[REDACTED]** was disheartened by my earlier reply, although I believe that it explained the Ministry of Defence's position and the extent of our interest in UFOs quite clearly.

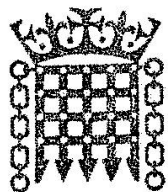
Turning to his suggestions that he failed to elicit replies from my officials regarding specific incidents, I am afraid that we can find no record of any previous communication from **Section 40** **[REDACTED]** (other than his earlier letter to you). My officials do however correspond with a number of UFO Groups fairly regularly and should **Section 40** **[REDACTED]** require any further assistance, within the provisos given in my letter of 9 March, he should write to the following address:

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

I hope you will find this helpful.

[PS. Perhaps you would also explain my credentials to **Section 40** **[REDACTED]** .

FROM: MARTIN O'NEILL, M.P.



ENCL No.
3

Not with
SEC (ENCL) 20
3/7

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA
01- 219 4548 / 5059

File returned
16/3/88
Appl: UFOs!

13th April 1988

Dear Roger,

✓ 4651.
No trace of
GPO, 2/3/88

I am enclosing a further letter from **Section 40** [redacted] about **Section 40** [redacted] about UFO sightings.

I should be most grateful if you could give consideration to the further points which have been raised so that I may send your comments on to **Section 40** [redacted]

Yours sincerely,

Martin O'Neill

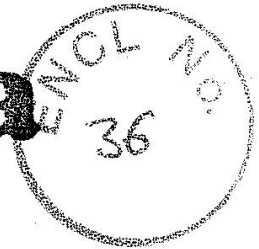
Martin O'Neill

Mr. Roger Freeman, MP,
Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London SW1 2HB.

Acx/b
2/14/88

Strange Phenomena

INVESTIGATIONS



"We must seek to answer that which at present eludes us."

Telephone **Section 40**



21st March 1988.

(1 of 2 PAGES)

Dear Martin,

I thought I would write to you and thank you for taking the time to seek further information relating to UFO Sightings in the U.K. from the Ministry Of Defence. I received your letter and enclosed letter from a Mr Roger Freeman. Do you happen to know who exactly this Mr Freeman is? Is he a MOD spokesman or what?

The letter was somewhat disheartening, and it contained the usual remarks issued from the MOD. Honestly Martin, myself and many others included, do know, and evidence has been forthcoming, that the MOD do take this seriously and do have researchers investigating certain cases. Their statement that, "we only investigate UFO cases if they prove a threat to the defence of the realm", is true to a point. But they DO research a lot more further than that.

A glaring contradiction was seen in Mr Freeman's letter when he mentioned, (quote), "we are thus able to respond to specific requests from individuals or UFO societies about particular incidents, and to offer them such information as we have on these incidents", (unquote). I'm afraid this is not so. For I have tried time and time again to seek information on a particular case, and they did not even have the courtesy to reply; (this is why I contacted you).

It looks now though, as if we, (UFO Groups), will have to wait the allotted time to 1997, in which all these records (I hope so), will become available. Maybe then we can begin to grasp an understanding on what is being reported throughout the skies of our world. And maybe then we can give answers to the many puzzled people from all walks of life and nationalities, who have reported these things.

I would ask Martin for you to return all the documents I gave you, and also the book, 'UFO Conspiracy' of which I loaned you to familiarise yourself with the data. Could you see to this?

..... Finally. SPI extend their great felt appreciation for you taking the time to assist in this matter. Some may think that its all nonsense, but they said that about other people who were trying to uncover mysteries behind things in, medicine, early flight, early T.V. & Radio, Space Exploration, etc etc. Man can only uncover things if he seeks them. For to think that man has uncovered or explained everything, would be foolish.

There are still many wonders out there but of which we may not as yet have the technology to uncover. The search must go on.

Thank you again.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40



President SPI,
& BUFORA RIC Scotland.

Section 40

Section 40

21/4

NOTHING

Would you please look through our correspondence files - go to mid-85 please - and see if we have had any letters from [redacted] in the past. [redacted] 21/4 By 28 Apr 1971

Section 40

Section 40

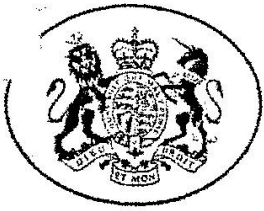
PI check to make sure that we haven't rec'd any enquiries from [redacted] (or from SPI/BURORA Scotland)

before drafting a response. To me by

4 May pl.

Section 40

* (or from Strange Phenomena Investigations 21/4 or BUFOEA Scotland)



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

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

12/4
 (1 of 2 PAGES)
 E34

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
 FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 5084

18th April 1988

Dear Charlie,

Thank you for your letter of 10 February 1988 to Tim Sainsbury enclosing a letter from your constituent **Section 40** **Section 40** about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). As this subject falls within my area of responsibility, I am replying.

First of all I would like to assure **Section 40** that there is no question of the Government attempting to hide any information about UFOs from the general public, or participating in a "worldwide conspiracy" to this end.

I think it would be helpful to **Section 40** if I explain that the Ministry of Defence's sole interest in these matters is to establish whether or not UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom, using our judgement based on military expertise in analysing the information available to us. Unless we judge that they do present a threat, and this is not normally the case, no further attempt is made to investigate or identify the phenomena, nor could we justify the use of defence resources for this purpose. Instead, such UFO reports as we receive, are referred to appropriate staff including those responsible for intelligence matters and air defence, who consider them as part of their normal duties.

This enables us to respond to specific requests from individuals or UFO Societies about particular incidents, by offering whatever information we have on those incidents, but we do not however have the resources to respond to more general enquiries or to undertake surveys of UFO data.

We are of course aware of the views of UFO societies and others which are often given prominence in the media, but our own experience suggests that rational explanations could probably be found for most UFO sightings, and that natural phenomena such as ball lightning, unusual cloud formations, satellite debris re-entering the earth's

The Hon Sir Charles Morrison, MP

atmosphere as well as meteorological balloons and aircraft lights may explain many such incidents. I can certainly assure you that we have no evidence whatsoever to suggest that intelligent life from outer space or alien spacecraft have landed on our planet.

It would not of course be appropriate for me to comment on the official US position with regard to UFOs although I suspect it is in fact similar to our own. I hope your constituent will find this helpful.

Freeman
Boya.

Roger Freeman

14/19

(file) (E33)
(1 of 5 PAGES)

M2

APS/US of S(AF)

I attach at E2 a fairly straightforward draft response to The Hon Sir Charles Morrison MP's letter of 10 February 1988.

Section 40
[Redacted]

19 Apr 88

Sec(AS)2

Section 40
[Redacted]

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 5084

April 1988

Thank you for your letter of 10 February 1988 to Tim Sainsbury enclosing a letter from your constituent **Section 40**

Section 40 about Unidentified Flying Objects(UFOs). As this subject falls within my area of responsibility, I am replying.

First of all I would like to assure **Section 40** that there is no question of the Government attempting to hide any information about UFOs from the general public, or participating in a "worldwide conspiracy" to this end.

I think it would be helpful to **Section 40** if I explain that the Ministry of Defence's sole interest in these matters is to establish whether or not UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom, using our judgement based on military expertise in analysing the information available to us. Unless we judge that they do present a threat, and this is not normally the case, no further attempt is made to investigate or identify the phenomena, nor could we justify the use of defence resources for this purpose. Instead, such UFO reports as we receive, are referred to appropriate staff including those responsible for intelligence matters and air defence, who consider them as part of their normal duties.

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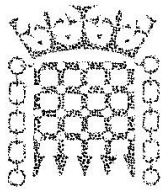
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Roger Freeman

The Hon Sir Charles Morrison, MP

The Hon. ^{Sir} Charles Morrison, M.P.

E1



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Secretary

10th February, 1988.

Tim

I should be grateful for your comments on the enclosed letter from my constituent,

Section 40

By sec. that you are the correct recipient of this missive. As most 'sightings' are now 1/2 minute / longest could they be anything to do with our old friend

The Hon Timothy Sainsbury, MP.,

Lord W.

more to do with me too many

Section 40

Charles

Section 40

Mr. CHARLES MORRISON M.P.
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,
WESTMINSTER,
LONDON.

30/01/88.

Dear Sir,

I have been wondering recently how long it will be before the Government makes a public announcement concerning U.F.O's. (Unidentified Flying Objects).

For years now sightings have been reported in the newspapers and on television and yet all we have had is silence from our governing body.

It seems strange that this should be so.

Could the truth be that the Government has already documented proof concerning the existence of U.F.O's. and hence proof that our planet is being regularly visited by intelligent life from outer space?

If this is so I believe that we the public have the right to know.

Is there a worldwide conspiracy to keep us in the dark?
Would the population really panic if they found out the truth?

In America people who have persisted with their claims of sightings and meetings have been visited and told to keep quiet.

Why?

What is the real truth behind the U.F.O. sightings?
Are they from outer space or, is there a more sinister explanation?

Thankyou for finding time to read this letter.

I would be most grateful if you could find time to reply.

Yours faithfully

Section 40



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

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

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
 FOR DEFENCE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 4651

9th March 1988

Dear Martin,

Thank you for your letter of 2 December 1987, prompted by an approach from the Scottish UFO Society. I am sorry for the delay in replying.

I have no reason to doubt that your informants are correct in saying that a great deal of information on UFOs is available in the United States under their Freedom of Information Act. In the UK however, as Viscount Long explained on 4 March 1982 (Hansard: House of Lords columns 1370/1371), records are only available from 1967, and, in common with all other Government records of that period will, under the Public Records Act, remain closed from public viewing until at least 1997, ie 30 years later.

I can also confirm that the sole interest of the MOD in these matters is to establish whether or not UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom using our judgement based on military expertise in analysing the information available to us. Unless we judge that they do present a threat, and this is not normally the case, no attempt is made by the MOD to investigate or identify the objects and we could not justify the appointment of trained observers as you suggest. Instead such UFO reports as we receive are referred to appropriate staff including those responsible for intelligence matters and air defence, who consider the reports as part of their normal duties.

We are thus able to respond to specific requests from individuals or UFO Societies about particular incidents, and to offer them such information as we have on those incidents. We do not however have the resources to respond to more general enquiries or to undertake surveys of UFO data.

I hope you and the Scottish UFO Society will find this helpful.

Yours sincerely
Roger

Roger Freeman

Martin O'Neill Esq MP

D14/38

12/4

(E3)

file copy

(105 PAGES)

M2

APS/US of S(AF)

1. I attach at E3 a fairly straightforward draft response to Martin O'Neill MP's letter of 2 December 1987.
2. The Hansard extract referred to appears to be a Lords extract dated 4 March 1982 rather than a Commons extract dated 25 January 1984 as originally suggested. A copy of the Lords extract is attached at E2.

1 March 1988

Section 40



Sec(AS)2

Section 40



. 314/58

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 4651

March 1988

Thank you for your letter of 2 December 1987, prompted by an approach from the Scottish UFO Society.

I have no reason to doubt that your informants are correct in saying that a great deal of information on UFOs is available in the United States under their Freedom of Information Act. In the UK however, as Viscount long explained on 4 March 1982 (Hansard: House of Lords columns 1370/1371), records are only available from 1967, and, in common with all other Government records of that period will, under the Public Records Act, remain closed from public viewing until at least 1997, ie 30 years later.

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I hope you and the Scottish UFO Society will find this helpful.

Doc 25-1-82

2

1369

British Citizens:

118

1370

1371

Unidentified Flying

[LOR.]

House of Lords

Thursday, 4th March, 1982.

The House met at three of the clock (Prayers having been read earlier at the Judicial Sitting by the Lord Bishop of Derby): The LORD CHANCELLOR on the Woolsack.

Unidentified Flying Objects: Sightings

3.4 p.m.

The Earl of Clancarty: My Lords, I beg leave to ask the Question which stands in my name on the Order Paper.

The Question was as follows:

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many reports have been received by the Ministry of Defence on unidentified flying objects (UFOs) in each of the last four years, and what action has been taken in each case.

Viscount Long: My Lords, in 1978 there were 750 sightings; in 1979 there were 550 sightings; in 1980, 350 sightings; and in 1981, 600 sightings. All UFO reports are passed to operations staff who examine them solely for possible defence implications.

The Earl of Clancarty: My Lords, while thanking the noble Viscount for that Answer, may I ask him whether or not it is a fact that over 2,000 authenticated UFO reports were published last year in the national press? If so, were they accepted or passed on to the Ministry of Defence? And what happened to them?

Viscount Long: My Lords, they did not all get to the Ministry of Defence. I have just informed your Lordships of the numbers sighted. If the noble Earl is suspicious that the Ministry of Defence is covering up in any way, I can assure him that there is no reason why we should cover up the figures which he has mentioned if they are true. The sole interest of the Ministry of Defence in UFO reports is to establish whether they reveal anything of defence interest—for example, a Russian aircraft or an unidentified aircraft—which might have breached our security systems. That is the sole reason why we are interested in the reports.

Lord Wynne-Jones: My Lords, does the Answer given mean that since there has been a Conservative Government the UFOs have done a U-turn and departed?

Viscount Long: Not according to my reading, my Lords.

The Earl of Kimberley: My Lords, as my noble friend said that 600 UFOs had been officially reported or acknowledged by the Ministry of Defence in 1981, may I ask him how many of those sightings still remain unidentified and were not subject to security, or were Russian aeroplanes, or anything like that?

Viscount Long: My Lords, I do not have those figures. They disappeared into the unknown before we got them.

Lord Strabolgi: My Lords, may I ask the noble Viscount whether the present Government adhere to the view of the previous Government which I put forward when I replied to the debate three years ago in your Lordships' House, that most of these so-called sightings can be accounted for as natural phenomena?

Viscount Long: Yes, my Lords, they can be. Many of them are accounted for in one way or another, but nobody has got a really constructive answer for all of them.

Lord Hill-Norton: My Lords, may I ask the noble Viscount whether or not it is true that all the sighting reports received by the Ministry of Defence before 1962 were destroyed because they were deemed "to be of no interest"? And if it is true, who was it who decided that they were of no interest?

Viscount Long: My Lords, my reply to the noble and gallant Lord—I was wondering whether he was going to say that the Royal Navy had many times seen the Loch Ness monster—is that since 1967 all UFO reports have been preserved. Before that time, they were generally destroyed after five years.

Lord Paget of Northampton: My Lords, can the noble Viscount tell us whether, out of these thousands of sightings which he has mentioned there has been a single one which suggested any menace to our defences? In the circumstances, is not an awful lot of time being wasted on this nonsense?

Viscount Long: My Lords, I think Her Majesty's Government are waiting for an invitation from them to discuss these problems.

Mr. Anatoly She'

3.9 p.m.

Lord Renton: My Question which stands on the Order Paper.

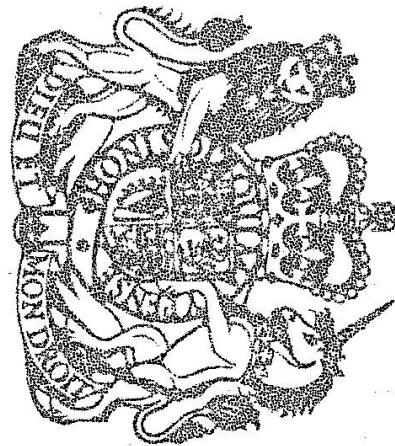
The Question was:

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are aware that Anatoly Shecharansky, who in 1981 had his prize for his refusal to join the Soviet Union, has always maintained that they will request whether they intend to release him on conditions until he

Lord Trefgarne: My Question which stands on the Order Paper. Anatoly Shecharansky reports of his ill-treatment with the Soviet authorities.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

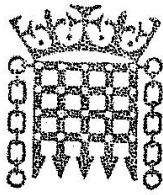
(HANSARD)



Vol. 427
No. 51

Tuesday
4 March 1982

FROM: MARTIN O'NEILL, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Section 40

2nd December 1987

ENCLOSURE 1

SECRET 2

Dear Roger,

I have been approached by the Scottish U.F.O. Society.

I have been informed that a great deal of data on this subject is available in the United States through the Freedom of Information legislation operating there. However, I am told that very little is made public of data gathered in Britain and therefore I should be most interested to know if you would be prepared to expand on replies given on the 25th January 1984, Col. 1370/71 in the House of Commons. *Lords*. *

My constituents would also be interested to know what plans the Government has to appoint trained observers to investigate these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Martin O'Neill

Martin O'Neill

* Telecom
refers.

Section 40

of 21/

Section 40

Mr. Roger Freeman, MP,
Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London SW1 2HB.

ACK
7/12

Section 40

E30

12/4

Howard Extracts : No record of CG 1370/71 in either Lords or Commons Hansards for 25 January 1984. Rang **Section 40** about this perplexing problem and asked him to look into this after New Year break bearing in mind the 21/12 deadline.

Section 40

Section 40 on 5/1 to see how far they had got. Apparently, ^{23/12} Martin O'Neil has not been in his office during the Christmas break so USofS's office have been unable to contact him. They will try again today.

Section 40

5/1

Section 40 on 13/1 and asked if he had managed to contact Martin O'Neil his secretary. So far no luck. I asked if he would keep on trying and let me on the correct Howard reference as soon as possible.

Section 40

13/1

Spoke **Section 40** 19/1
He is trying to get hold of O'Neil's secretary. No luck so far. We're not to worry about the deadline having passed -

Section 40 will be in touch asap.

Section 40 19/1

~~Spoke~~ **Section 40** on 28/1

Unfortunately **Section 40** has been unable to contact Martin O'Neil's secretary, who has been rather elusive. He said that he would continue trying to contact her. In the meantime, he asked for the papers back, although I did mention that the draft reply couldn't be used yet as it needed to be tied into what the Howard (if that is what it is) has to say.

Section 40

Section 40 Rang on 2/2 : The Howard to which Martin O'Neil refers is ^{28/1} 7 Mar 82. Lords Howard Comm 1370/1371. **Section 40** will put up a copy of the relevant pages.

Section 40

2/2

E29

1369

British Citizens:

1370

1371

Unidentified Flying

[LOR.]

House of Lords

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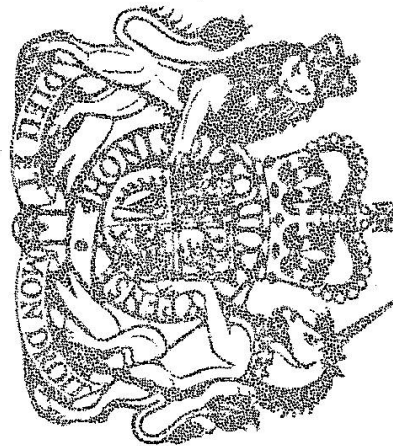
The Question was—

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are aware that Anatoly Shecharansky has been frequently placed in prison since 1981 had his prison sentence for his refusal to accept the conditions which he has always maintained they will request whether they intend to change the conditions until he is released?

Lord Trefgarne: My Lords, the Government remain gravely concerned about the reports of the ill-treatment of Anatoly Shecharansky with the Soviet authorities.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

Vol. 427
No. 51Thursday
4 March 1982

12/4

Section 40

p/s

② file 12/4

E28



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)

(Switchboard)

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 3723

3rd September 1987

Dear Stan,

Thank you for your letter to Ian Stewart of 3 August with the enclosed from Section 40. I am sorry that Section 40 did not receive a reply to his letter to DI55 of 7 June and hope he will accept this as a reply to both.

I think it would be helpful if I explain first that whilst we do receive and co-ordinate information about UFO sightings, the main concern of the Ministry of Defence is to determine whether or not Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this is not normally the case, no attempt is made by MOD to investigate or identify the objects. Information we have is therefore limited to the brief details of the sightings which are passed on to us by those who witnessed them. After receiving the reports, we pass them to the MOD staff who are responsible for the air defence of the United Kingdom, and they examine the reports as part of their normal duties but do not undertake any further investigations or general surveys.

As for Section 40 requests for information about the so called operation Majestic 12, I am afraid the only information we have on this subject is that provided to us by Section 40 and contained in Section 40 book and related press articles. If the operation exists it would appear to have been a US national one, of which we in the UK had no knowledge. I can therefore only suggest that if Section 40 wishes to find out more on this subject, he should contact the American Authorities through the Information Section of the US Embassy in London.

I am sorry that I cannot be more helpful.

Yours ever
Roger

Roger Freeman

Stan Crowther Esq MP

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

E27

file copy

Section 40

D/Sac(AS)12/4

September 1987

Scan **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter dated 8 June to the Secretary of State for Defence. I have been asked to reply on his behalf.

You might find it helpful if I explain that whilst we do receive and co-ordinate information about Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) sightings, the main concern of the Ministry of Defence is to determine whether or not UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this is not normally the case, no attempt is made by MOD to investigate or identify the objects. Information we have is therefore limited to the brief details of the sightings which are passed on to us by those who witnessed the phenomena. After receiving the reports, we pass them to MOD staff who are responsible for the air defence of the UK and they examine the reports as part of their normal duties but do not undertake any further investigations or general surveys.

As for your request for information about the so-called operation Majestic 12, I am afraid the only information we have on this subject is that provided by yourself and fellow ufologists, and that contained within **Section 40** book and related press articles. If the operation existed, it would appear to have been a US national one, of which we in the UK had no knowledge. I would therefore suggest that if you wish to find out more on this subject, you should contact the American authorities through the Information Section of the US Embassy in London.

I am sorry that I cannot be more helpful.

42
Section 40

Section 40

(E26)

He asked me to re-write the letter to Section 40 on the lines of an letter to Section 40 - here it is.

Section 40

3/2

OK

Section 40

Draft reply to

Section 40

attached, based on the

PE we did last week.

Section 40

1/9

Section 40

(E25)

Pse prepare a draft reply.

We'll obviously need to check the facts, but something along lines of we have heard about the incident before, mainly from UFO specialists.

Neither we nor DISS have seen copies of the 2 papers.

Suggest he writes to Americans.

Also, pse find out when we + DISS started collecting info on UFOs.

There is another of's reply on MJ12 1 that. Weren't you **Section 40** going to make absolutely sure we haven't other info on MJ12.

Section 40

13/8

Section 40

Reference: MJ 12 - letter from Section 40 Project Orion

E24

Please see attached letter to S&S from Section 40 asks for comment on MAJESTIC-12. The only information we have on MAJESTIC-12 is that found in the native per (see cuttings). This presumably is the same source that Section 40 used. The letter to S&S was copied to AHB (RAF). I spoke to Section 40 about this today and he can find no reference to MJ-12 in his records. The only reference he can find for MAJESTIC is a WHZ operation in Japan area. Section 40 has replied to AHS/S&S with his findings. Bearing this in mind, I suggest that we write a short letter to

(E23)

MINISTERIAL BUSINESS: TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES

(1 OF 3 PAGES)

CLASSIFICATION:

Section 40

PRIVATE OFFICE REFERENCE: MO 26/19

Section 40

Head of Sec (AT)

Ufos

MINISTERIAL BUSINESS: TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES

MINISTERIAL BUSINESS: TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES

- 1. The attached communication from Section 40 dated *16 June* is referred to you for information and any necessary action. It must be placed on a Departmental registered file.
- 2. I am copying this minute, with the attachment, to:

AMB (RAF)

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.....

Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 Sec.(AS)2
 11 JUN 1987

FILE 12/4

Section 40

Date: *16/15 June 1986*

APS/S of S
Section 40

MINISTERIAL BUSINESS: TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES

FROM: THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH "PROJECT O.R.I.O.N."

Section 40

TO: MR GEORGE YOUNGER DEFENCE SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, WHITEHALL

8th June 1987

SUBJECT: MAJESTIC TWELVE (MJ12)

SOURCE: The Observer - Sunday 31st May 1987

Dear Mr Younger,

In respect of the above named subject & source.

Many members of the general public viewed this article with interest. Many were of course extremely disturbed.

Is there any truth in the matter, and has the Ministry of Defence any knowledge of such an organisation. Several members of PROJECT O.R.I.O.N. have indeed seen such documentation acquired by Section 40. There is much evidence to suggest the papers are authentic and revealing.

If these documents are genuine, they would suggest that a covert operation was in hand to conceal the existence of dead alien bodies, and an advanced craft, from the public in America. Since this is the case, it would suggest that perhaps Winston Churchill had at least some facts kept from him.

We feel it is in order for the British Government to comment upon this information. An explanation or denial would be in order.

MAJESTIC 12, is a very real organisation, which probably exists under another code name, perhaps '54-12'. Can you assist in any way?

Yours Faithfully,

Section 40

Ref. 003/87

SUNDAY EVENING 1987

OBSERVER

And now ... if you've read enough about the election, here's news from another world

Close encounters of an alien kind

BODIES of four 'aliens' from a crashed UFO (unidentified flying object) were recovered and examined by a special American Government team 40 years ago, according to a top-secret 'document' obtained by a British researcher.

A bitter debate is now likely to develop among UFO experts over the existence of a mysterious committee, code-named Majestic-12, which is supposed to have examined the aliens.

The highly classified briefing paper claims that the then head of the CIA, Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, reported that 'although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for their development have apparently been quite different from those observed or postulated in *homo sapiens*'.

The document, which has been shown to *The Observer* by Timothy Good, Britain's leading UFO researcher, purports to be a briefing paper for President-elect Eisenhower on Operation Majestic-12, also known as MJ-12.

In his book, 'Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Cover-up', to be published by Sidgwick & Jackson on 9 July, Mr Good claims that MJ-12 was a committee of senior US officials which investigated and then covered

up news of flying saucer crashes.

Other UFO experts believe the story could be a hoax involving the planting of a fake supporting White House memo in the files of Air Force Intelligence and then getting the National Archives officially to declassify a forged document.

The Eisenhower briefing paper, dated 18 November, 1952, claims the MJ-12 committee had been set up by his predecessor, President Truman, on 24 September, 1947, as a 'top secret research and development/intelligence operation responsible directly and only to the President of the United States'.

The document reports that on 24 June 1947, 'disc-shaped aircraft' were sighted in the United States. 'Little was learned about the objects until a local rancher reported that one had crashed in a remote region of New Mexico, about 75 miles north-west of Roswell Army Air Base (now Walker Field).

'On 7 July 1947, a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study. During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site.'

by MARTIN BAILEY

According to the briefing paper: 'All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one week of time which had elapsed before their discovery.'

'A covert analytical effort resulted in a preliminary consensus (19 September 1947) that the disc was most likely a short-range reconnaissance craft...'

The Majestic-12 Group remains of the unanimous opinion that imposition of the strictest security precautions should continue without interruption into the new Administration.'

Inquiries by *The Observer* at the National Archives, the archives of former Presidents Truman and Eisenhower, and the National Security Council archives, have been unable to authenticate the briefing paper. They all say that extensive searches have failed to locate copies of the document.

There is, however, new evidence from the files of US Intelligence that a secret group called MJ-12 did exist. This is a White House memorandum to General Twining informing him about an 'MJ-12' briefing for President Eisenhower. It was declassified on 12 January 1987.

The White House memorandum was described by the National

Archives last week as 'a very strange document'.

Archivist Joanna Williamson said: 'It was found in the files of the US Air Force's Director of Intelligence and is certainly genuine, but we have found no minutes of the MJ-12 meeting, which was scheduled for just two days later. It is very surprising that there are no other papers on MJ-12, and we have no idea what it was.'

If the White House memorandum is genuine, this proves the existence of an MJ-12 group whose responsibility could have covered UFOs. This would then strengthen Mr Good's view that there was a cover-up of the discovery of dead aliens. However, US UFO writer Mr Bary Greenwood has raised an intriguing question suggesting that there could have been a very sophisticated fraud.

'There are some things that look wrong with the White House memo. For example, it is unsigned. It is just possible that it was manufactured by someone wanting to prove the existence of MJ-12 and then inserted into Air Force Intelligence records which had recently been opened up to the public.'

'The hoaxer could then have ordered a copy from the National Archives which would carry the official declassification stamp. MJ-12 may well have existed but more research is needed to authenticate the documents,' he said.

WARNING: This is a TOP SECRET - EYES ONLY document containing compartmentalized information essential to the national security of the United States. EYES ONLY ACCESS to the material herein is strictly limited to those possessing Majestic-12 clearance

Rejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site. All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one week time period which had elapsed before their discovery. A special scientific team took charge of removing these bodies for study. (See Attachment "C"). The wreckage

Extract from the Majestic-12 'document.'

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS July 12 1987

Did the aliens warn Neil Armstrong off the Moon

THE Americans have captured a crashed UFO (unidentified flying object) with four dead aliens beside it, claims the author of a startling new book about flying saucers, Timothy Good. American spaceships have constantly been shadowed by UFOs, he says, but astronauts have been forbidden to talk about it. And when astronauts Neil Armstrong and "Buzz" Aldrin stepped on to the Moon in 1969, he claims they were

Warnings for liars

VE to charges that its are jeopardising their those of people on and their multi- and fighter aircraft by below the 250 foot limit, the RAF has police the skies with ps."

ve heavy with irony, try of Defence has re deployment of four portable radars which contact with RAF air- the hands of the es during the s war when they e fire control system likon 35 mm anti-air-

ss-built radars, each million, were captured fall of Port Stanley. e brought home as war and refurbished ing based at RAF n near Lincoln.

: Skyguards will be und designated low- s, including the Scot- lands, North Wales ria where pilots are to fly under 250 feet are exercises. Up to AF police, mounting atches, have moni- mit by eye.

watched by two huge UFOs that were sitting on the edge of a crater.

Just another flying saucer crank?

Not at all, says Admiral of the Fleet and ex-Chief of Defence Staff Lord Hill-Norton in a powerful foreword to the book.

Lord Hill-Norton denies that Mr Good is "a nut-case" and says he is a thorough researcher whose book is based "soundly upon fact and a great deal of most convincing evidence which I have not seen in print before."

DOCUMENT

Mr Good's claims are so sensational that even he admits at one stage that many readers may "wonder if I have taken leave of my senses." He claims:—

● That he obtained early this year a top secret 1952 American Government document confirming that a UFO crashed in New Mexico in 1947 and that the Americans retrieved the saucer itself and the corpses of "four small human-like beings."

● That each American President is briefed about a secret intelligence group—



Books by GRAHAM LORD

Majestic 12—that investigates reports of UFO sightings, then covers them up to prevent public panic.

● That although Neil Armstrong continually denies the report about UFOs on the moon, he has privately confessed that the Americans "were warned off" the Moon by the UFOs and that "there was never any question then of a space station or a Moon city" because "their ships were far superior to ours."

● That in Britain there are so many hundreds of UFO sightings each year that a secret 30-man Ministry of Defence UFO tracking station and research centre at RAF Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire is manned 24 hours a day—and that he was arrested at midnight when he started nosing around the area.

● That Prince Philip believes in UFOs and has told him: "There are many reasons to believe that they do exist. There is so much evidence from reliable witnesses."

Prince Philip is so interested in the subject, says Mr Good, that he regularly receives the magazine *Flying Saucer Review* and ordered a

copy of Mr Good's previous UFO book *George Adamski—The Untold Story*.

His uncle Lord Mountbatten was also fascinated by UFOs and seems to have been convinced that a flying saucer landed on his estate at Broadlands in Hampshire in 1955.

SURVIVE

Mountbatten, yet another Admiral of the Fleet and Chief of the Defence Staff, even said of UFOs: "If they really come over in a big way, that may settle the capitalist-communist war. If the human race wishes to survive they may have to band together"—a point that was reiterated two years ago by President Reagan in a conversation with Russian leader Gorbachev at Geneva.

Does Reagan know something sensational about UFOs? Does Gorbachev? Are our leaders hiding something from us all?

Timothy Good insists they are—and the wild, weird case he argues in **ABOVE TOP SECRET: The Worldwide UFO Cover-up** (Sidgwick, £14.95) includes scores of stories of world wide UFO sightings and contacts (by ordinary mortals, Russians,

Chinese, even President Jimmy Carter) that are sometimes difficult to believe—like the 1924 sighting at Stanmore in Middlesex where fewer than eight people were present for as long as two hours.

What to make of it all? I'm still sceptical. Millions aren't. Even Al Marshall Lord Dowding said of UFOs: "I am convinced that these objects do exist and that they are not manufactured by any nation on Earth."

And as recently as 1981 the Zimbabwe air force shot down two Hawk jets to intercept, in vain, a UFO that was tracked on radar at Bulawayo.

Zimbabwe Air Command David Thorne told Mr Good: "As far as my Air Staff are concerned, we believe explicitly that the unexplained UFOs are from some other planet beyond our planet."

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec.(AS)2
16 JUL 1987
FILE 12/3

Section 40
[Redacted]
29/8

1. Section 40
[Redacted]

2. file 12/4
(E21)

M2

APS/US of S(AF)
through Section 40
[Redacted]

1. I attach a draft reply to Mr Crowther MP.
2. Although Mr Crowther's constituent, Section 40 [Redacted] has not written to us before, the organisation he represents, the Yorkshire UFO Society (YUFOS), is well known to us. Section 40 [Redacted] asks about "Majestic 12" an allegedly secret US operation informing US presidents of UFO activity. We have now had a number of inquiries about Majestic 12, which was referred to in his book, "Above Top Secret", published recently by UFO writer Timothy Good and picked up in the UK national press a few months ago (example at E1/2). According to Section 40 [Redacted] the Majestic 12 documents were obtained from the US using the US Freedom of Information Act.
3. Neither we nor DI55 were aware of Majestic 12 until it was raised by ufologists, and we had not previously seen the "US documents" which Section 40 [Redacted] enclosed. Nor do we know if they are genuine or not. If they are the operation would appear to be a US national operation, which the UK would not necessarily know about. We can therefore only suggest that if Section 40 [Redacted] wishes to find out more on Majestic-12, he should contact the Americans through the Information Section at the US Embassy in London. The FCO have been consulted and are content with this line.

26 Aug 87

Section 40
[Redacted]
Sec(AS)2a
Section 40
[Redacted]

E20

(1 of 2 pages)

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/RNF 3723

September 1987

Thank you for your letter to Ian Stewart of 3 August with the enclosed from **Section 40**. I am sorry that **Section 40** did not receive a reply to his letter to DI55 of 7 June and hope he will accept this as a reply to both.

I think it would be helpful if I explain first that whilst we do receive and co-ordinate information about UFO sightings, the main concern of the Ministry of Defence is to determine whether or not Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this is not normally the case, no attempt is made by MOD to investigate or identify the objects. Information we have is therefore limited to the brief details of the sightings which are passed on to us by those who witnessed them. After receiving the reports, we pass them to the MOD staff who are responsible for the air defence of the United Kingdom, and they examine the reports as part of their normal duties but do not undertake any further investigations or general surveys.

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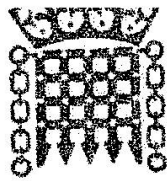
that if **Section 40** wishes to find out more on this subject, he should contact the American Authorities through the Information Section of the US Embassy in London.

I am sorry that I cannot be more helpful.

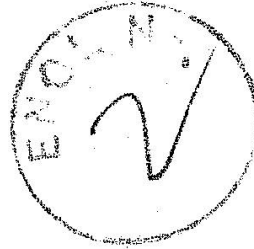
Roger Freeman

Stan Crowther Esq MP

Job No 2a1-18



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA



E19

Mr Ian Stewart MP,
Minister of State
for the Armed Forces,
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London SW1 2HB.

3 August 1987

Dear Ian,

I should be pleased to
have your comments on the enclosed correspon-
dence from my constituent, **Section 40**

I must confess I do not
really know how seriously to take it.

*Yours sincerely
Stan*

Stan Crowther

04 AUG 1987

...PS/US of SCAF)

Sec A 5/2

The attached letter from ...*Stan... Crowther MP*...
to Minister of State (AF), is forwarded for your action
and reply direct as necessary.

This correspondence has not been acknowledged.

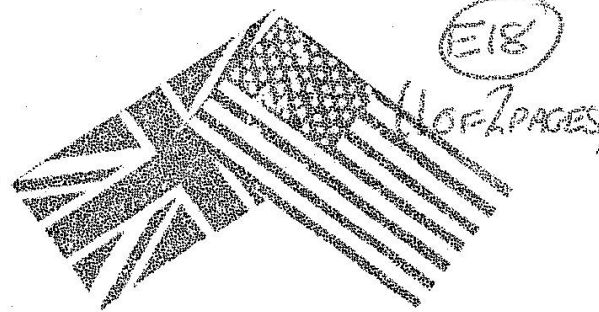
Section 40

for APS/Minister of State (AF)

Ext. **Section 40**

418187

FOUNDED IN 1981

Quest**THE JOURNAL OF UFO INVESTIGATION**A PRIVATE NON-PROFIT MAKING ORGANISATION

Mr Stan Crowther.
C/O The Houses Of Parliament.
London.

Section 40

Overseas Liaison Officer,

Section 40

19th June 1987.

England

Subject: MAJESTIC 12.

Dear Mr Crowther,

First off all let me introduce myself, my name is Section 40 I am the Overseas Liaison Officer for the Yorkshire UFO Society & Quest Magazine. Under the working title of "Project Orion", I recently wrote to an MoD department known as DI55, (Defence Intelligence). Unfortunately, I have yet to receive a reply from them.

Majestic 12 came into being on the orders of President Truman in 1947, after the recovery of a crashed Alien craft in the New Mexico desert in '47. This Above Top Secret organisation has obviously continued it's research into the study of the UFO phenomena (see attachment 010280), this information has subsequently come under the scrutiny of various U.S & UK researchers, plus Admiral Lord Hill Norton (Chief of Defence Staff 1971 - 73) and evidence suggests they could well be genuine. Therefore one can only presume that the MoD (AS2- Air Staff 2, DI55 - Defence Intelligence) must have at least some knowledge on this major development.

In a letter to a former Investigator for this organisation, Michael Hesselatine (former Defence Secretary) replied to Merlin Reese on 3rd November 1983, that " There is not a grain of truth in the allegations that there has been a cover-up about alleged UFO sightings".

It is then, very disturbing to know that AS2 appears to have no knowledge of U.S intelligence research into this phenomena. As your are my M.P, I would like you,

YORKSHIRE UFO SOCIETY



on behalf of the Yorkshire UFO Society / Quest magazine (the official publication of YUFOS) and the civilian population of the UK and Northern Ireland, to raise questions at the highest level in parliament, regarding 'Majestic I2', and the obvious lack of knowledge by our own MOD, regarding the DATA, RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS under the supreme command of the president/s, which was, (and still is) being carried out on UFO phenomena.

The Executive Committee of the Yorkshire UFO Society and QUEST magazine, would be willing to meet you (and we urge that you accept the offer) to show and display some II ABOVE TOP SECRET documents acquired from an intelligence source in the U.S. regarding the operation known as " MAJESTIC I2".

We firmly believe and sincerely hope that an official approach by yourself can throw some light on this disturbing information. Looking forward to your reply and urgent co-operation.

Yours Faithfully,

Section 40

Overseas Liaison Officer

Project ORION.

The Yorkshire UFO Society / Quest magazine.

enclosed: (I) one photocopy of the Observer article.

(I) one photocopy of letter sent to DI55.

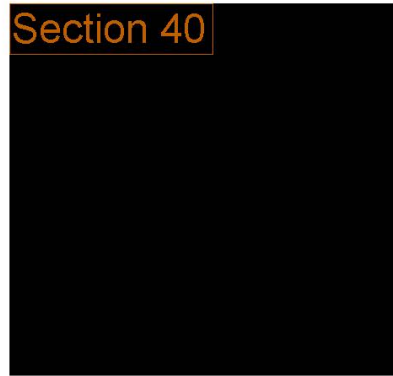
(I) one photocopy of 'MAJESTIC I2 document (code Y.R.D. 0I0050)

(I) one photocopy of 'MAJESTIC I2 document (code Y.R.D. 0I0280)

E17

FROM: THE OVERSEAS DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH "PROJECT O.R.I.O.N."

Section 40



TO: DEFENCE PERSONNEL DI-55

SUBJECT: MAJESTIC TWELVE (MJ12)

7th June 1987

SOURCE: THE OBSERVER - Sunday 31st May 1987

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have been informed that this department (DI-55) deals with UFO reports and similar type of phenomena.

We viewed the enclosed article with great interest and perhaps feel you may have some knowledge of MJ12. If this is the case, then perhaps you could supply information on this very unusual matter. We feel it is in the public's interest that all UFO related material should be released, thus PROJECT ORION considers the Observer report unique in respect of what MAJESTIC TWELVE represents.

If the Observer report is to be believed, then the world's most powerful government, has indeed recovered an alien craft containing ultra advanced technology.

We are currently running checks with various military departments regarding the existence of British interest in respect of MAJESTIC TWELVE.

I look forward to receiving your reply in the near future.

Yours Faithfully

Section 40

O.R.I.O.N.

Ref. 002/87

E16

OBSERVER

And now ... if you've read enough about the election, here's news from another world

Close encounters of an alien kind

by MARTIN BAILEY

BODIES of four 'aliens' from a crashed UFO (unidentified flying object) were recovered and examined by a special American Government team 40 years ago, according to a top-secret 'document' obtained by a British researcher.

A bitter debate is now likely to develop among UFO experts over the existence of a mysterious committee, code-named Majestic-12, which is supposed to have examined the aliens.

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The document, which has been shown to *The Observer* by Timothy Gould, Britain's leading UFO researcher, purports to be a briefing paper for President-elect Eisenhower on Operation Majestic-12, also known as MJ-12.

In his book, 'Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Cover-up', to be published by Sidgwick & Jackson on 9 July, Mr Gould claims that MJ-12 was a committee of senior US officials which investigated and then covered

up news of flying saucer crashes.

Other UFO experts believe the story could be a hoax involving the planting of a fake supporting White House memo in the files of Air Force Intelligence and then getting the National Archives officially to declassify a forged document.

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Little was learned about the objects until a local rancher reported that one had crashed in a remote region of New Mexico, about 75 miles north-west of Roswell Army Air Base (now Walker Field).

'On 7 July 1947, a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study. During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site.'

According to the briefing paper:

All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one week of time which had elapsed before their discovery.

A covert analytical effort resulted in a preliminary consensus (19 September 1947) that the disc was most likely a short-range reconnaissance craft.

The Majestic-12 Group remains of the unanimous opinion that imposition of the strictest security precautions should continue without interruption into the new Administration.

Inquiries by *The Observer* at the National Archives, the archives of former President Truman and Eisenhower, and the National Security Council archives, have been unable to authenticate the briefing paper. They all say that extensive searches have failed to locate copies of the document.

There is, however, new evidence from the files of US Intelligence that a secret group called MJ-12 did exist. This is a White House memorandum to General Twining informing him about an 'MJ-12' briefing for President Eisenhower. It was declassified on 12 January 1987.

The White House memorandum was described by the National

Archives last week as 'a very strange document.'

Archivist Joanna Williamson said: 'It was found in the files of the US Air Force's Director of Intelligence and is certainly genuine, but we have found no minutes of the MJ-12 meeting, which was scheduled for just two days later. It is very surprising that there are no other papers on MJ-12, and we have no idea what it was.'

If the White House memorandum is genuine, this proves the existence of an MJ-12 group whose responsibility could have covered UFOs. This would then strengthen Mr Gould's view that there was a cover-up of the discovery of dead aliens. However, US UFO writer Mr Harry Greenwood has raised an intriguing question suggesting that there could have been a very sophisticated fraud.

'There are some things that look wrong with the White House memo. For example, it is unsigned. It is just possible that it was manufactured by someone wanting to prove the existence of MJ-12 and then inserted into Air Force Intelligence records which had recently been opened up to the public.'

The hoaxer could then have ordered a copy from the National Archives which would carry the official declassification stamp. MJ-12 may well have existed but more research is needed to authenticate the documents,' he said.

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Reported from the craft of the disc-shaped object. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site. All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one week time period which had elapsed before their discovery. A special scientific team took charge of removing these bodies for study. (See Attachment "G-1") The wreckage

Extract from the 'Majestic-12' document.