

UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED - STAFF

June 1966 (Enclosure 3) says that other than air defence implications, no further study was carried out at that time, so what if anything changed during the next twelve months other than **Section 40** arriving in post?

b. **Section 40** suggested Caplan Wilkie Films had made overtures to him and that he was writing to them to say that he was seeking advice on whether he might participate. He did not say that he was intending to send his CV or say what his "UFO" role had been.

Are there any specific reasons why Gp Capt **Section 40** should be advised that he may not participate in the programme?

c. **Section 40** feels that he is uniquely placed to deal with this issue.

If we are content that he is allowed to participate, should this be limited to written answers only (and cleared by MOD in advance)? Can we go further and allow him to speak? I believe this could be fraught with difficulties, not least that he could find himself drawn into wider areas of questioning, possibly including wider DI activities, and that by appearing with MOD approval, it would imply he is an MOD spokesperson.

d. **Section 40** mentions that a 'colleague' (Wg Cdr) **Section 40** has also provided some information. This might simply be to the effect that **Section 40** was the desk officer concerned with "UFOs", or it could be that **Section 40** has said more (he is also mentioned in the Caplan Wilkie letter to CS(RM)).

Who was Wg Cdr **Section 40** and has he made any approaches for clearance to say or do anything?

e. The material requested from CS(RM) is still held under the Public Record Act and it is Government policy not to allow privilege access. It would set a precedent if we did so. Under the Citizen's Charter Code of Practice we should aim to be as helpful as possible.

CS(RM) suggest that they should trawl the closed files providing Caplan Wilkie with written answers to their questions (draft reply at Enclosure 4). I believe this is a sensible way forward in that we could make sure, before any information is released, that there are no hostages to fortune in what is proposed. Are addressees content with this line?

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4. Finally, there may be other points that I have not drawn attention to that also need to be addressed and I should appreciate advice on any that come to mind.

5. We need to respond both to Gp Capt [redacted] and Caplan Wilkie and I should therefore be grateful for comments (and nil returns) please by Wednesday 28th May.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2

MB8247

CHOTS: SEC(AS)2

FAX :

Section 40

Section 40

RESTRICTED - STAFF
UNCLASSIFIED

64/1



Mon 19 May, 1997 13:12 mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
19/05/97	Hd of CS(RM)1	PROPOSED HOLDING REPLY TO Section 40	1

Intended:

Sent: 19/05/97 at 12:46

Delivered: 19/05/97 at 12:48

To: SEC(AS)2A (2)

CC:

Ref: 292

From: Hd of CS(RM)1

Auth by:

Subject: PROPOSED HOLDING REPLY TO **Section 40**, CAPLAN WILKIE RE HOAX
"FLYING SAUCERS" 1967

Text: **Section 40** my proposed holding reply (attached) follows the standard line ie no access to closed files, but I will examine the files and advise is anything relevant to his area of research.

Regards **Section 40**

Priority: Normal
Reply Request []

SEE PAGE
View Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
Codes []



From: **Section 40** Room D8/2
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BL

Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 807 **Section 40**
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000 **Section 40**
(Fax) 0171 807 **Section 40**

Mr John Keeling
Caplan Wilkie
39-43 Brewer Street
London W1R 3FD

Your reference

Our reference
CS(RM)/4/6/37
Date
May 1997

D R A F T

Thank you for your letter dated 14 May 1997 concerning a number of closed files you believe are relevant to your research into a series of incidents involving hoax "flying saucers" allegedly perpetrated by apprentices from the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough and students from Farnborough Technical College in September 1967.

I regret to advise you there is no public access to Ministry of Defence records in advance of their release date.

Although I am unable to agree to access to these closed files the Code of Practice may allow me to provide you with information relevant to your area of research assuming that such information has survived the passage of time.

It will take a few weeks to requisition the files you have identified from the Public Record Office but I hope to be in a position to write to you again towards the end of June.

One final point, you may wish to note from the summary of your research to date it would appear incidents 3, 4 and 6 have no MOD (including RAF/Army) involvement.

Section 40
Deputy Departmental Record
Officer

15 MAY '97 15:34 FROM CS (RM)

TO Section 40 P.01/07

64/1

Departmental Record Officer
CS (RM) Dome D
Metropole Building
Northumberland Avenue
London WC2N 5BL

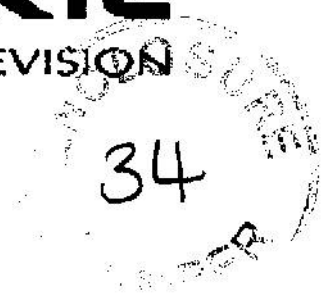


**CAPLAN
WILKIE**
FILM & TELEVISION

14 May 1997

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in the hope that you may be prepared to assist with a project I am currently researching (Please see attached correspondence between myself and the Air Historical Branch for a summary of the project).



You will see from the afore-mentioned correspondence that Section 40 suggested I examine a number of documents held by the PRO:

AIR 2 18115 - 18117

18115 -) 1998
18116 -)

AIR 20 11888

18117 - 1999

AIR 27 3039

AIR 27 11888 - 1998

AIR 27 3040*

Regrettably, all but one* are still closed and not scheduled for release for more than a year. I am therefore respectfully requesting permission to examine these documents before their scheduled release date. I would naturally agree to do so under appropriate supervision and subject to any reasonable terms and conditions stipulated by the appropriate authorities.

As it is the 30th anniversary of the flying saucer hoax in September, I am sure you can see that the project is most topical this year.

You may be interested to know that I have been contacted by Wing Commander Section 40 and Group Captain Section 40 who were the MOD staff most intimately involved with events of Sept. 4, 1967.

Any assistance you can offer will be most gratefully appreciated and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

Senior Producer Director

Sec (AS) - Section 40

No style

Section 40

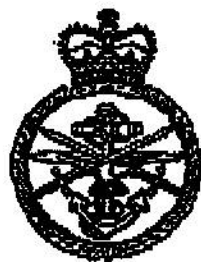


39-43 Brewer Street
London W1R 3FD
Telephone 0171-267 8080
Facsimile 0171-287 7126
VAT No 524 3827 49
Caplan Wilkie Film and Television Limited
Reg No 2625025 England
New Centre 15 Bullwharf Lane London N4 1NW

Spoke to **Section 40**

- **Section 40** grants access to material still held under Public Records Act.
- Gov's Policy not to permit privileged access
- Only could if they applied to Lord Chancellor.
Sets precedent if we do.
- As **Section 40** states documents in particular under Code of Practice **MOJ** should be prepared to find docs and answer any specific questions posed.
- Only do this if **Section 40** signs form saying if work takes longer than four hours they will pay for it.

15 MAY '97 15:35 FROM CS (RM)

TO **Section 40** P.05/07

From: **Section 40** AHB2(RAF), Room 2.14
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 3-5, Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 8000
 (Fax) 0171 218

Section 40**Section 40****Section 40****Section 40**

Captain Wilkie

Section 40

London

Section 40

Our reference
 D/AHB(RAF)/7/17
 Date
 4 February 1997

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 30 January 1997 with regard to the hoax perpetrated by RAE apprentices and students of Farnborough Technical College on 4 September 1967.

I am afraid that the records held by the Air Historical Branch do not shed any further light on the events surrounding this (obviously very successful) practical joke. Documents relating to the RAF response to this hoax may now be lodged at the Public Record Office (PRO): I would recommend that you consult in the first instance classes AIR2 (Air Ministry: Registered Files) and AIR20 (Air Ministry: Unregistered Files). Unfortunately, these are very large classes! A brief review of the class lists suggest that the following may be of interest:

AIR2 18115-17 Unidentified flying objects: reports, 1967 (18115-6) and 1967-8 (18117)

AIR20 11888 Unidentified flying objects, September 1967.

No reference is made to 'Flying Saucers' 1 and 5 in the RAF Form 540 Operations Record Books (station diaries) of RAF Manston and RAF Colerne. The helicopter despatched from Manston in connection with Saucer 1 is likely to have been a Westland Whirlwind of D Flight, No 22 Squadron - then based at Manston on Search and Rescue (SAR) duties; the Operations Record Book entry compiled by this unit for September 1967 is held by the Public Record Office under the references AIR27 3039 and 3040.

On cross-referencing The Royal Air Force Retired List, 1996 with copies of the Royal Air Force List for the period in question, I believe that the 'Flight Officer **Section 40**' called upon to examine Saucer 5 was actually Flying Officer **Section 40** service number **Section 40**. These sources indicate that **Section 40** was born on **Section 40** and commissioned into the Engineering Branch with the rank of Pilot Officer on 2 February 1965. Subsequently, this officer was promoted to the rank of Flying Officer on 2 August 1965, to Flight Lieutenant on 28 November 1969 and to Squadron Leader on 1 July 1976. Squadron Leader **Section 40** **Section 40** retired from the RAF on 2 February 1987.

15 MAY '97 15:36 FROM CS (RM)

TO **Section 40** P.06/07

As you will note, Squadron Leader **Section 40** is currently a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society; this body may be able to help you in your attempts to contact him. Enquiries relating to the USAF personnel that photographed Saucer 4 might best be directed to the US sources. The USAF Historical Research Agency may be able to assist you, or advise you as to an agency that can; the address of the agency is given below. As **Section 40** was an employee of the British Aircraft Corporation at the time he examined Saucer 6, the successor to that company - British Aerospace - may be able to guide you; moreover, **Section 40** is also likely to be a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

I hope that the above provides some pointers for further research, and am sorry that I am unable to provide a more precise response to your enquiry.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

MOD Air Historical Branch

Royal Aeronautical Society
4 Hamilton Place
London
W1V 0BQ

USAF Historical Research Agency
600 Chennault Circle
Maxwell AFB
AL 36112-6424
United States of America

15 MAY '97 15:36 FROM CS (RM)

TO **Section 40** P.07/07

Air Historical Branch
MOD Whitehall Library
3 - 5 Great Scotland Yard
London SW1A 2HW

30 January 1997

Dear Sirs,

An extremely helpful lady on the MOD Public Information switchboard suggested that your department may be able to assist with a project I am researching.

The project, a proposed book and/or TV documentary, concerns an elaborate hoax perpetrated by apprentices from the Royal Aircraft Establishment (Farnborough) and students from Farnborough Technical College in 1967.

On 4th September of that year, six small 'Flying Saucers' were discovered in locations across Southern England from Sheppey to the Bristol Channel.

National and local press accounts suggest the hoax was uncovered when Scotland Yard bomb disposal officers opened one of the objects at Bromley Police Station, Kent. Up until that point the unusual objects were the cause of legitimate concern and investigations by a number of Government agencies and Armed Forces including:

Ministry of Defence
Ministry of Technology
Air Ministry
Royal Air Force
RAF Colerne
RAF Manston
RAF Greenham Common
Army Southern Command bomb disposal experts
Winkfield Satellite Tracking Station, Berks.
Home Office scientists at Aldermarston
Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

In order to produce an accurate chronicle of the events I would be extremely grateful for any assistance you can offer in tracing reports, documentation and personnel involved. To help facilitate that I have listed the available details from the media with some specific questions:

39-43 Brewer Street
London W1R 3JJ
Telephone 0171-287 8080
Facsimile 0171-287 7126
VAT No 524 3827 49
** TOTAL PAGE.07 **

15 MAY '97 15:35 FROM CS (RM)

TO **Section 40** P.02/07Saucer 1.

Location: Wasteground, Hillside Avenue, Rushingden, Queenborough, Sheppey, Kent.

Discovery reported to PC **Section 40** Police 'cordon off' area.
Helicopter dispatched from RAF Manston with bomb disposal/fire brigade expert [press variations] on board to collect saucer.
Object checked with a 'survey meter' before being flown to Manston.

Details of flight, flight crew and any other personnel?

Saucer 2.

Location: Sundridge Park Golf Course, Bromley, Kent.

Discovery reported to PC **Section 40** [press variations].
Saucer transported to Bromley Police Station. Superintendent **Section 40** contacts Scotland Yard bomb disposal squad and reports find to the Air Ministry. Ministry want to check object with portable X-ray equipment. Bomb disposal squad open saucer before Air Ministry 'boffins' [press description] arrive.

Details of bomb disposal team and Air Ministry team?

Press reports suggest the MOD sent a 'Senior Engineer' from Whitehall to Bromley. Reports also quote un-named MOD and RAF spokesmen.

Who were they? Who could they have been?

An ITN news reporter interviewed an un-named 'Forensic lab' man.

Saucer 3.

Location: Winkfield Plains, Winkfield, near Ascot, Berks.

Discovery first reported to **Section 40** engineer at the Winkfield Satellite Tracking Station.

Under whose jurisdiction did the station belong? Does it still exist? How can I attempt to trace

Section 40

15 MAY '97 15:35 FROM CS (RM)

TO **Section 40** P.03/07**Saucer 4.**

Location: Easton, Welford, between Hungerford & Newbury, Berks.

Discovered by a postwoman on her rounds. Hungerford PC **Section 40** told press the saucer was transported to Newbury Police Station.

Press reports state the object was photographed by American Air Force Police from 'a nearby RAF station'. The nearest that appears to fit the criterion is RAF Greenham Common.

Can you confirm that was the case? If not, where did the USAF personnel originate from and how can I attempt to trace them?

Press reports state the contents of the Saucer were later examined by 'Home office scientists at Aldermarston'.

Who transported the saucer to Aldermarston? Who conducted the examination?

Saucer 5.

Location: **Section 40** Queensbridge, Chippenham, Wilts.

Discovered by farmer **Section 40** Reported to Chippenham Police who stopped traffic on road adjacent to field. The Saucer was examined by Flight Officer **Section 40** from RAF Colerne.

*On whose instructions? How can I attempt to trace **Section 40**?*

Captain **Section 40** of Army Southern Command at Salisbury was dispatched to the site.

*On whose instructions? How can I attempt to trace **Section 40**?*

Cantrell transported the Saucer to a Corporation rubbish tip on the outskirts of Chippenham where it was opened with two controlled explosions.

The remnants of the saucer were placed in the custody of Chief Inspector **Section 40** [press spelling] at Chippenham Police Station.

Saucer 6.

Location: Dial Hill, Clevedon, near Bristol, Avon.

Discovered by schoolboy on paper rounds. Reported to Clevedon Police Sergeant **Section 40** Examined by **Section 40** Chief Designer of the Guided Weapons Division at the British Aircraft Corporation.

*On whose instructions? How can I attempt to trace **Section 40**?*

Subsequently opened by two local engineers.

15 MAY '97 15:35 FROM CS (RM)

TO **Section 40** P.04/07

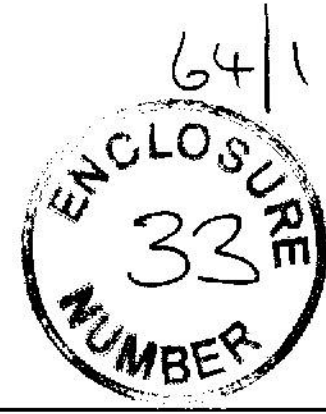
Any assistance and/or further avenues of investigation you can offer will be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40
Senior Producer Director



Wed 14 May, 1997 16:05 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
14/05/97	DPO(RAF)SO2	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POST PRESS ENQUIRY	[]

Sent: 14/05/97 at 16:04
 To: DPO(RAF)SO2
 CC:

Ref: 1148
 Subject: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POST PRESS ENQUIRY

Text: Section 40 A few suggested lines attached. Nothing much to say really. Any queries please give me a call.

Section 40

Priority: Normal
 Reply Request []

View Acknowledge [*]
 Delivery Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
 Codes []

**PRESS LINES - ALLEGED "CRASH OF ALIEN CRAFT" - 12 NOV 87 - KIRKBY
IN ASHFIELD**

- No military aircraft crashes recorded for 12 Nov 87 in the United Kingdom.
- CAA can advise on whether there were any reported crashes involving civil aircraft.
- MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of "UFO/flying saucers" or craft of extraterrestrial origin.



Section 40

641
AEROLOGICAL
BER

From:

Gp Capt

Section 40

RAF (Rtd)

32/1

Section 40

~~Info (Kurt)~~
I don't think from
Secretary would want to
be involved with this.
Could you please
advise. (A)

Tel: Section 40

13th May 1997

Section 40

Reference: WAT/UFO.3

18/5

(A) or pass to SA (RAF) for action

THE 1967 FARNBOROUGH FLYING SAUCER HOAX



1. In the April 1997 issue of the Royal Aeronautical Society news letter, Society People & Business, the senior producer/director of Caplan Wilkie Film and Television seeks assistance with his research into an "UFO" hoax perpetrated by Farnborough students in September 1967. A copy of his letter is at enclosure 1.

2. At the time of the hoax, the appointment responsible for investigating all UFO sightings in UK Airspace and which were reported to MOD was the incumbent of the post DI (AI) 61e within the Directorate of Scientific and Technical Intelligence. I served in that post between 1967 and 1968, and was the last technical intelligence officer to be solely responsible for UFO analysis before the task was transferred to the Defence Secretariat.

3. The hoax was cleverly executed and seems destined to feature in a future television film and so deserves and needs to be accurately recorded. I can help to achieve such an objective - given that I was the MOD investigating officer who attended Bromley Police Station to examine Saucer 2.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SECRET
16 MAY 1997
FILE

4. So today, I contacted **Section 40** of Caplan Wilkie Film and Television - who had already learnt from his research activities something of my involvement in the hoax - to offer an input on the veracity of any releasable details of the hoax. This is to be on the basis that my contribution would most likely be largely based on answers to written questions and subject, where required, to MOD approval. I later followed up this offer with a letter to that effect. A copy of this is at enclosure 2.

Section 40



- Enclosures: 1. R Ae Soc Society People & Business April 1997
2. **Section 40** letter to **Section 40** dated 13 May 97

Action

Chief of Public Relations
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
London
SW1A 2HB

Information

Section 40

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

Enclosure 1



Phil Condit (centre), chairman and chief executive of Boeing, pictured with president, Professor John Green, and past president, Sir Donald Spiers, receiving his Honorary Fellowship.

Requesting information...

I am writing in the hope that members of the Royal Aeronautical Society may be able to assist with a project I am researching. The project concerns an elaborate hoax perpetrated by apprentices from the Royal Aircraft Establishment and students from Farnborough Technical College in 1967.

On Monday 4 September of that year, six small 'Flying Saucers' were discovered in locations across Southern England from Sheppey to the Bristol Channel.

National and local press accounts suggest the hoax was uncovered when Scotland Yard bomb disposal officers opened one of the objects at Bromley Police Station, Kent. Up until that point the unusual objects were the cause of legitimate concern and investigations by a number of Government agencies and Armed Forces including the MoD, Ministry of Technology, Air Ministry, Royal Air Force and Army Southern Command.

In order to produce an accurate chronicle of the events I would be extremely grateful for any assistance in tracing individuals who were involved in any capacity. To that end I have listed the available details from the media with some specific questions:

Saucer 1. Location: Wasteground, Hillsdale Avenue, Fushingden, Queenborough, Sheppey, Kent.

Discovery reported to PC John Tomsett. Police 'cordon off' area. Helicopter dispatched from RAF Manston with bomb disposal/fire brigade expert [press variations] on board to collect saucer.

Who was on board that helicopter?

Object checked with a 'survey meter' before being flown to Manston.

What happened to saucer after it arrived at Manston?

Saucer 2. Location: Sundridge Park Golf Course, Bromley, Kent.

Discovery reported to PC Gordon Hampton and 'saucer' transported to Bromley Police Station. Superintendent S.R. Sheppard contacts Scotland Yard bomb disposal squad and reports find to the Air Ministry. Ministry want to check object with portable X-ray equipment. Bomb disposal squad open saucer before Air Ministry 'boffins' [press description] arrive. Press reports suggest the MoD sent a 'Senior Engineer' from Whitehall to Bromley. Reports also quote un-named MoD and RAF spokesmen.

Who were the Air Ministry 'boffins'? Who was the 'Senior Engineer'? Who was the RAF spokesman? Who could they have been?

Saucer 3. Location: Winkfield Plains, Winkfield, near Ascot, Berks.

Discovery first reported to Mr Roger Kenyon, engineer at the Winkfield Satellite Tracking Station.

Under whose jurisdiction did the station belong? Does it still exist? Does anyone know the whereabouts of Roger Kenyon?

Saucer 4. Location: Easton, Welford, between Hungerford & Newbury, Berks.

Discovered by a postwoman on her rounds. Hungerford PC James Hennessey told press the saucer was transported to Newbury Police Station.

Press reports state the object was photographed by American Air Force Police from 'a nearby RAF station'. The nearest that appears to fit the criterion is RAF Greenham Common.

Press reports state the contents of the Saucer were later examined by 'Home Office scientists at Aldermarston'.

Who transported the saucer to

We announce with regret the death of the following members

Allan Barker, MRAeS, 75
 Geoffrey Edward Beck, MRAeS, 80
 Bryan Arthur Chapple, Technician RAeS, 65
 Cyril Lano Dodd, MRAeS, 73
 Francis William Free, FRAeS, 76
 Dr William Frank Hilton, FRAeS, 84
 Anthony Patrick Hughes, MRAeS, 61
 Glyndwr Lloyd, AMRAeS, 76
 Eric Beechcroft Moss, FRAeS, 94
 Andrew Derek Munro, AMRAeS, 71
 Eric Herbert Spouge, AMRAeS, 79
 James Thomson, AMRAeS, 76
 James Weddup, MRAeS, 81
 Patrick John Wirsbitzki, Student RAeS, 21
 Harry Zeffert, FRAeS, 83

Aldermarston? Who conducted the examination?

Saucer 5. Location: Elm Tree Farm, Queensbridge, Chippenham, Wilts.

Discovered by farmer Roger Jennings. Reported to Chippenham Police who stopped traffic on road adjacent to field. The Saucer was examined by Flying Officer David Pepper from RAF Colerne.

Captain Fred Cantrell of Army Southern Command at Salisbury was dispatched to the site.

Cantrell transported the Saucer to a Corporation rubbish tip on the outskirts of Chippenham where it was opened with two controlled explosions.

The remnants of the saucer were placed in the custody of Chief Inspector Frank Dunnett [press spelling] at Chippenham Police Station.

Saucer 6. Location: Dial Hill, Clevedon, near Bristol, North Somerset.

Discovered by schoolboy on paper rounds. Reported to Clevedon Police Sergeant John Durston. Examined by Mr Greville Beale, Chief Designer of the Guided Weapons Division at the British Aircraft Corporation.

Does anyone know the whereabouts of Mr Beale?

Saucer was subsequently opened by two local engineers.

Any information, however seemingly trivial, will be greatly appreciated. I can be contacted on 0171-287 8080, or at home on 01621 891520. I thank the RAeS for publishing the letter and hope it jogs someone's memory.

John Keeling

Senior Producer Director
 Caplan Wilkie Film and Television
 39-43 Brewer Street
 London W1R 3FD

Society People & Business April 1997 3

Enclosure 2

Section 40

Section 40

Tel: Section 40

13th May 1997

THE 1967 FARNBOROUGH FLYING SAUCER HOAX

I telephoned today in response to your plea, through the Royal Aeronautical Society, for help with researching the subject hoax. I told you that I should be able to contribute to your research as investigations of UFO sightings were one of my MOD duties at that time, and I was one of those who visited Bromley Police Station. I also advised you however that the extent of my support might be somewhat circumscribed by any concomitant requirements of the Official Secrets Act that MOD decide to impose. Meanwhile I am now taking the first steps to warn MOD of my involvement.

As promised I have enclosed a copy of my RAF Service Appointments which will serve to substantiate the information already provided by Section 40 an erstwhile colleague.

John Keeling
Senior Producer Director
Caplan Wilkie Film and Television
39-43 Brewer Street
London W1R 3FD

Enclosure:

Career Record of RAF Service Appointments

UF01.doc

Section 40

CAREER RECORD OF RAF SERVICE APPOINTMENTS

Section 40

UNIT/DATE	APPOINTMENT/RANK	DUTIES
MOD Central Staff Chief Scientific Adviser's Staff Aug 87-Jul 93	THE UK MOD Participation Office " US Strategic Defense Initiative " Deputy Director Gp Capt	UK Director and Project Manager of bilateral UK/US ballistic missile defence feasibility studies; Military member of UK BMD Systems Design Team. Air Systems Staff surrogate responsibility for missile defence operational concepts and requirements
MOD Defence Staff Air Staff Jan 85-Aug 87	Operational Requirements OR 81(Air) Head of Branch Wg Cdr	Defining the performance requirements and operational concepts for communications, identification and data link systems for aircraft operations. Integration of Reported Air and Surface Picture data into the IUKADGE data base
HQ RAF Germany Jan 82-Jan 85	Mechanical Engineering Air Engineering 2 Wg Cdr Deputy/Acting Command Electrical Engineer Wg Cdr	Assessing airworthiness and reliability of Germany-based Phantom, Chinook and Puma aircraft. Delegated Engineering Authority for Pembroke aircraft. Member of RAF Germany Tactical Evaluation Team Management of special signal, communication and photographic facilities
RAF MARIAM Jan 80-Jan 82 1 Gp Strike Command	OC Engineering Wing Wg Cdr	Provision and management of human and engineering resources to support a major military UK air-base operating Canberra, Victor AAR, and later Tornado aircraft
HQ 1 Gp Aug 77-Jan 80 Strike Command	Gp Electrical Engineer Wg Cdr	Assessing airworthiness and reliability of aircraft and support facilities and evaluating the effectiveness of maintenance procedures and operations at No 1 Gp air bases and units. Member of HQ STC Tactical Evaluation Team
HQ MOD Procurement Executive Jul 75-Aug 77	Project Manager Sqn Ldr	Developing, flight testing and procuring ECM equipment for Jaguar and Tornado
RAF BRAWDY Tactical Weapons Unit Sep 74-Jul 75 11 Group Strike Command	OC Engineering Support Sqn Ldr	Provision and management of electrical, mechanical and armament aircraft servicing facilities for Hunter, Meteor, Jet Provost; maintenance of airfield navigation and landing aids; operation and maintenance of station communications and mechanical transport

RAF BRAWDY/ RNAS GOLDCREST Jun 73-Aug 74 11 Group Strike Command	Senior Engineer Officer Sqn Ldr	Planning, preparing for and installing the unit engineering facilities to support the redeployment of the Chivenor OCU as the Tactical Weapons Unit to Brawdy. Support of 22 Sqn S&R Whirlwind helicopter detachment
HQ Allied Forces Northern Europe Air Staff Dec 70-Jun 73	Operations Branch Electronic Warfare and Radar Intelligence Head of Branch Sqn Ldr	Operational evaluation and effectiveness and technical efficiency assessments of NATO assigned units in Northern Region. AFNORTH representative on NATO EW Operational Requirements Team. Northern Region Tactical Evaluation Team. Surveillance radar information evaluation.
MOD AMSO Staff Air Force Department Jun 68-Dec 70	Elec Engineer Staff Sqn Ldr	Engineering Authority for in-service avionics, missile control systems and reconnaissance equipment and aircraft pods. Technical Project Leader for RAF and RN Phantom aircraft
MOD Intelligence Staff Scientific & Technical Intelligence Staff Jul 67-Jun 68	Technical Intelligence (Air) DSTI/DI (AI) 61e Flt Lt	Technical analysis and research studies; electronic and electronic warfare capabilities and requirements. Investigation and analysis of all sightings reported to MOD of UFOs in UK Airspace.
RAF SCAMPTON Jan 65-Jul 67 Bomber Command	Aircraft Engineering Flight Line Operations Flt Lt	Squadron Engineering Officer: 27, 83, 617 Sgns Vulcan B Mk 2 (Blue Steel) MBF Nuclear Strike Force
RAF SCAMPTON Apr 64-Dec 64 Bomber Command	OC Air Radio & ECM Servicing Flight Flt Lt	Preparation and management of 1st/2nd servicing facilities: Vulcan B Mk 2 (Blue Steel)
RAF SALT PANS Apr 62-Apr 64 Middle East Command	Communications Commanding Officer Flying Officer	Total site management of HF/VHF receiving and special signals/telecommunications station and associated aerial farms
RAF BENSON Jan 60-Apr 62 Transport Command	OC Air/Ground Radio and Communications Servicing Pilot/ Flying Officer	Provision and management of 1st/2nd avionic servicing facilities: Canberra; Hunter; Meteor; Argosy aircraft. Maintenance of airfield communications and radar aids

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

32+1

Loose Minute

D/Sec(AS) 64/1

13th May 1997

DIST

Copy to:

PSO/ACAS
 DAO
 DI Sec
 DPR(RAF)
 Head of Sec(AS)
 AOAD1
 AD/DI55

'UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS' - POLICY

Reference: D/DIST/11/10 dated 25th April 1997

1. Thank you for your minute at Reference setting out the DIS interest in 'UFO' reports.
2. I was grateful for your detailed comments. I think it might be helpful if I list my observations on them in the same order (paragraph numbers in brackets in bold refer to your minute):
 - a. You say that you would prefer the term 'UAP' rather than 'UFO' (para 2). Presentationally this would give us some problems. To the vast majority of the public - and it is the public we deal with - 'UFO' with all its 'extraterrestrial' connotations is the only one they recognise. Most are not interested in the difference and, to avoid any more confusion in their minds, we shall continue with 'UFO'.
 - b. You suggest (para 3) amending the policy statement on MOD's interest to include your own specific areas of interests. However, the current wording 'anything of defence significance' has been couched in fairly general terms so that it can be used in response to PQs, letters from the public, the media etc. We need to be quite sure that there are no hostages to fortune in saying anything more detailed. Are you content to have your interests promulgated more widely given the inevitable questioning that will follow?
 - c. I can assure you that we too are always careful to say that we have an open mind on this issue (para 4).
 - d. For the future we shall copy to you (and DAO) only those sighting reports falling into the three categories set out in my minute to AOAD1 of 2nd April (D/Sec(AS)/64/1) (para 5).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

unclassified

downgraded
 to unclassified
 16/3/11

Section 40

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

e. You say (para 6) that you need an adequate reference system for information culled from reports and intend a database, albeit that you have not yet determined how it might be achieved, and that incorporating retrospective reports depends on the costs involved. But you also say that you have to decide whether it should be 'DIS policy to retain other reports or rely on our archive'. I am rather confused about what this means. Are the 'other' reports those copied to you previously which do not fall into the three categories (para d above), or those which will not be copied to you in future? Either way, I am concerned that you favour relying on our archive because you do not say what this might entail and I am afraid there are no Sec(AS) resources to support your work. If there is a DIS requirement for access to archive material I think it makes sense for DIS to retain the information.

f. Returning to the subject of a database (para 7), you suggest DAO's requirements also need considering and propose a single framework, sharing responsibility for data entry. However, AOAD1 has said they have no requirement for a database (D/DAO/1/13 dated 25th March, para 11) and, as I made clear in my reply to him, Sec(AS) has no need of one either. It would be helpful to know who else might be a customer given Sec(AS)'s role as the MOD focal point for this subject, and what 'shared resources' might be used to implement the plan. Sec(AS) has neither staff nor money for this purpose and, I think, DAO is similarly constrained.

3. I am sorry for the length of this note but we do all need to be quite clear what, as a Department, we are doing and why. We need to be very careful about expanding 'UFO' business and, thereby, sending the public a misleading message about the extent of MOD's interest. Of course, should Government policy on this issue change, we will review the extent of our involvement accordingly.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2

MB8247 Section 40

CHOTS: SEC(AS)2

FAX : Section 40

UFOs/policy6

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

undclassified

downgraded
to unclassified
16/3/10

Section 40

64/1

31

Tue 13 May, 1997 11:12 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
13/05/97	DPO(RAF)	LINES TO TAKE RE: "THE UNINVITED"	[]

Sent: 13/05/97 at 11:11
 To: DPO(RAF), DPO(RAF)SO2
 CC:

Ref: 1147
 Subject: LINES TO TAKE RE: "THE UNINVITED" BY NICK POPE

Text: As you may be aware, Nick Pope's second book "The Uninvited" on the subject of Alien Abduction is to be published by Simon and Schuster on 2 June. You may have noticed that the Daily Mail has abridged extracts from the book in today's and tomorrow's issues. Attached are the lines to take should this attract further press interest.

Priority: Urgent
 Reply Request []

View Acknowledge [*]
 Delivery Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
 Codes []

PRESS LINES - "THE UNINVITED" - NICHOLAS POPE**GENERAL LINES**

The Ministry of Defence has no interest, expertise or role with respect to "UFO/flying saucer" matters, or the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms about which it is open-minded. To date, however, the MOD remains unaware of any evidence which proves that these phenomena exist.

"ALIEN" ABDUCTION

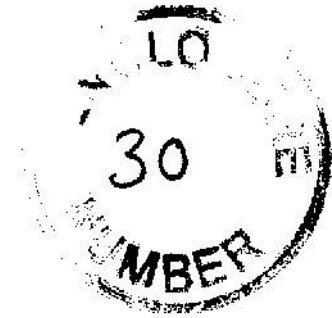
Investigations into claims of any form of abduction are a matter for the civil police. The police, however, can only take the matter forward and investigate if there is evidence to support the allegation.

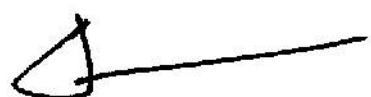
MR NICHOLAS POPE

Mr Pope was a desk officer in the Secretariat(Air Staff)2a section from 1991-1994 and at that time he was an executive officer. Sec(AS)2a is the focal point for handling queries directed at the MOD in connection with "UFO" sightings. At the time Mr Pope worked in the section there were no staff working on this subject full-time and this remains the case. The work represents a small part of the overall duties of the section.

"THE UNINVITED"

The comments contained in the book "*The Uninvited*" are the personal views of Mr Pope and do not represent nor reflect the views of the Ministry of Defence. All Ministry of Defence personnel wishing to publish a book which draws on their official experience, uses information obtained in the course of their duties, or which expresses views on official matters, are required to seek departmental approval to do so. Clearance to publish does not imply MOD approval of, or agreement with, the contents.



D/Sec(AS)/64/1 

9 May 97

FILE NOTE

DPO(RAF) received a call from West Country TV who wanted to interview the Secretary of State about the subject of "UFOs" for their political programme "Power Games Monthly" going out on 19 May.

The programme concentrates on **Section 40**
Section 40 asserts that if **Section 40** who he claimed to be in the book **Section 40** then what he wrote about is far reaching and significant.

They are also playing on the "Labour Party's" interest in this subject as "evidenced" by the raft of PQs tabled by the late Martin Redmond.

The attached statement was forwarded to the Press Office for onward transmission to the programme makers.

Section 40


Fri 9 May, 1997 17:12 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
09/05/97	DPO(RAF)SO2	STATEMENT FOR "POWER GAMES MONTHLY"	[]

Sent: 09/05/97 at 17:11
To: DPO(RAF)SO2
CC:

Ref: 1144
Subject: STATEMENT FOR "POWER GAMES MONTHLY"

Text: **Section 40**
Any queries about the attached, please give me a call.

Section 40

Priority: Normal
Reply Request []

View Acknowledge [*]
Delivery Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
Codes []

STATEMENT FOR WEST COUNTRY TV'S "POWER GAME MONTHLY" - 19 MAY 97

The Ministry of Defence has no interest, expertise or role with respect to "UFO/flying saucer" matters, or the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms about which it remains open-minded. To date, however, the MOD remains unaware of any evidence which proves that these phenomena exist.

The Ministry of Defence examines any reports of "UFO" sightings it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely whether there is evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by a foreign hostile military aircraft.

The reports are examined with the assistance of the Department's air defence experts as required. Unless there is evidence of a potential military threat, and to date no "UFO" sighting has revealed such evidence, the MOD does not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported. It believes that down-to-earth explanations could be found for them. However, it would be an inappropriate use of defence resources to carry out such investigations. From the descriptions received, aircraft or natural phenomena account for most of the observations.

Section 40**Section 40**

Sec(AS)2a is the focal point for handling queries directed at the MOD in connection with "UFO" sightings. At the time **Section 40** worked in the section there were no staff working on this subject full-time and this remains the case. The work represents a small part of the overall duties of the section.

"OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"**Section 40**

Section 40 and do not represent nor reflect the views of the Ministry of Defence. All Ministry of Defence personnel wishing to publish a book which draws on their official experience, uses information obtained in the course of their duties, or which expresses views on official matters, are required to seek departmental approval to do so. Clearance to publish does not imply MOD approval of, or agreement with, the contents.

UNCLASSIFIED

Section 40

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Section 40



LOOSE MINUTE

D/DIST/11/10

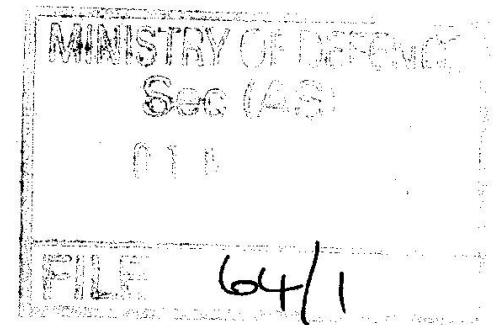
25 Apr 97

(A work-creation programme for the DIS, I think.)

Sec(AS)2

Section 40

Copy to:
AOAD1
PSO/ACAS
DAO
Hd Sec(AS)
DI Sec
DPR(RAF)
AD/DI55



UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA (UAP) - POLICY

References

- A. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 29 Jan 97
- B. D/DIST/11/10 dated 3 Feb 97
- C. D/DAO/1/13 dated 25 Mar 97
- D. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 2 Apr 97
- E. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 22 Apr 97

1. My apologies firstly for not responding sooner to your minutes at Ref. Unfortunately it took much longer than expected, at the time of my holding reply, to recover from a number of staff changes and to give the subject sufficient attention against other priorities. I am pleased that we should have this debate since at present there is a significant mismatch between our assumed responsibilities and our ability to resource them.

Policy

2. Referring to the policy stated in your initial minute (Ref A, Annex paras 1 & 2) an immediate difficulty arises over the use of the term 'UFO'. This term is discredited in some circles and I think that consistent use of UAP would be much more satisfactory. This would then avoid an immediate association with 'extraterrestrial' phenomena and the difficulty which arises in trying to distinguish whether events are 'extraterrestrial' or not, a judgement which we are strictly incapable of making. While analysis may enable MoD to identify some phenomena, those that remain are by definition 'unidentified' rather than 'extraterrestrial'.

3. You queried at Ref A, para 3a the extent of DIST interest in UFO reports. We agree that MoD's interest has to be related to defence significance but this is not solely to determine whether

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UNCLASSIFIED
DOWNGRADED TO UNC 17-3-10
BY ORIGINATOR DI-DS

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the UK ADR is breached, as implied by the parenthetical text in your Annex, para 2. DIST's role in support of customer requirements is to assess all source intelligence on foreign weapon systems and science & technology with military relevance. We have the responsibility to decide which sources are most appropriate and how they should be weighted for assessments. We regard UAP as a source, akin in some respects to human reporting not least in that the phenomena are reported by people and may not be fully appreciated or understood at the time. This intelligence interest needs to be explicitly covered in the policy statement and we propose that your Annex, para 2 should read:

'MoD's interest in 'UAP' is limited to examining reported sightings to establish if such activity might have a defence significance, viz:

- a. whether the UKADR has been breached;
- b. what intelligence is revealed on military capabilities of other countries;
- c. whether scientific and technical information of military significance is revealed.'

Arrangements

4. Referring to your Annex, para 4, in the light of the above we do not consider that MoD can have no interest in extraterrestrial matters and needs to keep an open mind on whether 'unidentified' phenomena may have significance. Additionally the lack of evidence to date in the DIS on the extraterrestrial hypothesis has to reflect the fact that we have not carried out any analysis. Effectively the UAP source is unproven for DIST purposes, a situation of concern even if we never expect it to be as reliable or valuable as other sources. Two principles therefore arise:

Reports

5. Firstly DIST needs to continue to receive reports in order to make the judgements at para 3b and 3c above. It seems probable that only credible sources are likely to provide enough information for a substantive analysis and we are therefore prepared to constrain ourselves to receive reports in the categories at Ref D, para 2.

Analysis

6. Secondly DIST needs to have an adequate system in order to reference the information. In line with developing practices for other source intelligence we need a reliable system for the retention and analysis of data. Hitherto the paper records have been much too unwieldy for effective action leading to the failing noted above. The proposed filtering of reports will reduce the volume considerably and we need to take the opportunity to initiate a database now. How we do this remains to be decided. Our resources are heavily over-bid but it seems essential that we establish the database in order to reduce subsequent analysis effort to the minimum. The extent to which we incorporate retrospective reports into the database depends on the resource costs. At best we would aim to apply the proposed filters in order to reduce the task to manageable

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BY ORIGINATOR DI-DS

UNCLASSIFIED
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

proportions. Concurrently we have to decide whether it should be DIS policy to retain the other reports or rely on your own archive. I favour the latter. Once the database is established and populated we would commission a limited analysis to determine whether reports possess any intelligence, S&T value or discernible patterns (locations, features, performance) and establish the residue of significant unidentified events.

7. This requirement for a database needs to be considered alongside DAO's interests and we should aim to develop a single framework and decide how to share the responsibility for data entry.

Action

8. We therefore propose to:
- a. plan in conjunction with DAO and customers how to achieve the database;
 - b. implement the plan, sharing resources if appropriate;
 - c. conduct, in DIST, a limited analysis of events;
 - d. review the situation once the database is accessible and no later than 12 months hence.

Section 40

DIST

WH413B Section 40

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BY ORIGINAL DT-DS

UNCLASSIFIED
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DIST/11/10

25 Apr 97

Sec(AS)2

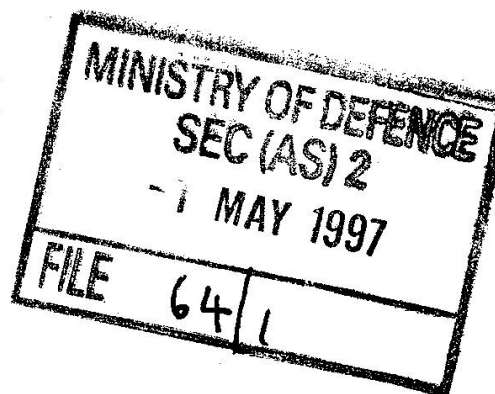
Copy to:
 AOAD1
 PSO/ACAS
 DAO
 Hd Sec(AS)
 DI Sec
 DPR(RAF)
 AD/DI55



UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA (UAP) - POLICY

References

- A. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 29 Jan 97
- B. D/DIST/11/10 dated 3 Feb 97
- C. D/DAO/1/13 dated 25 Mar 97
- D. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 2 Apr 97
- E. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 22 Apr 97



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3. You queried at Ref A, para 3a the extent of DIST interest in UFO reports. We agree that MoD's interest has to be related to defence significance but this is not solely to determine whether

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 UNCLASSIFIED
 DOWNGRADED TO UNC 17/3/10
 BY ORIGINATOR (DI-DS)

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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- b. what intelligence is revealed on military capabilities of other countries;
- c. whether scientific and technical information of military significance is revealed.'

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4. Referring to your Annex, para 4, in the light of the above we do not consider that MoD can have no interest in extraterrestrial matters and needs to keep an open mind on whether 'unidentified' phenomena may have significance. Additionally the lack of evidence to date in the DIS on the extraterrestrial hypothesis has to reflect the fact that we have not carried out any analysis. Effectively the UAP source is unproven for DIST purposes, a situation of concern even if we never expect it to be as reliable or valuable as other sources. Two principles therefore arise:

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 DOWNGRADED TO UNC 17/3/10
 BY ORIGINATOR (DI-DS)

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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- b. implement the plan, sharing resources if appropriate;
- c. conduct, in DIST, a limited analysis of events;
- d. review the situation once the database is accessible and no later than 12 months hence.

Section 40

DIST
WH413B

Section 40

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UNCLASSIFIED

DOWNGRADED TO UNC 17/3/10
BY ORIGINATOR (PI DS)

UNCLASSIFIED

29x2

Loose Minute

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

22nd April 1997

DI ST

Copy to:

AOAD1
 PSO/ACAS
 DAO
 Head of Sec(AS)
 DI Sec
 AD/DI55
 DPR(RAF)

'UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS' - POLICY

Reference:

- A. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 29th January 1997
- B. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 14th March 1997
- C. D/DAO/1/13 dated 25th March 1997
- D. D/Sec(AS)64/1 dated 2nd April 1997

1. It is now some time since I wrote (Reference A) seeking views on the way forward for the increasing amount of correspondence and sighting reports the Department now receives on the subject of 'UFOs' and related issues.

2. In the absence of any advice from DI of a need to see such material, I can only assume that this subject does not warrant significant interest. I therefore propose that for the future only information relating to 'credible' sightings will be further disseminated. The criteria for what constitutes a 'credible' sighting was given in my response to AOAD1 (Reference D - copied to you) following receipt of his advice on the extent of DAO interest.

3. I should be grateful to know that this course of action is acceptable to you.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2

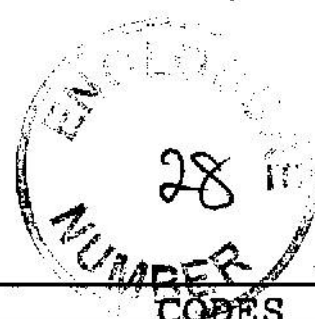
MB8247

CHOTS: SEC(AS)2

FAX :

Section 40**Section 40****UNCLASSIFIED**

64/1



Tue 15 Apr, 1997 10:49 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
15/04/97	Hd of CS(RM)1	RE: Section 40 [REDACTED]	- DRAFT REPLY []

Sent: 15/04/97 at 10:48
 To: Hd of CS(RM)1
 CC:

Ref: 1122
 Subject: RE: Section 40 [REDACTED] - DRAFT REPLY

Text: Section 40 The draft looks fine.
 Section 40 seems to me like a youngster with a v colourful
 imagination. It will be interesting to see how he translates
 what you have told him into an article for his mag.

Section 40

Priority: Normal
 Reply Request []

View Acknowledge []
 Delivery Acknowledge []

Attachments []
 Codes []

64/1
27
NUMBER
CODES

Tue 15 Apr, 1997 10:30 mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
15/04/97	Hd of CS(RM)1	Section 40	- DRAFT REPLY []

Intended:

Sent: 15/04/97 at 10:24

Delivered: 15/04/97 at 10:26

To: SEC(AS)2A (2)

CC:

Ref: 271

From: Hd of CS(RM)1

Auth by:

Subject: Section 40 - DRAFT REPLY

Text: Section 40 I attach a copy of my proposed reply to Section 40. Are you reasonably content?

Section 40

Priority: Normal
Reply Request []

SEE PAGE
View Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
Codes []



From: Section 40/2

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BL**

Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 807
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
 (Fax) 0171 807

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

Ton-Pentre
 Mid Glam

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
 CS(RM)/4/6/37
 Date
 April 1997

Thank you for your letter dated 14 April 1997.

I can confirm that **AIR 2/16918** was in MOD's hands last year and was returned to the Public Record Office on the 9 November 1996.

I understand that the file was originally released, in 1994, in a sanitised form. It is established practice, when sanitising files, to ensure that pages thus affected are clearly identified, for example a photocopy of a page with sensitive information excluded would be marked "retained in department under Section 3(4)" or something very similar.

Following a change of policy in 1995 it was decided, in light of the Open Government initiative, our early concerns were no longer valid and previously excluded information could now be released. With the file already in the public domain the extracts were transferred to the PRO on 22 November 1995. Any subsequent action to re-establish extracted papers, either by re-inserting or attaching to the original file, rests with the PRO.

On the general question of extraction from files departments can remove papers for reasons of sensitivity prior to the opening of files. But once the file is open papers can not be removed, whatever the reason.

So far as your final question is concerned I regret that I can provide no further information as to what happened to the file after its arrival in the MOD.

I hope that you find the above information helpful.

Section 40
Deputy Departmental Record
Officer

14 APR '97 12:26 FROM CS (RM)

TO Section 40 P.01/02

→ 64/1

Section 40
Section 40
Mid Glam. S.Wales. UK. Section 40
Te Section 40



Section 40 (DRO)
Room D-8/1 (The Dome)
M.O.D
Metropole Building
Northumberland Avenue
London
WC2N 5BL

14.4.97

Dear Section 40

Thank you very much for your help with my enquiries on the telephone this morning, your information will certainly help me in file requisitions in the future.

As per our telecon. I said that I would write to you as a formality to confirm some of the points raised in our conversation.

1. Can you confirm that the file AIR 2/16918 which was in your departments hands temporarily, but as you stated - not held by you, in fact returned to the PRO in November 1996.
2. That although certain documents were removed from the file by some person, that all papers are now back in the file (we are quite sure this is the case anyhow because we have seen the file, although have not counted the pages. Most of the important material we are interested in is still there.)
3. That you are unable to tell me who in your department, or another department was the person to request the file. We wish to know exactly the movement of the file from the PRO to yourselves or another MOD department. We do not need to know names of officers involved in the requisitions - only departmental names.

Section 3 is the most important point. Obviously if you are subsequently allowed to tell us what was the interest in the file - and why it was requested this would be of interest to us, but is not essential.

Once I have received your reply I will keep you informed of our research work and will write to you to tell you what we have found.

Thank you once again for being so open and helpful - I do not receive such a warm response from some MOD departments.

Yours sincerely

14 APR '97 11:41

To	Section 40	FAX Post-it Fax Note Ref No: 7685
Company		
From		No. of Pages: 2
Company		
Section 40		

GE.01

14 APR '97 12:26 FROM CS (RM)

TO **Section 40** P.02/02

Section 40

14 APR '97 11:41

44 **Section 40** PAGE.02

** TOTAL PAGE.02 **



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

11 Apr 97

DPO(RAF)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM A WRITER - "UFO" ISSUES

1. We received the attached letter from **Section 40** who is writing an article on the "UFO" phenomena for a magazine called "FOCUS". I recall speaking to **Section 40** ages ago and advised him to channel his queries through your office but for some reason he has weeded out our fax number and has written direct.
2. As is usual in responding to letters from writers or journalists I would prefer the reply to come from your office and I attach a proposed draft and the enclosures he has requested.
3. If you have any queries please give me a call.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a1

MB8245

Section 40

DRAFT REPLY TO **Section 40**

1. I refer to your fax of 8 April 1997, addressed to Secretariat (Air Staff)2a, which requests information you wish to use in a forthcoming article in the magazine "FOCUS", on the subject of "UFOs".

2. As requested please find details of the number of "UFO" reports made to the MOD by year since 1959, and a map which gives an indication of the geographical distribution of the sightings reported in 1996. I should like to stress that both relate to the number of reports received by the MOD of aerial activity which was not immediately identifiable to the witness. They should not be taken to reflect the number of "UFO" sightings in the popular sense of the word, ie. flying saucers or craft of extraterrestrial origin.

3. I should add that the MOD examines any reports of "unidentified flying objects" it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by a foreign hostile military aircraft. Unless there is evidence of a potential military threat, and to date no "unidentified flying object" sighting has revealed such evidence, the MOD does not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported. The MOD believes that down-to-earth explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources for the MOD to do so.

DPO(RAF)

Encs.

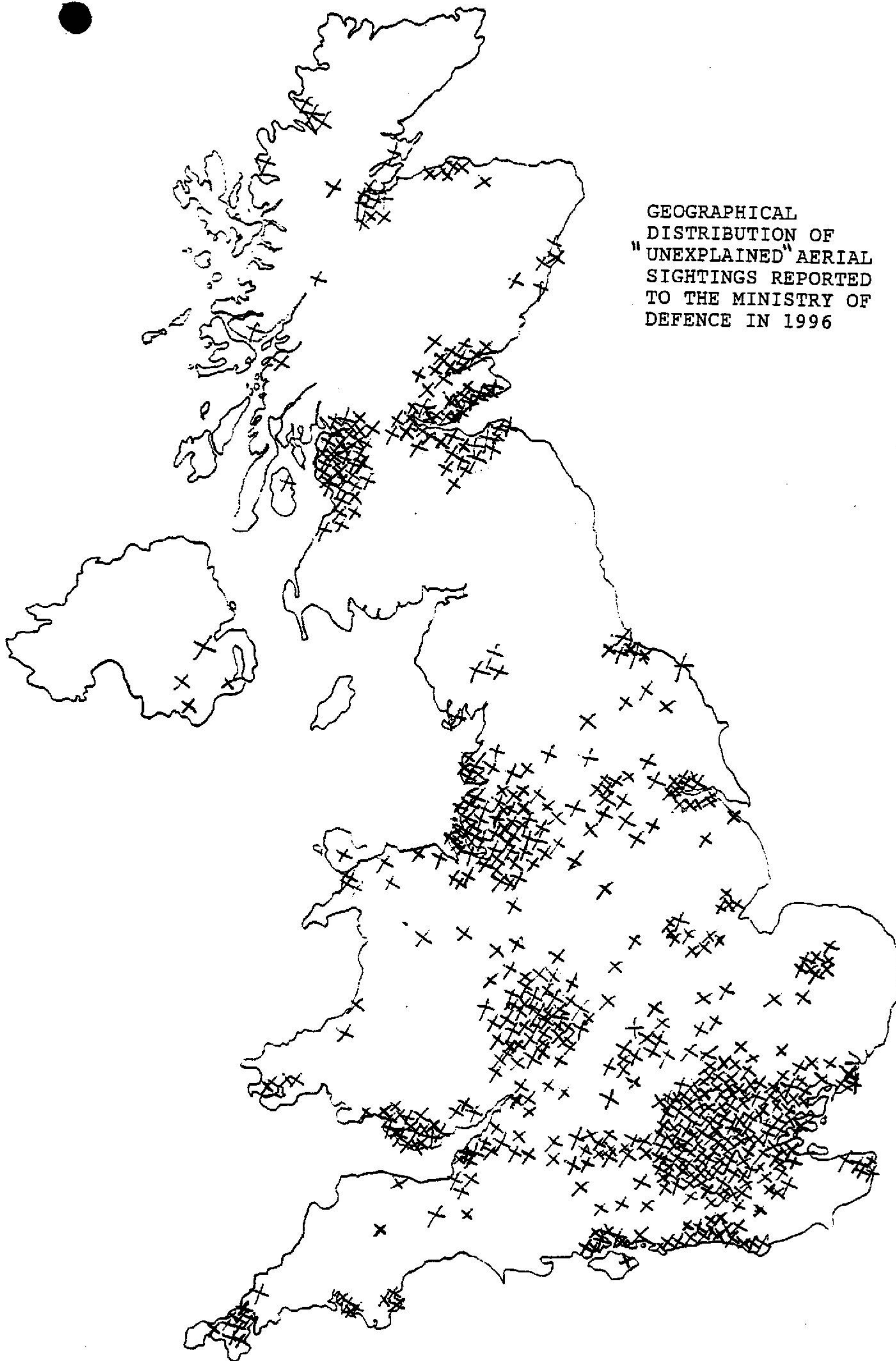
**NUMBERS OF "UNEXPLAINED" AERIAL SIGHTINGS REPORTED
TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

1959 - 22	1981 - 600
1960 - 31	1982 - 250
1961 - 71	1983 - 390
1962 - 46	1984 - 214
1963 - 51	1985 - 177
1964 - 74	1986 - 120
1965 - 56	1987 - 150
1966 - 95	1988 - 397
1967 - 362	1989 - 258
1968 - 280	1990 - 209
1969 - 228	1991 - 117
1970 - 181	1992 - 147
1971 - 379	1993 - 258
1972 - 201	1994 - 250
1973 - 233	1995 - 373
1974 - 177	1996 - 609
1975 - 208	
1976 - 200	
1977 - 435	
1978 - 750	
1979 - 550	
1980 - 350	

Figures from before 1959 are not available.

NB. The above figures relate to the number of reports, received by the Ministry of Defence, of aerial activity which was not immediately identifiable to the witness. They should not be taken to reflect sightings of "UFO/flying saucers".

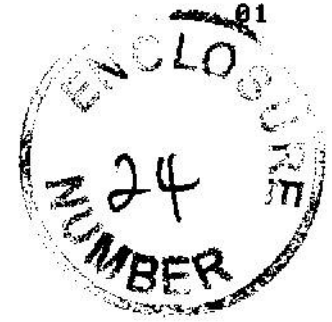




GEOGRAPHICAL
DISTRIBUTION OF
"UNEXPLAINED" AERIAL
SIGHTINGS REPORTED
TO THE MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE IN 1996

08/04 '97 10:22

Section 40



Section 40

Section 40 - Sutton Coldfield - West Midlands Section 40 UK

Phone / Fax: Section 40

E-Mail: Section 40

Fax Cover Sheet

To: Section 40 - Secretariat (AS)2a1

Company: MoD

Phone: 0171 218 2140

Fax: 0171 218 Section 40

From: Section 40

Date: 08/04/97

Pages including this cover: 1

Subject: Latest UFO report statistics and map(s)

Comments:

I am writing an article on the subject of UFOs in the UK for FOCUS magazine (not the internal MoD publication) and would like to include the official number of sightings reported to you for whatever years may be available..

I also understand that there is a map available on which sightings for at least one year, perhaps more, are indicated. I should be most grateful to find out how I should go about obtaining the map(s).

Any assistance would be much appreciated.

Sincerely Section 40

Section 40

CIVIC SERVICE
S200 012
- 8 APR 1997
FILE 64/1

UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

64/1



Thu 3 Apr, 1997 8:59

mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/97	AOAD1	View Acknowledgement	[]

Intended :

Sent : 02/04/97 18:17

Delivered: 02/04/97 18:21

Viewed : 02/04/97 18:17

Ref : 585

Recipient: AOAD1

Intended :

Codes []

UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED
UNCLASSIFIED

Thu 3 Apr, 1997 9:00

mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/97	Delivery Report	Ref: 585	[]

Report For Ref: 585

Delivered: 02/04/97 15:16

Delivered To:

AOAD1, PA/DAO

Not Delivered To:

Codes []

RESTRICTED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

Thu 3 Apr, 1997 9:00 mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/97	Delivery Report	Ref: 585	[]

Report For Ref: 585

Delivered: 02/04/97 15:16

Delivered To:

ACAS-CLK

Not Delivered To:

Codes []

UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED
UNCLASSIFIED

Thu 3 Apr, 1997 9:00

mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/97	Delivery Report	Ref: 585	[]

Report For Ref: 585

Delivered: 02/04/97 15:18

Delivered To:

DPO(RAF)

Not Delivered To:

Codes []

RESTRICTED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Thu 3 Apr, 1997 9:00

mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/97	Delivery Report	Ref: 585	[]

Report For Ref: 585

Delivered: 02/04/97 15:13

Delivered To:

SEC(AS) REGISTRY 1

Not Delivered To:

Codes []

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

Wed 2 Apr, 1997 15:15 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/97	AOAD1	'Unidentified Flying Objects' -	[]

Sent: 02/04/97 at 15:13
 To: AOAD1
 CC: PSO/ACAS,PA/DAO,PS/Hd of SEC(AS),DPO(RAF)

Ref: 585
 Subject: 'Unidentified Flying Objects' - Policy

Text:

Priority: Normal
 Reply Request []

View Acknowledge [*]
 Delivery Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
 Codes []

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RESTRICTED

UNCLASSIFIED

Loose Minute

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

2nd April 1997

AOAD1 *

Copy to:

* by CHOTS

PSO/ACAS *

DAO *

DI ST

Head of Sec(AS) *

DI Sec

AD/DI55

DPR(RAF) *

'UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS' - POLICY

Reference A: D/DAO/1/13 dated 25th March 1997

1. Thank you for your reply (Reference A) to my minute seeking advice on the way forward for the handling of 'UFO' reports.
2. In view of your stated interest in 'UFO' sightings (para 2 of Reference A), Sec(AS)2 will in future only refer to you for advice or investigation reports that fall into the following categories:
 - a. documented sightings - reports that are supported by evidence such as photographs, video recordings or radar traces, where these cannot be readily explained and are provided by sources who appear to be reliable;
 - b. corroborated sightings - a series of reports apparently describing the same phenomenon and provided by separate and independent sources, where these cannot be readily explained;
 - c. timely sightings - reports of a phenomenon that is currently being observed and might, therefore, be capable of detection by AD or other assets such as military aircraft or radar observers.

We will not follow-up undocumented, uncorroborated reports of past events unless, in the opinion of the Sec(AS) desk officer or duty officer, there are features of particular interest or dependability.

3. You asked about US reporting and investigating practices. We have inquired about this in the past through the Washington Embassy. The US DOD has a statement on their Internet web site recording their 'Project Blue Book' research and concluding that they no longer have any interest in UFO reports and related matters; those who wish to report 'sightings' are invited to contact local law enforcement agencies.
4. You question whether we need to fund investigation of

UNCLASSIFIED

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inexplicable incidents. Ministers' policy is clear: we are not funded to investigate all unexplained phenomena and our interest is confined to any occurrence that may have an air defence significance. The Prime Minister sees no case for funding research into extra terrestrial 'UFO' phenomena.

5. Finally, you suggest that we need an electronic database and management system against which sightings might be recorded and handled. This is not something we ourselves see any need for.

Section 40

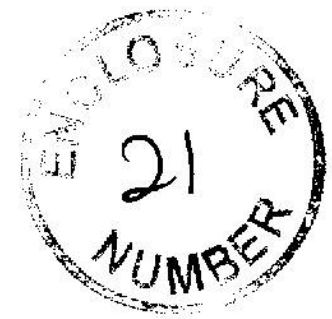
Sec(AS)2
MB8247 **Section 40**
CHOTS: SEC(AS)2
FAX : **Section 40**

RESTRICT\1\UFOs

UNCLASSIFIED

DAO (Cp Capt **Section 40**)

— cc PSO/ACAS
DI ST



UFO Policy

Ref

Thank you for your response at Ref. A.

2. Taking the statement of your interest at para. 2 of the reference, Sec(AS) will in future only refer to you for advice or investigation reports that fall into the following categories:
- a) documented sightings i.e. reports that are supported by evidence such as photographs, videorecordings or radar traces, where these cannot be readily explained and are provided by sources ~~whose~~ ^{whose} reliability appears to be ~~sound~~ reliable;
 - b) corroborated sightings i.e. a series of reports apparently describing the same phenomenon and provided by separate and independent sources, where these cannot be readily explained; and
 - c) timely sightings i.e. reports of a phenomenon that is currently being observed and might therefore be capable of detection by AD ^{or other} assets such as ^{military} aircraft or radar observers.
2. It follows that there will be no follow-up of undocumented, uncorroborated reports of past events, unless in the opinion of the Sec(AS) desk officer or duty officer ^{a report} ~~it~~ has features of particular interest or dependability.

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

SATURDAY'S ESTIMATED JACKPOT IS 14 MILLION

- A. 05 13 20 23 32 39
- B. 04 05 12 21 28 42
- C. 05 08 27 41 45 48
- D. 01 03 19 27 39 41
- E. 03 07 23 26 38 39

SAT 22 MAR '97
FOR 01 SAT DRAW
010723

£ 5.00

RET. NO. 209655
079-00562803-19315

FILL BOX TO VOID

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

SATURDAY'S ESTIMATED JACKPOT IS 14 MILLION

- A. 16 22 27 34 37 47
- B. 03 05 15 27 32 42
- C. 02 15 20 32 33 34
- D. 04 19 20 25 26 49
- E. 02 06 13 15 23 47
- F. 23 24 27 28 32 45
- G. 08 12 14 15 16 40

SAT 22 MAR '97
FOR 01 SAT DRAW
010723

£ 7.00

RET. NO. 209655
079-01938518-17744

FILL BOX TO VOID

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

3. You asked about US reporting and investigating practices. We have inquired about this in the past, through the Washington Embassy. The US DoD has a statement on their internet web site recording their 'Project Blue Book' research and concluding that they no longer have any interest in UFO reports and related matters; those who wish to report 'sightings' are invited to contact local law enforcement agencies.
4. You also question whether we need to fund investigation of inexplicable incidents. Ministers' policy is clear: we are not funded to investigate all unexplained phenomena and our interest is confined to any occurrence that may have an air defence significance. The Prime Minister ~~has~~ sees no case for funding research into extraterrestrial ^{UFO} phenomena.
5. You suggest that we need an electronic database and management system against which sightings may be recorded and handled (though, two paragraphs earlier, you say that there is no air defence requirement for this). I am rather surprised by this suggestion, but presumably if you think this is a proper use of defence funds, in the light of my paragraph 4, you will be inviting ACAS to make suitable provision in his budget? It is not a proposal I would endorse.



DIRECTORATE OF AIRSPACE POLICY

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL EXAMINING BOARD



**CIVIL AVIATION
AUTHORITY**

ATCEB ANNUAL REPORT 1996

UNCLASSIFIED

20

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAO/1/13

27 Mar 97

SEC(AS)2

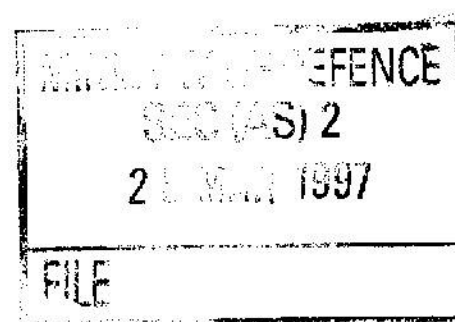
Copy to:

PSO/ACAS
 DAO
 DI ST
 Head of Sec(AS)
 DI Sec
 AD/DI55
 DPR(RAF)

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFO) POLICY

References:

- A. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 14 Mar 97.
 B. D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 29 Jan 97.



1. Thank you for your letter at Reference A reminding of the need to make progress on future handling of UFO reports against a background of increasing public interest and therefore workload. You ask what might be required insofar as air defence interests are concerned.

2. Following your earlier letter at Reference B, you will recall our discussion of the topic. My views are unchanged. We have no direct air defence interest in UFO reports unless there is intelligence, reliable sighting or evidence that UK national airspace, or the UKADR, may be, or has been, penetrated by aircraft of potentially hostile powers without authorisation. Orbiting satellites are accounted separately and appropriate COMSEC implemented.

3. A majority of UFO reports are tenuous in nature, are reported at second hand or with a time lag, and frequently overland or at night in areas where we have little radar cover. Those described as at great height, if they exist, may lie above radar cover, as only Fylingdales has tracking capabilities in the endo-atmosphere and in space. Some reports describe objects in terms of manoeuvre, speed and shape which lie beyond our engineering knowledge and that which could be reasonably expected from hostile powers.

4. There is considerable difficulty, therefore, in assessing and prioritising these reports sufficiently quickly to provide, where warranted, an active response. Moreover, when interceptions may be needed, we are constrained by reduced readiness following drawdowns at the end of the Cold War and the considerable time lag in responding from northern bases in the event of incidents in the south, especially if access is needed to intensively used civil

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airspace. Inevitably, interceptions are infrequently attempted against knowledge that, in the present benign environment, most sightings are unlikely to be associated with threatening activity.

5. I would emphasise that such sightings have been few and far between, with only Russia among potentially hostile powers being capable of penetrating UK airspace at very high altitudes; while no hostile power could reasonably be responsible for low level sightings, because of the range or political risk involved, except in the context of large civil register aircraft diverting from flight plans (where we have had incidents).

6. Staffing UFO matters, however, is a time consuming concern. As you are painfully aware, reported sightings are frequently explored in the public domain, often by organised societies, seeking extra-terrestrial explanations. Whilst using best judgement at the time, we are sometimes left accounting for the inexplicable or investing large numbers of man hours to establish rational explanations (as recently in the "Skegness sighting" when the Service's professional competence was called into question in an MP's letter to the Sofs). These frustrations are compounded by supporting PQs of the sort "... on how many occasions have ..." which require paper searches of long put down records. Neither do explanations that "the cost of the search cannot be justified" satisfy the public, for it only re-inforces their conviction that if the truth cannot be found out there, it is certainly available in the MOD. The MOD may eventually be caught out by cross referring to previous answers and other information, cherished on PCs and exchanged on "the web". The consequences are further questions and ever greater care and time taken to ensure that we do not contradict ourselves.

7. The problem is unlikely to subside especially as the US brings into service over the next decade high flying capabilities such as Global Star, Dark Star, the X-33 and, should it come to fruition, the manned spaceplane. Other nations will follow, especially with UAVs, which may permit risk taking in unauthorised penetrations of airspace. Activities of these sorts would clearly require monitoring and control by the MOD.

8. The extra-terrestrial business is also likely to boom, exacerbating the staffing problem. Continuing discoveries of planets, and emerging knowledge of circumstances needed for at least non-intelligent life, lead to speculation that planets and life may commonly occur. With that change of perception, arguing that our rock alone is a teeming and verdant speck in a vast and sterile nothingness may soon be as unrewarding as the Church once found in continuing to enforce the idea that the world was flat; more so, with the knowledge that many suns are older than our own, and perhaps provide conditions for advanced evolution. Even though some experts argue very low probabilities for intelligent life, and allowing for barely imagined transit distances, requiring unknown uses of physics, we cannot rule out entirely the idea of extra-terrestrial observation/visitation, either covert or overt. Our current policy to retain an open mind on these matters is therefore probably correct.

9. It is a fine judgement whether UFO sightings are MOD matters, or Government responsibilities best located with other agencies given the unproven nature of a vast majority of reports. I

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believe they should continue to be managed in the MOD because of inevitable inter-weaving of terrestrial sightings, some of military origin, with extra-terrestrial pre-occupations. Moreover, any future concerns, terrestrial or extra-terrestrial, are likely to require national or international co-ordination responsive only within security alliances.

10. Whether we should set aside for further examination outside the MOD unexplained phenomena, I leave others to decide, knowing that political, scientific and cost judgements are associated with their investigation. I am not wholly convinced, however, that covert investigations would be the best way forwards. When inevitably discovered, they lead to mistaken ideas that "contact has been made" or that "government is worried, knowing something we don't." Should we decide regularly to investigate UFO reports, then we might look at how the US has handled some aspects with, for example, the targeted search of deep space for artificial signals which attracts little public speculation. The downside, of course, is "Roswell" with plastic kits as visible proof of alien capture and reverse engineering. What are US reporting and investigation practices?

11. The UK air defence interest is primarily to automate reporting, handling and administration of incidents so that operators, infrequently switching their busy routines to consider unlikely phenomena, react in a focused and consistent way. Reaction and reporting needs for UFOs are similar to those practices necessary for handling flight safety incidents, and potentially we could mimic them. However, a computer based system is needed to support accurate handling and recording of incidents, and to allow easy extraction of historical data for parliamentary response or retrospective study. Such a system is not, per se, an air defence requirement.

12. We therefore differ in view over responsibilities, organisation and funding. These matters are not for the air defence forces alone to consider, or to utilise the output from. Public reporting of phenomena is essentially government business to which we contribute infrequently when there are matters of direct air defence interest and, on other occasions, to exclude known air movements. As always, when tasked to respond, we do so to the best of our abilities. However, PQs that ask what similarities we have found between recent incidents and those of years ago, or to count them, leave us embroiled in dusty paperchases or in making retrospective assessments of incidents when we are not fully expert.

13. My response has turned out longer than I had intended, but hopefully lays the issues fully on the table as we see them. The policy is fine, how we manage public enquiries probably needs some re-consideration, also whether we need to fund investigation of a minority of incidents which may be inexplicable; above all, we need an electronic database and management system against which

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sightings may be uniformly handled and recorded. If nothing else, we owe successors an easily extracted historic record.

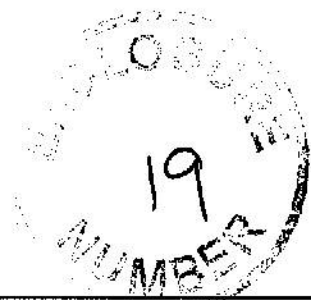
Section 40

Gp Capt
AOAD1
MB4229

Section 40

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UNCLASSIFIED

64/1



Tue 25 Mar, 1997 10:04 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
25/03/97	DPO(RAF)SO2	ANGLIA TV: REQUEST FOR WRITTEN	[]

Sent: 25/03/97 at 10:01
 To: DPO(RAF)SO2
 CC: DPO(RAF)

Ref: 1096
 Subject: ANGLIA TV: REQUEST FOR WRITTEN STATEMENT - "UFO" POLICY

Text:

Priority: Urgent
 Reply Request []

View Acknowledge [*]
 Delivery Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
 Codes []

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

25 Mar 97

DPO(RAF) - Sqn Ldr **Section 40**

ANGLIA TV REQUEST FOR WRITTEN STATEMENT ON MOD'S "UFO" POLICY

1. Further to **Section 40**'s E-mail to **Section 40** of 20 Mar, I attach a draft letter for you to send to **Section 40** the researcher for Anglia TV. **Section 40**'s telephone number is **Section 40** **Section 40** - he may wish you to fax the letter.

2. Any queries please call me.

[original signed]

Section 40
Sec(AS)2a1
MB8245 **Section 40**

D R A F T

Section 40

'The Magic and Mystery Show'

Anglia TV

== by fax ==

1. You recently requested a statement on MOD policy concerning reports of "unidentified flying objects". You also sought a statement about the sightings in the area of The Wash of 5 October last year. I have the following to offer:

MOD Interest in "UFO" Sightings

MOD has no interest, expertise or role with respect to "UFO/ flying saucer" matters or in the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms about which it remains open-minded. To date MOD is not aware of any evidence which proves these phenomena exist.

MOD examines any reports of "UFO" sightings it receives solely to establish if what was seen might have some defence significance ie. whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been breached.

Reports are examined with the assistance of the Department's air defence experts as required. Unless there is evidence of a potential military threat, and to date no "UFO" sighting has revealed such evidence, no attempt is made to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported. From the types of descriptions received, aircraft or natural phenomena probably account for most of the observations.

Sightings in the Area of The Wash - 5 October 1996

At the time of the incident on 5 October it was determined there was no evidence that the integrity of the UK Air Defence Region had been compromised. This was MOD's only concern.

Much of the press reporting of the incident at the time was incorrect, ill-informed and speculative. All available sources of information were examined and MOD was completely satisfied that the sightings were not of air defence significance; our air defence system found no evidence of unidentified flying craft throughout the period in question. The only radar plot observed, which was identified on the National Air Traffic Services Claxby radar in the position of Boston, was judged by experienced operators at two separate locations to be a permanent echo, caused by a natural phenomenon (something that does occur in certain weather

conditions), not suspicious in nature nor of any significance to air or maritime safety, and of no air defence or air concern.

There was little reliable or accurate bearings or elevation information in connection with any of the sightings of lights observed in the area of The Wash. From that provided, including a video, which was not forwarded to the MOD by the Lincolnshire Police HQ until 5 November, the Greenwich Observatory view was that the lights were of celestial origin and likely to be Venus which had been exceptionally bright during the week in question.

I hope this is helpful.

DPO(RAF)

Fri 21 Mar, 1997 15:13

mailbox standard Page 1



DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
20/03/97	DPO(RAF)	Anglia TV: Request for written	[]

Intended:

Sent: 20/03/97 at 17:24

Delivered: 20/03/97 at 18:16

To: SEC(AS)2B (9)

CC:

Ref: 241

From: DPO(RAF)

Auth by:

Subject: Anglia TV: Request for written response from MOD

Text: Further to our telephone call, **Section 40** of Anglia TV, to whom I responded on Sec A behalf earlier this week with the line on UFOs, has now asked for a letter on MOD headed paper setting out the line for him to show on camera in place of an MOD spokesman. I suggest we have nothing to loose by complying.

Grateful for a response from you to S/L **Section 40** on Ex **Section 40**

Priority: Normal
Reply Request []

SEE PAGE
View Acknowledge [*]

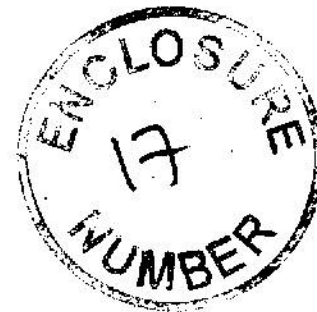
Attachments []
Codes []

Section 40

If you are content, would you draft a note along the lines requested. I will sign it if you wish. I will, in any case, ask DPO to advise Anglia that officers' names should not be highlighted or mentioned on air.

Section 40

21/3



Mon 17 Mar, 1997 14:07

mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
17/03/97	DPO(RAF)	Anglia TV - UFOs	[]

Intended:

Sent: 17/03/97 at 12:13

Delivered: 17/03/97 at 12:16

To: SEC(AS)2

CC:

Ref: 233

From: DPO(RAF)

Auth by:

Subject: Anglia TV - UFOs

Text: For info - I have spoken with Anglia. They were content with some extrapolation from the general statement on UFOs.

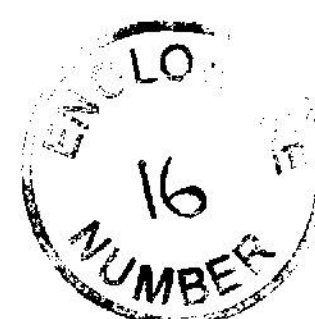
Priority: Normal
Reply Request []

SEE PAGE
View Acknowledge []

Attachments []
Codes []

Oh dear - I wonder what they'll use!

Section 40



Loose Minute

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

17th March 1997

DPO(RAF)1

'UFOs' - REQUEST FROM ANGLIA TV

1. We spoke this morning and I said that we have been approached by Anglia TV to participate in a programme 'The Magic and Mystery Show' to talk about 'UFOs' and, in particular, an incident on 5th October last year in the area of the Wash.

2. **Section 40** rang late on Friday afternoon about the programme and left a message on our answerphone. He said that he wanted to do a 'balanced' item and was therefore seeking input from MOD.

3. We have not returned **Section 40's** call and I should be grateful if you would do so (on **Section 40** to say that the Department would not wish to appear on the programme but is happy to provide the attached statement about the extent of their interest in 'UFO' matters and an explanation of events on 5th October.

4. Please let me know if he has any further questions.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2
MB8247 **Section 40**
CHOTS: SEC(AS)2
FAX : **Section 40**

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE INTEREST IN "UFO" SIGHTINGS

MOD has no interest, expertise or role with respect to "UFO/flying saucer" matters or in the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms about which it remains open-minded. To date MOD is not aware of any evidence which proves these phenomena exist.

MOD examines any reports of "UFO" sightings it receives solely to establish if what was seen might have some defence significance ie whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been breached.

Reports are examined with the assistance of the Department's air defence experts as required. Unless there is evidence of a potential military threat, and to date no "UFO" sighting has revealed such evidence, no attempt is made to identify the precise nature of each sighting report. From the types of descriptions received, aircraft or natural phenomena probably account for most of the observations.

SIGHTINGS IN THE AREA OF THE WASH - 5 OCTOBER 1996

At the time of the incident on 5 October it was determined there was no evidence that the integrity of the UK Air Defence Region had been compromised. This was MOD's only concern.

Much of the press reports about the incident at the time were incorrect, ill-informed and speculative. All available sources of information were examined and MOD was completely satisfied that the sightings were not of air defence significance; our air defence system found no evidence of unidentified flying craft throughout the period in question. The only radar plot observed, which was identified on the National Air Traffic Services Claxby radar in the position of Boston, was judged by experienced operators at two separate locations to be a permanent echo, caused by a natural phenomenon (something that does occur in certain weather conditions), not suspicious in nature nor of any significance to air or maritime safety, and of no air defence or air concern.

There was very little reliable or accurate bearing or elevation information in connection with any of the sightings of lights observed in the area of The Wash. From that provided, including a video, which was not forwarded to MOD by the Lincolnshire Police HQ until 5 November, the Greenwich Observatory view was that the lights were of celestial origin and likely to be Venus which had been exceptionally bright during the week in question.





RESTRICTED POLICY **UNCLASSIFIED**

Loose Minute

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
14th March 1994

AO/AD1
DI ST

Copy to:

PSO/ACAS
DAO
Head of Sec(AS)
DI Sec
AD/DI55
DPR(RAF)

'UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS' - POLICY

Reference: D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 29th January 1997

1. You will recall that I wrote at Reference seeking advice and comment on the way forward for handling 'UFO' reports and I wonder if you have yet had time to consider what might be required so far as your respective interests are concerned. I discussed a number of points at a meeting some three weeks ago with Wing Commander **Section 40** but have not heard further.

2. I appreciate that other issues might well have taken priority in recent times but I would like to make some progress on this in the near future.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2
MB8247 **Section 40**
CHOTS: SEC(AS)2
FAX : **Section 40**

RESTRICTED POLICY **UNCLASSIFIED**

~~RESTRICTED - STAFF~~
UNCLASSIFIED



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



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 [redacted]
(Switchboard) 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**
(Fax) 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**

Group Captain **Section 40** **Section 40** **RAF**
Air Attaché
British Embassy
Calle de Fernando el Santo 16
28010 MADRID
Spain

Your reference
Our reference
D/Sec(AS) [redacted]
Date
7 March 1997

Dear Group Captain **Section 40**

1. You will recall the fax you received from **Section 40** about "UFOs". Attached is our reply which you kindly agreed to translate and pass on.
2. For your background information last year Mr Pope wrote a book entitled "Open Skies, Closed Minds" in which he criticises the MOD's policy with respect to the "UFO" phenomenon; he has to some extent become a thorn in the side of the Department. He is often quoted in the Press when a "UFO" sighting makes the newspapers. Our line is that Mr Pope views are his personal opinions and do not represent, nor do they reflect the views of the MOD. I thought you might just wish to be aware of this.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
[redacted signature block]

our reply + **Section 40**
Section 40 letter
to hold on file
64/3 pt I
enc. 9.

~~RESTRICTED - STAFF~~
UNCLASSIFIED

TOP

↑ FEED DIRECTION

64/1
ENCLOSURE
14
NUMBER

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

CWV106 19/1540 050A1420

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 191418Z FEB 97

FROM MODUK AIR
TO BRITMILREP BONN
BRITMILREP ROME
BRITMILREP PARIS
BRITMILREP WASHINGTON
BRITMILREP BRUSSELS
HQBF CYPRUS

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

SIC ACA/JDA

FROM: SEC(AS)2A1 **Section 40**
TO: BONN FOR AA
ROME FOR AA
PARIS FOR AAA
WASHINGTON FOR RAF STAFF
BRUSSELS FOR SGT **Section 40**
CYPRUS FOR S02 J3 AIR

SUBJECT: CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NO FOR SEC(AS)2A1

- 1. THIS MESSAGE IS TO ADVISE THAT WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT MY TELEPHONE NO HAS CHANGED TO 0171 218 **Section 40**
 - 2. MY ADDRESS REMAINS ROOM 8245 MOD MAIN BUILDING AND MY FAX NUMBER REMAINS 0171 218 **Section 40**
- BT

DISTRIBUTION JDA

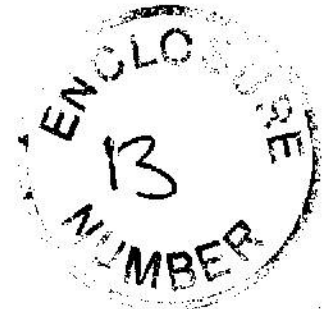
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 DCMC REG DUTY(AIR))

END

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



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE Room 8245
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**

See Distribution

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/1
Date
19 February 1997

SECRETARIAT (AIR STAFF) 2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

1. Please be advised that my telephone number has changed to 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**
2. My address and fax number remain as follows:

Ministry of Defence
Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1
Room 8245
Main Building
Whitehall
SW1A 2HB

Fax: 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**



Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a1

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: 	Transmission: Date: <u>20 FEB 97</u> Time:	Document Reference: <u>64/1</u>
From: <u>SEC(AS)2</u>	Fax Number: <u>Section 40</u> Tel Number: <u>Section 40</u>	Total number of pages including this one: <u>2</u>
Authorised by: Rank Name Appointment <u>E0 Section 40 Sec(AS)2A1</u>	To: <u>SEE BELOW</u>	Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number <u>A0 Section 40</u>
Signature: <u>Section 40</u>		Signature: <u>Section 40</u>

Subject: CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NO.

DISTRIBUTION

① RAF KINLOSS - FLT LT	<u>Section 40</u>	<u>95131</u>	<u>Section 40</u>
② No 11/18 GP - FLT SGT	<u>Section 40</u>	<u>-952</u>	<u>Section 40</u>
③ 39 Sqn - CPL	<u>Section 40</u>	<u>95951</u>	<u>Section 40</u>
④ RAFAT - CPL	<u>Section 40</u>	<u>95751</u>	<u>Section 40</u>

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

20 Feb '97 9:14

Secretariat(Air Staff)→ 0140026120 Section 40	
No.	3283
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'20"
Pages	2 Page(s)
Result	OK

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

** Transmit Conf. Report **

20 Feb '97 9:11

Secretariat(Air Staff)---> NO39SQUADRON	
No.	3282
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'02"
Pages	2 Page(s)
Result	OK

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

20 Feb '97 9:09

Secretariat(Air Staff)---> Section 40	
No.	3281
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'05"
Pages	2 Page(s)
Result	O K

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

20 Feb '97 9:18

Secretariat(Air Staff)→ Section 40	
No.	3285
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'11"
Pages	2 Page(s)
Result	O K

→ 64/1



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

19 Feb 97

To all Sec(AS)1 Staff

Copy to:

PS/Head of Sec(AS)

"UFO" PUBLIC ENQUIRY ANSWERPHONE FACILITY

1. Head of Sec(AS) has given approval for public enquiries by telephone on "UFO"-related issues to be handled using an answerphone facility, to free-up my line for business more directly related to the Sec(AS) remit. The answerphone will be in operation from 0800 - 1700 hrs Mon-Fri. Outside these times, in accordance with current practice, calls will be directed by the Switchboard staff to the RAF Duty Officer in the DCMC.
2. I have been allocated a new telephone number for non-"UFO" business (0171 218 **Section 40**). Please note that this number may be passed to officials who wish to speak to me about "UFO"-related business, or of course about any other matter for which I am responsible. However, members of the public who wish to talk to someone about "UFOs" should be advised to call **0171 218 2140 only**. If they have previously been put through to the answerphone and complain that they wish to speak to a member of staff not an answerphone, please firmly advise them that all such enquiries are handled from that telephone line alone, which is continuously monitored by staff in Sec(AS)2. All Press enquiries should be directed towards the RAF Press Desks (**Section 40** MB).
3. The above arrangements apply from 0800 hrs Thu 20 Feb.

[original signed]

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a1

MB8245

CHOTS: **Section 40** SEC(AS)2A (2)

→ 64/1



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

19 Feb 97

To all Sec(AS)2 Staff

"UFO" PUBLIC ENQUIRY ANSWERPHONE FACILITY

1. As you know, Head of Sec(AS) has given approval for public enquiries by telephone on "UFO"-related issues to be handled using an answerphone facility. Attached at Annex A is the outgoing message which members of the public who call this line will hear. The answerphone will be switched on Mon-Fri 0800 - 1700 hrs. Outside these times, in accordance with current practice, calls will be directed by the Switchboard staff to the RAF Duty Officer in the DCMC.

2. I have been allocated a new telephone number for non-"UFO" business (0171 218 **Section 40**). This number may be passed to officials who wish to speak to me about "UFO"-related business or of course about any other matter for which I am responsible. However, members of the public who wish to talk to someone about "UFOs" should be advised to call **0171 218 2140 only**. If they have previously been put through to the answerphone and complain that they wish to speak to a member of staff not an answerphone, you should firmly advise them that all such enquiries are handled from that telephone line alone which is continuously monitored by staff in Sec(AS)2 throughout the day. All Press enquiries should be directed towards the RAF Press Desks (**Section 40**).

3. The answerphone will go "on-line" wef 0800 hrs tomorrow.

[original signed]

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a1

MB8245

Section 40

ANNEX A TO
D/SEC(AS)/64/1
DATED 19 FEB 97

"UFO" ANSWERPHONE OUTGOING MESSAGE

"You have reached the Ministry of Defence Air Staff Secretariat. You may use this voicemail facility to make reports of unusual aerial observations which you wish to draw to the attention of the MOD. However, the Department's interest is confined only to establishing whether there is evidence of unauthorized military activity in UK airspace.

On this basis if you wish to register a report please leave your name, address and telephone number after the tone giving brief details of what you have seen. Please remember to include the date, time and precise location. You will be contacted further only in the event that we consider any follow-up is required.

If your enquiry concerns the MOD's policy on the so-called "UFO" phenomenon, you will need to write to us at the:

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

Press Enquiries should be directed through the MOD Press Office."



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE Room 8245
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218
(Switchboard) 0171 218
(Fax) 0171 218

Section 40
Section 40

Your reference

See Distribution

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/1
Date
19 February 1997

SECRETARIAT (AIR STAFF) 2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

1. Please be advised that my telephone number has changed to 0171 218 **Section 40**
2. My address and fax number remain as follows:

Ministry of Defence
Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1
Room 8245
Main Building
Whitehall
SW1A 2HB

Fax: 0171 218 **Section 40**

3. As some of you will be aware, Sec(AS)2a is the nominated MOD focal point for handling "UFO" enquiries from members of the public. Please note that my new telephone number should not be passed on to members of the public/Press who wish to make enquiries about "UFO"-related issues. A dedicated answerphone on my old number (0171 218 2140) is to be set up with effect from 0800 hrs tomorrow for future handling of this business.

Section 40



Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a1

DISTRIBUTIONInternal:

DAS	-	AS15	} By CHOTS
	-	AS16	
	-	AS32	
DAO	-	AO-AD1	
	-	AO-AD3	
	-	ADGE1	

Parliamentary Unit

External:

HQSTC	-	ACS(Cts)
	-	CS(Sec & Int)1
HQPTC	-	RAF PMA 3
HQ 38 Group	-	Diplomatic Clearance Cell
ASCOT Ops		
No 32(The Royal) Sqn	-	Flight Planners
Heron Flight	-	Flight Planners
AVN Netheravon	-	Flight Planners
FCO	-	Sec Pol Dept: Attn Section 40

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: —		Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:		Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1	
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40		Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 3	
To: RAF PMA 3 HQ PTC Section 40		Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40		Fax Number: Section 40	
Authorized by: Rank: EO Name: Section 40 Appointment:		Transmitted by: Rank: AO Name: Section 40 Tel Number:		Signature:	

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40****** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 15:25

Secretariat(Air Staff)——> P Man 4c RAF Inn	
No.	3277
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'23"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	OK

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: —		Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:		Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1	
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40		Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 3	
To: ACS(CTS) AND CS (Sec + Int) 1 HQ STC		Fax Number: 95 221 Section 40		Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40	
Authorised by: Rank Name Appointment EO Section 40			Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number AO Section 40		
Signature:			Signature:		

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40****** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 14:43

Secretariat(Air Staff)---> PARTICIPATION CD	
No.	3273
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'23"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	O K

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: —		Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:		Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1													
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40		Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 3													
To: ASCOT OPS		Fax Number: Section 40		Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40													
Authorised by: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Rank</th> <th>Name</th> <th>Appointment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>EO</td> <td>Section 40</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Rank	Name	Appointment	EO	Section 40		Transmitted by: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Rank</th> <th>Name</th> <th>Tel Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>AO</td> <td>Section 40</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Rank	Name	Tel Number	AO	Section 40	
Rank	Name	Appointment															
EO	Section 40																
Rank	Name	Tel Number															
AO	Section 40																
Signature:			Signature:														

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40****** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 14:41

Secretariat(Air Staff)---> Section 40	
No.	3272
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'28"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	OK

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: /		Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:		Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1	
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40		Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 3	
To: AVN NETWORKS Flight PLANNERS Section 40		Fax Number: Section 40		Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40	
Authorised by: Rank: EO Name: Section 40 Appointment:			Transmitted by: Rank: AO Name: Section 40 Tel Number:		
Signature:			Signature:		

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 14:20

Secretariat(Air Staff)----> Section 40	
No.	3271
Mode	NORMAL
Time	2'33"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	O K

Classification: U/C

F Slgs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: —		Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:		Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1	
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40		Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 3	
To: HQ 38 GP Dip clear cell		Fax Number: 95 221 Section 40		Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40	
Authorised by: Rank Name Appointment EO Section 40			Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number AO Section 40		
Signature:			Signature:		

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-

Section 40

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 14:05

Secretariat(Air Staff)---> HQ 38 GP DIP CLR	
No.	3270
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'30"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	D K

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: —	Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:	Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1	Total number of pages including this one: 3
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40	Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40 Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40	To: HERON Flight Flight PLANNERS	Fax Number: 936 510 Section 40
Authorised by: Rank Name Appointment EO Section 40	Signature:	Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number AO Section 40	Signature:

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 13:50

Secretariat(Air Staff)---> Section 40	
No.	3269
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'31"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	O K

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: —		Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:		Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1	
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40		Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 3	
To: Flight PLANNERS No 32 (The Royal) SQN Section 40		Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40		Fax Number: 95 233 Section 40	
Authorised by: Rank Name Appointment EO Section 40			Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number AO Section 40		
Signature:		Signature:		Signature:	

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

** Transmit Conf. Report **

19 Feb '97 13:47

Secretariat(Air Staff)——> 32 (TR) SQN NORT	
No.	3268
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'23"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	OK

Classification: U/C

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number: —		Transmission: Date: 19 FEBRUARY 97 Time:		Document Reference: D/SEC(AS) 64/1	
From: SEC(AS)2A1 Section 40		Fax Number: 071 218 Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 3	
To: FCO Sec. Pol. Dept Section 40		Fax Number: 270 Section 40		Tel Number: 071 218 Section 40	
Authorised by: Rank Name Appointment EO Section 40			Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number AO Section 40		
Signature:			Signature:		

Subject: SEC(AS)2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.

Classification: U/C

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40****** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 13:43

Secretariat(Air Staff)→ Section 40	
No.	3267
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'27"
Pages	3 Page(s)
Result	OK

64/1
9
ENCLOSURE
UNCLASSIFIED

Wed Feb 19 14:26:30 1997 Signals File sa2aMB43/signalsU/Change Page 1

DTG	TO	DRAFTER'S NAME	TXD ACT INF PAGE
191418Z FEB 97	BRITMILREP BONN.....	Section 40	ROU ... 1 OF 1

Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Message Instructions:

Precedence - Action: ROUTINE.. /Info:
DTG: 191418Z Month: FEB Year: 97

From: MODUK AIR.....

To: Info:

BRITMILREP BONN.....

BRITMILREP ROME.....

BRITMILREP PARIS.....

BRITMILREP WASHINGTON.....

BRITMILREP BRUSSELS.....

HQBF CYPRUS.....

.....

.....

Exempt:
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.....

SIC: ACA/JDA.....

File ref: D/SEC(AS)/64/1.....

Drafter's name: Section 40.....

Branch: SEC(AS)2A..... Ext: Section 40 MB

Releasing Officer's Name: Section 40.....
Grade/Rank: EO..... Ext: Section 40 MB

Transmitted by: (For COMMCEN use only)

Wed Feb 19 14:26:30 1997 Signals File sa2aMB43/signalsU/ChangeNo Page 2

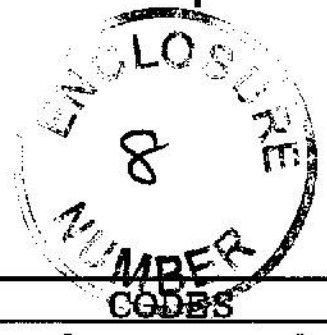
FROM: SEC(AS)2A1 (Section 40 [REDACTED])
TO: BONN FOR AA
ROME FOR AA
PARIS FOR AAA
WASHINGTON FOR RAF STAFF
BRUSSELS FOR SGT (Section 40 [REDACTED])
CYPRUS FOR SO2 J3 AIR

SUBJECT: CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NO FOR SEC(AS)2A1

1. THIS MESSAGE IS TO ADVISE THAT WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT MY TELEPHONE NO HAS CHANGED TO 0171 218 (Section 40 [REDACTED])

2. MY ADDRESS REMAINS ROOM 8245 MOD MAIN BUILDING AND MY FAX NUMBER REMAINS 0171 218 (Section 40 [REDACTED])

64/1



Wed 19 Feb, 1997 13:42 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT
19/02/97	PARLIAMENTARY CLERK	CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER -

Sent: 19/02/97 at 13:42
 To: PARLIAMENTARY CLERK
 CC:

Ref: 1044
 Subject: CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER - SEC(AS)2A1

Text: I should be grateful if you could circulate the attached to your team.

Telephone enquiries on PQs and PEs about "UFO" matters can of course be made on **Section 40**
 Thank You. **Section 40**

Priority: Normal	View Acknowledge [*]	Attachments [1]
Reply Request []	Delivery Acknowledge [*]	Codes []



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE Room 8245
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB**

Telephone (Direct dial) 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax) 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**

See Distribution

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/1
Date
19 February 1997

SECRETARIAT (AIR STAFF) 2A1 - CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

1. Please be advised that my telephone number has changed to **0171 218 [redacted] Section 40**

2. My address and fax number remain as follows:

Ministry of Defence
Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1
Room 8245
Main Building
Whitehall
SW1A 2HB

Fax: 0171 218 [redacted] **Section 40**

3. As some of you will be aware, Sec(AS)2a is the nominated MOD focal point for handling "UFO" enquiries from members of the public. Please note that my new telephone number should not be passed on to members of the public/Press who wish to make enquiries about "UFO"-related issues. A dedicated answerphone on my old number (0171 218 2140) is to be set up with effect from 0800 hrs tomorrow for future handling of this business.

[original signed]

Section 40 [redacted]
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a1

DISTRIBUTIONInternal:

DAS - AS15
 - AS16
 - AS32

DAO - AO-AD1
 - AO-AD3
 - ADGE1

DI55c
 Parliamentary Unit

External:

HQSTC - ACS(Cts)
 - CS(Sec & Int)1

HQPTC - RAF PMA 3

HQ 38 Group - Diplomatic Clearance Cell

ASCOT Ops
 No 32(The Royal) Sqn - Flight Planners
 Heron Flight - Flight Planners
 AVN Netheravon - Flight Planners

FCO - Sec Pol Dept: Attn **Section 40**



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

19 Feb 97

MOD Main Building Switchboard Staff
MOD Public Enquiries Office

Copy to:

DPR(RAF)
 DPO(RAF)
 AIS(Mil), LATCC West Drayton
 DCMC Air Force Desk

DEDICATED TELEPHONE LINE FOR ENQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ABOUT "UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS"

1. You will wish to be aware that with effect from **0800 hrs Thu 20 Feb**, the MOD will have a dedicated telephone line for handling enquiries and reports from members of the public about "unidentified flying objects".
2. Queries will usually be handled through an answerphone system, which will briefly set out the MOD's limited interest in this subject, and invite members of the public to leave reports if appropriate. The answerphone will be switched on from 0800-1700 hrs and will be continuously monitored. Any "UFO" calls received outside these hours must continue to be handled by the DCMC in the usual manner, in the event there may be genuine air defence implications of a more terrestrial nature.
3. The dedicated "UFO" number will be: **0171 218 2140**. All members of the public wishing to be put through to the "UFO" desk should be connected **only** to this number. Press enquiries should be directed towards the RAF Press Desks. Although I will continue to oversee queries of this nature, the separate telephone line I have acquired for handling the major part of my work (the non-'UFO'-related duties) **must not be given to members of the public or Press enquiring about "UFOs"**. Members of the public not content with an answerphone and insisting on speaking to a member of staff should be firmly advised that "UFO" business is only handled from the number given above.
4. **Officials** who wish to speak to a desk officer in Sec(AS) about "UFO" business can of course be advised of my alternate number below. If you have any queries in respect of these new arrangements please contact me on **Section 40**.

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a1

MB8245

FAX:

Section 40

Classification:

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number:		Transmission: Date: 19 FEB 97 Time:		Document Reference: 64/1	
From: SEC(AS)2A1		Fax Number: Section 40		Total number of pages including this one: 2	
To: MOD SWITCHBOARD SUPERVISOR		Tel Number: Section 40		Fax Number: Section 40	
Authorised by: Rank Name Appointment EO Section 40 Sec(AS)2A1			Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number AD Section 40		
Signature: Section 40			Signature: Section 40		

Subject: CHANGE IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDLING
UFO ENQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC.

Classification:

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 10:56

Secretariat(Air Staff)--->	
No.	3254
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'13"
Pages	2 Page(s)
Result	O K

Classification:

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Caveat:

Covering:

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number:		Transmission:		Document Reference:	
		Date: 19 FEB 97		64/1	
		Time:		Total number of pages including this one:	
				2	
From:		Fax Number:		To:	
SECCAS)2		Section 40		AIS(MIL)	
				WEST DRAYTON	
				95243	
				Section 40	
		Tel Number:		SEC	
		Section 40			
Authorised by:			Transmitted by:		
Rank	Name	Appointment	Rank	Name	Tel Number
E0	Section 40	SECCAS)2A1	A0	Section 40	
Signature:		Section 40		Signature:	

Subject: CHANGE IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDLING
UFO ENQUIRIES IN SECCAS)2.

Classification:

Caveat:

Covering:

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax:0171-218-**Section 40**

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

19 Feb '97 10:59

Secretariat(Air Staff)---	
No.	3255
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'18"
Pages	2 Page(s)
Result	OK

Wed 12 Feb, 1997 13:46 mailbox .standard Page 1



DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
12/02/97	ADGE1	Answerphone Message	[]

Intended:

Sent: 12/02/97 at 13:36

Delivered: 12/02/97 at 13:40

To: SEC(AS)2A (2)

CC:

Ref: 309

From: ADGE1

Auth by:

Subject: Answerphone Message

Text: Please find suggested changes at attachment

Priority: Normal
Reply Request []

SEE PAGE
View Acknowledge []

Attachments [1]
Codes []

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAO/1/13

12 Feb 97

Sec(AS)2a1

MOD "UFO" REPORTING ANSWERPHONE

Reference: D/Sec(AS)1 dated 12 Feb 97.

1. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed answerphone message at Reference.

2. Firstly, I believe that the message should avoid the term UFO which, in itself, is too suggestive. I would recommend the use of 'unusual aerial phenomena' or similar neutral term.

3. Secondly, perhaps 'evidence of hostile foreign military activity' is too anachronistic and narrow; I would favour the following more:

'The MOD's interest in such reports is limited to whether there is evidence that the integrity of UK airspace has been compromised by an unauthorised airborne vehicle'.

4. I hope these suggestions are helpful.

Section 40

Wg Cdr

ADGE 1

MB4227

Section 40

64/1
ENCLOSURE
5
NUMBER

Wed 12 Feb, 1997 12:17 mailbox log Page 1

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
12/02/97	ADGE1	MOD "UFO" REPORTING ANSWERING	[]

Sent: 12/02/97 at 12:16
To: ADGE1
CC:

Ref: 1028
Subject: MOD "UFO" REPORTING ANSWERING MACHINE

Text: PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

Priority: Urgent
Reply Request []

View Acknowledge [*]
Delivery Acknowledge [*]

Attachments [1]
Codes []

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/1

12 Feb 97

ADGE1

MOD "UFO" REPORTING ANSWERPHONE

1. Head of Sec(AS) has recently given approval for this office to acquire an answerphone aligned to a dedicated telephone line to aid with handling predominantly non-defence related "UFO" business. Once this is up and running I shall start using a completely separate telephone line for handling the business more relevant to the work of Sec(AS)2.

2. The phone line with the answering machine will be the only one which the public will be able to lodge any "UFO" reports, and will be monitored regularly throughout the day, should any further action be required. Details of our policy in respect of the "UFO" phenomenon will continue to be provided through written correspondence.

3. Attached we have drafted a simple outgoing message which briefly explains the Department's limited interest in these reports and encourages the caller only to leave details if they feel that what they saw may be of defence relevance. Hopefully this will discourage casual callers wanting to report something they saw in 1972 and other time consuming telephone calls about the meaning of life which go round the houses and take up a considerable amount of our time.

4. I should be grateful if you would let me know if you have any comments or suggestions regarding the proposed outgoing message.



[original signed]

Section 40

Sec(AS)2a1

MB8245 82140MB

CHOTS: SEC(AS)2A (2)

DRAFT "UFO" ANSWERPHONE OUTGOING MESSAGE

You have reached the Ministry of Defence focal point for reports of "unidentified flying objects".

The MOD's interest in such reports is limited to whether there is evidence of hostile foreign military activity in UK airspace.

If you have seen something which you believe may be of defence interest please leave your name, address and telephone number after the tone giving brief details, remembering to include the date, time and precise location. You will be contacted only in the event that follow up information is required.

If you have any other enquiries about the MOD policy on the "UFO" phenomenon you may write to the following address:

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

Press Enquiries should be directed through the MOD Press Office.



RESTRICTED - POLICY
UNCLASSIFIED

Loose Minute

D/Sec(AS) [REDACTED]

29th January 1997

AO/AD1

DI ST

Copy to:

PSO/ACAS
DAO

Head of Sec(AS)
DI Sec

AD/DI55
DPR(RAF)

'UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS' - POLICY

1. I have been giving some thought to the way the Department currently handles 'UFO' reports and letters from members of the public, many of the latter actively seeking information about the existence of extraterrestrial life forms, or seeking a detailed investigation/explanation for what has been reported (allegations of abduction by aliens, out of body experiences, animal mutilations, crop circles etc).

2. The increasing media attention given to this subject in recent months has almost doubled the work of the desk officers involved to the detriment of other tasks more directly relevant to the work of the Branch. In the circumstances it seems timely to reappraise the situation with a view to clarifying the Department's role and requirements. Existing Government policy and my understanding of the current arrangements is set out at Annex.

3. I believe there should be a demonstrated need to continue current policy if we are to do so and would be grateful to know:

- a. the extent of DAO and DI ST current interest in 'UFO' reports;
- b. whether Sec(AS) should continue to forward any sighting reports to DAO or DI ST from members of the public for further examination/clarification and, if so, the criteria on which such decisions might be based.
- c. whether the focus of interest ~~is~~ should be internally generated (ie air defence) or rely on reports only from credible witnesses with full involvement from DAO and DI ST in the investigation process.

4. Depending on the nature of any changes proposed it may be necessary to seek Ministerial agreement to proceed. I look forward to receiving your formal comments.

Section 40
[REDACTED]

Section 40
Sec(AS)2

MB8247

CHOTS: SEC(AS)2

Section 40
[REDACTED]

RESTRICTED - POLICY
UNCLASSIFIED

~~RESTRICTED POLICY~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Annex

'UFO REPORTS ': MOD INTEREST AND CURRENT ARRANGEMENTSPolicy

1. The Government's policy on 'UFOs' is that the air defence implications of unidentified flying objects are a matter for the MOD; air traffic implications are a matter for the Civil Aviation Authority.

2. MOD's interest in 'UFOs' is limited to examining reported sightings to establish if such activity might have a defence significance (ie whether the UK Air Defence Region has been breached).

Sec(AS)2 Responsibilities

3. Sec(AS)2a acts as the focal point for MOD Policy on 'UFO' issues and maintains a simple record for all reported sightings, staffs sighting reports and public correspondence relating to alleged sightings to other MOD Branches as necessary, responds to Parliamentary and Ministerial inquiries, and deals with written and telephone enquiries from members of the public. DPO staff deal with media enquiries based on advice from Sec(AS)2.

Current Arrangements

4. It is generally the case that 'UFO' reports are copied to AO/GE1 for advice on air defence related issues, and to DI55 for the technology aspects of what has been observed. DAO has no interest in extraterrestrial matters and 'UFO' sightings are considered only in relation to a possible military threat to the UK's air defences. DI55 is responsible for studying aerodynamic missiles and is the DIS repository for UFO reports forwarded by Sec(AS): they have no evidence to date to support the extraterrestrial hypothesis.

5. It is considered that events giving rise to a defence interest are only likely to be reported by credible witnesses, ie military pilot reported incidents or detections by defence radar or early warning systems. In these circumstances DAO staffs would lead on the response in light of the circumstances at the time. Other credible witnesses might be professional civil pilots, officials at Air Traffic Control Centres (ATCCs) and the emergency services (police/fire). During the last two years only a handful of reports have been made by credible witnesses and none have provided evidence of defence significance.

6. There are no resources within the Department to provide an aeronautical identification service for every 'UFO' report. More importantly, given MOD's stated interest, there is no requirement to do so.

~~RESTRICTED POLICY~~
UNCLASSIFIED

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Section 40

4/1

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Any comments -
16 answers to my
when/for what
questions would be
helpful - any idea of
the time when these
comments apply to?

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DI ST/11/10 - OUT 952.

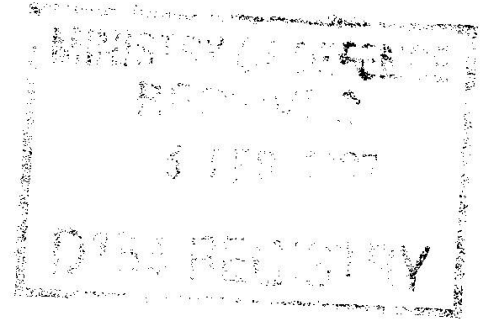
3 Feb 97

Sec(AS)2

Copy to:
DI P&R
DISec
AO/AD1

Section 40

5/2



UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA STUDY

Ref: D/Sec(AS)/64/1 dated 27 Jan 97

1. Thank you for reference on the discussions on the possibility of a study into unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP). This is a holding reply, not least because Wg Cdr Section 40 is central to this matter, is on terminal leave from the RAF and not available to advise for some weeks. (U)

2. However I wish to point out now that reference to planned DI55 activity conveys too firm an impression. Wg Cdr Section 40 had been investigating what might be achieved within our current resources prior to seeking any commitment. He had sought your views because in the past your branch had supported an (unsuccessful) application for additional resource to create an electronic database. The interest of your branch has also been evident from many occasions over the last 20 years when DI55 has responded to your short notice demands to undertake extensive manual searches of the current and very large paper-based UAP archive. (S)

when?
when and for what?

3. In addition to your requirements we also consider there are several other parties who have an interest in the data as an intelligence source. However our ability to adequately exploit the data is severely constrained by lack of resources and the limitations of the paper based archive. While I rejected the specific application for additional resources mentioned above I remain concerned that we are not in a position to conduct intelligence assessment, which leads me to question whether there is any point in maintaining the archive. Once we have investigated further I would welcome a discussion over what the customer requirements are and whether we are resourced to meet them.

when?

Section 40

DI ST
WH413B

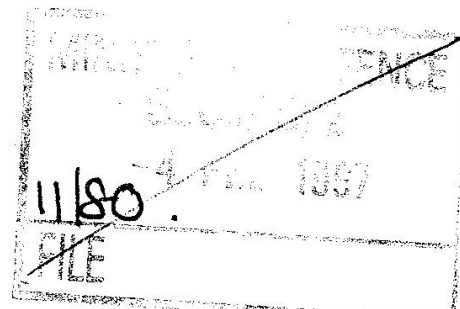
Section 40

DAS
102No. 286
10 FEB 2005
FILE

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17 2-11 BY ORIGINAL DT-DS



~~SECRET~~*undclassified*

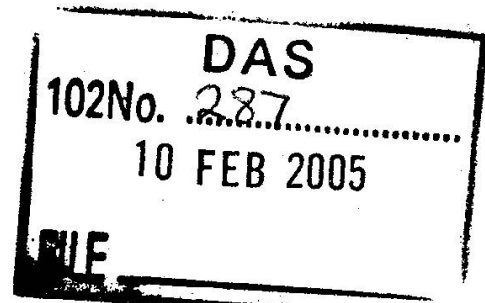
Loose Minute

D/Sec(AS)/ 64/1

27th January 1997

DI ST

Copy to:

DI P&R
DI Sec
AO/AD1① **Section 40** *for info*② *file*UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA STUDY

1. Sec(AS)2 is the Departmental focal point for the receipt of sighting reports and correspondence from the public about 'UFOs' - a growth industry in view of the current media obsession with this issue. Government policy on the subject is that MOD examines such reports solely to establish whether what has been reported might have some defence significance - namely, whether the UK Air Defence region has been breached. It is also Government policy that unless there is any evidence of a threat to the UK ADR, reports are not examined further to try and establish what might have been seen.

2. I recently had brought to my attention a study DI 55c is embarking upon in connection with 'UFO' reports and wrote to seeking further information. A copy of my letter and the response is attached.

3. I have some concerns about what is planned:

- the objectives for the research effort given the Department's limited interest in 'UFO' reports, and who the customer might be (para 5). Sec(AS)2 has no requirement for a database of information on reported sightings to support Parliamentary business (para 5) or any other work; nor for a redesigned sighting report form (para 8); nor for a CONFIDENTIAL register of witness details (para 7) which does, perhaps, run contrary to the Citizen's Charter and the Data Protection Act;

- how we are to maintain the line that the Government's policy is not to examine Reports further and that we have nothing to hide;

- if the study is only interested in reports made in relation to sightings in the UK ADR Region (para 6), why the key desk officers in DAir Ops are completely unaware of this

1 of 2

~~SECRET~~*downgraded to UNC**undclassified***Section 40***1/3/2010*

~~SECRET~~

unclassified

initiative and why they should not be kept informed (para 10). In my view, and I have discussed this with Head of Sec(AS), the work proposed is of relevance to DAir Ops and I cannot therefore accord with the request to keep them unsighted.

4. I should be grateful for your views. In addition to AO/AD1, I feel I must copy this minute and attachments to DI Sec in view of their role in dealing with DIS Parliamentary business and to DI P&R in the event there is anything she might wish to contribute to the debate.

Section 40



Sec(AS)2

MB8247 Section 40

CHOTS: SEC(AS)2

FAX : Section 40

SECRET\1/UFOs\1

1 of 1

~~SECRET~~

*downgraded to UNC
1/3/2010
[Signature]*

unclassified



ROYAL AIR FORCE

Coltishall Norwich Norfolk NR10 5AJ

Telephone 01603 (Norwich) 737361 Ext
GPTN 95961

95961

Section 40



Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

Please address any reply to The Officer Commanding

Your reference

Our reference

COLT/1466/4/Org

Date

23 January 1997

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT REPORT

1. Forwarded for your information is a UFO report.
2. The originator has been made aware that a reply from MOD is unlikely unless there is a defence interest and further information sought.
3. There have been a number of UFO sightings reported in the local Press recently which quoted the interest shown by the British UFO organisation. Can you confirm that you still require UFO reports to be sent to Sec (AS) 2a rather than refer the UFO spotter to the civilian interest?

Section 40



*CCO
for Officer Commanding*

NCA

Phoned

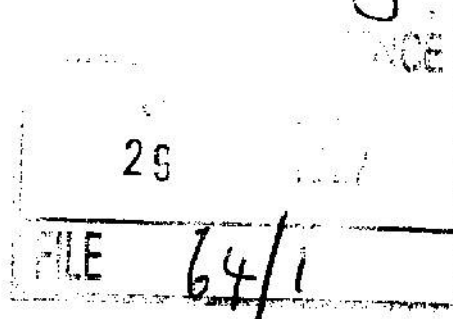
Section 40



*Explained the new Policy of not giving out
civilian UFO addresses + details to anyone.*

*Asked him to continue to
send them reports through to us.*

Section 40



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196/943

Section 40

Loose Minute

DI55/108/15

22nd January 1997

Sec (AS)2

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA

References:

- A. D/Sec(AS) 64/1 dated 14 January 1997
- B. D/DI55/108/15 dated 11 December 1996
- C. D/DI55/108/15 dated 16 November 1993

DAS
102No. 289
10 FEB 2005
FILE

1. In reply to your letter at Reference A, there are several differences in the current tasking which I have received from Wg. Cdr ~~Section 40~~ (as an internal DI55 formal note) at Reference B; compared with the work programme envisaged in the proposal at Reference C.

2. Whereas the 1993 proposal would have involved a fully funded British Aerospace contract, and hence a formal contract amendment, the current tasking is that I should carry out some work (see para 4 below) within the constraints of an existing contract. This would be one of many tasks I undertake for the Department and which can be done under a current 3 year contract while the funds are present to do so. No extra money has been added to the contract for this purpose.

3. Historically, it is perhaps useful for you to know that, during 1995, subsequent to the unsuccessful 1993 initiative, the Department again attempted both in June and October to get approval for funding. The timing eventually clashed with the onset of Defence Study 18 and the requests were shelved. In the 1995 case the work would have been accommodated within an existing budget and undertaken by ~~Section 40~~ as is the case now.

4. Now to the current situation. My remit is to build a new database from scratch - nevertheless, the whole task is summarised in just 4 subheadings of a sentence each. Thereafter to make a 'categorisation' or any possible explanation of the UAP events. As you can imagine, things are not quite as simple as this may sound.

5. My current progress, in the last few weeks, has been to read all of the 22 files held by the Department (although some I had seen previously, as occasionally my advice/opinion had been sought in the past). This was a pre-requisite, so as to scope the task. All files prior to 1975, having either been destroyed, or sent to the PRO, at least limits the events recorded to about 21 years. Working between other essential

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BY ORIGINAL DTIC

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC (AS) 2
24 JAN 1997
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FILE

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and often urgent DI55 tasks, I have now started to set up the data base, having realised that a minimal database will not be adequate. For example, there is no point in having a database which just comprises a list/log of events in textual form, unless useful information can be easily extracted. Hence, my database structure, when complete, must allow investigative and statistical reports to be made. The tool chosen is a relational database which, if all goes according to plan, will be capable of providing material which should be of use in your answers to PQs and other correspondence.

6. Once the database format is finalised, new Event Reports will be entered as they come in, while there will be a continual lower-rate effort to get all the old reports for the last ~20 years entered. This is considered essential, so as to provide a good basis for any investigative work we might need in the future. As there are literally thousands of inputs to make, I am sure you realise that this part of the work will take many months to complete. I intend only to include UK reports made within the UK Air Defence Region (i.e. within the UKADGE area of responsibility).

7. There is, of course, the sensitivity of the matter in view of Press and Public interest. As you know, the actual sighting reports are all unclassified. I intend that the data tables are structured so that those containing witness names should be CONFIDENTIAL. This might enable the other material to be separated more easily for public disclosure, if so desired at some future date. If, as is the current trend, an 'electronic office' culture develops, the paper reports may diminish anyway. Therefore a move towards a properly structured electronically recorded system seems appropriate at this stage.

8. This leads to another important point, that of the current public UFO questionnaire format - which was 'invented' in the 1950's **Section 40**

Section 40 You will already be aware that a lot of effort goes into form design when a computerised data base is to be used. The current form, which leaves a lot to the initiative of the witness and reporting officer, could be replaced with a much simpler format. I envisage that much can be done with little narrative but mainly with ticked boxes and cryptic yes/no answers - I realise that it might be difficult to bring a new form into use without some media reporter or ufologist mis-interpretation! One can imagine 'MOD UFO Investigation Intensifies' ! You may wish to comment on this possibility?

9. Much of my present task will involve extracting the several (for database purposes) diverse bits of information that are often contained within a sentence which forms one answer on the present form. To do this effectively I shall have to examine every sheet, individually and extract the information and mark it up on paper copies of the new form for each table used in the database. My Secretary will then enter the data. It is the correlation of these individual elements of information within the total report with sources of external information I can construct in other tables (e.g. Space debris re-entry data, meteorological phenomena, location of power lines etc.), which will make the tool useful for evaluation and categorisation.

10. Finally, I wish to keep a low profile. **Section 40**
Section 40 one could imagine the embarrassment to the Company if my activities were

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BY ORIGINATOR DF-DS

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media knowledge - especially as they would undoubtedly soon link these with my other known activities on **Section 40** and probably connect my long-standing involvement with DI55 - which we also wish to avoid. I note you have copied Reference A to ADGE1, which includes my name. I would not wish my name to be further linked with them because of my **Section 40** links with that same organisation. I have a 50-60% weekly commitment to DI55, but this is not always in OWOB. The rest of the time is spent both nation and worldwide for **Section 40** Secretary. **Section 40** always knows my whereabouts, should you need to make urgent contact when I am not in London. Please do not use the term UFO on the phone to this number, as it is operator-handled. **Section 40** is, of course, cleared, and would understand the words PROJECT CONDIGN and relay any messages.

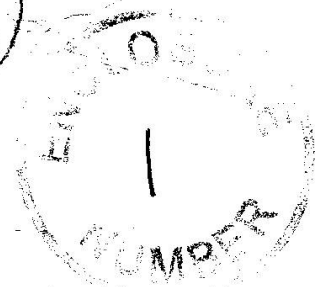
Section 40
DI55 **Section 40**
OWOB **Section 40**

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3 of 3
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BY ORIGINATOR DI-TS

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undclassified



Loose Minute

D/Sec(AS)64/1



14th January 1997

DI55 **Section 40**

Copy to:

ADGE1

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA STUDY

Reference:

- A. D/DI55/108/15 dated 18th October 1993
- B. D/Sec(AS)12/1 dated 16th November 1993

1. Wing Commander **Section 40** rang Sec(AS)2a recently to say that he was retiring and that in his absence you would be looking at the 'UFO' reports we routinely copy to DI55c. He also mentioned that you had been contracted to compile a database of reported 'sightings' and that, once compiled, you would go on to analyse the material.

2. I should be grateful if you could confirm that the work on compiling the database, which I believe is a fairly recent initiative, is that envisaged in the BAe contract amendment attached to Reference A (which was supported by my predecessor at Reference B).

3. The contract amendment sets out a number of issues to be addressed in the course of this work but mentions only a database and a report (it would be helpful to see a copy when produced). I am not, therefore, clear on the scope of the proposed analytical work and it would be helpful to have some more information on this aspect.

4. I should add that my concern is to ensure that the line taken when answering PQs and dealing with Ministerial and public correspondence about 'UFO' reports and associated phenomena accurately reflects the Department's position.

Section 40

DAS
102No. 288
18 FEB 2005

Sec(AS)2
MB8247 **Section 40**
CHOTS: SEC(AS)2
FAX : **Section 40**

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16/3/2010*

Section 40