Low flying / UFOs

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To Sec(AS)2 Ref No 3813 /1998

Date 24-06-98

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

A - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please send a full reply **within 20 working days**.

B - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and action accordingly.

C - No acknowledgement has been sent. In this case, however, it is obviously important that both an acknowledgement and a full reply are sent.

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

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

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

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

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT
MB 6140 EXT Section 40 MB

R 9/6/98

Section 40

Lancaster, Lancs

Section 40

3813

4th June 1998.

Dear MR. prime Minister.

Please could you tell me what the Country knows about UFOS. I've wrote to the M.O.D about this, and all that I get back is NO DEFENCE SIGNIFICANCE and we neither Confirm nor deny that they may or may not exist what could you please tell me and my friends about UFOS. over GB (UK) please if you have the time. Could you please give me a replay on this.
I would be most grateful if you could. prime Minister.

Thankyou for your time
yours Sincerley

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a1, Room 8245,
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
Main Building, Whitehall, London. SW1A 2HB

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

Section 40

Holyhead
Anglesey
Section 40

Your reference

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

Dear Section 40

Your letter of 17 March addressed to Alun Michael at the Home Office has been passed to the Ministry of Defence for reply as the Government focal point for correspondence of this nature. Your letter did not reach this office until the end of June and I am sorry for the delay in responding to it.

You are aware from previous correspondence of the limit of the MOD's interest in reports of 'unidentified flying objects'. As explained in the Under Secretary of State's letter to Ieuan Wyn Jones MP of 2 April, the MOD has no plans for the foreseeable future to expand its interest in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

UFOs

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To Sec (AS)2

3725
Ref No /1998

Date 19/6/98

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

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

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

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

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

MB 6140 EXT Section 40 MB

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC (AS) 2
23 JUN 1998
FILE

HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

To : Correspondence Section.

TRANSFER OF PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE.

16 JUN 1998

The attached correspondence has been received in the Home Office.
After consideration we feel the subjects are more for your Department.

3725

( ) The Correspondent has been informed of this transfer.

(✓) The Correspondent has not been informed of this transfer.

Section 40

Correspondence Centre
Queen Anne's Gate

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

Holyhead
Anglesey
Section 40

17 March 1998

Mr Alun Michael JP, MP
Secretary of State for The Home Department's Offices
50 Queen Anne's Gate
London
SW1H 9AT

Dear Mr Michael,

I would like to bring to your attention a matter which a growing number of people up and down the country view with serious concern. A concern that is not necessarily reciprocated in the corridors of Whitehall.

There is clear and undisputable evidence in documentation released by the Public Record Office (eg Files AIR 20/9321 and 20/9994) that our Military and Intelligence authorities have been withholding evidence confirming craft with design and performance characteristics way in excess of our cutting edge technology have been penetrating our air defence region. This failure to disclose information has further sinister undercurrents when taken into the context of the abductions and occasional homicides associated with these unidentified aerial phenomena (eg the Godfrey Case and the Todmorden Homicide). *One allegedly even buzzed the former Home Secretary's home*.

Please be assured these are genuine concerns; so great in fact that a scientist on Anglesey has written to The Royal Society of Chemistry and The Royal Astronomical Society with a view to putting pressure on The Ministry of Defence to acknowledge the existence of these craft.

It is also clear from PRO documentation that people like myself have been writing to the government for the last forty-five years asking for some form of official acknowledgement of these incursions. A failure to act now would be a cynical betrayal of "truthseekers" both past and present. The people need to know-please don't let us down.

In March last year, a petition was presented to Parliament asking for an enquiry into unidentified aerial phenomena. I would like to add my voice to this and suggest that the Home Office set up a full public enquiry to investigate the role of our Intelligence Services within this field. I am quite happy to arrange for a representative from the Welsh Federation of Independent Ufologists to hold a meeting with yourself or one of your associates in order to present the historical evidence. I look forward to a positive and constructive response at your convenience.

Kind Regards,

Section 40

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

This enclosure has been taken off and placed on File 64/3/1 Part A Enclosure 36
(53)

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

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 52

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

Section 40

Birmingham
Section 40

Your reference

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

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 16 June in which you have asked whether the Ministry of Defence received any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' on three specific dates. I have looked back through our sighting report files and have found that the MOD did not receive any reports in the Redditch area on 14 June 1995, nor any reports from the RAF Cosford area on 16 September 1996. We did, however, receive one report from Wolverhampton on 23 August 1995.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40
Secretariat Air Staff 2A, 1a,
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
LONDON,
SW1A 2HB

Section 40
BIRMINGHAM,
Section 40

16th June, 1998

Dear Section 40

1 Can you confirm as to whether you received any reports of unusual Aerial phenomena over the Stetchford area of Birmingham, West Midlands,during the night of the 23rd August, 1995, as we understand that unusual lights were seen?

2 Also, on the late evening of 14th June, 1995, when UFOs were seen over the Redditch area?

3 Strange Lights seen in the sky 16th September, 1996, near RAF Cosford, at 11.30 p.m?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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

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

Section 40
St Osyth,
Essex.
Section 40

Your reference

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

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 23 June addressed to Stanstead Airport regarding reports of 'unidentified flying objects'. Your letter has been passed to the Ministry of Defence and this office is the focal point for correspondence of this nature.

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

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

With regard to the observations detailed in your letter, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no reports of 'UFO' sightings for either 21 August 1997, 8 October 1997, 16 May 1998 or 19 June 1998 from the Essex area. We are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

ESSEX UFO & METAPHYSICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Section 40

President: Section 40
Chairman:

Chief Officer of Radar
Stanstead Airport
Stanstead
Essex

23 June 1998

Dear Sir/Madam,

A "strange" object is frequently reported flying in the skies of Essex. It is SILENT, and is definitely NOT a known aeroplane NOR a helicopter. It tends to have a triangular aerofoil. Mostly three coloured circular lights are observed on it - yellowish white corresponding with its forward flight, a bluish whit one, and a red pulsating one. The pulsating light on this object is slower and does not tend to "ping" like on conventional aircraft.

Here is a list of the times and approximate points of 4 sightings reported to me:

1. 21 August 1997, at 20.45 hours,
   moving from Clacton-on-Sea in a direction from E towards the W, over the sea
   two off-white lights and one red light pulsing slowly.

2. 8 October 1997, at 21.30 hours,
   it followed a path in the DIRECTION of Little Clacton to Colchester (E to W)- the A133,
   it had at 'yellowish' light, a red one which pulsed slowly and arced across to a pale bluish
   circular light, like an electrical discharge,
   a dark triangular aerofoil was seen 'behind' its three differently coloured lights.
   It took about 3 MINUTES to traverse an estimated distance of 10 MILES.

3. 16 May 1998 at 22.45 hours
   flying in a direction parallel with the A133 from Clacton-on-Sea towards Colchester
   stationary Yellowish and pale bluish lights and a slowly pulsing red one.

4. 19 June 1998 at 21.55 hours
   flying almost directly over the B1027 (at Thorrington) towards Colchester.
   this had 3 large constant "yellow, red, blue" lights and a smaller pulsing white one.

I am hoping that you might have the time to check your "radar log" to identify these craft from their movement, and inform me, so that I can eliminate them from my investigations.
Your help in this matter would be very much appreciated., and enclose a SAE for your use.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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

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

Section 40

Gleadless
Sheffield
Section 40

Your reference

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

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letters of 5 May addressed to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Defence and RAF Menwith Hill which were received by this office mid June, regarding the alleged incident at RAF Woodbridge/Bentwaters in December 1980. Your letters have been passed to this office as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of this nature and I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

You are aware from previous correspondence that the MOD examines reports of unidentified flying objects only to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's Air Defence Region has been penetrated by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity. Unless a report reveals evidence of a potential threat from an external military source, no attempt is made to determine the precise nature of what might have been seen.

You will recall from our letters to you of 10 April 1996 and 21 May 1996 that the MOD's judgement with regard to the alleged events of December 1980 was that there was no indication that the UK Air Defence Region had been breached and as such no further investigation into the matter was carried out.

You ask who now owns the land where the alleged incident is said to have occurred. Woodbridge Airfield Training Area is occupied by the Army in connection with the activities of HQ 24 Air Mobile Brigade, Colchester and other units based at Wattisham Airfield. It remains MOD freehold. RAF Bentwaters was sold to Bentwaters Investments Limited on 15 May 1997. In response to your other question the bunkers at RAF Bentwaters were used for ammunition storage.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DEFENCE ESTATE ORGANISATION

Ministry of Defence
DEFENCE ESTATE ORGANISATION
Blakemore Drive, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B75 7RL
Telephone: Direct Dialling Section 40
ATN Sutton Coldfield
Switchboard 0121-311 2140
Fax
Video Conferencing Section 40

MOD
Sec(AS)2A1
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DEO(CS)5/1(147)
Date
July 1998

RAF WOODBRIDGE - SUFFOLK

Reference:

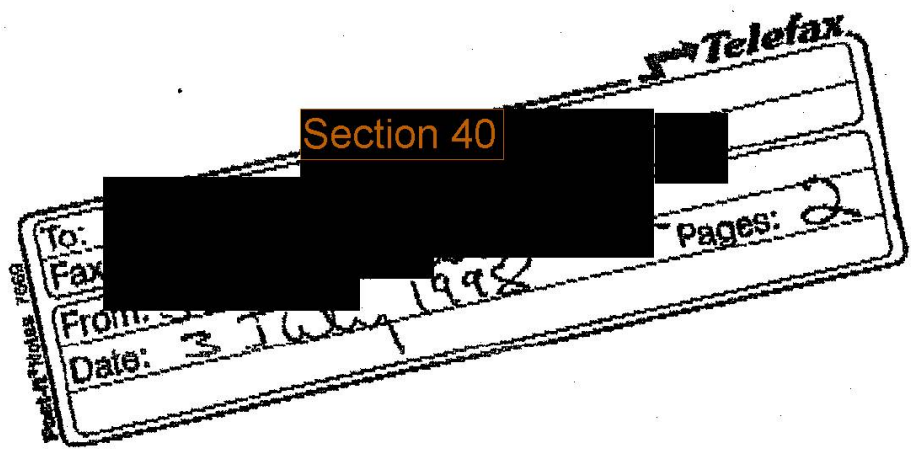
A. D/Sec1(AS)64/3 dated 30 June 1998.

1. At Reference A you requested confirmation that the line DEO gave you an RAF Woodbridge in August 1997 remains correct.

2. The position has changed since then and I attach an up to date line on RAF Woodbridge for use as appropriate.

Section 40

Agency Secretary



Section 40 raf

BACKGROUND NOTE

RAF WOODBRIDGE

Woodbridge Airfield Training Area is occupied by the Army in connection with the activities of HQ 24 Air Mobile Brigade, Colchester and other units based at Wattisham Airfield. It remains MOD freehold.

** TOTAL PAGE.002 **

Classification:

Caveat:

Covering:

F Sigs 927
(Rev 2/95)

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

Serial Number:	Transmission: Date: 30 JUNE Time:
From: SECRETARIAT (AIRSTAFF) ROOM 8245 MOD MAIN BUILDING	Fax Number: Section 40 Tel Number: Section 40
Authorised by: Rank: EO Name: Section 40 Appointment: SecCAS)2A1 Signature:	Transmitted by: Rank Name Tel Number Signature:

Document Reference: D/SecCAS)/64/3

Total number of pages including this one: 1 + 3

To: Section 40
DEO(CS)/AD(ES)

Fax Number: Section 40

Subject: RAF WOODBRIDGE – SUFFOLK

Please see Attached.

Classification:

Caveat:

Covering:

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

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

DEFENCE ESTATE ORGANISATION

== by fax ==

Attn: DEO(CS)/AD(ES)
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
30 June 1998

RAF WOODBRIDGE - SUFFOLK

1. Last August you provided me with attached line concerning RAF Woodbridge in response to a Parliamentary Enquiry we had to answer.

2. I should be most grateful if you could confirm that the line in respect of RAF Woodbridge remains correct, ie. that it is still occupied by the Army in connection with their activities at Wattisham Airfield and remains MOD freehold.

3. With thanks for your assistance with this query.

Section 40

SECRETARIAT (AIR STAFF) 2A1

Encs.

19 AUG '97 16:05 FROM DEO LANDS TO Section 40 PAGE.001/002

6414

DEFENCE ESTATE ORGANISATION

Ministry of Defence
DEFENCE ESTATE ORGANISATION
Blakemore Drive, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B75 7RL
Telephone: Direct Dialling Section 40
ATN Sutton Coldfield 0121-311 1282
Switchboard Section 40
Fax
Video Conferencing

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 3

Sec(AS)2
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

Your Reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/4
Our Reference
D/DEO(CS)5/2
Date
August 1997

PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY - RAF WOODBRIDGE AND RAF BENTWATERS

Reference:

Letter D/Sec(AS)/64/4 dated 13 August 1997.

As requested, background information on RAF Woodbridge and Bentwaters, for use as appropriate.

Section 40

DEO(CS)/AD(ES)

Telefax
To: Section 40 Sec (RAF) 2
Fax:
From: DEO Lds
Date: 19 Aug 97 Pages: 2

Section 40

RAF WOODBRIDGE AND RAF BENTWATERS

RAF Woodbridge is occupied by the Army in connection with their activities at Wattisham Airfield and therefore remains MOD freehold. The married quarters have been sold to Annington Homes on a leaseback arrangement.

RAF Bentwaters was sold on 15 May 1997, with the benefit of outline planning consent for a new development, to Bentwaters Investments Limited. It is understood that the new owners intend to broadly follow the plan set out in the planning consent with the addition of airfield use, which would be subject to a further planning application.

Section 40

Secretariat(Air Staff) Fax [redacted]

** Transmit Conf.Report **

30 Jun '98 14:08

Secretariat(Air Staff)--->	
No.	0036
Mode	NORMAL
Time	1'45"
Pages	4 Page(s)
Result	O K

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
30/06/98	SEC(AS)1B1A	Letter from Section 40 - RAF	[ ]

Intended:
Sent: 30/06/98 at 10:41 Delivered: 30/06/98 at 10:41
To: SEC(AS)2A1
CC:
Ref: 1094
From: SEC(AS)1B1A Auth by:
Subject: Letter from Section 40 - RAF Bentwaters

Text: Section 40 your line was the right one to take but with a slight change. I spoke to the USAF historian about the base. Although the bunkers weren't underground they may have looked like it. Suggested line: " The bunkers at RAF Bentwaters were used for ammunition storage. " Hope this is useful.

Section 40

Priority: Normal SEE PAGE Attachments [ ]
Reply Request [ ] View Acknowledge [ ] Codes [ ]

Section 40

29 Jun 98

LETTER FROM Section 40 CONCERNING UNDERGROUND BUNKERS AT RAF BENTWATERS

A member of the public, a Section 40 has forwarded the attached letter to the Prime Minister, SofS, and RAF Menwith Hill (identical copies to each). I have drafted a response along the usual lines with regard to her queries concerning the alleged 'Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge' incident of December 1980. However, I should be grateful for your assistance with a specific question she has asked about the 'underground bunkers' at the USAF base at RAF Bentwaters.

Ideally, I would like to say something vague along the lines of 'The underground bunkers at RAF Bentwaters were used for the storage of ammunition and weapons' if indeed it is true to say this (and indeed if the bunkers existed of course too). I should be grateful if you could liaise with the Americans and let me have something general along the lines of the above.

Section 40

- Think we can get away with not revealing this as it is the name of Section 40 unless mention the code specifically and we are not using the code to protect any information.
- Suggest speak with Sec(Ops)1b to ascertain what the 'underground bunkers' were used for. Might also be worth checking whether similar facilities existed) at other USVF bases so that this fact can be included in the reply.

Thank you for your letters of 5 May addressed to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Defence and RAF Menwith Hill regarding the alleged incident at RAF Woodbridge/Bentwaters in December 1980. Your letters have been passed to this office as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of this nature.

Section 40

NOT COPE

You are aware, from previous correspondence, that the MOD examines reports of unidentified flying objects only to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's Air Defence Region has been penetrated by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity. Unless a report reveals evidence of a potential threat from an external military source, no attempt is made to determine the precise nature of what might have been seen.

You ~~may~~ will recall from my letters to you of 10 April 1996 and 21 May 1996 that the MOD's judgement with regard to the alleged events of December 1980 was that there was no indication that the UK Air Defence Region has been breached and as such no further investigation into the matter was ~~deemed necessary~~ carried out.

immediate & urgent.

Whether thro' but closely.

You ask who owns the land where the alleged incident occurred. RAF Woodbridge is still owned by M.o.D., but occupied by the Army in connection with their activities at Wattisham Airfield; the married quarters there have been sold to Annington Homes. RAF Bentwaters was sold to Bentwaters Investments Limited on 15 May 1997.

UFOs

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To Sec (AS) 2

Ref No 3705 /1998

Date 19/6/98

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

A - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please send a full reply **within 20 working days**.

B - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and action accordingly.

(C) - No acknowledgement has been sent. In this case, however, it is obviously important that both an acknowledgement and a full reply are sent.

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

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

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

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT
MB 6140 EXT Section 40

Section 40

Gleadless
Sheffield
Section 40

05.05.98.

Dear Prime minister, 3705 Rule

Re - RAF Bentwaters - Woodbridge, Suffolk - 28th-30th December 1980.

I am applying for information of the UFO incident(s) that took place at Rendlesham Forst, Suffolk, and the involvement of the USAF Bases mentioned above.

1) As this incident took place in Rendlesham Forst on British soil, and not on the actual USAF Bases, why was it that British Police officers who were present at the time, not allowed to pursue the matter?

2) what were the underground bunkers at RAF Bentwaters used for?

3) who now owns the land? and is it still used by either the American or English Government/militia?

I look forward to your reply.

Defence
MOD

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

Section 40

UFOs

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To SOO(AS)2

Ref No 3432 /1998

Date 10/6/98

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

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

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

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

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

MB 6140 EXT Section 40 MB

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC(AS)2
12 JUN 1998
FILE

Section 40

Gleadless
Sheffield Section 40

05-05-98.

Dear Sir,

3452

Re - RAF Bentwaters - Woodbridge, Suffolk - 28th - 30th December 1980.

I am applying for information of the ufo incident(s) that took place at Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk, and the involvement of the USAF Bases mentioned above.

1) As this incident took place in Rendlesham forest on British soil, and not on the actual USAF Bases, why was it that British Police officers who were present at the time, not allowed to persue the matter?

2) what were the underground bunkers at RAF Bentwaters used for?

3) who now owns the land? and is it still used by either the American or English Governments/military?

I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

Gleadless
Sheffield
Section 40

05. 05. 98.

Dear Sir,

Re. RAF Bentwaters - Woodbridge, Suffolk - 28th-30th December 1980

I am applying for information of the ufo incident(s) that took place at Rendlesham forest, Suffolk, and the involvement of the USAF Bases mentioned above.

1) As this incident took place in Randlsham forest on British soil, and not on the actual USAF Bases, why was it that British Police officers who were present at the time, not allowed to persue the matter?

2) what were the underground bunkers at RAF Bentwaters used for?

3) who now owns the land? and is it still used by either the English or American Governments facilities?

I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

Section 40

COLDSEAL
FAX 0800 221155
NO-ONE ELSE IS
IN THE FRAME

National Security Agency.
Nr. Menwith Hill
North Yorkshire.
[redacted]
Section 40

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

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

Section 40
Redditch,
Worcestershire.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
29 August 1996

Dear Section 40

1. Thank you for your letter dated 7 August 1996 regarding RAF Rudloe Manor and the extent of its role in handling "UFO" reports. To clarify the position I think it would be useful if I were to expand on the comments made in my letter to you of 10 April 1996, particularly since the role of Rudloe Manor is constantly misrepresented and exaggerated by "UFO" enthusiasts and the media.

2. Until 1992 the Flying Complaints Flight (FCF), part of the HQ Provost and Security Services(UK) based at RAF Rudloe Manor, was the central coordination point for any "UFO" reports made to RAF stations (from whatever source, i.e. members of the public or service personnel). Its function was simply to record details and pass the reports directly to Sec(AS)2a (this office) in the Ministry of Defence. Sec(AS)2a would then examine the reports and decide whether what was seen had defence implications. No action was taken on the reports by staff in the FCF.

3. The FCF no longer have any involvement in the central collection of "UFO" reports made to air force bases. Any reports received by air force stations are now forwarded directly to Sec(AS)2a for consideration. The extent of Rudloe Manor's involvement in the "UFO" reporting process these days, in common with all other RAF stations, is to take down the details of any reports made in its local area and to pass them to us.

4. In your letter you have asked me to provide you with the address and a point of contact at RAF Rudloe Manor, as you wish to write to the establishment yourself. May I suggest the following:

Hidden copy to →

Flt Lt Section 40 RAF
Officer Commanding FCF
Headquarters Provost and Security Services (United Kingdom)
Royal Air Force Rudloe Manor
Hawthorn
Wiltshire
SN13 OPQ

5. I hope this explains the position.

Section 40

Redditch
Worcs Section 40

07.08.96

Dear Section 40

In one of your replies to me concerning UFO's (dated 10.04.96 Ref: D/Sec(AS)/64/3), you stated that RAF Rudloe Manor "No longer has the coordination function it once had". Yet it is believed to be one of the main establishments which do continue today to closely monitor UFO activity.

I would therefore appreciate it

t you would forward me
Rudloe Manor's full postal
address and the name of the
person(s) who to address.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours Sincerly

Section 40

Section 40

ROYAL AIR FORCE MENWITH HILL
Harrogate North Yorkshire HG3 2RF

Telephone Harrogate Section 40
Section 40

Section 40
Redditch
Worcestershire
Section 40

Please reply to: The RAF Cdr

Our Reference: MEN/48/3/P1

Date: 16 August 96

Dear Section 40

ENQUIRY REGARDING UFO INVESTIGATIONS

1. Thank you for your letter dated 7 August 1996. Royal air Force Menwith Hill is not a radar site, but part of a world wide communications network which supports UK, US and NATO interests. This establishment has no UFO monitoring or tracking role and would therefore not conduct any investigations into sightings or incidents.

2. Any reports concerning UFO sightings are normally referred to the Ministry of Defence (Secretariat [Air Staff] 2a) Room 8245, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB. Secretariat [Air Staff] 2a serve as the UFO reports focal point.

3. I hope that you find this information useful.

Yours sincerely
Section 40

Hidden Copy:

Sec [AS]2b (with a copy of Section 40 letter)
MHS Cdr's Exec

Section 40

Redditch

Worcs Section 40

07.08.96.

Dear Sir,

I believe the N.S.A establishment is a vast listening post which, amongst various other 'monitoring', includes the monitoring of the UK's air space.

When genuine reports are made from members of the public concerning U.F.O. sightings what action do the N.S.A take? and what involvement did it take concerning the 1980 incident at Rendlesham forest R.A.F Woodbridge?

The M.o.D have also informed me that they would only intervene with UFO sightings if they proved to be a threat. If then, UFO's show no threat to the UK, would it be your establishment which would investigate further?

I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully.

Section 40

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

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

Section 40
Kidderminster,
Worcestershire.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
21 May 1996

Dear Section 40

1. Thank you for your letter dated 22 April 1996.

2. The MOD is often misquoted as saying that it does not believe "UFO/flying saucers" to be a threat; this is a distortion of the MOD's stated position which is that to date we have seen nothing which could be classed as proof that extraterrestrial life and/or "UFO/flying saucers" exist. Hence to date no threat to the UK has been discerned which has been attributed to a "UFO".

3. As previously stated the MOD's only purpose in looking at reports of "unexplained" aerial sightings is to establish the presence of a matter which is of defence importance, such as unauthorised or hostile military aircraft in UK airspace. To date no "UFO" report has thrown up such evidence.

4. In the case of the events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, having assessed all available corroborated evidence at the time nothing was found which would suggest that a matter of defence importance had transpired. No evidence came to light that the UK's air defences had been breached. As such official interest in the sighting has long since ceased.

5. You asked what would happen if evidence came to light that extraterrestrial life existed. The situation would be handled in the light of the particular circumstances which prevailed at the time. I am afraid there can be no categorical answer to this hypothetical question.

6. Finally, you asked me to forward to you the address of RAF Menwith Hill, which is as follows:

RAF Commander,
Royal Air Force Menwith Hill,
Harrogate,
North Yorkshire.
HG3 2RG

I should add that this office is the MOD focal point for correspondence relating to "UFO" sightings in the UK Air Defence Region.

7. I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Kidderminster
Worcs Section 40

22.04.96

(Your ref: D/Sec(AS)/64/3)

Dear Section 40

Re-RAF Woodbridge Dec 1980.

Thank you for replying to my letter regarding the above UFO incident.

Your letter suggests that the MOD would only investigate UFO's if they were to show hostility, and, or give indication that a breach of the United Kingdoms air defence had occurred. Would I be correct in saying then that this is why it made no further investigation into the RAF Woodbridge incident?

Therefore when incidents are found to be non-threatening and no breach of national security has occurred, which organisation or other MOD department is it that will intervene and pursue the investigation?

My final question relates to 'Identified' objects not from this planet. If the MOD were to receive reports from RAF stations claiming that some form of contact had been made with what was initially an 'unidentified' craft, but was now classified as 'Identified' and non-threatening, would the Ministry of Defence investigate or again would some other department/organisation pursue the incident? If so who?

I would also be grateful if you would forward me the full postal address of the National Security Agency at Menwith Hill in Yorkshire. Thank you.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 55

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000
(Fax)

Section 40

Kidderminster,
Worcestershire.
Section 40

Your reference

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

Date
10 April 1996

Dear Section 40

1. Thank you for your letter dated 30 March 1996 regarding "unexplained" aerial sightings or "UFOs" as they are more commonly characterised. Your letter has been passed to this office as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for answering queries on this subject.

2. First perhaps it would be useful if I were to explain the role that the Ministry of Defence has with respect to "UFO" reports. The MOD and HM Forces have responsibility for the defence of the United Kingdom. In order to discharge that responsibility we remain vigilant for any potential threat, from whatever source. And it is in this context alone that we look at reports of "unexplained" aerial activity in order to establish whether what was seen might be of defence significance. If no threat is discerned, and in connection with "unexplained" aerial sightings this has been the case in all instances to date, we make no further attempt to investigate and establish exactly what may have been seen.

3. The MOD does not have any direct interest, expertise or role in respect of "UFO/flying saucer" matters, or those relating to the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which we remain totally open-minded. However, in answer to your question, to date we know of no evidence which might substantiate the existence of these alleged phenomena, and no threat to the UK has been discerned which has been attributed to a "UFO".

4. Should you wish to conduct research into events which took place more than 30 years ago you may wish to visit the Public Records Office (PRO) as files from that period are now a matter of public record. Should you wish me to send you details of the PRO and the references of files from the period please let me know.

5. You refer to an alleged incident at RAF Woodbridge. When the Ministry of Defence was informed of the events which occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the MOD/RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a [illegible] allegations have subsequently been made about these reported

events, nothing has emerged over the last 15 years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by this Department was incorrect.

6. Your letter mentions the role of RAF Rudloe Manor. Since 1977 RAF Rudloe Manor has been the Headquarters of the RAF Police, which does serve as a focal point, amongst other things, for flying complaints. In the past, the Flying Complaints Flight at Rudloe Manor was the RAF coordination point for any reports of "unexplained" aerial sightings. However, once received they were simply forwarded to Sec(AS)2 for appropriate action. Nowadays RAF stations forward any such reports they receive directly to this office and the FCF no longer has the coordination function it once had.

7. I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40

Kidderminster
Worcs Section 40

30.03.96

Dear Sir,

I would appreciate comment from within your department regarding UFO's.

Amongst many reports that appear to remain unsolved (in the eyes of the public) is the alleged landing of a UFO at RAF Cosford December 1963 and RAF/USAF Woodbridge January 1981. I have also read of incidents where unknown objects have been tracked by radar over other military establishments on numerous occasions over the years.

Have or would the Ministry of Defence and the National Security Agency ever confirmed such reports? does Rudloe Manor continue to monitor UFO's in British air space? and what is the MOD's criteria regarding UFO sightings by both the public and those connected with military establishments?

I look forward to your reply to the questions above with immense interest.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 49

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

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

Section 40

Benllech,
Anglesey.

Your reference

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

Dear Section 40

I am writing with reference to your recent report of an unexplained aerial sighting which you observed on 12 June. The details of your report have been passed from RAF Valley to the Ministry of Defence. This office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects."

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

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Report held on
64/2 pt 6
enc. 118/1.

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 48

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

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

Section 40
Westbury,
Wiltshire.

Your reference

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

Dear Section 40

I am writing with reference to your recent report of an unexplained aerial sighting which you observed on 25 June. The details of your report have been passed from Wiltshire Police to the Ministry of Defence. This office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects."

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

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

With regard to your particular observation, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of "UFO" sightings for 25 June from anywhere in the UK, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Report held on 64/2 pt G ONC. 120.

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

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

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 47

Section 40
Blackheath,
London.
Section 40

Your reference

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

Dear Section 40

I am writing with reference to your message left on the Secretariat (Air Staff) answerphone on 25 June. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of this relating to reports of "unidentified flying objects".

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

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

With regard to your particular observations, I have looked back through our sighting report files and can confirm that we received no other reports of "UFO" sightings for 1 or 10 June from anywhere in the UK, and we are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised military aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 46

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

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

Section 40
King's Norton,
Birmingham.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
25 June 1998

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 8 June in which you described an unidentified aircraft and a military jet over Birmingham.

As explained in my letter of 24 October 1997, certain locations within the UK, such as cities like Birmingham, are exclusion zones for military aircraft training at low level (i.e. in airspace below 2000 feet). I have made enquiries and have found that there were no military jets booked into the low flying system for 30 May. Perhaps the aircraft was flying above the 2000 feet limit? Whether civilian or military, any aircraft operating in the Birmingham area would be under the control of Birmingham Air Traffic Control (ATC) and operating in radio contact.

I have looked back through our sighting report files and have found that the MOD did not receive any reports of unusual aerial activity on 30 May from anywhere in the UK. We are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised foreign military aircraft which is the MOD's only concern in respect of reports of "unexplained" aerial sightings.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Attn of: Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a, 1a,
Ministry of Defence,
Room 8245
Main Bldg.,
Whitehall.

Section 40

KING'S NORTON,
BIRMINGHAM Section 40

8—6—'98.

Dear Section 40

I am writing to you in respect of an air incident that occurred on Saturday, May 30, 1998. Viewed from Harborne, a suburb of S.W. Birmingham, an airborne object came into view at 4·35 p.m. The object appeared to be a constructed device of a metallic composition, cigar-shaped and blue in colour. No identification markings were apparent, nor were there any navigation lights on the object, which nonetheless appeared to be under intelligent control, traversing the sky at high speed.

Following behind and rapidly closing, was an R.A.F. fighter plane. But as interception seemed imminent, the object executed a most amazing evasive manoeuvre. It's difficult to describe accurately, but it was as if the object was attached to a piece of invisible contracting elastic, for the object suddenly 'jumped' instantly to another area of the sky, before continuing on its way.

At this point, the pursuing jet emitted an audible 'throttle-down', changed course and flew off. Needless to say, it was an incredible spectacle. I have been fortunate in finding two additional, independent witnesses, one observing both object and jet, while the other saw only the jet fighter.

The latter's interest was prompted by the surprise of seeing an RAF fighter plane flying over the city, an area that is generally understood to be a no-fly zone for such aircraft. Given that such a restriction is currently actually in place, it is reasonable to presume

that the restriction would be breached only in an emergency.

Could you therefore enlighten me as to what the emergency was in relation to the event I've described, for with the RAF plane clearly displaying a pursuit/attack posture, could the incident have had a defence significance?

I can only apologise for not being able to furnish you with greater detail of the event, but everything happened so quickly. Fortunately, the base from where the fighter was deployed will of course, as I'm sure you are aware, have logged the incident.

May I then thank you, in anticipation of your comments.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

This enclosure has been taken off and placed on File 64/3/1 Part A Enclosure 35 (45)

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

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

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 44

Section 40

Frogpool,
Cornwall.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
22 June 1998

Dear Section 40

I am writing with reference to your message left on the Secretariat (Air Staff) answerphone on 22 June. I would like to apologise for incorrectly addressing the letter I sent you in response to your first message of 17 June.

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

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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

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

Section 40

Caerphilly.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
19 June 1998

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 15 June in which you have asked for the Ministry of Defence's policy regarding reports of 'unidentified flying objects'. This office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence relating to 'UFOs'.

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

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

CAERPHILLY

Section 40

15.6.98.

DEAR SIRS,

WITH REFERENCE TO THE RECORDED VOICE MAIL MESSAGE ON 0171. 218. 2140 I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A COPY OF THE MoD'S POLICY DOCUMENT ON U.F.O'S.

THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR REPLY

YOURS FAITHFULLY.

Section 40

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 2

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

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

Section 40
Bognor Regis,
West Sussex.

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
18 June 1998

Dear Section 40

I am writing with reference to your message left on the Secretariat (Air Staff) answerphone regarding the "unidentified flying object" you saw some years ago over North London. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects".

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

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

To date it remains the case that the MOD is not aware of any evidence which might substantiate the existence of extraterrestrial phenomena, and no threat to the UK has been discerned which has been attributed to a "UFO".

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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

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

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 41

Section 40
Cornwall.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
18 June 1998

DGN Section 40

I am writing with reference to your message left on the Secretariat (Air Staff) answerphone. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to "unidentified flying objects".

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

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

ENCLOSURE 40 NUMBER

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

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

Section 40
Bishopston,
Swansea.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
17 June 1998

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 15 June in which you have asked whether the Ministry of Defence received any reports of "unidentified flying objects" on four specific dates this year. I have looked back through our sighting report file and have found the following:

24 January: One report from Bristol, sent in by yourself.
26 January: One report from South London, one from Corby, Northamptonshire and one from Ruislip, Middlesex.
30 January: No reports from anywhere in the UK.
18 May: One report from Anglesey and one from Birmingham.

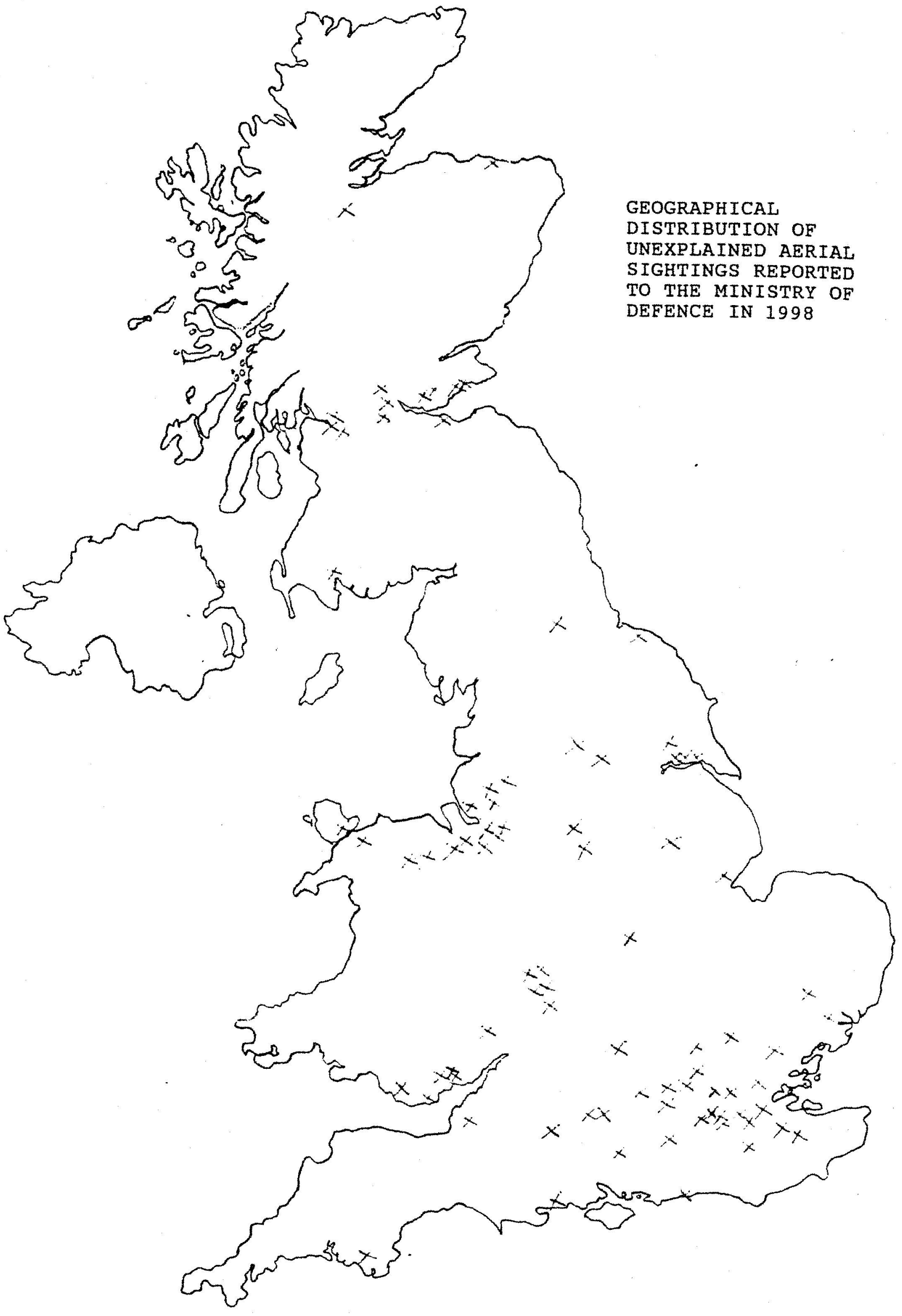
None were from the Swansea area and none of the above reports were sent in by pilots.

As you will see from the enclosed map which shows the geographical distribution of "unexplained" aerial sightings around the United Kingdom reported to the MOD so far in 1998, we have not received any "UFO" reports from the Brecon Beacons area.

Finally, any queries you have in respect of police helicopters should be directed to the Home Office.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF UNEXPLAINED AERIAL SIGHTINGS REPORTED TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE IN 1998

Section 40

Swansea,
Section 40

Section 40
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a,
Room 8245,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A 2HB

15th June 1998

Dear Section 40

I am writing to you to inquire as to whether or not your department received any UFO reports on the following dates. I am especially interested in learning of whether or not any such sightings originated from the Swansea area and if you received any correlating UFO reports from pilots for the dates in question.

24th January, 1998

26th January, 1998

30th January, 1998

18th May, 1998

I should also be grateful if you could inform me as to how many UFO reports your department has received from the Brecon Beacons area in Wales since the beginning of this year, and of what percentage of these reports spoke of triangular shaped craft.

Since Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a is involved in attributing explanations to sightings of this nature, I should be interested to know if you have ever come across a black, triangular shaped object that the police attach to some of their helicopters. The reason I ask is because a gentleman contacted me recently, to report that he had thought he had seen a UFO, but at closer inspection, the 'flying triangle' appeared to him to be attached to a police helicopter. If you are aware of such an object then I would be intrigued to know what purpose it serves to the police.

This information would be very gratefully received and would greatly assist me in the course of my investigations. I hope to hear from you soon, and may I thank you in advance for your kind assistance.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC (AS) 2
16 JUN 1998
FILE

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

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

Section 40
Southport,
Lancashire.
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/64/3
Date
17 June 1998

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 21 May addressed to the Prime Minister regarding "unidentified flying objects". Your letter has been passed to the Ministry of Defence and this office is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence of this nature. I have been asked to reply.

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

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

You have included a cutting of a press article alleging a 'UFO' sighting over the North Sea. I must say that all of the press reports were incorrect and speculative. RAF Fylingdales has not tracked any 'UFOs' on its radar and the RAF Cranwell 'Military Exploitation of Space' Symposium in June was not concerned with alleged 'UFO' sightings.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To SEC (AS) 2

Ref No 3538 /1998

Date 12-6-98

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

A - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please send a full reply **within 20 working days**.

B - The letter has been acknowledged by No.10. Please consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and action accordingly.

(C) - No acknowledgement has been sent. In this case, however, it is obviously important that both an acknowledgement and a full reply are sent.

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

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

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

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

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT
MB 6140 EXT Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC (AS) 2
16 JUN 1998
FILE

[redacted]
Southport
[redacted]

PRIME MINISTER'S
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION
No acknowledgement has been sent.
It is important that some form of
acknowledgement is sent by your
Department and a FULL REPLY
if NECESSARY

Merv
done

21st May.

3538

Dear Mr Blair,

You don't know me, I am a housewife who feels she has to do something about the ongoing situation concerning UFO's.

Now I know that you might not even get this letter personally, your secetary might just think I am mad! But I hope she'll pass it on to you.

I would just like you to listen to the views of one of the "joe public".

I know myself, 100% that UFO's do really exsist. I [illegible] too know that they also exsist (and if you don't you should do).

PARLIAMENTARY
BRANCH
11 JUN 1998
ROOM 6134 MAIN BLDG

I also know that they haven't all com
from our own human race. Thats
not to say that they haven't all
come from out of Space.
But I feel as though I have been
given the very lucky chance 5 times
to see things so amazing that I feel
its about time I tryed doing some-
thing about it. To tell people the truth
I am sure you as the p.m.
must be one of the people with a "Nee
to Know".
What I don't understand is why
you all continue to keep it a Secret
(with the Small exceptions)
I Actually work in a Tropical
fish shop and most of our Customers
are older people. I wear a grey Alien

Badge. Sometimes. Just to see what sort of feedback I get from it.
You would be amazed at the amount of intrest it makes.
Once they have asked I feel its ok to give them some of my personal views.
Most people are intrigued and say they would love to see one themself and their occupants. A few can't believe that it could be covered up And a small % just say "oh, I hope not .... unless they're Jkind".
To which I reply they can't be any worse than some of us humans
I guess the unknown is always a worry, but come on give us more Credit, we're not all jibbering nervious

Wreaks you know!! ☺ Surely if all the "Need to know" People can take it, then why on earth can't we - we are no different!

So come on Sir, why don't you yourself break the silence. Most people would actually give a lot of praise to the first person to tell the truth. Better late than never!!

Are you going to give the Americans the pleasure!!? They get the credit for too many things. It only needs one person to break the silence and others will quickly follow. There must be many older generals, astronauts, Captains, pilots, eh

who would love the truth to come out before they die. like "Major Jessie Marcel" who unfortunately didn't get his wish.

The reason I am doing this is because recently I have seen more and more activity in the Skys. Crafts of Solid light, possibly even living!!

But I have also started having alot of bad dreams, where something terrible is about to happen - I don't know what. And I seem to have a sense of urgency about people knowing the truth.

And in rights to see what the men at the top obviously are seeing themselfs

lets face it what have you got to loose. And who knows ... we may not all be here in a few years anyway! I hope and pray we will And people will always pray to a god - infact I believe it would strengthen faith.

Maybe some people will lose Power - like oil Companys etc due to new ideas we will no doubt be given (if not already have been given)!

Its actually quite breath taking the amount of people who have told me of their own experiences. Most of them in a matter of fact way. Its no big deal to alot of people. They never

doubted they exsited!!
I guess I've gone on for longerow
now, you may already be asleep.
If you have any good info or
Pictures, or if you'd like to tell
me your own views ... I would love
to know what you think, then
Send me a line, if you have
5 min spare (:))
I would love to see you & Bill
Clinton on TV with a Couppla of Aliens
How long can it stay a Secret
anyway. UFO's Mars, Pirimids etc
I think it would look better
if the goverments admit the truth
before Vidio Prove's it anyway.
Maybe Countrys would join to-
-gether, if they had Something else

(1)

2.22.5.98

(2)

to worry about like Ronald Reegan Sai
Anyway thankyou for listening
to my concerns like I said I know
they exist. They are easy To
see if your patient and sit up
for hours, days, weeks every clear
night we get. I have kept a diary
of my accounts.
I look forward to an
announcement soon as I and a lot
of other people get so frustrated
with all the denial.
Thanks for your Time
Yours faithfully

Section 40

RAF TRACKS MYSTERY CRAFT OVER NORTH SEA ... AND FIGHTERS CAN'T CATCH IT

24,000mph UFO buzzes Britain

THE RAF has tracked a UFO 'as big as a battleship' off the coast of Britain, military sources revealed yesterday.

They said the massive craft was tracked flying in a zig-zag pattern at 17,000mph over the North Sea. It then accelerated to 24,000mph and zoomed off towards the Atlantic.

The Dutch air force also tracked the UFO, but two F-16 fighters scrambled to intercept the object were unable to keep up, it is claimed.

RAF officials are said to be baffled by the object, spotted by the Ministry of Defence long-range listening station on Fylingdales moor in North Yorkshire.

'It was definitely under control, judging by the various manoeuvres executed,' said a source. 'It appeared to be triangular and was around the size of a battleship (*about 900ft long*).'

Radar records of the craft are due to be presented to science and military experts from around the world, who will examine how to exploit space for military purposes at a conference at RAF College, Cranwell, Lincolnshire, in June. Other tapes of the UFO – thought to have been made during the last two years – are being withheld because they give too much information about the radar base's scanning ability.

By DAVID DERBYSHIRE
Science Correspondent

However, military chiefs may release a second series of tapes, reported to show 12 UFOs changing shape in mid-flight.

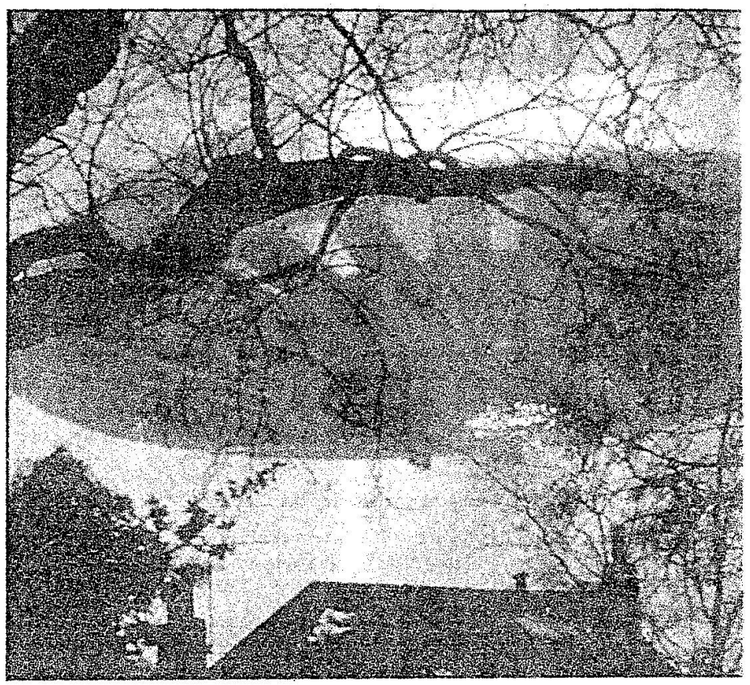
While the 'battleship' UFO is most likely to be an experimental aircraft or a sighting caused by a freak weather effect, UFO watchers believe it is fur ther evidence that the Earth is bein visited by alien craft.

The popularity of TV series such a the X-Files has rekindled interest i flying saucers and conspiracy thec ries in recent years.

A spokesman for the Fortean Times the journal devoted to UFOs, psychi phenomena and the paranormal, saic 'The vast majority of strange object seen in the sky have a more down-to earth explanation. But most UFC investigators would be very interested in seeing these tapes.' The latest t ory gaining popularity among sc dedicated UFO watchers is that the military deliberately release stories about UFOs as a 'smokescreen' – and that witnesses are really seeing top-secret experimental aircraft.

The base at RAF Fylingdales has been watching the skies since the end of the Cold War. A large pyramid-shaped, 360-degree radar has now replaced the gigantic landmark 'golf balls' tracking system.

The base has concentrated on tracking satellites and pieces of space junk circling the Earth.



A UFO in science fiction: But are they secretly science fact?

THE EXPRESS, MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1998

Did you hear about this – or is this part of the announcement!

RAF spots speeding UFOs with new radar

BY JOHN INGHAM

BRITAIN'S X-Files may be opened up amid claims of stunning evidence that UFOs fly over Britain.

Tapes to be shown to British and American experts are said to show objects which change shape in mid-air and a battleship-sized aircraft travelling at 33 times the speed of sound.

The details are due to be revealed in early June at a Space Symposium at the RAF's Cranwell staff college.

A senior RAF source claims the mystery craft have been picked up by the latest Phased Array radar at the Cold War listening post at Fylingdales in North Yorkshire.

One senior officer said: "What we have seen are not secret weapons. They are craft of which we have no technical knowledge. We know their shape, speeds and height but cannot explain what they are."

The most spectacular discovery is a craft spotted by Fylingdales and the Dutch Air Force over the North Sea. Described as "the size of a battleship", it zig-zagged at up to 24,000mph for 15 minutes, "as if it wanted to be spotted".

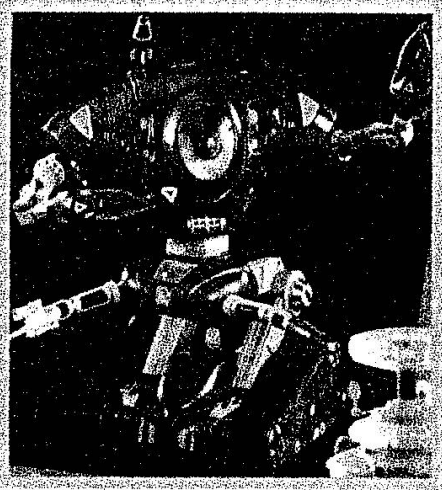
Another tape shows a group of 12 oval objects seemingly change shape, to the amazement of observers.

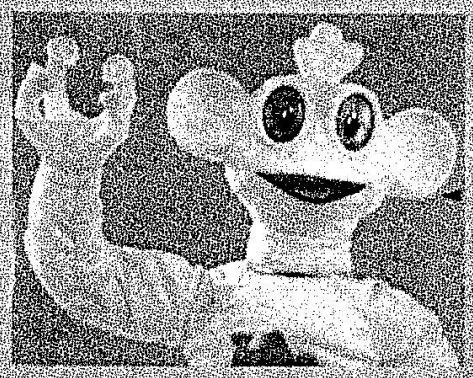
But the RAF is expected to withhold some X-Files. It is feared they could reveal how sophisticated their new radars are.

This month's Alien Merchandise features products from what promise to be two of this year's biggest films: Lost In Space and the long-awaited X Files movie. So secret is the latter that exact details are being kept well under wraps until June at the earliest.

LOST iN SPACE ROBOT

Price: £22.99
Release Date: April/May 1998
Released to tie in with what promises to be one of this year's biggest films, the *Lost In Space* Robot should soon be available to buy in shops. While it may not have the camp/cute appeal of its counterpart from the original series, it's well-made and 'fun' enough for both kids and adults to appreciate. With movable parts and pincer-like hands, this should sell well, and may even prove collectable in the years and months to come. Contact Frontier Models on 01323 441500.





TALKiNG BLAWP

Price: £24.99
Release Date: April/May 1998
The movie equivalent of Debbie the Bloop from the TV series, this cute n' cuddly creature that befriends the Robinson family in *Lost In Space* makes ET look positively menacing in comparison. A large-eyed alien sprite, the Blawp apparently talks as well, although what it actually says is anyone's guess. Should go down a storm with the younger audience, though others may find it slightly sickening. Contact Frontier Models on 01323 441500.

THE FACE ON MARS

NASA have re-photographed the controversial 'face' on Mars, as part of a summer-long project observing the red planet. The Global Surveyor spacecraft is concentrating on "features of public interest," including the Cydonia region which contains the infamous 'face' and 'pyramids' of Mars.

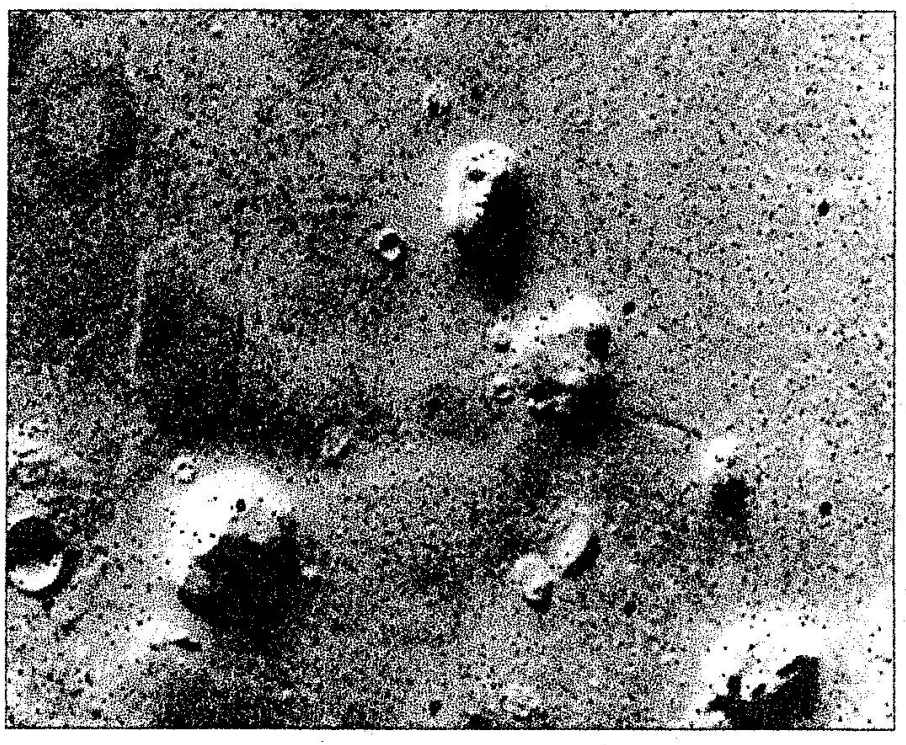
Researchers have promised that they will continue to re-image the controversial land-forms "at every opportunity... The site will be visible about once every eight days, and we'll have a 30 to 50% chance of capturing images each time."

The Cydonia area has not been properly scrutinised since the Viking mission over 20 years ago, when pictures showing artificial constructs on Mars became the subject of much heated debate. The aim of the Global Surveyor is to put an end to this over 20 year controversy for good.

By employing a camera which can return images at least three times sharper than those taken by Viking, it should be possible to determine once and for all whether the 'face' and the other unusual structures were formed naturally or otherwise.

But what do readers think? Compare the old image of the 'face' with the one taken by NASA on 6th April of this year and decide for yourself.

Above: The new image of the 'face' on Mars, taken by the Global Surveyor on 6th April 1998. Compare it with the original Cydonia image (far left).



PATHFINDER OFFICIALLY 'DEAD'

The Mars Pathfinder craft, which landed on the planet on 4th July 1997, has now been declared officially 'dead' by NASA. Although the mission essentially ended on 27th September, when communication was abruptly lost with the Mars lander, scientists continued to send signals to Pathfinder until Tuesday 10th March.

Originally expected to survive in the hostile Martian environment for only 30 days, Pathfinder continued to respond to commands eight weeks after its original mission span ended. No new attempts will be made to contact the craft, as scientists devote their time to processing the 2.6 billion pieces of information, 16,000 images and 15 chemical