

[REDACTED] UNCLASSIFIED

MOD Form 329D
(Revised 8/00)
PPQ = 100

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

F6208A

Date opened (Date of first enclosure)

10 JUL 08

Registered file reference

D/DAS/64/6

Part No.

C

1. Attention is drawn to the notes on the inside flap.
2. Enter notes of related files on page 2 of this jacket

DIVISION/ESTABLISHMENT/UNIT/BRANCH

DAS-FOI
MOD

[FULL ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER]

SUBJECT

UFO's -

FOI REQUESTS

[BLOCK CAPITALS]

RECORD OF KEYWORDS:

20/10/08

2014

Referred to	Date	Min/Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/Encl
CLOSED 20 OCT 08											

FOR DRO USE ONLY

1st Review date

2nd Review date

PA ACTION

(MOD Form 262F must be completed at the time of file closure)



RCU001741544



Registered File Disposal Form

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc) <p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">UFO's - FBI REQUESTS</p>	Reference: (Prefix and Number): <p style="font-size: 1.5em; text-align: center;">D/DAS/64/6</p> Part: C
--	--

PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors): UNCLASSIFIED

Date of last enclosure: 20 OCT 08	Date closed: 20 OCT 08
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PART 1. DISPOSAL SCHEDULE RECOMMENDATION (To be completed when the file is closed) <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </div> Destroy after _____ years <input type="checkbox"/> Forward to INFO(EXP)-R after _____ years <input type="checkbox"/> No recommendation <input type="checkbox"/>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FOR DEFENCE INFO(EXP)-R USE ONLY</p> <table style="width:100%"> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 33%;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 33%;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 33%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Date of 1st review</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Date of 2nd review</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Forward Destruction Date</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reviewer's Signature: _____</td> <td colspan="2">Reviewer's Signature: _____</td> </tr> </table>				Date of 1st review	Date of 2nd review	Forward Destruction Date	Reviewer's Signature: _____	Reviewer's Signature: _____	
Date of 1st review	Date of 2nd review	Forward Destruction Date								
Reviewer's Signature: _____	Reviewer's Signature: _____									

PART 2. BRANCH REVIEW
(To be fully completed at time of file closure)
(Delete as appropriate)

**HOLD PERMANENTLY
UFO RELATED FILE**

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

b. (i) To be retained until the end of the year _____ for the following reason(s):

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

PPQ = 100

(ii) Key enclosures which support the recommendation are:

Four horizontal lines for listing key enclosures.

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

Destroyed

Considered by DR for permanent preservation

c. Of no further administrative value but worthy of consideration by INFO(EXP)-R for permanent preservation.

PART 3 BRANCH REVIEWING OFFICER (not below GS/Equivalent)

Section 40

Name: Section 40 (Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: C1 Date: 20 OCT 08

Branch Title and Full Address:

DAS-Sec
05-H-16
MAIN BUILDING
WHITEHALL
LONDON
SW1A 2HS

Tel No:

PART 4 DESTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

It is certified that the specified file has been destroyed.

Signature: _____

Name: _____ (Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: _____ Date: _____

Witnessed by (TOP SECRET* and SECRET only)

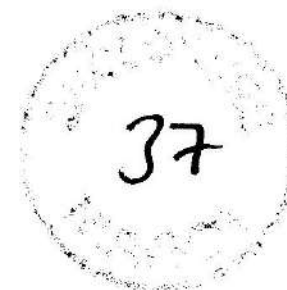
Signature: _____

Name: _____ (Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: _____ Date: _____

*(FOR DR USE ONLY)

Applicant	1st name	FOI No	Enc
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		30-06-2008-132308-006	5
		30-06-2008-133333-007	5
		30-06-2008-131554-005	5
		09-06-2008-111316-002	6
		30-06-2008-134023-008	7
		01-07-2008-161311-003	8
		21-07-2008-092511-001	9
		22-07-2008-175323-005	10
		09-07-2008-153423-008	11
		06-03-2008-152201-006	12
		05-03-2008-111346-001	13
		15-07-2008-080805-001	14
		28-07-2008-113105-002	15
		24-07-2008-092121-001	16
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AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 30-09-2008-150028-004

Expiry: 24 Oct 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Copies of FOI requests mentioning **Section 40**

Case for release of information

Names addresses, telephone numbers are withheld as they are not relevant to the request.

Otherwise there is no requirement to withhold information.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: **20/10/08**

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 20 October 2008 14:07
To: Section 40@freereserve.co.uk
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 30-09-2008-150028-004
Attachments: Section 40.pdf, Section 40.pdf, Section 40.pdf

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 30 September 2008 asking for copies of any FOI requests, together with responses, that mention Section 40 that have not already been supplied to you.

There have been three further FOI requests mentioning Section 40 which I attach. You will note that names, addresses and other personal information have been withheld as it is not relevant to the information you have requested. Redactions made by hand are on the original responses. Those made electronically were made in answer to this request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI
 05-H Section 40
 MoD Main Building
 Whitehall
 London
 SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy

20/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

20/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 06 August 2007 08:28
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 23-07-2007-143005-004

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 17 July 2007 asking for a copy of any letters written by Mr Nick Pope to the MoD on the subject of an alleged MoD file on the subject of crop circles. Additionally, you asked me to speculate as to why Mr Pope had stated that he had opened a file and that it had recently been located by the MoD. Finally, you asked me to reconsider my response to your Freedom of Information request reference number 16-07-2007-074214-001.

Any correspondence between a named member of the public such as Mr Pope, or indeed yourself, remains a confidential matter between the individual and the MoD and is withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information). I would point out, that if Mr Pope were to ask for copies of any correspondence between yourself and the MoD, the same would apply. However, a disclosure of information under FOI terms is considered a disclosure to the wider public, if you require copies of the response to specific FOI requests or recorded information held by MOD, please let me know.

It would not be appropriate for me to speculate on the motives of a member of the public in any statement that they make during the course of their private or business life. If you are curious as to the motives behind any comments he has made, I suggest that you contact Mr Pope himself.

You have asked me to review my response to Freedom of Information request 16-07-2007-074214-001 in light of comments made by Mr Pope in a recent magazine article. I can only state that the MoD has no record of a file on crop circles having been opened either prior to, during, or after, the period 1993-94.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

I am sorry I was unable to be of more assistance.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
 DAS-FOI
 05-H **Section 40**

06/08/2007

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

1. D Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

06/08/2007

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

23-07-2007-143055-004

EXP 14 AUG 07

From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 17 July 2007 16:23
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: FOI request - reply

Dear [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your quick response to my FOI request of 15 July. I would like to expand on the request and offer the following comments and questions.

My request was based on information given in an article written by a previous incumbent of the MOD's 'UFO Desk, Nick Pope.

In his most recent column in BEYOND magazine, (Issue No 7 (July 2007), pg 13) Mr Pope writes:

> "...in an amusing postscript to this column...I was contacted a few
 >months ago by someone who had made a request under the Freedom of
 >Information Act asking the MoD to release itas X File on Crop Circles.
 >The MoD replied saying that no file had ever been opened on the
 >subject. As I'd opened it, I know this was incorrect, so I wrote to the
 >MoD and set them straight. I have a good memory and was even able to
 >help them by recalling the file's reference number! Happily, following
 >my intervention, the file was located."

As Mr Pope is claiming direct knowledge of an MOD file he claims exists because he opened it and could recall the file number, I am now somewhat confused.

To clarify my confusion may I now request:

- * That you reconsider my original FOI request about the MOD Crop Circle file, in view of Mr Pope's comments
- * If you still maintain no such file exists could you offer any thoughts as to why Mr Pope claims to have opened a file and has recently informed the MOD of its existence to enable them to locate it, which he claims they now have done
- * I would also like to request a copy of any letter/s written by Mr Pope to the MOD in which he refers to a crop circle file or to any files containing information about crop circles

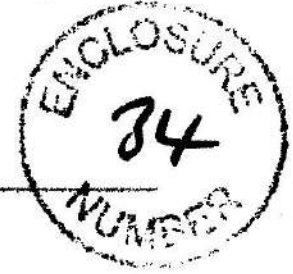
Thanks

Regards

[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 May 2008 14:58
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-05-20058-134956-007

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 20 May 2008 asking whether Mr Nick Pope (UFO author) was ever a Minister at the UK Ministry of Defence.

Mr Pope was not a Minister at the Ministry of Defence.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
05-H [REDACTED] Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

20/05/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 May 2008 13:51
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: foi email request PS 20-05-2008-134956-007 [Redacted]
Categories: FOI Information Request

[Redacted]

Can I interest you with this FOI request or do you feel it would be best answered by DGCP.

Regards

[Redacted]
FOI Helpdesk
[Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 20 May 2008 09:44
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request PS 20-05-2008-134956-007 [Redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at 09:43:49

txttitle: [Redacted]

txtfirstname: [Redacted]

txtlastname: [Redacted]

txtemailAddress: [Redacted]

txtinforequest: Hi,

I am an [Redacted] wondering if anyone there could confirm if Nick Pope (UFO author) was ever a Minister at the Ministry of Defence, UK as he claims?

Thanks,
[Redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 2

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 May 2008 10:47
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-05-20058-134956-007

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you soo much for your prompt response! I thought it was a scam just wanted to make sure. He is getting alot of publicity online, on UTube and at so called 'National Press conferences' lately. Alot of people are convinced he is for real...very frustrating to watch.

Regards,
[REDACTED]

Quoting [REDACTED]:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 20 May 2008 asking whether Mr Nick Pope (UFO author) was ever a Minister at the UK Ministry of Defence.

Mr Pope was not a Minister at the Ministry of Defence.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI

05-H [REDACTED] Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

21/05/2008

SW1A 2HB

21/05/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 May 2008 11:42

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-05-2008-134956-007

Dear [REDACTED]

Whilst it is not MoD policy to provide personal details regarding employees (which, with more junior employees, would include career details) in fairness to Mr Pope, I feel I should point out that during the period 1991-1994 he was the desk officer with responsibility for UFO matters within the MoD. The post he held during this period (and which I now hold) was a civil service post at what was known then as *Executive Officer*. This is a junior management grade.

In the context of your FOI request, *Ministers* are all members of the UK parliament, whether in the upper or lower chambers, and therefore are at the very highest level of government.

I hope this clarifies matters.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

21/05/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 2

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 June 2008 16:07
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 30-05-2008-093801-001

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 May 2008 asking why information in paragraph 6 of the background briefing note to PQ0047 and PQ0048 had been redacted and for the background note to be released to you without that redaction. Additionally, you asked whether there was any correspondence between the MoD and the Defence Radiological Protection Service (DRPS) regarding the Rendlesham Incident during the period 1991-94. I assume by MoD, that you mean Sec(AS), as the DRPS was itself an integral part of the MoD. If this is incorrect, please let me know.

Firstly, the information redacted from paragraph 6 of the background note was withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) as it related to an official's private activities outside their duties at the MoD. This remains the case and therefore I can see no grounds for releasing the information. I should point out for future reference that I believe the relevant PQ numbers were actually 0861i and 0862i.

The DAS and DIS UFO files for this period are due for transfer to The National Archives and therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the MoD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request. However, I have checked with the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, who now hold the relevant DRPS files, but they can find no correspondence between them and Sec(AS) during the period 1991-94 on the subject of Rendlesham. They were approached by a member of Sec(AS), but this was by telephone only, although they believe that a note of the conversation was made by Sec (AS).

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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I hope this is helpful.

[REDACTED]
 DAS-FOI
 05-H Section 40
 MoD Main Building
 Whitehall

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

23/06/2008

London
SW1A 2HB

23/06/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 29 May 2008 16:11

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Lord Hill Norton PQs FOIA - Background Note Follow Up & Enquiry

Attachments: HillNortonPQs0047.JPG; HillNortonPQs0048.JPG; OSCMNickPope.JPG

30-05-2008-093821-02
EXP 26 JUN 08

Hi [REDACTED]

On 10 August 2007, you sent me a substantive response to an FOIA enquiry that I submitted on various Parliamentary Questions by Lord Hill Norton on UFOs? Please treat this as a separate follow up to that enquiry and kindly note various attachments, scanned jpeg images for your reference.

Attached there are two pages from a background note that you sent to me via post and there is a scan of a page from 'Open Skies Closed Minds' a book by Nick Pope former MoD UFO desk officer.

In the attached scan HillNortonPQs0048, one of the papers you sent there are redacted sections at paragraph 6. If you examine the first redaction, it is plain to see that this information is already in the public domain and refers to Nick Pope, as evidenced in attached scan OSCMNickPope and marked with red underline and arrow, showing it was Nick Pope who made the enquiry to the Defence Radiological Protection Service.

Here's my questions and request relevant to these papers.

In paragraph 6 of HillNortonPQs0048 (attached) there is another redaction concerning explanations offered by the Defence Radiological Protection Service.

1. a) Why was this information redacted, what exemption was applied? b) May I ask for the re-release of this background note paper without the latter redactions and that offer alternate explanations for the higher than normal radiation levels involved in the Rendlesham Forest alleged UFO of December 1980. The grounds upon which I make this request are primarily because this information concerns an event which happened nearly 30 years ago, at an American USAF air force base that has long since closed down. I cannot see what exemption currently within the use of the FOIA should prevent the release of this information, if put to a public interest test, there's a strong chance it would be released, unless you can inform of some other reason why it should not?
2. Could you please determine if there's any correspondence between the MoD and Defence Radiological Protection Service concerning radiation readings connected with the Rendlesham Forest UFO of December 1980 but from the period 1991-1994 (Nick Pope's tenure)

Section 40 please find attached another scan of the background note paper which preceded the one in question, it might help to identify and relocate these papers. (HillNortonPQs0047).

Looking forward to your reply, either by email at [REDACTED] or by post at [REDACTED]

Thanks, yours sincerely
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

30/05/2008

OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS

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frizzy.' Someone on the recording says, 'All the backyard animals have gotten quiet now.' Other witnesses remembered the same agitation. Was this caused by the low-frequency hum of an aircraft, or, more sinister still, does it have some connection with animal mutilations?

Despite some high-level pressure brought to bear by Lord Hill-Norton, who, it will be remembered, was a chief of defence staff and chairman of the NATO Military Committee, and from Sir Patrick Wall MP and Ralph Noyes, who was a former head of DSE himself, nothing concrete was done. When Halt's report became public in 1983, the media took a field day. 'UFO LANDS IN SURFOLK' trumpeted the *New York Times* on its front page on 2 October. 'And the official...

There has been a steady stream of letters from the press over the years, but inevitably, fact and fiction intertwined. Rendlesham Forest became a myth. Rendlesham Forest is British Roswell — we know that something happened, but I don't know what. I believe the Ministry of Defence squandered a major opportunity by not investigating the incident in detail at the time. The trail has now gone cold: the airbase has gone, personnel have gone; even a great swathe of the forest has been cut down — on account, some say, of the massive radiation levels. Brenda Butler was unable to discover who had felled the trees or what had happened to them.

One aspect of Rendlesham has been consistently ignored by ufologists and yet, to me, it is the most tangible proof of something extraordinary happening there, and that is the night readings. I contacted the Defence Radiological Protection Centre, attached to Haslar, the Institute of Naval Medicine, Gosport, Hampshire. Contrary to the claim made in *Strange But True?*, the readings were in fact ten times higher than...

THE REAL UFOs

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and the military Geiger counters used were probably designed to measure much higher levels of radiation, so the scale at the lower end might have been less sensitive, making accurate readings difficult. It is also possible that the night hours were not the best time to take readings, although Halt's careful figures — 0.05 and 0.07 rather than the average of 0.06 — suggest that a great deal of precision was involved. Most ufologists have concentrated on the bizarre non-human shapes in the craft and their meeting with senior personnel. It is human nature to focus on the most dramatic and exciting aspects, and this is a snuff of contactee legend, the closest of close encounters. In comparison the actual physical proof of the radiation readings is but into relative insignificance. Yet this does not say much for the general standard of scientific research among ufologists, and a little to enhance their credibility.

What did happen in Rendlesham Forest? There have been some quite extraordinary attempts to explain away the events described in Col Halt's report. One comes from science writer Ian Ridpath, whose theory is that the flashing, pulsating lights in the trees were actually the rotating beams from Orford Ness lighthouse six miles away. A timing of the tape, he says, fits the rhythm of the lighthouse's circuit. He also claims that the six-mile distance would seem like only a few hundred yards at night, and that men were moving about in the trees, the fixed light would be an impression of moving independently of them.

When Ridpath put forward this explanation in *Strange But True?* Col Halt was, I felt, very restrained, in his rebuttal. 'The lighthouse doesn't move through a forest, doesn't explode, doesn't change shape, doesn't send down beams of light.' He also has added that the Orford Ness Lighthouse had...

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

DRAFTED BY : [REDACTED] TEL: [REDACTED]
 AUTHORISED BY : [REDACTED] TEL: [REDACTED]
 GRADE/RANK : Grade 7
 AUTHORISED BY : [REDACTED] TEL: [REDACTED]
 GRADE/RANK : SCS

DECLARATION: I have satisfied myself that the following answer and background note are in accordance with the Government's policy on answering PQs, Departmental instructions (DCI (To Be Confirmed)), and the Open Government Code (DCI GEN 48/97).

[REDACTED]

BACKGROUND NOTE:

1. Lord Hill-Norton has a long-standing interest in "UFOs", was a member of the (now defunct) House of Lords All-Party "UFO" Study Group, and has written forewords for two books on the subject. He has previously written to Ministers supporting individual "ufologist" causes.
 2. The MOD position on "UFO" sightings is that we examine any reports received 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 "unidentified flying object" sighting has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each reported incident.
 3. The alleged incidents referred to in the 1981 memorandum occurred between 27-29 December 1980 when unusual lights were seen by USAF personnel, including the Deputy Base Commander, outside RAF Woodbridge. A report of the sighting written some two weeks after the events (copy attached) was forwarded to the MOD by the RAF Liaison Officer at RAF Bentwaters. The report was examined by the Department at the time and no evidence of any matter of defence significance was found. This is of course the Department's only interest in such sightings.
 4. This incident is regularly quoted by the media and 'ufologists' as evidence of "UFOs" penetrating the UK Air Defence Region. However, all available evidence was examined at the time and nothing of defence concern was judged to have occurred in the location on the nights in question. No additional information has come to light over the last 16½ years which calls the original judgement into question.
- [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED]

5. It was then, and continues to be the case that witnesses are not routinely contacted following receipt of a "UFO" report. It would only have been necessary to contact Lt Col Halt (or any other witness) had there been any indication that the sighting was of defence relevance and further information was required.

6. The PQs may have been prompted by the publication of two books, one on "UFOs" and the other on "Alien Abductions" by a former member of Sec(AS), Mr Nicholas Pope. The incident is discussed in Mr Pope's first book. He states that the radiation readings taken by USAF personnel at the site were unusually high. There is, however, no evidence that any analysis of the radiation readings reported at the site was undertaken at the time. It can only be assumed now that in view of the assessment made at the time by the relevant air defence experts that the UK air defence region had not been compromised, no analysis of the reported readings was judged necessary.

[REDACTED]

approached the Defence Radiological Protection Service in 1994 for their views. Their advice was that the readings were higher than normal but that there could be a number of explanations for this.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 June 2008 14:01
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Release-authorised: FOI REQUEST RENDLESHAM FOREST 30-05-2008-093801-001
Attachments: scan.pdf

[REDACTED]

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) is the custodian of the files created by what was the Defence Radiological Protection Service (DRPS) and later became known as the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency Radiation Protection Services. Dstl have searched the files for the period mentioned and can confirm that there are no records of the type requested.

The above finding is not unexpected, as DRPS received many ah-hoc radiation-related enquiries. These enquiries covered a wide range of topics and the nature of any records maintained related to their apparent significance to DRPS's role, which was to provide radiation-related health and safety advice to Ministry of Defence civilians and the UK Armed Forces. In this context, and given the nature of Mr Pope's enquiry and the lack of health risk associated with the doserates mentioned, it is not surprising that there are no records of what seems to have been a purely informal telephone conversation. Conversely, when it became apparent that this topic was attracting public interest, records of related correspondence were kept and an example from 1998 which summarises the DRPS position is attached for your information.

It is hoped this is helpful.

[REDACTED]

Dstl search report:

1. Records/documents related to this type of incident are usually recorded in the pack for unusual occurrences (pack no. 175/015). Searching this pack between the period 1991 – 1994 yielded no documents related to the radiation monitoring incident at RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge.
2. A further search for files related to RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge over this period has been conducted, but no such files exist.
3. A DRPS health physicist, [REDACTED] was contacted by Nick Pope (who for the period 1991 – 1994 was Sec(AS) 2a with responsibility for conducting UFO investigations). There are no DRPS files relating to this meeting, the only evidence being a note (figure 1) written by Nick Pope on 15/04/1994[1]², which has been commented on in the public domain by ufologists[2]. [REDACTED] confirms he considered the conversation as a privileged conversation the significance of which required no formal record.
3. [REDACTED] has previously commented on this conversation with [REDACTED] (ref: 150/17/11511/DRPS) on several occasions in 1996 and 1998 where he has reiterated his view on the conversation he had with Nick Pope in 1994.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

23/06/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 2 of 2

[1] <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/foi>

[2] [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 June 2008 11:37
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Release-authorized: FOI REQUEST RENDLESHAM FOREST 30-05-2008-093801-001

[REDACTED]

Have you had any success in finding any correspondence relating to Rendlesham Forest and radiation?

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
[REDACTED]

"The Information contained in this E-Mail and any subsequent correspondence"
"is private and is intended solely for the intended recipient(s)."
"For those other than the recipient any disclosure, copying, distribution, "
"or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on such information is"
"prohibited and may be unlawful."

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

23/06/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

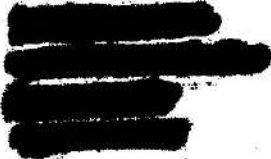
MP 2

DERA

Radiation Protection Services
c/o Institute of Naval Medicine
Crescent Road
Alverstoke
Gosport
Hants PO12 2DL



Ref: 150/17/11511/DRPS ✓



21 August 1998

Dear Mr

References:

- A. Letter dated 19 Aug 1998
- B. 150/17/5817/DRPS dated 27 Sept 1996
- C. 150/17/5767/DRPS dated 19 Sept 1996

Thank you for your letter of 19 August (ref A). You will recall from our previous correspondence (Refs B and C) that in my original discussions with Mr Pope I did indeed state that the readings were around 10 times normal background levels, provided that the instrument was appropriate for measuring background radiation (at the time of our discussions he could not state what the instrument was), calibrated and being used/interpreted correctly.

I share the NRPB view that the use of a high-range survey instrument to measure (accurately) environmental levels of radiation is somewhat questionable and this must throw some doubt on the validity of the data reported.

I hope this is of use to you.



for DRPS Corporate RPA

Information

DERA Company Secretary (with references)



955699



Testing
No. 1305



Calibration
No. 0477

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

30-09-2008-150028-004

EXP: 28 OCT 08

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 30 September 2008 13:55

To: Section 40

Subject: FOIA Request

Section 40

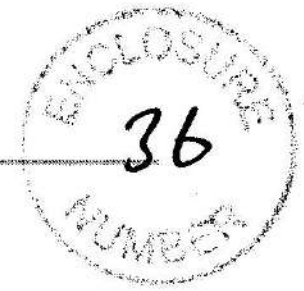
I'd be grateful for copies of any FOIA requests that mention ~~Sec(og-4)~~ (together with the responses) that you haven't already sent me in response to previous FOIA requests.

Best wishes,

Section 40

30/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1



Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 20 October 2008 13:59
To: Section 40 @msn.com'
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request asking for details of UFO sightings over Biddenden in Kent.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has no record of receiving a UFO sighting over Biddenden in 2008. Details for UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available on our website www.mod.uk by searching the Publication Scheme section for the phrase "UFO Reports".

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

20/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

20/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 20 October 2008 10:56

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: foi email request PS 20-10-2008-134112-008 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

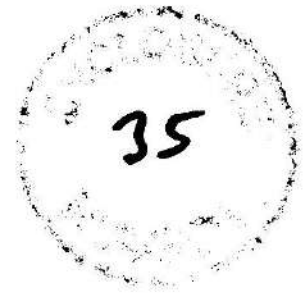
txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname: **Section 40**

txtemailAddress: **Section 40**

txtinforequest: ufo sightings over biddenden kent



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 07-10-2008-064556-001

Expiry: 24 Jul 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Copies of photographs for 1995,

Case for release of information

Files containing this information are due for release in the next 12 months and therefore exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication) applies

A PIT is included in the response letter.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: **7/10/08**

Section 40**From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 07 October 2008 13:46**To:** **Section 40****Subject:** Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 07-10-2008-064556-001Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of information request of 6 October 2008 asking for copies of any UFO photographs for the year 1995.

Files covering this period will be transferring to The National Archives as part of a programme to transfer some 160 files covering 1978-2007. It is not possible to state when the files will actually be transferred, but it is expected it will be within the next six months. Therefore, under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication) the MoD is not obliged to provide you with the information you requested.

This is not the end of the matter, of course; section 22 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MOD must assess the balance of public interest in release of the information.

Whilst there is undoubtedly public interest in this information being released to the public as it will enable them to have a more informed view of the MoD's role in the UFO phenomena, there is no overriding reason why the public should have the information immediately. It is part of effective administration of government that the publication of information is planned and managed within the department responsible. Copies of UFO photographs will be of great interest to researchers and writers and, by placing the information requested in The National Archives, all interested parties will have access to the same information at the same time, which ensures no one has any particular advantage over their competitors.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-**Section 40**MoD Main Building
Whitehall

07/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

London
SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

07/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

EX 4 NOV 08

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 06 October 2008 21:49

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: foi email request PS 07-10-2008-064556-001 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

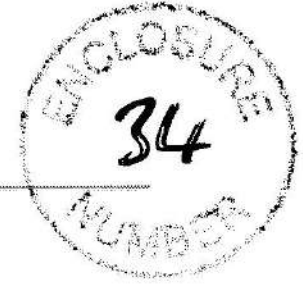
txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname:

txtemailAddress: **Section 40**

txtinforequest: Can you please send me copies of any UFO photographs you have for the year 1995



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 07 October 2008 10:16

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 07-10-2008-064811-002

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 6 October 2008 asking for any documents the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has pertaining to "Operation Blackbird", which the MoD allegedly helped with. I understand this was an attempt to film the creation of a crop circle.

Other than documents relating to correspondence on the subject from members of the public such as yourself, the MoD has no documents pertaining to this matter and can find no record of the military having assisted in any such event.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual

07/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

07/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

EXP 4 Nov 08

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 06 October 2008 21:44

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: foi email request PS 07-10-2008-064811-002 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

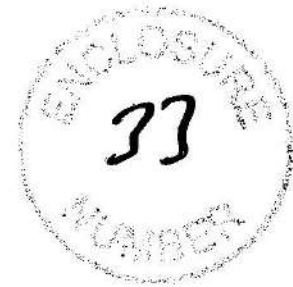
txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname:

txtemailAddress: **Section 40**

txtinforequest: Could you please send me any documents you have pertaining to 'Operation Blackbird' which the MoD assisted with in attempting to film the creation of a crop circle.



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 02-10-2008-172521-003

Expiry: 30 Oct 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Details of UFO sightings over Bromley 2003 onwards

Number of UFO sightings and locations

Case for release of information

Details for 2003-07 are available on the MoD website.

Details for 2008 will be published in Jan 2009 and therefore should be withheld under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication)

A PIT is included in the response.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40** ..

Date: **6/10/08**

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 06 October 2008 11:51

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 02-10-2008-172521-003

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 2 October 2008 asking for details of UFO sighting reports in the London Borough of Bromley in the last five years. You also asked for the number of UFO sightings each year and their location. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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 Ministry of Defence Information website has a database which contains information on UFO sighting reports from the year 1997 up to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme>, by searching under "UFO Reports". Reports for the year 2008 will be published in the same place in January 2009 and therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the MoD are not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

This is not the end of the matter however, of course; exemption 22 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MoD must assess the balance of the public interest in release of the information which is outlined below.

Whilst there is undoubtedly public interest in details of sightings being released to the public, there is no overriding reason why the public should have that information immediately. It is part of the effective administration of government that the publication of information is planned and managed within the department responsible. Details of UFO sightings are of great interest to researchers and writers. By placing the information on the MoD website in January, all interested parties receive the information at the same time, which ensures no one has any particular advantage over their competitors.

You may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed until 1967, when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU, or telephone 0208 876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at:

06/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H-**Section 40**
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

06/10/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

EX 30 OCT 08

-----Original Message-----

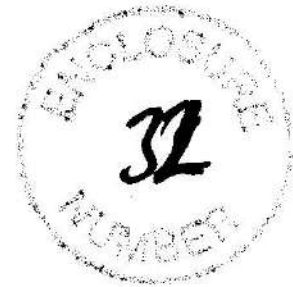
From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]
Sent: 02 October 2008 16:48
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PF 02-10-2008-172521-003 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**
txtfirstname: **Section 40**
txtlastname: **Section 40**
txtoccupation: Journalist
txtorganisation: **Section 40**
txtaddress1: **Section 40**
txtaddress2: **Section 40**
txttowncity: Petts Wood
txtstatecountry: London
txtzipcodepostcode: **Section 40**
txtcountry: UK
txtemailAddress: **Section 40**
txttelephone: **Section 40**
txtinforequest: I would like to find out information you have on UFO sightings in the London borough of Bromley in the last five years (since 2003).

Could I get the number of UFO sightings each year and locations, as well as any details as to what was actually seen?

Many thanks.



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 06-10-2008-070657-001

Expiry: 31 Oct 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Details of unexplained or explained very flashes of light from the sky since 2000 reported by military, civil servants or the public.

Case for release of information

Assuming this is a UFO question, answering will entail checking 18 sighting report files, 30 correspondence files and 4 PQ files which will far exceed the £600 limit set for answering PQs.

1 file = 1 hour
42 files = 42 hours
42 @ £25 = £1050

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: **6/10/08**



From: **Section 40**
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Felixstowe
 Suffolk

Section 40

Our Reference
 06-10-2008-070657-001

Date

6 October 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 3 October 2008 asking for any information, reports or sightings from the public, military or civil servants of unexplained, and explained, very quick flashes of light from the sky or space since 2000. Your question is very broad, but has been passed to this branch to answer as we have responsibility for UFO matters within the MoD and we are the most likely repository of the information you request.

Answering your request would far exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and, as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. Your request covers a number of different topics. If you could limit your request to one specific item, I may be able to help. I would also advise you to limit the scope of your request to a specific and shorter time period such as two years.

That having been said, details of UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available via our website www.mod.uk by searching under "UFO reports" and this may provide you with much of the information you request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Tom Sanders

Section 40

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

EX 31 OCT 08

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 03 October 2008 20:45

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI written request PS 06-10-2008-070657-001 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname: **Section 40**

txtaddress1: **Section 40**

txtaddress2: Felixstowe

txttowncity: Felixstowe

txtstatecountry: Suffolk

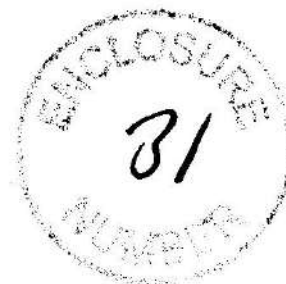
txtzipcodepostcode: **Section 40**

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtinforequest: Any information, reports or sightings from the public, military or civil servants. Of unexplained, and explained, very quick flashes of light from the sky or space from the year 2000 onwards.



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Liverpool
 Merseyside

Section 40

Our Reference
 26-09-2008-131945-001

Date

26 September 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 September 2008 asking for the title and details of the unit or team within the Ministry of Defence (MoD) that deals with UFO sightings. Additionally you wanted to know what they did.

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 United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

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

Many members of the public believe the MoD has a whole department or branch that deals with UFOs, and, I suspect, have the impression of a large organisation within the MoD dedicated to research into UFO matters and extra-terrestrials. Actually, there are only two posts within the MoD (including mine) that are dedicated to UFO matters. Both posts (DAS-FOI and DAS-FOI1) are part of the Directorate of Air Staff (DAS), that deals with a wide range of air defence matters, of which UFOs is a minor part. DAS-FOI is at D Grade, which is the most junior management grade within the MoD, whilst DAS-FOI1 is at E1 Grade, which is at clerical level. Although the overwhelming majority of the UFO work in these two posts involves (and has for decades) answering correspondence from the public or recording sightings reported to the MoD, we do on occasion investigate reports. This usually involves liaising with air defence specialists (e.g. radar specialists) on perhaps half a dozen reports per year. These will generally be sightings made by aircrew, members of the armed forces or the police. We do not do field investigations. The notion that the MoD has ever maintained a dedicated team of UFO investigators along the lines of *The X-Files* is, I am afraid, a fiction. Both posts also have a responsibility for advising other DAS staff on Freedom of Information matters - hence the *FOI* in the post titles.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MoD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40



The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

26-09-2008-131945-001
EX 24 OCT 08

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [<mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk>]
Sent: 26 September 2008 00:55
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: Section 40
txtfirstname: Section 40
txtlastname: Section 40
txtoccupation: data entry
txtaddress1: Section 40
txtaddress2: Section 40
txttowncity: liverpool
txtstatecountry: merseyside
txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40
txtcountry: UK
txtinforequest: i would like to know the name of the unit or team that deals with UFO sightings and other such phenomena that is within the ministry of defence> i'd like information on what they do and how they do it, within reason, and how the people involved are involved.

Thanks =]



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 26 September 2008 10:09

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 26-09-2008-094212-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your follow up e-mail of 23 September 2008 asking for details from the Operations Record Book of 2 Squadron, RAF Laarbruch, concerning an alleged UFO sighting by RAF Tornado aircraft on 5 November 1990. For administrative purposes it is being treated as a new request and has a separate reference number.

At this time, 2 Squadron were stationed in Germany as part of their normal duties and the flying programme for the Squadron in November comprised Op Granby (1st Gulf War) run up and normal flying training exercises. There is no record of any particular event occurring on 5 November 1990, nor of anything around that date.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H. Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with

26/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

26/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

From: AHB-AHB 2A [mailto:AHB-AHB2A@NORTHOLT.raf.mod.uk]
Sent: 25 September 2008 11:33
To: Section 40
Cc: AHB-PCB
Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 03-09-2008-104135-001

Section 40

Have re-visited the 2 Sqn F540. It contains no mention of any particular event on 5 November 1990. 2 Sqn were in Germany because they were stationed there and there is nothing about what happened before or after. The flying programme for the Sqn in November comprised Op Granby run up and normal flying training exercises.

Regards

Section 40



AHB FOIA

Section 40

26-09-2008-094212-001
EXP 21 OCT 08

From: Section 40
Sent: 23 September 2008 12:41
To: Section 40
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 03-09-2008-104135-001

Hi Section 40

Thanks for your prompt reply to my Freedom Of Information request.

Concerning the question about Operations Record Book entry for 2 Squadron RAF Laarbruch, I am specifically interested in the alleged UFO sighting involving UK RAF Tornados on 5 November, 1990 somewhere near Ypenburg. It transpires that this was probably re-entry of a satellite rocket component. The reason for my enquiry is to see whether any mention or details were recorded in the ORBs for that evening of any object sighted, also I am interested to learn why the Tornado's were there i.e. what happened shortly before and after? So any specific additional information you can supply that answers the above would be useful?

Sincerely

Section 40



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 08-09-2008-070638-005 Expiry: 1 Oct 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Details of UFO related posts in DAS.

Correspondence relating to these two posts for 2007-08

Case for release of information

Other than names, addresses telephone numbers and other such details which are not relevant to the information requested, there is no reason to withhold information.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: **23/9/08**

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 23 September 2008 13:36
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 08-09-2008-070638-005
Attachments: Section 40

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 3 September 2008 asking for details of the two Ministry of Defence (MoD) posts specifically tasked with dealing with UFO matters.

There are currently two posts within the MoD that are dedicated to UFO matters. My own (DAS-FOI) is at D Grade, which is the most junior management level within the Ministry and the second (DAS-FOI1) is at E1 grade which is at non managerial level. Whilst it would be inappropriate to provide individual salary details, the pay range for D grade posts is £19,315-£26,626 and for E1 grade posts £14,271-£23,534. They also attract standard London weightings for the grade. Both these posts are part of a branch based in MoD Main Building in London called the Directorate of Air Staff (DAS). This branch deals with a wide range of air defence related matters of which UFOs is a minor part. Although the overwhelming majority of the UFO work in these two posts involves (and has for decades) answering correspondence from the public or recording sightings reported to the MoD, we do on occasion investigate reports. This usually involves liaising with air defence experts (such as radar specialists) on, perhaps, half a dozen reports per year. These will generally be sightings made by aircrew, members of the armed forces or the police. I think I should make it clear that we do not do field investigations. The notion that the MoD has ever maintained a dedicated team of UFO investigators along the lines of *The X-Files* is, I am afraid, a fiction. Additionally, we answer Freedom of information (FOI) requests such as yours from the public and have responsibility for answering parliamentary correspondence. Both posts also have responsibility for providing advice to other staff within DAS on FOI matters.

The two posts require general office skills, with a preference for strong drafting abilities. When either of them becomes vacant, they are filled by internal competition. There is no requirement for any particular educational qualification beyond those normally required to gain entrance to the civil service. Specifically, there is no requirement for scientific qualifications or for any previous knowledge of, or interest in, UFO matters. Individuals occupying these posts are required to act in accordance with MoD policy on this subject and keep an open mind on UFO matters.

As requested, I enclose copies of correspondence over the last two years regarding these posts. You will note that some personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers etc has been withheld as it is not relevant to the information you requested.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has

23/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website,
<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-**Section 40**

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

23/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 26 February 2007 15:43
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 26-02-2007-141448-004 - REPLACEMENT FOR [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail request of 26 February 2007 asking for copies of Freedom of Information request 21-09-2006-111822-004 together with the response and any subsequent related follow-on requests by the same author. Additionally, you raised a number of questions relating to the recruitment of a replacement for [REDACTED] as DAS-FOI.

The first part of your request will be dealt with by colleagues in DIS, whilst I will address the second part, dealing with the recruitment of a replacement for [REDACTED]

The post was originally advertised in October-November 2006. There were two applicants but they were considered to be unsuitable by a sift panel. The post was then re-advertised in November-December when there were a further four applicants. Interviews were conducted on 11 January following the Christmas break, and I was informed I was the successful candidate on 19th January 2007. I formally took up the post on 5 February 2007, although as I was already undertaking many of [REDACTED] duties whilst her replacement was found, for all practical purposes, I was her replacement from 19th January 2007.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>."

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
 DAS-FOI
 05-H [Section 40]
 MoD Main Building
 Whitehall
 London
 SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

26/02/2007

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 February 2007 09:59
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: FOIA Request

Hello,

there are two parts to this request.

1. Please can I have a copy of the request and response to request 21-09-2006-111822-004 and any related follow-on requests by the same requester.

2. Please can you advise;

- a) If a replacement for [REDACTED] has been appointed yet.
- b) If not, when an appointment is expected to be made.
- c) If so, the name of the person and when they take up the post.
- d) How many applicants there were for the post.
- e) What the cause of the delay in making an appointment is/was.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

NOTE: PART 1 OF THE REQUEST WILL BE ANSWERED BY DIS UNDER A SEPARATE FOI REFERENCE NUMBER.

[REDACTED]

26/2/07

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 30 July 2008 13:43
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Release-authorized: EMPLOYMENT WITH UFO BRANCH - TO03474

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail to Secretary of State for Defence, Des Browne, asking for details of how to apply for positions in the MoD's *UFO department*. It has been passed to this office to deal with as we have responsibility for answering questions relating to UFOs.

Firstly, I think it would be helpful if I gave you some background about the MoD role in UFO matters. Despite what many people think, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or 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. 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 United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

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

The term UFO "department" is actually rather misleading. I suspect it gives the impression of a large organisation within the MoD dedicated to research into UFO matters and extra-terrestrials. In fact, there are two posts within the MoD that are dedicated to UFO matters. One (DAS-FOI) is at D Grade, which is the most junior management level within the Ministry and the second (DAS-FOI1) is at E1 grade which is at non managerial level. Both these posts are part of a branch based in London called the Directorate of Air Staff. This branch deals with a wide range of air defence related matters of which UFOs is a minor part. Although the overwhelming majority of the UFO work in these two posts involves (and has for decades) answering correspondence from the public or recording sightings reported to the MoD, we do on occasion investigate reports. This usually involves liaising with air defence experts (such as radar specialists) on perhaps half a dozen reports per year. These will generally be sightings made by aircrew, members of the armed forces or the police. I think I should make it clear that we do not do field investigations.

The two posts require general office skills, with a preference for strong drafting abilities. When either of them becomes vacant, they are filled by internal competition. If you wanted to take up one of these posts, you would therefore first need to join the MoD, and then once you had established yourself, apply for the posts as and when they become vacant.

If you were interested in pursuing a career within the MoD, please let me know and I will put you in contact with the relevant recruitment branch or section.



I hope this is helpful.

30/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Yours sincerely,


DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

30/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

TO03474 2008 - 20080730114251 - [REDACTED]
From: feedback@www.mod.uk
Sent: 24 July 2008 17:56
To: Ministers
Subject: U.F.O's

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Thursday, July 24, 2008 at 17:55:48

firstname: [REDACTED]
lastname: [REDACTED]
address1: [REDACTED]
address2: [REDACTED]
towncity: [REDACTED]
statecounty: [REDACTED]
postzipcode: [REDACTED]

country: UK

e-mail: [REDACTED]

informationrequest: I know this may be the most strangest thing to ask, but i would like to know how i would go about finding how to apply for any positions within your U.F.O dept.

Any tel number's or contact name's would be great.

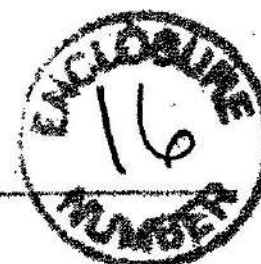
Many Thanks [REDACTED]

submit: Send Form



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 31 March 2008 11:23
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Release-authorized: EMPLOYMENT ON UFO RESEARCH

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 19 March 2008 asking for help in your desire for a job with the MoD related to UFO research and enquiries.

There are two posts within the MoD that are directly related to UFO matters. Both these posts, which are civilian rather than military, are within the Directorate of Air Staff (DAS) and form part of its secretariat function. This means that their primary role is the answering of correspondence from both the public and parliament. The two posts dealing with UFO matters are tasked with answering correspondence, and since 2005, Freedom of Information requests. Additionally, they are tasked with recording UFO sightings reported to the MoD, details of which are placed on the MoD internet site at the end of the year. Very occasionally, they receive a UFO sighting report that they believe may justify further follow up and they will liaise with air defence experts. I would estimate that 95% of both jobs are UFO related, with the remainder being related to administering and providing guidance to colleagues within DAS on Freedom of Information matters.

However, despite what many members of the ufology community believe, the MoD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen may have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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.

Staff who fill these two posts are recruited from within the MoD amongst its normal administrative staff and despite rumours to the contrary, these posts are not Top Secret and do not require security clearance beyond the norm for civil servants in the MoD. Therefore, if you were interested in undertaking this work, you would need to join the Ministry of Defence and, once you had established yourself, apply for one of them as and when they became vacant.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
 DAS-FOI
 05-H Section 40
 Mod Main Building
 Whitehall
 London
 SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

21/03/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 March 2008 16:38
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: ufo research & enquires

[REDACTED]
Directorate of Airstaff (Lower Airspace)
Complaints & Enquiries Unit
Floor 5, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 March 2008 16:34
To: Low Flying
Subject: ufo research & enquires

hello, my name is [REDACTED] i've been researching ufo's now for 5-6 years and i'm convinced that there are unusual advanced vehicles in our skys today. I am seeking a job related to ufo research and enquires within the mod. Please can somebody help.

Many many thanks.

[REDACTED]
contact tel: [REDACTED]

mobile [REDACTED]

Sounds like? How many syllables? Guess and win prizes with Search Charades!

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

05/03/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



From: [REDACTED]
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone [REDACTED] (Direct dial)
 (Switchboard)
 (Fax) [REDACTED]
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Our Reference
 D/DAS/06-11-2006-164110-006
 Date
 21 November 2006

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 24 October asking information relating to the advertisement of the vacant post in DAS responsible for dealing with FOI and UFO inquiries.

I attach a copy of the advertisement for the post that has appeared internally within the MoD (it has not been advertised externally) which provides a description of the post. The contact telephone number at the foot of the advert has been redacted as it does not form a substantive part of the information you requested.

I also attach the core competences covering the general skills required of staff at various grades, including the D grade, which is the grade the post is advertised at. The Band D grade is the most junior of the MoD managerial grades.

This post has been advertised on the MoD internal intranet which has effectively done away with the need for paperwork. There is no internal correspondence as such surrounding the advertising of this post.

If this information does not address your requirements or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact the undersigned in the first instance. Should you remain dissatisfied, then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB.

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

You should note that at the moment, the post remains vacant. I am covering the post whilst a replacement is found.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Job Title: Secretariat & Private Office
Salary Administration Plan: Broad Banding D
Location: Main Building
Reference: 324863
Salary Grade: D

Eligibility:

Staff who hold the substantive grade of this post, or hold promotion passport/ticket to Band D may apply for this post. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you apply at a stage when you are ineligible your application will not be considered. Should the requisition proceed to a stage in which you become eligible and still wish to be considered you should submit an offline application to the PSC.

Post Security:

This post is Non Reserved Security Clearance: Security Check

Job Description:

The Directorate of Air Staff is responsible for providing support to the Chief and Assistant Chief of the Air Staff and Ministers in all central policy, political and parliamentary aspects of non-operational RAF activity both at home and overseas. As the Freedom of Information Focal Point you will be responsible for monitoring all FOI requests received by the Air Staff in London. You will provide guidance to staff on the release of information and the use of exemptions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and liaise as necessary with other FOI Focal Points and DG Information staff. You will also be the MOD Focal Point for correspondence with the general public and MPs about unidentified flying objects (UFOs), including researching and writing responses to FOI requests. You will have responsibility for one E1. It would be desirable for the successful applicant to have an FOI Practitioner qualification and an ECDL qualification.

Competences:

Working together, Communicating and Influencing, Analysing and Using Evidence, Improvement and Change, Leadership and Developing People.

Transfer Terms and Allowances:

Tour Length: Minimum 2 years This post is Full-Time but suitable for part-time/job-share Transfer Terms: Permanent

Interview Details:

Interviews for this job will take place Wednesday 14th December 06 in Main Building, London. For further information regarding this post please contact [REDACTED] DAS ADSec [REDACTED]

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

Equality and Diversity:

The MoD is an Equal Opportunities employer and seeks to reflect the diverse community it serves. Applications are welcome from anyone who meets the stated requirements.

Please apply before:04/12/2006

http://www.job.dii.r.mil.uk/job_details.html

21/11/2006

1. Working Together

Outcome – People work together in a productive, open and supportive way.			
Effective indicators			
Band E – Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D – Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You promote diversity and fair treatment for everyone. You are open, honest and polite in dealing with other people. You answer questions readily and listen to the views and opinions of others.	You seek information, knowledge and experience of vital assets, readily sharing and learning from others and encouraging others to do the same.	You are aware of, and carry out, your responsibilities in line with legislation and Departmental policies for example, anti-discrimination, Security, Freedom of Information, Health and Safety.	
You understand your own role and that of others in the team, and work together to achieve team goals.	You take account of the contributions, background and experience of others and are aware of how the team works together.	You build an effective team, drawing on the diversity of others.	You build a high performing team by exploiting the diversity within it.
You willingly accept responsibility for your own work while keeping other people informed of progress and possible problems.	You willingly accept responsibility for delivering your own results and those of the team, keeping others informed of progress and possible problems.		
You appreciate shared team goals and work with others to achieve Departmental aims.	You understand and contribute towards team goals and work with others to achieve Departmental aims.	You understand organisational priorities and set and communicate shared team, individual objectives aligned with them.	
	You encourage an environment where team members take responsibility for team goals as well as their own results.	You create a supportive environment in which team members take responsibility for team results as well as their own individual results.	
Ineffective indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are not aware of the needs and values of others. You work alone, rarely involving others, which frustrates the overall group or team aims. You do not co-operate with other people. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You leave colleagues to struggle. You blame others for your mistakes. You do no more than the minimum amount of work. You constantly check up on your team as you do not trust them to deliver. 	

1. Working Together

2. Leadership and Developing People

Outcomes – People are motivated to achieve success and to inspire others to do so. People develop the necessary skills and experience to perform well and continuously improve.			
Effective indicators			
Band E – Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D – Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You are committed to continuously developing your skills and those of other people. You recognise your own limitations and learn from experience and feedback.	You understand your role and how what you do links to the business plan.	You set and commit to SMART objectives for freedom linking individual contribution to the business plan through setting SMART objectives.	You set and commit to SMART objectives for freedom linking individual contribution to the business plan through setting SMART objectives.
You set an example by working efficiently with as little supervision as possible.	You are aware of your own leadership style.	You are aware of and can adapt your leadership style to the situation.	You recognise people's potential selecting effectively to provide development opportunities. You coach/mentor other people encouraging them to develop broader skills.
You take opportunities to develop yourself by learning from others and taking on new challenges.	You recognise other people's strengths and weaknesses delegating effectively to provide suitable development opportunities. You coach/mentor other people, encouraging them to develop broader skills.	You recognise and reward good individual and team performance, and celebrate success. You act promptly and positively to deal with poor performance and inappropriate behaviour.	You recognise and reward good individual and team performance, and celebrate success. You act promptly and positively to deal with poor performance and inappropriate behaviour.
You acknowledge good performance by others. You act promptly and positively to deal with inappropriate behaviour.	You monitor people's progress and provide encouragement and constructive feedback without oppressing blame. You ask for and act on feedback and respond constructively to criticism.	You create an environment which gives people the freedom to contribute and deliver. You delegate responsibility to the right level, balancing challenge with support and knowing when to intervene.	You create an environment which gives people the freedom to contribute and deliver. You delegate responsibility to the right level, balancing challenge with support and knowing when to intervene.
You ask for feedback and respond constructively to criticism.	You put forward ideas and contribute to business decisions.	You listen, have and listen to engage with, through respectful exchange of views people's views.	
Ineffective indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are strict and autocrat. You introduce objectives and start. You constantly change rules or conditions. You do not accept people's differences. You keep work that should be done by your team. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are not aware of what the team is doing. You do not consider your development needs or those of other people. You take sole credit for achieving results. You do not meet your obligations with the performance management process. 	

2. Leadership and Developing People

3. Communicating and Influencing

Outcome - People share the right information to support agreed courses of action.			
Effective indicators			
Band E - Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D - Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You provide balanced, impartial advice, presenting information and dealing with people tactfully. You use the most appropriate method, language and style of communication for the situation and people involved.			
You check your own and other people's information for accuracy and consistency.			
You listen, clarifying to check mutual understanding. You take account of other people's views when deciding what action to take.			
You present a case confidently and persuasively.			
You speak and write clearly and accurately, and check that people understand your message.	You speak and write clearly in a well-structured and concise way, checking that your message is understood.	You speak and write in a well-structured, clear and concise way. You draft accurately and concisely to persuade and inform, checking that your message is understood.	You speak and write in a well-structured, clear and concise way. You draft clearly, accurately and concisely under pressure to persuade and inform, checking that your message is understood.
You develop good working relationships, and recognise breakdowns in communication.	You develop good working relationships, and take positive steps to deal with conflict or breakdowns in communication.	You promote good working relationships, and respond quickly to deal with conflict or breakdowns in communication.	You promote good working relationships, dealing, where possible, with communication breakdowns before they arise, defusing tense situations.
You negotiate with colleagues to agree day-to-day activities.	You carry out day-to-day negotiations to agree what action to take.	You negotiate effectively to achieve agreed courses of action with stakeholders, maintaining their buy-in.	You negotiate effectively to achieve agreed courses of action with stakeholders, maintaining their buy-in.
You stick to the point in discussions or meetings.	You intervene in meetings and discussions when relevant and at the right time.	You lead meetings or discussions effectively to achieve clear results and make telling contributions to move business forward.	You provide co-ordinated advice for Ministers which they can rely on without question.
Ineffective indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You talk down to other people. You do not listen. You do not make yourself understood. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You do not make adjustments for other people's needs. You ignore all challenges or criticism and lose objectivity. 	

3. Communicating and Influencing

4. Analysing and Using Evidence

Outcome – People make informed decisions based on clear analysis of relevant evidence and information.			
Effective indicators			
Band E – Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D – Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You identify and use some basic or the sources of evidence when making decisions.	You identify what sources of evidence and experts are needed for make decisions.	You identify and use key sources of evidence and relevant experts when evaluating evidence to support a point.	You explain the sources of evidence and engage with relevant experts when using evidence to support a point.
You are able to adapt to changing priorities.	You are able to work with changing priorities and uncertainties.	You adapt easily to changing priorities and uncertainties.	You are comfortable with uncertainties. You predict possible outcomes and change priorities as a result.
You are aware of the limits to your own authority when making decisions.	You take decisions at the right time, within the limits of your own authority. You identify the main parts of, and solutions to, a problem.	You take decisions at the right time, based on best available evidence and analysis, within the limits of your own authority.	You seek the facts but when necessary take timely difficult decisions based on limited information.
	You check sources of evidence to make sure they are valid and accurate.	You know which evidence is valid and relevant and can make sense of a range of material to get at the underlying issue and see the links between complex factors.	
	You analyse evidence to support the development of policies, projects and programmes.	You use evidence to evaluate policies, projects and programmes, seeing where the risks lie and thinking through whole-life implications.	
You can collect and summarise information and data relating to your area of work.		You work confidently with information and data, and understand commonly used methods for summarising data.	
Ineffective indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You base decisions on rumours, not facts. You work only from your own point of view or make assumptions about others. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You fail to make connections between wider issues, people or organisations. You accept all evidence without question. 	

4. Analysing and Using Evidence

5. Managing Customers and Suppliers

Outcomes – People develop productive relationships with customers and suppliers that give value for money.			
Effective indicators			
Band E – Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D – Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You understand the need to get best value for money, being aware of and applying relevant commercial policies and processes.		You get best value for money using relevant commercial policies and processes.	
You have a strong focus on customers and suppliers.		You provide a strong focus on customers and suppliers and know how to shape business processes and priorities around the customer.	
You know who your customers and suppliers are and build good working relationships with them.		You establish relationships that will get the best out of each party and optimize the distribution of risk.	
You identify ways to improve customer service.		You motivate improved performance sharpening the way business is done to improve customer service and delivery.	
You understand customer and supplier needs and manage expectations by explaining what is and is not possible.	You understand customer and supplier needs and explore practical solutions with them. You manage expectations by explaining what is and is not possible.	You understand customer and supplier needs in terms of performance, risk and cost. You plan for and manage practical constraints and negotiate with suppliers to ensure value for money.	You take a wide view, consistently evaluating and negotiating with organisations that have different priorities.
	You work effectively with different organisations to achieve common goals.		
Ineffective indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You do not try to identify customers and suppliers. You make promises that cannot be met. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You don't look beyond existing services. You are uncooperative and unhelpful. 	

5. Managing Customers and Suppliers

6. Improvement and Change

Outcomes - People are committed to improving the business, turning visions for change into reality and adapting well to change.			
Effective indicators			
Band E - Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D - Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You make suggestions for improving working practices.	You improve internal processes and work habits with an open mind.	You evaluate methods, suggesting new or more effective methods.	You challenge accepted restrictions, developing and putting into practice imaginative proposals to successfully encourage new and more effective methods.
You understand the need for change.	You understand the need for change and encourage and support other people to become involved in the process.	You communicate the purpose of and need for change, encouraging other people to participate and take part in the process.	You understand and communicate the vision for change and act as a role model in encouraging others.
You respond quickly, flexibly and positively to change, using it as an opportunity to learn, develop and practise new skills. You put into practice new ways of working and exploit new technology.			You propose change and use it as an opportunity to apply new skills, ideas and technology. You create an environment where people are able to take considered risks.
		You understand how business change relates to system change.	You understand how business change relates to system change and can shape a change programme accordingly.
		You assess the effect of options for other people, supporting them in adapting to different ways of working.	You gain other people's commitment to change and know how to prepare people for different ways of working.
		You recognise the effect change has on stakeholders and deal with their concerns.	You recognise the effect change has on stakeholders and deal with issues promptly. You manage links with other change programmes.
		You can identify the benefits of a strategy.	You know how to identify and track different areas of benefit.
			You see signs of the need to reposition the organisation as the environment changes.
Ineffective indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You propose change for the sake of change. You ignore new ideas and proposals without considering them. You use rules as an excuse to prevent change. You will not risk exposure of uncertainty. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You cannot justify change. You stick to outdated methods and are not willing to change. You do not learn from previous experiences. You always see difficulties, not possibilities. 	

6. Improvement and Change

7. Planning and Managing Resources to Deliver Business Results

Outcome – People plan effectively and make best use of resources to deliver business results.			
Effective indicators			
Band E – Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D – Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You understand how the MOD is structured, where you fit in, and your role in delivering business results.	You understand and can explain the structure and function of the MOD and your own and other people's roles in delivering business results.	You understand and can explain the structure of government, parliament and its procedures and processes, and how these influence business.	You understand and can explain the Department's business plan and how you and others contribute to delivering its business (including financial) results.
You are aware of parliamentary and ministerial procedures and processes and how these influence business.		You understand and can explain the structure of government, parliament and its procedures and processes, and how these influence business.	
You use resources appropriately and follow operational business rules.		You lead by example in including expenditure and managing business relationships and risk, planning and executing business plans including actions and controls to ensure progress.	
You understand the need to ask for the advice of others when making decisions.	You know when to engage with other business areas such as Finance or Commercial to make business decisions.		You understand how to engage with functional business areas such as Finance or Commercial and how to use them to provide input with regard to expenditure and operations.
You understand business data about your own area of work.	You understand and interpret business (including financial) data relevant to your own area of work.	You understand and interpret business (including financial) data to inform decisions.	You work confidently with business (including financial) data when making decisions. You interpret needs and risks in reports and other appropriate investment opportunities.
	You gather and present evidence to support bids for resources.		You achieve personal delivery against the business plan, negotiating the resources needed to deliver business results and inform key decisions.
You look for best value from resources (people, money, assets and time).	You review spending against budget and seek best value from resources (people, money, assets and time).		You seek best value from resources (people, money, assets and time), managing the use of resources to results and forecasting and managing expenditure accurately.
You use processes, information and appropriate tools to deliver business results.	You make best use of business processes, information and tools to deliver results including seeking and acting on feedback to improve business performance and processes.		You manage business processes, information and tools effectively to deliver results and know how to use business process reviews to improve business delivery.
Ineffective indicators			
You focus on process at the expense of results.		You mis-use resources.	You fail to deliver business results.
You ignore people's needs.			

7. Planning and Managing Resources to Deliver Business Results

8. Programme and Project Management

Outcome - People use Programme and Project Management techniques and tools to do business faster, cheaper and better.			
Effective indicators			
Band E - Skill Zones 1 to 3	Band D - Skill Zone 4	Band C	Band B
You plan and manage your own work using your own time, technology and resources effectively.	You plan ahead, using realistic timescales.	You create clear and achievable plans.	You translate complex aims into clear and manageable plans.
You review progress to improve performance.		You review progress to improve performance, understanding the purpose and use of simple processes and metrics, where part of the delivery process.	
You use a range of programme and project management techniques, including risk management.	You understand basic programme and project management techniques including risk management.	You understand and use programme and project management techniques, including risk management.	You understand and use programme and project management techniques, including risk management, for key aspects of the work.
You understand your role in delivering a programme or project.	You understand how you contribute to delivering programme benefits and developing business cases.	You understand and contribute to defining and delivering programme benefits and developing business cases.	
You are aware of the need to involve stakeholders.	You understand the need to involve key stakeholders.	You identify and engage with stakeholders, keeping them informed, you regularly ask for and act on their feedback.	You plan and deliver strong relationships with stakeholders making sure the organisation is a respected customer and provider.
You recognise the effects of decisions on other people.	You make basic links between issues and recognise the effects of decisions on other areas.	You identify and manage the main links and dependencies between issues.	You identify and manage all links and dependencies between complex issues.
	You engage with programme and project management experts, and in evaluation projects, government and commercial experts.		
Ineffective indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your plans are not structured or realistic. You fail to keep stakeholders informed. You fail to consider risks. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You do not monitor and review progress. You approach tasks in a disorganised way. 	

8. Programme and Project Management

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Expiry date - 21/11/06

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 24 October 2006 11:09
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Freedom of Information request

[Redacted]

24 October 2006

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to make a request under the FOI for the following information:

- ✓ a) a copy of any current advertisement (internal MoD or external, in whatever format) for the vacant post at DAS which is responsible for dealing with FOI and UFO inquiries.
- ✓ b) with reference to (a) a copy of the job description, list of responsibilities, qualifications required for this post
- ✓ c) any information relating to the Civil Service grade relevant to the vacant post
- ✓ d) any internal correspondence relating to the current vacancy not covered by exemptions to the FOIA.

Please could you supply any substantive information as hard copy to the address given above, please use my email address if you require any further information in handling this request.

I look forward to hearing from you,

[Redacted]

ELECTRONICALLY - PUBLISHED IN INTERNET WITH ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

P5-12

EXP 1 OCT 08

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 03 September 2008 14:27

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI written request PS D 08-09-2008-070638-005 **Section 40**This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**
txtfirstname: **Section 40**
txtlastname: **Section 40**
txtoccupation: Journalist
txtorganisation: Scotland on Sunday
txtaddress1: Scotland on Sunday
txtaddress2: 80 St Vincent Street
txttowncity: Glasgow
txtstatecountry: Glasgow City
txtzipcodepostcode: G2 5UB
txtcountry: UK
txtemailAddress: **Section 40**
txttelephone: **Section 40**
txtinforequest: Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that within the MoD two staff are specifically tasked, among other things, with dealing with UFO-related inquiries. I wish to find out where these two staff are based, what their job descriptions are and what their duties entail. (If possible I would like to see copies of the official job descriptions) I also wish to find out their annual levels of remuneration as well as what qualifications and skills are required for the posts. Also, are candidates for the positions required to keep an open mind on the subject of UFOs in line with the MoD's general position? I would also like to see copies of correspondence relating to these posts from the past two years. (2007 and 2008)

I realise that you are regularly inundated with inquiries relating to this particular subject and your help and patience are greatly appreciated.

Many thanks and best wishes,

Section 40 senior reporter, Scotland on Sunday



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Highams Park
 London

Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
 01-09-2008-065632-005

Date:
 23 September 2008

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking how many UFO sighting reports from the London Borough of Redbridge have been investigated by the MOD in the last five years. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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 regards to there being any sighting reports investigated from the London Borough of Redbridge, I have checked our records and we have not received any reports from that area in the last five years.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

EX 29 Sep 08

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 27 August 2008 12:21

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI written request PS 01-09-2008-065632-005 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: Highams Park

txtstatecountry: London

txtzipcodepostcode: **Section 40**

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: **Section 40**

txtinforequest: How many, if any, reports of UFO sightings above the skies of the London Borough of Redbridge been investigated by the MoD in the last five years?



AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 01-09-2008-064539-001

Expiry: 29 Sept 2008

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Would it be possible for you to send me or tell how to access all reported UFO sightings from 1980-1983?

Case for withholding information

The information can be found in The National Archives.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

Exemption 21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Signature: Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 23/9/08



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

Chatteris
 Cambridgeshire

Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
 01-09-2008-064539-001

Date:
 23 September 2008

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking how to access all reported UFO sightings from 1980-1983. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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 request of asking for access to all reported UFO sightings from 1980-1983, you can find the information in The National Archives. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means), the MOD is not obliged to comply with your request.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an

internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

EXP: 29 Sep 08

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 01 September 2008 00:14

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI written request PS 01-09-2008-064539-001 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**
txtfirstname: **Section 40**
txtlastname: **Section 40**
txtoccupation: carer
txtorganisation: investigator
txtaddress1: **Section 40**
txtaddress2: **Section 40**
txttowncity: chatteris
txtstatecountry: cambridgshire
txtzipcodepostcode: **Section 40**
txtcountry: UK
txtemailAddress: **Section 40**
txttelephone: **Section 40**
txtinforequest: Would it be possible for you to send me or tell how to
access all reported ufo sightings from 1980-1983?
Kind regards **Section 40**



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 09-09-2008-104135-001

Expiry: 30 Sep 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Copies of Ops record book for 2 Sqn Nov 1990.

Details of MoD papers on various UFO sightings 1997-2003

Case for release of information

Other than names, addresses telephone numbers and other such details which are not relevant to the information requested, there is no reason to withhold information on the UFO sightings.

Requested clarification of information required from Ops Record Book.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: 23/9/08

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 23 September 2008 10:18
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 03-09-2008-104135-001
Attachments: Section 40.pdf

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 2 September 2008 asking for copies of the Operations Record Book for 2 Squadron, RAF Laarbruch. Additionally, you asked for copies of documentation regarding a number of UFO sightings between 1997 and November 2003.

I regret that, as 2 Squadron were not on operational duty during November 1990, the Operations Record Book entry for this month is not date specific but is merely a summary of Squadron activities. The Freedom of Information Act entitles individuals to have access to information not documentation per se. As the 2 Squadron Operations Record Book for November 1990 contains information which is likely to be irrelevant to you, I should be grateful if you would specify what information you are seeking from this document.

I enclose copies of documentation held on the sightings you mentioned. Some personal information such as names, addresses, occupations, telephone or room numbers has been withheld as it is not relevant to the information requested.

You also asked whether the MoD would be interested in learning of any mundane explanations for the sightings. Given the length of time since the sightings occurred, we consider the sightings closed and I must therefore refuse your very kind offer.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

**Section 40**

DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

23/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

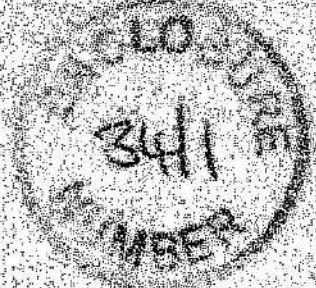
If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

23/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

CAB000 07/1033 21901593

FOR CAB

PRIORITY 071345Z AUG 97

FROM RAF WADDINGTON
TO HQSTC
MODUK AIR

UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

SIG IBF/IBJ/JDA

MODUK AIR FOR AFDD, HQSTC FOR SEC(AS)2A1 AND WC CDR GE

A. 1930 HRS [REDACTED] 272000 HRS JUL 97 AND 042100 HRS AUG 97

B. SILVER CIGAR SHAPED OBJECT WITH SHARP POINTED WINGS WITH A RED LIGHT ON ONE AN GREEN LIGHT ON THE OTHER

C. OUTSIDE

D. NAKED EYE AND BINOCULARS

E. LOOKING SOUTH FROM BEVERLEY TOWARDS THE HUMBER BRIDGE. HOVERING A FIRST THEN MOVED OFF AT GREAT SPEED

F. LOW ION THE SKY ABOUT HALF A MILE AWAY

G. ABOUT HALF A MILE

H. HOVERING AT FIRST THEN MOVED OFF QUICKLY

I. NOT KNOWN

J. HUMBER BRIDGE

PAGE 2 R00AIX 0015 R E S T R I C T E D

K. REPORTED BY 9 INDIVIDUALS TO THE HULL DAILY MAIL

L. [REDACTED] HULL DAIL MAIL. BLUNDELLS CORNER, BEVERLEY RD
HULL HU3 1XS

M. REPORTER

N. AT LEAST 9 PEOPLE THE NAMES OF WHOM ARE HELD BY THE HULL DAILY MAIL

O. 1415 HRS 7 AUG 97

P. NOT KNOWN

Q. 9 REPORTS RECEIVED BY HULL DAILY MAIL WHO HAVE PHONED THEM THROUGH RAF WADDINGTON

BT

DISTRIBUTION IBF

F

CAF 1 DD OR S(AIR) ACTION < CME 1 DCMC RES DUTY(AIR))

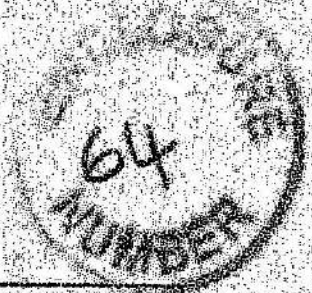
DISTRIBUTION IBJ

F

NO SDL

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT OF AN UNEXPLAINED AERIAL SIGHTING

1.	Date and time of sighting. (Duration of sighting.)	10 April 99 10 - 10:30
2.	Description of object. (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness, noise.)	Irregular pattern of lights coloured white, blue, yellow + red.
3.	Exact position of observer. (Indoors/outdoors, stationary/moving.)	In house
4.	How object was observed. (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, camera or camcorder.)	Naked eye
5.	Direction in which object was first seen. (A landmark may be more helpful than a roughly estimated bearing.)	In sky near estate in Withensay
6.	Approximate distance.	
7.	Movements and speed. (side to side, up or down, constant, moving fast, slow)	
8.	Weather conditions during observation. (cloudy, haze, mist, clear)	

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

9.	To whom reported. (Police, military, press etc)	
10.	Name, address and telephone no of informant.	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> witnessed Humber side <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
11.	Other witnesses.	
12.	Remarks.	
13.	Date and time of receipt.	message left on answaphone.

Reply sent.
 copy on
 6413 ptp
 enc. 73

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



From: [Redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff (Lower Airspace)
Operations & Policy 1a
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room [Redacted] Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London,
WC2N 5BP



Telephone (Direct dial) [Redacted]
(Switchboard)
E-Mail (Fax) [Redacted]

[Redacted]
Hull
East Yorkshire

Your Reference
Our Reference
D/DAS/64/2
Date
12 September 2002

Dear [Redacted]

I am writing with reference to your report of a sighting of an 'unidentified flying object' on 12 August 2002. The report was passed to this office by RAF Fylingdales as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFOs.'

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, MOD does not attempt to identify the precise nature of each reported sighting. We believe it is possible that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. We could not justify expenditure of public funds on investigations which go beyond our specific defence remit.

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

Yours sincerely
[Redacted]

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



With Compliments of

Wing Commander [REDACTED]

Directorate of Air Operations
ADGE 1

[Handwritten signature]

[REDACTED]

The attached folder in my in-tray, I have forwarded to you, just in case you have not received a copy
Especially [REDACTED]

Ministry of Defence, Room [REDACTED] Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BP

[REDACTED]

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

DAO AOREGI

UNCLASSIFIED

Action Precedence: ROUTINE
DTG: 131300ZAUG02
From: RAF FYLINGDALES
SIC: Z6F
Subject: ACTION :

To: MODUKAIR

SUBJECT

SUBJ: MSG ID/FYD/0003/131300ZAUG02
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENON
1. FOLLOWING SIGHTING OF A POSSIBLE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT IS REPORTED:
A. 122200 - 2230 LOCAL AUG 02
B. 1 X PURPLE AND WHITE PULSATING JELLY FISH LIKE OBJECT, WITH SMALLER LIGHT CIRCLES SURROUNDING MAIN OBJECT. A SMALLER HAZY LOOKING OBJECT APPEARED TO BE ATTACHED TO THE MAIN OBJECT AND FOLLOWED SAME
C. ON THE N YORK MOORS. ON THE ROAD NEAR RALF'S CROSS VIEWPOINT OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF ROSEDALE, NEAR ROSEDALE ABBEY
D. NAKED EYE
E. OBJECT STARTED OUT ON VIEWERS RIGHT
F. APPROX. 10-15 DEGREES, ROOFTOP HEIGHT AT A RANGE OF ABOUT 100 YARDS WAS HOW IT WAS DESCRIBED
G. NO MORE THAN 100-200 YARDS. INITIALLY VIEWED ON BLAKELY RIDGE
H. PATH OF OBJECT CROSSED FROM RIGHT TO LEFT AND FOLLOWED THE VIEWER'S CAR FOR APPROX. 4 MILES KEEPING ON THE LEFT
I. CLEAR, CLOUD LESS EVENING
J. NIL
K. NIL
L. RAF FYLINGDALES THROUGH MOD OPERATOR
M. [REDACTED]
N. [REDACTED]
P. [REDACTED]
Q. 131330 LOCAL AUG 02
R. SOME SOLAR ACTIVITY SEEN IN THE FORM OF SHOOTING STARS
S. INFORMANT SEEMED CONCERNED THAT SHE MAY HAVE BEEN THE ONLY OBSERVER AND HOPED THAT OTHERS MAY HAVE SEEN THE OBJECT
2. POC CPL [REDACTED] - B CREW OPS - RAFTN/UNITER EXTN [REDACTED] OR FLT SGT [REDACTED] - SPACE INFO OFFICER - EXT [REDACTED]
END OF X.400 TEXT

DAS
102No. [REDACTED]
20 AUG 2002
FILE

Time Sent: 131405ZAUG02
ACP127 Identifier: [REDACTED]
MM Identifier: [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

N/A

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

72

D/DAO/1/13

25 Oct 02

DAS(LA)Ops+Pol1a

CREDIBLE WITNESS REPORT - 17 OCT 02

Reference:

A Your Loose Minute dated 21 Oct 02.

1. At Reference, you asked whether the credible witness report submitted by 2 police officers from Humberside represented anything of air defence interest. Following enquiries through HQ 2 Gp and RAF Neatishead, there is no evidence that unauthorised military activity or any other activity of air defence interest occurred on 17 Oct 02 in the Hull area.

Signed on CHOI'S


Wg Cdr
DAO ADGE 1


REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

LOOSE MINUTE

DAO ADGE 1

D10AS/64/2

21 October 2002

CREDIBLE WITNESS UFO SIGHTING - 17/10/2002

1. In line with our current policy, please find attached a 'UFO' report two police officers from Humberside in the early hours of 17 October 2002.
2. I would be grateful if you could let me know if the report represents anything of air defence interest.



DAS(LA)Ops&POLI



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

HUMBERSIDE POLICE
Northern Command Centre
Hessle Police Station
Hessle Road
Kingston Upon Hull
HU4 7BA

Northern Command Centre

Tel No. [REDACTED]
Fax No. [REDACTED]

If you have received this communication in error, please telephone the sender immediately, and return the document to us; your cost will be reimbursed. You must not copy the document, show it to anyone else, or otherwise act upon it. Thank you for your co-operation.

Date 17th October 2002

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

From: Inspector [REDACTED] Force Duty Officer

For the attention of: **Ministry of Defence**

Page one of 2 Pages

Message

Sighting Of Unidentified Flying Object

Humberside Police Incident Log Number 70 of 17/10/02 timed at 0239hrs Thursday 17/10/02 refers

At 0239 hrs on Thursday 17th October 2002 a member of the public contacted Humberside Police to report seeing a UFO. The adult male caller wished to remain anonymous but it is believed he lives in Hull (eastern area of the City). Whilst making the report the caller stated he could see two lit objects in the sky - one over the the Eastern Cemetary, Preston Road, Hull and the other one over B.P. Saltend. He stated the objects appeared to be 'communicating' with each other. He described one of the objects as having a blue light in the middle, a white light and two green lights with a red light going around the top. The object was spinning around and hovering. The caller was looking through binoculars.

Local Police Officers were alerted and sighted what they believed to be the object being reported by the caller. The below report is from two Police Officers rather than from the initial caller who was reluctant to become involved. Other officers also saw the 'object'.

- a) Police Officers involved - PC [REDACTED] and PC [REDACTED]
- b) 0254 hrs 17/10/02 - duration of approx 45 minutes
- c) Appeared as the size of a 'normal' bright star but of different colours - blue, green, red and white
- d) Viewed from various locations in the Hedon area (east of Hull) from a police vehicle
- e) Viewed with naked eye
- f) First viewed by officers to be in the sky over B.P. Chemicals Plant at Saltend near Hull and then in the Thorgumbald area.
- g) Angular elevation of approx 45 degrees
- h) Distance from observers is difficult to estimate (but not near to them)

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- i) The object appeared to move fast and then stop - it stopped and started on a couple of occasions and repeatedly changed its colour/shape, fading and also becoming brighter at times
- j) Meteorological conditions - weather fine and dry with no cloud initially and no other objects nearby to obstruct the view.
- k) A chemical plant is nearby and also the River Humber with industrial/chemical plants on the south bank at Killingholme/Immingham
- l) The Humberside Police Helicopter attended the area and perceived the object to be a star or satellite and the colour changes being an optical effect due to possible gasses emitted from the nearby industrial plants. It has to be said however that the above officers were not convinced of this explanation.

This report is submitted for your information and attention. If further details or clarification are required please contact the Humberside Police Northern Command Centre

Inspector 

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



D UK/270/L/13

18 Nov 03

DAS Sec 3CREDIBLE WITNESS 'UFO' REPORT - 17 NOV 03

Reference:

A. D/Sec(AS)/64/2 dated 17 Nov 03.

At Reference, you asked whether the report submitted by Sgt [REDACTED] from New Scotland Yard, through Plt Off [REDACTED] at CRC Neatishead, regarding "20-30 red flashing lights in the sky accompanied by a whirring noise" at 0225hrs on 17 Nov 03 at Bromley in Kent, represented anything of air defence interest. CRC Neatishead have reviewed the radar tapes for the time period specified and other than routine air traffic in the area, nothing additional was detected in the area despite good radar coverage. Therefore, I can now confirm that the incident does not represent anything of air defence interest.

Signed on CHOI'S

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
DUK SOL Air Ops 2
[REDACTED]

Action:

Sgt [REDACTED] at New Scotland Yard not on duty. Message of outcome passed to control room. No details of the people reporting this sighting so unable to reply direct. Police given my telephone number in case Sgt [REDACTED] wanted to contact me or pass us the address of those reporting the sighting.

19/11/03.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/2

17 November 2003

D UK-SO1 AIR

17 Nov 03

CREDIBLE WITNESS REPORT DATED 3 NOVEMBER 1999.

1. In line with our current policy, please find below a 'UFO' report which you may wish to be aware of. Although the report was originally from a member of the public, these lights were also seen by Police Officers and a Police helicopter crew. Swanwick and RAF Neatishead have also become involved. I would be grateful if you could let me know if the report represents anything of air defence interest.



DAS-Sec3



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Follow-up UFO Report - 170612z Nov 03

UFO report relayed to STCDO from the Duty Surveillance Officer Fg Off [REDACTED] at RAF Neatishead who had received the report from F/Sgt [REDACTED] at Swanick Mil ext [REDACTED] Fg Off [REDACTED] has also passed this report to MOD Sec (AS) 2a and to CAOC 9 - F11 L1A1 [REDACTED]

F/Sgt [REDACTED] had received the report from Sgt [REDACTED] of New Scotland Yard Ref. No CAD 625
contact Tel No [REDACTED]

'At 2.25am 17 Nov 03 2 adults and 1 child in Bromley, Kent saw 20-30 red flashing lights in the sky accompanied by a whirring noise and they recorded the occurrence on video tape. The family called the police who confirmed the sighting. The policeman using a lamppost as a marker concluded the lights were zigzagging / turning across the sky at a speeds faster than any man-made aircraft.

A crew of a police helicopter airborne at the time also confirmed the lights but they thought they might be lights of aircraft on the approach in to LHR. However Swanick Mil declared that there were no aircraft in the approach pattern at that time all aircraft on their radar were at high level.'

S/L FO [REDACTED]
STCDO-C
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Message left on DAS answerphone at 05.34 Monday 17th Nov by Pilot Officer [REDACTED] of RAF Neatishead. UFO sighting details as above reported to Neatishead at 04.00 by Swanwick ATC. The sighting was confirmed by the Police and Scotland Yard reported it to Swanick Mil. Police helicopter in the area thought they were aircraft approaching Heathrow but Swanwick say there were no such aircraft in the area.

Pilot Officer [REDACTED] is on Neatishead Crew Room [REDACTED] or mobile number [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Section 40

03-09-2008 - 124 135-001
EXP 30 Sep 08

From: Section 40
 Sent: 02 September 2008 11:32
 To: Section 40
 Subject: FOIA Request

To: Section 40 DAS MoD -- FOIA Enquiry 020908 .

Hi Section 40

Please treat this as a FOI request.

1. Would you please provide copies from the Operations Record Book entries for 2 Squadron, Laarbruch, from 1 to 8 of November 1990 and particularly covering 5 November 1990.
2. Would you please provide copies of all MoD papers on the following UFO sightings, which are recorded in the DAS sighting logs --
 - ✓ a) 25 July 1997 Humber Bridge, Hessle - silver shaped cigar shaped object. *F 3411*
 - ✓ b) 16 November 1999, Whitby North Yorkshire - RAF Pilot reports red light. *I 164*
 - ✓ c) 12 August 2002 Hull, East Yorkshire - Purple and white pulsating jelly-fish like object. *N 63/1*
 - ✓ d) 17 October 2002 Hull East Yorkshire - Two police officers see star-like object showing different colours. *N 72*
 - ✓ e) 17 November 2003, Bromley Kent - Police Officers and helicopter crew see 20 -30 red flashing lights. *P 7*

Also, would the MoD be interested in learning of any mundane explanations for any of the above sightings?

Sincerely

Section 40

Hessle.

East Yorkshire.

Section 40

03/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Section 40

From: AHB-AHB 2A
Sent: 03 September 2008 11:59
To: DAS-FOI
Cc: AHB-Hd; AHB-PCB
Subject: 2 Sqn Operational Record Book

Section 40

You requested a few lines.

"I regret that, as 2 Squadron were not on operational duty during November 1990 the Operations Record Book entry for this month is not date specific but is merely a summary of Squadron activities. The Freedom of Information Act entitles individuals to have access to information not documentation per se. As the 2 Squadron Operations Record Book for November 1990 contains information which is likely to be irrelevant to you I should be grateful if you would specify what information you are seeking from this document."

Hope this helps. We do not have to supply copies of documents under FOIA and therefore do not need to stipulate an exemption. The Nov entry would also be subject to redaction of names etc in the normal way under DPA provisions.

Regards

Section 40

AHB2RAF1

Section 40



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 18-09-2008-072702-004

Expiry: 16 Oct 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Information on FOI case 06-01-2006-090714-001

Case for release of information

Other than names which are not relevant to the information requested, there is no reason to withhold this information

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... **Section 40**

Date: 18/9/08

Section 40

From: **Section 40**
Sent: 18 September 2008 15:59
To: **Section 40**
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMAYTION REQUEST 18-09-2008-072702-004
Attachments: Caldbeck.pdf

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 18 September 2008 asking for information regarding FOI case number 16-01-2008-090714-001.

I enclose a copy of our response to the request. You will note that names of individuals have been withheld as they are not relevant to the information requested.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H-**Section 40**
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on

18/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

20 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

18/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



Case Number: 16-01-2006-090714-001

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing regarding your request for information concerning an alleged recovery of an unknown object that crash landed near Caldbeck in Cumbria on 4 March 1954. Your request has been treated in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I have been asked to reply because this department is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence concerning unidentified flying objects.

It was generally the case that before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. Since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Any files from the 1950s and early 1960s which did survive are available for examination by members of the public at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU.

Details of what information is available (including an on line catalogue) and how to access information at The National Archives can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. I have viewed the catalogue on your behalf and have been unable to locate any UFO files specifically for 1954. It is therefore likely that if there was any information about this event contained in these early files it has not survived the earlier destruction policy.

I have also made some enquiries regarding RAF aircraft accidents and can confirm that there were no RAF crashes in Cumbria on this date.

I hope this is helpful. If this information does not address your requirements or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact the undersigned in the first instance. Should you remain dissatisfied, then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB.

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ministry of Defence
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
 5th Floor, Zone H, Desk 13
 Main Building
 Whitehall
 LONDON
 SW1A 2HB

e-mail: das-ufo-office@mod.uk31st January 2006

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Section 40
Sent: 18 September 2008 03:59
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: Request PS 18-09-2008-072702-004 Section 40 EXP 16 OCT 08

Dear Sir or Madam,

Under the freedom of information act can you send me all the information you have on Case Number: 16-01-2006-090714-001

Yours faithfully

Section 40

AOL Email goes Mobile! You can now read your AOL Emails whilst on the move.
Sign up for a free AOL Email account with unlimited storage today.

**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 18 September 2008 14:28**To:** 'request-3095-4b8fe574@whatdotheyknow.com'**Subject:** Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 18-09-2008-101325-002Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 18 September 2008 asking for information regarding the recovery of an object that crashed near Caldbeck in Cumbria on 4 March 1954.

Given the length of time since the alleged incident, (over half a century) the Ministry of Defence no longer holds "UFO" files for the year in question. Before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject, "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Files for 1967 to 1984, and any files prior to 1967 which did survive, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

You may also wish to know that in answer to a previous enquiry on the same subject, we were able to determine that we had no record of any RAF aircraft crashing in Cumbria on that date.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-**Section 40**

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public

18/09/2008

Catalogue Reference:defe/24/2449/1

authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

18/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

EXP 16 OCT 08

-----Original Message-----

From: **Section 40** [mailto:request-3095-4b8fe574@whatdotheyknow.com]
Sent: 18 September 2008 04:01
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: Freedom of Information request - Crash PS 18-09-2008-101325-002 **Section 40**

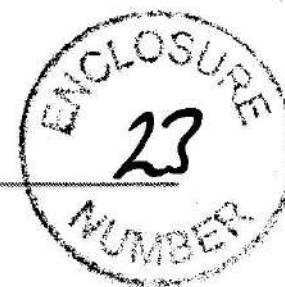
Dear Sir or Madam,

Info on the recovery of an object which crashed near Caldbeck in Cumbria March 4th 1954

Yours faithfully,

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies: <http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/about#officers>

Is info-access-office@mod.uk the wrong address for Freedom of Information requests to Ministry of Defence? If so please let us know by emailing team@whatdotheyknow.com - we'll make sure future ones go to the right place.



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 08 September 2008 14:41

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 08-09-2008-140010-018

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 14 August 2008 asking for the number of UFO reports made over North Yorkshire during the period August 2007-August 2008. Additionally, you asked whether any had been made by members of the North Yorkshire Police Force or members of the county, district or city councils within the area.

Three reports were made during this time on 11th, 12th and 14th July 2008. All three reports were made by the same individual. They did not give their occupation.

You may be interested to know that details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-07 can be found on our website www.mod.uk by searching under UFO reports. Details of reports for 2008 will be published in January 2009.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy

08/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

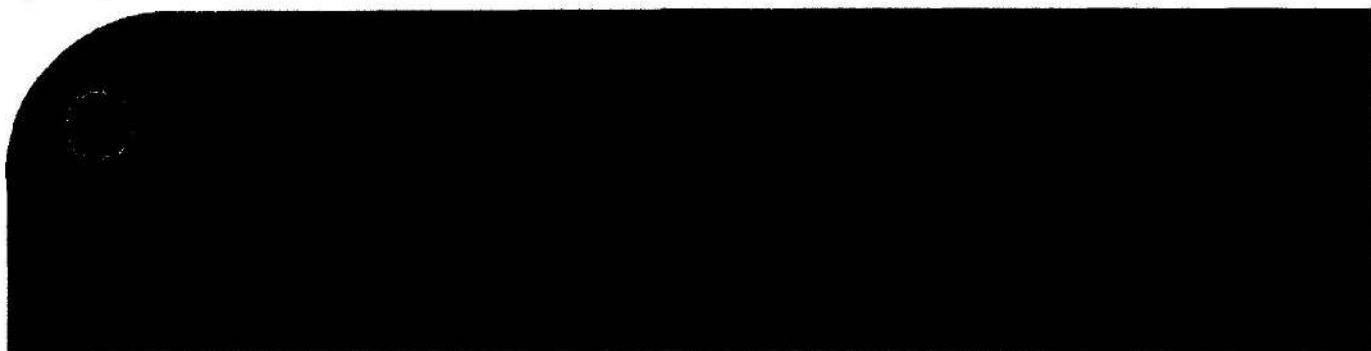
Explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

08/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1



Minster FM PO Box 123 York YO19 5ZX T: 01904 488888 F: 01904 481088
E: mail@minsterfm.com W: www.minsterfm.com

Info Access
6th Floor, Zone E
Main Building
Whitehall
London, SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

DB INFO
4 - SEP 2008
POST-

Minster FM,
4 Chessingham Park,
Dunnington Industrial Estate,
Dunnington,
York,
YO19 5SE

14th August 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'm making a request using the Freedom of Information Act to find out many reported UFO sighting there have been in North Yorkshire in the last 12 months (August 2007 to August 2008).

Specifically we're interested if any of these sighting have been made by members of the North Yorkshire Police Force or members of the county, city or district councils within the area?

If this is the case, we request details of how many members of each organization has reported a sighting and on what dates.

Please send the records through, address to myself, to the address stated at to top of this letter.

Your Sincerely,

Section 40
Senior News Editor (Yorkshire)
Minster FM, York
TEL: Section 40
EMAIL: Section 40

08-09-2008-142010-018

Registered Office: Minster Sound Radio (York) Limited. 11 Duke Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP13 6EE Registered in England No: 3092759





AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 05-09-2008-065646-001 Expiry: 3 Oct 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Information on Peter Horsey and Janus

Information on Rendlesham

Unreleased UFO cases

Copies of Rendlesham File and Cosford docs previously published on MoD website.

Case for release of information

The accurate answering of this request would require the manual checking of some 150 files.

Even by restricting checks to those files most likely to hold the information ie correspondence, PQ's and policy, the costs would be far in excess of the £600 limit;

1 file = 1 hour to read
90 files = 90 hours to read
90 hours @ £25 per hour = £2250

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to cost.

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: **5/9/08**

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 05 September 2008 13:43

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 05-09-2008-092345-002

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 4 September 2008 asking for details of how the Ministry of Defence (MOD) answers Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. Additionally, you asked for information relating to Peter Horseley and Janus, the Rendlesham incident and any more UFO reports we have refrained from releasing. Finally, you asked for copies of two files removed from the MoD publication scheme earlier this year. I assume that you are referring to the file on Rendlesham and documentation on Cosford. If this is incorrect, please let me know.

This e-mail covers the UFO related elements of your request. The FOI related elements will be dealt with as a separate FOI request by another branch

The cost of fully answering the UFO elements of your request is likely to exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. However, that having been said, I am able to provide you with copies of the documents removed from the MoD website with minimal cost to the MoD. My preferred option would be to provide you with a CD as this would save a considerable amount of paper and the electronic files are too large for me to e-mail to you. If you are content with this please let me know.

The Rendlesham incident continues to be of interest to the public. The MoD has a considerable amount of correspondence from members of the public such as yourself asking for information or our opinion of the incident and separating it out from other letters on our correspondence files would be a major task, which we would not be prepared to undertake due to cost. However, the information is due for publication at The National Archives as part of the release programme I mentioned in my e-mail of 5 March 2008, which is already underway. Since I am providing you with a copy of the single dedicated file on the subject, this should provide you with relevant, original, information.

Locating information relating to Peter Horseley and Janus would also require a search of a great many files. However, if you would narrow the time period of two years, I will see if I can find anything.

Details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-2007 can be found on the MoD website by searching under "UFO Reports". Details of sightings for the year 2008 will be placed on the website in January 2009.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has

05/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H- **Section 40**

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

05/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 05 September 2008 09:31
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: FOI written request PS 05-09-2008-092345-002 Section 40

Section 40

We are happy with your proposal. The UFOs part of the request allocated as 05-09-2008-092345-002 and assigned to you.

Regards

Section 40
FOI Helpdesk
Section 40
06-E-Section 40

-----Original Message-----

From: Section 40
Sent: 05 September 2008 09:17
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: FOI written request PS 05-09-2008-092345-002 Section 40

Section 40

Since this is in effect two separate FOI requests under the same number, can I suggest that I write separately or, even better, you actually record it as two separate requests.

Perhaps we can discuss.

Section 40

-----Original Message-----

From: Section 40
Sent: 05 September 2008 06:58
To: Section 40
Cc: Section 40
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 05-09-2008-065646-001 Section 40

Section 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request and obtain some input from DAS.

Regards

Section 40
FOI Helpdesk
Section 40
06-E-02

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]
Sent: 04 September 2008 16:23
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 05-09-2008-065646-001 Section 40

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: Section 40
txtfirstname: Section 40
txtlastname: Section 40
txtoccupation: School

txtaddress1: Section 40
txtaddress2: [REDACTED]
towncity: Maidstone
txtstatecountry: Kent
txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40
txtcountry: UK
txtemailAddress: Section 40
txtinforequest: I would like to request information on how FOI requests are dealt with by the MOD.

this would include information on:

- locating the information
- retrieving the information
- why requests may be turned down

I would also like to request information on the "Peter Horseley and Janus" case aswell as information on the "Rendlesham Forest Incident" and possible causes aswell as any more UFO cases that you have refrained from releasing

i would also like to request for UFO files that have been retracted from the publication scheme between 28 December 2008 and 28 February 2008 which i was able to view before 28 February 2008

thank you



From: **Section 40**
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Maidstone

Section 40

Our Reference
05-09-2008-092345-002
Date
9 September 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Please find enclosed copies of the Cosford documents and Rendlesham file that had previously been on the MoD website.

They have been slightly amended to bring them in line with current MoD practice and therefore they do not exactly match the documents that had been on the website. However, I do not believe these amendments substantially alter the documents. The Rendlesham file contains a number of documents that had not originally appeared on the website. Some personal information such as names addresses etc has been withheld.

You may be interested to know that the file the Cosford documents are taken from is due for transfer The National Archives as part of our transfer programme.

Yours sincerely

Section 40



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 05 September 2008 10:34

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 03-09-2008-070604-003

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 2 September 2008 asking for the release of a file previously on the Ministry of Defence (MoD) website with a title along the lines of "working report". Additionally, you also asked for information on the amount of control the UK government has over people's computers and what they can monitor.

It is not altogether clear from your e-mail what document you were looking for on the MoD website. However, there are two that may fit the bill. The first is entitled "*Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) in the UK Air Defence Region*" and the second "*Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) Flying Saucer Working Party Report No 7*". Both are still available on the MoD website www.mod.uk by searching under those titles in the Publication Scheme.

Turning to the matter of government control of people's computers, this is a matter for the Home Office to answer. They can be contacted at their website www.homeoffice.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will

05/09/2008

Catalogue Reference:de/24/2449/1

only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

05/09/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]
Sent: 02 September 2008 21:45
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 03-09-2008-070604-003 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**
txtfirstname: **Section 40**
txtlastname: **Section 40**
txtoccupation: School
txtaddress1: **Section 40**
txtaddress2: **Section 40**
txttowncity: Maidstone
txtstatecountry: Kent
txtzipcodepostcode: **Section 40**
txtcountry: UK
txtemailAddress: **Section 40**
txtinforequest: hi, i have seen on this website before a large collection of files which made up a very large report (i think it may have been titled something along the lines of "working report" or something similar.) it must have been about well over 200 or 300 pages long.

however i cannot find these documents on your website when i search for it.

it was a full investigation into flying phenomena and i saved all of these files as PDFs.
i now cannot find them on my computer, and there is no way i would have deleted them (even accidentally) as i saved them in two separate folders and they would still be in the recycle bin if i had accidentally deleted them.

My FOI request is for the release of the UFO report that was previously available on your website.

I would also like information on the amount of control the MOD and the UK government have over peoples computers and what they can monitor and do on them remotely (deleting documents etc.)



Direct Communications Unit
2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
Switchboard 020 7035 4848 Fax: 020 7035 4745 Textphone: 020 7035 4742
E-mail: public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk Website: www.homeoffice.gov.uk

Section 40 [REDACTED]

Section 40 [REDACTED]

FOI written request PS 03-09-2008-070604-003

Reference: T19752/8

4 September 2008

Dear **Section 40** [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 3 September about a contribution for a Freedom of Information (FOI) request.

As this is an FOI request, please reply to the correspondent stating that in relation to the control government has over citizens' computers, we do not hold the information and you may wish to try the Home Office.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [REDACTED]

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 03 September 2008 10:27
To: 'public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk'
Subject: Release-authorized: FOI written request PS 03-09-2008-070604-003

I have received an FOI request from a member of the public which is shown below. I have removed the individuals name and address for data protection reasons.

The gentleman is asking for copies of UFO material that he had previously downloaded from our website, but is now unable to locate. Whilst his request is not clear, I believe I have a fairly good idea what documents he is talking about and can answer this part of his request quite easily.

I suspect that the inference from the second half of his request, is that the government has hacked into his computer to delete these UFO documents. Since the MoD put the documents on its website in the first place, I think the logic is slightly awry.

I am, however, not in a position to answer his query regarding the amount of control the government has over citizens computers.

Are you able to provide a draft paragraph or two that I can add to my response.

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

txtinforequest: hi, i have seen on this website before a large collection of files which made up a very large report (i think it may have been titled something along the lines of "working report" or something similar.) it must have been about well over 200 or 300 pages long.

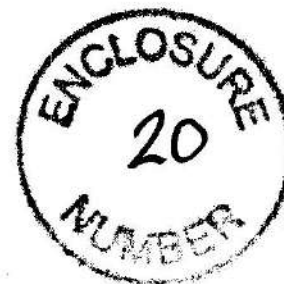
however i cannot find these documents on your website when i search for it.

it was a full investigation into flying phenomena and i saved all of these files as PDFs.

i now cannot find them on my computer, and there is no way i would have deleted them (even accidentally) as i saved them in two separate folders and they would still be in the recycle bin if i had accidentally deleted them.

My FOI request is for the release of the UFO report that was previously available on your website.

I would also like information on the amount of control the MOD and the UK government have over peoples computers and what they can monitor and do on them remotely (deleting documents etc.)



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 06-08-2008-150240-005

Expiry: 2 Sep 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Have MoD received sighting report similar to requesters own sighting

Have there been instances of military aircraft being wrongly identified as UFOs

Case for release of information

The accurate answering of this request would require the manual checking of some 150 files.

Even by restricting checks to those files most likely to hold the information, the costs would be far in excess of the £600 limit;

1 file = 1 hour to read
77 files = 77 hours to read
77 hours @ £25 per hour = £1925

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: **6/8/08**

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 06 August 2008 15:20

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 4 August 2008 asking whether the MoD had any instances of a UFO sighting similar to the one experienced by yourself. Additionally, you asked whether there had been instances of misidentified military aircraft being taken for UFOs. As you are asking for specific data, your e-mail is being treated as a Freedom of information request.

The MoD holds some 150 files on the subject of UFOs covering the period 1987 to the present day. Accurately answering both parts of your question would involve manually checking them, the cost of which would far exceed the £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and, as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request.

That having been said, details of UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available via our website www.mod.uk by searching under "*UFO reports*" and this may provide you with much of the information you request.

You may also wish to know that MoD files were routinely destroyed after five years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. Further, the MoD has recently started a 3 year programme to transfer files covering the period 1979-2007 to The National Archives where they will be available for viewing on their website. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed the internet at: www.mod.uk, by searching under UFO reports.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

I must however, correct the impression I inadvertently gave you that the MoD in anyway confirms the statistic that 95% of UFO sightings can be adequately explained. We simply do not attempt to explain the vast majority of UFO reports and therefore for the MoD, the figure has no basis in statistical fact. Clearly we are unable to comment on statistics produced by organisations outside the

06/08/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

MoD.

I am sorry I was unable to be more helpful.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-**Section 40**

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

06/08/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Section 40

06-08-2008-15240-005
Exl 2 Sep 08

From: Section 40
Sent: 04 August 2008 20:12
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your prompt reply and for addressing my questions; specifically the MoD appears to not consider UAPs a threat to national security unless an external 'military' source can be evidenced, your responses were indeed helpful.

You indicated that it would be helpful for me to identify where I got the 95% statistic from, you mentioned that you have heard this statistic in the media and on the Internet and I can confirm that this is indeed where I was drawing the statistics from, as I believed it was common knowledge. I have not been privy to any form of statistical analysis from the MoD themselves and would therefore apologise if my questions led you to believe otherwise. However, you state with a degree of certainty that based on experience this figure would appear to be reasonably accurate so I would ask that of the 5% that may have been investigated by the MoD, is there any instances of similarity between them and my own account and, if so, would there be any evidence of misidentified 'military' craft that appear so unusual as to provoke wild claims but which may have a distinctly terrestrial source?

With regard to my second question, you asked if the sighting mentioned in my initial email was hypothetical. May I take this opportunity to state that this was an actual sighting witnessed by myself and my son in July/August 2005 in East Kilbride, Glasgow, Scotland. I did consider this sighting highly unusual and given the nature of the craft, metallic and able to hover against the wind, I assumed, maybe incorrectly, that it was military in nature although there was absolutely no sound of engines or any other form of propulsion. I was unable to capture any evidence of the craft such as photographs, although I am a reasonably intelligent person I was able to reproduce a model of the craft with 3D modelling software, and should such an image be helpful in identification I can, if required, forward you a copy of the image.

Since the sighting I had conducted my own rudimentary investigation, querying blimp and balloon suppliers in the UK, however in conclusion I was overwhelmingly left with the impression by these businesses that noiseless blimps are not capable of hovering un-tethered in the wind, although only 2 out of 3 of the suppliers I contacted responded to my queries.

Given the above account I'm not sure as to whether I should consider the incident a threat, and given that the MoD may not be able to control the behaviour of this and other similar types of unknown craft it may be prudent to consider it a threat and it is from this point of view I was initially seeking clarification from the MoD.

Kindest Regards,

Section 40

From: Section 40 [redacted]@mod.uk]
Sent: 04 August 2008 11:36 AM
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 3 August 2008. You raised a number of issues that I will deal with in order.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace

05/08/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

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.

It would be helpful if you would identify where the statistic that "95% of sightings are mundane misidentifications" came from. Although I have seen this statistic mentioned in the media and on the internet, I am unaware of any MoD survey or statistical analysis that came to this conclusion. It would however, be reasonable to state, albeit based on experience rather than statistical analysis, that something in the region of 95% of UFO sightings reported to the MoD are simply never investigated and therefore no conclusions can be drawn from them.

Turning to your second question regarding (I assume a hypothetical?) sighting of a "metallic UAP" some 500ft in the air with associated missing time and memories of strange beings, is that given the above policy, it is not necessarily the MoD's function to investigate the matter or, indeed, to make any conclusion as to whether it was a threat to the individual that saw it.

Finally, you asked what specifically would constitute a threat to UK national security from a UAP. It is not possible to provide you with an all encompassing definition of what constitutes a threat to national security from a UAP. If we were to investigate an incident, it would have to be judged on a case by case basis.

I am sorry I could not be more helpful.

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H-**Section 40**
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

05/08/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 09-07-2008-092845-001 Expiry: 6 Aug 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Details of UFO sightings over last 12 months or since Dec 06

Case for release of information

The information requested is due for release in January 2009 and therefore should be withheld under exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication).

PIT is included with response

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date: **6/8/08**

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 06 August 2008 09:24

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-07-2008-092845-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 8 July 2008 asking for details of all UFO reports in the past 12 months or since December 2006.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence has no expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, about which it remains totally open-minded. The MOD examines any reports of sightings solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance. The MOD's only concern therefore, is to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

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

Details of UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available for viewing on the MoD website at www.mod.uk by searching under *UFO Reports*. Reports for the year 2008 will be published in the same place in January 2009 and therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the MoD are not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

This is not the end of the matter however, of course; exemption 22 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MoD must assess the balance of the public interest in release of the information which is outlined below.

Whilst there is undoubtedly public interest in details of sightings being released to the public, there is no overriding reason why the public should have that information immediately. It is part of the effective administration of government that the publication of information is planned and managed within the department responsible. Details of UFO sightings are of great interest to researchers and writers. By placing the information on the MoD website in January 2009, all interested parties receive the information at the same time, which ensures no one has any particular advantage over their competitors.

However, you may be interested to know that so far this year, the MoD has received some 150 reports of UFOs.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

06/08/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H-**Section 40**
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

06/08/2008

Catalogue Reference:defe/24/2449/1

-----Original Message-----

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]

Sent: 08 July 2008 19:03

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI Written Request 09-07-2008-092845-001 **Section 40**

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, July 8, 2008 at 19:02:48

firstname: **Section 40**

lastname: **Section 40**

occupation: Journalist

org/company: The Sun

address1: 1 Virginia Street

towncity: London

postzipcode: E98 1SN

country: UK

e-mail: **Section 40**

telephone: **Section 40**

informationrequest: Dear Sirs,
Please could you provide details (eg, dates, locations, descriptions) of all UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) reported to the MOD in the past 12 months. Or since December 2006.

Thank you.

Section 40

The Sun

submit: Send Form

Section 40**From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 04 August 2008 16:04**To:** **Section 40****Subject:** Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 04-08-2008-145454-005Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 4 August 2008 asking for any files and documents on the alleged UFO sighting by a Vulcan aircraft over the Bay of Biscay on 26 May 1977.

Any documents pertaining to this incident would be contained in our UFO files for that period which have now been passed to The National Archives who can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-I **Section 40**

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

04/08/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 04 August 2008 10:17

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI written request PS 04-08-2008-145454-005 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname:

txtaddress1: Lincolnshire Echo

txtaddress2: Brayford Wharf East

txttowncity: Lincoln

txtstatecountry: Lincolnshire

txtzipcodepostcode: LN5 7AT

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: **Section 40**

txttelephone: **Section 40**

txtinforequest: Please can I have all files and documents relating to reports of sightings sent to RAF Scampton by the crew of a Vulcan bomber on exercise over the Bay of Biscay early on 26 May 1977?

The reports have already been released to the Observer, but the press office have failed to hand these on to my paper despite them already being in the public domain.



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40** [redacted]

Case Number: 30-07-2008-114223-003 Expiry: 28 Aug 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

- 1. Details of UFO sightings over Co Tyrone 1958-2008
- 2. Is there a department and experts dealing with UFOs

Case for release of information

The cost of checking files for sighting reports likely to exceed £600

A full search would require checking all files. A search of the files most likely to contain the information would still involve half the MoD files on the subject.

1 file = 1 hour to read
 77 files = 77 hours to read
 77 hrs @ £25 = £1925

However, MoD position on UFOs can be released.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40** [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40** [redacted]

Date: **31/7/08**

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 31 July 2008 15:10

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 30-07-2008-114223-003

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 July 2008 asking for details of UFO sightings in Co Tyrone for the period 1958-2008. Additionally, you asked whether the MoD had a specific department or set of experts on UFOs.

The MoD holds some 150 files on the subject of UFOs covering the period 1987 to the present day. Accurately answering your question regarding UFO sightings would involve manually checking them, the cost of which would far exceed the £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and, as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request.

That having been said, details of UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available via our website www.mod.uk by searching under "*UFO reports*" and this may provide you with much of the information you request.

You may also wish to know that MoD files were routinely destroyed after five years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. Further, the MoD has recently started a 3 year programme to transfer files covering the period 1979-2007 to The National Archives where they will be available for viewing on their website. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed the internet at: www.mod.uk, by searching under UFO reports.

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

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

To describe the MoD as having a department that deals with UFOs is rather misleading as I suspect it gives the impression of a large organisation within the MoD dedicated to research into UFO matters and extra-terrestrials. There are only two posts within the MoD (including mine) that are dedicated to UFO matters. Although the overwhelming majority of the UFO work in these two posts involves (and has for decades) answering correspondence from the public or recording sightings reported to the MoD, we do on occasion investigate reports. This usually involves liaising with air defence specialists (e.g. radar specialists) on perhaps half a dozen reports per year. These will generally be

31/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

sightings made by aircrew, members of the armed forces or the police. We do not do field investigations.

You have asked if the MoD has experts on UFO matters. We have a great many specialists on air defence and scientific matters who can be consulted if we decide to investigate a UFO report. However, whilst incumbents of the two posts to which I referred will by default gain a level of knowledge on the subject of UFOs and Ufology, "*UFO expert*" is a term I would wish to avoid. We have no official definition for the term and to use it in any but the loosest manner might be to overstate our position.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

I am sorry I was unable to be more helpful.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-**Section 40**

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

31/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

-----Original Message-----

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]

Sent: 29 July 2008 12:49

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI written request 30-07-2008-114223-003 **Section 40**

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: Dungannon

txtstatecountry: Tyrone

txtzipcodepostcode: **Section 40**

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: **Section 40**

txtinforequest: Recently I have become greatly concerned about the possible presence of UFOs in Co Tyrone, where I live. I therefore wish to apply for the following information, in line with the 2000 Freedom of Information Act:

- A full list of all sightings of UFOs recorded by the MoD in Co Tyrone during the last 50 years (ie 1958-2008), including the time, date, location, and description of each object.
- The MoD's protocol for dealing with reports of UFOs.

You can contact me through email on: **Section 40**

This enquirer wishes to thank the MoD for considering this request.

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 31 July 2008 12:37
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 30-07-2008-114223-003

Dear Section 40
Thank you for your prompt reply and apologies for the confusion my request has caused.
I was enquiring about how the MoD deals with sightings of UFOs, for example is there a specific department or set of experts on this matter, or does the MoD even agree that UFOs may exist?
Regards,

Section 40

Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 30-07-2008-114223-003
Date: Thu, 31 Jul 2008 11:12:00 +0100
From: Section 40 @mod.uk
To: Section 40

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 July 2008.

You have asked for the MoD protocol for dealing with reports of UFOs. I am not certain exactly what you mean by this. Are you looking for a formal set of regulations or a description of how we deal with UFO reports?

If you could clarify this element of your request, I should be able to respond to you in full quite quickly.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Get fish-slapping on Messenger! [Play Now](#)

31/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 24-07-2008-092121-001

Expiry: 22 Aug 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

All documentation on Cosford Incident

Case for release of information

File is due for release later this year to TNA. Therefore exemption s.22 applies.

PIT included in response

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: *B2* Name:..... **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... **Section 40**

Date:..... *30/7/08*

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 30 July 2008 10:12

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 24-07-2008-092121-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 July 2008 asking for documents on the sightings over RAF Cosford on 30-31 March 1993.

The MoD file on this matter, D/Sec(AS)/12/7 Part A, is one of the files the MoD will be transferring to The National Archives as part of a programme to transfer some 160 files covering the period 1978-2007. It is not possible to state when the file will actually be transferred, but it is expected it will be within the next 12 months. Therefore, under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication) the MoD is not obliged to provide you with the information you requested.

This is not the end of the matter, of course; section 22 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MOD must assess the balance of public interest in release of the information.

Whilst there is undoubtedly public interest in this file being released to the public as it will enable them to have a more informed view of the MoD's role in this incident, there is no overriding reason why the public should have the information immediately. Indeed it could be argued, that by releasing files in chronological order, the public will be able to follow the role of the MoD in a more logical and orderly fashion, and to view actions in their correct historical perspective.

It is part of effective administration of government that the publication of information is planned and managed within the department responsible. The release of this file will undermine this release process, and delay the release of other files (which other members of the public may be waiting for) as work on them would necessarily have to be put off.

Finally, the release programme itself is complicated and the release of files out of sequence will result in unnecessary confusion for the MoD, The National Archives and, indeed, the public when they are attempting to track files once they are transferred.

It is for these reasons that we do not believe it would be in the public interest to release this file at this moment. That having been said, I can provide you with a great many of the documents that have appeared on the file as they have previously been placed on the MoD internet sight, although for copyright reasons, they have now been withdrawn. If you would like to see these documents, I can arrange for them to be forwarded to you, although it would be helpful if you would indicate whether you require a paper or electronic version.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has

30/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk> <<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>> ."

I am sorry I could not be of more assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H **Section 40**
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

30/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Section 40

24-07-2008-092121-001
EXP 22 AUG 08

From: Section 40
Sent: 23 July 2008 21:53
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: ufo cosford incident march 1993 publication documents

please can you send me all documentation available on this incident under the freedom of information act. i witnessed an event a few hours prior to this just north of shrewsbury which is linked with this, and im about to go public with it.
i appreciate your time, many thanks.

Section 40

shrewsbury,
shropshire,

Section 40

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24/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1



From: **Section 40**
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Shrewsbury
Shropshire

Section 40

Our Reference
24-07-2008-092121-001

Date

30 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Further to your e-mail of 30 July 2008, I enclose a disk containing the Cosford documents that had previously appeared on the MoD website.

Some personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers etc was withheld. You will notice that whilst most of the information withheld has been blacked out manually with a marker pen, some has clearly been blacked out electronically. These are amendments to bring the documents into line with current MoD practice and therefore the documents do not exactly match those that appeared on the website. That having been said, I do not believe that these amendments substantially alter the documents.

I hope they are helpful to you.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40
 Sent: 30 July 2008 11:36
 To: Section 40
 Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 24-07-2008-092121-001

Thank you for your response and i would be grateful if you could forward the mentioned documents in paper form. I fully understand the situation as my report is yet unreported officially and would shed more light on the incident considerably. Thanks for your time.

-----Original Message-----

From: Section 40 @mod.uk>
 Sent: 7/30/2008 9:12:26 AM
 To: Section 40
 Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 24-07-2008-092121-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 July 2008 asking for documents on the sightings over RAF Cosford on 30-31 March 1993.

The MoD file on this matter, D/Sec(AS)/12/7 Part A, is one of the files the MoD will be transferring to The National Archives as part of a programme to transfer some 160 files covering the period 1978-2007. It is not possible to state when the file will actually be transferred, but it is expected it will be within the next 12 months. Therefore, under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication) the MoD is not obliged to provide you with the information you requested.

This is not the end of the matter, of course; section 22 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MOD must assess the balance of public interest in release of the information.

Whilst there is undoubtedly public interest in this file being released to the public as it will enable them to have a more informed view of the MoD's role in this incident, there is no overriding reason why the public should have the information immediately. Indeed it could be argued, that by releasing files in chronological order, the public will be able to follow the role of the MoD in a more logical and orderly fashion, and to view actions in their correct historical perspective.

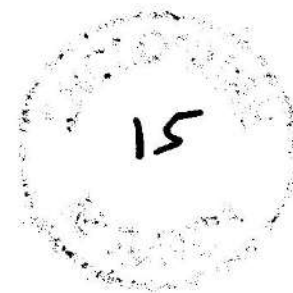
It is part of effective administration of government that the publication of information is planned and managed within the department responsible. The release of this file will undermine this release process, and delay the release of other files (which other members of the public may be waiting for) as work on them would necessarily have to be put off.

Finally, the release programme itself is complicated and the release of files out of sequence will result in unnecessary confusion for the MoD, The National Archives and, indeed, the public when they are attempting to track files once they are transferred.

It is for these reasons that we do not believe it would be in the public interest to release this file at this moment. That having been said, I can provide you with a



From: **Section 40**
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

90-336 Lodz,
 Poland

Our Reference
 28-07-2008-113105-002

Date

28 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 July 2008 asking for a copy of documents on the Cosford Incident that had previously been available on the MoD website. They are enclosed. You also asked for copies of UFO documents or reports.

Some personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers etc has been withheld from the Cosford documents as they are not directly relevant to your request. You will notice that whilst most of the information withheld has been blacked out manually with a marker pen, some has clearly been blacked out electronically. These are amendments to bring the documents into line with current MoD practice and therefore the documents do not exactly match those that appeared on the website. That having been said, I do not believe that these amendments substantially alter the documents.

You may wish to know that the original file that these documents were drawn from is one of 160 due for transfer to The National Archives as part of the three year programme that has recently been featured in the UK media. It is not possible to give a date for when it will be transferred, but I hope it will be before the end of the year.

The MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed after five years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>, by searching under UFO reports.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall,

SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>."

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

COPY OF JISK
HELJ AT JAS-FOE

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 28 July 2008 11:49
To: Section 40
Subject: Re: COSFORD DOCUMENTS

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much. My mailbox is quite big and I think it would handle a big file. But a "traditional" way of delivering is fine for me as well. My address is:

Section 40

90-336 Lodz
Poland

I'm writing a thesis about British security and UFO (based on documents and facts only) so if you have any documents or reports related UFO issue (or what would be the best - some drawings or photographs taken for example by MoD) please send it as well.

Kindly regards

Section 40
University of Lodz

----- Original Message -----

From: Section 40
To: Section 40
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2008 12:38 PM
Subject: COSFORD DOCUMENTS

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 26 July 2008 asking for the documents on the so called Cosford incident.

I am happy to provide these, but am unable to e-mail them to you as they are too big. If you provide me with your postal address, I can forward you a disk. Alternatively, you are entitled to a paper copy.

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

28/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Section 40

28.07.2008-107105-002
EX/ 27 AUG 08

From: Section 40
Sent: 26 July 2008 23:27
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Document request

Dear Sirs,

I found an information about document titled "Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) Cosford Incident 1993":

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme/SearchPublicationScheme/UnidentifiedFlyingObjectsufoCosfordIncident1993.htm>

As it is stated, document is available on request. If it is possible, I would like to kindly request it for my academic research at University of Lodz.

Thank you very much in advance.

Section 40

University of Lodz



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 15-07-2008-080805-001 Expiry: 13 Aug 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

- 1. Details of UFO sightings over last 12 months
- 2. Details of paranormal incidents over last 12 months

Case for release of information

UFO details for 2008 to date are withheld under exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication). A PTI is included in the letter as no major principles are involved.

Applicant has been asked to define "paranormal"

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... **Section 40**

Date: 23/7/08

NOTE: CLARIFICATION NOT RECEIVED. THEREFORE CLOSED ON 10 NOV 08

Section 40 *JAS-GE*

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 23 July 2008 15:12

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 15-07-2008-080805-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 14 July 2008 asking to see our files on UFO sightings and paranormal incidents that have been reported to the MoD over the last 12 months.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence has no expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, about which it remains totally open-minded. The MOD examines any reports of sightings solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance. The MOD's only concern therefore, is to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

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

Details of UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available for viewing on the MoD website at www.mod.uk by searching under *UFO Reports*. Reports for the year 2008 will be published in the same place in January 2009 and therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the MoD are not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

This is not the end of the matter however, of course; exemption 22 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MoD must assess the balance of the public interest in release of the information which is outlined below.

Whilst there is undoubtedly public interest in details of sightings being released to the public, there is no overriding reason why the public should have that information immediately. It is part of the effective administration of government that the publication of information is planned and managed within the department responsible. Details of UFO sightings are of great interest to researchers and writers. By placing the information on the MoD website in January, all interested parties receive the information at the same time, which ensures no one has any particular advantage over their competitors.

Turning to the matter of paranormal sightings, it would be helpful if you would explain what you mean by the term, as I suspect it means different things to different people. If you can state what exactly you are looking for, I can check our correspondence files to see if we have anything that fits the bill.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the

23/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H **Section 40**

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

23/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

EXP 13 AUG 08

-----Original Message-----

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]

Sent: 14 July 2008 19:36

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI Written Request PS 15-07-2008-080805-001 **Section 40**

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, July 14, 2008 at 19:36:26

firstname: **Section 40**

lastname: **Section 40**

address1: **Section 40**

address2: **Section 40**

towncity: London

postzipcode: **Section 40**

country: UK

e-mail: **Section 40**

telephone: **Section 40**

informationrequest: To Whom it may concern,

Please could I view the files on all of the UFO sightings and unexplained paranormal incidents that have been reported to the MOD over the past 12 months.

Many thanks

Section 40

submit: Send Form



05-03-2008-111346-001

EXP 3 APR 08

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 04 March 2008 16:32
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: UFO incident, Cosford March 1993

To whom it may concern.

If possible I would like to see the above report, when going to view it on the mod site it states that its been removed for copyright reasons.

Sincerely

Section 40

CLOSED 24 JUL 08
CLARIFICATION
NEVER REVIEWED

DAS-FSI

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 26 March 2008 11:48

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: UFO INCIDENT - COSFORD MARCH 1993

Dear Section 40

Your e-mail of 4 March asked to see the Cosford documents that had previously been held on the MoD website but which had recently been removed.

I am unable to send them electronically due to their size, however, if you provide me with a postal address I will forward them in hard copy.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

31/03/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

ENCLOSURE
12
NUMBER



From: **Section 40**
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Our Reference
06-03-2008-152201-006

Date
3 April 2008

Newcastle upon Tyne

Section 40

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 5 March 2008 asking for a copy of any and all files held on the Rendlesham UFO incident.

The MoD only has one file on the Rendlesham incident, D/Sec(AS)12/2/1, which appears to be a compilation file created some considerable time after the event, and which is currently being prepared for release to The National Archive. However, I should be in a position to send you a copy of the file in the very near future. You have not specified whether you want a hard (paper) copy or an electronic (PDF) version which can be provided on CD. I am afraid that due to the size of the document, I am unable to e-mail it to you.

If you would let me know what format you would like the information in, I should be grateful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

CLOSED 24 JUL 08
CLARIFICATION NEVER
RECEIVED

DAS - FOI

EXP L APR 08

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 06 March 2008 15:23
To: Section 40
Subject: FW: FOI written request 06-03-2008-152201-006 Section 40

Categories: FOI Information Request

Can you take?

Section 40

Info-AccessOps5

Section 40

Main Building

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 05 March 2008 18:32
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 06-03-2008-152201-006 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at 18:32:22

txttitle Section 40
txtfirstname: Section 40
txtlastname:
txtaddress1:
txtaddress2:
txttowncity: Newcastle Upon Tyne
txtstatecountry: Tyne & Wear
txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40
txtcountry: United Kingdom
txtinforequest: Please could you send me a copy of any and all files held on the rendlesham UFO incident.
Thanks



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 23 July 2008 12:59

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-07-2008-153423-008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 6 July 2008 asking for copies of documents mentioning the UFO sightings on 7th June 2008 over Tern Hill barracks and 8th June 2008 involving the a police helicopter. Additionally, you asked for copies of any other UFO reports sent for those dates. Finally, you asked for a copy of current material held by the MoD press office relating to UFOs.

I believe that my previous responses to you on 10, 11 and 17 July 2008 have provided you with the relevant MoD documentation on both the Tern Hill and Cardiff police helicopter incidents.

Turning to your request for material held by the press office, it is as follows:

The MoD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported.

If the press office requires more specific information, they will ask for it.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

I hope this is helpful.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent

23/07/2008

● evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

23/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 09 July 2008 15:48
To: Section 40
Subject: Press Office UFO Statement

Hi Section 40

As discussed, this is what we send out and inform the journalists that it is attributable to MOD Spokesperson:

"The MoD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported."

Thanks

Section 40

Press Officer – Policy Desk
Ministry of Defence

Tel: Section 40
Mob:
Mil:

Section 40 @mod.uk

09/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

UFO DATA

www.ufodata.co.uk

Section 40
Leeds Section 40
Tel: Section 40

09-07-2008-157427-008
Exp: 7 N6 08

Please reply to: Section 40 Pontefract, West Yorkshire,
Section 40
Tele: Section 40 Email Section 40

Date: 6th July 2008.

Dear Sir,

This is a freedom of information act request. I request that you send me copies of any documents (paper or electronic) that mention the UFO sightings on 7th June over Tern Hill barracks and 8th June, involving the crew of a police helicopter unidentified aircraft). I request copies also of any other UFO sightings reported to you on the dates in question.

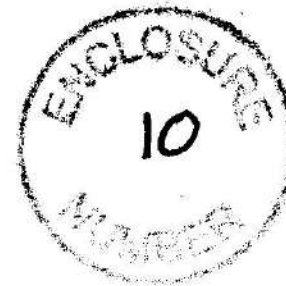
I request that you send me a copy of the current material held by the MoD press office relating to UFOs, which press officers refer to in their dealings with the media.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40
Features Editor.

DAS
2008 JUL 10 11:52
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 22-07~~5~~-2008-175323-005 Expiry: 19 Aug 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. Any and all info on Rudloe Manor including operations research and activities
2. Rudloe Manor UFO related work and research
3. US Project Luna
4. Non Terrestrial officers (I think this means do we have any extra-terrestrials working for the MoD)
5. Information on Gary McKinnon

Case for release of information

Request is far too inexact and would exceed £600

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: *B2* Name:..... **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... **Section 40**

Date:..... *23/7/08*

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 23 July 2008 10:07

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 22-07-2008-175323-005

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 22 July asking for any and all information regarding Rudloe Manor. You include any and all information regarding to operations, research and activities carried out there. Additionally you request any and all information regarding Rudloe Manor and its relationship to UFO activity and UFO tracking, logging and research. You request any information you have regarding the US secret project titled LUNA, non-terrestrial officers and an individual named Gary McKinnon, currently facing extradition to the US.

Answering your request would far exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and, as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. Your request covers a number of different topics. If you could limit your request to one specific item, I may be able to help. I would also advise you to limit the scope of your request to a specific and shorter time period such as two years.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy

23/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

23/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

-----Original Message-----

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]

Sent: 22 July 2008 18:23

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI Written Request 22-07-2008-175323-005 **Section 40**

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 at 18:23:21

firstname: **Section 40**

lastname: **Section 40**

occupation: Journalist

address1: **Section 40**

address2: **Section 40**

towncity: London

statecounty: London

postzipcode: **Section 40**

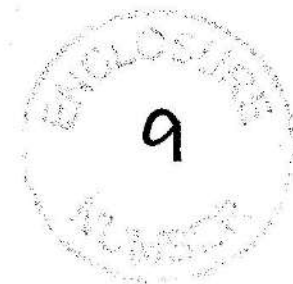
country: UK

e-mail: **Section 40**

informationrequest: I hereby request any and all information regarding Rudloe Manor. This includes any and all information regarding to operations, research and activities carried out there. I would also request any and all information regarding Rudloe Manor and its relationship to UFO activity and UFO tracking, logging and research. I would also request any information you have regarding the US secret project titled LUNA. I would also request any information you have on non-terrestrial officers. I would also request any information yo may have on an individual named Gary McKinnon, currently facing extradition to the US.

Thank you

submit: Send Form



From **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Santa Monica,
 CA 90404
 USA

Our Reference
 21-07-2008-092511-001

Date

21 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 18 July 2008 asking for a copy of documents on the Cosford Incident that had previously been available on the MoD website, which I enclose.

Some personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers etc has been withheld as they are not directly relevant to the information requested. You will notice that whilst most of the information withheld has been blacked out manually with a marker pen, some has clearly been blacked out electronically. These are amendments to bring the documents into line with current MoD practice and therefore the documents do not exactly match those that appeared on the website. That having been said, I do not believe that these amendments substantially alter the documents.

You may also wish to know that the original file that these documents were drawn from is one of 160 due for transfer to The National Archives as part of the three year programme that has recently been featured in the UK media.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>."

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

*copy of disk held
 by SAS-FOI*

Section 40

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

*If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on **Section 40** to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 21 July 2008 17:11
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - COSFORD DOCUMENTS

Address:
Section 40
MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION, INC.
Section 40
Santa Monica, CA 90404 USA

Best

Section 40
MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION, INC.
Section 40
Santa Monica, CA 90404
(O) Section 40
(F) Section 40
www.motionpictureprod.com

From: Section 40 @mod.uk]
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2008 5:58 AM
To: Section 40
Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - COSFORD DOCUMENTS

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 18 July 2008 asking for copies of documents on the Cosford Incident.

I am afraid that I am unable to e-mail you the documents you have asked for (they are too big), but I can provide you with them on disk if you would confirm your postal address.

Section 40
DAS-FOI
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

22/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

document request

Page 1 of 1

Section 40

~~21-07-2008~~ 21-07-2008-092511-001
18 AUG 08

From: Section 40
Sent: 18 July 2008 01:25
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: document request

I would like a copy via email of the following:

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme/SearchPublicationSc>

Best,

Section 40

MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION, INC.

Section 40

Santa Monica, CA 90404

(O) Section 40

(F)

www.motionpictureprod.com

21/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone	(Direct dial)	020 7218 2140
	(Switchboard)	020 7218 9000
	(Fax)	Section 40
e-mail	das-ufo-office@mod.uk	

Section 40

Pontefract
 West Yorkshire

Section 40

Our Reference
 01-07-2008-161311-003

Date

17 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 June 2008 asking for all documentation relating any unidentified aircraft for 7-8 June 2008. Additionally, you asked for any material held by Tern Hill on the 7 June sighting and any material sent between this office, the MoD press office and Ministers.

The MoD does not attempt to identify all flying within the UK and as I stated in my e-mail of 27 June 2008, does not record Air Traffic Control itself. Again, I suggest you contact the CAA.

My letter of 10 July has provided you with copies of documents held by Tern Hill on the UFO sighting on 7 June 2008 which was passed to this office in order for us to answer your Freedom of Information request 01-07-2008-131609-002. It also includes press office and Minister's Offices documents on the subject.

I enclose copies of documents relating to UFO reports for 7-8 June 2008. This includes the alleged sighting near Cardiff on 8 June 2008. You may wish to be aware that the MoD has not received a copy of any report on that particular incident. You will note that some personnel information such as names and telephone numbers, have been withheld as they are not directly relevant to your request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk> <<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>> ."

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

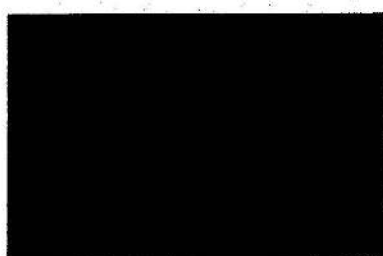


From: [REDACTED]
 Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial)
 (Switchboard)
 (Fax) [REDACTED]



Your Reference:

Our Reference:

D/DAS/64/2

Date:

17 June 2008

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing with reference to your report of an 'unidentified flying object', seen on 7 June 2008, the details of which you passed to the MOD by e.mail. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFOs.'

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

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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 to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, 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.

With regard to your particular observation, I can confirm that we received no other reports of 'UFO' sightings for 7 June 2008 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 aircraft.

Sorry I could not be any help.

Yours sincerely



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

L

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 June 2008 15:18
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 16-06-2008-151317-006 Section 40
Categories: FOI Information Request

[REDACTED]
Can you answer this as a normal sighting report. It does not need to be a FOI response.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 June 2008 15:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 16-06-2008-151317-006 [REDACTED]

Can you take?

[REDACTED]
Info-AccessOps5

Main Building

-----Original Message-----

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 13 June 2008 18:43
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 16-06-2008-151317-006 [REDACTED]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, June 13, 2008 at 18:42:46

txttitle: [REDACTED]
txtfirstname: [REDACTED]
txtlastname: [REDACTED]
txtaddress1: [REDACTED]
txtaddress2: [REDACTED]
txttowncity: [REDACTED]
txtstatecountry: [REDACTED]
txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED]
txtcountry: [REDACTED]
txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

txttelephone: [REDACTED]

inforequest: Not sure whether this is the correct email address to use, but my partner and I saw a very strange object in the sky over Croydon on 07/06/08 at just before 11pm. We continued to watch it for several minutes before it flew off. It did not behave like a conventional aircraft. I have photos which look disturbingly like objects described in your "UFO" reports. We are intrigued to know what it might be.

Regards

[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 June 2008 15:26
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Release-Authorised: UFO Sighting.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing with reference to your report of an 'unidentified flying object', seen on 7 June 2008, the details of which you passed to the MOD by e.mail. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFO's.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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 to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, 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.

With regard to your particular observation, I can confirm that we received one other report of a UFO sighting for the 7 June 2008, and that was from South Norwood in London. We are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised aircraft.

Sorry I could not be any help.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

18/06/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Safety Regulation Group

with compliments

Please find enclosed a report
of a UFO sighting.

Kind regards



Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House Gatwick Airport South West Sussex RH6 0YR
www.srg.caa.co.uk



DAS
18 JUN 2000
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

1835 6075

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

SDD

From: InfoServices
Sent: 09 June 2008 09:35
To: SDD
Subject: FW: Objects leaving Heathrow Area.
Attachments: P1010138.JPG; P1010139.JPG

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



From: [Redacted]
Sent: 07 June 2008 12:29
To: InfoServices
Subject: Objects leaving Heathrow Area.

Dear Sir/Madam,

25 of these amber object were seen leaving the Heathrow area at 12.30pm 07/06/08 traveling west at 45 degrees 200-300 knots. My girlfriend and I saw these from my 10th floor apartment in Battersea **Section 40**. The blue lights on the lower left are the Putney Bridge Building.

Please let me know you have received this.

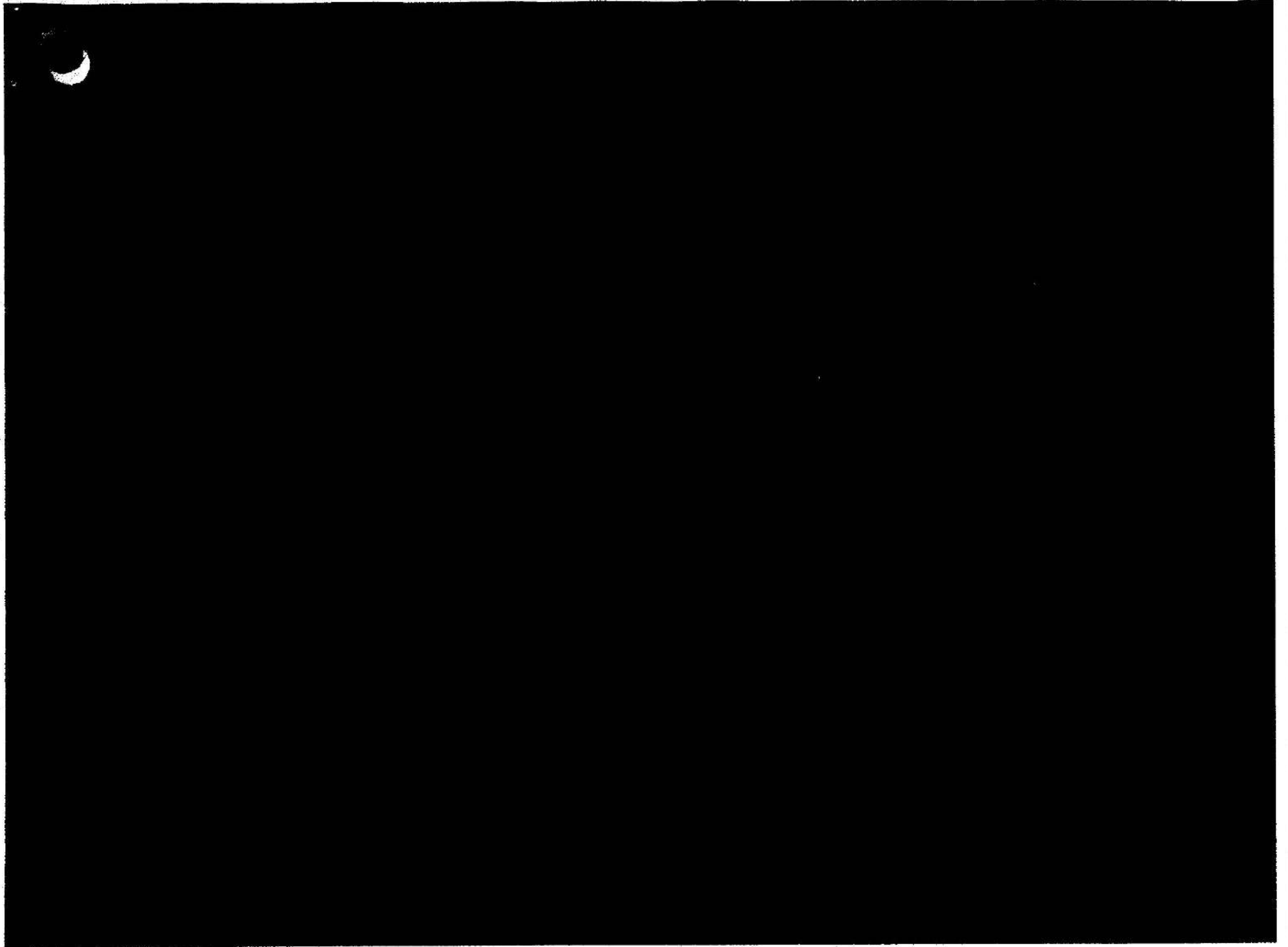
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

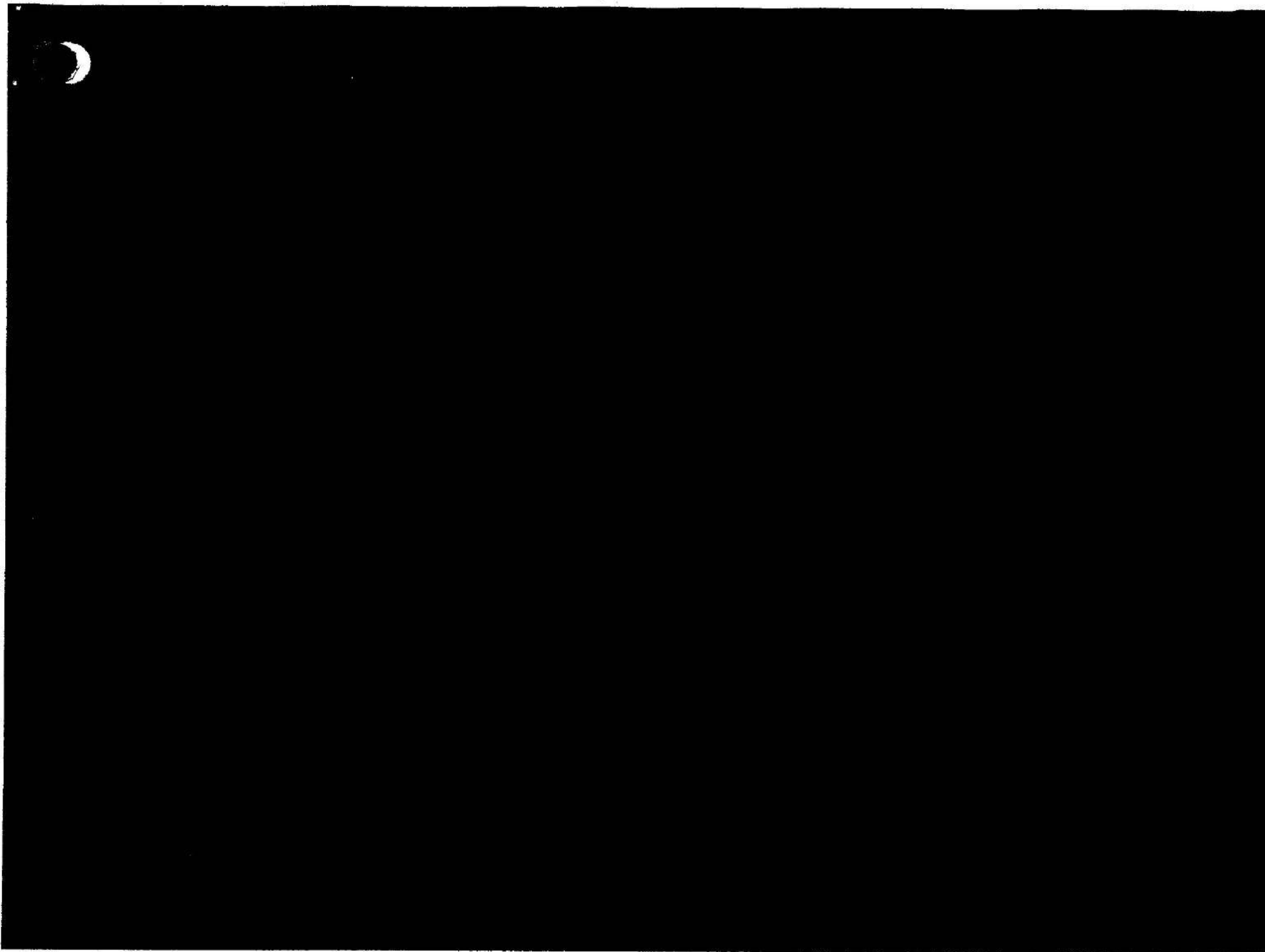
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG.
Version: 7.5.524 / Virus Database: 269.24.6/1488 - Release Date: 6/6/2008 5:48 PM

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

09/06/2008



NOTE: NOT REDACTED - JUST
VERY POOR COPIES !!



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr

Sent: 26 June 2008 14:37

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]
I have checked with AIR and we have received no reports of the sighting by the AIR DO, and I would expect any such reports made at local stns to be passed on there. Also none of my radar sites have received reports or indeed reported any unusual activity.

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone I

[REDACTED]

From: FYL-Stn Cdr
Sent: 23 June 2008 17:12
To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Subject: RE: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]
Nil return from us too.

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
Stn Cdr, RAF Fylingdales
Tel (MOD) [REDACTED]
Tel (Civ): [REDACTED]
RAFMail: FYL-Stn Cdr
Email: [REDACTED]
<http://www.raf.mod.uk/raffylingdales/>
The Officer Commanding
Royal Air Force Fylingdales
Pickering
North Yorkshire
YO18 7NT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

01/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 2 of 2

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 June 2008 10:54
To: BOU-AFC-COS OPS; SCA-STN CDR; FYL-Stn Cdr; [REDACTED] Sqn Ldr
Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

Gents

Have you had any reports about the UFO sighting below over Cardiff? I assume if you had it would have worked its way to me

[REDACTED] can you check with AIRDO

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone I

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 June 2008 14:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]

I am assuming the answer is no, but have you received a report of a police helicopter sighting a UFO at around 00.40 on the morning of 8 June 2008 ?

It has been on the news and has even made page 3 of the super soar away Sun, but I have been asked specifically if CT&UK Ops have received a report on it by one of our regular correspondents and will have to answer it as an FOI request.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

01/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 2

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Sent: 26 June 2008 14:37
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]

I have checked with AIR and we have received no reports of the sighting by the AIR DO, and I would expect any such reports made at local stns to be passed on there. Also none of my radar sites have received reports or indeed reported any unusual activity.

[REDACTED]

Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone I

[REDACTED]

From: FYL-Stn Cdr
Sent: 23 June 2008 17:12
To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Subject: RE: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]

Nil return from us too.

[REDACTED]

Wg Cdr
Stn Cdr, RAF Fylingdales
Tel (MOD) [REDACTED]
Tel (Civ): [REDACTED]
RAFMail: FYL-Stn Cdr
Email: [REDACTED]
<http://www.raf.mod.uk/raffylingdales/>
The Officer Commanding
Royal Air Force Fylingdales
Pickering
North Yorkshire
YO18 7NT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

26/06/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 2 of 2

From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Sent: 23 June 2008 10:54
To: BOU-AFC-COS OPS; SCA-STN CDR; FYL-Stn Cdr; [REDACTED] Sqn Ldr
Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

Gents

Have you had any reports about the UFO sighting below over Cardiff? I assume if you had it would have worked its way to me

Section 40 can you check with AIRDO

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone 1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 June 2008 14:43
To: Section 40 [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Subject: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]

I am assuming the answer is no, but have you received a report of a police helicopter sighting a UFO at around 00.40 on the morning of 8 June 2008 ?

It has been on the news and has even made page 3 of the super soar away Sun, but I have been asked specifically if CT&UK Ops have received a report on it by one of our regular correspondents and will have to answer it as an FOI request.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
[REDACTED]

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26/06/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] Wg Cdr
Sent: 01 July 2008 08:51
To: [Redacted] Wg Cdr; [Redacted]
Subject: Release-authorized: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

Thanks [Redacted]

[Redacted] FYI.

[Redacted]

Wg Cdr
ATC COS

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 01 July 2008 08:43
To: [Redacted] Wg Cdr
Subject: RE: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[Redacted]

No reports from Swanwick , but there was something reported at Cardiff. Police were dealing with it so no formal action taken

[Redacted]

NATS

Section 40
Head Policy & Standards
NERL Strategy & Investment

[Redacted]

4000 Parkway, Whiteley,
Fareham, Hants PO15 7FL
www.nats.co.uk

From: [Redacted] Wg Cdr [mailto:[Redacted]]
Sent: 25 June 2008 08:57
To: [Redacted] OC ScATCC(Mil); [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] Sqn Ldr
Subject: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[Redacted]

A request from our colleagues in the MOD. Do you have a point of contact for dealing with unusual incidents such as UFO sightings?

Chaps,
As below. Any UFO sightings recently?

01/07/2008

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
ATC COS
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Sent: 25 June 2008 08:45
To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]
Any report from Prestwick or Swanwick? Who deals with such report on your side or is it a NATS thing?

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone I

From: FYL-Stn Cdr
Sent: 23 June 2008 17:12
To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Subject: RE: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]
Nil return from us too.

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
Stn Cdr, RAF Fylingdales
Tel (MOD) [REDACTED]
Tel (Civ): [REDACTED]
RAFMail: FYL-Stn Cdr
Email: [REDACTED]
<http://www.raf.mod.uk/raffylingdales/>
The Officer Commanding
Royal Air Force Fylingdales
Pickering

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01/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

North Yorkshire
YO18 7NT

From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Sent: 23 June 2008 10:54
To: BOU-AFC-COS OPS; SCA-STN CDR; FYL-Stn Cdr; [REDACTED] Sqn Ldr
Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]

Have you had any reports about the UFO sighting below over Cardiff? I assume if you had it would have worked its way to me

Section 40 check with AIRDO

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone I

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 June 2008 14:43
To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr
Subject: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

[REDACTED]

I am assuming the answer is no, but have you received a report of a police helicopter sighting a UFO at around 00.40 on the morning of 8 June 2008 ?

It has been on the news and has even made page 3 of the super soar away Sun, but I have been asked specifically if CT&UK Ops have received a report on it by one of our regular correspondents and will have to answer it as an FOI request.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
[REDACTED]

If you are not the intended recipient, please notify our Help Desk at Email postmaster@nats.co.uk immediately. You should not copy or use this email or attachment(s) for any purpose nor disclose their contents to any other person.

NATS computer systems may be monitored and communications carried on them recorded, to

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01/07/2008

secure the effective operation of the system

Please note that neither NATS nor the sender accepts any responsibility for viruses or any losses caused as a result of viruses and it is your responsibility to scan or otherwise check this email and any attachments.

NATS means NATS (En Route) plc (company number: 4129273), NATS (Services) Ltd (company number 4129270), NATSNAV Ltd (company number: 4164590) or NATS Ltd (company number 3155567) or NATS Holdings Ltd (company number 4138218). All companies are registered in England and their registered office is at 5th Floor, Brettenham House South, Lancaster Place, London, WC2E 7EN.

01/07/2008

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From: [REDACTED]
 Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) [REDACTED]
 (Switchboard)
 (Fax) [REDACTED]



Your Reference:

Our Reference:

D/DAS/64/2

Date:

26 June 2008

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing with reference to your report of an 'unidentified flying object', seen on 7 June 2008, the details of which you passed to Tern Hill. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFOs.'

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

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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 to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, 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.

With regard to your particular observation, I can confirm that we received two other reports of UFO sightings for the 7 June 2008. One was from South Norwood in London and the other from Heathrow in Middlesex. We are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised aircraft.

Sorry I could not be any help.

Yours sincerely

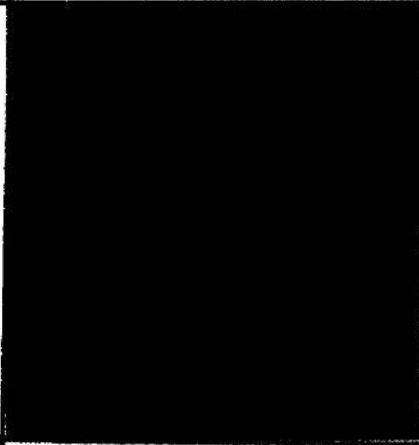
REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



REPORT OF AN UNEXPLAINED AERIAL SIGHTING

1.	Date and time of sighting. (Duration of sighting.)	7 June 2008 23.00L
2.	Description of object. (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness, noise.)	A UFO.
3.	Exact position of observer. Geographical location. (Indoors/outdoors, stationary/moving.)	Not given.
4.	How object was observed. (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, camera or camcorder.)	With the naked eye.
5.	Direction in which object was first seen. (A landmark may be more helpful than a roughly estimated bearing.)	The UFO was seen over Westbury, Shrewsbury in Shropshire.
6.	Approximate distance.	Not given.
7.	Movements and speed. (side to side, up or down, constant, moving fast, slow)	Not given.
8.	Weather conditions during observation. (cloudy, haze, mist, clear)	Not given.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

9.	To whom reported. (Police, military, press etc)	The sighting was reported to Tern Hill who then in turn gave out the DAS answerphone number.
10.	Name, address and telephone no of informant.	
11.	Other witnesses.	Not given.
12.	Remarks.	Not given.
13.	Date and time of receipt.	25 June 2008 14.45L

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

UFO DATA

www.ufodata.co.uk

Section 40
Leeds Section 40
Tel: Section 40

~~26-06-2008 157575 003~~

01-07-2008 -161311-003
EXP 29 JUL 08

Please reply to: Section 40 Pontefract, West Yorkshire,
Section 40 Tele: Section 40 Email: Section 40

Date: 29th June 2008.

Freedom of Information Act Request.

Dear Sir,

I would respectfully like to request copies of any documentation (written or electronic) MoD holds on the UFO sightings of 7th and 8th June, including any material sent to or from your office, the MoD press office and Ministers. Please also send me copies of any documentation held on these matters by staff at Tern Hill barracks. I would also like to request copies of any documentation (written or electronic) MoD holds on any reports of unidentified aircraft for 7th and 8th June.

Yours sincerely

Section 40
[Redacted Signature]

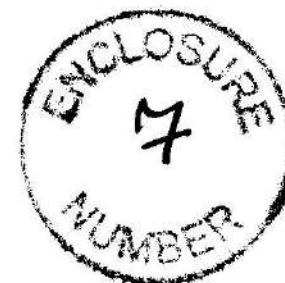
Section 40
[Redacted Name]

UFO DATA Magazine.

DAS
- 1 JUL 2008
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Cwmbran
 Gwent

Section 40

Our Reference
 30-06-2008-134023-008

Date

15 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information requests of 23 June 2008 asking for copies of all files and reports associated with an alleged incident involving a police helicopter and a UFO near Cardiff on 8th June 2008.

Other than being aware of the incident via the media and members of the public such as yourself asking for information on the subject, the MoD has not received any report on the incident and therefore has no file on the matter. I can confirm however, that military radar reported no unusual activity for the time in question.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk> <<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>>."

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DG INFO ADMIN

15-06-2008-134023-008

EXP 24 JUL 08

27 JUN 2008

Section 40

6 F MB

Cwmbran

Gwent

Section 40

23rd June 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

It has been widely reported of an incident involving a Police helicopter and an unidentified object on June 8th 2008 over Cardiff/RAF St Athan. Under the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting copies of all associated files/reports on the incident.

Yours faithfully Section 40

Section 40





AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40** [redacted]

Case Number: 09-06-2008-111316-002

Expiry: 08 Jun 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

- 1. Details of Rendlesham Incident

Case for release of information

No reason to withhold

Personal Details withheld under s.40 (Personal Information)

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: **B2** Name: **Section 40** [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... **Section 40** [redacted]

Date: **14/4/08**

*COPY OF INFO
HELPI BY DAS-FOI*



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Tamworth
 Staffordshire

Section 40

Our Reference
 09-06-2008-111316-002
 Date
 14 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 8 June 2008 asking for details on the Rendlesham Incident. I enclose a copy of our file on the subject in CD format, in line with your e-mail of 12 July 2008.

Some personal information such as names, addresses and telephone numbers has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The file is a compilation file comprised of documents that were removed from their original file and placed on this file. This would account for the non sequential enclosure numbering. Although the file cover states the file was opened on 25 October 1982, it is clear that this was not the case. Sec(AS) was not in being at this time, only being formed in early 1985 and therefore no file with a reference number commencing with D/Sec(AS) could have been in existence in 1982. No record of when the file was created can be found.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>."

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 12 July 2008 11:45
To: Section 40
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-06-2008-111316-002

Dear Section 40
Many thanks for your email, enclosed are the details you require to forward the CD to.

Section 40

Tamworth
Staffordshire

Section 40

----- Original Message -----

From: Section 40
To: Section 40
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2008 3:34 PM
Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-06-2008-111316-002

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 8 June 2008 asking for details of the Rendlesham Incident.

The MoD has a file on this matter and I am happy to provide you with a copy. In order to save paper, I would prefer to provide you with a CD if that is acceptable to you. In any event, as the file is too large for me to send by e-mail, I will require your full name and postal address.

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

14/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Section 40

09-06-2008-111316-002
EXP 7 JUL 08

From: Section 40

Sent: 08 June 2008 19:17

To: DAS-UFO-Office

Subject: UFO incident at Rendlesham Forest in 1980

Please forward to me details of the above incident, Publication Scheme 6/8/2008

09/06/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant **Section 40**

Case Number: 30-06-2008-132308-006
30-06-2008-133333-007 .
30-06-2008-131554-005 .

Expiry: 24 Jul 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

3 separate requests asking for copies of photographs for 1990-95, 1995-2000 and 2000-08

Case for release of information

The requests will be treated as a single request.

Information should be withheld on the basis of cost

1 file = 1 hour to read
77 files = 77 hours to read
77 hrs @£25 = £1925

Even if treated separately, costs for each likely to exceed £600

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: **Section 40**

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05. **Section 40**

Date: 14/7/08



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Cwmbran
 Gwent

Section 40

Our Reference
 30-06-2008-132308-006
 30-06-2008-133333-007
 30-06-2008-131554-005

Date
 14 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information requests of 23 June 2008 asking for copies of any UFO photographs held by the MoD for the period 1990-2008

Providing you with the information you requested is likely to exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. If you could narrow the scope of your request, perhaps to one or two years, I may be able to help you.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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*If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or **Section 40** to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

30-06-2008-13230P-006

DG INFO ADMIN

EX 20 JUL 08

27 JUN 2008

Section 40

6 F MB

Cwmbran
Gwent

Section 40

23rd June 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting copies of any UFO photographs you have on file from 1990 – 1995.

Yours faithfully

Section 40



$$A = 7 + 24 = 31$$

$$C = 14 + 54 = 68$$

$$I = 6 = 6$$

$$\text{per} = 2$$

$$\frac{2}{77}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 77 \\ 25 \\ \hline 1540 \\ 385 \\ \hline 1925 \end{array}$$

DG INFO ADMIN

27 JUN 2008

6 F MB

3-06-2008-133333-257

Section 40

Cwmbran

Gwent

Section 40

23rd June 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting copies of any UFO photographs you have on file from 1995 – 2000.

Yours faithfully

Section 40

Section 40



30-06-2008-131554-235

DG INFO ADMIN

27 JUN 2008

6 F MB

Section 40

Cwmbran

Gwent

Section 40

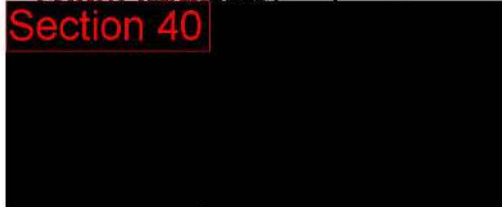
23rd June 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting copies of any UFO photographs you have on file from 2000 - 2008.

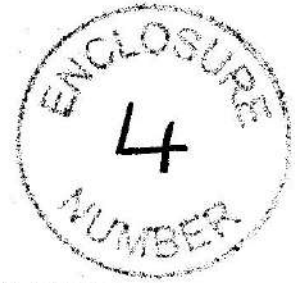
Yours faithfully

Section 40





From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Cwmbran
 Gwent

Section 40

Our Reference
 07-07-2008-162830-003

Date
 10 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 2 July 2008 asking for all information including paperwork, photographs and film regarding the Tern Hill UFO sighting of 7 June 2008.

I enclose documents that relate to the reported sighting. You will note that some personnel information such as names and telephone numbers, have been withheld as they are not directly relevant to your request. You may be interested to know that no written sighting report was made.

A copy of the video taken at the time is also provided. You should be aware that the MoD does not hold the copyright for this video and should you intend to publish or reproduce it, you should first seek legal advice.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Yours sincerely,

Section 40

NOTE - VIDEO HELD
 BY JAS-FOI

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

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If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 July 2008 15:33
To: 1RIRISH-Trg-Offr [REDACTED]
Subject: UFO SIGHTING 7 JUNE 2008 TERN HILL BARRACKS

Dear Capt. [REDACTED]

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

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

Given the reports of the nearby hotel setting off Chinese Lanterns around the time of the sighting at Tern Hill and the above policy, I do not intend to investigate the matter any further.

I should however, be grateful if you would pass this decision on to the soldier that reported the sighting. I assume he has retained a copy of the video. If not, I shall return my copy to him, otherwise, it will be destroyed.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 June 2008 14:29
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: TERN HILL SIGHTING 7 JUNE 2008

The Sun has reported a UFO sighting over Ternhill Barracks in Shropshire at about 11pm on 7 June 2008. It appears that a number of soldiers saw lights in the sky and made a video which they have passed to the newspaper. They have not made a formal written report on the matter, although they did inform their superiors.

The MoD in London became involved when the press office was contacted by the newspaper on 24th June. On 25th June I requested a copy of the video from Media Ops at HQ 5 Div where it had been passed by the unit concerned. It shows a number of lights in the sky. As reported in the paper, the lights change colour and appear square, but this looks like the pixels showing up as the photographer zoomed in. They do not appear to be moving very quickly.

The BBC has reported that at the same time as the alleged incident, a local hotel was letting off Chinese lanterns and, apparently, the hotel manager thinks the whole UFO story is "highly hilarious".

I do not intend to investigate any further as I think we have our answer and, as I suspect there might be copyright issues surrounding the video, do not intend to retain a copy on our files.

I will inform the soldiers of my decision through their 2ic.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: 1RIRISH-Trg-Offr [redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008 9:09 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: UFOs at Ternhill

As requested

From: [redacted] Lt Col [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: 27 June 2008 08:33
To: 1RIRISH-Trg-Offr [redacted]
Subject: RE: UFOs at Ternhill

[redacted]

Here is what looks like the explanation for the 'UFOs'. Looks pretty sound as an explanation to me.

Can you update me as to what is happening to the two soldiers pse?

Thanks

[redacted]
SO1 D News Army
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 June 2008 08:24
To: [redacted] Lt Col
Cc: [redacted] Col [redacted]
Subject: UFOs at Ternhill

Dear all,

Please see link below to our local BBC website which gives a possible explanation for the UFOs at Ternhill.

The same story was also reported on BBC Mids Today last night.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7474160.stm>

[redacted]

E1
5 DIV MEDIA OPS
Mil: [redacted]
Civ: [redacted]
E-mail: [redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



***Please forward official correspondence to 5 DIV-G2G3-G3MediaOps Group
Mailbox***

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 25 June 2008 09:23
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Forecast
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Thanks – any news on what we're doing on this **specific** incident? Does this not count as "may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity"?

[Redacted]

Assistant Private Secretary to the Secretary of State
Mil: [Redacted] Civ: [Redacted]
DII: SofS-Private Office

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 25 June 2008 08:58
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Forecast

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 24 June 2008 17:47
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Forecast

Sun: UFO sightings video sent in by soldiers. LTT: The MoD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported. "

[Redacted]

Press Officer – Policy Desk
Ministry of Defence

Tel: [Redacted]
Mob: [Redacted]
Mil: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 June 2008 09:30
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: UFOs
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

[REDACTED]

Sun: UFO sightings video sent in by soldiers.

Generic LTT: "The MoD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported."

Have asked for more specifics w.r.t. this particular incident.

[REDACTED]

Assistant Private Secretary to the Secretary of State
Mil [REDACTED] Civ: [REDACTED]
DII: SofS-Private Office
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: [REDACTED] C1 - SIO [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 June 2008 12:27
To: [REDACTED] Lt Col
Cc: [REDACTED] Col; [REDACTED] Col [REDACTED]
 Mrs [REDACTED]
Subject: release-authorized: UFO sighting at Tern Hill

[REDACTED]

We spoke, but the following is the basic story:

I took a call this morning from the 2IC rear party at 1 Royal Irish at Tern Hill
 Capt [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

A soldier who was part of a fire picket stagg on at the camp on 7 June took video footage with a camera on a mobile phone of what he says were "UFOs" in the sky above the camp – which they have emailed to The Sun – and which The Sun is apparently planning on splashing – probably tomorrow.

I don't have all the details/timings but what I do have is the following:

1. Soldier is Cpl [REDACTED] who the phone belongs to – he was accompanied by Pte [REDACTED] who also witnessed the "UFOs".
2. The footage was taken on 7 June at 23.03hrs – with a 5 megapixel camera on the phone.
3. 2IC rear party says the video images are very good.
4. The 2IC says the images could not have been anything to do with nearby RAF Shawbury.
5. They show lots of multi-coloured dots and zoom in on a cube shaped object which then flattens.
6. The Sun has already interviewed Cp [REDACTED] – he has explained to them what he saw.
7. There is some suggestion of payment being offered – though I think a discussion about that has still to happen.
8. I have reminded all, the 2IC and Cpl [REDACTED] about their responsibilities ref the DIN on communicating with the media.
9. Cpl [REDACTED] spoke to [REDACTED] an editor at The Sun (?)
10. Cpl [REDACTED] mobile number is [REDACTED]
11. I spoke to the CRO at RAF Shawbury who said he was not aware –
 Sqn Ldr [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Senior Information Officer C1
 Media Ops
 HQ 5 Div
 DTN: [REDACTED] CIVIL: [REDACTED] MOBILE: [REDACTED]
 E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



Please forward official correspondence to 5Div -G2G3-G3 MediaOps Group (Mailbox)

07-07-2008-162830-003
EXL: 5 AUG 08

06 INFO ADMIN

07 JUL 2008

6 F MB

Section 40

Cwmbran
Gwent

Section 40

2nd July 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting all information including paperwork, photos, film regarding the Tern Hill barrack sightings. Many thanks.

Yours faithfully

Section 40





Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 10 July 2008 16:09
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorized: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 10-07-2008-144623-005

Section 40

The description of the June 2008 sighting is as follows:

A diamond/orb shaped object. Was white and bright. It never moved. It was a few thousand feet up in the sky.

Details of sightings for the other years are on the website.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

From: Section 40
Sent: 10 July 2008 16:05
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 10-07-2008-144623-005

Section 40

Thanks you for the speedy reply! Would you be able to provide me with a description of what was seen -e.g. was a light hanging in the sky, or flashing moving object, etc? If I need to submit another FOI for that, could you let me know?

Regards,

Section 40

From: Section 40 [redacted]@mod.uk]
Sent: 10 July 2008 16:00
To: Section 40
Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 10-07-2008-144623-005

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 10 July 2008 asking for the number, location, time and date of any UFO sightings in Lincolnshire in 2004-2008.

There has been one sighting in 2008 to date. This was at 17:50 on 23 June 2008 in the Lincoln/Welton area.

Details of sightings for 2004-07 can be found on the MoD website at www.mod.uk by searching in the publication scheme under *UFO Reports*.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

10/07/2008

Catalogue Reference:defe/24/2449/1

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

I hope this is helpful.

Section 40

DAS-FOI
05-H **Section 40**
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

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If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

Please consider the environment – do you really need to print this e-mail?

Any opinions expressed in this e-mail are those of the individual and not necessarily the company. This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient or person responsible for delivering to the intended recipient, be advised that you have received this e-mail in error and that any use is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, advise the sender immediately by using the reply facility in your e-mail software. Thank you.

Lincolnshire Media Group Ltd. - Registered in England and Wales No 56138 at Northcliffe
Accounting Centre, PO Box 6795, St. George Street, Leicester, LE1 1ZP. VAT No 243571174

10/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

Warning: Computer viruses may be transmitted or downloaded onto any computer system via e-mail communication. It is the recipient's responsibility to take appropriate action to prevent computer viruses being transmitted in this way. Accordingly, Northcliffe Media Ltd disclaim all responsibility which arises directly or indirectly from such transmission of computer viruses

10/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: [defe/24/2449/1](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]

Sent: 10 July 2008 13:53

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI Written Request 10-07-2008-144623-005 **Section 40**

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Thursday, July 10, 2008 at 13:52:46

firstname: **Section 40**

lastname: **Section 40**

occupation: Reporter

org/company: Lincolnshire Echo

address1: The Lincolnshire Echo

address2: Brayford Wharf East

towncity: Lincoln

statecounty: Lincolnshire

postzipcode: LN5 7AT

country: UK

e-mail: **Section 40**

telephone: **Section 40**

informationrequest: Hi,

I'd like to make a Freedom of Information request about UFO sightings
around Lincolnshire. I would like to know:

How many UFO sightings there have been in the county so far in 2008;

How many sightings there were in 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004;

For all of those years:

Which areas they were spotted in;

What times and dates they were spotted;

If you require any more information on the above request, please
contact me on **Section 40**

I look forward to hearing the response within the allotted 28-day time
scale attached to e FOI request.

Regards,

Section 40

submit: Send Form



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**

Section 40

York
 North Yorkshire

Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
 20-06-2008-093132-003

Date:
 10 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking if we could release any information/reports relating to either the 15% of sightings occurring in North Yorkshire and the information/reports on the 33 sightings in and around Selby in 2004.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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 regards to information/reports relating to UFO sighting in North Yorkshire, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has a database which contains information on UFO sighting reports from the year 1997 up to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme>, by searching under 'UFO' Reports.

Finally, you may also wish to know that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed until 1967, when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU, or telephone, 0208 876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 20 June 2008 10:28
To: Section 40
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 20-06-2008-093132-003 Section 40
Categories: FOI Information Request

Can you deal with this? Just direct him to our website.

Section 40

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40
Sent: 20 June 2008 09:32
To: Section 40
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 20-06-2008-093132-003 Section 40

Section 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

Section 40
FOI Helpdesk
Section 40

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 20 June 2008 10:38
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 20-06-2008-093132-003 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, June 20, 2008 at 10:38:24

txttitle: Section 40
txtfirstname: Section 40
txtlastname:
txtoccupation: ?
txtorganisation: ?
txtaddress1: Section 40
txtaddress2:
txttowncity: york
txtstatecountry: north yorkshire
txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40
txtcountry: UK
txtemailAddress: Section 40
txtinforequest: Hi, was wondering if you could release any infomation/reports relating to either the 15% of sightings of 2005 occuring in North Yorkshire or if you

had any infomation/reports on the 33 sightings in an around Selby in 2004?
ankyou.

-----Original Message-----

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]

Sent: 20 June 2008 10:38

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI written request PS 20-06-2008-093132-003 **Section 40**

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, June 20, 2008 at 10:38:24

txttitle: **Section 40**

txtfirstname: **Section 40**

txtlastname: **Section 40**

txtoccupation: ?

txtorganisation: ?

txtaddress1: **Section 40**

txtaddress2: **Section 40**

txttowncity: york

txtstatecountry: north yorkshire

txtzipcodepostcode: **Section 40**

txtcountry: UK

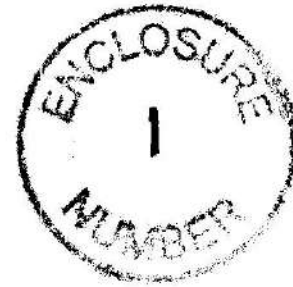
txtemailAddress: **Section 40**

txtinforequest: Hi, was wondering if you could release any information/reports relating to either the 15% of sightings of 2005 occurring in North Yorkshire or if you had any information/reports on the 33 sightings in an around Selby in 2004?

Thankyou.



From: **Section 40**
 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB



Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
 (Fax) **Section 40**
 e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Pontefract
 West Yorkshire

Section 40

Our Reference
 01-07-2008-131609-002

Date

10 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 June 2008 asking for all documentation relating to the alleged UFO sighting at Tern Hill on 7 June 2008. Additionally, you have asked for a copy of the video taken at the time and for any reports made by military personnel at Tern Hill on the night in question.

I enclose documents that relate to the reported sighting. You will note that some personnel information such as names and telephone numbers, have been withheld as they are not directly relevant to your request. No written (or electronic) reports were actually made so I am unable to assist with this part of your request.

A copy of the video is provided as requested. You should be aware that the MoD does not hold the copyright for this video and should you intend to publish or reproduce it, you should first seek legal advice.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk> <<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>>."

I am sorry I could not be of more assistance.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

*NOTE: VIDEO HELD
 BY DAS-FI*

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/6prff8>. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: [REDACTED] C1 - SIO [REDACTED]
 Sent: 24 June 2008 12:27
 To: [REDACTED] Lt Col
 Cc: [REDACTED] Col; [REDACTED] Col [REDACTED]
 Mrs [REDACTED]
 Subject: release-authorized: UFO sighting at Tern Hill

[REDACTED]

We spoke, but the following is the basic story:

I took a call this morning from the 2IC rear party at 1 Royal Irish at Tern Hill
 Capt [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

A soldier who was part of a fire picket stagg on at the camp on 7 June took video footage with a camera on a mobile phone of what he says were "UFOs" in the sky above the camp – which they have emailed to The Sun – and which The Sun is apparently planning on splashing – probably tomorrow.

I don't have all the details/timings but what I do have is the following:

1. Soldier is Cpl [REDACTED] who the phone belongs to – he was accompanied by Pte [REDACTED] who also witnessed the "UFOs".
2. The footage was taken on 7 June at 23.03hrs – with a 5 megapixel camera on the phone.
3. 2IC rear party says the video images are very good.
4. The 2IC says the images could not have been anything to do with nearby RAF Shawbury.
5. They show lots of multi-coloured dots and zoom in on a cube shaped object which then flattens.
6. The Sun has already interviewed Cp [REDACTED] – he has explained to them what he saw.
7. There is some suggestion of payment being offered – though I think a discussion about that has still to happen.
8. I have reminded all, the 2IC and Cpl [REDACTED] about their responsibilities ref the DIN on communicating with the media.
9. Cpl [REDACTED] spoke to [REDACTED] an editor at The Sun (?)
10. Cpl [REDACTED] mobile number is [REDACTED]
11. I spoke to the CRO at RAF Shawbury who said he was not aware –
 Sqn Ldr [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Senior Information Officer C1
 Media Ops
 HQ 5 Div
 DTN: [REDACTED] CIVIL: [REDACTED] MOBILE: [REDACTED]
 E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



Please forward official correspondence to 5Div -G2G3-G3 MediaOps Group (Mailbox)

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 July 2008 15:33
To: 1RIRISH-Trg-Offr [REDACTED]
Subject: UFO SIGHTING 7 JUNE 2008 TERN HILL BARRACKS

Dear Capt. [REDACTED]

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

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

Given the reports of the nearby hotel setting off Chinese Lanterns around the time of the sighting at Tern Hill and the above policy, I do not intend to investigate the matter any further.

I should however, be grateful if you would pass this decision on to the soldier that reported the sighting. I assume he has retained a copy of the video. If not, I shall return my copy to him, otherwise, it will be destroyed.



[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
05-H. Section 40
MoD main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 June 2008 14:29
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: TERN HILL SIGHTING 7 JUNE 2008

The Sun has reported a UFO sighting over Ternhill Barracks in Shropshire at about 11pm on 7 June 2008. It appears that a number of soldiers saw lights in the sky and made a video which they have passed to the newspaper. They have not made a formal written report on the matter, although they did inform their superiors.

The MoD in London became involved when the press office was contacted by the newspaper on 24th June. On 25th June I requested a copy of the video from Media Ops at HQ 5 Div where it had been passed by the unit concerned. It shows a number of lights in the sky. As reported in the paper, the lights change colour and appear square, but this looks like the pixels showing up as the photographer zoomed in. They do not appear to be moving very quickly.

The BBC has reported that at the same time as the alleged incident, a local hotel was letting off Chinese lanterns and, apparently, the hotel manager thinks the whole UFO story is "highly hilarious".

I do not intend to investigate any further as I think we have our answer and, as I suspect there might be copyright issues surrounding the video, do not intend to retain a copy on our files.

I will inform the soldiers of my decision through their 2ic.

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 June 2008 09:23
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Forecast
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

Thanks – any news on what we're doing on this **specific** incident? Does this not count as "may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity"?

[REDACTED]
Assistant Private Secretary to the Secretary of State
Mil: [REDACTED] Civ: [REDACTED]
DII: SofS-Private Office
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 June 2008 08:58
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Forecast

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 June 2008 17:47
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Forecast

Sun: UFO sightings video sent in by soldiers. **LTT:** The MoD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported. "

[REDACTED]
Press Officer – Policy Desk
Ministry of Defence

Tel: [REDACTED]
Mob: [REDACTED]
Mil: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Page 1 of 1

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 June 2008 09:30
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: UFOs
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Orange

[REDACTED]

Sun: UFO sightings video sent in by soldiers.

Generic LTT: "The MoD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported."

Have asked for more specifics w.r.t. this particular incident.

[REDACTED]

Assistant Private Secretary to the Secretary of State
Mil [REDACTED] Civ: [REDACTED]
DII: SofS-Private Office
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

03/07/2008

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2449/1

UFO DATA

www.ufodata.co.uk

Section 40
Leeds Section 40
Tel: Section 40

01-07-2008-131609-022
EX 28 JUL 08

Please reply to: Section 40 Pontefract, West Yorkshire, Section 40
Section 40
Tel: Section 40 Email: Section 40

Date: 26th June 2008.

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is a Freedom of Information Act request. I would like to request copies of all documentation either written or electronic relating to the alleged UFO sighting by Corporal Section 40 and colleagues over Tern Hill barracks near Market Drayton in Shropshire on June 7th 2008.

I understand that Corporal Section 40 reported the incidents in question to his commanding officers. I would therefore like to request a copy of this report either written or electronic and any other reports submitted by any other military personnel at Tern Hill barracks on the night in question (June 7th 2008).

I would also respectfully like to request a copy of the video film footage taken by Corporal Section 40 and any other such footage that may have been taken by other military personnel at the times.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

UFO DATA MAGAZINE.

RETAIN TERN HILL
VIDEO FOR 6
MONTHS THEN
DESTROY

COMMENT ON TALKING
TO THE PRESS ALB
NOT ABOUT SIGHTING
THEREFORE NOT
RELEVANT.



From: **Section 40**
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
5th Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) **Section 40**
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Pontefract
West Yorkshire

Section 40

Our Reference
01-07-2008-131609-002

Date

11 July 2008

Dear **Section 40**

Further to my letter of 10 July 2008, please find two pages that were missed in error from my original response.

I apologise for the oversight.

Yours sincerely

Section 40



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: 1RIRISH-Trg-Offr [redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008 9:09 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: UFOs at Ternhill

As requested

From: [redacted] Lt Col [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: 27 June 2008 08:33
To: 1RIRISH-Trg-Offr [redacted]
Subject: RE: UFOs at Ternhill

[redacted]

Here is what looks like the explanation for the 'UFOs'. Looks pretty sound as an explanation to me.

Can you update me as to what is happening to the two soldiers pse?

Thanks

[redacted]
SO1 D News Army
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 June 2008 08:24
To: [redacted] Lt Col
Cc: [redacted] Col [redacted]
Subject: UFOs at Ternhill

Dear all,

Please see link below to our local BBC website which gives a possible explanation for the UFOs at Ternhill.

The same story was also reported on BBC Mids Today last night.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7474160.stm>

[redacted]

E1
5 DIV MEDIA OPS
Mil: [redacted]
Civ: [redacted]
E-mail: [redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

***Please forward official correspondence to 5 DIV-G2G3-G3MediaOps Group
Mailbox***