

Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 22 March 2009 12:58  
**To:** Air CmdSecCS-UFO Desk  
**Subject:** UFO sighting report.

Dearsir/Madame,

I am writing to you in connection with a sighting that I have been to report for any years.

At the begining of September 1995 I was fishing one afternoon on the banks of the river Tay just next to Dundee airport in Dundee, Scotland. It was a warm clear day and visibility was excellent. As the afternoon wore on something caught my attention. I looked in the direction of Perth and saw what appeared to be quite a sizable object flying on the horizon, just above what appeared to be hills. Concoidering the distance between my location and that of the craft I would guess the size to be possibly a couple of hundred metres accross. From Where I was standing it appeared that the side view of the object was your typical cigar shape. However, as I observed it it appeared to change location as if it was possibly flying in a triangular formation and because the shape of the side elevation never changed I thought that it could be disc like in shape.

I grabbed the attention of several passers by that day to ask if they could confirm what I saw. They did confirm that there was an object in the direction that I was looking at that they did not recognise. We then watched the craft for several minutes trying to decypher what it was. We all decided that what we were looking at was not an ordinary aircraft at all.

I rang RAF Leuchars the next day knowing that this was my nearest Airforce base as I wanted to know if they had been carrying out manouvers. The officer I spoke to at the time said that as far as they were concerned nothing had taken place. I asked them if they knew what I needed to do to report a UFO to which they replied by saying they did not know.

Since this occasion I have been wondering how to report the incident but was never sure how to do it, that is until the recent reports in the news of files being released by the ministry of defence.

I hope that although this report is well overdue it may be of some help to you.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

23/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



31

**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 07 April 2009 13:52**To:** **Section 40****Subject:** Release-Authorised: 20090407-Response to **Section 40** Ministers Correspondence-UDear **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail of 25 March 2009 requesting that your previous correspondence on UFOs is passed directly to John Hutton, the Secretary of State for Defence.

The Secretary of State for Defence receives a great many letters and e-mails from members of the public but unfortunately does not have the time to read or answer them all himself. For this reason, the Ministers' Offices ensure that correspondence is passed to the subject matter experts within the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for them to answer.

Therefore your correspondence is passed to me to answer as my post has responsibility for UFO matters across the MoD.

Your e-mail of 5 March 2009 addressed to RAF Waddington has also been forwarded to me. As it covers much the same ground as your e-mail to me of the same date, I believe that my response of 11 March 2009 sets out the MoD position.

I know this will be a disappointing response, but I hope it explains the situation.

**Section 40**

RAF Bus Sec 13

Room **Section 40**

Spitfire Block

HQ Air Command

RAF High Wycombe

HP14 4UE

Tel: 01494 49 6254

ufodesk@mod.uk

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07/04/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1

**Section 40**

**From:** **Section 40** on behalf of Air CmdSecCS-RAF Parli Business  
**Sent:** 25 March 2009 15:38  
**To:** **Section 40**  
**Subject:** FW: Release-Authorised: FOI written request  
**Categories:** BAU - Air Command

**Section 40**

One for you!

**Section 40**

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** CIO-Access Ops4 **Section 40**  
**Sent:** 25 March 2009 15:21  
**To:** Air CmdSecCS-RAF Parli Business  
**Subject:** Release-Authorised: FOI written request

Air,

Normal business.

**Section 40**

CIO-Access Ops4  
**Section 40** @mod.uk

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]  
**Sent:** 25 March 2009 12:03  
**To:** CIO-FOI (MULTIUSER)  
**Subject:** FOI written request

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

txttitle: **Section 40**  
txtfirstname: **Section 40**  
txtlastname: **Section 40**  
txtaddress1: .  
txtaddress2: .  
txttowncity: .  
txtstatecountry: .  
txtzipcodepostcode: .  
txtcountry: Australia  
txtemailAddress: **Section 40**  
txttelephone: 0  
txtinforequest: Dear Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information,

I would like to request information regarding the many letters i have sent to the Secretary of State for Defence Rt John Hutton regarding my theory on how the Unidentified Flying Objects that are frequently sighted in the UK, can be shot down using a device which the Secretary could find greatly interesting, yet every time my letters are forwarded to another department within the MoD?

I would like all my letters passed directly to Secretary Hutton immediatley.

I await your immediate action and response.

Sincerely,

**Section 40**

UFO Researcher



Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 27 March 2009 14:51  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** FW: Release-Authorised:Important

Section 40

This is one for you I think.

Cheers

Section 40

Section 40

RAF Media & Communication  
 HQ Air Command

MIL: Section 40  
 CIV:   
 Mobile:   
 FAX :

DII: STC-MC PR2  
 Email: Section 40@mod.uk

~~~~~  
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**From:** WAD-Station-Enquiries (MULTIUSER)  
**Sent:** 26 March 2009 14:31  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** Release-Authorised:Important

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 05 March 2009 21:26  
**To:** WAD-Station-Enquiries (MULTIUSER)  
**Subject:** Important

6th March 2009

Dear RAF Waddington,

27/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



Thank you for your your response relating to my many enquires relating to Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) activity in the United Kingdom. I **do** understand that a UFO does not necessarily mean extraterrestrial related. I have knowledge that the RAF have on more than one occasion intercepted a UFO using military aircraft.

Therefore, the reason i am contacting you once again is that, through my research as a UFO Researcher, i believe i know how you can shoot down a UFO. Hypothetically, let's assume that these UFOs are extraterrestrial and that the RAF has tried but failed to bring down an extraterrestrial UFO. I have a suggestion for a new weapon which could and will bring down a potential extraterrestrial UFO. Actually, it has much to do with what happend regarding the Roswell UFO Incident in Roswell, New Mexico, USA back in July 1947.

If you would care to know more about my suggestion for a 'weapon' which could and will take down a UFO craft, then i would like to speak personally with someone such as a General or high ranking official within the Royal Air Force Waddington immediatley. It is your choice. Trust me, have faith.

I await your action.

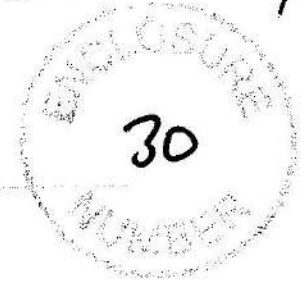
Sincerely Yours,

**Section 40**

UFO Researcher

---

Get what you want at ebay. View photos of singles in your area



Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 06 April 2009 11:00  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** Release-Authorised: 20090406-Response to Section 40 MOD Position on UFOs-U

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 28 March 2009 asking whether the Ministry of Defence (MoD) believed UFOs were real.

As I explained in my e-mail of 13 January 2009, the 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 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.

I hope this explains the MoD's position.

Section 40

RAF Bus Sec 13  
Room Section 40  
Spitfire Block  
HQ Air Command  
RAF High Wycombe  
HP14 4UE  
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ufodesk@mod.uk

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06/04/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 28 March 2009 10:44

To: Section 40

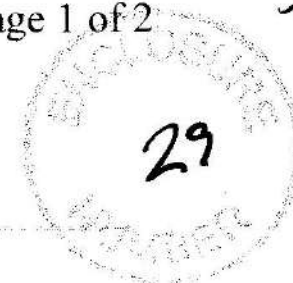
what do you beleive?  
do you beleive UFO's are real?

Beyond Hotmail — see what else you can do with Windows Live. Find out more!

ALREADY HAS MY POSITION ON UFO'S

30/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 06 April 2009 10:49

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-Authorised: 20090406-Response Section 40 File Release-U

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 23 March 2009 asking why the Ministry of Defence (MoD) had decided to open a number of UFO files to the public and what information the seven files recently released contained. Additionally, you asked for a UFO image.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (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 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 or 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.

Turning to your specific questions, the subject of UFOs is one of the most popular subjects for FOI requests. Answering requests takes a considerable amount of time and resources and can involve officials in days of work, which frequently means trawling through old files to find the information requested. By placing the UFO files on-line at The National Archives in a structured manner, the MoD is able to follow its remit for more open government and, by re-directing applicants to The National Archives site, reduce the amount of time it spends answering requests. By opening our files in this way, we may also help to counter the maze of rumour and frequently ill informed speculation that surrounds the role of the MoD in the UFO phenomena.

The files released on 22 March 2009 contain a mixture of UFO sightings, correspondence to and from the public, internal MoD documents and some press cuttings. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk).

However, if you want to use any of the images contained in the recent release, or indeed from the two previous releases, I suggest that you contact The National Archives press office direct to discuss any copyright issues.

I hope this is helpful.

Section 40

RAF Bus Sec 13

Room Section 40

Spitfire Block


HQ Air Command

RAF High Wycombe

06/04/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



 14 4UE

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06/04/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1

due 22/4/09

Section 40

From: CIO-Access Ops4 Section 40  
 Sent: 24 March 2009 11:13  
 To: Air CmdSecCS-RAF Parli Business  
 Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI written request PF 24-03-2009-111017-001 Section 40  
 Categories: FOI Information Request

Air,

Can you take?

Section 40

CIO-Access Ops4

Section 40

@mod.uk

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

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

Sent: 23 March 2009 15:25

To: CIO-FOI (MULTIUSER)

Subject: FOI written request PF 24-03-2009-111017-001 Section 40

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

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname:

txtoccupation: Journalist

txtorganisation: L'Hebdo

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2:

txttowncity:

txtstatecountry: vaud

txtzipcodepostcode: 1003

txtcountry: Switzerland

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: Sir or Madam,

Journalist working for the Swiss newsmagazine L'Hebdo, I have to write a short article about the newly released UFO files.

Would you be kind to answer these two short and simple questions?

- Why did the MoD decide to open these files to the public?
- What do these seven files reveal?

I would also appreciate to receive an UFO image.

My deadline is Tuesday morning (March 24).

Thank you very much.  
 Best Regards,

Section 40

Journaliste RP  
 L'Hebdo

Section 40

<http://www.hebdo.ch>





Section 40

28 ✓

## HEADQUARTERS AIR COMMAND

RAF Business Secretariat 3

Room Section 40

Spitfire Block

Royal Air Force

High Wycombe

Buckinghamshire

HP14 4UE

01494 496254

ufodesk@mod.uk

Section 40

Swadlincote  
South Derbyshire

Section 40

Our Ref:

UFO Correspondence

27 March 2009

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 22 March 2009 enclosing a magazine article about a UFO sighting over Burton in South Derbyshire.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (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 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 or 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.

However, you might like to know that the MoD does not have a record of any sighting over Derbyshire for 6 October 2009. ????

I am sorry I could not be more helpful.

Section 40





Section 40

Sturton Lincoln  
South-Perthshire

Section 40

22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2001.

Section 40

TU

Hello  
ED Desk,

I enclose a Two Page Magazine entitled "WHITE LIGHTS A NIGHT GIVE COUPLES A FRIGHT". I would to inform you that as far as I am concerned that your comments as I am interested in the as I would be concerned about this Matter I will

K your Reply in due Course,

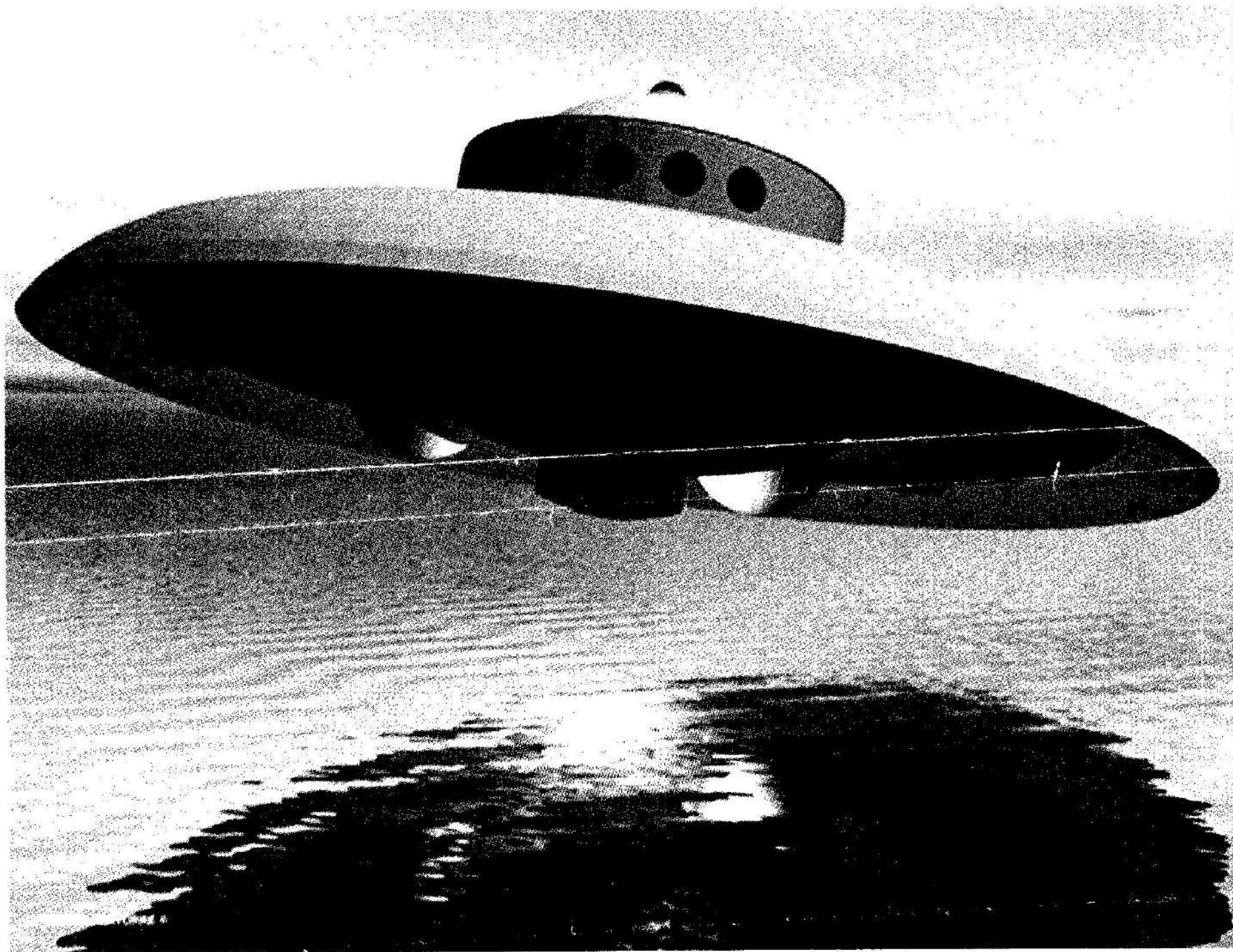
Yours sincerely

Section 40



# NEWS

## White lights at night



**A** COUPLE have been left baffled after seeing mysterious lights in the night skies over Burton and South Derbyshire.

Mac McCree, 59 and partner Lesley Gaunt, 55, first experienced the eerie phenomenon while at their home in Woodland Road, Stanton, on Monday, October 6, at 10pm.

"My missus had gone out for a cigarette while I was watching the telly," said Mr McCree.

"She said 'Mac, come and have a look at this' and at first I thought it was someone shining my torch.

"We saw two lights — it was a dullish white circular glow — one of them was sort of hovering over Winshill or Newton Solney and the other one appeared to

be over Bretby or Newhall — they were scorching across the sky.

"I thought at first it had to be something going on at Donington, but the speed of them was unbelievable. We've watched planes going into East Midlands Airport at 200mph but that's nothing compared to the speeds these we're going at.

"Me and my missus thought



## NEWS

# give couple a fright



we were seeing things — I thought 'I don't believe this is happening'.

The phenomenon re-appeared on the Tuesday night at around the same time, prompting a call to Burton police, who told him the lights originated from the town's Statutes Fair.

However, Mr McCree is sceptical. "I don't see how the lights could have come from the Statutes —

for one thing they were at the other side of town from there," he said.

"Also, if it had been some kind of laser or searchlight you would have seen the beams going up and there was none.

"People might think I'm making it up but I'm not that kind of person. I went and asked my next door neighbour to come

and look at it to make sure we weren't dreaming."

Neither Staffordshire Police nor Derbyshire Police had any record of further reports of the strange lights, while the Met Office was equally in the dark.

● Have you seen strange lights in the sky or can you explain this phenomenon? Contact us by calling 01785 257700.



27

  
Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 23 March 2009 09:33

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-Authorised: 20090323-Response N Pope Comments-U

Dear Mr Pope,

Thank you for your e-mail of 21 March 2009 providing an explanation of your comments.

Section 40

RAF Bus Sec 13

Room Section 40

Spitfire Block

HQ Air Command

RAF High Wycombe

HP14 4UE

Tel: 01494 49 6254

ufodesk@mod.uk

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23/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1

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Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 23 March 2009 09:16  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** RE: FOI Requests - UFOs

Section 40

Agreed. Acknowledge with thanks but no need to engage further.

Section 40

Section 40

Head of Business Secretariat  
 Air Command  
 Internal Section 40  
 External Section 40  
 E-mail: Section 40@mod.uk

I am moving over to DII/F on the 22 May 2009. Any e-mails sent to me between 22 May and 25 May may well not arrive. WEF 26 May 2009 my internal e-mail address will change to Air CmdSecCS-RAFBUSSEC Hd. (You will need to find me again via the Advanced Search function on the Global Address List to send me e-mails.) External e-mail addresses Section 40@mod.uk will remain unchanged on DII/F.

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 23 March 2009 08:27  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** FW: FOI Requests - UFOs

I have received an e-mail from Mr Nick Pope who used to do my job many years ago. Mr Pope is something of a controversial figure in ufology, but he has a high media profile and is often quoted in newspapers etc. His main selling point would appear to be that he used to be in charge of UFOs for the MoD, although as far as I can tell, he only spent 20% of his time on it.

He is referring to an article run by The Sun, quoting him, suggesting the RAF has standing orders to shoot down UFOs. Additionally, I think he did a television interview in the US where he talked about "virtual dogfights". All this stuff sounded tremendously exciting and has been repeated on countless websites.

MoD has received and answered an FOI request on the subject and the relevant branch was able to reassure the requester that we weren't dogfighting with ET every five minutes.

I have no idea why Mr Pope has suddenly seen fit to explain himself to us in this manner, but frankly, I can see no benefits in becoming embroiled in arguments about who-said-what. The cases he refers to in his e-mail are presumably all in The National Archives where people can view them and make up their own minds without the advice of this or that expert.

I therefore propose that I simply acknowledge receipt of his e-mail but that we don't get drawn any further.

Section 40

**From:** Nick Pope Section 40  
**Sent:** 21 March 2009 21:50  
**To:** Section 40  
**Cc:** contact@nickpope.net



 **Subject:** FOI Requests - UFOs

**Section 40**

I understand you received some FOI requests in relation to my recent (and widely misreported) comments about pilots shooting at UFOs and engaging in dogfights. As my remarks were based in part on cases in MoD files, I thought it would help you if I pointed out which ones, as it will not have been readily apparent from media reports.

What I did in a number of media interviews was to take the cases of Parviz Jafari, Oscar Alfonso Santa Maria Huertas and Milton Torres, and use them to illustrate the point that some military pilots, having received authorisation from the chain of command, have fired - or attempted to fire - at UFOs. I used the phrase "virtual dogfights" in one interview as a generic phrase to cover the aforementioned cases, incidents such as the Michael Swiney/David Crofts case from 1952 and the incident(s) that led to the shooting of the gun camera footage that Ralph Noyes (an ex-MoD Under Secretary of State) states he was shown at an RAF briefing.

The Parviz Jafari and Oscar Alfonso Santa Maria Huertas cases occurred outside the UK and are presumably outwith the scope of any FOI requests, unless the DIS have any documentation on these cases (if they did, they didn't tell me). However, although Milton Torres is ex-USAF, the incident occurred over the UK - as did the encounter reported by Swiney and Crofts. The following files at the National Archives contain material that may be relevant to FOI requests on the above-mentioned cases:

DEFE 24/1928/1 - Correspondence from ex-MoD official Ralph Noyes concerning gun camera footage of UFOs taken from RAF jets in the Fifties.

DEFE 24/1931/1 - Correspondence from ex-USAF pilot Milton Torres about his being ordered to fire at a UFO being tracked on radar in UK airspace.

AIR 29/2310 - Operational Records Book, RAF Little Rissington, mentioning the Swiney/Crofts case.

I hope this is helpful. Please let me know if you need any further information.

Best wishes,



Nick Pope

23/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



25

**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 19 March 2009 14:31**To:** **Section 40****Subject:** Release-Authorised: 20090319-Response to **Section 40** Files-UDear **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail of 26 February 2009 which raised a number of questions regarding the MoD transfer release of UFO files to The National Archives. Additionally, you asked about PQ Folder 196/55.

I can confirm that it is our intention to complete the transfer of UFO files closed during the period 1993-2000 to The National Archives by the end of this calendar year and the remainder of the DAS and DIS files to 2007, by 31 December 2010. The transfer programme is limited to DAS and DIS files as these were the two branches most affected by FOI requests for UFO information. There will be over 80 DAS files and DIS files transferred this year.

There is no firm agreement with TNA regarding the number of tranches that will be transferred to them this year, but obviously the aim is to release the files as quickly as possible.

I understand from Info-CMemR that they responded to you by e-mail on 23 December 2008. If you did not receive their response, which went to **Section 40**, I will arrange for a copy to be sent to you. However, to be helpful, I have copied the text of that e-mail below:

**Section 40**

**Section 40** passed me your e-mail of 29 November regarding the whereabouts of an Air Ministry PQ Folder from 1955.

*I can confirm that a number of UFO files were passed to CS(Records) for retention (CS (Records) being the previous name of Corporate Memory (Records)), but there is no mention of that particular folder having been received in this branch, or stored in any archive under our control*

*I am sorry I cannot be more helpful.*

**Section 40**

Info-CMemR?

**Section 40**

I note your comments on the MOD's record management and I would like to take the opportunity to assure you that the MOD is committed to making sure that MOD creates, manages and secures the information it needs to fulfil its corporate obligations. To show the strength of this commitment, both in the Ministry of Defence and to our stakeholders, we have asked The National Archives to begin a process of assessing our knowledge, information and records management. The assessment report produced by The National Archives will be published, as will our action plan.

I hope this is helpful.

**Section 40**

RAF Bus Sec 13

Room **Section 40**

Spitfire Block

19/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



■ HQ Air Command  
RAF High Wycombe  
HP14 4UE  
Tel: 01494 49 6254  
ufodesk@mod.uk

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19/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 05 March 2009 10:09

To: Section 40

Subject: FW: Release-Authorised: MISSING PQ FOLDER

Section 40

I did - please see below. Maybe he didn't get it, or he was too busy preparing for Christmas!

Cheers,

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 23 December 2008 12:06

To: Section 40

Cc: Section 40

Subject: Release-Authorised: MISSING PQ FOLDER

Dear Section 40

Section 40 passed me your e-mail of 29 November regarding the whereabouts of an Air Ministry PQ Folder from 1955.

I can confirm that a number of UFO files were passed to CS(Records) for retention (CS (Records) being the previous name of Corporate Memory (Records)), but there is no mention of that particular folder having been received in this branch, or stored in any archive under our control.

I am sorry I cannot be more helpful.

Section 40

Info-CMemR

Section 40

05/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



Section 40

From: Section 40  
 Sent: 26 February 2009 18:21  
 To: Section 40  
 Subject: Re: UFO FILES

Dear Section 40

I'm writing to follow up my email of 29 November last, in response to yours of 19 November, regarding the PQ folder 196/55 (Patrick Wall MP question on Air Ministry study of Flying Saucers).

I wondered if you had received any response from CS(Records), AHB, or whatever records division has succeeded these bodies as to the possible fate of this PQ folder.

If you recall, I suggested - based upon your predecessor Section 40's own LM dated April 1990 - this folder may have been transferred to MOD archives at the time Section 40 was busy "clearing our cupboards of old files on the subject of UFOs some of which have been sent to CS (Records) for retention."

2622  
 recd. If that was the case, this branch - or whoever replaced them - should have a record of this transfer and what became of the files that were transferred at this time. I'm sure you appreciate that efficient record management of this kind is what the Freedom of Information Act requires as part of general good practice. *Lines from letter of 19 Nov 08*

I have some further questions relating to the current ongoing transfer of MOD UFO files to The National Archives.

Could you confirm that it is your intention to complete the transfer of all remaining files to TNA by December 2010? Could you also confirm that the planned schedule will require the transfer of files dating chronologically from 1993 through to the year 2000 by the end of this year?

If so could you estimate how many tranches are expected to be transferred during the course of 2009 and how many individual files will be included within these transfers? (According to file lists supplied to me by Section 40 this would mean somewhere in the region of 30-40 files, dating from 1993 to 2000, would be transferred during 2009).

Finally, will the complete transfer process involve just Sec(AS)/DAS files and DIS material? If that is the case, why does the transfer not involve surviving DAO/Air Defence records on UFOs which exist, I understand from the mid-90s to present?

Thanks for your attention to this request and I look forward to hearing from you,

Section 40

On Wed, Nov 19, 2008 at 9:20 AM, Section 40 @mod.uk> wrote:

Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 24 October 2008 regarding a PQ folder with a reference number of PQ 196/55.

I am afraid that I am unable to find any record of this folder in the MoD archives and it is not held by this branch. Unless it can be found in The National Archives, and I note that you have already initiated a search there, I must assume that it has been destroyed.

I realise that this must be a disappointing response. However, although I am not particularly hopeful of the folder turning up, I will keep an eye open for it. Given the folder may be half a century old, I can't think that it can contain much in the way of military secrets and I am inclined to the view that it probably belongs in the public domain.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

--

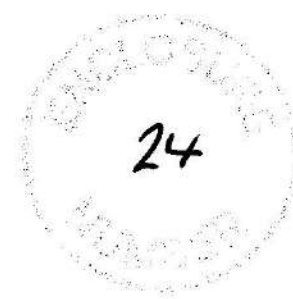
Section 40

<http://www.drdavidclarke.co.uk/>

03/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1





**HEADQUARTERS AIR COMMAND**

RAF Business Secretariat 13

Room **Section 40**

Spitfire Block

Royal Air Force

High Wycombe

Buckinghamshire

HP14 4UE

01494 496254

ufodesk@mod.uk

**Section 40**

Worthing

West Sussex

**Section 40**

Our Ref:

UFO Sighting Report

19 March 2009

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your letter of 2 March 2009 regarding the unusual object you saw in 1953.

I am afraid that given the length of time since the incident, we are not really in a position to "solve the puzzle" for you.

This is due to the fact that Ministry of Defence files on UFOs 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 1992 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 [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](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 [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk) by searching under "UFO".

I am sorry I could not be more helpful.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Yours sincerely".

**Section 40**



Section 40

Section 40

Working  
West Sussex

Section 40

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009

Dear Sir/Madam,

After over fifty years time-span, I don't know if you will have any record of what I and my fellow pupils saw in 1953.

Section 40

school

Section 40

Section 40

Middlesex,

was not that far from Hendon and I don't remember whether or not that was an R.A.F. aircraft testing base.

I do recall that we girls ranged in age (we weren't allowed near "those dirty little boys") from thirteen to eighteen years old. But those of us who saw the object were probably fourteen years old and were at the top end of

the field which was the girls play area.

It was a bright sunny day during the summer term. What drew our eyes skyward, I don't remember, but flying towards us at between two and three hundred feet, was this big black triangular craft.

We had never seen anything like it. There was neither the sound of engines or a vapour trail and it wasn't moving very fast.

We soon looked away and didn't see it go out of sight as we went back to whatever we had been doing at the time.

The underside ~~was~~ looked to be completely smooth.

Although we shared classrooms with the boys, I didn't hear any of



2

them talking about it.

I know I was amazed at the size and appearance of it at the time, but forgot about it until yesterday, when a T.V programme triggered the memory.

It didn't show any lights.

Hope you can solve the puzzle  
Yours faithfully,

Section 40

PS. The craft was matt black  
not shiny and it didn't reflect  
light.

Section 40

23

Section 40

VICTORIA, 3122, AUSTRALIA.

22nd February 2009.

The Officer Responsible,  
The UFO. Desk,  
Royal Air Force Section,  
The Ministry of Defence,  
London, England, UK,

*NO RESPONSE  
REVERSED*

Dear Sir,

Sighting of same UFO type on two continents.

I want to impress you first with my qualifications for knowing what I saw and secondly for being able to identify that what I saw was not a normal aerial object.

For some twenty five years I was in the Army of Great Britain and Australia as a National Serviceman and then as a Territorial Army and Citizens' Military Force volunteer. My final rank was Captain. In the British Army, my number was Section 40 and my main occupation was Forward Observer in Field Artillery but I also served in a Light Anti-aircraft Regiment of the Royal Artillery where you served by identification of enemy aircraft in time to take proper action. For more than twenty-five years I studied aircraft recognition as a civilian amateur and as a military professional.

From the foregoing I hope that you may realise that I have been trained, have experience and am able to identify objects, their shape and dimensions at a distance. It may be considered that if I say that I saw something and describe it in detail I did see it and that it did exist at two separate times in separate places on two continents.

Early in 2007, I cannot give you the exact date because that did not become important until my second sighting, one morning I was in my front garden in Hawthorn, an inner suburb of Melbourne, Australia. I heard a large jet aeroplane approaching from the east at low level and recognised the sound of a Boeing 747. I got hold of my binoculars, which I keep handy for such occasions, captured the image and followed the plane as it passed slowly from east to west across my front. It was to my north about 1,000 metres from me at as low a level as such planes are permitted to fly across the inner areas of Melbourne, on a line of sight about fifteen degrees of elevation from me, in its sweeping approach to Tullamarine airport some fifteen kilometres away. The sky was a clear cloudless blue.

As I scanned back along the fuselage to the white kangaroo on the red tail of the Qantas jumbo I saw behind and beyond the tail by at least 500 metres an object in the sky. I recall thinking I'll follow the 747 until it goes behind the nearby houses and then come back to the object. It was an unusual shape



for an aerial object so I decided to look at it in more detail when the jet was out of sight, but when I did that and swung back to the object it was not there, neither was it anywhere else as I scanned the whole northern sky, left to right and up and down. Whatever it was it had either moved off at great speed, as I had only moved my binoculars off it for four seconds, or it had just disappeared. When I thought about it disappearing I wondered if the jet exhaust of the 747 had disturbed the air or atmosphere in some way that made the object appear from a previously invisible condition and that it was still there or nearby but I could not now see it.

Now let me describe the object, which I do not consider to be a UFO as I did not see it move but rather an Unidentified Stationary Aerial Object. It appeared to be a dull metal box in the sky. I could not tell whether it was a house-sized object relatively near or a much larger object far away. As seen it was slightly smaller than the tailfin of the airliner. If it was near and yet beyond the jet it had the bulk of a three bedroom house. It seemed to me rectangular, a box with all edges and corners rounded, of a dull yet shiny, silver material with what appeared to be a dark stripe across the side facing me. I got the impression that the black stripe was a type of window and that the object was looking not at me but to the east (right) of me into an area within a few hundred metres of me. No matter how hard I try to describe it I always come back to a silver metal box with rounded edges and no protrusions just sitting there looking at something, not attached to anything, not near anything and undefinable as to true size and distance.

Another interesting point is its posture. An aircraft in flight has a certain posture related to the intentions of its crew as to what the aircraft is about to do. A ground attack has a nose-down attitude and is travelling at speed. An aircraft about to land has a nose-up attitude and is travelling relatively slowly. A high flying heavy bomber settles early into a stable approach to its target. Paratroop dropping aircraft travel in groups by day on a steady course towards the dropping zone. In the case of this object it was static, comfortable in its posture and seemed to consider itself unseen and safe. It was not a balloon as we do have hot air balloons about, but only in the very early morning, and I know the shape, size and colour of Melbourne's balloons. It was definitely there and it did not seem to move away at any definable speed, it just disappeared within four seconds.

Now here is the strange confirmation of what I saw in Australia. Some nine months later I was watching a TV program made in America about UFOs when it showed a segment from Canada where a couple had been at their holiday cottage on the banks of a lake in Ontario. The husband had taken a cine film of the view from the verandah of the cottage and did not notice anything unusual until viewing his finished film which the program showed. There, above the water, in the sky in the distance was exactly the object I had seen, the same rounded silver box shape with the vague black band across the front but in a more horizontal posture. So I have seen a UFO in Australia which I have also seen on a film from Canada.

The other day I heard a news broadcast which mentioned the UFO desk at MOD in London and as a result I have directed my report to you.

If you require any other information, please let me know, otherwise I do not expect you to expend your valuable time on a reply.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40





Section 40

22

From: Section 40

Sent: 11 March 2009 08:27

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-Authorised: 20090311-Response to Section 40 Weapon-U

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 5 March 2009 asking if the Ministry of Defence would like details of your suggestion for a weapon that could shoot down UFOs.

The UK has a comprehensive suite of capabilities that provide its air superiority, both here at home in the UK and also on expeditionary operations. The UK's Air Policing Area is under continuous surveillance using a combination of civil and military radar installations that provide a continuous real-time "picture". Any threat would, of course, be handled in the light of the particular circumstances at the time, however, rest assured that we have at our disposal a range of capabilities that we are confident can neutralise even the most demanding of targets. Notwithstanding this, we are not becoming complacent and we continue to develop successor air defence capabilities, such as fast jet and rotary wing aircraft and smart weapons, which utilise cutting edge technologies and will see the UK well placed to handle any threat well in to the future.

In the circumstances, and whilst we note your kind offer, we will not be pursuing it any further.

Section 40

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HQ Air Command

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Tel: 01494 49 6254

ufodesk@mod.uk

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11/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



Section 40

From: Section 40  
 Sent: 05 March 2009 05:23  
 To: Section 40  
 Subject: RE: 20090302-TO00688/2009, TO00811-2009, TO00758/2009, TO00714/2009 Section 40

Dear Section 40

*Thank you for your your response relating to my many enquires relating to Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) activity in the United Kingdom. I do understand that a UFO does not necessarily mean extraterrestrial related. I have knowledge that the RAF have on more than one occasion intercepted a UFO using military aircraft.*

*Therefore, the reason i am contacting you once again is that, through my research as a UFO Researcher, i believe i know how you can shoot down a UFO. Hypothetically, let's assume that these UFOs are extraterrestrial and that the RAF has tried but failed to bring down an extraterrestrial UFO. I have a suggestion for a new weapon which could and will bring down a potential extraterrestrial UFO. Actually, it has much to do with what happend regarding the Roswell UFO Incident in Roswell, New Mexico, USA back in July 1947.*

*If you would care to know more about my suggestion for a weapon which could and will take down a UFO craft, then i would like to speak personally with someone such as a General or high ranking official within the Royal Air Force, immediatley. It is your choice. Trust me, have faith.*

*I await your action.*

*Sincerely Yours,*

Section 40

UFO Researcher

Subject: 20090302-TO00688/2009, TO00811-2009, TO00758/2009, TO00714/2009 Section 40

Section 40

Date: Mon, 2 Mar 2009 07:43:33 +0000

From: Section 40@mod.uk

To: Section 40

Dear Section 40

*Thank you for your e-mails of 15, 16, 17 and 21 February 2009 to Secretary of State for Defence, John Hutton, expressing your belief that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) should investigate UFO sightings more thoroughly. They have been passed to this office to deal with as we have responsibility for answering questions relating to UFOs. You also wrote direct to this office on 17 February 2009 along similar lines. This response will cover all your correspondence.*

*As I explained in my letter of 13 February 2009, the 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.*

05/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



The MoD is not complacent about the integrity of the UK's airspace which is maintained through continuous surveillance of the UK Air Policing Area by the Royal Air Force. This is achieved by using a combination of civil and military radar installations, which provide a continuous real-time "picture" of the UK airspace. Any threat to the UK Air Defence Region would be handled in the light of the particular circumstances at the time (it might if deemed appropriate, involve the scrambling or diversion of air defence aircraft).

From that perspective, reports provided to us of 'UFO' sightings are examined, but consultation with air defence staff and others as necessary is considered only where there is sufficient evidence to suggest a breach of UK air space. The vast majority of reports we receive are very sketchy and vague. Only a handful of reports in recent years have warranted further investigation and none revealed any evidence of a threat. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for UFO sightings 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.

As I am sure you can imagine, the Secretary of State and the Chief of Air Staff are both extremely busy and it will not be possible for them to speak with you.

Yours sincerely,

**Section 40**

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ufodesk@mod.uk

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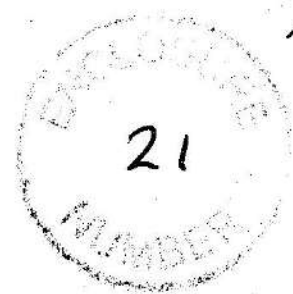
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Explore the new Windows Live. Looking for a place to manage all your online stuff?

05/03/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1





 **ROYAL  
AIR FORCE**

**HEADQUARTERS AIR COMMAND**

RAF Business Secretariat 13

Room **Section 40**

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Royal Air Force

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HP14 4UE

01494 496254

ufodesk@mod.uk

**Section 40**

Coventry

**Section 40**

Our Ref:

UFO Correspondence

5 March 2009

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail regarding the book you are writing, asking whether a time traveller or alien from the future would need to register with the Ministry of Defence (MoD), whether we would pursue them if they did not contact us and if we would help them if they told us the future of the planet depended on it.

The MoD has no regulations or standing procedures relating to these matters and it would not be appropriate for me to speculate on these issues.

I am sorry I can not be more helpful and wish you the best of luck with your book.

*Yours sincerely*

**Section 40**





Section 40

**From:** CIO-Access Ops4 Section 40  
**Sent:** 27 February 2009 15:55  
**To:** Air CmdSecCS-RAF Parli Business  
**Subject:** Release-Authorised: 20090225-Enquiry from public\_Time Travel from SF author-U

**Categories:** FOI Information Request

Air,

One for Section 40 perhaps.

**From:** CIO-LibSvcs-PublicEnquires-Office (MULTIUSER)  
**Sent:** 25 February 2009 10:28  
**To:** CIO-FOI (MULTIUSER)  
**Cc:** CIO-SvcsDelivery15 Section 40  
**Subject:** 20090225-Enquiry from public\_Time Travel from SF author-U

Dear FOI please could you take on

Section 40

Information Delivery Team  
 MOD Information & Library Services

Section 40 Main Building,  
 Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

T: Section 40  
 Military: Section 40 Fax: Section 40

Section 40 @mod.uk or CIO-SvcsDelivery12

**From:** no-reply@feedback.mod.uk [mailto:no-reply@feedback.mod.uk]  
**Sent:** 19 February 2009 23:00  
**To:** CIO-SvcsDelivery1 Section 40  
**Subject:** Research Enquiry

Received 20 Feb 2009 - -

This request has been received via [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk).

txtname: Section 40  
 txtemailAddress: Section 40  
 txtcountry: UK  
 txtrequest: Regarding a Science Fiction book I am writing.

If this is possible I would be grateful. Please could you tell how the MOD would be likely to respond the following fictional situations?

1. If a human or alien from the future (3809AD) travels in time to the present (2009AD), would this time traveller be required to contact the MOD? If the time traveller refused to contact or deal with the MOD would the MOD ruthlessly pursue him/her? If the time traveller asked you to help him/her, would you help him/her if the time traveller tells you the future of the human race depends upon your help? In answering these questions you should assume it is proved the time traveller is who he/she says he/she is; but you are unsure either way regarding the purpose of his/her mission.

2. The same type of questions are applicable to this scenario; but instead of a time traveller, this situation is regarding an alien life-form masquerading as a human. The alien has arrived undetected in our solar system, and then travelled to Earth undetected. This alien possesses superior technology and has the power to destroy our planet.

Thanks

Section 40

Coventry Section 40



26

Section 40

From: Section 40  
 Sent: 04 March 2009 09:08  
 To: Section 40  
 Subject: RE: 20090304-Response Section 40 Photographs-U

Hi Section 40

The date was Saturday 7th of February 2009 at Gorseinon near Swansea South Wales.

Thanks

From: Section 40 @mod.uk]  
 Sent: 04 March 2009 08:37  
 To: Section 40  
 Subject: 20090304-Response Section 40 Photographs-U

Dear Section 40

Thank you for the photographs of the unusual aircraft you saw once you had reviewed the shots you were taking. If you can tell me the exact date and the town the photographs were taken in, I will ensure they are recorded as promised in my earlier e-mail.

Section 40

RAF Bus Sec 13  
 Room Section 40  
 Spitfire Block  
 HQ Air Command  
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 Tel: 01494 49 6254  
 ufodesk@mod.uk

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Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 20 February 2009 15:28  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** Before  
**Attachments:** STA\_2001.JPG

---

**From:** Section 40 @mod.uk]  
**Sent:** 20 February 2009 15:09  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** E-MAIL NOT RECEIVED

Dear Section 40

I have just been notified that you have tried to send an e-mail to me but it is too large for me to receive.

Perhaps you could try again. If you are sending attachments with it, it might be helpful if you e-mail them separately.

Alternatively, you could send a hard copy to the address below.

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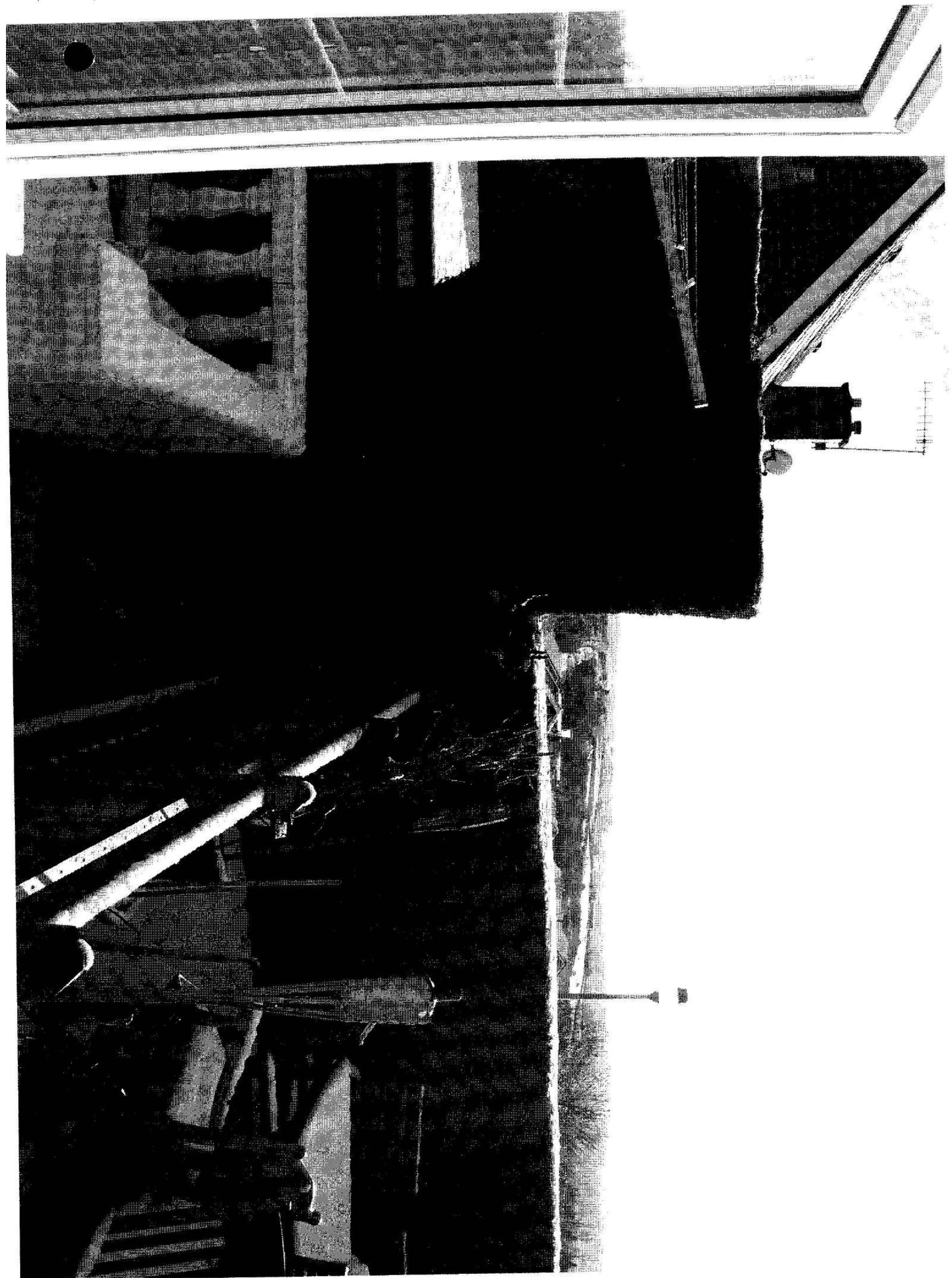
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23/02/2009

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Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 20 February 2009 15:28  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** RE: E-MAIL NOT RECEIVED  
**Attachments:** STB\_2002.JPG

Hi Section 40

I don't have an information apart from the fact that I didn't notice anything in the sky beforehand or afterwards. There is an airstrip nearby but there wasn't any aircraft in the sky at the time of taking the pictures. The above images were meant as a test of my cameras panoramic capabilities and I have attached the pictures taken immediately before and afterwards of the image in question. The image listed would be named STB2002 and I didn't notice anything out of the ordinary until I uploaded the picture onto the laptop.

Many Thanks

Section 40

**From:** Section 40 @mod.uk]  
**Sent:** 20 February 2009 15:09  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** E-MAIL NOT RECEIVED

Dear Section 40

I have just been notified that you have tried to send an e-mail to me but it is too large for me to receive.

Perhaps you could you try again. If you are sending attachments with it, it might be helpful if you e-mail them separately.

Alternatively, you could send a hard copy to the address below.

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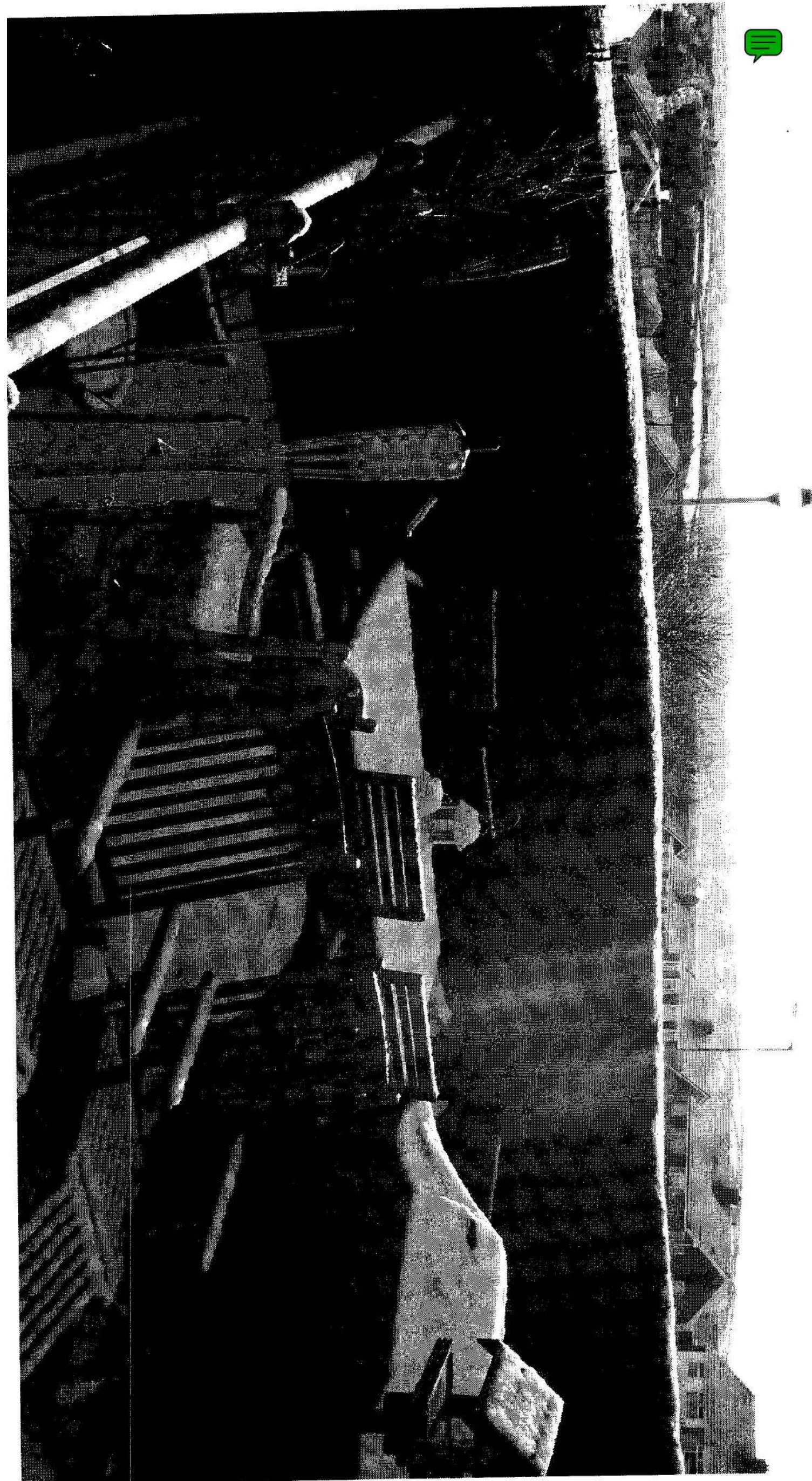
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Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 20 February 2009 15:29  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** After  
**Attachments:** STC\_2003.JPG

---

**From:** Section 40 [redacted]@mod.uk]  
**Sent:** 20 February 2009 15:09  
**To:** Section 40 [redacted]  
**Subject:** E-MAIL NOT RECEIVED

Dear Section 40

I have just been notified that you have tried to send an e-mail to me but it is too large for me to receive.

Perhaps you could try again. If you are sending attachments with it, it might be helpful if you e-mail them separately.

Alternatively, you could send a hard copy to the address below.

Section 40

RAF Bus Sec 13  
Room Section 40  
Spitfire Block  
HQ Air Command  
RAF High Wycombe  
HP14 4UE  
Tel: 01494 49 6254  
ufodesk@mod.uk

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Registered in England and Wales with number 2591237

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23/02/2009

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Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



**Section 40**

**From:** **Section 40**

**Sent:** 17 February 2009 11:41

**To:** **Section 40**

**Subject:** Release-authorised: 20090217-Response to **Section 40** Reporting Procedures-U

Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail of 12 February 2009 asking for the correct procedure for reporting strangely shaped aircraft in the sky.

In the first instance they can be reported to this office which deals with such matters. However, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) examines any reports of strange objects in the sky 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 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.

Nevertheless, please feel free to pass any information you have to us if you would like us to record your sighting. You might be interested to note that sighting reports of this nature are published annually and can be found on the MoD website at [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk) by searching under "UFO Reports".

I hope this is helpful.

**Section 40**

RAF Bus Sec 13

Room **Section 40**

Spitfire Block

HQ Air Command

RAF High Wycombe

HP14 4UE

Tel: 01494 49 6254

[ufodesk@mod.uk](mailto:ufodesk@mod.uk)

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**From:** **Section 40**

**Sent:** 12 February 2009 15:10

**To:** Air CmdSecCS-UFO Desk

**Subject:**

Hi,

17/02/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



as trying to take a panoramic picture of my garden with my camera by using multiple shots and upon reviewing my pictures on my girlfriends laptop I noticed a strangely shaped aircraft in the sky. I am unsure of the correct procedure regarding reporting this image. Any advice would be much appreciated.

Regards

Section 40

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17/02/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



19

**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 02 March 2009 08:24**To:** 'request-7841-8e4a175b@whatdotheyknow.com'**Subject:** Release-Authorised: 20090302-Response **Section 40** MoD Position on Wind Turbine Incident-UDear **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail of 9 February 2009 asking what the Ministry of Defence's position was regarding the recent damage to a wind turbine in Lincolnshire and whether the cause of the damage had been determined.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (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 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 or 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.

Turning to this particular incident, I can confirm that it was not officially reported to the MoD but, clearly, we were aware of the media reports. We are not aware of any substantive evidence to suggest the turbine was hit by a UFO and unless we receive clear physical evidence of an aircraft or other object flying into the turbine, we would not investigate the matter.

I hope this is helpful.

**Section 40**

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Section 40

**From:** Section 40 on behalf of Air CmdSecCS-RAF Parli Business  
**Sent:** 19 February 2009 16:11  
**To:** Section 40  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** FW: Freedom of Information request - The Ministry of Defence's position on possible UFO crash into wind turbine at Conisholme in Lincolnshire PS 19-02-2009-072706-002 Section 40

Section 40

Please see e-mail below.

Section 40

RAF Business Secretariat 1  
 Room Section 40 Fire Block, HQ Air Command  
 RAF High Wycombe, HP14 4UE  
 Tel Section 40 145 or BT: Section 40  
 Fax: Section 40 or BT: Section 40  
 Section 40 @mod.uk

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**From:** CIO-Access Ops5 Section 40  
**Sent:** 19 February 2009 15:42  
**To:** Air CmdSecCS-RAF Parli Business  
**Subject:** FW: Freedom of Information request - The Ministry of Defence's position on possible UFO crash into wind turbine at Conisholme in Lincolnshire PS 19-02-2009-072706-002 Section 40

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE - TO BE GIVEN A HIGH PRIORITY**  
 Section 40 is expecting this email, please forward in the usual way.

[]  
 Regards

Section 40  
 FOI Helpdesk

[]

Dear Focal Point(s)

The Freedom of Information (FOI) request for information (RFI) below has been placed with you, but not confirmed on the Access to Information Toolkit (AIT). *[insert details here, of which area should answer which part of the RFI, if it has been broken into different sections]*

**Please acknowledge within two working days** <sup>[1]</sup> that you are the appropriate area to respond, or lead, and we will transfer this to you on AIT. You should **respond to the requester within twenty working days** of the date the request was made. If you consider that another area is more appropriate to respond or lead, then please approach

20/02/2009

Catalogue Reference: defe/24/2451/1



Freedom of Information request - The Ministry of Defence's position on possible UFO... Page 2 of 3

them, also within two working days. Please engage with the FOI Helpdesk at all times when you are looking to place a request elsewhere. The FOI Helpdesk will be pleased to assist during this process.

**This request will be automatically allocated to your area, on AIT, after three working days, if the FOI Helpdesk receives no acknowledgement of receipt or evidence of action to place the request elsewhere.**

If you are copied into this email, you may be a relevant contributor to the response and you should liaise with the lead respondent.

This process is set out to maximise the amount of time to find information and respond, when this request has been placed with the appropriate subject matter expert.

Lastly, please see further headline guidance on FOI correspondence at <http://defenceintranet.diiweb.r.mil.uk/DefenceIntranet/Library/CivilianAndJointService/> or detailed guidance (including model answers) at <http://defenceintranet.diiweb.r.mil.uk/DefenceIntranet/Admin/RespondToRequestsForIr>. If you have any concerns, or require any assistance with FOI, please contact Info-Access Operations, we are here to help.

Best regards

#### **MOD Info Access**

#### **Freedom of Information Helpdesk**

**Telephone:** Section 40

**Email:** [info-access-office@mod.uk](mailto:info-access-office@mod.uk)

**AIT:** <http://aitportal/default.aspx>

<sup>1</sup>The 'clock starts ticking' at the beginning of the next working day from when you received the request.

---

**From:** Section 40 [mailto:request-7841-8e4a175b@whatdotheyknow.com]

**Sent:** 09 February 2009 17:29

**To:** Info-Access-Office

**Subject:** Freedom of Information request - The Ministry of Defence's position on possible UFO crash into wind turbine at Conisholme in Lincolnshire PS 19-02-2009-072706-002 Section 40

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to know what the Ministry of Defence's position is upon the unexplained object that caused damage to the wind turbine in Lincolnshire. Has it been determined what caused the damage?

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

---

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20/02/2009

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Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 02 March 2009 08:18

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-Authorised: 20090302-UFO Correspondence Section 40 Quality of UFO Reports-U

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 19 February 2009 asking about the quality of UFO witness reports, whether we give them a quality rating and, if we do, what percentage we would consider as poor.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (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 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 or 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.

Turning to the specifics of your enquiry, I think it would be reasonable to say that the large majority of witness reports we receive are quite vague and sketchy, and we do not have a grading system for them. The MoD only looks into a handful of reports per year and the number of reports it would seek clarification on is correspondingly small.

To get an idea of the type of information received, you might like to look at the MoD website [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk) and search under the phrase *UFO Reports* which provides details of UFO sightings reported to us from 1997-2008.

I hope this is helpful.

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Room Section 40

Spitfire Block

HQ Air Command

RAF High Wycombe

HP14 4UE

Tel: 01494 49 6254

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Section 40

Glasgow

Section 40

Section 40

Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2009

Dear Section 40

I have previously made an enquiry through work, but am now writing to you as requested. As stated previously, no breach of protocol was intended nor was any preferential treatment sought.

My question is this: in regard to your UFO/UAP reports received - how good are your witness statements? What is the quality of the initial reports, and - if poor - is clarification sought? Do you rate reports in regard to quality? If so, how? And if you do - what percentage of reports are considered poor in quality?

I ask because in a spare-time capacity I am a research officer for the Scottish SPR. I am giving a lecture at Glasgow University on 'The Problem with the Paranormal' and am very much interested in the qualitative analysis of witness reports of anomalous experience. I appreciate that the RAF/MoD are *not interested* in anomalous experiences, but are very much concerned with good observation and analysis of witness statements!

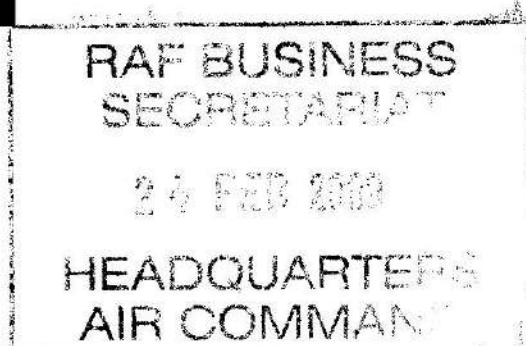
I appreciate that this question might need a long answer, or none at all - because it's not my business - but I would be most grateful of your assistance!

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40





Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 19 February 2009 08:59  
**To:** 'SPVA-DCS-CMS-SPSVC-GLREG2@spva.mod.uk'  
**Subject:** Release-Authorised: UFOs

Section 40

Your e-mail regarding UFOs has been passed to me as I have responsibility for UFO matters.

As you are enquiring in a private capacity, I think it is appropriate that you send any questions you may have on this area to me at the address below and I will try to answer them as I would for any other private individual.

Section 40

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Room Section 40  
Spitfire Block  
HQ Air Command  
RAF High Wycombe  
HP14 4UE  
Tel: 01494 49 6254  
[ufodesk@mod.uk](mailto:ufodesk@mod.uk)

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Section 40

**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 09 February 2009 10:53  
**To:** Section 40  
**Subject:** FW: Defence Intranet UFO story

One for you Section 40

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

**From:** SPVA-DCS-CMS-SpSvc-GLReg2  
**Sent:** 06 February 2009 16:19  
**To:** DAS-FOI1  
**Subject:** Re: Defence Intranet UFO story

Dear Section 40

First off, I understand that the RAF Bus section would deal with any kind of media enquiries regarding this topic - and if the correct procedure is to go to them, then I will. Also, despite being MoD, I'm not in any way after any inside scoop or any restricted information - I don't need to know and I don't want to know. Don't panic - I'm not another Gary McKinnon.

However, I do have an outside interest in anomalous experience and wonder if you would be willing to consider some questions? Basically limited to the quality of reports that you receive - are they good witness reports or vague? Could you put a percentage on how many reports are too vague or ambiguous to judge?

FYI - my interest is based on being the research officer for the Scottish SPR.

Also - if you want me to forward this kind of enquiry to your business/press section, then I will. I won't pester you again, and I apologise for troubling you.

Regards,

Section 40

SPVA Registry

Mil: Section 40  
Civ:   
Kentigern House  
Glasgow  
G2 8EX  
Ext Email: SPVA-DCS-CMS-SPSVC-GLREG2@spva.mod.uk  
Intranet: DB2A



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 02 March 2009 07:44

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-Authorised: 20090302-TO00688/2009, TO00811-2009, TO00758/2009, TO00714/2009 Section 40 U

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mails of 15, 16, 17 and 21 February 2009 to Secretary of State for Defence, John Hutton, expressing your belief that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) should investigate UFO sightings more thoroughly. They have been passed to this office to deal with as we have responsibility for answering questions relating to UFOs. You also wrote direct to this office on 17 February 2009 along similar lines. This response will cover all your correspondence.

As I explained in my letter of 13 February 2009, the 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 is not complacent about the integrity of the UK's airspace which is maintained through continuous surveillance of the UK Air Policing Area by the Royal Air Force. This is achieved by using a combination of civil and military radar installations, which provide a continuous real-time "picture" of the UK airspace. Any threat to the UK Air Defence Region would be handled in the light of the particular circumstances at the time (it might if deemed appropriate, involve the scrambling or diversion of air defence aircraft).

From that perspective, reports provided to us of 'UFO' sightings are examined, but consultation with air defence staff and others as necessary is considered only where there is sufficient evidence to suggest a breach of UK air space. The vast majority of reports we receive are very sketchy and vague. Only a handful of reports in recent years have warranted further investigation and none revealed any evidence of a threat. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for UFO sightings 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.

As I am sure you can imagine, the Secretary of State and the Chief of Air Staff are both extremely busy and it will not be possible for them to speak with you.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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Tel: 01494 49 6254

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Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 17 February 2009 06:55

To: Air CmdSecCS-UFO Desk

Subject: Confidential Report Analysis

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Dear Royal Air Force UFO Desk,

I am contacting you from Australia with regards to an important Defense issue that I need to bring to your attention. I am a **Ufologist** I study all reported UFO sightings. As you maybe aware, The United States of America has one of the highest reports of UFO encounters and sightings each year then anywhere else in the world. After much study, I believe to have concluded that most of these UFO sightings truly are extra-terrestrial.

I understand that most UFO cases sometimes are designated false. However, I have knowledge that The United States Air Force formerly studied UFO reports. However, the investigations of these reports still left around 5-10 percent of sightings and encounters still to this day unresolved.

I write this letter to you sir, with a heavy heart. Writing to you is one of many actions I have taken to try and convince Governments around the world, as well as in my own country, to raise awareness of the actual existence and possible threat UFOs, be extraterrestrial or not. In my experience, there is a strong chance that the 5-10 percent unresolved UFO cases are extraterrestrial related. **I have recently discussed this issue with a former official in the UK Ministry of Defense, who had responsibility for this subject. He agrees that UFO sightings must be investigated thoroughly, in view of the defense and air safety issues.**

Whether or not these UFOs are extraterrestrial or not, we cannot say. We have known that UFOs exist; however, we are not 100 percent certain if they are extraterrestrials. This is why there must be a full, proper, through investigation into UFOs and the relation they may have in accordance with extraterrestrials. There are thousands of reports over the past decades recorded by your country's Ministry of Defence (MoD). Whilst I do have much respect for what the Royal Air Force accomplishes for the United Kingdom, as a **Ufologist** I cannot in good conscious allow the RAF and the MoD to continue not to properly study and investigate Unidentified Flying Objects. There is a high possibility that a majority of these still unresolved reports are extraterrestrial. I know that the Royal Air Force and MoD usually send 'standard' letters assuring your civilians that enquire regarding UFO activity to try and lead them astray from the truth. I know how the system regarding to any civilian who enquires about UFOs, works. I know for a fact in all my years of experience as a Ufologist in this field of study, that your Ministry of Defence's UFO reports which some have been released, prove that the UFO phenomena exists.

It is the Royal Air Force's responsibility to ensure the protection of your country the United Kingdom's airspace from any possible threats, including investigating the truth behind classified UFO reports, to ensure the United Kingdom is protected, even possibly against extraterrestrials. It is your job, you have an obligation You could act now, but it seems that most Government bodies around the world that are approached by Ufologists' regarding the high chance of the threat of extraterrestrial UFOs, simply think we are crazy. I can personally assure you that most Ufologists are well respected PhD scientists.

You must investigate immediately. I would personally speak with your Secretary of State for Defence or the head of your Royal Air Force, but unfortunately air travel is expensive due to the

17/02/2009

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current economic times. However, I would be happy to speak over the phone with the Secretary or the head of the Royal Air Force, if such a meeting could be arranged on the MoD or RAF's behalf. You know as well as I do the truth regarding UFOs, however, I will not speak in this letter publicly due to the confidential nature of this subject. You must investigate the threat of extraterrestrial UFOs. Act now.

Sincerely Yours,

Section 40

Ufologist

---

Sell your car for just \$50. It's simple!

17/02/2009

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**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 24 February 2009 11:56**To:** **Section 40****Subject:** Release-Authorised:20090224-Helicopter identification **Section 40**Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail of 10 February 2009 asking how you could identify a helicopter that you saw on 26 December 2009.

I am afraid that there is no publicly accessible list recording helicopter flights in the UK. The military do not have a central record of all flights and although it might be possible to identify an individual helicopter, to do so we would need to contact all military bases across the UK that a helicopter might have flown from, which could only be done at disproportionate cost.

Whilst I cannot rule out the possibility that the helicopter you saw was military, there is also the possibility that it may have been civilian. The Civil Aviation Authority may be able to help you, but you should be aware that unless a pilot is planning to enter controlled airspace such as around an airport or commercial airways they are not required to log a flight plan and, again, the cost of identifying an individual aircraft is likely to be prohibitive.

I hope this is helpful.

**Section 40**

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Room **Section 40**  
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