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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

Date opened (Date of first enclosure)
12 FEB 07

Registered file number
D/DAS/10/2/18/15

Part No.
W

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 MOD
LONDON

[FULL ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER]

SUBJECT INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
– DEFENCE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
– FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
– REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

[BLOCK CAPITALS]

RECORD OF KEYWORDS:
2007

Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl

CLOSED

(21/03/07)
2014

FOR DRO USE ONLY

1st Review date

2nd Review date

PA ACTION

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

RCU001790869 TNT

Produced by MOD
DSDA (PC) Ky. Tel: 0117 9376256

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UNCLASSIFIED

D/DAS/10//8/13 Part W

Enc	Applicant	1st Name	AIT Reference	Subject
1	[redacted]	[redacted]	12-02-2007-104952-002	UFO
2	[redacted]	[redacted]	02-09-2007-093219-002	UFO
3	[redacted]	[redacted]	08-01-2007-165951-009	UFO
4	[redacted]	[redacted]	26-02-2007-141448-004	UFO
5	[redacted]	[redacted]	24-01-2007-101118-001	UFO
6	[redacted]	[redacted]	23-02-2007-173043-014	UFO
7	[redacted]	[redacted]	16-02-2007-193108-003	Air Space
8	[redacted]	[redacted]	26-02-2007-093149-001	UFO
9	[redacted]	[redacted]	01-03-2007-143620-001	UFO
10	[redacted]	[redacted]	07-03-2007-092630-005	UFO
11	[redacted]	[redacted]	13-03-2007-114400-010	UFO
12	[redacted]	[redacted]	12-03-2007-143843-010	UFO
13	[redacted]	[redacted]	06-12-2006-122704-004	Air Accident
14	[redacted]	[redacted]	15-03-2007-094509-001	UFO
15	[redacted]	[redacted]	19-03-2007-155118-007	UFO
16	[redacted]	[redacted]	14-03-2007-142940-004	UFO
17	[redacted]	[redacted]	15-03-2007-175810-002	UFO
18	[redacted]	[redacted]	05-03-2007-154149-014	UFO
19	[redacted]	[redacted]	19-03-2007-154548-004	UFO
19	[redacted]	[redacted]	19-03-2007-154753-005	UFO
19	[redacted]	[redacted]	19-03-2007-154929-006	UFO

Registered File Disposal Form

MOD Form 262F
(Revised 1/00)

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc)
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
DEFENCE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Reference:
(Prefix and Number): D/DAS/10/2/8/13

Part: W

PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors): UNCLASSIFIED

Date of last enclosure: 21 MAR 2007

Date closed: 21 MAR 2007

PART 1. DISPOSAL SCHEDULE RECOMMENDATION
(To be completed when the file is closed)

	✔
Destroy after _____ years	
Forward to DR after _____ years	
No recommendation	

FOR DEFENCE RECORDS (DR) USE ONLY

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)

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 DR. ☐ ✔

b. (i) To be retained for _____ years (from date of last enclosure) for the following reason(s):

	✔		✔
LEGAL	☐	DEFENCE POLICY + OPERATIONS	☐
CONTRACTUAL	☐	ORIGINAL COMMITTEE PAPERS	☐
FINANCE/AUDIT	☐	MAJOR EQUIPMENT PROJECT	☐
DIRECTORATE POLICY	☐	OTHER (Specify)	☐

PERMANENT RETENTION

[_____]

PPQ = 100

(Continued overleaf)

(ii) Key enclosures which support the recommendation are:

(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 DR for permanent preservation. ☐ ✔

PART 3. BRANCH REVIEWING OFFICER (not below HEO/equivalent)

Signatu[redacted]

Name: [redacted]
(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: C2 Date: 3-9-10

Branch Title and Full Address:

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)

Produced by Ministry of Defence, DSDA(PC) KY Tel. 0117 9376256



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: [redacted]

Case Number: 19-03-2007-154548-004 Expiry: 18 Apr 07

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Was Room 801 Metropole Building a focal point for UFO records.

How many photos of UFOs did MoD receive in 2006. How were they referenced

How many UFOs were tracked by military radar during 2006.

Case for release of information

The cost of providing this information on room 801 would exceed £600 and therefore under Section 12 of the FOI Act MoD is not obliged to provide an answer.

Requester has been asked to narrow the scope of his request.

There is no reason to withhold the other information.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation not to release the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name: ..... [redacted] .....

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

Date: ..... 21/3/2007 .....

From: [redacted]
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) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
Cwmbran
Gwent
[redacted]

Our Reference
19-03-2007-154548-004

Date
21 March 2007

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 10th March 2007 asking whether Room 801 in the Ministry of Defence (MoD) Old Metropole Building was a central hub for collating UFO Reports from military bases around the country, including the collation of radar sightings of UFOs. Additionally, on separate requests, you asked how many photographs and videos were received by the MoD in 2006 and how they are referenced. Finally, you asked how many UFOs were tracked by radar in 2006.

Firstly, in order to check whether Room 801 was used as a central hub for collating UFO reports and radar sightings, I would have to back track through our files. The MoD has files on the subject of UFOs dating back some twenty years and in order to find the information you asked for, we would need to conduct a manual search of those files, the cost of which would 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 the request.

However, if you are able to narrow the scope of your request to a two or three year period, we will attempt to provide you with the information you request.

Secondly, the MoD was sent photographs, videos etc on nine occasions during 2006. If photographs are retained, they are placed in date order on file together with any correspondence and given the next appropriate enclosure number in ascending order.

Finally, you asked how many UFOs were tracked by military radar in 2006. I am informed by the relevant branch that nothing was observed nor were any reports received.

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.

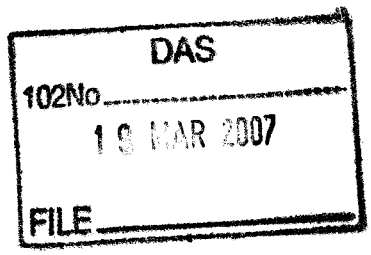
Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk."

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

19-03-2007-15454-004

EXP - 18 APR 07



[redacted]
Cwmbran
Gwent
[redacted]

10th March 2007

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am enquiring whether the Room 801 in the MoDs old Metropole Building was a central hub in collating UFO reports from military bases around the country, including the collation of radar sightings of UFOs, as widely reported.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

19-03-2007-154929-006
Email 16 MAR 07

DAS AS
102/Nelo
15 MAR 2007
FILE

[redacted]
Cwmbran
Gwent
[redacted]

10th March 2007

Dear Sir/Madam,

In a previous response from your office it was revealed that photographs and video were received by the MoD of alleged UFOs. Could you tell me how many photos and videos were received by the MoD in 2006 and how they are referenced.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

19-03-2007-154753-005
EXPIRY 18 APR 07

[redacted]
Cwmbran
Gwent
[redacted]

10th March 2007

DAS
102No.....
19 MAR 2007
FILE.....

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am enquiring as to how many UFOs were tracked by military radar during 2006. Many thanks.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

ENCLOSURE 18 NUMBER

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: [redacted]

Case Number: 05-03-2007-154149-014 Expiry: 2 Apr 2007

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Confirmation 2 x USAF F-15 aircraft were instructed to investigate a UFO on 12 Jan 2007.

Copies of correspondence between Baroness Symonds and Lord Hill-Norton, summer 2001.

Confirmation MoD holds low flying booking sheets for 24 March 1997

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold the information. The names of some living individuals mentioned have been redacted under exemption s.40 Freedom Information Act. Those clearly in the public domain have not been redacted.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation for the release of the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [redacted]

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

Date: 21/3/2007

From: [redacted]
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) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
Bagillt
Flintshire
North Wales
[redacted]

Our Reference
05-03-2007-154149-014

Date
21 March 2007

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 14 March 2007 redefining your Freedom of Information request of 5 March 2007 that sought confirmation that a flight of USAF F-15 aircraft were instructed to investigate an unknown object on or around 12 January 2007. Additionally, you asked for copies of correspondence between Lord Hill-Norton and Baroness Symonds over the summer of 2001. Finally, you asked for confirmation that the Ministry of Defence holds copies of the low flying booking sheets for 24 March 1997. I shall address each in turn.

The Ministry of Defence have no record of UK military air traffic control tasking USAF aircraft to undertake any such investigation on or around 12th January 2007. However, I understand that on that date, two USAF aircraft spotted an object on their onboard radar whilst on a routine training flight and, on their own initiative, made a number of passes over it. They believed the object, no bigger than a football, was floating with the wind and had probably come from a weather balloon.

I attach a number of documents relating to correspondence between Lord Hill-Norton and Baroness Symonds on the subject of the Rendlesham incident. You asked for papers covering the summer of 2001, but I actually included the period January-October 2001 in my search. The papers also contain some correspondence from Lord Bach where he was responding to letters addressed to his predecessor, Baroness Symonds. Some personal details such as names, telephone numbers and signatures have been removed under Exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

It is possible that low flying booking sheets for March 1997 are still held by the Ministry of Defence. However, if they do exist, they are held on a number of old computer disks and we are no longer able to access the data without purchasing specialist equipment, or going to a private contractor. Both of these options would incur costs far in excess of 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 the 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 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]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 14 March 2007 17:45
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 05-03-2007-154149-014

Dear [redacted]40

Thank you for your prompt response to my FOI request. After taking your comments into consideration I will drop my request for the ORBs from my request so please continue with it on that basis.

However, I am minded to submit a separate request for the ORBs and would like to know how many working days following the completeion of my request above have to pass before I could submit such a request?

Regards

[redacted]

----- Original Message -----
From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2007 11:00 AM
Subject: [SPAM] FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 05-03-2007-154149-014

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 5 March 2007 seeking confirmation that a flight of USAF F-15 aircraft were instructed to investigate an unknown object on or around 12 January 2007. Additionally, you asked for copies of correspondence between Lord Hill-Norton and Baroness Symonds over the summer of 2001, together with copies of the Operational Records Books for a number of RAF Squadrons in March 1997. Finally, you asked for confirmation that the Ministry of Defence holds copies of the low flying booking sheets for 24 March 1997.

I should inform you that this request is likely to exceed the £600 limit set for compliance by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and therefore the MoD is not required to comply with your request.

That having been said, it is the request for copies of Operations Record Books that is likely to push costs above the £600 limit, as they will need to be returned to each of the squadrons for checking and any necessary redaction. If you are prepared to withdraw this part of your request, I should be in a position to answer the other matters. As an aside, the Air Historical Branch have informed me that having checked the documents themselves, they could not see anything that might relate to the sonic boom over Sheffield, which, I assume, is the root of your request for the Operations Record Books.

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."

Please let me know how you wish to proceed.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 14 March 2007 11:00
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 05-03-2007-154149-014

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 5 March 2007 seeking confirmation that a flight of USAF F-15 aircraft were instructed to investigate an unknown object on or around 12 January 2007. Additionally, you asked for copies of correspondence between Lord Hill-Norton and Baroness Symonds over the summer of 2001, together with copies of the Operational Records Books for a number of RAF Squadrons in March 1997. Finally, you asked for confirmation that the Ministry of Defence holds copies of the low flying booking sheets for 24 March 1997.

I should inform you that this request is likely to exceed the £600 limit set for compliance by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and therefore the MoD is not required to comply with your request.

That having been said, it is the request for copies of Operations Record Books that is likely to push costs above the £600 limit, as they will need to be returned to each of the squadrons for checking and any necessary redaction. If you are prepared to withdraw this part of your request, I should be in a position to answer the other matters. As an aside, the Air Historical Branch have informed me that having checked the documents themselves, they could not see anything that might relate to the sonic boom over Sheffield, which, I assume, is the root of your request for the Operations Record Books.

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Please let me know how you wish to proceed.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Sqn Ldr [redacted]

[redacted]

Boulmer AFC

[redacted]

Sqn Ldr [redacted]

[redacted]

Boulmer AFC

[redacted]

MARCH - OCT

05-03-2007-154149-014

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 05 March 2007 15:34
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI request

EXP - 2 APRIL 07

Dear [redacted]

Thanks for your recent help with my previous FOI request. I would like to submit further requests as follows...

1) I want to make a Freedom of Information request for any information held by the Ministry of Defence relating to an incident on or about 12 January 2007 when an 'unidentified flying object' or 'unknown target' was detected by the UK Air Defence system. I'm in possession of information which suggests that a flight of USAF F-15 aircraft from RAF Lakenheath were asked to investigate the unknown target and that they were able to make both radar and visual contact with the object.

Can you confirm that this incident occurred as described and provide copies of any documents relating to the investigation and conclusions reached.

2) In addition, I'd like to follow up on the information you sent me earlier this year relating to the Rendlesham forest documents and the low-flying incident near Sheffield in 1997.

It's clear from reading through the Rendlesham papers that one key set of letters are missing - i.e. those relating to correspondence between Baroness Symonds (who was Under Secretary of State) and Lord Hill-Norton, during the summer of 2001. The set of papers you sent me contains a fax from Georgina Bruni to DAS4a dated 9 July 2001 which says: "I understand that Baroness Symons recently sent copies of this material [the Rendlesham UFO papers] to Lord Hill-Norton...." This is confirmed by DAS4a's response to Ms Bruni on 18 July, however there is no paperwork relating to this earlier communication with Lord Hill-Norton in the papers you have sent to me. Is it possible that the letters between Baroness Symonds and Lord Hill-Norton are in a separate file on Parliamentary Correspondence? If so I wish to request copies of any relevant papers please.

3) Lastly and with reference to the 24 March 1997 low-flying incident near Sheffield. I would like to make a FOI request for copies of the relevant sections of the Operations Record Books (covering 20-30 March 1997) for the following RAF squadrons:

*2 Squadron & 13 Squadron (Tornado GR4A, RAF Marham)
*9 Squadron & 31 Squadron (Tornado GR4, RAF Marham)
*5 Squadron & 56(R) Squadron (Tornado, RAF Coningsby)

4) Could you also confirm that MoD holds copies of the "low flying booking sheets" which record the details of the low-flying activity on 24 March 1997.

According to the advice given to John Spellar MP following the Parliamentary Questions in 1998, these were the only centrally-held records relating to the exercise. If these exist I would like to request copies of them please.

Thanks very much for your assistance in this matter

Regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 08 March 2007 21:00
To: [redacted]
Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Dear [redacted])

Further to your enquiry about dates and the source of my information...

It was sourced from a news story posted on the internet (UFO Updates). A recording of the pilots transmissions is also circulating on the net.

I believe it was during daylight, but don't have a definite time, on Friday, 12 January 2007.

They would most likely, but not definitely, have been directed towards the target by London Military Air Traffic Control.

I trust this will help you trace documentation pertaining to this incident.

Regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 05 March 2007 15:34
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI request

Dear [redacted]

Thanks for your recent help with my previous FOI request. I would like to submit further requests as follows...

1) I want to make a Freedom of Information request for any information held by the Ministry of Defence relating to an incident on or about 12 January 2007 when an 'unidentified flying object' or 'unknown target' was detected by the UK Air Defence system. I'm in possession of information which suggests that a flight of USAF F-15 aircraft from RAF Lakenheath were asked to investigate the unknown target and that they were able to make both radar and visual contact with the object.

Can you confirm that this incident occurred as described and provide copies of any documents relating to the investigation and conclusions reached.

2) In addition, I'd like to follow up on the information you sent me earlier this year relating to the Rendlesham forest documents and the low-flying incident near Sheffield in 1997.

It's clear from reading through the Rendlesham papers that one key set of letters are missing - i.e. those relating to correspondence between Baroness Symonds (who was Under Secretary of State) and Lord Hill-Norton, during the summer of 2001. The set of papers you sent me contains a fax from Georgina Bruni to DAS4a dated 9 July 2001 which says: "I understand that Baroness Symons recently sent copies of this material [the Rendlesham UFO papers] to Lord Hill-Norton...." This is confirmed by DAS4a's response to Ms Bruni on 18 July, however there is no paperwork relating to this earlier communication with Lord Hill-Norton in the papers you have sent to me. Is it possible that the letters between Baroness Symonds and Lord Hill-Norton are in a separate file on Parliamentary Correspondence? If so I wish to request copies of any relevant papers please.

3) Lastly and with reference to the 24 March 1997 low-flying incident near Sheffield. I would like to make a FOI request for copies of the relevant sections of the Operations Record Books (covering 20-30 March 1997) for the following RAF squadrons:

*2 Squadron & 13 Squadron (Tornado GR4A, RAF Marham)
*9 Squadron & 31 Squadron (Tornado GR4, RAF Marham)
*5 Squadron & 56(R) Squadron (Tornado, RAF Coningsby)

Could you also confirm that MoD holds copies of the "low flying booking sheets" which record the details of the low-flying activity on 24 March 1997.

According to the advice given to John Spellar MP following the Parliamentary Questions in 1998, these were the only centrally-held records relating to the exercise. If these exist I would like to request copies of them please.

Thanks very much for your assistance in this matter

Regards

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
OLD WAR OFFICE BUILDING
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2EU

Telephone 020 7218 [redacted]
020 7218
Fax 020 7218 [redacted]

MINISTER FOR
DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

21

FROM: THE LORD BACH

D/MIN(DP)/ WB 3005 & 2632-3/01/P

9 September 2001

Dear Lord Hill-Norton,

Further to my letter of 3 August, I am now in a position to provide a substantive reply to your letters of 2 July and 24 May about the events in Rendlesham Forest in 1980.

I have listened with care to the compact disc and it does indeed provide a graphic account of the comments contained in Lieutenant Colonel Halt's letter dated 13 January 1981.

But notwithstanding the fact that the recording will no doubt be of great interest to those who have made a study of these matters, I do not believe it offers any clear evidence that the UK's Air Defence Region was compromised by whatever occurred all those years ago. As has been said before, following examination of Lt Col Halt's memorandum and contemporary records, the conclusion at the time was that this was not the case and that is the key issue for us in any investigation of reported UFO sightings. Given this, and the length of time that has elapsed, I do not believe it would now be appropriate to commit MOD resources to any further enquiries that would be unlikely to be productive.

Nonetheless, in light of the passing of the Freedom of Information Act, my officials are undertaking a review of UFO files in anticipation of an increase in enquiries on these matters. In the course of this review they will consult the Home Office, although it seems unlikely that they are holding any papers of defence interest. Please be assured that I will write to you again should anything new on the Rendlesham Forest incident be revealed.

In the meantime, I understand that you intend to table questions in the House in the forthcoming session and I shall, of course, answer as fully as I can the points you raise.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

DAS SEC
DAS
102No.
13 SEP 2001
Private Office
FILE

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
OLD WAR OFFICE BUILDING
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2EU

Telephone 020 7218 [redacted]
020 7218
Fax 020 7218

MINISTER FOR
DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

18

FROM: THE LORD BACH

D/MIN(DP)/ WB 2632-2/01/P

3 August 2001

Dear Lord Hill-Norton,

I wrote to you on 23 June about your compact disc and photographs of the events in Rendlesham Forest in 1980.

I very much regret that I have still not had the opportunity to give the disc the attention it warrants and I am now going on holiday for the next three weeks.

I assure you that I will listen to the disc upon my return to the office and provide you with a more substantive response.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

DAS RD

Private Office

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
OLD WAR OFFICE BUILDING
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2EU

Telephone 020 7218 [redacted]
020 7218 [redacted]
Fax 020 7218 [redacted]

MINISTER OF STATE FOR
DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

14/3

FROM: THE LORD BACH

D/MIN(DP)/ WB 2632/01/P

23 June 2001

Dear Lord Hill-Norton,

Thank you for your letter of 24 May to Baroness Symons enclosing a compact disc and some photographs of the events in Rendlesham Forest in 1980. I am replying as the new Minister for Defence Procurement and the Government's Defence Minister in the House of Lords.

I have only recently been appointed to this post and have yet to have the opportunity to listen to the recording. However, I intend to do so and to reply more fully as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DAS 3
26 JUN 2001
FILE

Private Office

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

14/1

[redacted]

This for info only. Lord Bach will adapt draft provided for Mc

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE DP 2632/01

[redacted]

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

IMPORTANT - YOU MUST READ THIS GUIDANCE

TO: DAS4A1 (Sec) MC REF NUMBER: 3005/2001

Copy to:

MINISTER REPLYING: DP DRAFT REQUIRED BY: N/A/2001

DATE: 10/7/2001 FROM: [redacted], Ministerial Correspondence Unit

Room 222WH TEL: [redacted] FAX: [redacted]

YOU WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DRAFT ANSWER AND ADVICE, WHICH MUST BE ACCURATE AND NOT MISLEADING IN ANY WAY.

ENSURE THE DEADLINE IS MET: THE DEPARTMENT IS COMMITTED TO ANSWERING 90% OF IT'S MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS; OUR PERFORMANCE IN FY 2000/01 – WHILE MUCH IMPROVED – WAS SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN THIS.

A NAMED OFFICIAL AT PAY BAND B2 LEVEL OR ABOVE MUST CLEAR ALL DRAFTS. OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR MOD DIVISIONS SHOULD BE CONSULTED AS NECESSARY.

IF YOU ARE AN AGENCY, THE MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS DIRECTED THAT THIS LETTER SHOULD RECEIVE A MINISTERIAL – NOT CHIEF EXECUTIVE – REPLY.

E-MAIL DRAFTS TO *'PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRIES'*, NOT TO PE CLERKS OR PRIVATE OFFICES.

(Please ensure sensitivity of your email message is 'Normal'.)

IF THIS CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE DEALT WITH BY ANOTHER BRANCH, PLEASE PASS IT ON AND INFORM US IMMEDIATELY.

Number of pages sent by fax: 3

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

[redacted] - do we respond?

[redacted]40

8.7.01

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

The Lord Bach
Ministry of Defence
Old War Office Building
London SW1A 2EU

2nd July 2001

Dear Lord Bach,

Thank you for your letter of 23rd June.

May I welcome you to the Defence Department, which is still much more important than many now listed above it. Defence Procurement has been a mess, and worse, ever since I have known it, and I first served in one of its Naval Staff Divisions in 1943, before you were born I suspect.

My correspondence with Lady Symons about the UFO landing at Rendlesham Forest twenty years ago is important, although your officials pretend not to think so. I use the words "UFO landing" because that is how the Deputy Commander of the USAF base described it at the time.

I really would be glad if you would personally read the last half dozen written exchanges between me and Lady Symons, because this is going to go on and on until the gravity of the incident to the Defence of the Realm is officially recognized. That is my only purpose on pursuing it.

May I also beg you to listen yourself to the tape, with a truly open mind? I do not believe that any one who does so can fail to conclude that the people in action and speaking on the tape, made officially at the time, had no doubt whatever that they were investigating the site at which some thing physical had just landed and taken off again. I have tried it on several individuals, including one former Chief of the Air Staff. They all agree with what I have written above.

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone (020) 721 [redacted]
(020) 7218
Fax [redacted]

MINISTER OF STATE FOR
DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

12

FROM: THE RT HON BARONESS SYMONS

D/MIN(DP)/ECS 2391/01/P

16 May 2001

Dear Lord Hill-Norton.

Thank you for your letters of 17 and 22 May (April) about the events at Rendlesham Forest and the recording you have received from Ms Georgina Bruni.

I note your comments in your letter of 17 April. These events occurred over 20 years ago, and my earlier responses to you have necessarily been based on the surviving official records held by the Ministry of Defence. These records show that on receipt, Lieutenant Colonel Halt's memorandum was examined by those responsible for air defence matters and they concluded that there was nothing of defence interest in the report. No further investigation was made and to date we have seen no official documentation which gives us reason to believe that the original assessment made by the Ministry of Defence was incorrect. Nevertheless, if you would like to send me the compact disc I shall, of course, be happy to listen to it with a completely open mind.

Moreover, I would be grateful if at the same time you would provide what information you have on the, "very recent disclosures by a former prison officer at Hollesley."

In the meantime, I enclose for your information a number of papers on the Rendlesham Forest incident that have recently been released to a member of the public under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. Some have been sanitised to protect the privacy of those who have corresponded with the Ministry of Defence.

I will write to you again once I have received and listened to the recording.

Thank you for your personal letter. Which I appreciated very much. Look forward to listening to the tapes.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton CB KCB

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Private Office
21 MAY 2001
[illegible]LE
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

D[redacted]4A1(SEC) 11

From: ASST PARLIAMENTARY CLK2 on behalf of PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRIES
To: DAS4A1(SEC)
Sent: 17 May 2001 12:41
Subject: Read: PE DP2391/2001

Your message

To: PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRIES
Subject: PE DP2391/2001
Sent: 17/05/01 12:21

was read on 17/05/01 12:41.

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAS(Sec)64/4

17 May 2001

PE Unit
(through DAS AD/4) 17/5

PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY – DP2391/2001 – ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON GCB

1. Lord Hill-Norton has a long standing interest in 'unidentified flying objects' and in January 2001 he tabled ten PQs on the subject of a well known 'UFO' sighting in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk in December 1980. In February 2001 the Department received a PE from Lord Hill-Norton in which he expressed his dissatisfaction with the answer to PQ0392L.

2. In his letter of 17 April, the Peer disagrees with the Minister's reply to his previous PE, particularly as he claims a wealth of new evidence has been uncovered in the intervening 20 years by 'UFO' investigators. It is true that several books have been written about these events and a number of people have claimed to have been involved. However, the only documentary evidence the Ministry holds is that which is contained in our files and written around the time of the event. These documents show a clear chain of events which have already been explained to Lord Hill-Norton and many others.

3. Also in his letter of 17 April, the Peer asks the Minister a number of direct questions about "very recent disclosures by a former prison officer at Hollesley about the apparently unauthorised removal of certain pages of records covering the time of the incident". Rather than attempt to answer questions about something of which we were not aware, the draft reply asks Lord Hill-Norton to forward what information he has on these disclosures.

4. In his letter of 22 April, the Peer says that Ms Bruni has given him a recording which she claims was made at the time of the incident and contains the voice of Lieutenant Colonel Halt, the Deputy Base Commander at RAF Woodbridge. He asks the Minister to agree to listen to the recording. It is likely that if the Minister did not agree to his request, Lord Hill-Norton would probably say that the Department was not being open-minded and, accordingly, we suggest that the Minister should agree to listen to the recording.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

5. The papers we hold on this incident have recently been released to a member of the public who requested them under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. Although Lord Hill-Norton has not actually asked to see these documents, as they are in the public domain, it may now be appropriate to make them available to him. In due course, the Minister may wish to meet with the Peer to discuss these issues, although the potential for any such meeting to diffuse a volatile situation will need to be weighed against the fact that there is unlikely to be anything new to say. For this reason, the prospect of a meeting has not been raised in the draft reply.

6. I enclose a draft reply, together with the papers referred to in the previous paragraph, for Min(DP) to send to Lord Hill-Norton in response to his letters of 17 and 22 April.

[redacted]

DAS 4a1

[redacted]

Drafted by: [redacted] DAS 4a1
Authorised by: DAS AD4

DP 2391/2001 May 2001

DRAFT REPLY TO ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON GCB

Thank you for your letters of 17 and 22 May concerning the events at Rendlesham Forest and the recording you have received from Ms Georgina Bruni.

I note your comments in your letter of 17 April. These events occurred over 20 years ago, and my earlier responses to you have necessarily been based on the surviving official records held by the Ministry of Defence. These records show that on receipt, Lieutenant Colonel Halt's memorandum was examined by those responsible for air defence matters and they concluded that there was nothing of defence interest in the report. No further investigation was made and to date we have seen no official documentation which gives us reason to believe that the original assessment made by the Ministry of Defence was incorrect. Nevertheless, if you would like to send me the compact disc I shall, of course, be happy to listen to it with a completely open mind. Moreover, I would be grateful if at the same time you would provide what information you have on the "very recent disclosures by a former prison officer at Hollesley".

In the meantime, I enclose for your information a number of papers on the Rendlesham Forest incident that have recently been released to a member of the public under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. Some have been sanitised to protect the privacy of those who have corresponded with the Ministry of Defence.

I will write to you again after I have listened to the recording.

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

IMPORTANT - YOU MUST READ THIS GUIDANCE

TO: DAS 4(Sec) PE REF NUMBER: DP 239 /2001

Copy to:

MINISTER REPLYING: Min(DP) DRAFT REQUIRED BY: 17/5/2001

DATE: 4/5/2001 FROM: [redacted] PE Unit , TEL: [redacted]

FAX: [redacted]

YOU WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DRAFT ANSWER AND ADVICE, WHICH MUST BE ACCURATE AND NOT MISLEADING IN ANY WAY.

ENSURE THE DEADLINE IS MET: THE DEPARTMENT IS COMMITTED TO ANSWERING 90% OF IT'S MINISTERIAL ENQUIRIES WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS; OUR PERFORMANCE IN FY 2000/01 – WHILE MUCH IMPROVED – WAS SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN THIS.

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Number of pages sent by fax: 8

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

- ***Ministers place great importance on the content, style and speed of replies. Letters should be polite, informal, to the point and in clear, simple language. Avoid acronyms and MOD jargon. Always emphasise the positive aspects of Government policy. No background note is required unless essential to explain the line taken in the draft reply.***

- **DEADLINES:** It is important that your draft is with us by the date shown at the top of this notice, as Ministers must send a written reply within 15 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THIS ENQUIRY. The Department's performance is reported each year to Parliament. If you cannot meet the deadline, you should therefore provide an interim reply that apologises for the delay, sets out the action being taken to answer the enquiry, and advises when a substantive reply can be expected. You should aim to provide a substantive draft reply within a further 8 working days. Interim replies should be used infrequently, as every effort must be made to reply to correspondence from MPs (and others) promptly.

- **Action at official level on the same case should be held until the Minister has sent a full reply. Please discuss any questions about the substance of the drafts, or other policy aspects, direct with the relevant Private Office.**

- **LAYOUT:** Draft replies should be double-spaced. Always include the full reference number at the top left of the draft. Put the MP's full title at the bottom left of the first page. Only add the address if the letter is from the Minister direct to a constituent.

- **OPENING AND CLOSING:** All Ministers prefer to start: *"Thank you for your letter of ...(MP's ref if given) on behalf of/enclosing one from your constituent, Mr ... of ... about ..."*
  If a Minister is replying on behalf of another, start: *"Thank you for your letter of ... to Geoff Hoon/Liz Symons/John Spellar/Lewis Moonie on behalf etc"*
  For Mr Spellar, add: *"I am replying in view of my responsibility for ..."*
  For Baroness Symons, add: *"I am responding because of my responsibility for this issue." (or, in the case of letters from fellow Peers: "I have been asked to respond.")*
  For Dr Moonie, add: *"I am replying as this matter falls within my area of responsibility."*
  Choose an appropriate ending (except for Dr Moonie, who will add his own) - such as: *"I hope this is helpful"; "I hope this explains the position/situation"; "I am sorry I cannot be more helpful"*; or *"I am sorry to send what I know will be a disappointing reply"*.

- **OPEN GOVERNMENT:** Replies MUST be drafted in accordance with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. It is set out in **DCI 223/99**. If you are recommending to a Minister that some or all information is withheld, the answer must specify the law or exemption in the Code under which it is being withheld - eg "I am withholding the information requested under exemption 1 of Part II of the *Code of Practice on Access to Government Information*." It is **NOT** acceptable to rely on past practice. Further information is available from DG Info on [redacted]

INTERIM REPLIES: If it is obvious on receipt of a Ministerial enquiry that you cannot reply in full, an interim **MUST** be provided by the deadline stated. **REMEMBER:** an interim reply covering the majority of the issues raised could help our performance statistics.

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

PB - for PE action.

Two PEs to be answered together. DAS Sec to draft.

For DAS Sec: Min (DP) will give undertaking to listen to CD recording held by Hill Norton. Clearly others will want/need to listen to it too.

DP [redacted]

DAS(Sec)

UFO:

O/R: [illegible]

[illegible] 1200.

Lord HILL-NORTON



[redacted]

Personal

22. IV. 01

Dear Lady Symes,

This is partly an olive branch and partly an invitation. I have no wish to quarrel with you – we have never met, nor to continue our tiff for late Cretaceous fashion. But I am sure that as Minister of State at Defence you must, for once, be as anxious to know the truth of what happened at Ravensbruck 20 years ago, as I (and numberless other service people) am. I am deliberately writing this by hand, but my script is now poor so I hope you can read it.

A couple of days after I sent you my last letter I received from G. Bruni a tape, which is both astonishing, and highly relevant, some incidents so much so that it is strange that it has not come my way before.

The tape was made at the time of the incidents on a routine practice by the US Air Force. It contains the voices of Colonel Hall and a number

HOUSE OF LORDS

of his men, as they drove nine kilometres beyond the landing site which they had marked down, for traces of radio activity on wheel tracks in the ground, and on adjacent trees. These findings were, beyond dispute, positive. The second part of the tape, taken at the same time, records their observation of, and comments upon, two objects in the air carrying out activities which included projecting beams of light downwards, steady lights and some energy release, probably heat.

You will thus acquire me of undue credulity, or my loss of life and with my lower record, and I have to tell you that it has left me in no doubt that they were watching something physical in our air space, and of no known origin.

The tape has been authenticated by Col. Halt who has confirmed that it was made at the time, at his orders, and has not been tampered with since.

My recollection is to ask you to listen to the tape yourself. I know that you are busy, but it runs for only 25 minutes and I think it is important that you should form your own opinion of it, and this I trust I, and many others, are saying.

If I send you the tape (it is actually a Compact Disc) will you do me the courtesy of listening to it.

HOUSE OF LORDS

yourself, and with an open mind? I can conceive of no good reason why you should decline. It could be of great importance, not just to this matter, but to many others.

The only cause I have to grieve, is to cause me safe Defence of the Realm, so I do hope that you will agree

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

The Rt. Hon The Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean
House of Lords
Westminster
SW1 OPW

17th April 2001

Dear Lady Symons,

I have now had time to have a proper look at your letter dated 22nd March, and I find it not so much disappointing as absurd. This is for various reasons but mainly because you seem unable to grasp what we are arguing about.

The gravamen of my letter of 12th February is that you have not answered the Question I put down (HL 354). This is a matter of the English language and has nothing to do with Defence. I am seeking a remedy through official channels; and you will hear more later.

In the meantime I am bound to make the following points arising from your reply:

a. You assert that you do not agree that the (only) two possible explanations for what actually happened, and was reported by the Deputy Commander at the base at the time, but although I asked you to say why, you did not in the PQ you have not done so.

b. You assert that your Department has no reason to disagree with the judgement which was published at the time, that the events were of no Defence interest. But over the past 20 years a wealth of new evidence has been uncovered by serious, diligent, and experienced investigators. At least half a dozen books have been published about the incident, one of them by one of the US armed men who took part at the time. If, indeed, your Ministry has taken no steps to re-open the alleged military investigation at the time, that would amount to gross dereliction of duty. But I know that your assertion is simply untrue.

Continued:



c. Are you personally aware of very recent disclosures by a former prison officer at Hollesley about the apparently unauthorised removal of certain pages of records covering the time of the incident? If not, why not? I and a great many others are privy to this astounding new evidence. Has it been tested and accounted for in your Ministry? If not why ever not? Do you genuinely believe that this does not matter?

I suggest that all this, and there is a great deal more, now in the public domain which makes it beyond any possible doubt that the incident most certainly was of considerable Defence interest, and it is absurd of you to pretend otherwise.

But my Question has not been answered and I have a right to an Answer, and you have the duty of providing it. I might have supposed that my former appointments and track record since would have entitled me to rather more intelligent consideration, if you had been treating the matter as seriously as you should.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted],

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAS(Sec)64/4

28 February 2001

PE Unit
(through DAS AD4(Se [redacted] 27/2

PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY- DP 1197/2001 – ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON GCB

1. Lord Hill-Norton has a long standing interest in 'unidentified flying objects' and has tabled many PQs and PEs. In January 2001 he tabled ten PQs, nine of which concerned a recently published book by Georgina Bruni on the subject of the alleged 'UFO' sighting in Rendlesham Forest. He is not content with the answer given to PQ 0392L concerning alleged events in Rendlesham Forest/ RAF Woodbridge between 27-29 December 1980.

2. In his letter of 2 February, the Peer takes issue with the Minister's use of the word "alleged" when discussing these events. In view of Lord Hill-Norton's stance on this matter, I do not believe there is anything to be gained by challenging him and the draft reply (see para 5, below) simply notes his point and seeks to assure him that it was not the Minister's intention to mislead the reader over this issue.

3. In his letter of 12 February, Lord Hill-Norton is essentially repeating the question that he put to Lord Gilbert on 22 October 1997, namely, would we agree that either something intruded into UK airspace and landed near RAF Woodbridge, or that those who say they witnessed this event (including the Deputy Base Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Halt) were either hallucinating, or lying.

4. We are not suggesting that Lieutenant Colonel Halt or any others are lying and it is clear that they observed something which they were unable to explain at the time. However, surviving Departmental records show that when Lt Col Halt's memo arrived at the MOD it was passed to the military authorities responsible for air defence matters and they concluded there was nothing of defence concern. No further investigation was deemed necessary and no evidence has come to light over the intervening years to suggest that this assessment was incorrect.

5. I enclose a draft reply for Min(DP) to send to Lord Hill-Norton in response to his letters of 2 and 12 February.

[redacted]
DAS 4a1(Sec)
[redacted]

Drafted by: [redacted] DAS 4a1(Sec)
Authorised by: [redacted] DAS AD4(Sec)

DP 1197/2001 February 2001

DRAFT REPLY TO ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON GCB

Thank you for your letters of 2 and 12 February about the events at Rendlesham Forest on the nights of 27-29 December 1980.

I note what you say in your first letter about the use of the word "alleged" in regard to these events and would like to reassure you that it was most certainly not my intention to mislead the reader over this issue.

You have suggested that there are only two possible explanations to the events reported by Lieutenant Colonel Halt in his memorandum dated 13 January 1981. I do not agree that this is the case and it follows that I am unable to give you the simple yes or no answers to your questions which you are seeking. While there is no suggestion that Lieutenant Colonel Halt, or any others serving at RAF Woodbridge at the time, were either hallucinating or lying, neither can we explain exactly what these people did see.

These events happened over 20 years ago and from the surviving Departmental records it is clear that when Lieutenant Colonel Halt's memorandum was received in my Department it was passed to the military authorities with responsibility for air defence matters. Their conclusion was that there was nothing of defence interest in the report. Once this was established no further investigation was made. Nothing has

emerged over the intervening years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by the Ministry of Defence was incorrect.

I am sorry if you feel that this is a disappointing reply but I hope you understand that, after all these years, I cannot be more helpful.

THE BARONESS SYMONS OF VERNHAM DEAN

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

IMPORTANT - YOU MUST READ THIS GUIDANCE

TO: DAS 4(SEC) **PE REF NUMBER:** DF1197/2001

Copy to:

MINISTER REPLYING: Min(DP) **DRAFT REQUIRED BY:** 5/3/2001

DATE: 21/2/2001 **FROM:** [redacted] **PE Unit** **TEL:** [redacted]

FAX: [redacted]

YOU WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DRAFT ANSWER AND ADVICE, WHICH MUST BE ACCURATE AND NOT MISLEADING IN ANY WAY.

ENSURE THE DEADLINE IS MET: FROM 2001/02 ONWARDS, THE DEPARTMENT IS COMMITTED TO ANSWERING 90% OF ENQUIRIES WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS; OUR PERFORMANCE IN 2000 WAS SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN THIS.

A NAMED OFFICIAL AT B2 (GRADE 7) LEVEL OR ABOVE MUST CLEAR ALL DRAFTS. OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR MOD DIVISIONS SHOULD BE CONSULTED AS NECESSARY.

IF YOU ARE AN AGENCY, THE MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS DIRECTED THAT THIS ENQUIRY SHOULD RECEIVE A MINISTERIAL – NOT CHIEF EXECUTIVE – REPLY.

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Number of pages sent by fax: 5

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DAS 3 (SEC)
21 FEB 2001
FILE

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Revised 26 January 2001

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

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INTERIM REPLIES: If it is obvious on receipt of a PE that you cannot reply in full, an interim **MUST** be provided by the deadline stated. **REMEMBER**: an interim reply covering the majority of the issues raised could help our performance statistics.

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

RECEIVED BY
PARLIAMENTARY BRANCH
ON: 20/2/01
MIN: G:MIN(DP)
UFO'S
DAS 4(Sec)
RELATED CASE:
CLERK: [redacted]

The Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean
House of Lords
London SW1A OPW

12th February, 2001

Dear Lady Symons,

PQR Reference 03921

I gave you notice in my letter dated 2nd February that I would be writing to you separately about your failure to answer my Question HL 354.

I take the charitable view that your Private Secretary has simply not read the Question, or has misunderstood it. The only other explanation is that you were trying deliberately to mislead any reader of your Answer. I should not like to think you guilty of misleading the House, on purpose.

To avoid any possibility of any further misunderstanding, I will spell it all out as follows:

I asked whether HMG now agreed with my analysis of the basic facts of the Bentwaters/Rendlesham incident, stated in a letter of mine to Lord Gilbert in 1997. That analysis was, in essence,

"There are only two possible explanations of the actual facts available to you

a. Something physical of non-UK origin landed at the base, as stated by Colonel Halt and many others. Or

b. Colonel Halt, the Deputy Commander and many of the men under his command at a USAF Base in England were hallucinating, in what they reported.

In either case, surely this is of Defence Interest? or, if not, why not?"

The whole correspondence is now precisely available in Ms Bruni's book to which I referred in the Question.

You will see that my Question is susceptible of only two answers: Yes or No. In the latter instance my Question requires you to give reasons.

Continued:

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

You cannot possibly clam that your Written Answer has any relevance whatever to the Question. If you are unable or unwilling to answer it now, I shall have to ask for the protection of all the "Usual Channels", and/or the Clerk of the Parliaments. In that event I shall ensure that the media are aware of the whole story.

Yours truly

Hui-Kuhn.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

[redacted] **Fordingbridge Hants** [redacted]

The Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean
House of Lords
London SW1A

2nd February, 2001

Dear Lady Symons,

I have received a number of your written answers to Questions which I had put down.

You refer in most of them to the "..... alleged incident (at Bentwaters, Rendlesham Forest) .....". This is a simple mistake in English. There is no doubt, nor dispute, that there was an incident there on the day(s) in question. You have at least two written reports about it; in your files.

What you, and various of your predecessors doggedly claim is that the statements (which you prefer to call allegations) by a great many eye-witnesses are un-true. This flies in the teeth of what is now a considerabl volume of written, spoken and photographic evidence. But that is not the point.

The point of this letter is to tell you that the use of the word "alleged" in the context of your answers is either ignorant, or deliberately intended to mis-lead the reader.

Your answer dated 30th January does not answer my Question (HL 354), and I shall write to you separately about that. I did not ask you the question you have answered, as you will see if you care to read my Question again. I realise that you will have been very busy recently, but you will have to answer the Question in the end.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted],

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 81ST COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (USAFE)
APO NEW YORK 09755

REPLY TO ATTN OF: CD

13 Jan 81

SUBJECT: Unexplained Lights

TO: RAF/CC

1. Early in the morning of 27 Dec 80 (approximately 0300L), two USAF security police patrolmen saw unusual lights outside the back gate at RAF Woodbridge. Thinking an aircraft might have crashed or been forced down, they called for permission to go outside the gate to investigate. The on-duty flight chief responded and allowed three patrolmen to proceed on foot. The individuals reported seeing a strange glowing object in the forest. The object was described as being metalic in appearance and triangular in shape, approximately two to three meters across the base and approximately two meters high. It illuminated the entire forest with a white light. The object itself had a pulsing red light on top and a bank(s) of blue lights underneath. The object was hovering or on legs. As the patrolmen approached the object, it maneuvered through the trees and disappeared. At this time the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy. The object was briefly sighted approximately an hour later near the back gate.

2. The next day, three depressions 1 1/2" deep and 7" in diameter were found where the object had been sighted on the ground. The following night (29 Dec 80) the area was checked for radiation. Beta/gamma readings of 0.1 milliroentgens were recorded with peak readings in the three depressions and near the center of the triangle formed by the depressions. A nearby tree had moderate (.05-.07) readings on the side of the tree toward the depressions.

3. Later in the night a red sun-like light was seen through the trees. It moved about and pulsed. At one point it appeared to throw off glowing particles and then broke into five separate white objects and then disappeared. Immediately thereafter, three star-like objects were noticed in the sky, two objects to the north and one to the south, all of which were about 10^{0} off the horizon. The objects moved rapidly in sharp angular movements and displayed red, green and blue lights. The objects to the north appeared to be elliptical through an 8-12 power lens. They then turned to full circles. The objects to the north remained in the sky for an hour or more. The object to the south was visible for two or three hours and beamed down a stream of light from time to time. Numerous individuals, including the undersigned, witnessed the activities in paragraphs 2 and 3.

CHARLES I. HALT, Lt Col, USAF
Deputy Base Commander

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone (020) 7218 [redacted]
(020) 7218
Fax (020) 7218

476

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTER OF STATE FOR
DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DAS 4 (SEC)
23 MAR 2001
FILE

FROM: THE RT HON BARONESS SYMONS

D/MIN(DP)/ECS 1197/01/M

22 March 2001

Dear Lord Hill-Norton,

Thank you for your letters of 2 and 12 February about the written answers to the Questions you placed relating to the events at Rendlesham Forest on the nights of 27-29 December 1980.

I note what you say in your first letter about the use of the word "alleged" in regard to these events and would like to reassure you that there was most certainly no intention to mislead you or any other reader over this issue.

You have suggested that there are only two possible explanations to the events reported by Lieutenant Colonel Halt in his memorandum dated 13 January 1981. I do not agree that this is the case and it follows that I am unable to give you the simple yes or no answers to your questions which you are seeking. While there is no suggestion that Lieutenant Colonel Halt, or any others serving at RAF Woodbridge at the time, were either hallucinating or lying, neither can we explain exactly what these people did see.

These events happened over 20 years ago and from the surviving Departmental records it is clear that when Lieutenant Colonel Halt's memorandum was received in my Department it was passed to the military authorities with responsibility for air defence matters. Their conclusion was that there was nothing of defence interest in the report. Once this was established no further investigation was made. Nothing has emerged over the intervening years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by the Ministry of Defence was incorrect.

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

Private Office

INVESTOR IN

I am sorry if you feel that this is a disappointing reply but I hope you understand that, after all these years, I cannot be more helpful.

I have also taken note of your letter dated 12 February relating to the Armed Forces Bill. I am sorry that I was unable to invite you in person to the meeting but, as I was absent overseas on Departmental business, I authorised my Private Office to write on my behalf in the interests of saving time. This is not uncommon practice within the Department in these circumstances. I am sorry that you were unable to attend the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Recycled Paper

DAS4A1(SEC)

From: DAS4A1(SEC)
Sent: 13 June 2001 08:41
To: PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRIES
Subject: PE DP2632/2001

Please see attached our reply to the above mentioned PE which is due today.

The copy of Lieutenant Colonel Halt's memorandum mentioned in para 3 of the covering letter will be walked over to you. You may wish to advise APS to Lord Bach that DAS have the CD and photographs when required. Lord Bach will need to listen to the CD in due course and the APS thought it likely that as he is new to the post he would probably want DAS to brief him personally about these matters.

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAS(Sec)64/4

12th June 2001

PE Unit
(through DAS AD) 12/6

PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY – DP2632/2001 – ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON GCB

1. Lord Hill-Norton, Chief of Defence Staff from 1973 to 1976, has a long standing interest in 'unidentified flying objects' and this year he has tabled ten PQs and written two PEs on the subject of a well known 'UFO' sighting in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk in December 1980.

2. In a previous letter, dated 22 April, the Peer said he had been given a recording which, it is claimed, was made at the time of the Rendlesham Forest incident and contains the voice of Lieutenant Colonel Halt, the Deputy Base Commander at RAF Woodbridge. He asked that the Minister listen to the recording. We concluded that should the Minister not agree to his request, Lord Hill-Norton would accuse the Department of not being open-minded and in her reply, Baroness Symons agreed to listen to the recording.

3. In his letter of 24 May, the Peer enclosed the compact disc and some photographs which he said are part of an "enormous mass of new evidence". He asked for an investigation to be opened in to these events. DAS staff have listened to the recording several times and while it provides a more graphic account of events described in a memorandum written by Lieutenant Colonel Halt on 13 January 1981 (copy attached), we do not believe that it constitutes clear evidence that the UK Air Defence Region was compromised. It is now over twenty years since these events are reported to have taken place and we believe it would not be appropriate to commit MOD resources to further enquiries which are unlikely to produce any other conclusion than that which was made at the time; namely that nothing occurred which was of defence concern.

4. Lord Hill-Norton has also referred to records for Hollesley Prison in Suffolk. This prison is located in the vicinity of Rendlesham Forest and some of those who have written about these events have claimed that the prison was evacuated. A previous PQ answer from the Home Office stated that "records [for the period in question] were no longer available". The Peer is clearly suspicious about this, claiming that a former Prison Officer has been able to determine that the logs for Hollesley Prison "were available but the records covering December 1980 through to January 1981 are missing, although everything either side of these dates is intact". So far as we are aware, there is no mention of the prison in any papers held by the MOD. This is, therefore, clearly a matter for the Home Office and we would not wish to comment on their record keeping.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

5. A reply, along these lines, is attached. The draft also makes the point that DAS are to undertake a review of UFO files in the context of the Freedom of Information Act. However, given that the Minister was appointed only yesterday, it is suggested that a holding reply is sent to Lord Hill-Norton to enable the Minister to be briefed more fully and for him to listen to the recording. A draft holding reply is attached.

[redacted]

DAS 4a1

[redacted]

Drafted by: [redacted] DAS 4a1
Authorised by: DAS AD4

DP 2632/2001 June 2001

DRAFT REPLY TO ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON GCB

Thank you for your letter of 24 May 2001 addressed to my predecessor and enclosing a compact disc and some photographs of the events in Rendlesham Forest in 1980.

I have only recently been appointed to this post and have yet to have the opportunity to listen to the recording. However, I intend to do so and to reply more fully as soon as possible.

THE LORD BACH

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

FORWARDED AT THE REQUEST OF APS TO LORD BACH, BUT NOT TO BE RELEASED WITHOUT HIS AUTHORITY
(See paragraph 5 of covering minute)

DP 2632/2201 June 2001

DRAFT REPLY TO ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON GCB

Further to my letter of [ ] June 2001, I am now in a position to reply to your letter of 24th May concerning the events in Rendlesham Forest in 1980.

I have listened to the compact disc and it does indeed provide a graphic account of the comments contained in Lieutenant Colonel Halt's letter dated 13 January 1981.

But notwithstanding the fact that the recording will no doubt be of great interest to those who have made a study of these matters, I do not believe it offers any clear evidence that the UK's Air Defence Region was compromised by whatever occurred all those years ago. As has been said before, the conclusion at the time was that this was not the case and that is the key issue for us in any investigation of reported UFO sightings. Given this, and the length of time that has elapsed, I do not believe it would now be appropriate to commit MOD resources to any further enquiries that would be unlikely to be productive.

Nonetheless, in light of the passing of the Freedom of Information Act, my officials are undertaking a review of UFO files in anticipation of an increase in enquiries on these matters. In the course of this review they will consult the Home Office, although it seems unlikely that they are holding any papers of defence interest. Please be assured that should anything new on the Rendlesham Forest incident be revealed, I will let you know.

In the meantime, I am returning the compact disc and the photographs you sent with your letter of 24 May.

THE LORD BACH

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 81ST COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (USAFE)
APO NEW YORK 09755

REPLY TO ATTN OF: CD

13 Jan 81

SUBJECT: Unexplained Lights

TO: RAF/CC

1. Early in the morning of 27 Dec 80 (approximately 0300L), two USAF security police patrolmen saw unusual lights outside the back gate at RAF Woodbridge. Thinking an aircraft might have crashed or been forced down, they called for permission to go outside the gate to investigate. The on-duty flight chief responded and allowed three patrolmen to proceed on foot. The individuals reported seeing a strange glowing object in the forest. The object was described as being metalic in appearance and triangular in shape, approximately two to three meters across the base and approximately two meters high. It illuminated the entire forest with a white light. The object itself had a pulsing red light on top and a bank(s) of blue lights underneath. The object was hovering or on legs. As the patrolmen approached the object, it maneuvered through the trees and disappeared. At this time the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy. The object was briefly sighted approximately an hour later near the back gate.

2. The next day, three depressions 1 1/2" deep and 7" in diameter were found where the object had been sighted on the ground. The following night (29 Dec 80) the area was checked for radiation. Beta/gamma readings of 0.1 milliroentgens were recorded with peak readings in the three depressions and near the center of the triangle formed by the depressions. A nearby tree had moderate (.05-.07) readings on the side of the tree toward the depressions.

3. Later in the night a red sun-like light was seen through the trees. It moved about and pulsed. At one point it appeared to throw off glowing particles and then broke into five separate white objects and then disappeared. Immediately thereafter, three star-like objects were noticed in the sky, two objects to the north and one to the south, all of which were about 10^{0} off the horizon. The objects moved rapidly in sharp angular movements and displayed red, green and blue lights. The objects to the north appeared to be elliptical through an 8-12 power lens. They then turned to full circles. The objects to the north remained in the sky for an hour or more. The object to the south was visible for two or three hours and beamed down a stream of light from time to time. Numerous individuals, including the undersigned, witnessed the activities in paragraphs 2 and 3.

CHARLES I. HALT, Lt Col, USAF
Deputy Base Commander

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

PRENCUS -
23911/01
11972/01

PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

IMPORTANT - YOU MUST READ THIS GUIDANCE

TO: DAS 4 (Sec) **PE REF NUMBER:** DP2632/2001

Copy to:

MINISTER REPLYING: Min(AP) **DRAFT REQUIRED BY:** 13/6/2001

DATE: 4/6/2001 **FROM:** [redacted] PE Unit **TEL:** [redacted]

FAX: [redacted]

YOU WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DRAFT ANSWER AND ADVICE, WHICH MUST BE ACCURATE AND NOT MISLEADING IN ANY WAY.

ENSURE THE DEADLINE IS MET: THE DEPARTMENT IS COMMITTED TO ANSWERING 90% OF IT'S MINISTERIAL ENQUIRIES WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS; OUR PERFORMANCE IN FY 2000/01 – WHILE MUCH IMPROVED – WAS SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN THIS.

A NAMED OFFICIAL AT B2 (GRADE 7) LEVEL OR ABOVE MUST CLEAR ALL DRAFTS. OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR MOD DIVISIONS SHOULD BE CONSULTED AS NECESSARY.

IF YOU ARE AN AGENCY, THE MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS DIRECTED THAT THIS ENQUIRY SHOULD RECEIVE A MINISTERIAL – NOT CHIEF EXECUTIVE – REPLY.

E-MAIL DRAFTS TO *'PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRIES'*, NOT TO PE CLERKS OR PRIVATE OFFICES.

(Please ensure sensitivity of your email message is 'Normal'.)

IF THIS CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE DEALT WITH BY ANOTHER BRANCH, PLEASE PASS IT ON AND INFORM US IMMEDIATELY.

Number of pages sent by fax: 9

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DAS 3
04 JUN 2001
FILE

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Revised 2 April 2001

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

- ***Ministers place great importance on the content, style and speed of replies. Letters should be polite, informal, to the point and in clear, simple language. Avoid acronyms and MOD jargon. Always emphasise the positive aspects of Government policy. No background note is required unless essential to explain the line taken in the draft reply.***

- **DEADLINES:** It is important that your draft is with us by the date shown at the top of this notice, as Ministers must send a written reply within 15 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THIS ENQUIRY. The Department's performance is reported each year to Parliament. If you cannot meet the deadline, you should therefore provide an interim reply that apologises for the delay, sets out the action being taken to answer the enquiry, and advises when a substantive reply can be expected. You should aim to provide a substantive draft reply within a further 8 working days. Interim replies should be used infrequently, as every effort must be made to reply to correspondence from MPs (and others) promptly.

- **Action at official level on the same case should be held until the Minister has sent a full reply. Please discuss any questions about the substance of the drafts, or other policy aspects, direct with the relevant Private Office.**

- **LAYOUT:** Draft replies should be double-spaced. Always include the full reference number at the top left of the draft. Put the MP's full title at the bottom left of the first page. Only add the address if the letter is from the Minister direct to a constituent.

- **OPENING AND CLOSING:** All Ministers prefer to start: *"Thank you for your letter of ...(MP's ref if given) on behalf of/enclosing one from your constituent, Mr ... of ... about ..."*
  If a Minister is replying on behalf of another, start: *"Thank you for your letter of ... to Geoff Hoon/Liz Symons/John Spellar/Lewis Moonie on behalf etc"*
  For Mr Spellar, add: *"I am replying in view of my responsibility for ..."*
  For Baroness Symons, add: *"I am responding because of my responsibility for this issue." (or, in the case of letters from fellow Peers: "I have been asked to respond.")*
  For Dr Moonie, add: *"I am replying as this matter falls within my area of responsibility."*
  Choose an appropriate ending (except for Dr Moonie, who will add his own) - such as: *"I hope this is helpful"; "I hope this explains the position/situation"; "I am sorry I cannot be more helpful"*; or *"I am sorry to send what I know will be a disappointing reply"*.

- **OPEN GOVERNMENT:** Replies **MUST** be drafted in accordance with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. It is set out in **DCI 223/99**. If you are recommending to a Minister that some or all information is withheld, the answer must specify the law or exemption in the Code under which it is being withheld - eg "I am withholding the information requested under exemption 1 of Part II of the *Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.*" It is **NOT** acceptable to rely on past practice. Further information is available from DG Info on [redacted]

INTERIM REPLIES: If it is obvious on receipt of a Ministerial enquiry that you cannot reply in full, an interim **MUST** be provided by the deadline stated. **REMEMBER:** an interim reply covering the majority of the issues raised could help our performance statistics.

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

** TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES **

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

The Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean
House of Lords
London SW1A OPW

24th May 2001

Dear Lady Symons,

Thank you for your letter dated 16 May, which reached me on 22 May, perhaps your Private Office will enquire what went wrong. I had begun to fear that you were not going to reply.

I enclose with this letter, the compact disc. I am confident that you, and anyone else who listens to it with an open mind, cannot fail to conclude that it is an official document, made at the time of the incident, which reveals that something most unusual was going on, and that Col. Halt and his men certainly thought so. Should the disc accidentally get lost, or wiped, as has happened more than once to UFO related material sent to Ministry people, do not despair, I have several copies, some of which are now being considered by persons better qualified than you, or I, or your Private Secretary to judge the content.

I do not want, until you have heard the tape and written again, to reopen our dispute but there is one observation that no one reading your letter could fail to make. You say that "no further investigation was made", and then go on to say "to date we have seen no official documentation to give us reason to believe that the original assessment was incorrect" Of course you haven't if no official work has been done on it. What I have been trying, for nearly 20 years now, is to persuade your predecessors, and now you, that in the light of an enormous mass of new evidence - none of which you have ever looked at, none of which your Ministry has ever rebutted - you most certainly should have investigated. The hard evidence is there, much of it from official or quasi-official sources both here and in the United States. On every other subject in the world the responsible Minister would have at once directed the appopriate people, officiers or officials to look very carefully into it. Why on earth do you still refuse to do it?

Continued:

RECEIVED IN
[illegible]NCH
ON: 1/6/01.
[illegible] DP
[illegible](S): UFOS
[illegible]BRANCH: DAS 4
[illegible] TO:
[illegible]: 29.1.01
CLERK:

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

As for Hollesley, the fact that you have to ask me for information might suggest that ytour own people have hardly been diligent in looking in to extremely disturbing allegations, made publiclyt by one whose bona fides are unquestioned. This thread of apathy, refusal to face well-documented facts has characterised every exchange I have had with the Ministry since first I started this Campaign about 1981.

The information is as follows

"A former Prison Officer has managed to obtain information regarding Hollesley Prison. Joe Soap (I will not reveal his name until I have to in case he should suffer some unexpected and most unfortunate mishap, like other evidence) has said that through his contacts within the Prison Service he was able to determine that the logs for Hollesley were available but the records covering December 1980 through to January 1981 are missing, although everything either side of these dates is intact."

library asked to search for

You may like to relate this to a Question I asked on 23 December 1997, when I was told that "the records were no longer available". Perhaps you do not think this matter is decidedly odd (I am aware that it was not given by you), I most certainly do. I also find, in the light of this disclosure that the Answer was certainly ingenuous, if not downright misleading. When I have taken the oath, I may have to return to it.

More or less of a P.S. I shall also enclose some photographgs taken at the scene, at the same time as the compact disc was made. I shall be interested to hear what an official analyst makes of them and I am sure you will too.

I fear that my poor sight will not let me read the papers you sent to me, but I shall pass them to a thoroughly reliable UFO researcher.

I will let you know if he has any useful comments.

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted]

1 Parl. Branch

letter + photos for DAS Sec to draft reply.

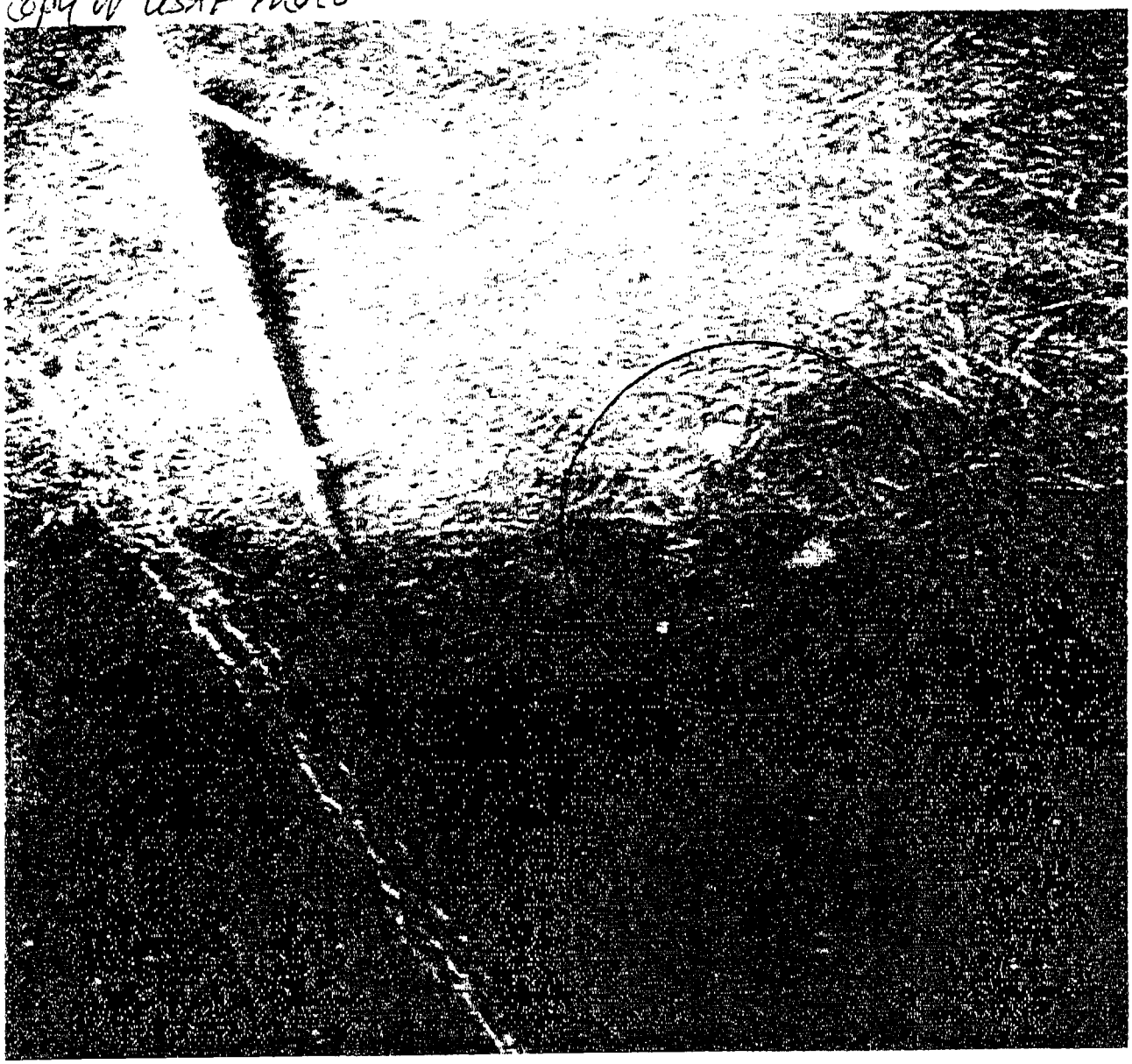
I have the CD

[redacted]

Photo 2: ground indentation (Rendlesham Forest UFO 1980)



Photo 3: ground indentation. (Rendlesham Forest UFO 1980)
copy of USAF Photo



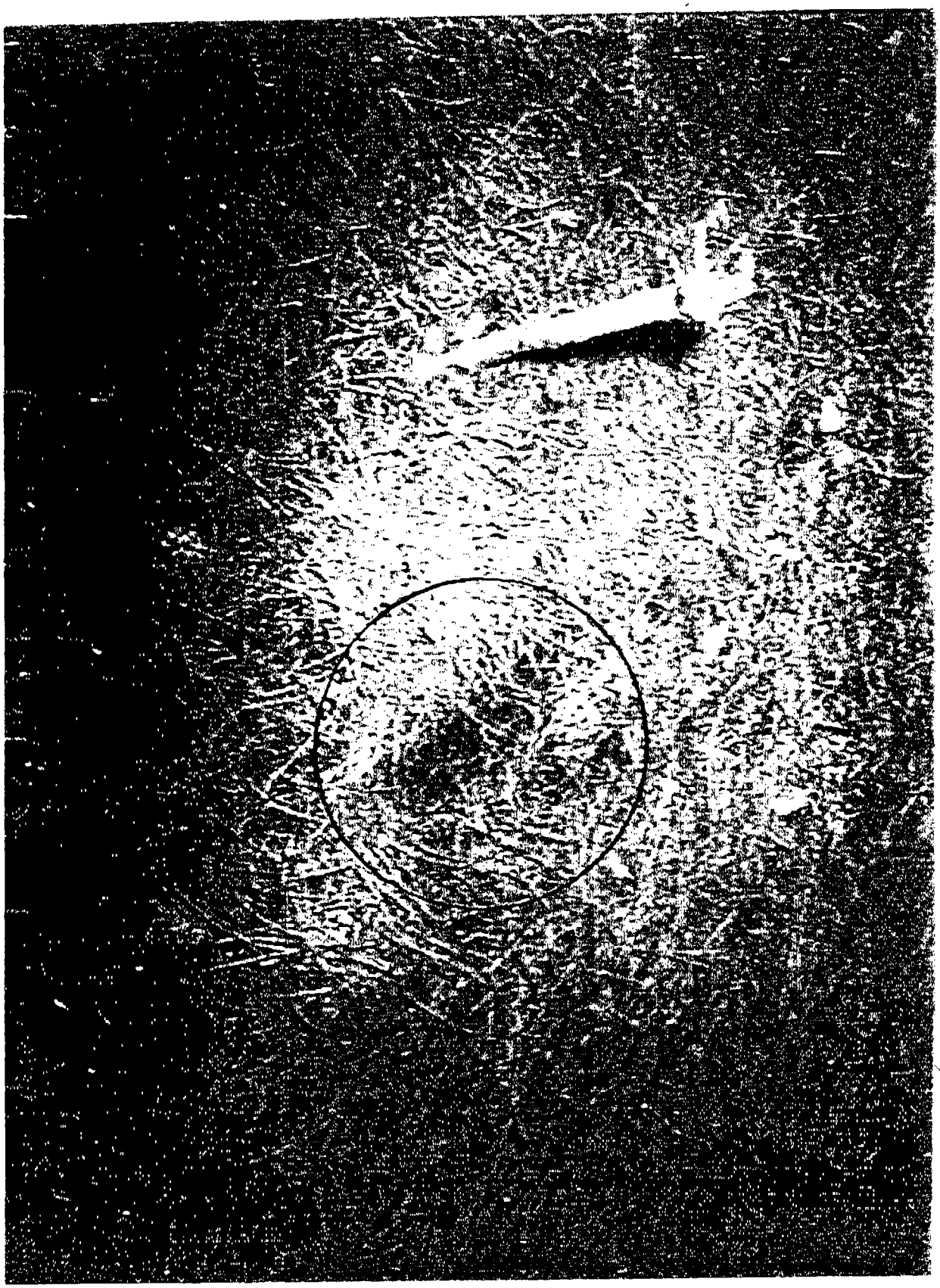
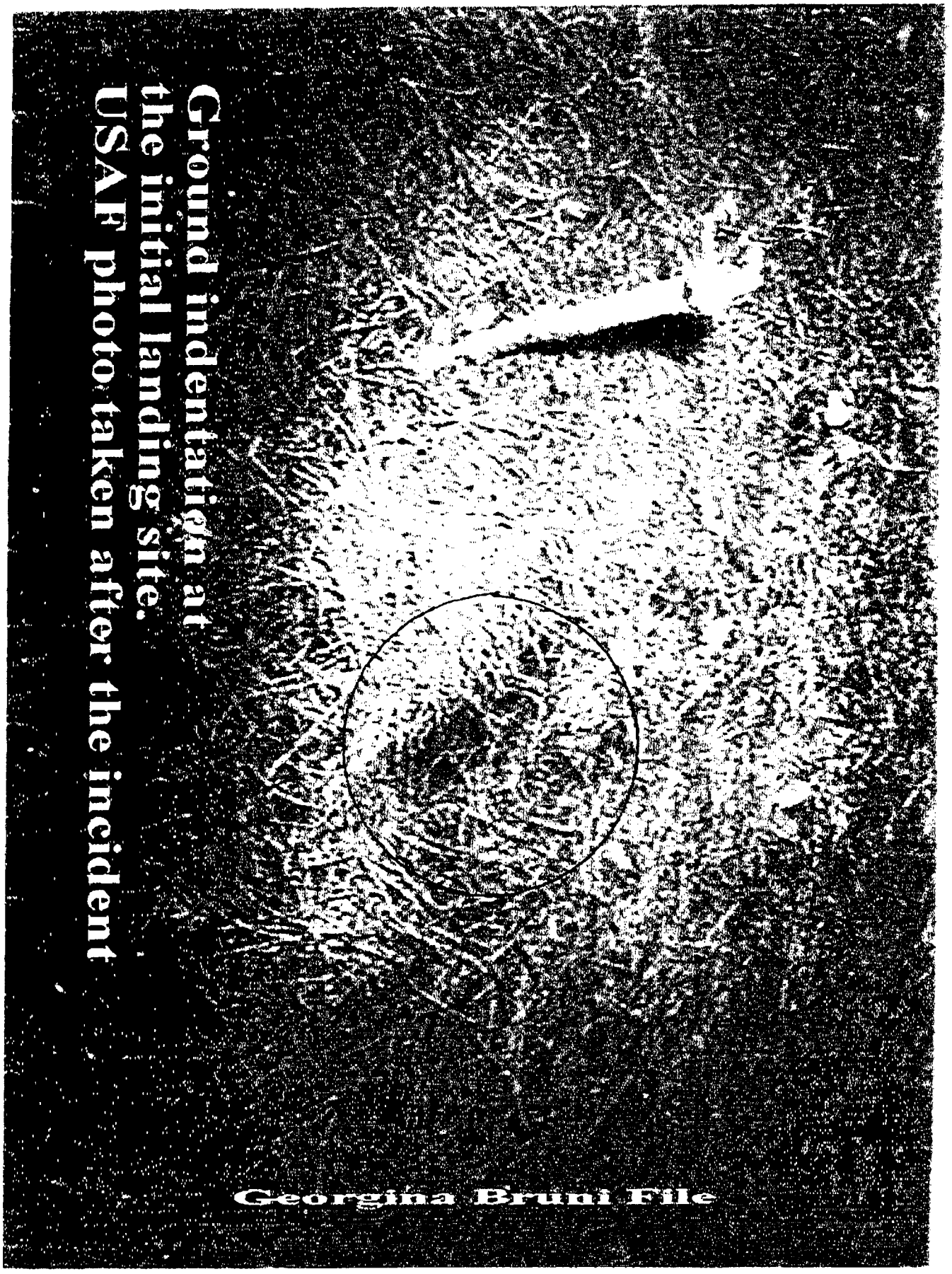


Photo 1 Original unenhanced (Revelstoke Forest UFO Dec 1420)

Copy of USAF photo of initial landing site Rendlesham Forest 25 Dec 1980

Officers examining the site on 26 Dec 1980
PC Brian Cresswell, Woodbridge Police Centre
Capt Mike Verano, USAF Offr

Georgina Bruni file


Ground indentation at
the initial landing site.
USAF photo taken after the incident
Georgina Bruni File



[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 20 March 2007 16:02
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 15-03-2007-175810-002
Attachments: Plans to Counter Alien Invasion 173043-014.htm

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request asking for a copy of the response to request 23-02-2007-173043-014, which is attached.

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-[redacted]ction 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

[redacted]om: XXXXXXXXX
Sent: 27 February 2007 13:50
To: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 23-02-2007-173043-014
Dear XXXXXXXXX,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 February 2007 asking if the Ministry of Defence had any concrete plans for defence in the event of alien invasion.

The MOD does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial 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. We therefore have no plans relating to the scenario you suggest.

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.

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Yours sincerely,

XXXXXX
DAS-FOI
05-H-[redacted]ion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

[redacted]
DAS
20 March 07

Home | My Cases | Log New Request | Policy Guidance | Help

Request: [redacted]15-03-2007-175810-002
Group: DAS
Days Left: 18

Received: 15 Mar 07
Expiry Date: 16 Apr 07
Status: Open

All sources

Workflow Options
AIT Main
View
Audit Trail
Comments Log
Saved Search Result
Contact Details
Documents
Actions
Assign Within My Group
Change Alert Settings
Edit Request Details
Upload Document
Admin Close
Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Date request received: 15 March 2007

Applicant Details

Title: [redacted]n 40
Other:
First Name:
*Surname: [redacted] 40
Find
Organisation:
Applicant Type: Not Specified
Other:

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Select

Address Line1:
Address Line2:
Address Line3:
Town/City:
Postcode:
Country: United Kingdom
Email: [redacted]

Telephone: [redacted]

Fax:

Clear Back Next Cancel

[redacted]
DAS
20 March 07

Home | My Cases | Log New Request | Policy Guidance | Help

Request: [redacted]5-03-2007-175810-002
Group: DAS
Days Left: 18

Received: 15 Mar 07
Expiry Date: 16 Apr 07
Status: Open

All sources

Workflow Options
AIT Main
View
Audit Trail
Comments Log
Saved Search Result
Contact Details
Documents
Actions
Assign Within My Group
Change Alert Settings
Edit Request Details
Upload Document
Admin Close
Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Request Details

Response Format Requested: not stated

Language Requested ☐ Welsh

Raised on behalf of:

*Enter the request for information:

Please send me a copy of the response issued to Freedom Information Request number 23-02-2007-173043-014

*Subject: Reply to 23-02-2007-173043-014

Record storage location of Applicant request (or upload document).

To be held by the Helpdesk until allocated.

Clear Back Next Cancel

16

From: [redacted]
Sent: 20 March 2007 11:35
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 14-03-2007-142940-004

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 8 March 2007 asking me to look into any records of an alleged sighting of an unknown object by two USAF F-15 pilots on 12 January 2007. I am dealing with it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Ministry of Defence have no record of UK military air traffic control tasking USAF aircraft to undertake any such investigation on or around 12th January 2007. However, I understand that two USAF aircraft spotted an object on their onboard radar whilst on a routine training flight and, on their own initiative, made a number of passes over it. They believed the object, no bigger than a football, was floating with the wind and had probably come from a weather balloon.

I should also like to take the opportunity to explain that the unless there is corroborating evidence to suggest that the UK's airspace may have been compromised by a hostile or unauthorized foreign military aircraft, the MOD does not investigate or seek to provide a precise explanation for each of the 200-300 "UFO" reports we receive every year. However, we believe that rational explanations could be found for most of the sightings if resources were devoted to so doing, 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.

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,

HARD COPY FORWARDED AT [redacted] REQUEST 20/3/07

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

20/03/2007

[redacted]

14-03-2007-142940-004

EXPIRY DATE 5 APRIL 07

From: [redacted]

Sent: 08 March 2007 14:54

To: [redacted]

Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 07-03-2007-092630-005

Dear [redacted]0

I appreciate your quick reply into this matter. Your answer suggests that you have only looked into the request from London Military ATC. We have an audio record of the F-15 intercepting the unknown object, so whether or not the request came from the LMATC, the object was there. Could you look into any records about what these pilots encountered, if at all possible? If you like, I can send you the audio recording. It is a 600KB wav file. If that is not possible, it can be downloaded from http://www.uforeview.co.uk/F15sANDUFO.wav

If you would like more information, here is the text from a press release about the incident sent out from the offices of UFOData Magazine in Leeds, West Yorkshire:

On the afternoon of Friday January 12th, 2007, two United States Air Force (USAF) F-15 fighter jets from RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk, UK, were contacted by London Military Air Traffic Control at RAF West Drayton.

An unidentified object had been picked up on radar at an altitude of between 3,000 and 4,000 feet and the pilots were requested to investigate. The F-15s (call-sign 'Gator') made two passes of the object. By this time, the object was between 17,000 and 17,700 feet above the ground. Ground radar tracked it at 80 knots, while the jets' on-board systems had it travelling at 30-65 knots. Occasionally, it appeared to come to a full stop.

Radio traffic between the jets and West Drayton was picked up and recorded by radio enthusiasts. It became clear that the object was black in colour and not a bird. One of the pilots suggested it was like a 'rock'. It has been suggested that he jokingly meant the Roc, the giant, mythical bird of the Arabian Nights stories.

One explanation for the object is that it was a vulture. One of the large predatory birds is believed to have escaped captivity and several sightings were made in North and East Yorkshire at the end of February, 2007. Another (perhaps the same bird) escaped from a zoological gardens in Staffordshire in September, 2006.Vultures are known to fly at high altitudes to allow them to see greater distances in their search for food. The pilot clearly stated more than once that what he saw was not a bird and a large vulture soaring at altitude with its huge wings outspread would be unmistakable.

Another explanation is that the object may have been a helium balloon floating randomly in the sky. It must be noted, however, that the world altitude record for a helium-filled toy balloon is only 3050 metres (about 10,000 feet).

[redacted] of UFO Monitors East Kent (UFOMEK) was given access to the recording of the radio exchange and forwarded it to *UFOData Magazine*. On the same day, there was a report of an aircraft over Norfolk executing some unusual manoeuvres at high altitude and a report from Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland, of 'flaming debris' falling from the sky. A helicopter from RNAS Gannet was despatched to investigate, but nothing was found.

UFOMEK and *UFO Data Magazine* are investigating this sighting and may use both the US and UK Freedom of Information Acts to gain access to the relevant records. Enquiries to RAF Lakenheath have also been made. Enquiries are also being made into the radio frequencies used to ascertain the precise location of the incident.

Whatever the object was, it was important enough for two fighter jets to be sent to investigate. That the pilots were unable to make a positive identification after several passes is also worthy of note.

What we appear to have is an object large enough to be detected on military radar, climbing in altitude from 3,000 feet to about 18,000 feet, travelling at various speeds from 30 to 80 knots and occasionally appearing to stop, large enough to be visible from 8 miles distance, appearing black and rock-like, not a bird and unidentifiable to the pilots of some of the world's deadliest aircraft. What was it?

Again, I thank you for your efforts.

[redacted]

----- Original Message -----
From [redacted]
To [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2007 9:54 AM
Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 07-03-2007-092630-005

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 7 March 2007 asking for any information or documentation relating to an alleged incident on 12 January 2007, when London Military Air Traffic Control tasked two USAF F-15 aircraft to investigate an unknown object that had been picked up on radar.

We have no record of London Military Air Traffic Control Centre making such a 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 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-[redacted]ction 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 20 March 2007 10:20
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Release-Authorised:Freedom of Information Request 07-03-2007-092630-005

[redacted]
Hd of DAS-LACEU
5-H-[redacted]tion 40
MAIN BUILDING
WHITEHALL
LONDON SW1A 2HB
[redacted]@mod.uk
[redacted]

From: SPW RAFSIB-DFCITOENQ2 [mailto:SPWRAFSIB-DFCITOENQ2@henlowfus.afpaa.mod.uk]
Sent: 20 March 2007 10:12
To: [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised:Freedom of Information Request 07-03-2007-092630-005

Hi [redacted]tion 40

I have today spoken to Capt [redacted] of the 493rd, RAF Lakenheath (tel. no [redacted]

He was one of the 2 pilots flying GATOR on 12th January. He picked up something on his radar, didn't want to hit it and decided to take a closer look. It was between the size of a grapefruit and a soccer ball, drifting to the west with the wind at between 17,000 and 18,000 ft. He says he thinks that it may have come off a weather balloon. He was not requested to look at it by anyone, although he says he did contact London Mil ATC to let them know.

I hope that this is satisfactory - he is happy for you to contact him if you require any further information.

Regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 07 March 2007 09:28
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 07-03-2007-092630-005 [redacted] 40

[redacted] 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 07 March 2007 10:23
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 07-03-2007-092630-005 [redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 10:23:15

---

txttitle: [redacted] on 40

txtfirstname: [redacted]

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: Dewsbury

txtstatecountry: West Yorkshire

txtzipcodepostcode: [redacted]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I am contacting you with regard to an incident that occurred on Friday January 12th, 2007.

It has been reported that two (2) F-15 fighters were asked by London Military Air Traffic Control from RAF Lakenheath were asked to investigate a object that had been picked up on radar. We do not know the location of this incident, unfortunately. The pilots made two passes at roughly 17,000 feet and described the object as being black in colour, like a rock and definitely not a bird.

I am hoping you can shed more light on this incident by releasing any relevant documents into the public domain.

Thank you for your time.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

No 1 (Specialist) Police Wing

Defence Flying Complaints Investigation Team
Special Investigations Branch
Headquarters Provost Marshal
(Royal Air Force)
Royal Air Force Henlow
Bedfordshire
SG16 6DN
Tel: +44 (0)1462 851515 ext [redacted] 40
DFTS: [redacted]
Fax [redacted]

Received DAS-FOI 22 MAR 07

Service Police Final Report

Reference: SPW/1300/L049/2007/SIS

DAS(LA)CEU

Date: 22 Mar 07

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST – DEWSBURY, WEST YORKSHIRE

Reference:

A. D/DAS/073/27 dated 7 Mar 07.

1. Reference A refers to a tasking from DAS(LA)CEU, which requested that a DFCIT investigation be carried out following a Freedom of Information Request submitted by [redacted] on 40 [redacted], Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, [redacted] He alleged that on 12 Jan 07, 2 F-15s were requested by LATCC(Mil) to investigate an unidentified object that had appeared on radar.

2. [redacted] was consulted by telephone on 7 Mar 07 and confirmed the nature of his request. He also provided a c/s for the F-15's, namely GATOR, and stated that there was an audio recording of the pilots discussing the object, which can be found on the ufodata.co.uk website.

3. Inquiries with the staff at LATCC(Mil) were conducted on 7 Mar 07; however, there were no records relating to any request made by them to investigate the object. It was established that unidentified objects are picked up on radar frequently and LATCC(Mil) personnel usually just advise ac to avoid them.

4. The ac cdr, c/s GATOR 2, 493rd FS, 48th FW, RAF Lakenheath was consulted on 20 Mar 07. He confirmed that he had identified an object on radar and decided to investigate. He was not tasked to do so by any ATC agency. The object was at an approximate height of between 17,000 - 18,000ft and was drifting with the wind. It was between the size of a grapefruit and a soccer ball. The ac cdr opined that it may have fallen off a weather balloon. The ac made 3 passes and then continued with their sortie.

5 Active enquiries into this case have now been completed and the case is closed. However, should further information be forthcoming which materially affects the outcome of this investigation, consideration will be given to re-opening enquiries. Further enquiries concerning the content of this report should be referred to the undersigned on [redacted]

(Original signed)

[redacted]
Flt Lt
OC DFCIT

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 21 March 2007 10:42
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: FOI REQUEST 14-03-2007-142940-004

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your efforts in this matter. We appreciate that the MoD is extremely overworked and (probably) understaffed and that it must be fatiguing to look into every matter that crosses your desks. We at UFOData Magazine, though, felt that this may have been an important case, given that two USAF jet fighters were involved. I am going to annoy you a bit more now, though, by asking if you could send me a hard copy of your findings (as per your last email). Again, I apologise if this seems like a waste of resources to the MoD, but, as I said, this is important to us in the research of anomalous aerial phenomena (even if they turn out to be mundane, which is generally the case).

My address is:

[redacted]
Dewsbury,
West Yorkshire.
[redacted]

Thank you for your time and efforts.

[redacted]

p.s.

If you would like a free copy of UFOData Magazine sending to your office, please do not hesitate to ask.

> ----- Original Message -----
> **From:** [redacted]
> **To:** [redacted]
> **Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2007 11:34 AM
> **Subject:** FOI REQUEST 14-03-2007-142940-004
>
> Dear [redacted]
>
> Thank you for your e-mail of 8 March 2007 asking me to look into any records of an alleged sighting of an unknown object by two USAF F-15 pilots on 12 January 2007. I am dealing with it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
>
> The Ministry of Defence have no record of UK military air traffic control tasking USAF aircraft to undertake any such investigation on or around 12th January 2007. However, I understand that two USAF aircraft spotted an object on their onboard radar whilst on a routine training flight and, on their own initiative, made a number of passes over it. They believed the object, no bigger than a football, was floating with the wind and had probably come from a weather balloon.
>
> I should also like to take the opportunity to explain that the unless there is corroborating evidence to suggest that the UK's airspace may have been compromised by a hostile or unauthorized foreign military aircraft, the MOD does not investigate or seek to provide a precise explanation for each of the 200-300 "UFO" reports we receive every year. However, we believe that rational explanations could be found for most of the sightings if resources were devoted to so doing, but it is not the

DISCLOSURE 15 NUMBER

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: [redacted]

Case Number: 19-03-2007-155118-007 Expiry: 18 Apr 07

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

What documents does the MoD have on the UFO sightings in Bonnybridge, Scotland and can he have a copy of that documentation.

Case for release of information

The cost of providing this information would exceed £600 and therefore under Section 12 of the FOI Act MoD is not obliged to provide an answer.

Requester has been asked to narrow the scope of his request.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation not to release the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [redacted]

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

Date: 20/3/07

From: [redacted]
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) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
Cwmbran
Gwent
[redacted]

Our Reference
19-03-2007-155118-007
Date
20 March 2007

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 10th March 2007 asking what documentation the MoD has on the UFO sightings at Bonnybridge, Scotland and for copies of that documentation.

The Ministry of Defence has files on the subject of UFOs dating back some twenty years and in order to answer your question, we would need to conduct a manual search of those files, the cost of which would 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 the request.

However, if you are able to narrow the scope of your request to a specific year, we will attempt to provide you with the information you request.

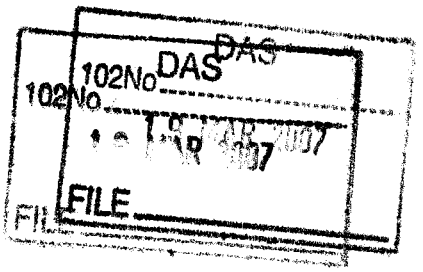
If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the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

19-03-2007-155118-007
EXPORT 18 APR 07



[redacted]
Cwmbran
Gwent
[redacted]

10th March 2007

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am enquiring what documentation the MoD has on the UFO sightings in Bonnybridge, Scotland. Also if possible a copy of the aforementioned documentation.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

14

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) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]

[redacted]
Bicester
Oxon
[redacted]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
15-03-2007-094509-001
Date:
15 March 2007

Dear [redacted]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding fireballs seen in Daventry on 9 March 2007.

I can confirm that this office received no UFO reports for the 9 March 2007 from Daventry or from anywhere else in the UK.

If you are unhappy with the response or 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 two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Sorry I could not be any more help.

Yours sincerely

15-07-2007-
094509-001
EXPIRY 13 APR 07

[redacted]
Bicester
Oxon [redacted]

[redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff
Freedom of Information 1
Ministry of Defence
5th floor Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

12th March 2007

Dear [redacted]

Could you please let me know if you have received any reports of fireballs crossing Daventry at 19:05 on 09 03 07.I have had two telephone reports,they came through on 11 03 07 by two ladies who live in Daventry.I await your reply.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

ICO
14 MAR 2007
FILE



ENCLOSURE TRANSFERRED TO FILE D/DAS/10/2/8/16 PART H

ENCLOSURE 12 NUMBER

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: [redacted]

Case Number: 12-03-2007-143843-010 Expiry: 11 Apr 2007

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Details of UFO sightings over North Wales consisting on Wrexham, Flintshire, Denbighshire, Conwy, Gwynedd and the isle of Anglesey. What aws sighted, when,where did MoD investigate and were any of the UFOs identified.

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold the information. Individual is directed to MoD website.

Reports for 2000-01 will be placed on the website in the next few months so this information is excluded under exemption s.22 Information Intended for Future Publication.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation for the release of the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [redacted]

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

Date: 16/8/2007

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 14 March 2007 13:11
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 12-03-2007-143843-010 - UFO SIGHTINGS OVER WALES

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 12 March 2007 requesting details of UFO sightings in North Wales since 2000.

Details of UFO sightings for the UK over the period 2002-06 can be found on the MoD website at www.foi.mod.uk. Sightings for 2000-01 will be placed on the website over the next few months and therefore the MoD is not required to provide this information under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I should also like to take the opportunity to explain that the unless there is corroborating evidence to suggest that the UK's airspace may have been compromised by a hostile or unauthorized foreign military aircraft, the MOD does not investigate or seek to provide a precise explanation for each of the 200-300 "UFO" reports we receive every year. However, we believe that rational explanations could be found for most of the sightings if resources were devoted to so doing, 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.

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.

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Yours sincerely,

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

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 12 March 2007 14:40
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 12-03-2007-143843-010[redacted]40

[redacted]0

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 12 March 2007 15:55
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 12-03-2007-143843-010[redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, March 12, 2007 at 15:55:22
---

txttitle: [redacted]n 40

txtfirstname: [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Journalist

txtorganisation: Daily Post

txtaddress1: PO Box 202

txtaddress2: Vale Road

txttowncity: Llandudno Junction

txtstatecountry: Conwy

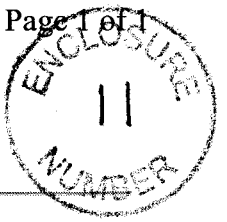
txtzipcodepostcode: LL31 9ZD

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txttelephone: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I am requesting information on the number of reports of sightings of UFOs (unidentified flying objects) over North Wales since the start of 2000. North Wales consists of the six counties of Wrexham, Flintshire, Denbighshire, Conwy, Gwynedd, and Isle of Anglesey (Ynys Mon). I am requesting details on descriptions of what was sighted, when, where, if the MOD investigated, and if any of the UFOs were identified.
Thanks



[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 13 March 2007 16:19
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 13-03-2007-114400 - UFO SIGHTINGS SOUTH WALES

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 13 March 2007 requesting details of UFO sightings over the last five years in Newport, Torfean, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire and Blaenau Gwent.

Details of UFO sightings for the past five years are available on the MoD website by searching under "UFO" at www.foi.mod.uk.

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.

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Yours sincerely,

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

[redacted] EXPIRY 12 APR 07

From: [redacted]
Sent: 13 March 2007 13:39
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 13-03-2007-114400-010 [redacted] on 40

Categories: FOI Information Request

[redacted] 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 13 March 2007 12:07
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 13-03-2007-114400-010 [redacted]0

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 12:06:34
---

txttitle: [redacted]on 40

txtfirstname [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: reporter

txtorganisation: South Wales Argus

txtaddress1: South Wales Argus

txtaddress2: Cardiff Road

txttowncity: Newport

txtstatecountry: Newport

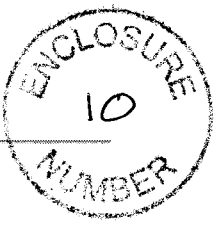
txtzipcodepostcode: NP20 3QN

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txttelephone: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I would like to request information about reports of UFOs in the counties of Newport, Torfaen, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, and Blaenau Gwent in Wales. I would like to know how many reports of UFOs there have been in the last five years in these countie, with details of time and date spotted, any description and where they were spotted.



[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 08 March 2007 09:55
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 07-03-2007-092630-005

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 7 March 2007 asking for any information or documentation relating to an alleged incident on 12 January 2007, when London Military Air Traffic Control tasked two USAF F-15 aircraft to investigate an unknown object that had been picked up on radar.

We have no record of London Military Air Traffic Control Centre making such a 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 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-[redacted]tion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

07/3/27. WO [redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 07 March 2007 09:28
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 07-03-2007-092630-005 [redacted]0

[redacted]40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 07 March 2007 10:23
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 07-03-2007-092630-005 [redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 10:23:15

---

txttitle: [redacted]n 40

txtfirstname: [redacted]

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: Dewsbury

txtstatecountry: West Yorkshire

txtzipcodepostcode: [redacted]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I am contacting you with regard to an incident that occurred on Friday January 12th, 2007.

It has been reported that two (2) F-15 fighters were asked by London Military Air Traffic Control from RAF Lakenheath were asked to investigate a object that had been picked up on radar. We do not know the location of this incident, unfortunately. The pilots made two passes at roughly 17,000 feet and described the object as being black in colour, like a rock and definitely not a bird.

I am hoping you can shed more light on this incident by releasing any relevant documents into the public domain.

Thank you for your time.

NOTE: LATCC (MIL) HAVE INFORMED ME BY PHONE THAT THEY HAVE NO RECORD OF ANY SUCH INCIDENT.

[redacted]
DAS-IOI
7/3/07

[redacted]

From: SPW RAFSIB-DFCITFS [SPWRAFSIB-DFCITFS@henlowfus.afpaa.mod.uk]
Sent: 06 March 2007 14:48
To: [redacted]
Cc: SPW RAFSIB-DFCITOC; SPW RAFSIB-DFCITADMIN
Subject: Release-Authorised: Request from DFCIT

[redacted]

Given [redacted] findings I don't think we are going to be able to get you an answer without a great deal of effort and expense. Under the circumstances I think this would be unreasonable to pursue. Please fell free to discuss further if you wish.

Regards

[redacted]

FS
DFCIT Investigations Manager
[redacted]

From: SPW RAFSIB-DFCITADMIN
Sent: 06 March 2007 13:14
To: SPW RAFSIB-DFCITFS
Subject: Release-Authorised:Request from DFCIT

[redacted]
I have found some old data tapes from the mid 1990s which may or may not contain the information required for this request (Booking sheets from the Low Flying Booking Cell). Data was archived to these when at Rudloe Manor, and may have been recorded using contracted equipment. For whatever reason, the play back system did not transfer with the move to Henlow. Sgt [redacted] and Cpl [redacted] are unable to assist, nor were Computer Forensics. However, I have made enquiries as to a device to read these disks and such a system is no longer readily available. Canon made the system obsolete some years ago and no longer provide support. I have sourced a company [redacted] who may be able to recover the data on the disks, although they cannot guarrantee a) to be able to do so, or b) that afterwards the data will be stable and in a readable form.

For this, they have quoted £200/disk, we have 18 disks which may or may not include the information required, and I have no idea which disc may contain the information required. Therefore the cost of this could be £3,600. I am also awaiting the reply of a 'long shot' request for the purchase of the required equipment (refurbished) from America, but again there is no guarantee that it will work, cost to be iwell in excess of £1,000.

I have also searched the Cardbox database entries of 1997 to see if any investigations were conducted into the alleged sonic boom in the area for that date and have found no investigations undertaken.

In conclusion, we have data disks which may or may not contain the info required, but lack the means to view them. To source the 'means to view' will cost at a minimum £200 (if we are lucky and pick the right disk first time), with the cost rising for each subsequent disk, and there is no guarantee that the info is on any of the disks.
Other attempts to obtain the possible info required have produced nil returns. I am at a loss as to how to proceed and await your input..

From [redacted]@mod.uk]
Sent: 06 March 2007 10:02

[redacted]: SPW RAFSIB-DFCITADMIN
Subject: RE: Release-Authorised:Request from DFCIT

[redacted] 40

I have a Freedom of Information request relating to an incident on 24 March 1997 (around 22:00), when a sonic boom was heard over Sheffield. The incident was the subject of a number of Parliamentary Questions at the time.

The question is effectively in two parts:

A. Do you have copies of Low flying booking sheets for 24 March 1997
B. If you do, and anything was flying near Sheffield on that day, can you send me copies. I would suggest that this be limited to anything flying after 18:00

Many thanks.

[redacted]
DAS-FOI
[redacted]

From: SPW RAFSIB-DFCITADMIN [mailto:SPWRAFSIB-DFCITADMIN@henlowfus.afpaa.mod.uk]
Sent: 05 March 2007 16:36
To [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised:Request from DFCIT

[redacted] 40 not get many emails..... I wonder why?

[redacted]

DFCIT ADMIN
[redacted]

"The documents contained within this E-Mail are Service Police Reports and are as such intended for the addressee only. The reports are not to be reproduced in part or wholly, for distribution other than to the addressee, without prior permission of the originating Service Police Organisation."

[redacted]

From: BOU-AFC-WPNS SO2
Sent: 07 March 2007 15:21
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

[redacted]on 40

Here's the return from Scampton. As an aside, [redacted] assessment sounds bang on to me!

Until next time...

Regards,

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
AFC SO2 Wpns
[redacted]

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From: SCA CRC-H SQN PLANS1
Sent: 07 March 2007 15:10
To: SCA CRC-T SQN OC
Cc: BOU AFC-WPNS SO2; SCA CRC-XO
Subject: RE: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

Sir,

I have checked our records and have found that BLACKDOG controlled no F15 sorties in the entire month of January. I suspect that somebody has misinterpreted what they heard on their airband radio. Investigating an unknown target, gaining radar and then visual contact sounds like an entirely routine training sortie to me. If we had intercepted a UFO, the FC rumour-mill would have been working over-time. X-File closed!

[redacted]
Flt Lt
Plans 1

From: SCA CRC-T SQN OC
Sent: 07 March 2007 13:39
To: SCA CRC-H SQN PLANS1
Cc: BOU AFC-WPNS SO2; SCA CRC-XO

Subject: FW: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

[redacted] 40

As Plans 1 this falls to you. Note the timescale involved.

Please check the log books to see if we had any F-15s under control in the timescales mentioned. If so pass the details to SO2 Wpns, ASAP.

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
OC Trg Sqn
RAF Scampton

RAF Scampton [redacted]

Civ [redacted]

Fax [redacted]

DII: SCA CRC-T Sqn OC

internet [redacted]

CCIS: SCA-CRCEXEC04

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From: BOU AFC-WPNS SO2
Sent: 06 March 2007 11:40
To: BOU-CRC-H Sqn XO; SCA CRC-T SQN OC
Subject: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

[redacted] Please see below. Can you guys please check whether or not we worked any USAF F-15s for the period 8-12 Jan 07 and if so, whether we have any information on an intercept of a UFO please? I've already told the MOD that if such a thing happened, it would have been reported to me, and that besides, LATCC(Mil) were more likely to have been the controlling agency, but as it's a FOI, I'd appreciate if we could check double check from a CRC point of view. Please let me have your answers by ***COP Mon 12 Mar 07***.

Oh, and stop laughing...

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
AFC SO2 Wpns
[redacted]

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From: [redacted]
Sent: 06 March 2007 10:32
To: BOU-AFC-WPNS SO2
Subject: USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007

Dear Sqn Ldr [redacted]

I have a Freedom of Information request from a member of the public that has "information" that suggests a flight of USAF F-15 aircraft from Lakenheath were asked to investigate an unknown aerial target and that they were able to make both radar and visual contact with the object. The incident took place on, or around, 12 January 2007.

Would you have any record of such an incident taking place? If yes, is the above description of events accurate and can you provide me with any documentation relating to it.

Happy to discuss.

[redacted]
DAS-FOI
[redacted]

[redacted]

From: BOU-AFC-WPNS SO2
Sent: 07 March 2007 10:07
To: [redacted]
Cc: WAD FHQ-SO2 A5 SEN
Subject: FW: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

[redacted]40

Here's an answer from Boulmer who did not speak to USAF F-15s during the period. I'll forward the Scampton answer as soon as I get it. You'll note that the E-3s did however, so you may wish to contact RAF Waddington. Sqn Ldr [redacted] SO2 A5 Sentry, is my opposite number over there. Whilst he's not the man for your job, he'll know who to farm it out to. I've cc'ed him.

Regards,

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
AFC SO2 Wpns
[redacted]

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From: BOU-CRC-H Sqn XO
Sent: 07 March 2007 09:03
To: BOU-CRC-H Sqn Plans SNCO; BOU AFC-WPNS SO2
Subject: RE: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

Sgt [redacted]0

Thank you,

[redacted]0

Here you go.

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
XO
Mil: [redacted]
Civ:

[redacted]ax: [redacted]

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or there are problems please notify the sender and then delete the e-mail (and file(s) if attached) from your system.

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From: BOU-CRC-H Sqn Plans SNCO
Sent: 07 March 2007 08:32
To: BOU-CRC-H Sqn XO
Subject: RE: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

Sir

Ref below, Boulmer did not control any F15s during those days.
However on the 8th

M53 controlled	Nail 1-2	323B
	Snarl 1-4	323B

10 Jan

M54 controlled	Card 1-4	323B
	Hitman 1-2	323B
	Jump 1-4	323B
	Nail	323B
	Noble	323B

BALL

Hope this helps

[redacted]
Sgt
SNCO IC Plans
[redacted]0

From: BOU-CRC-H Sqn XO
Sent: 06 March 2007 11:42
To: BOU-CRC-H Sqn Plans SNCO
Subject: FW: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

Sgt[redacted]

Once you've all finished having a good laugh, can your staff have a look back in our logs to see if we were controlling these aircraft? Deadline is Monday.

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
XO
Mil: [redacted]
Civ
Fax

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From: BOU AFC-WPNS SO2
Sent: 06 March 2007 11:40
To: BOU-CRC-H Sqn XO; SCA CRC-T SQN OC
Subject: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

[redacted]

Please see below. Can you guys please check whether or not we worked any USAF F-15s for the period 8-12 Jan 07 and if so, whether we have any information on an intercept of a UFO please? I've already told the MOD that if such a thing happened, it would have been reported to me, and that besides, LATCC(Mil) were more likely to have been the controlling agency, but as it's a FOI, I'd appreciate if we could check double check from a CRC point of view. Please let me have your answers by ***COP Mon 12 Mar 07***.

Oh, and stop laughing...

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
AFC SO2 Wpns
[redacted]

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From: [redacted]
Sent: 06 March 2007 10:32
To: BOU-AFC-WPNS SO2
Subject: USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007

Dear Sqn Ld[redacted]

I have a Freedom of Information request from a member of the public that has "information" that suggests a flight of USAF F-15 aircraft from Lakenheath were asked to investigate an unknown aerial target and that they were able to make both radar and visual contact with the object. The incident took place on, or around, 12 January 2007.

Would you have any record of such an incident taking place? If yes, is the above description of events accurate and can you provide me with any documentation relating to it.

Happy to discuss.

[redacted]
DAS-FOI
[redacted]

[redacted]

From: WAD FHQ-SO2 A5 SEN
Sent: 07 March 2007 11:39
To: [redacted]
Cc: BOU-AFC-WPNS SO2; WAD Ops-SSU OC; WAD Ops-SSU FA
Subject: Internet-Authorised:FW: 20070306-USAF INTERCEPTION 12 JANUARY 2007-U

Attachments: Picture (Metafile)

[redacted] 40

Further to our telcon (and to round out the audit trail), the only mission sorties flown by E-3Ds in UK airspace during the period 08-12 Jan 07, and which controlled USAF F-15s were as follows:

Magic 53 (8 Jan)

Magic 54 (10 Jan)
Magic 56 (10 Jan)

I have checked all of the respective post-flt MISREPs (Mission Reports) and the mission crew execs' log sheets. There is nothing in any of them to suggest unusual activity of any sort - all F15 control events were scheduled routine trg sorties.

Hope this helps.

Regards, [redacted] n 40

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
SO2 A5 Sentry
[redacted] 0



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From: [redacted] Directorate of Air Staff, Head of Complaints & Enquiries Unit
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
5-H-[redacted] Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

e-mail: lowflying@mod.uk
www.mod.uk/defence internet

Telephone (Direct dial) [redacted]
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Complaints) [redacted]

DFCIT
HQ RAF Special Investigations Branch
No1 (Specialist) Police Wing
RAF Henlow
Bedfordshire
SG16 6DN

Our Reference
D/DAS/073/27

Date
Wednesday, 7 March 2007

Flt Sgt [redacted]

Can you please conduct an Office Inquiry to establish if two F 15 from RAF Lakenheath were asked to investigate an unidentified object that was picked up on radar by London Air Traffic Control on Friday 12 January 2007.

Please find attached the e-mail containing the details of the event. This is a request under the FOIa.

Please contact me if there are any problems.

9

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 01 March 2007 14:46
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FRREDOM OF IFORMATION REQUEST - 01-03-2007-143620-001

Dear [redacted],

Thank you for your e-mail of 1 March 2007, which is being treated as a Freedom of Information request. You have asked for information relating to the role of RAF Rudloe Manor in the conduct of investigations into the UFO phenomenon.

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

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

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."

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

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

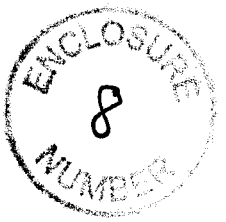
01/03/2007

[redacted]

01-03-2007-143620-001
EXP - 29 MAR 07

From: [redacted]
Sent: 01 March 2007 14:13
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Ufo Investigations

Would it be possible for your department to forward me the relevant information, in regards to RAF Rudloe Manor and the investigations into the UFO phenomenon conducted from that establishment?
Kind regards [redacted]



From: [redacted]
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) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
Hull
East Yorkshire
[redacted]

Our Reference
26-02-2007-093149-001

Date
1 March 2007

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 February 2007 asking for papers on a UFO report made by [redacted] on 30 July 1994, a report made by a member of the public on or around 14 November 1994 in West Lothian and a sighting made by two female witnesses on 11 October 1994. Additionally you requested any papers relating to an inquiry made by [redacted] to Lord Henley in October-November 1994. I will deal with each of these points in order.

Firstly, I have been unable to locate a copy of the UFO report dated 30 July 1994 near the Arnadale Academy, West Lothian. However, I have found three letters relating to the incident that I hope you find useful. Names, addresses, telephone numbers and personal details have been removed under Exemption s.40 (Personal Details) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I have been unable to find any documentation relating to a sighting at Stanwick Rounds, West Lothian dated on or around 14 November 1994, or for an incident on 11 October in the Blackridge area of Scotland.

Finally, I have been unable to find any correspondence from [redacted] for the period October-November 1994.

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."

I am sorry to have to give such a disappointing response.

Yours sincerely,



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: [redacted]

Case Number: 26-02-2007-093149-001 Expiry: 2 Mar 2007

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Documentation relating to specific UFO reports on 30 July 1994, 14 November 1994 and 11 October 1994.

Any documentation relating to correspondence between Lord Hegley (USofS) and [redacted] around October-November 1994

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold the information. The names of living individuals mentioned have been redacted under exemption s.40 Freedom Information Act

Unable to locate most of the information requested.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation for the release of the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05 [redacted]

Date: 27/2/2007

[redacted] 26-02-[redacted] -2007-

09/149-00[illegible]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 February 2007 00:07
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: FOIA Enquiry UFOs

EXP 26 MAR 07

Dear DAS,

Would you please treat this as a Freedom of Information enquiry. Could you please send all papers on the following incidents, including correspondence mentioned herein:-

NOT HELD.

1. UFO report made by [redacted] to Scottish Police on 30 July 1994 relating to a 'flying toblerone-shaped' object hovering over a field near Arnadale Academy, West Lothian. This report was passed to [redacted] at Sec(AS), MoD, who responded to [redacted]on 40 [redacted]40 25 Aug 94.

NOT ON 12/2

2. UFO report made by a member of the public to police/MoD on or about 14 November 1994 of a bowl shaped object with hieroglyphic symbols on its side hovering over the River Nene at Stanwick Rounds, West Lothian. This witness was interviewed by phone by [redacted], of Sec(AS) in February 1995 who responded to his report in an official letter dated 17 Feb 1995. [Is there a sketch of the alleged hieroglyphics?] NOT ON 12/3

3. UFO report made from the Blackridge area of Scotland on NO 11 11 October 1994 by two female witnesses. Plus any papers related to this sighting and that on 30 July 94 related to an inquiry made by [redacted] to Lord Henley, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence, in October/November 1994. NOT ON 12/4 A.

Public Enquiry Line no record.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Hull.
East Yorkshire.
[redacted]

Email sent from www.virginmedia.com/email Virus-checked using McAfee(R) Software and scanned for spam

12/2 R
Q
64/3 A

Report 12/2 PART N/TNT
12/2 PART O TNT
PE/PQ 12/4 PART A

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 February 2007 00:07
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: FOIA Enquiry UFOs

Dear DAS,

Would you please treat this as a Freedom of Information enquiry. Could you please send all papers on the following incidents, including correspondence mentioned herein:-

1. UFO report made by [redacted] to Scottish Police on 30 July 1994 relating to a 'flying toblerone-shaped' object hovering over a field near Arnadale Academy, West Lothian. This report was passed to [redacted] at Sec(AS), MoD, who responded to [redacted]on 40 [redacted]40 25 Aug 94.

2. UFO report made by a member of the public to police/MoD on or about 14 November 1994 of a bowl shaped object with hieroglyphic symbols on its side hovering over the River Nene at Stanwick Rounds, West Lothian. This witness was interviewed by phone by [redacted] of Sec(AS) in February 1995 who responded to his report in an official letter dated 17 Feb 1995. [Is there a sketch of the alleged hieroglyphics?]

3. UFO report made from the Blackridge area of Scotland on 11 October 1994 by two female witnesses. Plus any papers related to this sighting and that on 30 July 94 related to an inquiry made by [redacted] to Lord Henley, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence, in October/November 1994.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]
Hull.
East Yorkshire.
[redacted]

Email sent from www.virginmedia.com/email Virus-checked using McAfee(R) Software and scanned for spam

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
From: Miss [redacted] Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room 8245
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Telephone (Direct Dialling) 071 218 2140
(Switchboard) 071 218 9000
(Fax)

[redacted]

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)/12/3
Date
1 November 1994

ENCL No. 128

Dear Mr [redacted]

1. Thank you for your letter of 20 October to [redacted] I have taken over from Mr [redacted] who was posted in July. I am aware of the reported "UFO" sighting to which you refer concerning Mr [redacted]

2. As you may be aware, as a matter of routine, when reports of unexplained aerial phenomena are made to the Police, RAF Stations or air traffic control centres, details of those reports are forwarded to this office for appropriate action.

3. I do not know what discussions have taken place between Mr [redacted] and the Armadale Police and therefore I can only speculate. Perhaps the police officer who took the details subsequently realised he was required to submit a report to the Ministry of Defence and went back to Mr [redacted] for more details which he did not obtain initially. The police officer may also have wanted to make sure that Mr [redacted] was content for his report, name and details to be forwarded to the Ministry of Defence.

4. The police officer then sent his report to this office, which we received on 17 August. I wrote to Mr [redacted] on 25 August to confirm that the MOD was satisfied that what he saw represented no threat to the security of this country and once this had been established it was outside our remit to investigate further.

5. I hope this explains the sequence of events and our interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

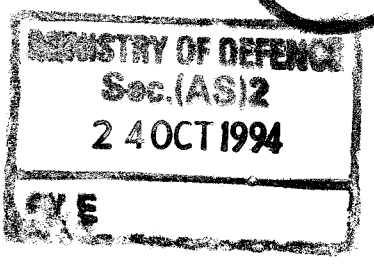
REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

A 12/3

SCOTTISH EARTH MYSTERIES

RESEARCH





[redacted]

20th October 1994

[redacted]
Secretariat (Air Staff) ~~Room~~ 2a,
Room 8245,
MOD,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London SW1A 2HB.

Dear Mr [redacted]

I wonder if you can help me clear something up? Mr [redacted] who had a UFO experience, to which the police were called, at the end of July this year has stated to me on a number of occasions that the MOD were interested in his experience and had asked for details via the police. He has informed me that the police rang him up and asked him if would be prepared to supply details of his sighting to the MOD. The police seem either unwilling or unable to confirm this. Can you shed any light on it?

Thanks for your help.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
From: Miss [redacted] Sec(AS)2a, Room 8245
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) 071 2182140
(Switchboard) 071 218 9000
(Fax)

67

[redacted]

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec (AS)/12/3
Date
25 August 1994

Dear Mr [redacted]

1. You recently reported a large round object in the sky to the Arnadale Police, which you saw from the playing fields at the Arnadale Academy very late on Saturday 30th July.

2. Your report has been passed to this office which has responsibility within the Ministry of Defence for recording such sightings. Our sole interest relates to whether the possibility of a threat to the United Kingdom's air defences exists. If we conclude that no threat to the security of the UK has occurred, we do not attempt to investigate further or try to establish what may have been seen.

3. It is clear from reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, unusual cloud formations, satellites in orbit or satellite debris entering the atmosphere, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that appear to defy explanation, and we are open-minded on these.

4. In this instance we are satisfied that no threat to the UK's air defence has occurred but have taken careful note of your report and would like to thank you for your interest.

5. If, however, you are interested in pursuing the subject further, you may wish to contact some of the civilian organisations currently engaged in the study of UFO phenomenon. I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
BM BUFORA
[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Quest International

[redacted]

Contact International (UK)

[redacted]

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]



ENCLOSURE TRANSFERRED TO FILE D/DAS/10/2/8/16 PART H

6

From: [redacted]
Sent: 27 February 2007 13:50
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 23-02-2007-173043-014

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 February 2007 asking if the Ministry of Defence had any concrete plans for defence in the event of alien invasion.

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

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-[redacted]tion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 23 February 2007 13:58
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 23-02-2007-173043-014 [redacted]0

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted
on Friday, February 23, 2007 at 13:57:52

---

txttitle: [redacted]n 40

txtfirstname: [redacted]0

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtaddress1: [redacted] Stockport

txtaddress2: [redacted] Stockport

txttowncity: Stockport

txtstatecountry: Stockport

txtzipcodepostcode: [redacted]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I was just idly wondering if you had any concrete plans for defense in the event of alien invasion. i understand that this really is a theoretical scenario as opposed to, say, terrorist action, but i was just wondering if you had any plans if the world woke up to a giant alien craft hovering over a major city.
just so you know, i wouldn't have bothered sending this if it weren't for 'Doctor Who', so you can blame the BBC for this. Thanks for your time.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 28 March 2007 15:07
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised:FOI REQUEST 24-01-2007-101118-001

Dear [redacted]

On 5 February 2007, I wrote to you regarding your Freedom of Information request of 7 October 2007, and informed you that I was still trying to retrieve one file from archive in case there was any information relevant to your request.

The file has finally been forwarded to me and I can confirm it contains nothing pertinent 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 two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you.

Yours sincerely,

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

ENCLOSURE NUMBER 5

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant [redacted]

Case Number: 24-01-2007-101118-001 Expiry: 7 Sep 2006

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Background notes for 2 x PQ April1998 "Low Flying" & "Military Aircraft" by Helen Jackson MP.

Internal MoD discussion about release of Rendlesham Papers Jan-Aug 2001

MoD-Public correspondence about release of Rendlesham Papers Jan-Aug 2001

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold the information. Security classifications have been redacted as they are no longer relevant and the names of living individuals mentioned have been redacted under exemption s.40 Freedom Information Act

PQ background notes released following public interest considerations.

So far not possible to locate some off the files needed to answer this question. Therefore this is an interim, not a final response.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation for the release of the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05[redacted]

Date: 6/2/2007

From: [redacted]
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) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
Bagillt
Flintshire
North Wales
[redacted]

Our Reference
24-01-2007-101118-001

Date
5 February 2007

Dear [redacted]

Further to my letter of 24 January 2007, regarding your Freedom of Information request of 7 October 2006, I enclose a copy of the background notes relating to Helen Jackson's parliamentary question entitled Low Flying Training, as appeared in Hansard on 7 April 1998. We do not believe that this information will prejudice the conduct of public affairs and that the balance of public interest, favours release. Names of some individuals have been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information).

You asked for copies of documents relating to internal MoD discussion regarding the release of the Rendlesham papers between January and August 2001. These papers were released as a result of a request from a member of the public, but having checked with my predecessor, I believe that the internal discussion regarding their release was verbal, not written, and therefore there are no documents to release.

Additionally, I attach copies of correspondence between the MoD and members of the public during the same period, regarding the release of the Rendlesham papers. You will note that I have interpreted this part of your request somewhat widely and have included correspondence that makes general reference to Rendlesham. Again, the names of some individuals have been removed under exemption s.40, other than those of MPs, Ministers or those involved with the Rendlesham case whose names are already widely known, such as Lt. Col. Halt.

We are currently attempting to retrieve one of the relevant files for 2001 from archive as I believe that there may be more correspondence on the matter and will write to you again with the results of that search when it is complete.

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.

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Yours sincerely

[redacted]



is £150 million, but is expected to rise to £200 million as the remaining systems are assessed and rectification work on them costed.

Some £4.4 million has been expended to date. This reflects only the cost of work so far completed. It does not include expenditure which has been contractually committed but not yet paid.

The year 2000 cost figures are collected within MOD on a budget holder basis and not by Service. The costs provided include the total for all of MOD's budget areas.

RAF Fast Jet Aircrew

Mr. Brazier: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence how many (i) actual and (ii) peacetime establishment RAF fast jet aircrew are allocated to *(a)* Tornado GR, *(b)* Tornado F3, *(c)* Jaguar and *(d)* Harrier. [37934]

Dr. Reid: The information requested, as at 3 April 1998, is set out below:

Aircraft	*Fast jet aircrew*	*Total aircrew*[1]
Tornado GR1	Peacetime establishment	294
	Actual strength	274
Tornado F3	Peacetime establishment	265
	Actual strength	250
Jaguar	Peacetime establishment	60
	Actual strength	55
Harrier	Peacetime establishment	73
	Actual strength	73

[1] As at 3 April 1998

Uranium Shells

Mr. Alasdair Morgan: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence how (1) how many depleted uranium shells have been fired at the MOD/DERA base at Dundrennan, Kirkcudbrightshire, in each of the years since such firing started; [37611]

(2) how many of the depleted uranium shells fired at the MOD/DERA base at Dundrennan, Kirkcudbrightshire, have subsequently been recovered. [37612]

Mr. Spellar: This is a matter for the Chief Executive of the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA). I have asked the Chief Executive to write to the hon. Member.

Letter from John Chisholm to Mr. Alasdair Morgan, dated 7 April 1998:

As Chief Executive of the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency I have been asked to reply to your questions to the Secretary of State for Defence about depleted uranium shells at Kirkcudbrightshire.

The number of depleted uranium rounds fired at the Kirkcudbright range each year since the start of the CHARM programme are as follows:

Year	*Number*
1982	9
1983	56
1984	179
1985	152
1986	118
1987	151
1988	272
1989	434
1990	795
1991	666
1992	781
1993	982
1994	472
1995	280
1996	147
1997	749
1998	12
Total	6,255

During this period four of the CHARM penetrators fired have been recovered.

I hope this information is useful.

Low Flying Training

Helen Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to his answers of 30 March 1998, *Official Report*, column *414*, if the military exercises were carried out over the Sheffield area; what regulations govern *(a)* military and *(b)* other aircraft breaking the sound barrier; and if the sonic booms detected by Edinburgh University Seismology Unit above Sheffield, on 24 March 1997 were the result of aircraft breaking the sound barrier. [37991]

Mr. Spellar: It is not possible, twelve months after the date in question, to state precisely where military aircraft activity was being carried out. Records kept show only that aircraft were booked to carry out low flying over the Peak District between 2030 and 2107 hours local time on the evening of 24 March 1997. No low level flying is permitted over the Sheffield urban area, or any other major conurbation. Records of flying at medium level—between 2,000 and 24,000 feet—are not maintained so it is possible that there were aircraft in the area at medium level.

The regulations governing military aircraft flying at supersonic speeds are contained in the Joint Service Publication entitled 'Military Flying Regulations', an extract of which was provided in the answer I gave her on 1 April 1998, *Official Report*, columns *547–48*. The regulations which apply to civil aviation are a matter for my hon. Friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

As for the sonic event detected by the British Geological Survey at Edinburgh University, I refer my hon. Friend to the answer I gave her on 30 March 1998, *Official Report*, columns *414–15*.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Incapacity Benefit

Mr. Cummings: To ask the Secretary of State for Social Security how many claimants of incapacity benefit are suffering from pneumoconiosis and emphysema in the areas covered by the Seaham and Peterlee Benefits Agency offices. [37909]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

TUESDAY 7 APRIL 1998

MRS HELEN JACKSON (LABOUR)(SHEFFIELD, HILLSBOROUGH)

10
N

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to his Answers of 30th March, Official Report, column 414, if the military exercises were carried out over the Sheffield area; what regulations govern (a) military and (b) other aircraft breaking the sound barrier; and if the sonic booms detected by Edinburgh University Seismology Unit above Sheffield, on 24th March 1997 were the result of aircraft breaking the sound barrier. [37991]

MR SPELLAR

It is not possible, twelve months after the date in question, to state precisely where military aircraft activity was being carried out. Records kept show only that aircraft were booked to carry out low flying over the Peak District between 2030 and 2107 hours local time on the evening of 24 March 1997. No low level flying is permitted over the Sheffield urban area, or any other major conurbation. Records of flying at medium level - between 2,000 and 24,000 ft - are not maintained so it is possible that there were aircraft in the area at medium level.

The regulations governing military aircraft flying at supersonic speeds are contained in the Joint Service Publication entitled 'Military Flying Regulations', an extract of which was provided in the answer I gave her on 1 April 1998 (Official Report, Cols 547-548). The regulations which apply to civil aviation are a matter for my hon Friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

As for the sonic event detected by the British Geological Survey at Edinburgh University, I refer my hon Friend to the answer I gave her on 30 March 1998 (Official Report, Col 414).

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

[redacted]40

TUESDAY 7 APRIL 1998

7/4

MRS HELEN JACKSON (LABOUR)(SHEFFIELD, HILLSBOROUGH)

10
N

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to his Answers of 30th March, Official Report, column 414, if the military exercises were carried out over the Sheffield area; what regulations govern (a) military and (b) other aircraft breaking the sound barrier; and if the sonic booms detected by Edinburgh University Seismology Unit above Sheffield, on 24th March 1997 were the result of aircraft breaking the sound barrier. [37991]

MR SPELLAR

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As for the ~~seismological activity~~ sonic event detected by the British Geological Survey at Edinburgh University, I refer my hon Friend to the answer I gave her on 30 March 1998 (Official Report, Col 414).

BACKGROUND NOTE:

Mrs Jackson tabled five PQs for answer on 30th March along with another for answer on 1 April (copies attached). All referred to an incident which occurred over the Peak District on 24 March 1997. The parts of the question referring to flying regulations and the Edingburgh Seismology Unit were both asked in these previous questions.

The incident in question remains unresolved. At around 2200hrs on 24 March 1997 a number of witnesses located in and around the Peak District reported hearing an aeroplane in trouble followed by a crash. Police and RAF Search and Rescue helicopters were scrambled and conducted a thorough search of the area but found no signs of a crash. No civil or military aircraft were reported missing for that day. Since the event a number of theories have emerged, including one that the 'crash' heard by the witnesses may have been a sonic boom generated by an aircraft.

We do not know whether military aircraft were operating over Sheffield on the evening in question. An investigation now would be impracticable given the passage of time. The only centrally maintained indication of activity are the low flying booking sheets and these show that Tornados from RAF Marham were booked to fly within Night Low Flying Sector 3A between 2030 and 2107 hours local time on 24 March 1997; over an hour before the alleged incident took place. Although low flying military aircraft are not permitted to overfly towns and cities, it is possible that the Tornados (or other military aircraft) may have flown over Sheffield at medium level.

In accordance with Flying Regulations, squadrons report any inadvertent sonic events to Headquarters Military Air Traffic Organisation (HQ MATO). They can confirm that no inadvertent sonic events were logged with them for the evening of 24 March 1997. It is possible, however, that an aircraft may have generated a sonic event of which the pilot was unaware.

ANSWER:

It is not possible, twelve months after the date in question, to state precisely where military aircraft activity was being carried out. Records kept show only that aircraft were booked to carry out low flying over the Peak District between 2030 and 2107 hours local time on the evening of 24 March 1997. No low level flying is permitted over the Sheffield urban area, or any other major conurbation. Records of flying at medium level - between 2,000 and 24,000 ft - are not maintained so it is possible that there were aircraft in the area at medium level.

The regulations governing military aircraft flying at supersonic speeds are contained in the Joint Service Publication entitled 'Military Flying Regulations', an extract of which was provided in the answer I gave on 1 April (column 547/548). The regulations which apply to civil aviation are a matter for my honourable friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

As for the seismological activity detected by the British Geological Survey at Edingburgh University, I refer my honourable friend to the answer I provided to her on 30 March (column 414).

BACKGROUND NOTE:

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Copy to:

PSO/ACAS
AS.DD2
DPO(RAF)
RAF Kinloss - PRO Scotland
HQ MATO - Ops Support 1
Sec(AS)2a

Low Flying Training

Helen Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence (1) what complaints were received by the RAF concerning low-flying aircraft relating to 24 March 1997; [36407]

(2) if RAF/NATO military aircraft were engaged on an exercise over Northern England between 9.30 and 10.30 pm on 24 March 1997; [36404]

(3) for what reasons the RAF imposed an air exclusion zone around Howden reservoir on the morning of 25 March 1997; [36403]

(4) what reported sightings of UFOs were received from the *(a)* public and *(b)* police from the South Yorkshire/Derbyshire area on 24 and 25 March 1997. [36402]

Mr. Spellar: A number of military aircraft were booked to carry out low flying training in northern England on the evening of 24 March 1997. The Ministry of Defence received 13 complaints about aircraft activity for that date from locations across the UK. No reported sightings of "UFOs" on 24 or 25 March 1997 were received by my Department. A Temporary Danger Area was established on 25 March, centred on Howden Reservoir, to allow an RAF Search and Rescue helicopter, in response to a request for assistance from South Yorkshire Police, to carry out a search of the area without disturbance by other military aircraft. Such Danger Areas are routinely established for Search and Rescue operations.

HANSARD EXTRACT

Col. 414.

Dated 30 March 1998

Sonic Booms (Sheffield)

Helen Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence if an RAF/NATO aircraft was responsible for the two sonic booms above Sheffield detected by Edinburgh University Seismology Unit at 21.52 and 22.06 on 24 March 1997. [36405]

Mr. Spellar: We have no record of sonic events being generated by RAF or NATO aircraft for the evening of 24 March 1997.

HANSARD EXTRACT

Col. 415

Dated 30 March 1998

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

TUESDAY 7 APRIL 1998

[redacted]

MRS HELEN JACKSON (LABOUR)(SHEFFIELD, HILLSBOROUGH)

N

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to his Answers of 30th March, Official Report, column 414, if the military exercises were carried out over the Sheffield area; what regulations govern (a) military and (b) other aircraft breaking the sound barrier; and if the sonic booms detected by Edinburgh University Seismology Unit above Sheffield, on 24th March 1997 were the result of aircraft breaking the sound barrier. [37991]

MR SPELLAR

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As for the seismological activity detected by the British Geological Survey at Edingburgh University, I refer my hon Friend to the answer I gave her on 30 March 1998 (Official Report, Col 414).

April 1998 2548I

BACKGROUND NOTE:

Mrs Jackson tabled five PQs for answer on 30th March along with another for answer on 1 April (copies attached). All referred to an incident which occurred over the Peak District on 24 March 1997. The parts of the question referring to flying regulations and the Edingburgh Seismology Unit were both asked in these previous questions.

The incident in question remains unresolved. At around 2200hrs on 24 March 1997 a number of witnesses located in and around the Peak District reported hearing an aeroplane in trouble followed by a crash. Police and RAF Search and Rescue helicopters were scrambled and conducted a thorough search of the area but found no signs of a crash. No civil or military aircraft were reported missing for that day. Since the event a number of theories have emerged, including one that the 'crash' heard by the witnesses may have been a sonic boom generated by an aircraft.

We do not know whether military aircraft were operating over Sheffield on the evening in question. An investigation now would be impracticable given the passage of time. The only centrally maintained indication of activity are the low flying booking sheets and these show that Tornados from RAF Marham were booked to fly within Night Low Flying Sector 3A between 2030 and 2107 hours local time on 24 March 1997; over an hour before the alleged incident took place. Although low flying military aircraft are not permitted to overfly towns and cities, it is possible that the Tornados (or other military aircraft) may have flown over Sheffield at medium level.

In accordance with Flying Regulations, squadrons report any inadvertent sonic events to Headquarters Military Air Traffic Organisation (HQ MATO). They can confirm that no inadvertent sonic events were logged with them for the evening of 24 March 1997. It is possible, however, that an aircraft may have generated a sonic event of which the pilot was unaware.

ANSWER:

It is not possible, twelve months after the date in question, to state precisely where military aircraft activity was being carried out. Records kept show only that aircraft were booked to carry out low flying over the Peak District between 2030 and 2107 hours local time on the evening of 24 March 1997. No low level flying is permitted over the Sheffield urban area, or any other major conurbation. Records of flying at medium level - between 2,000 and 24,000 ft - are not maintained so it is possible that there were aircraft in the area at medium level.

The regulations governing military aircraft flying at supersonic speeds are contained in the Joint Service Publication entitled 'Military Flying Regulations', an extract of which was provided in the answer I gave on 1 April (column 547/548). The regulations which apply to civil aviation are a matter for my honourable friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

As for the seismological activity detected by the British Geological Survey at Edingburgh University, I refer my honourable friend to the answer I provided to her on 30 March (column 414).

BACKGROUND NOTE:

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Copy to:

PSO/ACAS
AS.DD2
DPO(RAF)
RAF Kinloss - PRO Scotland
HQ MATO - Ops Support 1
Sec(AS)2a

Low Flying Training

Helen Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence (1) what complaints were received by the RAF concerning low-flying aircraft relating to 24 March 1997; [36407]

(2) if RAF/NATO military aircraft were engaged on an exercise over Northern England between 9.30 and 10.30 pm on 24 March 1997; [36404]

(3) for what reasons the RAF imposed an air exclusion zone around Howden reservoir on the morning of 25 March 1997; [36408]

(4) what reported sightings of UFOs were received from the *(a)* public and *(b)* police from the South Yorkshire/Derbyshire area on 24 and 25 March 1997. [36402]

Mr. Spellar: A number of military aircraft were booked to carry out low flying training in northern England on the evening of 24 March 1997. The Ministry of Defence received 13 complaints about aircraft activity for that date from locations across the UK. No reported sightings of "UFOs" on 24 or 25 March 1997 were received by my Department. A Temporary Danger Area was established on 25 March, centred on Howden Reservoir, to allow an RAF Search and Rescue helicopter, in response to a request for assistance from South Yorkshire Police, to carry out a search of the area without disturbance by other military aircraft. Such Danger Areas are routinely established for Search and Rescue operations.

HANSARD EXTRACT

Col. 414

Dated 30 March 1998

Sonic Booms (Sheffield)

Helen Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence if an RAF/NATO aircraft was responsible for the two sonic booms above Sheffield detected by Edinburgh University Seismology Unit at 21.52 and 22.06 on 24 March 1997. [36405]

Mr. Spellar: We have no record of sonic events being generated by RAF or NATO aircraft for the evening of 24 March 1997.

HANSARD EXTRACT

Col. 415

Dated 30 March 1998

Military Aircraft

Helen Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence if he will make a statement on the regulations covering military aircraft breaking the sound barrier above *(a)* urban and *(b)* other areas. [36406]

Mr. Spellar: The following regulations, which are an extract from Military Flying Regulations, apply to supersonic flying by military aircraft in UK airspace:

In the United Kingdom Flight Information Region (FIR), all medium and high level supersonic flights are to be made over the sea. Aircraft heading directly out to sea may accelerate to supersonic speed when at least 10 nautical miles (nm) out to sea and along a flight of at least 20° divergent from the mean line of the coast; the angle of dive is not to exceed the minimum necessary. Supersonic flights with the aircraft pointing towards the land, turning or flying parallel to the coast are to take place at least 35nm from the nearest coastline.

Supersonic flying at low level over the sea within UK FIR may take place provided that the above rules are followed and that, in addition, a radar/visual search is maintained in order to avoid the following by the margins indicated:

(a) Shipping and fixed or mobile oil and gas installations: 3nm.

(b) Civilian or military transport aircraft: a minimum of 6nm.

(c) Helicopter main routes and corridors: 6nm.

With the exception of Air Defence missions, operating authorities are to notify the appropriate radar station of all planned supersonic flights in advance. Radar stations are to maintain a permanent record of supersonic flights carried out under their control.

If any captain knows or suspects that his aircraft has inadvertently made a supersonic flight he is to enter details in the Flight Authorisation Book. In addition, it is the responsibility of the station concerned to notify the appropriate radar station of the flight within 30 minutes of the aircraft's landing. The radar station is to maintain a special record of all such occurrences.

HANSARD EXTRACT
Col. 547/548
Dated 1 April 1998

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HANSARD EXTRACT
Col. 547/548
Dated 1 April 1998

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

****
PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - URGENT ACTION REQUIRED
****

DATE FOR RETURN	:	**12:00 ON MONDAY 6 APRIL 1998**
PQ REFERENCE	:	PQ 2548i
PQ TYPE	:	Named Day Written
SUPPLEMENTARIES REQUIRED?	:	No
MINISTER REPLYING	:	PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE - USofS
LEAD BRANCH:	:	SEC(AS)
COPY ADDRESSEE(S)	:	

MP's DETAIL: MRS HELEN JACKSON (LABOUR)(SHEFFIELD, HILLSBOROUGH)

QUESTION

3|To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to his Answers of 30th March, Official Report, column 414, if the military exercises were carried out over the Sheffield area; what regulations govern (a) military and (b) other aircraft breaking the sound barrier; and if the sonic booms detected by Edinburgh University Seismology Unit above Sheffield, on 24th March 1997 were the result of aircraft breaking the sound barrier. [37991]

REMEMBER you are accountable for the accuracy and timeliness of the advice you provide. Departmental Instructions on answering PQs are set out in DCI GEN 150/97 and can be viewed on the CHOTS public area and on DAWN.

DRAFTED BY : [redacted] (EO) TEL: [redacted]0
APPROVED BY : [redacted] (G7) TEL: [redacted]

AUTHORISED BY : [redacted] TEL: [redacted]0
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 GEN 150/97), and the Open Government Code (DCI GEN 54/98).

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/98	ICS(FMS)Sec	PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE	[ ]

Sent: 02/04/98 at 9:45
To: ICS(FMS)Sec
CC:

Ref: 11385
Subject: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE ACTION - DO NOT ERASE

Text: Attached PQ to be passed to the appropriate Desk Officer Immediately.

PQ 2547i

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

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
02/04/98	SEC(AS) REGISTRY 1	PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE	[ ]

Sent: 02/04/98 at 9:49
To: SEC(AS) REGISTRY 1
CC:

Ref: 11386
Subject: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE ACTION - DO NOT ERASE

Text: Attached PQ to be passed to the appropriate Desk Officer Immediately.

PQ 2548i

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

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Mrs [redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff (Lower Airspace)
Operations & Policy 1
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London, WC2N 5BP

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax)
(GTN) [redacted]

6 2

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS/64/3
Date
10 September 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 23 August in which you requested information concerning 'unidentified flying objects'. I will address these in the same order as your letter.

First you requested copies of papers relating to an alleged 'UFO' sighting in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk in December 1980. Please find enclosed copies of papers on this incident which have recently been released to members of the public under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. Some have been sanitised to protect the privacy of those who have corresponded with the Ministry of Defence.

You then asked for "a list of ASC from RAF Flagdales phased Array radar of UFOs being tracked outside the Earths atmosphere". We assume you mean RAF Fylingdales as there is no such unit as Flagdales. We do not understand what is meant by the abbreviation "ASC" in the context of your letter. However, I can inform you that the radar at RAF Fylingdales is used to track and catologue objects such as satellites in the Earth's orbit. It does not track 'UFOs'

With regard to your request for copies of all 'UFOs' reported all over the UK, I would like to draw your attention to paragraphs 4 and 5 of my previous letter, in which I explained why this request would be refused under Exemption 9 of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information (voluminous or vexatious requests), and Exemption 12 (privacy of an individual).

In your letter you asked for details of the 'UFO' sighting in Bonsall, Derbyshire on 5 October 2000. Although articles about this sighting have appeared in the press, this was not reported to the Ministry of Defence and we therefore have no papers we can send to you.

Finally you requested documents on "UFO crash recoveries in the Yorkshire Moors or Donna Nook area in 1993", also in Birmingham in 1994. As I said in my last letter, the Ministry of Defence has never seen or retrieved any crashed extraterrestrial spacecraft. There were two RAF Harrier GR7 accidents, one 5 nautical miles, south-west of Heckington, Lincolnshire on 28 June 1993, and the other 5 nautical miles, south-east of Evesham, Warwickshire on 14 January 1994. It is possible that these have been confused or misreported as 'UFO' crashes.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Augest 23, 2001

I would like to request under the freedom of information act copies of documents relating to 1980 Raf Bentwaters on the night of Dec 25 and 26 of a ufo landing in Rendlsham forest and a list of ASC from Raf Flagdales phased Array radar of ufos being tracked out side the Earths atmosphere moving around I would like copies of all of your unidentifiedflying objects reported all over the U.K. The Bonsall Derbyshire ufo sightings on Oct. 5 2000 at 9:15pm Compare the STS-75 video to it from NASA the identical object also any flying triangle ufo's sighting's around the U.K. I want any documents you are willing to send me or RAF investigation into ufo sightings or ufo Crash recoverys in the Yorkshire moors or Donna Nook area in 1993 I am following up on leads reported by the Yorkshire ufo group and ufo Magazine also 1994 Bermingham UK ufo Crash and Nov-Dec 1993 ufo shot down Cleveland north of Yorkshire UK Thank you

Sincerely [redacted]

mead

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

5 4

From: Mrs [redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff 4a1
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 8245, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]
(GTN)

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS/64/3
Date
9 July 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 20 June, addressed to Secretariat (Air Staff)2a, concerning 'unidentified flying objects'. Please note this section is now called the Directorate of Air Staff 4a, as shown above. We are still 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 military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do 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 request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, you may wish to be aware that the Ministry of Defence operates in accordance with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, which encourages the provision of information unless its disclosure would, for example, cause harm to defence, invade on an individual's privacy, or if it would take an unreasonable diversion of resources to respond to a request. Information requested is supplied wherever possible providing it does not fall under one of the exemptions in the Code. The Freedom of Information legislation in the UK has now received Royal Assent and is known as the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is expected to come into force in Spring 2002, when it will supersede the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. This should not be confused with the Freedom of Information Act in the USA which I understand has been in operation for a number of years.

In your letter you asked for "copies of documents on UFO sightings and UFO related documents". Ministry of Defence files are subject to the provision of the Public Records Act of 1958 and 1967 and remain closed for 30 years after the last action on the file has been taken. It was generally the case that before 1967 all MOD 'UFO' files were destroyed after five years as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However, as a result of growing public interest the files have been routinely preserved since 1967 and released to the

Public Record Office. Any from the 1950s and early 1960s that survived are open for public viewing and if you (or a representative) would like to look at these files they are held at the following address;

The Public Record Office
Ruskin Avenue
Kew
Richmond
Surrey TW9 4DU

Tel: 020 8876 3444
Fax: 020 8878 8905

Files from 1970 onwards will be opened annually as they reach their 30-year maturity point.

With regard to the files that are less than 30 years old, I can inform you that the Department receives about 400 sighting reports from members of the public, each year and a similar number of letters, some of which may also contain sighting reports. The information is filed manually in the form it is received on Branch files and therefore contains the personal details of all those contacting and corresponding with the Department. MOD has a duty to protect this third party confidentiality and the 30-year period is deemed appropriate for this purpose. Before access could be given to the material, staff would need to be diverted from their essential defence-related tasks to retrieve the material from archives and scrutinise and remove all of the personal information from many thousands of documents. The latter action would be necessary because the alternative, to contact everyone providing the information to secure their agreement to the release of their personal details, would be unworkable. I regret, therefore, that your request for copies of all this material is refused under Exemption 9 of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information (voluminous or vexatious requests) and Exemption 12 (Privacy of an individual). We would, of course, be happy to look to see what information might be made available if you could be more specific about the period, or reports of particular sightings that you are interested in. This would then enable us to consider whether a more focused effort on a limited amount of material might be possible.

If you are unhappy with the decision to refuse your request for full access to MOD files and wish to appeal, you should write in the first instance to the Ministry of Defence, Directorate of Information (Exploitation), Room 819B, St Giles Court, 1-13 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LD requesting that the decision be reviewed. If following the internal review you remain dissatisfied, you can ask a Member of Parliament to take up the case with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) who can investigate on your behalf. The Ombudsman will not, however, consider an investigation until the internal review process has been completed.

In your letter you also mentioned the alleged incident at Rendlesham Forest. When the Ministry of Defence was informed of the events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the MOD/RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a number of allegations have subsequently been made about these reported events, nothing has emerged over the last 20 years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by this Department was incorrect.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

You asked for a list of all RAF bases and their addresses so that you could also contact them. The only involvement in the "UFO" reporting process that RAF stations have, is to take down the details of any reports made in their local area and to pass them to us. Therefore any requests for information about 'UFO' reports would simple be passed to this Department.

In your letter you enquired about an incident involving a RAF Search and Rescue helicopter on the Isle of Man. I can confirm that a Search and Rescue helicopter from RAF Valley received a call out at 13:30 on 14 January 2001 to search for a crashed micro-light on the Isle of Man. A comprehensive search of the area was conducted, but nothing was found and the helicopter returned to RAF Valley.

With regard to 'under water UFO sightings', as far as we are aware, there have been no reports of alleged 'UFO's' entering or leaving water. However, this could not be confirmed without a full search of all our files. You also asked for details of retrieval of crashed 'UFO's. The Ministry of Defence has never seen or retrieved any crashed extraterrestrial space craft.

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

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

4

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAS/64/3

5 July 2001

DAS [redacted] Approved. 617

REFUSAL OF REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE CODE OF PRACTICE ON ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

1. Mr [redacted] has requested "copies of documents on UFO sightings and UFO related correspondence" under the Freedom of Information Act. However, as he lives in the USA he may be confusing our FOIA (which is not yet in force) with the US one which has been in operation since the early 1980s. I have explained this to him in my letter.

2. I have examined [redacted] request in relation to the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. As you will be aware, our files are closed for 30 years to protect the confidentiality of those that correspond with us. To meet Mr [redacted] request we would have to retrieve the files from archives and remove all the personal details from many thousands of documents. I, therefore, propose that we refuse his request under Exemption 9 of the Code (Voluminous or vexatious requests) and Exemption 12 (Privacy of an Individual). In accordance with the Code I have suggested that Mr [redacted] may wish to narrow his request to enable us to consider whether we may be able to supply a more limited amount of material.

3. DCI GEN 223/99 which was published by DOMD and concerns Open Government and the Code, states that "all refusals of requests must be cleared, in writing, at one-star level". As those that correspond with us on UFOs are sometimes vague about what information they want and often simply ask for everything we hold, DOMD agreed that we could clear refusals at AD level rather than one-star. Information (Exploitation) who now deal with Code matters have confirmed that they are happy to continue with this practice.

4. I attach my draft letter to Mr [redacted] and would be grateful for confirmation of your approval.

[redacted]

DAS4a1

25 JUN
FILE

6-20-2001

This is a Freedom of Information for Copies of document's on ufo sightings and ufo related documents MOD has a ufo package they just released and gravity control projects RAF is researching and any Back engineering projects MI-5 and CIA, USAF, ONR, DOE may be involved in also Dec 25 and 26 1980 Bentwaters RAF-USAF Rendle sham forest OSI report AFOSI Col Charles Hault wrote any new ufo report's a list of RAF bases and addresses so I can contact them also and search rescue opperations in the Isle of Man for a triangular shaped craft that colided with a radio tower on top of Sneafell Mountain RAF sea, ground, Air search and any under water ufo sighting's or ufo's comming out of or going into the water or any RAF pilots sighting reports or chase pursuiets of disc shaped

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Craft or slow moving Triangular
Shaped craft 2 foot ball feild's
long new ufo Sighting's 2000 to
2001 I am a ufo researcher
who wants full disclouser of all
ufo crash retreivals and ufo
secret, Double Top Secret document's
that were declassified report's
I have sent other FOIA request
to the NSA, CIA, USAF, DIA USNavy
UN-SHAPE- SOBEPS- MUFON
and Pentagon D.C. I would like
to request a wavier of fees
to reproduce all the ufo doc's
I would like a response within
60 working day's any documents
refering to project Moondust or
Bluefly recovery of an object
that crashed in Donna Nook in 1993
and Yorkshire moors crash
retreival of extraterestrial
space craft to current date
June 2001 I can pay for document's
if need be Sincerly [redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

No further action

12

[redacted]

[redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Room 8243 Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

21 May 2001

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
22 MAY 2001
FILE

Your ref: D/DAS(Sec)64/3/11

Dear [redacted]

This is to acknowledge receipt of the file D/Sec(AS)12/2/1 and additional material relating to the alleged incident in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk.

Thank you for assembling and copying the file, plus the additional documents located during your search, on my behalf. As I suspected, the story they tell is predictable and falls very much within my area of study in respect of the creation of myths and perceived 'conspiracies' from the most innocent of circumstances. It was refreshing to read the original, contemporary source materials relating to this 'incident' removed from the sensational accounts that have appeared in newspapers and books in more recent years.

The files you have supplied, in addition to my research at the PRO, has confirmed my hypothesis that it is those who report and promote sightings of UFOs who are more worthy of study than any alleged 'phenomena' themselves. This is a conclusion that is unlikely to be very popular amongst the 'UFO industry' but nevertheless, as I'm sure you appreciate, it is where the evidence appears to lead.

As the file suggests that no unidentified objects *were* recorded by radars at Neatishead or Watton during the period 26-29 December 1980, question 9(c) on the list I sent to you on 8 May has now been answered. I note that this conclusion also appears in Hansard.

I remain grateful for your assistance,

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

10

From: [redacted] Directorate Air Staff 4a
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 8243, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS/64/3/11
Date
11 May 2001

Dear [redacted]

Further to my letter of 22 March I am now pleased to be able to send you copies of documents on the alleged incident at Rendlesham forest.

The majority of the papers that have been photocopied come from one file, D/Sec(AS)12/2/1 that, as I have said before, was assembled some time after the alleged event. However, the initial correspondence appeared incomplete and we have made an effort to identify any other papers that there might be by looking at other 'UFO' files from the period. That has enabled us to identify a few additional internal letters and these are now placed on top of the photocopies of the documents on the main file. I am, however, unable to confirm that these papers are the only ones that have ever existed on Rendlesham Forest. We have attempted to identify all relevant material but, bearing in mind the resources available to us, we have necessarily narrowed our search to those files most likely to contain documents from the period.

Five documents have been withheld; three under Exemption 2 of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information which relates to "internal opinion advice, recommendation, consultation and deliberation" and two under Exemption 1 relating to "defence, security and international relations". The material withheld under Exemption 2 comprises briefing to Ministers less than thirty years old and the material withheld under Exemption 1 is classified documentation. However, details of the outcome of the enquiries made at the time of the alleged incident that are on file D/Sec(AS)12/2/1, or have been traced subsequently, are included among the material I am now able to send to you. If you are unhappy with the decision to withhold documentation and wish to appeal against this decision, you should write in the first instance to Ministry of Defence, D Info Exp, Room 8338, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

LOOSE MINUTE

FILE

6/11

D/DAS/64/11

15 May 01

DI ISec Sec 3 – faxed 16/05
DAO - ADGE 1 – sent 16/05

(Sec 4 – [redacted])

[redacted]

copy to:
DI 55 – faxed 16/05

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - [redacted]

1. I attach a recent letter and list of questions from [redacted] an academic researcher into 'UFO' matters. He has corresponded with DAS since the autumn of 2000 and has now approached us with thirteen individual questions to which he is seeking answers. This latest letter indicates that this may be his last request.

2. I have marked against each question the likely area of responsibility for the material. I should be grateful if you would look through the list giving me an early indication of when and whether you consider you might be able to provide answers. You might find it helpful to consult MOD Web regarding Open Government in view of the fact that, given the likely volume of work and nature of some of the information requested, it may not be possible to give [redacted] full replies. I would be very happy to discuss those issues if that would be helpful.

[redacted]

DAS4A
MB8243 [redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

[redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Room 8243 Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

8 May 2001

Your ref: D/DAS(Sec)64/3/11

Dear [redacted]

With reference to matters discussed in your letter of 22 March I enclose a list of questions relating to MoD policy on the subject of aerial phenomena/UFOs.

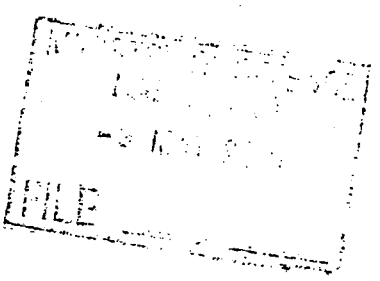
I appreciated your offer to answer questions as far as you were able given your limited staff and resources. The list contains 13 questions that I have carefully assembled at the completion of more than two years research at the Public Record Office as my project draws to a close. All relate to issues that I felt were unresolved or unclear within the context of the documents relating to this subject currently within the public domain.

I don't expect that you will be able to fully answer some of the questions, given the fact that so much documentation appears either not to have survived or is 'missing' but I would appreciate any information you could offer that may be relevant.

Finally, with reference to the file containing papers relating to the Rendlesham Forest incident dating from 1981-83 I note in your letter of 22 March you say this material would be processed and sent shortly. This file has not arrived so far, but I wish to thank you in advance for making these papers available.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]



Unidentified Flying Objects – questions to Ministry of Defence/DAS (Sec)

1. Can the MoD list the current posts within the Air Staff and in Operations where staff have a direct or subsidiary responsibility for the investigation of UFO reports and/or the handling of public inquiries relating to the subject. Of the posts identified, can a percentage of staff time allocated to UFO-related duties be specified? 1- All

2. Does DAS (Sec) maintain figures/statistics relating to the number of enquiries received from a) the public and b) the media relating to UFO issues dealt with on a year by year basis - and if so are these available? 2- DAS

3. Can MoD specify the extent of liaison that has taken place with a) the Royal Australian Air Force and b) United States Air Force with respect to the investigation of UFO reports, from records that are available. 3- DAS

4. Has the MOD ever called upon the expertise of psychologists (external or service personnel) in respect of 4A-
a) individual investigation and – DAO - DI Sec.
b) analysis or advice on any aspect of UFO issues; if so is this material available for research purposes? 4B- DAS

5. HQ Fighter Command Air Staff Instruction F/1 dating from 1960, Public Record Office (DEFE 31/118), instructs Operations staff that UFO reports received from service sources and radar stations should be reported to Air Intelligence 5b (circa 1959-64) at Air Ministry DDI (Tech). Reports received from the public should be directed to department S6 (the forerunner of AS (Sec) 2a. Could the MOD confirm that the reporting division between Air Intelligence (as the destination for service and radar reports) and DAS(Sec) for reports received from the general public, continues to exist today. 5- DAS / DI Sec

6. Can the MoD outline the precise role of RAF Rudloe Manor, Wiltshire, in reporting, collection and investigation of UFO reports from service sources prior to 1992. 6 - DAS

7. Does the MOD maintain *a paper or electronic record* of radar tracks or reports of radar tracks recorded within the UK Air Defence Region that have remained unidentified following investigation? If that is the case, for how long are records preserved, what is their security classification and after what period of time will records be available at the PRO? 7 - DAO

8. In 1996 in the House of Commons, Defence Minister Nicholas Soames stated that RAF aircraft were scrambled on two occasions "in the past five years" to intercept unidentified targets detected by UK Air Defence Radar. Could MOD specify: 8 - DAO
a) details of incidents recorded between 1990-2000 when aircraft were scrambled to intercept targets *that have remained 'unidentified'* following MoD investigation.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

b) the role of RAF Fylingdales in the investigation of UFO reports (for example, what category of report would be checked with this facility).

9. Does MOD have records of unidentified flying object/s tracked by the CRC station RAF Neatishead or satellite radar stations 9- DAO
a) on the evening of 13/14 August, 1956 resulting in an attempted interception by Venom aircraft from RAF Waterbeach.
b) on an evening between September and November 1980, during which aircraft involved in a night-flying exercise were diverted to intercept an unknown target?
c) during the period 26-30 December 1980.

No longer required, 21.5.01

10. What are the current standing instructions to RAF stations/ radar facilities with regards to the reporting and action taken to investigate a) reports of b) radar trackings of unidentified flying objects. Are copies of current instructions available for public inspection? 10 - DAO

Form for DC? Somewhere? DAS?

11. Can the MoD confirm: 11 - DI Sec
a) the existence and current location of reports describing aerial phenomena originating from RAF and other service sources sent to AI 5b at DDI Tech, Air Ministry, dating from 1950-67.
b) Whether the Department of Scientific and Technical Intelligence (DSTI) maintains records or files relating to investigation/consultation with Air Staff on the subject of aerial phenomena/UFOs.
c) Have DSTI undertaken at any time a search of their records for UFO-related files, reports or analysis from the period dating from 1950-80? If no search has taken place how is it possible to claim that files before 1961 have not been retained?

Not part b/ s(6 yrs - don't know...

12. Documents released by the Metropolitan Police under the Code of Practice in 2001 indicate that the MoD acted in an advisory capacity to a Police Special Branch investigation of an unidentified helicopter reported over Derbyshire between September 1973-January 1974. Does an MoD file exist relating to these incidents and if so what does this contain and what conclusions were reached? - 12 - DAO

13. What is the current definition of the term "of no defence significance" used by the MoD in the context of UFOs reported in the UK Air Defence Region. What is the precise methodology employed to determine whether a report can be categorised as of "no defence significance." 13 - DAO

[redacted]
8 May 2001

********** -COMM. JOURNAL- ********** DATE 16-MAY-2001 ***** TIME 09:28 *** P.01

MODE = TRANSMISSION START=16-MAY 09:26 END=16-MAY 09:28

STN NO.	COM	ABBR NO.	STATION NAME/TEL.NO.	PAGES	DURATION
001	OK	☎	[redacted]4D155	004	00:01'40"

-SECRETARIAT (AIR STAFF) -

********** - ***** - [redacted] **********

********** -COMM. JOURNAL- ********** DATE 16-MAY-2001 ***** TIME 09:24 *** P.01

MODE = TRANSMISSION START=16-MAY 09:23 END=16-MAY 09:24

STN NO.	COM	ABBR NO.	STATION NAME/TEL.NO.	PAGES	DURATION
001	OK		[redacted] 01 SEC 3	004	00:01'30"

-SECRETARIAT (AIR STAFF) -

********** - ***** - [redacted] **********

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

3

[redacted]

APR 2001
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

[redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Room 8241, Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

29 March 2001

Your ref: D/DAS(Sec)64/3/11

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 22 March and for your detailed response to my question with regard to the preservation of 'UFO'-related files.

Many thanks also for copying the three 'policy' files which arrived at my address on March 24, and for the explanation regards the removal of the enclosure. The explanation for the decision to withhold briefing material from this file and that relating to the Rendlesham incident is perfectly understandable and I do not wish to appeal against it.

I would, however, most certainly like to take up your offer to copy the 'original' file containing the internal minute and correspondence relating to the Rendlesham Forest incident dating from 1981-83. From your description this file appears to relate to the period of time that is of direct interest to my study – and specifically the basis upon which the MoD concluded that the 'incident' was of no defence significance. I hope the material contained within the file may go at least some way towards answering this controversial question. I look forward to receiving the file and wish to thank you again for reviewing and copying this material on my behalf.

With regards to my request for a short interview to answer questions on present MoD policy relating to UFOs, I'm grateful for your offer to answer these as far as you are able using the information available to your staff. I will now draw up a list of 10 questions that I hope to send to you within the next two weeks. I would imagine only a small number of the questions would relate to specific 'sightings.' My areas of interest relate more to the level of co-operation between the MoD and foreign Governments pertaining to this topic, the role of the 'specialist' sources of information utilised by the MoD as part of the investigation of reports and issues related to the 'public relations' aspects of your Secretariat's role in the MoD structure.

In the meantime, thank you again for your valued assistance,

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Mrs [redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff
4a1(Secretariat)
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 8245, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]
(GTN)

25

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS(Sec)64/3
Date
29 January 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

I am writing with reference to your letter of 1st January concerning 'unidentified flying objects' and Georgina Bruni's book 'You Can't Tell the People'.

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 military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do 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 the alleged incident at Rendlesham Forest referred to in Ms Brunils book, I can confirm that when the Ministry of Defence was informed of the events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the MOD/RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a number of allegations have subsequently been made about these reported events, nothing has emerged over the last 20 years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by this Department was incorrect.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

1 JAN 2001

[redacted]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DAS (SEC)
-3 JAN 2001
FILE

Dear Sir/Madam.

How does one start to try and explain, the events that occured on the 25th December to 29th Dec 1980 at the Bentwaters Woodbridge bases, now famously called the Rendlesham incident. I understand many people's lives have been affected, over the lies and misconception regarding the case mostly one has been told, that all the lights seen, were of the old lighthouse, of a lighthouse leaves three landing marks in the sand and burnt trees' than I am a Russian Spy.

Thats put the hole extraordinary events down radly, radio active rabbits I've been told could Calls all all the American personnel and MOD police as having much drink over the Christmas holiday's, rather worrying during those two bases housed Nuclear weapons No time, when the Public never was told, also it hasn't Stealth planes, which was a Secret than. more radar picked up coming in unknown from the sea on the 25th Dec 11 30 PM. Colonel HALT, FRANK ermen, GENERAL GORDON E. Williams, Jim Penniston Plume & John F Burroughs are just a few men Come forward and stated than what happen t was not of this earth. So why still the ernment refusing to give out facts or

P.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

utter [redacted] question -

One try to explain that Big bird, American Cylinder
satellite with a large Cassegrain telescope & two cameras
o a possible cause of the lights for re entry into the
nosphere, but didnt de orbited till 6 March 1981, Several
ttellites have been blamed for this occurence in
Sorest but each time all the date and times
re out of place with the time frame in question
I believe that, with public opinion that it is all
disinformation, and short changed by our powers,
t be, when will someone be brave enough to owed
and tell the truth once and for all.

I would like to hear from someone on my remarks
and what has been done to rectify or address this
oblem. Iam not a UFO buff or some mad person, I know
e subject is still taboo, but with your nick Pope
o is a Saint in coming forward at least, I say to you
reading Left at East gate by harry warren and
ost recently georgina Bruni's You Cant tell the
ople, a comment made by our own Margaret Thatcher
spring 1994. I believe, and I dont Care what any one says
t all replys to this case are not good enough.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Mrs [redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff
4a1(Secretariat)
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 8245, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]
(GTN)

29

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS(Sec)64/3
Date
2 February 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

Thank you for your recent letter addressed to the Secretary of State for Defence regarding 'unidentified flying objects'. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of this nature and I have been asked to reply.

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 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.

In your letter you mention the alleged incident at Rendlesham Forest. When the Ministry of Defence was informed of the events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the MOD/RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a number of allegations have subsequently been made about these reported events, nothing has emerged over the last 20 years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by this Department was incorrect.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

Yours sincerely,



UFOs

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

To DAS 4 SEC **Ref No** 0748 **/2001**

Date 25/1/01

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

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

A new Open Government Code of Practice on Access to Government Information came into force in January 1997. All replies to members of the public must be in accordance with the procedures set out in the Code. A full explanation of the Code of Practice is contained in DCI(Gen) 223/99, further information is available from DOMD on extension [redacted]

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

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

[redacted]

DAS Sec 4

UFOs

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

Dear Sir / Madam.

I am writing to you regarding alien craft visiting our planet. I have read many books on the subject and seen various film and photographs but I cant understand why you deny their existence and say they are not a threat. The Rendlesham forest incident for example is the biggest cover-up that i have seen in a long time, but now the people who were involved have decided to talk.
Is the M.o.D. saying they are liars ? I have received a copy of Colonel Halts memorandum of what happened that night which clearly states that a UFO landed in Rendlesham forest. Surely its about time the M.o.D. tell the truth regarding this subject and no doubt i will receive a letter saying they don't exist which in that case you are the liars and how can the people of this country have any trust in you.
I look forward to your response and thankyou for taking the time to read my letter.

Yours Sincerely

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

31

From: Mr [redacted], Directorate of Air Staff (Sec) 4a, Room 8245
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 0207 218 2140
(Fax) [redacted]

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS(Sec)/64/3

Date
5 February 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

Thank you for your letter dated 15 January 2001. I enclose a copy of Squadron Leader Moreland's covering letter to Lt Col Halt's memorandum as requested.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

FAX: 0181-569-2751 22.07.96 12:18 No.004 P.01

RAF LIAISON OFFICE
Royal Air Force Bentwaters Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 2RQ

Telephone Woodbridge 3737 ext ~~2333~~ 2257

Your reference

MOD (DS8a)

Our reference BENT/019/76/AIR

Date 15 January 1981

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFO's)

I attach a copy of a report I have received from the Deputy Base Commander at RAF Bentwaters concerning some mysterious sightings in the Rendlesham forest near RAF Woodbridge. The report is forwarded for your information and action as considered necessary.

D H MORELAND
Squadron Leader
RAF Commander

Copy to:

SRAFLO, RAF Mildenhall

DI55
PS/ACAS (Comm)

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

Miss [redacted] Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a
Room 8245, Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

[redacted]

15th January 2001

Dear Miss [redacted]

I am writing with reference to the RAF Woodbridge incident of December 1980 and would like to ask you a quick request. I appreciate that you must be a busy person and I apologise for what might seem a trivial matter, but...

Please could you forward me a copy of Commander D.H Moreland's (Squadron Leader RAF) covering letter under which Lt Col Holt's memo concerning 'unidentified lights' in Rendlesham Forest was sent to the Mod in January 1981.

I am most grateful for your assistance.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DAS 4 (SEC)
19 JAN 2001
PH/E

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Mrs [redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff
4a1(Secretariat)
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 8245, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]
(GTN)

24

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS(Sec)64/3
Date
29 January 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

I am writing with reference to your letter of 12 December 2000 concerning Georgina Bruni's book 'You Can't Tell the People' and your letter of 15 January concerning alleged 'UFO' sightings over Belgium in December 1989.

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 military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do 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 Ministry of Defence 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 the alleged incident at Rendlesham Forest referred to in Ms Bruni's book, I can confirm that when the Ministry of Defence was informed of the events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the MOD/RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a number of allegations have subsequently been made about these reported events, nothing has emerged over the last 20 years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by this Department was incorrect. I enclose a copy of Lieutenant Colonel Halt's memorandum and Squadron Leader Moreland's covering letter as requested.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Finally, in your letter of 15 January you asked about possible 'UFO' sightings over Belgium in December 1989. As I have said above, the Ministry of Defence's interest in 'UFOs' is limited to whether there is evidence of a breach of the UK Air Defence Region. Belgian airspace is a matter for the Belgian authorities and I am therefore unable to assist with your particular query.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Office, Hayes TEL: 0181-569-2751

RAF LIAISON OFFICE
Royal Air Force Bentwaters Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 2RQ

Telephone Woodbridge 3737 ext ~~2333~~ XXX 2257

22,07,96 12:18 No.004 P.02

MOD (DS8a)

Your reference

Our reference BENT/019/76/AIR

Date 15 January 1981

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFO's)

I attach a copy of a report I have received from the Deputy Base Commander at RAF Bentwaters concerning some mysterious sightings in the Rendlesham forest near RAF Woodbridge. The report is forwarded for your information and action as considered necessary.

D H MORELAND
Squadron Leader
RAF Commander

Copy to:

SRAFLO, RAF Mildenhall

Copy sent to DS5 (RAF) 21 Sqn Lnr Bdge

DI55
PS/Acs (

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 81ST COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (USAFE)
APO NEW YORK 09755

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: CD

SUBJECT: Unexplained Lights 13 Jan 81

TO: RAF/CC

1. Early in the morning of 27 Dec 80 (approximately 0300L), two USAF security police patrolmen saw unusual lights outside the back gate at RAF Woodbridge. Thinking an aircraft might have crashed or been forced down, they called for permission to go outside the gate to investigate. The on-duty flight chief responded and allowed three patrolmen to proceed on foot. The individuals reported seeing a strange glowing object in the forest. The object was described as being metalic in appearance and triangular in shape, approximately two to three meters across the base and approximately two meters high. It illuminated the entire forest with a white light. The object itself had a pulsing red light on top and a bank(s) of blue lights underneath. The object was hovering or on legs. As the patrolmen approached the object, it maneuvered through the trees and disappeared. At this time the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy. The object was briefly sighted approximately an hour later near the back gate.

2. The next day, three depressions 1 1/2" deep and 7" in diameter were found where the object had been sighted on the ground. The following night (29 Dec 80) the area was checked for radiation. Beta/gamma readings of 0.1 milliroentgens were recorded with peak readings in the three depressions and near the center of the triangle formed by the depressions. A nearby tree had moderate (.05-.07) readings on the side of the tree toward the depressions.

3. Later in the night a red sun-like light was seen through the trees. It moved about and pulsed. At one point it appeared to throw off glowing particles and then broke into five separate white objects and then disappeared. Immediately thereafter, three star-like objects were noticed in the sky, two objects to the north and one to the south, all of which were about 10° off the horizon. The objects moved rapidly in sharp angular movements and displayed red, green and blue lights. The objects to the north appeared to be elliptical through an 8-12 power lens. They then turned to full circles. The objects to the north remained in the sky for an hour or more. The object to the south was visible for two or three hours and beamed down a stream of light from time to time. Numerous individuals, including the undersigned, witnessed the activities in paragraphs 2 and 3.

CHARLES I. HALT, Lt Col, USAF
Deputy Base Commander

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

20 days - 12 Jan

[redacted]



12.12.00.

To whom it may concern,

I have recently purchased Georgina Bruni's 'You Can't Tell the People' the book covering the "Rendlesham Forrest Incident"

In the book, when questioning the M.O.D's knowledge on the incident, Georgina talks of Squadron Leader Donald Moreland. (A British R.A.F liaison officer between USAF and M.O.D) whom sent a

covering letter with Colonel Charles I. Halt's memorandum on the 'Rendlesham Forrest Incident' (Possible MOD Ref N°: BENT/019/76/AIR) to the MOD.

I would firstly, be grateful if you could send me a copy of both the memorandum and the covering letter.

Secondly could I ask your opinion (nor MOD's) as to what happened in the forrest on December 1980?

And finally, I would also like to know why 'UFO' sightings a not deemed a threat to the security of the U.K or "Of defence significance"

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

(2)

when these crafts of such advanced technology (seemingly), freely 'zip' in and out of British air space? (A question also asked by Nick Pope, former Sec(AS)2a employee)

Thank you for taking time out to read this letter, I only hope you will find time to reply.

Yours Sincerely

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Mrs [redacted]
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 8243, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS(Sec)64/3/11

22 March 2001

Dear [redacted]

Further to my letter of 9 March and in reply to yours of 7 February, I would like to reassure you that our policy has not changed with regard to the preservation of documents on the subject of 'UFOs'. Records indicate that many files have been created over the years and then, in due course, closed and archived. Calling for a number of those files recently we have discovered that some do not appear to have 'survived the passage of time' but those that have been traced are marked for permanent preservation and that instruction is being applied now as files are closed in this Directorate.

You ask about papers on the alleged incident at Rendlesham Forest in 1980/81. There are, in fact, a number of papers that were generated between 1981 and 1983 and later assembled on one file, along with correspondence received after 1983 from members of the public. Briefings to Ministers in respect of PQs asked on the subject since 1983 are placed on another file. I am withholding that briefing material in accordance with Exemption 2 of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, which relates to "internal opinion, advice, recommendation, consultation and deliberation". If you are unhappy with this decision and wish to appeal against it, you should write in the first instance to Ministry of Defence, DOMD, Room 619 Northumberland House, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BP. If, following the internal review you remain dissatisfied, you can ask your MP to take up the case with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) who can investigate on your behalf. The Ombudsman will not investigate until the internal review process has been completed.

However, on the file containing papers on the alleged incident at Rendlesham Forest, there is an internal minute that appears to summarise the extent of MOD investigation and draws the conclusion that has been used in all subsequent briefings. We are content to photocopy the documents from that file, which consists of somewhere in the region of 70 enclosures. This, along with some sanitising - for example of individuals' identities - and review, is likely to take up to three hours and will therefore be undertaken free of charge under the Code of Practice. I should perhaps add that a substantial number of the papers on the file are letters from members of the public and the reply to those letters. The material will be processed and sent to you shortly.

You raise the possibility of a short interview to answer questions on the subject of our policy as it stands today. As a small section we have only limited resources available to conduct a comprehensive review of documentation in order to meet your request. Some of the papers

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

produced in recent years are classified and relate to discussions concerning the handling of correspondence and administrative arrangements, rather than reports of individual sightings, and are likely to be withheld under Exemption 2 of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. However, if you were to draw up a list of questions and forward this to us, we would be happy to provide answers in so far as we are able. The fact remains however that the Ministry of Defence looks at any correspondence on 'UFO' sightings it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely is there any evidence that the UK's airspace might have been compromised by unauthorized air activity. The Ministry does not question the existence, or otherwise, of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains open minded. To date we are, however, unaware of any evidence which proves that these phenomena exist.

Finally I should like to acknowledge receipt of, and thank you for, your cheque for £20.00 for the work photocopying the three files listed in my letter of 9 March. This work has been completed taking only some ten minutes more than originally estimated. The material is now being sent to you, separate from this letter. You will note the removal of one enclosure (Enclosure 9) and editing of another (Enclosure 6). This was to remove briefing to a Minister (Enclosure 9) and record of a Minister's opinion (Enclosure 6), both less than thirty years old. That information is being withheld in accordance with Exemption 2 of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, which relates to "internal opinion, advice, recommendation, consultation and deliberation". I have explained your right of appeal earlier in this letter.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Ack 21

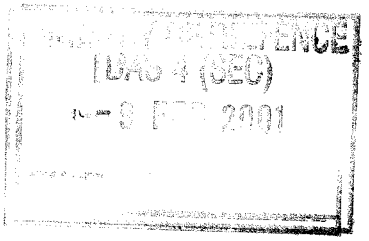
Press [redacted] 72 16 Mar

[redacted]

[redacted]

Ministry of Defence
Room 8241, Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

7 February 2001



Dear [redacted]

Many thanks for your letter of 2 February and for the results of your review of UFO policy material from the period 1968-1981. I note your comments concerning the process by which 'policy' material was distributed across files created by the Secretariat, and the problems identifying this material within a range of subject files.

I was surprised to hear that 'a number of files' dealing with UFOs were likely to have been destroyed in 1990. It was my understanding that a policy decision had been taken during 1970, on instruction from an Under Secretary of State, to preserve all files relating to this subject. Has there been a subsequent change of policy, or does the preservation of files relate specifically to UFO reports, rather than UFO policy documents?

Despite the above, I was pleased to hear that you had identified three files containing policy material from the period specified in my request, including the file AF/419 relating to the 1972 BBC2 Man Alive Programme. I appreciate the effort you have made to locate these documents and to review them on my behalf, and I look forward to hearing the results in due course. I would of course wish to obtain copies of the documents concerned when this review is completed.

With regards to my request for access to more recent policy material I would like to take up your offer to search files if I was able to specify "a particular year, topic or incident." My research into the MOD's involvement in the UFO issue during the past half century would not be complete, or comprehensive, without making reference to the saga of the "Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge" incident which occurred between 26-30 December, 1980. You will no doubt be acquainted with the details of the alleged 'sightings' by US airmen and others at the RAF Woodbridge base, which has generated sensational newspaper articles, books and a number of letters from members of the public addressed to your Secretariat ever since that time. Last year the claims resurfaced yet again in a further book entitled '*You Can't Tell the People*,' the subject of questions in the House of Lords as recently as last week.

My review of the MOD's public statements relating to the Rendlesham case since it first received national publicity in 1983 have led me to agree with your original position that the alleged events had "no defence significance." Having visited the forest and observed the optical effects created by the beam from the Orfordness

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

lighthouse, I am inclined to agree that a completely down-to-earth explanation is readily available. Wherever the truth may lie, my interest is in the process whereby the MOD reached their original decision, and how public statements on this issue have been interpreted by the media and others who wish to promote fantasy rather than reality. In order to understand the decisions taken, it would be necessary to have access to the briefings upon which your Secretariat must have relied in order to answer both Parliamentary and public questions on this matter.

In a reply to a question from Martin Redmond MP in the Commons, the former Defence Minister Nicholas Soames said the original report from RAF Woodbridge was "assessed by the staff in my Department responsible for air defence matters...[and] the judgement was that it contained nothing of defence significance" (24 July 1996, Written Answers). In a reply to an earlier question requesting a list of papers held relating to the case, Mr Soames said other than the report written by the USAF deputy base commander "the documents held by my Department are internal staffing papers and correspondence from members of the public relating to the alleged events" (10 June 1996, Written answers).

As this 'incident' has been the subject both of questions in the Commons and the Lords, not to mention the focus of numerous enquiries from the public and news media, it must have generated a considerable number of Parliamentary briefings and internal policy documents. In the Lords on 30 January 2001 Baroness Symons referred to "surviving departmental records [which satisfy us] that nothing of defence significance occurred on the nights in question." I would ask, therefore, if it would be possible to carry out a review of the file/s which relate to this incident in order to determine if these records could be released (in a sanitised form, if necessary) for use in my research. This would enable me to place the MOD's public policy relating to this incident into its correct context.

? MoD PR

Finally, to bring my study fully up to present I wish to ask if it would be possible to arrange a formal 'question and answer' session with a member of DAS(Sec) staff, or an appropriately briefed MOD PR officer to discuss UFO policy as it stands today. In my journalistic capacity, I have discussed this subject with Squadron Leader [redacted] during his duty on the RAF Press Desk, on a number of occasions and always found my questions answered comprehensively and helpfully. The questions I ask will be of a general nature, and I could supply a summary in advance if this would be helpful. You will find that my approach to the UFO subject is generally in sympathy with that adopted by the MOD. In my opinion no objective historian who has researched the documentary evidence available at the Public Record Office could arrive at any other conclusion, but I believe that the issue deserves study in terms of what we can learn about a range of subjects from perceptual psychology to social history.

In the meantime, thank you for your assistance with my inquiries and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

27

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAS/64/3/11

24 August 2001

Information(Exploitation)-Access 2

Copy: DAS (LA)
DAS (LA) Ops+Pol 1

APPEAL AGAINST WITHOLDING OF INFORMATION UNDER THE CODE OF PRACTICE ON ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION – [redacted]

1. I enclose the documentation requested so that you may undertake a review of our decision to withhold material from [redacted] under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. The documents are as follows:

D/Sec(AS)12/2/1

The file is a compilation of papers relating to the alleged events at Rendlesham Forest in 1981. Although the opening date recorded on the file is 25 October 1982, it is unlikely to have been opened then as Sec(AS) was not in existence at that time. Some work was done in 1998 by Sec(AS)2 to identify the original location of enclosures. Handwritten notes are pinned to most pages and a list of the files from which these enclosures came is at E29; documents copied for [redacted], did not include those notes and neither was the list of files sent to him. Additional photocopied papers have been placed on the left hand side of the file; they were discovered on archived files in February 2001 during work to attempt to identify all the papers held on the alleged event. Copies of these additional papers were sent to [redacted] along with sanitised copies of the other documents, excepting five withheld under the Code of Practice.

You may wish to be aware that copies of the documents from this file, with identical exclusions, have also been made available, through Minister (DP), to the Lord Hill-Norton and to another member of the public.

Documents withheld under the Code of Practice

For ease of reference I have included copies of the five documents withheld from [redacted] the originals remain on the above file.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Previous Correspondence with [redacted]

[redacted] has been in correspondence for some time with both ourselves, Info(Exp)-Records 1 and AHB(RAF)PCB Air. All correspondence with [redacted] held by this Directorate is contained in D/DAS(Sec)64/3/11 A and B attached. The letter informing him that photocopies of the papers from the file were being sent to him is dated 11 May 2001 and is at E10 on Part B. The top enclosure (Part B-E25) is [redacted] latest letter to Info(Exp)-Records 1 on which they have sought our advice; some of the work is likely to fall to this Directorate.

2. When your work on these documents is complete, I would be grateful if you would return them to the following address:

Directorate of Air Staff (Lower Airspace)
Operations & Policy
Room 6/73
Metropole Building
Northumberland Avenue
London
WC2N 5BP

[redacted]
DAS(LA)Ops+Pol
MT6/71 [redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Reference PQ 1607C

M1

PRIORITY

This non-oral question has been allocated to Minister(AF) for answer.

2. Would you please supply a draft reply and background note, together with any relevant Hansard extracts and Press cuttings, to reach this office at the time shown on the front cover.

3. Please submit a copy of the draft answer to PS/USofS(AF) when returning this, allowing sufficient time for USofS(AF) to comment.

[redacted]
Office of Minister(AF)
Room 6386 Main Building
Extension [redacted]40
21-10-83

M2

APS/Minister(AF) (thro' DUS(Air))

Copy to:
APS/US of S(AF)
Ops(GE)2(RAF)

1. I have placed opposite a draft reply to PQ 7607C.

2. The same background note has been provided for PQ 7608C and PQ 7609C.

[redacted]

21 October 1983

[redacted]
Head of DS 8
MB 7257 [redacted]

CODE 18-77

M1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

File E83

Priority

This non-oral question has been allocated to Minister(AF) for answer.

2. Would you please supply a draft reply and background note, together with any relevant Hansard extracts and Press cuttings, to reach this office at the time shown on the front cover.

3. Please submit a copy of the draft answer to PS/USofS(AF) when returning this, allowing sufficient time for USofS(AF) to comment.

[redacted]

Office of Minister(AF)
Room 6386 Main Building
Extension [redacted]0

M2

APS/Minister(AF) (thro' DUS(Air))

Copy to:
APS/US of S(AF)
Ops(GE)2(RAF)

1. I have placed opposite a draft reply to PQ 7608C.

2. The same background note has been provided for PQ 7607C and PQ 7609C.

21 October 1983

[redacted]

Head of DS 8
MB 7257 [redacted]

CODE 18-77

PQ 7067C

(E87)

SIR PATRICK WALL (CONSERVATIVE) (BEVERLEY)

Sir Patrick Wall - To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, if he has seen the United States Air Force memo dated 13 January 1981 concerning unexplained lights near RAF Woodbridge.

SUGGESTED ANSWER (Mr Stanley)

Yes.

Background Note

(E86)

These three questions follow from the News of the World article of 2 October 1983 (Annex A) describing an alleged UFO sighting by USAF personnel at RAF Woodbridge in Suffolk on 27 December 1980.

The report of 13 January 1981 (Annex B) examined by the Air Staff and DS 8. It was concluded that there was nothing of defence interest in the alleged sighting.

There was, of course, no question of any contact with "alien beings" nor was any unidentified object seen on any radar recordings, as alleged in the News of the World.

A BBC investigation into the incident following publication of the News or the World Article concluded that a possible explanation for the lights seen by the USAF personnel was the pulsating light of the Orfordness lighthouse some 6 - 7 miles away.

The sole interest of the MOD in UFO reports is to establish whether they reveal anything of defence interest (eg intruding aircraft). MOD investigations are not pursued beyond the point at which we are satisfied that a report has no defence implications. No attempts are made to identify and catalogue the likely explanation for individual reports.

Last year, Lord Long, during a debate initiated by the Earl Clancarty, said that he would look into the possibility of publishing such reports as are received by the Ministry of

Defence. US of S(AF) has now decided to release compilations of reports. They will be published on a quarterly basis and will be available to members of the public, at a small charge to cover costs. US of S(AF) had planned to make an announcement shortly in the House of Lords through an arranged PQ. Pending arrangements for an announcement in the Lords, US of S(AF) has agreed that we should indicate the decision in the Commons.

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

FILE
26

RAF Neatishead
Eastern Radar
RAF Watton

D/DD Ops(GE)/10/8

26 January 1981

UNEXPLAINED LIGHTS

1. The Deputy Base Commander of RAF Bentwaters has reported sightings of airborne phenomena on the evening of 29 Dec 80 in the Rendlesham forest area near Woodbridge. We would appreciate a statement of radar observations, or lack of them, in the area and at the time concerned.

[redacted]
Squadron Leader
Ops(GE)2b(RAF)

[redacted]

[redacted]

Royal Air Force
Neatishead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8YB

Telephone NORWICH [redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

36

Please reply to the Officer Commanding

MOD (Ops(GE)2b(RAF))

Your reference

Our reference NEAT/12/1/AIR

Date 3 Feb 81

UNEXPLAINED LIGHTS

Reference:

A. D/DD Ops (GE)/10/8 Dated 26 Jan 81. – E26.

1. At Reference A you asked us to provide a statement of radar observations, or lack of them, regarding a reported sighting of airborne phenoma on the evening of 29 Dec 80.

2. I regret that, in accordance with local procedures, our radar camera recorder was switched off on cessation of normal flying activities at 1527Z on 29 Dec 80. An examination of executive logs revealed no entry in respect of unusual radar returns or other unusual occurrences.

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
for OC

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
– 9 FEB 1981
DD OPS (GE) RAF

[redacted]

E13

Reference.....

12/4 copy to: 12/2/12

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

M5

APS/US of S(AF)
through Sec(AS)2 [redacted]

1. US of S(AF) will recall recent correspondence on this matter with Lord Hill-Norton and Rt Hon Merlyn Rees MP. In both cases he took the line that we have nothing to add to what had already been said on the Woodbridge incident. Indeed, this was the line taken in previous correspondence with David Alton (See M3). The enclosed draft reply to Mr Alton once more follows this approach.

2. Mr Alton specifically requested a copy of the MOD official reply to Mr [redacted] last letter. This is enclosed, together with an earlier letter to which it refers. There is no objection to passing this correspondence to Mr Alton.

3. You may wish to note that Mr Alton has apparently passed on both letters sent by Lord Trefgarne on 19 March 85, even though one of these was intended to be for his information only.

12 June 1985

[redacted]
Sec(AS)2a
MB 8245 2140 MB

DRAFT

D/US of S(AF)/DGT 5173

June 1985

Thank you for your letter of 16 May to Michael Heseltine enclosing one from Mr [redacted] You asked to see a copy of the Department's reply to [redacted] letter of 25 February 1985 and this is enclosed, together with earlier correspondence to which it refers.

As I pointed out in my letter of 19 March, the MOD concerns itself only with the defence implications of reported UFO sightings. In this context, the report submitted by Col Halt in January 1981 was examined by those in the Department responsible for such matters and, as I have made clear in the past, it was considered to have no defence significance. We have since seen nothing to alter this view and there is nothing I can usefully add to the comments made in Sec(AS)'s letter or [redacted]

Lord Trefgarne

David Alton Esq MP

Job No 2-24

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

US(AF)

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

16th May 1985

Dear Michael,

I enclose a letter I have received from [redacted] following on from enquiries I first raised with your Department in March.

I read Mr [redacted] letter with great interest and it seems to me that the points he raises are quite reasonable and merit a reply. I should be most grateful if you could let me have your comments and if you could let me see a copy of the reply to Mr [redacted] own letter to your Department dated 25th February 1985.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

David Alton, MP.

The Rt. Hon. Michael Heseltine, MP.
Secretary of State
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

14th May, 1985

David Alton, Esq., MP,
House of Commons,
Westminster,
London SW1

Dear Mr. Alton,

[redacted] has kept me informed about her correspondence with you on the unusual incidents which were reported to the Ministry of Defence by USAF authorities at RAF Woodbridge in January 1981. I have also seen Lord Trefgarne's letters to you of 19th March.

[redacted] decided to write further to you about this puzzling and disquieting case, and she referred to me her enclosed letter of 31st March, which is addressed to you, in the hope that I might be able to add useful comments. Much to my regret I have had to spend much time out of London on other business in recent weeks and it is only now that I am able, very belatedly, to send on [redacted] letter to you.

My own background, in brief, is that I served in the Ministry of Defence from 1949 to 1977, leaving in the grade of Under Secretary of State. From 1969 to late in 1972 I headed a Division in the central staffs of the MOD which had responsibilities for supporting RAF operations. This brought me into touch with a proportion of the many reports which the Department receives about unidentified traces in British airspace.

I believe that [redacted] is right to remain very dissatisfied with the official line which the MOD has adopted on the Rendlesham Forest incidents of December 1980. I have myself said so on a number of public occasions, and I have pursued the matter in correspondence with the MOD - wholly without success.

At the risk of burdening you with an excessive amount of paper, I attach the most recent of my letters to the Ministry of Defence. You will see that this is dated 25th February 1985. I have so far received no answer, despite reminders. On a previous occasion it took the Department three and a half months to send me a wholly perfunctory reply.

[redacted] claims much collateral evidence for her own views; on this I am not competent to comment. My own position is, quite simply, that an extraordinary report was made to the Ministry of Defence by the Deputy Base Commander at RAF Woodbridge early in 1981; that the very existence of this report was denied by the MOD until persistent researchers in the US secured its release under the American Freedom of Information Act in 1983; and that the MOD's responses to questions since that time have been thoroughly unsatisfactory.

I cannot accept Lord Trefgarne's view that there is no Defence interest in this case. Unless Lt.Col. Halt was out of his mind, there is clear evidence in his report that British airspace and territory were intruded upon by an unidentified vehicle on two occasions in late December 1980 and that no authority was able to prevent this. If, on the other hand, Halt's report cannot be believed, there is equally clear evidence of a serious misjudgement of events by USAF personnel at an important base in British territory. Either way, the

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case can hardly be without Defence significance.

The dates in question are now rather remote, but I doubt that this should be taken to excuse the very perfunctory manner in which Lord Trefgarne has dealt with your letter. I hope that you may feel able to pursue the matter further, either in correspondence or in a PQ. The essence of the questions to be pressed seems to me to lie in my preceding paragraph. Seen in these terms, [redacted] article in the GUARDIAN (which Lord Trefgarne rather surprisingly falls back upon) is wholly irrelevant. If the USAF really are capable of hallucinations induced by a lighthouse which must surely be very familiar to them, then I shudder for that powerful finger which lies upon so many triggers...

My own letter to the MOD (enclosed) raises other more detailed questions. But I do not suggest that you should necessarily concern yourself with them, anyway at this stage. It would be nice if the MOD would answer letters, of course ! But the essence of the Defence interest which I suggest a responsible Member of Parliament might reasonably raise lies in the argument I have tried to present above.

If I can be of any assistance in discussion with you, I am at your disposal.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

36/1

From: Mr [redacted] Directorate of Air Staff 4a, Room 8245
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 0207 218 2140
(Fax) [redacted]

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS/64/3

Date
18 July 2001

Dear Ms [redacted]

Thank you for your fax dated 9 July 2001. As requested, please find enclosed a number of papers on the Rendlesham Forest incident that have recently been released to Lord Hill-Norton and a member of the public under the Code of Practice on Access of Government Information. Some have been sanitised to protect the privacy of those who have corresponded with the Ministry of Defence.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

ATTACHMENTS ARE NOT ON ORIGINAL FILE - PAPERS MAY HAVE BEEN LEFT OFF TO SAVE PAPER

[redacted]

5/2/07

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

Mr [redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff 4a
Fax no. [redacted]

9th July 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

I am writing to you under the terms of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information to request that you send me copies of all papers that the MOD holds on the Rendlesham Forest UFO sighting.

I understand that Baroness Symons recently sent copies of this material to Lord Hill-Norton, and that the MOD has also released it to a member of the public.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Mr [redacted] Directorate of Air Staff (Sec) 4a, Room 8245
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 0207 218 2140
(Fax) [redacted]

17

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS(Sec)/64/3

Date
20 April 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

I am writing with reference to your e-mail dated 30 March 2001. Your e-mail has been passed to this office as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence of his nature.

You asked about the alleged incident at Rendlesham Forest. When the Ministry of Defence was informed of the events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the MOD/RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a number of allegations have subsequently been made about these reported events, nothing has emerged over the last 20 years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by this Department was incorrect.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours Sincerely

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

DAS (Sec)

Asstpclk.2

From: [redacted]
Sent: 30 March 2001 07:40
To: Asstpclk.2
Subject: Re: Extraterrastrials!

Thank you for your message, my details are as follows;

[redacted]

Tel; [redacted]

I hope you are not going to send the men in black round?

Thank you, [redacted]
----- Original Message -----
From: "Asstpclk.2" <Asstpclk.2@modho.gsi.gov.uk>
To: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2001 4:31 PM
Subject: RE: Extraterrastrials!

> The information contained in this e-mail is private and is solely for the use of the intended recipient(s).
>
> If you are not the intended recipient, you have no legal right to use the contents of this e-mail.
>
> The views expressed in this e-mail do not necessarily reflect Government (Defence) policy.

> For reply, please re-send message together with your full postal address.
> Thanks.
>
>
>

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DAS 3 (SEC)
02 APR 2001
FILE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Demon Mailbox Listing

Secure Connection - ministers.demon.co.uk

Message: Delete View headers

Originally from:	[redacted]	**Originally to:**	public
Date:	Mon, 26 Mar 2001 21:46:56 +0100		

Subject: Extraterrastrials!

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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

------=_NextPart_000_0007_01C0B63E.475D5360
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hi,

My name is [redacted] I am the Content Manager for Ufofologynet.com.

Can you tell me what the MOD's conclusions on the incident that happened =
at the RAF Woodbridge air base around Christmas in 1980.

I have researched the incident and wish to write a new article that =
clears this matter up one way or the other, I cannot complete this task =
without having any input from the MOD, it would great if you could help =
me.

Thank you.

[redacted]

------=_NextPart_000_0007_01C0B63E.475D5360
Content-Type: text/html;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

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charset=3Diso-8859-1">
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<STYLE></STYLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY bgColor=3D#ffffff>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Hi,</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT> </DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>My name is [redacted] I am the =
Content Manager=20
for Ufofologynet.com.</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT> </DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Can you tell me what the MOD's =
conclusions on the=20
incident that happened at the RAF Woodbridge air base around Christmas =
in=20
1980.</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT> </DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>I have researched the incident and wish =
to write=20
a new article that clears this matter up one way or the other, I =
cannot=20
complete this task without having any input from the MOD, it would great =
if you=20
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uld help me.</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT> </DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Thank you.</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT> </DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>[redacted].</FONT></DIV></BODY></HTML>

------=_NextPart_000_0007_01C0B63E.475D5360--
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Demon Internet Home Page

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

From: Mrs [redacted]
Directorate of Air Staff 4a1
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Room 8245, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]
(GTN)

[redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference
D/DAS/64/3
Date
18 July 2001

Dear Mr [redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 15 June, addressed to the Secretary of State for Defence, concerning 'unidentified flying object'. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFOs' and I have been asked to reply.

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 military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do 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.

In your letter you asked whether the Secretary of State for Defence would "concede that UK airspace has been penetrated by craft whose design and performance far exceed current state of the art aircraft design", a statement you are making in light of various alleged 'UFO' sightings. I can assure you that the integrity of the UK's airspace in peacetime 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 Policing Area 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). The MOD is not aware of any incursions in to UK airspace by such craft as you describe.

You mention a number of incidents where you believe there is evidence of UK airspace being penetrated by unknown craft. Those reports listed at (iv) to (vi) in your letter are contained in files which are open for public viewing at the Public Record Office at Kew, Richmond. If you wish to view them the address is as follows. We do not hold any other information on these incidents.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Public Records Office
Ruskin Avenue
Kew
Richmond
Surrey
TW9 4DU

Tel: 020 8876 3444
Fax: 020 8878 8905

With regard to those reports mentioned at (i) to (iii), these are not yet open for public viewing so I will address these individually.

(i) When the Ministry of Defence received Lieutenant Colonal Halt's memorandum concerning the events which are alleged to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, all available substantiated evidence was looked at in the usual manner by those within the Ministry of Defence and the RAF with responsibility for air defence matters. The judgement was that there was no indication that a breach of the United Kingdom's air defences had occurred on the nights in question. As there was no evidence to substantiate an event of defence concern no further investigation into the matter was necessary. Although a number of allegations have subsequently been made about these reported events, nothing has emerged over the last 20 years which has given us reason to believe that the original assessment made by this Department was incorrect.

(ii) The MOD received several reports about lights seen in various locations and at various times during the early hours of the 31st March 1993. Enquiries were made at the time, but these proved to be inconclusive.

(iii) An airmiss was reported by two British Airways pilots on an aircraft travelling to Manchester Airport on 6 January 1995. As a matter of routine the Ministry of Defence was notified by the Civil Aviation Authority about the pilots' report shortly after the incident occurred. At the time the matter was discussed with Departmental air defence experts who confirmed that they were not aware of anything which would indicate a matter of defence relevance associated with the sighting. Furthermore there was no evidence to suggest that the UK's air defence had been compromised. As is usual with airmiss incidents involving civil aircraft, the CAA Joint Airmiss Working Party (which is a joint Civil/Military body which has complete access to all sources of civil and military information available) investigated the pilots' report. Airmiss Report 2/95 was a result of their findings. The Group were not able to determine precisely what the pilots saw, but ruled out any military aircraft activity. However there is no suggestion in the report that what the pilots observed was extraterrestrial in origin. Without any evidence to suggest that the incident was of defence relevance MOD interest in this sighting has long since concluded.

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

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

CAO's
E-mail

TREAT OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

To DAS(Sec)3 **Ref No** A961 **/2001**

Date 18/6/01

The Secretary of State / _____ has received the attached letter from a member of the public. This office has not acknowledged it.

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

A new Open Government Code of Practice on Access to Government Information came into force in January 1997. All replies to members of the public must be in accordance with the procedures set out in the Code. A full explanation of the Code of Practice is contained in DCI(Gen) 223/99, further information is available from DG Info on extension [redacted]

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

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

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Demon Mailbox Listing

Secure Connection - ministers.demon.co.uk

Message: Delete View headers

Originally from:	[redacted]	**Originally to:**	public
Date:	Fri, 15 Jun 2001 01:40:08 +0100		

Subject: F.A.O Geoff Hoon

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

------=_NextPart_000_0012_01C0F53C.1C3126C0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

i have a question and i hope you can give me an answer to it.
i think it is quite a specific question as you will see, i look forward =
to hearing your reply.

To ask The Secretary of State for Defence will he concede that the UK =
Airspace has been penetrated by craft whose design and performance far =
exceed current state of the art aircraft design when taken in the =
context of such reports as (i) submitted by Lieutenant Colonel Charles =
Halt relating to events in Rendlesham forest in December 1980 (ii) =
correspondence from Air Secretariat 2al relating to the incidents of =
30/31 March 1993 (iii)Joint Airmiss (P) 2/95 relating to The Manchester =
Ringways Incident of January 1995 (iv) AIR 20/9321, DDI (Tech)/c.290/3/ =
referring to an object at 50000ft that gave a radar return consistent =
with a ship's echo (V)AIR 20/9320, DDI (Tech)/S290 referring to an =
anomalous radar return with hovering and unusual acceleration capability =
and (vi) AIR 16/1199 relating to the testimony of Flight Lieutenant =
Kilburn of No 269 Squadron, RAF in September 1952; and if he will make a =
statement"

[redacted]

i also appreciate that there is obviously national security issues =
involved

I am not involved with any "group" of any sort, i would just like to =
know for my "myself" that is all
i do not discuss the subject matter with anybody(not even my wife)=20

thankyou=20

[redacted]

------=_NextPart_000_0012_01C0F53C.1C3126C0
Content-Type: text/html;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
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<META http-equiv=3DContent-Type content=3D"text/html; =
charset=3Diso-8859-1">
<META content=3D"MSHTML 5.50.4522.1800" name=3DGENERATOR>
<STYLE></STYLE>

24-01-2007 -
10118-001

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 20 January 2007 13:12
To: [redacted]
Subject: 'Lost' FOI request

Dear [redacted] 40

Please find below a copy of the original email I sent regarding the FOI request that your department has lost. Could you now make this a matter of some urgency.

Regards

[redacted] 40

----- Original Message -----
From: [redacted]
To: <das-ufo-office@mod.uk>
Sent: Saturday, October 07, 2006 5:29 PM
Subject: FOI request

> Dear [redacted]
>
> Many thanks for your letter of 29 August and for sending the copies of
> the two files and background papers to the Parliamentary Question
> I asked for under the FOI on 5 July.
>
> I would now like to make a follow-up FOI application containing two
> seperate
> requests for information:
>
> Firstly, to follow up my 5 July request for copies of background notes
> and briefing papers supplied to John Spellar MP in March 1998
> regarding written Parliamentary questions concerning the low flying
> aircraft/sonic boom incident near Sheffield in march 1997.
>
> I now wish to request any and all background notes and briefing papers
> supplied to Mr Spellar by Sec(AS) for him to respond to two
> more Parliamentary Written Questions on this incident by Helen (1)
> Jackson MP that were answered on 1 April (Hansard, 'Military
> Aircraft') and 7 April 1998 ('Low Flying Training').
>
> I assume this request will again fall within the scope of Section 36
> (Prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs) but as you
> released the background papers to the first question on the grounds of:
> 'the balance of public interest favours release' I hope you
> will do the same for these two further questions, as they concern
> the same incident. I trust there will not be a lengthy delay
> in responding to this request as a result.
>
> My second request concerns the file on the 'Rendlesham
> Forest UFO case' which you released in 2001. I am interested
> in the sequence of events which led up to the release of this file.
> I believe the papers were first released in May 2001 following a
> request made by a member of the public in February that year,
> and that shortly afterwards the papers were also sent to Lord
> Hill-Norton and to another member of the public (Ms Georgina
> Bruni) who had made a written request for them.
>
> Could you please send me copies of:
>
> a) Any and all internal MoD discussion about the release of the Rendlesham
> papers between the dates January-August 2001
>
> b) Any and all letters received from, and sent to, members of the public
> during that same period (Jan-August 2001) in response to

There was none.

No! can't find file

> requests for the release of the Rendlesham papers.
>
> I believe that, as these documents were produced in response to either
> questions
> or events involving the general public or elected representatives, that
> they should
> be released and in their original, unredacted, form.
>
> I would like paper copies of the above requests please, to the address
> given below.
>
> Thank you very much for your help in this matter. I appreciate these
> requests may be time consuming but they are helping me piece together
> an official history of how the MOD handled UFO sightings.
>
> Yours sincerely
>
> [redacted]
>
> [redacted]
>
> [redacted]
> Bagillt
> Flintshire
> North Wales
> [redacted]
>>
>

From: [redacted]
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) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
Bagillt
Flintshire
North Wales
[redacted]

Our Reference
24-01-2007-101118-001

Date
24 January 2007

Dear [redacted]

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request of 7 October 2006 asking for background notes and briefing papers supplied by Sec(AS) to the then Under Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Spellar in response to two parliamentary questions by Helen Jackson MP, appearing in Hansard in early April 1998 on the subject of Military Aircraft and Low Flying Training. Additionally, you requested any internal MoD discussion papers regarding the release of the Rendlesham Papers between January and August 2001 and correspondence to and from the general public during that same period, in response to requests for their release.

Please find enclosed a copy of the background notes relating to Helen Jackson's parliamentary question entitled Military Aircraft, as appeared in Hansard on 1 April 1998. [redacted] letter of 29 August 2006 outlined the principles behind the release of such information under the Freedom of Information Act and I do not intend to repeat her comments here. In this case we do not believe that this information will prejudice the conduct of public affairs and that the balance of public interest, favours release. Names of some individuals have been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information).

I shall address the other elements of your request shortly.

Please accept my apologies regarding the handling of this request and my thanks for the patience you have shown.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

unresolved issues of factual accuracy raised by the Prison Service. The protocol has the full agreement of the Director General of the Prison Service and the Chief Inspector.

World Cup

Mr. Maude: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what information the French authorities have provided to him about the proportion of tickets which will be checked against identification at the turnstile during the forthcoming World Cup. [37166]

Mr. Michael *[holding answer 31 March 1998]:* We are assured by the French authorities that supporters attending matches during France '98 will be subject to a range of security checks by police authorities and stewards before entering stadia to ensure that they hold valid tickets, and to further checking following entry to the ground. This will include stewards conducting checks on the validity of tickets prior to entry to the ground and again before the person takes up his or her seat. All ticket holders will be subject to a search outside the stadium by the police or gendarmerie, providing a further opportunity to check on the validity of tickets.

The French authorities have not stated that any specific proportion of tickets will be checked against identification. That is an operational matter for the French authorities. They have indicated that checks against identity will be carried out in any circumstances which give rise to suspicion. Verification checks will also be carried out on a random basis.

There is strict ticketing legislation in place in France and the authorities have undertaken to apply this rigorously.

Firearms

Mr. Robathan: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many claims have been made for increased compensation payments to former owners of handguns handed in under the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997; and how many *(a)* have been settled and *(b)* are outstanding. [37294]

Mr. Michael: The levels of compensation under Options A and B of the compensation scheme and the evidence required in support of claims under Option C are prescribed in the scheme booklet approved by Parliament. There is no provision for making increased payments outside the terms of the scheme, and so the question of claims for such payments does not arise.

DEFENCE

Military Aircraft

Helen Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence if he will make a statement on the regulations covering military aircraft breaking the sound barrier above *(a)* urban and *(b)* other areas. [36406]

Mr. Spellar: The following regulations, which are an extract from Military Flying Regulations, apply to supersonic flying by military aircraft in UK airspace:

In the United Kingdom Flight Information Region (FIR), all medium and high level supersonic flights are to be made over the sea. Aircraft heading directly out to sea may accelerate to supersonic speed when at least 10 nautical miles (nm) out to sea and along a flight of at least 20° divergent from the mean line of the coast; the angle of dive is not to exceed the minimum necessary. Supersonic flights with the aircraft pointing towards the land, turning or flying parallel to the coast are to take place at least 35nm from the nearest coastline.

Supersonic flying at low level over the sea within UK FIR may take place provided that the above rules are followed and that, in addition, a radar/visual search is maintained in order to avoid the following by the margins indicated:

(a) Shipping and fixed or mobile oil and gas installations: 3nm.

(b) Civilian or military transport aircraft: a minimum of 6nm.

(c) Helicopter main routes and corridors: 6nm.

With the exception of Air Defence missions, operating authorities are to notify the appropriate radar station of all planned supersonic flights in advance. Radar stations are to maintain a permanent record of supersonic flights carried out under their control.

If any captain knows or suspects that his aircraft has inadvertently made a supersonic flight he is to enter details in the Flight Authorisation Book. In addition, it is the responsibility of the station concerned to notify the appropriate radar station of the flight within 30 minutes of the aircraft's landing. The radar station is to maintain a special record of all such occurrences.

Defence Evaluation and Research Agency

Sir Teddy Taylor: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence if he will contact the customers using the facilities at the firing ranges operated by DERA before coming to a decision on the transfer of work from Shoeburyness to Eskmeals. [36389]

Mr. Spellar *[holding answer 26 March 1998]:* As part of the DERA land ranges rationalisation study, customers were and continue to be consulted about their future requirements for test and evaluation capabilities, the likely volume of the work, and the funding available for this work over the next five years. Once the current consultation phase has finished, all contributions will be considered openly and fairly before a decision is made on how best to meet the needs of the Department in the most cost effective way.

Sir Teddy Taylor: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence what estimate he has made of the future reductions in spending which will arise at DERA in Shoeburyness in consequence of the management reorganisations. [36386]

Mr. Spellar *[holding answer 26 March 1998]:* The land ranges rationalisation study recommends changes that, in a full financial year, will produce savings in operating costs at Shoeburyness of some £8.9 million per year.

Sir Teddy Taylor: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence what was the expenditure involved in operating the DERA range facility at Shoeburyness in the most recent year for which figures are available; and what savings in annual administrative costs have accrued from management reforms in respect of the facility and from the changes introduced in consequence of the first stage of the reorganisation of the ranges. [36387]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 1998

MRS HELEN JACKSON (LABOUR)(SHEFFIELD, HILLSBOROUGH)

23

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, if he will make a statement on the regulations covering military aircraft breaking the sound barrier above (a) urban and (b) other areas. [36406]

MR SPELLAR

The following regulations, which are an extract from Military Flying Regulations, apply to supersonic flying by military aircraft in UK airspace:

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

DRAFTED BY : [redacted] (EO) TEL: [redacted]
AUTHORISED BY : [redacted] TEL:
GRADE/RANK : AVM

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 GEN 150/97), and the Open Government Code (DCI GEN 48/97).

ANSWER:

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BACKGROUND NOTE:

In addition to this question, Mrs Jackson has tabled a further four questions (PQ 2434i, 2440i, 2444i, 2446i) relating to an incident which took place over the Peak District on 24 March 1997. Her interest in the event may have been generated by a number of recent enquiries from journalists. Helen Jones MP has also asked a related PQ 2448i.

The incident in question remains unresolved, at around 2200hrs on 24 March 1997 a number of witnesses reported hearing a plane in trouble followed by a crash. One claims he saw a red glow in the sky. Police and RAF Search and Rescue helicopters were scrambled and conducted a thorough search of the area but found no signs of a crash. Records for both civil and military aircraft showed that no aircraft were reported missing for that day. Since the event a number of theories have emerged, including one that the 'crash' heard by the witnesses may have been a sonic boom generated by an aircraft.

Individual squadrons record any inadvertent and unauthorised events but these logs are only held for six months.

Copy to:

PSO/ACAS
AS.DD2
DPO(RAF)
RAF Kinloss - PRO Scotland
HQ MATO - Ops Support 1
Sec(AS)2a

****
PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - URGENT ACTION REQUIRED
****

DATE FOR RETURN : 12:00 ON THURSDAY 26 MARCH 1998

PQ REFERENCE : PQ 2436i
PQ TYPE : Written
SUPPLEMENTARIES REQUIRED? : No

MINISTER REPLYING : PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE - USofS

LEAD BRANCH: : SEC(AS)
COPY ADDRESSEE(S) :

- **The answer and background note must be authorised by a civil servant at Senior Civil Service level or a military officer at one-star level or above who is responsible for ensuring that the information and advice provided is accurate and reflects Departmental Instructions on answering PQs DCI GEN 150/97.**

- **Those contributing information for PQ answers and background notes are responsible for ensuring the information is accurate.**

- **The attached checklist should be used by those drafting PQ answers and background material, those contributing information and those responsible for authorising the answer and background note as an aid to ensuring that departmental policy is adhered to.**

- **If you or others concerned are uncertain about how PQs are answered seek advice from a senior civil servant in or closely associated with your area.**

MP's DETAIL: MRS HELEN JACKSON (LABOUR)(SHEFFIELD, HILLSBOROUGH)

QUESTION

14|To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, if he will make a statement on the regulations covering military aircraft breaking the sound barrier above (a) urban and (b) other areas. [36406]

REMEMBER you are accountable for the accuracy and timeliness of the advice you provide. Departmental Instructions on answering PQs are set out in DCI GEN 150/97 and can be viewed on the CHOTS public area and on DAWN.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 1998

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DRAFTED BY : [redacted] (EO) TEL: [redacted]
AUTHORISED BY : [redacted] TEL:
GRADE/RANK : AVM

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AS.DD2
DPO(RAF)
RAF Kinloss - PRO Scotland
HQ MATO - Ops Support 1
Sec(AS)2a

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
26/03/98	SEC(AS)1A1	PQs 2448i & 2436i	[ ]

Intended:
Sent: 26/03/98 at 16:44 Delivered: 26/03/98 at 16:46
To: Parliamentary Questions
CC:
Ref: 1743
From: SEC(AS)1A1 Auth by:
Subject: PQs 2448i & 2436i

Text: [redacted] Sorry these are so late.

Priority: Urgent SEE PAGE Attachments [2]
Reply Request [ ] View Acknowledge [*] Codes [ ]

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
24/03/98	SEC(AS) REGISTRY 1	PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE	[ ]

Sent: 24/03/98 at 10:52
To: SEC(AS) REGISTRY 1
CC:

Ref: 11218
Subject: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE ACTION - DO NOT ERASE

Text: Attached PQ to be passed to the appropriate Desk Officer Immediately.

PQ 2436i

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

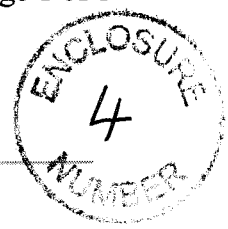
DATE	TO	SUBJECT	CODES
24/03/98	PA/SEC(O)	PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE	[ ]

Sent: 24/03/98 at 10:55
To: PA/SEC(O)
CC: PJHQ-CIVSEC-PS

Ref: 11219
Subject: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - IMMEDIATE ACTION - DO NOT ERASE

Text: Attached PQ to be passed to the appropriate Desk Officer Immediately.(2439i)

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



[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 February 2007 15:43
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 26-02-2007-141448-004 - REPLACEMENT FOR [redacted] n 40
[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-[redacted]tion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

[redacted]

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.

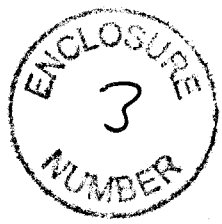
Regards,

[redacted]

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

[redacted]

26/2/07



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: [redacted]

Case Number: 08-01-2007-165951-009 Expiry: 20 Feb 2007

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Summary of all UFO incidents for 2000-2001.

The rest of this request was answered on 31 January 2007

Case for release of information

This office has a rolling programme to release details of UFO reports. The next two years to be released will be 2000-01.

The information should therefore be withheld under Exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication).

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation for the aforementioned information to be withheld from the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [redacted]

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

Date: 20/2/07

From: [redacted]
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) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
West Harrow
Middlesex
[redacted]

Our Reference
D/DAS/08-01-2007-165951-009
Date
20 February 2007

Dear [redacted]

Further to my letter off 31 January 2007, I can confirm that we have retrieved the relevant files covering UFO reports for the period 2000-2001.

However, it is intended to place details of UFO reports for those two years on the Ministry of Defence website by the late summer and therefore, the remaining part of your Freedom of Information request of 3 January 2007 is withheld under Exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication).

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]

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

Telephone (Direct dial) [redacted]
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [redacted]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[redacted]
West Harrow
Middlesex
[redacted]

Our Reference
D/DAS/08-01-2007-165951-009
Date
31 January 2007

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request seeking information regarding research the MoD has undertaken into UFO/UAPs, research undertaken by other nations, the number of UFO/UAP related requests for information MoD has received since the Act came into force and the number of sightings reported to the MoD since 2000. It has been passed to this office to answer as we have responsibility for such matters.

There have been two reports into UFO/UAPs produced by the MoD since the end of WW2. The first was produced by The Flying Saucer Working Party which was set up in August 1950 and dissolved in June 1951. All the surviving papers are now open to the public at The National Archives. You can contact The National Archives at Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU, by telephone on +44 20 8876 34444 or via their website www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

The final report of the Flying Saucer Working Party has also been included in the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and can be viewed on the internet at www.foi.mod.uk. The second report was produced by the Defence Intelligence Service in 2000. This report, entitled *"Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region"* (sometimes referred to as the Condign Report) may also be viewed at www.foi.mod.uk.

The MoD has not undertaken a comprehensive survey of which nations or bodies have produced reports into UFO/UAPs and is therefore unable to answer this part of your request.

Since the Freedom of Information Act 2000 came into force, the MoD received 200 requests regarding UFO/UAP matters in 2005 and 145 in 2006.

Details of UFO/UAP sightings for the period 2002 to 2006 are also available at www.foi.mod.uk. We are currently attempting to retrieve the relevant files for 2000-01 from archive and will write to you again with the results of that search. However, I can state that there were 210 reports received by the MoD in 2000 and 203 in 2001.

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]

INTERIM RESPONSE

NEED TO ARCHIVE

DETAILS OF

2000 - 2001

ref - 08-01-2007-16595(-009.
Expiry - 2/2/07.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 11 January 2007 15:55
To: [redacted]

[redacted]on 40

Please see attachment.

Can you take?

Thanks.

[redacted]40

DGTMFP APW 1
05 JAN 2007
MAIN REG

[redacted]

West Harrow
Middlesex
[redacted]

Wednesday 3rd January 2006

Re: Freedom of Information Act 200 Request

Dear Sir/Madam

I request the following information under the above mentioned Act.

1. How many research/report projects into Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) or Unidentified Ariel Phenomena (UAP) has MOD conducted/carried out since 1945. What where there titles and dates and conclusions.
2. To how many overseas (i.e. national such as USA, or body such as UN or COE) research /report projects into Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) or Unidentified Ariel Phenomena (UAP) since 1945. What where there titles and dates and conclusions.
3. How many requests for UFO/UAP matter have you received each year since the 200 Act has been in force.
4. How many UFO/UAP sightings have been reported to MOD since 2000 each year with summery of incident, i.e. date, location and two lights etc. *

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours faithfully.

[redacted]

08-01-2007

165951 - 009

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 17 January 2007 12:12
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: UFO - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

[redacted]n 40

In answer to your question below, the DIS led on answering 1 UFO/UAP related request in 2005 and 10 requests in 2006.

Give me a call if you wish to discuss.

[redacted]0

From: [redacted]
Sent: 16 January 2007 16:46
To: [redacted]
Subject: UFO - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

[redacted] 40

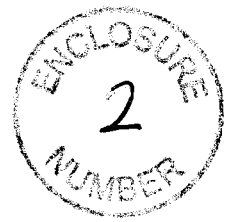
I have an FOI request and need to know how many FOI requests on the subject of UFO/UAP matters you have received in 2005 and 2006.

Can you give me a call?

[redacted]
DAS Sec 1
[redacted]

48 − 183 = 135
+ 10 DIS
= 145

86 − 285 = 199
+ 1 DIS
200



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant [redacted]

Case Number: 09-02-2007-093219-002 Expiry: 6 Mar 2007

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Reports for the period Feb-Apr 1993 that might explain a sighting he made in March 1993 near Bromley.

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold the information. The names of living individuals mentioned have been redacted under exemption s.40 Freedom Information Act

The request is slightly vague and we are not in a position to offer an explanation for the sighting he made some 14 years ago.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation for the release of the aforementioned information to the Applicant.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [redacted]

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

Date: 19/2/07

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 20 February 2007 15:00
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-02-2007-093219-002

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for clarifying your Freedom of Information request of 7 February 2007. However, I am afraid that I am unable to offer you an explanation of what you saw in 1993. The MoD is simply not funded to investigate every unusual occurrence that is reported to us, especially after such a great length of time.

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."

I am sorry I could not be of more help.

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

From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 February 2007 22:31
To: [redacted]
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-02-2007-093219-002

Dear [redacted] This is not a complaint, firstly thank you for your reply but only one attachment arrived of a sighting of a ufo? over Wimbledon. This did not really answer my enquiry which was really to do with a laser beam possibly striking an object or the burning object/meteorite

[redacted]ggering a response from a ground based defence equivalent to an old fashioned searchlight. I did [redacted]a daylight event of a similar laser in mid kent a year or so later. This time a laser pierced a cloud causing three thin thermal channels to carry vapour up to form another cloud a few hundred feet higher. I could send pdf versions of what I saw if you are allowed to open such files. Thanks for all your help

[redacted]

[redacted]*@mod.uk*> wrote:

> Dear [redacted]
>
> Your Freedom of Information request of 7 February 2007 asked for any reports of UFOs between February and April 1993 that might explain your sighting of March 1993.
>
> I attach an electronic copy of a number of UFO reports for the period in question covering the south east of the country. Names and addresses of individuals have been removed under Exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
>
> 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.
>
> 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."
>
> If you are unable to read the electronic copies of the reports, please provide me with your full address and I will send you them in hard copy.
>
> [redacted]
> DAS-FOI
> 05-H-[redacted]tion 40

[redacted]oD Main Building
[redacted]hitehall
[redacted]ondon
SW1A 2HB

What kind of emailer are you? Find out today - get a free analysis of your email personality. Take the quiz at the Yahoo! Mail Championship.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 February 2007 15:46
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-02-2007-093219-002
Attachments: Reports of UFO (2).tif

Dear [redacted]

Your Freedom of Information request of 7 February 2007 asked for any reports of UFOs between February and April 1993 that might explain your sighting of March 1993.

I attach an electronic copy of a number of UFO reports for the period in question covering the south east of the country. Names and addresses of individuals have been removed under Exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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.

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."

If you are unable to read the electronic copies of the reports, please provide me with your full address and I will send you them in hard copy.

[redacted]
DAS-FOI
05-H-[redacted]tion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London

19/02/2007

SW1A 2HB

[redacted] 6 8-MAR-07

Fro [redacted]
Sent: 16 February 2007 18:04
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: foi email request 09-02-2007-093219-002 [redacted] n 40

Importance: High

Categories: FOI Information Request

[redacted] 40

I've not heard from you regarding this.

[redacted]

Info-AccessOps5

[redacted]

Main Building

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: 09 February 2007 09:33
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: foi email request 09-02-2007-093219-002 [redacted] n 40

[redacted] n 40

Can you take?

[redacted]

Info-AccessOps5

[redacted]

Main Building

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 07 February 2007 23:33
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 09-02-2007-093219-002 [redacted] n 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Wednesday, February 7, 2007 at 23:33:11
---

txttitle: [redacted] on 40

txtfirstname: [redacted] 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: part-time driver

txtorganisation: [redacted]

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txttelephone: [redacted]

txtinforequest: TRAVELLING home on my motorbike after a late shift on a daily newspaper one March morning in 1993 a long, thin, beam of green light pierced the night.
This was as I rode along from Bromley to Bickley (Kent). This laser like beam reached up at an angle through the low cloud, this was directly in front of me, it could have been anything from a mile to ten miles away. The green line went from left to right. Seconds later a burning mass emerged through the gloom of the clouds, flames and smoke billowing, this travelled from my right to left and appeared quite near. If this reached the ground I would place it about Dartford or even the Thames. Was this target practice, or did a meteor trigger some form of defence response or was an intruder shot down.
But this is Bromley not the place for target practice.

Dear Sirs, the above is my report of a sighting on my way from work one night sometime between 0100 and 0300 am .I would like to request information on any reports say between February to the end of April 1993 that would be a likely explanation of this event. Especially involving lasers/beams and burning debris over South East England at this time. I know there was a Russian rocket part re-entry about this time period but have already discounted this because of geographic location.
I also read in a newspaper report a similar event happened near Basingstoke later that year

---

E35

MODCIS (RAF10)

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

ANNEX A TO
SOP 502

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec(AS)2
FILE

1.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	262050 Local Apr 93 several minutes 1993
2.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	Like a puff of cloud, then circular, very light with a red light flashing (note - crossing from right to left)
3.	Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Outside
4.	How observed (naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or moving)	naked eye
5.	Direction in which object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing	Going from Wimbledon towards Roehampton
6.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	Not known
7.	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	None estimated
8.	Movements (Changes in 5,6 & 7 may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Seemed to be about the speed of an aircraft
9.	Met conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	Clear sky
10.	Nearby objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	Nothing of note
11.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	AFDO
12.	Name & Address of Informant	[redacted]
		[redacted] just off Wimbledon Common

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

13. Background of Informant that may be volunteered

Sensible, was partially mollified by the Airship Ford Mondeo

---

14. Other Witnesses

---

15. Date, Time of Receipt (in AFOR)

261955Z Apr 93

---

16. Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions

---

17. Remarks

Would have believed the Airship Ford Mondeo but for the fact that we were told it was operating in the Ilford/Romford area. **May we have a Telephone No for the operators of the airship so that we may check its operating area? That would be very helpful.**

[redacted]

Date: 26 Apr 93

RO2
Duty Operations Officer
Air Force Operations

Distribution:

Sec(AS)2
AEW/GE
DI 55, R [redacted]
File D/AFOPS/2/5/1
NB. Please note that the format of this form accords with Civpol formats

TO ALL AFDOS; PLEASE USE THIS AS A MASTER COPY AND IMMEDIATELY ON OPENING USE THE "SAVE AS " FUNCTION TO MAKE A COPY FOR THE ACTUAL REPORT! SORRY BUT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO PUT THIS REMARK AT THE START OF THE REPORT,AS IF TRIED ALLTHE BLOCK SETTINGS ARE DESTROYED!!!

E3

MODCIS (RAF10)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SEC(A)2
22 APR 1993

ANNEX A TO
SOP 502

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

1.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	211950Z Apr 93
2.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	Brilliant light, another brilliant light around. Seems bigger than an airliner going into Heathrow.
3.	Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Outside moving slowly, sometimes stopping then moving
4.	How observed (naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or moving)	Naked eye - no binnoculars
5.	Direction in which object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing	Near overhead, then moved away, then came back to overhead again moved to East
6.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	seemed quite low
7.	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	not known
8.	Movements (Changes in 5,6 & 7 may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Very slow
9.	Met conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	Clear sky some brilliant stars
10.	Nearby objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	N/A
11.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	RAF
12.	Name & Address of Informant	[redacted] [redacted], London W8
13.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	

14. Other Witnesses REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Date, Time of Receipt (in AFOR) 21 1950 Apr 93

16. Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions

17. Remarks

The object was in view throughout the telephone call, was sure that it was NOT the airship which is advertising the Ford Mondeo? (I'm not convinced.)

Date:

[redacted]
RO2
Duty Operations Officer
Air Force Operations

Distribution:

Sec(AS)2.
AEW/GE
DI 55, P[redacted]
File D/AFOPS/2/5/1
NB. Please note that the format of this form accords with Civpol formats

TO ALL AFDOS; PLEASE USE THIS AS A MASTER COPY AND IMMEDIATELY ON OPENING USE THE "SAVE AS " FUNCTION TO MAKE A COPY FOR THE ACTUAL REPORT! SORRY BUT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO PUT THIS REMARK AT THE START OF THE REPORT,AS IF TRIED ALLTHE BLOCK SETTINGS ARE DESTROYED!!!

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	Thursday 25th March, 11.45 am
B.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	one white disc, later turning blue
C.	Exact Position of Observer Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Driving through Chigwell
D.	How Observed (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie)	Naked eye
E.	Direction in which Object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)	N/k
F.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	1000 - 2000 ft
G	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	N/k
H.	Movements (Changes in E, F & G may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Hovered, then disappeared into clouds
I.	Met Conditions during Observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	Cloudy
J.	Nearby Objects (Telephone lines, high Voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	N/k

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

K.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	Sec (AS) 2a
L.	Name & Address of Informant	Not given
M.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	Not given
N.	Other Witnesses	None
O.	Date, Time of Receipt	7th April, 9.45 am
P.	Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions	None
Q.	Remarks	Witness insisted that object wasn't an airship, but I'm not so sure. Gave him nos of UFO groups.

[redacted]

Sec (AS) 2a

E29

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CWD129 29/1632 088C1554

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 290705Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT:AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 251900 TO 1930Z MAR 93
B. NARROW CIGAR SHAPE. APPEARED TO HAVE HOUSING BELOW AND WAS LUMINOUS NO SOUND OR SMELL - Said model on the side
C. WITHIN CONFINES OF EUSTON STATION
D. NAKED EYE
E. SOUTH WESTERLEY
F. N/K
G. APPROX HALF A MILE
H. STEADY DISAPPOEARED SLOWLY BEHIND BUILDINGS
J. CLEAR OBJECT BELOW CLOUD BASE
K. SEEN ABOVE THE WELCOME BUILDING NEAR EUSTON BR STATION
L. AIS(M)
M. [redacted] MILTON KEYNES [redacted]

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0004 UNCLAS

[redacted]
N. WORKING AS BR GUARD AT TIME OF SIGHTING
O. N/K
P 262100Z
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CWD120 29/1612 088C1472

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 290705Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

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

SIC Z6F
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 261926Z MAR 93
B. LOOKS LIKE TWO INVERTED SAUCERS JOINED WITH LIGHTS WHICH WERE VERY BRIGHT AND FLASHING NO SOUND OR SMELL
C. INDOORS
D. NAKED EYE
E. N/K
F. N/K
G. APROXIMATELY HALF A MILE
H. MOVING STEADLY BETWEEN TO FIXED POINTS ALMOST CIRCLING
J. CLEAR NO CLOUD
K. NOT KNOWN
L. FELTHAM POLICE
M. [redacted] FELTHAM MIDDLESEX TEL [redacted]

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0003 UNCLAS
N. NIL
O. NIL
P. 262000Z
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CWD102 26/1341 085C1136

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 260900Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

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

SIC Z6F
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA

A. 251935Z MAR 93

B. SINGLE VERY LARGE ELONGATED SHAPE WITH LOTS OF VERY BRIGHT LIGHTS AND ONE SINGLE RED LIGHT ON THE UNDERSIDE NO SOUND OR SMELL

C. WALTHAMSTOW, E LONDON, WALKING OUTDOORS

D. NAKED EYE
E. NOT KNOWN

F. 10-15 DEGREES

G. ESTIMATED TO BE HALF A MILE
H. STAYED STATIONARY FOR APPROX ONE MINUTE THEN DISAPPEARED BEHIND THE HOUSES

J. CLEAR NIGHT, NO CLOUD

K. NIL

L. HEATHROW AIRPORT

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0005 UNCLAS

M. [redacted] EDMONTON, LONDON, N9 [redacted]

N. NIL

O. [redacted]

P. 252030Z MAR 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

E2s

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CWD158 24/1224 083C1809

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 241200Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 232030Z MAR 93
B. SAUSAGE SHAPED, 3 TIMES SIZE OF PLANE. WHITE, MISTY COLOUR WITH ONE FLASHING WHITE LIGHT ON TOP
C. OUTDOORS AND STATIONARY
D. NAKED EYE
F. N/A
G. N/A
H. SLOWLY
J. MOVING CLOUD
K. N/A
L. CHIGWELL POLICE [redacted] BARKINSIDE, TEL [redacted]
M. [redacted]
WORK [redacted]

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0002 UNCLAS
P. 241155Z MAR 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

ANNEX A TO
SOP 502

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A.	Date, Time & Duration of sighting	23 Mar 93
B.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape colour, brightness)	Round and large with lights around the edge. Hovering
C.	Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary, moving	Outdoors
D.	How Observed (naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie)	Naked eye
E.	Direction in which object first seen (a landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)	To right of house
F.	Angle of sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	Almost overhead
G.	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	Not possible
H.	Movements (Changes in E,F & H may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Moved off and appeared to descend
J	Met Conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	1930Z Drizzle
K.	Nearby Objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	Clear view
L.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	AF Ops

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

M.	Name and Address of Informant	[redacted] Ilford Essex Tel: [redacted]
N.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	
O.	Other Witnesses	Husband
P.	Date, Time of Receipt (in AFOR)	232310Z Mar 93
Q	Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions	None
R.	Remarks:	Other neighbours also witnessed the sighting.

[redacted]
RO2
AFDO
AF Ops

Date: 23 Mar 93

Distribution:

Sec(AS)2, [redacted]
AEW/GE, [redacted]
DI 55, [redacted]
File AF Ops/2/5/1

E20

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	Tues 23rd March, approx 7 pm
B.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	one bright saucer shaped object, which later appeared more cigar shaped
C.	Exact Position of Observer Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Outside her house in Romford
D.	How Observed (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie)	Naked eye, then binoculars
E.	Direction in which Object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)	Heading from NE to SW
F.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	N/k
G	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	N/k
H.	Movements (Changes in E, F & G may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Appeared to hover at first, but then some slow movement
I.	Met Conditions during Observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	N/k
J.	Nearby Objects (Telephone lines, high Voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	Houses etc

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

K.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	See (A5) 2a
L.	Name & Address of Informant	[redacted]
M.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	Nme
N.	Other Witnesses	Several drivers on nearby road stopped their cars to get out and look
O.	Date, Time of Receipt	10 am, Wed 24th March
P.	Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions	Nme
Q.	Remarks	Suggested an airship may have been the object seen, with change of course responsible for change in shape. Gave her the number of the UFO groups.

E16

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CAB034 08/0950 067C0603

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 080830Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 041945Z MAR 93
B. SINGLE VERY BRIGHT LIGHT, AMBER IN COLOUR, SAUCER SHAPED ABOUT THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL PITCH NO SOUND OR SMELL
C. OUTDOORS STATIONARY
D. NAKED EYE
E. NOT KNOWN
F. 60 DEGREES (ESTIMATE)
G. NOT KNOWN
H. SWEEPING MOVEMENT ACROSS THE SKY,SEVERAL TIMES THEN DISAPPEARED
J. CLEAR
K. NOT KNOWN
L. GUILFORD POLICE STATION
M. [redacted], GUILFORD, [redacted]

PAGE 2 RBDOYR 0003 UNCLAS
N. SOBOR
O. NOT KNOWN
P. 071515Z MR 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

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

E15

(See E1

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT

Air Traffic Control

Report of Unidentified Flying Object

A	*Date, time and duration of sighting.* 27/02/93 2000 2 hours
B	*Description of Object(s)* Blue flashing light
C	*Exact position of observer.* Bedford
D	*How observed.* Binoculars
E	*Direction in which object was first seen.* South of Bedford
F	*Angular elevation of object.* N/A
G	*Distance of object from observer.* N/A
H	*Movements of object.* None
J	*Meteorological conditions during observations.* 35 km visibility 3/8 4000'
K	*Nearby objects.* N/A

continued over

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

L *To whom reported.* [redacted] (ATSA)
LONDON LUTON AIRPORT

M *Name and address of informant.*
MR. [redacted]
BEDFORD.
TEL. [redacted]

N *Any background information on the informant that may be volunteered.*
N/A

O *Other witnesses.*
N/A

P *Date and time of report.*
2200 27/02/93

The information contained on this form should be passed immediately by telephone to AIS (Military) at LATCC.
Garex: ✱97 *ATOTN:* [redacted] *tel:* [redacted]

The completed form should be sent to Ministry of Defence Sec (AS).
Address in MATS Pt. 1 Appendix H

Information Source: MATS Pt 1 Section 6 Chapter 4.3
MATS Pt 1 Appendix H

E14

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CAB056 01/1120 060C1176

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 011000Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

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

SIC Z6F
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 272000Z FEB 93 2 HRS
B. BLUE, FLASHING OBJECT WITH NO SOUND OR SMELL
C. BEDFORD, INDOORS AND OUTDOORS, STATIONARY
D. BINOCULARS
E. SOUTH OF BEDFORD
F. N/K
G. N/K
H. STEADY
J. 35 KM VIS, 3/4000
K. NONE
L. LUTON ATC
M. MR [redacted] BEDFORD TEL BEDFORD [redacted]
N. NONE

PAGE 2 RBDOYR 0006 UNCLAS
O. NONE
P. 272200Z FEB 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F

F

CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

Dear [redacted]

Your Freedom of Information request of 7 February 2007 asked for any reports of UFOs between February and April 1993 that might explain your sighting of March 1993.

I attach an electronic copy of a number of UFO reports for the period in question covering the south east of the country. Names and addresses of individuals have been removed under Exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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.

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."

If you are unable to read the electronic copies of the reports, please provide me with your full address and I will send you them in hard copy.

[redacted]
DAS-FOI
05-H-[redacted]ion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall

London
SW1A 2HB

E35

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MODCIS (RAF10)

ANNEX A TO
SOP 502

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec(AS)2
FILE

1.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	262050 Local Apr 93 several minutes
2.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	Like a puff of cloud, then circular, very light with a red light flashing (note - crossing from right to left)
3.	Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Outside
4.	How observed (naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or moving)	naked eye
5.	Direction in which object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing	Going from Wimbledon towards Roehampton
6.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	Not known
7.	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	None estimated
8.	Movements (Changes in 5,6 & 7 may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Seemed to be about the speed of an aircraft
9.	Met conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	Clear sky
10.	Nearby objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	Nothing of note
11.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	AFDO
12.	Name & Address of Informant	[redacted] [redacted] just off Wimbledon Common

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

13. Background of Informant that may be volunteered

Sensible, was partially mollified by the Airship Ford Mondeo

14. Other Witnesses

15. Date, Time of Receipt (in AFOR)

261955Z Apr 93

16. Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions

17. Remarks

Would have believed the Airship Ford Mondeo but for the fact that we were told it was operating in the Ilford/Romford area. **May we have a Telephone No for the operators of the airship so that we may check its operating area? That would be very helpful.**

[redacted]

Date: 26 Apr 93

RO2
Duty Operations Officer
Air Force Operations

Distribution:

Sec(AS)2
AEW/GE
DI 55, R
File D/AFOPS/2/5/1
NB. Please note that the format of this form accords with Civpol formats

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E3

MODCIS (RAF10)

[redacted] OF DEFENCE

2 [redacted] 1993

ANNEX A TO
SOP 502

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

1.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	211950Z Apr 93
2.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	Brilliant light, another brilliant light around. Seems bigger than an airliner going into Heathrow.
3.	Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Outside moving slowly, sometimes stopping then moving
4.	How observed (naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or moving)	Naked eye - no binnoculars
5.	Direction in which object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing	Near overhead, then moved away, then came back to overhead again moved to East
6.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	seemed quite low
7.	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	not known
8.	Movements (Changes in 5,6 & 7 may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Very slow
9.	Met conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	Clear sky some brilliant stars
10.	Nearby objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	N/A
11.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	RAF
12.	Name & Address of Informant	[redacted] [redacted]. London W8
13.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	

14. Other Witnesses REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

15. Date, Time of Receipt (in AFOR) 21 1950 Apr 93

16. Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions

17. Remarks

The object was in view throughout the telephone call, was sure that it was NOT the

airship which is advertising the Ford Mondeo? (I'm not convinced.)

Date:

[redacted]
RO2
Duty Operations Officer
Air Force Operations

Distribution:

Sec(AS)2.
AEW/GE
DI 55, F[redacted]
File D/AFOPS/2/5/1
NB. Please note that the format of this form accords with Civpol formats

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E31

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	Thursday 25th March, 11.45 am
B.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	one white disc, later turning blue
C.	Exact Position of Observer Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Driving through Chigwell
D.	How Observed (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie)	Naked eye
E.	Direction in which Object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)	N/k
F.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	1000 - 2000 ft
G	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	N/k
H.	Movements (Changes in E, F & G may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Hovered, then disappeared into clouds
I.	Met Conditions during Observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	Cloudy
J.	Nearby Objects (Telephone lines, high Voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	N/k

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

K.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	Sec (AS) 2a
L.	Name & Address of Informant	Not given
M.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	Not given
N.	Other Witnesses	None
O.	Date, Time of Receipt	7th April, 9.45 am
P.	Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions	None
Q.	Remarks	Witness insisted that object wasn't an airship, but I'm not so sure. Gave him nos of UFO groups.

[redacted]

Sec (AS) 2a

E29

TOP

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

FEED DIRECTION

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

CWD129 29/1632 088C1554

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 290705Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT:AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 251900 TO 1930Z MAR 93
B. NARROW CIGAR SHAPE. APPEARED TO HAVE HOUSING BELOW AND WAS LUMINOUS NO SOUND OR SMELL -
C. WITHIN CONFINES OF EUSTON STATION
D. NAKED EYE
E. SOUTH WESTERLEY
F. N/K
G. APPROX HALF A MILE
H. STEADY DISAPPOEARED SLOWLY BEHIND BUILDINGS
J. CLEAR OBJECT BELOW CLOUD BASE
K. SEEN ABOVE THE WELCOME BUILDING NEAR EUSTON BR STATION
L. AIS(M)
M. [redacted] MILTON KEYNES

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0004 UNCLAS

[redacted]
N. WORKING AS BR GUARD AT TIME OF SIGHTING
O. N/K
P 262100Z
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

TOP

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

FEED DIRECTION

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

CWD120 29/1612 088C1472

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 290705Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 261926Z MAR 93
B. LOOKS LIKE TWO INVERTED SAUCERS JOINED WITH LIGHTS WHICH WERE VERY BRIGHT AND FLASHING NO SOUND OR SMELL
C. INDOORS
D. NAKED EYE
E. N/K
F. N/K
G. APROXIMATELY HALF A MILE
H. MOVING STEADLY BETWEEN TO FIXED POINTS ALMOST CIRCLING
J. CLEAR NO CLOUD
K. NOT KNOWN
L. FELTHAM POLICE
M. [redacted] FELTHAM MIDDLESEX TEL [redacted]

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0003 UNCLAS
N. NIL
O. NIL
P. 262000Z
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CWD102 26/1341 085C1136

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 260900Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

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

SIC Z6F
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA

A. 251935Z MAR 93

B. SINGLE VERY LARGE ELONGATED SHAPE WITH LOTS OF VERY BRIGHT LIGHTS AND ONE SINGLE RED LIGHT ON THE UNDERSIDE NO SOUND OR SMELL

C. WALTHAMSTOW, E LONDON, WALKING OUTDOORS

D. NAKED EYE
E. NOT KNOWN

F. 10-15 DEGREES

G. ESTIMATED TO BE HALF A MILE
H. STAYED STATIONARY FOR APPROX ONE MINUTE THEN DISAPPEARED BEHIND THE HOUSES

J. CLEAR NIGHT, NO CLOUD

K. NIL

L. HEATHROW AIRPORT

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0005 UNCLAS

M. [redacted] EDMONTON, LONDON, N9 [redacted]

N. NIL

O. [redacted]

P. 252030Z MAR 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

E2;

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CW3158 24/1224 003C1809

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 241200Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 232030Z MAR 93
B. SAUSAGE SHAPED, 3 TIMES SIZE OF PLANE. WHITE, MISTY COLOUR WITH ONE FLASHING WHITE LIGHT ON TOP
C. OUTDOORS AND STATIONARY
D. NAKED EYE
F. N/A
G. N/A
H. SLOWLY
J. MOVING CLOUD
K. N/A
L. CHIGWELL POLICE
M. [redacted] BARKINSIDE, TEL [redacted]
WORK [redacted]

PAGE 2 RBDAID 0002 UNCLAS
F. 241200Z MAR 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F

CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
~~CYD 1 IP GE/MEW~~
CAP 1 DI 55

ANNEX A TO
SOP 502

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A.	Date, Time & Duration of sighting	23 Mar 93
B.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape colour, brightness)	Round and large with lights around the edge. Hovering
C.	Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary, moving	Outdoors
D.	How Observed (naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie)	Naked eye
E.	Direction in which object first seen (a landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)	To right of house
F.	Angle of sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	Almost overhead
G.	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	Not possible
H.	Movements (Changes in E,F & H may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Moved off and appeared to descend
J	Met Conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	1930Z Drizzle
K.	Nearby Objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	Clear view
L.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	AF Ops

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

M.	Name and Address of Informant	[redacted] Ilford Essex Tel: [redacted]
N.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	
O.	Other Witnesses	Husband
P.	Date, Time of Receipt (in AFOR)	232310Z Mar 93
Q	Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions	None
R.	Remarks:	Other neighbours also witnessed the sighting.

[redacted]
RO2
AFDO
AF Ops

Date: 23 Mar 93

Distribution:

Sec(AS)2, [redacted]
AEW/GE, [redacted]
DI 55, [redacted]
File AF Ops/2/5/1

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A.	Date, Time & Duration of Sighting	Tues 23rd March, approx 7 pm
B.	Description of Object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness)	one bright saucer shaped object, which later appeared more cigar shaped
C.	Exact Position of Observer Location, indoor/outdoor, stationary/moving	Outside her house in Romford
D.	How Observed (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie)	Naked eye, then binoculars
E.	Direction in which Object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)	Heading from NE to SW
F.	Angle of Sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	N/k
G	Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	N/k
H.	Movements (Changes in E, F & G may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Appeared to hover at first, but then some slow movement
I.	Met Conditions during Observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	N/k
J.	Nearby Objects (Telephone lines, high Voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	Houses etc

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

K.	To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	See (A5) 2a
L.	Name & Address of Informant	[redacted]
M.	Background of Informant that may be volunteered	Nme
N.	Other Witnesses	Several drivers on nearby road stopped their cars to get out and look
O.	Date, Time of Receipt	10 am, Wed 24th March
P.	Any Unusual Meteorological Conditions	Nme
Q.	Remarks	Suggested an airship may have been the object seen, with change of course responsible for change in shape. Gave her the number of the UFO groups.

TOP

FEED DIRECTION

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

CAB034 08/0950 067C0603

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 080830Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 041945Z MAR 93
B. SINGLE VERY BRIGHT LIGHT, AMBER IN COLOUR, SAUCER SHAPED ABOUT THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL PITCH NO SOUND OR SMELL
C. OUTDOORS STATIONARY
D. NAKED EYE
E. NOT KNOWN
F. 60 DEGREES (ESTIMATE)
G. NOT KNOWN
H. SWEEPING MOVEMENT ACROSS THE SKY,SEVERAL TIMES THEN DISAPPEARED
J. CLEAR
K. NOT KNOWN
L. GUILFORD POLICE STATION
M. [redacted], GUILFORD, [redacted]

PAGE 2 RBDOYR 0003 UNCLAS
N. SOBOR
O. NOT KNOWN
P. 071515Z MR 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55

E15

(See E1

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT

Air Traffic Control

Report of Unidentified Flying Object

A	*Date, time and duration of sighting.* 27/02/93 2000 2 hours
B	*Description of Object(s)* Blue flashing light
C	*Exact position of observer.* Bedford
D	*How observed.* Binoculars
E	*Direction in which object was first seen.* South of Bedford
F	*Angular elevation of object.* N/A
G	*Distance of object from observer.* N/A
H	*Movements of object.* None
J	*Meteorological conditions during observations.* 35 km visibility 3/8 4000'
K	*Nearby objects.* N/A

continued over

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

L *To whom reported.*	[redacted] (ATSA) LONDON LUTON AIRPORT
M *Name and address of informant.*	MR. [redacted] BEDFORD. TEL. [redacted]
N *Any background information on the informant that may be volunteered.*	N/A
O *Other witnesses.*	N/A
P *Date and time of report.*	2200 27/02/93

The information contained on this form should be passed immediately by telephone to AIS (Military) at LATCC.

*Garex: *97 ATOTN:* [redacted] *tel:* [redacted]

The completed form should be sent to Ministry of Defence Sec (AS).
Address in MATS Pt. 1 Appendix H

Information Source: MATS Pt 1 Section 6 Chapter 4.3
MATS Pt 1 Appendix H

E14

TOP

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

FEED DIRECTION

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

CAB056 01/1120 060C1176

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 011000Z MAR 93

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

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

SIC Z6F
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA
A. 272000Z FEB 93 2 HRS
B. BLUE, FLASHING OBJECT WITH NO SOUND OR SMELL
C. BEDFORD, INDOORS AND OUTDOORS, STATIONARY
D. BINOCULARS
E. SOUTH OF BEDFORD
F. N/K
G. N/K
H. STEADY
J. 35 KM VIS, 3/4000
K. NONE
L. LUTON ATC
M. MR [redacted] BEDFORD TEL BEDFORD [redacted]
N. NONE

PAGE 2 RBDOYR 0006 UNCLAS
O. NONE
P. 272200Z FEB 93
BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F
F
CAB 1 SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV 1 AFDO)
CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
CAP 1 DI 55



[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 February 2007 14:17
To: [redacted]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 12-02-2007-104952-002 - UFO SIGHTINGS

Dear [redacted]

Your Freedom of Information request of 9 February 2007 asked for an update of the number of UFO reports for North Lincolnshire.

There have been no reports received by the Ministry of Defence of UFO sightings in Lincolnshire for the year 2007 so far. Details of UFO reports for the year 2006, covering the whole country, can be found on the MoD website at www.foi.mod.uk.

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."

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

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 12 February 2007 10:53
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 12-02-2007-104952-002[redacted]n 40

Categories: FOI Information Request

Can you take?

Thanks.

[redacted]

Info-AccessOps5

[redacted]

Main Building

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 09 February 2007 10:39
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 12-02-2007-104952-002 [redacted]n 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, February 9, 2007 at 10:38:37

---

txttitle: [redacted]on 40

txtfirstname [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: journalist

txtorganisation: scunthorpe telegraph

txtaddress1: [redacted] scunthorpe [redacted] north lincolnshire

txtaddress2: [redacted] scunthorpe [redacted]

txttowncity: scunthorpe

txtstatecountry: lincolnshire

txtzipcodepostcode: [redacted]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txttelephone: [redacted]

txtinforequest: can you give me an update of the number of sightings of UFOs most recent figures in north lincs (dn9 to dn49)cheers [redacted] reporter

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