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### RESTRICTED/UNCLASSIFIED

### MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

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2nd Review date Produced by MOD ISDA (PC) Ky. Tel: 0117 9376;	256	(I) m	A ACTION  MOD Form 262F  just be completed the time of file closu  RE	at ire) STRICTI	ED/UNC		U001341		<b>787</b>		

### **Registered File Disposal Form**

DEFENCE MANAGEN	(Prefix and Number): , \
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PART 1. DISPOSAL SCHEDULE RECOMMENDATION (To be completed when the file is closed)	FOR DEFENCE INFO(EXP)-R USE ONLY
Destroy after years	Date of 1st review Date of 2nd review Forward Destruction Date
Forward to INFO(EXP)-R after years  No recommendation	Reviewer's Signature: Signature:
PART 2. BRANCH REVIEW (To be fully completed at time of file closure) (Delete as appropriate)	,
Of no further administrative value and not worthy and Codeword material cannot be destroyed locally art	r of permanent preservation. DESTROY IMMEDIATELY (Remember that TOP SECRET did myst be forwarded to INFO(EXP)-R.
<b>b.</b> (i) To be retained until the end of the year	for the following reason(s):
LEGAL	DEFENCE POLICY + OPERATIONS
CONTRACTUAL	ORIGINAL COMMITTEE PAPERS
FINANCE/AUDIT	MAJOR EQUIPMENT PROJECT [
DIRECTORATE POLICY	OTHER (Specify)

(ii) Key enclosures which support the recommendation are:	
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(iii) At the end of the specified retention period the file is to be:	NR' Let 1
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Considered by DR for permanent preservation	
c. Of no further administrative value but worthy of consideration by	INFO(EXP)-R for permanent preservation.
PART 3. BRANC Section 40	PART 4 DESTRUCTION CERTIFICATE
Signature:	It is certified that the specified file has been destroyed.
Section 40 Name:	Signature:
Grade/Rank: GNADE T Date: QS QT QT	Name:(Block Capitals)
Depart Title and Full Address	Grade/Rank: Date:
mo0; 20110104	Witnessed by (TOP SECRET* and SECRET only)
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Tel No:	Grade/Rank:

### **D/DAS/10/2/8/13 PART E**

<b>ENCLOSURE</b>	SUBJECT	NAME	AIT REF
1	Low Flying Complaints	Section 40	24-03-2005-
*			114039-004
2	Military Aircraft		31-03-2005-
	Accident		170231-007
3	UFOs	-	19-04-2005-
	0.00		171214-002
4	Aircraft Noise		24-03-2005-
			095539-003
			Transferred to
			Claims
5	Aircraft Accident Stats		12-01-2005-
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			DASA
6	UFOs		26-01-2005-
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	·		24-04-2005-
			145834-002
7	UFOs		16-02-2005-
'	l Oi Os		090822-002
8	Aircraft Accidents at		05-04-2005-
0			+
	Boscombe Down	-	090753-002
9	USAF use of RAF		23-02-2005-
10	Machrihanish		152108-012
10	Historical info about		28-04-2005-
4.4	RAF Fairford		092340-001
11	CAS Salary & Official		24-02-2005-
40	Residence		154721-016
12	Aircraft Accident		04-05-2005-
- 40		_	090936-001
13	Aircraft Accident		05-05-2005-
	LES		160915-006
14	UFOs		29-03-2005-
			02715-007
15	UFOs		29-03-2005-
			102323-006
16	UFOs		22-04-2005-
			090718-001
17	UFOs		04-05-2005-
			094934-004
18	USAF Aircraft		12-04-2005-
	Accidents		140050-003
19	Aircraft Accident		05-01-2005-
			08152-004
20	Aircraft Accident		29-03-2005-
			121110-014











I am writing concerning your request for documents about UFO landings and abductions in the UK from 1940 to date. Your message has been passed to me because this department is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs.

I should explain that 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. We remain open-minded, but to date the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena and there is therefore no official documents about UFO landings or abductions. Members of the public occasionally write to the MOD alleging they have seen UFOs land or been abducted by alien beings, but these letters are not held separately, but filed with all other correspondence about UFOs in the order in which they were received. We currently hold correspondence files covering a 25 year period and to search all of them for any relevant letters would exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to conduct such a task.

You may wish to be aware that there is already some information about UFOs available for public viewing. MOD files on UFOs were routinely destroyed after 5 years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1977 are now available for viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU or by telephone on 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at

http://www.nationalarchives.go.uk. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme also contains documents relating to the well known events in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk in 1980 and the final report of the Flying Saucer Working Party in 1951. These can be accessed via the internet at <a href="http://www.foi.mod.uk">http://www.foi.mod.uk</a>. A search in the Scheme under 'UFO' will take you to this information. We are looking to see if further information can be made available to the public and we are currently compiling a database of reports which we intend to publish in the MOD Freedom of Information Publication Scheme in the near future.

I hope this is helpful.

#### Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H, Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

e-mail:das-ufo-office@mod.uk

11 May 2005



Home <u>My Cases</u> Log N	ew Request Policy Guidance Help		A company of the control of the cont
Request: Section 4  Days Left: 13	<b>0</b> -04- <del>0</del> 3-20 <b>0</b> 5-0 <del>94</del> 934-004	Received: 03 Mar 05  Status: Internal Tra	All sources
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Take Ownership	Record storage location of Applicant required To be held by the help desk until allocat		<b>A</b>

### Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your request for information about UFO reports. Your message has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs.

I can confirm that the MOD has not received any UFO sighting reports for North Yorkshire, Cumbria and North Lancashire between 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005. I am therefore unable to supply any information on this occasion.

Yours sincerely,

#### Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H. Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

e-mail:das-ufo-office@mod.uk

11 May 2005





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	Email: @btinternet.	COM
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	To be held by the help desk until allocation	•		
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I am writing concerning your request for 'all relevant information regarding unidentified flying objects'. Your message has been passed to me as this department is the focal point for correspondence about UFOs.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'UFOs' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each 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, I should inform you that this department holds details of UFO sightings reported to the MOD and public correspondence about UFOs (some of which also contain sighting reports) spanning a 25 year period. These records are not held electronically, but are filed on paper files in the order in which they were received. Before any of this information can be released personal data has to be removed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Clearly, if we were to process copies of all these records the costs would quickly exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. If however, if you could be more specific about the information you are seeking we may be able to assist you.

You may wish to be aware that there is already some information about UFOs available for public viewing. MOD files on UFOs were routinely destroyed after 5 years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1977 are now available for viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU or by telephone on 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at

http://www.nationalarchives.go.uk. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme also contains documents relating to the well known events in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk in 1980 and the final report of the Flying Saucer Working Party in 1951. These can be accessed via the internet at <a href="http://www.foi.mod.uk">http://www.foi.mod.uk</a>. A search in the Scheme under 'UFO' will take you to this information. We are looking to see if further information can be made available to the public and we are currently compiling a database of reports which we intend to publish in the MOD Freedom of Information Publication Scheme in the near future.

I hope this is helpful.

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H, Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

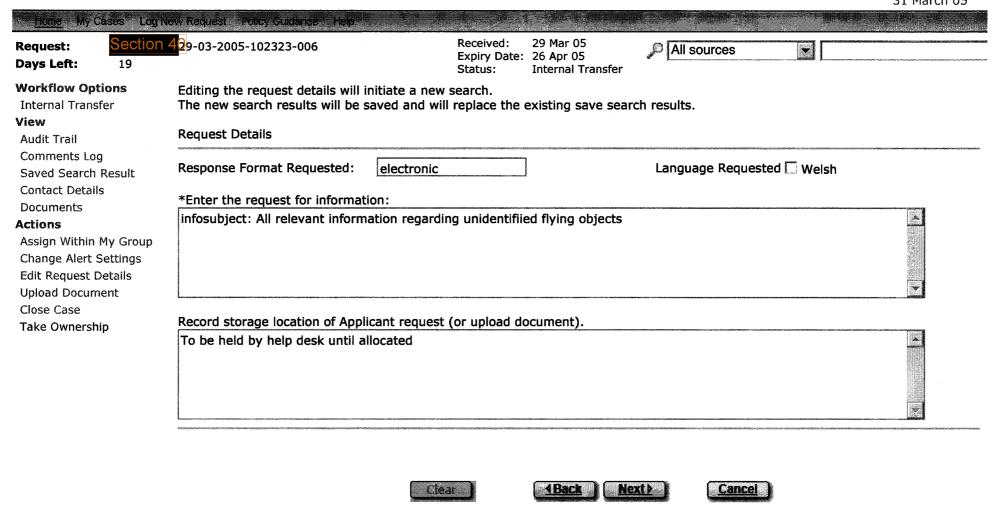
e-mail:das-ufo-office@mod.uk

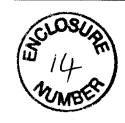
11 May 2005



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Request: Section Days Left: 19	<mark>40</mark> 29-03-2005-102323-006	Received: 29 Mar 05 Expiry Date: 26 Apr 05 Status: Internal Tr	All sources
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	Postcode:	Country:	United Kingdom
	Email: Section 40 @n	tlworld.com	
	Telephone:	Fax:	







Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your request for information about UFOs and aliens. Your request has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs.

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

With regard to your particular request, 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. We remain totally open-minded, but to date the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

Yours sincerely,

### Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H, Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

e-mail:das-ufo-office@mod.uk

10 May 2005



31 March 05

Home My	Cases Log Ne	w Request Policy Guidence	· iHelp ····································		Property States	
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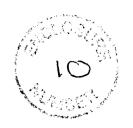
31 March 05

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Guidance Field 1 Received: 28 Mar 05 Section 40 29-03-2005-102715-007 Request: All sources ᅱ Expiry Date: 25 Apr 05 Days Left: 18 Status: **Internal Transfer Workflow Options** Editing the request details will initiate a new search. The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results. Internal Transfer View Request Details Audit Trail Comments Log Language Requested Welsh Response Format Requested: electronic Saved Search Result Contact Details \*Enter the request for information: Documents infosubject: please provide me under the freedom of information act all evidence of u.f.o's and aliens. **Actions** Assign Within My Group **Change Alert Settings Edit Request Details** Upload Document Close Case Record storage location of Applicant request (or upload document). Take Ownership To be held by help desk until allocated Next > Clear Cancel













### <u>AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION</u>



Case Number:16-02-2005-090822-002 Expiry: 16 March 2005

### The Applicant has made the following request for information:

I wrote to the MOD on 4 August 1994 concerning a UFO sighting over Bath 2 days earlier. A written response was not secured until 7 October 1998 reference D/Sec(AS)64/3 signed by Section 40 Sec(AS)2a. I wish to know whether this incident was reported to / investigated by any other MOD / Government organisation or whoever other than Sec(AS) and if so whom and what was their findings? A copy of related Sec(AS) correspondence would be appreciated.

### Case for release of information

Applicant: Section 40

I have located the report Section 40 made in August 1994, but despite many requests, to date, TNT are unable to locate our UFO correspondence file which should hold the correspondence with Section 40 n 1998. This request has now become so overdue that I telephoned Section 40 apologise for the delay and have discussed his request with him.

At the time of his report Section 40 worked for the MOD at Foxhill, Bath (and still does). He is trying to find out how his report was handled and if any other department other than Sec(AS) investigated it. I explained that there is a note from my predecessor about her telephone conversation with him and the report was copied to DI55c. DI-BCR-CG3 Section 40 has confirmed that DIS UFO files for this period are part of the batch contaminated with asbestos and therefore not accessible. He felt, however, that it was unlikely that DIS took any action. Section 40 asked for a copy of this report and this is attached, together with a draft letter. My predecessor Section 40 initials have been removed in accordance with DPA98.

As we are unable to retrieve the appropriate file for 1998 it is not possible to be certain about any action that Section 40 might have taken when Section 40 Section 40 rote to Sec(AS) again in 1998. It is unlikely that any new action was taken, but I have told Section 40 that we will check for him, if we can retrieve the file in the near future.



### **Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: B 2	Name:	Section 40	
Authorisation Reference Number:	DAS-FOI	26/05	
Date: 5/5/05			



### From: Section 40 Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone

(Direct dial) (Switchboard) 020 7218 2140 020 7218 9000

e-mail

(Fax) Section 40 das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Wotton-under-Edge Section 40 Your Reference

Our Reference D/DAS/10/2/8/13 Date May 2005

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request about the UFO sighting you reported over Bath in August 1994. I apologise for the time taken to answer your request. This has been due to difficulties with retrieving our records.

As discussed on the telephone, please find enclosed a copy of your report which includes the note at the bottom from my predecessor, detailing her conversation with you. During this period UFO reports were sometimes copied to DI55c and the note at the top of this report shows that a copy of your report was sent to them for information. Most of the DI55c UFO files for this period were part of a large batch of records which have been stored in an archive which has been found to be contaminated with asbestos. They have now been safeguarded and moved to another MOD site while the future of the records is decided, but at present they are not available for inspection. There is no indication on our files that any further action was taken by this Directorate.

With regard to your comments about your correspondence with Section 40 in 1998, we are currently experiencing problems retrieving our file for this period from archives. I will however, pursue this matter and if the file can be located in the near future, I will write to you again. I think is unlikely, however, that Section 40 made any further enquiries so long after your initial report.

Finally, it may be helpful if I explain that 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. We remain totally open-minded, but to date we know of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. Any reports of 'UFOs' the MOD receives are examined 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

hope this is helpful. If this information does not address your requirements or you wish to omplain 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,

Section 40

### LOOSE MINUTE

D/SSC/P(F&S)NP/20/1

4 Aug 94

#### Sec(AS)2a

#### UFO SIGHTING



- 1. I wish to report what appeared to be a Unidentified Flying Object(UFO) in the vicinity of the MOD Foxhill site, Bath at approximately 0800 on Tuesday 2 August 1994.
- 2. On our normal arrival time my passenger drew my attention to an unusual object in the sky. During the matter of seconds it was in sight, we could determine it was coloured silver, appeared wingless and was travelling at unusually high speed north westerly towards Bath. It's apparent steep angle of descent was particularly noticeable. Although it was raining a little, visibility was good. I have enclosed a copy of the Foxhill site plan and an extract of the Bath AZ street plan duly annotated to show our position in relation to that of the UFO.
- 3. I apologise for not reporting this sighting sooner but had difficulty establishing the Department's point of contact for UFOs.
- 4. I would be grateful to learn whether any other equivalent sightings have been reported and whether this matter warrants further official investigation.



Section 40

GxAITESTPTCD

18 February 05

Home My Cases Log N	New Request Policy Guidance H	elp (contractor) of the second	A Contract Contract		The state of the s
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	Held by the help desk until allocation				
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### <u>AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION</u>

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 26-01-2005-095321-005

24-04-2005-145834-002

Expiry:22 February 2005 24 May 2005

The Applicant has made the following requests for information:

#### **First Request**

Some years ago I made a request for some of the more interesting reports on unidentified aerial phenomena which you were good enough to provide - by interesting I mean those sightings that have:

- a) Been picked up on radar or other physical means.
- b) Caused aircraft to be scrambled or diverted from task.
- c) Seen by trained observers and also picked up on radar or by other physical means
- d) Left physical traces

Would it be possible to release this sort of anonymised information on a routine basis because in all honesty I think this is the sort of information on UFOs people with an interest really want to be informed about.

Also I would be interested to know what sort of contacts are made with the Civil Aviation Authority in respect to their own databases on aerial phenomena which contain some truly incredible anonymised reports.

#### **Request Two**

A number of years ago I made several enquiries in relation to aerial phenomena (flying saucers/ UFOs) and whilst I am aware of the official stance on this subject several questions were not entirely answered to my satisfaction - perhaps now these could be answered; in particular:

What is the reporting structure / procedure / workflow between the Civil Aviation Authority and th MOD for UFO reports by airline pilots (visual sightings and radar sightings)?

What is the reporting structure / procedure / workflow between the Home Office and the MOD for UFO reports by police, customs etc (visual sightings and radar sightings)?

How many visual sightings of UFOs have we had in British Airspace from the last 10 years of UFOs (sightings from military and civilian sources) that have also shown up on radar?



### Case for release of information

Approximately 5 years ago Section 40 made a request for information under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information (the Code) for all UFO reports received by the MOD from Military personnel, civilian pilots and Air Traffic Controllers for a 10 year period. This was refused using the voluminous exemption in the Code because of the time it would take to search and prepare records for such a long period Section 40 made an internal appeal and the Department's decision was upheld. He then appealed to the Parliamentary Ombudsman who suggested the MOD should search a 1 year period instead. Three reports relevant to Section 40 request were found and sent to him.

In both of his new requests Section 40 is getting UFO reports confused with the defence of UK airspace and he clearly believes that we correlate the UFO reports we receive with radar returns. The differences between the two have therefore been explained in the attached draft letter. I have also addressed his questions regarding reports made to the CAA and the Home Office. CT and UK Ops – Airspace Integrity has had FOIA requests about the defence of UK airspace and this draft has been cleared with her.

With regard to Section 40 final request about UFO reports from military and civilian sources for the last 10 years, I have refused this information as it would involve searching 72 paper files and would therefore exceed the £600 limit for compliance with the FOIA. However, we have completed our UFO report database for 2002 to 2005 and I have provided figures relevant to his request for this period.

### **Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: 32	Name:
	DAS-FOI 26/05
Date: 5 /5/05	



From: Section 40

### Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Zone H, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone

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

e-mail

(Fax) das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Anglesey Section 40

Your Reference

Our Reference D/DAS/10/2/8/13

Date 5th May 2005

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your e-mail messages requesting information about UFO sighting reports. Both of your messages have been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs. I apologise for not replying sooner.

As both of your requests refer to UFO sightings reported to the MOD and objects seen on radar, it may be helpful if I explain the differences in procedures between the handling of these two scenarios. Most people make 'UFO' sighting reports to the MOD because they have seen something in the sky that they are unable to identify or because they believe they have seen something of an extraterrestrial nature. 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. Although we remain open minded, to date the MOD knows of no evidence as to the existence of this alleged phenomena. The UFO sighting reports we received are examined solely to establish whether they provide any evidence that UK airspace has been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each 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. Any UFO reports which we consider may be worthy of further investigation are referred to staff within the MOD who have responsibility for air defence matters for further examination. I should add that none of the UFO sighting reports received in recent years have produced anything of defence concern. This procedure is followed for all reports considered worthy of further investigation regardless of whether the report was made by members of the public, military or civil pilots, or police officers.

The procedures for defending UK airspace are not connected to, or reliant on, people reporting sightings of objects they are unable to identify. 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 and the overarching NATO air defence system. This is achieved by using a combination of civil and military radar installations, which provide a continuous real-time "picture" of UK airspace. Any threat to the UK would be handled in the light of the particular circumstances at the time which might, if deemed appropriate, involve the scrambling or diversion of air defence aircraft.

You also enquired about the reporting procedures between the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), the Home Office and the MOD. If civil airline pilots or police officers make a 'UFO' report, these may be sent to this department and would be handled as described above. If a civil pilot believes that his/her aircraft may have been endangered by the proximity of another aircraft or object (or, in regulated airspace, where an Air Traffic Controller believes there has been a risk of collision) they may file an airmiss report and this will be investigated by the UK Airprox Board which is a joint military and civilian organisation. If there was no risk of collision, but a pilot wishes to report an unusual occurrence during a flight, they might file a Mandatory Occurrence Report and this would be investigated by the CAA. MOD may be contacted as part of these investigations, if it is possible that military aircraft or activity was involved.

With regard to your request for information about the number of UFO sighting reports in the past 10 years from military and civilian sources, I should inform you that our records are not held electronically but filed on paper files in the order in which they were received. The reports are not segregated according to source and this means to identify the records you have requested would involve a manual search of 72 paper files. It has been assessed that the cost of such an exercise 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 MOD is not obliged to comply with your request. You may wish to be aware, however, that in order to assist members of the public we are currently compiling a database of the sighting reports we have received which we hope to publish in the near future. Personal data about the individuals who made the reports will not be shown in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, but the database will include details of occupations where known. This means it will be possible to see which reports were received from military or civilian aircrew, Air Traffic Controllers etc. While the database will take some time to complete we have completed the records for 2002 to April 2005 and I am able to supply the following figures which are relevant to your requests.

Year	Total Number of UFO reports received by MOD	Number of Reports received from Military Personnel, Civilian Pilots, Air Traffic Controllers, Police and Coastguard.
2005	45	1 Coastguard.
(Jan-April)		,
2004	91	None.
2003	96	1 Air Traffic Controller, 1 RAF Sergeant, 1 Civilian Pilot and his First Officer and 1 MOD Policeman.
2002	102	1 Police Officer.

Finally, you suggested that we should consider publishing his type of information on a routine basis. We are aware that there is a public interest in UFO sighting reports and for this reason we have included classes of information on UFOs in the MOD Freedom of Information Publication Scheme, which can be found on the internet at <a href="www.foi.mod.uk">www.foi.mod.uk</a>. We intend to add further classes of information to the Scheme in the future.

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

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

Yours sincerely,



** TO BE GIVE	NAHIGH	PRIORITY **
102No		Lowflying/UFOJ/E-MAII
FILE		
TREAT OFFICE	AL CORRI	ESPONDENCE

To DA	SLIA	)P+	P
CC.	V	7	2700

TO Ref No 3502 /2005

Date 25 APR 05

The Prime Minister/SofS/Min(AF)/Min(DP)/USofS/MOD\* has received the attached correspondence from a member of the public, which this office has neither retained nor acknowledged. Please send a reply on behalf of the PM/Minister/Department\*.

Ministers attach great importance to correspondence being answered promptly, and your reply should be sent within 15 working days of the above date. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible, an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale. You should be aware that No 10 periodically calls for a sample of letters sent by officials on the PM's behalf for his perusal.

Most correspondence involves some form of request for information — even if it is only a request for clarification of Government policy — and is therefore covered by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) from January 2005. In general, if you meet the deadline for responding to correspondence, and comply with any requests for information, there is no need to do anything differently as this will meet the requirements of the Act. However, if the correspondence requests information which is not already in the public domain, and which might need to be withheld, then you should treat it as a FOIA request, track it using the Access to Information toolkit, and comply with the separate FOI guidance from DG Info (see http://aitportal/default.aspx for details). However, the deadline for responding to correspondence will still apply. If you are in any doubt as to whether a piece of correspondence should be treated as an FOIA request, you should ask your FOI Focal Point or refer to the guidance produced by DG Info.

It is vital that branches ensure they have simple systems to record and track correspondence received from members of the public. This information should be regularly monitored and reviewed against the targets for answering correspondence published in the Spending Review 2000 Service Delivery Agreement for the Ministry of Defence.

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

Floor 5, Zone A, Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB

Section 40

Section 40

DII: Ministerial Correspondence; e: Ministerial-Correspondence@mod.uk.

Detailed guidance on handling TO Correspondence can be found on the Defence Intranet at http://main.defence.mod.uk/min\_parl/ParlBrch/TOGuid.htm

If you do not have access to the Intranet, please inform the Ministerial Correspondence Unit.

\*\* TO BE GIVEN A HIGH PRIORITY \*\*

TO BE GIVEN A HIGH PRIORITY \*\*

<sup>\*</sup> Delete as appropriate.

#### ection 40

From:

Section 40

Sent:

21 April 2005 20:38

To:

public@ministers.mod.uk

Subject: Re: FOI / Aerial Phenomena

---- Original Message -----

From: Section 40

To: public@ministers.mod.uk

Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2005 8:37 PM

Section 40

**ANGLESEY** Section 40 21 April 2005

Dear Sirs / Madams

Peron 3197/1998, 5944/201 A couple of months ago I made a request for info under FOI but have not had any response so perhaps this second time round you may be able to assist me.

A number of years ago I made several enquiries in relation to aerial phenomena (flying saucers/ UFOs) and whilst I am well aware of the official stance on this subject several questions were not entirely answered to my satisfaction - perhaps now these could be answered; in particular:

- What is the reporting structure / procedure / workflow between the Civil Aviation Authority and the MoD for UFO reports by airline pilots (visual sightings and radar sightings)?
- What is the reporting structure / procedure / workflow between the Home Office and the MoD for UFO reports by police, customs etc (visual sightings and radar sightings)?
- How many visual sightings of UFOs have we had in British Airspace from the last 10 years of UFOs (sightings from military and civilian sources) that have also shown up on radar?

My concerns on the subject matter have always been its lack of acceptance in scientific circles and I suspect this will always continue to be the status quo until some formal acceptance of the phenomena is made at a government level.

Sincerely

ection 40

22/04/2005



<u>Home</u> My Cases Lo	ng New Request Policy Guidance Help		A Action Co. D. (1999)			
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	To be held by the help desk until allocation.						
		ar Next	Lance )				

Some years ago I made a request for some of the more interesting reports on unidentified aerial phenomena which you were good enough to provide - by interesting I mean those sightings that have:

- a) Been picked up on radar or other physical means.
- b) Caused aircraft to be scrambled or diverted from task.
- c) Seen by trained observers and also picked up on radar or by other physical means
- d) Left physical traces

Would it be possible to release this sort of anonymised information on a routine basis because in all honesty I think this is the sort of information on UFOs people with an interest really want to be informed about.

Also I would be interested to know what sort of contacts are made with the Civil Aviation Authority in respect to their own databases on aerial phenomena which contain some truly incredible anonymised reports



# **ENCLOSURE TRANSFERRED TO FILE D/DAS/10/2/8/16 PART B**



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



I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for a copy of the log of unidentified flying objects seen over central London since January 2005. Your request has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs.

The MOD does not maintain 'logs' of UFO sightings. Any reports or correspondence we receive are filed in the order in which they are received on paper files. I can however, confirm that we have received no reports of UFO sightings seen over central London since January 2005.

I note you have also made three other requests for information in which you have asked for copies of logs of "airspace violations" that have occurred over Buckingham Palace, the Houses of Parliament and central London in the last 24 months. In order that your requests can be directed to the correct area within the MOD, please could you clarify exactly what information you are seeking in relation to these requests.

Yours sincerely,



Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H Section 4D
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

e-mail:das-ufo-office@mod.uk

26th April 2005



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None reported.

Up to FOI

#### **AITCases**

#### 19042005: Section 40 19-04-2005-171214-002

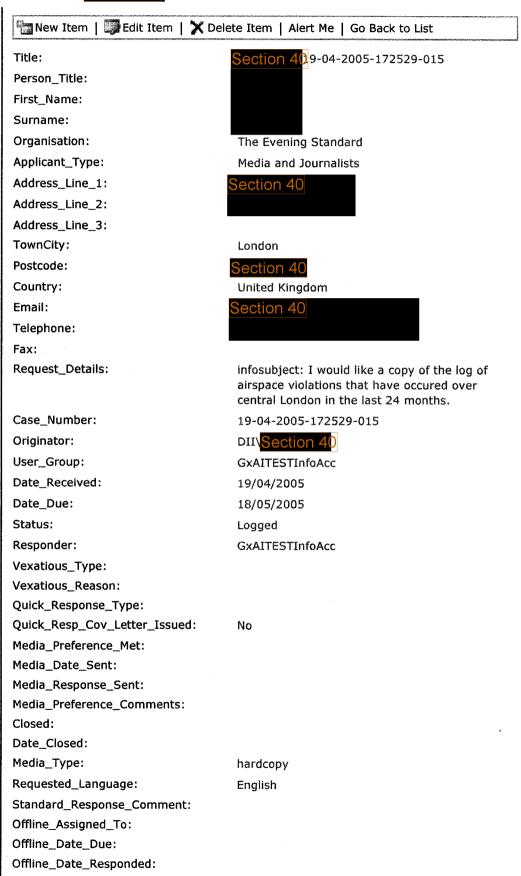


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#### **AITCases**

### 19042005: Section 40 19-04-2005-172529-015

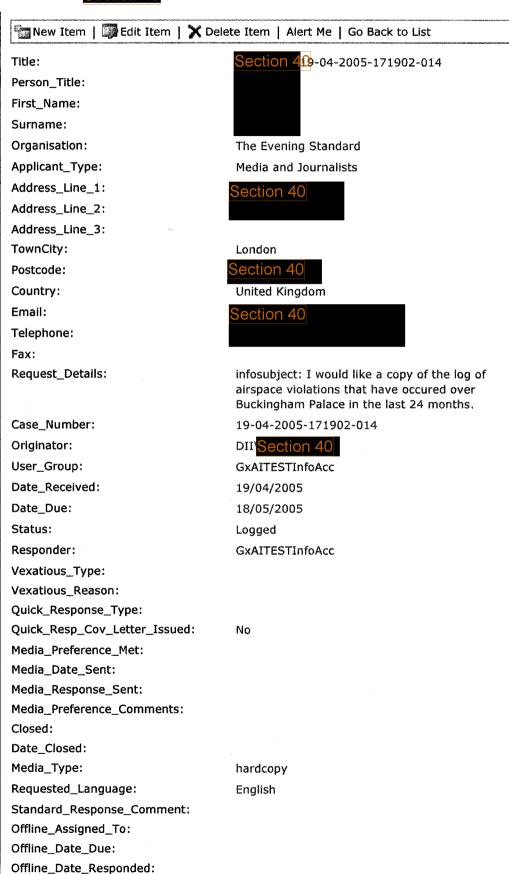


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#### **AITCases**

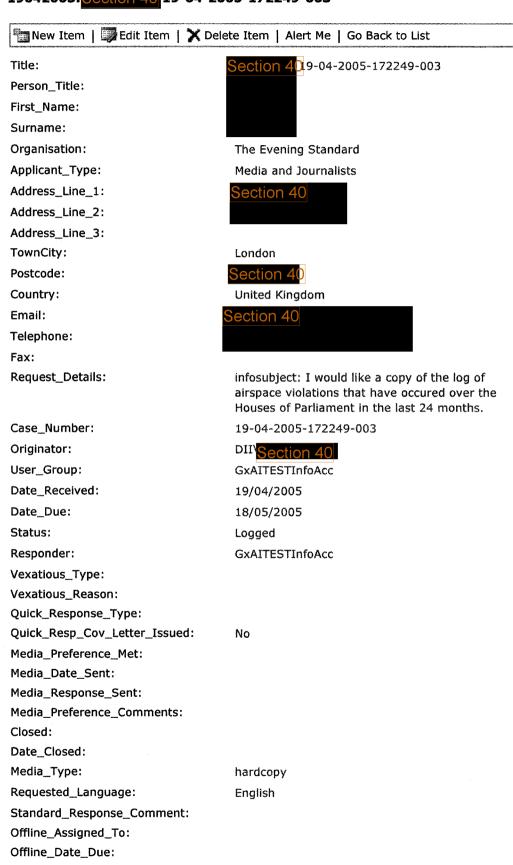
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#### AITCases 19042005: Section 40 19-04-2005-172249-003



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# **ENCLOSURE TRANSFERRED TO FILE D/DAS/10/2/8/16 PART B**



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