



(c) crown copyright

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

F6208-f

24 May 2006

Registered file number

Registered file number
D/DAS/10/2/8/13

Part No.

- DIVISION/ESTABLISHMENT/UNIT/BRANCH**

DAS-SEC
WHITEHALL

[FULL ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER]

SUBJECT

SUBJECT Information Management -
Defence Information Management
- The Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Requests for Information.

[BLOCK CAPITALS]

RECORD OF KEYWORDS:

21/6/06

2019

[illegible]

1st Review date

2nd Review date

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

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

RESTRICTED/UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED



RCU001735091



Registered File Disposal Form

MOD Form 262F
(Revised 9/01)

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc)

Information Management - Defence
Information Management - Freedom of
Information Act 2000 - Requests for Information

Reference:
(Prefix and Number):

D1005/10/218/13

Part:

0

PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors):

Unclass. Prod

Date of last enclosure:

2/06/06

Date closed:

2/06/06

PART 1. DISPOSAL SCHEDULE RECOMMENDATION

(To be completed when the file is closed)

Destroy after _____ years ☒

Forward to INFO(EXP)-R after _____ years ☐

No recommendation ☐

FOR DEFENCE INFO(EXP)-R USE ONLY

Date of 1st review

Date of 2nd review

Forward Destruction Date

Reviewer's

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 INFO(EXP)-R. ☐

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

LEGAL ☒

CONTRACTUAL ☐

FINANCE/AUDIT ☐

DIRECTORATE POLICY ☐

DEFENCE POLICY + OPERATIONS ☒

ORIGINAL COMMITTEE PAPERS ☐

MAJOR EQUIPMENT PROJECT ☐

OTHER (Specify) ☐

For
Permanent
preservation

(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 INFO(EXP)-R for permanent preservation.

☐

PART 3 BRANCH REVIEWING OFFICER (not below C2/equivalent)

Section 40

Signature:

Name:

Grade/Rank:

C2

Date:

13-8-10

Branch Title and Full Address:

RAF Bus Sec
HQ Air Comd
RAF High Wycombe
Bucks
HP14 4UE

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)

ENCLOSURE	SUBJECT	NAME	AIT REF
1	UFO	Section 40	25-04-2006-101326-013
2	UFO		11-05-2006-085934-005
3	UFO		08-05-2006-104655-008
4	UFO		18-04-2006-073214-018 & 18-04-2006-072924-017
5	UFO		31-05-2006-095956-001
6	UFO		02-05-2006-111835-005
7	UFO		17-05-2006-085937-001
8	UFO		18-05-20006-062118-002
9	UFO		05-05-2006-151510-014
10	UFO		30-05-2006-093012-004
11	UFO		22-05-2006-093143-002
12	UFO		25-05-2006-154237-003
13	Flight Paths		25-04-2006-140111-021
14	UFO		01-06-2006-172728-009
15	UFO		12-06-2006-111124-003
16	UFO		30-05-2006-095057-011
17	UFO		25-05-2006-155807-004
18	UFO		09-05-2006-113452-011
19	UFO		02-06-2006-143359-005
20	UFO		02-06-2006-150342-006



From: **Section 40**

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

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

Telephone

(Direct dial)
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

020 7218 2140
020 7218 9000

e-mail

das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40



Section 40

Cwmbran
Gwent

Section 40

Our Reference

02-06-2006-150342-006

Date

21 June 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request for files or document relating to a UFO sighting in the Berwyn Mountains in the 1970s. Your request has been passed to this department because we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs.

The alleged events at the Berwyn Mountains took place on 24 January 1974 and the Ministry of Defence UFO records for this period have now been transferred to The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU. They are open for public viewing and details of how to access information at The National Archives can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. There are no files exclusively about these events but a quick look at The National archives catalogue has revealed two files for this period that might hold relevant information. These are AIR 2/18873 (Unidentified Flying Objects 1973-74) and AIR 2/18874 (Unidentified Flying Objects 1974-75).

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

05 June 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 02-06-2006-150342-006**Days Left:** 19**Received:** 01 Jun 06**Expiry Date:** 29 Jun 06**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

Close Case

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: 01 June 2006**Applicant Details****Title:**

Section 40

Other:**First Name:*****Surname:**

Section 40

Organisation:**Applicant Type:**

Not Specified

Other:**Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)****Address Line1:**

Section 40

Address Line2:**Address Line3:**

Cwmbran

Town/City:

Gwent

Postcode:

Section 40

Country:

United Kingdom

Email:**Telephone:****Fax:**

Clear

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

05 June 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 02-06-2006-150342-006**Days Left:** 19

Received: 01 Jun 06

Expiry Date: 29 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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:

disk

Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

It has been claimed that in tghe mid 1970s there was a UFO crash in the Berwyn Mountains, Wales. I am querying under the FOIA the number of files/documents the MOD holds for this incident, how many of those files are still 'classified' and how many are currently available to the public. Those which are currently available I would like a copy of either on a disk or in their printed format, whichever is cheaper or more convenient for you. Many thanks.

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

To be held by the Helpdesk until allocated.

Clear

< Back

Next >

Cancel



From: **Section 40**

Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

Telephone

(Direct dial)
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

020 7218 2140
020 7218 9000

e-mail

das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40



Section 40

Cwmbran

Gwent

Section 40

Our Reference

02-06-2006-143359-005

Date

21 June 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding a series of working papers mentioned in Volume 1 of the recently released MOD report entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region". Your request has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs and the department jointly responsible with the Defence Intelligence Staff for the release of this report.

The working papers referred to in the index of working papers on page vi of Volume 1 are contained in Volume 2 of the report and are amongst the released papers on the MOD website. To locate these documents please go to www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme. Then Click on Volume 2. The working papers you requested can be found as follows;

Working Paper 10 – Ley Lines, Earthlights and UK Earth Fault Lines
Volume 2 - Parts H, I and J – Pages i to 10-19

Working Paper 24 – 'Sprites', 'Elves' and 'Blue Jets' (Atmospheric and Ionospheric Phenomena)
Volume 2 - Part Q - Page i – 24-3

Working Paper 25 – Overview of Magnetic Field Effects on Humans
Volume 2 - Part Q - Page i – 25-9

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

05 June 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 02-06-2006-143359-005**Days Left:** 19

Received: 01 Jun 06

Expiry Date: 29 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[Take Ownership](#)

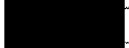
Editing the request details will initiate a new search.

The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Date request received: 01 June 2006

Applicant Details

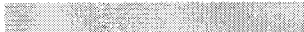
Title: Section 40

Other: First Name: 

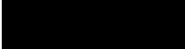
*Surname: Section 40

Organisation: 

Applicant Type: Not Specified

Other: **Contact Details** (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1: Section 40

Address Line2: 

Address Line3: Cwmbran

Town/City: Gwent

Postcode: Section 40

Country: United Kingdom

Email: Telephone: Fax: 

Clear

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

05 June 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)Request: **Section 40** 02-06-2006-143359-005

Days Left: 19

Received: 01 Jun 06

Expiry Date: 29 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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:

disk

Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

Dear Sir / Madam,

In the recently released document 'Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region : Volume 1, there is referenced a series of 'working papers' referenced. Under the FOIA, I am requesting copies of Working Papers numbers 10, 24 and 25. I would like these documents on a disk or failing that in their printed form, whichever would be cheaper and more convenient for yourselves. Many thanks.

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

To be held by the Helpdesk until allocated.

Clear

<Back

Next>

Cancel

Section 40

From: Section 40 @guardian.co.uk

Sent: 21 June 2006 15:37

To: Section 40

Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Request 09-05-2006-113452-011



Many thanks for your help.

Section 40

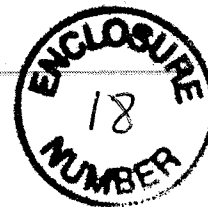
Science Correspondent

Section 40

The Guardian
119 Farringdon Road,
London EC1R 2ER
www.guardian.co.uk

21/06/2006

Section 40



From: Section 40

Sent: 21 June 2006 13:35

To: Section 40 @guardian.co.uk

Subject: Internet-authorised:Freedom of Information Request 09-05-2006-113452-011

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for advice or training materials for military pilots / personnel concerning what to do should they encounter "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena or plasmas". Your request has been passed to this department because we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs (also known as UAP) and the department jointly responsible with the Defence Intelligence Staff for the release of the report entitled Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region. I apologise for the delay in sending this response.

A search of military regulations and consultation with training staff has revealed no training materials for military aircrews which specifically mention UAPs or plasmas. I am therefore unable to provide any information relevant to your request.

If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

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

21 June 2006

21/06/2006

Section 40
GxAITESTPTCDAS
18 May 06

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Guidance Help

Request: Section 40 09-05-2006-113452-011
Days Left: 14

Received: 09 May 06
Expiry Date: 07 Jun 06
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
- Close Case
- 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: 09 May 2006

Applicant Details

Title:	Section 40	Other:	
First Name:		*Surname:	Section 40
Organisation:	Guardian newspaper		
Applicant Type:	Media and Journalists	Other:	

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1:	Section 40		
Address Line2:			
Address Line3:			
Town/City:	London		
Postcode:	Section 40	Country:	United Kingdom
Email:	Section 40 @guardian.co.uk		
Telephone:		Fax:	

Clear <Back Next> Cancel

Marham
Section 40
Section 40
Section 40
MCO-
Section 40

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

18 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 09-05-2006-113452-011**Days Left:** 14

Received: 09 May 06

Expiry Date: 07 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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:

Language Requested ☐ Welsh***Enter the request for information:**

Advice to military pilots on what to do if they encounter "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" (UAP) or "plasmas". Or any training materials for military personnel that make reference to such phenomena.

Such advice or training materials will probably have followed a report from Defence Intelligence Analysis Staff entitled "Unidentified Aerial PHenomena in the UK Air Defence Region" which discusses the dangers posed to aircraft by these phenomena. This report was completed in 2000 and is referred to as Scientific and Technical Memorandum -

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

To be held with the helpdesk until allocated

Advice to military pilots on what to do if they encounter "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" (UAP) or "plasmas". Or any training materials for military personnel that make reference to such phenomena.

Such advice or training materials will probably have followed a report from Defence Intelligence Analysis Staff entitled "Unidentified Aerial PHenomena in the UK Air Defence Region" which discusses the dangers posed to aircraft by these phenomena. This report was completed in 2000 and is referred to as Scientific and Technical Memorandum - No. 55/2/00.

JSP 550 - Military Aviation Policy Regulations
and Directives
Checked - Nothing Relevant.

Section 40

From: **Section 40**
Sent: 09 May 2006 13:15
To: **Section 40**
Cc:
Subject: FW: FOI INFORMATION REQUEST PS 09-05-2006-113452-011 **Section 40**

Categories: FOI Information Request

Section 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

Section 40

FOI Helpdesk

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 09 May 2006 13:15
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI INFORMATION REQUEST PS 09-05-2006-113452-011 **Section 40**

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, May 9, 2006 at 13:15:01

FirstName: **Section 40**

LastName: **Section 40**

occupation: Journalist

Company: Guardian newspaper

Address1: 119 Farringdon Road

City: London

Zip: EC1R 3ER

Country: United Kingdom

e-mail **Section 40**@guardian.co.uk

telephone: **Section 40**

preferred format: hardcopy

infosubject: Advice to military pilots on what to do if they encounter "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" (UAP) or "plasmas". Or any training materials for military personnel that make reference to such phenomena.

Such advice or training materials will probably have followed a report from Defence Intelligence Analysis Staff entitled "Unidentified Aerial PHenomena in the UK Air Defence Region" which discusses the dangers posed to aircraft by these phenomena. This report was completed in 2000 and is referred to as Scientific and Technical Memorandum - No. 55/2/00.

submit: Send Form

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 13 June 2006 16:19

To: Section 40

Subject: FW: UFO Reporting

Section 40



PSB. Short 'n' sweet!!

I've double-checked with Section 40 that there is definitely no advice given. Thinking about it the aircrew could have the UFO hotline from the DCI DAS issue with guidance on how to handle low flying complaints or more than likely it's scribbled on the wall in the gents loo!!

I've yet to hear back from 2Gp but I imagine it'll be similar – I'll let you know all the same.

Section 40

From: Section 40 Wg Cdr On Behalf Of STC-HQ1GP

Sent: 13 June 2006 16:02

To: Section 40 SQN LDR Section 40

Subject: RE: UFO Reporting

So far as we here in 1Gp are concerned no "advice" has ever been given to aircrew on the matter.

Section 40

Wing Commander

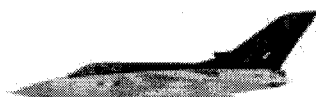
Dep COS

Section 40

DII: Section 40 Wg Cdr

RAFMIL/Chots: 1Gp-Deputy COS

eMail: Section 40 @mod.uk



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.

Recipients should note that e-mail traffic on MOD systems is subject to monitoring, recording and auditing to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes.

The MOD has taken steps to keep this e-mail and any attachments free from viruses. However it accepts no liability for any loss or damage howsoever caused as a result of any virus being passed on. It is the responsibility of the recipient to perform all necessary checks.

The statements expressed in this e-mail are personal and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the department.

From: Section 40 SQN LDR

Sent: 13 June 2006 15:36

To: STC-HQ1GP

Subject: FW: UFO Reporting

Please can we provide an answer to this.

Yours,

Section 40

21/06/2006

Section 40Sqn Ldr
PSC DC 1 Gp**Section 40**

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. Recipients should note that e-mail traffic on MOD systems is subject to monitoring, recording and auditing to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The MOD has taken steps to keep this e-mail and any attachments free from viruses. However it accepts no liability for any loss or damage howsoever caused as a result of any virus being passed on. It is the responsibility of the recipient to perform all necessary checks. The statements expressed in this e-mail are personal and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the department.

From: **Section 40****Sent:** 13 June 2006 15:29**To:** **Section 40** Sqn Ldr ; **Section 40** SQN LDR**Subject:** UFO Reporting

The Guardian Newspaper had submitted a FOI request to DAS concerning UFOs. One of their questions is what military advice is given to aircrew regarding reporting UFOs.

A number of aircrew have rung the DAS UFO 'hotline' in the past to report sightings of little green men but I imagine there must be an official method of reporting real UFOs. Grateful for any advice ASAP!

Many thanks

Section 40

STC Pol Sec1

Section 40

I am currently without a DII account but can be contacted via this address



From: **Section 40**

Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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



Telephone

(Direct dial)
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

020 7218 2140
020 7218 9000

e-mail

das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Section 40

Scatwell
Muir of Ord

Section 40

Our Reference

25-05-2006-155807-004

Date

19th June 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request for papers relating to two radar incidents referred to in the recently released report "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region".

With regard to your request for papers relating to an incident in December 1989 when 5 NATO radars were within range of a UAP report, I can inform you that the data used for analysis in the report was destroyed shortly after the completion of the report and we therefore do not hold the original information used by the author. The Sec(AS) UFO report files for 1989 have been searched and these contain no relevant information. You may, however, wish to note that the air defence system referred to as "ACCS" is a European system not used in the UK. While it is possible for this system to communicate with UK air defence systems, it may not have been deemed necessary at the time and it is therefore possible that this information would not have been recorded in MOD records.

You also requested papers regarding an undated event when a triangular formation was tracked on radar. As mentioned above, the source material used by the author no longer exists. Without at least basic details of when and where this event occurred it is not possible to locate any related UFO sighting reports. I note you suggest that this might refer to the "Belgian F-16 flying triangle events of 1990" but we have no evidence of this and it would be misleading to speculate on which particular report the author was referring to. I am therefore unable to assist you with this request.

If you are unhappy with the response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

A black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, with the text "Section 40" written in orange above it.

Section 40

From:

Section 40

Sent:

16 June 2006 14:36

To:

Section 40

Wg Cdr

Subject:

FOI Request

Attachments: 20060616 U Response to Section 40 25-05-2006-155807-004.doc

Section 40

Please see attached my draft response to Section 40 in response to his FOI request about some remarks made in the recently released UAP report. I would be grateful if you can tell me whether I have interpreted your advice properly.

His request was;

For papers relating to an incident dated December 1989 involving 5 NATO radars, three of which radars reported contacts consistent with a UAP observed visually. I would like to request copies of any available original reports as well as available letters, memos and technical intelligence or science analysis documents related to them.

The relevant part of the UAP report says:

In December 1989, 5 NATO radars, part of ACCS, were within coverage range of a UAP report. Three radars had detections but two did not. Unfortunately, the radars have since been replaced and records of their parameters, in use at the time, are no longer available.

Thanks

Section 40

Section 40

(CT&U Ops - Airspace Integrity) confirmed this draft is fine - 19/6/06.

20/06/2006



From: **Section 40**

Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

Telephone

(Direct dial)

020 7218 2140

(Switchboard)

020 7218 9000

(Fax)

e-mail

das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Section 40

Scatwell

Muir of Ord

Section 40

Our Reference

25-05-2006-155807-004

Date

June 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request for papers relating to two radar incidents referred to in the recently released report "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region".

With regard to your request for papers relating to an incident in December 1989 when 5 NATO radars were within range of a UAP report, I can inform you that the data used for analysis in the report was destroyed shortly after the completion of the report and we therefore do not hold the original information used by the author. The Sec(AS) UFO report files for 1989 have been searched and these contain no relevant information. You may, however, wish to note that the air defence system referred to as "ACCS" is a European system not used in the UK. While it is possible for this system to communicate with UK air defence systems, it may not have been deemed necessary at the time and it is therefore possible that this information would not have been recorded in MOD records.

You also requested papers regarding an undated event when a triangular formation was tracked on radar. As mentioned above, the source material used by the author no longer exists. Without at least basic details of when and where this event occurred it is not possible to locate any related UFO sighting reports. I note you suggest that this might refer to the "Belgian F-16 flying triangle events of 1990" but we have no evidence of this and it would be misleading to speculate on which particular report the author was referring to. I am therefore unable to assist you with this request.

If you are unhappy with the response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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,

25-03-2006-155807-004
Expiry: 23 June 2006

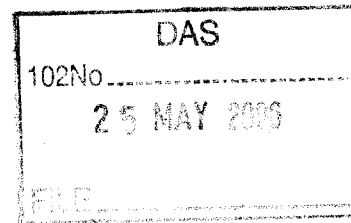
Section 40

Scatwell
Muir of Ord

Section 40



Scatwell, Monday 22 May 2006



Section 40

Directorate of Air Staff - FOI
Ministry of Defence
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

FOI Request – UAP Reports

Dear Section 40

I wish to make a request under FOI for papers relating to two radar incidents referred to in the recently released DI55 report Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region (Condign).

1. The first of these is an incident dated December 1989 involving 5 NATO radars, three of which radars reported contacts consistent with a UAP observed visually. I suggest that relevant papers might be found in the Sec(AS) file on UFO reports covering the year 1989. I would like to request copies of any available original reports as well as available letters, memos and technical intelligence or science analysis documents related to them.
2. The second report is undated but refers to unusual accelerations being measured from radar tracks made on a triangular visual "formation" of UAP lights. It seems possible this refers to the Belgian F-16/ "flying triangle" events of 1990 and thus would not be a UK incident; nevertheless it is referenced in a UK MoD Report and therefore I would like to request relevant UK papers that the author of that report may have drawn on for the purposes of his study.

Thankyou for any help you can provide in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 06 June 2006 12:39
To: Section 40
Subject: FOI Request

Section 40

Regarding the FOI request from Section 40 has confirmed that no information which was used in the compilation of the report is still held by him (see below). In addition, I have now checked through the UFO/UAP Policy files which I currently hold and have found nothing relevant to this request.

It is assumed therefore that the only relevant papers to this request maybe the ones which are held on the old Sec (AS) files ?

Please call if you wish to discuss further.

Regards,

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 31 May 2006 10:59
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: FOI Request

Section 40

I have nothing on this matter, any data used in the report was destroyed afterwards – you have a memo to that effect in the policy files.

Happy to discuss though.

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 26 May 2006 12:00
To: Section 40
Cc: Section 40
Subject: FW: FOI Request

Section 40

For your information, please see below and attached. Perhaps we can have a chat about this aswell when you're back in office ?

Thanks,

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 25 May 2006 16:03
To: Section 40
Subject: FOI Request

Section 40

Here is the FOI request we discussed about the UAP report. I have put it on the AIT and its number is shown above. The expiry date is 23 June. I am happy to discuss further if you wish.

07/06/2006

Regards

Section 40

Background checks

1. Refers to Volume 2 Page 5-4 Paragraph 21 of the UAP Report
2. Refers to Volume 2 Page 5-5 Paragraph 23 of the UAP Report

DAS UFO files checked for relevant information:

D/Sec (AS) 12/2 Pt G - UFO Reports 1989

D/Sec (AS) 12/2 Pt H - UFO Reports 1989

D/Sec (AS) 12/3 Pt F - UFO Correspondence 1989

D/Sec (AS) 12/3 Pt G - UFO Correspondence 1989 (5.12.89-10.7.90)

Nothing relevant found.

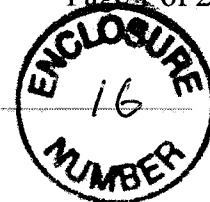
Discussion with Ctr UK Ops - Airspace Integrity. (Wing Cdr Section 40 RAF)

Section 40 confirmed that "ACCS" mentioned in the report refers to a NATO air defence system used over Europe. It is not used in the UK although it can communicate with ours if a possible threat is heading our way.

Section 40 has cleaned my draft response regarding this matter.

Section 40

19/6/2006.



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 19 June 2006 14:05

To: Section 40@yahoo.com'

Subject: Internet-authorised:Freedom of Information request 20-05-2006-095057

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for a copy of the recently released MOD report entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region".

In order to make the report available to as many individuals as possible the MOD has scanned this large document and placed it on the MOD website. If you have not yet had an opportunity to see the full report, you may wish to view it at <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>. The MOD makes no charge to view, download or print this information. As the document consists of some 465 pages it would not be an efficient use of public funds to produce and post paper copies to every individual who would like a personal copy and your request is therefore refused in accordance with Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as the information is already accessible to you by other means. Section 21 is an absolute exemption therefore the MOD is not required to apply a Public Interest Test.

If you are dissatisfied with our decision to refuse to comply with your request 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. (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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>

With regard to your comments about the contents of the report, I can advise you that the study was conducted purely to establish whether the UFO sighting reports received by the MOD were of any value to the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) and whether there was a requirement for the DIS to see them in the future. Given the conclusion it was decided that there was no such requirement and, since December 2000, UFO reports have not been forwarded to the DIS. We appreciate that there may be those who disagree with the report's findings, but the MOD is satisfied that its conclusions are sufficient for defence needs.

You also made a comment that the release of the report was to "make the entire phenomena go away from the public consciousness". I can advise you that the Ministry of Defence understands the public interest in information about UFOs and has embraced the spirit of open government. This report was originally released in response to a Freedom of Information request by a member of the public in the UK. All requests for information are answered as fully as possible and, despite the size and original classification of this report, staff have taken great care to ensure that the majority of this large report is made available.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H, Section 40
Main Building

19/06/2006

Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

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

19 June 2006

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

31 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 30-05-2006-095057-011**Days Left:** 20

Received: 30 May 06

Expiry Date: 27 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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: 30 May 2006

Applicant Details

Title: Section 40

Other:

First Name:

*Surname: Section 40

Organisation:

Applicant Type: Not Specified

Other:

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1: Section 40

Address Line2:

Address Line3: Georgia

Town/City:

Postcode: 30269

Country:

United States

Email: Section 40@yahoo.com

Telephone:

Fax:

Clear

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

31 May 06

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Guidance Help

Request: Section 40 30-05-2006-095057-011

Days Left: 20

Received: 30 May 06

Expiry Date: 27 Jun 06

Status: Open

Search 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

Close Case

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:

hardcopy

Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

I would like a copy of the study titled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region", which was conducted between 1996 and 2000 during a policy review into the handling of UFO sighting reports by the MOD.

Thank you, and might I also add that I think your report does not satisfy the majority of people who have seen UFOs and know what they saw was not a natural phenomena or an aircraft that a human could have made or flown. Your report does not account for the many daylight sightings of obvious metallic objects. Nor does it account for human

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

To be held with the helpdesk until allocated

Clear

Back

Next

Cancel

I would like a copy of the study titled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region", which was conducted between 1996 and 2000 during a policy review into the handling of UFO sighting reports by the MOD.

Thank you, and might I also add that I think your report does not satisfy the majority of people who have seen UFOs and know what they saw was not a natural phenomena or an aircraft that a human could have made or flown. Your report does not account for the many daylight sightings of obvious metallic objects. Nor does it account for human abductions.

Also might I add that I feel the Rendlesham Forest UFO event in December 1980 never received the proper investigation it deserved. I know you, along with the United States and other super powers, are keeping the truth about UFOs from us while at the same time you think by putting out these reports you will make the entire phenomena go away from the public conscienceness. That will not happen because too many people have caught on to the lies and manipulation.

I look forward to receiving a copy of the report though.

Best regards!

Section 40

Section 40

, Georgia 30269

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your email of 8 May regarding Ministry of Defence policy on UFOs.

We appreciate that there are those who disagree with the MOD's views and handling of the UFO sighting reports which we receive, however, we are satisfied that the procedures the MOD follows are sufficient for our defence needs. There is therefore no reason for the MOD to conduct the sort of research which you are suggesting.

From your comments I assume you have seen press coverage of the release of an MOD report entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region". The full report is now available on the MOD website and if you have not yet had an opportunity to see it, you may wish to view it at

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme> . As for the content of the report, I can advise you that the study was conducted purely to establish whether the UFO sighting reports received by the MOD were of any value to the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) and whether there was a requirement for the DIS to see them in the future. Given the conclusion it was decided that there was no such requirement and, since December 2000, UFO reports have not been forwarded to the DIS. We realise that some people may disagree with the report's findings, but the MOD is satisfied that its conclusions are sufficient for defence needs.

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

26 May 2006

NOTE

This message would not deliver to the e-mail address provided to by the applicant.

Section 40

then made a similar FOI request giving new e-mail address. There have been answered together.

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

DAS
102No.
10 MAY 2006
FILE _____



Low Flying / NO E-MAIL

TREAT OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

To DAS(LA) P P
cc.

TO Ref No 3514 /2006

Date 10/5/06

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

DH: 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_park/PartBrck/TOGuid.htm
If you do not have access to the Intranet, please inform the Ministerial Correspondence Unit.

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

* Delete as appropriate.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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

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

Section 40

From: Section 40 [redacted]@yahoo.com]
Sent: 08 May 2006 17:11
To: public@ministers.mod.uk
Subject: RE: Ask a Minister

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted], Georgia 30269

--- Ministers <Ministers@mod.uk> wrote:

- > Thank you for your email to public@ministers.mod.uk.
- > For a reply from
- > MOD, please re-send your message to
- > public@ministers.mod.uk, together
- > with your full postal address.
- >
- > Many thanks,
- >
- > MOD Ministerial Correspondence Unit
- > 5th Floor, Zone A
- > Main Building
- > Whitehall, London
- > SW1A 2HB
- > e: Ministers@mod.uk
- >
- >
- > -----Original Message-----
- > From: feedback@www.mod.uk
- > [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
- > Sent: 08 May 2006 00:26
- > To: webmaster@dgics.mod.uk
- > Subject: Ask a Minister
- >
- > Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
- > Monday, May 8, 2006 at 00:25:42
- >

> ---

- >
- > txtName: Section 40 [redacted]
- >
- > txtEmail: Section 40 [redacted]@yahoo.com
- >
- > txtCountry: United States
- >
- > txtComments: Why do you say all UFOs are merely natural phenomena when
- > you, along with the United States DOD, say you don't study the UFO
- > phenomena anymore? It is a fact the solid metallic objects have been
- > tracked on radar at speeds of up to 20,000 mph. NOT plasma balls like
- > you would like for us to think. Until the MOD or DOD take the UFO
- > phenomena seriously and devote funding for REAL HONEST research, no
- > one will take what YOU say about UFOs seriously. The reason is
- > because the general public have caught on to your lies and

>*disinformation when it comes to UFOs.

>

> Thank you.

>

>

> ---

>

>

>

>

>

>

**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 16 June 2006 14:44**To:** **Section 40** yahoo.co.uk'**Subject:** Internet-authorised:Request for Information 12-06-2006-111124-003Dear **Section 40**

I am writing in response to your request for a hard copy of the recently released report entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region". Your request has been sent to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs (also known as UAP) and we are the Department responsible, in conjunction with the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS), for the release of this report.

In order to make the report available to as many individuals as possible the MOD has scanned this large document and placed it on the MOD website. The MOD makes no charge to view, download or print this information. As the document consists of some 465 pages it would not be an efficient use of public funds to produce and post paper copies to every individual who would like a personal copy and your request is therefore refused in accordance with Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as the information is already accessible to you by other means.

I am sorry to send what will be a disappointing reply. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

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.uk16th June 2006

16/06/2006

AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40** [REDACTED] USAF/R

Case Number: 12-06-2006-111124-003 Expiry: 3 July 2006

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

A hard copy of the recently released MOD UAP report "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region".

The applicant is aware that he can download the document from the MOD website.

Case for withholding information

A great deal of work has gone into scanning and preparing this document for release on the MOD website. The MOD makes no charge for viewing or downloading. In order to comply with this request a colour copy of 465 pages would need to be produced and posted to the US.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

In accordance with Section 21 of the FOIA information is exempt if it is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. I consider that this is the case with this applicant and propose that this information is therefore refused.

Section 21 is an absolute exemption so there is no requirement to apply a Public Interest Test.

Authorisation

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

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

Section 40 [REDACTED]
Signature:
.....

Date: 16/6/06

DRAFT E-MAIL

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing in response to your request for a hard copy of the recently released report entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region". Your request has been sent to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs (also known as UAP) and we are the Department responsible, in conjunction with the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS), for the release of this report.

In order to make the report available to as many individuals as possible the MOD has scanned this large document and placed it on the MOD website. The MOD makes no charge to view, download or print this information. As the document consists of some 465 pages it would not be an efficient use of public funds to produce and post paper copies to every individual who would like a personal copy and your request is therefore refused in accordance with Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as the information is already accessible to you by other means.

I am sorry to send what will be a disappointing reply. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

12-00-2006-11124-003
Reply: 3 July 2006

Section 40

From: Section 40 on behalf of Info-SvcsLibrary-Office
Sent: 05 June 2006 14:21
To: DAS-FOI
Subject: UFO - Paper Copies

Official Action Required: Enquiry from Public

Official Action Required: Enquiry from Public

Section 40

The enquiry below has been received via the MOD website.

Could you please confirm that you will send a response on behalf of the Department. A copy of the responding email ('cc') will suffice, and enable us to keep a record of performance in this area.

Please note that the target response time of 15 working days, as per the Spending Review 2000 Service Delivery Agreement for MOD, is 22 June. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible, an interim reply should be sent in the same timescale.

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 FOI toolkit, and comply with the separate FOI guidance from DG Info (<http://defenceintranet.diiweb.r.mil.uk/DefenceIntranet/Admin/RespondToRequestsForInformation/UseTheFOIGuidance/>). 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 and refer to the guidance produced by DG Info.

Many Thanks

Section 40

Business Development Manager
Information Delivery Team
MoD Information Centre
Ground Floor, Zone D, Section 40
Main Building
London
SW1A 2HB
Tel: Section 40
Mil:
Email: Section 40 @mod.uk or Info-SvcsEnq7

From: Section 40 [mailto:Section 40@yahoo.com]
Sent: 01 June 2006 05:12
To: Info-SvcsLibrary-Office
Subject: RE: Research Enquiry

Hello, Library Staff:

Thank you for your fast, kind reply.

05/06/2006

I am aware there's a download feature on your site to download a copy of this particular study.

Once again, though, is there a chance I can get a "hard-copy" of this study posted to the below address..?

With Much Appreciation...

Section 40 [REDACTED], USAF/R

Section 40 [REDACTED] VA 23665

Info-SvcsLibrary-Office <*Info-SvcsLibrary-Office@mod.uk*> wrote:

Dear Section 40 [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email regarding the MOD report "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defense Region", which was received in the Ministry of Defence on 28 May 2006.

A copy of this report is available to download from the Ministry of Defence website at the following address:

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

Yours Sincerely,

Information Centre

Ministry of Defence

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

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

Sent: 28 May 2006 08:14

To: webmaster@dgics.mod.uk

Subject: Research Enquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, May 28, 2006 at 08:13:53

txtName: Section 40 [REDACTED]

txtEmail: Section 40 [REDACTED]@yahoo.com

txtCountry: USA

txtComments: Dear Staff:

How might I procure a hard-copy of your just-released:

"Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defense Region".

Thank You.

Section 40 [REDACTED], USAF/R

Section 40 [REDACTED] VA 23665

Memo: Section 40 [REDACTED] / www.dia.mil/college/index.htm

Yahoo! Messenger with Voice. PC-to-Phone calls for ridiculously low rates.

05/06/2006

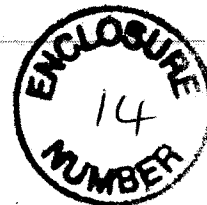
Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 08 June 2006 14:20

To: Section 40

Subject: Internet-authorised:Freedom of Information Request 01-06-2006-172728-009



Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for information relating to an alleged UFO incident in the Berwyn Mountains. Your request has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding 'UFOs'.

I can inform you that since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject the MOD's "UFO" report files have been preserved and are transferred to The National Archives (previously known as the Public Record Office) approximately 25 years after the date of the last enclosure. All surviving files up to 1977 are now at The National Archives and the original documents are available for public inspection. No copies, either paper or electronic, are retained by the MOD. I am sorry that I am therefore unable to assist with your request.

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

8 June 2006

08/06/2006

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

02 June 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)

Request: Section 40 01-06-2006-172728-009

Days Left: 19

Received: 31 May 06

Expiry Date: 28 Jun 06

Status: Open

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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: 31 May 2006

Applicant Details

Title: Section 40

Other:

First Name:

*Surname: Section 40

Organisation:

Applicant Type: Other

Other:

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1: Section 40

Address Line2: Harpenden

Address Line3:

Town/City: Herts

Postcode: Section 40

Country: United Kingdom

Email: @btconnect.com

Telephone:

Fax:

Clear

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

02 June 06

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

Request: Section 40 01-06-2006-172728-009
Days Left: 19

Received: 31 May 06
 Expiry Date: 28 Jun 06
 Status: Open

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
- Close Case
- 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: Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

Berwyn Mountain Incident"

Dear Sirs,

I am investigating above UFO incident and am searching for any related MoD files.

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

To be held by Helpdesk until allocated.

Berwyn Mountain Incident"

Dear Sirs,

I am investigating above UFO incident and am searching for any related MoD files.

From my research at the PRO I note that 2 files have been declassified on the sighting - namely AIR 2/18873 and AIR 2/18874. If you could provide me with electronic copies I would be grateful.

Please can you also confirm if there any other files available or indeed if there are any files which remain classified.

Kind regards,

Section 40



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



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



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

Section 40

Nr Rugeley
Staffordshire

Section 40

Our Reference
25-05-2006-154237-003

Date
7 June 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing in response to your letter dated 17th May in which you made a request for information relating to UFO sightings on 10th December 1963 and 5th October 1996. Your request has been treated as a request made in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

With regard to the sighting on 10th December 1963 I can advise you that the Ministry of Defence no longer holds UFO records for this period. It was generally the case that before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. Since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Any files from the 1950s and early 1960s which did survive are available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU. Details of how to access records at The National Archives, including an on line catalogue can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. I have briefly examined the catalogue and suggest that the following records may contain information relevant to your request. AIR 2/17318 –UFO Reports 1963 and AIR 2/16918- Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs): sightings: reports by members of the Public.

As for your second request concerning various UFO reports on 5th October 1996, please find attached copies of relevant documents. Personal data has been removed in accordance with Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act. These copies include reports from RAF High Wycombe and RAF Neatishead and the original analysis of the reports conducted by MOD air defence experts. I apologise for the quality of the Facsimile from RAF Neatishead. We have checked with RAF Neatishead as to whether they have a clearer copy on file, but unfortunately they no longer have any details of these events. In November 1996, following incorrect press coverage, an MP wrote to the Secretary of State for Defence seriously criticising the UK Air Defence system. It was decided that it was necessary to establish in detail the facts surrounding this incident and air defence staff made a thorough examination of the information. A copy of a loose minute dated 13 November 1996 detailing the findings of these enquiries is also attached. I hope you will find this useful.

In your letter you also mentioned press reports about a recently released Defence Intelligence report concerning a study on UFOs. The study and subsequent report entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region" was conducted purely to establish whether the UFO sighting reports received by the MOD were of any value to the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) and whether there was a requirement for the DIS to see them in the future. Given the conclusion

it was decided that there was no such requirement and, since December 2000, UFO reports have not been forwarded to the DIS. We appreciate that there may be those who disagree with the report's findings, but the MOD is satisfied that its conclusions are sufficient for defence needs. This large report (some 465 pages) has been placed on the MOD website and if you have not yet had an opportunity to see the full report, you may wish to view it at <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

I hope you will find this information useful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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



25-05-2006-154237-CC3
Expiry 21 June 2006

Section 40

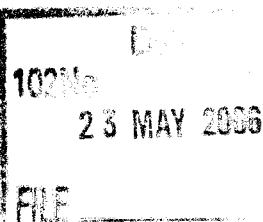
Directorate Of Air Staff – Freedom Of Information
Ministry Of Defence
5th Floor
Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Nr Rugeley
STAFFORDSHIRE

Section 40

Date: Wednesday 17th May 2006

My Ref: Section 40/MOD/1/06



Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Information Regarding Unidentified Flying Objects

I am writing to you today in the hope that you once again may be able to help me with the provision of information concerning Unidentified Flying Objects to assist in the course of my research into the subject.

I am looking for information on two specific cases, which I shall detail separately, below.

- 1) The first case involved a sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object at The Royal Air Force (RAF) station at Cosford near Wolverhampton in the West Midlands.

The event occurred on December 10th 1963 at 11.30 in the evening when it was reported that a UFO landed at the base and lit the surrounding area in a green light. The event which occurred that night was also witnessed by two apprentices on the base.

This UFO activity was also witnessed by civilians living in close proximity to RAF Cosford.

One family also saw a green light in the sky in the direction of Cosford during the time frame of this incident.

I understand that there was a quite substantial file of material relating to this case held by the then Air Ministry, some sixty pages or so in total.

If possible, I would like to get hold of a copy of that material or any information which is held on this case.

- 2) The second case which I am looking for information relating to happened around about ten years ago, again involving the RAF, this time in East Anglia.

The incident in question occurred in the early hours of 5th October 1996 and involved personnel of both RAF Neatishead and RAF Kinloss, the police at Skegness, Yarmouth Coastguard and a North Sea Tanker (Conocoast).

Strange red and green rotating lights were seen stationary in the sky at around three o'clock in the morning. There were no aircraft, civil or military operating in the area,

and those witnessing the events could hear no engine noises. It was also reported that at least one civilian flight reported the strange lights also. Whatever was seen in the sky remained there for many hours and was seen by credible and experienced observers such as police officers, North Sea maritime crews and highly trained RAF radar operators.

There was obviously something unusual in the East Anglian skies on that particular morning enough to warrant a senior official at RAF Neatishead to say that the matter would be investigated thoroughly. So something significant clearly occurred.

The official explanation of these events however – the radar image was the Boston Stump Church tower and the strange lights an electrical storm. Somehow I am not convinced by this explanation. Surely highly skilled radar operators who are used to recognising clutter on their screens which can sometimes be caused by tall objects would have spotted this?

Again, information held or comment on this particular case would be much appreciated.

In the past couple of weeks there have been stories in the press relating to a recent report conducted by Defence Intelligence looking at UFO reports from the past 30 years which concluded that UFOs are atmospheric conditions, clouds and the weather! In light of the last case I outlined which was played down as being caused by the weather but in my opinion was clearly something far more than that makes me wonder whether those in the know are trying to cover something up or whether they are just as clueless as the rest of us!

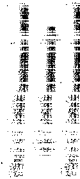
Your assistance or comment regarding my requests above would be much appreciated and I very much look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

YOURS FAITHFULLY

Section 40

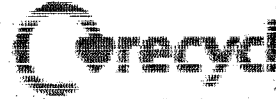
Section 40

Investigator Of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

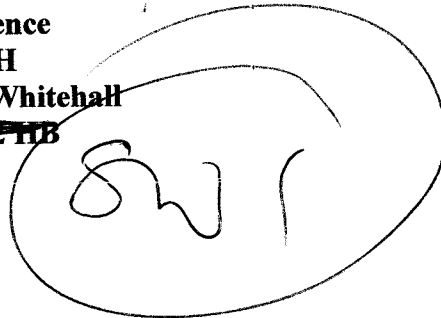


Royal Mail

Norfolk West



Directorate Of Air Staff
Freedom Of Information
Ministry Of Defence
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building, Whitehall
London WC1A 7HB



↑ FEED
DIRECTION



UNCLASSIFIED

CWV079 05/1804 279C0988

FOR CAB

ROUTINE/ROUTINE 051630Z OCT 96

FROM UKCADC HIGH WYCOMBE
TO MODUK AIR
INFO HQ 11/18 GP BENTLEY PRIORY
CRC NEATISHEAD

UNCLASSIFIED
SIC Z6F

MSGID/AERIAL PHENOMENA//

A/DTG/050214Z//

B/DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT/A STRANGE RED AND GREEN ROTATING LIGHT OR
POSSIBLY PAIR OF OBJECTS FLASHING RED, GREEN, BLUE AND WHITE OVER
BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE. VERY BRIGHT. NO NOISE. NO HEIGHT BUT ASSESSED
BY VISUAL SIGHTINGS AS APPROX 1 MILE HIGH TO VERY HIGH/RADAR CONTACT
REPORTED BY LONDON RADAR AND CRC NEATISHEAD ON CLAXBY NATS RADAR HEAD
BUT INITIAL PLOT HAD BEEN SUSPECTED AS CLUTTER//
C/EXACT POSITION OF OBSERVER/SEVERAL OBSERVATIONS RANGING FROM BOSTON
POLICE, CREW OF MV CONOCAUST AND POSSIBLE SIGHTING FROM CREW OF AC
UNDER LONDON RADAR CONTROL. FURTHER CONTACTS FROM MEMBERS OF PUBLIC//
D/HOW OBSERVED/VISUAL BY BINOCULARS(MV CONOCAUST). VIDEO(BOSTON

PAGE 2 RXDBHW 0986 UNCLAS

POLICE)AND NAKED EYE BY OTHERS//

E/DIRECTION OF OBJECT AT 1ST SIGHTING/OVER BOSTON//

F/ANGLE OF SIGHT/40-45 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON(BOSTON POLICE)//

G/DISTANCE NIL//

H/MOVEMENTS/OBJECTS APPEARED TO MOVE NE/SW OVER A RANGE OF ABOUT
NNM//

I/MET CONDITIONS OBSERVED DURING OBSERVATIONS/GOOD WITH GOOD VMC
REPORTED BY AC/HOWEVER. A NUMBER OF THUNDERSTORMS ACTIVE IN EAST
ENGLIA REGION//

J/NEARBY OBJECTS/CONTROLLER AT ANGLIA RADAR REPORTED THAT A
RESPONSE COULD BE CAUSED BY QUOTE BOSTON STUMPFORD TEHAH CHURCH
TEEPLE WHICH DOES OCCASIONALLY APPEAR ON RADAR//

K/TO WHOM REPORTED/MV CONOCAUST TO GT YARMOUTH COASTGUARD, LATTER TO
CC KINLOSS. THEN ONTO CRC NEATISHEAD. PUBLIC ALSO TO POLICE AT
KEGNESS//

L/NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMER/AS ABOVE//

M/BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT THAI MAY BE VOLUNTEERED/NIL//

N/DATE AND TIME OF RECEIPT/050214Z OCT 96//

O/ANY UNUSUAL MET CONDITIONS/THUNDERSTORMS EAST ANGLIA//

P/REMARKS/FAX OF TRANSCRIPT FROM YARMOUTH COASTGUARD WILL BE FAXED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 2 U N C L A S S I F I E D

27900988

FEED

DIRECTION

PAGE 3 RXDBHW 0986 UNCLAS
TO MOD SEC(AS)2A(POC IAW STCOC: [REDACTED] DUTY OFFICER AT RAF
NEATISHEAD ORDERED TO REFER ANY PRESS ENQUIRIES TO MOD(AIR)PRESS
OFFICE. STCDO TELCON TO MOD DUTY OFFICER TO INFORM OF SITUATION. ST
DUTY AIR DEFENCE COMMANDER INFORMED THIS MORNING//
POC CIVIL [REDACTED] RAETN [REDACTED] (STCDO EXT [REDACTED] OR GESM EXT
[REDACTED] /

BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F

F

CAB	1	SEC(AS) ACTION (CXV	1	AFDO)
CXL	1	DD GE/AEW		
CAI	1	DI 55		

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Classification
Caveat
Covering

UNCLASS

F Sigs 927

Facsimile Transmission Cover Sheet
USE GOVERNMENT TELEPHONE LINES WHEN AVAILABLE

Transmission Details		Document Details
Serial Number:	DTG:	Reference:
From: FM Lt [REDACTED] SDO 5 Oct 96 RAF Nectishead Norwich, Norfolk NR12 8YB	Fax Number: [REDACTED] Telephone Number: [REDACTED]	Subject: UPO Sighting 5 Oct 96
To: GBSM	Fax Number: [REDACTED] Telephone Number: [REDACTED]	Total Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 5

Authorizing Officer		Transmit Operator
Rank, Name and Appointment: FM Lt [REDACTED] SDO, RAF Nectishead	Rank/Grade and Name:	
Signature: [REDACTED]	Date: 5 Oct 96	Signature:

Message/Remarks:

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT - 5 OCT 96

- Date, time and location. Notified to Nectishead at 0502110Z by RCC Kinloss following report from coastguard. Object still visible on radar at 0510115, time of writing report.
- Description of object. First reports indicated a 'strange red and green rotating light, or a possible pair of objects described as flashing red, green, blue and white lights. Stationary over Boston, Lincolnshire, no exact height but reports range from 'about a mile high' to 'very high'. Objects seen on radar showed possible pair of plots, moving in a NE/SW direction over a distance of up to 8nm and stationary for short periods. No height information available as no contact on ADGE Radar only on NATS Claxby. No sound was associated with the sightings.
- Exact position of observer. Several observers reported sighting including Nectishead, Anglia Radar, Waddington Approach, London Radar all report plots over Boston Lincolnshire. Surface sightings reported from Boston Police who report bright light, SE of Boston 40-45 degrees up in the sky. Surface sighting from ship MV CONOCOAST, from position 5312N00034E, reported 2 contacts with flashing blue, red, white and green lights over Boston. Possible airborne sighting from aircraft working London Radar at 050357Z who reported 'indistinct flashing lights'. Numerous other sightings phoned in to the police from members of the public.
- How observed. See above. The visual contact by MV CONOCOAST was using binoculars. Stagness police have video footage taken either by them or the Boston PC. A copy is being sent to Nectishead.

Covering
Caveat
Classification

UNCLASS

Classification
Caveat
Covering

UNCLASS

F 8igs 927

5. Direction in which object first seen. MV CONOCOAST reported object 'just appeared' overhead Boston.
6. Angle of sight. Reported as 40 - 45 degrees above the horizon, by Boston PC.
7. Distance. No distance given only reported as 'just SE of Boston'.
8. Movements. Objects appeared to move NE/SW over a range of about 8nm. First report indicated that the contact was a 'strange red and green rotating light'.
9. Met conditions during period. Conditions reported to be good with airborne reports indicating good VMC. However, a number of thunderstorms were active in the East Anglia region.
10. Nearby Objects. All reports indicated objects were high so no nearby objects available for comparison. The controller at Anglia Radar suspects that the radar response could be caused by the 'Boston Stump', a church steeple which does occasionally show up on radar.
11. To whom reported. The MV CONOCOAST reported the sighting to the Gt Yarmouth Coastguard who passed it on to RCC at Kinloss. Public also reported to Coastguard and to police at Skegness. Nestishead informed by RCC Kinloss and has been sent a fax, on request, from the Coastguard.
12. Names of informants. As above.
13. Background. Unknown.
14. Other witnesses. As above.
15. Date and time of receipt. 050210Z Oct 96.
16. Unusual met conditions. Thunder storms.
17. Remarks. FAX received from Yarmouth Coastguard included in transmission for information. Press have made contact and been referred to MOD Air Press Office and RAF Nestishead PRO. Phone calls subsequently received from DC Gregory, Norwich Airport Police, asking for any INFO. Coastguard also interested in whether we are responding to object. Object is still visible and still showing on Clady Radar although at 051105z an ac under control of Waddington Approach flew through area at 2000 feet and reported no contacts.

Covering
Caveat
Classification

UNCLASS

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

DTG: 050600 For LRC Full Incident Report (Live) Page 1
 Incident reference 0244 received at 02:14 UTC on 05/10/96

Incident received from UFO SIGHTING 0175 at BEARING 345 T AND
 160 T FROM SOUTH INNER DONSING.
 In circumstances: FROM SKEGNESS POLICE AND NY CONOCAST/0888.

Incident SummaryIncident Narrative

Time Author Message

050214 LRC SKEGNESS POLICE MR. [REDACTED]
 WE CAN SEE A STRANGE RED AND GREEN ROTATING LIGHT IN THE
 SKY DIRECTLY SOUTHEAST FROM SKEGNESS. LOOKS TO BE HIGH IN THE
 SKY DIRECTLY OVER THE WASH. MANY PEOPLE HERE ARE OBSERVING IT
 LOOKS STRANGE AS ITS STATIONARY. NO A/C SOUNDED IN THE AREA.//
 OR WILL RUN SOME CHECKS AND CALL YOU BACK WITH RESULT.
 050220 LRC TO ARCC SITHP PASSED REQ CHECK WITH RAF HEATHROW RADAR //
 HEATHROW REPORT NEGATIVE A/C ACTIVITY IN THE WASH AREA AND NO
 RADAR CONTACTS MADE BY HEATHROW.
 050225 LRC TO ARCC PER CHECK WITH D & D NORTHWOOD // OK
 050226 LRC FM ARCC - D & D HAVE A RADAR CONTACT BEARING 221 DEGREES FM
 SKEGNESS AT 16 MILES. LOOK TO BE STATIONARY AND NO WAY OF
 DETERMINING ITS HEIGHT BUT IT MUST BE QUITE A SIZE TO BE VISIBLE
 FROM HT. // OK REQ YOU INFORM HEATHROW AND TRY TO ASCERTAIN
 WHY THEIR RADAR ISN'T PICKING IT UP AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN HEIGHT
 FROM THEM // OK WILL COME BACK.
 050230 LRC FM ARCC - HEATHROW NOW REPORT THAT FURTHER INVESTIGATION
 CONFIRMS A COUPLE OF RADAR CONTACTS IN THAT AREA BUT NO HEIGHT
 THEY SEEM TO BE STATIONARY. DEFINITELY NO MILITARY A/C IN THE
 AREA AND NO NOTIFIED CIVIL FLIGHTS SHOULD BE THERE. WE ARE
 INVESTIGATING FURTHER AND WILL ADVISE YOU OF RESULT // OK IN THE
 MEANTIME I WILL PUT A D/C OUT TO SHIPPING IN THE AREA AND REQ
 REPORTS.
 050235 RN ANY VELS IN THE WASH AREA BE YTH CG OR 16 DO U RI // BE JOP2 //
 STW -E- CU GSY CH 67
 050236 ANY VEL WASH AREA
 050240 LRC TO JOPK/ NAUTIC V. ANY A/C LIGHTS VISUAL FROM YOUR DTH // HSC I
 AM BY THE B RACE BUOY AND NO SIGHTINGS.
 050245 RN FM CONOCAST C/S GSY TO YTH CG // BE YTH CG GSY CH67
 050246 LRC TO CONOCAST/HEATHROW SITHP PASSED ANY SIGHTINGS // YES WE ARE BY
 THE SCOTT HATCH AND HAVE THESE LIGHTS VISUAL NOW THEY ARE
 FLASHING RED GREEN AND WHITE CANNOT ID IT AS AN AIRCRAFT AS IT
 LOOKS STATIONARY AND APPROX ONE MILE HIGH // DID YOU SEE FROM
 WHICH DIRECTION IT APPEARED // NO IT JUST APPEARED AND IS
 STATIONARY // OK PER KEEP UNDER OBS AND ADVISE ME OF ANY
 DIRECTIONAL MOVEMENT. CALL ME ON CH 16 // OK
 050250 LRC FM ARCC - HEATHROW SAY IT COULD BE CAUSED BY THE WEATHER //
 050253 DOUBT THINK SO AS WE HAVE VISUAL CONTACT // WELL HEATHROW AND
 NORTHWOOD REPORT THAT THERE IS NO TRANSPONDER ON THIS OBJECT AND

(Live)

Page 2

THEREFOR NO MEANS OF INTERROGATION ITS IS OBVIOUS THAT WHATEVER IT IS, IT DOES NOT WANT ANYONE TO KNOW ITS THERE. ALSO NEAPISHEAD REPORT ITS OTH AS DIRECTLY OVER BOSTON. // OK I WILL ASK BOSTON POLICE IF THEY HAVE IT VISUAL - WILL UPDATE YOU.

050307 LRC TO CONOCAST STILL VISUAL ? // YES STILL STATIONARY AND NOW FLASHING RED GREEN BLUE AND WHITE. LOOKS VERY HIGH. NO ENGINE NOISE. // OK REQ OTH UPDATE // 2 MILES SE OF SCOTT PATCH BUOY //

050311 LRC WHAT IS RELATIVE BEARING OF OBJECT // NORTH OF US.

050317 LRC TO SKEGNESS POLICE Section 40 REQ UPDATE // STILL VISUAL AND STATIONARY BUT NO NOISE // DO YOU HAVE VIDEO FOOTAGE OF IT // NO BUT CAN ARRANGE TO GET SOME // I THINK IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA AS THE RAF ARE VERY INTERESTED AND MAY REQUIRE IT LATER // OK WILL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO.

050324 RN FM RCC KINLOSS - HAVE SPOKE TO NEAPISHEAD DUTY CONTROLLER, THEY ARE KEEPING A LOG OF WHAT LOOKS LIKE CLUTTER ON THE RADAR, AND WE THEY HAVE PASSED IT UP THE CHAIN OF COMMAND AND THEY WOULD LIKE THE VIDEO FOOTAGE OF IT.

050330 LRC TO CUSTOMS DRUGS CONTROL Section 40 FELL SITREP PASSED DO YOU HAVE ANY MEANS OF PUTTING AN A/C UP TO INVESTIGATE THIS // NOT SURE BUT WILL CHECK AND COME BACK TO YOU THANKS FOR THE CALL AS IT SOUNDS VERY SUSPICIOUS AND COULD BE A DRUG TRANSPORTED SHIPMENT OF DRUGS COMING IN AS IT HAS HAPPENED BEFORE.

050334 RN TO BOSTON POLICE FM YTH CG // Section 40 THE RAF AT NEAPISHEAD ARE VERY INTERESTED IN THIS AND WE WONDERED IF IT IS POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO BE ABLE TO GET SOME VIDEO FOOTAGE OF THIS // THAT IS NOT WE DO NOT HAVE THAT FACILITY.

050336 LRC FM CUSTOMS IPWITCH Section 40 - NO CHANCE OF OUR A/C INVESTIGATING AS ITS DOWN IN THE SW OF ENGLAND.

050341 RN FM YTH CG TO CONOCAST - STILL 2 LIGHT STILL OF SOUTH DOCKING ONE OF PORT QUARTER FLASHING GREEN AND RED // DOES THE ONE ON THE STAR SIDE LOOK THIS BOSTON // STAR 1 // MORE TOWARD THE INNER DOCKING ONE OF PORT QUARTER COULD BE OFF HELLS AREA // IS IT STILL HIGH IN THE SKY // AFFIRM IT STILL QUITE A DISTANCE // WHAT IS YOUR POSN AT THIS MOMENT // AT THE SOUTH INNER DOCKING // FOR STAR // CAN U SEE TWO LIGHT // AFFIRM THE ONE ON THE PORT QUARTER IS THE BRIGHTEST //

050352 LRC TO CONOCAST - REQ YOUR EXACT OTH AND A BEARING ON BOTH THESE OBJECTS // OK I AM AT THE SOUTH INNER DOCKING IN 53-15N 009-34E ONE STATIONARY LIGHT AT 345 DEG TRUE AND THE OTHER 160 TRUE THE LIGHTS ARE VISUAL WITH NAKED EYE AND BOTH SHEDDIT THE SAME CHARACTERISTICS FLASHING RED BLUE GREEN AND WHITE. // OK WILL YOU BE IN THAT AREA FOR VERY LONG // YES I AM A TANKER SITE HUNTERS FOR THE DRIPPING BOATS OFF INDOLEWELLS // OK FOR ADVISE ME OF ANY MOVEMENT IN THESE OBJECTS // OK

050409 LRC TO ARCCX - SITREP AS ABOVE // FOR FOR KEEP US INFORMED OF ANY MOVEMENT AND ALSO WHAT CUSTOMS SAY.

050411 RN TO BOSTON POLICE - CAN YOU SEE THIS OBJECT STILL? / YES IS NOW TOWARDS THE SOUTHEAST SEEMS LIKE ABOUT 40-45 DEGREES UP IN THE SKY, JUST A BRIGHT LIGHT TO ME.

050417

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

(Live) Page 3

050121- LRC FM ARCC - NEATISHEAD ARE RUNNING A TRACE ON THIS AND CANNOT EXPLAIN IT. IF THEY ARE HELICOPTERS THEY ARE FAST APPROACHING THE END OF THEIR ENDURANCE AS ITS WELL OVER TWO HOURS SINCE THE FIRST REPORT LET ALONE HOW LONG THEY WERE UP BEFORE THEY WERE ACTUALLY SIGHTED, BUT WE HAVE TO BE TASKED BEFORE WE CAN PUT AN A/C UP TO INVESTIGATE AND AS THEY DO NOT PRESENT A THREAT THE REQ TO INVESTIGATE MUST COME FROM A CIVIL SOURCE IE POLICE OR CUSTOMS, CAN YOU SEE WHAT CUSTOMS THINK // OK WILL DO.

050127 LRC TO CUSTOMS IPSWICH (REDACTED) SORRY NO CUSTOMS REQUEST TO INVESTIGATE THESE LIGHTS. I THINK ITS A POLICE MATTER. // OK I WILL ADVISE ARCC/

050133 LRC TO SK POLICE (REDACTED) RED UPDATE // YES LIGHTS STILL VISUAL QUITE BRIGHT AND FLASHING BEARING SEE FROM ME AND BETWEEN 30 AND 60 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON. // OK DID YOU MANAGE TO OBTAIN ANY VIDEO FOOTAGE // YES I HAVE IT HERE ON TAPE // OK I WILL INFORM THE RAF AS THEY ARE INTERESTED

050140 LRC TO ARCC - CONFIRM VIDEO FOOTAGE AVAILABLE FROM SKEGNESS POLICE IF REQD // OK TKS WILL PASS IT ON TO NEATISHEAD WHO ARE STILL TRACKING THESE OBJECTS.

050145 LRC FM BOSTON POLICE (REDACTED) STILL HAVE THIS LIGHT VISUAL TO THE SOUTH EAST APPROX 60 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON NO HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT VERY BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT, BUT IT MUST BE VERY LARGE FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO SEE IT AS ITS VERY FAR AWAY // DO YOU HAVE ANY BINOCULARS // YES AND NO VIDEO CAMERA SORRY.

050147 LRC TO ARCC - ANY INDICATION OF HEIGHT FROM RAF NEATISHEAD // YES THEY ONLY HAVE PRIMARY RADAR AS DO B & D AND AS OBJECTS DONT HAVE TRANSPONDERS THERE IS NO WAY TO INTERROGATE THEM.

050151 JAB CONVOCAST

050153 CALLING // NO REPLY // CALLED AGAIN AND HE

050154 LRC ***** Narrative chronological to this point *****

050155 LRC TO CONVOCAST/GENE CN 87 - DO YOU STILL HAVE THE TWO LIGHTS VISUAL // YES STILL VISUAL AND ON ORIGINAL BEARINGS BUT THEY SEEM HIGHER AND DIMMER BUT AS THE DAWN IS BREAKING WE WILL LOSE VISUAL CONTACT SOON THEY ARE STILL FLASHING THE SAME COLOURS - THIS SEEN THROUGH BINOCULARS.

050156 LRC TO ARCC SITREP // OK VMT.

ANNEX 1

Initial call details collected by LRC between 02:14 and 02:20 on 05/10/96
From SKEGNESS POLICE HQ. (REDACTED)

Notes

WE CAN SEE A STRANGE RED AND GREEN ROTATING LIGHT IN THE SKY DIRECTLY SOUTHEAST FROM SKEGNESS. LOOKS TO BE HIGH IN THE SKY DIRECTLY OVER THE WASH. MANY PEOPLE HERE ARE OBSERVING IT LOOKS STRANGE AS ITS STATIONARY. NO A/C SOUND IN THE AREA.// OK WILL RUN SOME CHECKS AND CALL YOU BACK WITH RESULT.

ANNEX 2

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAO/1/13

7 Oct 96

Sec(AS)2a1

Copied to
DISSC
A64/2 71
ENCLOSURE
NUMBER

UNUSUAL AIR PHENOMENON - 5 Oct 96

1. After efforts to analyse the various sightings of unusual lights which occurred in the early hours of 5 Oct 96, I believe that three separate phenomena can be identified; each is briefly described below with a possible or probable explanation.

LIGHTS IN THE WASH AREA

2. Stationary and generally red/green/white flashing lights to the south east at about 40-45 degrees above the horizon; no reliable height or range could be determined. The lights were observed by Skegness and Boston Police between 0214Z and approximately 0600Z (daybreak); similar lights were observed from the MV Conocoast (approx 8 miles ESE of Skegness from 0345Z until daybreak. The lights observed from Skegness were captured on video which is being sent to RAF Neatishead, however, the result is believed to be of poor quality.

3. The fact that these lights were observed from three separate locations high above the horizon and in the same general direction, without corroborating radar data, suggests a distant celestial source. Venus rising may be a possible explanation since the planet can appear bright, coloured and to flash in certain conditions.

LIGHTS TO THE NORTH OF MV CONOCOAST

4. Stationary red, blue, green and white flashing lights to the north and 'very high', 40-45 degrees above the horizon. Lights observed from the MV Conocoast between 0246Z and approximately 0600Z (daybreak).

5. These lights were observed from a single location out at sea in the opposite direction to those at para 2. They would appear to have originated from an area over the North Sea but again at an angle well above the horizon. These lights were not the object of any attention on 5 Oct, or subsequently, but remain unexplained.

PERMANENT RADAR ECHOS

6. Generally stationary radar returns, without height or IFF/SSR, observed on the NATS Claxby radar at 0210Z until 1105Z over Boston and later on the RAF Waddington ATC radar.

7. These returns were almost certainly from a permanent geographical feature (St Botolph's church spire in Boston, 273ft) which were initially observed while attempting to associated an air track with the lights; in fact, no aircraft movement was

ultimately associated with lights in the Wash or E Anglian area. This church spire is known in aviation circles as the 'Boston Stump' and appears occasionally on some radars in certain radar propagation conditions.

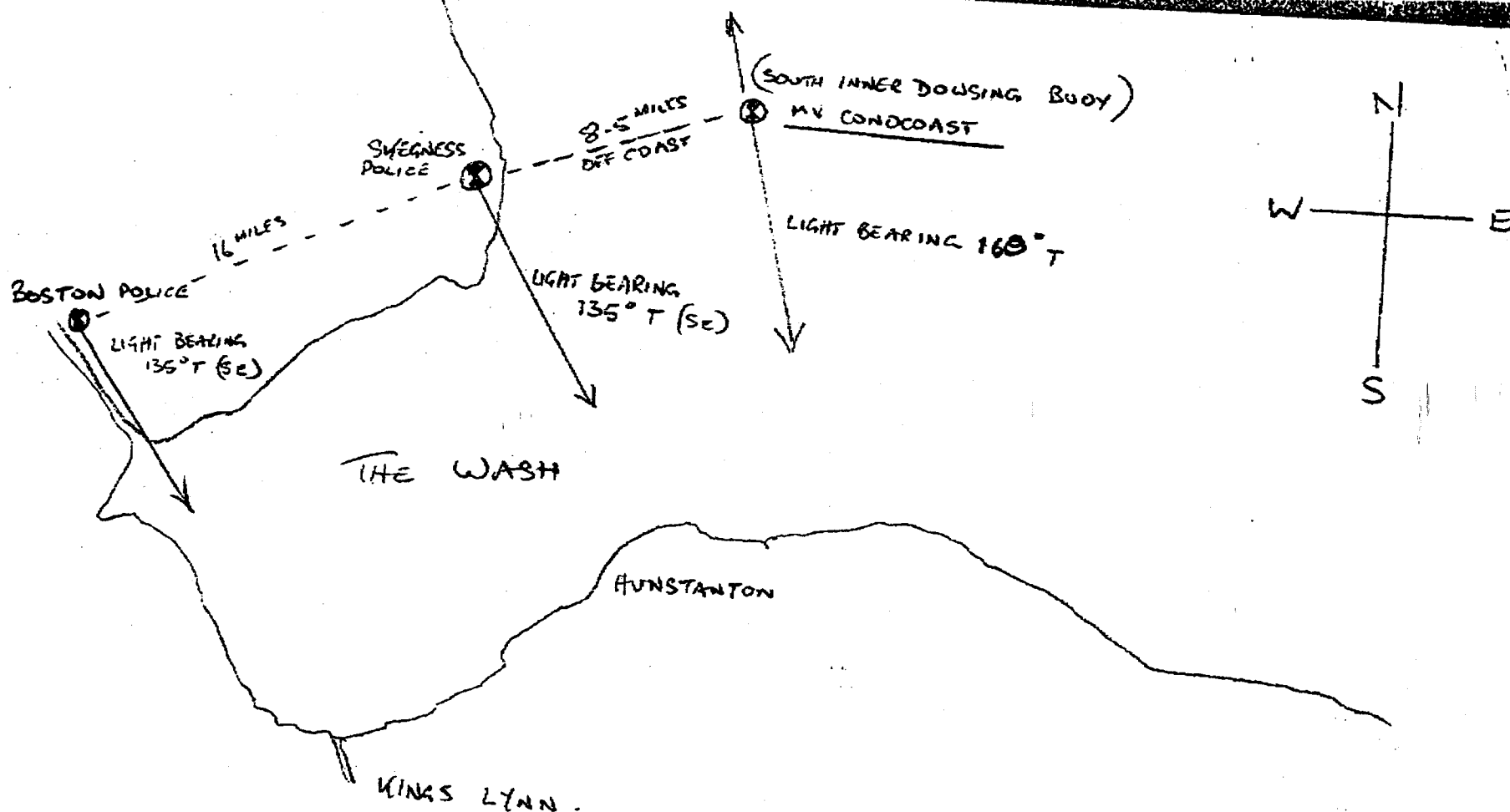
8. Conclusion. The prolonged sighting of stationary coloured flashing lights reported by the Skegness police on 5 Oct 96 had no significance for the integrity of UK Airspace and no associated air vehicle was detected by civil or military radars.

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr

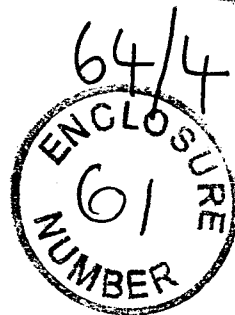
[REDACTED]
MB4227

Section 40

Fax sent by



SIRIUS = THE DOG STAR (COLOURED)
 VENUS : WHITE (NO COLOUR).



LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAO/1/13

13 Nov 96

Sec(AS)2a1

Copy to: AOAD1

LETTER TO SOFS FROM MR [REDACTED] CONCERNING ALLEGED UNIDENTIFIED FLYING CRAFT SIGHTINGS' ON 5 OCT

Reference: Mr [REDACTED] letter to SofS dated 24 Oct 96.

1. At Reference, Mr [REDACTED] raises several points concerning visual and radar observations which occurred during the early hours of Saturday 5 Oct 96 and which are referred to, incorrectly, as 'a visual unidentified flying craft sighting which was correlated by various different military radar systems'. The substance of Mr [REDACTED]'s letter is based on various reports which appeared in the local press, some incorrect, ill-informed or speculative, which I understand were provided to him by [REDACTED] of the Staffordshire UFO Group. In addition, the letter includes serious criticism of the Service, and of the UK Air Defence system in particular; for this reason, exceptionally, the facts surrounding the incident have been established in considerable detail and set out below, together with resumes of observations, actions and explanations. A map showing the location of key agencies, equipment and observations is at Annex A.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

2. Initial Observations. At approximately 0205Z on 5 Oct 96 a Skegness police officer on mobile patrol at nearby Addlethorpe observed stationary multicoloured lights to the east and low in the sky which he reported to the control room in Skegness. As a precaution, the control room relayed the sighting to Great Yarmouth Coastguard Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC), suspecting it could be related to an incident at sea. The MRCC, unaware of any maritime activity, asked the Air Rescue Coordination Centre (ARCC) at RAF Kinloss whether they were aware of any air activity or incident in the Wash area. The ARCC had no knowledge of any such air activity and, in turn, asked the Control and Reporting Centre (CRC) at RAF Neatishead if any aircraft activity was present on the radar in that area; Neatishead had no unidentified radar contact on the air defence radars being used to provide air surveillance in the area and ARCC subsequently asked the Distress and Diversion (D&D), located at the London Air Traffic Control Centre (LATCC) West Drayton (not at RAF Northwood as the Coastguard erroneously assumed and the press subsequently reported). The D&D Cell reported a radar plot on the National Air Traffic Services Claxby radar over Boston to ARCC, thence to MRCC. At the same time, CRC Neatishead, which had conducted a search on

all available displays, observed the same plot on the same Claxby radar in the same position. This information was also relayed to ARCC thence to MRCC; by now, MRCC had consciously or subconsciously associated the reports of lights with the Boston radar return and assumed an investigative and coordination role for the rest of the night.

3. Actions by Air Defence System. Meanwhile, CRC Neatishead's inquiries had revealed no sign of air movements or military exercises in the area and there was no evidence of unidentified air activity on any radar; the stationary radar plot, without associated height or IFF/SSR support, therefore, was judged by experienced operators at both Neatishead and the D&D Cell to be a permanent echo, and the separate stationary lights as some form of natural phenomena of no air defence or air concern. It was clear that no flying craft had penetrated the UKADR or was present on any radar; furthermore, the unrelated stationary light reports were not suspicious in nature or of significance to air or maritime safety, therefore, no recommendation to scramble a Quick Reaction Alert aircraft from RAF Leuchars to investigate either the permanent echo or the reported lights was sought.

4. Subsequent Reporting. Updates and further information on both the plot and lights continued to be sought by MRCC from several sources on open circuits and reported, and sometimes distorted, in the process. Further interest in the radar plot was kept alive at the instigation of the coastguard, leading to the eventual involvement of several other control agencies including LATCC(Civil), LATCC(Military), Anglia Radar and Waddington Approach. Further interest in the lights was maintained by the coastguard until they disappeared with the dawn, involving a tanker vessel at sea, Boston and Skegness Police Forces and LATCC(Civil).

INVESTIGATION OF RADAR PLOT AND VISUAL SIGHTINGS

5. The various observations which occurred in the early hours of 5 Oct 96 and the various phenomenae have been investigated in considerable detail. The relevant logs maintained by on-duty Military and Civilian personnel have been studied and, where possible, key observers and operators, both civil and military, have been interviewed by telephone.

THE BOSTON PLOT

6. Plot Characteristics. A radar Plot was observed in the position of Boston, Lincs, on the National Air Traffic Services (NATS) sensor at Claxby, near Market Rasen, when attention was drawn to the area by Great Yarmouth Coastguard. It was observed by the D&D Cell from approximately 0225Z and by CRC Neatishead from 0230Z; both organisations have access to the same radar display although neither uses that radar on a routine basis for surveillance or aircraft control in the Wash area. Later, the plot was observed by Anglia Radar at Stanstead, which opened at

0600, again on the Claxby radar display. The radar plot was always single and stationary and defied attempts to obtain height or IFF/SSR information on it. Significantly, the plot was never present on radar displays from the NATS sensors at Cromer and Debden nor on the air defence radar at Trimmingham; although a stationary return was detected on the AR15 approach radar at RAF Waddington at 0749Z, this was inaccurate reporting of a separate permanent echo. Three aircraft, which transitted the Boston area at 0710Z, 0830, and 1105, failed to sight any airborne object. A map showing radar locations and the position of the plot is at Annex B.

7. Plot Analysis. The characteristics of the plot confirm beyond reasonable doubt that it was a permanent radar echo, and the fact that it could only be detected by a single nearby sensor indicates a relatively low physical feature which, however, appears as a permanent radar echo only in certain weather conditions; for example, it was not present on the Claxby radar on 8 Nov but could be seen on 11 Nov. It is highly probable that the echo was caused by the 273ft Spire of St Botolph's Church, Boston (the 'Boston Stump'), as suggested at 1105Z by Anglia Radar, a unit familiar with operating aircraft in the Wash area; however, it is not possible to be absolutely certain without conducting further detailed technical study.

THE STATIONARY LIGHTS

8. Analysis of Observations. Various sightings of either stationary, multicoloured, flashing lights or a stationary bright white light were made between approximately 0205Z and dawn by observers at Skegness and Boston and on board the MV CONOCOAST some 8 miles to the east of Skegness. However, when asked at 0227 and 0240Z respectively, police at Kings Lynn and the MV NAUTIC W, some 16nms ENE of Skegness, observed no lights which they considered unusual. In addition, the crews of two civilian airliners flying through the area at between 0520 and 0530Z reporting no sightings of lights when asked by LATCC(Civil). Only one unsolicited observation of lights seems to have occurred: by PC [REDACTED] at approximately 0205Z on patrol at Addlethorpe near Skegness. All other recorded observations were made on the instigation of Great Yarmouth Coastguard. Moreover, while various reference has been made to an object associated with the lights, this has been by inference only on the part of the observers. A full synopsis of sightings, times, bearings and angles is at Annex C together with maps showing the locations of observation. There is little reliable or accurate bearing and elevation information since several observers confessed to being either unconcerned, not very interested, or admitted to being poor at angles; the only accurate measurements are derived from the Skegness police video tape of the lights, filmed at 0350Z and from the MV CONOCOAST at 0401Z which measured bearings based on the Ship's compass. While the lights were generally regarded as unusual, no observer confessed to being alarmed by them; indeed, the initial observer watched the multicoloured flashing lights change characteristics and elevation until dawn when 'they looked just like any other star'.

9. Expert Opinion. The observations were examined by the Royal Greenwich Observatory and a report of its findings is at Annex D. The report acknowledged the uncertainties in the estimates of azimuth and elevation of the observations and could only provide a best guess of the likely light source(s) as summarized below.

a. The Boston Police may have been looking at the planet Venus which was exceptionally bright in the early morning sky on 5 Oct, rising at 0209Z on a bearing slightly north of east; this is consistent with the first Boston observation.

b. Based on measurements obtained from the police video, the Skegness observations could also have been Venus. The Observatory notes that when a bright star or planet is low in the sky, even to elevation 20°, it is quite common for it to appear to show colours which are often described as flashing or rotating. These characteristics and the report of the first Skegness observer tend to favour the Venus theory.

c. The Observatory can offer no likely celestial explanation for either sets of lights observed from the MV CONOCOAST.

SUMMARY

10. Following extensive investigation, it can be concluded that the radar plot observed in a position at Boston was a permanent radar echo; it was correctly assessed as such by CRC Neatishead at the time and no further air defence related action taken. The bright stationary lights observed from Boston and Skegness were probably due to light from the planet Venus which began rising at the time of the first observation; it was particularly bright and could have appeared multicoloured and flashing to some observers. No explanation can be offered for the two sets of lights observed from MV CONOCOAST.

11. For completeness and further reference, various notes are attached at Annex E, together with a list of organizations and persons consulted in the course of this investigation. In addition, abbreviated comment on the detail contained in Mr Redmond's letter to SofS are at Annex F. A copy of the video of the Skegness lights, copied by Lincolnshire Police HQ, is attached.

12. This report is the result of almost full time, painstaking investigation over a period of 8 working days and, although all the light phenomenae have not been conclusively explained, research has not revealed evidence or admissions that alarming or extraordinary events were being witnessed. It is likely that similar detailed investigation into light phenomenae would produce

equally less than conclusive but unastonishing results; they could not be achieved on a routine basis, however, without dedicated resources being allocated to the task.

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr

[REDACTED]
MB4227 [REDACTED]

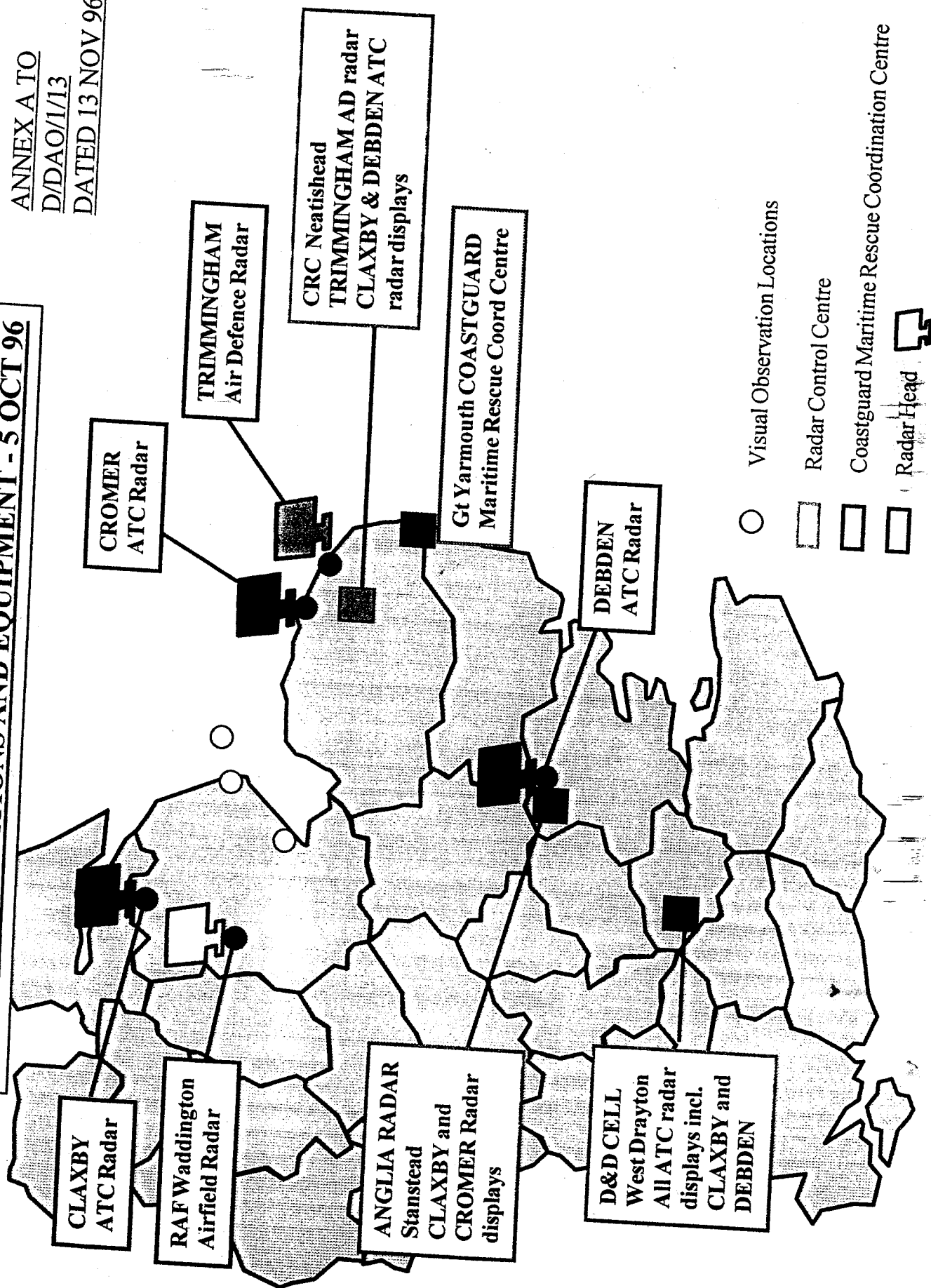
Annexes:

- A. Agencies, Locations and Equipment.
- B. Radar Plots over Boston.
- C. Synopsis on Observations of Lights.
- D. Royal Greenwich Observatory Report.
- E. Miscellaneous Notes
- F. Abbreviated Comments on [REDACTED] s Letter.

Attached: Lincolnshire Police copy of Skegness Video

AGENCIES, LOCATIONS AND EQUIPMENT - 5 OCT 96

ANNEX A TO
D/DAO/1/13
DATED 13 NOV 96



ANNEX B TO

D/DAO/1/13

DATED 13 NOV 96

CLAXBY

Approx 0230 - 1200Z

Plot 221°/16nm from

Skegness - stationary,

no height or IFF. Observed

on **CLAXBY** radar displays

at CRC Neatishead, Anglia

Radar & D&D Cell.

WADDINGTON

0747Z - Asked to look for plot 120°/23nm (Boston). Plot observed but later confessed to mistake in reported position; was, in fact, a separate permanent echo 'in Skegness direction'.

CROMIER

No Plot

TRIMMINGHAM

No Plot

Boston Plot - Active Investigation

0710 - London Mil 6153 squawk passed 3nm
from plot FL150 - no contact

0830 - Anglia radar 7000 squawk flew through plot at 900ft - no contact

**1105 - Waddington Approach 1743 squawk
transitted Boston area at 2000ft - nothing
seen**

DEBDEN

No Plot

ANNEX C TO
D/DAO/1/13
DATED 13 NOV 96

SYNOPSIS OF OBSERVATIONS OF UNUSUAL LIGHTS - 5 OCT

SKEGNESS POLICE

Observer: PC [REDACTED] Mobile patrol at Addlethorpe. Stationary, blue green red lights to the East, appeared elongated, low in the sky. Observed at about 0200Z then periodically until 0400Z; light remained stationary but became progressive higher and clear; by 0400Z 'the star was fairly high in the sky looking very similar to the rest'.

Observer: PC [REDACTED] at Skegness. First seen 0205Z following information from PC [REDACTED] static white light with red green and yellow lights rotating around it - much lower than any star, estimate 50,000ft. Last observed at 0420 when 'it looked just like any other star'.

Observer: Mr [REDACTED] Control Room [REDACTED] - visual plus video

Position: Visual from 3rd floor window, video from roof above.

Four observations at 0214, 0350, 0450 (when lights videoed) and just before going off duty at 0600Z. Stationary red, green, blue and white flashing light. Observer admitted to being 'not very interested' in the lights.

BOSTON POLICE

Observer: Inspector [REDACTED]

Position: Through 3rd floor window of Police station and outside.

Observed intermittently between approx 0230 and dawn: stationary bright white light, constant azimuth and elevation - slightly north of east and about 40 degrees up - 'did not fit the description of the lights being reported by Skegness' - saw the same light 'a couple of months ago but further north on that occasion'

Observer: [REDACTED] (Control Room [REDACTED])

Position: Through control room window on 3rd floor.

Two observations at 0412 and 0503 - Just a fixed bright light, not flashing, no colours.

KINGS LYNN POLICE

0227Z - No reports of unusual lights.

MV CONOCOAST

Tanker operating from Rochester carrying fuel to Dredgers off Ingoldmells on north westerly heading - 4 crew
Crew: [REDACTED] (Master), [REDACTED] AN Other (now on ONWARD MARINER - phone [REDACTED]) and [REDACTED] Still on
CONOCOAST [REDACTED]

Two sets of similar lights to north and south; observed by all crew members intermittently (busy working the ship) from 0246 til daybreak. -
observed about every 30 mins or so. Constant azimuth from ship, 345 and 160 degrees, could not say whether relative bearing changed since
ship was moving - elevation about 20 degrees according to Ship Captain; other observer states northerly light about 10 degrees above the
horizon and southerly 30 degrees. Both sets of lights bright and flashing red, green, blue and white lights to the south were brightest.

MV NAUTIC W

Cargo vessel by North Race Buoy at 0240Z (53.14.97N, 000.44.00E)
No lights observed.

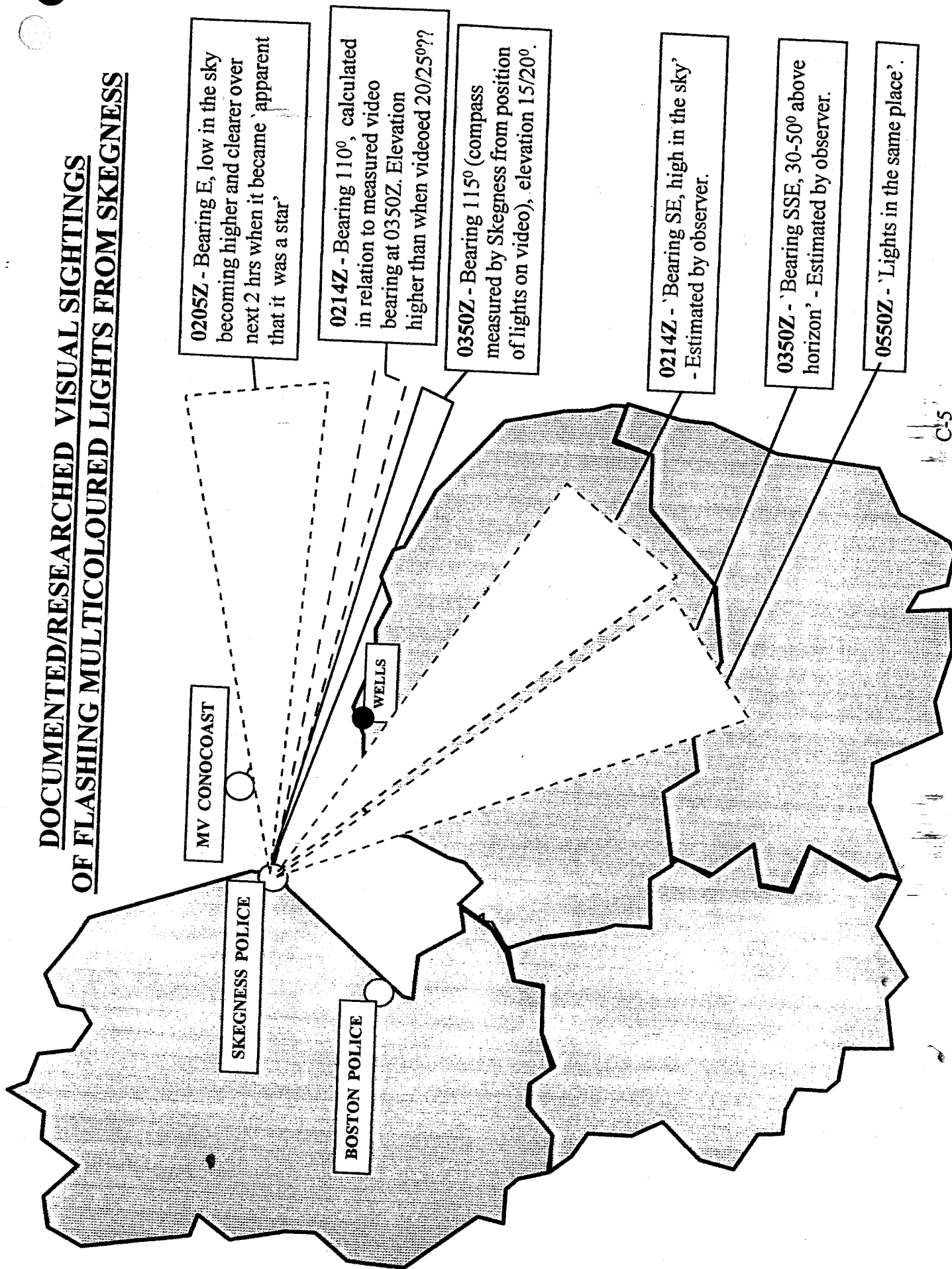
TABLE SHOWING CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF OBSERVATIONS

Time	Source	Observation	Remarks
0200ish	PC [REDACTED] Skegness	Stationary, blue green and red lights to the East, appeared elongated, low in the sky. Observed at about 0200Z then periodically until 0400Z; light remained stationary but became progressive higher and clear; by 0400Z 'the star was fairly high in the sky looking very similar to the rest'.	Assume azimuth 090 +or- 15/20, elevation 5-20 degrees.
0214	Mr [REDACTED] Skegness	Very bright, stationary but rotating coloured lights in easterly direction; position about 5 degrees higher in elevation than when video taken (0450) and 5-10 degrees further to the north in azimuth. Lights appeared over LHS of roof of 3 storey block of flats as seen in the video.	Elevation approx 20-25 degrees Azimuth approx 110 degrees
0230ish	Insp [REDACTED] Boston	Single bright white light, not coloured or flashing, direction ENE (based on it being 'south of the direction of Skegness'), fairly high about 40 degrees elevation. Constant azimuth and elevation until it disappeared as dawn broke - observer confessed to be poor at angles.	Assume azimuth about 070 degrees +or- 20; assume elevation 30 +or- 0
0227	Police - Kings Lynn	No unusual lights reported.	
0240	MV NAUTIC W	No lights seen.	
0246	CONOCOAST - [REDACTED]	) MV heading NW. Two sets of stationary red, green and white)flashing lights; one set to north, other off port quarter, ie southerly,)one mile high. First noticed approx 0225 (continues..../)	)Assume azimuth 345 and 160)degrees from 0225 until 0550)Assume elevation constant at 20)degrees

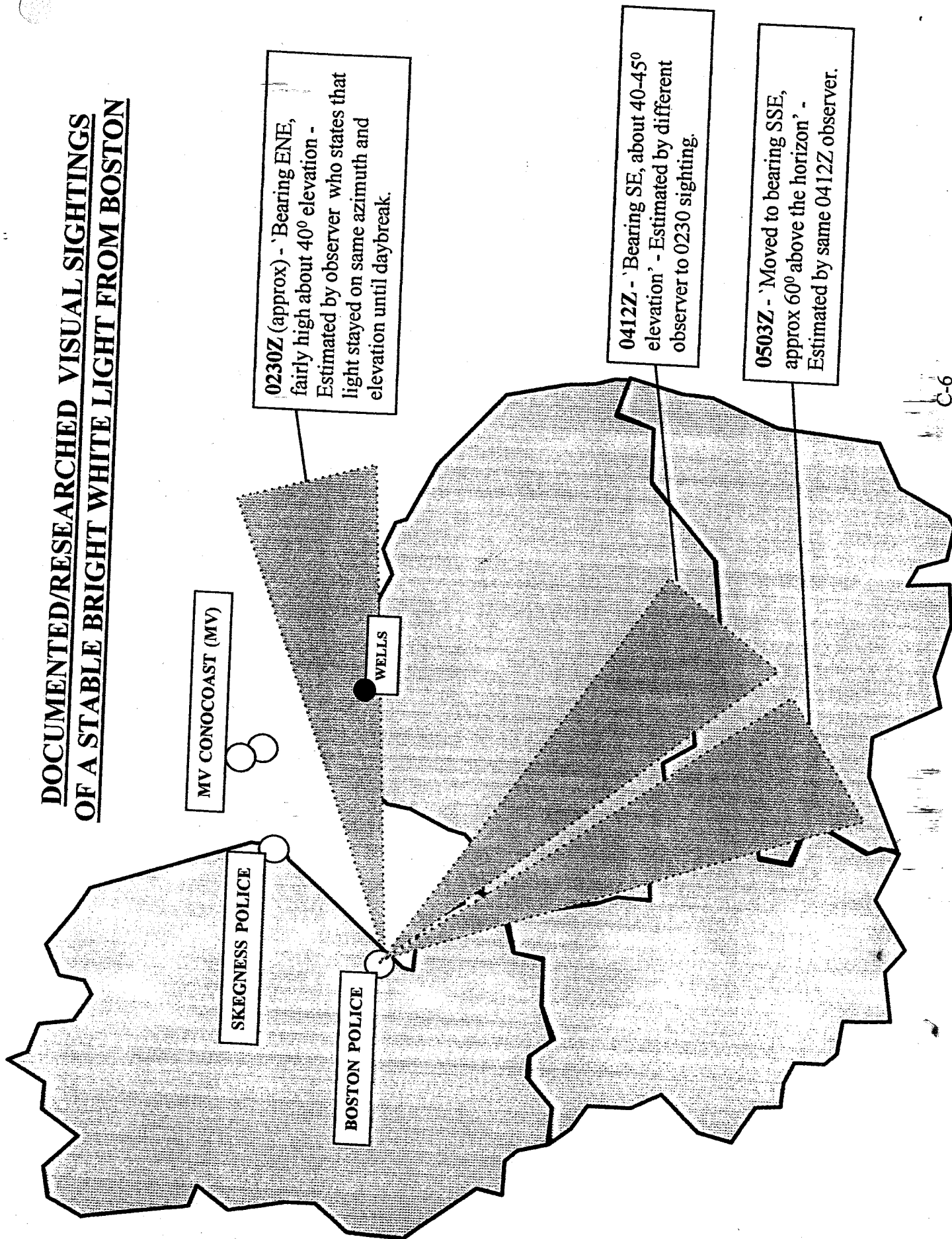
REDACTED ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

0308	CONOCOAST	)Lights stationary on seemingly constant bearing (but ship was moving). Constant elevation assessed at 20 degrees. Southerly set of lights were brightest. Lights observed every 30 minutes or so until daybreak at constant azimuth and elevation - bearing 345 and 160 degrees true at 20 degrees elevation.	)Assume mean position 53 12N,) 00 34E
0345	CONOCOAST		
0350	6e 40 Skegness	Video made of lights. Position measured (7 Nov by duty staff through Police HQ Lincoln - Sgt [redacted]) at 15-20 degrees elevation and 115 degrees azimuth.	Azimuth 115 degrees, elevation 15-20 degrees
0401	CONOCOAST	Same characteristics as before	
0412	6e 40 Boston	<i>Fixed bright white single light to SE (cardinal estimated using St Botolph's spire as reference) 40-45 degrees elevation.</i>	<i>Assume azimuth 135 degrees + or - 15/20; elevation 40 degrees + or - 10/15.</i>
0445	6e 40 Skegness	Lights still quite bright and flashing bearing SSE and 30-50 degrees above horizon.	Assume elevation 40 degrees + or - 10; Assume azimuth 135 + or - 10/15?
0503	6e 40 Boston	<i>Lights moved to SSE, 60 degrees elevation, same fixed bright white stable light.</i>	<i>Assume elevation 60 + or - 10/15 degrees, Azimuth 157 + or - 10/15 say between 140 and 170 degrees.</i>
0552	CONOCOAST	As above: Azimuth still 345 and 160 degrees, Elevation 20 Or 30 degrees.	
0550 approx	6e 40 Skegness	Lights still in same place.	Unreliable observation for exact coords.

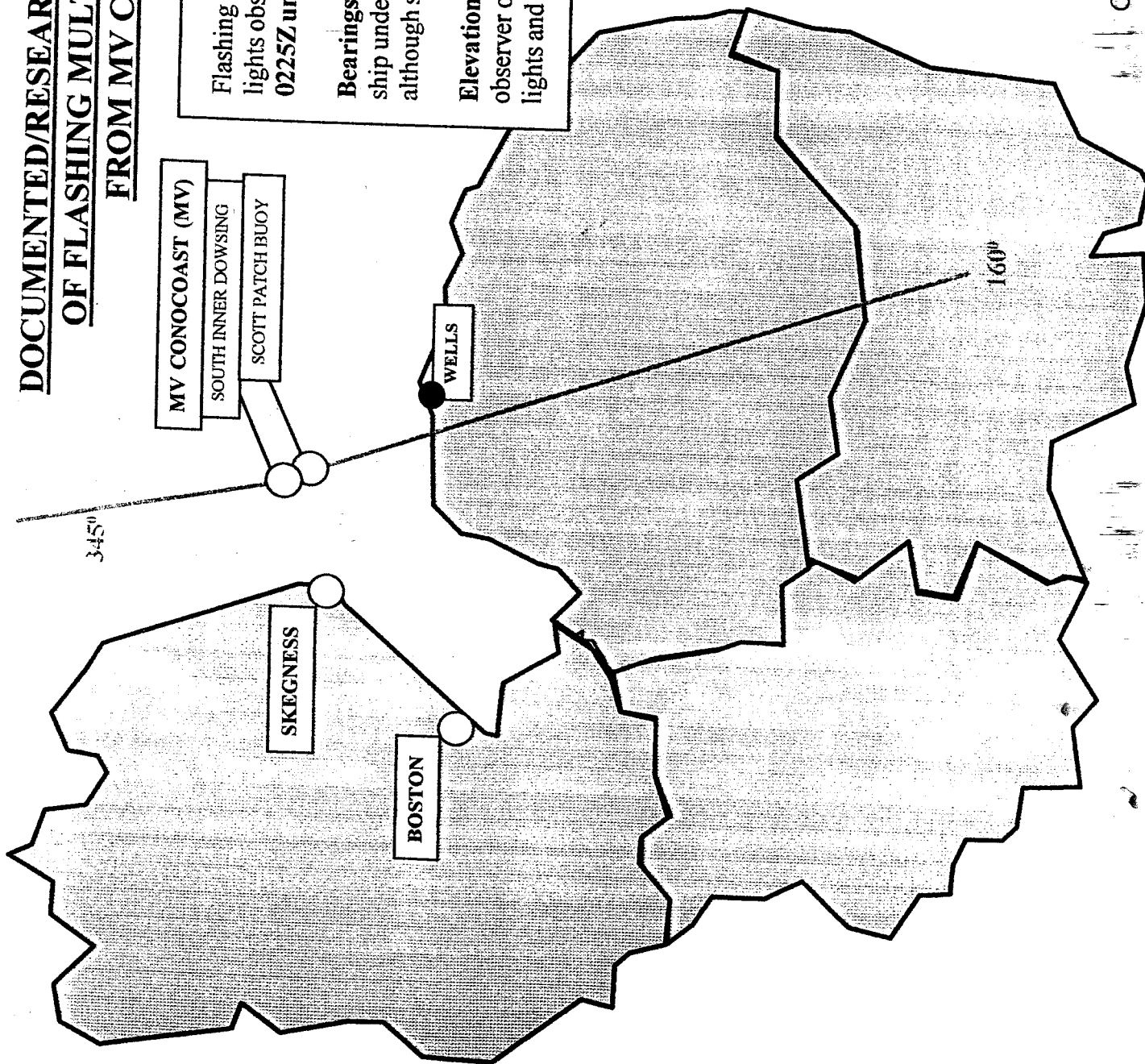
DOCUMENTED/RESEARCHED VISUAL SIGHTINGS **OF FLASHING MULTICOLOURED LIGHTS FROM SKEGNESS**



DOCUMENTED/RESEARCHED VISUAL SIGHTINGS OF A STABLE BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT FROM BOSTON



DOCUMENTED/RESEARCHED VISUAL SIGHTINGS **OF FLASHING MULTICOLOURED LIGHTS** **FROM MV CONOCOAST**

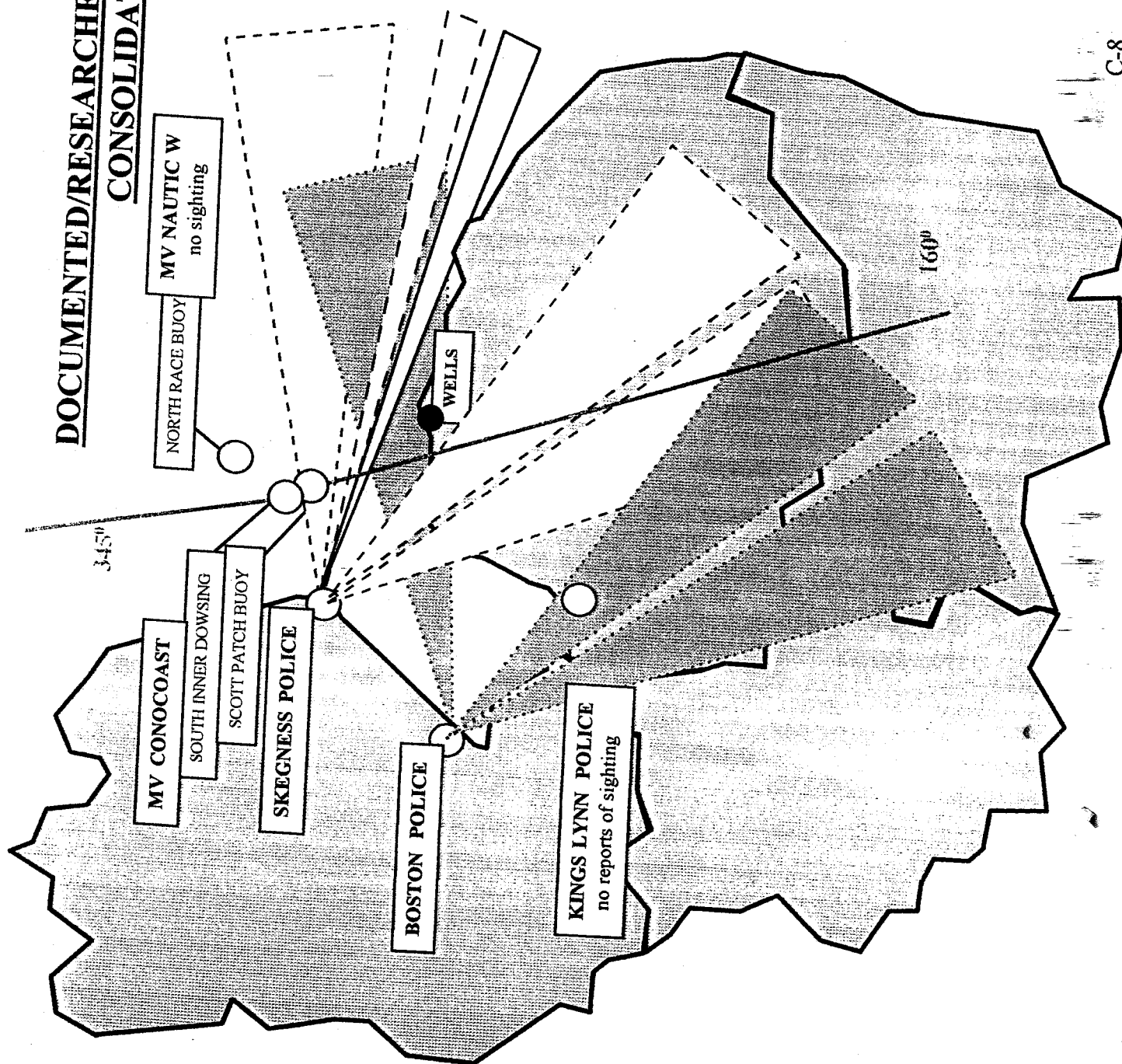


Flashing stationary red, green, blue and white lights observed about every 30 mins from approx 0225Z until 0550Z.

Bearings seemingly constant at 345° and 160° but ship under way. Lights on both bearings identical, although southernmost set brightest.

Elevation constant: assessed at 20° by one observer or by another at 10° for the northern lights and 30° for the southern.

DOCUMENTED/RESEARCHED VISUAL SIGHTINGS
CONSOLIDATED



PPARC

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Royal Greenwich Observatory

Madingley Road
Cambridge CB3 0EZ
United Kingdom
Telephone +44 (0) 1223 374000
Facsimile +44 (0) 1223 374700

MOD

FAX

ANNEX D TO
D/DAO/1/13
DATED 13 NOV 96

Direct Line (01223) 374768
email: Section 40

13 November 1996

Dear

I have examined the reports of bright lights seen on October 5 as set out in your fax of 11 November.

When a bright star or planet is low down in the sky (even to elevation 20°) it is quite common for it to appear to show colours, which are often described as 'flashing' or 'rotating'. It is important to consider a person's eyesight in interpreting their descriptions of sightings.

It seems to me in this case that the different observers may have been looking at different objects. Because of the uncertainties in the estimates of elevation and azimuth I cannot be certain as to what was seen, but this is my best guess.

I think that both Inspector [redacted] and [redacted] of Boston Police may have been looking at Venus. Venus has been exceptionally bright in the early morning sky over the past weeks and has stood out from all around it. The actual positions of the planet on October 5 are as follows.

UT	BST	Altitude	Azimuth	
02:00	03:00	-2°	68°	Venus-rise
02:09	03:09		70°	
03:00	04:00	$+7^\circ$	80°	
04:00	05:00	$+16^\circ$	92°	
05:00	06:00	$+25^\circ$	105°	
06:00	07:00	$+33^\circ$	118°	
07:00	08:00	$+40^\circ$	135°	

I confess to being puzzled as to what the crew of MV CONOCOAST were watching. Presumably they would have had a clear view of the whole sky. Can you rule out that they may have been seeing some laser show with the beams reflected in a hazy sky? I am also puzzled as to why they saw two sets of lights at approximately 180° apart.

(continued)

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Mr. [REDACTED] observations are also hard to interpret. What does he mean when he says he was 'not very interested'? Why did he take the video? It is possible from his own record of his observation that he was looking at the same lights as the crew of MV CONOCOAST seen at azimuth 160° , although the later compass measurement of the light seen on the video could have been Venus!

Also, one should note that the Moon was just past Last Quarter on 4th October, rising at 23:36 BST on October 4 and setting at 15:13 BST on October 5. This would have had the effect of 'washing out' all but the brightest stars. If this was so then the bright stars Sirius or Canopus might be candidates for these sightings. However, if the sky was really clear I don't think either of these objects would have fooled people who are presumably all quite used to working at night and therefore are quite familiar with looking at the sky.

I hope this has helped.

Best regards

[REDACTED]
Head, Education and Information Services

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

ANNEX E TO
DAO/1/13
DATED 13 NOV 96

LIST OF PERSONS/ORGANISATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Skegness Police Station

Obs: PCs [REDACTED]

Obs: Mr [REDACTED] on duty in police control room until 0600Z 5 Oct
[REDACTED] extension

Boston Police Control Room

Section 40 [REDACTED]

Obs: Inspector [REDACTED] on duty 5 Oct

Obs: Mr [REDACTED] (on duty 5 Oct 96)

Kings Lynn Police

0237Z No lights reported

HQ Lincolnshire Police

Head of Media Services

Nettleham

LINCOLN

Sgt [REDACTED]

Ext [REDACTED]

Skegness Police Video sent by HQ Lincolnshire Police to MOD [REDACTED]
on 5 Nov 96, received 6 Nov together with copies of Skegness
police incident log and statements from PCs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
Video taken from Police Station roof (3rd storey)
Runs for about 5mins - taken at approx 00350Z - lights on a
bearing of 115 degrees true about 15-20 degrees elevation.
Building in bottom left corner is 3 storey block of flats

Copy of Video sent to:

[REDACTED] Briggate

North Walsham

Norfolk [REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED]
('independent UFO Researcher' and believed to be collaborating
with [REDACTED] of the Staffordshire UFO Group who is
investigating the incident and who confesses to have 'got Mr
[REDACTED] to ask the questions' - Tel [REDACTED]

Copy of video requested by:

Lincolnshire UFO Research Team [REDACTED]

Sleaford [REDACTED]

Lincoln UFO Research Team

Tel: [REDACTED]

Anglia Radar

Tel: [REDACTED]

Access to Claxby and Cromer Watchman Radars

Gt Yarmouth Coastguard

Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre

Mr [REDACTED] on duty 5 Oct

MV CONOCOAST (out of Rochester on 5 Oct with fuel for Dredgers off Ingoldmells) - 4 crew, very busy, observed lights intermittently every 30 mins or so - bearings measured using ship's compass.

Spoke to [REDACTED] 8 Nov on CONOCOAST [REDACTED] - lights consistently 10 deg and 30 deg up (N & S respectively)

[REDACTED] & [REDACTED] part of crew on 5 Oct now on 'ONWARD MARINER' [REDACTED] Spoke to Mr [REDACTED] (Master of vessel who was at wheel) on 11 Nov 96 - confirmed observation from about 0225 til dawn - two sets of lights 346 & 160 (brightest), both about 20 degrees above horizon

MV NAUTIC W (callsign J8FK)

Cargo Vessel registered in St Vincent

Position by North Race Buoy at 0240Z (53.14.97N 000.44.00E)

No lights observed

CRC Neatishead

Flt Lt [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] duty Track Production Officer and Station Duty Officer 5 Oct til 0700Z then relieved by Flt Lt [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] home: [REDACTED]

Kinloss Air Rescue Coordination Centre

Flt Lt [REDACTED]

LATCC Distress and Diversion Cell, West Drayton

Duty Controller 5 Oct: Flt Lt [REDACTED]

LATCC(Civil) Controller Mr [REDACTED] (Civil Supervisor number) working N Sea radar on 5 Oct - Asked 2 civil aircraft between 0520 and 0530Z if they could see any unusual lights in area of Wash/East Anglia as they flew by.

- Aircraft 1, DELTA Airlines FL 370 from USA on track from Isle of Man to Amsterdam; asked when near Scunthorpe, no contact in Wash/East Anglia area but saw 'indistinct lights which might have been flares' about 20 minutes previously in Irish Sea area.

- Aircraft 2, UK Air out of Manchester to Continent; asked when 30nm south east of Ottringham heading south east; nothing seen.

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Waddington Approach AR15 radar

DSATCO [REDACTED] Flt Lt [REDACTED]

Lower Airspace Radar Service for Civil and Military aircraft
within 30nm and up to FL95.

Fg Off [REDACTED] on duty 5 Oct 96

Met Office Bracknell

Weather Records

[REDACTED]
No thunderstorm activity on 5 Oct - clear night

Royal Greenwich Observatory, Cambridge

[REDACTED]
Fax [REDACTED]

ANNEX F TO
D/DAO/1/13
DATED 13 NOV 96

ABBREVIATED COMMENTS ON MR REDMOND'S LETTER

1. General. Mr [REDACTED]'s comments are largely based on radio traffic between Gt Yarmouth Coastguard Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre and various agencies which was either released or intercepted then reported in the press and interpreted in various ways; erroneously, the visual observations of lights have been linked with persistent radar returns from a permanent echo at Boston Lincs.
2. Para 1. There was no visual identified flying craft only unusual lights; correlation by 'various different military radar systems' did not occur.
3. Para 2.
 - a. Lights with different characteristics were observed to the E and/or SE of Skegness and Boston by Police and by the crew of MV Conocoast some 8 miles east of Skegness. A separate stationary object was detected on one ATC radar at Claxby, Lincs, over Boston and observed on the same radar display at Neatishead, Anglia Radar (later) and the D&D Cell at the London Air Traffic Control Centre (LATCC) West Drayton; a stationary object was also detected much later on the Waddington approach radar, however this was in a separate position, not over Boston. Three aircraft subsequently flew close to the 'object' but no sighting of an airborne vehicle was made.
 - b. RAF Northwood was never involved in this event. Confusion has arisen because Gt Yarmouth Coastguard, referred incorrectly to 'D&D Northwood' instead of 'D&D West Drayton' in several transmissions or conversations; this error was reproduced in press reports.
4. Para 3.
 - a. Aircraft were not scrambled because there was no evidence whatsoever of an unidentified airborne vehicle in the vicinity.
 - b. Tornado F3 QRA aircraft are held on high alert at RAF Leuchars but not routinely at Leeming or Coningsby.
 - c. The RAF Air Rescue Coordination Centre (ARCC), Kinloss was only involved by Gt Yarmouth Coastguard Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) to ascertain whether they knew of any air activity in the area. ARCC, in turn, asked CRC Neatishead and D&D who replied in the negative; ARCC subsequently relayed several messages between D&D/Neatishead and the MRCC concerning the stationary radar plot.
5. Para 4. Locations of permanent echoes are well known to

radar operators who work routinely in particular areas using the same radar head, as is borne out by the information from Anglia concerning the Boston Stump. No Air Defence radar detected the Boston echo. Neatishead's 'skilled operators' rarely use the Claxby ATC Radar in the Boston area, nor do D&D and, hence, had not encountered this particular radar echo before; the echo was seen by 3 control agencies using the same radar at Claxby; Waddington reported an echo at 0749 when they were asked to look 120⁰/23nm (over Boston), however, investigations revealed a reporting error and this plot was a separate permanent echo towards Skegness. The radar plots could not be correlated with the visual sightings of lights and, geographically, were quite separate.

6. Para 5

a. The video taken by the Skegness police did not disappear into the bowels of the Ministry's Main Building. It was sent by Inspector [REDACTED] of Skegness police to Lincolnshire Police HQ and held by the Head of Media Services. A copy was supplied to Mr [REDACTED] an 'independent UFO researcher' on 18 Oct and to MOD, DAO [REDACTED], on 5 Nov 96. No copy was sent to Neatishead.

b. RAF Air Defence Ground Environment units, including CRC Neatishead, produce a Recognised Air Picture of air activity in the UKADR 24 hours a day. Standard procedures exist for investigating unidentified aircraft and these were followed in this case. Experienced operators carefully judged that there was no evidence of unidentified flying craft present in the UKADR and did not, therefore, seek authority to scramble air defence aircraft held on alert at RAF Leuchars.

7. Para 6

a. Question 1

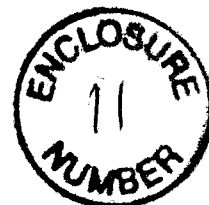
- CRC Neatishead - Responsible for:
 - the compilation of the Recognised Air Picture in that portion of the UKADR south of 55 degrees north.
 - Control of Air Defence aircraft on missions to preserve the Integrity of UK airspace.
- ARCC Kinloss - To liaise with and support national emergency organisations by allocating air search and rescue resources to incidents.
- D&D Cell, West Drayton - Provide Air Traffic Control Emergency and Fixer services to Civilian and Military aircraft operating in the London Flight Information Region
- RAF Waddington - Task includes the provision of a Lower Airspace Radar Service (LARS) to Military and Civil ac on request out to 30nms (or further if airspace quiet) and up to FL095
- Video - see above.

b. Question 2

- There was no evidence of unidentified aircraft being present in the UKADR on 5 Oct 96, therefore, there was no reason to scramble aircraft on alert. Police and the tanker MV CONOCOAST saw LIGHTS not objects or any flying craft. No lights were observed by any aircraft in the area; negative reports were received from 2 civilian aircraft which flew by the area at 0520-0530Z

c. Question 3

Procedures exist to scramble aircraft to investigate unidentified aircraft detected on radar, which was not the case on 5 Oct.



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 22-05-2006-093143-002

Expiry: 20/06/2006

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Could you give me details of the orange lights we saw over East Dereham just after 10pm, 20 May 2006.

The lights appeared to be in formation and travelling quite slowly. We couldn't hear any noise coming from them. They looked as if they may have come from Swanton Morley direction and appeared to be travelling towards the Hardingham area. We were inclined to think they were helicopters, although, as previously stated, they seemed noiseless.

Any information greatly appreciated as children were quite alarmed by them.

Case for release of information

I informed **Section 40** of our policy on UFOs, that we do not investigate sightings and have no evidence, that this phenomena exists.

With regards to **Section 40** sighting on the 20 May 2006, I informed him that we received no other reports of the orange lights from anywhere else in the UK.

Authorisation

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

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

Signature: **Section 40**

Date: *6/6/2006*

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing with reference to your report of an 'unidentified flying object' seen on 20 May 2006, the details of which were passed to this Department. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

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

With regard to your particular observation, I can confirm that we received no other reports of 'UFO' sightings for 20 May 2006 from anywhere else in the UK. We are satisfied that there is no corroborating evidence to suggest that the United Kingdom's airspace was breached by unauthorised aircraft.

Sorry I could not have been more helpful.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

02 June 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 22-05-2006-093143-002**Days Left:** 13

Received: 22 May 06

Expiry Date: 20 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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: 22 May 2006

Applicant Details

Title: Section 40

Other:

First Name:

*Surname:

Organisation:

Applicant Type: Other

Other:

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1:

Address Line2:

Address Line3:

Town/City:

Postcode:

Country:

Email:

Telephone:

Fax:



Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

02 June 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 22-05-2006-093143-002**Days Left:** 13

Received: 22 May 06

Expiry Date: 20 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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 DetailsResponse Format Requested: Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

Hi,
Could you give me any details of the orange lights we saw over East Dereham just after 10pm 20th May, 2006.

The lights appeared to be in formation and travelling quite slowly. We couldn't hear any noise coming from them. They looked as if they may have come from Swanton Morley direction and appeared to be travelling towards Hardingham area. We were inclined to think they were helicopters, although, as previously stated, they seemed

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

To be held by the Helpdesk until allocated.

Hi,

Could you give me any details of the orange lights we saw over East Dereham just after 10pm 20th May, 2006.

The lights appeared to be in formation and travelling quite slowly. We couldn't hear any noise coming from them. They looked as if they may have come from Swanton Morley direction and appeared to be travelling towards Hardingham area. We were inclined to think they were helicopters, although, as previously stated, they seemed noiseless.

Any information greatly appreciated as children were quite alarmed by them.

Regards

Section 40



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



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

Section 40

Our Reference
30-05-2006-093012-004

Date
6 June 2006

Deeside

Flintshire

Section 40

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request for details of the questions asked by **Section 40** in his request reference 26-09-2005-091240-001. Your request has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs and the Department jointly responsible with the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) for the release of the report provided in response to **Section 40** request.

Section 40 made the following request for information:

I wish to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act as follows. Please provide me with paper copies of the following material:

- 1. A copy of the Executive Summary, Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) — D155 Report, referred to in DIST letter, D/DIST/1 1/10 dated 4 December 2000*
- 2. A copy of Volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the UAP Report, referenced in the DIST letter (1).*
- 3. A copy of the terms of reference for the UAP Report, referenced in D155/108/15 22 January 1997 as follows: D/D155/108/15 dated 11 December 1996 and D/D155/108/15 dated 16 November 1993.*

With reference to request (2) please could you provide an advance summary of the title and table of contents of the three individual volumes. This will enable me to narrow my request should it exceed the £600 limit allowed under the FOIA.

Please could you also provide a list of all data fields possible for a UAP entry in the project database? I understand these documents may be classified and will need to be downgraded before they can be released to me. I would be grateful therefore if you could provide me with an estimate of the likely timescale involved in this process. I look forward to hearing from you,

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

● 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 normally 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

A black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, with the text "Section 40" visible in orange at the top left of the box.

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

31 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 30-05-2006-093012-004**Days Left:** 19

Received: 26 May 06

Expiry Date: 26 Jun 06

Status: Open

 **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](#)[Close Case](#)[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: 26 May 2006

Applicant Details

Title: Section 40

Other:

First Name:

*Surname: Section 40

Organisation:

Retired

Applicant Type:

Not Specified

Other:

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1: Section 40

Address Line2:

Address Line3: Deeside

Town/City:

Flintshire

Postcode:

Section 40

Country:

United Kingdom

Email:

Telephone:

Fax:



Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

31 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 30-05-2006-093012-004**Days Left:** 19

Received: 26 May 06

Expiry Date: 26 Jun 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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 DetailsResponse Format Requested: Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

Please can you advise the question(s) asked by Section 40 in his request of 26-09-2005 Ref 091240-001

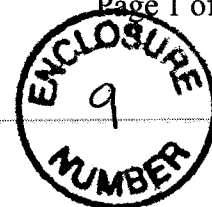
Thanks and Regards

Section 40

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

To be held with the helpdesk until allocated





Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 06 June 2006 11:00

To: Section 40

Subject: Internet-authorised:Freedom of Information Request 05-05-2006-151510-014

Dear Section 40

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request concerning the response to a parliamentary question by Lord Hill-Norton in May 2001. I apologise for the delay in replying.

I have now had an opportunity to review the relevant background papers and can confirm that the reply to this question referred to a study conducted by Defence Intelligence Staff to establish whether UFO reports produced anything of interest to the DIS. The report generated by this study entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region" has been released into the public domain and can be viewed on the MOD website at <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

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

6 June 2006

06/06/2006

Expiry date -
31/05/06

05-05-2006 -
15/5/06 - 04.

Section 40

From: **Section 40**
Sent: 02 May 2006 16:08
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: FOI request

Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Director of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Dear **Section 40**

Freedom of Information Request

I write under the Freedom of Information Act to request that you send me a copy of the "Secret/UK Eyes Only" document referred to in the Answer to Parliamentary Questions in the House of Lords on 3rd May 2001 (column WA 315) and any related papers.

I thank you in advance for your help and look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards

Section 40

04/05/2006

(Duplicate &
they e-mailed
too).

Section 40

From: Section 40
To: <uas-ufi-office@mod.uk>
Sent: 02 May 2006 16:08
Subject: FOI request

Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Director of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Dear Section 40

Freedom of Information Request

I write under the Freedom of Information Act to request that you send me a copy of the "Secret/UK Eyes Only" document referred to in the Answer to Parliamentary Questions in the House of Lords on 3rd May 2001 (column WA 315) and any related papers.

I thank you in advance for your help and look forward to hearing from you.

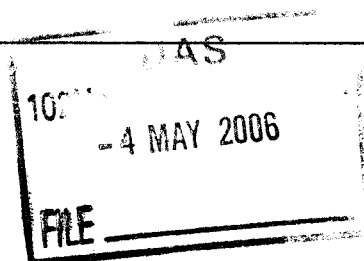
With kind regards

Section 40

02/05/2006

Section 40

From: Section 40
To: <das-ufo-office@mod.uk>
Sent: 02 May 2006 16:08
Subject: FOI request



Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Director of Air Staff - Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Dear Section 40

Freedom of Information Request

I write under the Freedom of Information Act to request that you send me a copy of the "Secret/UK Eyes Only" document referred to in the Answer ^{to} Parliamentary Questions in the House of Lords on 3rd May 2001 (column WA 315) and any related papers.

I thank you in advance for your help and look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards

Section 40

02/05/2006



Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DIRECTOR OF AIR STAFF (FOI)
5TH FLOOR, ZONE H
MAIN BUILDING
WHITEHALL, LONDON
SW1A 2HR

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 10 May 2006 13:38

To: Section 40

Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Request 05-05-2006-151510-014

Dear Section 40

Many thanks. My apologies for not having provided more information. Here follows the relevant section from WA 315:

Lord Hill-Norton asked HMG:

Further to the Written Answer by the Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean on 25 January (WA 22), why the unidentified flying objects documents referred to were classified secret; whether these documents had any caveats attached to them; and what was the reason for any such caveats. [HL1808]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: One document was classified "Secret" with a "UK Eyes Only" caveat because it contained information about the UK air defence ground environment that could be of significant value to hostile or potentially hostile states. Associated correspondence was given the same classification. Generally, however, notifications of and correspondence on the subject of "UFO" sightings are unclassified....[END OF RELEVANT SECTION]

I trust this is helpful.

With kind regards,

Section 40

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

From: Section 40

To: Section 40

Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2006 12:07 PM

Subject: Freedom of Information Request 05-05-2006-151510-014

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for a copy of the **"Secret/UK Eyes Only document referred to in the Answer to a Parliamentary Question in the House of Lords on 3rd May 2001..."** . I am unable to locate this information from the details you have provided. Please could you provide details of the actual question which you are referring to and if possible the name of the person who asked the question.

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

10th May 2006

11/05/2006

Ministry of Defence

FRIDAY 4 MAY 2001

Admiral of The Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB(X) (CB)

LORDS WRITTEN

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by the Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean on 25th January (WA 22), why the Unidentified Flying Objects documents referred to were classified secret; whether these documents had any caveats attached to them; and what was the reason for any such caveats. (HL1808)

Minister replying Baroness Symons

One document was classified 'Secret' with a 'UK Eyes Only' caveat because it contained information about the UK air defence ground environment that could be of significant value to hostile or potentially hostile states. Associated correspondence was given the same classification. Generally, however, notifications of and correspondence on the subject of 'UFO' sightings are unclassified.

April 01

PQ Ref 1432L

Background Papers.
Not sent to the applicant.

Copied from D/DAS/64/4 Pt G
UFOs - PQs/PEs.

Enclosure 2 - (TET 1).

BACKGROUND NOTE

PQ 0351L, tabled by Lord Hill-Norton in January, asked for the highest classification applied to any MOD document concerning 'UFOs' and the answer given explained that was Secret. The Background Note indicated that a small number of documents had been traced by the Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat) with a classification of Secret, including one which referred to a report by the DIS on 'Unidentified Aerial Phenomena'. The Background Note also contained comment on the document, its classification and the classification of associated correspondence, and that information is now used in answer to this latest question.

REMEMBER you are accountable for the accuracy and timeliness of the advice you provide. Departmental Instructions on answering PQs can be viewed on the CHOTS public area and on DAWN.

DRAFTED BY : Section 40 (cleared by DI Sec) TEL: Section 40
AUTHORISED BY : Section 40 TEL:
GRADE/RANK : B1
BRANCH : DAS Deputy Director
for Section 40 absent on Ministerial business.

DECLARATION: I have satisfied myself that the above 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).

PQ 1432L -

To ask HMG, further to the Written Answer by the Baroness Symons . . . on 25 January (WA 22), why the Unidentified Flying Objects documents referred to were classified secret; whether these documents had any caveats attached to them; and what was the reason for any such caveats.

Draft Answer -

Notifications of and correspondence on the subject of 'UFO' sightings are generally unclassified. However, one particular report document was found to be classified 'Secret', with a 'UK Eyes Only' caveat because it contained information about the UK air defence ground environment that could have been of significant value to hostile or potentially hostile states. Associated correspondence was has been given the same classification.

Draft Background Note:

PQ 0351L, tabled by Lord Hill-Norton in January, asked for the highest classification applied to any MOD document concerning 'UFOs' and the answer given explained that was Secret. The Background Note indicated that a small number of documents had been traced by the Directorate Air Staff (Secretariat) with a classification of Secret, including one which referred to a report by the DIS on 'Unidentified Aerial Phenomena'. The Background Note also contained comment on the document, its classification and the classification of associated correspondence and that information is now used in answer to this latest question.

PQ 1432L -

To ask HMG, further to the Written Answer by the Baroness Symons . . . on 25 January (WA 22), why the Unidentified Flying Objects documents referred to were classified secret; whether these documents had any caveats attached to them; and what was the reason for any such caveats.

Draft Answer -

Notifications of and correspondence on the subject of 'UFO' sightings are generally unclassified. However, one particular document was found to be classified 'Secret', with a 'UK Eyes Only' caveat because it contained information about the UK air defence ground environment that could have been of significant value to hostile or potentially hostile states. Associated correspondence has been given the same classification.

Draft Background Note:

PQ 0351L, tabled by Lord Hill-Norton in January, asked for the highest classification applied to any MOD document concerning 'UFOs' and the answer given explained that was Secret. The Background Note indicated that a small number of documents had been traced by the Directorate Air Staff (Secretariat) with a classification of Secret, including one which referred to a report by the DIS on 'Unidentified Aerial Phenomena'. The Background Note also contained comment on the document, its classification and the classification of associated correspondence and that information is now used in answer to this latest question.

1432L -

To ask HMG, further to the Written Answer by the Baroness Symons . . . on 25 January (WA 22), why the Unidentified Flying Objects documents referred to were classified secret; whether these documents had any caveats attached to them; and what was the reason for any such caveats.

Draft Answer -

Notifications of and correspondence on the subject of 'UFO' sightings are ^{generally} unclassified. ^{However,} One particular document ^{found to be} was classified 'Secret', with a 'UK Eyes Only' caveat because it contained information about the UK air defence ground environment that could have been of significant value to hostile or potentially hostile states. Associated correspondence has been given the same classification.

Draft Background Note:

PQ 0351L, tabled by Lord Hill-Norton in January, asked for the highest classification applied to any MOD document concerning 'UFOs' and the answer given explained that was Secret. The Background Note indicated that a small number of documents had been traced by the Directorate Air Staff (Secretariat) with a classification of Secret, including one which referred to a report by the DIS on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena. The Background Note also contained comment on the document, its classification and the classification of associated correspondence and that information is now used in answer to this latest question. /

A.
Notifications of and correspondence on the subject of 'UFO' sightings are unclassified. ^{One} A particular ^{was} document ~~has been~~ classified Secret, with a UK Eyes Only caveat. ^{because} The reason for this was that it contained information about the UK air defence ground environment that could have been of significant value to hostile or potentially hostile states. Associated correspondence has been given the same classification, ~~and caveat or the caveat UK Eyes A or UK Eyes B.~~

Background Note:

Lord Hill-Norton's PQ 0351L tabled in January, asked for the highest classification applied to any MOD document concerning 'UFOs' and the answer explained that was Secret. The Background Note indicated that a small number of documents had been traced by the Directorate Air Staff (Secretariat) with a classification of Secret ^{including one which referred} ~~and that they related to~~ discussions concerning the handling of correspondence and administrative arrangements rather than 'UFO' reports. ~~Reference was also made to a report by the DIS on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, and which discussed contained~~ --- Comment on that document, its classification and the classification of associated correspondence, originally contained in the background note is now used in answer to this latest question.

Written Answers

Thursday, 25th January 2001.

Chinook Helicopter Mk II: Conversion Training

Lord Chalfont asked Her Majesty's Government:

When the Chinook helicopter simulator training facility and its related training programme were upgraded to cater for the Mk. II version of the helicopter; and when Flight Lieutenants Tapper and Cook completed their upgraded training programme. [HL324]

The Minister of State, Ministry of Defence (Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean): The reconfiguration of the Chinook simulator to Mk2 standard was completed in the last quarter of 1993. The instructing training staff of the Operational Conversion Flight had completed conversion to the Mk2 version in August 1993.

Flt Lt Tapper and Flt Lt Cook completed their conversion training programmes on 28 February 1994 and 17 March 1994 respectively.

European Security and Defence Policy: Intelligence Management

Lord Shore of Stepney asked Her Majesty's Government:

What are the commitments which the United Kingdom has entered into, under the European Security and Defence Policy, for the gathering, analysis and distribution of intelligence material for European Union purposes. [HL405]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: At the European Council at Nice, EU member states agreed the terms of reference of the EU Military Staff, which would perform "early warning, situation assessment and strategic planning for Petersberg tasks".

To carry out this task the staff will rely on appropriate national and multinational intelligence capabilities. The detailed arrangements for handling intelligence material will be subject to stringent safeguards and will take full account of existing national and multinational agreements.

* Rendlesham Forest Incident *

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government:

Whether they are aware of any involvement by Special Branch personnel in the investigation of the 1980 Rendlesham Forest incident. [HL303]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: Special Branch officers may have been aware of the incident but would not have shown an interest unless there was evidence of

a potential threat to national security. No such interest appears to have been shown.

* **Lord Hill-Norton** asked Her Majesty's Government: *

Whether personnel from Porton Down visited Rendlesham Forest or the area surrounding RAF Walton in December 1980 or January 1981; and whether they are aware of any tests carried out in either of those two areas aimed at assessing any nuclear, biological or chemical hazard. [HL301]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: The staff at the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) Chemical and Biological Defence (CBD) laboratories at Porton Down have made a thorough search of their archives and have found no record of any such visits.

* **Lord Hill-Norton** asked Her Majesty's Government: *

Whether they are aware of any uncorrelated targets tracked on radar in November or December 1980; and whether they will give details of any such incidents. [HL302]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: Records dating from 1980 no longer exist. Paper records are retained for a period of three years before being destroyed. Recordings of radar data are retained for a period of thirty days prior to re-use of the recording medium.

* Unidentified Flying Objects *

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government:

What is the highest classification that has been applied to any Ministry of Defence document concerning Unidentified Flying Objects. [HL304]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: A limited search through available files has identified a number of documents graded Secret. The overall classification of the documents was not dictated by details of specific sightings of "UFOs".

Arms Brokering and Trafficking: Licensing

Lord Hylton asked Her Majesty's Government:

When they expect to implement licensing for arms brokering and trafficking, which they announced at last year's Labour Party Conference. [HL343]

The Minister for Science, Department of Trade and Industry (Lord Sainsbury of Turville): The new licensing controls on arms brokering and trafficking announced last September will be introduced under new powers on trafficking and brokering to be contained in an Export Control Bill; The Queen's Speech announced that the Government will publish this Bill in draft during this session of Parliament. Full details of the new controls proposed on arms

DAS4A(SEC)

From: DI ISEC SEC3
Sent: 27 April 2001 11:25
To: DAS4A(SEC)
Cc: DSy(Pol)2b
Subject: PQ 1432L

Importance: High

Section 40

1. Apologies for the delay in getting back to you. **Section 40** in DSy Pol has approved the contribution to the answer to PQ 1432L that I sent to you yesterday.
2. As far as the background note is concerned, there is nothing more to add to the contribution we sent to you to you for the earlier PQ (25 Jan WA 22). Note, however, that the DIS report used the term Unidentified Aerial Phenomena - not UFOs.
3. Regards

Section 40

DAS4A(SEC)

From: DI ISEC SEC3
Sent: 26 April 2001 12:36
To: DAS4A1(SEC)
Cc: DI54COORD1; DAS4A(SEC)
Subject: PQ1432L AND 1436L

Importance: High

UK Eyes A

Section 40

1. My suggested answer to PQ 1436L is as follows:

" One report was classified Secret, with a UK Eyes Only caveat. The reason for this was that it contained information about the UK air defence ground environment that could have been of significant value to hostile or potentially hostile states. Associated correspondence was accordingly given the same classification and caveat".

2. The above is based on the assumption that your only Secret UFO documents were indeed correspondence relating to the DIS report. You also need to check whether your documents also had a UKEO caveat.

3. Grateful for sight of your final draft.

Section 40

PS as agreed, we will wait out for your draft response to 1432L. You may want to consider the implications if any of the Freedom Of Information Act.

" Reports of 'UFO' sightings and correspondence have not been classified
" ~~SECRET~~ ...

[The classification of the documents referred to
in the answer of 25 Jan. was not dictated
by details of specific sightings of UFOs.]

The reason for the classification of one Secret
report/document with a UK Eyes only caveat was that
it.... "

LORDS WRITTEN PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION - URGENT ACTION REQUIRED

DATE FOR RETURN : 12:00 ON 30 April 2001
PQ REFERENCE : PQ 1432L
PQ TYPE : LORDS WRITTEN
MINISTER REPLYING : -NOTFOUND-

LEAD BRANCH: : SEC (AS)
COPY ADDRESSEE(S) :

MDP Sec

DI(Sec) ←

Defence Estates

D NEWS

D AIR RP

CAS

ACAS

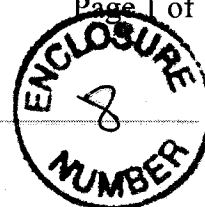
Sell 16 DI Sec.

- 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.

Peer's DETAIL: Admiral of The Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton GCB

QUESTION

To ask Her Majesty's Government To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by the Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean on 25th January (WA 22), why the Unidentified Flying Objects documents referred to were classified secret; whether these documents had any caveats attached to them; and what was the reason for any such caveats. (HL1808)



Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 05 June 2006 16:44

To: Section 40

Subject: Internet-authorised:Freedom of Information Request 18-05-2006-062118-002

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the date of a UFO sighting in July 1977. I can inform you that the MOD UFO report files for this period are no longer held by the MOD so I am unable to assist with your request. These records are open for viewing at The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey. Details of how to access information at The National Archives can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

In order to assist you, I have looked at The National Archives online catalogue and suggest you may wish to view the documents referenced as
DEFE 24/978 and DEFE 24/1206 which cover the period relevant to your request.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

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

5th June 2006

05/06/2006

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

18 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 18-05-2006-062118-002
Days Left: 21Received: 18 May 06
Expiry Date: 16 Jun 06
Status: Open **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](#)
[Close Case](#)
[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: 18 May 2006

Applicant Details

Title:	Section 40	Other:	
First Name:		*Surname:	Section 40
Organisation:			
Applicant Type:	Not Specified	Other:	

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1:	Section 40	
Address Line2:	alvechurch	
Address Line3:		
Town/City:	worcestershire	
Postcode:		Country: United Kingdom
Email:	Section 40	
Telephone:	Section 40	Fax:

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAC

18 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 18-05-2006-062118-002**Days Left:** 21**Received:** 18 May 06**Expiry Date:** 16 Jun 06**Status:** Open **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](#)[Close Case](#)[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:** **Language Requested** ☐ Welsh***Enter the request for information:**

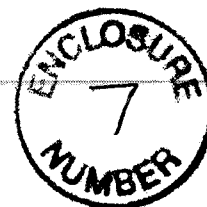
re the following:- (RAF Boulmer) In July 1977, Flt Lt Section 40 reported "bright objects hanging over the sea". The MoD document adds that the RAF officer said the closest object was "luminous, round and four to five times larger than a Whirlwind helicopter." The UFOs were reported to be three miles out to sea at a height of about 5,000 feet. The officer, whose report is supported by Cp Section 40 and Sgt Section 40 said: "The objects separated. Then one went west of the other, as it maneuvered it changed shape to become body-shaped with projections like arms and legs." The men who were positioned at the picket post at the RAF station were able to observe the strange objects for an

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

re the following:- (RAF Boulmer) In July 1977, Flt Lt. **Section 40** reported "bright objects hanging over the sea". The MoD document adds that the RAF officer said the closest object was "luminous, round and four to five times larger than a Whirlwind helicopter." The UFOs were reported to be three miles out to sea at a height of about 5,000 feet. The officer, whose report is supported by Cpl **Section 40** and Sgt **Section 40** said: "The objects separated. Then one went west of the other, as it maneuvered it changed shape to become body-shaped with projections like arms and legs." The men who were positioned at the picket post at the RAF station were able to observe the strange objects for an hour and 40 minutes. At the same time a radar station detected the objects in exactly the same position as the men had observed them. The report describes Flt Lt. **Section 40** as "reliable and sober." It adds: "Two contacts were noted on radar, both T84 and T85, at RAF Boulmer. They were also seen on the Staxton Wold radar picture which is relayed to West Drayton."

Question. Can you tell me please what date did this take place in July 1977

Section 40



From: Section 40

Sent: 05 June 2006 15:47

To: Section 40

Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Request - Condign Report 17-05-2006-085937-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my questions; your detailed answers are more then satisfactory; however, I would like to make reservations in the event I have future questions.

Thank You,
Sincerely,

Section 40

05/06/2006

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 05 June 2006 15:06

To: Section 40

Subject: Internet-authorised:Freedom of Information Request - Condign Report 17-05-2006-085937-001

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your email message of 16 May in which you requested information regarding the "Condign Report" and MOD procedures for handling UFO reports. This Department is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs and the Department jointly responsible with the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) for the release of this report. I will answer your questions in the same order as your letter.

(1) How does procedure vary from public reports, opposed to one of an official nature?

All UFO sighting reports received by the MOD (from any source) 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. Any report considered to be worthy of further examination is sent to relevant department experts.

(2) Are witnesses interviewed in person?

No.

(3) Do witnesses fill out a report form without assistance and mail them in, or is this done by personnel over the phone and the blanks filled in?

The MOD has a UFO report form which we use to record details of UFO sightings reported on our answerphone and RAF Stations tend to follow a similar list of details. However, the general public are not asked to fill in a form and the MOD receives details of UFO sightings in a number of ways. These include letters, emails, telephone messages to our answerphone, and via contacts with military establishments and the Police.

(4) What form is used, and can you e-mail a copy?

Please see attached a copy of the report form this department uses to record UFO sightings.

(5) Aside from filling out a "report form", what investigation is done, if any?

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. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to the release of the "Condign Report" I can advise you that this study was not conducted to establish the existence of extraterrestrial lifeforms. It was conducted purely to establish whether the UFO sighting reports received by the MOD were of any value to the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) and whether there was a requirement for the DIS to see them in the future. Given the conclusion it was decided that there was no such requirement and, since December 2000, UFO reports have not been forwarded to the DIS. The Ministry of Defence understands the public interest in information about UFOs and has embraced the spirit of open government. All requests for information are answered as fully as possible and, despite the size and original classification of this report, staff have taken great care to ensure that the majority of this large report is made available. We are pleased to be able to make the report available to a wide audience via the MOD website and if you have not yet had an opportunity to see the full report, you may wish to view it at <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

05/06/2006

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

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

5th June 2006

05/06/2006

Expiry: 15 June 2006

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 16 May 2006 16:50

To: DAS-UFO-Office

Subject: Condign Report & Source Data

Dear Sir or Madam,

In preparation for an article I'm writing concerning the "Condign Report" and its recent publication, I'm seeking information in regards to the "procedure" involved in receiving "UFO/UAP reports":

- 1). How does procedure vary from public reports, opposed to one of an official nature?
- 2). Are witnesses interviewed in person?
- 3). Do witnesses fill out a report form without assistance and mail them in, or is this done by personnel over the phone and the blanks filled in?
- 4). What form is used, and can you e-mail a copy?
- 5). Aside from filling out a "report form," what investigation is done, if any?

Any and all information in regards to the "protocol" for "receiving/handling UFO/UAP reports would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40



From: Section 40

Sent: 05 June 2006 11:28

To: Section 40

Subject: Internet-authorised:Unidentified Flying Objects 02-05-2006-111835-005

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your email dated 1 May regarding the Ministry of Defence's relation to reported UFO sightings. Your message has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs. I apologise for the delay in responding.

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 the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. The MOD 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, 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.

If you would like to view some of the information concerning UFOs released by the MOD, please go the Freedom of Information pages of the MOD website at <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/> There is also information from the 1950s, 1960s and up to 1977 open to public viewing at The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey. Details including an online catalogue can be found on The National Archives website at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

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

2nd June 2006

05/06/2006

Expiry - 31/05/2006.

may 1st.

02-05-2006 -
11835-005.

Section 40

From: feedback@www.mod.uk
Sent: 01 May 2006 17:57
To: webmaster@dgics.mod.uk
Subject: Research Enquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, May 1, 2006 at 17:57:23

txtName: Section 40

txtEmail:

txtCountry: Switzerland

txtComments: Dear Sirs

Thank you in advance for taking your time in reading this mail.

Could you please inform me of the Ministry Of Defence relation to Ufo's or if there are any further investigations regarding extraterrestrial intelligence ?
I hope this doesn't sound childish!!!

kind regards

Section 40

Switzerland

Section 40

Section 40

From:

Section 40

Sent:

03 May 2006 06:31

To:

Section 40

Subject:

FW: FOI - UFO PS 02-05-2006-111835-005 Section 40

Categories: FOI Information Request

Section 40

I understand that Section 40 is on leave, can you accept this FOI case on her behalf.

Regards

Section 40

FOI Helpdesk

From: Section 40

Sent: 02 May 2006 15:32

To: Section 40

Subject: FW: FOI - UFO PS 02-05-2006-111835-005 Section 40

Section 40

Can I interest you with this FOI case?

Regards

Section 40

FOI Helpdesk

From: Section 40 **On Behalf Of** Info-SvcsLibrary-Office

Sent: 02 May 2006 09:40

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI - UFO PS 02-05-2006-111835-005 Section 40

Thanks

Section 40

Business Development Manager

Information Delivery Team

MoD Information Centre

Ground Floor, Zone D, Section 40

Main Building

London

SW1A 2HB

Tel: Section 40

Mil:

Email: Section 40 @mod.uk or Info-SvcsEnq7

From: MOD Webmaster [mailto:modeditor2@dgics.mod.uk]

Sent: 02 May 2006 09:39

To: Info-SvcsLibrary-Office

05/05/2006

Subject: [Fwd: Research Enquiry]

05/05/2006

Dear **Section 40**



I am writing concerning your email message regarding public reaction to the release of the Ministry of Defence report entitled "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region". This Department is the focal point within the MOD for correspondence regarding UFOs (also known as UAP) and the Department jointly responsible with the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) for the release of this report.

First it might 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 the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. The MOD 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, 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.

This study was started in 1996 during a policy review of how we handle UFO sighting reports and was conducted purely to establish whether the UFO sighting reports received by the MOD were of any value to the DIS and whether there was a requirement for the DIS to see them in the future. Given the conclusion it was decided that there was no such requirement and, since December 2000, UFO reports have not been forwarded to the DIS. If you have not yet had an opportunity to see the full report, you may wish to view it at

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

With regard to your questions about the reaction to the release of the report I can inform you that since media coverage began on 7 May, to date, we have received 23 letters or emails asking about or commenting on the report. 19 have been from members of the public and 4 from the media. 15 of these have requested copies of the report or asked where they can view the information and 8 have either accused the MOD of releasing "dis-information" or disagree with the findings of the report. 15 of the 23 have come from people in the UK, 6 from other Nations: USA(4), Canada(1), New Zealand (1). The remaining 1 has not stated which Nation they are from.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

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

2nd June 2006.

Expiry: 27 June 2006

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 30 May 2006 18:57

To: DAS-UFO-Office 

Subject: Journalist requesting info on reaction to UAP report

Dear Sir/Ms

I am a Reuters journalist, at the moment writing an article on UFOs (or UAPs) which is mainly based on MOD's recently released report on the subject. This may look like a long email, but I would be very grateful for even a very brief response. Unfortunately, I'm in a bit of a hurry, so a quick and not so detailed reply would be better than a late and long one. If it is at all possible to get any kind of reply within a day or two, it would be fantastic.

I would be very happy to include in my article anything about the character and amount of reactions and/or requests the MOD has received since news of this report emerged, and speaking to Section 40 after finding her name on the homepage, she advised me to send an FOI request by e-mail to this address.

Looking at one of the many UFO-forums on the Internet, I saw this comment:

"I just emailed the MOD explaining my disgust in their latest UFO report. You can do the same here: (link)"

Thus it appears some people are not too happy about this report, and this comment spurred my curiosity as to what kind of reaction this report has been met with. I will try to be as specific as possible, but please feel free to go beyond the exact scope of the questions (provided of course that is compatible with the way you work), or to not meet the exact scope of the questions if that can save time, or indeed to not answer all questions.

1. About how many people (not including journalists) have contacted the MOD reacting to the report since it was published on your homepage on May 15 (or, since May 7, when it was quoted by media)? I do not need an exact answer to this; what I would like to know is whether there has been more, or maybe even much more contacts taken by UFO enthusiasts because of the report, and maybe a ball park figure of responses -- Dozens? Hundreds?

2. Are the people who contact the MOD because of the report (if any) mainly complaining about it, accusing the MOD of covering up information, or requesting more information, or is it a mix?

3. Are the people who contact the MOD because of the report (if any) mainly UK citizens or are there many of other nationalities? The reason I ask is that I have the impression that U.S. UFO enthusiasts are, well... more enthusiastic than most, so it would be interesting to hear something about the American reaction, if any.

This is the first time I make an FOI request, so I apologise for any deviances from format. If I have been too vague or made any other mistakes that render all questions impossible to answer, I would appreciate if you could get back to me as soon as possible, so I can try again.

Thank you very much for help,
Best Regards,

Section 40

Reuters Svenska AB

Section 40

SE - 111 87 Stockholm
Sweden

Section 40

To find out more about Reuters visit www.about.reuters.com

Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Reuters Ltd.

31/05/2006

Background information. Not sent to the applicant.

Name	Public	Media	Requesting Info	Complaining / Disagree	Nation
Section 40	X		X		UK
	X		X		UK
	X		X		UK
	X		X		UK
	X			X	UK
	X			X	UK
	X			X	USA (Ohio)
	X			X	USA
	X			X	UK
	X			X	New Zealand
	X		X		UK
	X			X	USA (Georgia)
	X			X	USA (Georgia)
		X	X		Not Known
	X		X		UK
		X	X		UK
	X		X		UK
	X		X		UK
		X	X		Canada (Quebec)
	X		X		USA (Colorado)
		X	X		UK
	X		X		UK
	X		X		UK



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 18-04-2006-073214-018

Expiry: 17/05/2006

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

I would like documents referring to the MOD's investigation of crop circles. Including purpose of the circles, who or what might make them, scientific studies done at the crop circle sites and any pictures taken for these purposes.

I would like documents referring to any Unidentified Flying Object incident investigation involving the US Military and the MOD.

Thank you.

Case for release of information

I have informed Section 40 that the MOD does not investigate reported sightings of crop circles or carry out any research into them.

I have explained the MOD's policy of not investigating any alleged UFO incidents.

I explained the alleged Rendlesham Forest incident to Section 40 that involved US Military Personnel. That the papers on the alleged incident could be found on the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme at <http://www.mod.uk>.

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: D Name: Section 40

Signature: Section 40

Date: 26/5/2006



From: **Section 40**

Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

Telephone (Direct dial)
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

020 7218 2140
020 7218 9000

Section 40

Section 40

Great Mills
Maryland
20634, USA

Your Reference:

Our Reference:

18-04-2006-072924-017

Date:

26 May 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your two Freedom of Information requests, one regarding crop circles and the other for documents referring to any UFO incident investigations involving the US Military and the Ministry of Defence. Your requests have been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs. I will answer both of your requests in this letter. Sorry for the long delay in getting back to you.

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

With regard to your first request enquiring after documents referring to the MOD's investigation of crop circles, there is no evidence to suggest that these phenomena are caused by anything of a military concern and the MOD does not therefore investigate reported sightings or carry out any research into them. We therefore hold no documents relevant to this request.

As to your second request involving UFO investigations concerning the US Military, there was a well known alleged incident involving US Military personnel at Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk in December 1980. All the documents the Ministry of Defence holds on this event, has been released and can be seen on the MOD Freedom of Information Publication Scheme at <http://www.mod.uk>.

● I hope this is helpful. If you are still unhappy with the response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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

GxAITESTPTCDAS

18 April 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 18-04-2006-073214-018**Days Left:** 21

Received: 18 Apr 06

Expiry Date: 17 May 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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:

18 April 2006

Applicant Details

Title:

Section 40

Other:

First Name:

*Surname:

Section 40

Organisation:

Navy

Applicant Type:

Private Individuals

Other:

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1:

Section 40

Address Line2:

Address Line3:

Great Mills

Town/City:

Maryland

Postcode:

20634

Country:

United States

Email:

Section 40

Telephone:

Fax:

Clear

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

18 April 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 18-04-2006-073214-018**Days Left:** 21

Received: 18 Apr 06

Expiry Date: 17 May 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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:

Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

I would like documents referring to the MOD's investigation of crop circles. Including purpose of the circles, who or what might make them, scientific studies done at crop circle sites and any pictures taken for these purposes.

Thank you.

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

To be held with the helpdesk until allocated



Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

18 April 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)

Request: Section 40 18-04-2006-072924-017

Days Left: 21

Received: 18 Apr 06
Expiry Date: 17 May 06
Status: Open **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](#)
[Close Case](#)
[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: 18 April 2006

Applicant Details

Title: Section 40

Other:

First Name:

*Surname: Section 40

Organisation:

Navy

Applicant Type:

Private Individuals

Other:

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1:

Section 40

Address Line2:

Address Line3:

Great Mills

Town/City:

Maryland

Postcode:

20634

Country:

United States

Email:

Section 40

Telephone:

Fax:

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCDAS

18 April 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 8-04-2006-072924-017**Days Left:** 21

Received: 18 Apr 06

Expiry Date: 17 May 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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 DetailsResponse Format Requested: Language Requested ☐ Welsh

*Enter the request for information:

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

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 08-05-2006-104655-008

Expiry: 06/06/2006



The Applicant has made the following request for information:

What reports from the public have there been regarding the sighting of UFOs in Coventry and Warwickshire?
How have these been investigated by the MOD?
Have any other bodies been involved in investigations? If so which?
What has been the outcome of any investigations into UFOs in the area?
Where in Coventry and Warks have UFOs been sighted?
How many sightings have there been?
How does this compare with other areas?
What information about UFOs has been provided to the MOD from people who have sighted them?
What conclusions has the MOD reached regarding UFO sightings in the area?
What other information is held by the MOD regarding UFOs in the area?

Case for release of information

First, I explained to **Section 40** that we do not investigate into sightings of UFOs and explained our policy.

I explained that our files are not stored electronically but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received and that to go through 25 years worth of records would exceed the £600 limit set for compliance by the Freedom of Information Act.

I informed **Section 40** of The National Archives address so he could look for information on UFOs. Also, The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and the Publication Scheme Disclosure Log.

Authorisation

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

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

Signature **Section 40**

Date: 25/5/2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence in Coventry and in the county of Warwickshire. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

With regard to the records the MOD holds of reported UFO sightings, I should inform you that they are not held electronically but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received and we currently hold records spanning a 25 year period. They are not segregated by geographical area. In order to identify records specifically from Coventry and Warwickshire, a manual search of thousands of records would be required and this would exceed the permitted £600 cost limit for compliance with the FOI Act 2000. However, we are currently in the process of compiling a database of UFO reports and this has now been completed for the years, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and to date in 2006. During this period there were no UFO sightings reported in the Coventry area or the county of Warwickshire.

You may also wish to be aware that there is already some information about UFOs available for public viewing. MOD files 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 telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at <http://nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme also contains information on UFOs which can be accessed via the internet at <http://www.mod.uk>. Further information can also be found in the Publication Scheme Disclosure Log.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with the response or 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 (e.mail: Info-XD@MOD.uk).

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may be able to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally 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://informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building



Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Section 40

09 May 2006 07:04

Section 40

FW: FOI INFORMATION REQUEST PS 08-05-2006-104655-008 Section 40

Section 40

Can I ask you to deal in Section 40 absence.

Thanks

Section 40

FOI Helpdesk

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

From: Section 40

Sent: 08 May 2006 10:49

To: Section 40

Subject: FW: FOI INFORMATION REQUEST PS 08-05-2006-104655-008 Section 40

Section 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

Section 40

FOI Helpdesk

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

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

Sent: 08 May 2006 12:19

To: Info-Access-Office

Subject: FOI INFORMATION REQUEST PS 08-05-2006-104655-008 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, May 8, 2006 at 12:19:10

FirstName: Section 40

LastName:

occupation: reporter

Company: trinity mirror

Address1: your address line 1

Address2: your address line 2

City: enter your town/city

State: uk

Zip: Section 40

Country: United Kingdom

e-mail: Section 40

telephone: Section 40

preferred format: electronic

infosubject: Please enter the full details of your Information Request (please be as

, specific as possible)

hi [REDACTED] ere,

i have a few questions regarding ufos, so here goes:

*what reports from the public have there been regarding the sighting of ufos in coventry and warwickshire?

*how have these been investigated by the mod?

*have any other bodies been involved in investigations?

*if so, which?

*what has been the outcome of any investigations into ufos in the area?

*where in Coventry and Warks have ufos been sighted?

*how many sightings have there been?

*how does this compare with other areas?

*what information about ufos has been provided to the mod from people who have sighted them?

*what conclusions has the mod reached regarding ufo sightings in the area?

*what other information is held by the mod regarding ufos in the area?

regards,

Section 40 [REDACTED]

submit: Send Form



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 11-05-2006-085934-005

Expiry: 08/06/2006

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

I request any 'alleged' UFO sightings over the Bexleyheath area, London airports, airport areas and along the route of the river Thames i.e between the London areas and the Woolwich district, dates I would say, between 2000 to present (where permitted), if that's at all possible, and obviously Military bases.

Case for release of information

I have explained to Section 40 that we are experiencing problems retrieving our files back from TNT archives, so can not fully finish his request at the present time for the years 2000 and 2001.

I had informed him of our database and that I examined the UFO reports and found one from Heathrow airport, for which I put the details in a table for Section 40

Section 40

I explained that I could not find any reports for the other areas that he requested.

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: D Name: Section 40

Signature: Section 40

Date: 25/5/2006



From: **Section 40**

Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

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

Section 40

Bexleyheath
Kent

Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:

11-05-2006-085934-005

Date:

26 May 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the number of UFO reports that have been reported in Bexleyheath, Woolwich, the route along the river Thames, London airports, airport areas, and Military bases. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs.

We are currently experiencing problems retrieving archived records for the years 2000 and 2001, so we are unable to see if there are any UFO reports during this period, from the areas you requested. However, I have examined our records and between 2002 to date, found one report from Heathrow Airport in 2003, the details are included in a table below. No reports were found for Bexleyheath, Military bases, Woolwich district or along the route of the river Thames. When we are able to access our records for the years 2000 and 2001, I will see if there is any further relevant information which we can provide.

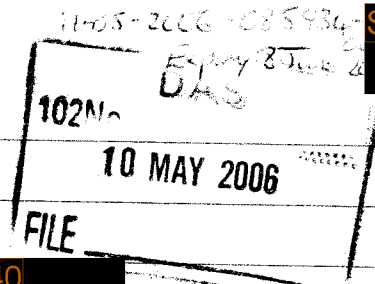
23/04/2003	18:15	Heathrow Airport	London	Aircraft to the North West of London. A ball of light, no colour, passed under the aircraft, front to back, very fast.
------------	-------	------------------	--------	--

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with the response or 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 wish to apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e.mail: Info-XD@MOD.uk).

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may be able to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information

Act. Please note the Information Commissioner will not normally 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://informationcommissioner.gov.uk>).

Yours sincerely



Section 40

Bexleyheath

Kent

Section 40

Tele:

Section 40

7.5.06.

Dear

Section 40

Thank you for your reply regarding my request for copies of papers relating to any "alleged" ufo Sightings over Britain between 1980 to present. I guess I was being very extravagant in my request, and appreciate your explaining the £600 limit set in compliance with the freedom of information act 2000. To be a bit more precise in what I was actually looking for, is any "alleged" ufo Sightings over the Bexleyheath area, London airports, and along the route of the river Thames i.e. between the London area's & the Woolwich district, dates I would say, between 2000 to present (where permitted) if that's at all possible. I'm kind of intrigued as to how in a newspaper article of "Supposed" ufo hotspots, my home area of Bexleyheath made number 7?, and I am interested in the fact that a lot of "Supposed" Sightings are over bodies of water, and it

Seems, airport areas, and obviously military bases, though I do not want to go down avenues I would rightly not be permitted to go, or be able to get copies of "alleged" info activity over, or near such places. I know that a few years ago, I requested, and was sent copies of paperwork relating to Rendlesham Forest incident of 1980, but I am still new to this writing to request copies of paperwork relating to "alleged" info reports, and it's a bit difficult to word the request properly, so do forgive my phrasing and confused layout, but I'm still learning, and only heard about being able to request copies of documents solely from watching documentaries on ufology & the paranormal on satellite tv, that's how inexperienced I am at this, yet extremely interested.

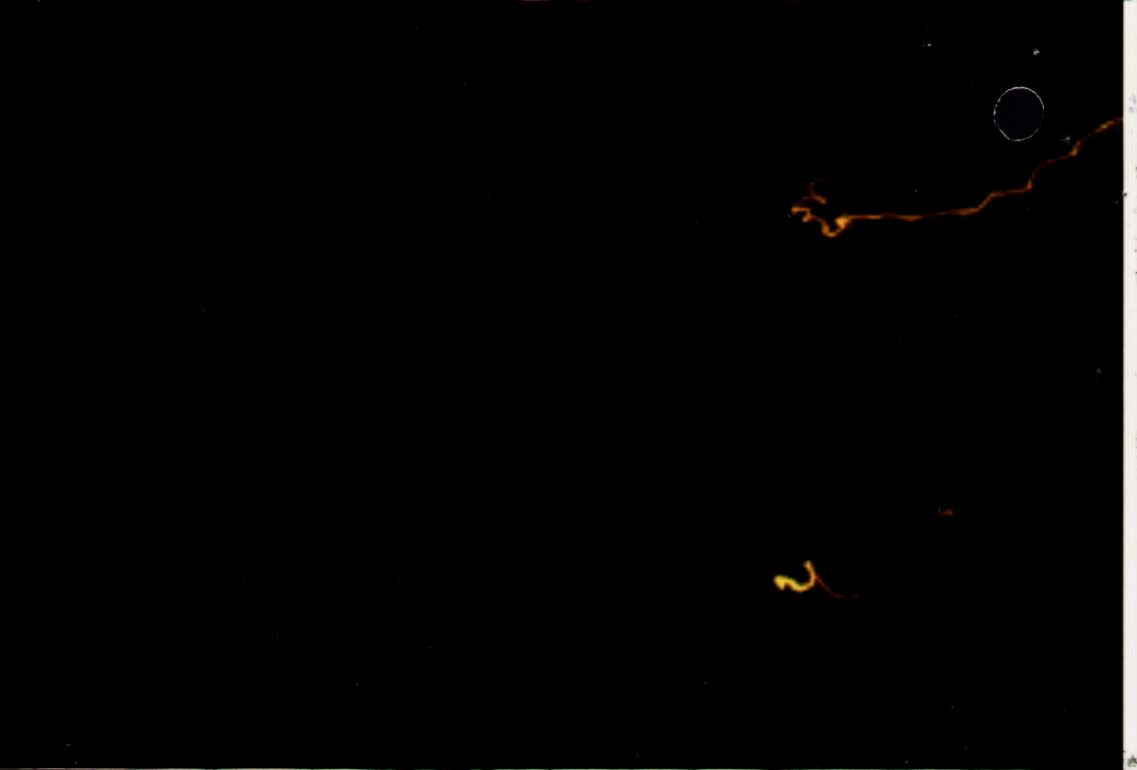
Anything you can let me have, now that I have been a bit more specific, would be great, but if there's nothing, well as I said, I tried.

Thank you for your time & patience with this.
Sincerely

I just thought I would slip in the photo I took of "Something?" in Rendlesham forest, where a group of us meet up regularly and Skywatch and generally take paranormal photo's. I have absolutely no idea what I have captured on camera, as there was nothing visible at all, it was pitch black, but the dark is not scary to us paranormal investigators. This photo made a paranormal magazine and was put through a filter, so is 100% genuine.

Section 40





Rendlesham Forest Area 1

26.6.05

This totally random shot was taken, and initially I did not realise I had captured anything until I blew the photo up with the zoom.
This photo is an enlargement of the original.

This image was captured by, and remains the Sole property of the photographer.

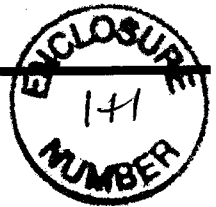
Copyright

Section 40

©

Section 40

Section 40



From: Section 40
Sent: 07 June 2006 09:31
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Request 25-04-2006-101326-013

For the attention of Section 40

I write with reference to the above request, and would like to thank you for the information which you have supplied.

I noted, with some amusement, the comment made by the RAF press office that "some parts of the media have not let the facts get in the way of a good story". I believe that comment sums up the public interest in UFO/UAP phenomena.

Section 40

Note:
This message is for the named person's use only. It may contain confidential, proprietary or legally privileged information. No confidentiality or privilege is waived or lost by any mis-transmission. If you receive this message in error, please immediately delete it and all copies of it from your system, destroy any hard copies of it and notify the sender. You must not, directly or indirectly, use, disclose, distribute, print, or copy any part of this message if you are not the intended recipient. Newark & Sherwood District Council and any of its subsidiaries each reserve the right to monitor all e-mail communications through its networks.

Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the message states otherwise and the sender is authorized to state them to be the views of any such entity.

Senders and recipients of email should be aware that, under the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the contents may have to be disclosed in response to a request.

Newark & Sherwood District Council Legal Disclaimer

Thank You.

This e-mail message has been scanned for Viruses and Content and cleared by NetIQ MailMarshal
#####

AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION



Applicant: **Section 40**

Case Number: 25-04-2006-101326-013 Expiry: 19 May 2006

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. Paper copies of any material relating to a BBC TV programme "Secrets of the Paranormal: UFOs" screened on 11 April 1996 featuring retired US of S, Ralph Noyes, Nick Pope and two RAF aircrew about a UFO seen on radar near RAF Lakenheath in 1956. Also any material concerning related articles in the Daily Mail on 30 March 1996 and RAF News on 18 April 1996.
2. Copies of any papers, notes, emails or briefings about a stories in the Daily Mail and Daily Express on 27 April 1998 claiming the RAF had tracked a UFO "as big as a battleship" over the North Sea. Also confirm that the MOD press office were briefed to say the source of the stories was a former editor of RAF News, **Section 40** and that the stories were untrue. The request also includes copies of any advice from RAF Fylingdales, RAF Cranwell and other air defence or defence intelligence branches about these stories.

Case for withholding information

1. Despite a search of all the relevant UFO files for this period, no information has been located.
2. A number of papers relevant to this request have been located and are attached. These consist of a request for information from US of S and correspondence with DPO(RAF), DAO-ADGE1 and RAF Fylingdales. DCT&UKOps-SO1 Airspace Integrity (Wing Commander **Section 40**) has seen these papers and confirmed that they contain no sensitive information.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

Section 40 (Personal Information)

Information has been removed from the letter from DPO(RAF) to Sec(AS)2a1 dated April 1998 (Enclosure 4) and from paragraph 4 of the LM to APS/US of S dated 30 April 1998 (Enclosure 6) because these contain personal information about **Section 40**. These comments include that he **Section 40** and departed **Section 40**

Names of officials, room and telephone numbers, and original security classifications (restricted) have been removed where appropriate as they are not relevant to the request.

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40

Signature Section 40

Date: 24/5/06

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCD

11 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)

Request: Section 40 25-04-2006-101326-013

Days Left: 7

Received: 20 Apr 06

Expiry Date: 19 May 06

Status: Open

 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](#)[Close Case](#)[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: 20 April 2006

Applicant Details

Title:	Section 40	Other:	
First Name:		*Surname:	Section 40
Organisation:			
Applicant Type:	Not Specified	Other:	

Contact Details (Mailing or email address required)

Address Line1:	Section 40	
Address Line2:		
Address Line3:	Nottingham	
Town/City:	Arnold	
Postcode:	Section 40	Country: United Kingdom
Email:		
Telephone:		Fax:

Section 40

GxAITESTPTCD

11 May 06

[Home](#) [My Cases](#) [Log New Request](#) [Policy Guidance](#) [Help](#)**Request:** Section 40 25-04-2006-101326-013**Days Left:** 7

Received: 20 Apr 06

Expiry Date: 19 May 06

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](#)[Close Case](#)[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 DetailsResponse Format Requested: Language Requested ☐ Welsh***Enter the request for information:**

Please see attached document.

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

To be held by the Helpdesk until allocated.



DEIGNED ADMIN

21 APR 2006

MAIN BLDG 6F

Section 40

Nottingham

Section 40

email: Section 40

To:
MoD Freedom of Information officer
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

18 April 2006

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI). Please use the address above for correspondence related to this request.

1) My first application is about statements made on a BBC TV programme "Secrets of the Paranormal: UFOs" (screened on 11 April 1996) by retired Under Secretary of State for Defence Ralph Noyes and MoD employee Nick Pope. Two retired RAF aircrew also appeared on the programme talking about an occasion in 1956 when they were scrambled to investigate a UFO seen on radar near RAF Lakenheath (USAF).

Before the programme was shown the *Daily Mail* (30 March 1996) published an article ("The MoD Man and some close encounters") which began: "A senior Ministry of Defence official has confirmed the existence of UFOs". This referred to the statements made by Ralph Noyes and the RAF aircrew on the BBC programme described above.

→ On 19 April 1996 the *RAF News* published an article ('UFO Reports Shot Down') which played down the TV programme's claims and said it was not true that there was a "high level of interest" in UFOs by the MoD. In the *Daily Mail* on 24 April it was said that *RAF News* had been "ordered to print the article in a bid to quell public interest which had escalated since the broadcast."

I would like to know if it is true that *RAF News* was asked to publish this article to "quell public interest."

My application is for paper copies of any material in your files that relate to this programme, the articles and discussions about them, in whatever form by any branch of the Ministry of Defence.

I would like to point out that Mr Noyes died in 1998 if you intend to raise the Data Protection Act as an issue in response to my request.

2) My second application relates to stories published on Monday, 27 April 1998 in the *Daily Mail* and *Daily Express* newspapers, which both claimed the RAF had tracked a UFO "as big as a battleship" over the North Sea. They said these UFOs had been seen by the radars at RAF Fylingdales and that Dutch F-16 fighters had been scrambled to pursue them. The source for the stories was described as "RAF officials" (*Daily Mail*) and "a senior officer" (*Daily Express*). I have copied the two articles and attached them to my letter.

I have been led to believe that journalists who tried to follow up these stories by calling the MoD press office were informed the story was untrue. I also understand that the press office were briefed to say the source of the story was a former editor of the RAF News, **Section 40** and that the facts reported by the newspapers were untrue. Could you confirm that was indeed the case.

I would like my FOI application to cover copies of any papers, notes, emails or briefings about these stories and what the Press Office were advised to say about them. I would also like copies of any advice given to your office by RAF Fylingdales, RAF Cranwell and other air defence or defence intelligence branches about these stories.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course. I understand that I am entitled to a reply within 28 days under the FOIA.

Yours Faithfully,

Section 40

Section 40



From **Section 40**

Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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



Telephone

(Direct dial)

020 7218 2140

(Switchboard)

020 7218 9000

(Fax)

e-mail

das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Section 40

Nottingham

Section 40

Our Reference

25-04-2006-101326-013

Date

24th May 2006

Dear **Section 40**

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request dated 18 April 2006 regarding newspaper articles in 1996 and 1998 about alleged UFO sightings. Your letter has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFO matters.

First you requested information about an article that was published in RAF News on 19 April 1996. I can inform you that despite a search of the files we hold for this period I have been unable to locate any information about this article.

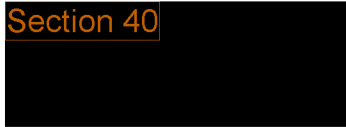
With regard to your second request about newspaper articles published in the Daily Mail and Daily Express on 27 April 1998, I can inform you that the Under Secretary of State for Defence noticed these articles and requested a brief from his officials. The relevant departments were contacted and confirmed that these stories were untrue. For your information, please find attached copies of relevant papers consisting of the original request for information from the Under Secretary of State's office, requests for advice from Secretariat (Air Staff)2a1 (predecessor of the Directorate of Air Staff), advice from the Defence Press Office (RAF) and RAF Fylingdales and the final brief to the Under Secretary of Defence. The names of officials, telephone numbers and previous classifications of documents have been removed as they are not relevant to your request. A small amount of information has been removed from paragraph 2 of the letter to Sec(AS)2a1 dated April 1998 (Enclosure number 4) as it contains personal information about **Section 40**. **Section 40** This information is withheld in accordance with Section 40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 40 is an absolute exemption so a public interest test is not required.

I hope this is helpful. I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or 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 (e-mail: Info-XD@mod.uk).

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 normally 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>.

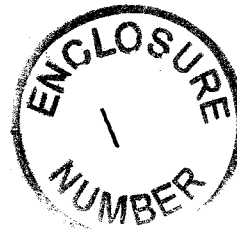
Yours sincerely,

Section 40

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, obscuring the name and any handwritten notes.



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DEFENCE



LOOSE MINUTE

D/USofS/JS/28/1/0

28 April 1998

Sec(AS)2a1

Copy to:
DPR/RAF

For info.
Asked DPO(RAF) + ADGE1
to provide me with
formal guidance. Agreed with
[redacted] wed let him
have something by 1400hrs
on Thursday

UFO ARTICLES: DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS, 27 APRIL 1998

Section 40
[redacted]

... The Under Secretary of State has seen the above articles
(copies attached) and has requested an urgent brief on the
reports.

2. The Minister would also like to know all the details of the
Space Symposium to be held at the RAF College, Cranwell in June,
including information on the taped radar records that will be
presented.

3. I would be grateful for an early response.

[redacted]
APS/USofS
[redacted]

Papers copied from
D/Sec(AS)64/5 Pt A
UFOs - Press Cuttings.
TEJ - Enc 63



RAF spots speeding UFOs with new radar

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

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

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

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

One senior officer said: "What we have seen are not secret weapons. They are craft

BY JOHN INGHAM

of which we have no technical knowledge. We know their shape, speeds and height but cannot explain what they are."

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

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

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

What is all this about?

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

24,000mph UFO buzzes Britain

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

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

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

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

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

Radar records of the craft are due to be presented to science and military experts from around the world, who will examine how to exploit space for military purposes at a conference at RAF College, Cranwell, Lincolnshire, in June. Other tapes of

By DAVID DERBYSHIRE
Science Correspondent

the UFO - thought to have been made during the last two years - are being withheld because they give too much information about the radar base's scanning ability.

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

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

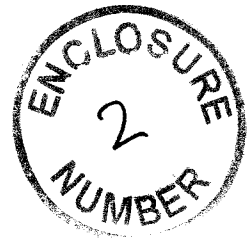
The popularity of TV series such as the X-Files has rekindled interest in flying saucers and conspiracy theories in recent years.

A spokesman for the Fortean Times, the journal devoted to UFOs, psychic phenomena and the paranormal, said: 'The vast majority of strange objects seen in the sky have a more down-to-earth explanation. But most UFO investigators would be very interested in seeing these tapes.' The latest theory gaining

popularity among some dedicated UFO watchers is that the military deliberately release stories about UFOs as a 'smokescreen' - and that witnesses are really seeing top-secret experimental aircraft.

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

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



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/5

28 Apr 98

ADGE1

UFO ARTICLES: DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS - 27 APRIL 1998

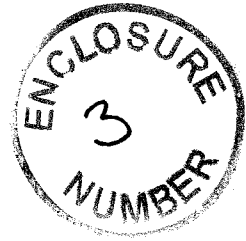
1. You discussed informally with someone at RAF Fylingdales the background to the Daily Mail article of yesterday.
2. As you will see from the attached, USofS has seen this article (and another from the Daily Express) and has asked for a background briefing on the Department's knowledge of this matter. In the light of this formal request from the Minister's office I should be grateful if you would approach RAF Fylingdales and seek a formal line from them on their knowledge of this alleged event.
3. May I ask for something by close of play tomorrow please.



Sec(AS)2a1



REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/5

28 Apr 98

DPO(RAF)

UFO ARTICLES: DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS - 27 APRIL 1998

1. USofS is seeking an urgent background briefing on the substance of the two tabloid articles on "UFOs" on 27 April (see attached).

2. I shall be coordinating the brief and should be grateful if you could send me background lines on the likely source of the article **Section 40** [REDACTED] and information you have obtained about the Space Symposium to be held at Cranwell in June, and whether the organisers know anything about details of this alleged incident being presented to the Symposium. I am seeking formal lines from RAF Fylingdales on their knowledge of this alleged incident in parallel.

3. In order to meet the Private Office deadline I should be most grateful if you could let me have something by **COP WED 29 APR** please. Thanks for your assistance.

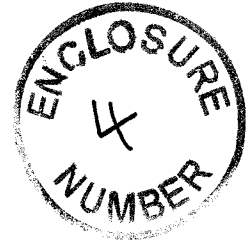
[REDACTED]

Sec(AS)2a1

[REDACTED]

Enc.

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



From:



**DPO(RAF)
Room 0389
MOD Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB**

Ext.

Your Reference:

Our Reference:

April 1998

Sec (AS) 2a1

MEDIA REPORTS - UFOS

1. You asked for briefing on the Daily Mail and Daily Express reports of UFOs and the conference at RAF Cranwell. You might want to be aware that we have had perhaps 20 further calls from the print and broadcast media, following-up these pieces. It has become quite tiresome.
2. Through the Daily Mail, we confirmed (as you suspected) that **Section 40** is behind the reports. **Section 40** you might recall, is a former Editor of RAF News [REDACTED] and departed [REDACTED]. Subsequently he has been contributing material to the national press on a freelance basis. His MO appears to be to search out a kernel of information in one of the Service papers, which are freely available on news stands, and invent a sensationalist story around them.
3. The Air Warfare Centre is holding a seminar titled 'Military Exploitation of the Upper Atmosphere and Beyond' on June 3 - 4. It is open to military and civilians with an interest in this area. It is mentioned on the Internet and, I understand, may have had a paragraph in RAF News. It has nothing whatsoever to do with UFOs. A fax copy of the explanatory brochure is attached.
4. The Press Office has been knocking down this report since Sunday. Regrettably, some parts of the media have not let the facts stand on the way of a "good story."

DPO has confirmed [REDACTED] of the Air Warfare
Centre confirmed ^{knowledge of as} no Delegate to the
conference billed to present radar tapes
confirming this story.



ROYAL AIR FORCE
AIR WARFARE CENTRE
 OPERATIONAL DOCTRINE & TRAINING
 RAF COLLEGE CRANWELL
 UNITED KINGDOM
 NG34 8HB

COMMERCIAL
 WITHIN UK 01400-261201 EXT 6474
 OUTSIDE UK 44-1400-261201 EXT 6474
 Internet Mail Address: ASCM@OD-T.demon.co.uk
 www.rafmod.uk/awc/asc

1998 Artes Symposium **Military Exploitation of Space**

A 2-day operational and technical symposium on the military exploitation of space, sponsored by the Air Force Board, will be held at RAFC Cranwell, UK, on Thur 4 - Fri 5 June. The aim of the symposium is to raise the profile of Space within the defence community, both military and industrial at 3 'levels': very senior officers, who are already well aware of MOD space policy but probably less aware of future technological trends; middle-ranking MOD personnel, whose professional knowledge would benefit significantly from greater exposure to the potential benefits of space exploitation; and industry, who wish to be informed about MOD interest in space as an operational environment and are keen to gain an opportunity to demonstrate the capabilities and concepts they may offer in support of space objectives. All the briefings at the symposium will be presented at an unclassified level; however, arrangements can be made for participants to discuss technology issues at a classified level. The symposium is being run jointly by the Air Warfare Centre (AWC) at RAFC Cranwell and OR(ICS) staff from MOD. The AWC point of contact for the symposium is Mr J West, RAFC Cranwell (01400-261201) Ext 6474.

Administration Office,
 OD & T
 RAFC Cranwell,
 Sleaford,
 Lincs.
 NG34 8HB

Please fill in the reverse of this form and send to
 the above address by 18th May 1998

Sponsored by
The Air Force Board



Thursday 4 June

Friday 5 June

1030 Registration & coffee in Whittle Hall
1100 Welcome and Opening Remarks
Chairman

1110 Keynote Opening address
DGICS

Concepts
1125 Space Technology and Concepts
OD Space AWC

1215 Lunch in College Hall

1330 UK Space Policy and Programmes
AD OR(ICS)/

Trends
1415 Future Developments and Trends -
UK MOD DERA

1500 Tea in College hall
1530 Future Developments and Trends -
UK/European Industry BNSC

1615 View from the Pentagon
US DoD

1700 Close

1930 Pre-Dinner Drinks at The Lawns

2000 Symposium Dinner at The Lawns

0900 Introductory Remarks
Chairman

Communications

0905 Teledisc
Boeing

0945 Celestri
MMS

1030 Coffee in College Hall

Remote Observation

1100 Spaceborne AWACS
Boeing

1145 EOSAT
LM Space Imaging

1230 Lunch in College Hall

1345 SBIRS
LM/TRW

Launch Systems

1430 TSTO/Re-usables
US Industry

1515 Tea in College Hall

1545 Sea Launch
Boeing/Krunichev

1630 Closing Address
ACAS

1645 Discussion
Chairman

1700 Close

(Contents may change due to the availability of speakers)



Day 1

Day 2

Registration Form

Please register the following delegate for:

The Military Exploitation of Space Symposium

RAF Cranwell 4 and 5 June 1998

Surname:

First Name:

Title/Position/Function:

Organisation:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone: Fax:

Signature:

Fee per Delegate: Non MOD employee £220 ☐

MOD employee £20 ☐

The fees include tea/coffee and buffet lunches for both days

Symposium Dinner: I would like to attend the dinner on the night of Thursday 4 June 1998 to be held at The Lawns, Lincoln and receive an additional cheque for £30. YES ☐ NO ☐

Because of the large numbers expected to attend you are advised to book early. All applications must be received by 18 May. Cheques will be refunded if over-subscribed.

Dress: Uniform/jacket and tie for symposium, lounge suit for dinner.

Method of payment: By Cheque(s) Sterling made payable to Messrs RAF Cranwell.

To: Aerostations Course Manager,

OD&T, RAF Cranwell,

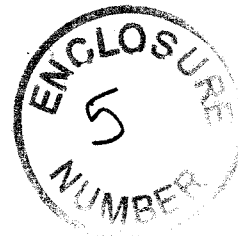
Sheffield Lines, NQ34 5BB.

Tel: 01400 261201 Ext. 64746625/6410

Accommodation: Due to the reorganisation of Cranwell Messes there will be no Service accommodation available at RAF Cranwell. Neighbouring stations at Waddington, Digby & Coningsby will be able to offer some accommodation if requested early and booked direct, quoting Space Symposium. A list of local hotels and maps are enclosed.

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

28 APR '97 13:27 FROM D E F PRESS OFFICE



[REDACTED]

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAO/1/13

29 Apr 98

Sec(AS)2a1

UFO ARTICLES - 27 APR 98

References:

A. D/Sec(AS)/64/5 dated 28 Apr 98.

B. FYD/2401/10/1/Org dated 28 Apr 98.

1. At Reference A you asked me investigate the involvement of Fylingdales in events quoted in recent press articles on alleged UFO's.
2. As you will read in Fylingdale's reply at Reference B (attached), they have no knowledge of the alleged 'sighting', have no tapes or any other recorded data and have no involvement in the forthcoming Military Space Symposium at Cranwell.
3. The Fylingdales radar is tasked only to detect and track objects in orbit and those with a ballistic trajectory.

[REDACTED]

Wg Cdr
ADGE 1

[REDACTED]

Attachment: FYD/2401/10/1/Org dated 28 Apr 98.

[REDACTED]

LOOSE MINUTE

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

FYD/2401/10/1/Org

28 Apr 98

MOD(DAO) ADGE 1

Copy to:

HQ 11/18 Gp [REDACTED]

ALLEGED UFO SIGHTINGS - RAF FYLINGDALES

Reference:

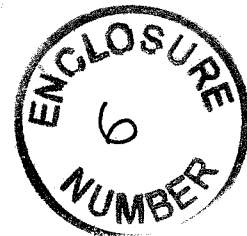
- A. Telecon [REDACTED] 28 Apr 98.
- B. Fax Ref D/DAO/1/13 dated 28 Apr 98.

1. Reference A requested RAF Fylingdales' response to 2 tabloid newspaper articles from 27 Apr 98 concerning alleged UFO activity.
2. Both the newspaper articles forwarded under Reference B are pure fantasy and contain no element of truth. Over 35 years of operations at RAF Fylingdales, no UFOs have been tracked; indeed, the radar is not configured to track any such objects, particularly in the reported areas. It follows, therefore, that there is no recorded data on UFOs held at the Station.
3. We have no knowledge of a 'Space' conference at RAF Cranwell in June, nor have we been approached to provide any supporting information of such an event. On 26 Apr 98, the Fylingdales Crew Commander was telephoned by Mr [REDACTED] who asked about our involvement with the Cranwell conference. The Commander denied all knowledge of it and referred the caller back to the MOD Press Desk.
4. Interestingly enough, as is always the case with these reports, the military source remains unnamed, lending weight to the fact that the reports are a fabrication.

[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
OC

[REDACTED]

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/5

30 Apr 98

APS/USofs
[REDACTED]

Copy to:

DPO(RAF)
ADGE1
AD OR(ICS)1
PSO/ACAS

UFO ARTICLES - DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS - 27 APRIL 1998

ISSUE

1. To provide advice following the Daily Mail and Daily Express articles of 27 April alleging a 'UFO' sighting over the North Sea.

RECOMMENDATION

2. To note.

BACKGROUND

3. On Sunday 26 April the MOD Press Office received calls from the Daily Mail and Daily Express about an alleged 'UFO' sighting over the North Sea involving an object 'the size of a battleship' travelling at around '17,000 mph' (the published articles subsequently alleged 24,000 mph). No additional information about the date of this alleged incident was provided at the time or has been since. A further 20 phonecalls from the print and broadcast media have now been received.

Source of the Story

4. The Daily Mail has said that Section 40 [REDACTED] was the source of the story. Section 40 [REDACTED] a former editor of the RAF News, is believed to have left the paper [REDACTED] and has, we understand, been contributing material to the national Press on a freelance basis since that time. Section 40 [REDACTED] is known to be rather inventive of the facts.

RAF Fylingdales, Yorkshire

5. The Fylingdales radar is tasked only to detect and track objects in orbit and those with a ballistic trajectory. The Officer Commanding at RAF Fylingdales has confirmed that for the

[REDACTED]

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

35 years it has operated, no 'UFOs' have been tracked. It is the case that the radar is not configured to track such objects, particularly in the reported areas, and there is therefore no substance to the claim that recorded data of this nature is held at RAF Fylingdales.

6. OC Fylingdales also confirmed that the station has not been approached to provide supporting information for the Space Symposium at RAF Cranwell in June. The RAF Fylingdales Crew Commander received a call from a journalist on Sunday but was asked only about RAF Fylingdales' involvement with the Symposium. The Crew Commander denied all knowledge of any involvement and referred the journalist to the MOD Press desk.

Symposium at RAF Cranwell

7. The Air Warfare Centre and the MOD branch Operational Requirements (Information & Communication Services) are jointly hosting a 'Military Exploitation of Space' Symposium on 3-4 June at RAF Cranwell. It is open to Service and MOD civilian personnel and industrialists with an interest in this subject and is mentioned on the Internet.

8. The newspaper articles allege plans for one of the speakers at the Symposium to present radar tapes from RAF Fylingdales to substantiate the 'UFO' claims. Neither the Air Warfare Centre's focal point for this event, nor OR(ICS) staff, have knowledge of any material of this nature on the agenda and have confirmed that the Symposium has nothing whatsoever to do with 'UFOs'. A copy of a brochure about the Symposium is attached for information.

Conclusion

9. All enquiries indicate that there is nothing of substance in the claims made by the media.

[REDACTED]

Sec(AS)2a1

[REDACTED]