



# T H E P A R A L L A X

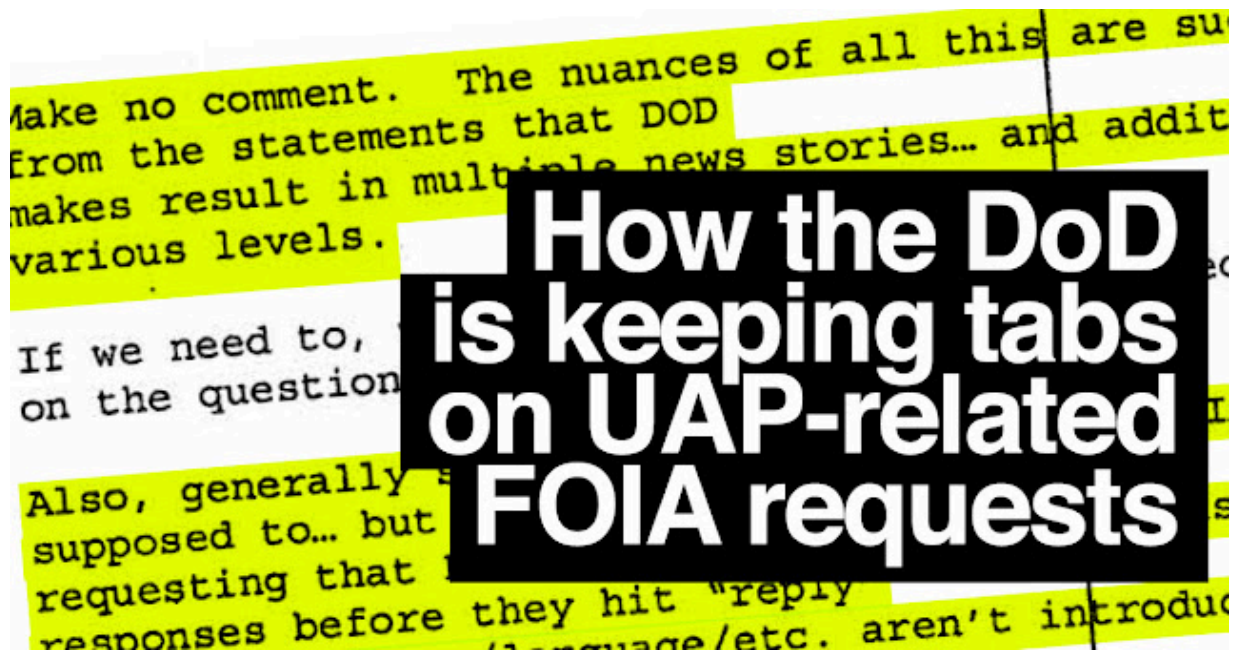
parallax /ˈpærəlæks/ noun : the effect whereby the position or direction of an object appears to differ when viewed from different positions.

An investigation into recent UAP history and US Government research programs

## How the DoD is keeping tabs on UAP-related FOIA requests



March 13, 2021



Over the past few months I submitted a couple of FOIA requests to the Naval Safety Center (NAVSAFECEN) about events such as airspace incursions and reports of unauthorized/unidentified aircraft. In January 2021 I filed a new request seeking e-mails between the NAVSAFECEN and the Office of the Secretary of Defense regarding Unidentified Aerial Phenomena. What I discovered in the released documents turned out to be even more intriguing than what I expected initially.

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instructions to report encounters with unidentified aircraft, and whether the NAVSAFECEN databases are still the repository for UAP reports has yet to be determined.

My goal was to try and find out about possible coordination or applicable guidelines between the NAVSAFECEN and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) regarding the UAP topic. Internal e-mails are usually a good way to learn about the inner workings and day-to-day operations of government agencies. On January 13th 2021 I filed a FOIA request with the Naval Safety Center (FOIA # DON-NAVY-2021-002701) seeking e.mail correspondence between the NAVSAFECEN and Susan Gough, Department of Defense spokesperson and Strategic Planner. Ms. Gough is well-known within the UFO community as the Pentagon's public face for all inquiries about UAP.



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION DIVISION**  
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155

Ref: 21-F-0647  
CASE SER O3/F0025  
March 9, 2021

Mr. Marc Cecotti  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Cecotti:

This is a final response to your January 13, 2021 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of the Navy (DON), a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience. We received your request along with four pages determined to be responsive from DON on March 2, 2021 and assigned it FOIA case number 21-F-0647. We ask that you use this number when referring to your request.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (OASD(PA)), a component of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, has conducted a review of the referred four pages. Ms. Tanya Rose, IM Director, OASD(PA), in her capacity as an Initial Denial Authority has determined that portions of the four pages are exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), as disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of individuals.

Please note, the Navy Safety Center has instructed that they have provided a separate release determination for the portions withheld in their entirety.

In this instance, fees for processing your request were below the threshold for requiring payment. Please note that fees may be assessed on future request.

If you have any questions or concerns about the foregoing or about the processing of your request, please do not hesitate to contact the Action Officer assigned to your request, Michael Coen at [Michael.e.coen2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Michael.e.coen2.civ@mail.mil) or 571-372-0413. Additionally, if you have concerns about service received by our office, please contact a member of our Leadership Team at 571-372-0498 or Toll Free at 866-574-4970.

Should you wish to inquire about mediation services, you may contact the OSD/JS FOIA Public Liaison, Tonya R. Fuentes, at 571-372-0462 or by email at [OSD.FOIALiaison@mail.mil](mailto:OSD.FOIALiaison@mail.mil), or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

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OSD messages were completely blacked out and had to be reviewed by the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Finally, on March 9th 2021, OSD released the DoD portions of the e.mail exchange.

Dated 10 July 2020, the e.mail thread starts with a query from Jeff Jones, NAVSAFECEN Deputy Director for Safety Promotions, to the Navy Office of Information, requesting a point of contact (POC) for interviews about the UAP. In her reply the Navy Newsdesk Director indicates that Mr. Joseph Gradisher is the Navy POC for all queries about UAPs. Mr. Gradisher, a retired US Navy Captain, is the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare (OPNAV N2/N6).

Cc: [REDACTED] CHINPO WASHINGTON DC (USA)  
<[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] LT USN CHINPO WASHINGTON DC (USA)  
<[REDACTED]>; Gough, Susan I.  
(Sue) CIV OSD PA (USA) <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: POC for UAP

Jeff,

Thanks for reaching out...

Megan is correct, from a Public Affairs perspective, all media inquiries on UAPs go to DOD Public Affairs, Sue Gough (cc'd)... keeping me in the loop, as we coordinate closely.

To date, we have not authorized any media interviews on the subject.

Make no comment. The nuances of all this are such that any deviations from the statements that DOD makes result in multiple news stories, and additional FOIA requests at various levels.

If we need to, we'll coordinate with you on specific responses, depending on the questions asked!

Also, generally speaking, we let the normal FOIA process work as it is supposed to... but we have been requesting that FOIA offices coordinate with us on UAP-focused FOIA responses before they hit "reply" so that new terms/language/etc. aren't introduced that complicate the overall messaging efforts.

Additionally, there is now a Security Classification Guidance document (at the SECRET) level, that addresses the UAP issue and what may/may not be discussed publicly. Happy to get that to you if you see the need.

Any questions, feel free to call me!

Regards,

Joe

Joe Gradisher  
Captain, U.S. Navy (Ret)  
N2N6 Strategic Engagements  
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] E LCDR USN CHINPO WASHINGTON DC (USA)  
<[REDACTED]@navy.mil>  
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:56 AM

(Note : names, phone numbers and e.mail address redacted by the author)

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*“...from a Public Affairs perspective, all media inquiries on UAPs go to DOD Public Affairs, Sue Gough (cc'd) ... keeping in the loop, as we coordinate closely.*

*To date, we have not authorized any media interviews on the subject.*

***Make no comment. The nuances of all this are such that any deviations from the statement that DOD makes result in multiple news stories and additional FOIA requests at various levels.***

*If we need to, we'll coordinate with you on specific responses, depending on the questions asked.”*

This is a confirmation that the OSD Public Affairs Office is indeed the only contact point for all inquiries about UAP, thus keeping control of the situation from a PR standpoint. The next part of the e.mail is more intriguing :

***“Also, generally speaking, we let the normal FOIA process work as it is supposed to but we have been requesting that FOIA offices coordinate with us on UAP-focused FOIA responses before they hit “reply” so that new terms/language/etc. aren't introduced that complicate the overall messaging efforts.***

***Additionally, there is now a Security Classification Guidance document (at the SECRET) level, that addresses the UAP issue and what may/may not be discussed publicly. Happy to get that to you if you see the need.”***

Gradisher then unambiguously writes that a coordinated effort to monitor all FOIA requests pertaining to UAP is underway. All DoD FOIA Offices have a significant backlog, and we can assume that they don't want to make the situation worse, but this is obviously a way to keep control of the information flow. The fact that a security classification guidance is applicable confirms the sensitive nature of the UAP issue. There is no indication about potential actions taken by Mr. Gradisher regarding the FOIA requests ; however, it is clear that his office is somehow involved in the review and approval process in order to prevent the introduction of “new terms/language”.

I reached out to Mr. Gradisher and Ms. Gough by e.mail, and asked both of them if they could elaborate on those statements from 2020. They both replied that they had nothing to add.

Those released e-mails raise more questions than answers, and I filed several FOIA requests, hoping to uncover new information about this sensitive issue.

***Feel free to send any comment or suggestion to [uapparallax\(at\)outlook.com](mailto:uapparallax@outlook.com)***

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DOD

GOUGH

GRADISHER

UAP

UAPTF



**Unknown** *March 13, 2021 at 4:35 PM*

SUSAN GOUGH is is a LIAR when it comes to UFO related information!

Most people in the UFO community, don't trust Susan Gough!

[REPLY](#)

**Anonymous** *March 18, 2021 at 6:11 AM*

The above comment is likely a troll from the very people in the article. This subject is a cat in a burlap sack filled with molasses.

[REPLY](#)



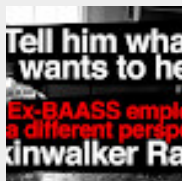
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*November 06, 2020*

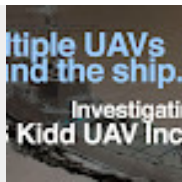


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**CASE #912**[Playwright Render](#)

## SOURCE URL

<http://parallaxuap.blogspot.com/2021/03/how-dod-is-keeping-tabs-on-uap-related.html>

## DOMAIN

[parallaxuap.blogspot.com](http://parallaxuap.blogspot.com)

## CASE ID

#912 of 924

## CONTEXT FROM ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

(PUBLIC DOMAIN) - 10 July 2020 — U.S. Navy Capt. Joseph F. Gradisher, OPNAV N2N6 Public Affairs, admits in an email that he and Susan Gough of OSD Public Affairs seek to control FOIA replies from all USG agencies/departments related to UAP. "Generally speaking, we let the normal FOIA process work as it is supposed to...but we have been requesting that FOIA offices coordinate with us on

UAP-focused FOIA responses before they hit 'reply' so that new terms/language/etc. aren't introduced that complicate the overall messaging efforts."

Gradisher's admission is of questionable legality considering federal government-wide FOIA responses are not supposed to be managed by the Navy to affect strategic messaging of an issue as it relates to the American public. The emails of admission were declassified through FOIA on 9 March 2021.

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