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

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Date opened (Date of first enclosure)

2 JAN 07

Registered file number

D/DAS/10/2/8/B

Part No.

1. Attention is drawn to the notes on the inside flap.
2. Enter notes of related files on page 2 of this jacket

DIVISION/ESTABLISHMENT/UNIT/BRANCH

DAS MOD
LONDON

[FULL ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER]

SUBJECT

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- DEFENCE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
- FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
- REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

[BLOCK CAPITALS]

RECORD OF KEYWORDS:

2007

Referred to	Date	Min/Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/Encl
<u>CLOSED</u>											

FOR DRO USE ONLY

1st Review date

2nd Review date

PA ACTION

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

(16/02/07)
(2014)



D/DAS/10/2/8/13 Part V

ENC	APPLICANT	1st NAME	AIT REFERENCE	SUBJECT
1			02-01-2007-093128-001	UFO
2			08-01-2007-101817-003	UFO
3			04-01-2007-125437-005	Low Flying
4			15-01-2007-072539-009	UFO/Aircraft Accident
5			10-01-2007-161837-004	Visiting Forces
6			02-01-2007-155810-001	UFO
7			05-01-2007-065547-002	UFO
8			10-01-2007-111804-006	UFO
9			08-01-2007-104202-005	UFO
10			25-01-2007-162545-007	UFO
11			23-01-2007-065804-001	UFO
12			23-01-2007-070216-002	UFO
13			14-02-2007-144127-004	UFO
14			05-02-2007-095927-002	UFO
15			02-02-2007-164440-006	UFO
16			18-01-2007-172205-001	UFO
17			14-02-2007-143112-003	UFO
18			25-01-2007-130454-007	Low Flying
19			13-02-2007-171222-015	UFO
20			14-02-2007-112144-001	UFO

Registered File Disposal Form

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

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

PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors): **UNCLASSIFIED**

Date of last enclosure: **16 FEB 2007**

Date closed: **16 FEB 2007**

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

Destroy after _____ years

Forward to DR after _____ years

No recommendation

FOR DEFENCE RECORDS (DR) USE ONLY

Date of 1st review Date of 2nd review Forward Destruction Date

Reviewer's Signature: _____ Reviewer's Signature: _____

PART 2. BRANCH REVIEW
 (To be fully completed at time of file closure)
 (Delete as appropriate)

a. Of no further administrative value and not worthy of permanent preservation. DESTROY IMMEDIATELY (Remember that TOP SECRET and Codeword material cannot be destroyed locally and must be forwarded to DR.)

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

LEGAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEFENCE POLICY + OPERATIONS <input type="checkbox"/>	FOR PERMANENT RETENTION
CONTRACTUAL <input type="checkbox"/>	ORIGINAL COMMITTEE PAPERS <input type="checkbox"/>	
FINANCE/AUDIT <input type="checkbox"/>	MAJOR EQUIPMENT PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/>	
DIRECTORATE POLICY <input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	

(ii) Key enclosures which support the recommendation are:

(iii) At the end of the specified retention period the file is to be:

Destroyed

✓

Considered by DR for permanent preservation

✓

c. Of no further administrative value but worthy of consideration by DR for permanent preservation.

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

Signature: _____

Name: _____

(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: C2 Date: 3 9 10

Branch Title and Full Address:

BUSINESS SECRETARIAT
Rm 2 E06
SPITFIRE BLDG
HQ AIRCMD
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)

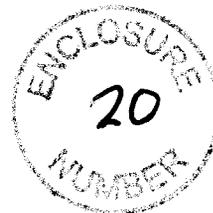
Signature: _____

Name: _____

(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: _____ Date: _____

*(FOR DR USE ONLY)



AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: [REDACTED]

Case Number: 14-02-2007-112144-001 Expiry: 1 Mar 2007

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Papers relating to meeting between Lord Hill-Norton and USofS in Oct 1985

UFO report from RNAS Culdrose 13 Sep 1985

UFO report from Glenavy, N. Ireland around Dec 1989

UFO report 7 Mar 1996 ref a UFO and a Hercules at Lyneham

UFO report summer 1997 in Norfolk resulting in a candy-floss substance.

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold the information. Security classifications have been redacted as they are no longer relevant and the names of some living individuals mentioned have been redacted under exemption s.40 Freedom Information Act. Those clearly in the public domain have not been redacted.

A few words in the DI55 document dated 20 August 1985 have been redacted under exemption s.26 (Defence) on the advice of DI55

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: 82 Name:..... [REDACTED]

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

Date:..... 16/2/2007



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

Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [REDACTED]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk [REDACTED]

Our Reference
14-02-2007-112144-001

Date
16 February 2007

[REDACTED]
Sheffield
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of 1 February 2007 made a number of requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act and I will answer them in order.

Firstly, I have chased the Air Attaches Office in Washington to see if they have a copy of BDS/RAF/3003 dated 14 December 1992 regarding the alleged "Aurora" hypersonic aircraft but they inform me that the relevant file was destroyed in 2001. I have also contacted ACAS and DIS but they were unable to help. If you think the Foreign Office may have material that could be of interest regarding this matter, you should contact them direct.

File D/DS8/75/2/1 Part G: "*UFO Reports and Correspondence*" has been located and is being prepared for release to the National Archive.

I attach copies of papers relating to a meeting between Lord Hill-Norton and the then Under Secretary of State (Armed Forces), Lord Trefgarne, in October 1985.

I have found a signal and a UFO report from RNAS Culdrose, concerning a sighting on 11 September 1985 which may be the incident you are looking for. I have been unable to locate any documents indicating that follow up action was taken.

You requested copies of a UFO report from Glenavy, Northern Ireland made to ATC Aldergrove in December 1989. An incident was reported for 21 December 1989 which is probably the incident you are looking for. I could find no other incidents in Northern Ireland around that time.

I have been unable to locate a copy of the *report* for an incident involving a Hercules aircraft being pursued by a large triangular object on or around 7 March 1997. I do however have some correspondence on the matter, which I attach.

Likewise, I have been unable to find any documentation relating to an incident in Norfolk over the summer of 1997 when a fibrous, candy-floss like substance was observed and subsequently collected by a member of the public. I have, however, found a similar incident occurring in Birmingham on 18 March 1997. I attach a copy of the telephone report made on 20 March 1997, together with a UFO report for the incident. The telephone report has been redacted to exclude other reports that do not form part of your request.

Names, addresses and telephone numbers of some individuals have been removed under Exemption s.40 (Personal Information). A small amount of information in paragraph 2 of DI55/108/15 dated 20 August 1985 has been withheld under Exemption s.26 (Defence).

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Your sincerely

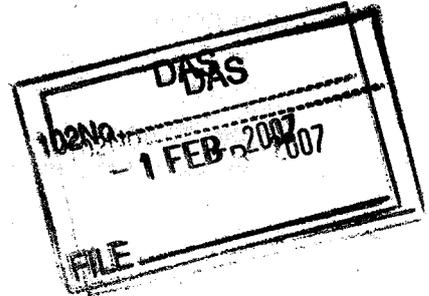


14-02-2007 -
112144-001

Exp 1 MAR 07

Sheffield
South Yorkshire
Tel:
e-mail:

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



1 February 2007

FOI Request - UFOs

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 10 January in response to my FOI request made on 4 December 2006. I'm grateful to you for making inquiries with the Air Attaches office in Washington to trace a copy of the document BDS/RAF/3003 dated 14 December 1992 relating to the operation of the alleged hypersonic aircraft Aurora over the UK. Please could you keep me updated on progress. It does appear odd that the file from this period does not contain any official responses either from the US Department of Defence, or the US Air Attache in London to the inquiries made by [redacted] the head of Sec(AS), at the time. Could you advise if these documents may be held elsewhere, either by ACAS, the DIS or even the Foreign Office?

①

I also want to raise a small issue which I discussed with your predecessor [redacted]. In 2004-5 she sent me a list of UFO files held by MoD and/or awaiting transfer to the National Archives. One file on this list, your ref **D/DS8/75/2/1 Pt G: UFO Reports and Correspondence 1980** was listed as "missing" and attempts were being made by your records division at Hayes to trace its whereabouts. Would you be able to follow-up my earlier inquiry and confirm that this file either remains missing or else has been located? I would be grateful for any information on this matter.

②
Pony

BEING PROCURED FOR
TRANSFER TO TNA

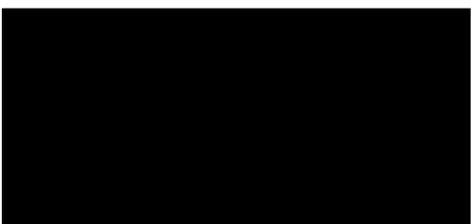
I now wish to make a fresh request under the Freedom of Information Act as I am entitled after 30 working days. This request is mainly for papers relating to a number of specific UFO sightings reported to the MoD between 1985 and 1997. I have listed the specific requests in chronological order below. Please supply copies of any papers or material relevant to the five subject areas held by MoD:

- 1) Papers relating to the meeting between Lord Hill-Norton and the Under Secretary of State (Armed Forces), Lord Trefgarne, in October 1985 to discuss UFOs and the Rendlesham incident. I believe this meeting involved DS8, DI55, RAF GE and generated a number of briefing papers and reports during the summer/autumn of 1985. ✓ (3)
- 2) UFO report made by RNAS Culdrose on or about 13 September 1985 and any follow up inquiries. ✓ (4)
- 3) UFO report from Glenavy, Northern Ireland, made by ATC Belfast (Aldergrove) in December 1989. Again I believe this report was subject to a number of follow-up inquiries by MoD units in January 1990. ✓ (5)
- 4) UFO report made by member of the public to RAF Lyneham on or about 7 March 1996 relating to 'a large triangular object larger than a Hercules' pursuing a Hercules aircraft. (6)
- 5) UFO report made to MoD by a member of the public in Norfolk 'during the summer of 1997' which was followed by the observation of a fibrous, candy-floss type material drifting in the breeze which was collected in a jar by the witness. My source for this incident is the MoD's UAP Report released to me in April 2006. The case is referred to in Volume 2, Working Paper 22, pg 22-1. The author refers to a report made to MoD by a member of the public. Please could you supply a copy of the report and any other material related to further inquiries, particularly any analysis carried out on the substance. ✓ (7)

R) 64/2 E+F ✓
 C) 64/3 H → L

If I can be of any further assistance with respect of these requests, please let me know. Please use the address supplied for correspondence. I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours Sincerely,





PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

E21/4
+1
file 12/3

LOOSE MINUTE

D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4

Sec (AS)2



UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Reference:

A. D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4 dated 1 Aug 85

Further to reference A, I write to confirm that the meeting between Lord Trefgarne and Lord Hill-Norton will take place at the House of Lords on Wednesday 25 September at 1500 hours.

I have set aside half an hour immediately previous to this for a pre-brief. Thank you for your assistance.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Captain WRAC
MA/US of S(AF)
[REDACTED]

6 August 1985

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

438
#1
FILE

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)12/3

26 Sep 85

PS/Minister(DS)

Copy to:
DSTI
D Air Def
GE3
DI55c

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Reference:

A. D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4 dated 1 Aug 85

1. You asked at Reference A for briefing for Lord Trefgarne's meeting with Lord Hill-Norton on 2 October. I attach a piece covering the questions posed by Lord Hill-Norton in his letter of 26 July. I believe this adequately covers the broader issues and I see no need for further background briefing. However I attach a specific piece on the "RAF Woodbridge/Bentwaters" incident in which Lord Hill-Norton has previously shown an interest.

2. I would suggest that Minister is supported at the meeting by Hd of Sec(AS) and representatives of D Air Def and DSTI. I would also like to attend myself if you have no objection. I understand that Minister will wish to run through the brief prior to the meeting itself and that we should therefore meet at 14.30 on Wednesday 2 Oct. I should be grateful if you would let us know the venue in due course.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sec(AS)2a

[REDACTED]

MEETING BETWEEN MINISTER(DS) AND LORD HILL-NORTON

UFOs

a. I accept that there are strange phenomena to be seen in the sky, however I believe there to be adequate explanations for them. Experience has shown that most reported sightings can be attributed to things such as aircraft, meteorological balloons or natural phenomena like ball lightning. Of course there are many other equally straightforward explanations. However, there are a small number of cases where a simple explanation cannot be found immediately and on these occasions we are careful to ensure so far as possible that that they are of no Defence significance. Having satisfied ourselves of this, as you know, we do not attempt any further investigations. Clearly some reports remain unexplained but we have found no evidence that these phenomena represent a threat to national security and therefore cannot justify devoting Defence resources to their investigation.

b. All reports received by the MOD are channelled through Sec(AS)2. They are passed to the Air Staff who examine them for Air Defence implications. In some cases, where (on the face of it) there could be a defence interest, enquiries are made of relevant radar establishments etc in order to obtain more information. All reports are also passed to the Defence Intelligence organisation who have a keen interest in any sightings of unusual objects. We have no specialist group in Whitehall or anywhere else involved in UFO's and no civilian advisers other than Sec(AS)2 are involved.

The Flying Complaints Flight at Rudloe Manor are concerned with receiving and investigating flying complaints. In the course of their duties they occasionally receive UFO reports (as do many other units) but they have no specific role with regard to this subject.

Secretariat (Air Staff) is the Division which provides secretariat support to CAS and the Air Staff and in this capacity is responsible for correspondence with members of the public and answering PQs etc on many subjects, including UFO's. Sec(AS)2 is the branch which amongst other things handles UFO's, there is no such branch as Air Staff Secretariat 8. You may be thinking of Defence Secretariat 8 which no longer exists and from which Sec(AS) evolved as a result of reorganisation of MOD last January.

c. Many of the UFO reports received in MOD come through Defence establishments, although most of these come originally from members of the public. Very few reports are made by military pilots; for instance, in the last 12 months Sec(AS) has received only two such reports.

d. No central record of radar recordings is kept. Major Air Traffic Control units take recordings as a matter of course, however these are generally destroyed after 30 days. ADGE units do not regularly make recordings although some are occasionally made for specific operational purposes. Relevant radar units are consulted where necessary as part of the normal process of handling UFO reports in order to ascertain whether there is any correlation between a reported sighting and known radar traces.

e. The Department is happy to release what information we have on specific incidents. However we could not justify the effort involved in searching for or collating information of a more general nature.



RAF WOODBRIDGE INCIDENT 27 Dec 80

Col Halt's report of 13 Jan 81 concerns the sighting of unusual lights outside the back gate at RAF Woodbridge by two security patrolmen. Col Halt records what was subsequently reported to him without comment. The 3 patrolmen who went into Rendlesham Forest to investigate what they thought might be a crashed aircraft say they saw a triangular object. It has been suggested that this might have been a piloted vehicle, however in view of its reported size (about 9 feet long and 6 feet high) this was, and still is, considered highly unlikely. Indeed enquiries made both at the time and subsequently failed to reveal any radar trace of anything unusual in the area at the time.

Col Halt also reports on his own investigations at the site of the incident the following day. Once again he draws no conclusions from his findings and, significantly, does not recommend further investigation. Our own view also was that no additional action was required. Later on the night of 29 Dec 80 Col Halt and a number of others saw more unusual lights, but again we have no record of anything untoward being picked up on radar.

I think you will agree that it is highly unlikely that any violation of UK airspace would be heralded by such a display of lights. I think it equally unlikely that any reconnaissance or spying activity would be announced in this way.

Overall, we believe that the fact that Col Halt did not report these occurrences to MOD for almost 2 weeks after the event, together with the relatively low key manner in which he handled the matter (given resources available to him) are indicative of the degree of importance in defence terms which should be attached to the incident. He himself took all investigative action which was required. If members of the public feel that for scientific or other reasons, there should be an attempt to establish the cause of what happened, that is for them, but I am confident that it is not something in which the MOD should or need become further involved.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 51ST COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (USAF)
APO NEW YORK 07155



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: CD

13 Jan 81

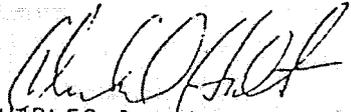
SUBJECT: Unexplained Lights

TO: RAF/CC

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

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

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


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



File 12/3

16/10

E39/0/1

PI. spt.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Min(DS)DGT 28/1/4

Sec(AS)2a - [REDACTED]

Copy to:
DSTI
D Air Def
GE3
DI55c

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS - MEETING WITH LORD HILL-NORTON:
THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER 1985

You were very kindly present when Lord Trefgarne met Lord Hill-Norton at 11 am at UKLF on Thursday 10 October to discuss Unidentified Flying Objects.

Lord Trefgarne opened the discussion by explaining that there was a central secretariat within the Ministry of Defence, part of whose responsibility was to act as a focal point for the report of unidentified sightings. Their task was to consider whether there were any defence implications from such reports.

Lord Hill-Norton emphasised that he believed quite sincerely that there was a problem of UFOs. He had considered for a number of years that the MOD's response to reported sightings had been unsatisfactory.

Specifically he cited the incident at Woodbridge in 1980 and criticised the alleged refusal by MOD to acknowledge the presence of Lieutenant Colonel Halt's report for 2½ years. He referred to a number of papers released in the United States under the Freedom of Information Act which had been carefully examined in the United States, and which he considered would be of interest to the MOD. He also referred to a book due to be published shortly which is anticipated to be critical of the MOD in this area.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Lord Trefgarne repeated that none of the reported sightings examined had proved to have any defence implications. He did not wish to appear unhelpful, however, and he undertook to consider whether any steps could be taken to allay the concerns of those like Lord Hill-Norton.



PS/Minister(DS)


14 October 1985



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

1. Hd Sec (AF) 21/2/1
- to be annl
2. O/r - ple disum.
as soon as comment.

LOOSE MINUTE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

D/US of S(AF)DGT 23/1/4

Sec(AS)P

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

With apologies for ruining your summer I attach a letter that Lord Trefgarne has received from Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton in reply to Lord Trefgarne's letter of 17 July. You will see that Lord Hill-Norton accepts the offer of a meeting and we will be in touch with him shortly to arrange this. I will let you know the time and place as soon as possible, and in the meantime I should be most grateful if you could set in hand a briefing for Lord Trefgarne in the form of answers to Lord Hill-Norton's specific questions a-e.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PS/US of S(AF)
[REDACTED]

| August 1985



26th July, 1985

The Lord Trefgarne,
 Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
 for the Armed Forces,
 House of Lords,
 London, SW1.

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 17th July about our correspondence on the UFO question. I would greatly welcome an off-the-record talk with you. Parliament rises on Tuesday, but I would be delighted to come up to London at any mutually convenient date during August when you have had time to consider this letter and to take any further briefing from officials which you think might be useful. (Perhaps your office would care to be in touch with me by telephone at my home address Tel: [REDACTED]).

It may be helpful if I list the questions which I, at any rate, would like to explore. I know you will understand that I do not ask them frivolously or without a good deal of careful thought about the evidence - or supposed evidence - which appears to exist for a persistent phenomenon which, as I see it at present, cannot be wholly without Defence significance. I need hardly add that if there were sensitive Defence questions at issue, I would be the last to press them in public.

The ground which I hope we might cover in an informal discussion is indicated by the following questions:

- a. Does the Ministry of Defence acknowledge - by way of reports from the public, the civil police, the Civil Aviation Authority, other civil authorities or its own establishments - that traces are obtained from time to time of the intrusion into British airspace (and sometimes territory) of phenomena for which no prosaic explanation can be given? (I should add that although I am always willing to be dissuaded, the evidence accumulated by civilian researchers for the persistence of some such phenomena - amounting on occasion to apparently structured 'vehicles' - seems to me at present overwhelming. I shall be glad to give you instances. The events reported by Lt. Col. Halt of the United States Air Force in a report to your Department dated 13th January 1981 are among them).



- 2 -

- b. Assuming, as I hope, that the Ministry of Defence does not ignore the reports reaching it (and we have been told in reply to Parliamentary questions that they amount to some hundreds a year from civilian sources alone), what steps are taken by the Department to investigate them? In particular:-
- i) Are they dealt with solely ad hoc, using routine staff channels? or is there some specialist group, either within the Whitehall establishment or elsewhere, which is charged with taking an expert view? If so, to whom do they report? And what is their composition? Do they include civilian advisers from outside your Department?
 - ii) What part is played, if any, by the Flying Complaints Flight at RAF Rudloe Manor?
 - iii) What part, if any, is played by Air Staff Secretariats 2 & 8?
- c. How many of the reports of unusual phenomena have been received from Defence establishments, including reports from the pilots of military aircraft?
- d. What material does your Department have of traces left on military radar or in photographic form either from sorties by military aircraft or from ground-based or ship-based facilities?
- e. Can any such material be released either to me or to responsible persons outside your Department for purposes of scientific study?

In troubling you with these questions I am well aware that their subject matter has often been thought easy to ridicule, especially when associated with some of the wilder notions which are current among the civilian research groups. I am not wedded to any particular theory myself. I do, on the other hand, believe that there is overwhelming evidence for a persistent phenomenon of a highly unusual character. This is, at the least, of considerable scientific interest; and I have not yet heard anything from your Department which convinces me that it is wholly without Defence significance. I would be reassured to know either that it is being adequately gripped as a Defence matter (and, if so, by precisely what means) or that material held by your Department can be released



- 3 -

to serious civilian researchers under arrangements which do not impose unacceptable administrative burdens.

Thank you again for the offer of a discussion. I look forward to our talk.

Yours,



PS. I ought perhaps to let you know that Aubrey Buxton is currently considering the possibility of an extended programme on Anglia Television dealing, among other things, with the incidents reported to your Department by Lt. Col. Halt, which were the subject of my letter to the Defence Secretary.

NAA
Spoke to GE3 they have
approached Culdrose and
Portsmouth - no corroborating
radar traces. There is little
more that can be done
on the operational side.

(+1) (281)

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)12/2

25 Sep 85



GE3
DI55



30/9

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Reference:

A. RNAS Culdrose 243/1/3 dated 13 Sep 85

You will have seen a copy of Reference A which follows up a UFO report received from LATCC by signal. In view of the unusual nature of this report, and particularly in the light of the statement at para 'N' of ref, I should be grateful for your views on the need for further action.



Sec(AS)2a





RNAS CULDROSE

Culdrose, Helston, Cornwall

Telephone: Helston 4121 Ext.

Please address all replies to: THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Sec (AS) cc 9E3/
DISS.

jli
12/2

Ministry of Defence
SECN(AS) 2
Room 8245
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Your reference:

Our reference: 243/1/3

Date: 13 September 1985

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT SIGHTING REPORT

Reference:

A. Manual of Air Traffic Services Part 6 Chap 4

1. The following report of unidentified flying object sightings is forwarded in accordance with the reference:

A. 11 September 1985

- (a) First Object 1334 A
- (b) Second Object 1340/1341 A

B. Objects tracked on radar; no visual sighting made

C. Aircraft in position 150/Lands End VOR(LND)/15 at 1500'

D. Radar tracking

- E. (a) First Object 310/LND/45
- (b) Second Object 300/LND/45

F. Not available

G. 60 nm approx

H. Both objects tracked 130 for approximately 40 miles with a velocity estimated at 10 nm in 12 secs

J. VMC

K. Nil

L. Air Traffic Control, RNAS Culdrose

M. Sea King AEW aircraft callsign Any Face 63

N. Radar performance characteristics indicate that these objects were not spurious contacts despite the conditions of anomalous propagation existing at the time. No unusual tracks were observed on the ATC Radar at RNAS Culdrose.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

1. O. Nil

P. 11 September 1985 1400A

2. This report has been telephoned to AIS (Military), LATCC in accordance with the reference.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Lieutenant Commander Royal Navy
Senior Air Traffic Control Officer

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Not A

Spoke to 923,
pointed out the possible
precedent in this, agreed
they would let me know
how they intend to deal
with it.

P.A.
file
12/2

UNCLASSIFIED

CWD134 12/1559 25502883

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 121255Z SEP 85

FROM LATCCMIL
TO MODUK AIR

UNCLASSIFIED

SIC Z6F

SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA

- A. 11 1334 SEP 85 11 1340-41 SEP 85
- B. TWO OBJECTS, NO VISUAL SIGHTING, SEEN ON RADAR TRACKING
- C. AIRCRAFT POSITION 15NM 150 DEG FROM LANDSEND DME/VOR
- D. RADAR TRACKING
- E. 310 DEG 45NM LANDSEND. 300 DEG 45NM LANDSEND
- F. N/A
- G. APPROX 60NM FROM OBSERVER
- H. TRACKED 130 DEG VELOCITY 10NM IN 12 SECONDS, BOTH TRACKED FOR APPROX 40 MILES
- J. VMC
- K. NIL
- L. ATC RNAS CULDROSE
- M. SEAKING A/C C/S ANYFACE 63 RNAS CULDROSE

13/9

Spoke to 923, they have
consulted appropriate units and
have found no corroborative sightings.
Could be "ANOPROP"? (Anonymous Propagation)

16/9

PAGE 2 REDAID 008 UNCLAS

N. NONE

O. NIL

P. 111400 SEP 8

BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F

- F
- CAB 1 sec (AS) ACTION (GXJ 1 JOC AFDO)
- CAM 1 ACS(P)
- CYD 1 DD GE/AEW
- CAV 1 DI 55
- CAV 2 DSTI

Mtg rearranged for 26/9
time to be agreed.



13/9

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)12/3

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

9 Aug 85

GE3
DI55

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Reference:

A. D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4 dated 1 Aug 85

1. As you will see from Reference A (copy attached), Lord Trefgarne has agreed to meet Lord Hill-Norton to discuss UFO's. Arrangements have been made for the meeting to take place on 25 September 1985 at 15.00 in the House. Sec(AS) will be represented at the meeting and we see considerable advantage in having further support from yourselves. Would you please let me know whether you would be willing to attend.

2. We have drawn up the attached brief for US of S(AF) which attempts to answer most of the questions posed by Lord Hill-Norton. I should be grateful for your comments on these and, particularly, for guidance from GE3 on how we might respond to question (d). The answer to question (e) may also require some alteration depending on the answer to question (d).

3. In addition to the attached brief we believe it would be helpful to provide Lord Trefgarne with a speaking note describing exactly how the MOD handles UFO reports. Provided you are content, this will include a summary of the interests of GE3 and DI55 and would presumably need to be at least CONFIDENTIAL because of the Tech-Int aspects. I should be grateful to know if you are content for Lord Hill-Norton to be briefed in this way, and would be grateful for short contributions describing your own areas of interest.

4. May I please have your replies by cop 30 August 85.



Sec(AS)2a



MEETING BETWEEN US of S(AF) AND LORD HILL-NORTON

UFOs

a. I accept that there are strange phenomena to be seen in the sky, however I believe there to be adequate explanations for them. Experience has shown that most reported sightings can be attributed to things such as aircraft, meteorological balloons or natural phenomena like ball lightning. Of course there are many other equally straightforward explanations. However, there are a small number of cases where a simple explanation cannot be found immediately and on these occasions we are careful to ensure ^{so far as possible} that they are of no Defence significance. Having satisfied ourselves of this, as you know, we do not attempt any further investigations. Clearly some reports remain unexplained but we have found no evidence that these phenomena represent a threat to national security and therefore cannot justify devoting Defence resources to their investigation.

b. All reports received by the MOD are channelled through Sec(AS)2. They are passed to the Air Staff who examine them for Air Defence implications. In some cases, where (on the face of it) there could be a defence interest, enquiries are made of relevant radar establishments etc in order to obtain more information. All reports are also passed to the Defence Intelligence organisation who have a keen interest in any sightings of unusual objects. We have no specialist group in Whitehall or anywhere else involved in UFO's and no civilian advisers ^{other than Sec(AS)2} are involved.

The Flying Complaints Flight at Rudloe Manor are concerned with receiving and investigating flying complaints. In the course of their duties they occasionally receive UFO reports (as do many other units) but they have no specific role with regard to this subject.

Secretariat (Air Staff) is the Division which provides secretariat support to CAS and the Air Staff and in this capacity is responsible for correspondence with members of the public and answering PQs etc on many subjects, including UFO's. Sec(AS)2 is the branch which amongst other things handles UFO's, there is no such branch as Air Staff Secretariat 8. You may be thinking of Defence Secretariat 8 which no longer exists and from which Sec(AS) evolved as a result of reorganisation of MOD last January.

c. Many of the UFO reports received in MOD come through Defence establishments, although most of these come originally from members of the public. Very few reports are made by military pilots; for instance, in the last 12 months Sec(AS) has received only one such report.

d. [GE3 to provide advice please]

e. The Department is happy to release what information we have on specific incidents. However we could not justify the effort involved in searching for or collating information of a more general nature.

[REDACTED]

LOOSE MINUTE

DI55/108/15

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

20 August 1985

Sec (AS) 2a

Copy to: GE3

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

References:

- A. D/SEC(AS) 12/3 dated 9 August 85.
- B. D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4 dated 1 August 85.

1. In Reference A, you notified us of the meeting between US of S(AF) and Lord Hill-Norton on Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) on 25 Sept 85; you asked for a short contribution on our area of interest and whether we would be willing to attend the meeting.
2. As you state in your brief for the US of S(AF), all UFO reports are passed to the DIS - specifically DI55 who, inter alia, are responsible for [REDACTED] It is in this area that our main interests lie, although the reports are also seen by other staff within DI55. Obviously we read the reports with interest, but over, at least the last few years, we have not considered that any of the reports justified detailed investigation; this point is well made in the opening paragraph of your draft.
3. As far as our attendance at the meeting on 25 September is concerned, I do not think that we can add much to the discussion but we would be willing to attend if you consider it worthwhile.

[REDACTED]

Wg Cdr
DI55c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE	
2/	Sec (AS)2
221	2 AUG 1985
FILE	12/3

[REDACTED]

LOOSE MINUTE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

~~SECRET~~
to see
E82/1

DI55/108/15

20 August 1985

Sec (AS) 2a

Copy to: GE3

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

References:

- A. D/SEC(AS) 12/3 dated 9 August 85.
- B. D/US of S(AF)DGT 28/1/4 dated 1 August 85.

1. In Reference A, you notified us of the meeting between US of S(AF) and Lord Hill-Norton on Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) on 25 Sept 85; you asked for a short contribution on our area of interest and whether we would be willing to attend the meeting.

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3. As far as our attendance at the meeting on 25 September is concerned, I do not think that we can add much to the discussion but we would be willing to attend if you consider it worthwhile.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Wg Cdr
DI55c
[REDACTED]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
2 / Sec.(AS)2
221 2 AUG 1985
FILE 12/3

Files 2/3

- Pse upgrade file

[REDACTED]



8/11

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

M. [REDACTED]

ms 17/1

LOOSE MINUTE

DI55/108/15

11 January 1990

D/Sec (AS)
 Sy4(RAF)

Copy to :

DD GE/AEW

Agreed -
Pse confirm
with [REDACTED]
that he is happy
for us to suggest
helo movements.

in view of this
suggest standard
letter with bit
saying we have
ascertained helo
activity in your area
and what you saw
was prob assoc with
helo movements.

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT - NORTHERN IRELAND

- Reference : A. ATC Belfast (Aldergrove) Airport dated 21 Dec 89
- B. MOD(UK) 040857ZJAN90
- C. NORIRELAND 051026ZJAN90
- D. RAF ALDERGROVE 051705ZJAN90

1. The report at reference (A) of an unidentified flying object 1.5 miles southeast of Glenavy Northern Ireland warranted investigation, primarily regarding the security implications, secondly to try to ascertain the cause of the aerial phenonema.
2. We have been advised that there were no reports of any terrorist incidents during the period in question.
3. RAF Aldergrove has informed us that there were no fixed wing aircraft in area at the date and time stated.
4. Two rotary wing movements occurred within 5 minutes either side of the reported sighting. Firstly a Gazelle departed Aldergrove at 1640Z en route to the southeast. Secondly a Wessex en route from Lisburn landed at Aldergrove at 1655Z.
5. Taking into account para's 2,3 and 4, plus no other UFO activity being reported throughout the UK and Northern Ireland, I suggest [REDACTED] probably witnessed the arrival or departure of the helo's at Aldergrove.

208

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DI55c1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4/11

we had a call last week from D155 saying they were looking at this - wait until we hear from them?

8/1

Yes please.

LOOSE MINUTE

D/CG&DGSY (RAF) /80/7/7

4 Jan 90

Sec (AS) 2a

Copy to:

DI 55

DD GE/AEW

REPORT OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT - NORTHERN IRELAND

References:

A. D/Sec (AS) 12/3 dated 29 Dec 89

1. Thank you for your LM, Reference A, together with the accompanying UFO report from Belfast Air Traffic Control. You should recommend that the CAA at Belfast Airport send a holding reply to [redacted] and then report the details to the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) for investigation. If a muffled bang was heard there may be recoverable evidence. Not being familiar with the area in which the UFO was sighted I cannot comment on there being some form of rational explanation for the sighting. Alternatively I do not think we should be jumping to any conclusions or drawing any assumptions from the sighting until the RUC have carried out an investigation.

2. HQ NI may be able to help in solving [redacted] report which may relate to the discharge of a ~~weapon~~.

[redacted]

[redacted]

10

Wg Cdr
SY 4 (RAF)

[redacted]

418



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone: (Direct Dialling) 01-218
(Switchboard) 01-218 9000

[Redacted]

Your reference

Our reference

D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date

29 January 1990

Dear

[Redacted]

Thank you for your report of an unusual sighting you witnessed on 21 December 1989, which has been passed to the Ministry of Defence for reply.

You may find it helpful if I begin by explaining that while the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings, our sole concern is to determine whether or not they present a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further or identify what might have been seen.

Given this limited involvement with the subject, the Ministry of Defence does not have any department which is appointed solely for the purpose of studying UFO reports, nor do we have any staff employed on the subject full time. As you will expect, therefore, we do not carry out studies, investigations or surveys into the phenomena. I am sure you will appreciate that defence funds are already fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK, and this being so, we could not justify the use of funds on scientific investigations, unless a clear threat to security had been identified.

Nonetheless, it is clear from the reports we receive that many strange things have been observed in the sky, although we believe that rational explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities include satellite debris re-entering the earth's atmosphere, ball lightning, unusual cloud formations, meteorological balloons, aircraft lights, aircraft at unusual angles or a host of other things. In this case, however, I have ascertained that significant helicopter activity did take place in the vicinity of Aldergrove Airport on the date, and at the approximate time of your sighting. It is highly possible that what you saw was helicopter movements taking place in the area.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Thank you for taking the time to make a report, I hope that you have found this helpful.

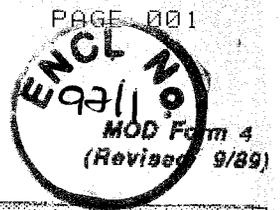
Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Secretariat (Air Staff)2a, Room 8245.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Memorandum



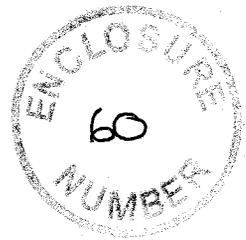
To: [REDACTED]		From: FLT LT [REDACTED] DUTY OPS CONTROLLER	
Date: MAR 96	Your Reference:	Number: [REDACTED] (RAF LYNEHAM)	Our Reference:
Subject: UFO SIGHTING - [REDACTED]			

- I REFER TO A TELEPHONE CALL MADE TO US BY A MR. [REDACTED] - MANCHESTER TEL (MANCHESTER - [REDACTED]) - [REDACTED] 40. *File Lt [REDACTED] confirmed none of the 3 crews saw anything unusual.*
- HE REPORTED A HERCULES AC CHASING A LARGE TRIANGULAR OBJECT AT LOW LEVEL OVER THE M50 AT AROUND 2030L ON 7 MARCH. HE SAID THE TRIANGULAR OBJECT WAS LARGER THAN THE HERCULES, AND ALSO THAT THE HERCULES WAS APPROX 70 FT OF THE GROUND.
- WE HAD HERCULES AIRCRAFT OPERATING IN THE AREA LAST NIGHT, BUT OPERATING TO 250 FT ABOVE GROUND LEVEL.
- MR. [REDACTED] HAS GOT PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE HIS CAMERA OF THE UFO SIGHTING, BUT REPORTED NO LIGHTS OR ANY OTHER DISTINGUISHING FEATURES.
- PLEASE COULD YOU FORWARD TO US ANY UFO REPORTING FORMS YOU HAVE. *Reply sent -*

Name (in Block Letters Please): [REDACTED]

64/3 post C, enc 11.

Rank: *FLT LT*



REPORT OF AN UNEXPLAINED AERIAL SIGHTING

1. Date, time & duration of sighting	18.3.97 3 MINS 4 AM .
2. Description of object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness, noise)	ONE LARGE TRIANGLE, LIT UP BLUE 200 FEET IN LENGTH, A VERY BRIGHT LIGHT IN EACH CORNER .
3. Exact position of observer (Indoors/outdoors, stationary/moving)	IN BACK GARDEN .
4. How observed (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, camera or camcorder)	NAKED EYE .
5. Direction in which object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a roughly estimated bearing)	KINGSTANDING, BIRMINGHAM .
6. Angle of sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	
7. Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	300 - 400 FEET HIGH
8. Movements (Changes in 5, 6 & 7 may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	HOVERED THEN SHOT OFF + DISAPPEARED. LEFT A SILKY WHITE SUBSTANCE ON GARDEN TREES + HE HAS GOT SOME OF IT IN A JAR AT HOME .
9. Met conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	
10. Nearby objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	

11. To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	
12. Name, address and telephone no of informant	MR [REDACTED] KINGSTANDING, BIRMINGHAM . [REDACTED]
13. Any further detail volunteered	DOGS WERE BARKING .
14. Other witnesses	
15. Date and time of receipt	20/3/97 . 15:16 .
16. Remarks	REPORT LEFT ON ANSWER PHONE .

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr [REDACTED] phoned at 3:16pm to report a UFO. He came home from work at 4am and saw a large lit up blue triangle shaped craft over his back garden. It was silent, was about 200ft in length and was lit up at each corner. Dogs in the area were barking which he said was unusual. The object was hovering about 300-400ft in the air, then it shot off and disappeared. It left a silky white substance on the tree tops, and he has got some of this in a jar at home. The total sighting lasted for about 3 minutes. Mr [REDACTED] lives in Kingstanding, Birmingham and his telephone number is [REDACTED]

ACTION: Report held on file 64/2 pt E enc 60
NFA required.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 February 2007 14:48
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Release-authorized: FW: DOCUMENT SEARCH

[REDACTED] n 40

Hope this is a sufficient audit trail for you.

From: [REDACTED] 0
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2007 9:37 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: DOCUMENT SEARCH

[REDACTED] n 40

The file was destroyed in August 2001.

[REDACTED]
RAF Office Manager
British Defence Staff - US
British Embassy, [REDACTED]
3100 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington DC 20008
Tel: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2007 9:25 AM
To: [REDACTED] 0
Subject: DOCUMENT SEARCH

[REDACTED] on 40

I can confirm that file BDS/RAF/3003 part 2 was destroyed in August 2001.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Information Management Officer
British Embassy
Washington DC, 20008
(Tel) [REDACTED]

15/02/2007

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2007 9:11 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: DOCUMENT SEARCH

Hi [REDACTED] on 40

I think the answer to this question is a no as we got rid of almost all of the files last year. Could you please check the file index and see if this file was one of the one's we destroyed.

Thank you

[REDACTED]
RAF Office Manager
British Defence Staff - US
British Embassy, [REDACTED]
3100 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington DC 20008
Tel: + [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2007 8:36 AM
To: [REDACTED] 0
Subject: DOCUMENT SEARCH

[REDACTED] on 40

Can you have a little search for a document raised by us in 1992. The reference is BDS/RAF/3003 and was dated 14 Dec 92. The subject was something to do with the operation of something called 'Aurora'. When you have looked pse let me know. Assuming it is a negative, pse e mail the response to [REDACTED] at DAS. His e mail is [REDACTED]@mod.uk. Thanks ever so.

[REDACTED] 40

The Information contained in this E-Mail and any subsequent correspondence is intended solely for the intended recipient(s). For those other than the intended recipient any disclosure, copying, distribution, and any action taken or not taken which relies on such information may be unlawful. Any views expressed in this email are not necessarily those of the Ministry of Defence.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2007 09:19
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOPI REQUEST

[REDACTED] 40

I have consulted the DIS Subject Matter Expert, who has confirmed that the DIS does not hold any information, documents or reports which are relevant to the question in sub para 5 of [REDACTED] FOI request of 1st Feb '07.

[REDACTED]
DI CSD Sec3
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 February 2007 15:46
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOPI REQUEST

I have a new FOI request from [REDACTED] 0

Can you confirm that you do not hold the information requested at sub para 5)

[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 February 2007 15:10
To: [REDACTED]
Subject:

From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 16 February 2007 11:19
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the number of UFO sightings that have been reported over the Merseyside area in the last five years. 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 number of UFO sightings that have been reported to the MOD in the last five years, from the area of Merseyside, I have examined our database and found six reports. The details are as follows.

25/10/2002	01:30	Liverpool	Merseyside	Object looked like an upturned saucer, with a dome on top. It had amber lights and the dome had a light on top of it. Was hovering.
15/11/2002	21:30	Liverpool	Merseyside	A series of eight to ten lights all tracing a pattern in the sky.
26/10/2003	21:06	North Wirral	Merseyside	There were two objects travelling side by side overhead, and were a dull red colour.
11/04/2004	20:43	Seaforth	Merseyside	Saw a UFO, with a cluster of four, bright lights in a ring shape on it. Three beams of light shone upwards and then disappeared.
07/08/2005	21:30	Kirby	Merseyside	There were four oblongs that were equally spaced. They also looked like bright lights.
05/06/2006	22:12	Haydock	Merseyside	The ball of light looked like a sphere on fire. Like a comet with no tail. Had an orange circular light glowing in front of it.

You may also wish to be aware that there is 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 public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at:

16/02/2007

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at:
<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely


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

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 February 2007 09:30
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: foi email request 13-02-2007-171222-015 [REDACTED] 0

Categories: FOI Information Request

Can you answer this FOI request please. I have informed Info Access that its one of ours.

[REDACTED] n 40

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

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 February 2007 17:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: foi email request 13-02-2007-171222-015 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 40

Can you take?

[REDACTED]

Info-AccessOps5

[REDACTED]

Main Building

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 04 February 2007 12:11
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 13-02-2007-171222-015 [REDACTED]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, February 4, 2007 at 12:11:10

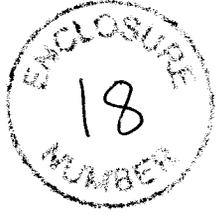
txttitle: [REDACTED] n 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED]

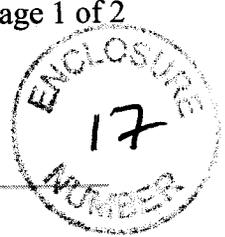
txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txtinforequest: i would like all the information of any reported sightings over the merseyside aera in the last 5 years please.



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



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 February 2007 10:16
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 14-02-2007-143112-003

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request of 13 February 2006 regarding UFO, alien and extraterrestrial incidents in Sussex since 1997 and the funding allocated by the government associated with UFO related activities.

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 on 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. To identify records specifically for Sussex over the period 1997 to the present date, would require a manual search, and these records would also have to be redacted of personal information. The costs to do this would exceed the permitted £600 cost limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, therefore, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request.

Turning to the second part of your request, the MoD is not funded to carry out research into UFO's, alien or extraterrestrial life. Two civilian staff are employed to record UFO sightings reported to the MoD, respond to public and parliamentary correspondence and answer other requests for information. Occasionally, sighting reports may be referred to air defence staff and will be examined by a military desk officer. Details of the specific costs of these tasks are not recorded.

In the meantime, you may wish to be aware that there is 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 together with records up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

If you unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

15/02/2007


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

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 February 2007 14:32
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 14-02-2007-143112-003 [REDACTED] 40

[REDACTED] n 40

One for you.

[REDACTED]

Info-AccessOps5

[REDACTED]

Main Building

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 13 February 2007 18:35
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 14-02-2007-143112-003 [REDACTED] b

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, February 13, 2007 at 18:35:03

txttitle: [REDACTED] n 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED]

txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtaddress1: [REDACTED]

txtaddress2: [REDACTED]

txttowncity: Bridgwater

txtstatecountry: Somerset

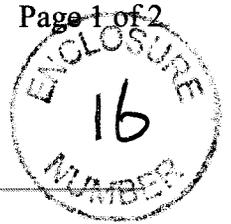
txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

① txtinforequest: Details of all reported UFO and extra terrestrial and alien related incidents in Sussex since 1997 to the present day. This should include sightings, encounters, abductions or any other alien, spacecraft, flying saucer related activity. This should include the date, exact location, names if possible and outcome. This should include whether any police officers, military or other government employed personnel were deployed in relation to an incident. ② How much money does the government allocate each year to UFO related incidents or activity and how much has been spent in the past ten years. Reply via email.

PART 1 Enc 6



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 February 2007 09:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 18-01-2007-172205-001

Dear [REDACTED]

Your Freedom of Information request dated 18 January 2007 noted that twelve UFO sightings since January 2001 had been deemed to be "worthy of further consideration", and you asked why they were given this further consideration, what consideration they received and what the outcome of this consideration was.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external 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.

Our records do not show why these twelve reports were the subject of further consideration, however, from time to time, reports may be received that in the opinion of staff may warrant further investigation. This may be due to a large number of reports occurring on a particular day, or an unusual pattern of activity or reports. Additionally, the reports could come from witnesses such as pilots, aircrew, air traffic controllers or policemen. As part of our assessment of reports this office contacts, as required, the appropriate Departmental air defence experts to see if they believe the report is of any defence significance and if UK air integrity has been compromised. To date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence,

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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[REDACTED]
DAS-FOI
05-H- [REDACTED] tion 40
MoD Main Building

15/02/2007

Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

AITCases

20070118-[REDACTED] 18-01-2007-172205-001

[New Item](#) | [Edit Item](#) | [Delete Item](#) | [Alert Me](#) | [Go Back to List](#)

Title: [REDACTED] 18-01-2007-172205-001

Person_Title: [REDACTED]

First_Name: [REDACTED]

Surname: [REDACTED]

Organisation: [REDACTED]

Applicant_Type: writer

Address_Line_1: [REDACTED]

Address_Line_2: [REDACTED]

Address_Line_3: [REDACTED]

TownCity: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Country: United Kingdom

Email: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Request_Details: For book research purposes:
Of the 714 UFO sightings investigated by the MoD since January 2001, 12 were said by Defence minister Derek Twigg to be 'worthy of further consideration.' Why were they deemed with this consideration, what consideration did they receive, and what if any was the outcome of this consideration?

Case_Number: 18-01-2007-172205-001

Originator: DII [REDACTED]

User_Group: GxAITESTInfoAcc

Date_Received: 18/01/2007

Date_Due: 15/02/2007

Status: Open

Responder: DII [REDACTED]

Vexatious_Type: [REDACTED]

Vexatious_Reason: [REDACTED]

Quick_Response_Type: [REDACTED]

Quick_Resp_Cov_Letter_Issued: No

Media_Preference_Met: [REDACTED]

Media_Date_Sent: [REDACTED]

Media_Response_Sent: [REDACTED]

Media_Preference_Comments: [REDACTED]

Closed: [REDACTED]

Date_Closed: [REDACTED]

Media_Type: not stated

Requested_Language: English

15

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 February 2007 11:04
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding UFO phenomenon reported to the MOD during the period January 1995 to January 1996. 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 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 on reported UFO sightings, I should 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. To identify records specifically for the period January 1995 to January 1996, would require a manual search of over 900 records, and these records would also have to be redacted of personal information. The costs to do this would exceed the permitted £600 cost limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, therefore, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request.

In the meantime, you may wish to be aware that there is 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 together with records up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

If you unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

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

14/02/2007

don
1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2007 10:40
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 02-02-2007-164440-006 [REDACTED] 40

Categories: FOI Information Request

[REDACTED] 40 you please deal with this.

I assume we would say too expensive and ask him to cut it down to 6 months?

[REDACTED] 0

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

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2007 09:16
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI written request 02-02-2007-164440-006 [REDACTED] 40

Yes,

We will take

[REDACTED] 40 FOI

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

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2007 16:46
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 02-02-2007-164440-006 [REDACTED] 0

[REDACTED] 40

Can you take?

[REDACTED]
Info-AccessOps5

[REDACTED]
Main Building

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 02 February 2007 15:44
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 02-02-2007-164440-006 [REDACTED] 0

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, February 2, 2007 at 15:43:48

txttitle: [REDACTED] on 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED] 0

txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtaddress1: [REDACTED] Chorley Lancashire [REDACTED] 0

txtaddress2: No address 2

txtcity: Chorley

txtstatecountry: Lancashire

txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED] 0

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txttelephone: [REDACTED]

txtinforequest: Hi

To assist me in my research into the UFO phenomenon please could you supply me with 'UFO reports data'

made to the MOD during the period January 1995 to January 1996.

I thank you in advance of my request.

[REDACTED]

14



From: [REDACTED]
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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



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

[REDACTED]
Teignmouth
Devon
[REDACTED]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
05-02-2007-095927-002
Date:
14 February 2007

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing with reference to your Freedom of Information request regarding reported UFO phenomena from the areas of West Sussex and Devon since 1990. 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 on 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 UFO phenomena from 1990 to present time, a search of thousands of records would be required and this would exceed the £600 limit set for compliance with the FOI Act 2000. However, we are currently in the process of compiling a database of UFO sighting reports and this has now been completed for the years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and to date in 2007. I examined these records and found four reports for West Sussex and thirteen reports from Devon for those years. The details are as follows.

05/09/2002		Wisborough Green	West Sussex	Interesting lights on an equilateral triangle.
09/09/2005	05:45	Little Hampton	West Sussex	There was one light in the

				sky that burst into four separate ones, before disappearing.
July 2006		Rushington	West Sussex	Two flying objects were seen.
12/11/2006	20:20	Petworth	West Sussex	Five dancing lights were seen.

30/09/2002	22:00	Exeter	Devon	The object had two neon blue lights at the rear.
30/09/2002	20:20	Exeter	Devon	One ball of red, glowing light.
19/12/2002	06:30	Newton Abbott	Devon	A strange object/light with no sound.
2003		Ashburton	Devon	Two strange lights in the sky.
25/05/2004	17:00	Paignton	Devon	Long single black cylinder type object about 200ft long.
28/07/2004		Lynton nr Exmoor	Devon	The object looks like a big white diamond on the horizon.
21/02/2005	09:56	Winkleigh	Devon	Object seen in the sky.
	09:34	Chievithorne	Devon	The object looked like a telegraph pole.
30/03/2006	00:40	Plymouth	Devon	There was a huge ball of orange fire.
17/07/2006	02:00	Marlborough	Devon	Two round, stationary, oval lights were seen.
20/08/2006		Torquay	Devon	Lights were seen.
06/09/2006		Exeter	Devon	Just said a sighting.
11/12/2006		Plymouth	Devon	A blue light with a white light in the middle.

You may also wish to know that there is 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 together with records up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date in which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2007 10:41
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 05-02-2007-095927-002 [REDACTED]

And another!

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

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2007 10:15
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOI written request 05-02-2007-095927-002 [REDACTED]

Yes, we will take.

[REDACTED] 40

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

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2007 10:01
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request 05-02-2007-095927-002 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 40

Can you take?

[REDACTED]

Info-AccessOps5

[REDACTED]

Main Building

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 04 February 2007 17:35
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 05-02-2007-095927-002 [REDACTED]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, February 4, 2007 at 17:35:11

txttitle: [REDACTED] 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED]

txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtaddress1: [REDACTED]

txtaddress2: [REDACTED]

txttowncity: Teignmouth

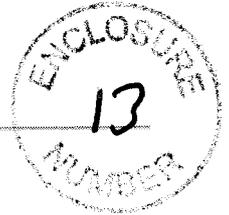
txtstatecountry: Devon

txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED]

txtcountry: UK

txtinforequest: I require all reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects, or UFO's, and any reported Extra Terrestrial contact and/or abductions. From the area's of West Sussex and Devon in the last 15 years, starting in 1990. Especially in the area's of Torbay and Chichester.

Thank you for your time,

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 February 2007 16:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 14-02-2007-144127-004

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 13 February 2007 asking for a list of events involving UFO's in which the "Extraterrestrial Hypothesis" is the best or only explanation.

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 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. We do not, therefore, have a list of events which meet the criteria of the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

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

14/02/2007

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 February 2007 14:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: freedom of information specific request 14-02-2007-144127-004 [REDACTED] n 40

[REDACTED] n 40

Another one.

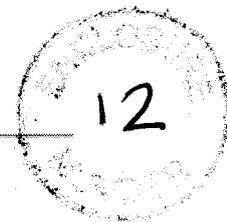
[REDACTED]
Info-AccessOps5
[REDACTED]

Main Building

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 February 2007 22:07
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: freedom of information specific request 14-02-2007-144127-004 [REDACTED] n 40

Greetings, I am interested in a list of events involving UFO's in which the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis is the best or only explanation. Thanks in advance 

Finding fabulous fares is fun.
[Let Yahoo! FareChase search your favorite travel sites to find flight and hotel bargains.](#)



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 February 2007 14:32
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding UFO sightings that have been reported in South Wales from 1995 – 2000. 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 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 any 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 on 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. To identify records specifically from South Wales for the years 1995 up to 2000, would require a manual search of over 2000 records would be required and the costs to do this, would exceed the permitted £600 cost limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, therefore the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request.

In the meantime, you may wish to be aware that there is 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 together with records up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Yours sincerely

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

01/02/2007

ndon
W1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk.

Ref - 23-01-2007-070216-002.
Expiry - 20/02/07.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 23 January 2007 07:03
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 23-01-2007-070216-002 [Redacted] 40

[Redacted] 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[Redacted]

FOI Helpdesk

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 22 January 2007 21:39
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 23-01-2007-070216-002 [Redacted] 0

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, January 22, 2007 at 21:39:02

txttitle: [Redacted] 40
txtfirstname: [Redacted] 40
txtlastname: [Redacted]
txtoccupation: it technician
txtorganisation: [Redacted]
txtaddress1: [Redacted]
txtaddress2: [Redacted]
txttowncity: swansea
txtstatecountry: swansea
txtzipcodepostcode: [Redacted] 0
txtcountry: UK
txtemailAddress: [Redacted]
txttelephone [Redacted]
txtinforequest: All ufo sightings in south wales from 1995 - 2000 please



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 February 2007 14:31
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I have sent another draft of your FOI request. Unfortunately, the other draft was accidentally sent when it was incomplete. Sorry for any confusion. Please see the new draft below and please accept my apologies.

Hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
 FOI 1
 MOD
 Whitehall
 London
 SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 February 2007 16:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your e.mail dated 8 February 2007 clarifying your previous FOI request.

You will know our policy on UFOs due to my previous correspondence.

With regard to missing person reports, that is a matter for the Civilian police to deal with.

To conduct a search of our files for details of alien abduction and other general UFO phenomena around England would entail examining thousands of records. To search this number of records would exceed the £600 limit set for compliance by the Freedom of Information Act, as provided by Section 12 of the Act. However, we are currently in the process of compiling a database of UFO sighting reports and this has now been completed for the years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and to date in 2007. I have examined these records for UFO sighting reports from Shropshire for those years and found six, and the details are as follows.

28/01/2004	18:15	Billingsley	Shropshire	Lights in the night sky flying in formation.
19/01/2005	18:35		Shropshire	Beam of light seen.
19/01/2005	18:45		Shropshire	Lights seen in the sky.
19/01/2005	18:50		Shropshire	Beam of light seen.
30/01/2006	06:00	Shrewsbury	Shropshire	A light was seen travelling rapidly – due South West.
25/11/2006	20:30	Newport	Shropshire	Three sphere shaped, bright yellow/white lights seen on a clear night.

21/02/2007

You are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date in which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain 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 investigate your case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely


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

From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 08 February 2007 14:36
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Re: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]
 thank you for replying to my e-mail i wrote to you asking for information about ufo phenomena around england and shropshire and you told me to make my request more specific, information dating back 5 years if possible of eny ufo, missing person reports, if for some reson you cannot get the five year span then get the four year span or three and so on until you can send me the information.
 you might note that i have added the missing person's onto the request however i am only intrested in strange disaprences, abduction (by ufos if there is eny) and you get the idear

[REDACTED]
 shroshire
 shrewsbury

[REDACTED] 40

e-mail: [REDACTED]

p.s i was not sure which email to sent this to, sorry.

if this is still not as specific as needed please email me

your fathfully [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@mod.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding information on UFO phenomena around England and Shropshire. 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 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 Department holds on UFO sightings, I should inform you that they are not held electronically but are filed 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 from around England and specifically Shropshire, a manual search of thousands of records would be required and the costs to do this, would exceed the permitted £600 cost limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, therefore, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. However, if you could be more specific about the information you are seeking, we may be able to assist you.

In the meantime, you may wish to be aware that there is 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

21/02/2007

Records up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information on the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk> The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

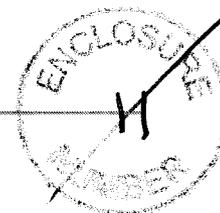
If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may be able to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed.

Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely


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



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 February 2007 14:32
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding information on UFO phenomena around England and Shropshire. 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 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 Department holds on UFO sightings, I should inform you that they are not held electronically but are filed 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 from around England and specifically Shropshire, a manual search of thousands of records would be required and the costs to do this, would exceed the permitted £600 cost limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, therefore, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. However, if you could be more specific about the information you are seeking, we may be able to assist you.

In the meantime, you may wish to be aware that there is 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 public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information on the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk> The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain 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 investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

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

01/02/2007

itehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Ref - 23-01-2007-065804-001.
Expiry - 20/02/07.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 January 2007 06:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 23-01-2007-065804-001 [REDACTED] 40

[REDACTED] 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[REDACTED]
FOI Helpdesk

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 22 January 2007 22:16
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 23-01-2007-065804-001 [REDACTED]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, January 22, 2007 at 22:15:52

txttitle: [REDACTED] on 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED]

txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtoccupation: recruiter (headhunter)

txtaddress1: [REDACTED]

txtaddress2: shrewsbury

txttowncity: shropshire

txtstatecountry: England

txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txttelephone: [REDACTED]

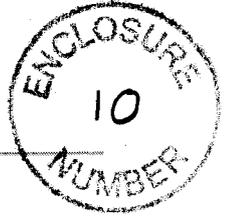
txtinforequest: MOD i am e-mailing you to gather information about unusual activaty around england and shropshire involving eny UFO i will try to be more specific, eny information involving blinding light, lost time, fast moving objects in the sky, crashes of eny ufo craft.

i have filed this request uder the freedom of information act 2000

please post eny documents to my address.

thank you

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 February 2007 11:55
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding UFO sightings that have been reported in Hartlepool in the last five years. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs.

I have examined our database for the last five years to find UFO reports from Hartlepool, Cleveland, but was unable to find any reports relevant to your request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within two calendar months of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Sorry I could not have been more help.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
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

Ref - 25-01-2007-162545-007 Page 1 of 1
Expiry - 24/1/07

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 24 January 2007 11:31
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: FOI

Dear Sir/Madam

May I please make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

My request is as follows:

How many reported sightings have there been of UFOs in the Hartlepool area in each of the last five years? In any cases reported, what was the description and what, if any, action was taken by the MOD or other authority?

I have twice previously submitted this request via the official MOD website but to date have received no replay. [Redacted] Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information, Whitehall, suggested I try this email address.

Many thanks.

Yours Faithfully

[Redacted]
Hartlepool Mail
New Clarence House
Wesley Sq
Hartlepool
Tel [Redacted]

Johnston Press plc Registered in Scotland no. SC015382 Registered Off

Opinions expressed in this email are those of the writer and not the company. E-



From: [redacted]
Sent: 16 January 2007 09:07

To: [redacted]

Subject: Internet-Authorised: FRREDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 08-01-2007-104202-005

Dear [redacted]

Your Freedom of Information request of 8 January 2007 asked whether the MoD would withhold information on UFOs on the basis of national security and whether the MoD acknowledges that UFOs exist.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the MoD is entitled to withhold information relating to national security under exemption S.24 (National Security) regardless of the subject. However, since this is not an absolute exemption, the MoD must, if asked, be able to justify this decision to the Information Commissioner.

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

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>.

[redacted]
DAS Sec 1
05-H- [redacted] tion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

NOTE;

E-MAIL APPROX DOES NOT
RESPOND. NO OTHER
CONTACT DETAILS AVAILABLE
•• WILL BE HELD REPLY
AT ON HOLD.

[redacted]

DAS-FSI
16/1/07

[redacted]

[REDACTED]

From: System Administrator
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2007 16:34
Subject: Undeliverable:Returned mail: see transcript for details

Your message did not reach some or all of the intended recipients.

Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 08-01-2007-104202-005 UFOs AND NATIONAL SECURITY
Sent: 15/01/2007 16:33

The following recipient(s) could not be reached:

[REDACTED] on 15/01/2007 16:36
The e-mail account does not exist at the organization this message was sent to. Check the e-mail address, or contact the recipient directly to find out the correct address.
<outbound.public.mod.uk #5.1.1 SMTP; 550 [REDACTED]> Recipient address rejected: User unknown in local recipient table>

Reference - 08-01-2007-104202-005
Expiry - 5/2/2007

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2007 10:45
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Library Enquiry PS 08-01-2007-104202-005 [REDACTED] n 40

[REDACTED] n 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[REDACTED]
FOI Helpdesk

From: [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** Info-SvcsLibrary-Office
Sent: 08 January 2007 10:27
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: RE: Library Enquiry PS 08-01-2007-104202-005 [REDACTED] n 40

Good Morning FOI Team

One for you....

Regards

Check email address

[REDACTED]
Information Delivery Team
Ground Floor, Zone D, [REDACTED] 40
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
London
SW1A 2HB
Tel: [REDACTED]
Mil: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]@mod.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: MOD Webmaster [mailto:webmaster@dgics.mod.uk]
Sent: 08 January 2007 09:33
To: Info-SvcsLibrary-Office; [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Library Enquiry [REDACTED]

Hi Guys,

Can you help with this one please?

Thanks

[REDACTED] 40

----- Original Message -----
Subject: Defence Website Enquiry
Date: Sat, 6 Jan 2007 14:15:09 GMT
From: feedback@www.mod.uk
To: webmaster@dgics.mod.uk

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Saturday, January 6, 2007 at 14:15:09

txtname: [REDACTED]

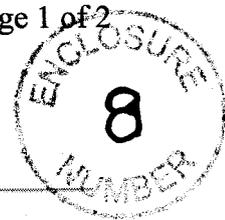
txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txtcountry: USA

txtrequest:

Hello,

I read on the MOD website that it doesn't release information if it's in the interests of National Security. Logically any of these incidents must be of a great enormity. I wanted to know does this national security rule apply to UFO's and does the MOD acknowledge they exist ?



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2007 15:40
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the number of reported UFO sightings in the District of Easington, (East County Durham) since the year 2004. 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 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 County Durham, a manual search of thousands of records would be required and this would exceed the £600 cost limit set for compliance with the FOI Act 2000. However, we are currently in the process of compiling a database of UFO sighting reports and this has now been completed for the years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and to date in 2007. I examined the reports for the years you requested, and have found no reports from the Easington area, but two from Seaham in County Durham for which the details are as follows.

29/07/2006	22:00	Seaham	County Durham	Six yellow/orange lights travelling in a line, slightly staggered from South to North.
29/07/2006	22:40	Seaham	County Durham	Nine orange lights were following each other and drifting Northwards.

You may also wish to know that there is 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 together with records up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, 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://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

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: InfoXD@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://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

15/01/2007



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

Ref - 10 - 01 - 2007 - 111804 - 006 .
Expiry Date - 7/2/07 .

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 January 2007 11:19
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: foi email request 10-01-2007-111804-006 [REDACTED] 40

Categories: FOI Information Request

[REDACTED]

Can you take?

Thanks.

[REDACTED]

Info-AccessOps5

[REDACTED]

Main Building

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 10 January 2007 11:52
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 10-01-2007-111804-006 [REDACTED] 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Wednesday, January 10, 2007 at 11:51:34

txttitle: [REDACTED] n 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED] 0

txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtoccupation: Journalist

txtorganisation: Hartlepool Mail/Peterlee Mail

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txttelephone: [REDACTED]

txtinforequest: How many reported sightings of UFOs were there in the District of Easington area (east County Durham) in 2006, 2005 and 2004?
Please give examples was what was reported and what the UFO was said to look like.
How many reports were investigated and how?
Thank you.



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2007 15:42
To: [REDACTED] 
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI Request.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the number of reported UFO sightings in County Durham for the last ten years. 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 for Dumfries and Galloway, for the last ten years, a manual search of thousands of records would be required and this would exceed the £600 cost limit set for compliance with the FOI Act 2000. However, we are currently in the process of compiling a database of UFO sighting reports and this has now been completed for the years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and to date in 2007. I examined the reports for those years and have found two reports from Dumfries and Galloway, for which the details are as follows.

09/09/2004	23:20	Dumfries	Dumfries and Galloway	Strange lights were spotted over the town.
12/10/2004	20:07	Dumfries	Dumfries and Galloway	Strange lights over the town.

You may also wish to know that there is 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 together with records up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, 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://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme>.

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: InfoXD@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://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

15/01/2007

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

Ref - 05-d-2007-065547-002
Expiry Date - 2/2/07

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2007 06:57
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: foi email request PS 05-01-2007-065547-002 [REDACTED]

Categories: FOI Information Request

[REDACTED] 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[REDACTED]
FOI Helpdesk

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 04 January 2007 17:38
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request PS 05-01-2007-065547-002 [REDACTED]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Thursday, January 4, 2007 at 17:38:02

txttitle: [REDACTED] 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED]

txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtoccupation: Journalist

txtorganisation: Dumfries and Galloway Standard

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txttelephone: [REDACTED]

txtinforequest: 1. Provide details of all UFO sightings over the Dumfries and Galloway region of Scotland over the last 10 years. Detail the location of the sighting, the date and time and the description reported.

Thank You.

ENCLOSURE
6
NUMBER



From: [REDACTED]
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

[REDACTED]

Cardiff
South Wales

[REDACTED]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
02-01-2007-155810-001

Date:
16 January 2007

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the number of reported sightings of 'unidentified flying objects' in or near Merthyr Tydfil and the Rhymney Valley in South Wales, in 2005 and 2006 and the costs incurred in the recording and investigating of these sightings. 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.

I have examined our records for reports of UFO sightings in Merthyr Tydfil and the Rhymney Valley, but there were no reports for the years 2005 and 2006. Statistics for the number of sightings over Wales and the UK for the period of 2005-2006 are shown below.

United Kingdom	2005 - 147	2006 - 95
Wales	2005 - 11	2006 - 1

The MOD does not keep records identifying the costs of recording and investigating UFO reports.

Finally, you may wish to be aware that there is 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 together with records

up to 1977 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, 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://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at:

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

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 apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e.mail: InfoXD@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://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the undersigned.

Ref - 02-01-2007-155810-001 - Page 1 of 1
Expiry - 30/01/07.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 03 January 2007 15:22

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Scanned Doc 02-01-2007-155810-001 [REDACTED] 40

[REDACTED] 40

Please see attachment.

Can you take?

[REDACTED]
Info-AccessOps5

[REDACTED]
Main Building

04/01/2007

DSFUF0 ADM10

02 JAN 2007

MAIN BLDG

Cardiff

Freedom of Information Officer, Ministry of Defence
6th Floor, Zone E
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HW

Dear Sir/Madam

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Could you please supply me with the number of reported sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) in or near Merthyr Tydfil and the Rhymney Valley, in South Wales, in 2005 and 2006.

I would like to know exactly where these sightings occurred, who reported them (members of the public, police officers, military personnel, etc.), details of what they claimed to have seen, if available, and the costs incurred in the recording and investigating of these sightings.

Also, for the purposes of comparison, I would like to know the number of UFO sightings recorded in Wales and the UK generally over the same period, and the average cost of recording and investigating these.

If I can help to clarify this request, or if there are costs associated with it (for example for photocopying), please contact me by e-mail at the address provided above.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from you promptly, as required by the 2000 Act.

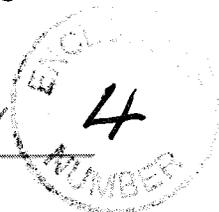
Yours sincerely

Wednesday December 27, 2006

02 - 01 - 2007 - 155810 - 001



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



Done !!

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2007 15:18
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 15-01-2007-072539-009

Dear [REDACTED]

Your Freedom of Information request of 14 January 2007 requesting details of an alleged incident at RAF Boscombe Down on the night of 26 September 1994 and any information from QinetiQ and LATCC or any other agency involved (I presume regarding this incident), has been passed to this office to answer.

The MoD has no record of any incident occurring at Boscombe Down on, or around, that date and therefore cannot help you further in this matter.

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>.

I am sorry I could not have been of more help.

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

Expiry Date - 12/2/2007

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 15 January 2007 11:45
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 15-01-2007-072539-009 [Redacted]

[Redacted] 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request, in view of comments below.

Regards

[Redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

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

From: [Redacted] Behalf Of STC-RAF Parliamentary Business
Sent: 15 January 2007 11:37
To: [Redacted] *ref.*
Subject: RE: FOI written request PS 15-01-2007-072539-009 [Redacted]

Hi [Redacted] n 40

The desk officer has investigated the FOI request below and has advised a similar question was answered by [Redacted] DASFOI (REF 21-08-2006-063534-001) Therefore, please check with DASFOI.

Regards

[Redacted]
Business Secretariat
[Redacted]

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

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 15 January 2007 08:26
To: STC-RAF Parliamentary Business
Subject: FW: FOI written request PS 15-01-2007-072539-009 [Redacted]

[Redacted] 0

Can I interest you with this FOI request?

Regards

[Redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 14 January 2007 21:10
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 15-01-2007-072539-009 [Redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, January 14, 2007 at 21:09:49

txttitle: [Redacted] ion 40

txtfirstname: [Redacted]
txtlastname: [Redacted]
txtaddress1: [Redacted]
txtaddress2: [Redacted]

txttowncity: Brighton

statecountry: East Sussex

txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txtinforequest: Dear Sir/Madam

I would like all the information on the the incident at "The Royal Air Force Flight Test Centre" RAF Boscombe Down on the 26th September 1994.

Any information from the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (QinetiQ), (LATCC) London Air Traffic Control Centre and any other agency involved would be truly amazing.

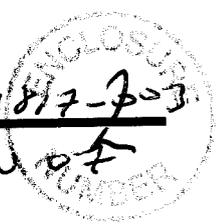
Many Thanks
[REDACTED]



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

07-01-2007-121817-703

19 JAN 07



From: [redacted]
Sent: 08 January 2007 09:51
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request

[redacted] 40

I understand from [redacted] 40 that you require a copy of this email sent to [redacted] 40d [redacted] n 40

Regards

[redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

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

From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 December 2006 14:25
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request

[redacted]

Please see comments enclosed.

Regards

[redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 19 December 2006 13:36
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, December 19, 2006 at 13:36:26

txttitle: [redacted] n 40

txtfirstname: [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Student

txtorganisation: UWE

txtaddress1: [redacted]

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Bristol

txtstatecountry: Avon and Somerset

txtzipcodepostcode: [redacted] 0

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I would like to request an internal review of my freedom of information request regarding crop circles sent to me on 18/12/2006 FOI REQUEST 18-12-2006-065847-002 - CROP CIRCLES FILE

I would like to request any information the ministry has on crop circles in 1991 or any files Nick Pope opened on the subject of crop circles. He is adamant that he opened an official file on crop circles between 1991-1994 but my request states that no such files have ever existed on crop circles.

regards

[REDACTED]



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

Telephone (Direct dial) [REDACTED]
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000
(Fax) [REDACTED]
e-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

[REDACTED]

Bristol

[REDACTED]

Our Reference
08-01-2007-101817-003

Date
09 January 2007

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your revised Freedom of Information request dated 19 December 2006 for information held on file relating to crop circles for the year 1991.

I attach copies of documentation relating to crop circles for the year 1991. You will notice that the names and signatures of some individuals have been removed as they do not form a substantive part of your request. Additionally, you will note that words have been blacked out at the top and bottom of the signal dated 21 July 1991. These were security classifications which are now no longer relevant.

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

[REDACTED]

...cians for students seek-
places at universities,
technics and colleges
be published exclusively
The Independent and The
pendent on Sunday in the
ing weeks.
the first list of vacancies
be in The Independent on
nesday and a further list
be in the next issue of
Independent on Sunday.
oday's Business on Sun-
Sarah Strickland ex-
as what students should
fter hearing their A-level
its if they are still un-
ed and there are eight
s of information about
ge courses.

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DAY REVIEW	
INESS ON SUNDAY	
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...THE Government is considering
the abolition of minimum stan-
dards for school buildings.

Ministers have kept quiet
about the possibility of abandon-
ing the standards, which were last
revised in 1981. They have an-
nounced only that they are carry-
ing out a review of the standards,
which lay down minimum class-
room space for each pupil, re-
quire "reasonable resistance to
rain, snow, wind and damp" and
specify numbers of washrooms
and toilets.

The news that abolition is be-
ing considered slipped out unno-
ticed last week in a National
Audit Office report. The report
revealed that nearly half Britain's
seven million schoolchildren are
taught in buildings that need ur-
gent repairs and refurbishment.
Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller
and Auditor General, said that
the condition of buildings was
having "adverse effects on the
quality of education".

Sir John added that there had
been little change since 1986 when
a Department of Education sur-
vey found that more than £2bn
was needed to bring school build-
ings up to the standards required
by the 1981 regulations.

In October last year, John
MacGregor, then Secretary of
State for Education, announced
the review of the standards in a
press notice which also said that
"the transitional period" for com-
pliance would be extended from
1991 to 1996. A spokesman for
Jack Straw, the shadow education
secretary, said yesterday: "At a
stroke, MacGregor moved the
goalposts. Now it would appear
that Kenneth Clarke, his succes-
sor, is planning to abolish the
football pitch."

In his press notice, Mr
MacGregor said that the review
would consider the regulations
"in the light of changes in educa-
tional practice over the last 10
years" and assess "the implica-

**By Anthony Bevins
and Ngalo Crequer**

tions for school premises of the
national curriculum over the next
10 years". It would also examine
how requirements would be af-
fected by new laws which give
schools money, previously held by
local authorities, to carry out their
own repairs and maintenance.

Last week's audit office report
repeated the press notice word
for word but inserted the sen-
tence: "The review will also con-
sider whether there is any need
for regulations." The press notice
had continued: "The review will
report to the Secretaries of State
for Education and Wales who will
then consider any recommenda-
tions for bringing the regulations
up to date." Again, the audit of-
fice repeated the sentence but
added three words — "or abolish-
ing them".

Roy Hattersley, Labour's dep-

uty leader, said: "I can think of no
change in educational practice in
the last decade that makes leak-
ing roofs or broken windows ac-
ceptable. This review is a sham to
allow government to absolve itself
of responsibilities to parents and
children." Her Majesty's Inspec-
torate said in February that the
national curriculum would need
even better accommodation.

A spokesman for the Depart-
ment of Education defended the
decision not to mention abolition
as an option, arguing that a review
was bound to consider all options.
The regulations, which were
extended in 1989 to schools that
opt out of local authority control,
are wide-ranging. As well as ade-
quate classroom space, sufficient
toilets and weatherproof build-
ings, they say there must be
changing accommodation avail-
able for children taking PE, readi-
ly accessible from the school
grounds. There should be show-
ers for staff teaching PE if the

school has pupils aged over eight.
There should be a room avail-
able for the medical or dental ex-
amination of pupils during school
hours. Every school should have a
head teachers' room, and a room
for teachers "for social
purposes".

Paul White, Tory chairman of
the Association of County Coun-
cils Education committee, said he
would be surprised if minimum
standards were abolished. "I
think they will be changed but
kept on in some way. Some of the
regulations are absurd. In a small
primary school you do not need to
build a shower for the staff. These
regulations are a bit crazy, they
are terribly expensive. You need
some laws, but not these."

However, Jim Keight, leader of
Knowsley council in Yorkshire,
said: "If they abolish the mini-
mum standards they are saying to
hell with it, it does not matter
what the school buildings are
like."

Crop circles take to the underground

By Alex Renton

he thinks they and crop circles
are caused by eddying currents of
air, possibly electrically charged.

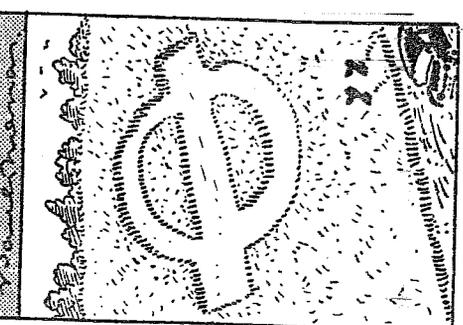
Professor Ohtsuki, who visited
British cornfields with a research
team this summer, claims to have
already created a "plasma vor-
tex" with microwaves and air in
his laboratory at Waseda Univer-
sity in Japan. He has used it to
make circles appear in trays of
aluminium filings.

Japanese television film of
these circles was shown at the
Sixth International Congress on
UFOs in Sheffield this weekend.

MYSTERIOUS circles similar to
those found in crop-fields around
the world have been discovered in
the bowels of Tokyo's under-
ground system.

Though smaller in size than
their rural brethren, the metro
circles appear similarly symmet-
rical, and often in the linked pat-
terns that have excited scientists,
"cerealogists" and UFO-watch-
ers. They appear in dust in the
tunnels that has not been dis-
turbed for 25 years.

But alien or supernatural
forces cannot be blamed for the
circles, according to Professor
Yoshi Hiko Ohtsuki, the scientist
who has revealed them. Instead



It also revealed the dust circles
on the walls and floor of the Japa-
nese underground system —
causing some distress to the non-
sceptical "ufologists" at the con-
ference who had liked to believe
that the crop circles were perpe-
trated by UFOs.

Even the most optimistic were
unwilling to suggest that aliens
might wish to use their own craft
in such an efficient transport sys-
tem as the Tokyo metro. Profes-
sor Ohtsuki thinks the Tokyo
circles are caused by small vorti-
ces created by passing trains.
Jenny Kandler — a respected
and sceptical researcher into
"anomalous phenomena" — wel-

comed Professor Ohtsuki's find-
ings. "It's a great shame that
while we British are still saying
'Is it bovine flatulence or is it
aliens from space?' the Japanese
are thinking, 'Let's patent it and
make a few billion yen,'" she said.

The editor of *The Crop Watch-
er*, Paul Fuller, said at the confer-
ence that up to 50 per cent of
British crop circles were hoaxes.
Eager to extend Professor Oht-
suki's investigations, he said:
"We're hoping we can go to Lon-
don and look through the Under-
ground system. Presumably we'll
start at the Circle Line."

Space invader shocks
UFO talks, page 2

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

Greenpeace is not entirely by the post

£12 Single

I enclose cheques

Please charge Access/Visa

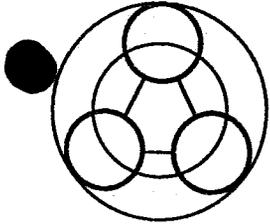
Signature: _____

Name: Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

55



CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES

Patron: The Earl of [REDACTED]

From:-
[REDACTED]
Hon. Secretary, CCCS,
[REDACTED]

13th August, 1991

Your reference: D/Sec(AS)12/3

[REDACTED] Esq.,
Secretariat (Air Staff)2a,
Room 8245,
Ministry of Defence,
Whitehall,
London SW1A 2HB



Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letters of 7th and 8th August.

I am sorry that the government is taking no interest in the crop circle phenomenon. I feel that perhaps it should do so. Japanese universities have thought it worth funding a massive research programme in this country, including the provision of much equipment and the maintenance of a team of 19 scientists in Wiltshire for several weeks this summer. The British could be missing a trick...

Be that as it may, the phenomenon appears to be taking an interest in the government ! I enclose (for you to keep) an aerial photograph of a recent event which occurred on the Chequers estate.

You may also like to have the enclosed newspaper cutting.

If at some future date government agencies decide to study the phenomenon, CCCS will remain ready to contribute to research.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

[REDACTED]

Guardian 12 August 1991

Corn circles: back to square one

CCORN CIRCLES have been cropping up with ever increasing frequency and complexity in recent months (Environment Guardian, August 2). Yet few writers or scientists address such a potentially serious subject seriously, for fear of ridicule.

We are left with the self- or government-appointed debunker who attempts to explain it all away with some pseudo-scientific theory. In this case the man is Doctor Terence Meaden and the theory is called "plasma ring vortices".

This sounded all very plausible so long as corn circles remained circles, but they haven't. Dr Meaden stretched his theory to include a few straight lines in the corn, but he never bargained for the immensely complex pattern that appeared at Barbury Castle,

Wiltshire, on July 17, 1991.

From that day on he must have regretted that he had not attempted to debunk the occurrences by claiming they were a hoax perpetrated by students. Anyone but a fanatic must know that such a pattern is the product of intelligent beings. Whether those beings are of the earthly student variety or of extra terrestrial origins is another question altogether. Let us take the subject seriously and above all let us embarrass those few shadowy people in government who do know the origins of corn circles into sharing their information with us instead of protecting us from it. We might be able to cope with it more responsibly than they. That would not be too difficult.

(Sir) John Whitmore,
Leigh nr Tonbridge,
Kent.

Corn circles: back to square one

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Wiltshire, on July 17, 1991. From that day on he must have regretted that he had not attempted to debunk the occurrences by claiming they were a hoax perpetrated by students. Anyone but a fanatic must know that such a pattern is the product of intelligent beings. Whether those beings are of the earthly student variety or of extra terrestrial origins is another question altogether. Let us take the subject seriously and above all let us embarrass those few shadowy people in government who do know the origins of corn circles into sharing their information with us instead of protecting us from it. We might be able to cope with it more responsibly than they. That would not be too difficult.

(Sir) John Whitmore
Leigh in Tonbridge,
Kent.



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) 071-21-8
(Switchboard) 071-21-89000
(Fax) 071-21-8

Mr [redacted]
Hon. Secretary
Centre for Crop Circle Studies

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
8 August 1991

Dear Mr [redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 6 August, on the subject of a recent crop circle occurrence in Cambridgeshire. This letter crossed in the post with my reply to your earlier letter.

As I explained in this previous letter, there is no Ministry of Defence involvement in crop circle research. I can confirm that an RAF aircraft was in the area at the time you mentioned, but, again, can give you a catagoric assurance that its presence was entirely unconnected with the presence of any crop circles. RAF aircraft routinely fly from bases in this area, and there was nothing out of the ordinary about this flight.

Once again, I wish you luck with your studies.

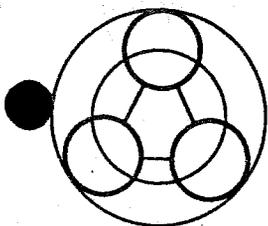
Yours sincerely

[redacted signature]

From: [redacted] Secretariat (Air Staff)2a, Room 8245.



CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES



Patron: The Earl of [REDACTED]

From:-

[REDACTED]
Hon. Secretary, CCCS,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

6th August, 1991

Your Ref: D/Sec(AS)12/3 of 26/7/91

[REDACTED] Esq.,
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a,
Ministry of Defence

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 26th July.

Perhaps I might add to my letter of 15th July that a recent crop circle occurrence near Spaldwick, Cambridgeshire, which we think can be dated to the night of 27/28 July, seems to have been of close interest to a Nimrod aircraft (possibly of No. 51 Squadron), which made five low passes across it shortly after sunset on Monday 29th July. We have other anecdotal evidence of what seems to be more than casual interest in these events by military aircraft.

I am, again, writing not to complain but to express the readiness of CCCS to contribute to any government research which is being undertaken. Our own aerial surveys of these events, coupled with our field research, indicate some strongly energetic local effects of an unusual kind both before and after crop formations have occurred.

We believe these events are of importance. We would welcome (with suitable discretion) your confirmation that government research is in train. I repeat CCCS's offer to contribute to serious study of the phenomenon.

Yours sincerely, —

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB
Telephone (Direct Dialling) 071-21-3
(Switchboard) 071-21-89000
(Fax) 071-21-8

Mr [REDACTED]
Hon. Secretary
Centre for Crop Circle Studies
9 Oakley Street
London
SW3 5NN

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
7 August 1991

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

My predecessor wrote to you on 26 July, with an interim reply to your letter of 15 July 1991 to the Under-Secretary of State for the Armed Forces. I am now able to provide the substantive reply that you were promised.

I should state at the outset that the Ministry of Defence has no interest in crop circles, and is conducting no research or investigations into this phenomenon. You mentioned the involvement of the Army Air Corps, and [REDACTED] 0. Clearly, there have been instances of individuals taking photographs of crop circles, but this has only occurred during routine training flights. Individuals are entirely free to pursue their personal interests either in their own time, or in a manner that is consistent with Service regulations. There can be no question of MOD resources being used to support investigation of the crop circle phenomenon.

You also mentioned that a Chinook helicopter was in the Beckhampton-Marlborough area on the night of July 11. I can confirm that a Chinook was in the area at the time, but can assure you that it was conducting a standard training sortie. Its presence in the area was unconnected with crop circles, and there is no question of our having any theory about the formation of crop circles, or indeed any pool of information on the phenomenon.

I hope this is helpful, although I realise it is not the response that you were hoping for. I should like to take this opportunity to wish you and the Centre for Crop Circle Studies luck with your investigations.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] secretariat (Air Staff)2a, Room 8245.

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(NS)513/1

2 August 1991

Sec(AS)2a

Copy to:
GS Sec 1d

ARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLE INVESTIGATIONS

Reference:

- A. D/GS Sec 41/2 dated 30 July 1991
- B. D/Sec(AS)12/3 dated 1 August 1991

1. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the debate on service involvement in corn circle investigations.

2. I am unaware of any instances in which the RN has helped investigators by taking aerial photographs of these circles and I very much doubt whether any such requests have been received. However, I feel that I would have some difficulty persuading the Navy that they should not co-operate where possible on the basis of the advice contained in reference B.

3. Are we not being over-sensitive towards the UFO lobby here? While our long standing policy of not devoting time or resources to investigating UFO reports is without question sensible, there is surely a need to draw a distinction between bizarre and unconfirmable reports of incidents which probably never occurred and a mildly interesting natural phenomenon the existence of which is patently obvious. It seems odd that we should impose an artificial constraint on servicemen to avoid any association with crop circles simply because of the antics of the lunatic fringe. After all, as your guidelines stipulate, there is no harm in providing assistance where this does not involve the expenditure of extra time or effort. I am quite happy to see RN helicopters overflying these objects should they be asked to do so and intend to register no objection should any requests come my way.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Sec(NS)b
MB8390 [REDACTED]

D/Sec(AS)12/3

1 August 1991

GS Sec 1d - [REDACTED]

Copy to:
Sec(NS)bARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLE INVESTIGATIONS

Reference: D/GS Sec 41/2 dated 30 July 1991

1. Thank you for your minute at Reference in which you set out the position with regard to Army involvement into the investigation of corn circles.
2. The fact that photographs have been taken from Army Air Corps helicopters puts us in a difficult position, even if this was done during routine training flights. The MOD's position with regard to UFOs is that we do not devote time or resources to investigation of such reports, unless an incident has any defence significance. For the AAC to involve themselves in this way erodes this position, as the UFO lobby will see this as active investigation of UFO-related activity (as they view corn circles) - something that we have categorically and publicly stated that we do not do.
3. I would be grateful if you would have a look at this, and give some thought to whether it would be possible to steer the AAC away from getting involved with the investigation of corn circles.
4. Of course, none of this would in any way prevent AAC personnel getting involved in their own time, provided that Service/MOD resources were not used.
5. I would be grateful for your rapid advice, as I believe we should ensure that our policy is consistent before we reply to the letter from the Centre for Crop Circle Studies.
6. I am copying this minute to Sec(NS), who may wish to ensure that Naval helicopters are not similarly involved.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Sec(AS)2a
MB8245 [REDACTED]

LOOSE MINUTE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

D/GS Sec 41/2

2 August 1991

Sec(AS)2a

Copy to:
Sec(NS)b
SO2 Coord ACC Centre (with attachment)

ARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLES INVESTIGATION

1. Thank you for your minute Sec(AS)12/3 of 1 August.
2. Frankly I am reluctant to start firing off edicts about what AAC pilots can and can't do when they spot corn circles beneath their helicopters - I am pretty sure that I wouldn't be taken seriously if I did.
3. I think it is already generally accepted that MOD resources must not be used specifically in pursuit of personal interests. I do not, however, see that the act of taking photographs of corn circles during routine training flights - which incidentally frequently entail maintaining a low hover in a chosen position - consumes any additional resources whatsoever. Neither do I see any difficulty in such photographs being made available to organisations concerned with solving the mystery, provided no impression was given that they formed any part of an official MOD investigations.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

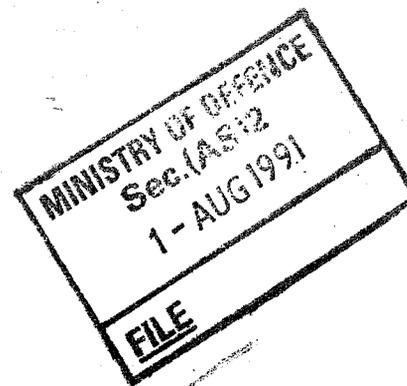
GS Sec 1d
MB5103 [REDACTED]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec.(AS)1
- 6 AUG 1991
FILE

LOOSE MINUTE

D/GS Sec 41/2

30 July 1991



Sec(AS)2a - Mr [REDACTED]

Copy to:

Hels 2

PL(LS)L1

AG Sec 1c

S10f(Air)

AAC Centre - S02 Coord

ARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLE INVESTIGATIONS

References: A. D/GS Sec 41/2 dated 18 July
B. D/Sec(AS) 12/3 dated 17 July

1. Further to Reference A, I attach a short piece provided by the Army Air Corps on the involvement of LT Col (Retd) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] AFC in the corn circles business.
2. You will note that Lt Col [REDACTED] interest was entirely personal and was originally sparked by a routine low flying complaint from a local farmer. Though a report of was made to MOD I suspect that this was solely on Lt Col [REDACTED] own initiative.
3. I have not attempted to verify the claim that a pilot from 658 Sqn took pictures of corn circles - I am sure we can take Mr [REDACTED] word for it. I imagine that this is just another example of an AAC pilot taking a personal interest in the phenomenon.
4. I agree with your suggested line of reply (Reference B, paragraph 4), but you might consider developing it along the following lines.

MOD has no interest in the corn circles phenomenon and therefore has nothing to offer in the way of information exchange. However, as they have done in the past, individuals in the Services are free to pursue their personal interests either in their own time or in a manner that is consistent with normal training objectives. If, for example, Army Air Corps pilots take photographs of corn circles during routine training flights they would be entirely free to share the results with organisations concerned with solving the mystery. Nor would MOD object to such organisations cultivating their existing individual contacts with the Services, provide it was understood that no MOD resources could be made available for the sole purpose of corn circle research.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

5. I hope this helps, and I would be grateful for a copy of your reply.

[REDACTED]

GS Sec 1d

MB5103 [REDACTED]

CIRCLES IN THE CORN
INVOLVMENT OF LT COL (RETD) [REDACTED] AFC

In 1985 Lt Col [REDACTED] then SO1 STANDARDS/NIGHT SAFETY HQ DAAC, was contacted by a local farmer asking what the AAC had been doing to his corn. Taking the Technical Accident Investigation Officer (AIFSO) with him he visited the area which was about 2 miles from Middle Wallop. It turned out to be a perfect set of circles in the corn.

Neither he nor the AIFSO could find any sensible explanation for the rings except to state categorically that it was nothing to do with helicopters. Col [REDACTED] submitted a factual report to MOD, accompanied by good photographs, stating what they saw and their inability to explain it.

A local man, Mr Colin Andrews (author of Circles in the Corn) a member of a group who had been investigating the circles for some years, also turned up on the scene. He invited Col [REDACTED] to attend a meeting at which any theories could be put forward for the meeting to shoot down. Col [REDACTED] was asked to attend as a helicopter agent to debate the inevitable "It's HELICOPTERS" theories. This he did and found the meeting to be very sensible and level headed. He told the chairman the gist of his report.

Col [REDACTED] became intrigued and that year, 1985, passed the word round to UK based AAC units to let him know if they saw any circles and give him the Grid Ref. There were one or two responses and then interest wained.

Col [REDACTED] was subsequently approached by BBC TV Pebble Mill, who were making a film about the circles, to again be the helicopter agent and debate the helicopter theories. This he did, and laid on a demonstration with a helicopter in long grass to conclusively illustrate the facts. This was all filmed and shown on TV. Lt Col [REDACTED] continues to take an inactive interest in the circles and would be delighted to be given a satisfactory explanation for them.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Hels 2 } - hels involvement?
G/Sec }

E99/1

LOOSE MINUTE

D/S10(Air)/41/17/1

26 July 91

Sec(AS)2a
GS Sec 1d
Hels 2
PL(LS)L1
AG Sec 1c

Copy to :

Company Secretary - Defence Research Agency

ARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLE INVESTIGATIONS

Reference: D/Sec(AS)/12/3 dated 17 July 91

1. Thank you for the chance to comment on the above. I can confirm your supposition, in para 5 of the reference, that there are no restrictions on the activities of RAF personnel in their leisure time. Personnel would of course have to obey any State Standing Orders and take account of general security requirements.

Army involvement with the Centre for Crop Circle Investigation would be governed by the provisions of QR(RAF) Chap 36 Section 4, which is common to all three Services. May I suggest that you copy the correspondence to DPR(RAF) and DPO(RAF).

S10f1(Air)

GE1072

40

LOOSE MINUTE

D/PL(LS) 630/3

24^d July 1991

Sec (A5) 2a = Mr [REDACTED]

Copy to:
GS Sec1d
Hels 2
AG Sec1c
S10f(Air)

ARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLE INVESTIGATIONS

Reference: D/Sec(A5) 12/3 - 17/7/91.

1. Thank you for the reference seeking comments on the above subject.
2. I have nothing to add to that in your paragraphs 4 and 5. I trust this is of help.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PL(LS)L3
NV606 [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) 071-21-8
(Switchboard) 071-21-89000
(Fax) 071-21-8

94
+2

Mr [REDACTED]
Hon. Secretary
Centre for Crop Circle Studies
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3 [REDACTED]

Date 26 July 1991

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 15 July 1991 to the Under-Secretary of State for the Armed Forces on the subject of Crop Circle studies which has been passed to me for reply.

I regret that I am unable to answer your queries at present, but hope to provide a substantive reply in the near future.

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Secretariat (Air Staff)2a, Room 8245.



E91/11

LOOSE MINUTE

D/GS Sec 41/2

18 July 1991

12/3

Sec(AS)2a - Mr [REDACTED]

Copy to:
Hels 2
PL(LS)L1
AG Sec 1c
S10f(Air)

ARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLE INVESTIGATIONS

1. Thank you for your minute 12/3 of 17 July.
2. My previous advice to your office on this subject was not, as you suggest, categorical on the subject of Army involvement. Rather it was my opinion that it was not worth going to the trouble of trying to ascertain the facts. That said I have asked Middle Wallop to see if they can find out anything about Lt Col Edgecombe and his alleged 1985 report to the MOD. I am not, however, optimistic of receiving a reply before your deadline of 26 July (nor, indeed, of Middle Wallop's chances of turning anything up at all) and you may therefore consider sending a holding reply.

f [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
GS Sec 1d
MB5103 [REDACTED]

Phone call from AG Sec 1c - No probes with MoD circles or servicemen participating in corn circle research.

[REDACTED]

LOOSE MINUTE

L. Sec(AS)12/3 ←

91
+1

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

17 July 1991

GS Sec 1d
Hels 2
PL(LS)L1
AG Sec 1c
S10f(Air)(Glos)

Copy to:

Company Secretary - Defence Research Agency

ARMY INVOLVEMENT IN CORN CIRCLE INVESTIGATIONS

References: A) Letter from Centre for Crop Circle Studies dated 15 July 1991
B) D/GS Sec 41/2 dated 16 October 1991

1. I attach a copy of Reference A, which has been passed onto Sec(AS) by US of S (AF)'s office for answer.
2. I would be grateful if GS Sec could provide advice on the first paragraph of the second page of Mr [REDACTED] letter, especially regarding the claims of Army co-operation with crop circle researchers, the use of Army helicopters to photograph the phenomena and Lt Col [REDACTED] report to MoD. You will recall your earlier advice at Reference B in response to a letter by a [REDACTED] which refuted his claim that the Army was assisting with crop circle investigations.
3. Could Hels 2 provide advice regarding Mr [REDACTED] report of a Chinook in the Beckhampton - Marlborough area from 23.30 hours on the night of 11 July ?
4. I intend to answer Mr [REDACTED] in the terms we normally use for UFO correspondents - saying that the MoD has no official interest in corn circles, and that we could not justify the use of Defence funds on scientific (or other) investigations, unless a clear threat to the security of the UK had been identified.
5. However, I do not wish to give the impression that MoD is in any way 'covering up' anything, and for that reason I would like to add that there is no reason why MoD or Service personnel should not become involved in corn circle research in their spare time as long as MoD resources were not used in this activity. PL(LS)L1, AG Sec 1c and S10f(Air) may wish to comment on this line.
6. US of S(AF)'s office have asked that a reply be sent to Mr [REDACTED] by 30 July and could I therefore have your inputs by 26 July, please ?

[REDACTED]

Sec(AS)2a
MB8245 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec.(AS)1
17 JUL 1991
FILE 12/3

90
11

OUR REF: ADG/OA/100/ 3914

..... Sec (AS)

The attached letter from .. [REDACTED] .. ES9/.....
..... is forwarded to you for official action.
This letter has ~~has~~ not been acknowledged from this office. The
Minister attaches great importance in prompt replies to
correspondence he receives and would like this letter answered by
COP 30/7/91, or alternatively, if a delay is
anticipated, an interim reply should be forwarded, preferably
within the same timescale.

Would you please let us see a copy of your reply quoting our
reference. If this correspondence is transferred, then this
office must be notified.

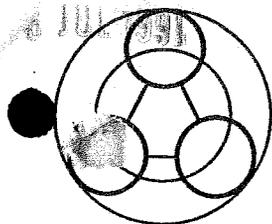
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
AO/US of S(AF)
MB 6370 [REDACTED]

CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Sec (AS)

Sec (AS)



Patron: The Earl of [REDACTED]

From:- [REDACTED]

Hon. Secretary, CCCS, [REDACTED]

15th July, 1991

The Under-Secretary of State,
The Army Department,
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the Centre for Crop Circle Studies (CCCS) to enquire whether we can be of any assistance to your own studies of the interesting phenomenon of the unexplained disturbances which have been appearing in fields of crops in recent years, particularly in the south west of the country.

The presence of an Army Chinook helicopter in the area of Beckhampton-Marlborough, Wiltshire, for a substantial period from about 23.30 hours last Thursday, 11th July, flying at very low level and on at least one occasion using its searchlight, indicates that you may have a hypothesis about the causation of the crop circle events to which we could usefully contribute from our own studies.

You may by now have received complaints from local residents about this prolonged intrusion at a late hour. My own purpose in writing is not, however, to make a complaint but to register CCCS's interest.

The Centre was founded early in 1990 to conduct systematic research into the puzzling sequence of events which, as you will know, first came under scientific study by Dr. G. Terence Meaden in 1980. Several of us have felt that Dr. Meaden's attempts (with the recent assistance of Japanese scientists) to formulate the model of an unusual atmospheric vortex which might account for the crop circle formations have failed to produce more than, at best, a partial answer. CCCS's explicit aim is to broaden the scope of research. Following the establishment of several research panels last autumn, we are making a degree of progress. We would like nothing better than to pool our information with any data which is being collected by government organisations.

We are currently in cordial (though discreet) relations with the local police in Wiltshire, whose own aerial surveys of the crop circle events are adding to our knowledge. It might be of value both to us, as a learned society, and to you, as a Department with public responsibilities, if we could exchange information with you on some mutually agreeable basis.

There is a precedent for this kind of collaboration. In August 1987 a pilot of No. 658 Squadron, Army Air Corps, Netheravon, took some excellent aerial photographs of crop circles near Westbury, Wiltshire. Thanks to the courtesy of the Army Air Corps, these were made available to a research organisation which preceeded CCCS and have since been published. The same organisation and other civilian researchers had held a useful conference at Alresford, Hampshire, in October 1985, which was attended by Lt.Col. [REDACTED] of Middle Wallop. A report made to the MOD by Lt.Col. [REDACTED] was very helpfully placed on the public record and has also since been published.

These early steps towards an exchange of information do not, unfortunately, seem to have been followed up by the organisation concerned. CCCS believes that it might be fruitful to resume them, particularly at local level, and particularly in Wiltshire, where many events are currently occurring.

I and other members of my Council are at the Department's disposal if a discussion seems useful to you.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2007 14:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: CROP CIRCLES
Attachments: 16001 Part 2.xls; 16001 Part 1.xls

For information and background to [REDACTED] request for a copy of the Crop Circles file.

A thorough search was undertaken in 2004 to identify all the UFO related files to ensure we had a full file list and an idea of where all the files were located. This was, in part, brought about due to a number of requests (pre-FOI) for crop circle information. This search revealed no record of there ever having been a file created on crop circles.

It is of course possible that the file was created, but that it was later destroyed, without any record of either activity. However, I must say that I view this as highly unlikely given that it was allegedly one of the UFO files, and MoD policy is to retain all these files for public interest. The file is not held by this office, and not held in archive.

From time to time, the MoD receives requests for information on the subject of crop circles. Such correspondence is held on our usual UFO Correspondence files in date order. More recently, these requests are filed on our FOI files. Any attempt to locate crop circle information therefore requires a manual search of our old files, which is time consuming and, depending on the time period to be covered, quite likely to exceed £600.

[REDACTED]
DAS Sec 1
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2007 13:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: CROP CIRCLES

[REDACTED] n 40

RE the crop circles file (!).

A search has been made against both the central London archive holdings – Top Secret and other filers requiring special handling – and the TNT index of registered files (consisting of approximately 1.6 million files) with no success.

For the record I attach two list produced from the search of TNT holdings, the key word was “*Crop*” in all 570 files hits – nothing remotely relevant.

[REDACTED] n 40

From: [REDACTED]

08/01/2007

Sent: 08 January 2007 10:56

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: CROP CIRCLES

[REDACTED] n 40

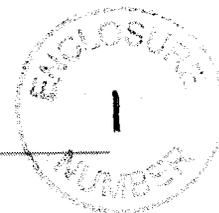
I wonder if I could scrounge a favour from you. I have a persistent FOI correspondent who is adamant that we provide him with the information on a file on the subject of crop circles. The file was apparently created sometime during 1991-94.

We have no record of any such file being created but, on the off chance, I was wondering whether it may have been one of the files passed to archive. Is there any chance you could check your own database to see if a file with the words "Crop Circles" in the title exists?

A former holder of this job and self styled UFO expert called Nick Pope apparently insists that he created such a file during his tenure.

Can we discuss?

[REDACTED]
DAS Sec 1
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 January 2007 09:56
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Internet-Authorised: FOI REQUEST 02-01-2007-093128-001 - CROP CIRCLES

Dear [REDACTED]

Your Freedom of Information request of 17 December 2006 and your follow up requests of 20 December 2006 asked for details of the file opened by Nick Pope during the period 1991-94 on the subject of crop circles. The MoD can find no record of such a file having been created.

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>.

I apologise for what must be a disappointing response.

[REDACTED]
DAS Sec 1
05-H- [REDACTED] tion 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 December 2006 12:09
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request

This is the second of two.

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 December 2006 11:50
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: FOI written request

Thanks

Another email to follow on this subject in a few moments.

Regards

[Redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 December 2006 11:45
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: FOI written request

Ok, shall take the request.

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 19 December 2006 06:34
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: FOI written request

[Redacted] 40

I trust that you want to tie this email up with the request I sent to you yesterday.

Regards

[Redacted]
FOI Helpdesk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 19 December 2006 00:22
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, December 19, 2006 at 00:22:00

txttitle: [Redacted] on 40

txtfirstname: [Redacted]

txtlastname: [Redacted]

txtoccupation: Student

txtorganisation: UWE

txtaddress1: [Redacted]

txtaddress2: [REDACTED]

txttowncity: Bristol

txtstatecountry: Avon and Somerset

txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txttelephone: [REDACTED]

txtinforequest: Yesterday I recieved an email in responce to my Freedom of information request regarding a file which was opened by Nick Pope on crop circles. I have recieved an email from Mr Pope stating this; "I can't recall exactly when I opened the file, but it wasn't a big one, so I recommend you try a request for all documents MOD holds on crop circles, then narrow it down by year or by some other factor if they say it's too wide a request." He opened this file between 1991-1994 as he would not have had the authority to open a subsequently closed file after his tour of duty in Department 2A.

I have been assured he opened this small file, are you stating for the record that no such file exists? If this is the case then either Nick Pope is lying to me or the MOD are, or cannot locate a file which should be easy to find. I have the email in full format if the MOD which to view it.

Regards

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 June 2007 13:15
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 December 2006 11:51
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOI written request

[REDACTED] 40

Yet another message from [REDACTED]

Regards

[REDACTED]
FOI Helpdesk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 19 December 2006 23:09
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, December 19, 2006 at 23:08:36

txttitle: [REDACTED] ion 40

txtfirstname: [REDACTED]

txtlastname: [REDACTED]

txtoccupation: Student

txtorganisation: UWE

txtaddress1: [REDACTED]

txtaddress2: [REDACTED]

txttowncity: Bristol

txtstatecountry: Avon and Somerset

txtzipcodepostcode: [REDACTED]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [REDACTED]

txtinforequest: Further to speaking with Nick Pope again regarding the file he opened on crop circles I would like to make a final request for information from the MOD. The file was opened somewhere in the period 1991 to 1994, so unless anything further happened after he left in 1994, that's the period to search. The file was simply called "Crop Circles" and was in the 12 series of files, i.e. the reference began "D/Sec(AS)/12/".

Please Can you locate this file for me? What does it contain and when exactly was it opened?

Many thanks

Best wishes

