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# Registered File Disposal Form

UNCLASSIFIED

MOD Form 262F  
(Revised 1/00)

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc)  
 UFGS - Resident Correspondent -  
 [Redacted]

Reference:  
(Prefix and Number):  
 DHDAS/64/3/17  
 Part: A

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

Date of last enclosure: *21/2/07*

Date closed: *21/2/07*

**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): *For permanent preservation*

LEGAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEFENCE POLICY + OPERATIONS <input type="checkbox"/>
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:

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

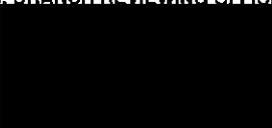
Destroyed

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: 24-9-10

Branch Title and Full Address:

RAF Bus Sec  
RAF High Wycombe  
Bucks  
HP14 4UG

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)

This Page Last  
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**JSP**  
**441**

**Defence Records Management  
Manual  
Chapter 5**

 Queries,  
Suggestions, etc.

## **Review of Records Held by Business Units**

- 5.1 The Role of the Departmental Records Officer
- 5.2 The Role of the Business Unit Holding the Records
- 5.3 The Disposal Schedule
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- 5.10 Sponsors of Manuals and Books of Reference
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Annex A - Example of Records likely to warrant Permanent Preservation

Annex B - Example of a Disposal Schedule

Annex C - Example of a Registered File Disposal Form (MOD Form 262F)

Annex D - File Review - Aide Memoir

Annex E - Life-cycle of an open file

Annex F - Life-cycle of a closed file

### **5.1 The Role of the Departmental Records Officer**

5.1.1 In some government departments the ultimate decision about destroying records held in registered files is made centrally by the staff of the Departmental Records Officer. Within MOD Head of DG Info-Records, who is the DRO, has delegated authority to business units to review the records they hold and, in most cases, destroy locally those records which are not considered worthy of permanent preservation. This can be done when the records cease to have administrative value.

5.1.2 The exception to this rule is that all registered files containing TOP SECRET and Codeword material are to be forwarded to DG Info-Records and are not to be destroyed locally, though the recommendation to DG Info-Records may be that they can be destroyed.

5.1.3 All other registered files (and unregistered records) which are identified by the business unit as

meriting consideration for permanent preservation are to be sent to DG Info-Records in accordance with the instructions in Chapter 8. Certain Air Force department files may initially be sent to the Air Historical Branch (RAF) with the prior agreement of both the AHB and DG Info-Records<sup>1</sup>. Once received they will be reviewed centrally to determine whether permanent preservation is warranted.

5.1.4 DG Info-Records conducts two reviews of registered files, the first 5 years after the closure of the file (or within a short time of its receipt if it has been kept by the business unit for a longer period). Files which do not merit permanent preservation are marked for destruction, either straight away or at a predetermined point in the future, taking into account the recommendation made by the originating business unit.

5.1.5 Those files which appear to merit permanent preservation are reviewed again some 20 years later. The second review allows a judgement to be made about the historical context of the records. Files which are selected for permanent preservation are normally passed to the Public Record Office 30 years after their closure and are then made available to the public in line with the terms of the Public Records Act of 1967.

5.1.6 Records which are not held in registered files are normally reviewed by DG Info-Records 5 years and (where applicable) 25 years after their creation

## 5.2 The Role of the Business Unit Holding the Records

5.2.1 Delegated authority allows each business unit greater flexibility to manage their records efficiently but confers a responsibility upon them to review the records they hold and dispose of them in an appropriate and timely manner.

5.2.2 This chapter outlines the procedures to be followed by business units to ensure that an effective system of review is maintained allowing those records which are no longer needed, and do not merit permanent preservation, to be destroyed, while records which are needed for administrative purposes are kept for the appropriate period and those which appear to merit permanent preservation are forwarded to DG Info-Records.

5.2.3 In reviewing the records which they hold, each business unit should consider the appropriate length of time that a file, or any other type of record, is likely to be needed for administrative purposes.

5.2.4 Having made that decision, the business unit is also well placed to make an initial judgement about the likely historical value of a file (or other type of record). To aid the business unit in making that judgement Annex A to this chapter contains guidelines on the type of records likely to merit permanent preservation. In assessing whether a file meets these criteria remember that it is the responsibility of the lead business unit to identify such files and forward them to DG Info-Records. If your file merely contains copies of correspondence relating to a topic for which another business unit has lead responsibility the file need not be forwarded to DG Info-Records.

5.2.5 There is also a need to consider whether classified material generated by the business unit which is to be retained for administrative or historical reasons continues to merit its original protective marking, or whether it should be downgraded.

5.2.6 Records which are held in electronic form are no less worthy of consideration than records held on paper. This issue is addressed in Chapter 6 - Electronic Records Management Systems.

5.2.7 In order to facilitate the review of records each business unit must establish a *Disposal Schedule*. The procedure to be followed is outlined below.

## 5.3 The Disposal Schedule

5.3.1 The registered files (or other types of record) held by a business unit will often span a wide variety of subjects. While some may deal with matters of major significance, others will deal with more routine matters.

5.3.2 The Disposal Schedule will help each business unit to identify, where possible, an appropriate length of time for which each file (or other type of record) should be kept and how it should ultimately be disposed of. Disposal may be to DG Info-Records with a recommendation that the file warrants permanent preservation, or it may be through local destruction.

5.3.3 As most records held by a business unit should be on registered files the *File List* (see Chapter 4, para 4.2) should be the basis of the Disposal Schedule.

5.3.4 Each file will contain records which fall into one of the following categories:

- records which merit consideration by DG Info-Records for permanent preservation;
- records which though not worthy of permanent preservation will need to be kept for an extended period for administrative purposes (perhaps for legal or contractual purposes);
- records which have only short term value and will not need to be retained for a lengthy period.

5.3.5 Where a file contains records which fall into more than one category it must be treated in accordance with the most important category.

5.3.6 Establishing a Disposal Schedule involves considering the existing open files held by the business unit and identifying, where possible, the category each file (or group of files) falls into. Having done that, a recommendation can then be made about the file's disposal.

5.3.7 The different types of information held within any particular business unit might include:

- **Administrative Records** – These records are produced in large volumes. Generally they have low retention values and are usually disposed of within 1 to 7 years after the date of creation.
- **Case Records** – The retention periods for these records are usually defined by an individual's age and life span unless a statutory or a long-term operational requirement defines a period for their continued retention. For example, records relating to criminal cases may be retained for 75 years or more.
- **Command and Control and Operational Records** – Some records in these categories can have a long life span and should, in many cases, be considered for permanent preservation.
- **Estates and Accommodation Records** – These records include a substantial amount of administrative type records with a low retention value, however certain records may be retained for much longer periods. For example:
  - **Legal records** – estate title, leasehold documentation, etc., should be retained for at least the occupancy period.
  - **Policy records** – surveys, policy studies etc., retention varies between 10 to 25 years but there may be records relating to important aspects such as disposal of potentially hazardous substances on sites or other health and safety issues that should be kept for much longer periods of time.

- Finance Records – These records normally have a short working life of about two years. Generally there is no legal requirement to retain these records beyond seven years.
- Health and Safety Records – As well as some statutory requirements that need to be complied with, there are those records that can have a very long retention requirement. Especially in cases involving exposure to radiation or contamination where the safety implications as a result of the contamination may only arise decades after the initial event. A retention period of up to 100 years may be required in these cases.
- Personnel Records – The retention periods for these records may vary but some should be kept for very long periods. Examples include:
  - Documents that have a bearing on pension entitlement should be kept for up to 100 years from date of birth.
  - Military Service personnel appraisal reports are to be kept for 100 years.
  - Civilian Staff appraisal records are normally kept as separate sub-sets of personal files. If kept in annual sets, they should be destroyed on a rolling basis.
  - Medical records are normally filed as a separate sub-set of individual personal files to allow for separate retention. In some instances where they relate to, for example, exposure to radiation, these may be kept for up to 100 years.
- Policy Records – These are normally retained for at least 25 years, and in cases where the records relate to the development of primary legislation, may be marked for permanent preservation.
- Scientific, Technical and Research Records – Records of the more important aspects of scientific, technological or medical research and development are normally retained as a long term research resource for other scientific researchers. Retention periods may differ, as some business units may retain these records as part of their permanent library, whilst others may consider them as case files and dispense with them after 10 years. Reports for these types of records are normally preserved, whilst the supporting information is not, however their administrative value could be long, i.e. Porton Down and paper records covering the volunteer programme go back to the 1950's.
- Transaction Records – These records record specific events that have a finite life, i.e. the award of a contract allocated to a named contractor to commission a particular task. Depending on the nature of the transaction, the retention period may vary between 6 to 25 years.

5.3.8 The varying management requirements for each of the types of information listed above also need to be considered. Factors to be considered include:

- Operational requirements.
- Business requirements.
- MOD corporate requirements.
- Public access requirements.
- Legal and statutory requirements.

- Human life expectancy.
- Volume of records likely to be generated.
- Sensitivity.
- Accessibility.

5.3.9 That recommendation should then be noted in the Disposal Schedule. An example of an extract of a completed Disposal Schedule is at Annex B.

5.3.10 In addition to the file list the "Record of Unregistered Material" (see Chapter 4, para 4.21.2) should also be considered and appropriate recommendations made, where possible.

5.3.11 The Branch Records Officer (see Chapter 3, para 3.2) is responsible for drawing up the Disposal Schedule. However, the task of recommending suitable retention periods for each file is best performed by the desk officers who use the files. They should be best placed to make this judgement based on their working knowledge of the nature of the file and its content. The Records Officer's role is to co-ordinate this task.

5.3.12 It may not be possible to make a recommendation about the disposal of every file. However, it is important to make a recommendation wherever possible. Remember that the records officer/ desk officer who will ultimately be required to make a decision about the disposal of each file may not have a detailed knowledge of the file's content because it may be up to 5 years since the file was opened and it may not have been used recently.

5.3.13 The records officer/desk officer who ultimately completes the Registered File Disposal Form (**MOD Form 262F**) may not agree with the recommendation and is free to change it. This might be necessary if subsequent events have given a different weight to the content of the file. However, where this is not the case, the recommendation can be endorsed with the confidence that it was the considered opinion of a predecessor who was familiar with the nature of the contents of the file.

5.3.14 Where it is not possible to make a recommendation about the disposal of a file the words "No Recommendation" should be entered on the Disposal Schedule. Such files are not to be weeded (see Chapter 4, Annex D, para (iv)).

#### **5.4 Maintaining the Disposal Schedule**

5.4.1 The recommendations noted in the Disposal Schedule will be made primarily on the basis of the type of information contained within the current part of the file. In many cases the recommendation will remain valid even when the existing file is closed and a new part opened. For instance, if a file has been recommended for passage to DG Info-Records because it illustrates significant developments in an area of policy, it is quite likely that any subsequent part of that file will fall into the same category. Equally if a file contains information which can be destroyed locally after a relatively short period this is also likely to apply to any subsequent part.

5.4.2 It may, however, be that subsequent parts of a file increase or diminish in importance in relation to previous parts. Where this is the case the desk officer should advise the records officer to amend the Disposal Schedule accordingly.

5.4.3 The revised recommendation will not necessarily mean that any previous parts of the file which were recommended for disposal in a different way were dealt with incorrectly, but see para 5.5.4.

5.4.4 The records officer is responsible for the maintenance of an up to date Disposal Schedule and the incorporation of amendments. The records officer is also responsible for ensuring that all desk officers have access to a copy of the schedule.

5.4.5 As new files (as opposed to new parts of existing files) are opened the records officer should establish whether an initial recommendation about disposal can be made. This will depend upon the nature of the file. It may be clear from the outset that the file will contain significant papers or, conversely, that the file is unlikely to contain records which will need to be retained for a lengthy period. If so a suitable recommendation can be made. If this is not possible the Disposal Schedule should be annotated to show that no recommendation has yet been made.

5.4.6 A copy of the Disposal Schedule is to be forwarded to DG Info-Records<sup>3</sup> for reference purposes. It is not necessary to forward details of each amendment but an up to date version, or confirmation that no change has occurred, should be forwarded annually.

### **5.5 Timing of Review and Use of the Disposal Schedule**

5.5.1 Chapter 4 (para 4.17) outlines the factors which determine when a registered file should be closed and the action to be taken at that time.

5.5.2 When a file is closed a Registered File Disposal Form (**MOD Form 262F**) is to be raised and placed in the file in accordance with the instructions in Chapter 4, para 4.18. At that time the Disposal Schedule is to be consulted to determine what recommendation has been made about the appropriate retention period and method of disposal. The disposal schedule recommendation should be noted in section I of the 262F and the file should then be passed to the desk officer responsible for reviewing it and completing the remainder of the form.

5.5.3 The desk officer responsible for carrying out the review must then consider the recommendation at section I of the 262F and either endorse or amend it. Before doing so the file minute sheet should be checked to see whether details of any significant enclosures have been recorded (see Chapter 4, para 4.9.1).

5.5.5 The 262F should then be completed and signed by an officer of at least HEO (or equivalent) grade (where necessary the desk officer must arrange for the form to be signed by the records officer or a line manager). If the ultimate recommendation is that the file should be retained for an extended period for administrative purposes, or that the file warrants permanent preservation, the specific enclosures which justify that recommendation (which should be identified on the file minute sheet) should be recorded on the 262F. If there are a large number of enclosures which justify such a recommendation only the key enclosures need be identified.

5.5.8 Unregistered records are to be reviewed within 4 years of their creation to determine the appropriate method of disposal. Any such records which merit consideration by DG Info-Records for permanent preservation should be forwarded in accordance with the instructions at para 5.7 and in Chapter 8.

5.5.9 An Aide Memoir outlining the review process is at Annex 5D. A diagram depicting the life-cycle of an open file is at Annex 5E and a diagram depicting the life-cycle of a closed file is at Annex 5F.

### **5.6 Existing Files Which Were Not Reviewed at Time of Closure**

5.6.1 The policy governing the timing of file review was revised in August 1999 and promulgated in DCI Gen 220/99 dated 6/8/99. Prior to the introduction of the revised policy, files could be retained

for up to 4 years before review and completion of the Registered File Disposal Form (MOD Form 262F). The revised policy on the timing of file review does not apply retrospectively however, consideration should be given to accelerating the review of closed files which have not yet been reviewed. **It is recommended that all such files are now reviewed, and sections 2 and 3 of MOD form 262F completed, at the earliest opportunity.**

5.6.2 With the exception of files identified at para 5.6.1 above, business units holding registered files (or unregistered records) which have not been reviewed in accordance with the instructions are para 5.5 must take remedial action to deal with the review backlog. Registered File Disposal Forms (MOD Form 262F) should be raised for these files at the earliest opportunity. The files should then be reviewed and disposed of accordingly. It is likely that many such files will have no further administrative value and will not have historical value. Such files should be destroyed locally (but see para 5.11).

### **5.7 Retention of Registered Files within the Business Unit**

5.7.1 If the completed and signed Registered File Disposal Form (MOD Form 262F) recommends that the file should be considered by DG Info-Records for permanent preservation it should normally be sent to DG Info-Records within 5 years of its closure. Files which also have ongoing administrative value may be retained locally for an extended period and should be forwarded to DG Info-Records when they are no longer needed. **However, DG Info-Records must be advised in writing of any case in which the file is still required by the business unit for administrative purposes 25 years after closure.**

5.7.2 If the 262F recommends that the file can be destroyed locally it may be retained by the business unit for up to 25 years after its closure. **If the file has not been destroyed within 25 years of its closure permission must be sought from DG Info-Records to retain it.**

5.7.3 Files which are to be retained for an extended period for administrative purposes but which are not considered to merit permanent preservation may be forwarded to DG Info-Records for storage if there is insufficient storage space locally. In these circumstances the records officer must ensure that explicit reasons are given on the 262F for the ongoing retention of the file, in line with the instructions at paras 5.5.4 and 5.5.5. **Failure to do so may result in the file being destroyed by DG Info-Records.**

### **5.8 Retention of Other Records**

5.8.1 Unregistered records which merit consideration by DG Info-Records for permanent preservation are to be forwarded within 25 years of their creation, in accordance with the instructions in Chapter 8. DG Info-Records must be advised in writing of any case in which such records are still required by the business unit for administrative purposes 25 years after closure.

5.8.2 Unregistered records required for administrative purposes may be retained by the business unit for up to 25 years after their creation. If the records have not been destroyed within 25 years permission must be sought from DG Info-Records to retain them.

5.8.3 Unregistered records which are to be retained for an extended period for administrative purposes may, by prior arrangement, be forwarded to DG Info-Records<sup>2</sup> for storage if there is insufficient storage space within the business unit.

### **5.9 The Registered File Disposal Form (MOD Form 262F)**

5.9.1 When a file is destroyed by the business unit the Registered File Disposal Form is to be

removed and used to replace the Registered File Record Sheet (MOD Form 262A) which should then be destroyed.

5.9.2 If the file is not destroyed locally but is forwarded to DG Info-Records the original 262F must accompany the file. The business unit should retain a copy of the 262F, annotate it to indicate that the file has been forwarded to DG Info-Records and use it to replace the 262A which should be destroyed.

5.9.3 The Registered File Record Sheet (**MOD Form 262A**) and Registered File Disposal Form (**MOD Form 262F**) are the definitive record of a file's existence and subsequent destruction/passage to DG Info-Records. MOD Form 262A must not be destroyed until replaced by MOD Form 262F. Each 262F must be retained for a period of not less than 30 years from the date of last enclosure (as recorded on the form). As MOD Form 262Fs are normally retained in a binder relating to a file series or a number of file series the binder should normally be retained for a period of not less than 30 years following the insertion of the final 262F. If a business unit is disbanded during this period the binder (s) should pass to the successor business unit. If there is no successor business unit the binder(s) should be forwarded to DG Info-Records<sup>2</sup> at Hayes.

5.9.4 An example of a Registered File Disposal Form and instructions on its completion are at Annex C.

## 5.10 Sponsors of Manuals and Books of Reference

5.10.1 Sponsors of books of reference, manuals, directories, etc are to ensure that a copy of the material is forwarded to DG Info-Records for consideration for permanent preservation. Sponsors are to maintain an unamended copy of each publication together with loose copies of each amendment for this purpose. Such material should be forwarded to DG Info-Records<sup>2</sup> in accordance with the instructions in Chapter 8.

## 5.11 Destruction of Top Secret Registered Files and Files Containing Codeword Material

5.11.1 All registered files containing Top Secret and/or codeword material are to be forwarded to DG Info-Records in accordance with the instructions in Chapter 8, even if the Registered File Disposal Form recommends that the file should be destroyed.



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Chapter 6



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*Letter (which went to all national  
UFO groups) authorising release of  
the encounter reports, and giving  
the present procedure.*

Contact International

[REDACTED]  
Oxford  
[REDACTED]

D/Sec(AS)12/3

27 July 1992

We have had a number of recent enquiries about the contents of the UFO files held by the Ministry of Defence, and I thought it would be useful if I put you in the picture on what we hold.

Our files are made up of UFO sighting reports, together with enquiries about other aspects of the UFO phenomenon, and the position of the Ministry of Defence. Virtually all of the UFO sighting reports we receive relate to lights or discs in the sky, or various ill-defined shapes or objects. In my time here I have not received a single report of any close encounter, but we have, in the past, received a very small number of letters that might fall into the category of a close encounter of the third or fourth kind. I recently had a request from a researcher to release these reports. As we receive so few, and recognising their value to researchers, I agreed that these reports could be released. I also said that I would make this material available to those UFO groups that we refer witnesses and enthusiasts to, and I therefore attach this for your information. As is usual when releasing UFO reports, I have deleted information relating to the identity of the witnesses, together with other personal information. I draw no conclusions from this material, and remain open-minded as to what may have prompted these five reports. I have not included material relating to reports that are already in the public domain, such as photocopied extracts from books such as "Above Top Secret".

I will keep you informed about any such cases in the future, and - as usual - will encourage any witness to get in touch with you. I remain of the opinion, however, that reports of close encounters are more likely to be reported to organisations such as yours than to us.

More generally, we are able to answer specific queries you may have about particular sightings which have occurred recently, and can let you know whether we have a report on the incident, and if so, what it contains. We will also do our best to answer any specific questions we are asked, and can also give general information about our files, and what they contain. However, the files that we hold only go back to 1985, with previous files having been "archived", and sent to the Public Record Office. Because these files are covered by the "30 year rule", and as, prior to 1967, UFO files were destroyed after five years, files held in this office are likely to be the only accessible UFO files at present.

I hope this is helpful.

Date 23.1. 91

Frome  
Somerset.

Dear Sir

I am writing to tell you of what happened to me in the summer of 1989 the month of may.

After my marriage broke down I was homeless and sleeping rough I was sleeping at a place called FELTHAM LANE, they were building a new bypass. It was about 3 o'clock in the morning I did not write the day down,

I was walking towards the railway lines when I heard the sound of a railway engine well that's what I thought the railway lines were straight in front of me, the signal was on red I could not see the train coming the noise became louder then I looked to the left down the bypass, A FLYING SAUCER had LANDED I still cannot believe what happened to me that morning.

When the saucer had landed TWO ALIENS CAME OUT not green men nor did they have funny heads, they are the same as us, human they were dressed in all black, the saucer had lights coming out of the top red blue and white my memory has faded a little bit but not that much.

By this time I was hiding under a earth moving machine I was terrified. The first Alien who came out knew where I was HOW, he pointed to me and shouted CAPTURE THAT MAN BEFORE HE TELLS ANYBODY ELSE, The second ALIEN was checking the engines THATS right, they have real engines they can rev up their engines they sound like a train, but much louder.

Are we to believe that somebody on this Planet has built a fully operational flying saucer with a diesel engine, These two ALIENS can speak perfect ENGLISH., They only use their engines for takeing off and landing, they use the railway lines and the railway engines because they sound the same, its a cover they glide in flight. Have the Russians built a flying saucer are they that clever, Somebody has somewhere,

How did they get through our radar, WARMINSTER-ARMY BARRACKS ARE ONLY a few miles away, WHAT WEAPONS DO THEY CARRY I didnt see any visible ones.

I was in the wrong place at the wrong time according to what the ALIEN

Alien shouted to me. Has any body else been captured.  
It was all over in about 5 minites, when the saucer had took off  
the train came.

A few weeks after a lady reported a flying saucer in the local  
paper guess where near a railway line. Looking back it seems li  
like a night,mare, BUT I AM AFRAID ITS ALL TRUE.

You now have a real insight into flying saucers, that they have  
real engines that they can rev them up, they can beat our  
radar,

With great respect i know that the WAR IN THE GULF is a very  
big problem for all of us, I also know that you need hard

FACTS AND EVIEDENCE I cannot provide this, ~~i keepin~~

I keep asking myself if only i had a camera well i didnt of all th  
books ive read on flying saucers none of them have mentioned an  
engine or anything like it.

It has takeing me a long time to write this on paper the main  
reason is when my dad died i suffered a schizaphreic illness i am  
being totaly honest about this,ive also been in a mental home 5  
times for a short stay i know what i saw even though i was ill,  
at the time,i do know the differance between fact and hallucintions.  
Nothing will change what i saw nothing at all.

The main thing about this saucer is the ENGINE who made it,is,it,  
man made if,it,is WHAT COUNTRY MADE IT.

The next time our pilots see strange lights on the ground it  
could be a flying saucer especally near a railway line.

It cannot be a diesel engine it wouldnt have enough power surly  
it must use some kind of fuel, why else where theh checking over  
the engines. Nobody else knows about this except you this letter  
must be treated with some air of secracy.

Nobody knows about the engine except the M.O.D. and me.

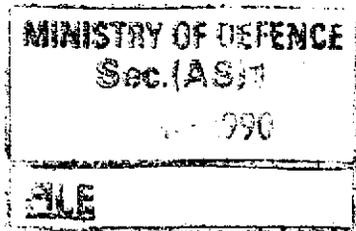
As for my illness that has gone thank GOD but what i saw still  
remains,WISH YOU COULD HAVE been their sir it really was great  
fantaskic.The saucer was as big as a house even thogh i was  
afraid their was an ere of excitment.There here and there human  
nobody knows who they are.Saddam Hussein might be a threat to  
world peace but he wont last long, we hope not.

Flying saucers are a bigger threat they can sneak in and out  
with out getting gaught.We dont know how many there are or what  
weapons they carry.

Plasse do not scorn or laugh at  
what ive written i didnt find it funney at  
the time,nor do i now.

Yours Sincerly

P.S. Perhaps i was in the right place at the right time.  
Because of the engine.



Edinburgh  
8th, March, 1990 37/1

The Air Ministry  
Whitehall,  
London.

Dear Sir:

Your first reaction to this letter will be one of pure disbelief however, let me assure you I am neither insane or a charlatan as the facts will prove.

During W.W.2., as I am sure you are aware, a crashed U.F.O. was recovered by the military somewhere in this country. I should like to know the exact date and location of this event?

It is possible this was Pusslock Warren the location of which I am as yet unable to discover. There are several options, Wistman's Wood by West Dart Devon, between Gars Point and Blackstone Point Devon, the Norfolk coast or Wenlock Edge. In fact the name Pusslock Warren could be quite wrong, it just came into my mind one morning from whence I know not.

The crashed vehicle contained two males from Spectra, a planet orbiting the star Zeta Tucanae and a female from one of the two inhabited planets in the Sirius system, Amazon the planet of warrior women. That female was me. So I have a right to ask my question. (see sketch 1.)

Spectrans are very white with oriental features no hair and 'Mr. Shock' ears. They can and do interbreed with Terrans. Although Spectra is a member of the Federation of Nine you may not know them. The people you work with are from a planet orbiting 82 Iridani. They are your 'brothers' descendants of Adam. (This blood may be Thebal.)

I will now acquaint you with my story in brief.

I am a Wearer of the Purple, a top rank in the military. Some years ago our President, Adrastra, asked me to come to Earth, with

Utraiing, an other Weases of the Purple, to check out what was going on.  
(I was very familiar with Earth.)

This woman betrayed me and I was captured by Spectra troops.

I protested. They ignored me. I killed them - I remember them lying peacefully over the control console with its rows of small square push buttons in chalky shades of grey, blue, yellow and pink. Colours they use a lot.

I was wrong. I cut the drive confident my death would free me from them. The vehicle fell like a brick (To this day I hate lifts because of that little falling feeling one gets.) When it struck the ground I must have lost consciousness for the next memory is of laying face down on the floor my head on its left side limbs spread out. A piece of cloth in front of me I think (see sketch 2.) I suppose the two also fell on the floor. A warm feeling spread through my body. It was quite nice until it stopped me from breathing easily my eyesight blurred and then blackness.

Whilst my body lay in the U.F.O. I was taken into the Spectra computer. That was a strange experience.

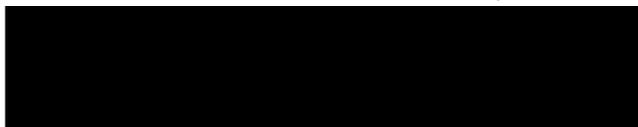
The parents of my present body were chosen in 1940. They saw a rocket shaped U.F.O. trailing a blue flame, and experienced a strange stillness.

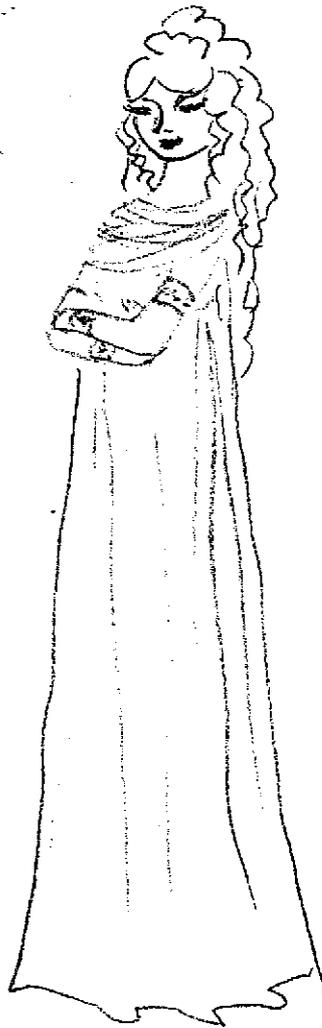
Although Spectra rule me they will not tell me why I am here.

They have an other body just like this one. It lies in a bed wearing a sort of helmet from which hangs a thick cable plugged into a computer probable, behind a panel on the wall.

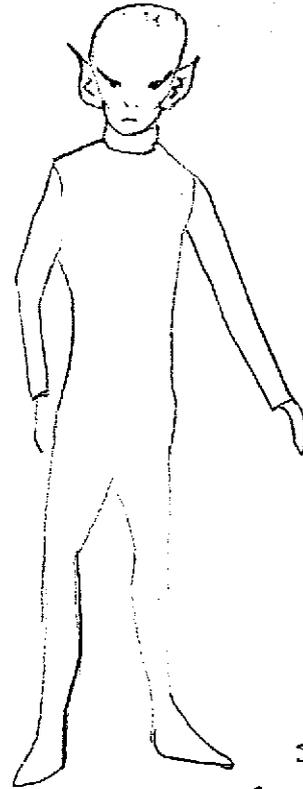
I hope you can answer this letter.

Yours faithfully





the  
gown  
purple.



Spectra  
garment black  
with white bands  
close to cuff sometimes  
showing rank.

One white band is a pilot.  
Tah brass have 6 band of dull red  
on each side of chest, from shoulder  
to waist.



File

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Birkenhead  
Merseyside

[Redacted]

9/5  
ENCLOSURE  
8/1  
20

April 26 1955

Urgent - IMMEDIATE pass to DEFENCE minister or other high class, function Person in the govt.

Dear Sir

I am writing to you today with extraordinary news. I believe these are 'Aliens' as in extraterrestrials who are here on Ford waiting for someone to grant 'Landing Permission' officially. I appear to have had the honour as bearer of this historical news. I say that because I recognise who these aliens are. It is urgent you equip a forestal region to receive them. They are the legendary "Feathered Serpents" last heard of in prehistory in Inca Peru. I only knew that because I am interested in South American history in a lay way.

I believe for some years now I've had a 1st kind encounter which has gone on and on! They are as in the legend Serpents but a curious genetic mix of 3 species. Birds, snakes (cobra type) and man. I have been spending time in their company believing them to be a strange new "Magpie". They communicate between themselves with a call like a bird, resembling one of our own raven cum blackbird noises. They are here in peace and they've simply said "hello" to both me and my daughter. They use telepathy and that's how they'll communicate with us. Please find a telepath who can send and receive as I can. I've been on 'Duty' 4 years already and need a rest.

I would reckon my phobia about snakes is getting in the way of my continuing with them. I can't control the shakes. They are strangely beautiful and

immensely powerful. I would estimate their 'length' at least 20 feet plus.

With the cranial capacity of the 3 species they evolved from. Their brain power is awesome! If they use all their full capacity. They have huge heads and can fly as birds can and in the manner of tree snakes too. They're just amazing!

They mean no harm and I have no idea of their future intentions at this point. It would be crazy to show ARMS at any point. I believe they could wipe us out no problem if they wanted to. If the legends are true as they appear to be.

The staff at the landing should use tinted goggles, as the landing region will be bathed in a strong glaring golden light. This explains the obsession the Peruvians and Mayas had with gold. Their scout craft produce the light.

Light resembling strong sunlight at noon. Golden light! non radioactive! Now I'll explain my photos simply taken at locations generally full of tourists at the time except for the Birston shot.

Firstly the one with the benches in the middle region is Thurston Country Park picnic area. Flying down are magpies. These are ours. Though the aliens appear

I'm sure in the background as curled up heads apparently floating. This is a companion

picture only.

Then look first to the Birston shot. The number on the back is my WWF members code! Ignore it. In the centre can be seen a "Bird" flying between trees. Notice if you will the tail especially, then look at our Maggie. Fascinating aren't they?

The colour configuration is wrong too as you can plainly see. In the background of the Birston picture is a "craft" behind the trees with what could be rivets on! It's puzzled me for some time what it was till it dawned.

Moving to the Welsh Valle Crucis Abbey scene you will see in the big tree next to the abbey one a lot of "Birds", yet again. And close up faces in the trees. In white, near the bay hanging down is what on first sight looks like a rippled rubber mat ending in a blob. It's head. This is the other side of their body obviously, their tail becoming a claw to keep them in position.

On the Birston scene it looks like two tails in motion. This is probably due to the camera shutter speed which was a fixed focus one. So I couldn't improve it.

I don't know why I was chosen for this. I think they've been the cause of some structure damage on the houses I've lived in. The roofs were always losing slates and gutters coming loose. And leaks. They liked me so much they slept on the roof to be near me. Why they like me is an even bigger mystery. A Scout ship does duty outside at night and does not attempt anymore to mimic stars in the sky. They are waiting for news. They are standing in the holding pattern as they say in aircraft circles!

Please hurry as they are becoming impatient to touch down.

Can you confirm they are UFOs over Perth Scotland. My sister lives there and is having roof problems too. She's also a telepath I think but doesn't realise it!

I know you know they are here. four battle cruiser the M12 was parked at Liverpool Pier then another ship took its place in February/March with better equipment on board. It's likely a white ship ported on the Welsh coast appearing to do "tourist" duty i.e. The public can walk on her sometimes, is part of their fleet. Would I be correct?

I forgot to say in this fleet is a body of them, at least fifty individuals well enough to fill 2 big kees anyway. There may be more than that.

You should behave as if they were a visiting royal party as they were treated by the Incas. Don't go over the top please. Don't destroy the peaceful work I have done for you.

You wonder why they choose an urban area this time round? I think they acted on a funny idea I had (before I know them properly) after reading a Von Danike book. I wondered what it would be like if the 'gods' ever return and used an opposite geographic place to Peru and instead of remote mountain why not smack in the centre of town. It's a joke in one respect. They understand humor too.

I am not a crank, just an ordinary person. I would like my life to return to normal now, so would the aliens. I am not attention seeking, just trying to attract your attention on their behalf. Simply a message carrier. I know my work is finished now almost. Once I have handed them over to you.

don't have a criminal record or anything and I'm not a terrorist!

The feathered Serpent did say in Peru at the dawn of time (as we know it) he would return. He was very pointed about it according to legend. He came to Ken in Human form. This time they present in their natural shape.

I can understand the awe the ancients must have felt at the original UFO landing. I feel incredible peace near Ken. But I am normally non-aggressive anyway so I'm not too surprised.

I was thinking of walking into RAF Sealand at Chester. But I thought the C-in-C of the base would react negatively and hold-up things. Assuming I got past the gate guard that is.

Please move quickly. It's vital you do. If you want to meet Ken too.

yours in True sincerity,

[Redacted signature]

Tel: [redacted]  
" [redacted]

Home  
Business.

[redacted] reply E

①

reply sent 7 April 87

Timperley  
Cheshire

[redacted]

Dear Sir / Madam,

It has taken me a long time to decide to write to you. I am also quite convinced that after you have read this letter, you will probably throw it into the dustbin and have a good laugh at it. But I will go on anyway. I have tried so many times to put pen to paper and write in such a way that I will not be made to look a fool. I've thrown away so many letters that I have begun. This one is going, I've finally decided.

Here goes. On my way back from Saithport after visiting a sick Aunt My Mother and myself were heading towards Manchester. We both noticed a bright light. I will not go into great detail about what the light did. but the culmination was that our vehicle was slowed down by an odd looking black type 1930's car that was in front of ours. The driver was tall, stocky, and wearing a strange german type hat, even though his vehicle was dangerously close to ours not once did he show any movement or show any sign of movement. My car was slowed down by this vehicle in front from 65 MPH to almost a standstill. Both my Mother and I felt that something was very wrong and odd about the whole thing. I decided to open my window and look out. To my horror. Above my car was an unusually shaped craft of some kind, about 30 feet above us. The lights on this object were huge and very dazzling the size of the thing was roughly about the size of a double decker bus on its side twice. The strangest thing though was that (Here comes the hard bit). We both felt as though time had stood still and it was very frightening indeed. We felt nothing, heard nothing, smelled nothing. It was as though we were dead, or not here. I remember hitting my head on something, probably the window of the car and I screamed, and suddenly the car that was in front of us disappeared and so did this odd craft. We drove like crazy.

to a petrol station and stopped. We didn't need petrol. We just wanted to get off the road. The object wasn't in sight at first and then it was suddenly there again in full view. I must say it was a beautiful thing all lit up we did notice a sort of demo amidst the lights. But we were very scared indeed. My car was back to normal by now. whilst the object was above us all the lights on the car (my car) went haywire. and I could smell a sweet burning some sort of odd smell.

When I dropped my Mother off home and finally got home myself. My husband was distraught. He thought we had had an accident. We left Southport at 7 o'clock evening and I arrived home at 10.30 evening. The first thing my husband said was where is your coat you look freezing. It should have taken us just over an hour to get back from Southport to Manchester. Just after I arrived home I had blue marks on both sides of my thigh and I was very very sick for a couple of days and also I had some terrible dreams which I would not like to go into on paper.

We worked it out that 55 minutes went missing on our time home and that dream that I had about an (~~teen~~ Seey) a being that was 6 feet tall, maybe taller. Blue eyes and white shoulder length hair who wore a one piece silver or white suit with no pockets or anything. He said in my dream, that he had seen me when I was thirteen years old and no matter where I go he would know where to find me, and if it was necessary he would find me. I am now thirty eight years of age. The incident I am writing about only happened a few years ago. I am frightened and I do definitely believe that something is going to happen again. I can't talk to anyone about this because I don't think most people would believe me. But I swear to god it happened. There is so much more involved that I could not put pen to paper and discuss.

Please I would be so grateful indeed if you could help me to solve or at least explain to me what happened on that road. And why it happened to me and my Mum. I am a happily married woman who holds down

a small business I am told I am reliable, intelligent and trustworthy. I have read so much about UFO's since the sighting and I get the feeling that most people who have a visit from these crafts are either crazy or attention seekers. All I can do is speak for myself and my Mother. Believe me, I have heard the chance of the story being plastered all over the newspapers. The Mirror tried to con me into selling the story as so did Womans World. But I did and do not want publicity. All I want to know is why they, the people on that craft, wanted or needed to contact me. I am totally confused. I understand that you have all your red tape and such to consider. I also expect you to reply to me in such a way that you will almost certainly make me out to be a fool. Well I'm not a fool and neither is my Mother. We both know a great deal about the incident and we are willing to tell you all we know, if you are willing to listen. But in return I want some long overdue answers.

One thing that does bother both my Mother and myself was not so long after the incident on the East London Road, My Mother was walking home from shopping and it was daylight. Her attention was caught by a bright light which flashed her three times then disappeared. Six miles away at the same time we found out later, the same light which was enormous, did the same to me as I was driving home with a friend. It's all so strange.

If I don't get any help or advice from you I really don't know what to do next. Because I have a gut feeling that we have not seen the last of this odd craft or the occupants.

Please take this letter seriously, because we need you to. I have never written to anyone about all this I think it is about time something should be done or at least discussed.

Yours sincerely



I would like to add that I know that the Ministry of

Defence. Tend to concern themselves about objects sighted in the UK airspace, This object was in the UK airspace and it did fly below tree level and it was not a craft from this world believe me. If you don't want to accept this or at least investigate it then I for one will have some serious thought provoking concern for the defence of our country to say the least.

Yours again most sincerely



No reply

(file)

(E)  
E2  
(45)

[REDACTED]  
Defence Secretariat Division 8,  
Ministry of Defence,  
Main Building,  
Whithall,  
London  
SW1A 2HR

[REDACTED]  
Birkenhead,  
Merseyside  
[REDACTED]

Your Ref D/DS8/75/2/I

Our Ref WJ/EXL

Jan., 1985

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to the letter received, dated 9 March 1982. As my information can no longer be considered as classified, I am now able to pass it onto you.

The letter that I sent to you, was only a small fraction, of the work that I had done on U.F.O. research. I was in fact in physical and psychic contact with an E.T. called Algar; whom I have had a relationship with since 1958, and it continued until 1981, when he was killed by another race of beings.

So to start at the beginning. I was seven years old, when I first saw traces left by a U.F.O. At the time I lived at [REDACTED] Glasgow. One Saturday, morning I had the impression that I should go out to the back, so much it was like an obsession (DIA 1). When I did go to the back, I found three indentations in the ground, they were in triangular formation. Each indentation was the same distance from it's partner, and they gave the impression that three large ball bearings had been dropped there. My first thought was that it was a U.F.O.; but I had never ever heard of U.F.O. or flying saucers, and yet the thought seemed normal to me, as if I used it on a regular basis. I told my father, who was rather quick at ridiculing and poo-pooing what I had told him. Anyway, a couple of months later, the first visit came from E.T.s, which was followed by a few more. They were of green gas which solidified when it came in from the passage way, which led to the toilet under, the door, and the wardrobe, which was situated against the door preventing it from opening. (DIA 2). There was one which was green and very large. that had eyes all over it, this one came three times. Then there was a woman with very sharp features, and what looked like fat worms sticking out of her head, where the hair should be. The last visit from the large green thing happened when my father tried to get into the bedroom, as usual I was against the door, with fear. My father was at the time, fairly atheletic and no weakling, but no matter how hard he pushed he could not get the door open; not until the large green thing had gone.

In 1959, I found semi-transparent, slug like creatures crawling up the wall on the opposite side of the back. At this period of time I was in with a band, especially, the lead singer [redacted] and the drummer [redacted]. Both of them saw the creatures. The end product of this was that we armed ourselves and started to shoot them, we used .22 air rifles at a range of fifty to seventy five yards. When we did kill them, they fell off the wall and took on the appearance of cement that had got damp and solidified. Quite often they would fall and appear to go through the ground leaving no trace at all. One day we found that we were unable to hit our targets, and we could see our shots pass through the targets, by the ricochete off the wall, and after that we found that it was a waste of time trying to shoot them, so we gave up as a bad job. (DIA 3).

I was stationed at Keogh Barracks - Sept. 1968 April 1969 - when I was in the R.A.M.C., and Algar was with me then, even in spite of other E.T.s going away. A strong bond was forming of friendship and trust. One incident involves telepathic contact, and that occurred, following an incident when I was unusually indecisive. It was when I was on guard duty, and I was asked if I would like the first tour, to which I normally said yes, but thank God I eventually declined, for the first one was critically injured with the sick elf he was carrying. It was on the basis of safety, that we were to go in pairs from then on, and it was under these conditions that I got a telepathic link with Algar. We were returning to the guard house after our patrol, and to our right was a field, which had lighting only on the road on which we were walking. Apart from the lighting mentioned, the field was totally dark. I heard only what I can describe as a whisper, and it was saying that someone was creeping about in the field, to the front and slightly right. I immediately looked in that direction but saw nothing. But as I had heard this whisper several times before, and it had proved accurate, I decided to follow it through. I sent my partner around the camp museum, which was situated about twenty yards behind us; and I went to a lamp, and prepared to go into the field. It was at this point, when someone came out of the dark. I then called my partner and after a few heated words, I convinced the stranger who had no i.d. on him, to accompany us to the guard house. (DIA 4).

The real work began in May, 1979, when my wife and I formed a team, and together we collected such data as;- what the different coloured lights on a U.F.O. means, how they manage to evade radar, what fuel they use and what it looks like, I have been to their bases which were in Wirral and Cheshire. There was a curious incident which took place over the river Mersey, by the Wallasey Town Hall. There were six U.F.O.s flying at speed up and down the river, when I noticed a black one was trying to manoeuvre the other six. Unfortunately, the black one was shot down, it hit the water in front of the Town Hall. As I was watching, the front end of the U.F.O. hit the water, then the whole U.F.O. disappeared; leaving the water to splash, as if done by an invisible entity.

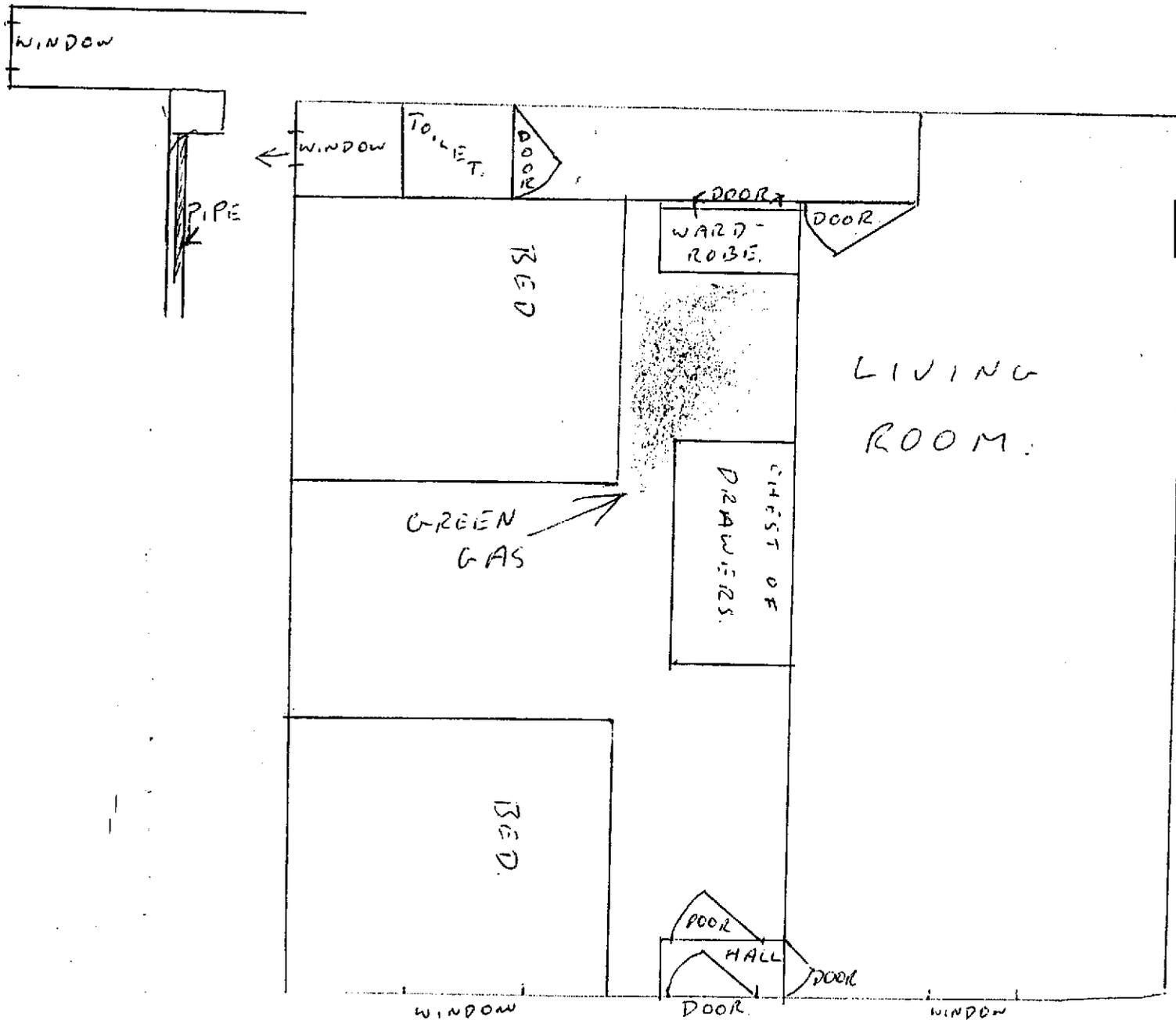
In June, 1981, Algar, was ready to approach the government in person. I was over the moon with pride to be used as the medium between alien race and our own race. Unfortunately, another race of E.T. decided to attack Algar, and his team of scientists, and killed Algar and several members of his team. That of course was that. It was not until October, 24 1981, that they sent some one to dominate me by using threats, and eventually attacking me, the E.T. died during his attack on me. Since there have been four responses to my telepathic messages sent out, but two of those contacts have been lost. But of the two who are still in contact, one is a woman, but I am unable to give you her name. The other is a male and his name is Malben, he says he comes from the Milky Way, and that his planet is called Platone.

I am intending to make contacts strong, and hopefully make a meeting between the alien race and our Government, with the information that I have now given you, I hope that you would reconsider sponsoring my research. The information that I have given you is accurate and truthful. Although there is lots more. I decided to give you what I thought was the most important to you.

*Yours faithfully*

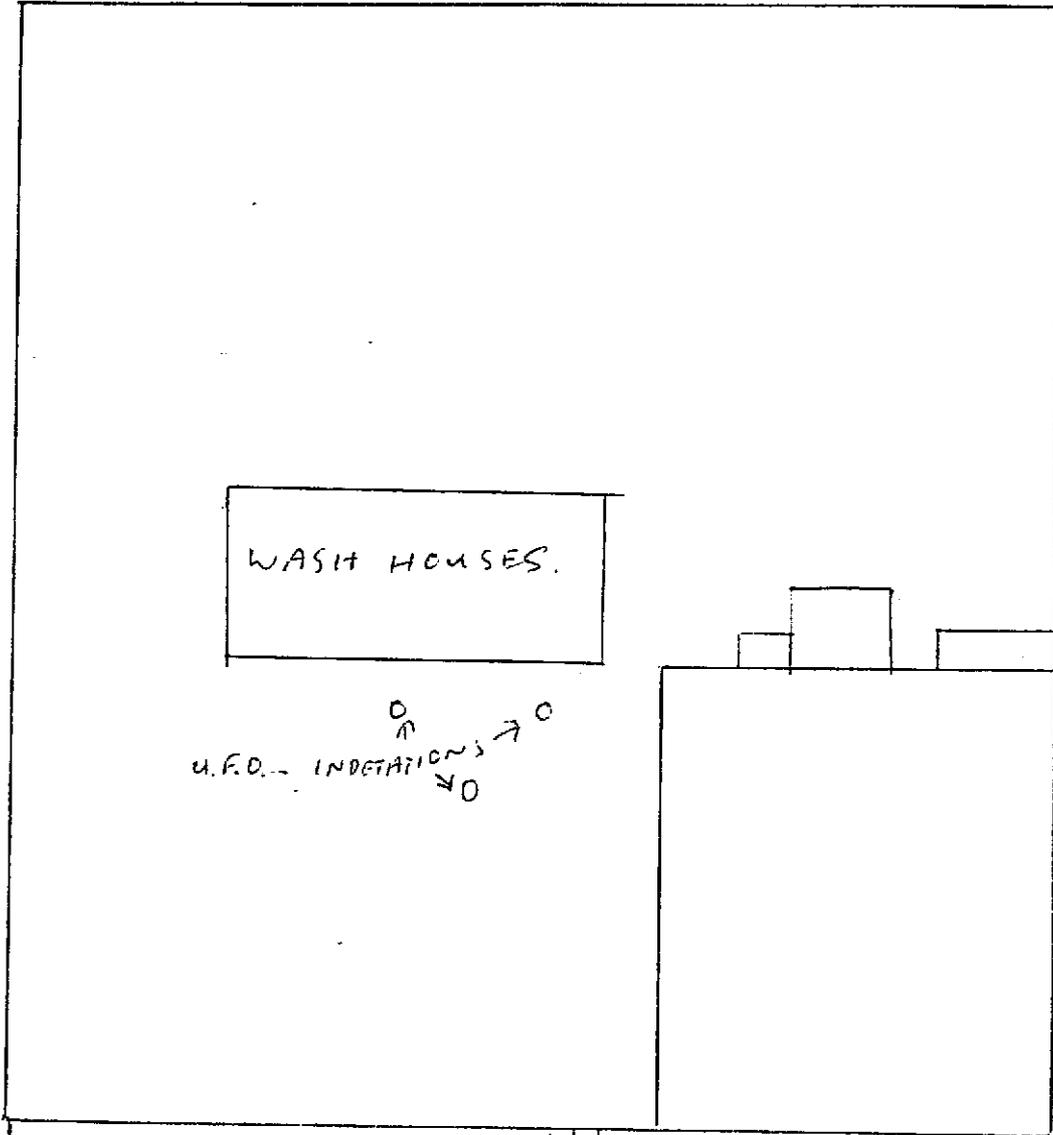


DIA 1



HOUSE AT





WASH HOUSES.

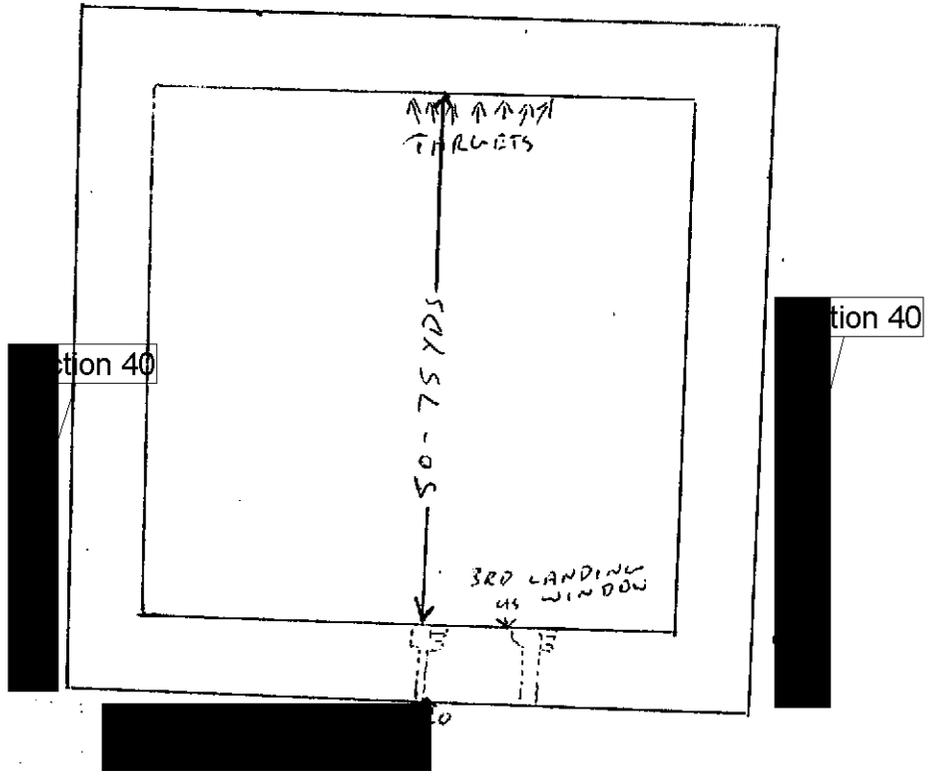
U.F.O. - INDETAIN

STAIRS

PAVEMENT

R20





SEMI-TRANSPARENT  
 ← SLUG  
 SILVERY TRAIL  
 EVAPORATES  
 SECONDS AFTER  
 LAIN.

FIELD  
SUBJECT  
CAME  
OUT OF  
FIELD

MUSEUM

PARTNER WENT  
ROUND MUSEUM

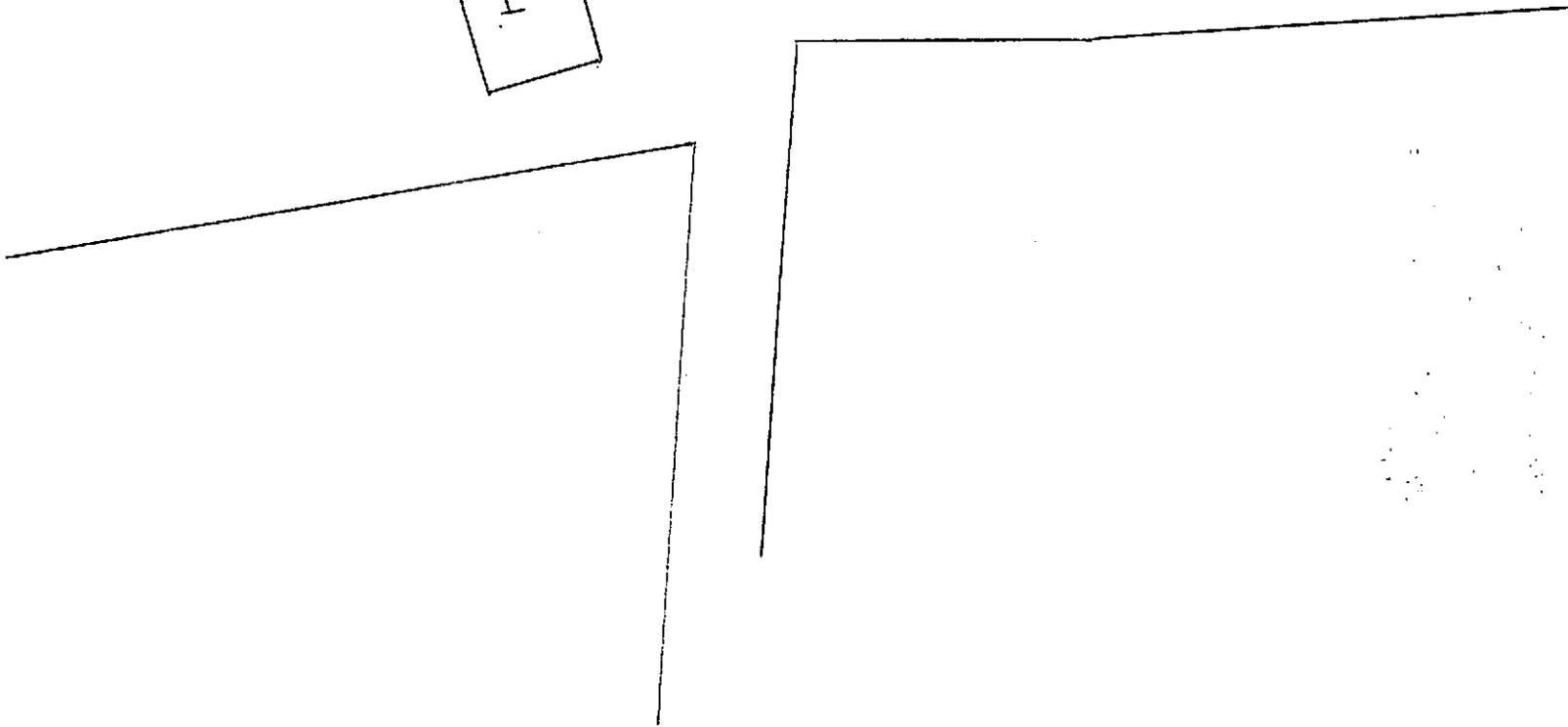
LAMP

ROUTE BACK  
TO G.I.

I WENT TO  
TOWARDS  
LAMP AND  
PREPARED  
TO GO INTO FIELD

CONTACT  
HERE

I ?



# New Business Form

TNT Customer Services

Tel: 0845 601 0610

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]



TNT Archive Services

Please type or print clearly in CAPITAL LETTERS

Customer Name OAS-MOO.

Date 24/04/08.

Delivery / Collection Address  
M.O.O.  
MAINS BUILDING,  
WHITEHALL,  
LONDON.  
SW1A 2HB.

Time 14.00.

Cust. Ref. No. F6208A.

Contact Name [REDACTED]

Contact No. [REDACTED]

\*This field needs to be completed

\*Level 1

\*This field needs to be completed

\*Level 2

B = Box

F = File

(PLEASE CIRCLE)	File Reference / Box Number	Title / Description	Review / Destruction Date
1	B / (F) <u>D/OAS/64/2</u>	<u>UFO SIGHTING REPORTS.</u>	<u>RETAIN</u>
2	B / (F) <u>D/OAS/64/3</u>	<u>UFO PERSISTENT CORRESPONDENCE.</u>	<u>RETAIN</u>
3	B / F		
4	B / F		
5	B / F		
6	B / F		
7	B / F		
8	B / F		
9	B / F		
10	B / F		
11	B / F		
12	B / F		
13	B / F		
14	B / F		
15	B / F		
16	B / F		
17	B / F		
18	B / F		
19	B / F		
20	B / F		

	Print Name	Signature	Time	Date
Customer:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	<u>14.00.</u>	<u>24/04/08.</u>
Driver:				
Prep:				

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 REQ

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D/sec (AD) 64/1 Part A.  
UFOs-Policy



→ 65/3

[Redacted] 40  
[Redacted] 2/4/95

LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

10 Oct 95

Head of GF - through [Redacted]

Copy to:  
Hd Sec(AS)\*  
CM(IR&C)7\*  
PCB(Air) - [Redacted]\*

\* By CHOTS

UFO BOOK - PUBLICATION

Reference: D/NP/Pers dated 1 May 95

A great pity that a more permanent abduction by aliens cannot be arranged. I'm not surprised that they didn't want to keep him. ~~May we have a word?~~ I [Redacted] 40  
[Redacted] 58  
have now written or discussed.





[Signed]

[Redacted]

GF(Pol)1b

MB0262 [Redacted]

E Mail: GF(POL)1B-1



A22

file

file 65/3

LOOSE MINUTE

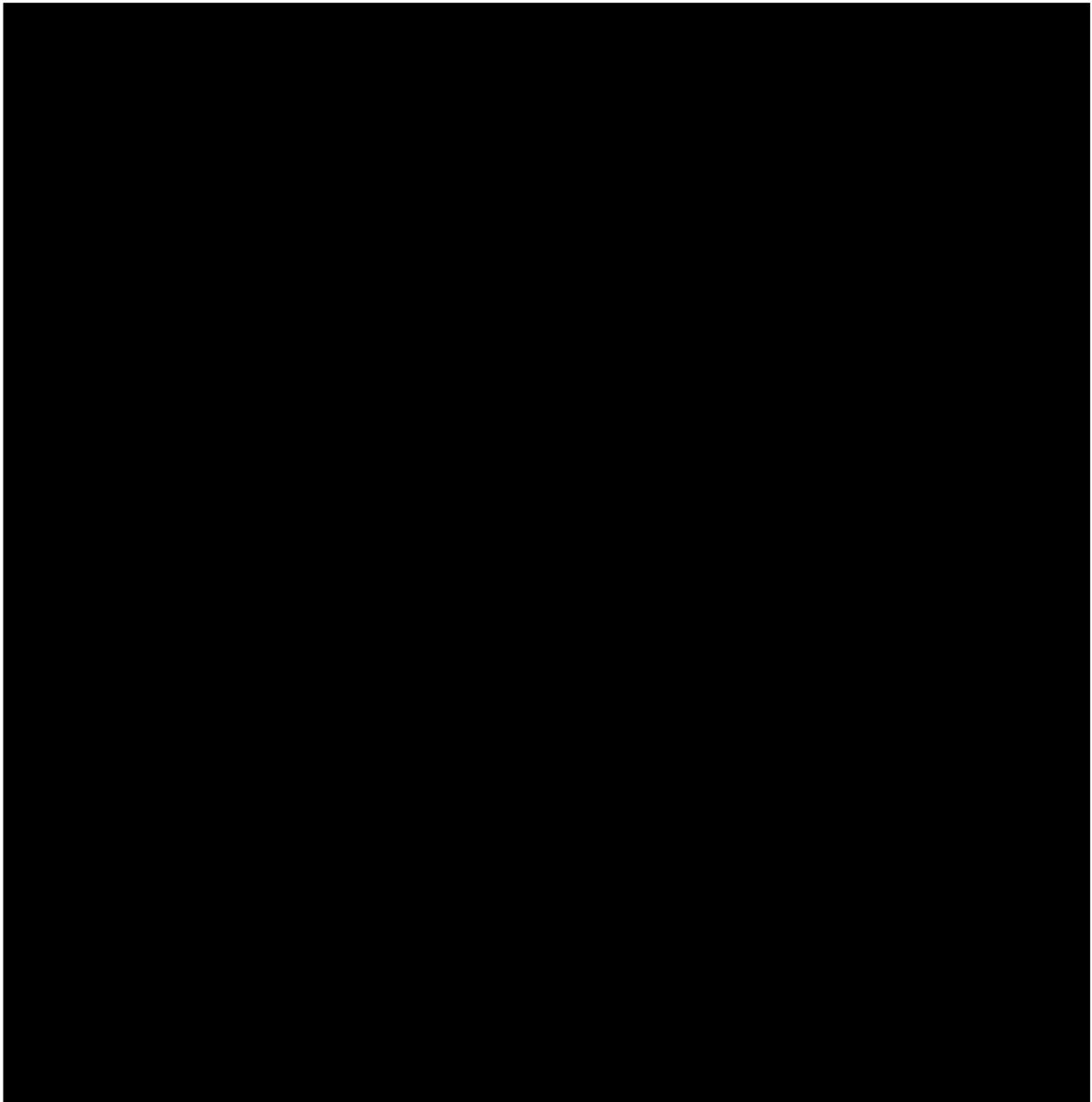
D/Sec(AS)65/3(MF242/95)

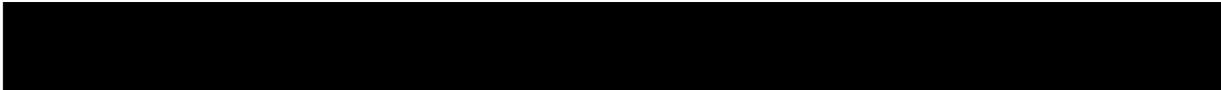
11 October 1995

Head of GF

Copy to: CM(IR&C)7  
PCB(Air)  
GF(Pol)1b(Mr Pope)

**UFO BOOK - PUBLICATION**





(Original signed)



Head of Sec(AS)

MB7257

CHOTS:PS/Hd of SEC(AS)

Head of Sec(AS) [redacted] 40  
[redacted] thank you. [redacted] 40

To be aware. There have been articles mentioning Mr Pope in the Sunday press for the last two weeks (Observer & News of the World). In both cases it appears [redacted]

[redacted] The first article (in the Observer) prompted calls from [redacted] and [redacted] in the Press Office. The latter was concerned about the number of follow-up calls he was getting & said he might speak to Hd of AF. [redacted]

[redacted] I will brief in more detail when you have time [redacted] on 40

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[redacted] REQ

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D/Sec(AS) 20/4 C.  
Public Relations - Clearance.



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
 Publications Clearance Branch (Air), Room 308  
 3-5, Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HW

Telephone (Direct Dialling) [Redacted]  
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000  
 (Fax) [Redacted]

Mr N G Pope  
 GF(Pol)1  
 Room 0262  
 MAIN BUILDING

Your reference

Our reference  
 PCB(Air)3409 & 3443

Date  
 21 August 1995



40  
 in 40  
 fax  
 aware.

CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "OPEN SKIES , CLOSED MINDS" (2ND VERSION/SUBMISSION) AND LECTURE BY N G POPE.



PCB(Air)

Copy to:-  
 Head of Sec(AS)  
 Head of CM(IR&C)7  
 Head of GF

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
 Hd. Sec.(AS)

20/4

LOOSE MINUTE

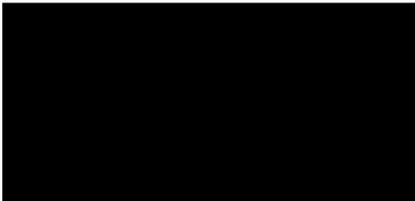
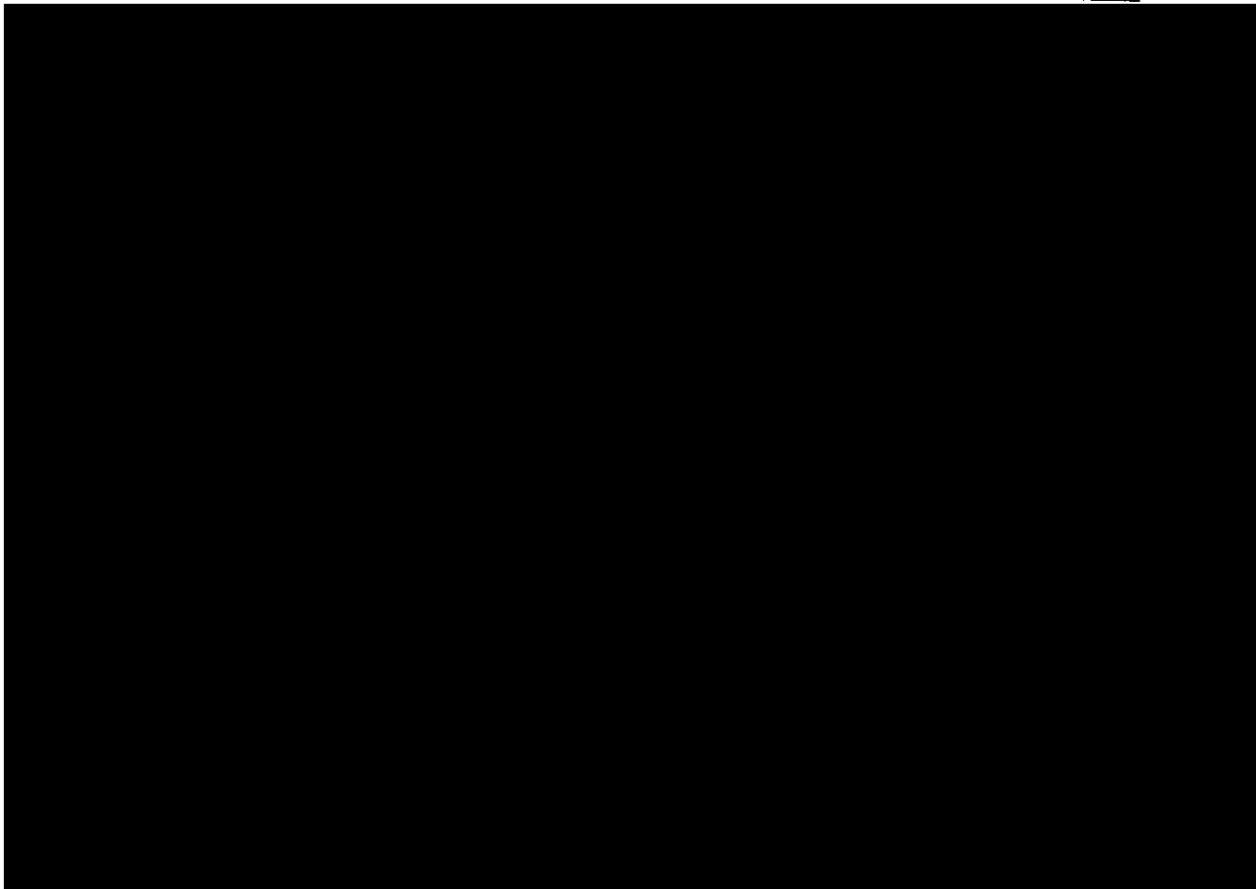
D/Sec(AS)20/4

18 August 1995

PCB(Air)

CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - MR N G POPE

42



Sec(AS)2  
MB8247

Spoke Hd AHB.



8/18  
20/40

41

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
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 To : SEC(AS)2  
 Cc :  
 Ref : 146  
 From : AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
 Subject : Pubs Clearance, UFO Book & Lecture

Text : [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PCB(Air)

Priority: Normal  
Reply Request [ ]

View Acknowledge [\*]

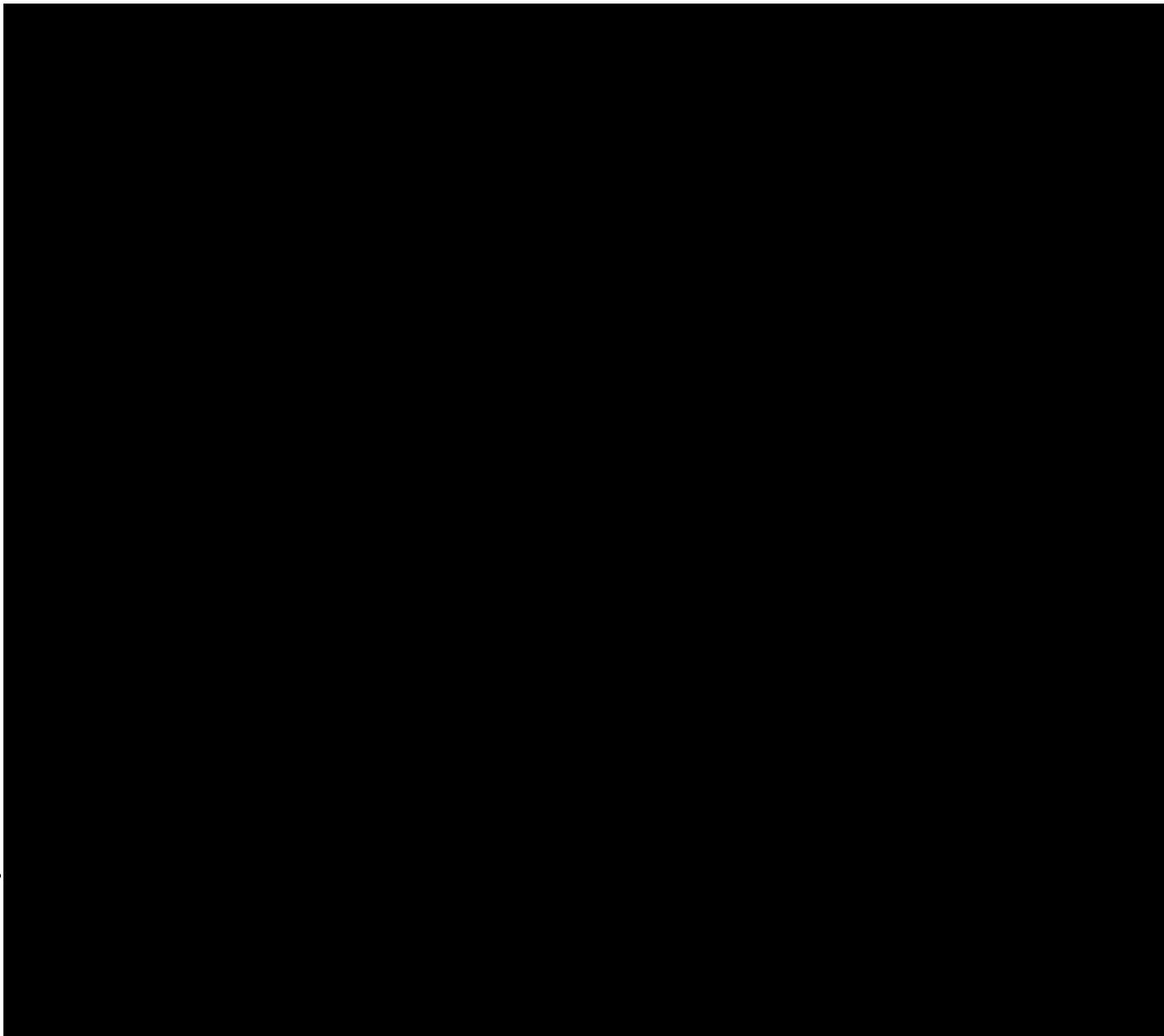
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CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "OPEN SKIES ,CLOSED MINDS" (2ND VERSION/SUBMISSION) AND LECTURE BY N G POPE

1



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Head of GF(~~Pot~~)

Hidden Copy to:  
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LOOSE MINUTE

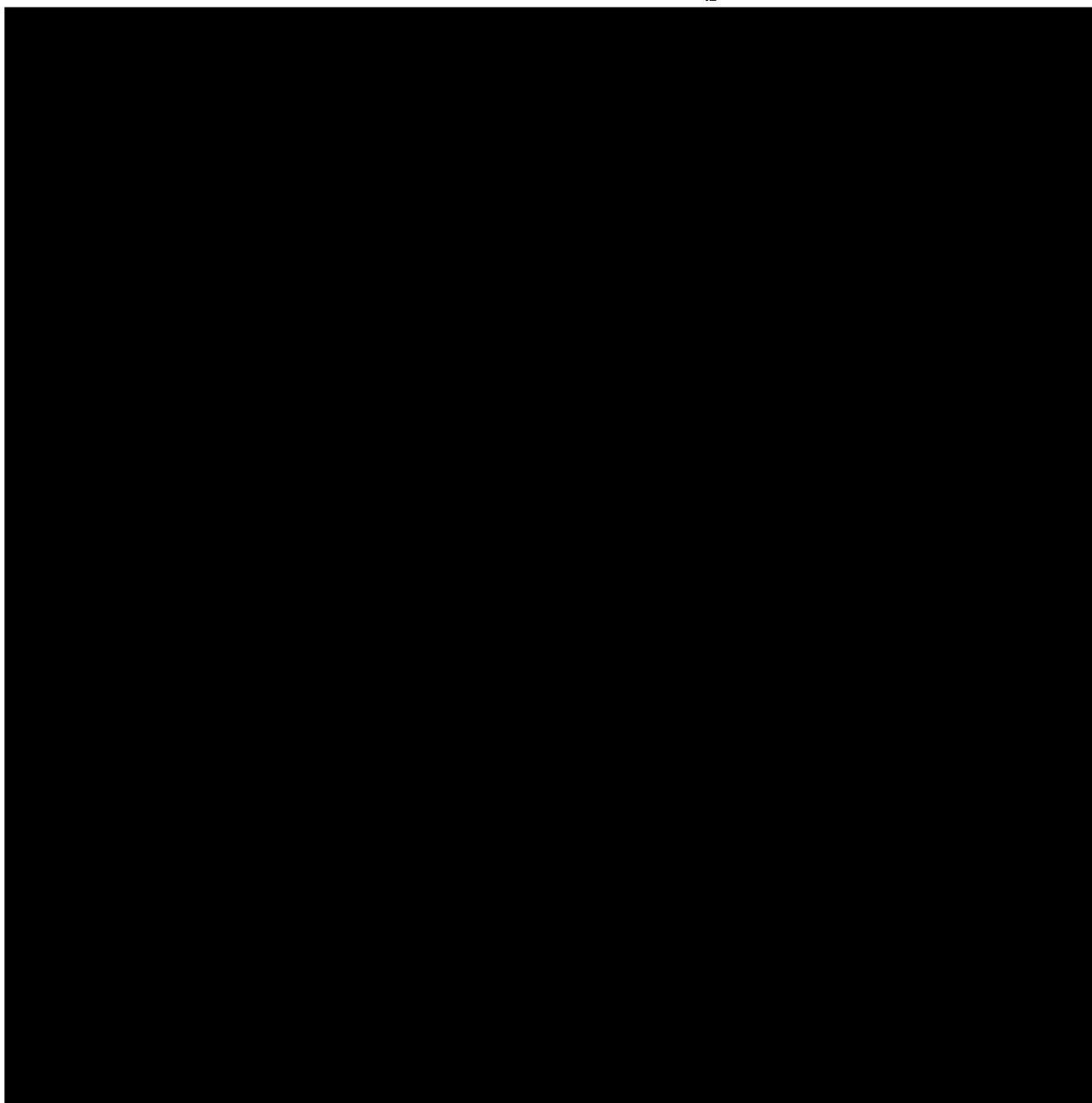
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11 August 1995

PCB(Air)

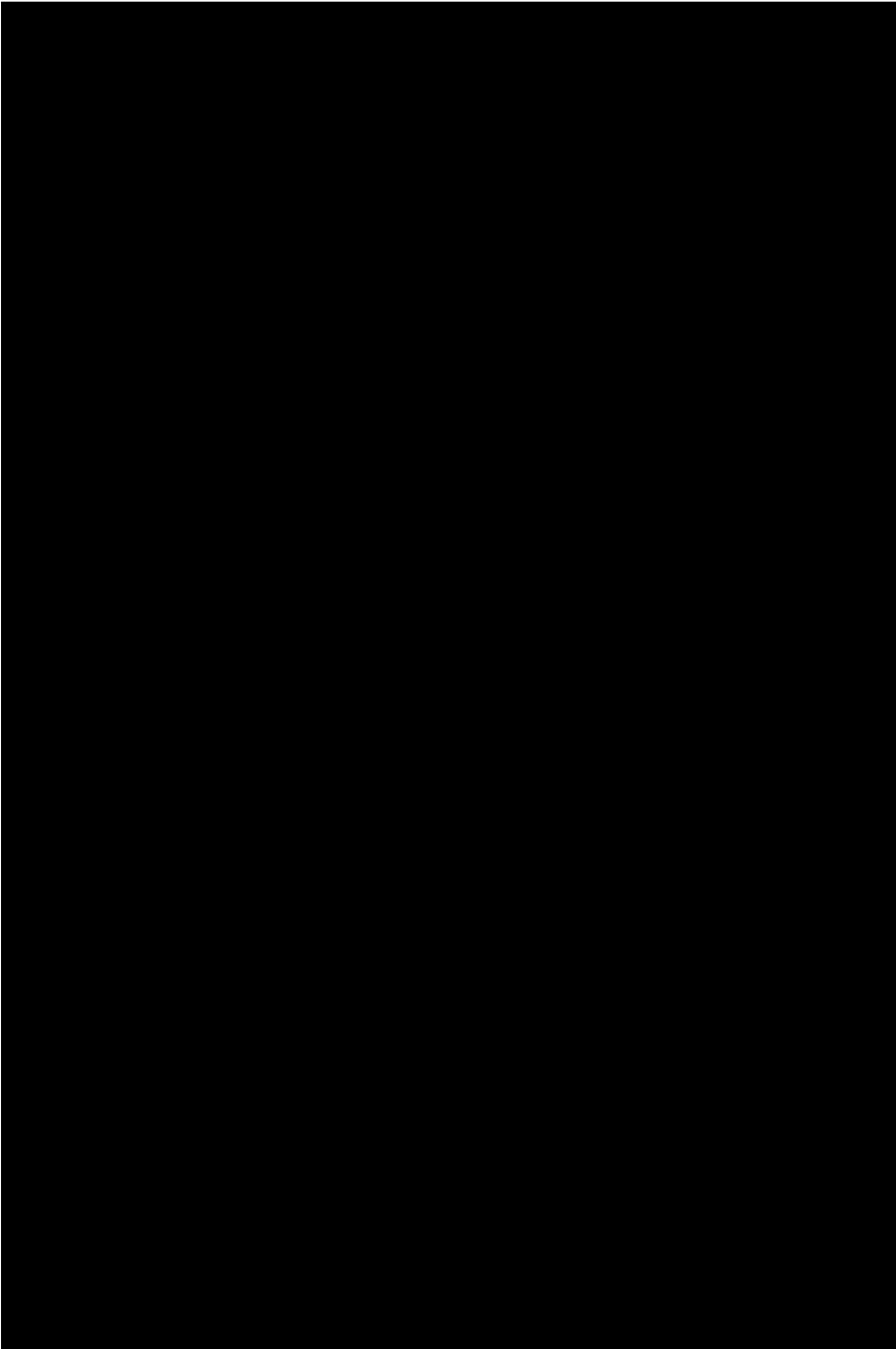
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CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - UFO BOOK (2ND  
VERSION/SUBMISSION) AND LECTURE BY N G POPE



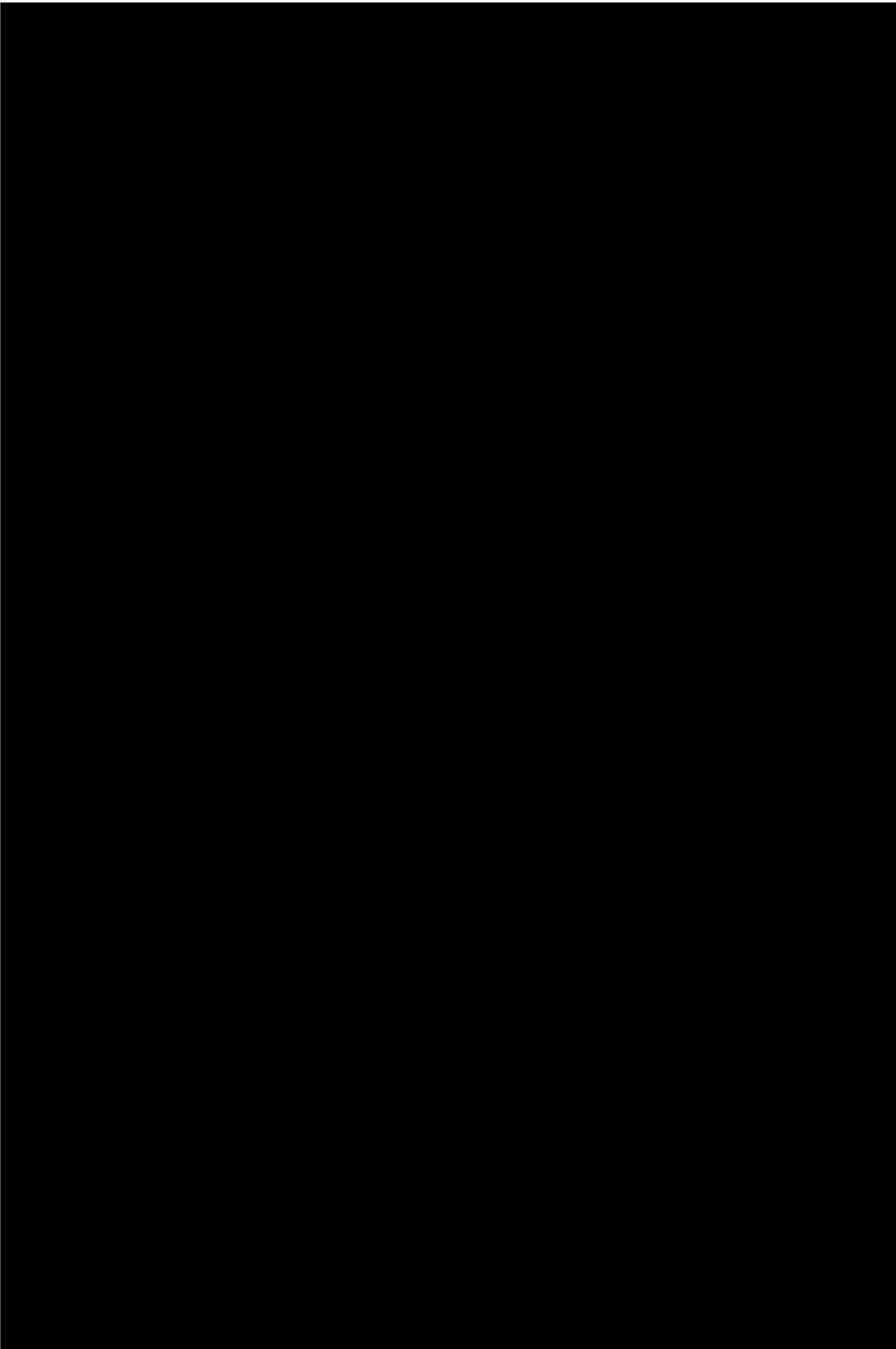
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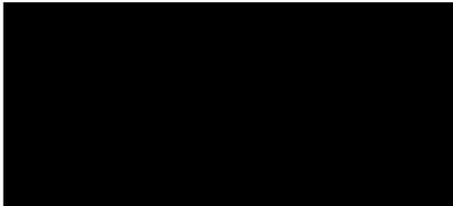
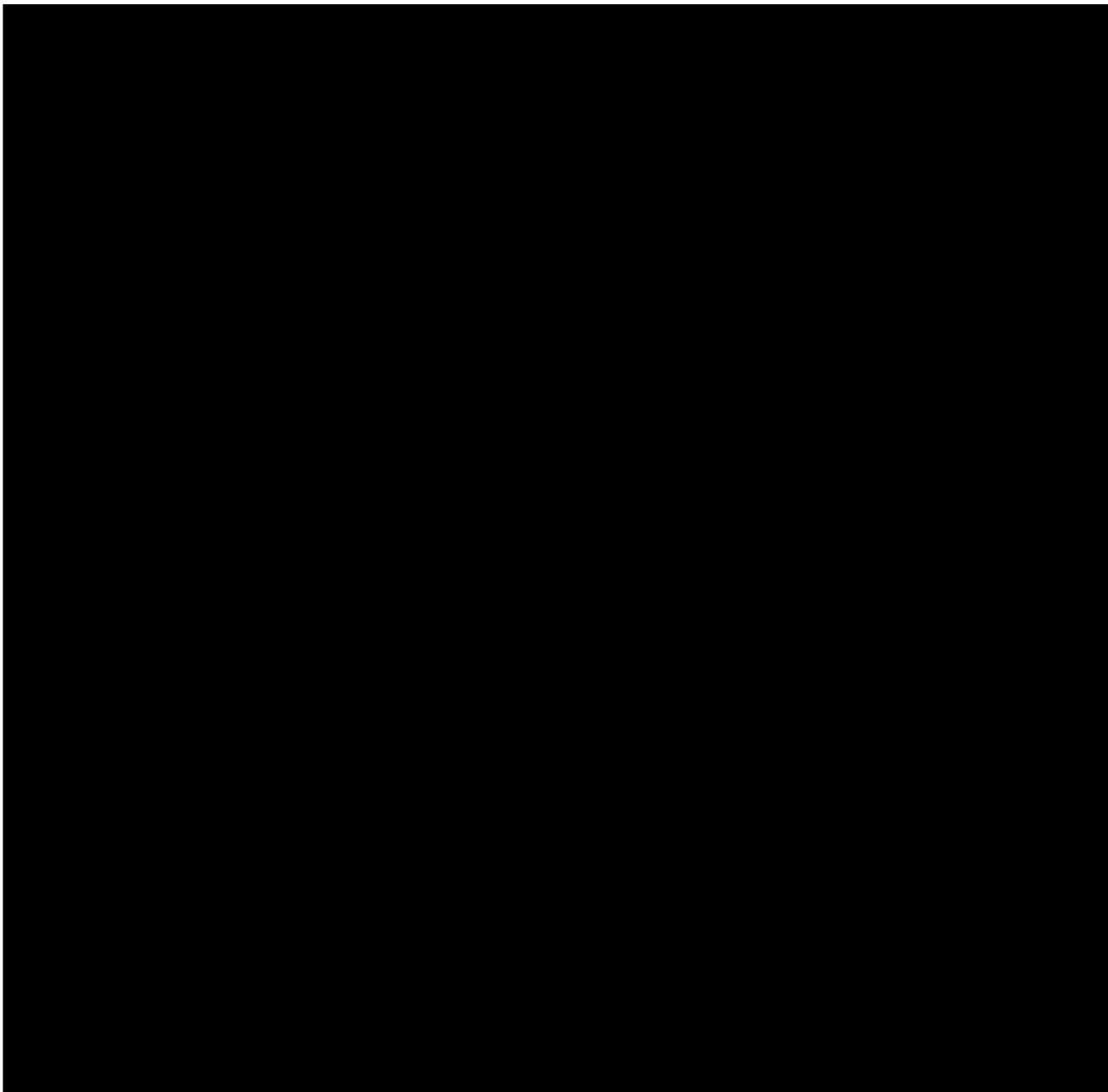
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WHITEHALL SHOCK AS ITS CHIEF ALIEN-WATCHER ADMITS: I BELIEVE IN UFOs

# RAF lives, says man from the Ministry

By Nick Fielding

IT WAS the week when John Redwood's earthly origins were called into doubt and Mr Spock's pointy ears were given away by the thousand.

So it will come as no surprise that one of Whitehall's finest has succumbed to the power of aliens. Nick Pope headed the Secretariat (Air Staff) office, with a brief to deal with inquiries about flying saucers and other unexplained phenomena.

It was his calm voice which reassured the many members of the public who called to report strange lights in the sky or little green men on the lawn.

But in a possibly the most embarrassing circumstance in Ministry of Defence history, Mr Pope has gone over to the other side.

For that horror of horrors, his is unlikely to win him a December 1980 where:

many friends at the Ministry. In fact, his bosses have already expressed their displeasure at his manuscript, for which he must get permission before publication.

The book examines all the available records in the Whitehall archives, and talks about a number of new cases. But Mr Pope offers little comfort for UFO buffs seeking proof of a Government cover-up.

'We don't throw open our files en bloc, but eventually most of them filter down to the Public Record Office.'

Mr Pope cannot pinpoint the moment of his conversion, but he rules out an alien plot.

He says he was convinced by the details of a small number of British sightings, which have so far defied conventional explanation.

'Probably the best example is the Rendleham Forest case in December 1980

some kind of object came down in Suffolk near the RAF bases at Woodbridge and Bentwaters.

'This is now regarded as the best attested case of a UFO crash outside the US.'

Mr Pope's conversion is likely to cause a sensation among committed ufologists. Graham Birdsall, comment on Mr Pope. But surely the men from the Ministry are waiting that someone, somewhere, would beam him up.



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS: UFO convert Nick Pope

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# Editorial



The alleged Roswell archive film footage rages on, and despite huge question marks in respect of its authenticity, its owners continue to promote the material as being genuine. Offers of between \$1.7 million and \$7 million have been openly mooted.

As you will see in our exclusive account of this sorry affair, television companies place little importance on analysis, more how the material will impact upon the viewing public.

In a remarkable swipe at those who have sought to view, examine and authenticate the footage, such as Stanton T. Friedman, the original investigator of the 1947 Roswell crash, they pronounce:

*"Whilst we respect Mr. Friedman's history, profile and standing within the UFO community, we believe the material will be best served by neutral researchers who have no personal vested interest in its future."*

In effect, those who have a vested interest in the commercial marketing and promotion of this footage have excluded those within the international UFO community who would dare to challenge the authenticity of this film.

If anyone has a personal vested interest in this archive, it is surely Friedman, who has laboured long and hard over 17 years to unearth the truth behind what occurred at Roswell.

Whilst much attention has been naturally focused on this affair, another intriguing development has taken place, with the announcement by Nick Pope, former head of AS2 (Air Staff 2), the official UK government body that looks at UFO reports within the Ministry of Defence, that he intends to publish a book about his 3-year involvement: *Open Skies - Closed Minds: Official Reaction to the UFO Phenomenon*.

Nick is now firmly of the opinion that UFOs and the ETH (extraterrestrial hypothesis) are one of the same. He is still employed by the MoD, who are naturally feeling somewhat uneasy at his decision to speak out so publicly. I can tell you that his decision to "come out" was not taken lightly, but he is willing to accept the consequences. It took an extraordinary amount of courage to do what he has done. His life is about to change forever, and we should all offer him our total support.

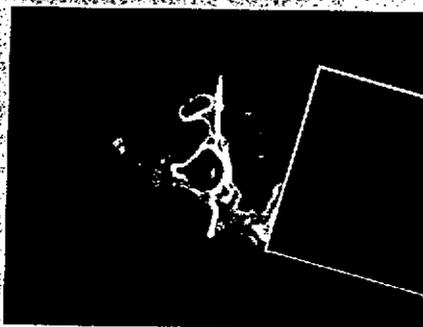
*G.W. Birdall*

20th CENTURY-HIENS

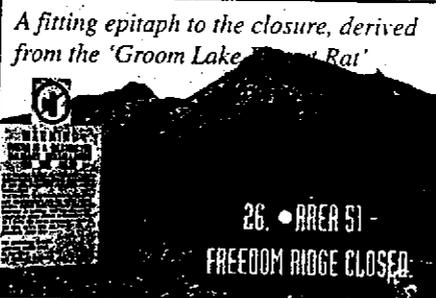
*Contrary to opinion, there is photographic data which allegedly depicts an alien intelligence. Mark Ian Birdall takes a brief look at the evidence...*

## 12 • THE ALLEGED ROSWELL UFO ARCHIVE FILM

*The screening of an alleged alien autopsy at the Museum of London on 5th May this year, has led to an international media frenzy. What are we to believe? Who are we to believe? UFO Magazine delivers a verdict on the film being labelled 'Roswell's Smoking Gun'.*



*On 7th November 1983, police sergeant Anthony Dodd, encountered a UFO on a lonely country lane near the West Yorkshire village of Addingham. He managed to take several sensational pictures which have defied all scientific attempts to rationally explain the phenomena.*



*A fitting epitaph to the closure, derived from the 'Groom Lake' 'Secret Rat'*



*Discharging a part of his... and mutilations... UFO connection.*

## 40 • AIRSHIPS - TERRESTRIAL FLYING SAUCERS

*World airship expert John Christopher, turns his attention to the remarkable saucer-shaped dirigibles of the past and present, and looks ahead to the future.*



# Scanners of the alien nation

25  
**D**ON'T call me a fruitcake, but listen: on a warm summer's day at the age of eight, I lay on my back on the grassy playing fields, looked up and saw an unidentified flying object. A tiny triangular glint in the sky. My thumbs saw it, too. The local paper got wind and there was a little column, dripping sarcasm. The little green men were coming to take us kids away. Jeer on, but I had seen something. What it was, who knows?

This event hovered back into my mind last week in a Whitehall wine bar while talking to the British Government's foremost expert on UFOs. Nick Pope is a civil servant who has spent four years analysing reports of sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects for the Ministry of Defence. He is a sane, cautious, bespectacled 29-year-old, 10 years at the MoD. He speaks in the carefully draughted idiom of the Whitehall memo, emphasising that his beliefs are personal, not those of the Secretary of State for Defence, Michael Portillo — himself rumoured not to be as other earthen.

From 1991 to 1994 I worked in the Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A. I was the MoD's UFO desk officer. I came into that job with an open mind. After having seen all the evidence and the expert testimony, I came out of that job believing that a very small percentage of what are commonly termed UFOs may well be extra-terrestrial in origin.

Had he ever seen a UFO, I asked him? 'No.'

I came clean about my expertise. He looked at me, the unbeliever, with something approaching envy in his eyes.



The Observer  
 13 August 1995

Spooky-wooky millennium! Be it UFOs, tremors, rumours or the visions of the electrically disturbed, our search for aliens has a religious fervour about it.

13. You will wish to see the latest press coverage [redacted] sec (ps) 2 14/8/95

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# THE OBSERVER ESSAY

John Sweeney

## The UFO Research Association hosts its eighth Congress on Saturday. It is sold out, and reports from the final frontier say business is better than ever.

Still at the MOD, but no longer on the UFO desk, Pope has suffered for his views. His nickname in the MOD is 'Spooky', that of Fox Mulder, a character in the cult TV series *X-Files*. When he walks along the corridor, fellow civil servants whistle the theme from Steven Spielberg's film, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. His chances of becoming a permanent under-secretary have dimmed. And yet: 'We received between 2,000 and 3,000 UFO reports each year. We knew this was the tip of the iceberg because most people didn't know how to report a UFO, that is who to contact, or they were afraid of the ridicule.'

Among those 2,000 to 3,000 reports we always figured that 95 per cent could be explained away in terms of known objects or phenomena. I know all the explanations: flocks of geese, aircraft lights, satellites, meteors, fireballs, ball lightning, lasers and searchlights reflecting off low cloud, hoaxes. There is still this 5 per cent that you can't explain, that defy explanation. His book on UFOs, provisionally entitled *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, will be published by Simon and Schuster in June 1996.

The absurdist comedy of the MOD's own UFO-watcher turning from sceptic to (qualified) believer speaks to the spooky-woo-woo spirit of the millennium. Now that God, who once wound our sundials, is thought to be dead, human awe has turned to UFO sightings and even alien abductions — in the jargon, *Close*

Encounters of the Fourth Kind. Next weekend the British UFO Research Association will host its eighth International UFO Congress to discuss these and other UFO events. It is sold out. Later this month, Channel 4 will screen a controversial film of an alien autopsy, allegedly shot after the UFO crash at Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947.

Pope has seen the footage: 'I found it gruesome and unpleasant, but then I'd never seen an autopsy before. There were 100 people in the auditorium at the Museum of London. The atmosphere was jokey for a minute, but as the autopsy started and the humans cut up the aliens there was a lot of uneasy shuffling and muffled cries of "Oh, my God".' The best documented British UFO sighting, the Rendlesham Forest incident, rests on a sober memo headed 'Unexplained Lights', dated 13 January 1981. It is signed by Lt Col Charles I. Halt of the US Air Force. Halt and his officers saw a pulsing, metallic, triangular object which sent nearby farm animals into a frenzy and left above-background radiation levels in three holes in the ground.

The best documented American UFO sighting is the Roswell incident in 1947. The best abduction features a four-way alien pick-up, involving Manhattan Ufologist Linda Napolitano, two anonymous security guards and the 'Third Man' — a cover name purportedly to protect the identity of the then UN Secretary-General, Javier Pérez de Cuellar.

His Excellency denies the abduction. The old saw, Ocean's razor — 'No more things should be presumed to exist than are absolutely necessary' — slices up the little green men better than Channel 4's autopsy. This is not to say that the people who report UFOs are bonkers. Ordinary people do witness such things as bright lights in the sky and should not be lightly mocked; so do military officers, who supply the best-authenticated cases. But there is a battery of good reasons explaining why UFO sightings and reported abductions — even Pope's 5 per cent — have more to do with the vagaries of the human mind than with aliens. None of this is a match for the first law of storytelling: the exciting explanation will always drive out the boring.

First, bright lights in the sky. Psychologist Michael Persinger, of Canada's Laurentian University, has noted a big statistical correlation between flying saucer reports and earth tremors. He has speculated that electromagnetic pulses released by the shifting of the earth's tectonic plates, could stimulate images in the mind's eye — the brain's temporal lobe. This would also account for the cutting off of a car's electricity. Professor Ashley Grossman of Bart's agrees: 'There is an increasing amount of evidence that electro-magnetic pulses can affect brain function. *In vitro* research suggests that there is some sort of sensory perception — you could call it a sixth sense — which some animals have. The brain works on electricity. It's rather like taking your credit card near a large magnet. If someone had a low threshold for temporal lobe epilepsy and seizures, an electro-magnetic pulse could fire off hallucinations.'

But temporal lobe epilepsy can be the first manifestation of a brain tumour. Prof Grossman warns: 'Anyone who sees a UFO or has a semi-mystical experience should have a brain scan. Of course, some experiences could be put down to hysteria. But there could be an underlying biological abnormality triggering the hallucinations.'

Looking back, visions of the Virgin could have been prompted by bio-abnormality. Joan of Arc famously took a long time to burn — maybe as a result of calcified lungs caused by tuberculosis. Had TB reached her brain, it could have triggered the visions. And never underestimate auto-suggestion, the phenomenon which drove the Salem Witches and may be responsible for Pérez de Cuellar's 'imp'.

Second, Rendlesham. Let's presume Halt and the other Americans saw something in the sky, something which left a radioactive spoor in the forest. Why need it come from outer space? The Pentagon's ultra-secret Black Budget has been responsible for all sorts of weird lights in the sky, clocked by military men such as Halt who would not have been security-cleared for the programme. The post-Stearth bomber, Project Aurora, is currently whizzing around the world being mistaken for a UFO.

Third, Roswell. The UFO air crash is a bunch of horse pucky' according to one sceptic, Irving 'Newt' Newton. What actually crashed in 1947 was another secret Pentagon wheeze, Project Mogul, a high altitude balloon checking for radiation from Soviet atomic bombs.

Fourth, the Channel 4 hoax. The curiously humanoid shape of the aliens under the knife chimed with a line from Thomas Aquinas: 'Angels need an assumed body, not for themselves, but on our account.'

Anatomist Paul O'Higgins of University College, London, who has seen the film, says the aliens 'have our anatomy, plus a collection of relatively common anatomical anomalies: the six digits, the enlarged brain case which you get with hydrocephalia, distended abdomen, lack of umbilicus, membranes over the eyes — easy to do with plasticine. The chance that aliens would look like us by accident are remote.'

The writer Phillip Knightley famously objected, prior to its publication, to the Hitler Diaries hoax played on the *Sunday Times*. Knightley's memo is a classic of journalistic rigour. He asked: 'How thoroughly has the vendor explained where the diaries have been all these years and why they have surfaced now... The crux of the matter is that secrecy and speed work for the con man.'

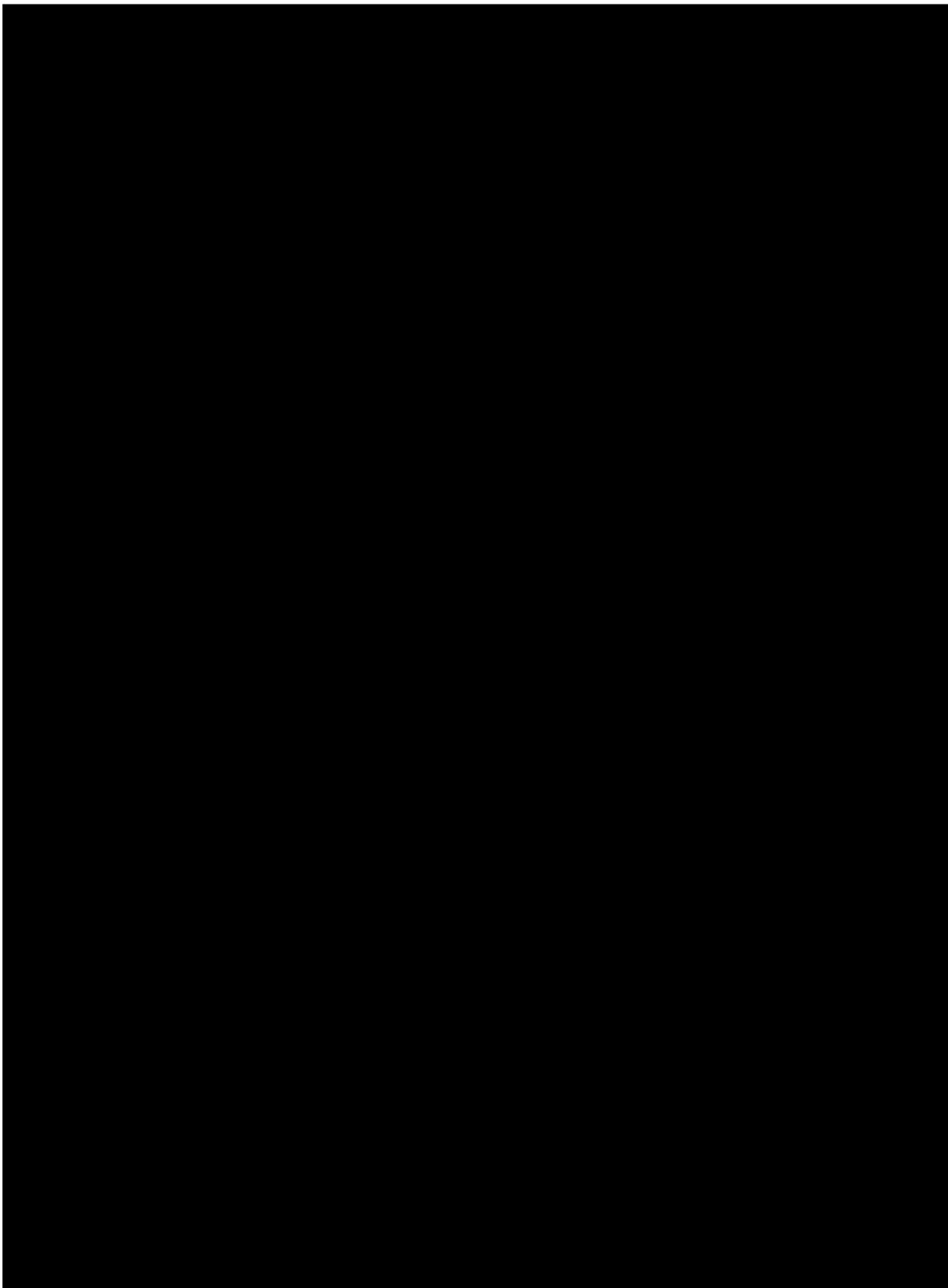
Thus far, Channel 4 has not released any verifiable detail on the origins of the film — bad scepticism but great showbiz. The *Observer* bet Channel 4 showman-in-chief Michael Grade a case of antipodean, H-bomb-free champagne the Roswell film will be proved to be a hoax before the year is out.

P. 20/4

Head of Sec(AS)

THE POPE BOOK - VERSION 2

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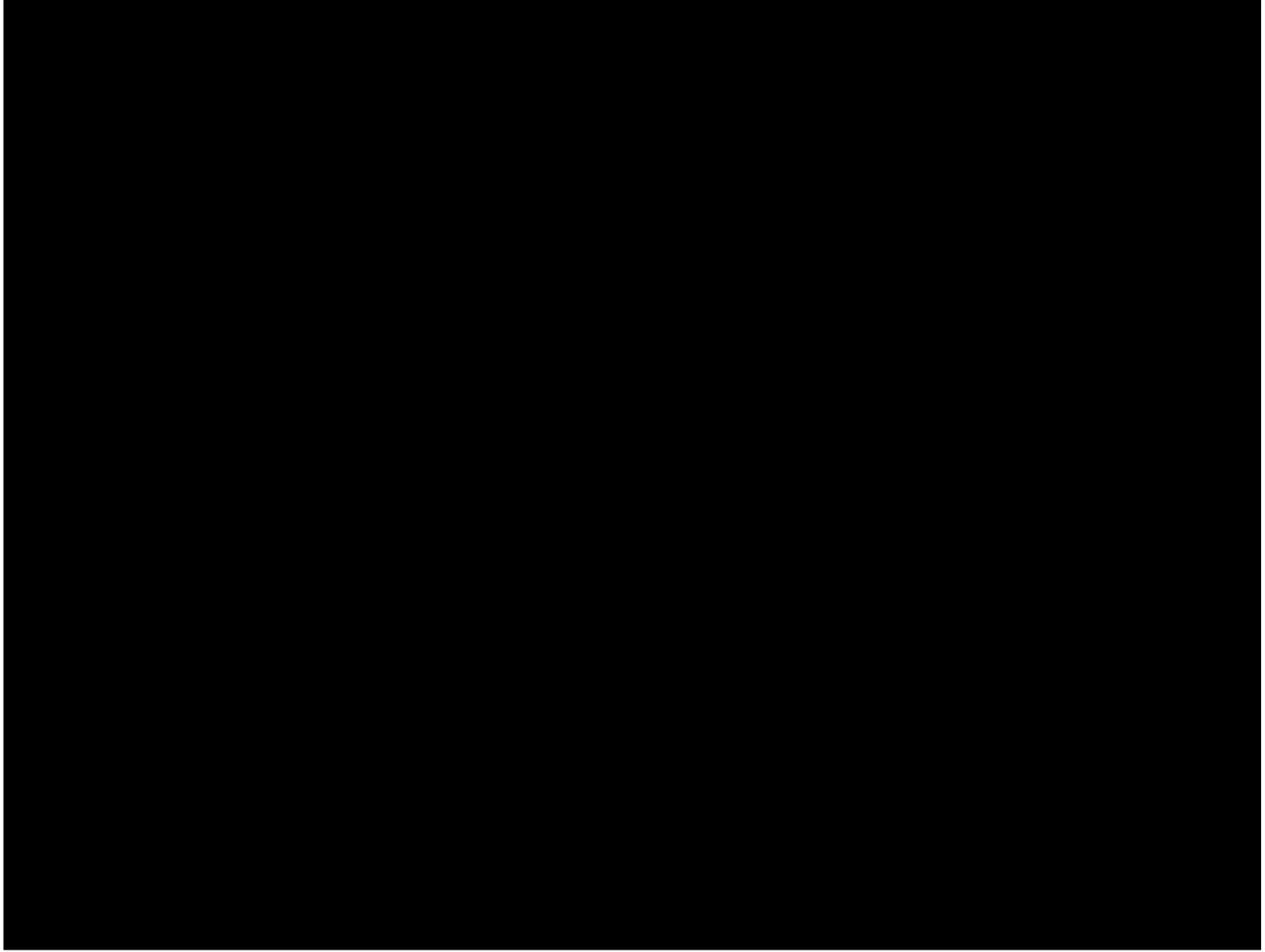


Detailed comments, as promised.

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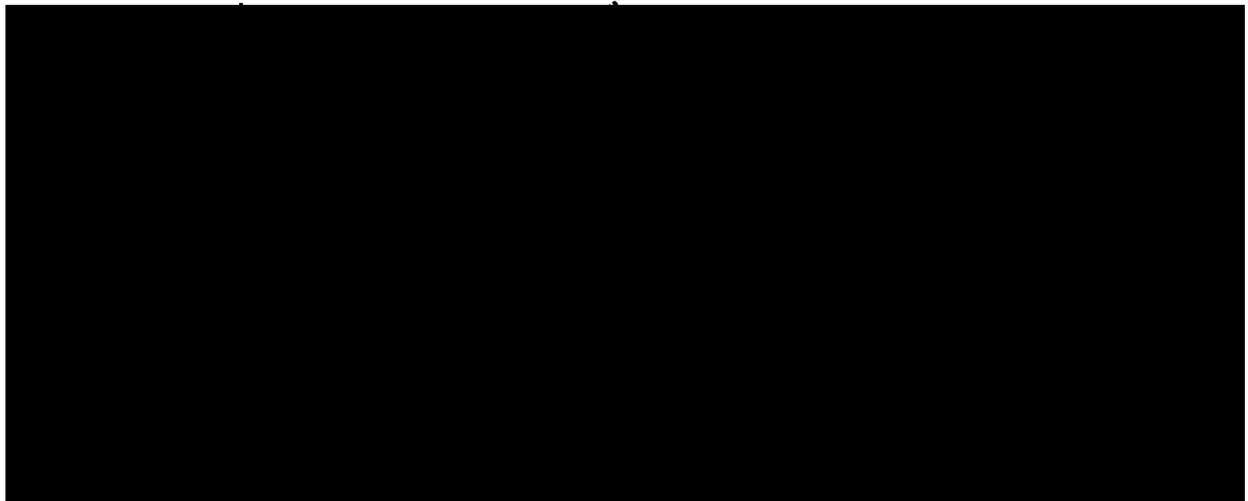
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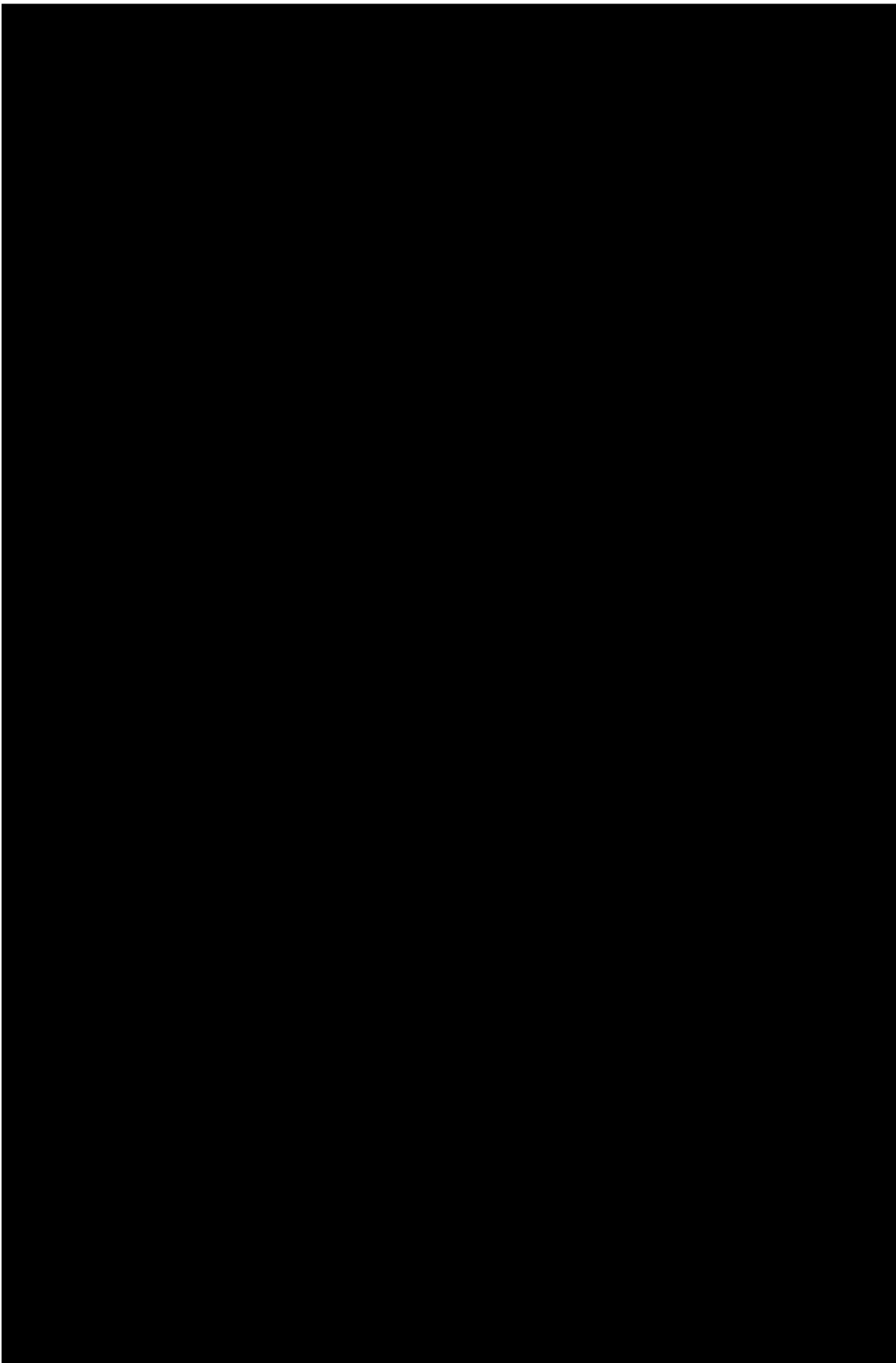
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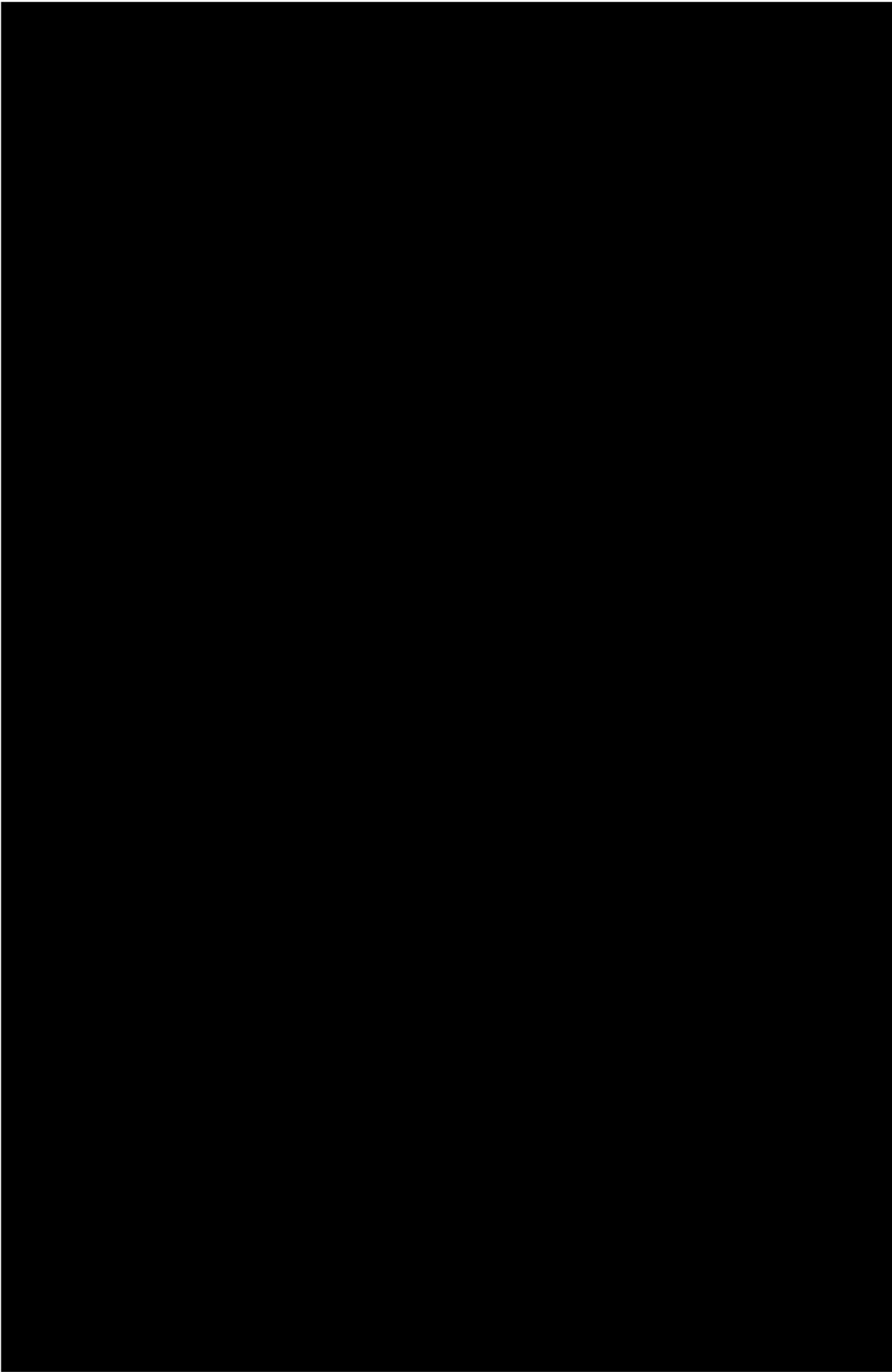


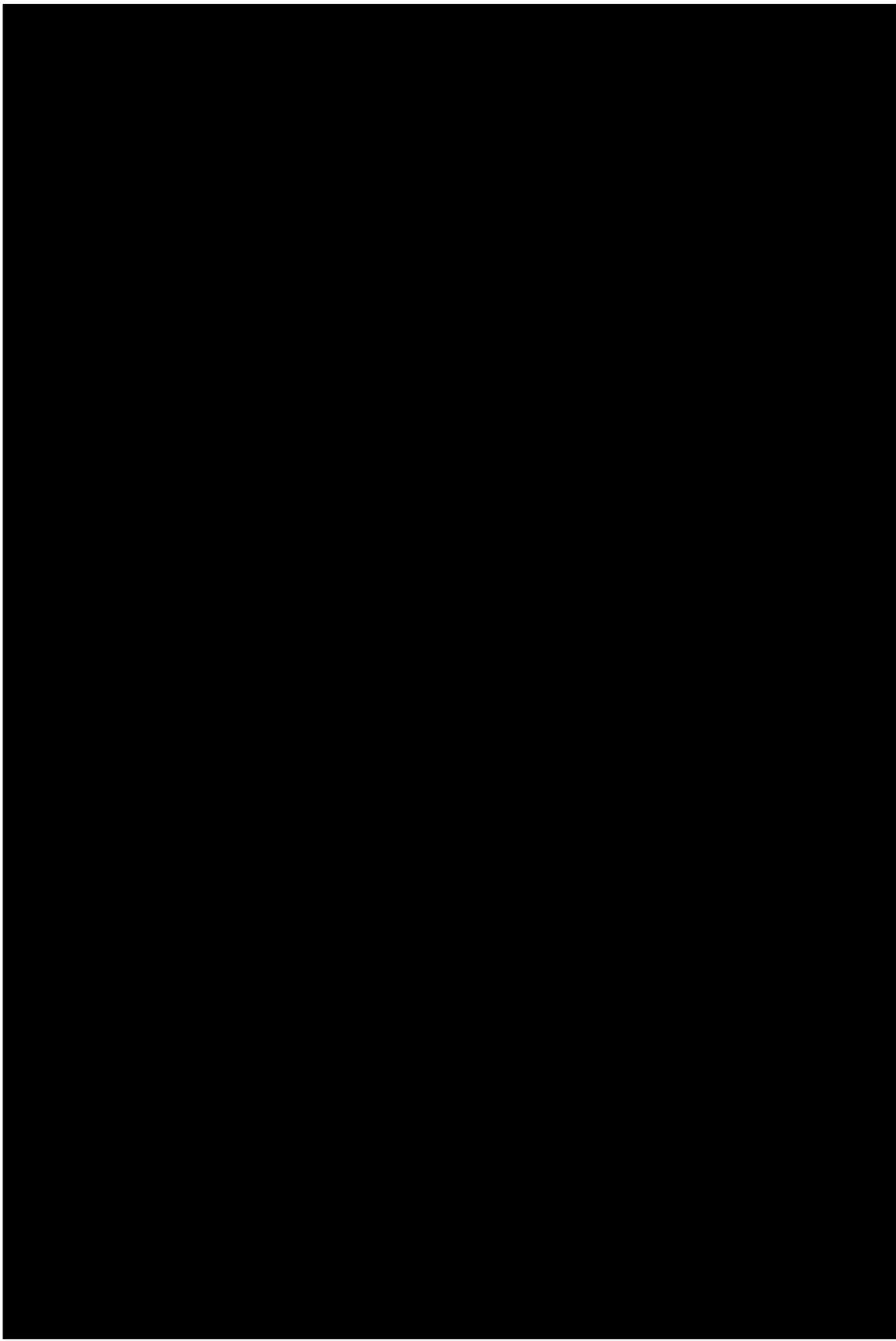
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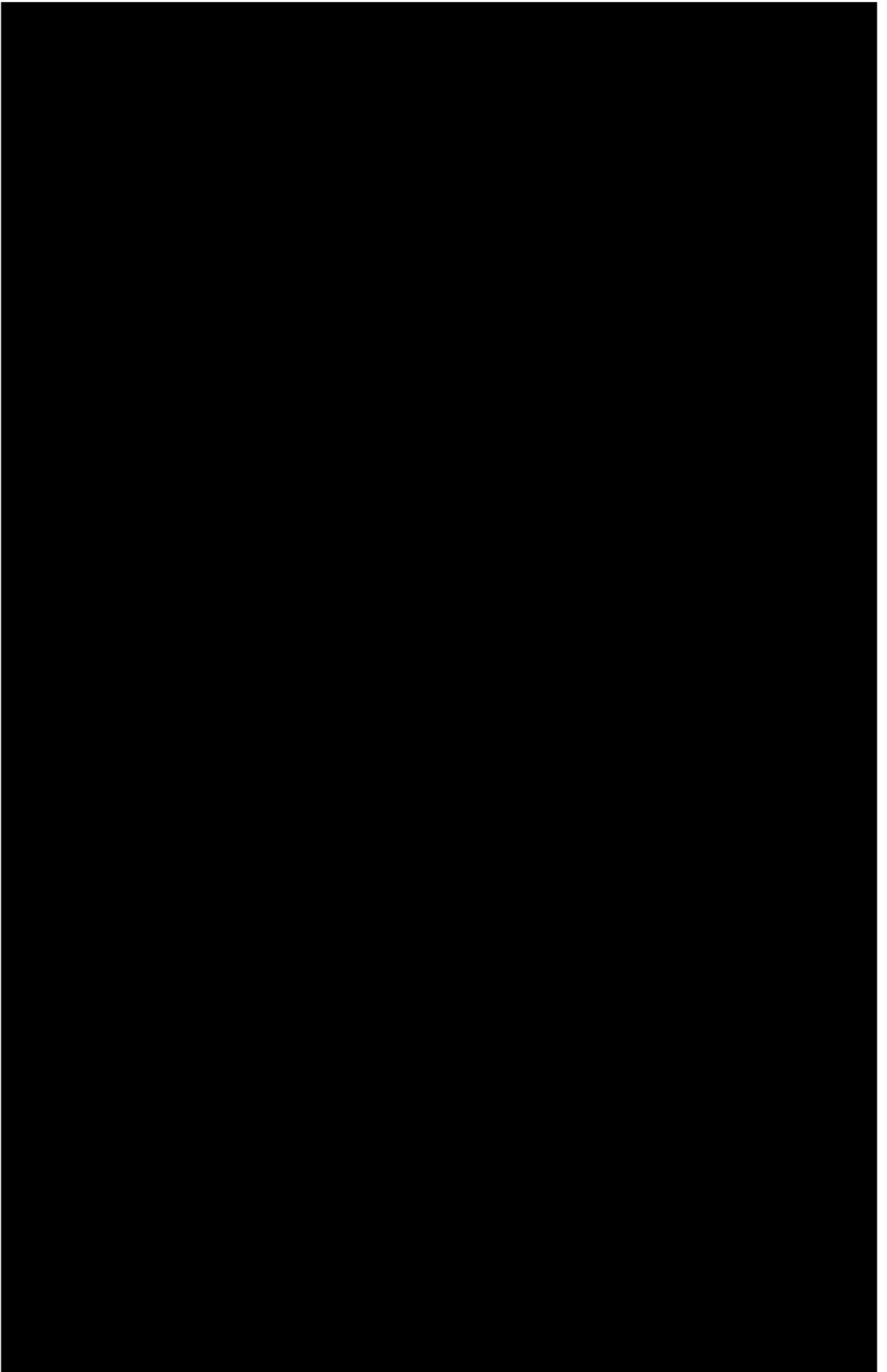
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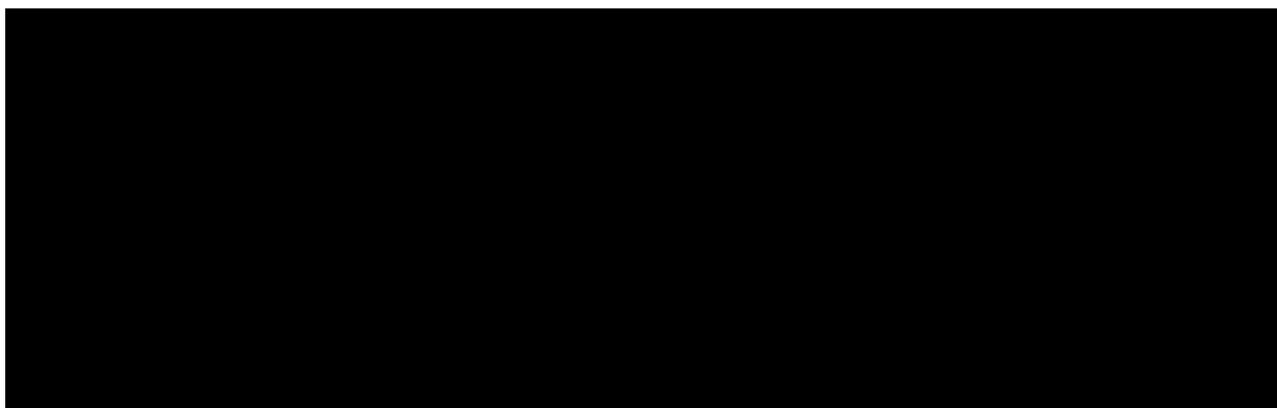




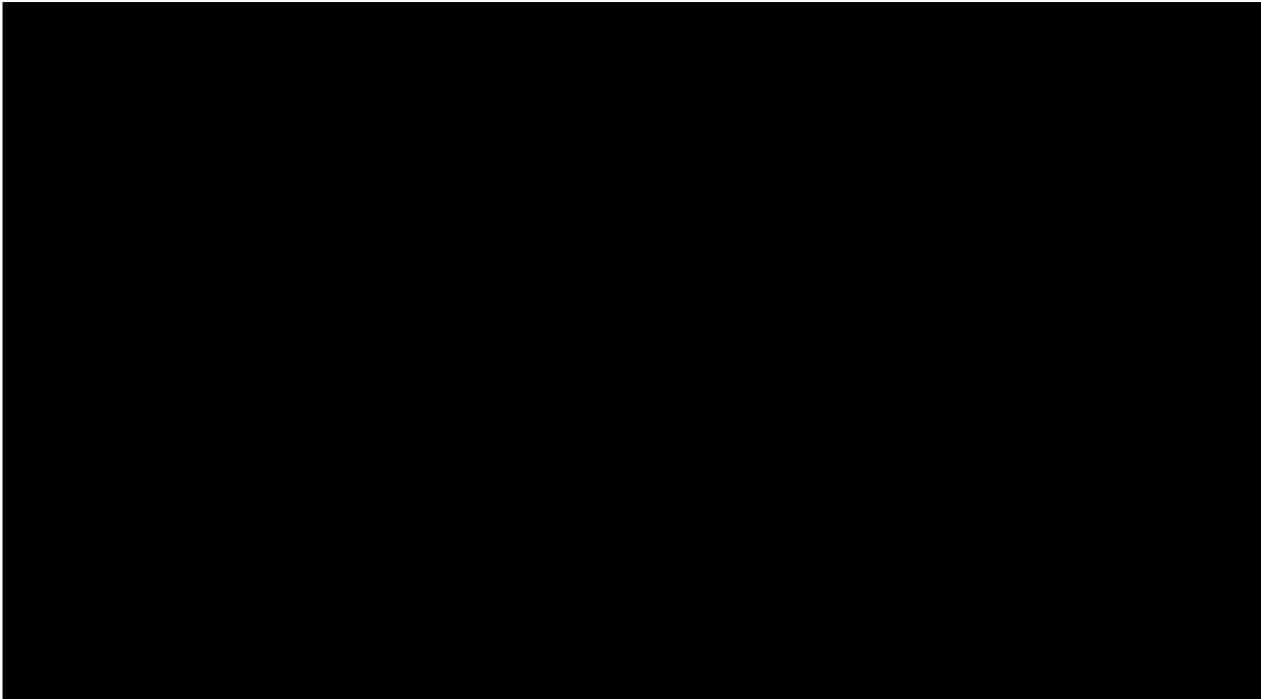


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To : DPO(RAF)  
Cc :

Ref : 135  
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Priority: Normal                      View Acknowledge [\*]                      Attachments [1]  
Reply Request    [ ]              Delivery Acknowledge [ ]                      page 1

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Auth by :

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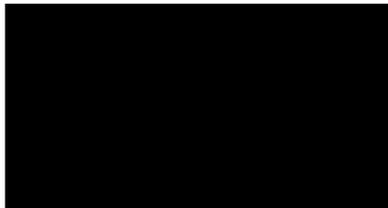
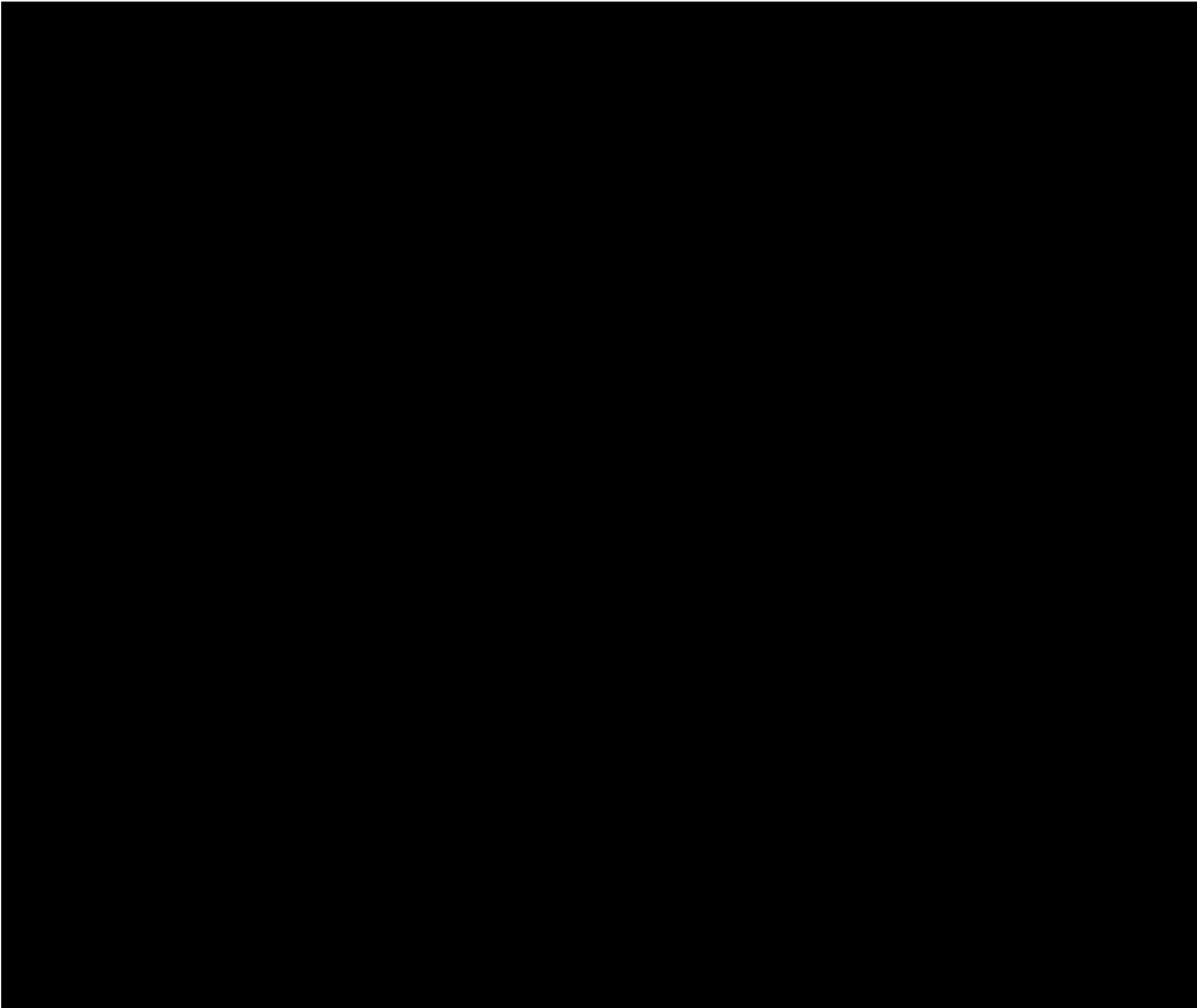
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29 June 1995

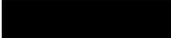
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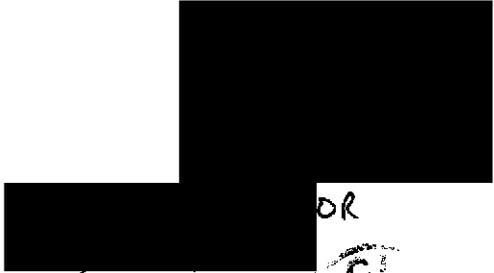
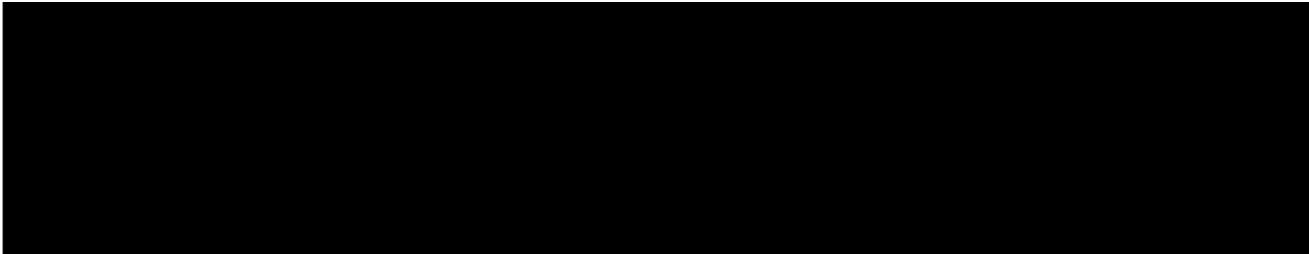
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\* By CHOTS

UFO BOOK - CLEARANCE FOR PUBLICATION

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- A. PCB(Air)3409 dated 4 Apr 95
- B. D/NP/Pers dated 1 May 95

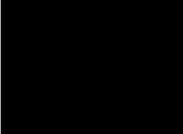


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[Signed]

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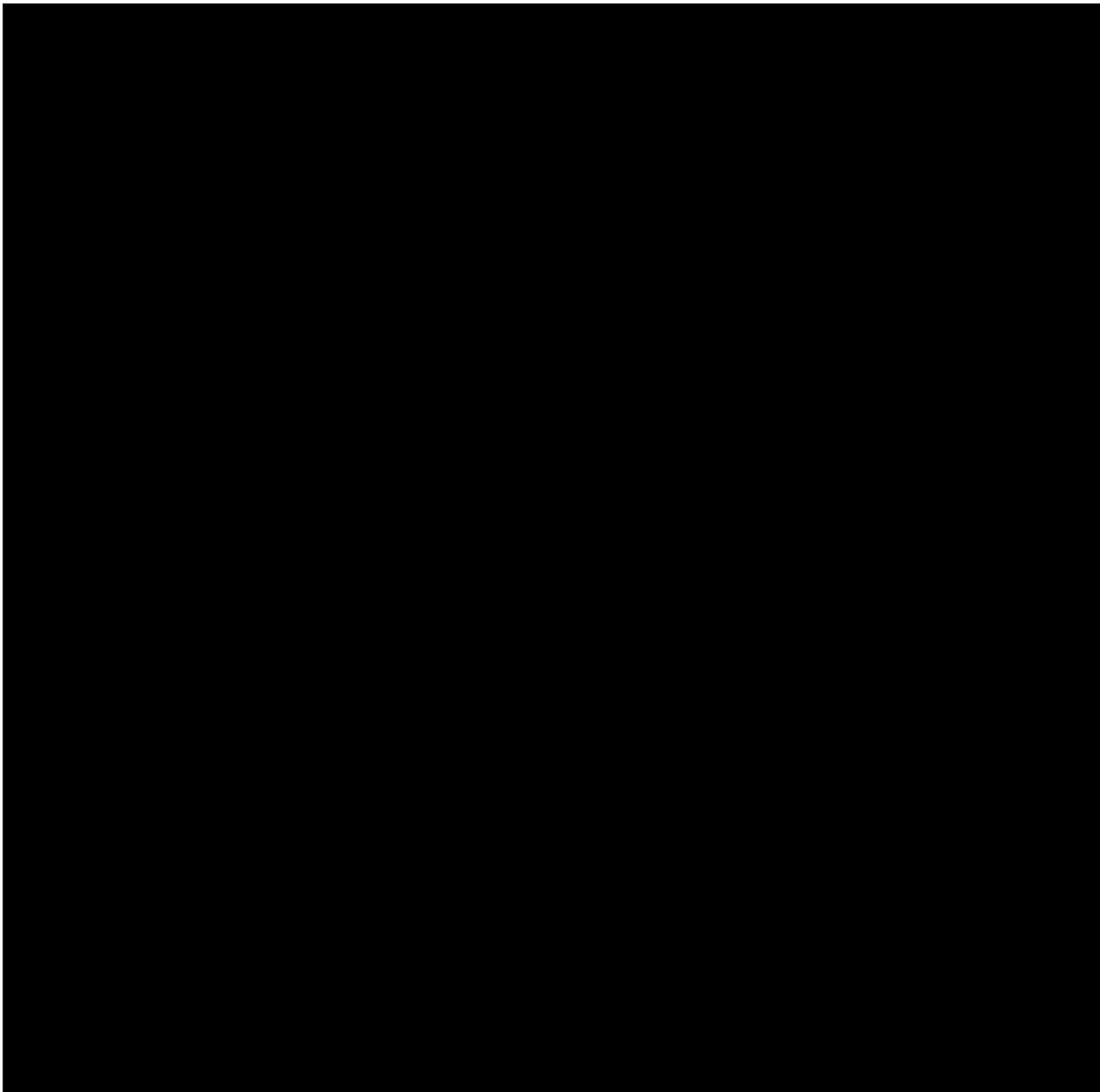
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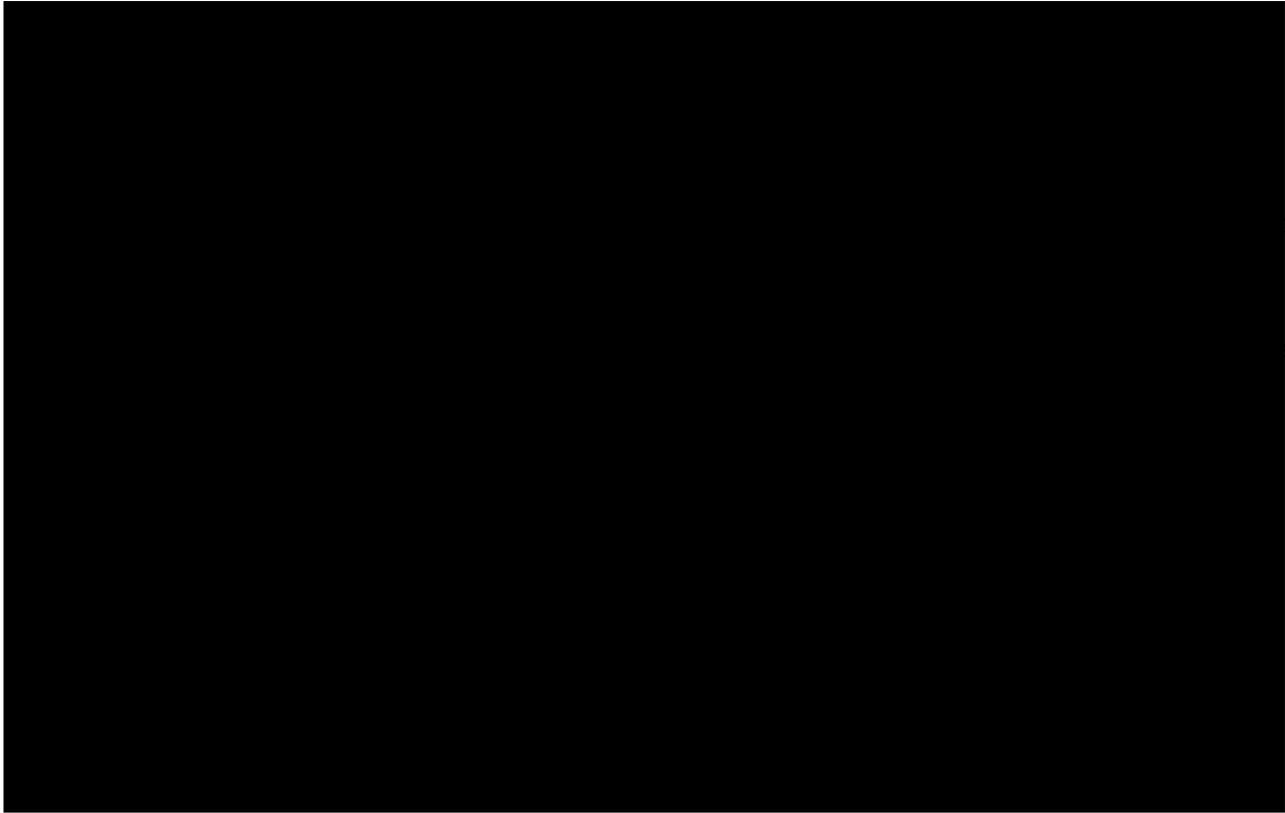


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It seems that we  
will have another  
drafted manuscript  
to read.

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[Signed]

N G POPE  
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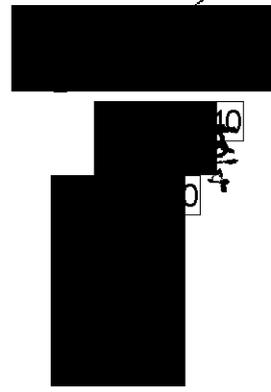
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04 Apr 95

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Reference:

A. D/Sec(AS)/20/4(MF81/95) dated 27 Mar 95



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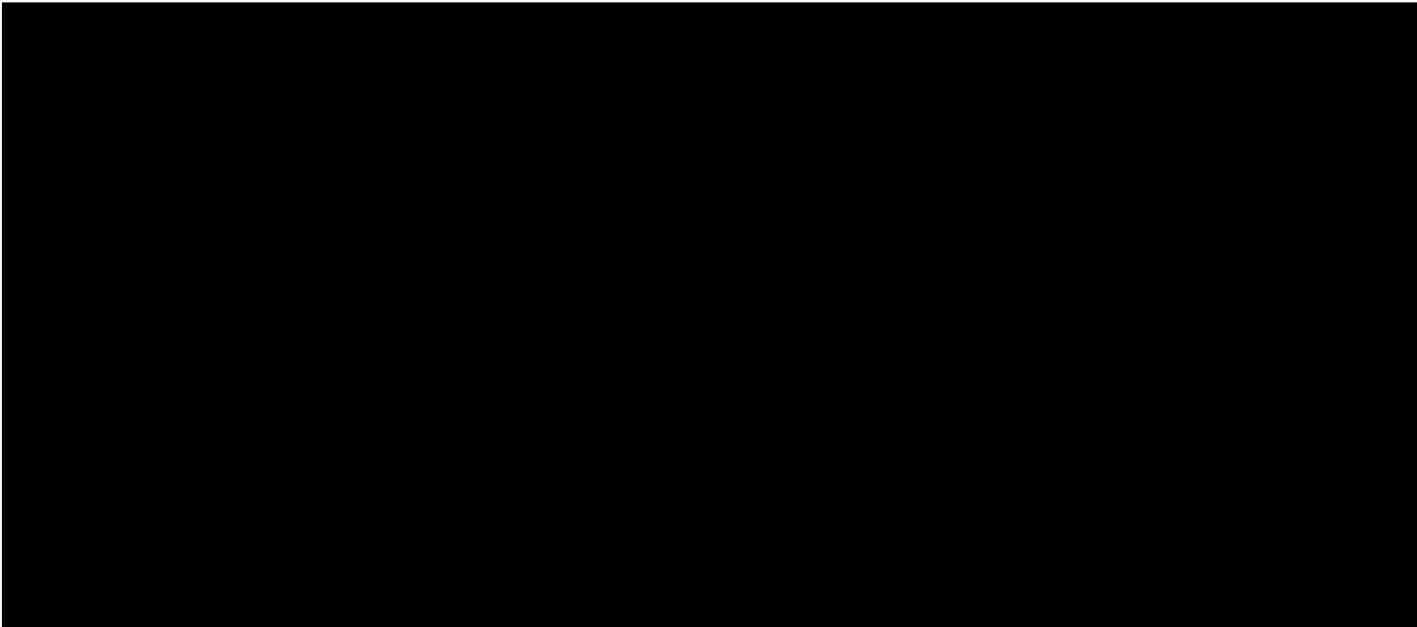
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Publications Clearance Branch (Air), Rm 308  
3-5, Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HW

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(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000  
(Fax) [REDACTED]

Mr N G Pope  
GF(Pol)1b  
Room 0262  
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Our reference  
PCB(Air)3409  
Date  
04 April 1995

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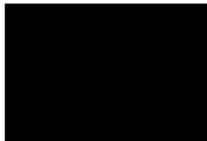
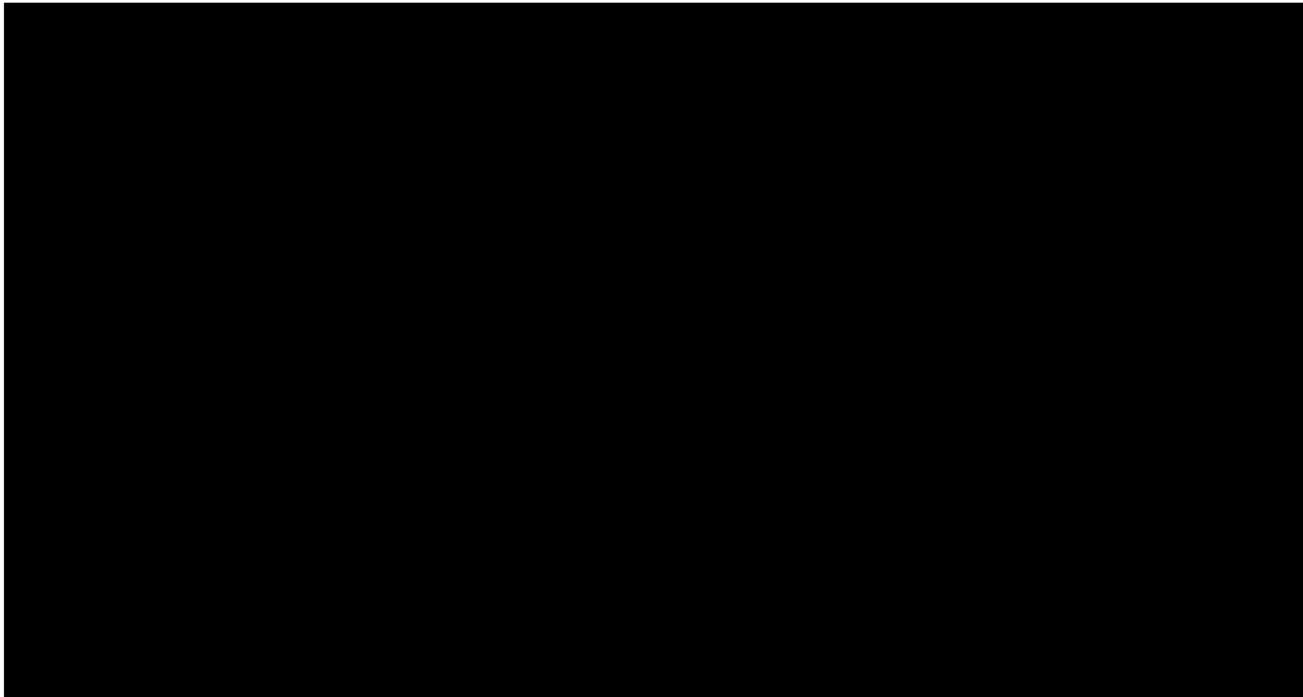
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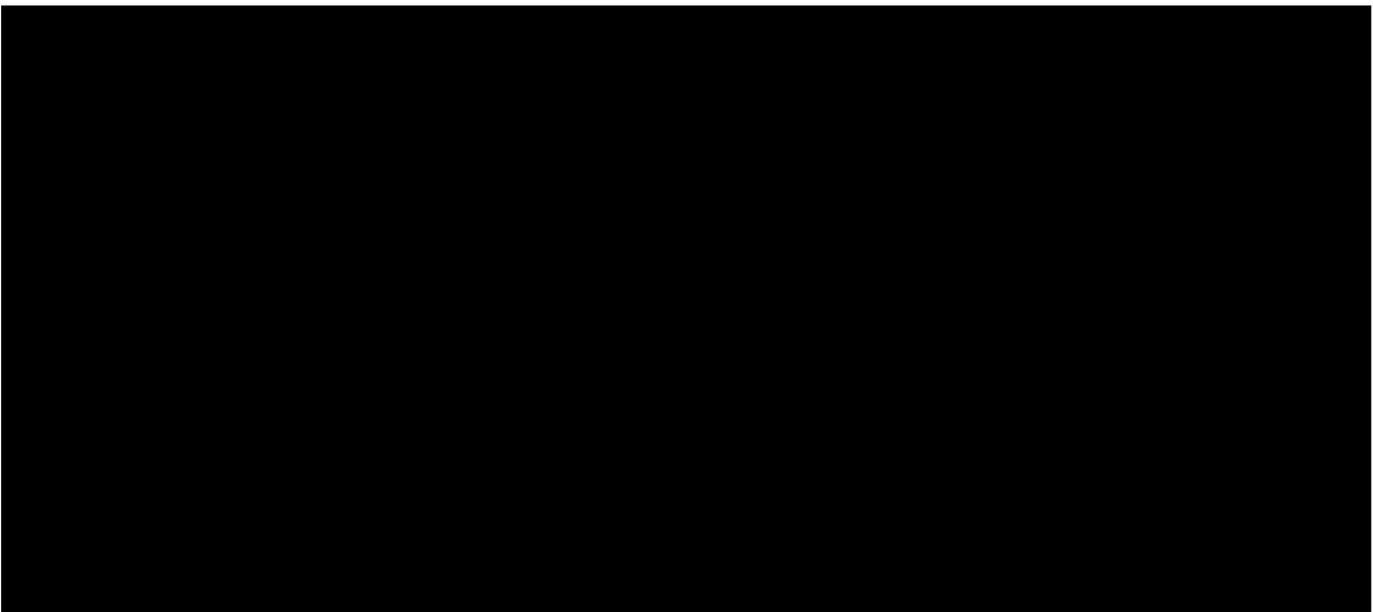


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23

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
03/04/95	AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)	PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE - MR POPE	[ ]

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 To : SEC(AS)2A (1)  
 Cc :  
 Ref : 105  
 From : AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
 Subject : PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE - MR POPE

Text : [REDACTED]

*Yes Agree*

[REDACTED]

Priority: Normal View Acknowledge [ ] Attachments [1]  
 Reply Request [ ] Codes [.....]

[REDACTED]

*I agree with your comments.*

*Ha Sec(AS)*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*Please inform*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Publications Clearance Branch (Air), Rm 308

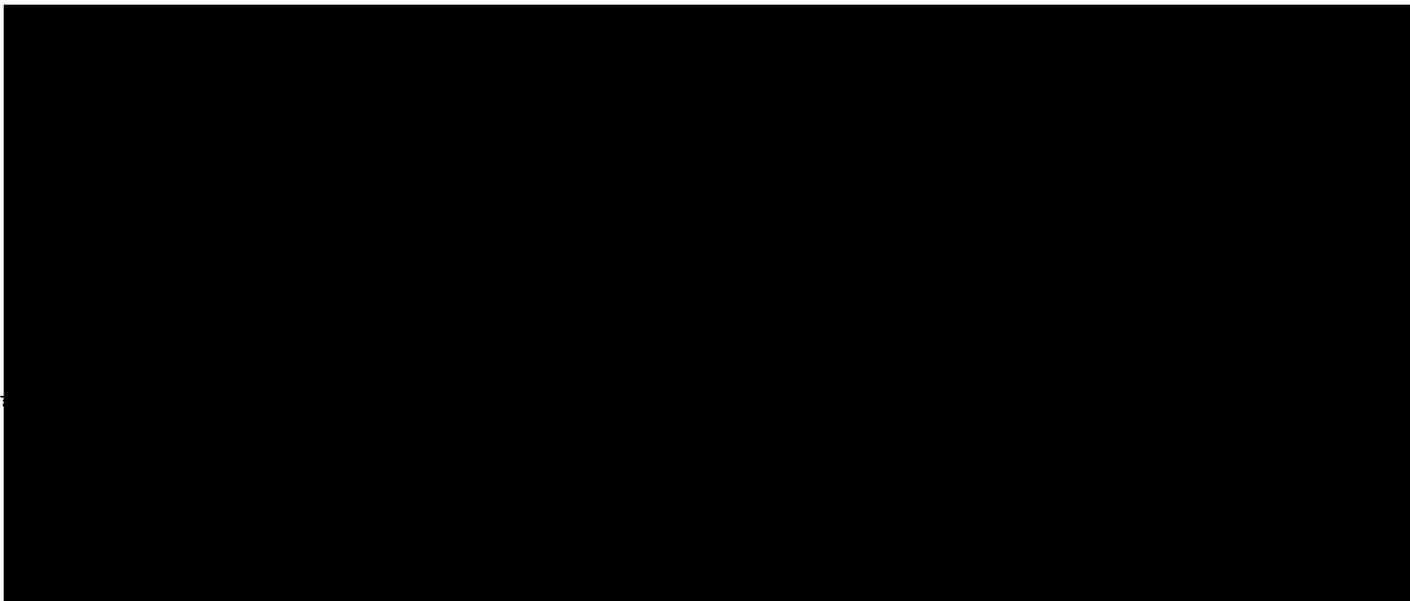


Mr N G Pope  
GF(Pol)1b  
Room 0262  
MAIN BUILDING

PCB(Air)3409

03 April 1995

CLEARANCE FOR PUBLICATION - "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS - OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO THE UFO PHENOMENON"



*As such*



PCB(Air)

Copy to:  
Head of Sec(AS)  
Head of CM(IR&C)7  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD.Sy

[REDACTED] 40  
[REDACTED] 1.40  
[REDACTED] 7

22

LOOSE MINUTE

D/CM(IR&C)1/9/1

3. Mar 95

PCB(Air)

Copy to:  
Head of Sec(AS)  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD Sy

N G POPE - PUBLICATION CLEARANCE

References:

- A. D/Sec(AS)/20/4 (MF80/95) dated 27 March 95
- B. D/Sec(AS)/20/4 (MF81/95) dated 27 March 95

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
CM/IR&C)7  
NH357 [REDACTED]

*file copies*

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/20/4(MF81/95)

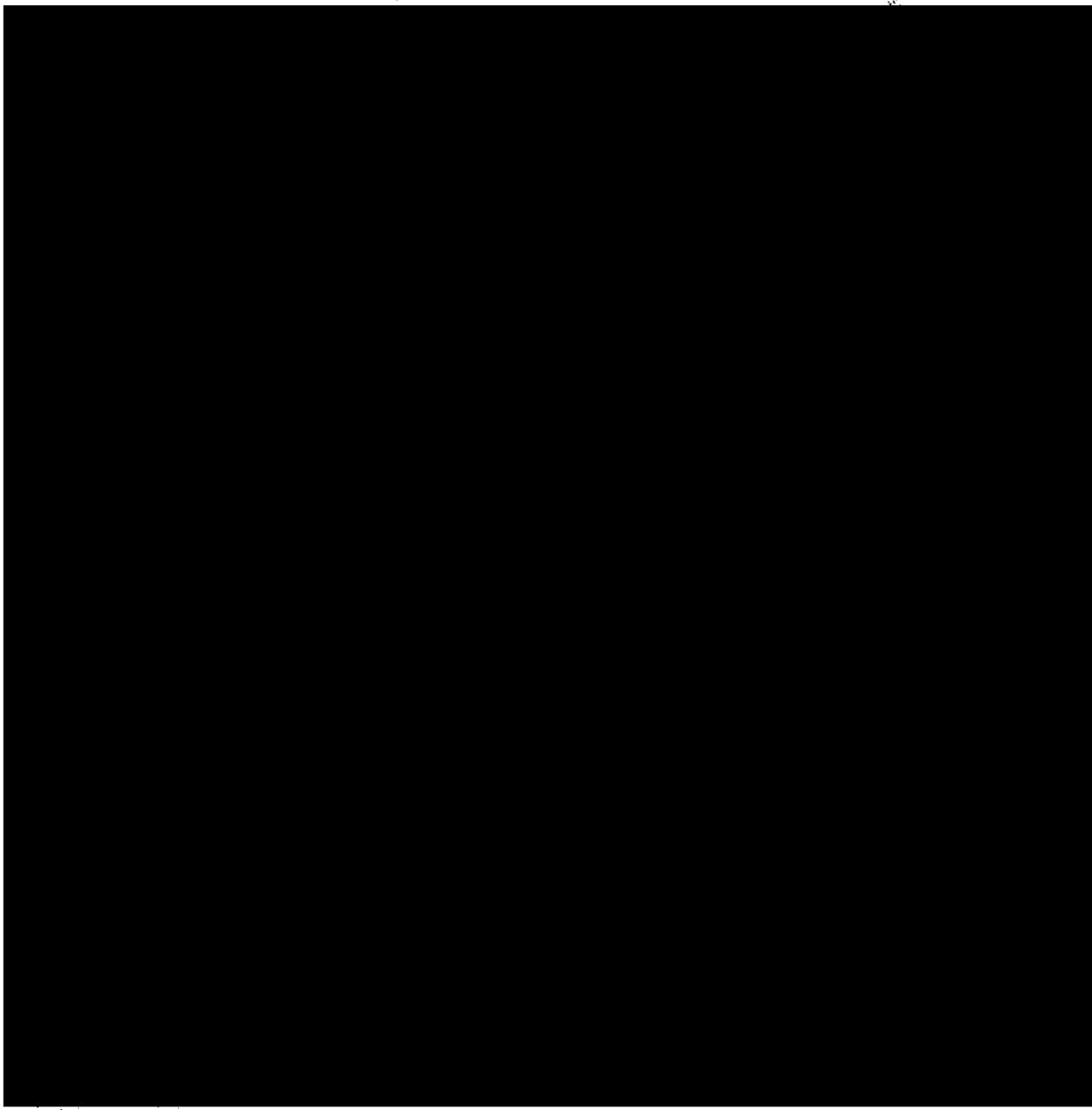
27 March 95

PCB(Air)

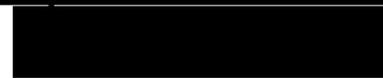
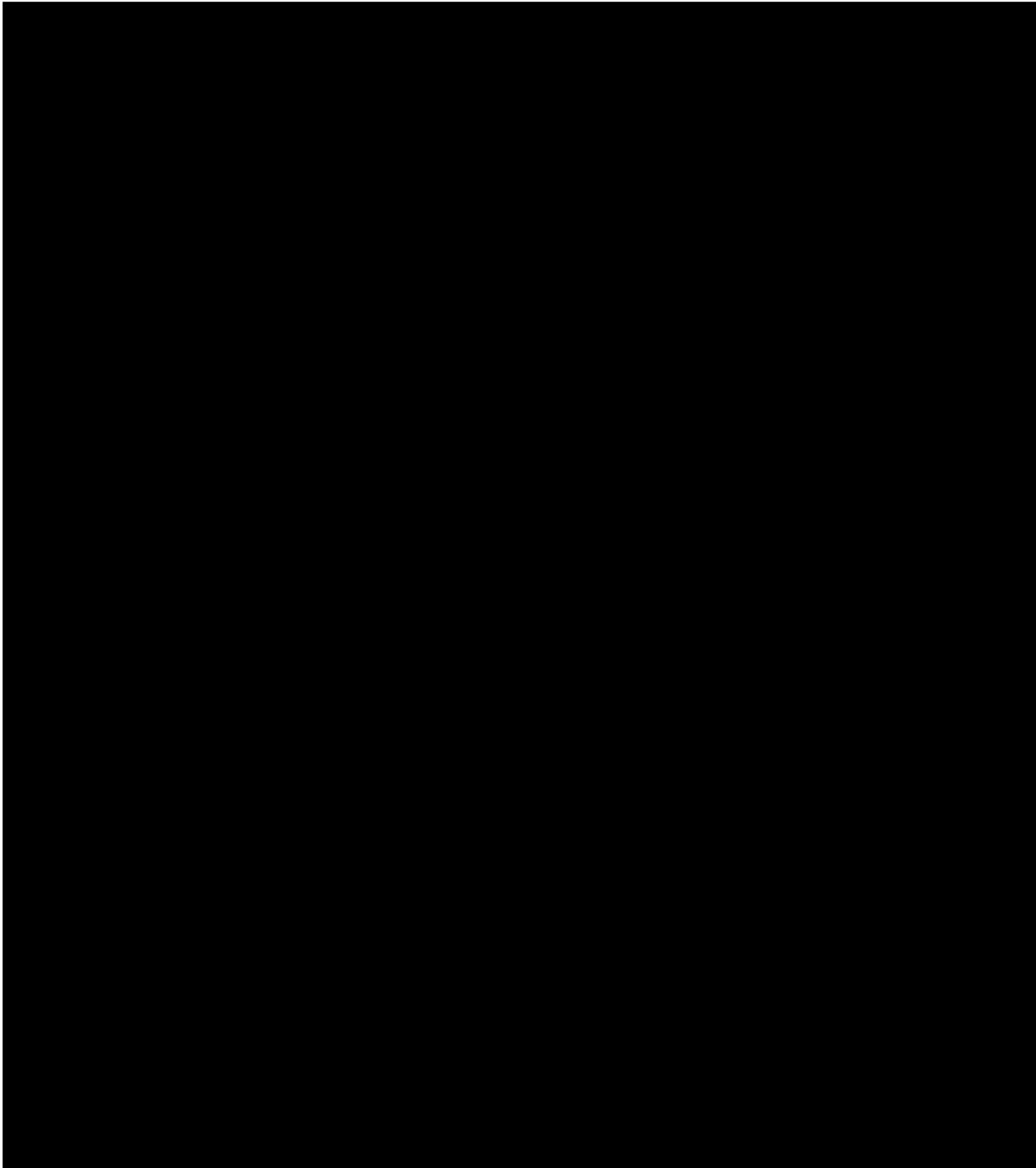
Copy to:  
Head of CM(IR&C)  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD Sy

21

N G POPE - PUBLICATION CLEARANCE



**RESTRICTED**  
**STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE**  
**UNCLASSIFIED**



Head of Sec(AS)  
MB7257

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE**  
**RESTRICTED**

**RESTRICTED  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**UNCLASSIFIED**



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/20/4(MF80/95)

27 March 95

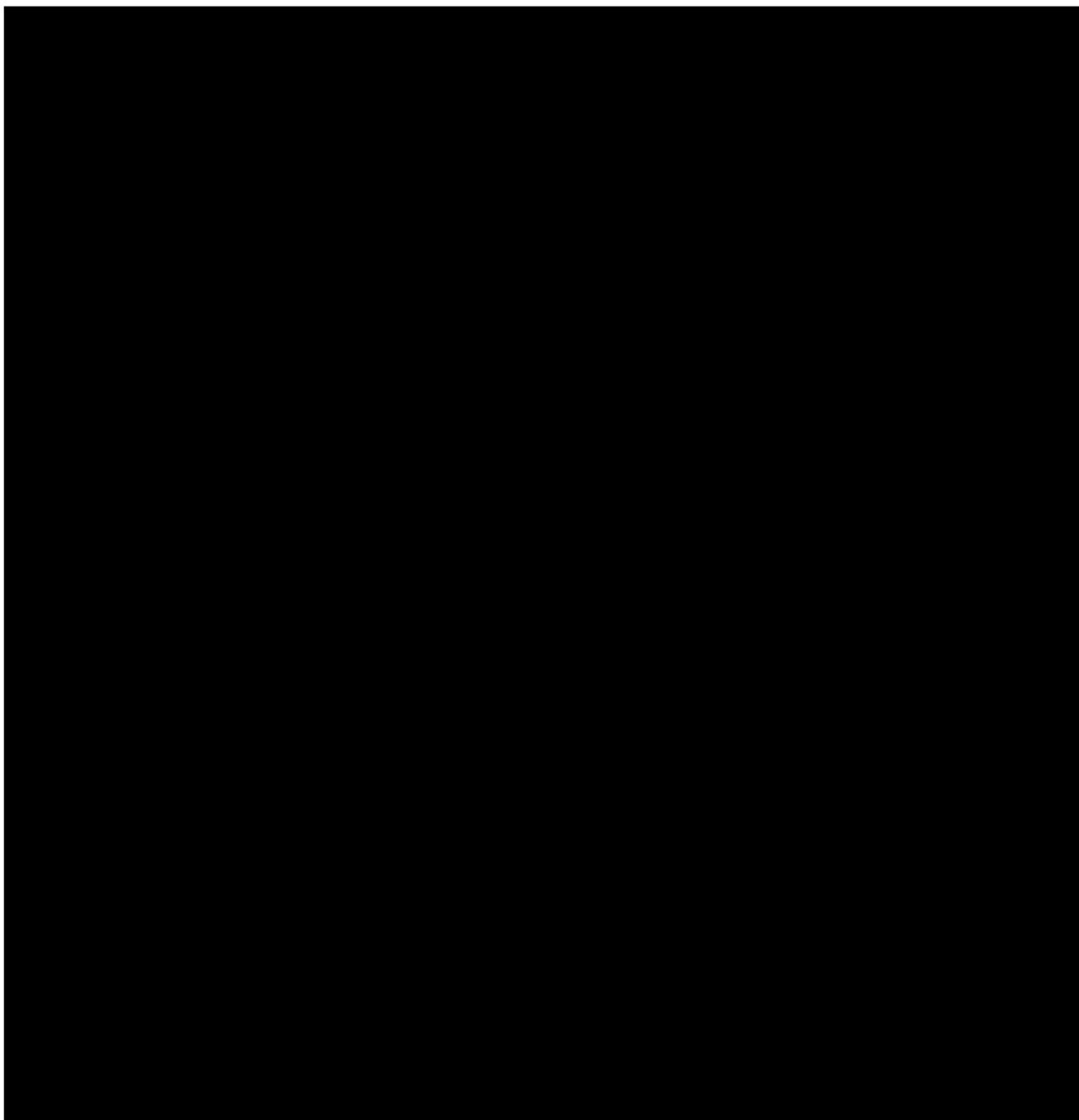
Head of CM(IR&C)

Head of CM(A)2

Head of GF(Pol)

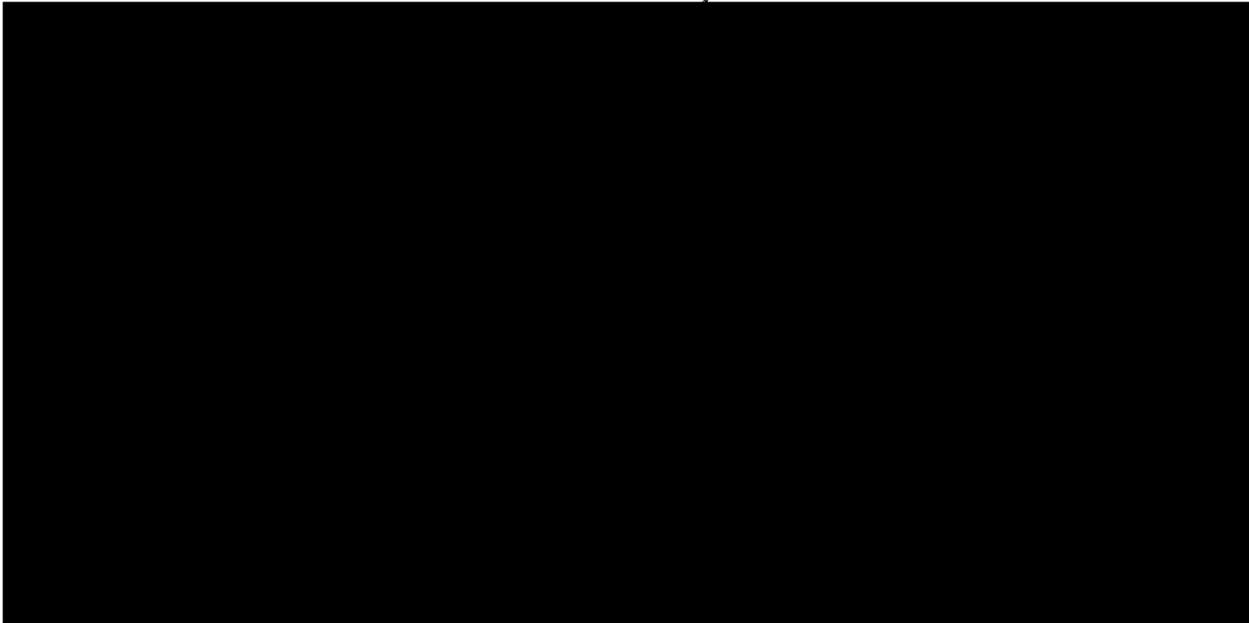
D MOD Sy

**MR N G POPE: PUBLICATION CLEARANCE**



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STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
RESTRICTED**

**RESTRICTED**  
**STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE**  
**UNCLASSIFIED**

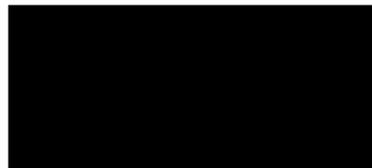
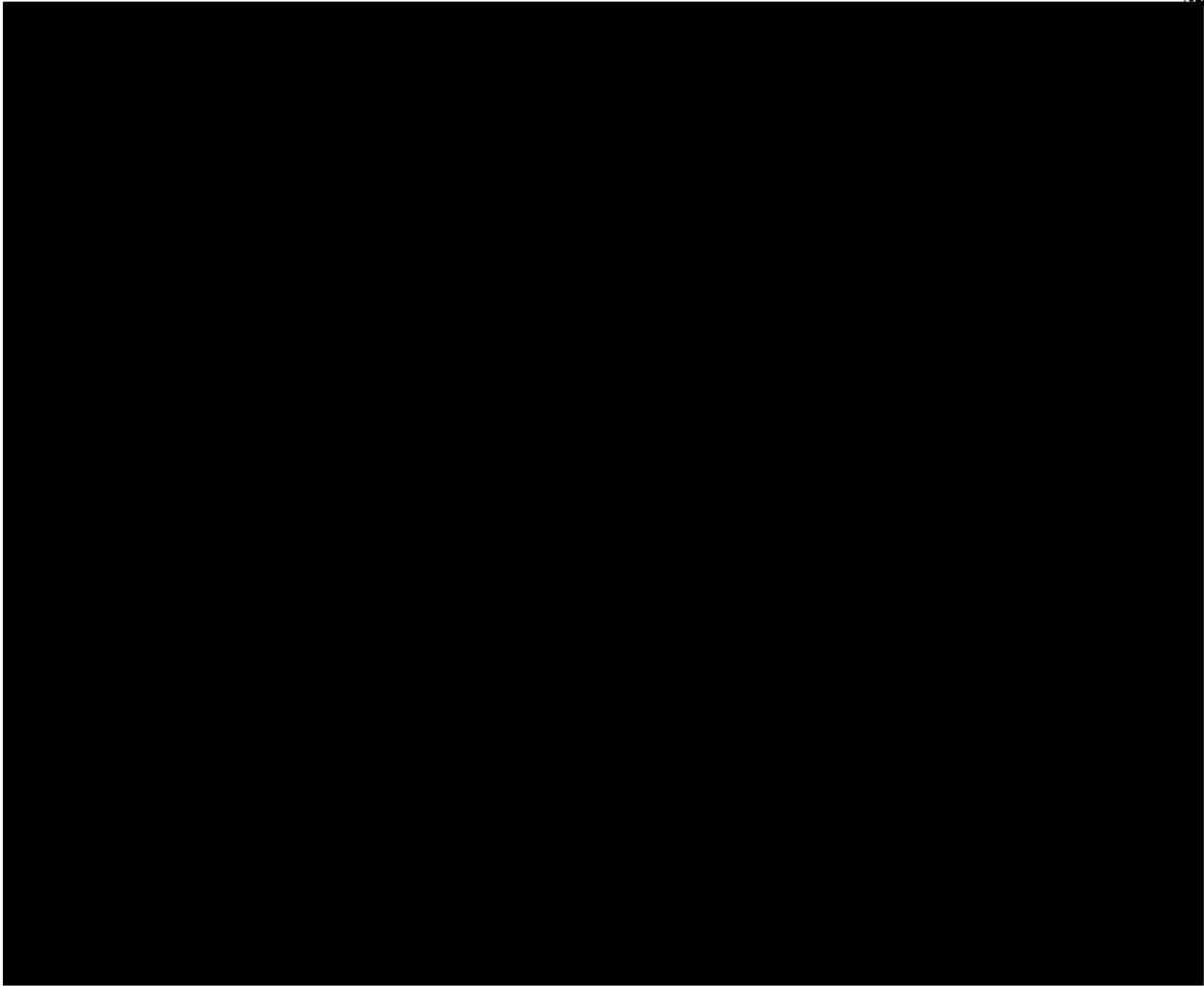


Head of Sec(AS)  
MB7257

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE**  
**RESTRICTED**



Head of Sec(AS)



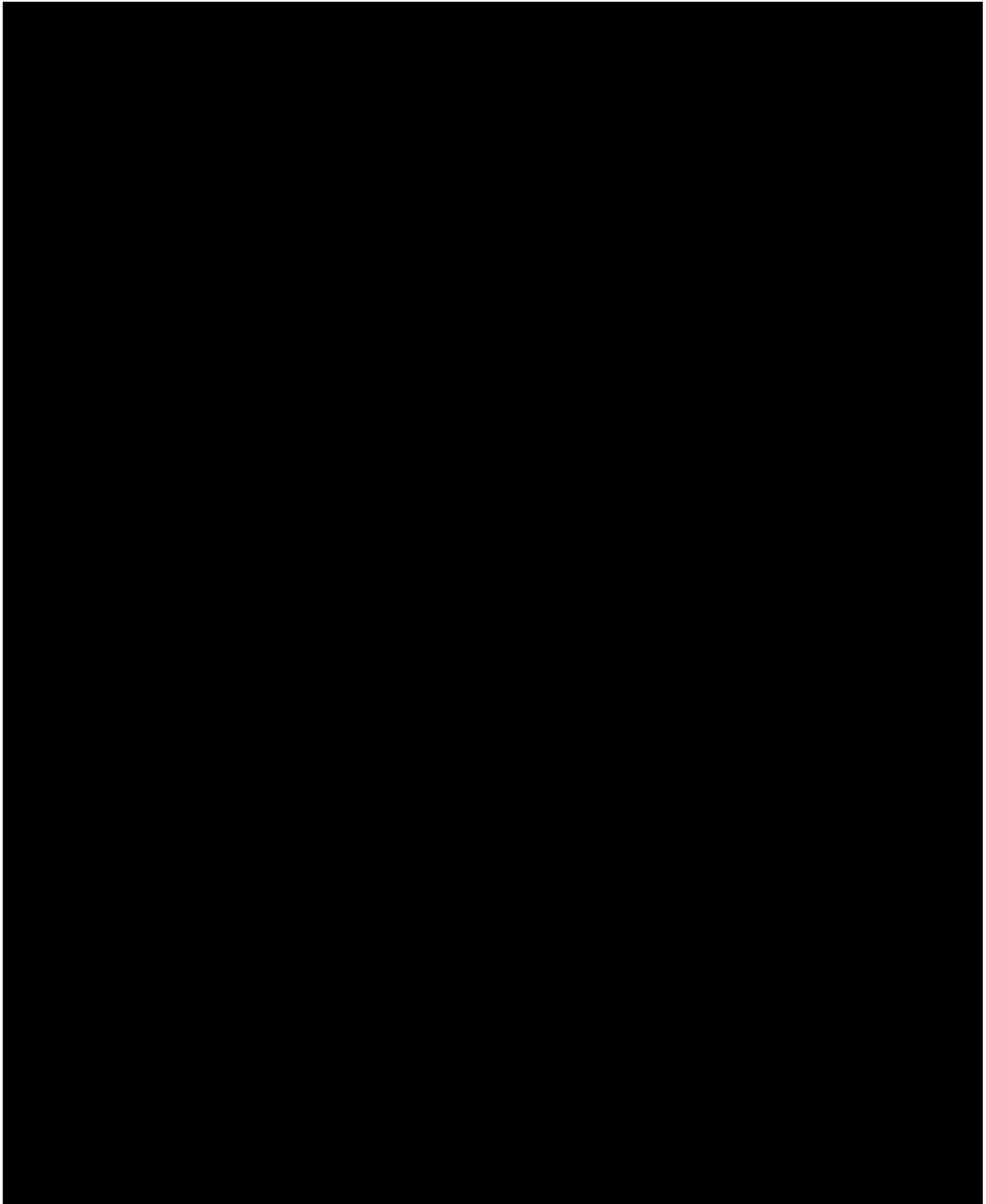
Returned with Thanks.  
I have now minuted.

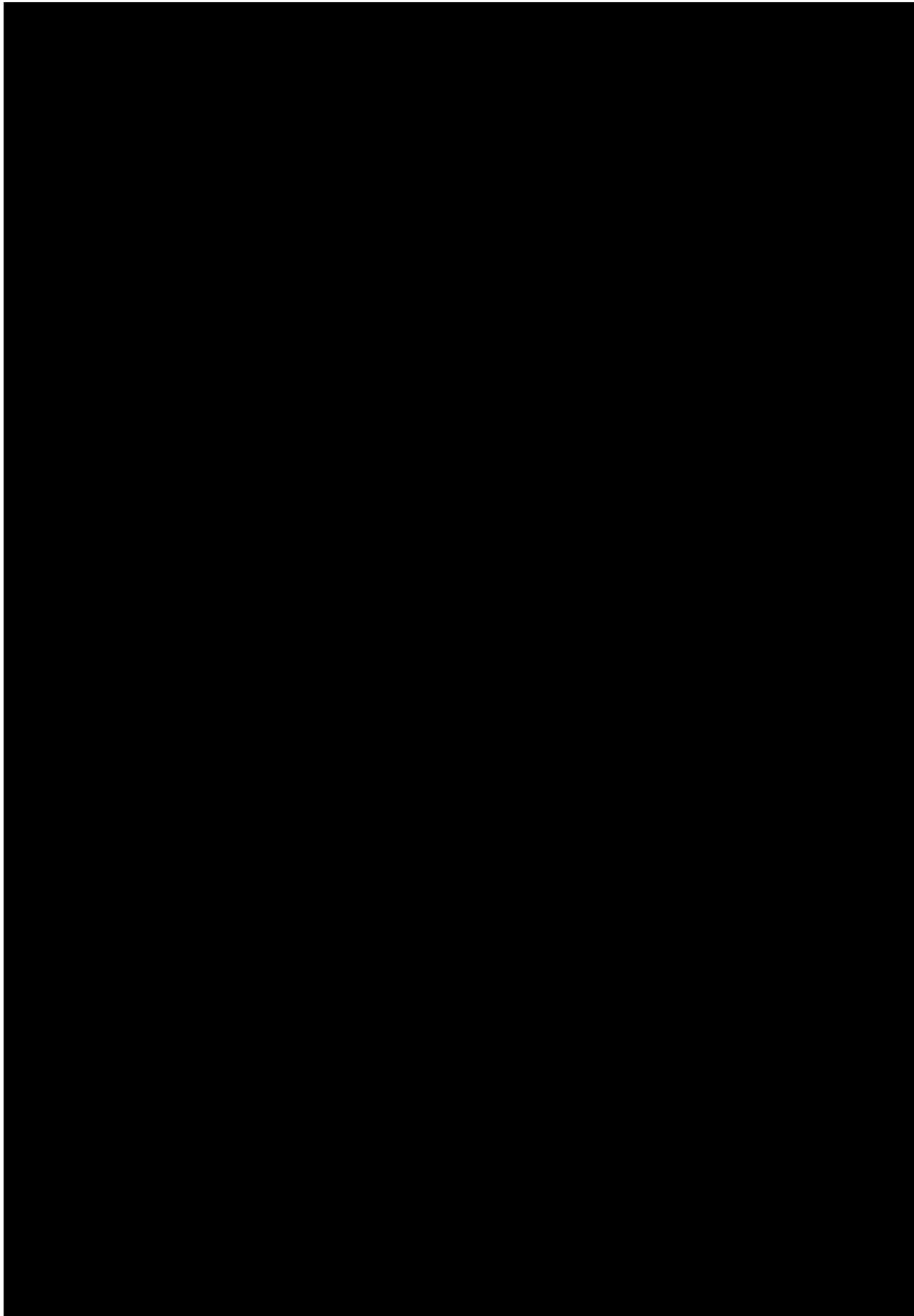
40  
7  
3

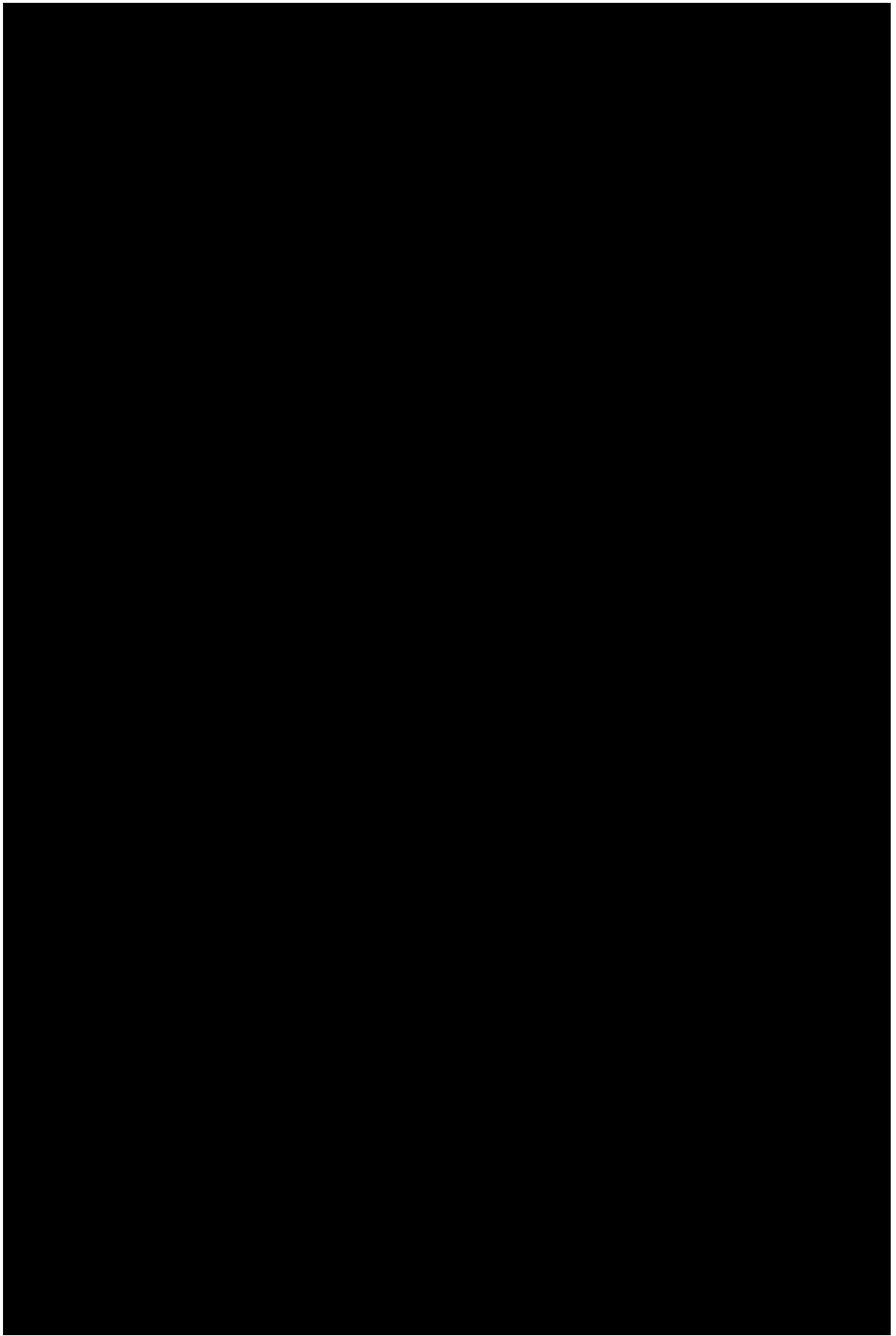
**PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - NG POPE: "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"**

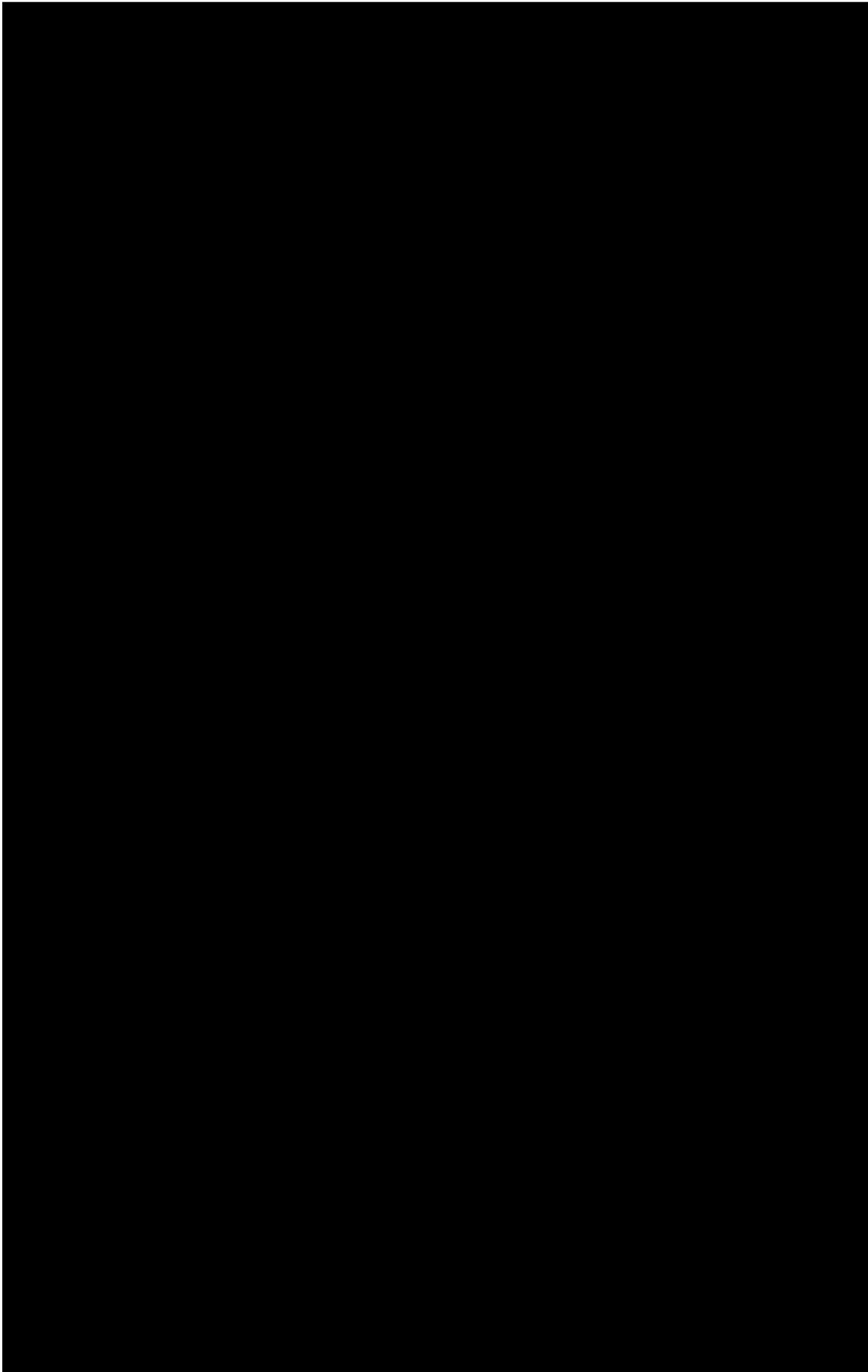
**Detailed Comments**

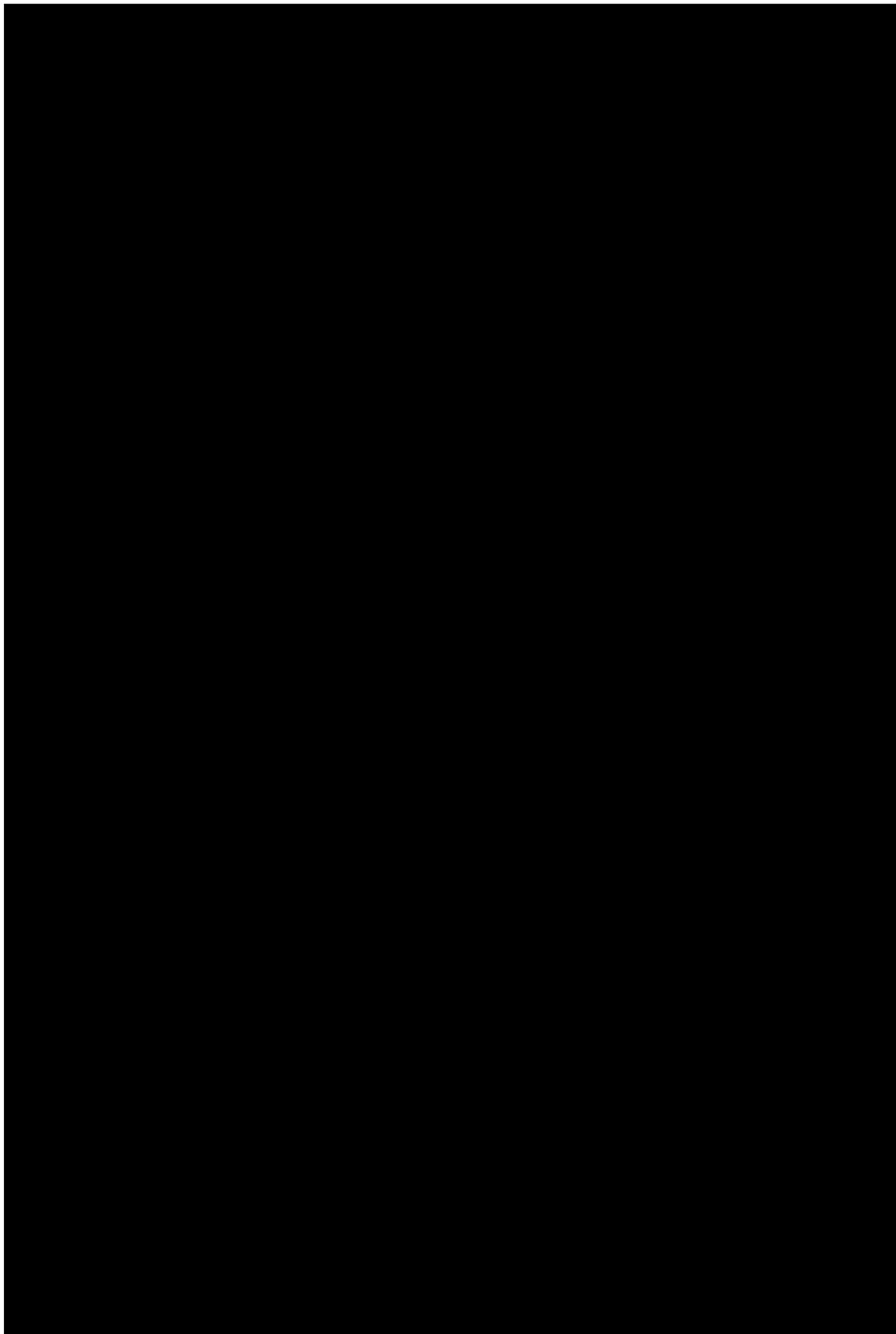
**Introduction**













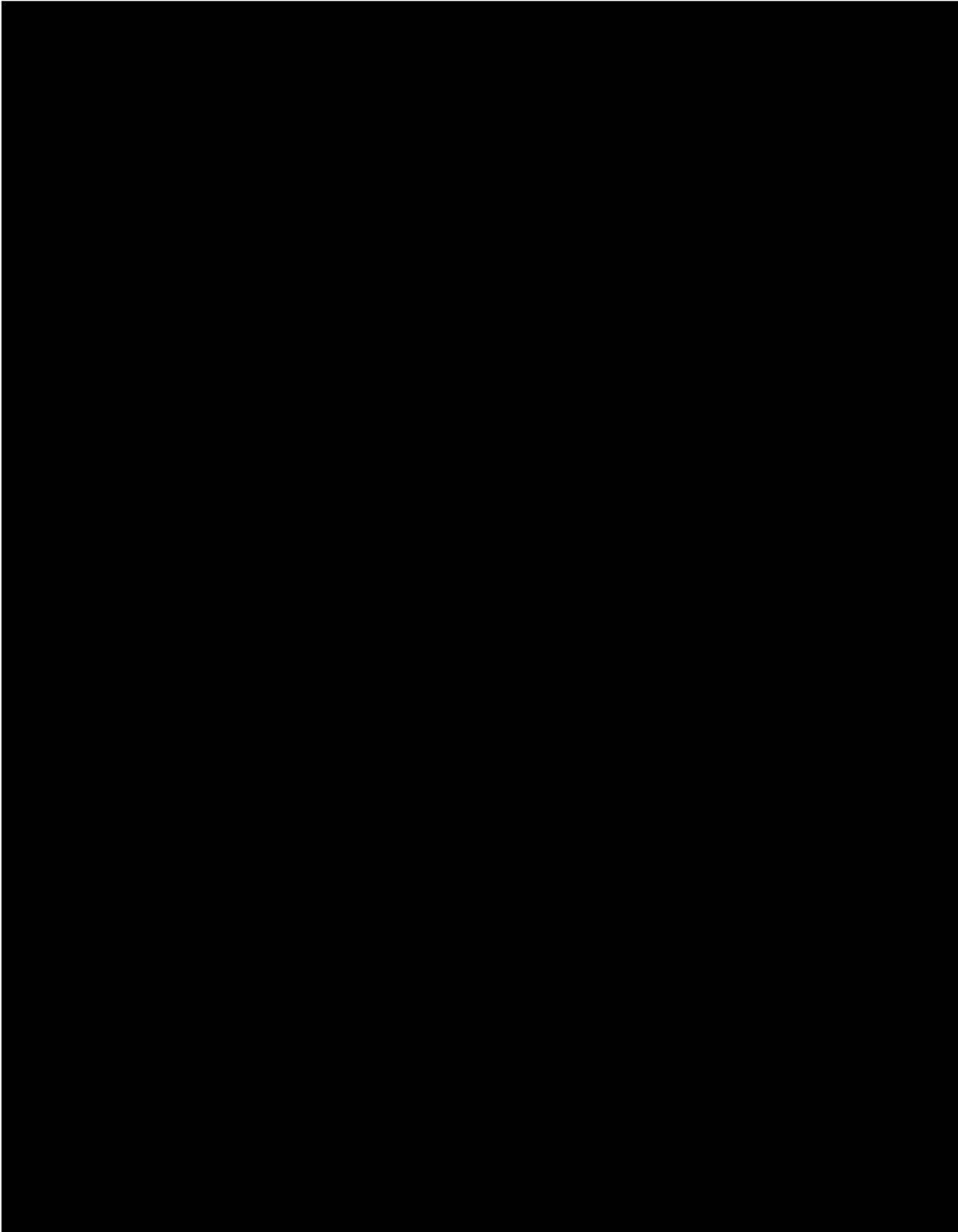


RESTRICTED  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
UNCLASSIFIED

PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - NG POPE: "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"

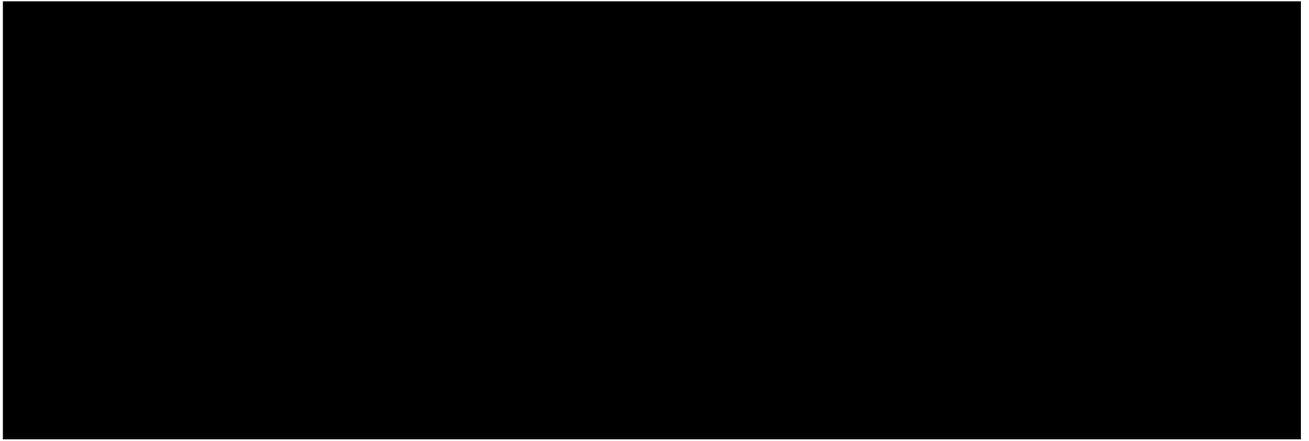
Further detailed comments by Sec(AS)2

Introduction



STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
RESTRICTED  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
RESTRICTED  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE

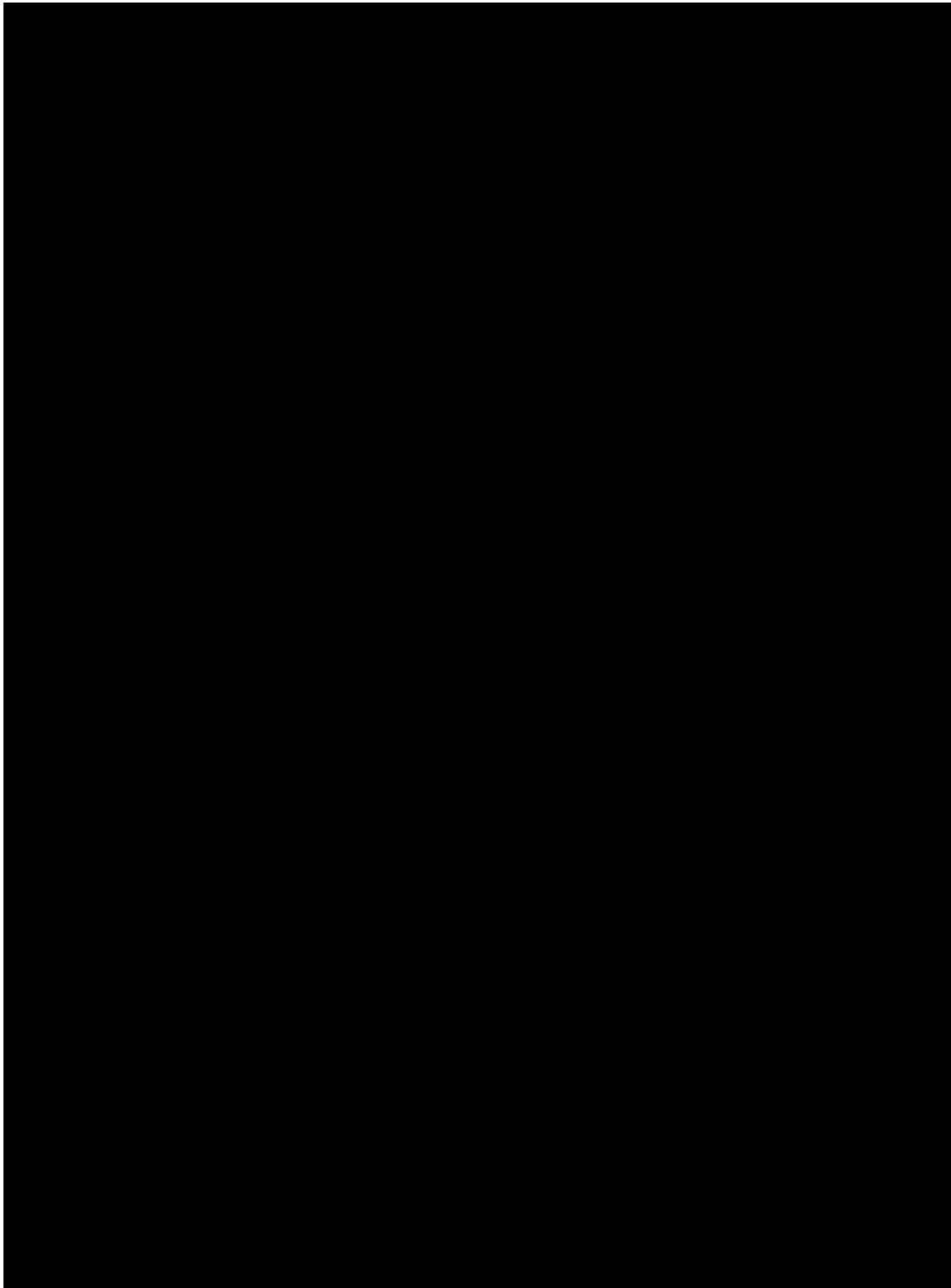


UNCLASSIFIED  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
RESTRICTED

**RESTRICTED**

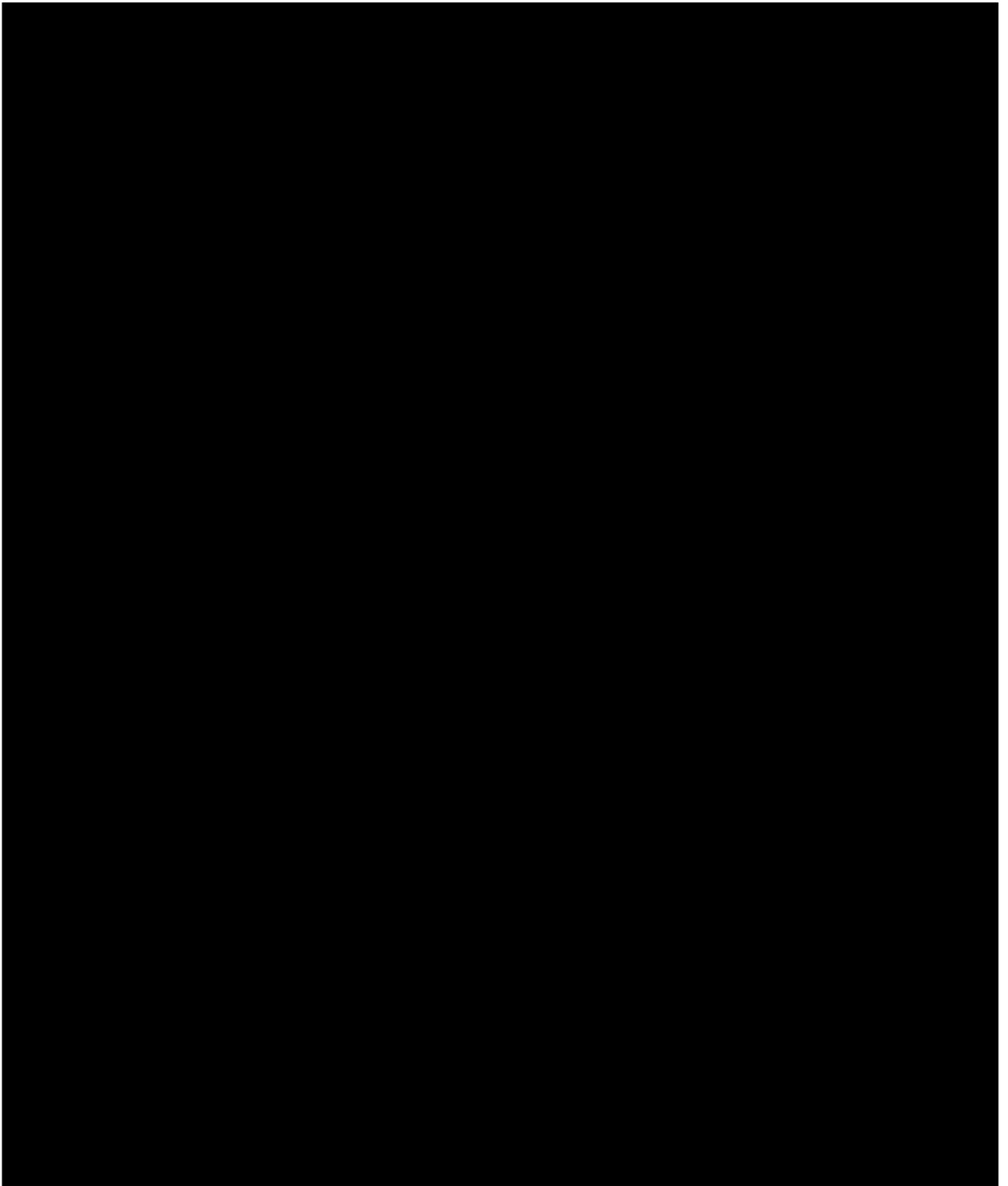
**UNCLASSIFIED**  
STAFF - IN CONFIDENCE

**MR N G POPE**



**RESTRICTED**  
**UNCLASSIFIED**

UNCLASSIFIED  
RESTRICTED



UNCLASSIFIED  
RESTRICTED

LOOSE MINUTE

PCB(Air)3409

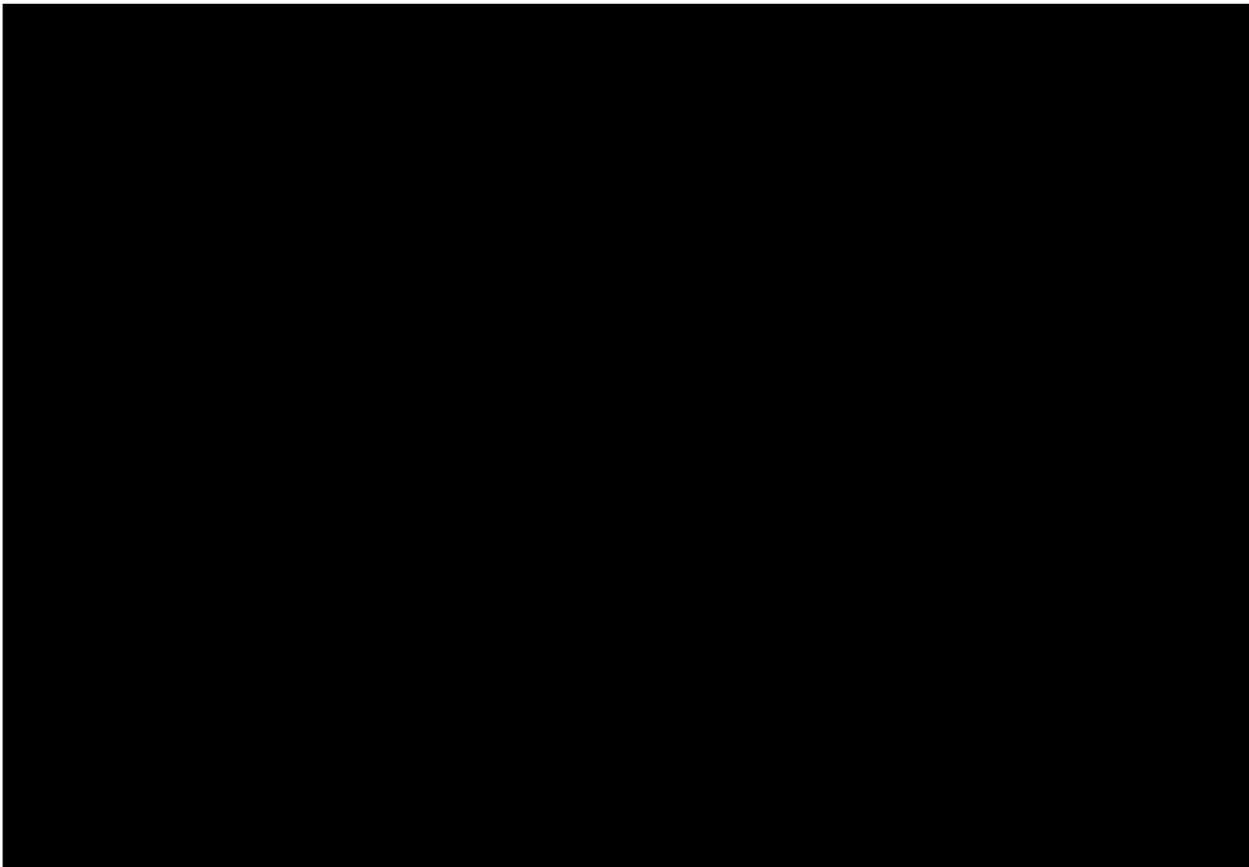
15 Feb 95

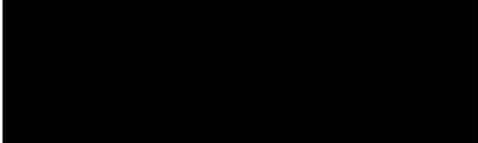
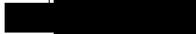
Sec(AS)2a - 

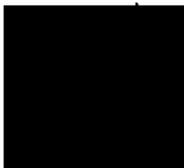
CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "OPEN SKIES,  
CLOSED MINDS" OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO THE UFO PHENOMENON BY N G  
POPE

Reference:

A. D/NP/Pers dated 1 Feb 95



  
AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)  
GSY308   
Fax:   
E Mail: PCB(AIR) PCB



*late night reading  
for to JOC?*

LOOSE MINUTE

*mm. -*

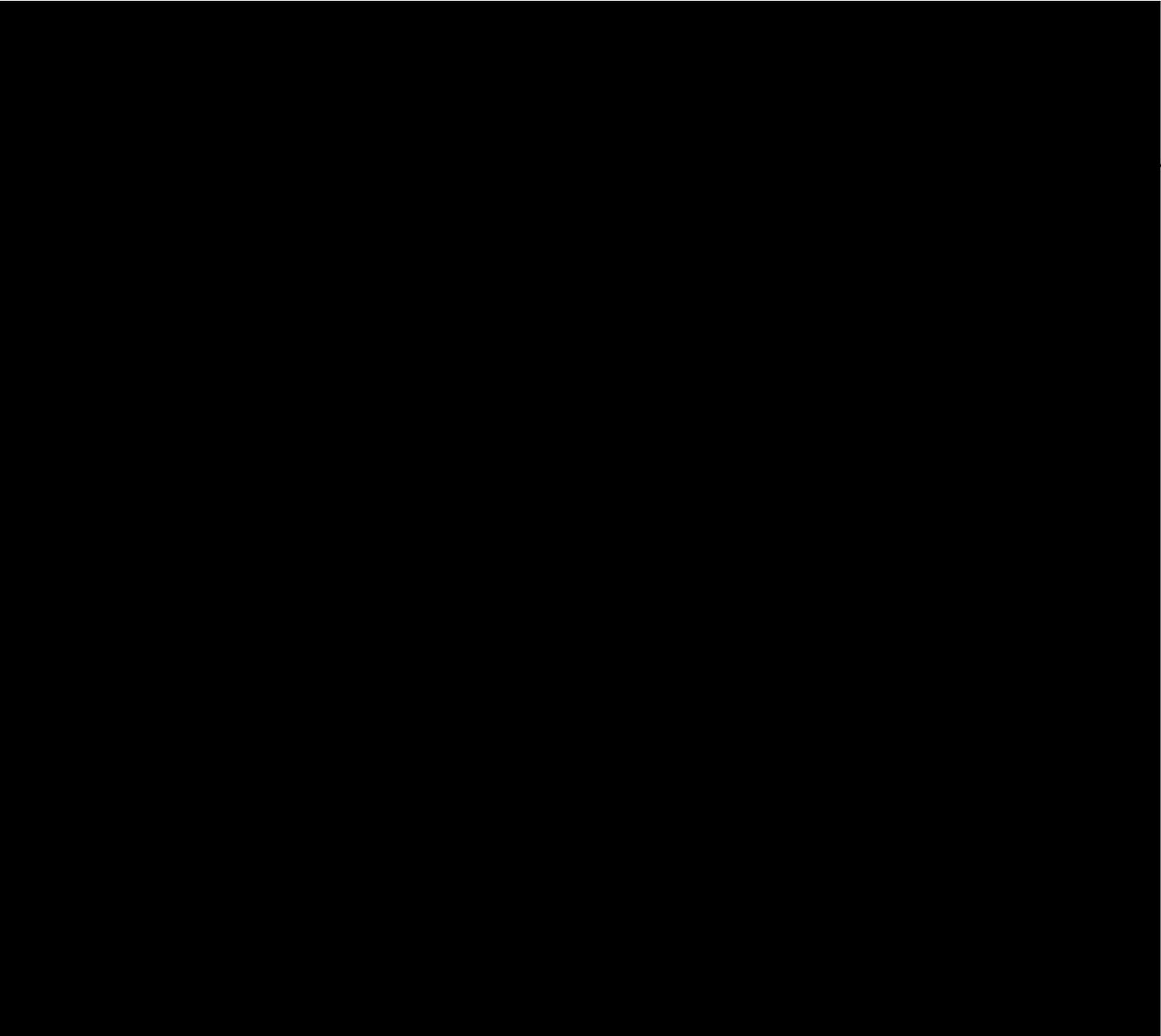
D/NP/Pers

1 Feb 95

PCB(Air) - [redacted] 0

Copy to: [redacted]  
Sec(AS)2 - [redacted]

PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE - UFO BOOK



*?!  
Pur is  
on CHOTS  
why Lan side  
CHOTED it -  
pur because it  
should be on CHOTS!*



N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b  
MB0262 [redacted]

*P66*

LOOSE MINUTE

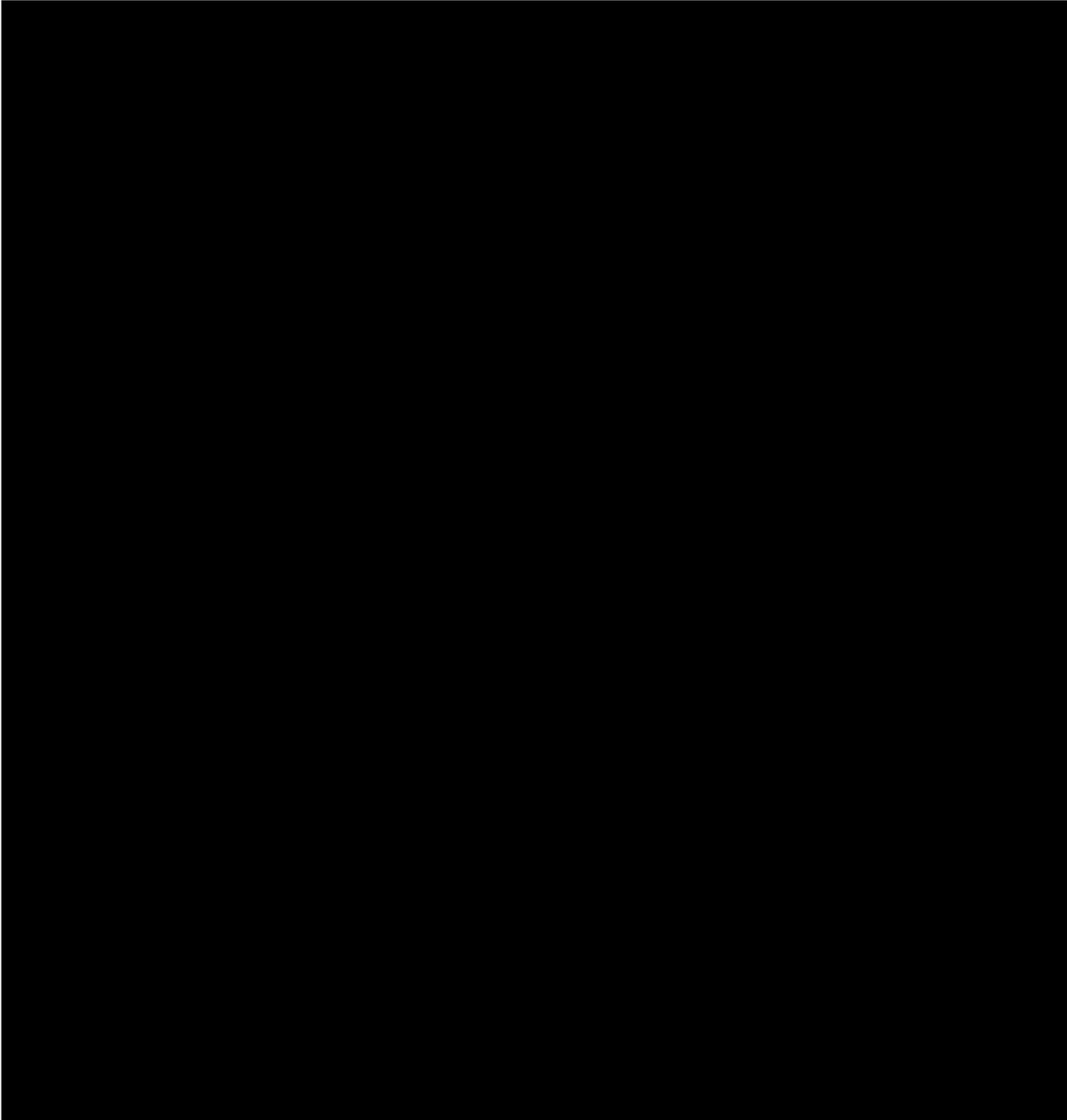
D/Sec(AS)/20/4

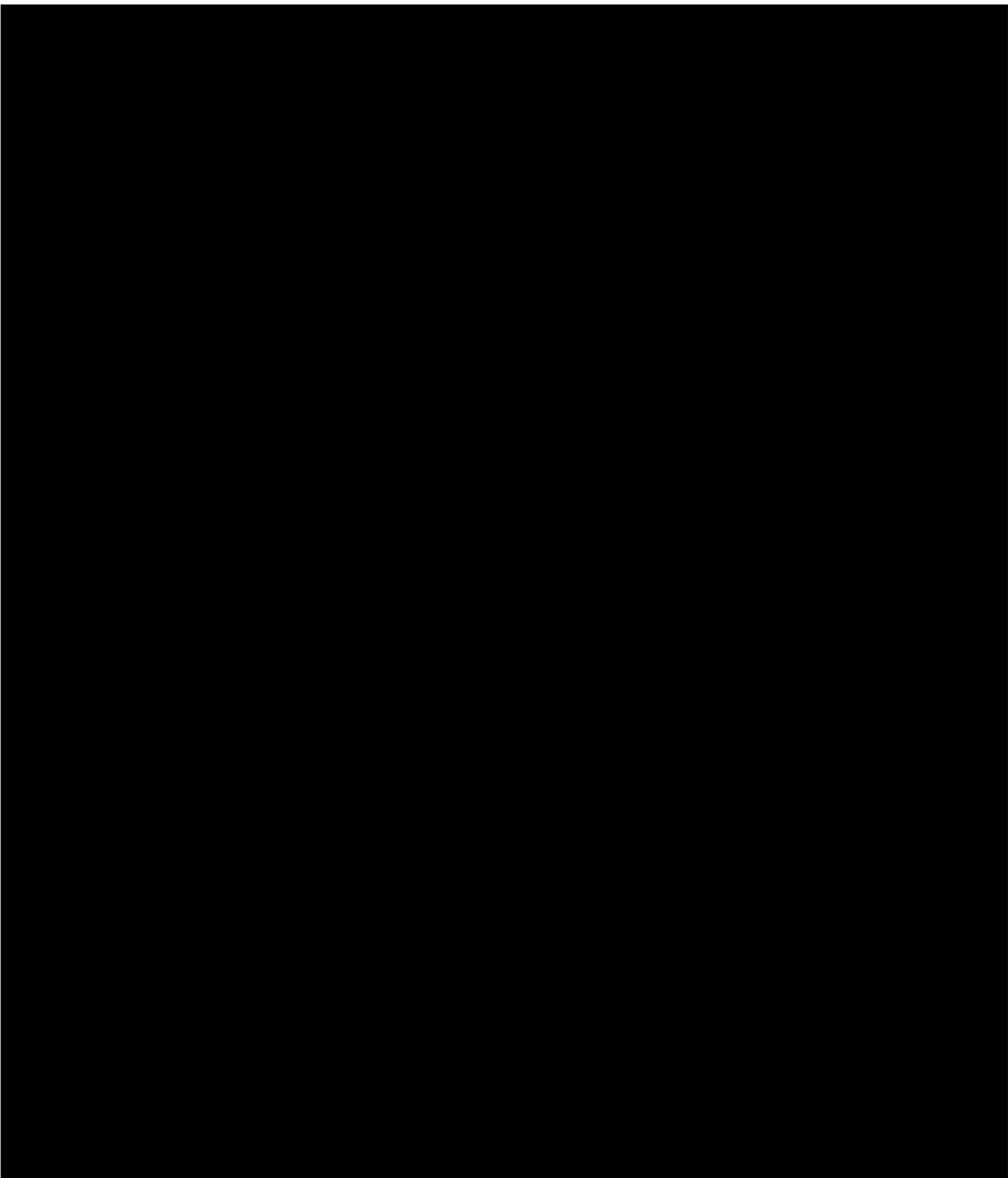
Mar 95

PCB(Air)

Copy to:  
CM(IR&C)  
CM(A)2  
GF(Pol)1  
D MOD Sy

N G POPE - PUBLICATION CLEARANCE





[Redacted]

Head of Sec(AS)

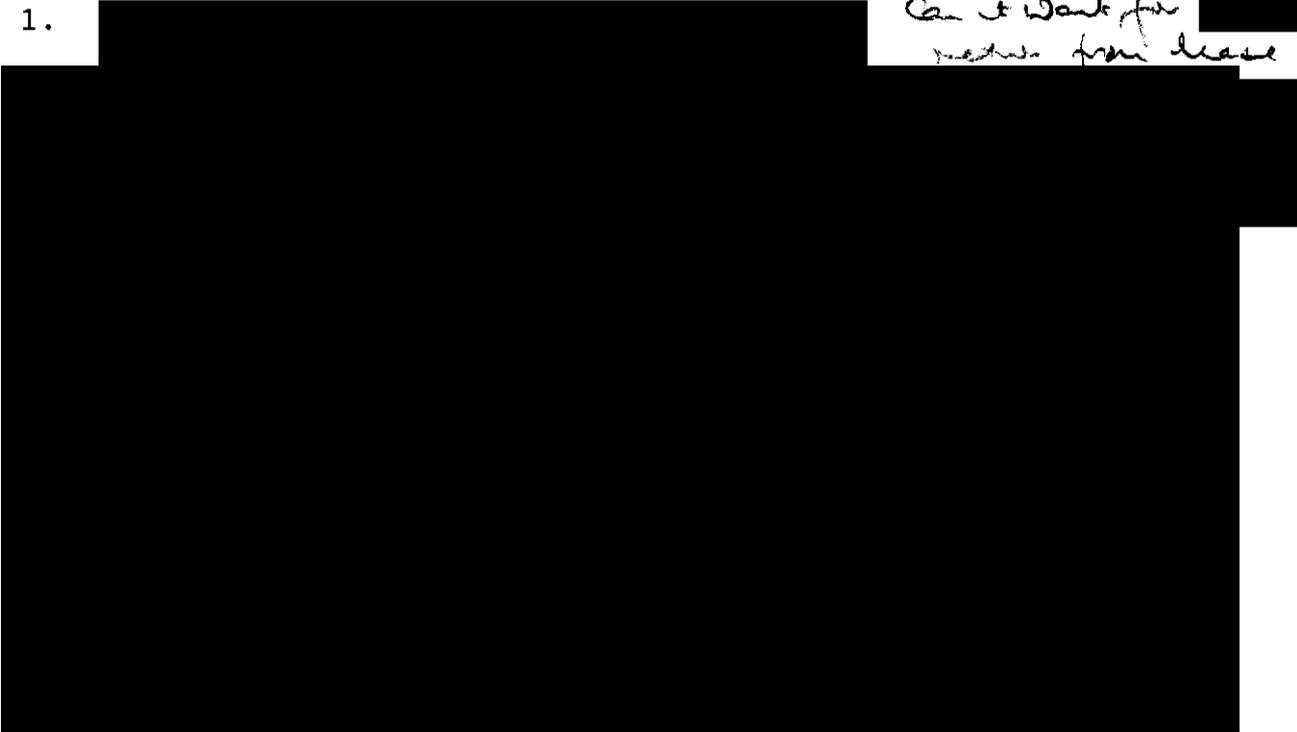
MB 7257 [Redacted]



AB

See my thoughts below. We need to keep [redacted] n.40 side as far as possible. When do we need to respond?

1.



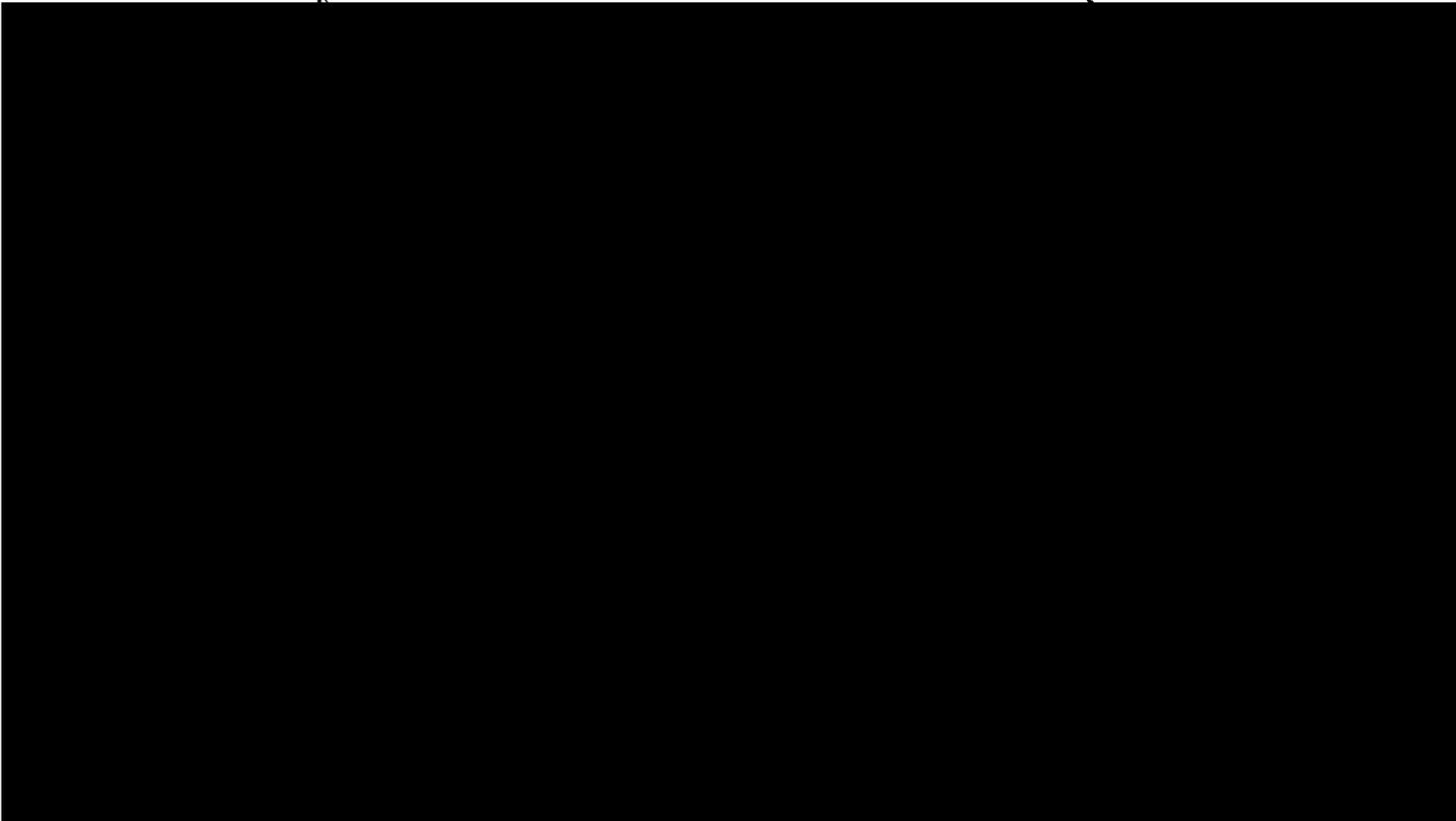
Can it wait for [redacted] notice from lease?

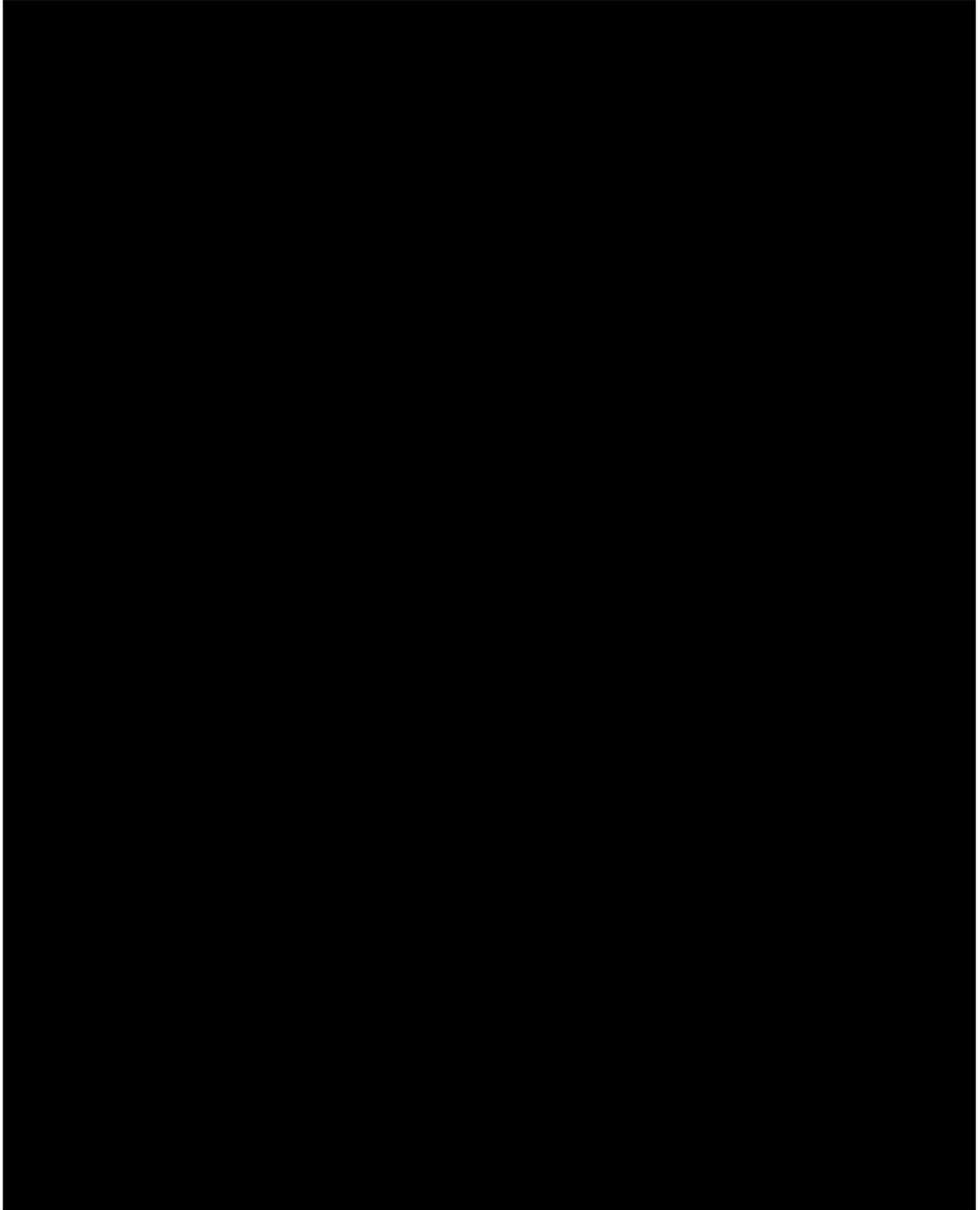
40

12



Thoughts:





[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

LOOSE MINUTE

PCB(Air)3407

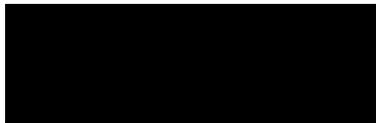
PCB(Air)3409

20 Mar 95

Sec(AS)2a -

(by Email)

CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "CROP CIRCLE LECTURE" AND "UFOs BOOK" BY N G POPE

 Thank you  
 You will wish to be  
 aware. I hope that we  
 return  
 to the Crop Circle piece,  
 which we have admittedly  
 had for some time, until a  
 strategy for handling  
  40  




(signed)

AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)

GSY308

Fax:

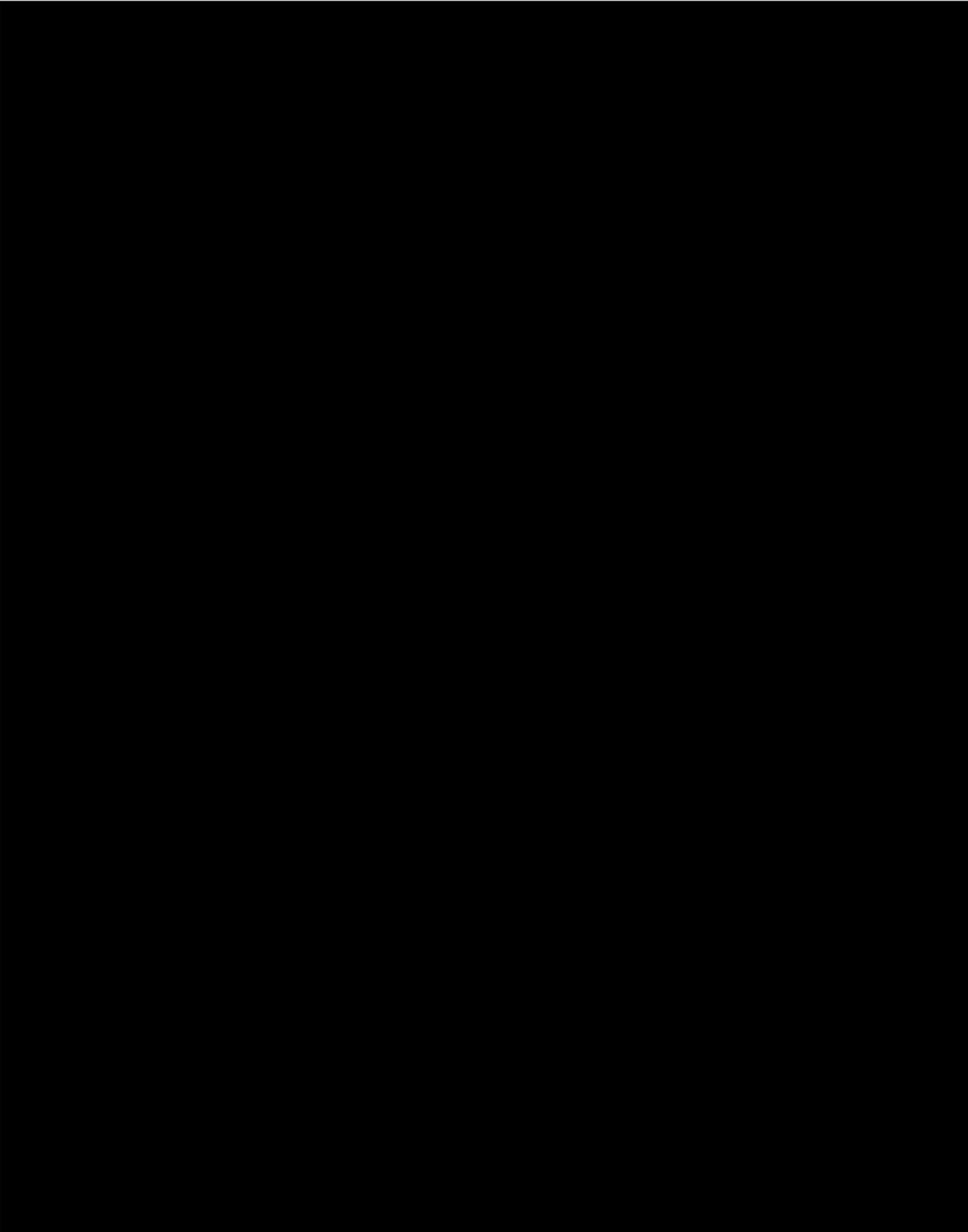
E Mail: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)

ENCLOSURE  
17

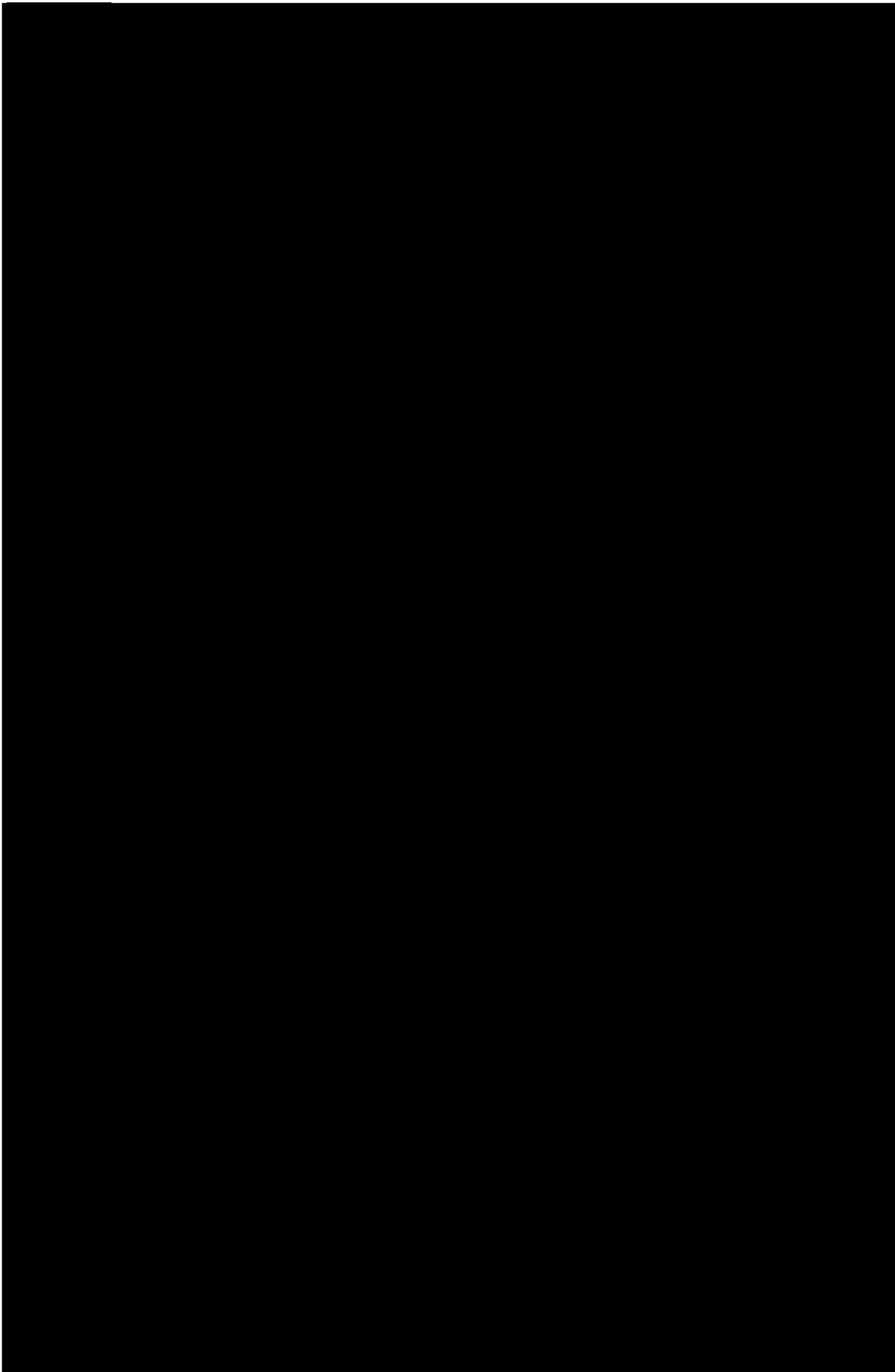
PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - NG POPE: "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"

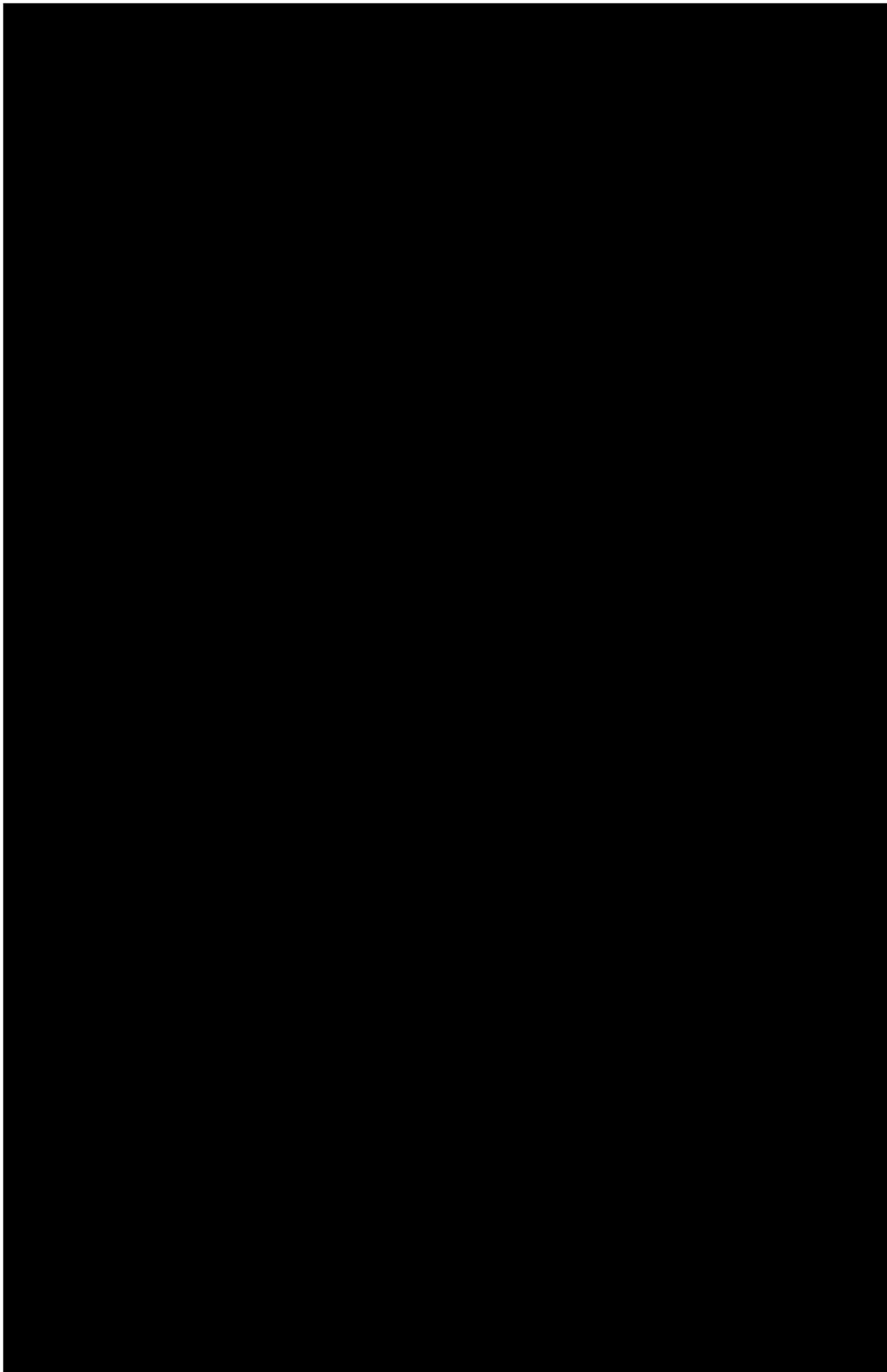
Detailed Comments

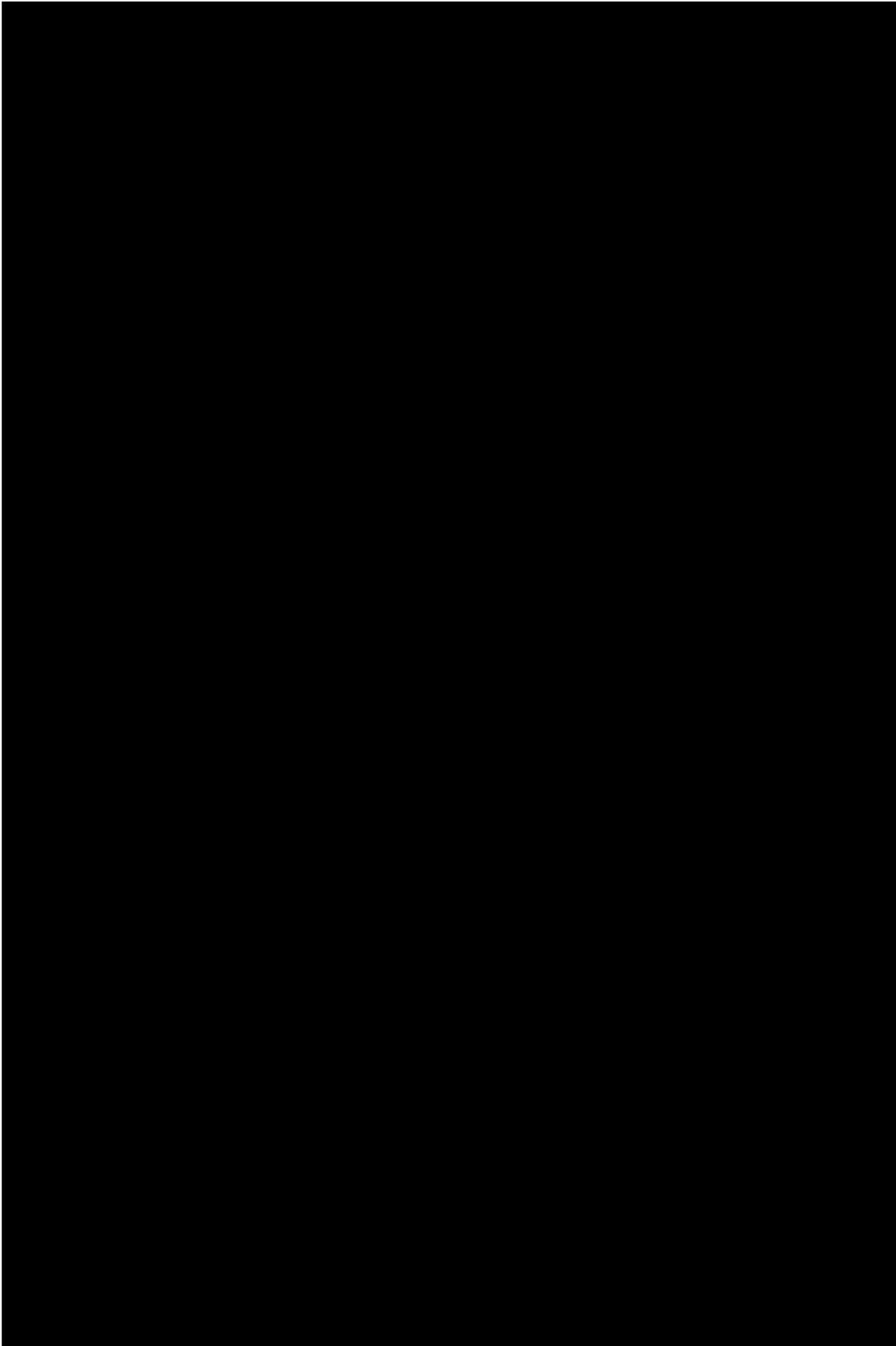
**Introduction**

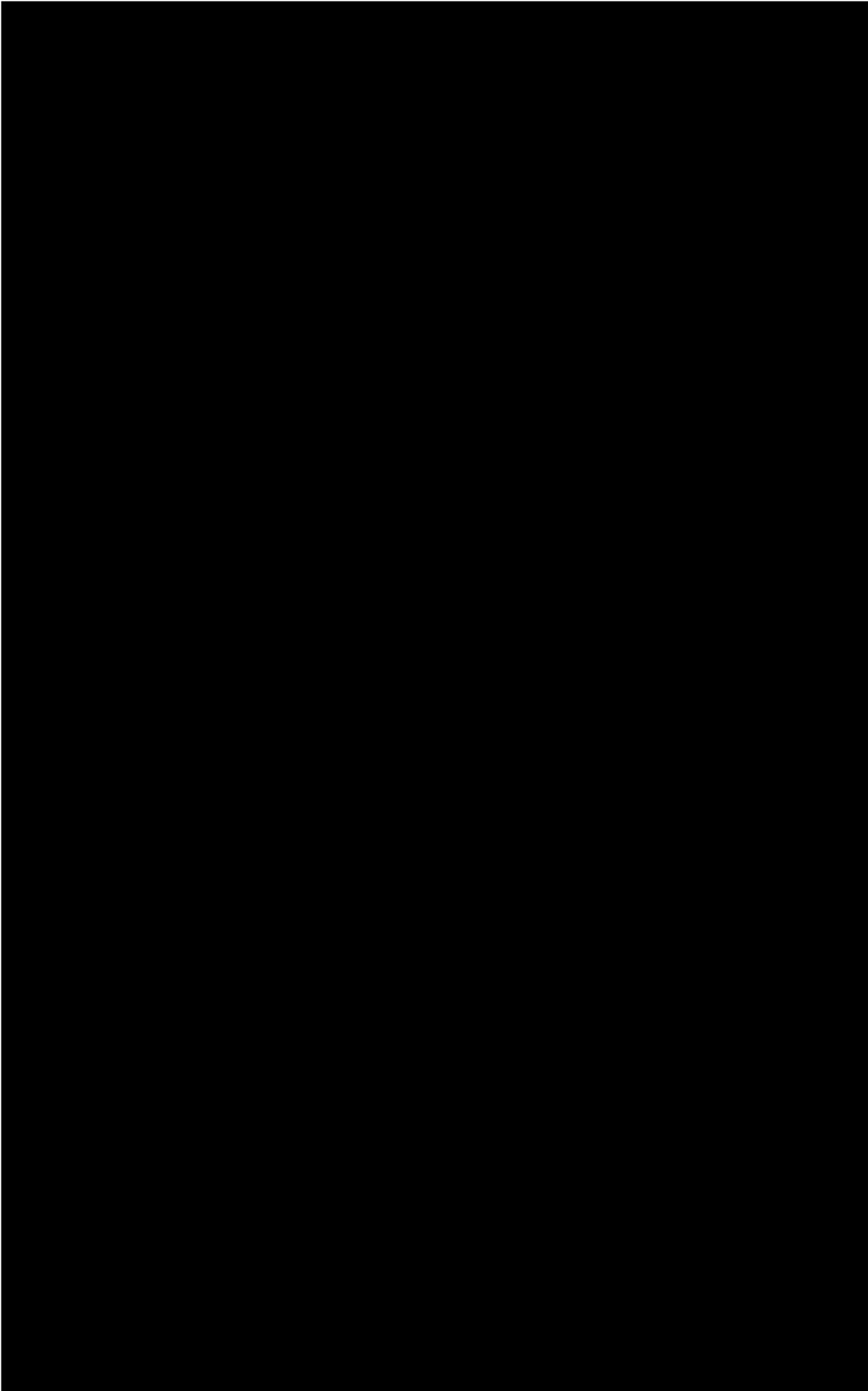


x

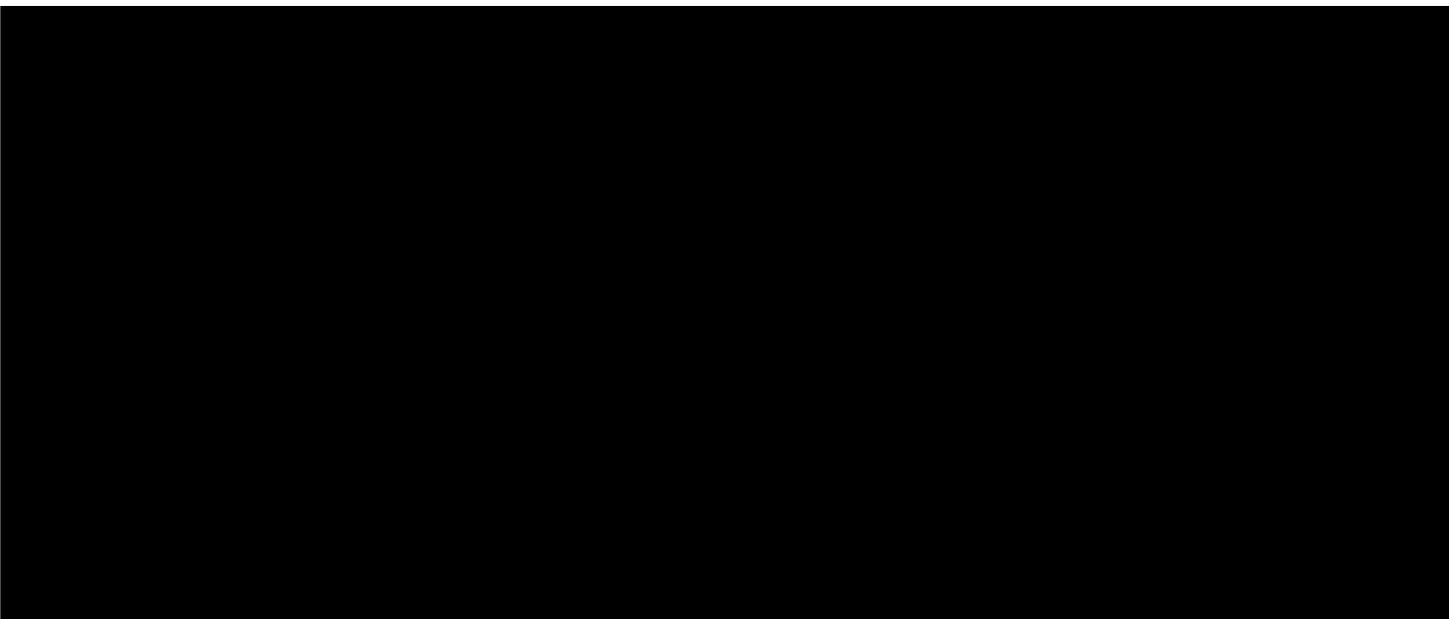
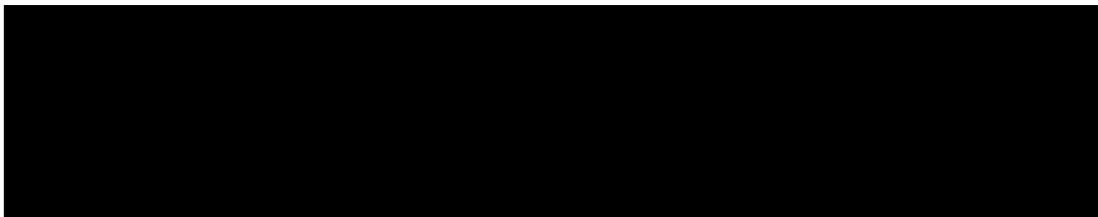










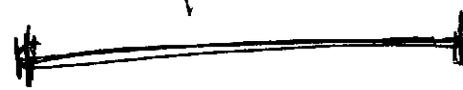


Classification  
notes  
lead to a  
~~SECRET~~  
SECRET FOR

- could not clear
- reference to <sup>name & identify</sup> individuals. Should be removed.
- self description of role; clearly inappropriate.

Content: ~~interest to~~

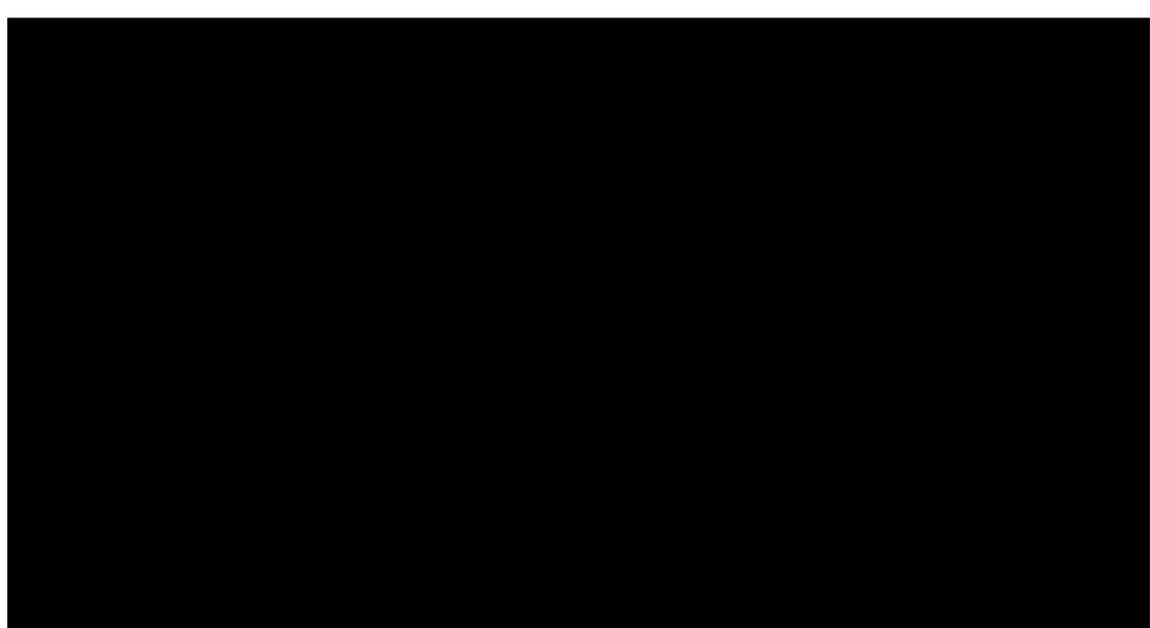
- Radar reference; verified



} GFIKIC  
} CO(A)2  
} GFB1

Pub (An).  
u

GFB1  
Pub Sy.

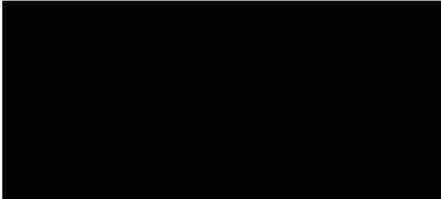


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STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
UNCLASSIFIED



FILE NOTE

D/Sec(AS)20/4



Sec(AS)2  
MB8247

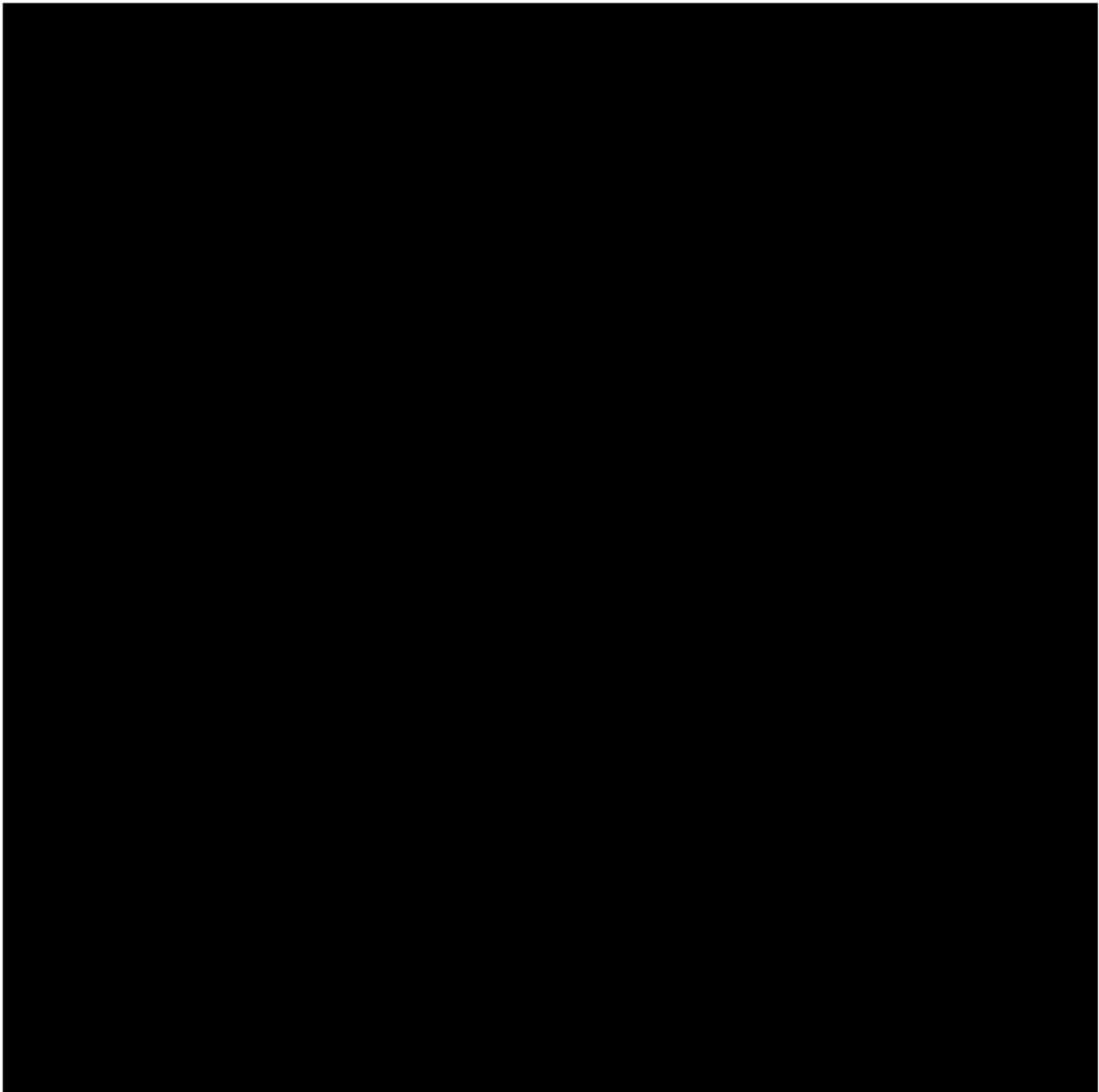
UNCLASSIFIED  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
RESTRICTED

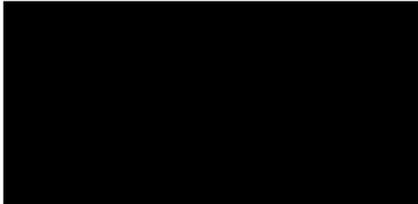
LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)20/4

10 February 1995

Copy to:  
Head of Sec(AS)  
CM(IR&C)7c





Sec(AS)2  
MB8247





Head of Sec (AS), [redacted] I have 'E' marked  
do you a draft from  
Please see the attached, and my & [redacted] comments.  
n 40/2.

Grateful for your views & advice [redacted] on 40  
[redacted] 7/2

LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

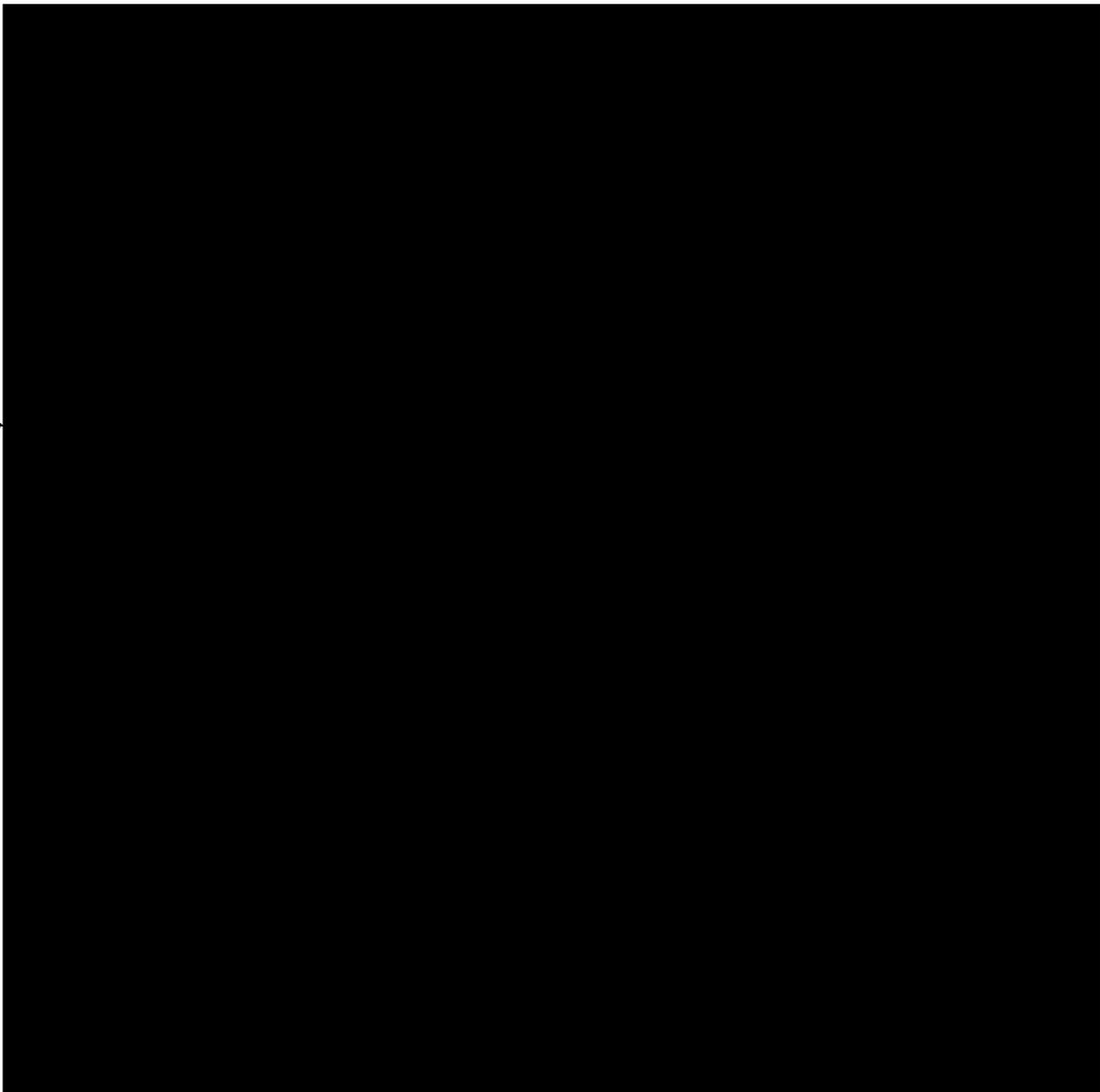
40

3 Feb 95

Sec(AS)2 -

Copy to:  
PCB(Air) -  
CM(IR&C)7c

MR N G POPE - PERSONAL ACTIVITIES



X |||  
Y |||

(Signed)

N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b  
MB0262



LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

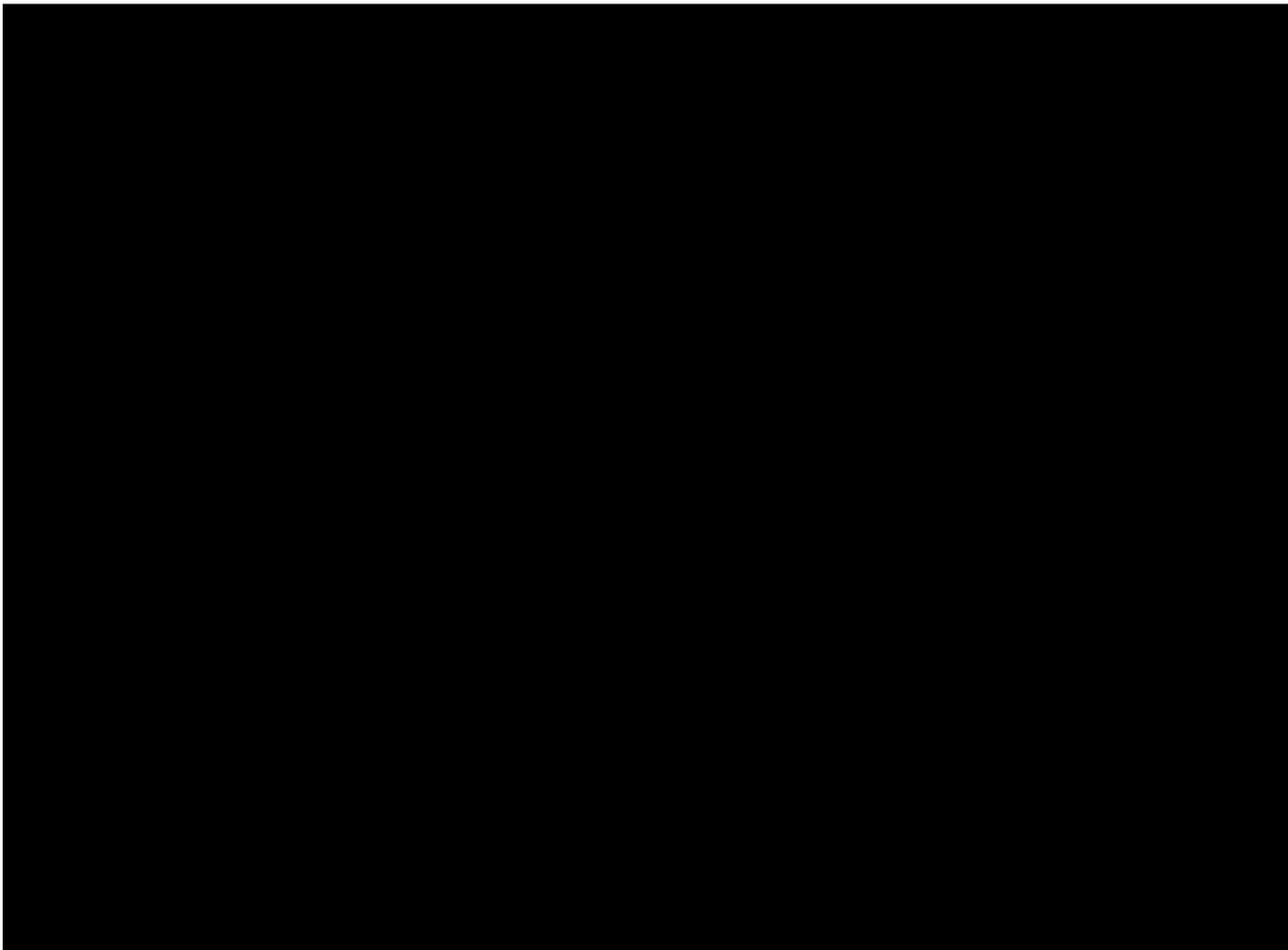
17 Jan 95

Sec(AS)2 - [REDACTED]

Copy to:  
PCB(Air) - [REDACTED]

UFO BOOK - PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE

Reference: D/Sec(AS)20/4 dated 4 Jan 95



[REDACTED]  
To note &  
on 40 file  
[REDACTED]  
on 40  
file was.



N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b  
MB0262 [REDACTED]



LOOSE MINUTE

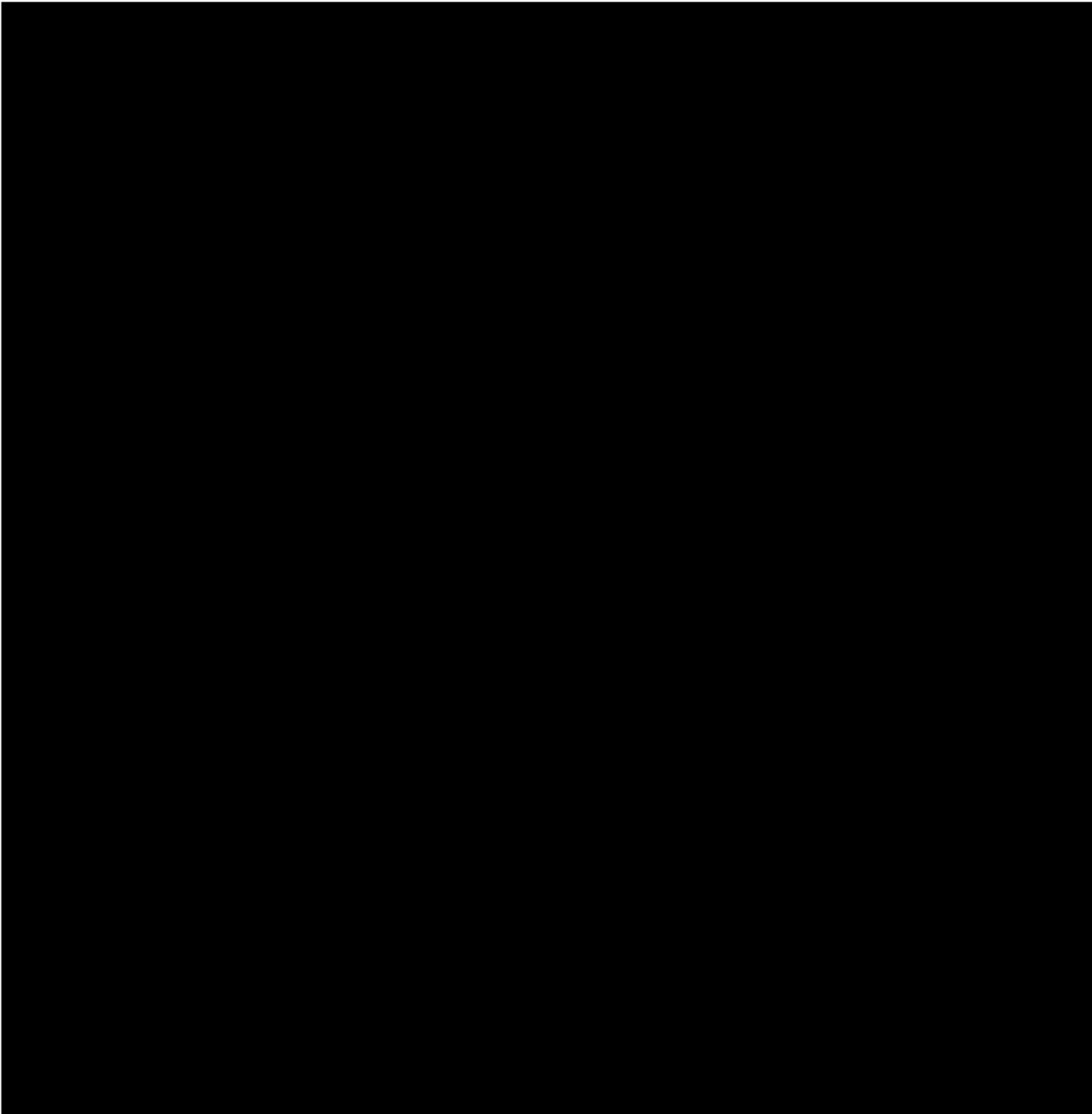
D/Sec(AS)20/4

4 January 1995

GF(Pol) - Mr Pope

Copy to:  
PCB(Air)

UFO BOOK - PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE





Sec(AS)2  
MB8247



**Defence  
Intelligence**

*Intelligence  
Collection Group*

**Intelligence Collection Group  
JARIC the National Imagery Exploitation Centre**  
Royal Air Force Brampton  
Huntingdon  
Cambridgeshire  
PE28 4YG  
UNITED KINGDOM



34

Telephone: [REDACTED]  
Fax: [REDACTED]  
Email: jar-imfhd@jar.mod.uk

Reference: JAR/10025/16/2/BS

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2007

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL/METEOROLOGICAL  
PHENOMENA – TOOLKIT NO: 142506-009**

Reference:



A. Your letter to DGIA dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007.

Your letter was passed to this unit on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2007 and after very careful scrutiny I am in a position to give you copies of the correspondence that you spoke about in your letter, which was passed to us by DAS (Sec).

In conjunction with the ICG (DGIA), after thoroughly checking all of our records, we can find no other documentation to support your request for information.

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

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

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Head of Information Management Flight

Copy to:

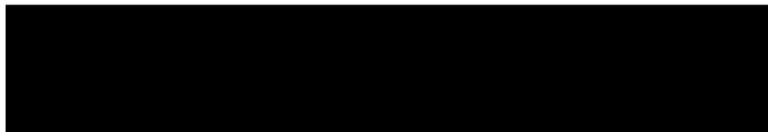
DAS-FOI  
HQ ICG

UNCLASSIFIED

Defence Geographic and Imagery Intelligence Agency  
JOINT AIR RECONNAISSANCE INTELLIGENCE CENTRE  
Royal Air Force Brampton  
Huntingdon  
Cambridgeshire  
PE28 4YG  
UNITED KINGDOM



Telephone:  
Fax:  
E-mail:



Reference:

Date: 27 July 2004

**PHOTOGRAMMETRY & COMPUTER MODELLING FLIGHT'S ASSESSMENT  
OF ELLIPTICAL SHAPED OBJECT ON SLIDE**

Reference:

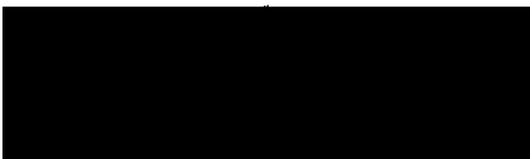
A. To determine size of elliptical shaped object identified on supplied colour slide (not original).

1. Photogrammetry and Computer Modelling Flight were tasked to examine and if possible, photogrammetrically derive, dimensions of an object seen at night on a colour slide. This elliptical shaped object is clearly visible on the slide above and to the right of a large building.

2. To determine the size of an object from a photographic slide, apart from knowing the film format and focal length of the camera, certain other criteria must be available. These are either:-

- a. Known distance from the camera to the object (scale).
- b. Known scalar (distance) on the object.

3. Assuming the distance of the object to the camera is unknown and that there are no scalars to use on or close to the object it is evident there is insufficient data for the Flight to determine the size of the elliptical shaped object.



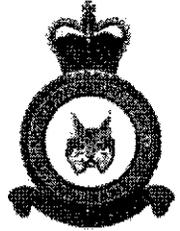
Hd Photogrammetry & Computer Modelling Flight  
GISS

UNCLASSIFIED

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Defence Geographic and Imagery Intelligence Agency  
JOINT AIR RECONNAISSANCE INTELLIGENCE CENTRE  
Royal Air Force Brampton  
Huntingdon  
Cambridgeshire  
PE28 4YG  
UNITED KINGDOM



Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

---

Reference:

Date: August 2, 2004

---

**PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT OF THE ELLIPTICAL SHAPED OBJECT ON SLIDE.**

Reference:

To provide an expert evaluation as to any possible photographic causes behind the object on the supplied slide (not original).

a. All required, background knowledge is missing, namely:

- a. Film speed and type.
- b. Exposure time.
- c. Lens Type and Aperture.
- d. Camera Type.
- e. Weather conditions.
- f. Was a tripod used?
- g. Was fill in flash used?

2. This lack of information does not permit a totally informed opinion to be put forward.

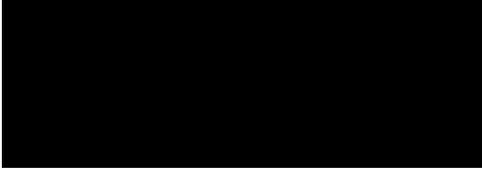
A scan was produced at 2,400dpi to enable us to investigate, at greater magnification the structure of the anomaly. From this several points were noted:

- h. There appeared to be no or little image movement across the frame, which would indicate a relatively fast exposure or the use of a tripod.
- i. There is no indication of specular reflection nor of lens flare.
- j. The illuminated plane of the object passes through the very center of the frame.

UNCLASSIFIED

**UNCLASSIFIED**

3. No definitive conclusions can be gathered from evidence submitted, however, it may be coincidental that the illuminated plane of the object passes through the center of the frame, indicating a possible lens anomaly e.g. a droplet of moisture.

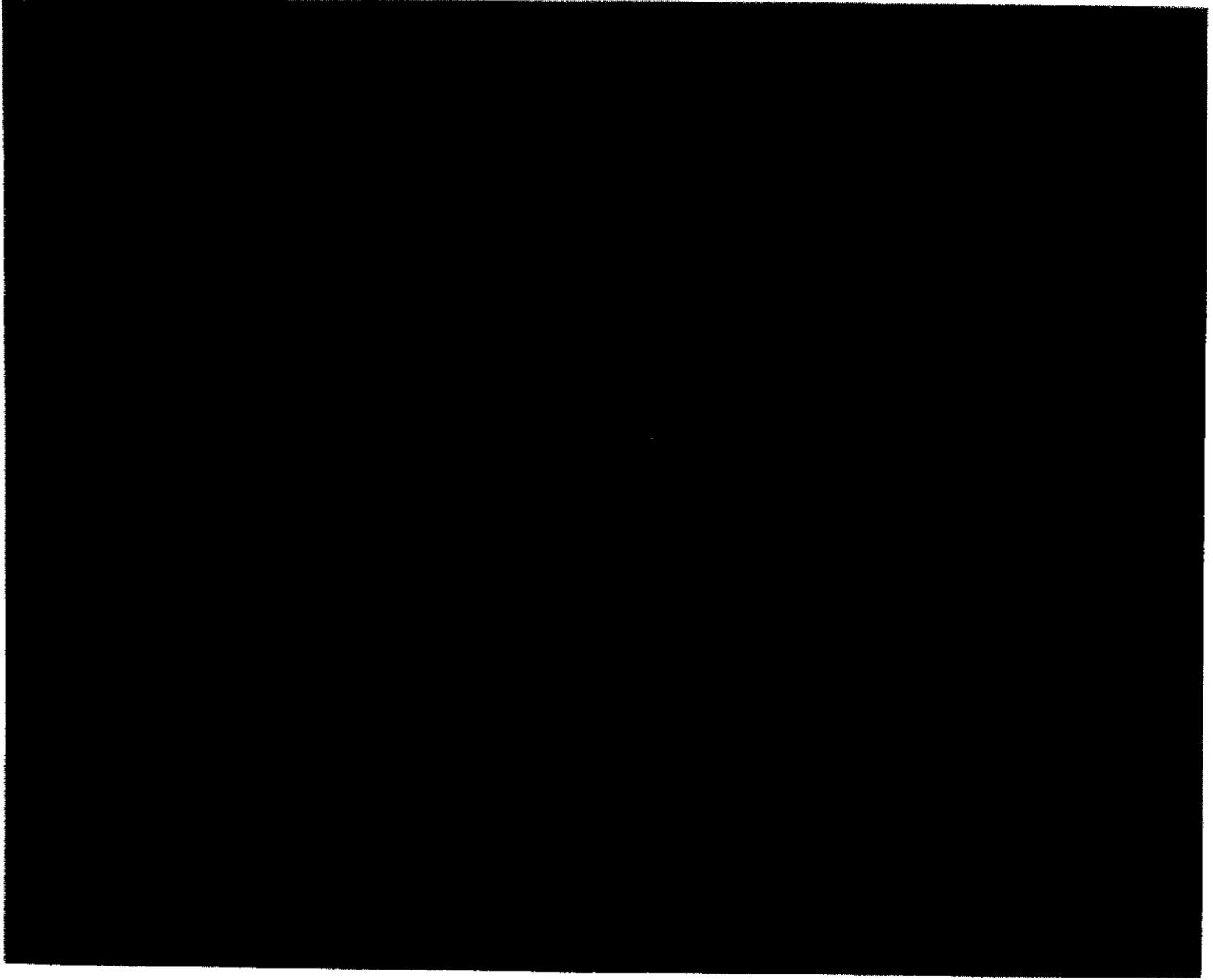


Graphics and Digital Imaging Section  
GISS

**UNCLASSIFIED**









From: [REDACTED]  
Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat)3



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London,  
WC2N 5BP

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

---

Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/64/3  
Date  
20 April 2004

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your request for any information the MOD holds on three UFO incidents in 1979. I apologise for the delay in replying.

We have recalled and examined our files for 1979 and the only documents we can locate relating to the incidents you have sighted, concern a UFO report made by the MOD Police at the Royal Ordnance Factory, Blackburn on 24 February 1979. I am unable to verify whether this incident was the subject of a Parliamentary Enquiry as there are no surviving UFO parliamentary correspondence files which cover this period. A copy of the report is, however, enclosed for your information. Personal data has been removed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

✓



Dear Sir or Madam,

I am trying to ascertain if the MoD looked into three well known UFO incidents which took place in 1979. I am detailing the incidents below. Please could you check your records for *any* reference to these cases? If any case files or other material was generated may I make a request for copies of this information under the Code of Practice for Access to Government Information.

Firstly, copies of *any* reports, correspondence or other material relating to UFO reports in the north of England made between 22 and 24 February 1979, specifically two cases:

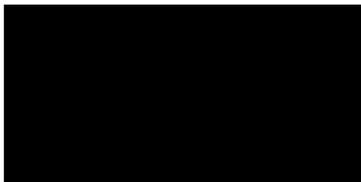
- a) UFO report made by two 14-year-old girls [redacted] and [redacted] [redacted] in [redacted] Leeds, West Yorkshire, on the evening of 22 February 1979.

I understand this case was the subject of a field investigation by the MoD, and I wish to know if this is confirmed by documentation on file.

- b) UFO reports made by members of the public and/or police officers in Lancashire in the early hours of 24 February 1979. There were a number of sightings and I understand these were the subject of a Parliamentary Enquiry by Robert Kilroy-Silk MP. Could you supply copies of the relevant files or papers on these incidents.

Secondly, please could you check your files for any UFO reports made during 1979 to see you have a record of the UFO incident reported by forester Robert Taylor at Dechmont Forest, Livingston, Scotland, on 9 November 1979. This case was reported to West Lothian police who cordoned off the area for examination. Was a report received by MoD and if so may I have copies of it?

I will be pleased to pay any costs necessary to generate copies of files or other material relating to the above cases and I look forward to receiving your reply.



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Papers taken from  
D/DS8/75/2/4 B.

UFO Reports - 1979  
(Feb - May)

Enclosures TEJ 1  
Feb 1979 Enc 42

Reference..... D/RC



S4F (Air)  
Room 8239  
Main Building

REPORTED SIGHTING OF A U.F.O. AT  
ROF BLACKBURN ON 24.2.79

We spoke today and I am attaching  
a report by the MOD Police of the  
sighting of an unidentified flying  
object over ROF Blackburn on 24 February  
1979.



OF/Sec 2

Room 705NH  
Ext 4179MB  
6 March 1979

Encl

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[REDACTED], Director

ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY,  
BLACKBURN,  
LANCASHIRE,  
BB1 2LE

28 February 1979

5/3/79  
[REDACTED]  
DGOF/Prod  
Northumberland House

Dear [REDACTED]

Herewith something of interest. It wasn't after a meeting of the Engineering Society.

The three witnesses are sober, steady and reliable policemen, one of whom is a Sergeant.

I have had a chat with him and he says that they have seen the same thing on nights before but up towards Guide. He reports this incident as it "flew" over the Factory and thus becomes reportable (Shades of Eric who instructed the police to get aircraft numbers when they flew over the Factory even if they were Jumbos or had to be chased on a bike).

He adds that he estimated the height at 500 to 700 ft, the size across as about 30', and when it was over Darwen and lit up it illuminated an area several streets across in the Grammar School Area.

I was previously an unbeliever. I am now convinced that something peculiar is going on.

There were several other reported sightings in Lancashire on the same night.

Sergeant [REDACTED] reported this to the local police, as we are supposed to, and they laughed like Smash Spacemen (appropriate). The sketch was done by Sergeant [REDACTED].

Yours  
[REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Ref. No: ELA/R/4/38/79ROF BLACKBURN Station27 February 1979 DateREPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE FACTORY SECRETARY,ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY, BLACKBURN.RESPECTING UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT - SIGHTING 24.2.79.

1. Sergeant [REDACTED] reports, that at 2.37 am on Saturday 24 February 1979, at the Royal Ordnance Factory, BLACKBURN, whilst on duty in the Main Police Office, he observed an unidentifiable flying object in the sky to the west of the Factory, and travelling in a North to South direction and illuminating the whole area with a 'Soft' or 'Dull' (not brilliant) yellow coloured light.
2. The Sergeant drew the attention of Constable [REDACTED] to the object and then he obtained a pair of Binoculars, from the Station Office, and went outside the Police Office, but by this time the light had extinguished and there was nothing to be seen or heard.
3. Approximately ONE minute later the light came on again, but before the Sergeant could focus the binoculars on the object the light again extinguished. However, ONE minute later the object again illuminated and this time Sergeant [REDACTED] managed to focus the binoculars onto the object. He saw that the bottom half of the object was 'Saucer' shaped with the top half like an upturned Saucer. On top of the 'Saucer' was a Light Bulb shaped Dome. The illumination appeared to come from the inside of the object and showed a Black coloured ring around the centre of the object with Black coloured 'Ribs' stretching from top to bottom. In the wake of the object was a Vapour or Smoke.
4. Although the Sergeant observed this illumination on THREE separate occasions he heard no sound coming from the object and he was unable to estimate the ~~high~~ height.
5. This incident was also witnessed by Constable [REDACTED].
6. Sergeant [REDACTED] reported the facts by telephone to the Duty Officer of the Lancashire Constabulary at BLACKBURN.

*Noted**27/2**AM**Cor!**27/2*

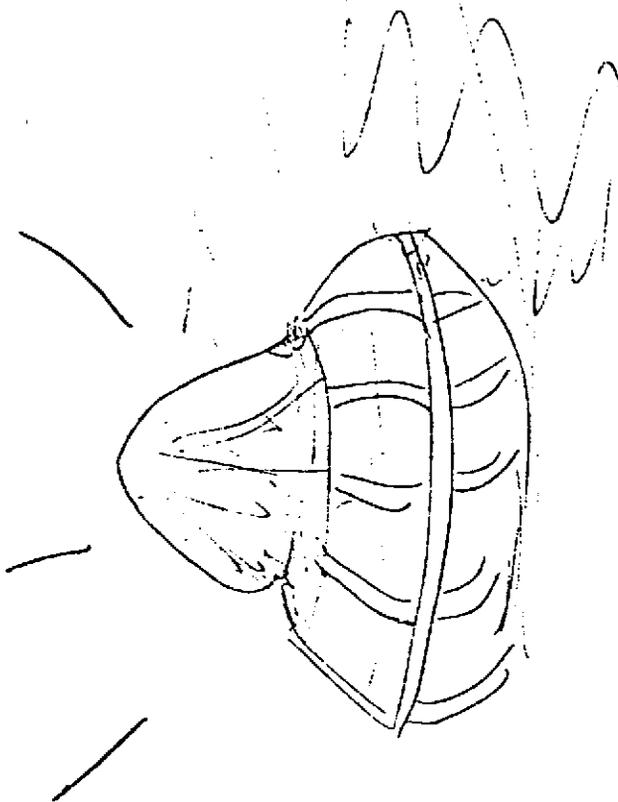
Forwarded by the direction of the Chief Constable, Ministry of Defence Police.

[REDACTED] Inspector,  
Senior Police Officer.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



. DIRECTOR



Copied from D/DSS/MS/2/4B - UFO Reports 1979

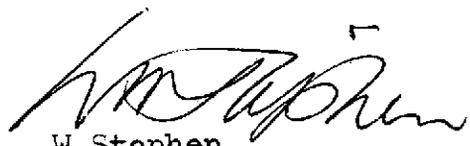
8/2/4/2/42

Reference.....D/ROF/332/6/7.....

S4F (Air)  
Room 8239  
Main Building

REPORTED SIGHTING OF A U.F.O. AT  
ROF BLACKBURN ON 24.2.79

We spoke today and I am attaching  
a report by the MOD Police of the  
sighting of an unidentified flying  
object over ROF Blackburn on 24 February  
1979.

  
W Stephen  
OF/Sec 2

Room 705NH  
Ext 4179MB  
6 March 1979

Encl

Mr L A Kennedy, Director

ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY,  
BLACKBURN,  
LANCASHIRE,  
BB1 2LE

28 February 1979

5/3/79  
Mr R J Macdonald  
DGOF/Proc  
Northumberland House

Dear Mac,

Herewith something of interest. It wasn't after a meeting of the Engineering Society.

The three witnesses are sober, steady and reliable policemen, one of whom is a Sergeant.

I have had a chat with him and he says that they have seen the same thing on nights before but up towards Guide. He reports this incident as it "flew" over the Factory and thus becomes reportable (Shades of Eric who instructed the police to get aircraft numbers when they flew over the Factory even if they were Jumbos or had to be chased on a bike).

He adds that he estimated the height at 500 to 700 ft, the size across as about 30', and when it was over Darwen and lit up it illuminated an area several streets across in the Grammar School Area.

I was previously an unbeliever. I am now convinced that something peculiar is going on.

There were several other reported sightings in Lancashire on the same night.

Sergeant Headley reported this to the local police, as we are supposed to, and they laughed like Smash Spacemen (appropriate). The sketch was done by Sergeant Headley.

Yours

*[Handwritten signature]*

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE

Ref. No: BLA/R/4/38/79

ROF BLACKBURN Station

27 February 1979 Date

REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE FACTORY SECRETARY,

ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY, BLACKBURN.

RESPECTING UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT - SIGHTING 24.2.79.

1. Sergeant C925 HEADLEY reports, that at 2.37 am on Saturday 24 February 1979, at the Royal Ordnance Factory, BLACKBURN, whilst on duty in the Main Police Office, he observed an unidentifiable flying object in the sky to the west of the Factory, and travelling in a North to South direction and illuminating the whole area with a 'Soft' or 'Dull' (not brilliant) yellow coloured light.

2. The Sergeant drew the attention of Constable C1874 HARGREAVES to the object and then he obtained a pair of Binoculars, from the Station Office, and went outside the Police Office, but by this time the light had extinguished and there was nothing to be seen or heard.

3. Approximately ONE minute later the light came on again, but before the Sergeant could focus the binoculars on the object the light again extinguished. However, ONE minute later the object again illuminated and this time Sergeant HEADLEY managed to focus the binoculars onto the object. He saw that the bottom half of the object was 'Saucer' shaped with the top half like an upturned Saucer. On top of the 'Saucer' was a Light Bulb shaped Dome. The illumination appeared to come from the inside of the object and showed a Black coloured ring around the centre of the object with Black coloured 'Ribs' stretching from top to bottom. In the wake of the object was a Vapour or Smoke.

4. Although the Sergeant observed this illumination on THREE separate occasions he heard no sound coming from the object and he was unable to estimate the ~~high~~ height.

5. This incident was also witnessed by Constable C628 DEAN.

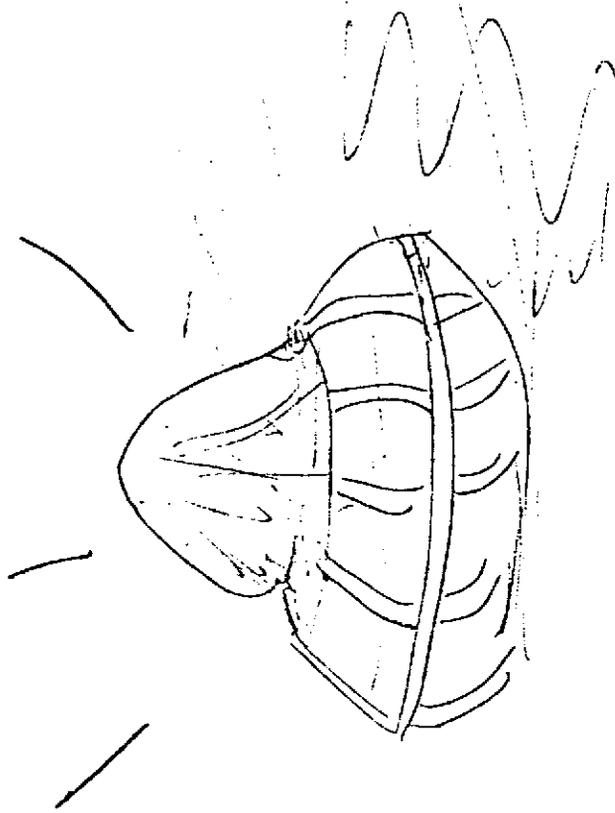
6. Sergeant HEADLEY reported the facts by telephone to the Duty Officer of the Lancashire Constabulary at BLACKBURN.

*Noted  
Director 27/2  
fm  
Cor!  
27/2*

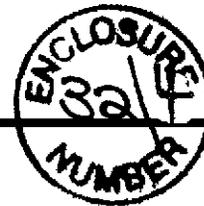
Forwarded by the direction of the Chief Constable, Ministry of Defence Police.

*J. H. A.* Inspector,  
Senior Police Officer.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



MR. J. A. KENNEDY, DIRECTOR



To: Info-Records1  
Subject: [redacted] Request for Information

[redacted] n 40

As discussed, [redacted] has requested any information we hold on three particular UFO incidents in 1979, so I need to look at the following files. Please could you let me know if they are with your reviewers or at TNA.

D/DS8/75/2/1	Part F	UFO Reports & Correspondence	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part G	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part H	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part J	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part K	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/4	Part A	UFO Reports	1979
D/DS8/75/2/4	Part B	UFO Reports	1979
D/DS8/75/2/4	Part D	UFO Reports	1979

Thank you for your assistance.

[redacted]  
DAS-Sec3

MT 6/73 [redacted]

/ D/DS8/75/2/1 Pt F	1979	UFO Reports & Correspondence	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DS8/75/2/2 Pt G	1979	UFO Reports: edited	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DS8/75/2/2 Pt H	1979	UFO Reports: edited	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DS8/75/2/2 Pt J	1979	UFO Reports: edited	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DS8/75/2/2 Pt K	1979	UFO Reports: edited	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DS8/75/2/4 Pt A	1979	UFO Reports	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DS8/75/2/4 Pt B	1979	UFO Reports	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DS8/75/2/4 Pt D	1979	UFO Reports	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes
/ D/DI55/108/15/1 Pt 32	1978(Feb) to 1983 (Jan)	<b>UFO --Incidents</b>	Defence Intelligence Staff Registered file Held in DIS File is a compilation of papers, not complete for whole period.
✓ D/DS8/25/3	1978	UFOs: Parliamentary Correspondence	MOD Registered file Held at Records 2 in Hayes.

Speak to [REDACTED]  
about returning the  
files..

Awaiting files  
from Hayes.

27 Feb 2004

Awaiting files  
from Hayes

30/3/2004



From: [REDACTED]  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat) 3  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue,  
LONDON WC2N 5BP

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

CHOs address: DAS-Sec3  
E-Mail: [das-sec3@defence.mod.uk](mailto:das-sec3@defence.mod.uk)

### FAX MESSAGE

**TO:** Hayes Archive - F.A.O. [REDACTED]

**SUBJECT:** Request for files.

**DATE:** 29 March 2004

**NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER:** 2

On the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2004 I requested that 8 files be returned to this branch in order to answer an enquiry from a member of the public. To date I have not received any of these files. Please could you let me know urgently the whereabouts of the files and when I can expect to receive them.

My UIN number is F608A.

For ease of reference I attach a copy of my earlier fax message.

*Yours*

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat) 3  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue,  
LONDON WC2N 5BP

Telephone: (Direct dial) [REDACTED]  
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
(Fax) [REDACTED]  
CHOTs address: DAS-Sec3

### **FAX MESSAGE**

**TO: Hayes Archive**

**SUBJECT: Request for files.**

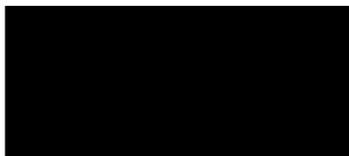
**DATE: 27 February 2004**

**NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER: 1**

Please could you send me the following files which are required to answer an enquiry from a member of the public.

D/DS8/75/2/1 Part F	UFO Reports & Correspondence
D/DS8/75/2/2 Part G	UFO Reports
D/DS8/75/2/2 Part H	UFO Reports
D/DS8/75/2/2 Part J	UFO Reports
D/DS8/75/2/2 Part K	UFO Reports
D/DS8/75/2/4 Part A	UFO Reports
D/DS8/75/2/4 Part B	UFO Reports
D/DS8/75/2/4 Part D	UFO Reports

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please give me a call.



MODE = TRANSMISSION

START=30-MAR 09:50

END=30-MAR 09:51

STN NO.	COM	ABBR NO.	STATION NAME/TEL.NO.	PAGES	DURATION
001	OK		[REDACTED]	002	00:00'33"

-DIRECTORATE AIR STAFF -

\*\*\*\*\* [REDACTED] - \*\*\*\*\* [REDACTED] \*\*\*\*\*

**DAS-Sec3**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** D News RAF  
19 April 2004 15:25  
**To:** DAS-Sec3  
**Subject:** RE: Interview / Meeting with [REDACTED]



[REDACTED] 40  
Many thanks for sight of the attached, which explains the situation very thoroughly. I can't think of anything else to add.  
[REDACTED]

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

**From:** DAS-Sec3  
**Sent:** 19 April 2004 15:09  
**To:** D News RAF  
**Subject:** Interview / Meeting with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Here is our brief for US of S on the proposed meeting with our two Ufo historians. Please let me know if you have any comments.

<< File: [REDACTED] Interview - Sub to Min1.doc >>

[REDACTED]  
DAS-Sec3  
MT6/73 [REDACTED]

D/DAS/64/3/11

19 April 2004



**PS/US of S**

Copy to:  
APS/Minister(DP)  
DAS  
PTC CS-FOIPO  
Head of AHB(RAF)  
AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
D News RAF  
InfoAccess-AD  
InfoAccess-PM4  
Info-Records1

**UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS – PROPOSED MEETING BETWEEN RESEARCHERS AND MEMBERS OF DAS**

**Issue**

1. Members of DAS, with policy responsibility for the department's limited interest in Unidentified Flying Objects, have been asked to meet with two prominent researchers [REDACTED] who are studying the UFO phenomenon. 

**Recommendation**

2. That Minister notes that DAS staff intends to agree to the meeting, to be held on a date in May 2004.

**Timing**

3. Routine.

**Background**

4. [REDACTED] has been corresponding with DAS on the subject of UFOs since 1998. He states he was a founder member of the Independent UFO Network in 1987 and of the UFO Investigator's Network in 1999. He has also served as a Council member of the British UFO Research Association in the late 1980s. [REDACTED] was a journalist for ten years in the regional press and, in addition to his current studies, now works freelance. He has written (or co-written) eight books on UFOs, ghosts and legends and has contributed to a number of magazine articles and TV programmes on related subjects. He is currently a post-doctoral researcher [REDACTED] where he is studying the social history of the UFO phenomenon in Britain from 1947. He

is in the process of preparing an application to the Economic and Social Research Council for funding to undertake a two-year project to further his research.

5. [REDACTED] has also been corresponding with DAS on UFO matters since 2000. He works closely with [REDACTED] on a number of projects and has written, or contributed to seven books on UFOs, ghosts and legends (with [REDACTED] and others). [REDACTED] has produced articles for UFO magazines, local and national TV and radio shows.

6. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have made a large number of requests for information about our files relating to UFOs under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. They have indicated that they intend to continue to do so when the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) comes into force on 1 January 2005. They have recently requested a meeting with members of DAS staff in order to avoid unnecessary correspondence in future. They have assured us that this meeting is for the purposes of their own research only.

7. Previous practice has not been to agree to such requests, which has possibly contributed to the perception by some groups that the Department is being secretive. The subject matter lends itself well to populist theories of government cover-ups, and appearances in the media by unofficial MOD spokesmen only highlights our reluctance to enter into debate. Rejection of the request could further increase the perceived secrecy surrounding the MOD position on this subject.

8. DAS staff believes that given the current climate of government openness, and forthcoming Freedom of Information Act, it would be beneficial for us to meet these two researchers. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] appear to have some influence on the public debate of UFOs and a meeting could help them gain a better understanding of the department's limited interest in this subject. I would propose to meet them, together with the appropriate Desk Officer, sometime next month. In advance of the meeting we would seek details of the issues Messrs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] wish to discuss and the meeting, and we would emphasise that any information provided was being provided solely to assist with their research. We do not propose a more active engagement with UFO interest groups. D News RAF has been consulted and is content for this meeting to proceed.

[Original Signed]

[REDACTED]  
DAS- AD (Secretariat & Lower Airspace)  
MT6/71 [REDACTED]

From: [redacted]  
Sent: 15 April 2004 17:07  
To: DAS-Sec3  
Subject: RE: Interview



Importance: Low

[redacted] 0

We spoke. Please draft out a short submission to PS/USofS along the lines we discussed. I'd like to take a look at it on Monday please.

I would hope we could get something to [redacted] 40 next week.

thanks,

[redacted] 40

-----Original Message-----  
From: DAS-Sec3  
Sent: 15 April 2004 09:27  
To: DAS-SecAD  
Subject: FW: Interview

[redacted] h 40

For info.

Are you happy for the letter to go to [redacted] 40 Do you think we should advise Dr Lewis Moonie MP?

[redacted] 40

-----Original Message-----  
From: D News RAF  
Sent: 15 April 2004 08:44  
To: DAS-Sec3  
Subject: Interview

[redacted] 40

Sorry for the delay responding.  
We have no problem with the proposed interview, subject to the outlines that [redacted] 40 talks about in his letter to you.  
The advice from here is that it may be worth informing Ministers, making mention of the fact that you have spoken to us and we support the proposal.

Hope that helps? Please let me know if you need anything else.

Caroline

[redacted] 0  
Sqn Ldr  
D News RAF  
[redacted]



From: [REDACTED]  
Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat)3

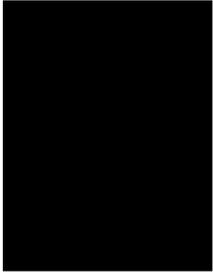


**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London,  
WC2N 5BP

Telephone

(Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)  
(GTN)

020 7218 2140  
020 7218 9000



Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/64/3  
Date  
27 February 2004

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your recent undated letter in which you requested information on three UFO incidents in 1979.

The files for this period have been recalled from our archives and when we have examined them for any relevant documents, I will write to you again.

Yours sincerely,





DAS-Sec3

**From:** Info-Records1  
**Sent:** 24 February 2004 11:25  
**To:** DAS-Sec3  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] Request for Information

[REDACTED] h 40

None of the eight files are with Records 1 or TNA,  
the first 75/2/2/1 Pt F - does not appear on the Hayes index,  
the remaining seven do appear to be at Hayes (index as at 12 December 2003).

I suggest you contact TNT and request all eight, it may be the case that the first has simply been missed during the indexing exercise!

[REDACTED] on 40

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

**From:** DAS-Sec3  
**Sent:** 23 February 2004 11:41  
**To:** Info-Records1  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] Request for Information

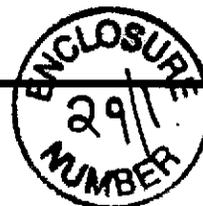
[REDACTED] 40

As discussed, [REDACTED] has requested any information we hold on three particular UFO incidents in 1979, so I need to look at the following files. Please could you let me know if they are with your reviewers or at TNA.

D/DS8/75/2/1	Part F	UFO Reports & Correspondence	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part G	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part H	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part J	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/2	Part K	UFO Reports: edited	1979
D/DS8/75/2/4	Part A	UFO Reports	1979
D/DS8/75/2/4	Part B	UFO Reports	1979
D/DS8/75/2/4	Part D	UFO Reports	1979

Thank you for your assistance.

[REDACTED]  
DAS-Sec3  
MT 6/73 [REDACTED]



From: Info-Records1  
Sent: 23 December 2003 07:55  
To: DAS-Sec3  
Cc: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] Letter

[REDACTED] 40

Probably best not to raise the possibility. but on 1 January 2005 this type of file is a likely candidate for a FOI request ie "Nick Pope" "UFO etc. Commercial confidentiality, personal sensitivity might, of course, be cited (post 1 Jan 2005) for grounds not to release info from it!

On to the task in hand - I suggest some changes to your para 2:

First sentence to stand, but sentence two onwards -

"With regard to the process for release of this file into the public domain, it might be helpful if I briefly explain that not all records created in the MOD are permanently preserved at The National Archives (TNA). Each business unit has the responsibility to review the records they hold and the authority to destroy locally those records which are not considered worthy of further administrative or have no perceived historical value. Records that are considered to have further value are transferred into the custody of the MOD's records department for review at the appropriate time. This particular file is a general administrative file and it is unlikely that when reviewed, it would be a candidate for permanent preservation at TNA."

Two suggested changes to the third para - there are two uses of the word "retained" where possible I suggest that the word "held" or similar be used. "Retained" has a particular meaning under the Public Records Act (however, it is generally the case that it is misused to no adverse effect!).

Hope that this is helpful.

Regards

[REDACTED] 40

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

From: DAS-Sec3  
Sent: 22 December 2003 15:37  
To: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR); Info-Records1  
Subject: [REDACTED] Letter

[REDACTED]

You will recall that [REDACTED] asked for the file numbers and names of the internal files relating to Nick Pope's book and when, under the normal process, would these files be available to the general public? Please see attached my proposed reply. I would be grateful if you could have a quick look at it and confirm that I have said the right things about your records.

[REDACTED] Please could you let me know if what I have said about the destruction / retention of files is ok.

I would like to get this off before the Christmas break so I would be grateful if you could let me know asap.

<< File: [REDACTED] - ltr Dec 03.doc >>

[REDACTED]  
DAS-Sec3

DAS-Sec3



To: Info-Records1  
Subject: RE [redacted] Letter

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly [redacted] n 40

For your information, [redacted] has already requested this information and has been refused it under the Data Protection Act and two exemptions of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, namely; Exemption 2 (Internal discussion and advice) and Exemption 14 (Information given in confidence). He has said he intends to appeal via the routes available to him - ie, the Information Commissioner for DPA and the Ombudsman for the Code, but we have not been informed that he has done so yet. In the meantime he has ask these questions.

[redacted] 40

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

From: Info-Records1  
Sent: 23 December 2003 07:55  
To: DAS-Sec3  
Cc: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
Subject: RE [redacted] Letter

[redacted] n 40

Probably best not to raise the possibility, but on 1 January 2005 this type of file is a likely candidate for a FOI request ie "Nick Pope" "UFO etc. Commercial confidentiality, personal sensitivity might, of course, be cited (post 1 Jan 2005) for grounds not to release info from it!

On to the task in hand - I suggest some changes to your para 2:

First sentence to stand, but sentence two onwards -

"With regard to the process for release of this file into the public domain, it might be helpful if I briefly explain that not all records created in the MOD are permanently preserved at The National Archives (TNA). Each business unit has the responsibility to review the records they hold and the authority to destroy locally those records which are not considered worthy of further administrative or have no perceived historical value. Records that are considered to have further value are transferred into the custody of the MOD's records department for review at the appropriate time. This particular file is a general administrative file and it is unlikely that when reviewed, it would be a candidate for permanent preservation at TNA."

Two suggested changes to the third para - there are two uses of the word "retained" where possible I suggest that the word "held" or similar be used. "Retained" has a particular meaning under the Public Records Act (however, it is generally the case that it is misused to no adverse effect!).

Hope that this is helpful.

Regards

[redacted] n 40

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

From: DAS-Sec3  
Sent: 22 December 2003 15:37  
To: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR); Info-Records1  
Subject: [redacted] Letter

[redacted] 40

You will recall that [redacted] asked for the file numbers and names of the internal files relating to Nick Pope's book and when, under the normal process, would these files be available to the general public? Please see attached my proposed reply. I would be grateful if you could have a quick look at it and confirm that I have said the right things about your records.

[REDACTED] Please could you let me know if what I have said about the destruction / retention of files is ok.

I would like to get this off before the Christmas break so I would be grateful if you could let me know asap.

<< File: [REDACTED] - ltr Dec 03.doc >>

[REDACTED]  
DAS-Sec3  
MT6/73 [REDACTED]

DAS-Sec3



**From:** AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
**Sent:** 23 December 2003 11:15  
**To:** DAS-Sec3; Info-Records1  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] Letter

**Importance:** High

[REDACTED]

Thanks. I suggest that the PCB(Air) paragraph is amended as follows. I have including the name of the file as this is what the enquirer actually asked for?:

*The Air Historical Branch (Publications Clearance Branch (Air)) holds records of Publications Clearance in temporary enclosure jackets which do not form part of the Air Historical Branch registered filing system. These may be considered for review 6 months after the last action but are usually held for around 2 years to ensure that all action is complete. They may be held for longer if authors submit further material for clearance when it is usual practice to link this with previous correspondence. In Mr Pope's case, he continued to write for publication and involve himself in media activities, so the relevant records have been held for a longer period. These include one file PCB(Air)3409 - Publications Clearance - "Open Skies, Closed Minds - Official Reactions To The UFO Phenomenon". However, no PCB(Air) file has ever been considered worthy of permanent preservation and all have ultimately been destroyed when they ceased to be of any administrative value.*

I trust that this is helpful.

Regards,

[REDACTED] 40

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

**From:** DAS-Sec3  
**Sent:** 23 December 2003 09:14  
**To:** Info-Records1  
**Cc:** AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] Letter

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly [REDACTED] on 40

For your information, [REDACTED] has already requested this information and has been refused it under the Data Protection Act and two exemptions of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, namely; Exemption 2 (Internal discussion and advice) and Exemption 14 (Information given in confidence). He has said he intends to appeal via the routes available to him - ie, the Information Commissioner for DPA and the Ombudsman for the Code, but we have not been informed that he has done so yet. In the meantime he has ask these questions.

[REDACTED] 0

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

**From:** Info-Records1  
**Sent:** 23 December 2003 07:55  
**To:** DAS-Sec3  
**Cc:** AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] Letter

[REDACTED] 0

Probably best not to raise the possibility. but on 1 January 2005 this type of file is a likely candidate for a FOI request ie "Nick Pope" "UFO etc. Commercial confidentiality, personal sensitivity might, of course, be cited (post 1 Jan 2005) for grounds not to release info from it!

On to the task in hand - I suggest some changes to your para 2:

First sentence to stand, but sentence two onwards -

"With regard to the process for release of this file into the public domain, it might be helpful if I briefly explain that not all records created in the MOD are permanently preserved at The National Archives (TNA). Each business unit has the

responsibility to review the records they hold and the authority to destroy locally those records which are not considered worthy of further administrative or have no perceived historical value. Records that are considered to have further value are transferred into the custody of the MOD's records department for review at the appropriate time. This particular file is a general administrative file and it is unlikely that when reviewed, it would be a candidate for permanent preservation at TNA."

Two suggested changes to the third para - there are two uses of the word "retained" where possible I suggest that the word "held" or similar be used. "Retained" has a particular meaning under the Public Records Act (however, it is generally the case that it is misused to no adverse effect!).

Hope that this is helpful.

Regards

40

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

**From:** DAS-Sec3  
**Sent:** 22 December 2003 15:37  
**To:** AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR); Info-Records1  
**Subject:** Letter

40 You will recall that asked for the file numbers and names of the internal files relating to Nick Pope's book and when, under the normal process, would these files be available to the general public? Please see attached my proposed reply. I would be grateful if you could have a quick look at it and confirm that I have said the right things about your records.

40 Please could you let me know if what I have said about the destruction / retention of files is ok.

I would like to get this off before the Christmas break so I would be grateful if you could let me know asap.

<< File: ltr Dec 03.doc >>

DAS-Sec3  
MT6/73



From: [REDACTED]  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat) 3  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue,  
LONDON WC2N 5BP

Telephone: (Direct dial) [REDACTED]  
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
(Fax) [REDACTED]  
CHOTs address: DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1  
E-Mail: [das-laopspol1@defence.mod.uk](mailto:das-laopspol1@defence.mod.uk)

### FAX MESSAGE

**TO:** [REDACTED] - Info-Access Pol2

**SUBJECT:** [REDACTED]

**DATE:** 23 December 2003

**NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER:** 5

[REDACTED]  
I am sorry not to have replied to your e-mail re [REDACTED]

Please see attached for your information, a copy of the letter we sent to him when refusing information regarding Nick Pope's book, his subsequent letter and my reply. I hope this makes the situation clearer.

I will be back on the 5<sup>th</sup> January if you need any further information. In the meantime, best wishes for a happy Christmas.

[REDACTED]

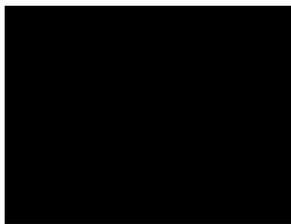


From: [REDACTED]  
Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat)3



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London,  
WC2N 5BP

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



Your Reference  
Our Reference  
D/DAS/64/3  
Date  
22 December 2003

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter dated 26 November in which you asked some questions regarding the papers relating to Mr Pope's book, "Open Skies, Closed Minds". The information you requested is as follows.

This branch (previously Secretariat (Air Staff)) hold one registered file, D/Sec(AS)20/4-Public Relations Clearances Part C, which contains 32 enclosures relating to Mr Pope's book. With regard to the normal process for release of this file to the general public, it might be helpful if I briefly explain that not all the records created in the MOD are permanently preserved for the National Archive. Each business unit has the authority to review the records they hold and, in most cases, destroy locally those records which are not considered worthy of permanent preservation. Records which do appear to merit permanent retention are forwarded to the MOD Information Records Department for consideration. This particular file is a general administration file and it is unlikely that when reviewed, it would merit permanent retention in the National Archive. Records can be retained in the business unit for a maximum of 25 years after the file was closed, so we would not expect this file to survive beyond 2020 at the latest.

The Air Historical Branch (Publications Clearance Branch) hold Publication Clearance material in temporary enclosure jackets which do not form part of the Air Historical Branch registered filing system. These are normally destroyed locally around 2 years after the last action was taken, but are sometimes retained for longer if authors write further material which is then linked to their earlier work. In Mr Pope's case, he cleared three further books through the Publications Clearance Branch and continues to be involved in media activities, so these records have been retained for a longer period than normal. These records are not released into the public domain, but are destroyed when they are no longer of any administrative value.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,





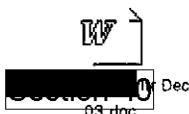
S-Sec3

To: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR); Info-Records1  
Subject: [REDACTED] Letter

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] You will recall that [REDACTED] asked for the file numbers and names of the internal files relating to Nick Pope's book and when, under the normal process, would these files be available to the general public? Please see attached my proposed reply. I would be grateful if you could have a quick look at it and confirm that I have said the right things about your records.

[REDACTED] Please could you let me know if what I have said about the destruction / retention of files is ok.

I would like to get this off before the Christmas break so I would be grateful if you could let me know asap.



[REDACTED]  
DAS-Sec3  
MT6/73 [REDACTED]

DAS-Sec3



**From:** InfoAccess-Pol2  
**Sent:** 15 December 2003 10:25  
**To:** DAS-Sec3  
**Cc:** InfoAccess-AD  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]

**Importance:** High

[REDACTED] 40

Thanks for your email of 16:49 on 4 December 2003 regarding [REDACTED] request for information, I apologise that it's taken so long to respond, but it landed on my Secret account before it was fully operational!

You refer in that email to "routes suggested in my earlier letter" - would it be possible to see a copy of that letter?

To clarify - has [REDACTED] appealed against your decision to withhold the information, or has he just indicated that he might and in the meantime asked further questions? If he has appealed could we please see the letter he sent in to do so?

Are you withholding the information under the terms of DPA or because it falls within the scope of one of the Code exemptions?

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

InfoAccess-Pol2  
St Giles 830  
[REDACTED]

DAS-Sec3



**From:** AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
**Sent:** 08 December 2003 10:35  
**To:** DAS-Sec3  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] request for Information

**Importance:** High

[REDACTED] 40

Thanks for your e-mail below. There is only 1 PCB(Air) file relating to Mr Pope's first book. It is:

PCB(Air)3409

Subject: Publications Clearance

Title: "Open Skies, Closed Minds" Official Reactions to the UFO Phenomenon by Mr N G Pope

PCB(Air) files: Because of the personal nature of the subject matter, PCB(Air) files do not form part of AHB's Registered Filing System and are held and maintained solely by the PCB(Air) desk officer. Files are kept ostensibly as TEJs and none has ever been considered either for permanent preservation or release into the public domain. As TEJs, the files can be considered for local destruction at 6 months after the last action but it is PCB(Air) practice to destroy them around the 2 year mark to allow for any follow up action that may be necessary. For example, in Mr Pope's case we knew there were further books to come and therefore retained all the relevant paperwork. Further, we sometimes ask authors to confirm in writing that they accept the terms and conditions set out in the clearance letter and/or to let us know the publication details of the book.

I trust that this is helpful. Please can we see a copy of your reply before it goes to [REDACTED]

VMT

[REDACTED]  
AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)

BP266 [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED] 40

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

**From:** DAS-Sec3  
**Sent:** 04 December 2003 16:49  
**To:** CL(FS)-Legal1; CL(FS)-Legal1a; AHB(RAF)-Head of; AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR); DAS-SecAD; DAS-LA-AD; InfoAccess-Pol2  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] request for Information

Please be aware that [REDACTED] has informed me that he is not content with our decision to refuse him information concerning internal correspondence relating to Nick Pope's Book, Open Skies, Closed Minds and will be pursuing the matter initially by the routes suggested in my earlier letter, and ultimately, if necessary, via his MP and the Ombudsman.

In the meantime he has asked the following questions;

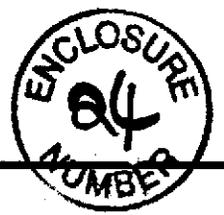
How many internal files are there pertaining to Nick Pope's book?

What are their names and numbers?

When, under the normal process, would these files be available to the general public?

I would be grateful if AHB could advise me of their input to [REDACTED] questions. With regard to the third question, it looks like he thinks all files are preserved for the National Archive and are therefore always ultimately open to the public. This is something we will have to explain to him.

[REDACTED]  
DAS-Sec3 (note my new title)  
MT6/73 [REDACTED]



To: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
Subject: RE: [redacted] request for Information

8/12/2003

Thanks [redacted] 40 let you see my reply to [redacted] before it goes.

[redacted] 40

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

From: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
Sent: 08 December 2003 10:35  
To: DAS-Sec3  
Subject: RE: [redacted] request for Information  
Importance: High

[redacted] 40

Thanks for your e-mail below. There is only 1 PCB(Air) file relating to Mr Pope's first book. It is:

PCB(Air)3409

Subject: Publications Clearance

Title: "Open Skies, Closed Minds" Official Reactions to the UFO Phenomenon by Mr N G Pope

PCB(Air) files: Because of the personal nature of the subject matter, PCB(Air) files do not form part of AHB's Registered Filing System and are held and maintained solely by the PCB(Air) desk officer. Files are kept ostensibly as TEJs and none has ever been considered either for permanent preservation or release into the public domain. As TEJs, the files can be considered for local destruction at 6 months after the last action but it is PCB(Air) practice to destroy them around the 2 year mark to allow for any follow up action that may be necessary. For example, in Mr Pope's case we knew there were further books to come and therefore retained all the relevant paperwork. Further, we sometimes ask authors to confirm in writing that they accept the terms and conditions set out in the clearance letter and/or to let us know the publication details of the book.

I trust that this is helpful. Please can we see a copy of your reply before it goes to [redacted]

VMT

[redacted]  
AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)  
BP266  
Fax: [redacted] 40

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

From: DAS-Sec3  
Sent: 04 December 2003 16:49  
To: CL(FS)-Legal1; CL(FS)-Legal1a; AHB(RAF)-Head of; AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR); DAS-SecAD; DAS-LA-AD; InfoAccess-Pol2  
Subject: [redacted] request for Information

Please be aware that [redacted] has informed me that he is not content with our decision to refuse him information concerning internal correspondence relating to Nick Pope's Book, Open Skies, Closed Minds and will be pursuing the matter initially by the

routes suggested in my earlier letter, and ultimately, if necessary, via his MP and the Ombudsman.

In the meantime he has asked the following questions;

How many internal files are there pertaining to Nick Pope's book?

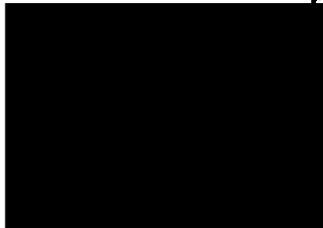
What are their names and numbers?

When, under the normal process, would these files be available to the general public?

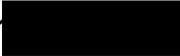
I would be grateful if AHB could advise me of their input to [REDACTED] questions. With regard to the third question, it looks like he thinks all files are preserved for the National Archive and are therefore always ultimately open to the public. This is something we will have to explain to him.

[REDACTED]  
DAS-Sec3 (note my new title)

MT6/73 [REDACTED]



26/11/03

Dear 

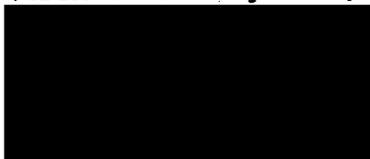
Thank you for your letter of 17th November regarding access to internal MOD files and correspondence relating to Nick Pope's book, *Open Skies, Closed Minds*.

Obviously I cannot agree with your conclusions and will be pursuing the matter, initially by the routes you suggest and ultimately, if necessary, via my MP and the Ombudsman.

However, perhaps you can, at this moment in time, answer the following questions?

- \* How many internal files are there pertaining to Nick Pope's book?
- \* What are their file names and numbers?
- \* When, under the normal process, would these files be available to the general public?

I look forward to your reply.



Crossed in post with my letter - NFA



18/11/03

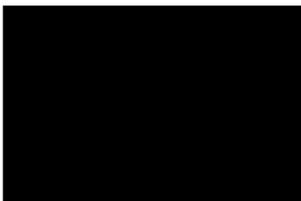
Your ref: D/DAS/64/2

Dear 

Further to your letter of 13<sup>th</sup> October in which you reply to my requests of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September for information concerning access to information about the publication of Nick Pope's book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*.

You noted in your letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> October that you hoped 'to send (you) a substantive reply soon'. This letter was written over six weeks ago and I have heard nothing further from you about the matter.

I realise that your department must be extremely busy, but I would appreciate a reply as soon as possible. As I have noted in previous letters, should I be denied access to the relevant files I will be pursuing the matter further via all available channels and, if necessary, via my Member of Parliament and the relevant ombudsman.



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Letter (which went to all national  
UFO groups) authorising release of  
the encounter reports, and giving  
the general information.

[redacted]  
Oxford  
[redacted]

D/Sec(AS)12/3

27 July 1992



We have had a number of recent enquiries about the contents of the UFO files held by the Ministry of Defence, and I thought it would be useful if I put you in the picture on what we hold.

Our files are made up of UFO sighting reports, together with enquiries about other aspects of the UFO phenomenon, and the position of the Ministry of Defence. Virtually all of the UFO sighting reports we receive relate to lights or discs in the sky, or various ill-defined shapes or objects. In my time here I have not received a single report of any close encounter, but we have, in the past, received a very small number of letters that might fall into the category of a close encounter of the third or fourth kind. I recently had a request from a researcher to release these reports. As we receive so few, and recognising their value to researchers, I agreed that these reports could be released. I also said that I would make this material available to those UFO groups that we refer witnesses and enthusiasts to, and I therefore attach this for your information. As is usual when releasing UFO reports, I have deleted information relating to the identity of the witnesses, together with other personal information. I draw no conclusions from this material, and remain open-minded as to what may have prompted these five reports. I have not included material relating to reports that are already in the public domain, such as photocopied extracts from books such as "Above Top Secret".

I will keep you informed about any such cases in the future, and - as usual - will encourage any witness to get in touch with you. I remain of the opinion, however, that reports of close encounters are more likely to be reported to organisations such as yours than to us.

More generally, we are able to answer specific queries you may have about particular sightings which have occurred recently, and can let you know whether we have a report on the incident, and if so, what it contains. We will also do our best to answer any specific questions we are asked, and can also give general information about our files, and what they contain. However, the files that we hold only go back to 1985, with previous files having been "archived", and sent to the Public Record Office. Because these files are covered by the "30 year rule", and as, prior to 1967, UFO files were destroyed after five years, files held in this office are likely to be the only accessible UFO files at present.

I hope this is helpful.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Date 23.1. 91

Somerset.

Dear Sir

I am writing to tell you of what happened to me in the summer of 1989 the month of may.

I was sleeping at a place called FELTHAM LANE, they were building a new bypass. It was about 3 o'clock in the morning i did not write the day down,

I was walking towards the railway lines when i heard the sound of a railway engine well thats what i thought the railway lines were straight in front of me, the signal was on red i could not see the train coming the noise became louder then i looked to the left down the bypass, A FLYING SAUCER had LANDED i still cannot believe what happened to me that morning.

When the saucer had landed TWO ALIENS CAME OUT not green men nor did they have funny heads, they are the same as us, human they were dressed in all black, the saucer had lights coming out of the top red blue and white my memory has faded a little bit but not that much.

By this time i was hiding under a earth moving machine i was terrified. The first Alien who came out knew where i was HOW, he pointed to me and shouted CAPTURE THAT MAN BEFORE HE TELLS ANYBODY ELSE, The second ALIEN was checking the engines THATS right, they have real engines they can rev up thier engines they sound like a train, but much louder.

Are we to believe that somebody on this Planet has built a fully operational flying saucer with a diesel engine, These two ALIENS can speak perfect ENGLISH., They only use thier engines for takeing off and landing, they use the railway lines and the railway engines because they sound the same, its a cover they glide in flight. Have the Russians built a flying saucer are they that clever, Somebody has somewhere,

How did they get through our radar, WARMINISTER-ARMY BARRACKS ARE ONLY a few miles away, WHAT WEAPONS DO THEY CARRY i didnt see any visible ones.

I was in the wrong place at the wrong time according to what the ALIEN

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Alien shouted to me. Has any body else been captured.  
It was all over in about 5 minites,when the saucer had took off  
the train came.

A few weeks after a lady reported a flying saucer in the local  
paper guess where near a railway line. Looking back it seems li  
like a night,mare, BUT I AM AFRAID ITS ALL TRUE.

You now have a real insight into flying saucers, that they have  
real engines that they can rev them up, they can beat our  
radar,

With great respect i know that the WAR IN THE GULF is a very  
big problem for all of us, I also know that you need hard

FACTS AND EVIEDENCE I cannot provide this, ~~i keepin~~

I keep asking myself if only i had a camere well i didnt of all th  
books ive read on flying saucers none of them have mentioned an  
engine or anything like it.

It has takeing me a long time to write this on paper the main  
reason is [REDACTED]

being totaly honest about this. [REDACTED] i am

[REDACTED]  
Nothing will change what i saw nothing at all.

The main thing about this saucer is the ENGINE who made it,is,it,  
man made if,it,is WHAT COUNTRY MADE IT.

The next time our pilots see strange lights on the groudd it  
could be a flying saucer especially near a railway line.

It cannot be a diesel engine it wouldnt have enough power surly  
it must use some kind of fuel, why else where theh checking over  
the engines. Nobody else knows about this except you this letter  
must be treated with some air of secracy.

Nobody knows about the engine except the M.O.D. and me.  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] but what i saw still  
remains,WISH YOU COULD HAVE been their sir it really was great  
fantaskic.The saucer was as big as a house even though i was  
afraid their was an ere of excitment.There here and there human  
nobody knows who they are.Saddam Hussein might be a threat to  
world peace but he wont last long, we hope not.

Flying saucers are a bigger threat they can sneak in and out  
with out getting gaught.We dont know how many there are or what  
weapons they carry.

Plasse do not scorn or laugh at  
what ive written i didnt find it funney at  
the time,nor do i now.

Yours Sincerly  
[REDACTED]

P.S. Perhaps i was in the right place at the right time.  
Because of the engine.

Tel: [redacted] Home  
" [redacted] Business.

[redacted]

reply sent 7 April 87

Cheshire

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

Dear Sir / Madam,

It has taken me a long time to decide to write to you. I am also quite convinced that after you have read this letter, you will probably throw it into the dustbin and have a good laugh at it. But I will go on anyway. I have tried so many times to put pen to paper and write in such a way that I will not be made to look a fool. I've thrown away so many letters that I have begun. This one is going, I've finally decided.

Here goes. On my way back from Southport after visiting a sick Aunt My Mother and myself were heading towards Manchester. We both noticed a bright light. I will not go into great detail about what the light did. but the culmination was that our vehicle was slowed down by an odd looking black type 1930's car that was in front of ours. The driver was tall, stocky, and wearing a strange german type hat, even though his vehicle was dangerously close to ours not once did he show any movement or show any sign of movement. My car was slowed down by this vehicle in front from 65 MPH to almost a standstill. Both my Mother and I felt that something was very wrong and odd about the whole thing. I decided to open my window and look out. To my horror. Above my car was an unusually shaped craft of some kind, about 30 feet above us. The lights on this object were huge and very dazzling the size of the thing was roughly about the size of a double decker bus on its side twice. The strangest thing though was that (Here comes the hard bit). We both felt as though time had stood still and it was very frightening indeed. We felt nothing, heard nothing, smelled nothing. It was as though we were dead, or not here. I remember hitting my head on something, probably the window of the car and I screamed, and suddenly the car that was in front of us disappeared and so did this odd craft. We drove like crazy.

to a petrol station and stopped. We didn't need petrol. We just wanted to get off the road. The object wasn't in sight at first and then it was suddenly there again in full view. I must say it was a beautiful thing all lit up we did notice a sort of dome amidst the lights. But we were very scared indeed. My car was back to normal by now. whilst the object was above us all the lights on the car (my car) went haywire. and I could smell a sweet burning some sort of odd smell.

When I dropped my Mother off home and finally got home myself. My husband was distraught. He thought we had had an accident. We left Southport at 7 o'clock evening and I arrived home at 10.30 evening. The first thing my husband said was where is your coat you look freezing. It should have taken us just over an hour to get back from Southport to Manchester. Just after I arrived home I had blue marks on both sides of my thigh and I was very very sick for a couple of days and also I had some terrible dreams which I would not like to go into on paper.

We worked it out that 55 minutes went missing on our time home and that dream that I had about an (teen boy) a being that was 6 feet tall, maybe taller. Blue eyes and white shoulder length hair who wore a one piece silver or white suit with no pockets or anything. He said in my dream, that he had seen me when I was thirteen years old and no matter where I go he would know where to find me, and if it was necessary he would find me. I am now thirty eight years of age. The incident I am writing about only happened a few years ago. I am frightened and I do definitely believe that something is going to happen again. I can't talk to anyone about this because I don't think most people would believe me. But I swear to god it happened. There is so much more involved that I could not put pen to paper and discuss.

Please I would be so grateful indeed if you could help me to solve or at least explain to me what happened on that road. And why it happened to me and my Mum. I am a happily married woman who holds down

a small business I am told I am reliable, intelligent and trustworthy. I have read so much about UFO's since the sighting and I get the feeling that most people who have a visit from these crafts are either crazy or attention seekers. All I can do is speak for myself and my Mother. Believe me, I have heard the chance of the story being plastered all over the newspapers. The Mirror tried to con me into selling the story as so did Womens World. But I did and do not want publicity. All I want to know is why they, the people on that craft, wanted or needed to contact me. I am totally confused. I understand that you have all your red tape and such to consider. I also expect you to reply to me in such a way that you will almost certainly make me out to be a fool. Well I'm not a fool and neither is my Mother. We both know a great deal about the incident and we are willing to tell you all we know, if you are willing to listen. But in return I want some long overdue answers.

One thing that does bother both my Mother and myself was not so long after the incident on the East Lanes Road, My Mother was walking home from shopping and it was daylight. Her attention was caught by a bright light which flashed her three times then disappeared. Six miles away at the same time we found out later, the same light which was enormous, did the same to me as I was driving home with a friend. It's all so strange.

If I don't get any help or advice from you I really don't know what to do next. Because I have a gut feeling that we have not seen the last of this odd craft or the occupants.

Please take this letter seriously, because we need you to try. I have never written to anyone about all this I think it is about time something should be done or at least discussed.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

I would like to add that I know that the Ministry of

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Defence tend to concern themselves about objects sighted in the UK airspace, This object was in the UK airspace and it did fly below tree level and it was not a crash from this world believe me. If you don't want to accept this or at least investigate it then I for one will have some serious thought provoking concern for the defence of our country to say the least.

Yours again most sincerely



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Merseyside

April 26 1955

9/5  
ENCLOSURE NO.  
8/1

Urgent - IMMEDIATE pass to DEFENCE MINISTER or other high class, fiction Person in the govt.

Dear Sir

I am writing to you today with extraordinary news. I believe these are 'aliens' as in extraterrestrials who are here on [redacted] waiting for someone to grant 'Landing Permission' officially. I appear to have had the honour as bearer of this historical news. I say that because I recognise who these aliens are. It is urgent you equip a forestal region to receive them. They are the legendary "Feathered Serpents" last heard of in prehistory in Inca Peru. I only knew that because I am interested in South American history in a lay way. I believe for some years now I've had a 1st kind encounter which has gone on and on! They are as in the legend Serpents but a curious genetic mix of 3 species. Birds, snakes (cobra type) and man. I have been spending time in their company believing them to be a strange new "Magpie". I should say they communicate between themselves with a call like a bird, resembling one of our own raven cum blackbird noises. They are here in peace and they've simply said "hello" to both me and my daughter. They use telepathy and that's how they'll communicate with us. Please find a telepath who can send and receive as I can. I've been on 'Duty' 4 years already and need a rest. I would reckon my phobia about snakes is getting in the way of my continuing with them. I can't control the snakes. They are strangely beautiful and immensely powerful. I would estimate their 'length' at least 20 feet plus. With the cranial capacity of the 3 species they evolved from. Their brain power is awesome! If they use all their full capacity. They have huge heads and can fly as birds can and in the manner of tree snakes too. They're just amazing! They mean no harm and I have no idea of their future intentions at this point. It would be crazy to show ARMS at any point. I believe they could wipe us out no problem if they wanted to. If the legends are true as they appear to be. The staff at the landing should use tinted goggles, as the landing region will be bathed in a strong glaring golden light. This explains the obsession the Peruvians and Mayas had with gold. Their scout craft produce the light. Light resembling strong sunlight at noon. Golden light! non radioactive! Now I'll explain my photos simply taken at locations generally full of tourists at the time except for the Bickson shot. Firstly the one with the benches in the middle region is Thurston Country Park picnic area. Flying down are magpies. These are ours. Though the others appear I'm sure in the background as curled up heads apparently floating. This is a companion

picture only.

Then look first to the Briston shot. The number on the back is my [redacted] members code! Ignore it. In the centre can be seen a "Bird" flying between trees. Notice if you will the tail especially, then look at our Maggie. Fascinating aren't they?

The colour configuration is wrong too as you can plainly see. In the background of the Briston picture is a "craft" behind the trees with what could be rivets on! It's puzzled me for some time what it was till it dawned.

Moving to the Welsh Valle Crucis Abbey scene you will see in the big tree next to the abbey one a lot of "Birds", yet again. And close up faces in the trees. In white. Near the bay hanging down is what on first sight looks like a rippled rubber mat ending in a blob. It's head. This is the other side of their body obviously, their tail becoming a claw to keep them in position.

On the Briston scene it looks like two tails in motion. This is probably due to the camera shutter speed which was a fixed focus one, so I couldn't improve it.

I don't know why I was chosen for this. I think they've been the cause of some structure damage on the houses I've lived in. The roofs were ~~also~~ always losing slates and gutters coming loose. And leaks. They liked me so much they slept on the roof to be near me. Why they like me is an even bigger mystery. A Scout ship does duty outside at night and does not attempt anymore to mimic stars in the sky. They are waiting for news. They are standing in the holding pattern as they say in aircraft circles!

Please hurry as they are becoming impatient to touch down. Can you confirm they are UFO's over Perth Scotland. My sister lives there and is having roof problems too. She is also a telepath I think but doesn't realise it! I know you know they are here. Four battle cruiser the M12 was parked at Liverpool Pier then another ship took its place in February/March with better equipment on board. It's likely a white ship parked on the Welsh coast appearing to do "tourist" duty i.e. The public can walk on her sometimes, is part of that fleet. Would I be correct?

I forgot to say in this fleet is a body of them, at least fifty individuals well enough to fill 2 big trees anyway. There may be more than that. you should behave as if they were a visiting royal party as they were treated by the Incas. Don't go over the top please. Don't destroy the peaceful work I have done for you.

You wonder why they choose an urban area this time round? I think they acted on a funny idea I had (before I knew them properly) after reading a Von Danke book. I wondered what it would be like if the 'gods' ever return and used an opposite geographic place to Peru and instead of remote mountain why not smack in the centre of town. It's a joke in one respect. They understand human too.

I am not a crank, just an ordinary person. I would like my life to return to normal now, so would the aliens. I am not attention seeking, just trying to attract your attention on their behalf. Simply a message carrier. I know my work is finished now almost. Once I have handed them over to you.

I don't have a criminal record or anything and I'm not a terrorist!

The feathered Serpent did say in Peru at the dawn of time (as he knows) he would return. He was very pointed about it according to legend. He came to Her in Human form. This time they present in their natural shape.

I can understand the awe the ancients must have felt at the original UFO landing. I feel incredible peace near Her. But I am normally non-aggressive anyway so I'm not too surprised.

I was thinking of walking into RAF Sealand at Chester. But I thought the C-in-C of the base would react negatively and hold-up things. Assuming I got past the gate guard that is.

Please move quickly. It's vital you do. If you want to meet Her too.

Yours in True sincerity,

[REDACTED]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Sec. (AS) 1

1990

FILE

Edinburgh, [REDACTED]  
8th, March, 1990

37/1

The Air Ministry  
Whitehall,  
London.

Dear Sir:

Your first reaction to this letter will be one of pure disbelief however, let me assure you I am neither insane or a charlatan as the facts will prove.

During W.W.2., as I am sure you are aware, a crashed U.F.O. was recovered by the military somewhere in this country. I should like to know the exact date and location of this event?

It is possible this was Pusslock Warren the location of which I am as yet unable to discover. There are several options, Wistman's Wood by West Dart Devon, between Gars Point and Blackstone Point Devon, the Norfolk coast or Wenlock Edge. In fact the name Pusslock Warren could be quite wrong, it just came into my mind one morning from whence I know not.

The crashed vehicle contained two males from Spectra, a planet orbiting the star Zeta Tucanae and a female from one of the two inhabited planets in the Sirius system, Amazon the planet of warrior women. That female was me. So I have a right to ask my question. (see sketch 1.)

Spectrans are very white with oriental features no hair and 'Mr. Shock' ears. They can and do interbreed with Terrans. Although Spectra is a member of the Federation of Nine you may not know them. The people you work with are from a planet orbiting 82 Dridani. They are your 'brothers' descendants of Adam. (This blood may be Thebal.)

I will now acquaint you with my story in brief.

I am a Wearer of the Purple, a top rank in the military. Some years ago our President, Adrastra, asked me to come to Earth, with

Utraiing, an other Wessex of the Purple, to check out what was going on.  
(I was very familiar with Earth.)

This woman betrayed me and I was captured by Spectra troops.

I protested. They ignored me. I killed them - I remember them lying peacefully over the control console with its rows of small square push buttons in chalky shades of grey, blue, yellow and pink. Colours they use a lot.

I cut the drive confident my death would free me from them. I was wrong. The vehicle fell like a brick (To this day I hate lifts because of that little falling feeling one gets.) When it struck the ground I must have lost consciousness for the next memory is of laying face down on the floor my head on its left side limbs spread out. A piece of cloth in front of me I think (see sketch 2.) I suppose the two also fell on the floor. A warm feeling spread through my body. It was quite nice until it stopped me from breathing easily my eyesight blurred and then blackness.

Whilst my body lay in the U.F.O. I was taken into the Spectra computer. That was a strange experience.

The parents of my present body were chosen in 1940. They saw a rocket shaped U.F.O. trailing a blue flame, and experienced a strange stillness.

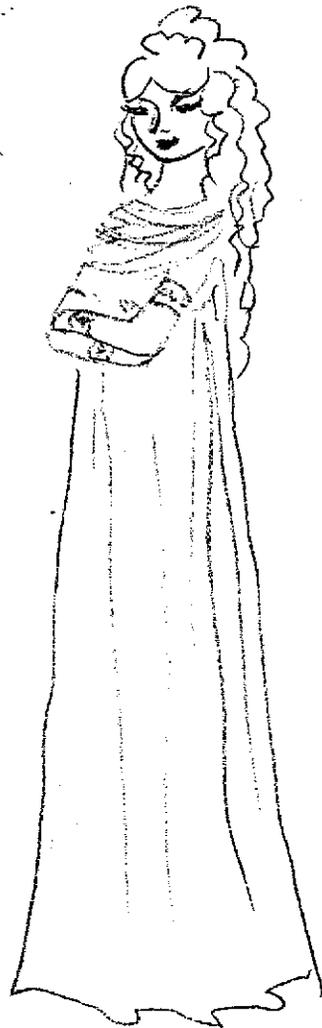
Although Spectra rule me they will not tell me why I am here.

They have an other body just like this one. It lies in a bed wearing a sort of helmet from which hangs a thick cable plugged into a computer probable, behind a panel on the wall.

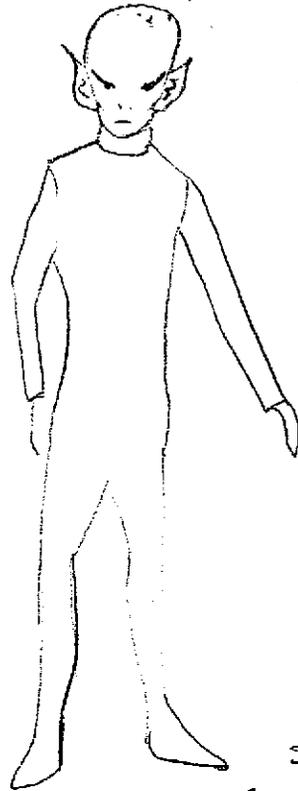
I hope you can answer this letter.

Yours faithfully





Me  
Gowns  
Purple.



Spectra  
Garment Black  
with white bands  
close to cuff sometimes  
showing rank.

One white band is a pilot.  
Top brass have 6 band of dull red  
on each side of chest, from shoulder  
to waist.



2

No reply

plc

E  
E2  
45

[REDACTED]  
Defence Secretariat Division 8,  
Ministry of Defence,  
Main Building,  
Whithall,  
London  
SWIA 2HR

[REDACTED]  
Merseyside  
[REDACTED]

Your Ref D/DS8/75/2/I

Our Ref WU/EXL

Jan., 1985

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing in response to the letter received, dated 9 March 1982. As my information can no longer be considered as classified, I am now able to pass it onto you.

The letter that I sent to you, was only a small fraction, of the work that I had done on U.F.O. research. I was in fact in physical and psychic contact with an E.T. called Algar; whom I have had a relationship with since 1958, and it continued until 1981, when he was killed by another race of beings.

So to start at the beginning. I was seven years old, when I first saw traces left by a U.F.O. At the time I lived at [REDACTED], Glasgow. One Saturday, morning I had the impression that I should go out to the back, so much it was like an obsession (DIA 1). When I did go to the back, I found three indentations in the ground, they were in triangular formation. Each indentation was the same distance from it's partner, and they gave the impression that three large ball bearings had been dropped there. My first thought was that it was a U.F.O.; but I had never ever heard of U.F.O. or flying saucers, and yet the thought seemed normal to me, as if I used it on a regular basis. I told my father, who was rather quick at ridiculing and poo-pooing what I had told him. Anyway, a couple of months later, the first visit came from E.T.s, which was followed by a few more. They were of green gas which solidified when it came in from the passage way, which led to the toilet under, the door, and the wardrobe, which was situated against the door preventing it from opening. (DIA 2). There was one which was green and very large. that had eyes all over it, this one came three times. Then there was a woman with very sharp features, and what looked like fat worms sticking out of her head, where the hair should be. The last visit from the large green thing happened when my father tried to get into the bedroom, as usual I was against the door, with fear. My father was at the time, fairly atheletic and no weakling, but no matter how hard he pushed he could not get the door open; not until the large green thing had gone.

In 1959, I found semi-transparent, slug like creatures crawling up the wall on the opposite side of the back. At this period of time I was in with a band, especially, the lead singer [REDACTED] and the drummer [REDACTED]. Both of them saw the creatures. The end product of this was that we armed ourselves and started to shoot them, we used .22 air rifles at a range of fifty to seventy five yards. When we did kill them, they fell off the wall and took on the appearance of cement that had got damp and solidified. Quite often they would fall and appear to go through the ground leaving no trace at all. One day we found that we were unable to hit our targets, and we could see our shots pass through the targets, by the ricochete off the wall, and after that we found that it was a waste of time trying to shoot them, so we gave up as a bad job. (DIA 3).

I was stationed at [REDACTED] Barracks - [REDACTED] and Algar was with me then, even in spite of other E.T.s going away. A strong bond was forming of friendship and trust. One incident involves telepathic contact, and that occurred, following an incident when I was unusually indecisive. It was when I was on guard duty, and I was asked if I would like the first tour, to which I normally said yes, but thank God I eventually declined, for the first one was critically injured with the nick elf he was carrying. It was on the basis of safety, that we were to go in pairs from then on, and it was under these conditions that I got a telepathic link with Algar. We were returning to the guard house after our patrol, and to our right was a field, which had lighting only on the road on which we were walking. Apart from the lighting mentioned, the field was totally dark. I heard only what I can describe as a whisper, and it was saying that someone was creeping about in the field, to the front and slightly right. I immediately looked in that direction but saw nothing. But as I had heard this whisper several times before, and it had proved accurate, I decided to follow it through. I sent my partner around the camp museum, which was situated about twenty yards behind us, and I went to a lamp, and prepared to go into the field. It was at this point, when someone came out of the dark. I then called my partner and after a few heated words, I convinced the stranger who had no i.d. on him, to accompany us to the guard house. (DIA 4).

The real work began in May, 1979, when my wife and I formed a team, and together we collected such data as; - what the different coloured lights on a U.F.O. means, how they manage to evade radar, what fuel they use and what it looks like, I have been to their bases which were in Wirral and Cheshire. There was a curious incident which took place over the river Mersey, by the Wallasey Town Hall. There were six U.F.O.s flying at speed up and down the river, when I noticed a black one was trying to manoeuvre the other six. Unfortunately, the black one was shot down, it hit the water in front of the Town Hall. As I was watching, the front end of the U.F.O. hit the water, then the whole U.F.O. disappeared; leaving the water to splash, as if done by an invisible entity.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

3

In June, 1981, Algar, was ready to approach the government in person. I was over the moon with pride to be used as the medium between alien race and our own race. Unfortunately, another race of E.T. decided to attack Algar, and his team of scientists, and killed Algar and several members of his team. That of course was that. It was not until October, 24 1981, that they sent some one to dominate me by using threats, and eventually attacking me, the E.T. died during his attack on me. Since there have been four responses to my telepathic messages sent out, but two of those contacts have been lost. But of the two who are still in contact, one is a woman, but I am unable to give you her name. The other is a male and his name is Maloben, he says he comes from the Milky Way, and that his planet is called Platone.

I am intending to make contacts strong, and hopefully make a meeting between the alien race and our Government, with the information that I have now given you, I hope that you would reconsider sponsoring my research. The information that I have given you is accurate and truthful. Although there is lots more. I decided to give you what I thought was the most important to you.

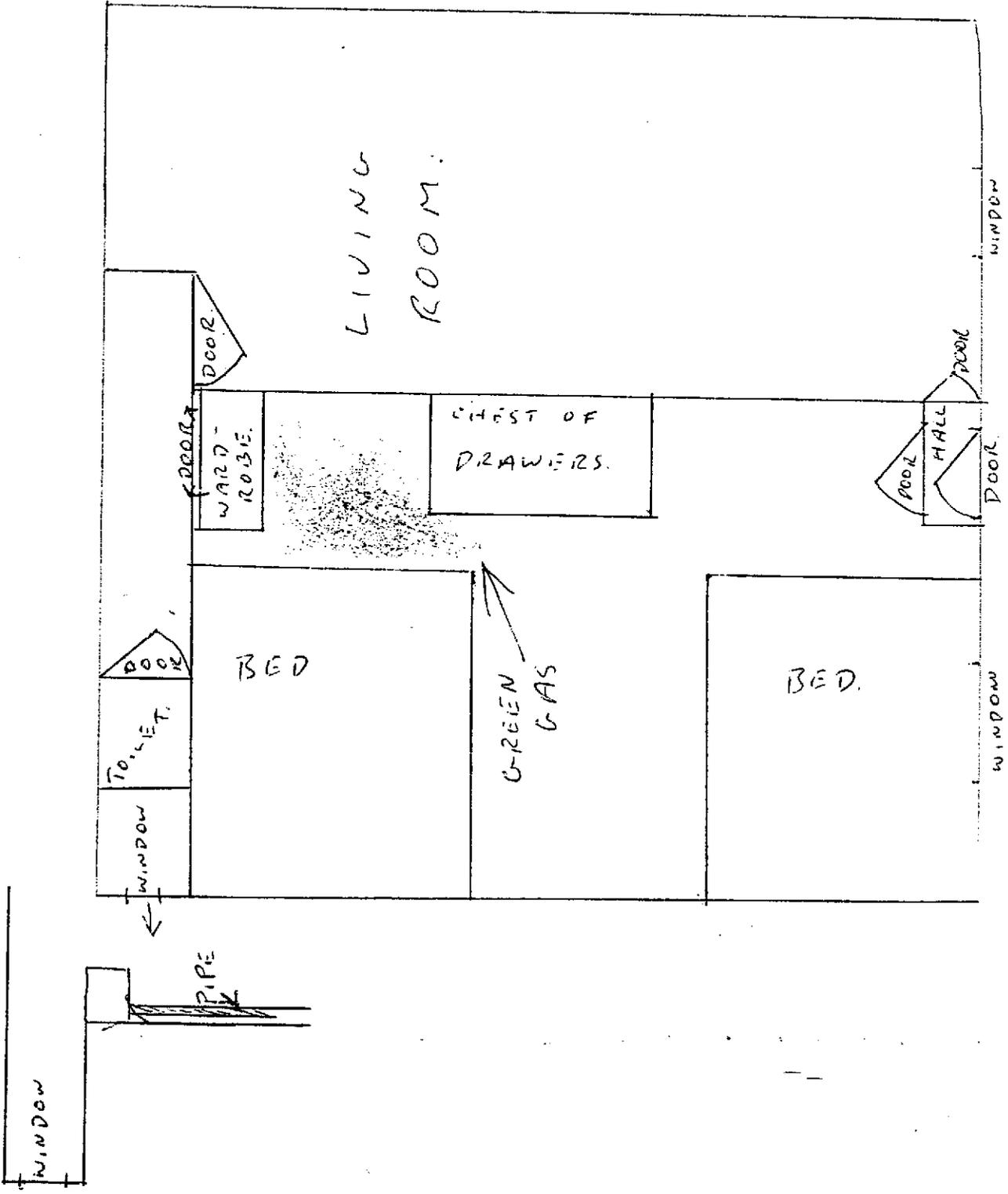
*Yours faithfully*



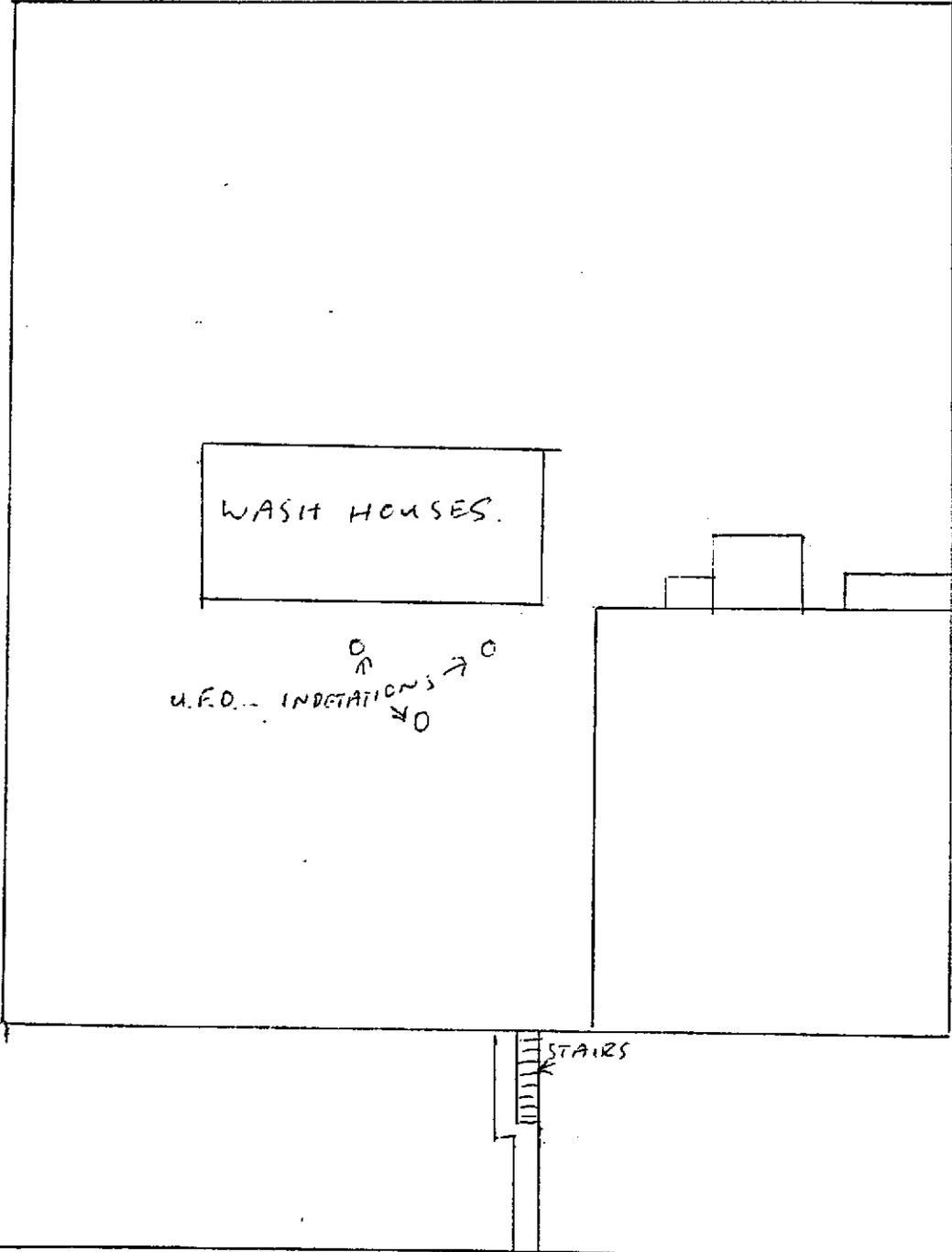
DIA 1

HOUSE AT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



PAVEMENT

20



DIA 3

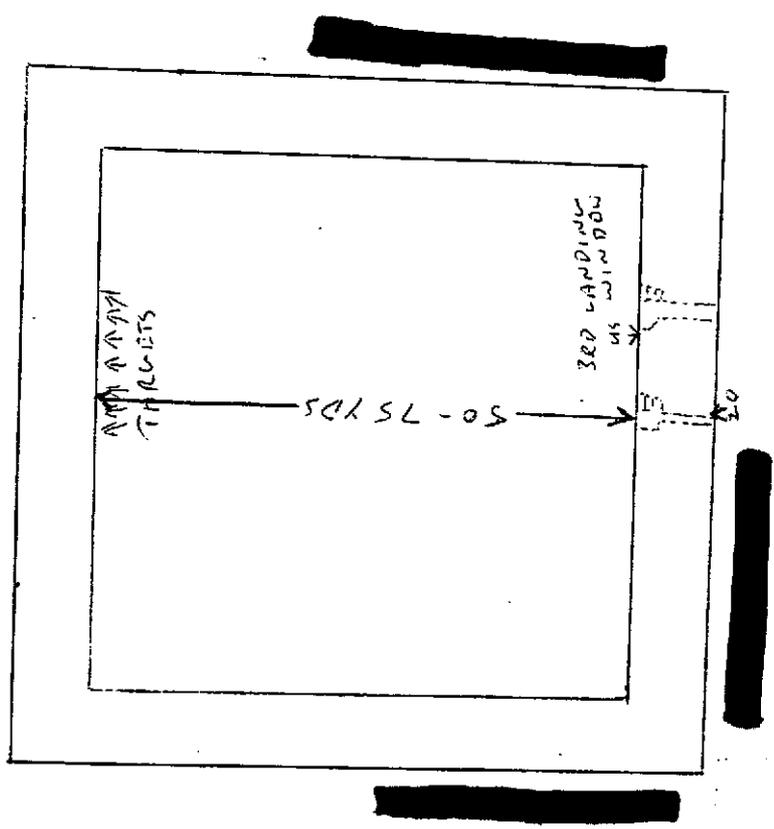
SEMI-TRANSPARENT

← SLUG

SILVERY TRAIL  
EVAPORATES  
SECONDS AFTER  
LAIN.



REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



DIA 4

FILE R  
SUBJECT  
LAME OF  
OUT OF  
FIELD

MUSEUM  
PARTNER WENT  
ROUND MUSEUM

MUSEUM

OLAMP

I WANT TO  
TOWARDS  
LAMP AND  
PREPARED  
CONTACT  
HERE  
TO GO INTO FIELD

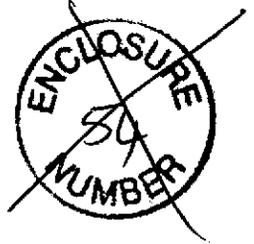
S  
I

ROUTE BACK  
TO C.M.





From: [REDACTED]  
Directorate of Air Staff (Secretariat)3

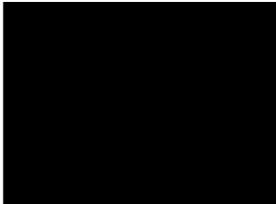


**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London,  
WC2N 5BP

Telephone

(Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)  
(GTN)

020 7218 2140  
020 7218 9000



Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/64/2  
Date  
17 November 2003



Dear [REDACTED]

Further to my letter of 13 October I am now in a position to give you a substantive reply to your request for copies of internal MOD files and correspondence relating to Mr Pope's book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*.

In light of your letters of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September and your further request to include papers held by the Publications Clearance Branch, we have reviewed the papers concerned to see if any of the documents could be released with some redaction. We have, however, reached the conclusion that it is not possible to supply the information you have requested, but it may assist you if we clarify our reasons for this decision.

Ministry of Defence regulations state that any serving or former member of the Armed Forces or Civil Service who wish to publish a book, monograph, article, letter of other textual material concerning information or experience they gained as a result of their official duties, must seek permission from the appropriate Departmental Publications Clearance Branch before publication. A copy of the manuscript is supplied, and the Publications Clearance Branch, in consultation with the Branches concerned with the subject matter, examine it for any details which may cause concern with regard to comments or disclosure of material such as: classified information; information given to the MOD in confidence; comments about relations between Civil Servants and Ministers; information that would undermine security or our national interests or anything that MOD would regard as objectionable about individuals or organisations. Any concerns raised are discussed with the author before permission for publication is granted. I must stress that this process is not designed to stop individuals expressing their personal views, even if these differ from those of the MOD, but rather to prevent the release of information which would be inappropriate for the reasons stated and to ensure that any personal viewpoint is not presented as MOD policy.

With regard to the documents that you have requested, these contain personal data relating to Mr Pope and others, the further processing of which must meet Data Protection Act 1998 requirements, and internal discussion about the contents of Mr Pope's original manuscript (some of which may not have appeared in the final published version of his book). In engaging in the

publication clearance process Mr Pope would have reason to expect that his manuscript and correspondence about its contents would remain confidential between himself and his employer and would not be disclosed to a third party without his permission. It would also undermine the whole process if individuals are requested to remove or alter text before publication and that which is changed, is later communicated to a third party.

Your request is therefore refused since to lawfully process the personal data within the material requires compliance with the Data Protection Act 98 and in our opinion none of the processing conditions permit MOD lawfully disclosing to you. Your request is also refused under Exemption 2 (Internal discussion and advice) and Exemption 14 (Information given in confidence) of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.

You have proposed redaction of the personal data and release of the remaining text. On careful consideration of the material and in view of the definition of personal data within the Act we have concluded that personal data is so interwoven within the material that extraction would not be straightforward and would not leave a meaningful text. In any case, such an attempt would be nugatory given any remaining text would be subject to the Code Exemptions cited.

If you are unhappy with our decision to refuse you information under the Data Protection Act 1998 you may ask MOD to review this decision by writing to MOD's Data Protection Officer, [REDACTED] in Room 604, St Giles Court, 1-13 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LD setting out your reasons. This does not affect your right to approach the Information Commissioner, which you may do at any time.

If you wish to appeal against our decision to refuse information under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, you should write to the Ministry of Defence, Directorate of Information (Exploitation), Room 819B, St Giles Court, 1-13 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LD requesting that the decision be reviewed. If following the internal review you remain dissatisfied, you may ask a Member of Parliament to take up the case with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) who can investigate on your behalf. The Ombudsman will not, however, consider an investigation until the internal review process has been completed.

If you have any queries about the contents of Mr Pope's book you are, of course, at liberty to contact him direct either through his publishers, Simon & Schuster Ltd, West Garden Place, Kendal Street, London W2 2AQ or via his e-mail address which can be found on the internet.

Finally, please find enclosed a copy of file D/Sec(AS)12/5 – *Unidentified Flying Objects, Close encounter reports, Alien entities, abductions etc* as requested. Personal data has been redacted in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Open to comments



DRAFT

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to my letter of 13 October I am now in a position to give you a substantive reply to your request for copies of internal MOD files and correspondence relating to Mr Pope's book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*.

In light of your letters of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September and your further request to include papers held by the Publications Clearance Branch, we have reviewed the papers concerned to see if any of the documents could be released with some redaction. We have, however, reached the conclusion that it is not possible to supply the information you have requested, but it may assist you if we clarify our reasons for this decision.

Ministry of Defence regulations state that any serving or former member of the Armed Forces or Civil Service who wishes to publish a book, monograph, article, letter or other textual material concerning information they gained as a result of their official duties, must seek permission from the appropriate Departmental Publications Clearance branch before

publication. <sup>once a</sup> A copy of the manuscript is supplied, ~~and~~ the Publications Clearance branch, in consultation with the department(s) concerned with <sup>may?</sup> the subject matter, examine it for any details which cause concern with

regard to comments or disclosure of material such as classified information; information given to the MOD in confidence; comments about relations between civil servants and Ministers; information that would undermine security or our national interests or anything that MOD would regard as objectionable about individuals or organisations. Any concerns raised are discussed with the author before permission for publication is granted. I must stress that this process is not designed to stop individuals expressing their personal views, even if <sup>such views</sup> these differ from those of the MOD, but rather to prevent the unauthorised release of information which could be damaging for the reasons stated.

With regard to the documents that you have requested, these contain information personal to Mr Pope and internal discussion about the contents of Mr Pope's original manuscript (some of which may not have appeared in the final published version of his book). Much of this discussion involved interpretation of official documentation. In engaging in this process Mr Pope could <sup>reasonably?</sup> expect that his manuscript and correspondence about its contents would remain confidential between him and those in the Department with a legitimate reason for seeing it, <sup>set?</sup> and would not be disclosed to a third party without his permission. It would also undermine the whole publication clearance process if

individuals are requested to remove or alter text before publication and that which is changed, is later communicated to a third party.

Your request is therefore refused with some material being withheld under the Data Protection Act 1998 and the rest under Exemption 2 (Internal discussion and advice) and Exemption 14 (Information given in confidence) of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.

[unhappy, MOD 1<sup>st</sup>, then Info Com].

If you are unhappy with our decision to refuse you information under the

Data Protection Act 1998, you can complain to the Information

Commissioner. You may, ~~however~~, ask MOD to review this decision by writing to The RAF Personnel and Training Command, Data Protection Officer, Room G24, Building 225, HQ PTC, RAF Innsworth, Gloucester, GL3 1EZ, setting out your reasons. This does not affect your right to approach the Information Commissioner, which you may do at any time.

If you wish to appeal against our decision to refuse information under the

Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, you should write to the Ministry of Defence, Directorate of Information (Exploitation), Room 819B, St Giles Court, 1-13 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LD requesting that the decision be reviewed. If following the internal

?  
appeal / Review  
Seek a redress

8

review you remain dissatisfied, you can ask a Member of Parliament to take up the case with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) who can investigate on your behalf. The Ombudsman will not, however, consider an investigation until the internal review process has been completed.

If you have any queries about the contents of Mr Pope's book you are, of course, at liberty to contact him direct either through his publishers, Simon & Schuster Ltd., West Garden Place, Kendal Street, London, W2 2AQ or via his private internet address 

*Check.*

Finally, please find enclosed a copy of file D/Sec(AS)12/5 as requested. Personal data has been redacted in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

*In relation to P*



5. I therefore propose that we withhold all of these papers, partly under the Data Protection Act 1998, and partly under Exemption 2 (*Internal discussion and advice- internal opinion, advice, recommendation, consultation and deliberation*), and Exemption 14 (*Information given in confidence-information supplied by a person who was not under any legal obligation, whether actual or implied to supply it, and has not consented to its disclosure*) of the Code.

6. I should be grateful if CL(FS)-Legal1 staff could examine the enclosed copies of the DAS papers and advise as to whether I have correctly identified personal information that should be withheld under DPA 98. All addressees please confirm if you are content with this approach and any comments you have on the attached draft reply to [REDACTED]

7. I would be grateful for replies by COP 11 November 2003.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1  
MT6/73 [REDACTED]

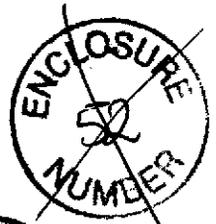
LOOSE MINUTE

D/C&L(F&S)/29/8/4

10 November 2003

**DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1**

Copy: Head of AHB(RAF)



**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE PUBLICATION  
OF MR N POPE'S BOOK – OPEN SKIES CLOSED MINDS**

Ref: D/DAS/64/3 dated 30 October 2003

1. Thank you for reference which I have discussed with CL(FS)-Legal 1 and this is our combined response. Having examined the material involved we agree that it should be withheld from [REDACTED] for the reasons identified. I think that the line given to the Press Office in June 95 in response to the Mail on Sunday remains valid today, namely that details of specific applications for approval are private between the Department and the individual concerned.

2. It is important to recognise that it is not just Mr Pope's rights under DPA 98 that are at issue. Personal data relating to many other parties is included in the material and the same considerations apply equally to them. Also I am a little hesitant about describing information from Mr Pope as being supplied "in confidence". I think it more accurate to say that Mr Pope might reasonably expect that the correspondence formed part of the employer/employee relationship giving rise to the common law duty of confidentiality.

3. We have looked carefully at the material and that marked personal information. There are passages not marked which we consider to also be personal data. In fact there is so much that could be described as personal data within the papers that its redaction is unlikely to leave a meaningful text. I attach one document with additional personal data highlighted as an illustration of this. As a result there are some suggested amendments to the draft reply to [REDACTED] on 40 [REDACTED] @s attached. I have added a new paragraph to address [REDACTED] suggestion of redacting personal data. On reflection, it would be sensible for any appeal from [REDACTED] on the DPA aspects to be sent here rather than the PTC DPO in this case which is rather more complex than the relatively straightforward SAR complaints that the internal complaints procedure was set up to handle.

4. Please call if you wish to discuss any of the comments.

[REDACTED]  
CL(FS)-Legal1a

SY 608 [REDACTED]

**RESTRICTED**  
**UNCLASSIFIED**  
STAFF - IN CONFIDENCE

MR N G POPE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*Personal data*

[REDACTED]

*PO*

[REDACTED]

*Pol. Act.  
DPA?*

[REDACTED]

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**RESTRICTED**

RESTRICTED  
UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DPA

[REDACTED]

DPA

[REDACTED]

DPA

UNCLASSIFIED  
RESTRICTED

DRAFT

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to my letter of 13 October I am now in a position to give you a substantive reply to your request for copies of internal MOD files and correspondence relating to Mr Pope's book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*.

In light of your letters of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September and your further request to include papers held by the Publications Clearance Branch, we have reviewed the papers concerned to see if any of the documents could be released with some redaction. We have, however, reached the conclusion that it is not possible to supply the information you have requested, but it may assist you if we clarify our reasons for this decision.

Ministry of Defence regulations state that any serving or former member of the Armed Forces or Civil Service who wishes to publish a book, monograph, article, letter or other textual material concerning information they gained as a result of their official duties, must seek permission from the appropriate Departmental Publications Clearance branch before publication. A copy of the manuscript is supplied, and the Publications Clearance branch, in consultation with the department(s) concerned with the subject matter, examine it for any details which cause concern with

regard to comments or disclosure of material such as; classified information; information given to the MOD in confidence; comments about relations between civil servants and Ministers; information that would undermine security or our national interests or anything that MOD would regard as objectionable about individuals or organisations. Any concerns raised are discussed with the author before permission for publication is granted. I must stress that this process is not designed to stop individuals expressing their personal views, even if these differ from those of the MOD, but rather to prevent the unauthorised release of information which could be damaging for the reasons stated.

With regard to the documents that you have requested, these contain *personal details* ~~information personal to Mr Pope~~ and internal discussion about the

contents of Mr Pope's original manuscript (some of which may not have appeared in the final published version of his book). [ Much of this

discussion involved interpretation of official documentation. ] \* In engaging

*would have reasons to* in this process Mr Pope ~~could~~ expect that his manuscript and

correspondence about its contents would remain confidential between *himself & his*

*employee* ~~him and those in the Department with a legitimate reason for seeing it,~~

and would not be disclosed to a third party without his permission. It

would also undermine the whole publication clearance process if

\* Is this sentence needed? Might it not prompt [redacted] to maintain his argument of why can't he have it?

individuals are requested to remove or alter text before publication and that which is changed, is later communicated to a third party.

[Your request is therefore refused with some material being withheld under the Data Protection Act 1998 and the rest under Exemption 2 (Internal discussion and advice) and Exemption 14 (Information given in confidence) of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.] *See proposed insert at Annex*

If you are unhappy with our decision to refuse you information under the Data Protection Act 1998 ~~you can complain to the Information~~

~~Commissioner.~~ <sup>y</sup> You may, however, ask MOD to review this decision by *MOD's Data Protection Officer, [redacted] at in Room 604* writing to ~~The RAF Personnel and Training Command, Data Protection-~~ *St Giles Court, 1-13 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LD* ~~Officer, Room G24, Building 225, HQ PTC, RAF Innsworth, Gloucester,~~

~~GL3 1EZ,~~ setting out your reasons. This does not affect your right to approach the Information Commissioner, which you may do at any time.

If you wish to appeal against our decision to refuse information under the Code of Practice on access to Government Information, you should write to the Ministry of Defence, Directorate of Information (Exploitation), Room 819B, St Giles Court, 1-13 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LD requesting that the decision be reviewed. If following the internal

review you remain dissatisfied, you can ask a Member of Parliament to take up the case with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) who can investigate on your behalf. The Ombudsman will not, however, consider an investigation until the internal review process has been completed.

If you have any queries about the contents of Mr Pope's book you are, of course, at liberty to contact him direct either through his publishers, Simon & Schuster Ltd., West Garden Place, Kendal Street, London, W2 2AQ or via his ~~private~~ internet address. 

Finally, please find enclosed a copy of file D/Sec(AS)12/5 as requested. Personal data has been redacted in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

**ANNEX**

Your request is therefore refused since to lawfully process the personal data within the material requires compliance with the DPA 98 and in our opinion none of the processing conditions permit MOD's lawfully disclosing to you. Your request is also refused under Exemption 2 (Internal discussion and advice) and Exemption 14 (Information given in confidence) of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.

You have proposed redaction of the personal data and release of the remaining text. On careful consideration of the material and in view of the definition of personal data within the Act we have concluded that personal data is so interwoven within the material that extraction would not be straightforward and would not leave a meaningful text. In any case, such an attempt would be nugatory given any remaining text would be subject to the Code Exemptions cited.

LOOSE MINUTE

D/AHB(RAF)/4/2

05 Nov 03

**DAS-LA-Ops+Poll** - [REDACTED] (by Chots)



**[REDACTED] - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE PUBLICATION OF MR N POPE'S BOOK "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"**

Reference:

A. D/DAS/64/3 dated 30 October 2003

1. Thank you for the Reference.
2. [REDACTED] (Hd of AHB+PCB) and I have considered the draft response to [REDACTED] and we are content apart from the wording of paragraph 3 which refers directly to the PCB(Air) process. We would prefer this to be amended in line with the attached draft. As an aside, we notice that the penultimate paragraph of your draft includes [REDACTED] private e-mail address; might it be better just to say "e-mail address which can be found on the internet"?
3. I should be grateful if you would confirm that you are content with the revision of paragraph 3 and we look forward to seeing the comments of CL(F+S)Legal in due course.

(signed)

[REDACTED]  
AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)

BP266 [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED] 40

Chots classic: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)

Revision of paragraph 3 of the draft reply:

Ministry of Defence regulations state that any serving or former member of the Armed Forces or Civil Service who wishes to publish a book, monograph, article, letter or other textual material concerning information *or experiences* they gained as a result of their official duties, must seek permission from the appropriate Departmental Publications Clearance Branch before publication. A copy of the manuscript is supplied, and the Publications Clearance Branch, in consultation with the *Branches* [department(s)] concerned with the subject matter, examine it for any details which *may* cause concern with regard to comments or disclosure of material such as: classified information; information given to the MOD in confidence; comments about relations between civil servants and Ministers; information that would undermine security or our national interests or anything that MOD would regard as objectionable about individuals or organisations. Any concerns raised are discussed with the author before permission for publication is granted. I must stress that this process is not designed stop individuals expressing their personal views, even if these differ from those of the MOD, but rather to prevent the [unauthorised] release of information which *would* [could] be [damaging] *inappropriate* for the reasons stated *and to ensure that any personal viewpoint is not presented as MOD policy.*

LOOSE MINUTE



→ D/DAS/64/3

30 October 2003

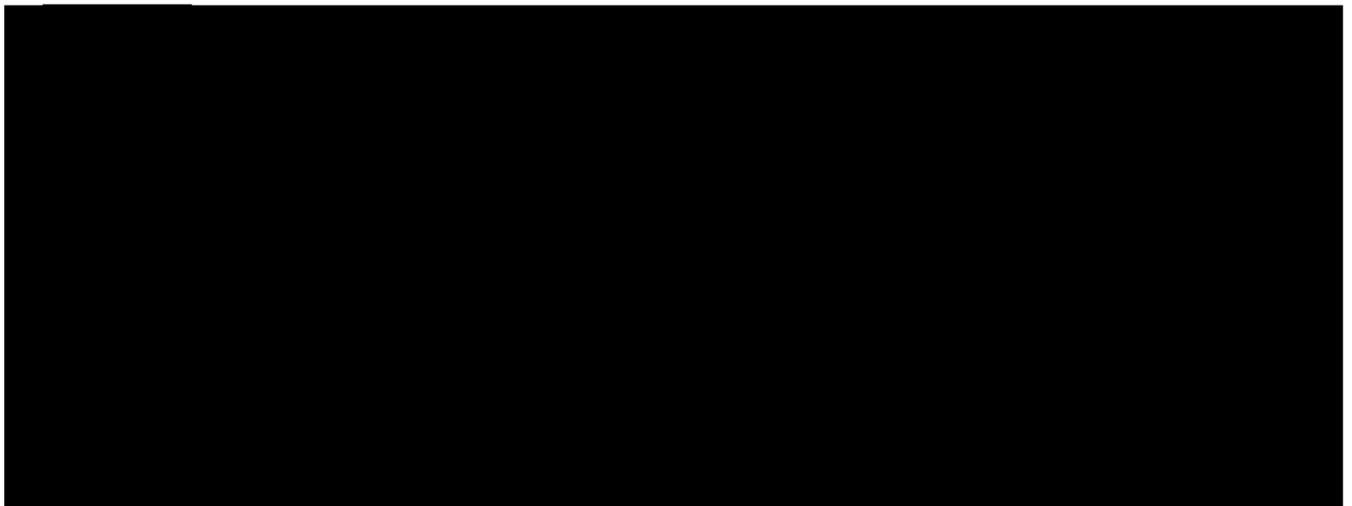
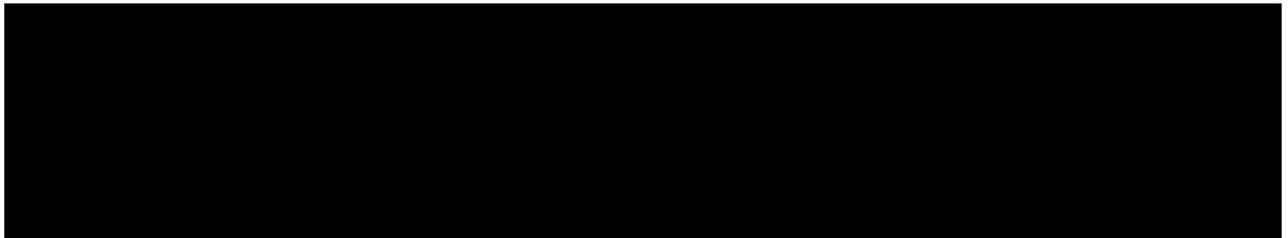
CL(FS)-Legal  
CL(FS)-Legal 1a  
Head of AHB(RAF)  
AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
DAS-LA-AD  
DAS-LA-Ops+Pol



██████████ - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE PUBLICATION OF  
MR N POPE'S BOOK- OPEN SKIES CLOSED MINDS

Reference A: Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> October 2003

1. Further to reference A, I have now examined the documents held by DAS in relation to ██████████ request for information. AHB-PCB(AIR) have also reviewed the information they hold.
2. When considering this request we have to balance ██████████ right to request access to information under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information (the Code) and the wider public interest in the information, with the rights of Mr Pope under the Data Protection Act 1998. Mr Pope may also reasonably expect that we would not disclose to a third party information which he may have understood was supplied in confidence.



5. I therefore propose that we withhold all of these papers, partly under the Data Protection Act 1998, and partly under Exemption 2 (*Internal discussion and advice- internal opinion, advice, recommendation, consultation and deliberation*), and Exemption 14 (*Information given in confidence-information supplied by a person who was not under any legal obligation, whether actual or implied to supply it, and has not consented to its disclosure*) of the Code.

6. I should be grateful if CL(FS)-Legal1 staff could examine the enclosed copies of the DAS papers and advise as to whether I have correctly identified personal information that should be withheld under DPA 98. All addressees please confirm if you are content with this approach and any comments you have on the attached draft reply to [REDACTED]

7. I would be grateful for replies by COP 11 November 2003.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
DAS-LA-Ops+Poll  
MT6/73 [REDACTED]

DRAFT

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to my letter of 13 October I am now in a position to give you a substantive reply to your request for copies of internal MOD files and correspondence relating to Mr Pope's book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*.

In light of your letters of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September and your further request to include papers held by the Publications Clearance Branch, we have reviewed the papers concerned to see if any of the documents could be released with some redaction. We have, however, reached the conclusion that it is not possible to supply the information you have requested, but it may assist you if we clarify our reasons for this decision.

Ministry of Defence regulations state that any serving or former member of the Armed Forces or Civil Service who wishes to publish a book, monograph, article, letter or other textual material concerning information they gained as a result of their official duties, must seek permission from the appropriate Departmental Publications Clearance branch before publication. A copy of the manuscript is supplied, and the Publications Clearance branch, in consultation with the department(s) concerned with the subject matter, examine it for any details which cause concern with

regard to comments or disclosure of material such as; classified information; information given to the MOD in confidence; comments about relations between civil servants and Ministers; information that would undermine security or our national interests or anything that MOD would regard as objectionable about individuals or organisations. Any concerns raised are discussed with the author before permission for publication is granted. I must stress that this process is not designed to stop individuals expressing their personal views, even if these differ from those of the MOD, but rather to prevent the unauthorised release of information which could be damaging for the reasons stated.

With regard to the documents that you have requested, these contain information personal to Mr Pope and internal discussion about the contents of Mr Pope's original manuscript (some of which may not have appeared in the final published version of his book). Much of this discussion involved interpretation of official documentation. In engaging in this process Mr Pope could expect that his manuscript and correspondence about its contents would remain confidential between him and those in the Department with a legitimate reason for seeing it, and would not be disclosed to a third party without his permission. It would also undermine the whole publication clearance process if

individuals are requested to remove or alter text before publication and that which is changed, is later communicated to a third party.

Your request is therefore refused with some material being withheld under the Data Protection Act 1998 and the rest under Exemption 2 (Internal discussion and advice) and Exemption 14 (Information given in confidence) of the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.

If you are unhappy with our decision to refuse you information under the Data Protection Act 1998 you can complain to the Information Commissioner. You may, however, ask MOD to review this decision by writing to The RAF Personnel and Training Command, Data Protection Officer, Room G24, Building 225, HQ PTC, RAF Innsworth, Gloucester, GL3 1EZ, setting out your reasons. This does not affect your right to approach the Information Commissioner, which you may do at any time.

If you wish to appeal against our decision to refuse information under the Code of Practice on access to Government Information, you should write to the Ministry of Defence, Directorate of Information (Exploitation), Room 819B, St Giles Court, 1-13 St Giles High Street, London WC2H 8LD requesting that the decision be reviewed. If following the internal

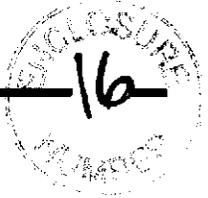
● review you remain dissatisfied, you can ask a Member of Parliament to take up the case with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman) who can investigate on your behalf. The Ombudsman will not, however, consider an investigation until the internal review process has been completed.

If you have any queries about the contents of Mr Pope's book you are, of course, at liberty to contact him direct either through his publishers, Simon & Schuster Ltd., West Garden Place, Kendal Street, London, W2 2AQ or via his private internet address, [REDACTED]

Finally, please find enclosed a copy of file D/Sec(AS)12/5 as requested. Personal data has been redacted in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

**DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1**

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**From:** AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
**Sent:** 24 October 2003 15:14  
**To:** DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1  
**Subject:** UNCLASS: CIVILIAN REGS

██████████ n 40

We spoke earlier today. The section that mentions security, etc can be found in the MOD Personnel Manual Vol 7, Chapter 2, Section 6 "Disclosure of Information". My apologies for suggesting that this was in Annex M.

Apart from this, Annex N (N for November) same volume, also makes interesting reading.

Have a good weekend!

██████████  
AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)  
BP266 ██████████

## Section 6 Disclosure of Information

### 6.1 Principles governing disclosure of information

This section describes the principles governing the public disclosure of information by serving or former members of the Department and sets out the rules that apply those principles to specific cases. The activities governed by this section are:

- public lectures and speeches, interviews with or communications to the press or other media, film, radio and television appearances and statements to non-Governmental bodies, including MOD-sponsored conferences and seminars;
- books, monographs, articles, letters or other text, including supposed fiction;
- theses for degrees, diplomas or MOD-sponsored fellowships;
- participation in outside study conferences, seminars and discussions.

You must not make comment on, or make disclosure of:

- classified or "in confidence" information;
- relations between civil servants and Ministers, and advice given to Ministers;
- politically controversial issues;
- material covered by copyright, unless prior permission has been obtained. Particular care must be taken where the origin of the material is obscure;
- information that would conflict with MOD interests or bring the Civil Service into disrepute;
- information that may jeopardise the commercial interests of the MOD or companies or organisations collaborating with the MOD;
- information that would undermine the security or other national interests of collaborating countries;
- anything that the MOD would regard as objectionable about individuals or organisations;

You must not publish or broadcast personal memoirs reflecting your experience as a Government official, or enter into commitments to do so, while in Crown employment.

### 6.2 Greater openness in Government requires:

- the fullest possible exposition to Parliament and the public of the reasons for Government policies and decisions once these have been announced; and

- improving public understanding about the way the processes of Government work and the factual and technical background to Government policies and decisions.

Ministers are responsible for the exposition of Government policies and decisions. Staff must avoid being drawn into public discussion on justification of Government policies.

**6.3 Seeking permission**

You must obtain authority, before taking part in any outside activity involving:

- the disclosure of information obtained in the course of official duties;
- the use of official experience;
- the public expression of views on official matters.

*Chapter 3*  
*Annex M*

The procedures for obtaining permission are set out in Annex M to Chapter 3.

You are responsible for seeking this authority in sufficient time to allow proper consideration. Failure to obtain permission before undertaking any such activity is a disciplinary offence.

Elected officials of a recognised trades union or staff association do not need to obtain MOD authority if they are publicising their association's or union's views on an official matter which, because it directly affects the conditions of service of members, is of legitimate interest to them. This exemption does not apply to the (probably rare) case where the official duties of the union or association representative as a public servant are directly concerned with the matter in question;

*Paragraph 6.1*

You do not need permission to take part in activities organised by, or on behalf of, unions or staff associations, although conduct in public should still be consistent with the principles set out above.

**6.4 International organisations**

When serving in an international organisation, or with visiting forces, you must observe the rules and regulations of that body. You must consult Defence Information Division (D-INFOD) wherever material concerns the UK, or in any cases of doubt.

**6.5 Former members of staff**

After leaving the Department you must obtain official sanction from the MOD before publishing any information gained as a result of your official duties.

**6.6 Press announcements**

Official communications to the Press are made by the public relations staff, or other duly authorised personnel. You must not comment on issues of a politically controversial nature.

**6.7 Broadcasts and media interviews**

If you are approached directly about participation in a radio or TV programme, or about co-operating in the production of a programme you must report the matter in accordance with the detailed instructions in Annex M to Chapter 3. A member of the Defence Information Division or a duly authorised officer must be present at all press interviews.

*Chapter 3*  
*Annex M*

*Amdt 4*

6.8 **Release of information at MOD conferences, seminars, etc**  
Sponsors of MOD conferences and seminars, at which classified information is to be discussed, must obtain approval from AD CB Sy before issuing invitations.

6.9 **Political conferences**  
You must obtain the permission from a senior line manager before attending conferences of a political nature in an official capacity.

6.10 **Outside seminars and study conferences**  
If you receive an invitation from a non-governmental body to participate in a study, conference, seminar or discussion you must seek prior permission from:

- D News CPO – (Chief Press Officer) if serving in Ministry of Defence Headquarters;
- D Def Sy (Scientific and Technical), if DPA or DSTL personnel (for clearance of material);
- the TLB holder or his or her delegated representative, if working outside MOD HQ.

In any case of doubt you must consult D Def Pol. You must submit texts in advance in accordance with the procedures set out in the Annex M to Chapter 3.

6.11 **Outside organisations**  
You do not need prior approval to take part in the proceedings of the following institutes:

- International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).
- Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA).
- Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies (RUSI).

Your participation is, however, subject to the following conditions:

- if nominated by the MOD to participate in a study, conference or seminar on defence problems you are encouraged to make as useful a contribution as possible but, if you are in doubt, you should consult D Def Pol;
- when participating in a discussion, you must be aware that your remarks may be reported and publicised: you should avoid conflict with MOD or Government policy;

*Annex N*

- you must not reveal classified or commercially sensitive material.

6.12 **Questionnaires**  
You must not:

- complete outside questionnaires if it involves disclosing detailed and significant information about official duties. If in doubt you must consult the security officer or the appropriate publication clearance authority;

*Amdt 4*

- take part in your official capacity in surveys or research projects, even unattributably, if they deal with attitudes or opinions on political matters or matters of policy.

**6.13 Disclosure to others**

Instructions are contained in the relevant security manuals about disclosure of information to:

- MPs;
- foreign governments or foreigners;
- committee members, consultants and defence lecturers;
- contractors.

*JSP 440*

**6.14 Defence Press and Broadcasting Advisory Committee (DPBAC)**

Defence Advisory Notices are addressed to national and provincial newspaper editors, to radio and television organisations, and to some publishers or periodicals and books on defence and related subjects. (DA Notices are issued and amended on the authority of the DPBAC). The Secretary of the DPBAC is available at all times to advise on questions that arise on the application of a DA Notice to some particular set of circumstances. Any advice requested by the press as a whole on the publication of items of information which appear to come within the scope of a DA Notice should be referred to the Secretary DPBAC.

Amdt 4

## Annex N **Confidentiality and Official Information**

- 1 **Rules**  
Departments and agencies must remind staff on appointment, retirement or resignation that they are bound by the provisions of the criminal law, including the Official Secrets Act, which protect certain categories of official information, and by their duty of confidentiality owed to the Crown as their former employee.
- 2 **Standards of conduct to be reflected in local staff regulations**  
Civil servants are expected to be prepared to make available official information which is not held in confidence within Government, in accordance with Government policy and departmental or agency instructions. They must not, without relevant authorisation, disclose official information which has been communicated in confidence within Government or received in confidence from others.
- 3 Civil servants must continue to observe this duty of confidentiality after they have left Crown employment.
- 4 Civil servants must not take part in any activities or make any public statement which might involve the disclosure of official information or draw upon experience gained in their official capacity without the prior approval of their department or agency. They must clear in advance material for publication, broadcasts or public discussion which draws on official information or experience.
- 5 Civil servants must not publish or broadcast personal memoirs reflecting their experience in Government, or enter into commitments to do so, whilst in Crown employment. The permission of the Head of the Department and the Head of the Home Civil Service must be sought before entering into commitments to publish such memoirs after leaving the service.
- 6 Civil servants must not seek to frustrate the policies or decisions of Ministers by the use or disclosure outside the Government of any information to which they have had access as civil servants.
- 7 Civil servants must not take part in their official capacities in surveys or research projects, even attributably, if they deal with attitudes or opinions on political matters or matters of policy.



Amdt 4

## Annex M Procedures for Seeking Permission to Speak in Public, to Lecture, or to Write for Publication

### 1 Public speaking

*Note*<sup>1</sup> Applications or proposals to make public speeches, or film, radio or television appearances, or to communicate with the Press or other non-Governmental bodies, are to be made as follows:

- Note*<sup>2 & 3</sup>
  - Staff serving in Ministry of Defence Headquarters must seek prior approval from the Press Secretary and Chief of Information (D-INFOD), through their Director or Head of Division. Exceptions to this rule are authorized for Meteorological Office staff and for certain other individuals whose duties bring them into regular contact with the Press and public, but D-INFOD should be consulted in any case of doubt.
  - Staff serving outside MOD Headquarters must seek the prior approval of their TLB holder, or of the officer to whom his responsibility for giving approval has been delegated. In unusual circumstances, or in any case of doubt, the TLB holder, or his authorized representative, is to consult the Press Secretary and Chief of Information. If there is insufficient time for the necessary consultation, the invitation should normally be refused.

*Note*<sup>3</sup>

2 It may be desirable and useful to seek permission in principle before embarking on the preparation of the full text where the activity is to be given advance publicity.

3 The rules on payments for broadcasting, lecturing or writing for publication are in Chapter 2, Section 4.

### 4 Lecturing or writing for publication

Applications for permission to publish any book, monograph, article, letter or other textual material, to give a public lecture or to put forward any thesis for a degree or diploma must be submitted through the author's senior line manager to

- DCC(Navy) by RN TLBs
- DCC(Army) by Army TLBs and the GOC NI TLB
- AHB(RAF) PCB (Air) by RAF TLBs
- D Def Sy (Scientific & Technical) CDP's TLB and for all scientific and technical subjects from any other TLB, using MOD Form 655
- D News Policy by other TLBs.

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1 *Public speeches should be submitted for prior clearance under the procedures for lectures (paragraph 4) if their text is likely to be published afterwards, or quoted by a broadcasting authority, newspaper or magazine, either in whole or in part if they contain scientific or technical data, or if they comment on DPA projects, so that they may be fully cleared in all respects, including Crown copyright aspects.*

2 *Because service in the Ministry of Defence is likely to be regarded as conferring a special degree of authority or importance on statements made by an official speaker, Ministerial approval will be sought by D-INFOD in all cases concerning personnel serving in the Ministry of Defence.*

3 *Normally permission to express views on politically controversial issues will be refused. For any exception to this rule, D-INFOD will seek the prior approval of the Secretary of State for Defence.*

*Amdt 4*

- 5 Staff who undertake a MOD-sponsored Defence Fellowship, a NATO Research Fellowship or a M Phil Degree Course in International Relations at Cambridge, and wish to publish the resulting thesis should submit their application through D Def Pol.
- 6 Staff must not enter into commitments or negotiations with private publishers or the organizers of lectures or discussion groups before authority is obtained. Authors who wish to make forward plans or to give advance publicity to any such activity are advised to submit a brief synopsis of the text for approval in principle; the full text must not be forwarded to publishers or other outside bodies before full approval has been given, and it must make it clear to any organisers that participation is subject to clearance of the full text.
- 7 Texts should be complete with illustrations, drawings, etc. They should be typewritten and submitted in duplicate. Material for clearance should reach the appropriate clearance authority as soon as possible and not later than three clear weeks before it is required, as controversial and technical material or lengthy books may take a considerable time to clear. Cases of special urgency can be considered on their merits. If, however, the work is based on or includes any element of official material, information or experience, additional problems of Crown copyright may be involved, and the advice of Copyright Control Section, MOD Library, Great Scotland Yard is to be sought before any commitment is made to use such material. Written permission must be obtained from them to reproduce all Crown copyright material, including extracts, photographs, badges etc in a publication or on a manufactured item, which is not itself Crown copyright. Permission may be subject to payment of a reproduction fee. If D-INFOD staff recommend that there is direct PR value to the MOD, then Copyright Control Section, MOD Library, Great Scotland Yard may appropriately either reduce or waive the reproduction fee. MOD authors should submit such cases to DPR staff for recommendation.
- 8 Applicants must make it clear in their submission to their senior line managers whether or not:
  - use has been made of official material (published or unpublished) either by inclusion of extracts from official documents or by the use of official documents as a basis for the work;
  - the work includes non-official material (eg material obtained from a commercial or private source) and, if so, whether the copyright holder has given written permission for its use;
  - the work is based wholly or partly on their official experience or duties; if the latter, the proportion based on official experience should be stated;
  - the work was done in official time, their own time, or both; if the last, the proportions should be stated;
  - official typing or reproduction facilities were used in preparing the manuscript;
  - a fee or other payment is expected; if so, the amount should be stated.

- 9 The senior line manager must state whether or not publication is recommended when forwarding the application to the clearance authority. His or her comments should accompany that statement whenever it is deemed necessary to comment on any aspects of the application, and particularly where the material deals with scientific, technical or medical matters that are the concern of his or her Establishment.
- 10 Permission to publish will apply only to the text as submitted; if any alternations, other than those of a purely editorial nature, are made after permission has been given, further authority must be sought for the alterations. The granting of permission to publish does not confer official endorsement of the content of the text. Statements tending to imply that official approval has been given, or references to the fact that permission has been granted, must not be included in any part of the text and are not to be made separately. A copy of the text will be retained by the Department for reference.
- 11 Material intended for publication in the journals listed below may be submitted direct to the editors, who will obtain clearance on policy and security grounds as necessary from Service Directors of Public Relations or from MOD publication clearance authorities as appropriate:
- |              |           |             |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| RUSI Journal | Navy News | Paper Clips |
| Naval Review | Soldier   | Preview     |
| Focus        | RAF News  | PM World    |
- 12 Articles or notices concerning social or athletic matters which do not contravene the provisions of security regulations may be published without authority from the Department.

**Annex M**  
Seeking Permission

Awaiting files  
from Hayes.

27 Feb 2004

Awaiting files  
from Hayes

30/3/2004



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
**DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998**  
**GUIDANCE NOTES**



14

**NO. 2: HANDLING SUBJECT ACCESS REQUESTS (SARs)**

Under DPA98, individuals (data subjects) are entitled to receive copies of their personal data. Data subjects must submit a written request (a Subject Access Request) for such data, either in letter form or on a MOD Form 1694. The SAR must be accompanied by proof of identity e.g. a recent utilities bill, a copy of an extract from a passport, driving licence etc. A SAR does not have to mention DPA98 specifically.

**The MOD has 40 calendar days from receipt of a SAR containing enough information for the individual to be identified and the nature of his request understood in which to provide the complete composite MOD reply to the individual.** Any longer period will be a breach of the Act. Speed of handling is therefore essential.

**SARs from current Service and civilian personnel**

In the first instance, individuals should send their request on the attached SAR form to their own unit DPO. Information is not to be supplied to telephone enquirers. If the unit is unable to provide the information sought, or the reply requires co-ordination, the unit is to send the form to either:

- The next tier up in the TLB/Agency (if that is where all the remaining data are located) or
- If the reply is likely to require co-ordination across one or more TLBs/Agencies, then the SAR is to be sent to the appropriate single Service SAR Co-ordinator (if the requester is a Service person) or that TLB/Agency's CPMA (for civilian personnel). They will collate the information and reply to the requester. The single Service SAR Co-ordinators are: NMASec3, APC Secretary, and PMA(RAF) Secretary.

**SARs from former Service and civilian personnel**

These are likely to come into the system at various points. It is likely to be clear from the SAR that the requester is a former member of the Department. If whoever receives the request can answer it fully, they are to do so. If they cannot, they are to pass the request straight to:

Service - the appropriate single Service SAR Co-ordinator.

Civilian - the TLB DPO, who, if the individual has left MOD within the last 12 months, will try to identify the appropriate PMA. If the individual has not been employed by MOD in the last 12 months and the PMA cannot be identified, the SAR is to be referred to DSDC Llangennech, who will refer it, together with the personnel records, to the PMA who last managed the individual.

The 40-day clock does not start ticking until individuals have provided both confirmation of their identity and enough information to enable MOD to start searching for their records.

### **SARs from Parliamentarians**

The term "Parliamentarian" covers MPs and Peers at Westminster, members of the three devolved legislatures (Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSP), Welsh Assembly Members (WAM) and Members of the London Assembly (MLA)). SARs from Parliamentarians should be passed immediately to the Parliamentary Clerk, who will arrange for the necessary trawl around MOD using the DPO/DPA network and for the reply to be sent to the Parliamentarian.

Any personal data relating to the Parliamentarian provided to the Parliamentary Clerk as a result of the search should be redacted, copied and compiled in a stand-alone format so that it can be attached to the reply without further action from the Parliamentary Clerk. Where the personal data consists of a short passage in a longer document, e.g. in a PQ background note, it will usually be preferable to reproduce the text on a clean sheet of paper (example follows:)

The following extracts come from the Background Note that must accompany draft answers to Parliamentary Questions when they are submitted to Ministers for approval:

- *"This is the first question raised by A. N. Other (Conservative, Neverland) about this incident ... Mr Other has also recently written on behalf of a constituent about the authorisation of such an event."*
- *"This MP has not previously asked a question on the 1234 Project – or any other procurement issue. We are not aware of a constituency interest in the 1234 programme."*

Correspondence from Parliamentarians involving disclosure of personal data relating to their constituents or others must be handled in accordance with Guidance Note 16.

### **SARs from Ministry of Defence Police ( MDP) Officers**

SARs from MDP Officers should be sent to:

Sec(MDP)Co-ord  
Room 114  
Building 1070  
Headquarters  
Wethersfield  
Braintree  
Essex CM7 4AZ

MDP(Sec) will liaise within the Department as necessary and respond to the Officer.

### **All Other SARs**

This includes requests from former Service and civilian personnel who have not identified themselves as such in their initial letter to MOD, as well as foreign nationals or those who have no employment link with the Department (e.g. journalists, authors or

members of the public). In such cases, whoever receives the letter should send it, without acknowledgement, to the appropriate SAR Co-ordinator (if the Service or civilian recipient is on a Service unit) or the appropriate TLB/Agency DPO (if the recipient is a member of an entirely civilian unit). The SAR Co-ordinator/DPO is to send the requester a copy of the attached specimen letter, appropriately modified. If, on receipt of the reply (which needs to contain enough information to start searching for that individual's records and confirmation of their identity), they can answer the request fully, they are to do so. If they cannot, they are to consider who is best placed to reply and redirect the request accordingly. Common sense will need to be applied.

### **Charging**

Current MOD policy is not to charge anyone making a request to see their records, whether they are non-medical or medical. Any payment should therefore be returned with the reply.

### **Complaints procedure**

DPA 98 allows individuals to complain to the Information Commissioner if they consider that an organisation has not handled their personal data in accordance with the Act. Before that step is taken, we would prefer the individual to use the following appeal procedure:

- The first reply to the requester should ask them to contact the writer if they are unhappy with the reply.
- Should the requester do so, the next reply must conclude with the following wording:

"If you feel that the information in this reply is incomplete or it does not reflect the information you believe might be held about you, you may ask MOD to review the reply (or the decision not to release the information) or ask for further information. In such circumstances you should set out your reasons and write to:

*(Name and contact - see below)*

This does not affect your right to approach the Information Commissioner, which you may do at any time."

The contact details are:

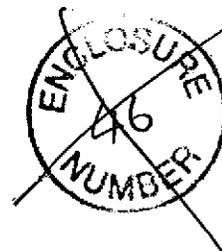
- Unit-level letters should provide the details of their appropriate TLB/Agency/CPMA Data Protection Officer.
- TLB/Agency/CPMA letters should provide the details of the appropriate single Service/Civilian DPO.
- Single Service/Civilian DPO should provide the details of the MOD DPO. (Mrs Alexander is to be referred to as "the MOD DPO" and not as "DC&L(F&S)". Her post title could well give the wrong impression to those unfamiliar with the Department.)

This procedure applies, irrespective of whether the requester is a current or former member of the MOD or has no employment links with the Department. It does not remove the right of serving personnel to use either redress of complaint (for Service personnel) or the grievance procedures (for civilian staff) if they consider that incorrect data or information processed had led to an injustice. We hope that the system above will deliver a speedier response than using either of the existing Departmental complaints procedures. Internal delay in addressing DPA-related complaints could well lead to individuals appealing to the Information Commissioner on matters that could easily be resolved within the Department.

*Reissued by C&L(F&S)Legal on 4 July 2003*

*An HTML version of the SAR form is not available. Please download the word version of this Guidance Note for a copy of the form including completion notes and a specimen letter to requesters to seek further information information.*

**RIGHT CLICK (SAVE AS) TO DOWNLOAD THE WORD VERSION OF THIS  
GUIDANCE NOTE**



From: [REDACTED]  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Directorate of Air Staff (Lower Airspace)  
Operations and Policy 1  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue,  
LONDON WC2N 5BP

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

CHOTs address: DAS-LA-Ops+Poll  
E-Mail: [das-laopspoll@defence.mod.uk](mailto:das-laopspoll@defence.mod.uk)

### FAX MESSAGE

TO: [REDACTED] PCB(Air)- Air Historical Branch

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] request for Information

DATE: 16 October 2003

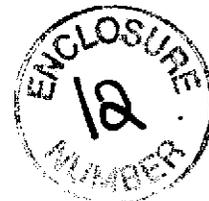
NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER: 3

[REDACTED] 40

I have been out of the office for a couple of days and have just realised that I have not sent you [REDACTED] letters concerning his request for information, as promised.

Sorry, here they are.

[REDACTED] 40



**DOCUMENTS COPIED FROM FILE**

**D/SEC(AS)64/1 Pt A – UFOs Policy  
Enclosures 21/1 & 21/2**

LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

10 Oct 95

DPA?

Head of GF - through [redacted]

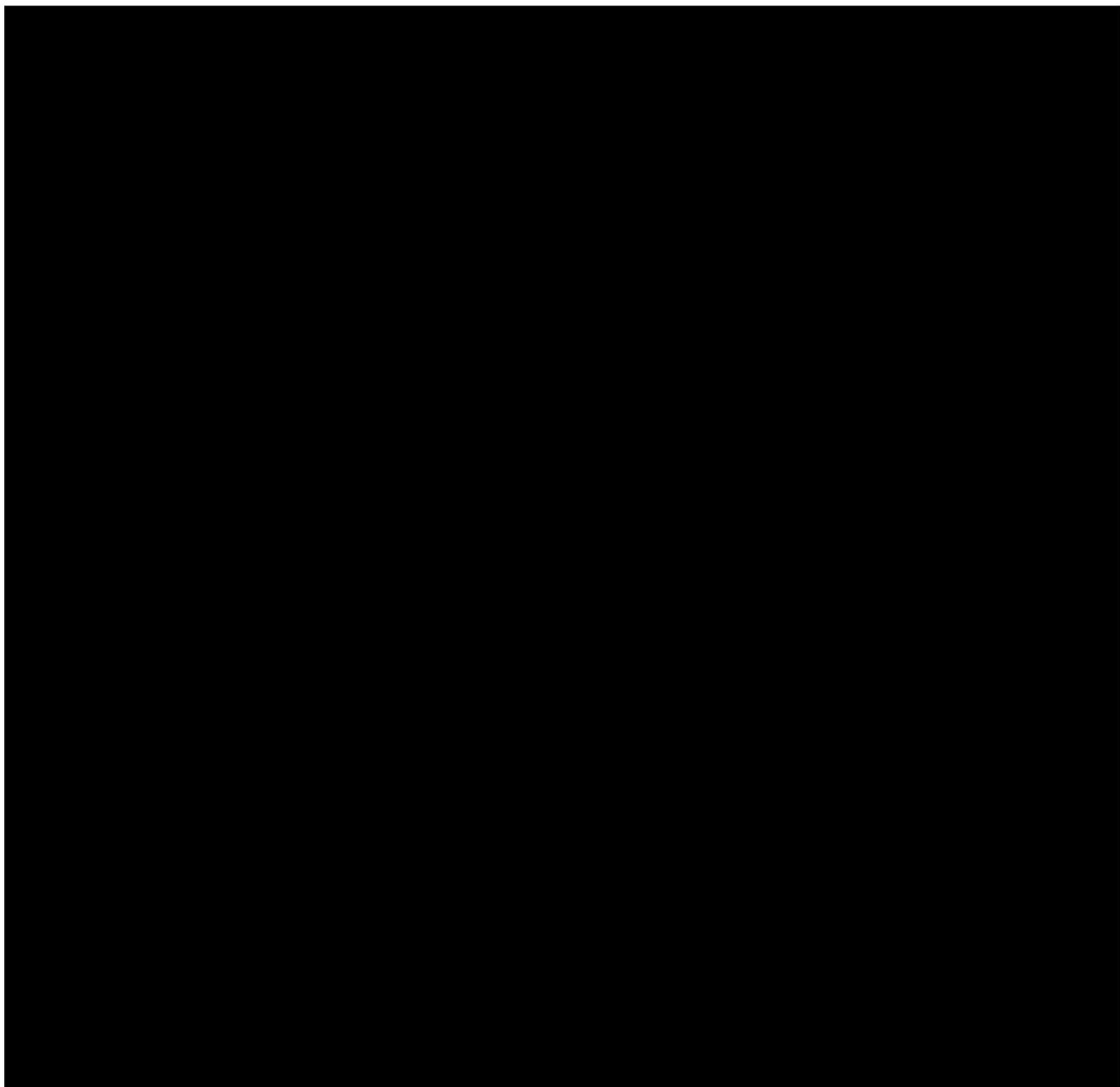
Copy to:  
Hd Sec(AS)\*  
CM(IR&C)7\*  
PCB(Air) - [redacted]

DPA?

\* By CHOTS

**UFO BOOK - PUBLICATION**

Reference: D/NP/Pers dated 1 May 95



?

→ 65/3

40

40

2/4

A great pity that a more permanent abduction by aliens cannot be arranged. I'm not surprised that they didn't want to keep him. ~~May we have a word?~~ I [redacted] 40

have now written as discussed.





[Signed]

N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b

[MB0262 [REDACTED]  
E Mail: GF(POL)1B-1]



A22

file

file 65/3

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS) 65/3(MF242/95)

11 October 1995

Head of GF

Copy to: CM(IR&C)7  
PCB(Air)  
GF(Pol)1b([Mr Pope])

DPA?

**UFO BOOK - PUBLICATION**



DPA

DPA

DP

DPA?



(Original signed)



Head of Sec(AS)

MB7257



CHOTS:PS/Hd of SEC(AS)



**DOCUMENTS COPIED FROM FILE**

**D/SEC(AS)20/4 Pt C – Public Relations, Clearances**

DPA?

Head of Sec (AS)

[Redacted]

Thank you.

[Redacted]

To be aware, there have been articles mentioning Mr Pope in the Sunday press for the last two weeks (Observer & News of the World). In both cases it appears

[Redacted]

The first article (in the

Observer) prompted calls from [Redacted] and [Redacted] in the Press Office. The latter was concerned about the number of follow-up calls he was getting [I said he might speak to Hd of AF]

him up to date

[Redacted]

I will brief in more detail when you have time

Section 40

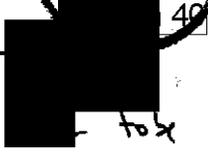


**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
 Publications Clearance Branch (Air), Room 308  
 3-5, Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HW

Telephone (Direct Dialling) [Redacted]  
 (Switchboard) 0171 218 9000  
 (Fax) [Redacted]

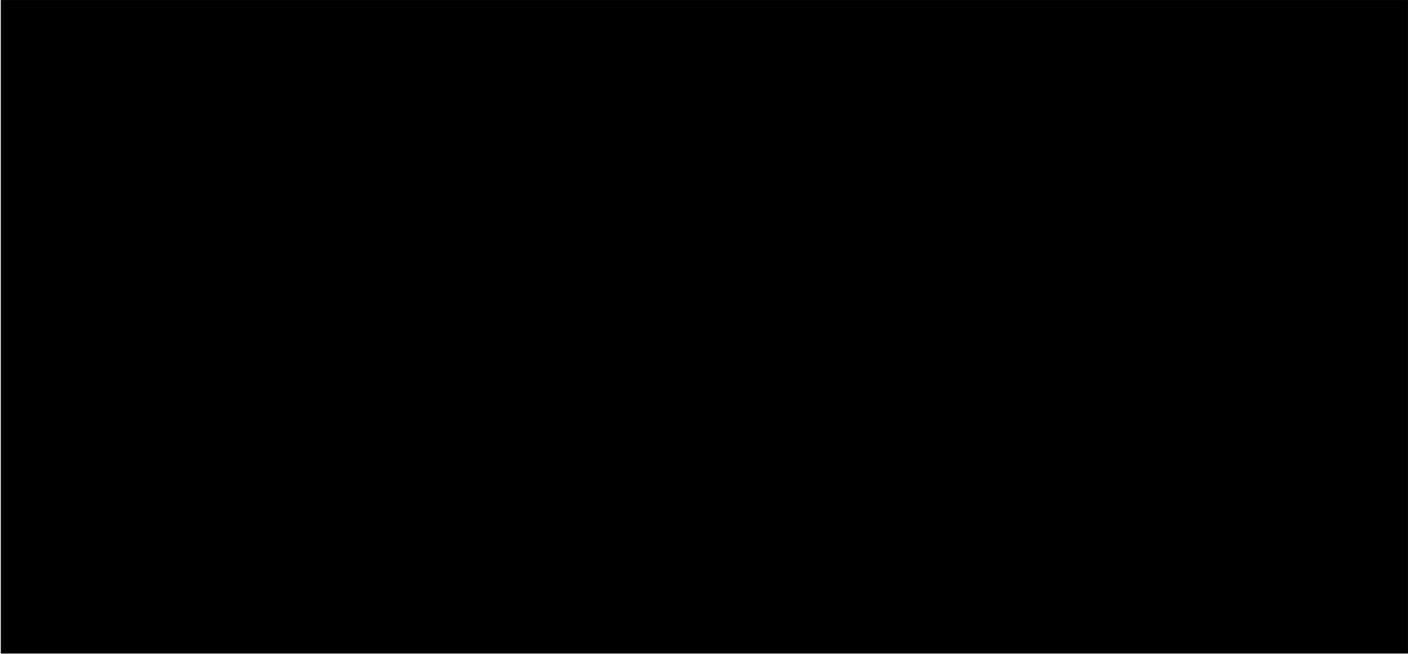
Mr N G Pope  
 GF(Pol)1  
 Room 0262  
 MAIN BUILDING

Your reference  
 Our reference  
 PCB(Air)3409 & 3443  
 Date  
 21 August 1995



to be aware.

CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "OPEN SKIES ,CLOSED MINDS" (2ND VERSION/SUBMISSION) AND LECTURE BY N G POPE.



DPA



PCB(Air)

- Copy to:-
- Head of Sec(AS)
- Head of CM(IR&C)7
- Head of GF

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
 Hd.Sec.(AS).

20/4

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)20/4

18 August 1995

PCB(Air)

CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - MR N G POPE

42

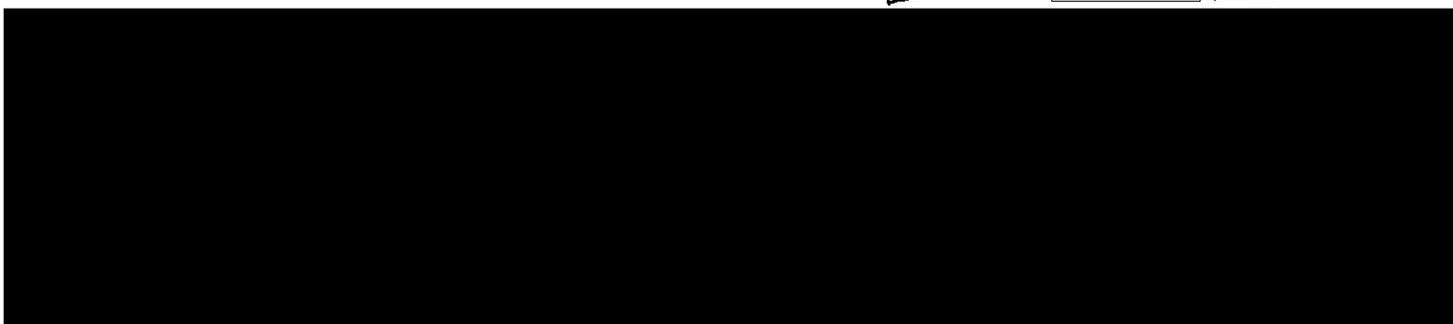


DPA?



Sec(AS)2

MB8247



B/B

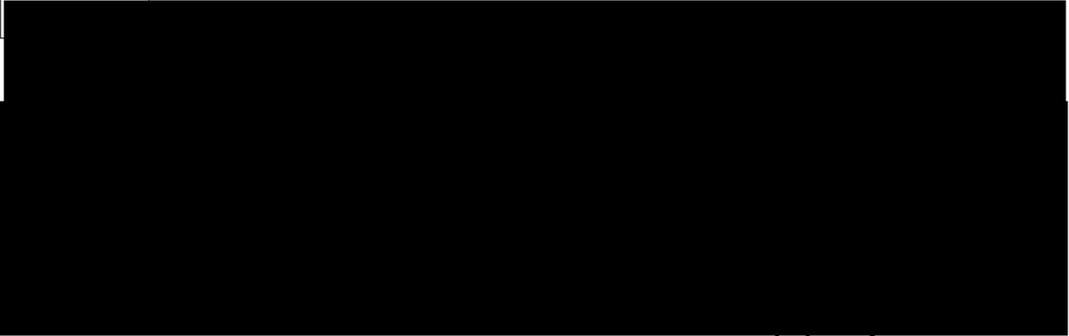
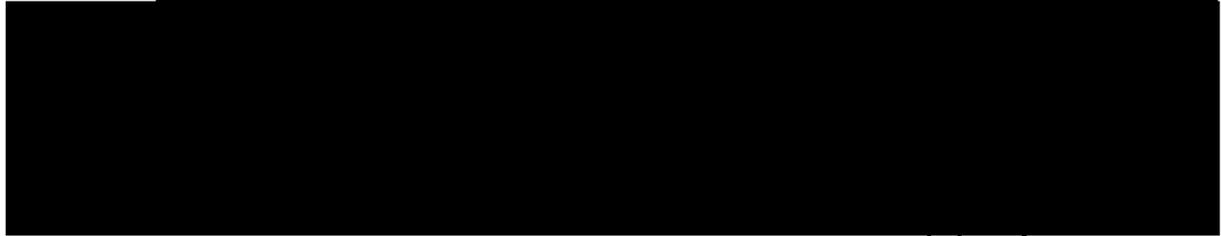
41

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
18/08/95	AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)	Pubs Clearance, UFO Book & Lecture	[ ]

Sent : 18/08/95 10:35 Delivered: 18/08/95 10:42  
 To : SEC(AS)2  
 Cc :  
 Ref : 146  
 From : AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)  
 Subject : Pubs Clearance, UFO Book & Lecture

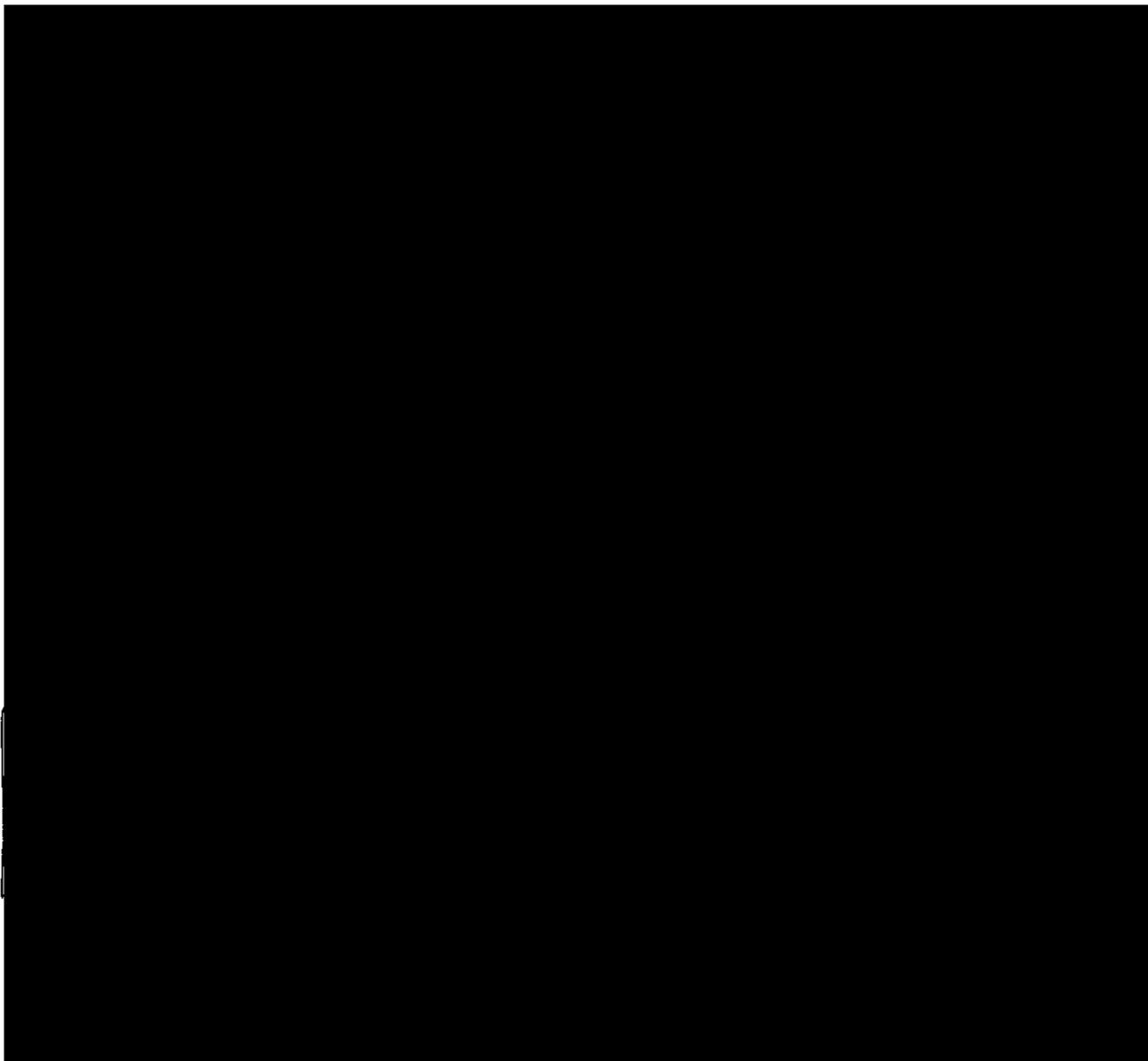
Text :   
 PCB(Air)

Priority: Normal View Acknowledge [\*] Attachments [1]  
 Reply Request [ ] Codes [.....]

 40   
  


CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "OPEN SKIES ,CLOSED MINDS" (2ND VERSION/SUBMISSION) AND LECTURE BY N G POPE

1



Copy to:-  
Head of Sec(AS)  
Head of CM(IR&C)7  
Head of GF(~~Po1~~)

Hidden Copy to:  
Head of CM(A)2  
D HQ Sy

RESTRICTED  
STAFF

UNCLASSIFIED



LOOSE MINUTE

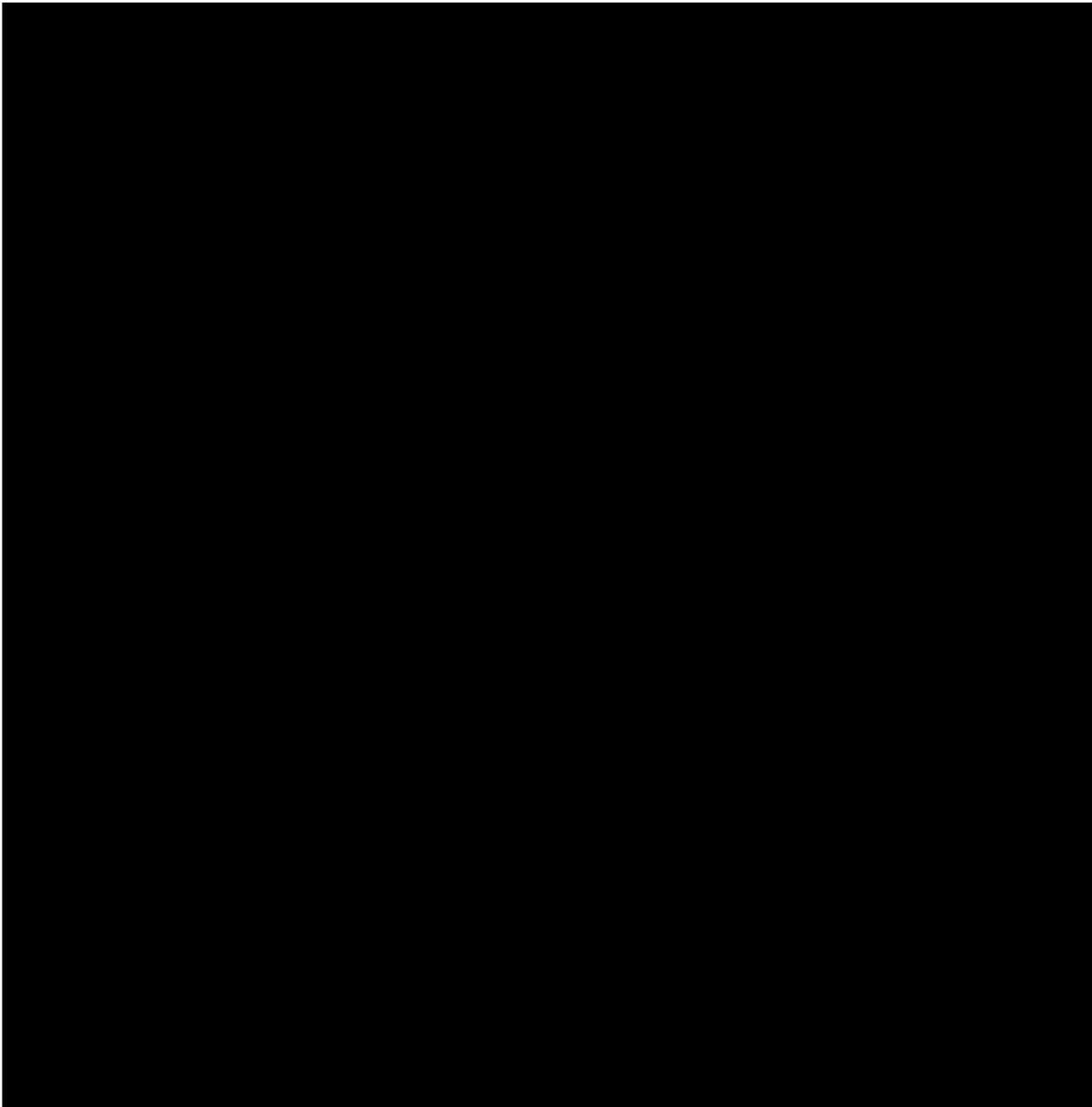
D/Sec(AS)/20/4\*

11 August 1995

PCB(Air)

Copy to:  
Head of CM(IR&C)  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD Sy

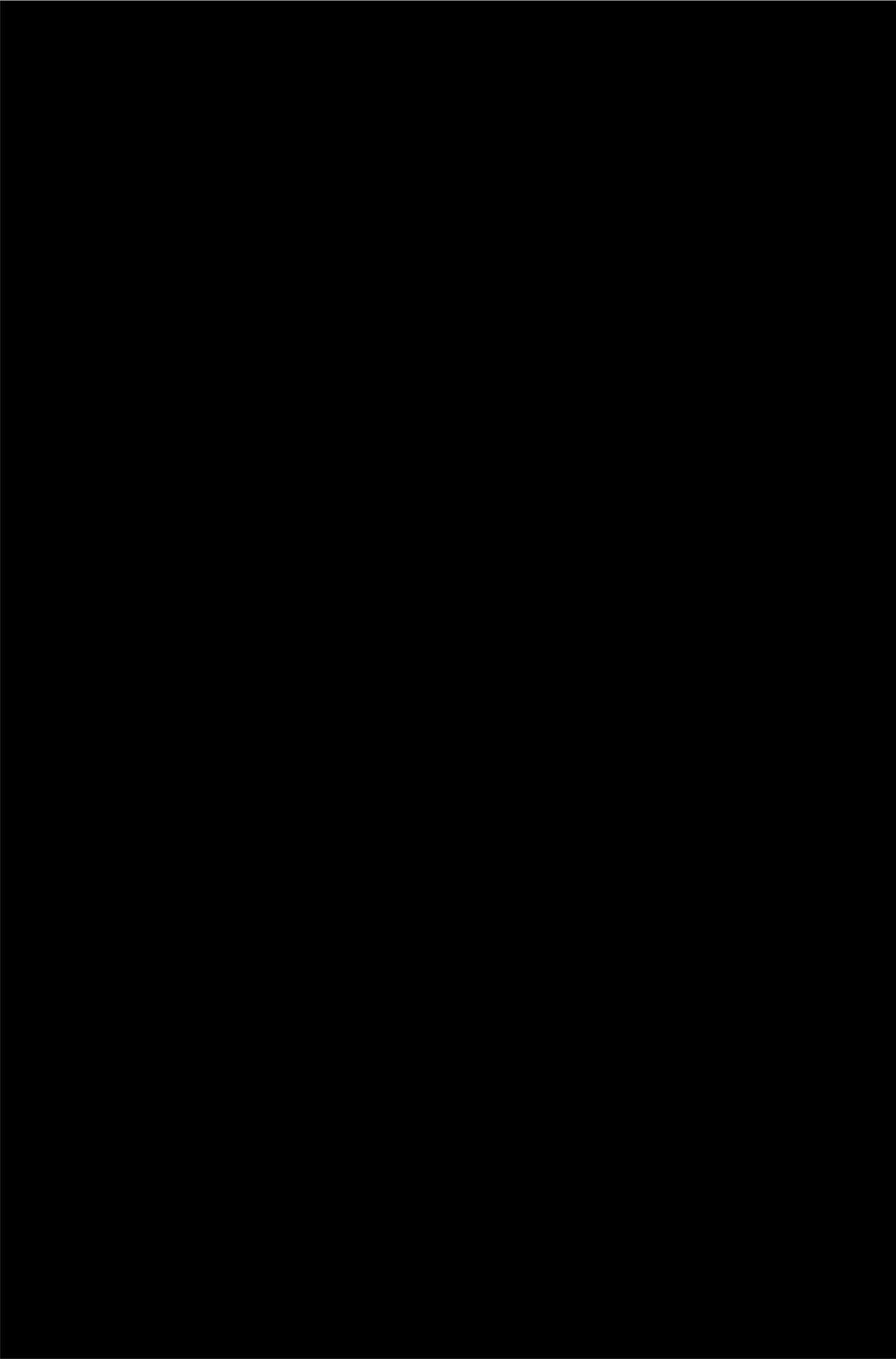
CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - UFO BOOK (2ND  
VERSION/SUBMISSION) AND LECTURE BY N G POPE



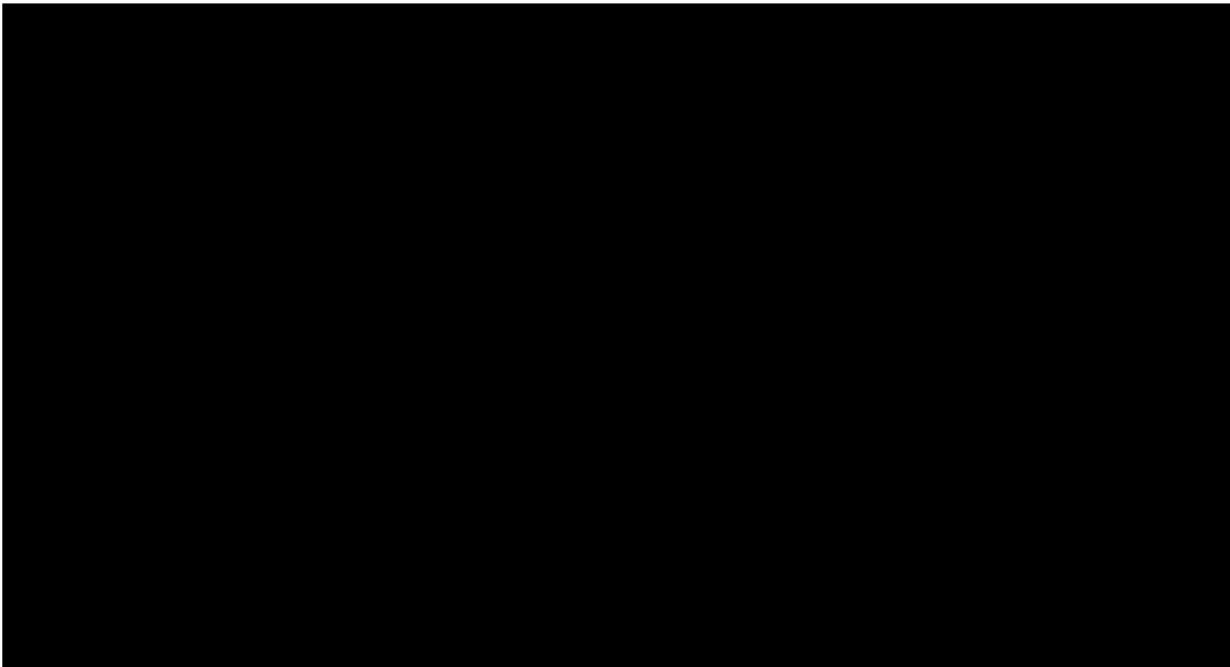
DPA?

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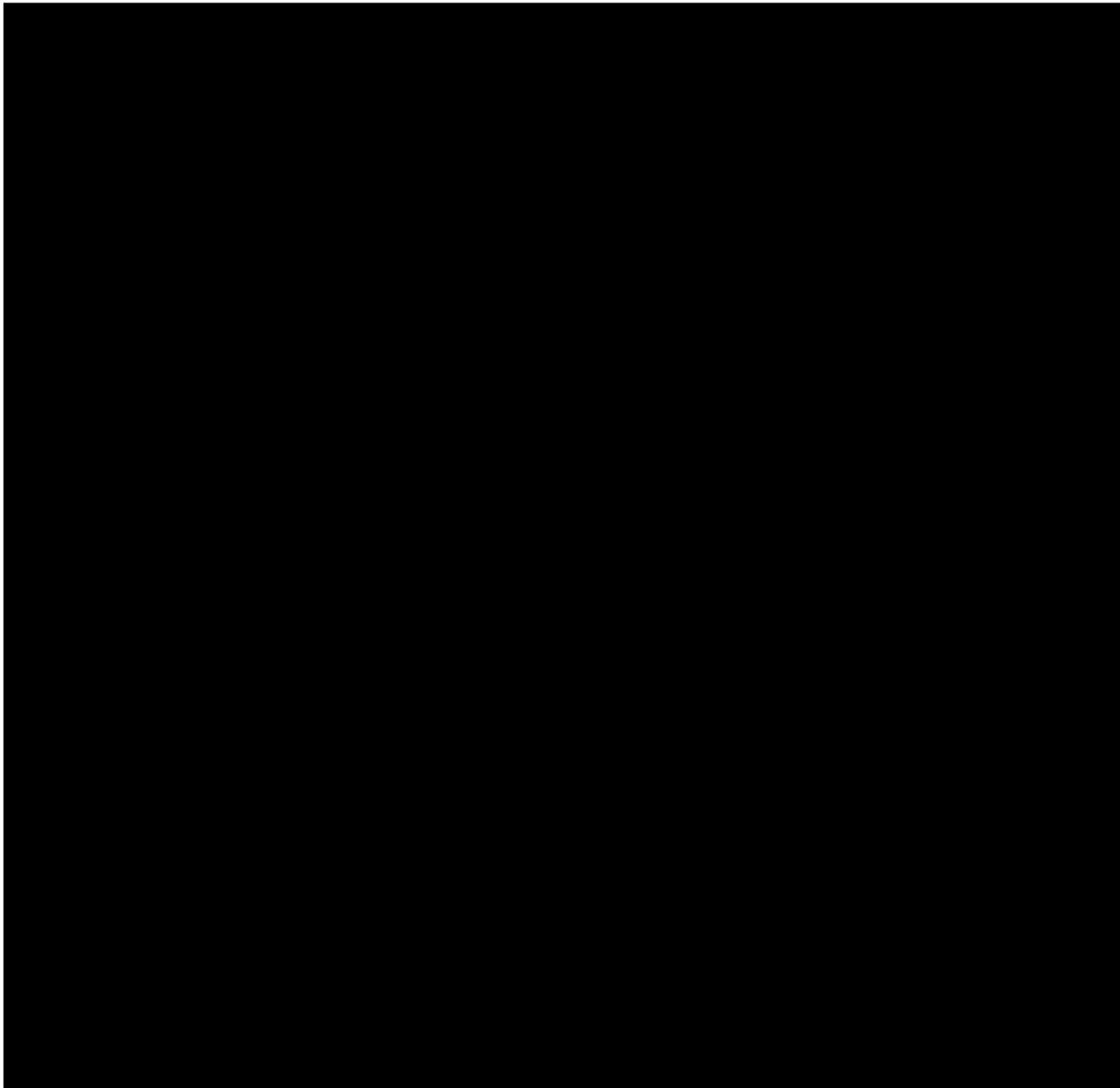
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STAFF

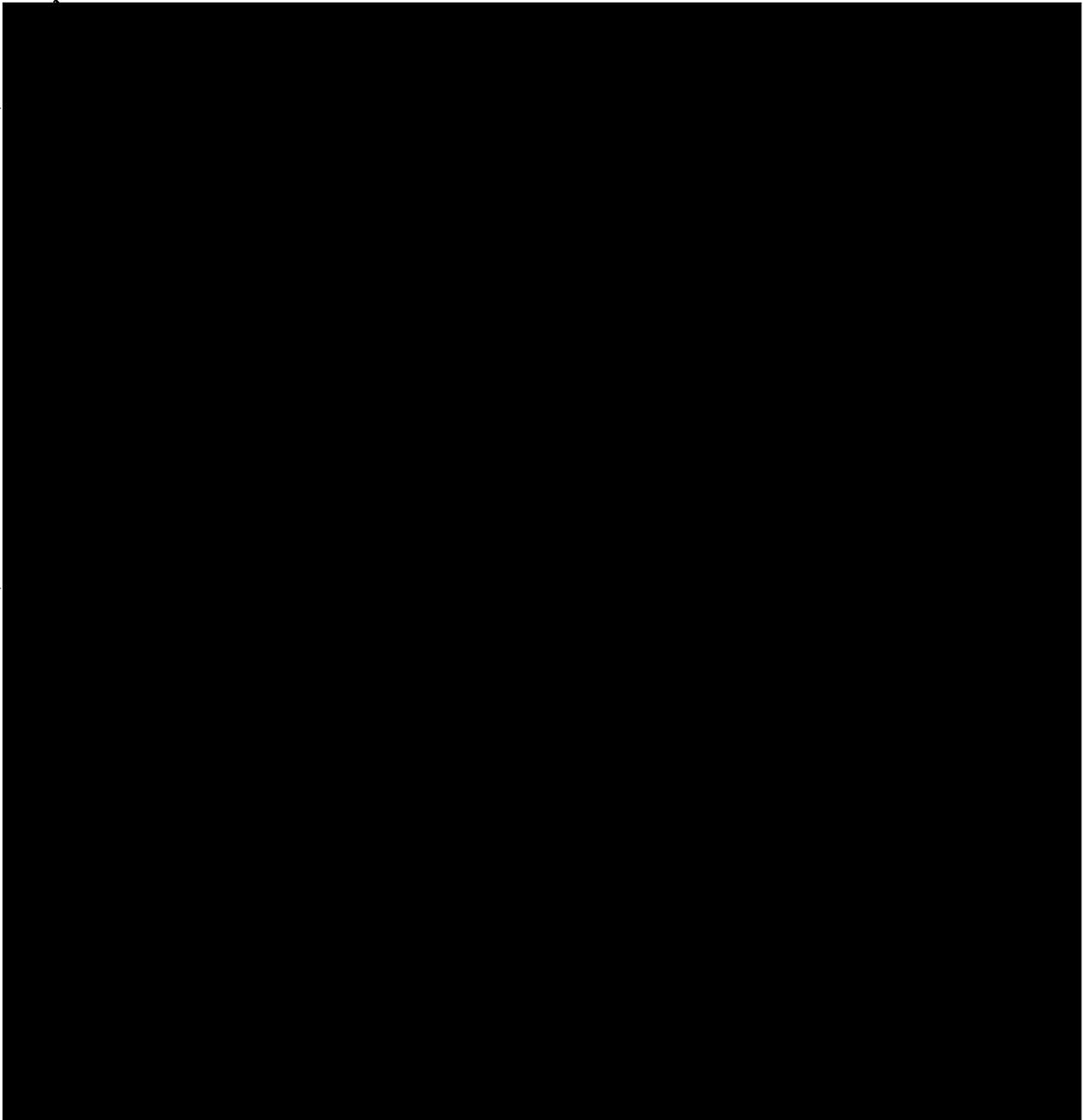


STAFF  
RESTRICTED  
UNCLASSIFIED

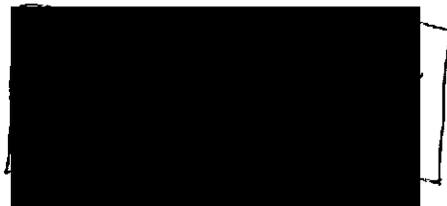


The Lecture





DP



Sec(AS)2  
MB8247

→ 12/1

WHITEHALL SHOCK AS ITS CHIEF ALIEN-WATCHER ADMITS: I BELIEVE IN UFOs

# BT lives, says man from the Ministry

By Nick Fielding

IT WAS the week when John Redwood's earthly origins were called into doubt and Mr Spock's pointy ears were given away by the thousand. So it will come as no surprise that one of Whitehall's finest has succumbed to the power of alienia.

Nick Pope headed the Secretariat (Air Staff) office, with a brief to deal with inquiries about flying saucers and other unexplained phenomena.

## Menace

It was his calm voice which reassured the many members of the public who called to report strange lights in the sky or a little green man on the lawn. But, in possibly the most embarrassing turnaround in Ministry of Defence history, Mr Pope has gone over to the other side of the fence. To the horror of his

many friends at the Ministry. In fact, his bosses have already expressed their displeasure at his manuscript, for which he must get permission before publication.

The book examines all the available records in the Whitehall archives, and talks about a number of new cases.

But Mr Pope offers little comfort for UFO buffs seeking proof of a Government cover-up. 'We don't throw open our files en bloc, but eventually most of them filter down to the Public Record Office.'

Mr Pope cannot pinpoint the moment of his conversion, but he rules out an alien plot. He says he was convinced by the details of a small number of British sightings, which have so far defied conventional explanation. 'Probably the best example is the Rendlesham Forest case in December 1980, where

some kind of object came down in Suffolk near the RAF bases at Woodbridge and Bentwaters.

'This is now regarded as the best attested case of a UFO crash outside the US. Mr Pope's conversion is likely to cause a sensation among committed ufologists. Graham Birdsall.

editor of UFO Magazine said: 'I welcome the bravery of a man who must have experienced tremendous pressure from his superiors, but who stuck to his views.' The MoD refused to comment on Mr Pope. But surely the men from the Ministry are wishing that someone, somewhere, would beam him up.



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS: UFO convert Nick Pope

Redwood's pic is supplied by the Personal Investment Authority and only available on its own full assurance, pensions and unit trusts. 40/83



MIDLAND

# Editorial



The alleged Roswell archive film footage rages on, and despite huge question marks in respect of its authenticity, its owners continue to promote the material as being genuine. Offers of between \$1.7 million and \$7 million have been openly mooted.

As you will see in our exclusive account of this sorry affair, television companies place little importance on analysis, more how the material will impact upon the viewing public.

In a remarkable swipe at those who have sought to view, examine and authenticate the footage, such as Stanton T. Friedman, the original investigator of the 1947 Roswell crash, they pronounce:

*"Whilst we respect Mr. Friedman's history, profile and standing within the UFO community, we believe the material will be best served by neutral researchers who have no personal vested interest in its future."*

In effect, those who have a vested interest in the commercial marketing and promotion of this footage have excluded those within the international UFO community who would dare to challenge the authenticity of this film.

If anyone has a personal vested interest in this archive, it is surely Friedman, who has laboured long and hard over 17 years to unearth the truth behind what occurred at Roswell.

Whilst much attention has been naturally focused on this affair, another intriguing development has taken place, with the announcement by Nick Pope, former head of AS2 (Air Staff 2), the official UK government body that looks at UFO reports within the Ministry of Defence, that he intends to publish a book about his 3-year involvement: *Open Skies - Closed Minds: Official Reaction to the UFO Phenomenon.*

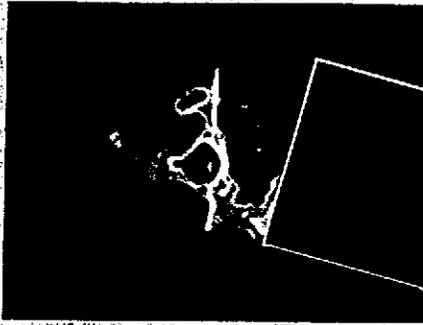
Nick is now firmly of the opinion that UFOs and the ETH (extraterrestrial hypothesis) are one of the same. He is still employed by the MoD, who are naturally feeling somewhat uneasy at his decision to speak out so publicly. I can tell you that his decision to "come out" was not taken lightly, but he is willing to accept the consequences. It took an extraordinary amount of courage to do what he has done. His life is about to change forever, and we should all offer him our total support.

*G.W.B.M.*

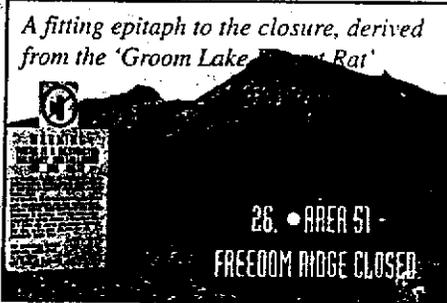
20th CENTURY-HIEMENS  
*Contrary to opinion, there is photographic data which allegedly depicts an alien intelligence. Most of the world will take a brief look at this...*

## 12 • THE ALLEGED ROSWELL UFO ARCHIVE FILM:

*The screening of an alleged alien autopsy at the Museum of London on 5th May this year, has led to an international media frenzy. What are we to believe? Who are we to believe? UFO Magazine delivers its verdict on the film being labelled 'Roswell's Smoking Gun'*



*On 7th November 1983, police sergeant Anthony Dodd, encountered a UFO on a lonely country lane near the West Yorkshire village of Addingham. He managed to take several sensational pictures which have defied all scientific attempts to rationally explain the phenomena.*



*A fitting epitaph to the closure, derived from the 'Groom Lake' 'Secret Rat'*



## 40 • AIRSHIPS - TERRESTRIAL FLYING SAUCERS:

*World airship expert John Christopher, turns his attention to the remarkable saucer-shaped dirigibles of the past and present, and looks ahead to the future.*



# Scanners of the alien nation

ONT call me a fruitcake, but listen: on a warm summer's day at the age of eight, I lay on my back on the grassy playing fields, looked up and saw an unidentified flying object. A tiny triangular glint in the sky. My chums saw it, too. The local paper got wind and there was a little column, dripping sarcasm. The little green men were coming to take us kids away. Jeer on, but I had seen something. What it was, who knows?

This event hovered back into my mind last week in a Whitehall wine bar while talking to the British Government's foremost expert on UFOs, Nick Pope is a civil servant who has spent four years analysing reports of sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects for the Ministry of Defence. He is a sane, cautious, bespectacled 29-year-old, 10 years at the MoD. He speaks in the carefully draughted idiom of the Whitehall memo, emphasising that his beliefs are personal, not those of the Secretary of State for Defence, Michael Portillo — himself rumoured not to be as other earthen.

From 1991 to 1994 I worked in the Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A. I was the MoD's UFO desk officer. I came into that job with an open mind. After having seen all the evidence and the expert testimony, I came out of that job believing that a very small percentage of what are commonly termed UFOs may well be extra-terrestrial in origin.

Had he ever seen a UFO, I asked him? 'No.'

I came clean about my expertise. He looked at me, the unbefuddled, with something approaching envy in his eyes.

The Observer  
13 August 1995



Spooky-wooky millennium: Be it UFOs, tremors, tumours or the visions of the electrically disturbed, our search for aliens has a religious fervour about it.

PS. You will wish to see the latest press coverage [redacted] (MS) 2 14/8/95

1

12/1

# THE OBSERVER ESSAY

John Sweeney

## The UFO Research Association hosts its eighth Congress on Saturday. It is sold out, and reports from the final frontier say business is better than ever.

Still at the MOD, but no longer on the UFO desk, Pope has suffered for his views. His nickname in the MOD is 'Spooky', that of Fox Mulder, a character in the cult-TV series *X-Files*. When he walks along the corridor, fellow civil servants whistle the theme from Steven Spielberg's film, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. His chances of becoming a permanent under-secretary have dimmed. And yet: 'We received between 2,000 and 3,000 UFO reports each year. We knew this was the tip of the iceberg because most people didn't know how to report a UFO, that is who to contact, or they were afraid of the ridicule.'

Among those 2,000 to 3,000 reports we always figured that 95 per cent could be explained away in terms of known objects or phenomena. I know all the explanations: flocks of geese, aircraft lights, satellites, meteors, fireballs, ball lightning, lasers and searchlights reflecting off low cloud, hoaxes. There is still this 5 per cent that you can't explain, that defy explanation.' His book on UFOs, provisionally entitled *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, will be published, by Simon and Schuster in June 1996.

The absurdist comedy of the MOD's own UFO-watcher numbering from sceptic to (qualified) believer speaks to the spooky-woo-woo spirit of the millennium. Now that God, who once wound our sundials, is thought to be dead, human awe has turned to UFO sightings and even alien abductions — in the jargon, *Close*

Encounters of the Fourth Kind. Next weekend the British UFO Research Association will host its eighth International UFO Congress to discuss these and other UFO events. It is sold out. Later this month, Channel 4 will screen a controversial film of an alien autopsy, allegedly shot after the UFO crash at Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947.

Pope has seen the footage: 'I found it gruesome and unpleasant, but then I'd never seen an autopsy before. There were 100 people in the auditorium at the Museum of London. The atmosphere was jolly for a minute, but as the autopsy started and the humans cut up the aliens there was a lot of uneasy shuffling and muffled cries of "Oh, my God!"'

The best documented British UFO sighting, the Rendlesham Forest incident, rests on a sober memo headed 'Unexplained Lights', dated 13 January 1981. It is signed by Lt Col Charles I. Halt of the US Air Force. Halt and his officers saw a pulsing, metallic, triangular object which sent nearby farm animals into a frenzy and left above-background radiation levels in three holes in the ground.

The best documented American UFO sighting is the Roswell incident in 1947. The best abduction features a four-way alien pick-up, involving Manhattan Ufologist Linda Napolitano, two anonymous security guards and the 'Third Man' — a cover name purportedly to protect the identity of the then UN Secretary-General, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

His Excellency denies the abduction. The old saw, Occam's razor — 'No more things should be presumed to exist than are absolutely necessary' — slices up the little green men better than Channel 4's autopsy.

This is not to say that the people who report UFOs are bonkers. Ordinary people do witness such things as bright lights in the sky and should not be lightly mocked; so do military officers, who supply the best-authenticated cases. But there is a battery of good reasons explaining why UFO sightings and reported abductions — even Pope's 5 per cent — have more to do with the vagaries of the human mind than with aliens.

None of this is a match for the first law of storytelling: the exciting explanation will always drive out the boring. First, bright lights in the sky. Psychologist Michael Persinger, of Canada's Laurentian University, has noted a big statistical correlation between flying saucer reports and earth tremors. He has speculated that electromagnetic pulses, released by the shifting of the earth's tectonic plates, could stimulate images in the mind's eye — the brain's temporal lobe. This would also account for the cutting off of a car's electricity.

Professor Ashley Grossman of Bart's agrees: 'There is an increasing amount of evidence that electro-magnetic pulses can affect brain function. *In vitro* research suggests that there is some sort of sensory perception — you could call it a sixth sense — which some animals have. The brain works on electricity. It's rather like taking your credit card near a large magnet. If someone had a low threshold for temporal lobe epilepsy and seizure, an electro-magnetic pulse could fire off hallucinations.'

should have a brain scan. Of course, some experiences could be put down to hysteria. But there could be an underlying biological abnormality triggering the hallucinations.'

Looking back, visions of the Virgin could have been prompted by bio-abnormality. Joan of Arc famously took a long time to burn — maybe as a result of calcified lungs caused by tuberculosis. Had TB reached her brain, it could have triggered the visions. And never underestimate auto-suggestion, the phenomenon which drove the Salem Witches and may be responsible for Pérez de Cuéllar's 'trip'.

Second, Rendlesham. Let's presume Halt and the other Americans saw something in the sky, something which left a radioactive spot in the forest. Why need it come from outer space? The Pentagon's ultra-secret Black Budget has been responsible for all sorts of weird lights in the sky, clocked by military men such as Halt who would not have been security-cleared for the programme. The post-Secalth bomber, Project Aurora, is currently whizzing around the world being mistaken for a UFO.

Third, Roswell. The UFO air crash is a 'bunch of horse pucky' according to one sceptic, Irving 'Newt' Newton. What actually crashed in 1947 was another secret Pentagon wheeze, Project Mogul, a high altitude balloon checking for radiation from Soviet atomic bombs. Fourth, the Channel 4 hoax. The curiously humanoid shape

of the aliens under the knife chimes with a line from Thomas Aquinas: 'Angels need an assumed body, not for themselves, but on our account.'

Anatomist Paul O'Higgins of University College, London, who has seen the film, says the aliens 'have our anatomy, plus a collection of relatively common anatomic anomalies: the six digits, the enlarged brain case which you get with hydrocephalia, distended abdomen, lack of umbilicus, membranes over the eyes — easy to do with plasticine. The chance that aliens would look like us by accident are remote.'

The writer Phillip Knightley famously objected, prior to its publication, to the Hitler Diaries hoax played on the *Sunday Times*. Knightley's memo is a classic of journalistic rigour. He asked: 'How thoroughly has the vendor explained where the diaries have been all these years and why they have surfaced now... The crux of the matter is that secrecy and speed work for the con man.'

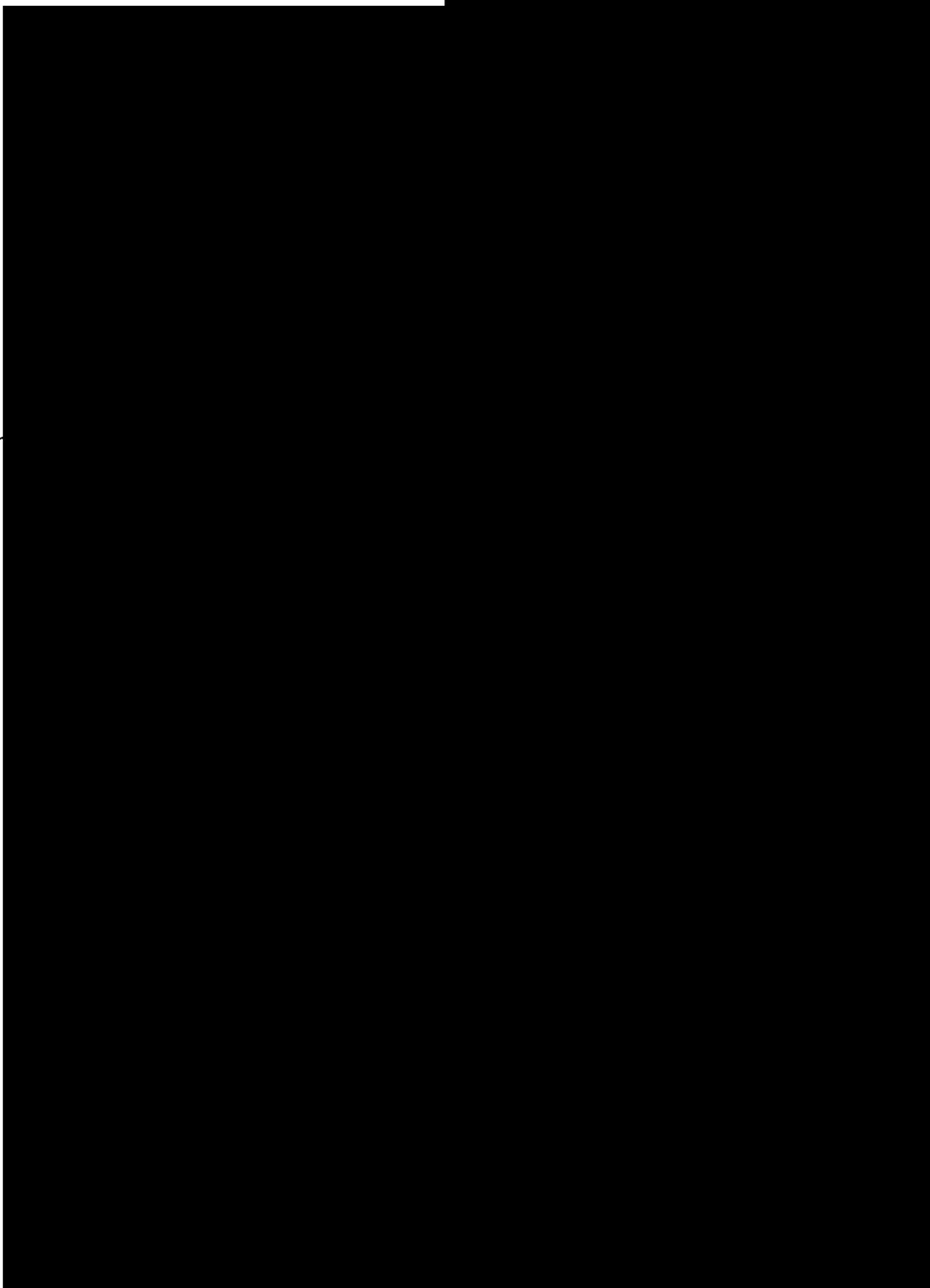
Thus far, Channel 4 has not released any verifiable detail on the origins of the film — bad scepticism but great showbiz. The Observer bets Channel 4 showman-in-chief Michael Grade a case of antipodean, H-bomb-free champagne the Roswell film will be proved to be a hoax before the year is out.

P. 2014



Head of Sec(AS)

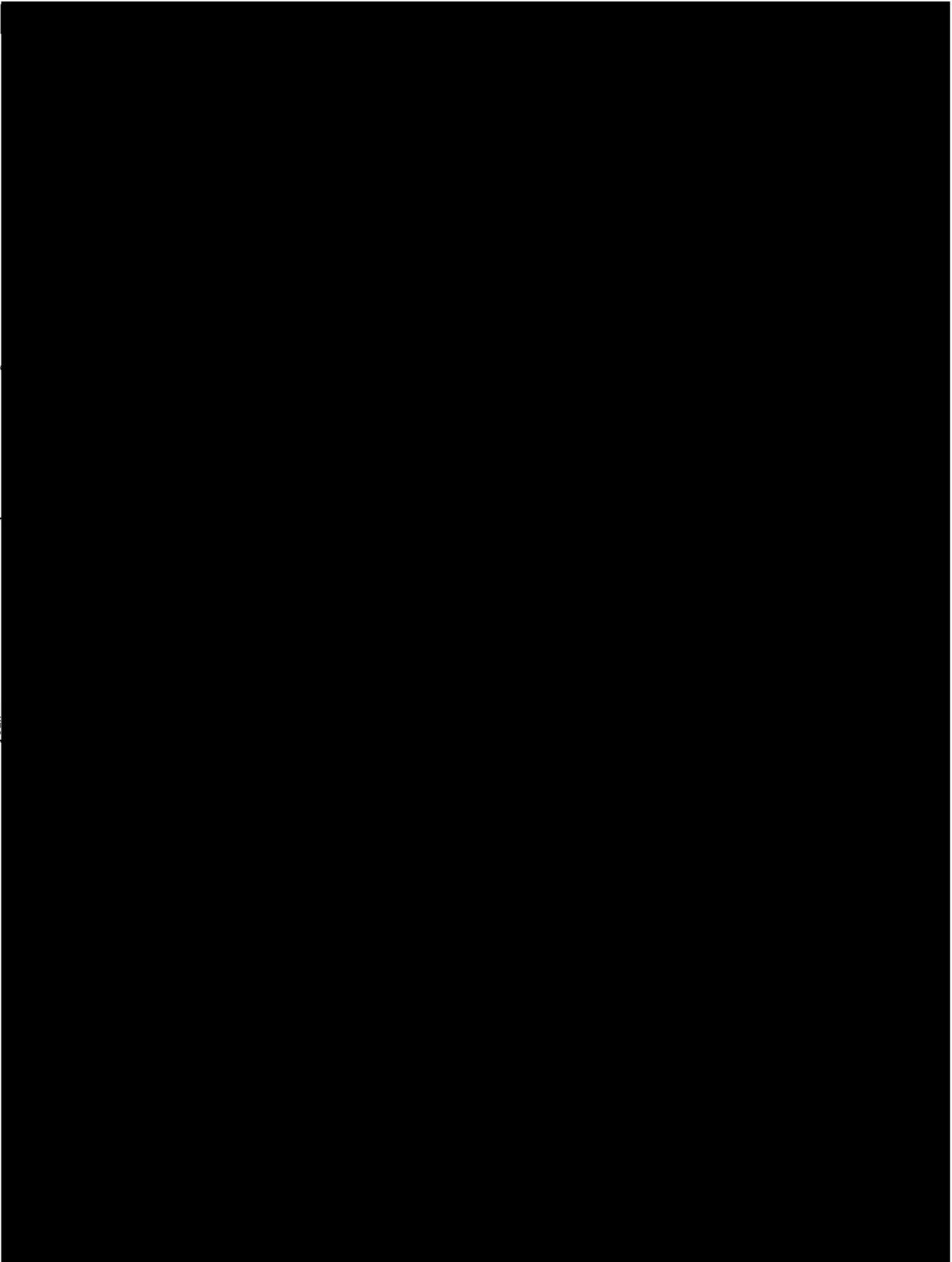
THE POPE BOOK - VERSION 2



57

DPA? [

DFA?



40  
18

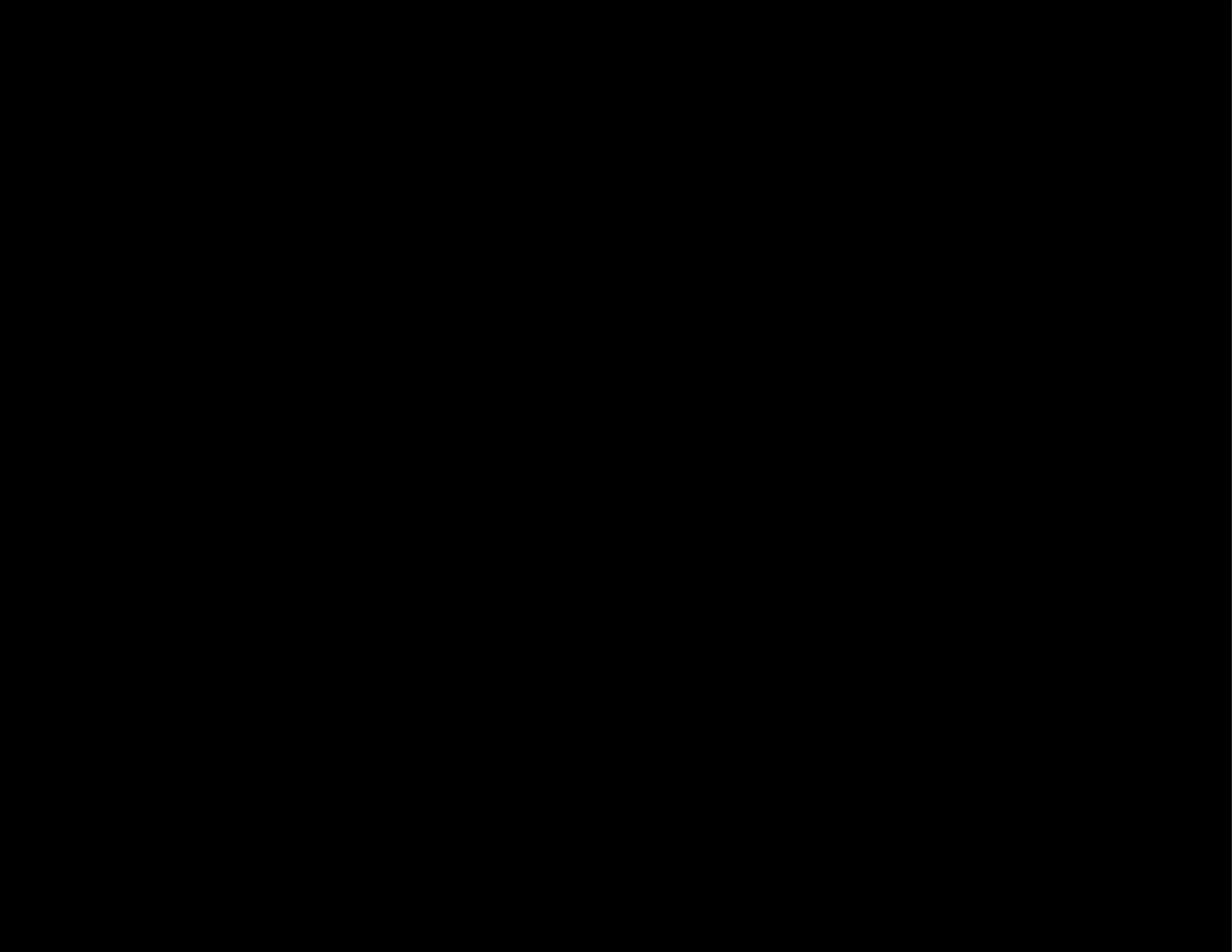


Detailed comments, as promised.

h 40  
1/2"

PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - NG POPE: "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"  
2ND DRAFT

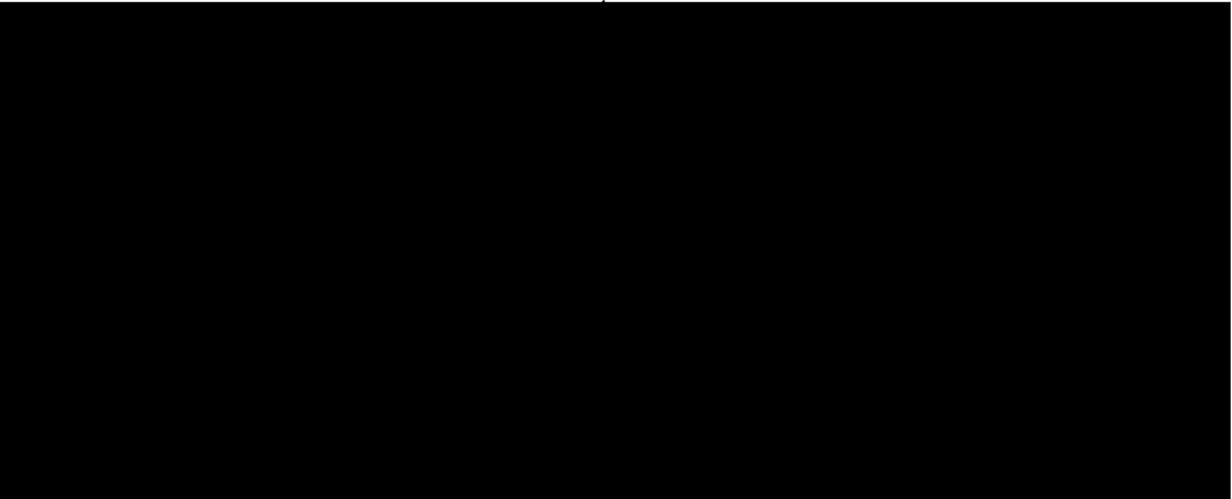
Rules and Regulations

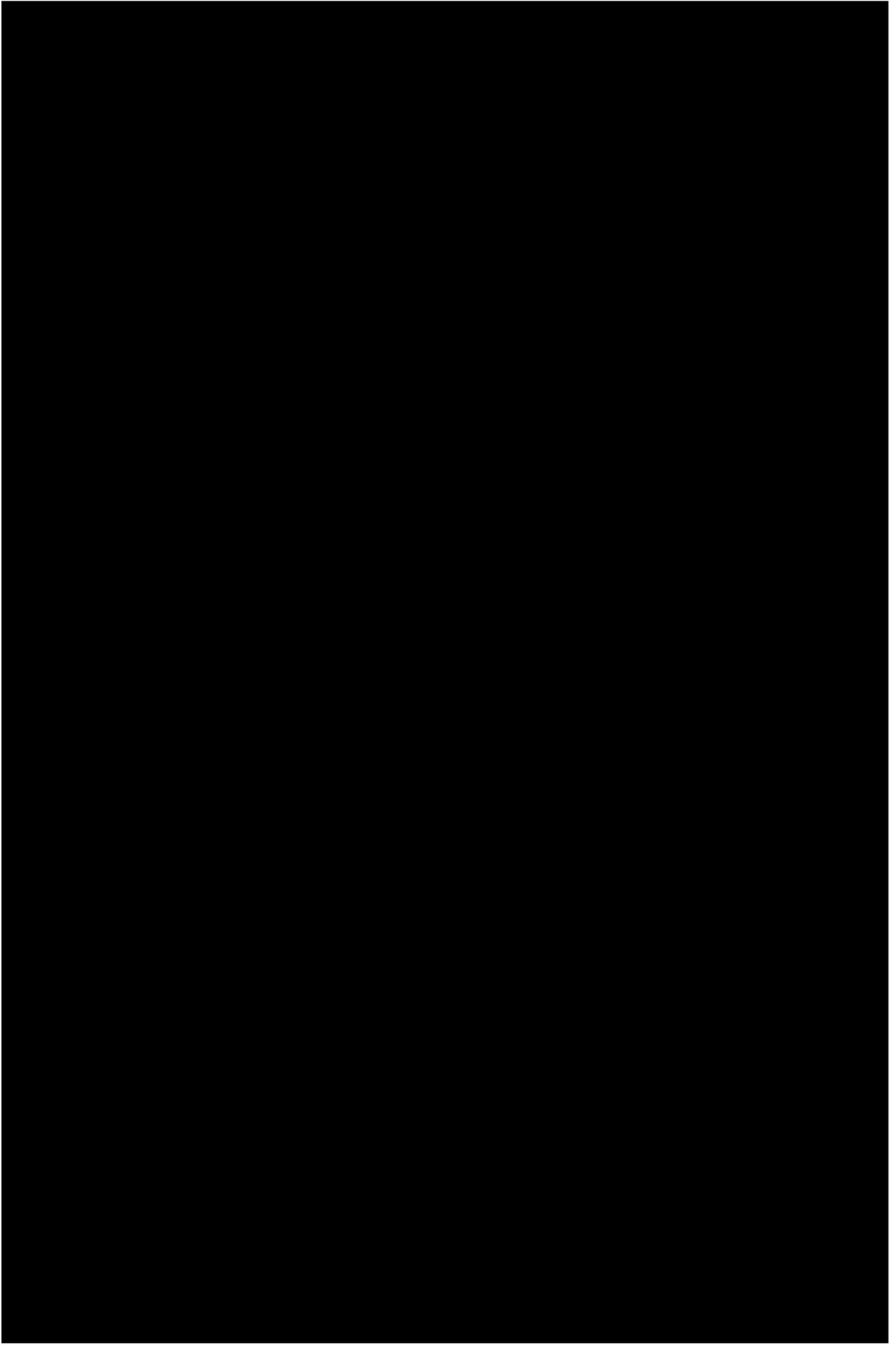


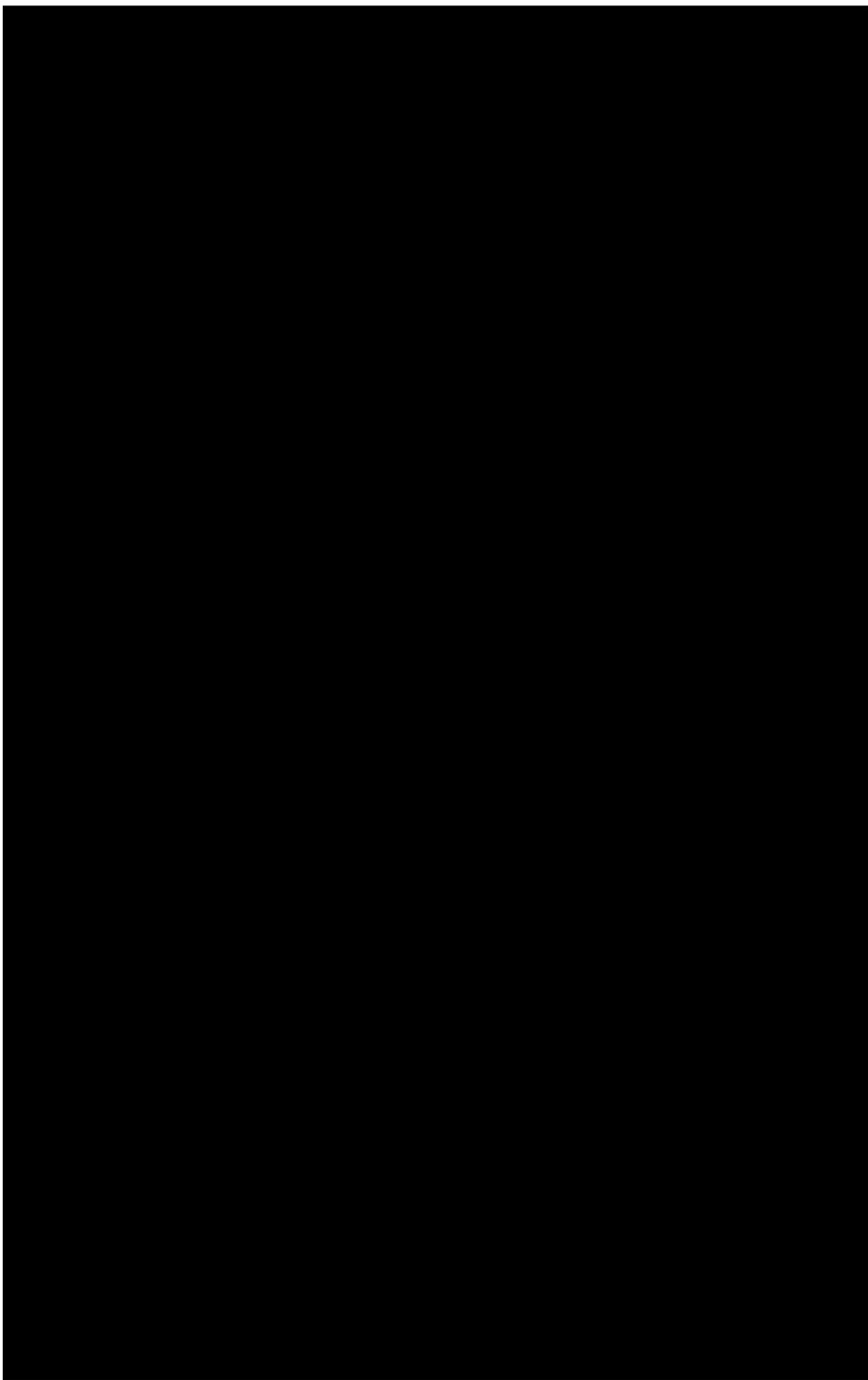
DPA?

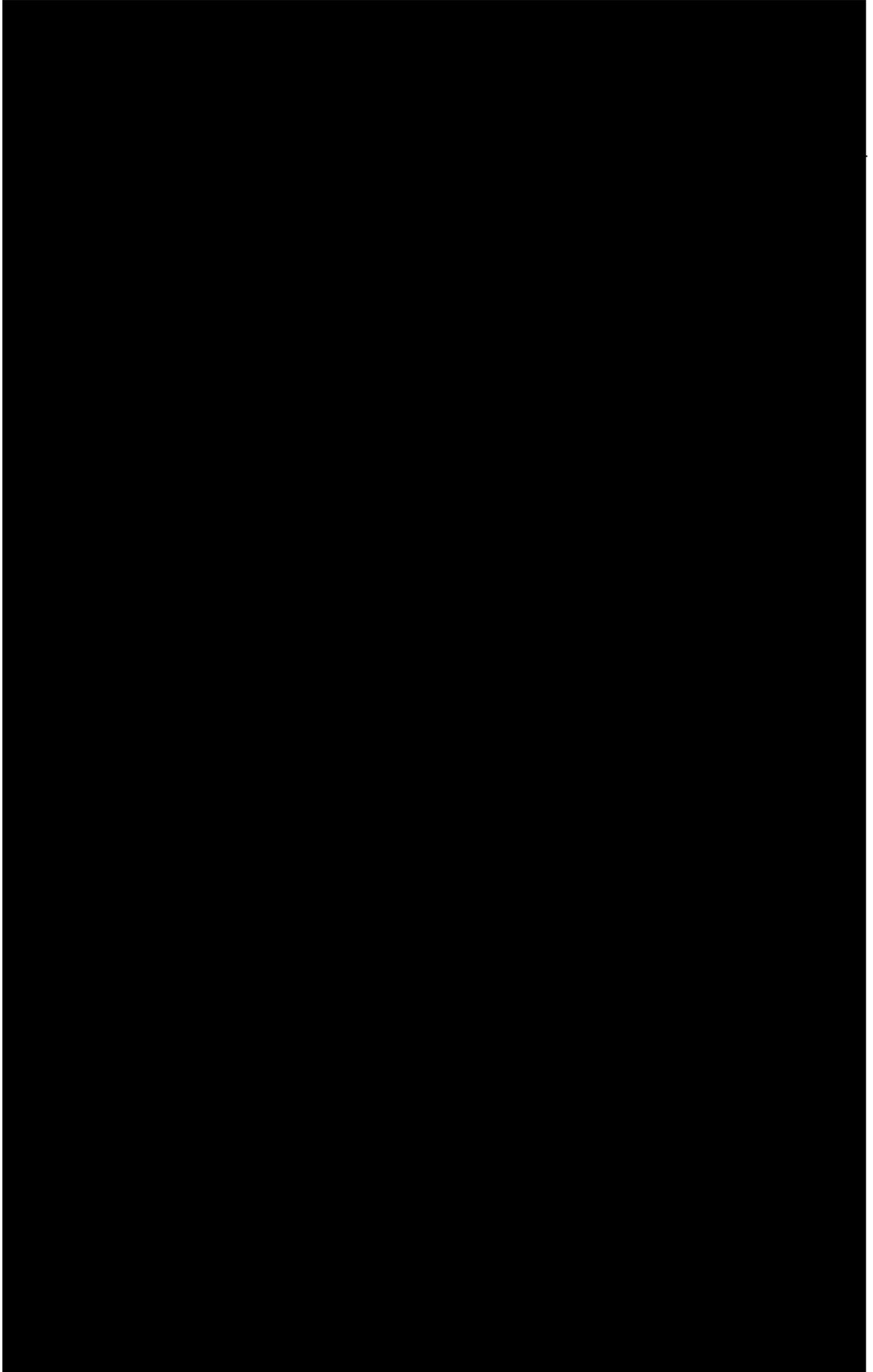
Detailed Comments

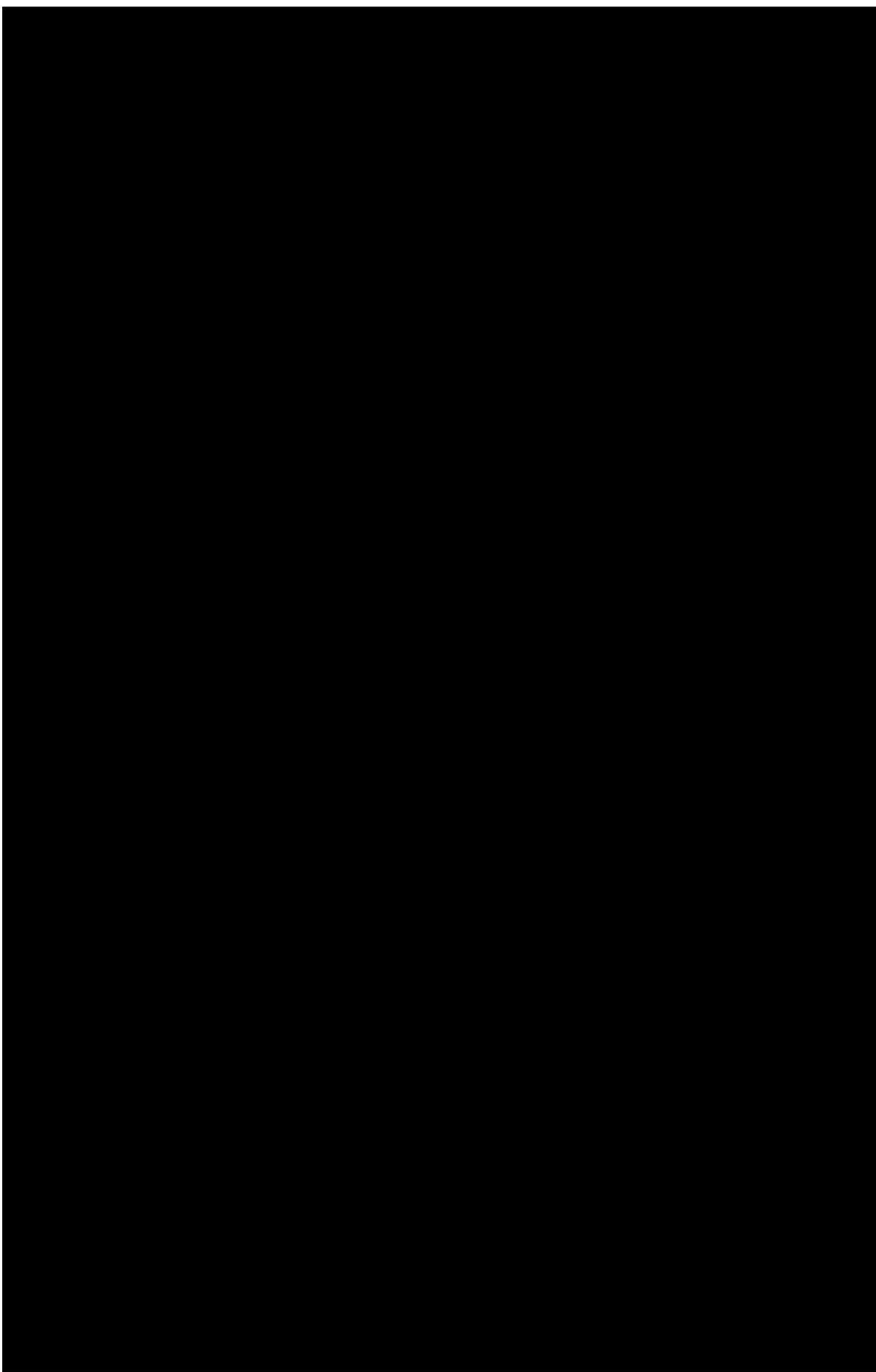
Introduction

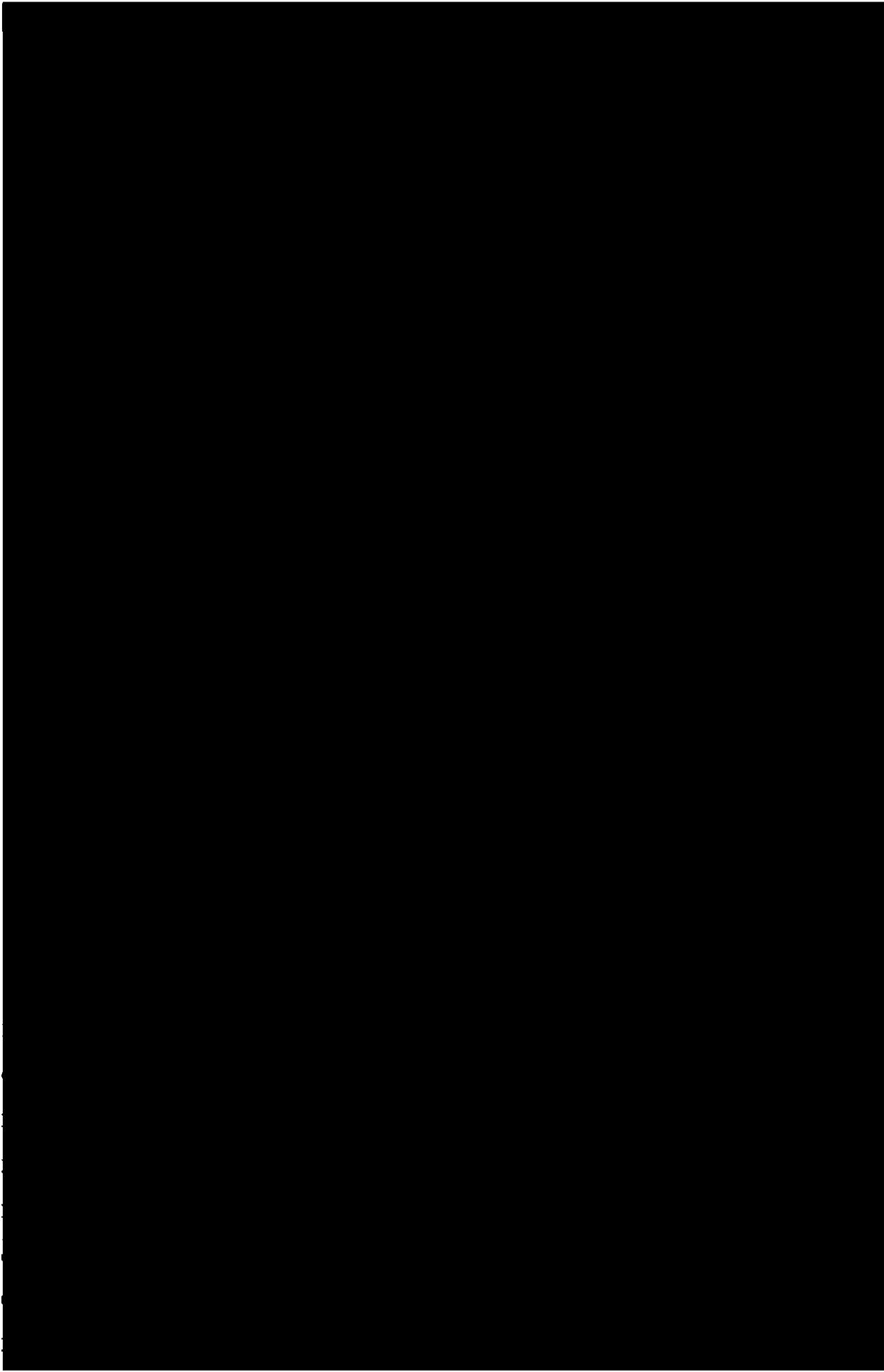
















DPA? [redacted] 40 20/4  
interesting [redacted]

Fri Jun 30, 1995 12:33 mailbox standard Page 1

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT	CODES
30/06/95	CM(IR+C)7c1	MR N G POPE - PRESS INTEREST	[ ]

Sent : 30/06/95 11:42 Delivered: 30/06/95 12:26  
To : SEC(AS)2  
Cc : AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR),GF(POL)1  
Ref : 73  
From : CM(IR+C)7c1  
Subject : MR N G POPE - PRESS INTEREST  
Text : Please find attached CM(IR&C)7c's response.

33

Priority: Normal View Acknowledge [ ] Attachments [1]  
Reply Request [ ] Codes [.....]

LOOSE MINUTE

D/CM(IR&C)1/9/1

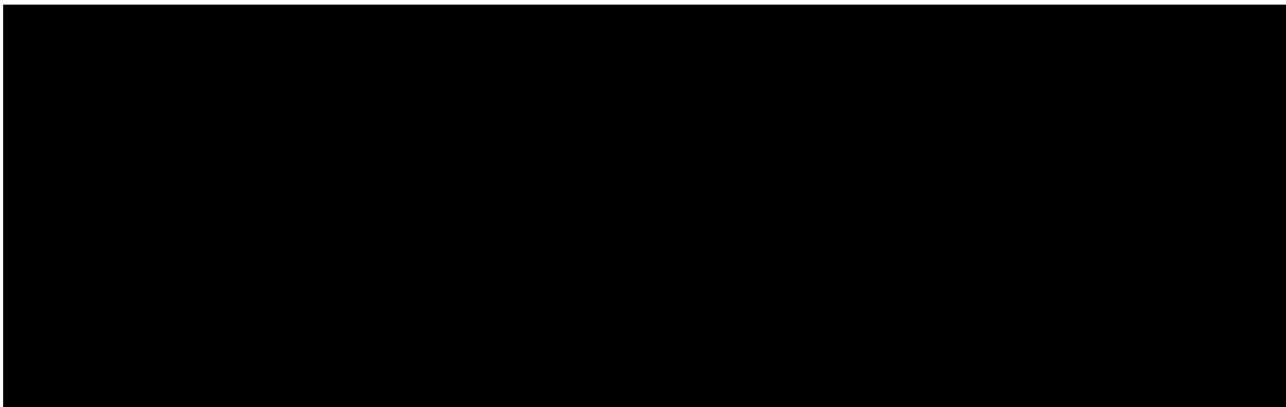
Jun 95

Sec (AS)2

Copy to:  
PCB(AIR)  
GF(Pol)1

APPLICATION FOR PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - MR N G POPE - PRESS  
INTEREST

Reference: D/Sec(AS)20/4 dated 29 Jun 95.



[Signed]

[Redacted]  
CM(IR&C)7c  
NH358 [Redacted]

20/4  
34

Fri Jun 30, 1995 12:43 mailbox log Page 1

---

DATE	TO	SUBJECT	
30/06/95	DPO(RAF)	Mr Pope's Book - Press	Ref: 135

---

Sent : 30/06/95 12:38  
To : DPO(RAF)  
Cc :

Ref : 135  
Subject: Mr Pope's Book - Press Interest

Text : You spoke to [REDACTED] yesterday about an approach from [REDACTED] of the Mail on Sunday. We cannot comment on the specifics of the case, but I attach a line to take which has been cleared with PCB(Air) and CM(IR&C).

Priority: Normal                      View Acknowledge [\*]                      Attachments [1]  
Reply Request    [ ]              Delivery Acknowledge [ ]                      page 1

---

Bcc :

Auth by :

Defer Date :                      Defer Time :

No Redirection [ ]

---

page 2

PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE - MR N G POPE - LINE TO TAKE

All MOD personnel wishing to publish a book which draws on their official experience or information obtained in the course of their duties, or which expresses views on official matters, are required to seek MOD approval before doing so. Details of specific applications for approval are private between the Department and the individual concerned.

32

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)20/4

29 June 1995

CM(IR&C)7c  
PCB(Air)

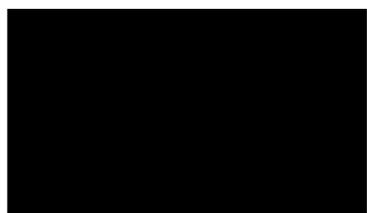
Copy to:  
GF(Pol)1

APPLICATION FOR PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - MR N G POPE - PRESS INTEREST



DPA?

3. We need to give the Press Office a line to take, and I attach a draft. As you will note, I would not propose to comment on this specific case. With apologies for the short fuse, I would be grateful for comments on or clearance of the line by 1130 on Friday 30 June.



Sec(AS)2  
MB8247



All MOD <sup>personnel</sup> ~~civil servants~~ wishing to publish a book which draws on their official experience or information obtained in the course of their duties, or which expresses views on official matters, are required to seek MOD approval before doing so. Details of specific applications for approval are [confidential] between the Department and the individual concerned. <sup>private</sup>

LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

24 May 95

PCB(Air) - [redacted]

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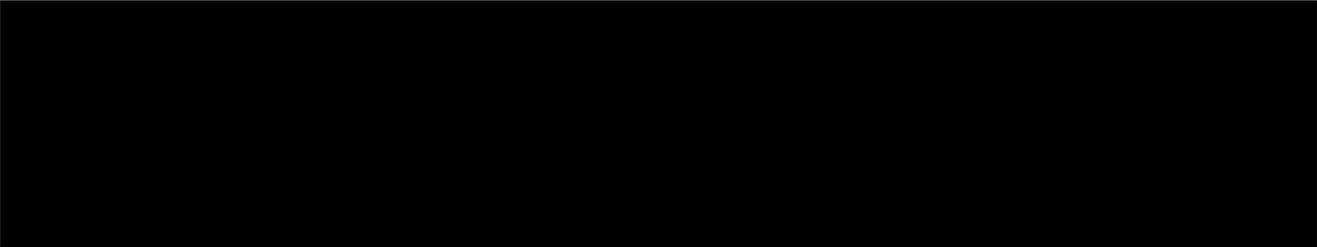
Hd of GF*	}	
Hd of Sec(AS)*	}	Without attachment
Hd of CM(IR)7*	}	

\* By CHOTS

UFO BOOK - CLEARANCE FOR PUBLICATION

References:

- A. PCB(Air)3409 dated 4 Apr 95
- B. D/NP/Pers dated 1 May 95



[redacted] OR

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] 28

no doubt for said to us in due course.

[redacted]

[Signed]

N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b

MB0262 [redacted]

E Mail: GF(POL)1B-1

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED  
MAY 20 1995  
20/4

LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

1 May 95

PCB(Air) - [REDACTED]

Copy to:  
Head of Sec(AS)\*  
Head of CM(IR)7\*  
Head of GF(Pol)\*

\* By CHOTS

UFO BOOK - CLEARANCE FOR PUBLICATION

Reference: PCB(Air)3409 dated 4 Apr 95

[REDACTED]

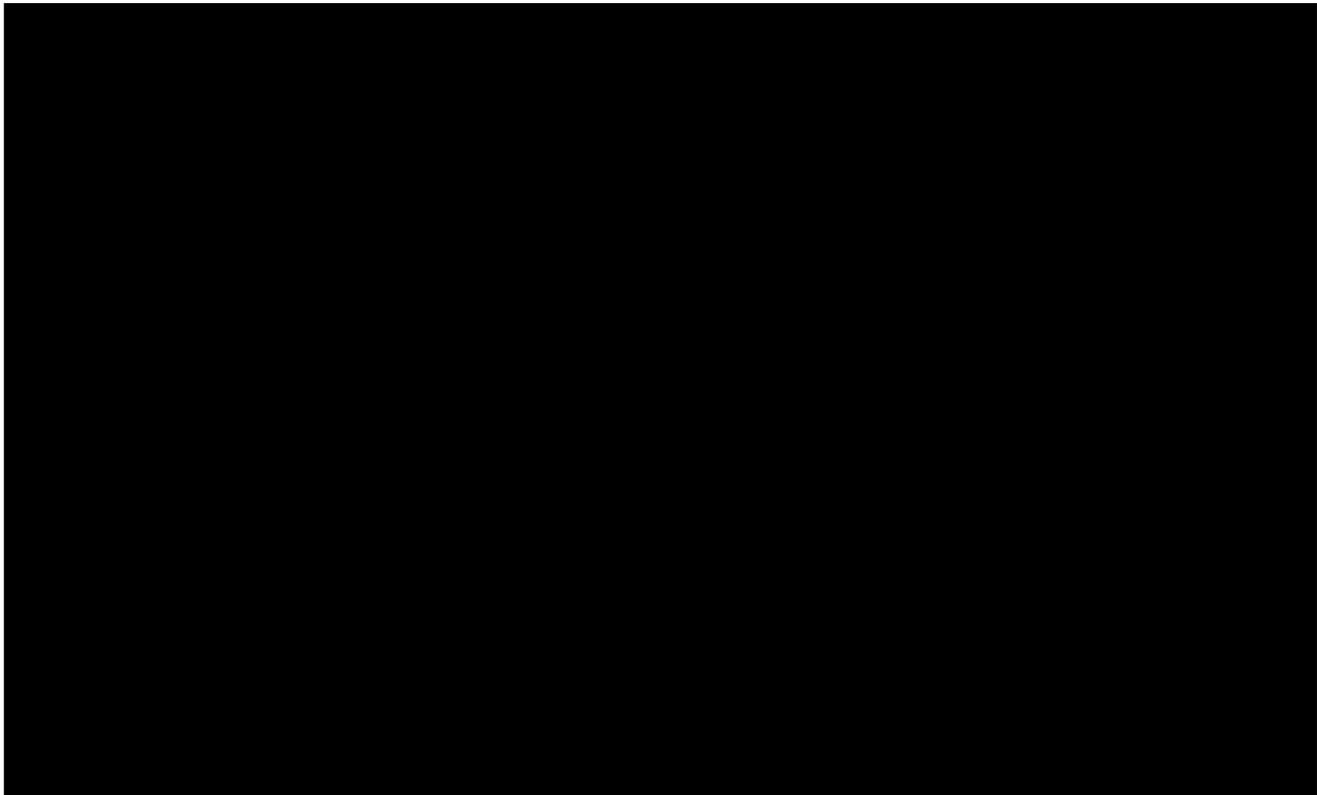
27

*It seems that we  
will have another  
drafted manuscript  
to read.*

20/4.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[Signed]

N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b

MB0262

E Mail: GF(POL)1B-1

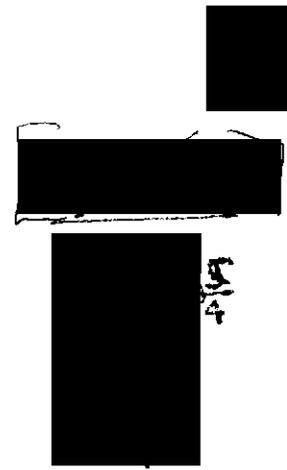
LOOSE MINUTE

PCB(Air)3409

04 Apr 95

Head of Sec(AS)  
Head of GF(Pol)  
Head of CM(IR&C)7  
Head of CM(A)2  
D MOD Sy

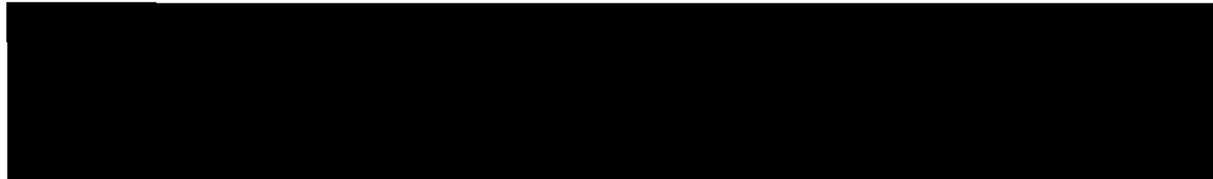
2044



N G POPE - PUBLICATION CLEARANCE

Reference:

A. D/Sec(AS)/20/4(MF81/95) dated 27 Mar 95



AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)  
GSY308  
Fax:   
E Mail: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)



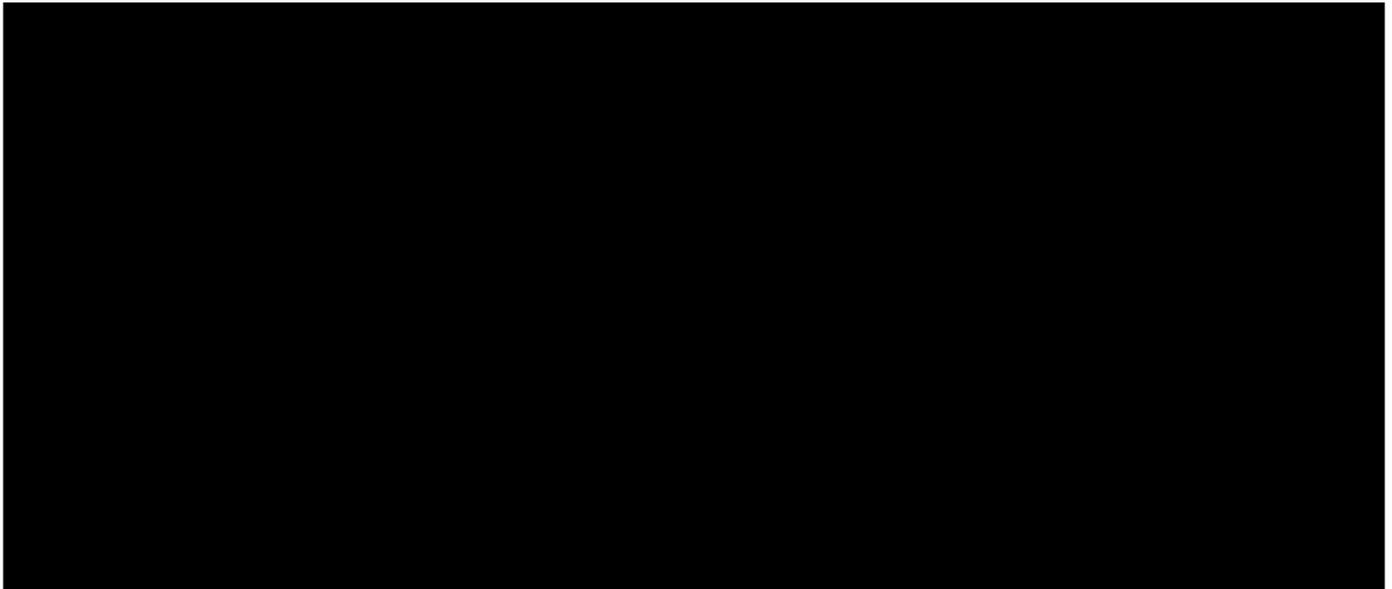
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Publications Clearance Branch (Air), Rm 308  
3-5, Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HW

Telephone (Direct Dialling) [REDACTED]  
(Switchboard) 0171 218 9000  
(Fax) [REDACTED]

Mr N G Pope  
GF(Pol)1b  
Room 0262  
MAIN BUILDING

Your reference  
Our reference  
PCB(Air)3409  
Date  
04 April 1995

CLEARANCE FOR PUBLICATION - "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS - OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO THE UFO PHENOMENON"



[REDACTED]  
PCB(Air)

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Head of Sec(AS)  
Head of CM(IR&C)7  
Head of GF(Pol)

ENCE NO.  
25

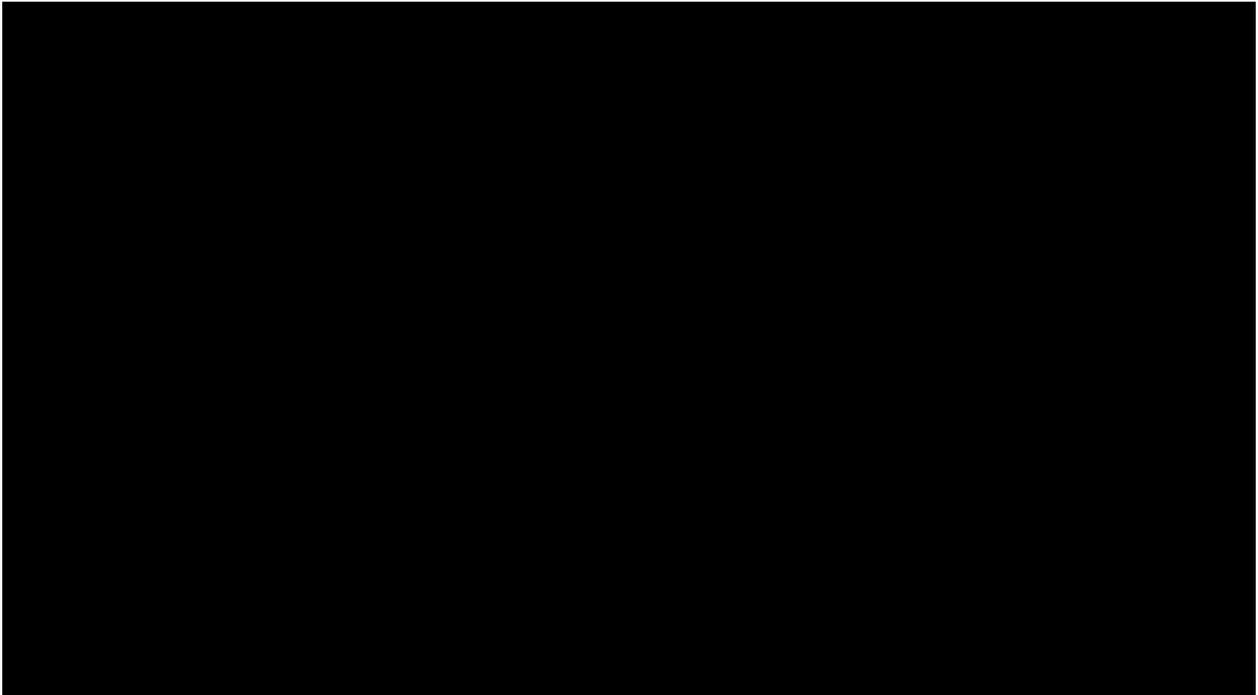
LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/20/4

4 Apr 95

PCB(Air) - [REDACTED]

**PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE - MR POPE**



Sec(AS)2a

MB8245 [REDACTED]

Publications Clearance Branch (Air), Rm 308

24

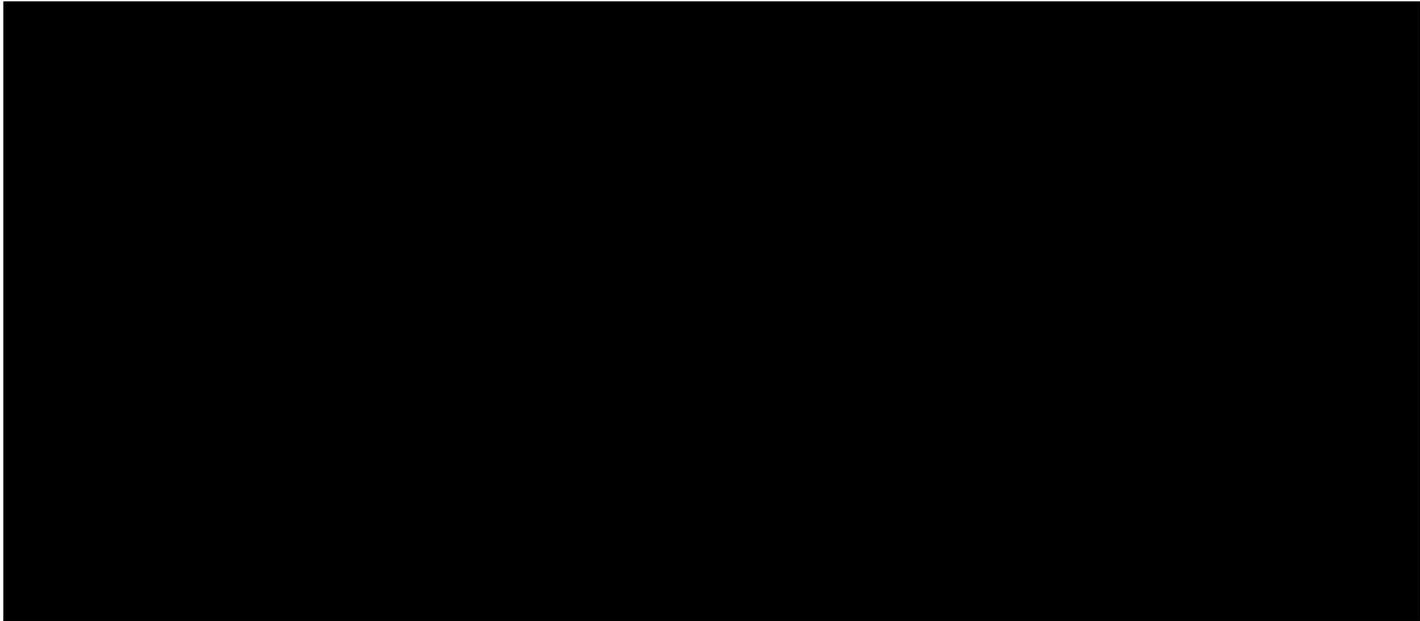


Mr N G Pope  
GF(Pol)1b  
Room 0262  
MAIN BUILDING

PCB(Air)3409

03 April 1995

CLEARANCE FOR PUBLICATION - "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS - OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO THE UFO PHENOMENON"

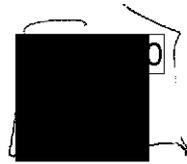


  
PCB(Air)

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Head of CM(IR&C)7  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD Sy



Publications Clearance Branch (Air), Rm 308



Mr N G Pope

GF(Pol)1b

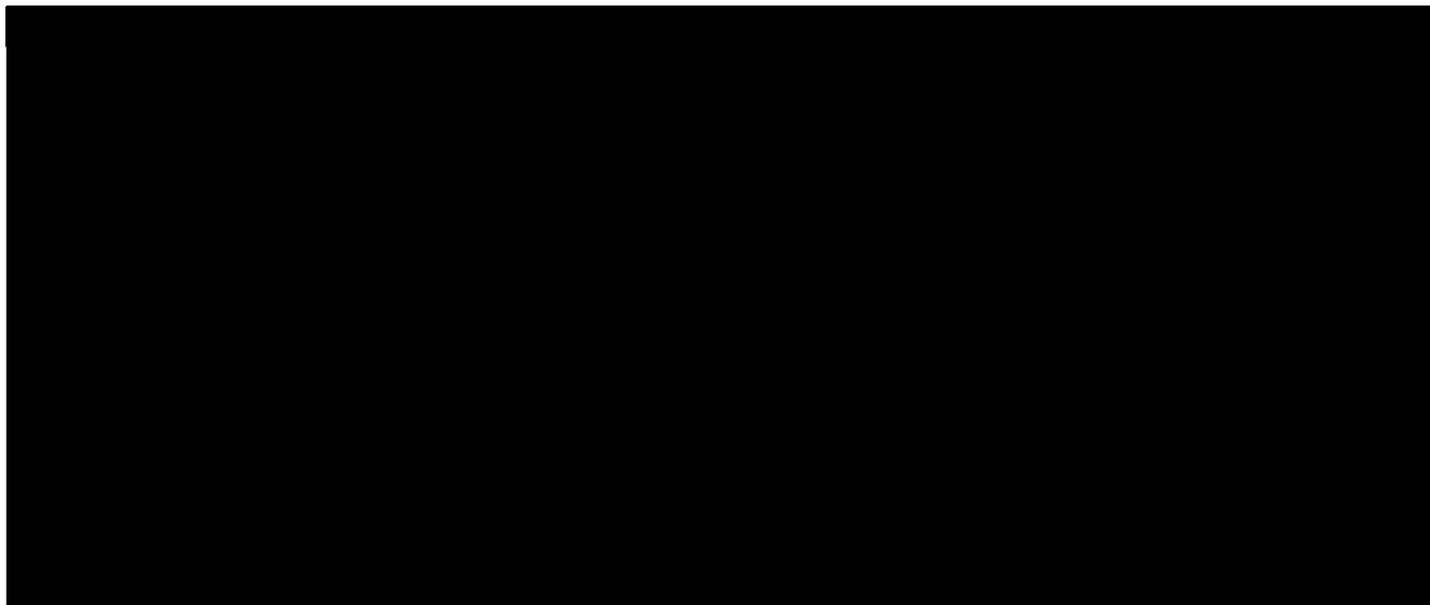
Room 0262

MAIN BUILDING

PCB(Air)3409

03 April 1995

CLEARANCE FOR PUBLICATION - "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS - OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO THE UFO PHENOMENON"



*As such*

  
PCB(Air)

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Head of CM(IR&C)7  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD.Sy

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[Redacted] 40

[Redacted] 40

22

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D/CM(IR&C)1/9/1

3 Mar 95

PCB(Air)

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Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD Sy

N G POPE - PUBLICATION CLEARANCE

References:

- A. D/Sec(AS)/20/4 (MF80/95) dated 27 March 95
- B. D/Sec(AS)/20/4 (MF81/95) dated 27 March 95

DPA  
DPA  
DPA

[Large Redacted Area]

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CM(IR&C)7  
NH357 [Redacted]

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*file copies*

21

LOOSE MINUTE

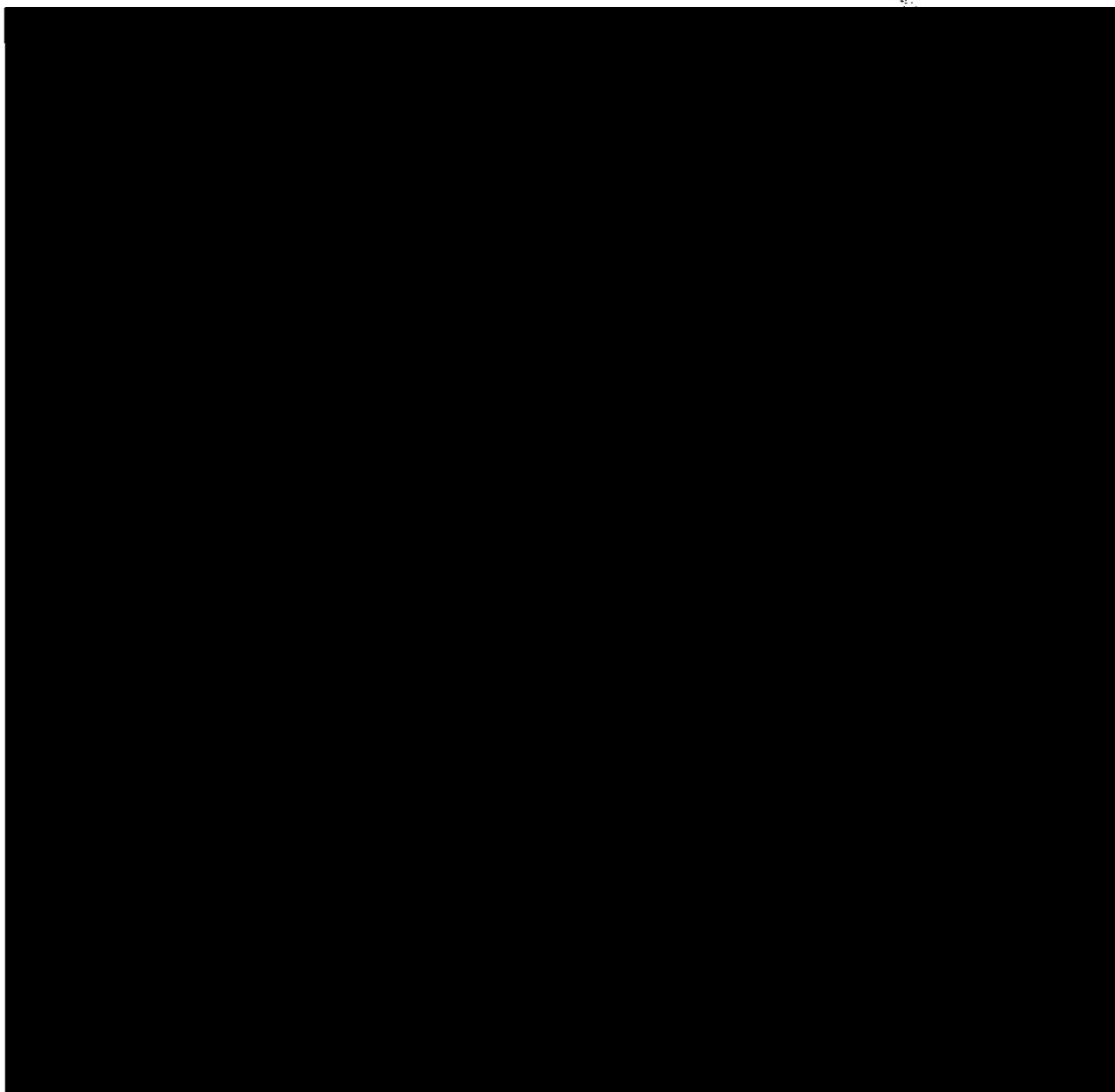
D/Sec(AS)/20/4(MF81/95)

27 March 95

PCB(Air)

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Head of CM(IR&C)  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD Sy

N G POPE - PUBLICATION CLEARANCE



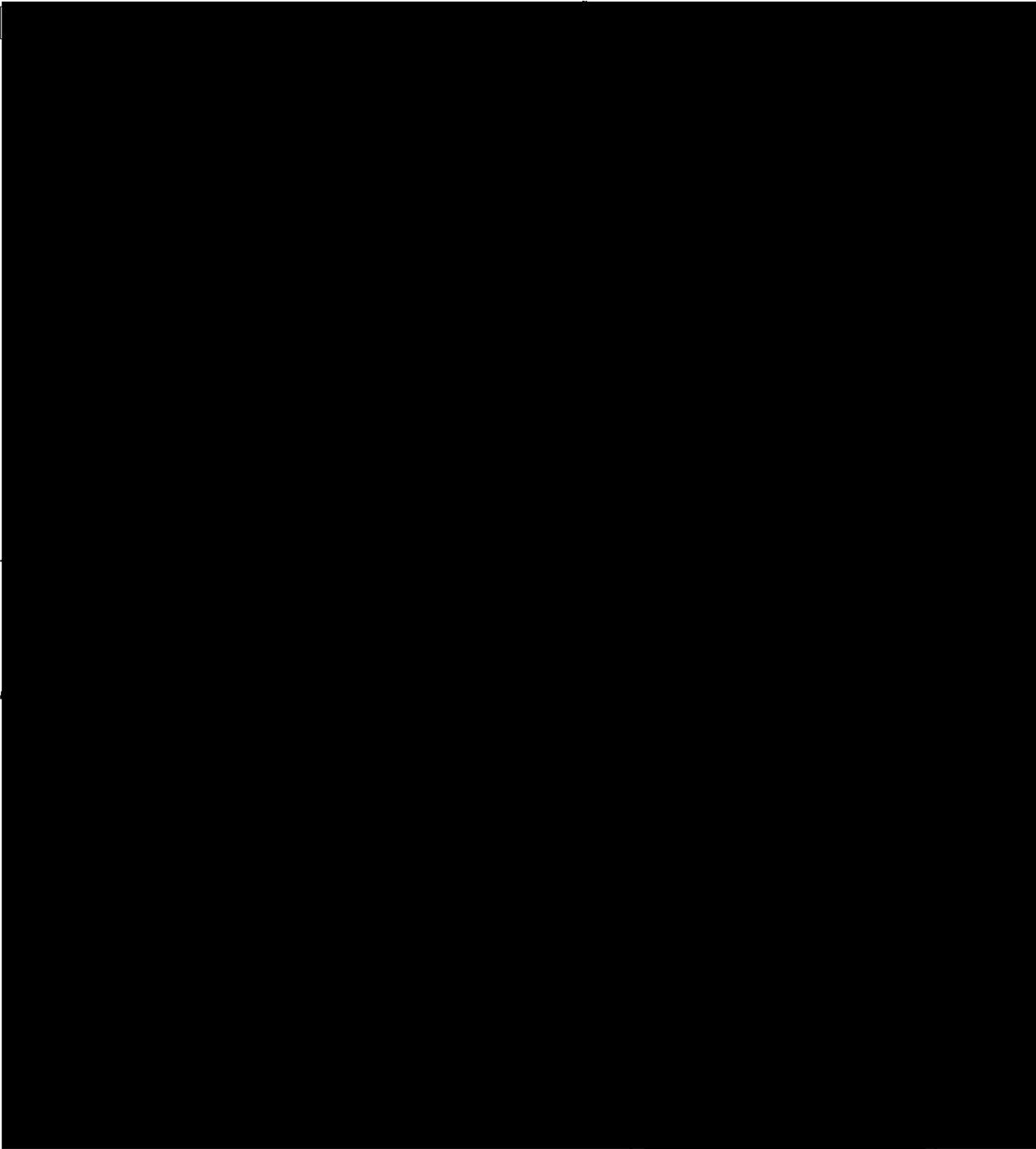
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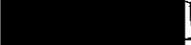
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DPA?



Head of Sec(AS)

MB7257



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20

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/20/4(MF80/95)

27 March 95

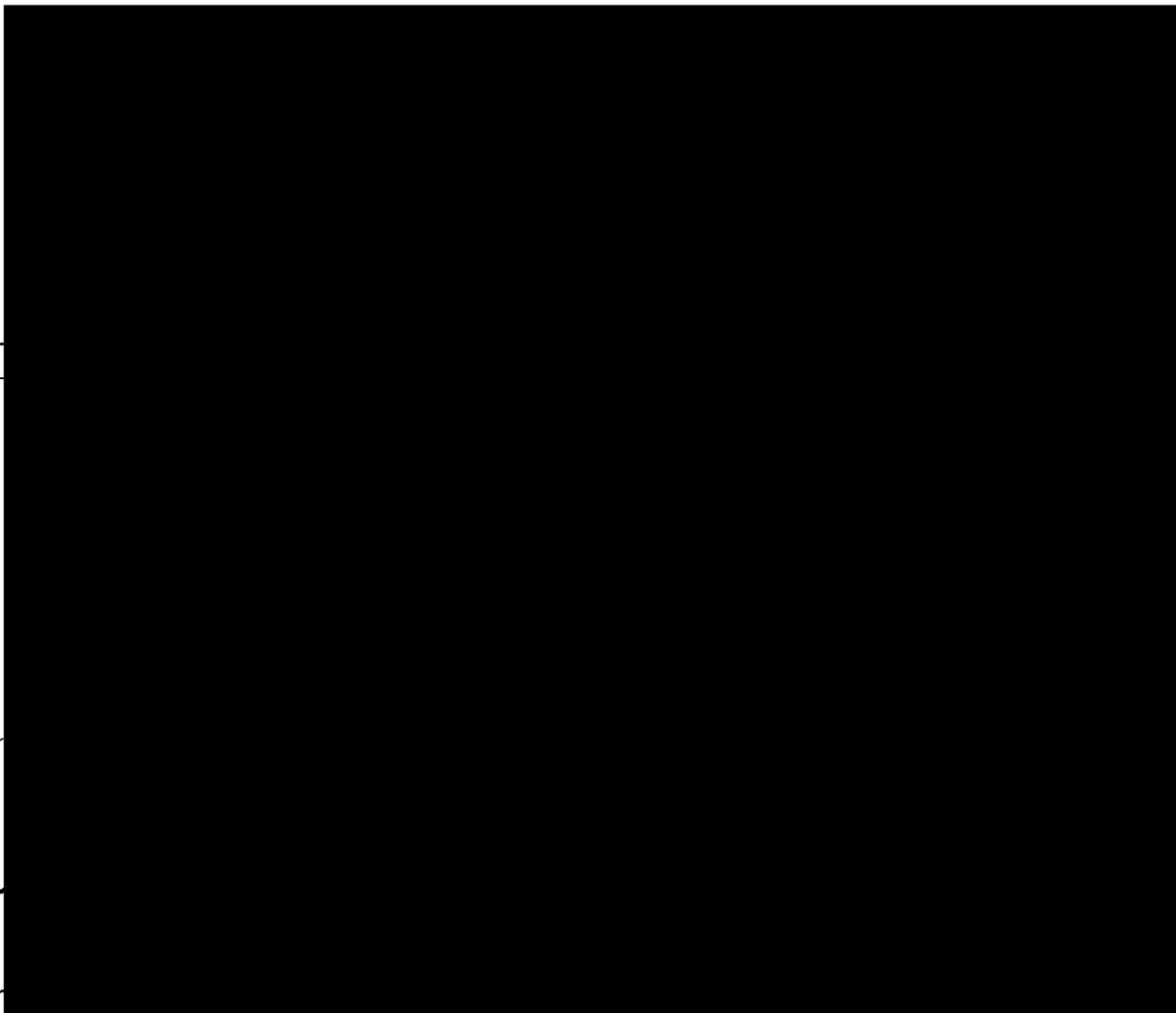
Head of CM(IR&C)  
Head of CM(A)2  
Head of GF(Pol)  
D MOD Sy



MR N G POPE: PUBLICATION CLEARANCE

DPA

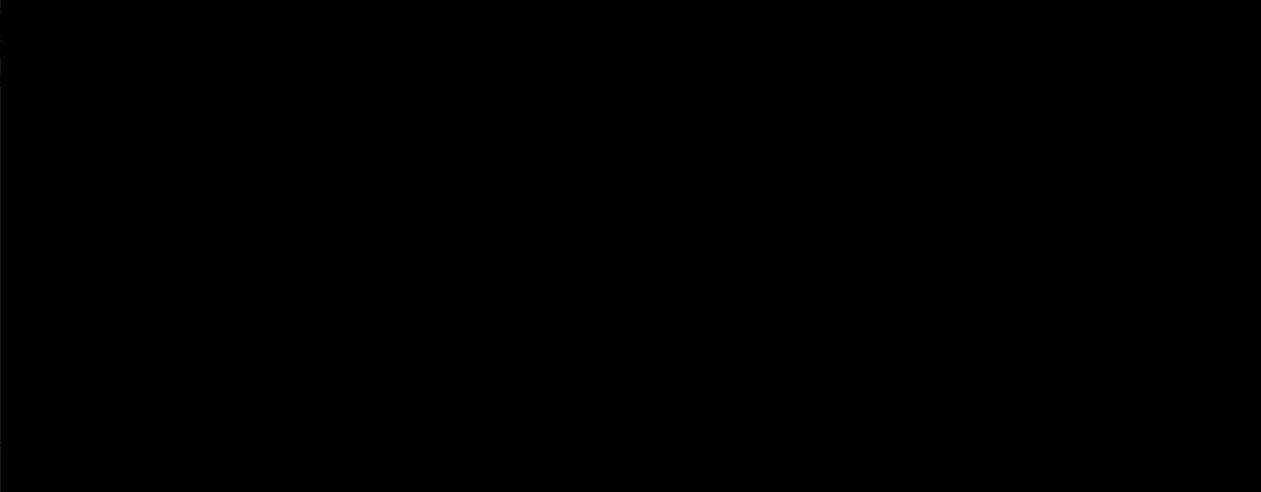
1. I attach a copy of a loose minute to PCB(Air) dealing with a draft book by Mr N G Pope, which has been submitted for publications clearance. [Mr Pope served as an EO in Sec(AS) until July 1994, and is now an HEO in GF(Pol)] One of Mr Pope's responsibilities in Sec(AS) was as the focal point for the receipt of reports of unexplained aerial phenomena (commonly known as UFOs), and it is this aspect of his work which is covered in the book.



DPA?

DPA?

DPA?



DPA?

6. In view of the volume of paper involved I am not copying Mr Pope's draft to you, but it could be made available if required. I would of course be happy to discuss.

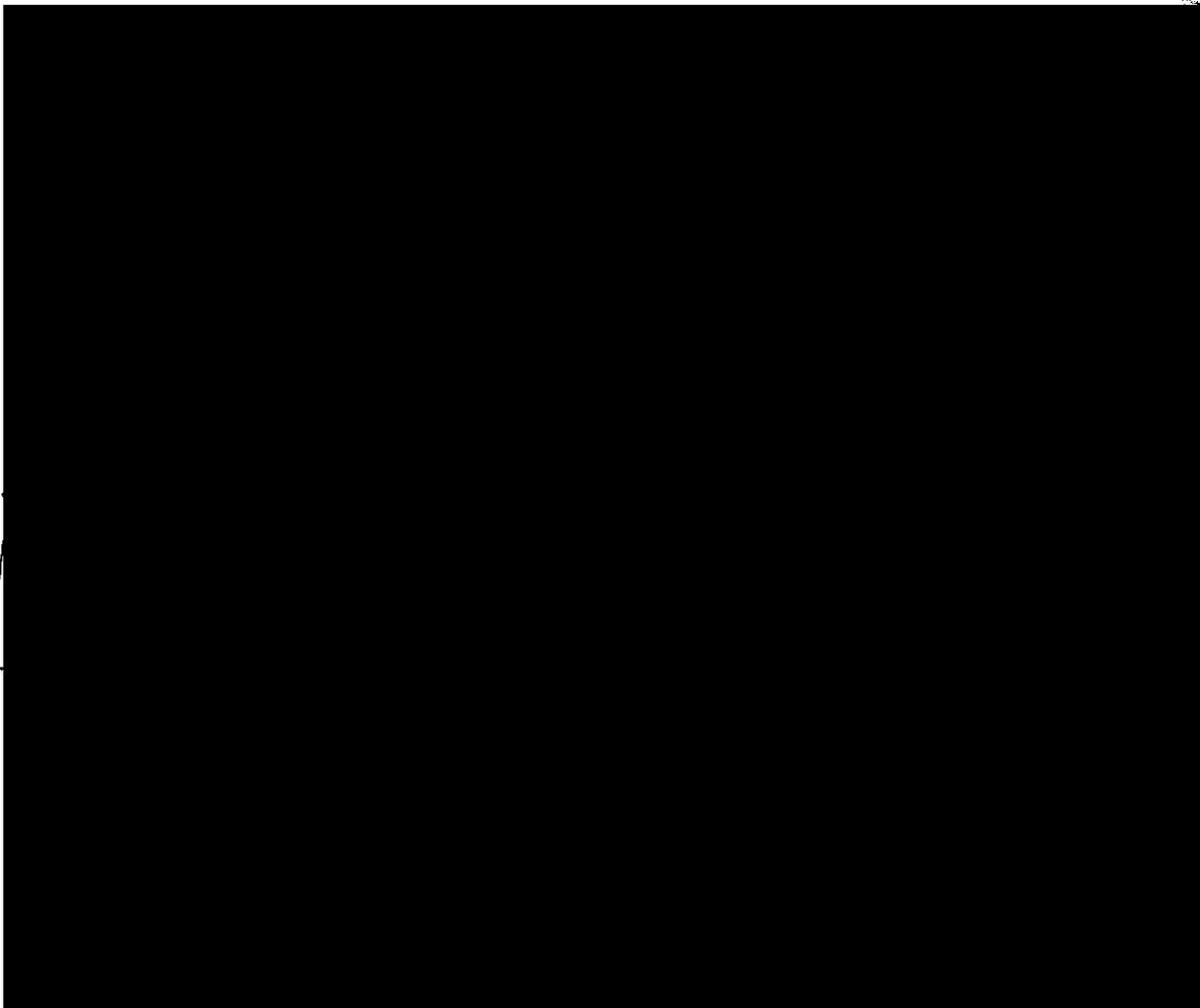


Head of Sec(AS)

MB7257

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19

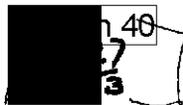
Head of Sec(AS)



DPA?



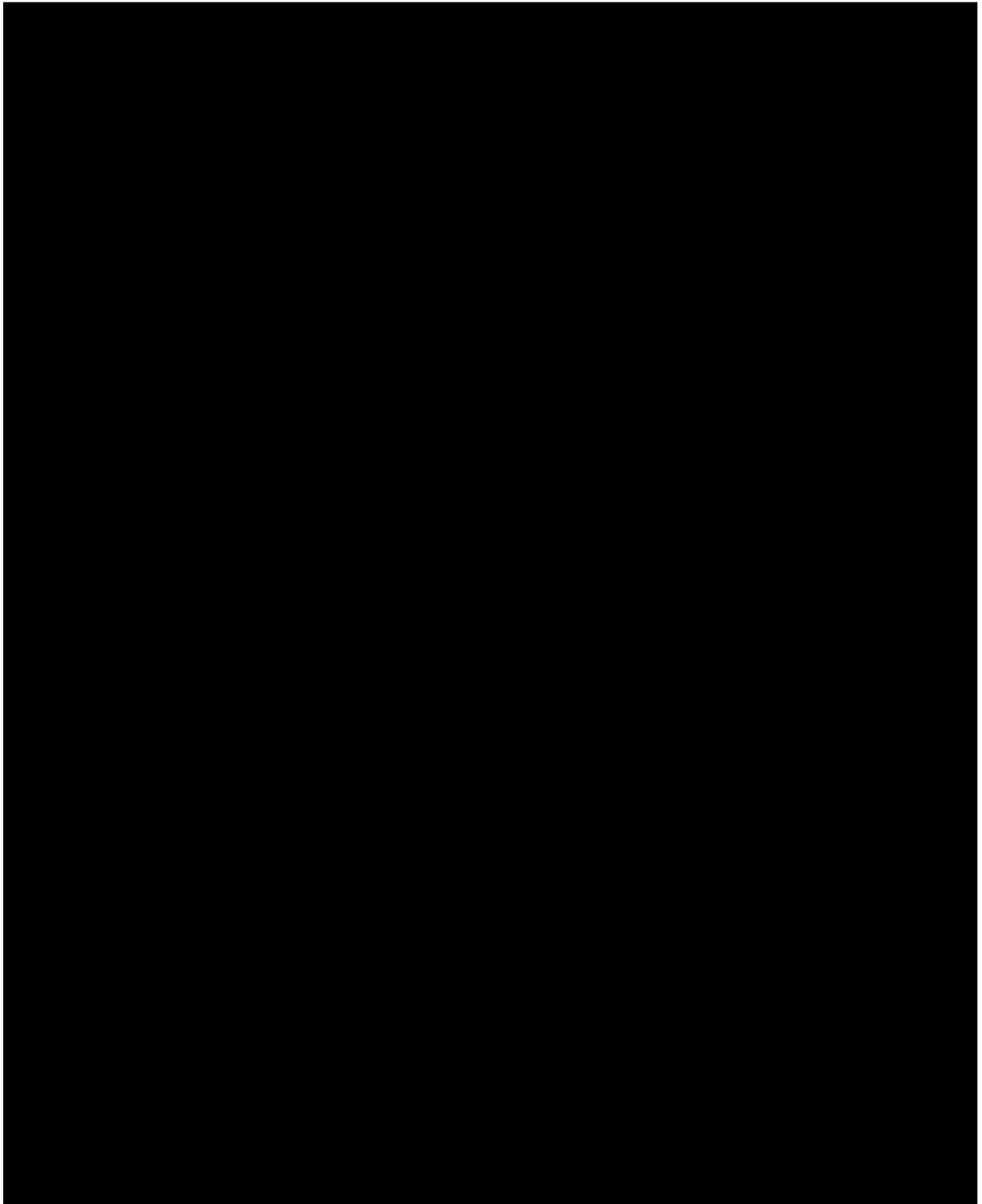
Returned with Thanks.  
I have now minuted.

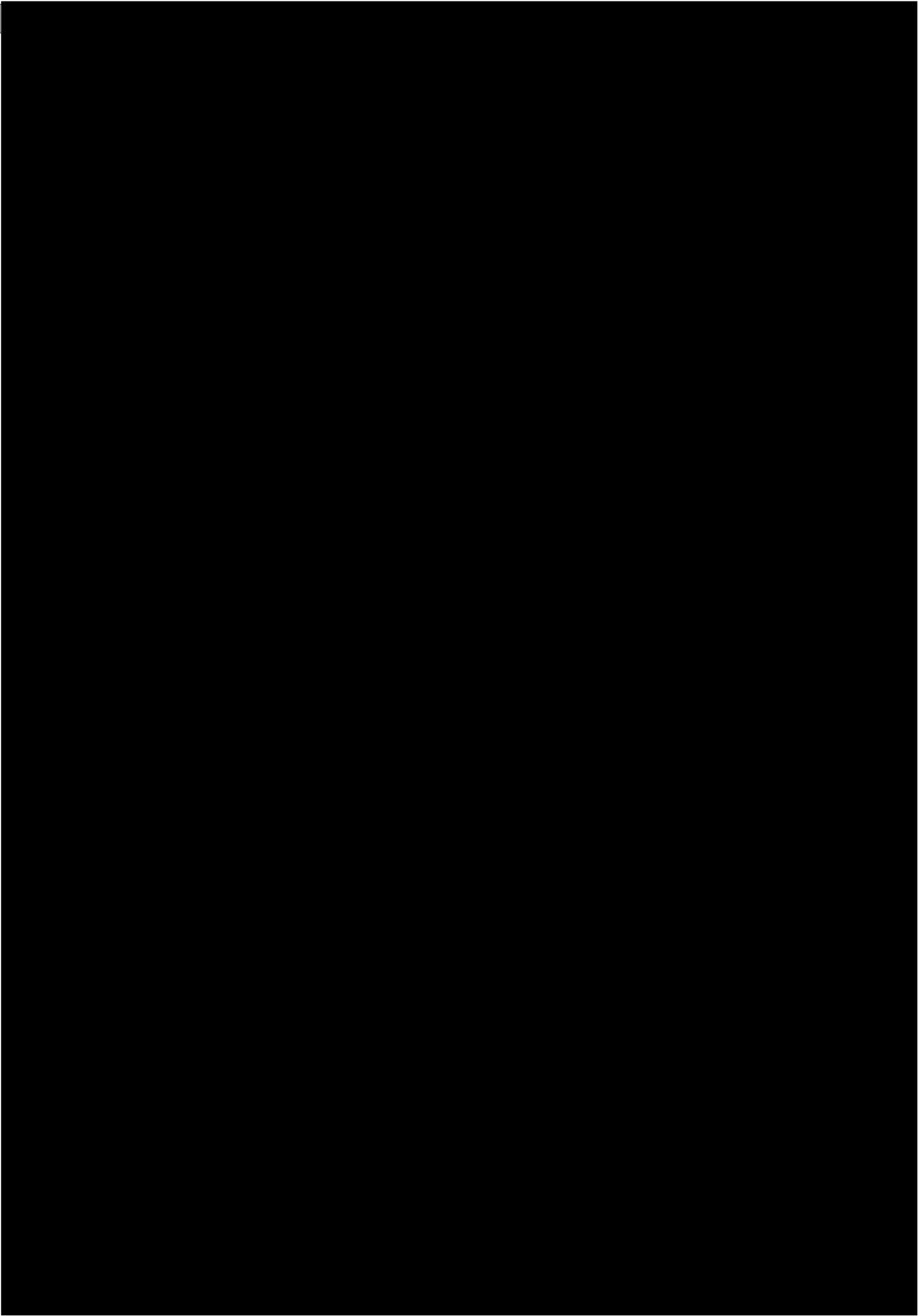


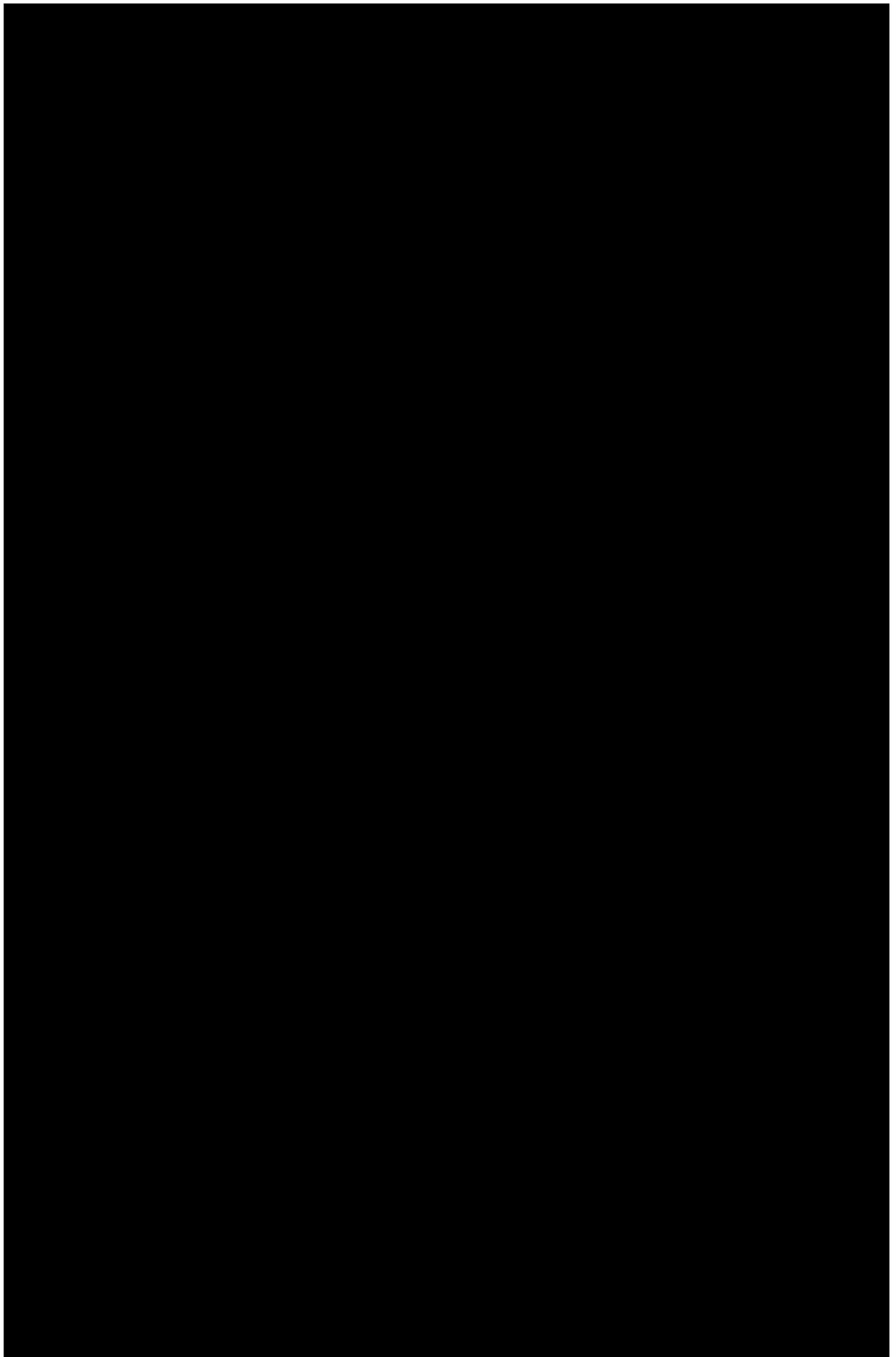
PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - NG POPE: "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"

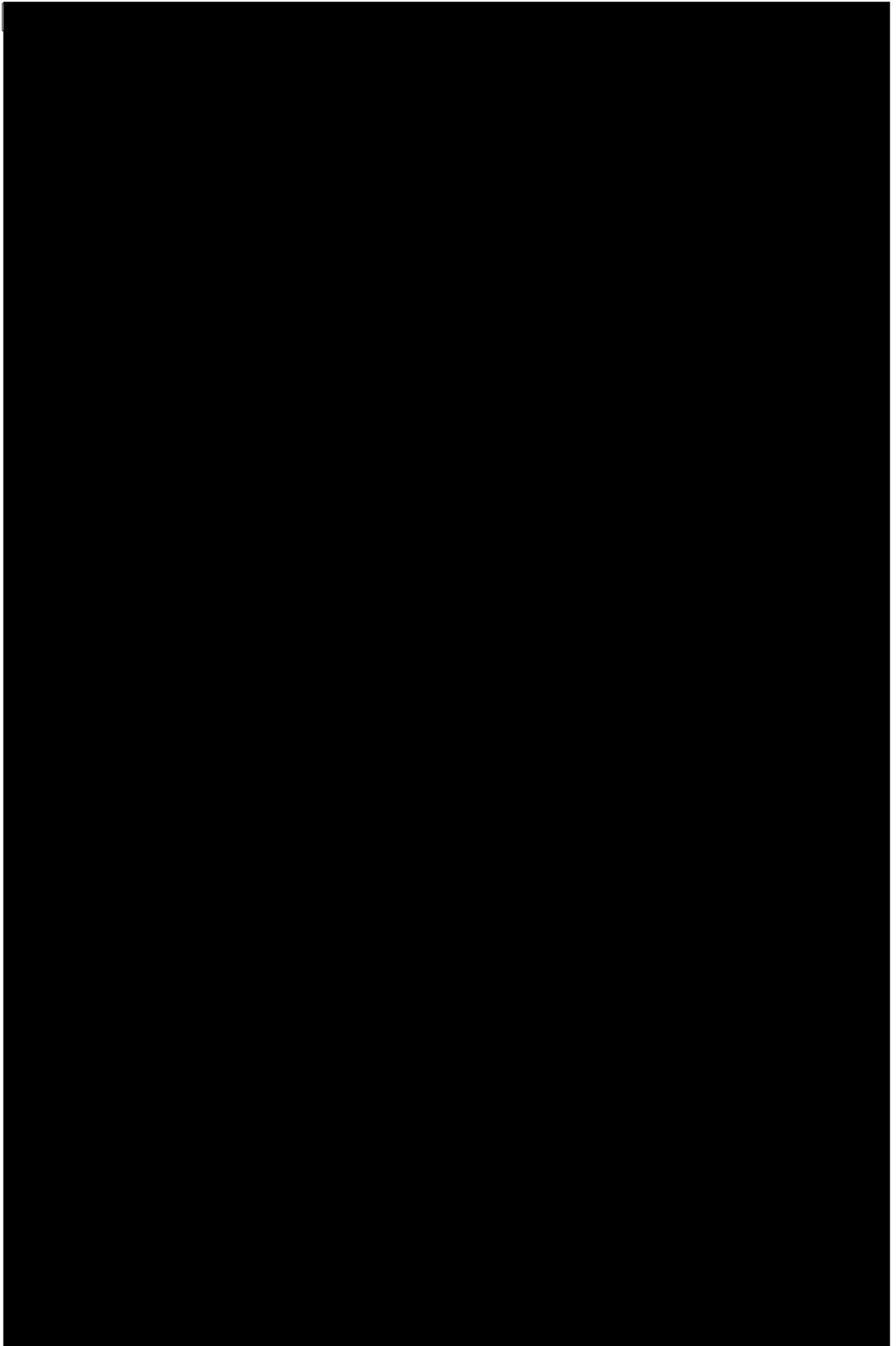
Detailed Comments

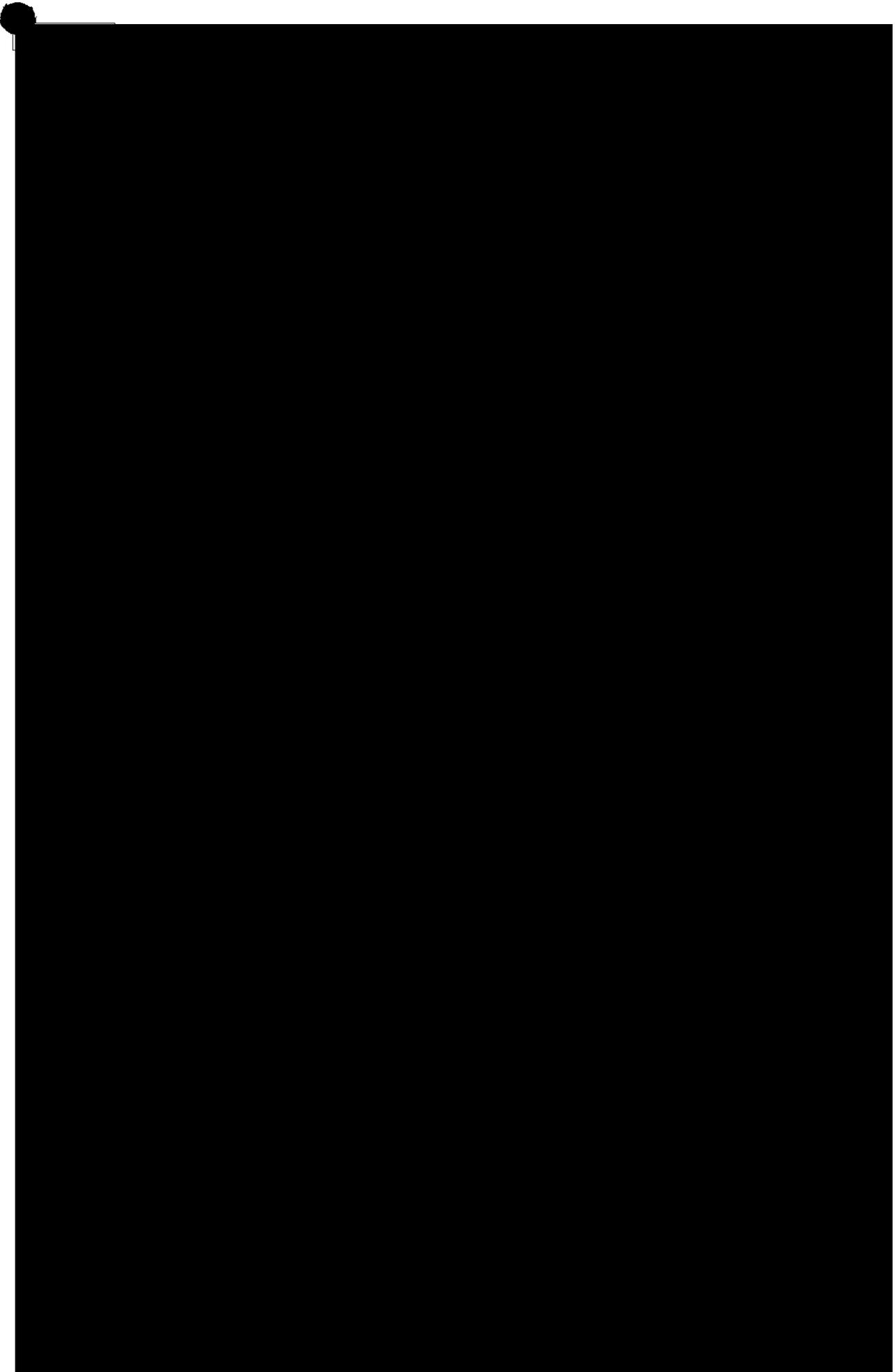
**Introduction**

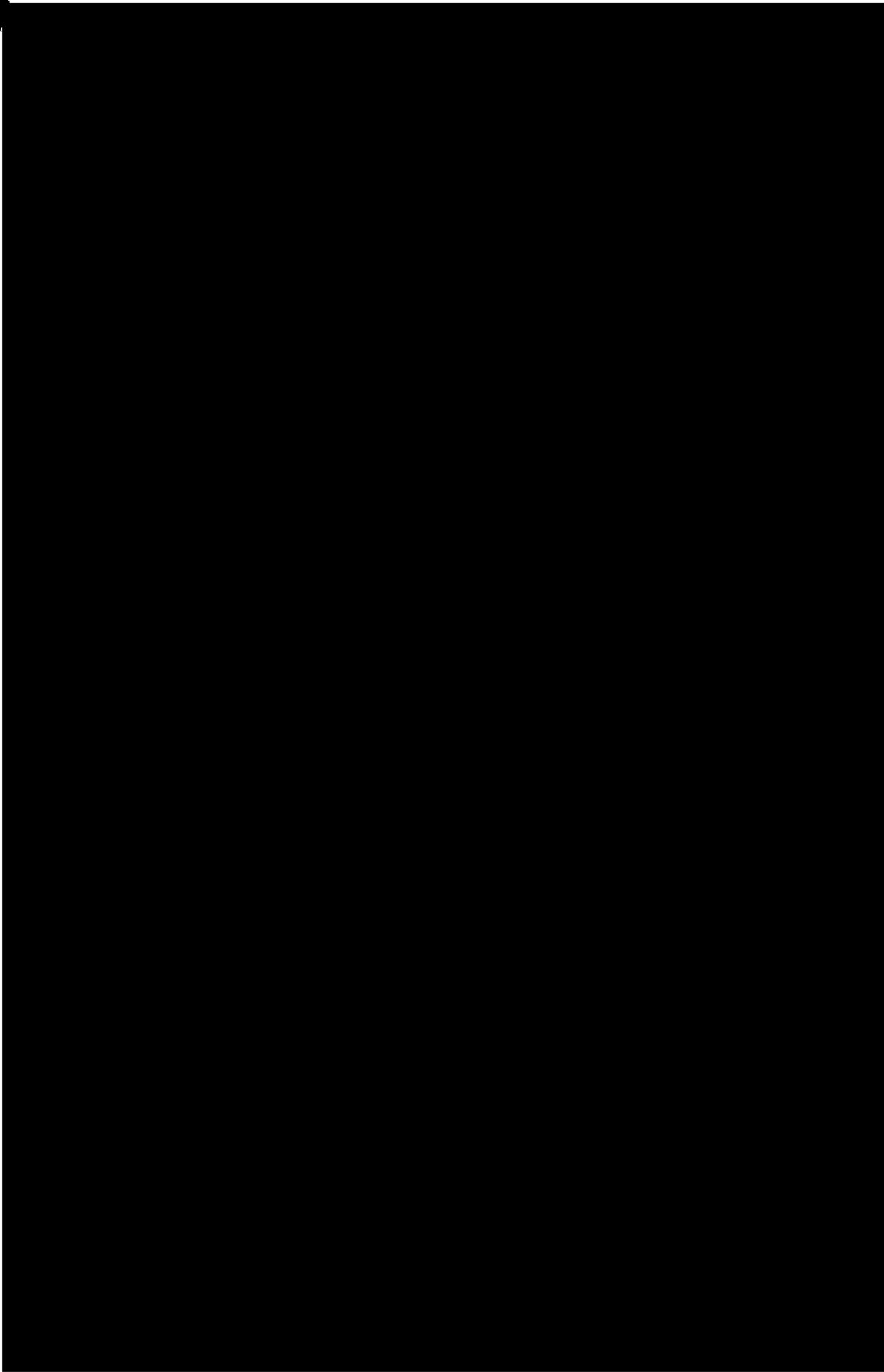




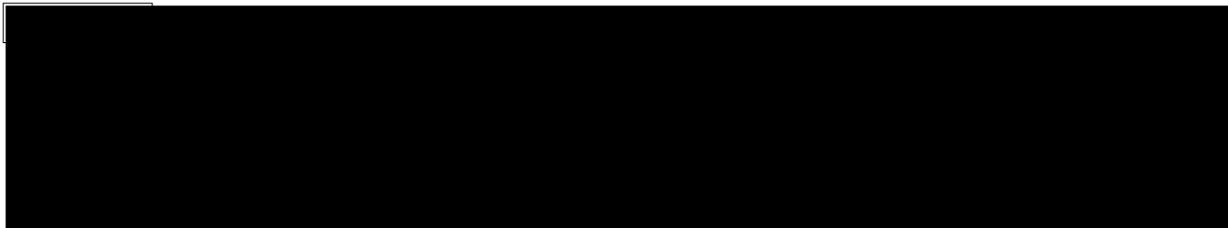








**Conclusion**



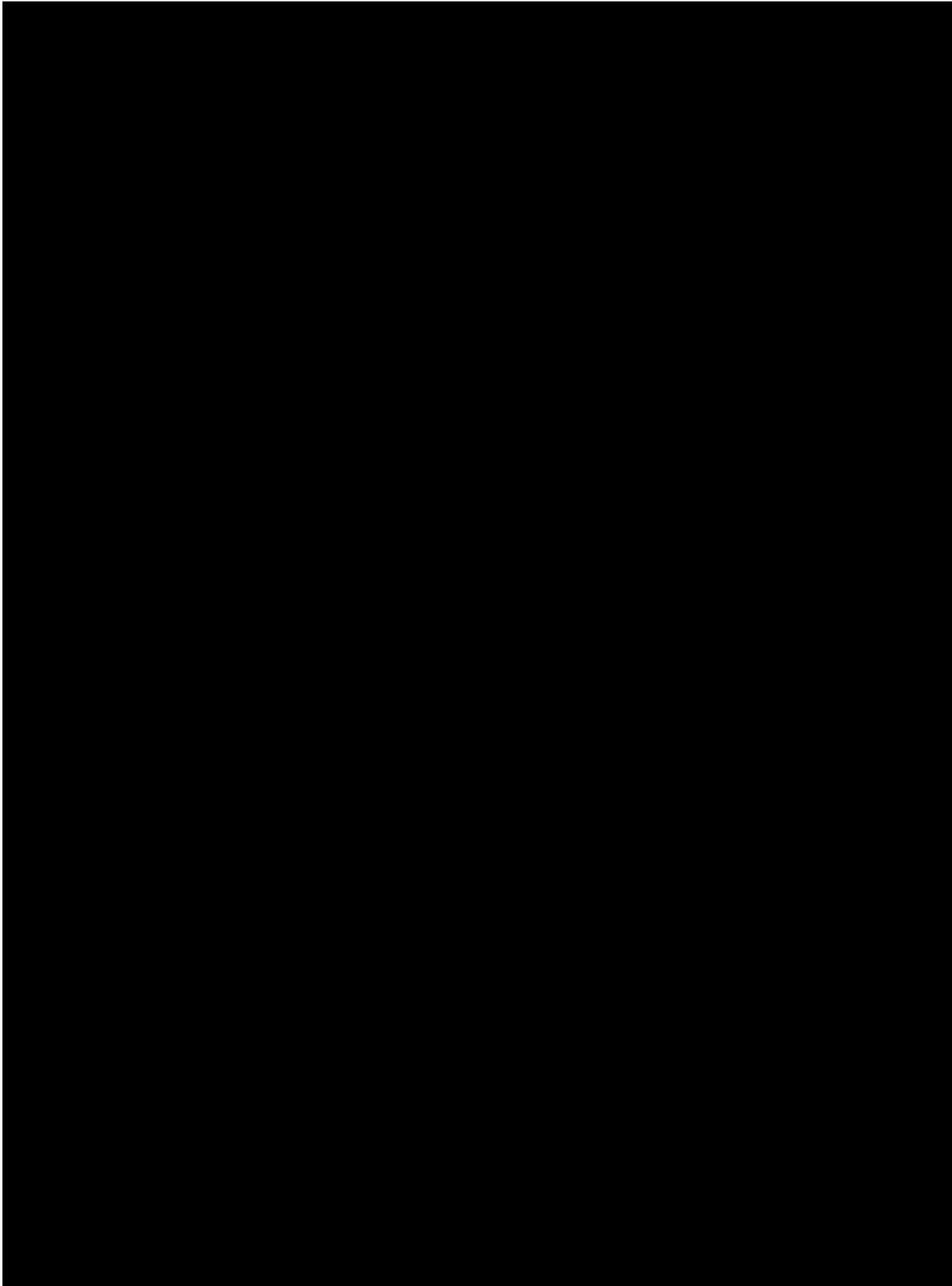
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PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - NG POPE: "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"

Further detailed comments by Sec(AS)2

Introduction



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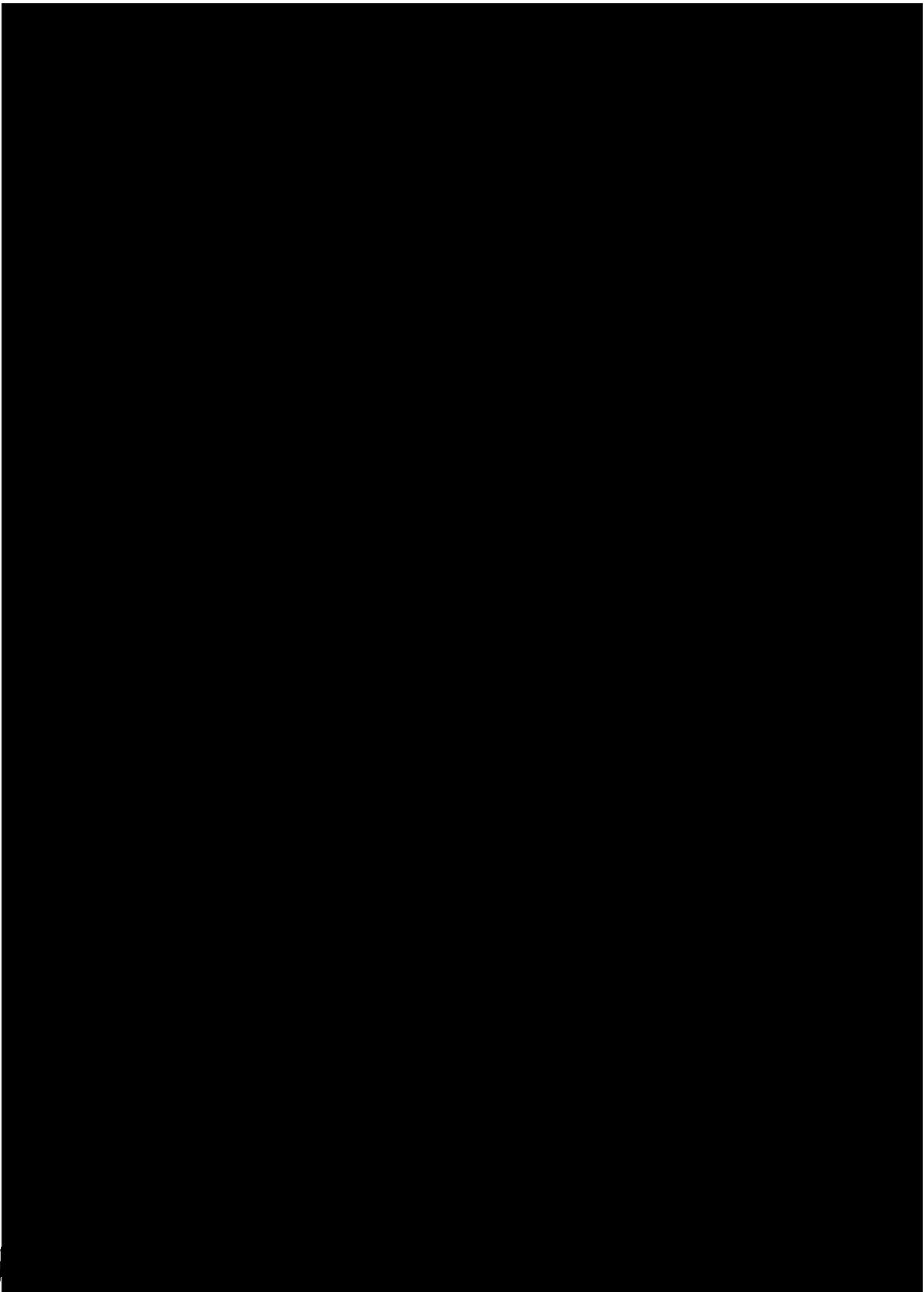


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STAFF - IN CONFIDENCE

MR N G POPE



DPA?

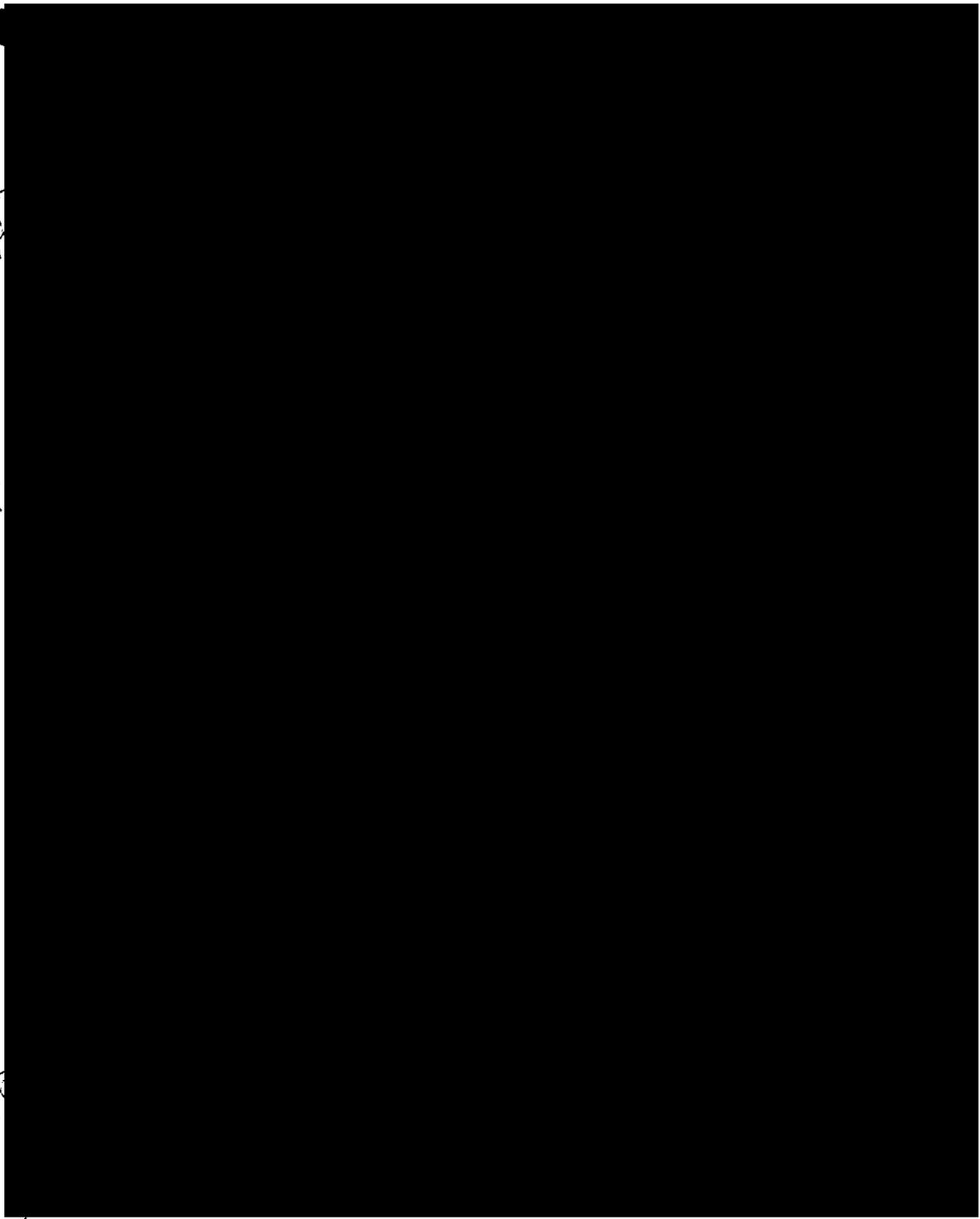
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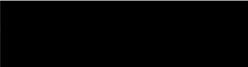


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LOOSE MINUTE

PCB(Air)3409

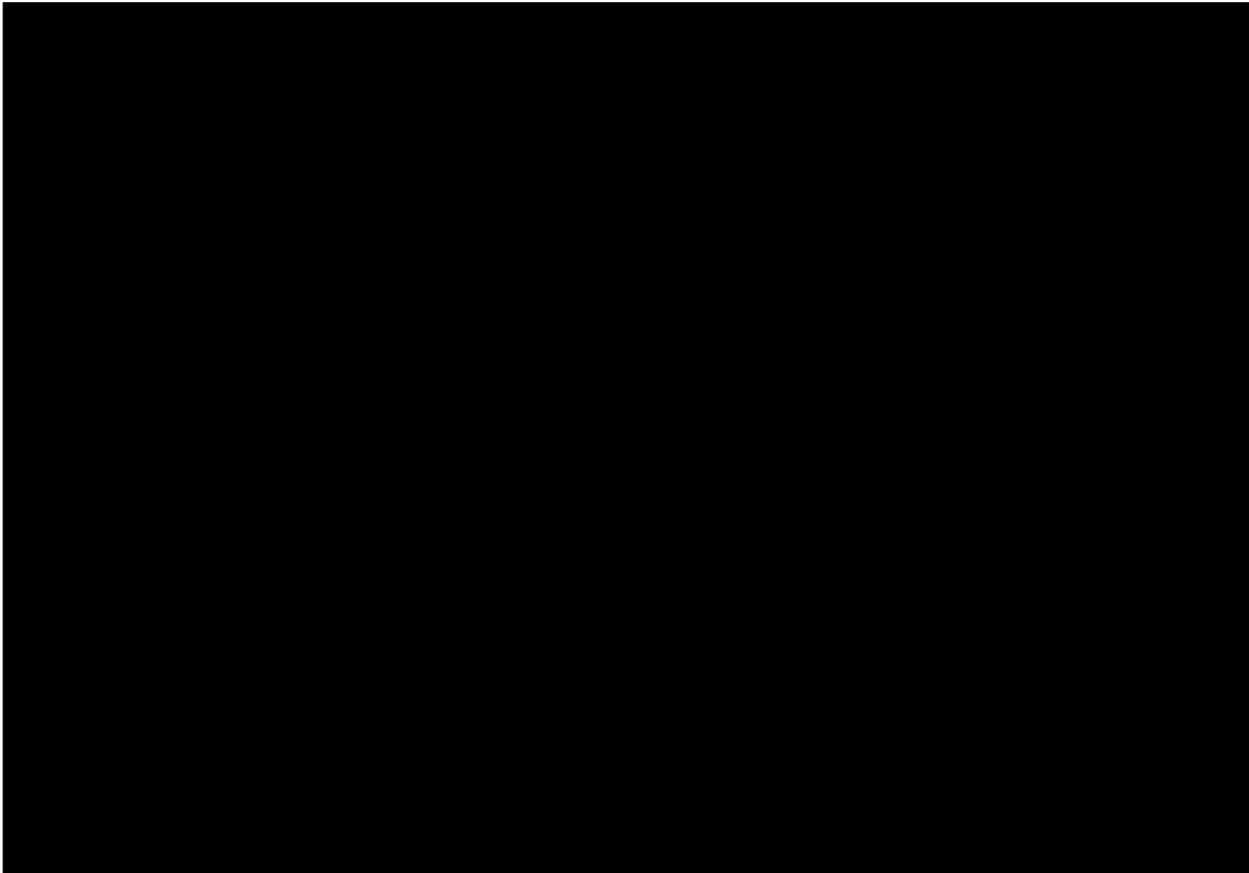
15 Feb 95

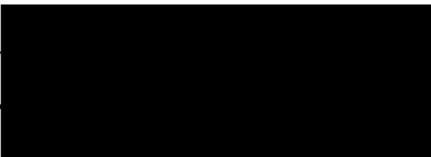
Sec(AS)2a - 

CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "OPEN SKIES,  
CLOSED MINDS" OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO THE UFO PHENOMENON BY N G  
POPE

Reference:

A. D/NP/Pers dated 1 Feb 95



  
AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)

GSY308 

Fax: 

E Mail: PCB(AIR) PCB

[redacted] late night reading  
for to JOC?  
mm. -

LOOSE MINUTE

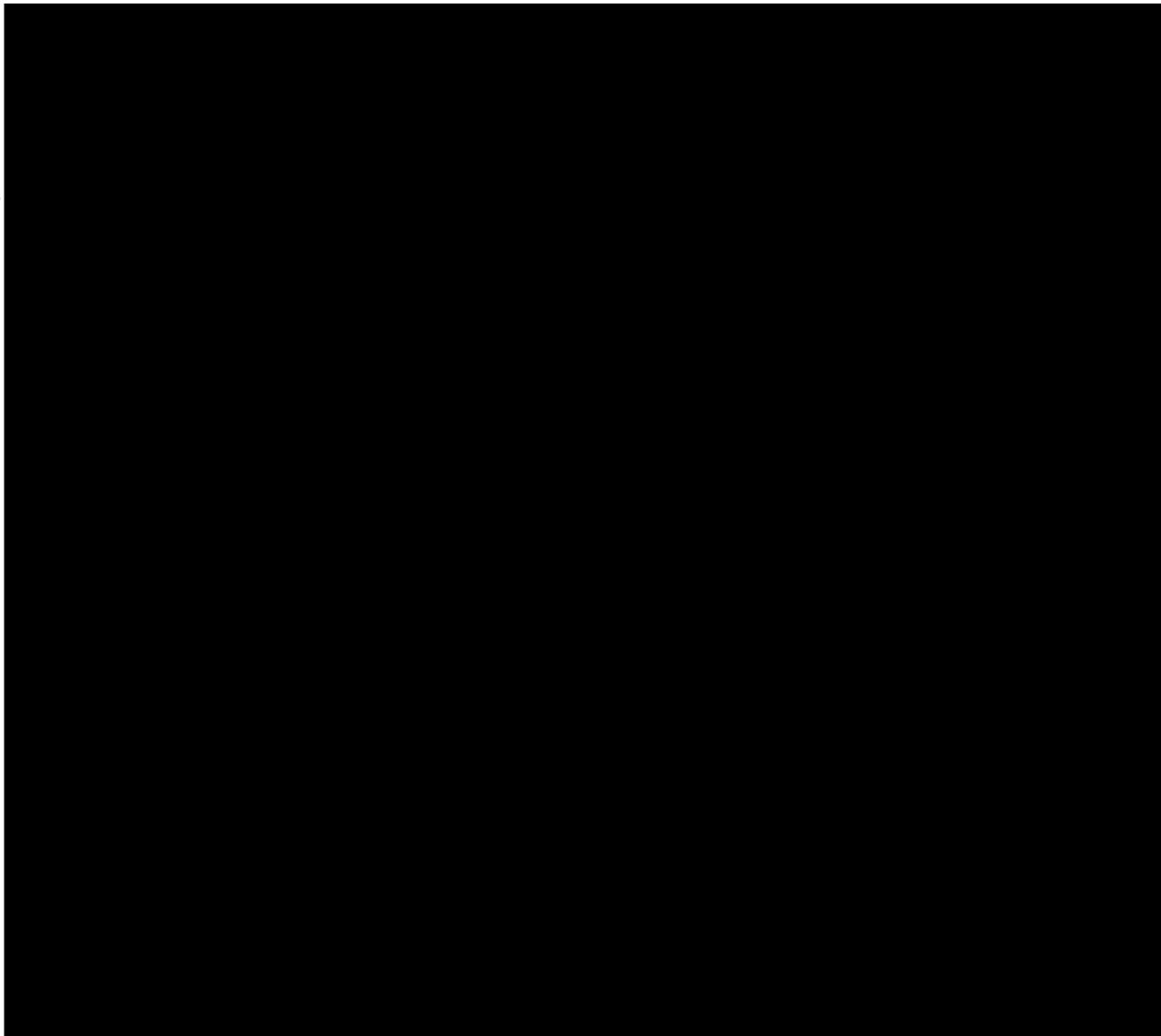
D/NP/Pers

1 Feb 95

PCB(Air) - [redacted] 0

Copy to:  
Sec(AS)2 - [redacted]

PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE - UFO BOOK



?/  
Par is  
an error  
slightly  
changed it -  
perhaps because it  
shouldn't be an error!

N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b  
MB0262 [redacted]

P66



LOOSE MINUTE

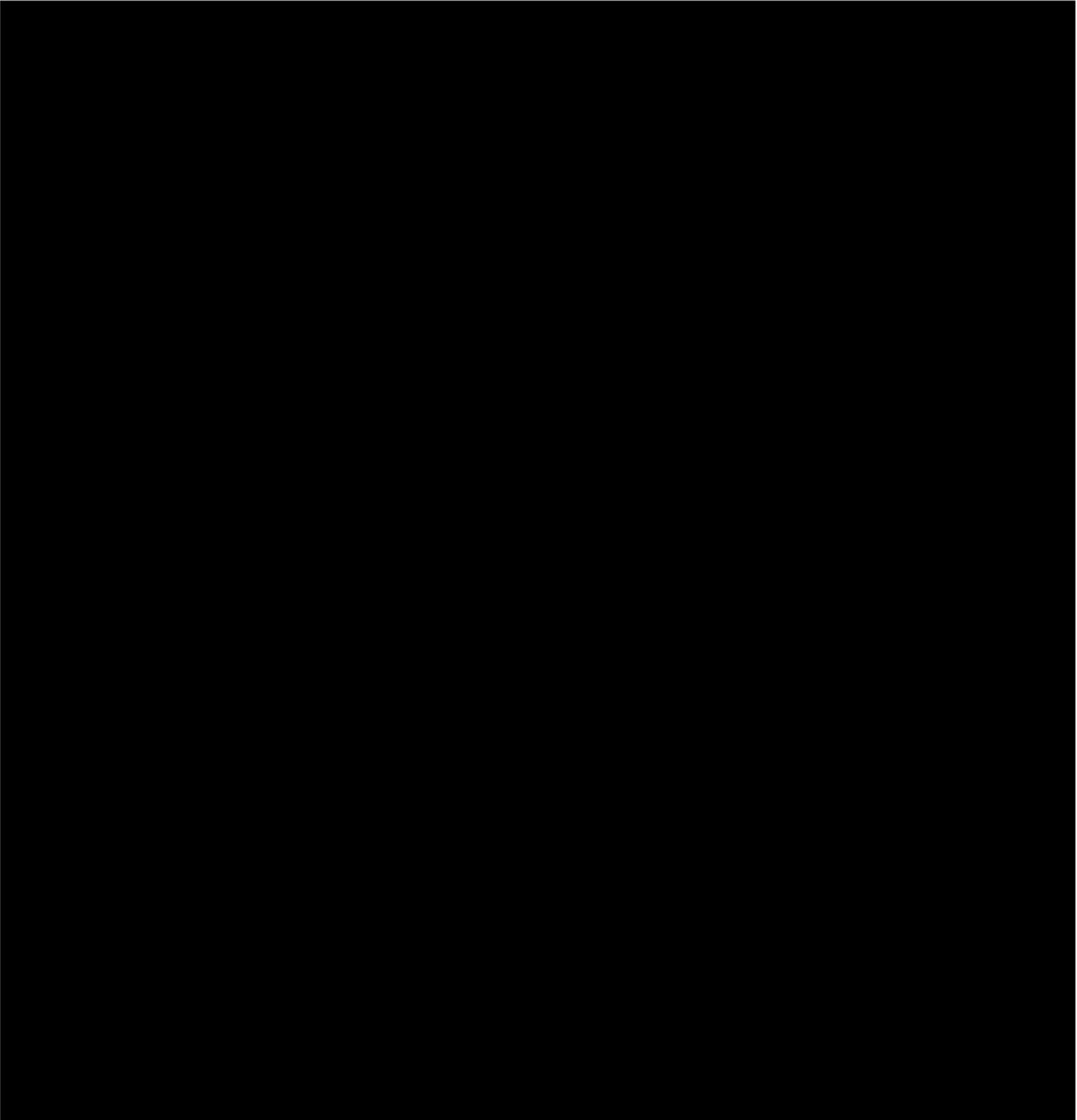
D/Sec(AS)/20/4

Mar 95

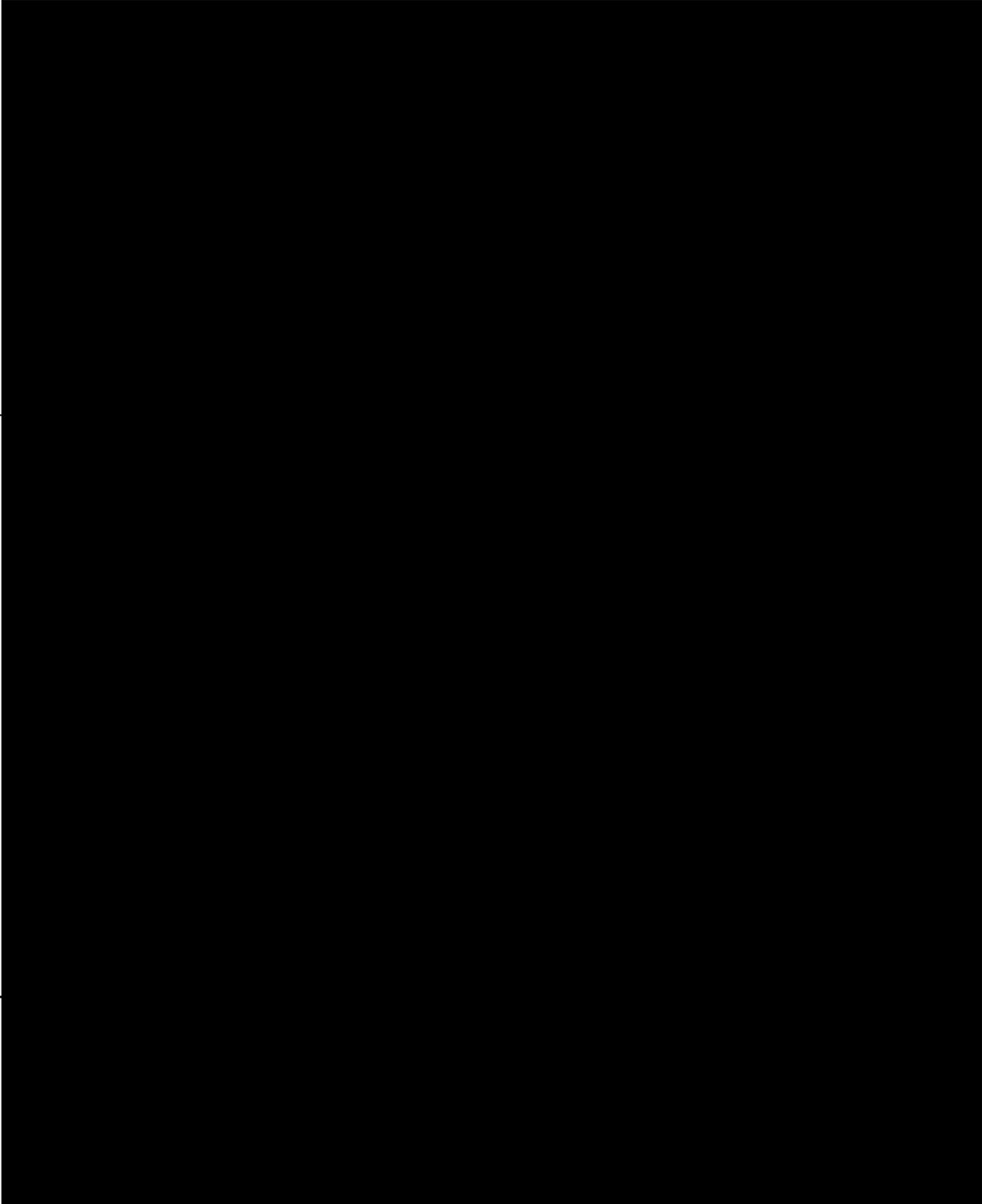
PCB(Air)

Copy to:  
CM(IR&C)  
CM(A)2  
GF(Pol)1  
D MOD Sy

N G POPE - PUBLICATION CLEARANCE



DPA?



[Redacted]

Head of Sec(AS)

[Redacted]

[redacted] or

AB

See my thoughts below. We need to keep [redacted] size as <sup>40</sup>flexible as possible. When do we need to expand?

1.

[redacted]

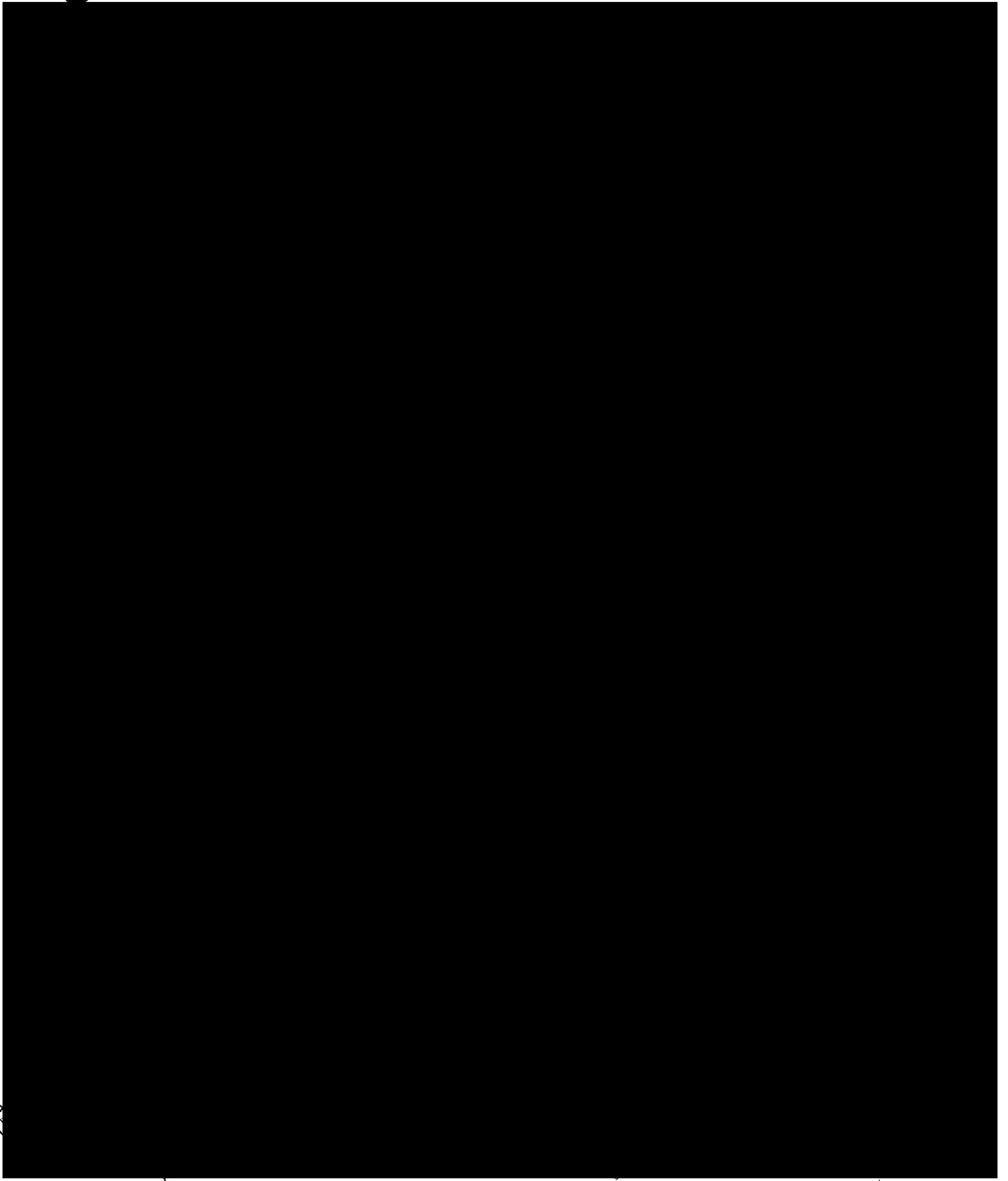
Can it wait for [redacted] review from lease?

[redacted] 40

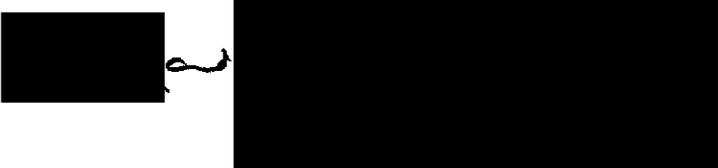
[redacted]

thoughts:

[redacted]



I should like to discuss further with you, and also



LOOSE MINUTE

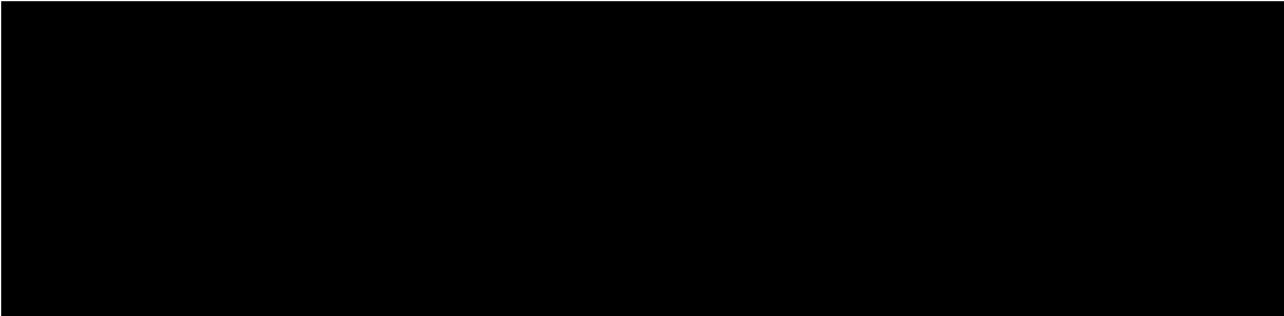
PCB(Air)3407

PCB(Air)3409

20 Mar 95

Sec(AS)2a - [redacted] (by Email)

CLEARANCE FOR OPEN PUBLICATION/PRESENTATION - "CROP CIRCLE LECTURE" AND "UFOs BOOK" BY N G POPE



[redacted] Thank you  
You will wish to be  
aware. I propose that we  
retain  
the Crop Circle piece  
18  
Since we have admittedly  
had for some time, until an  
strategy for handling [redacted]  
[redacted]

(signed)  
[redacted]  
AHB(RAF)&PCB(Air)  
GSY308 [redacted]  
Fax: [redacted]  
E Mail: AHB(RAF)-PCB(AIR)

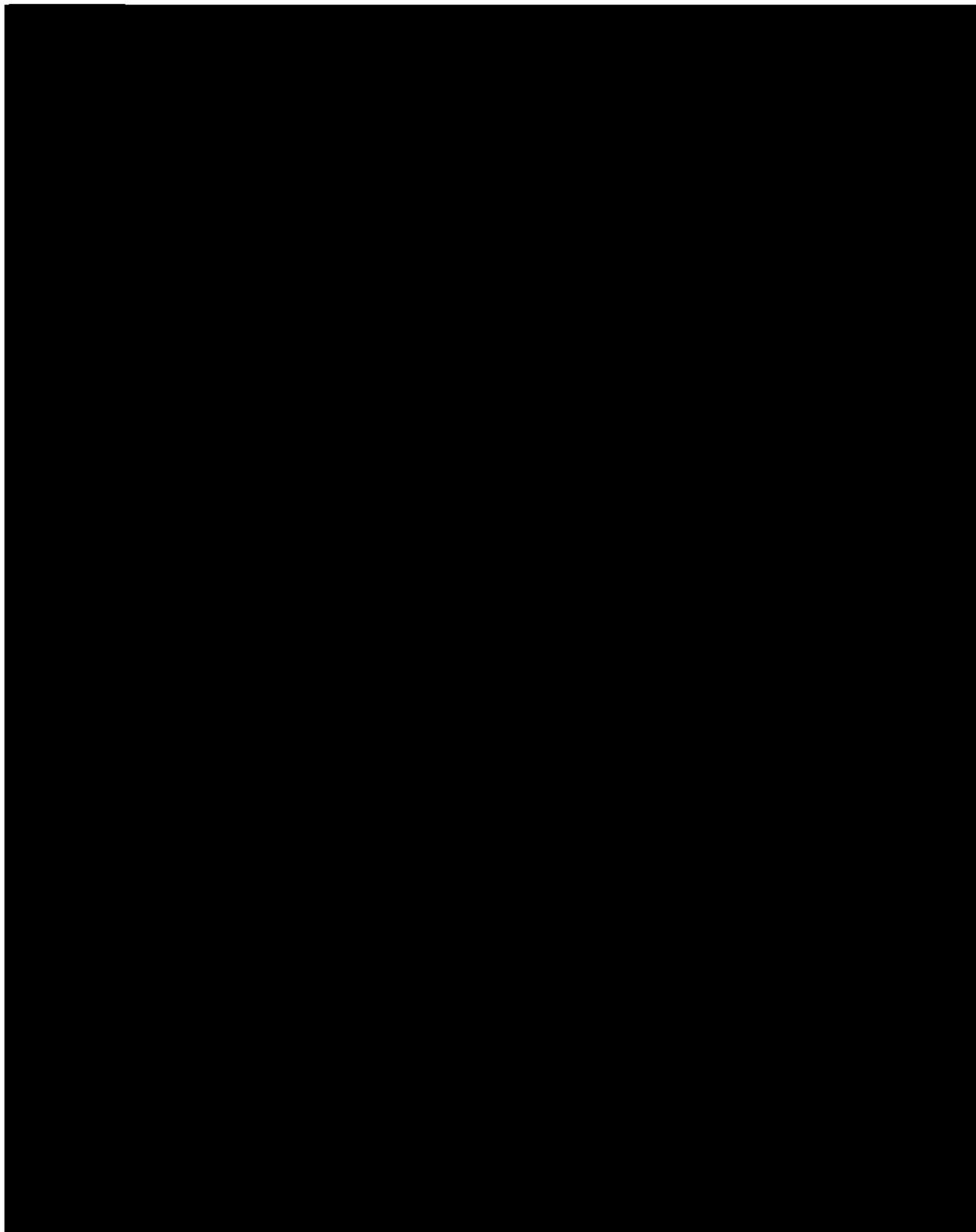
ENCLOSURE  
17

PUBLICATION CLEARANCE - NG POPE: "OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS"

Detailed Comments

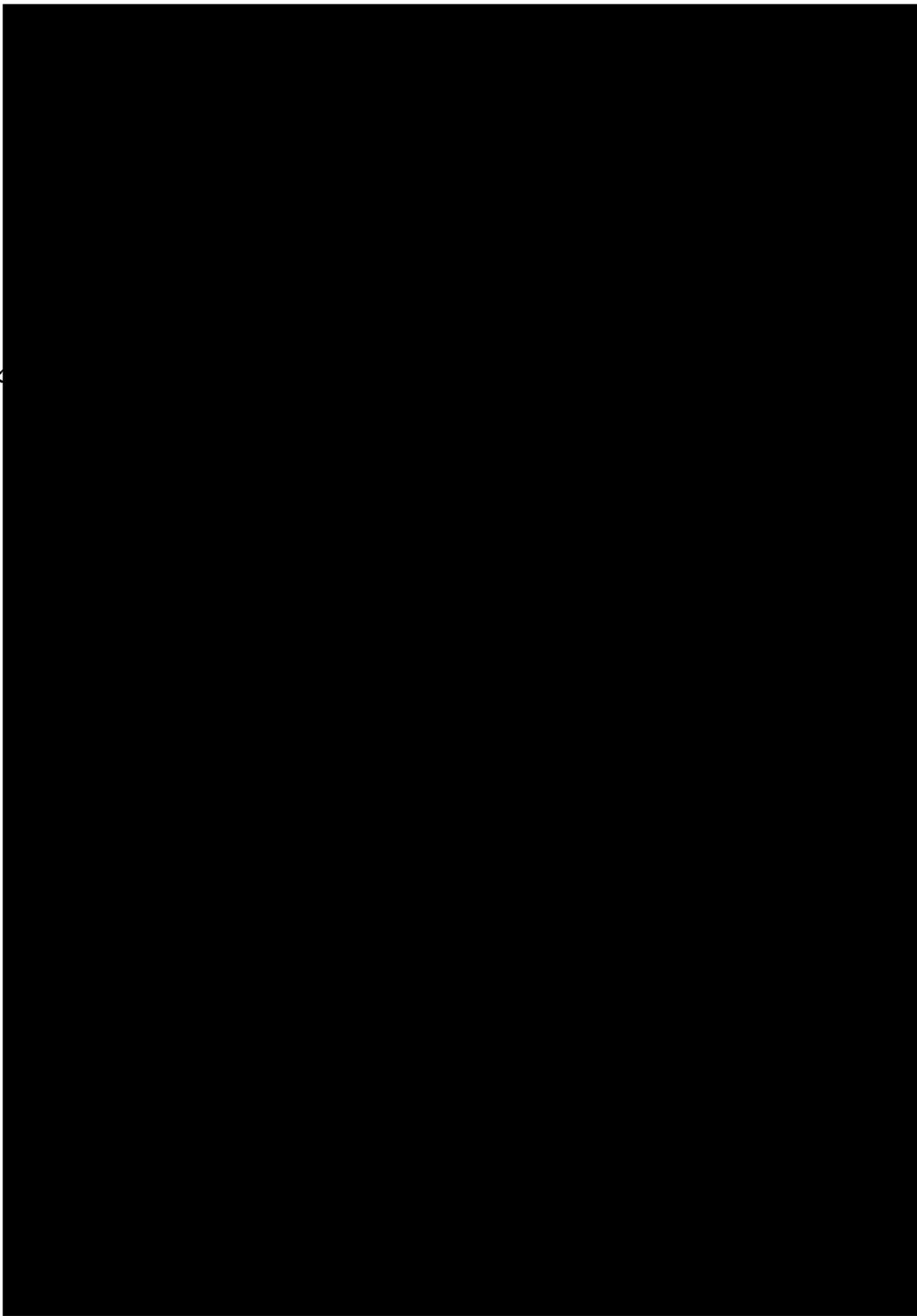


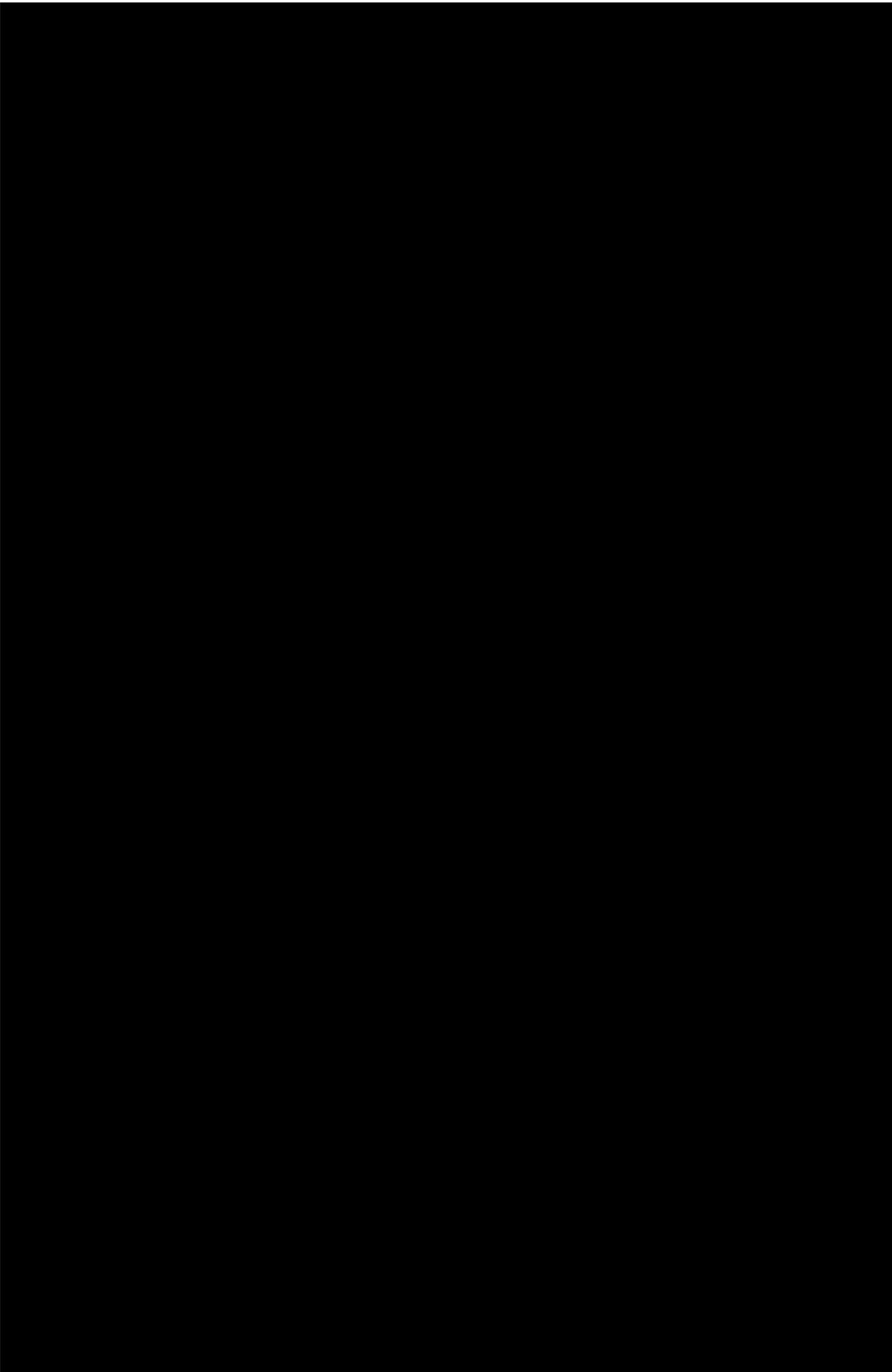
**Introduction**

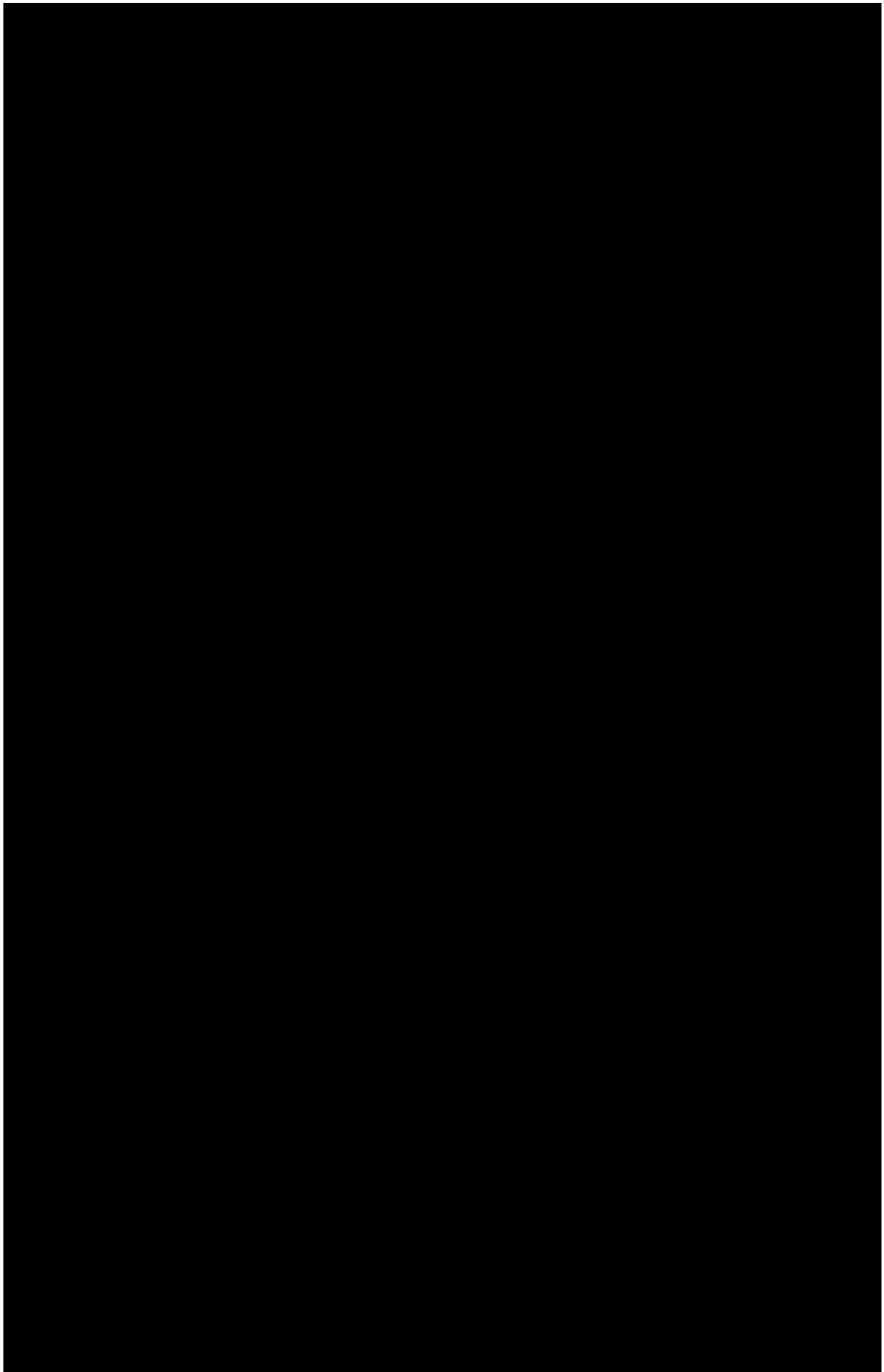


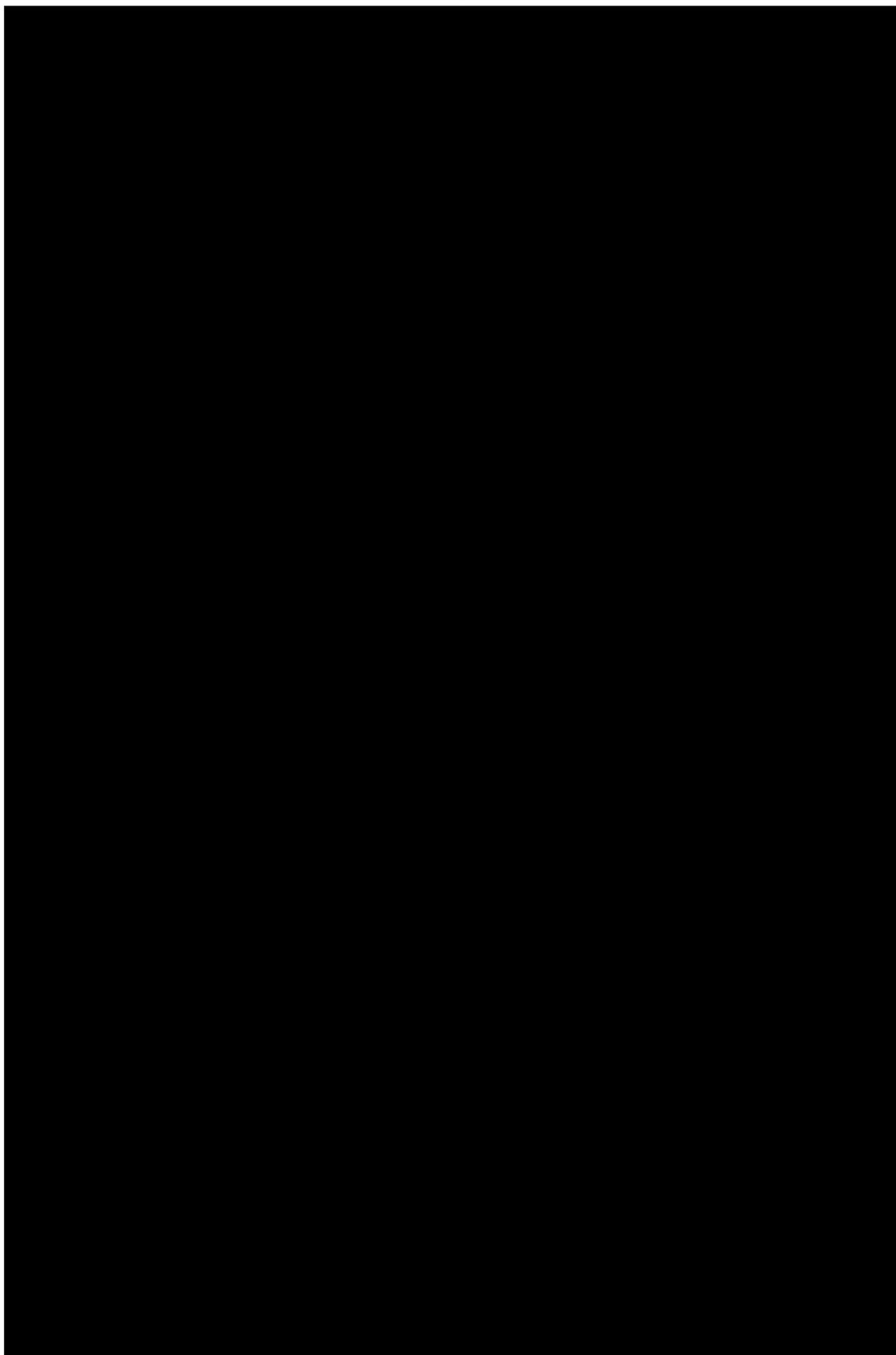


X





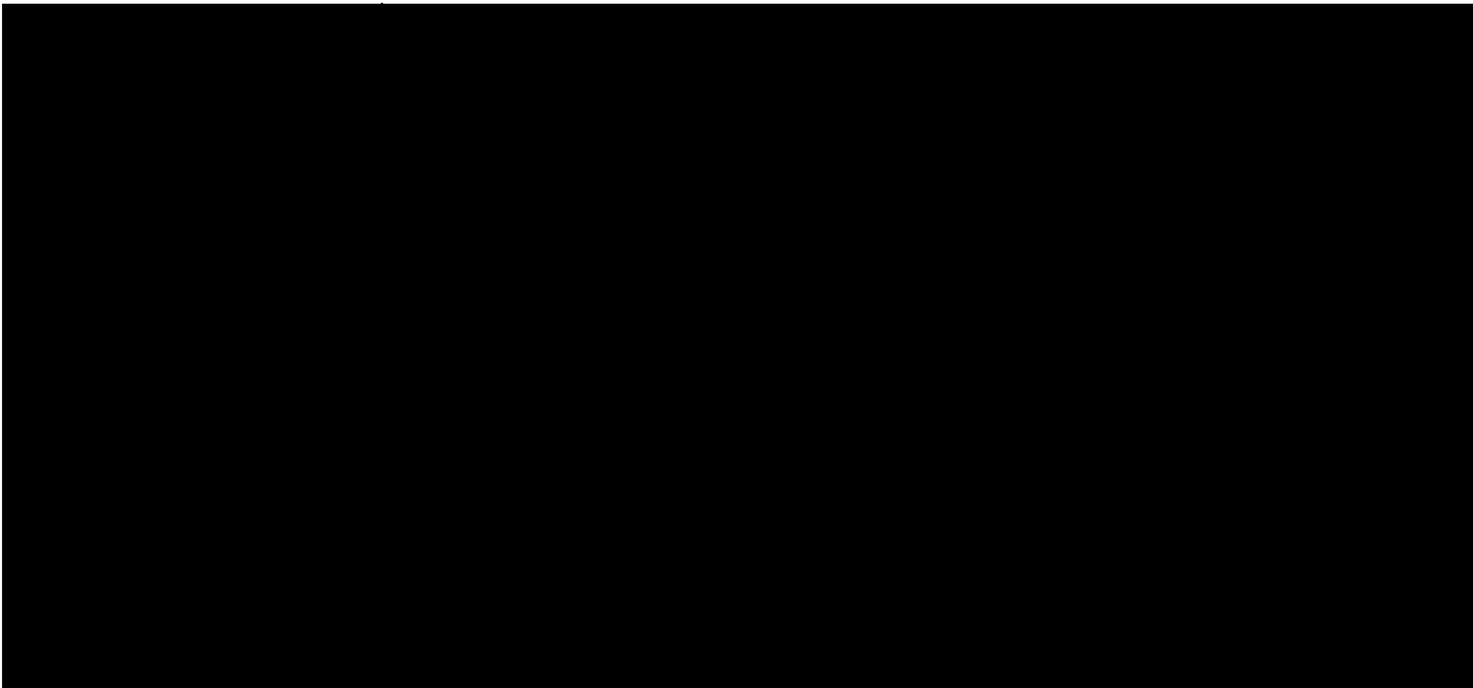






**Conclusion**



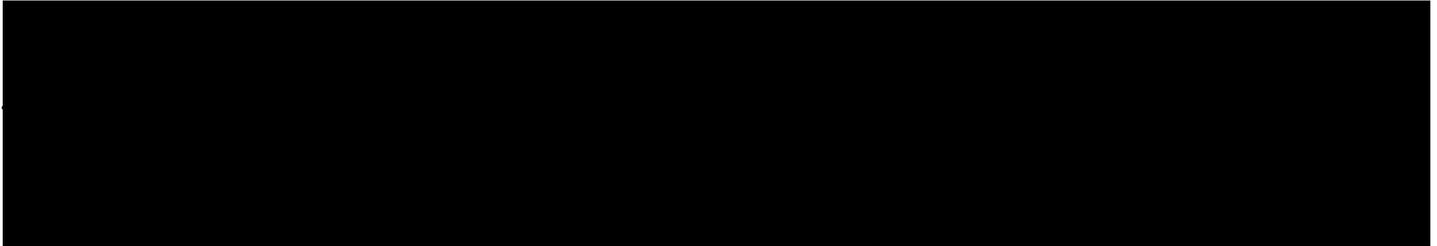


Classification  
not relevant  
lead to a  
~~specific~~  
search for

- could not clear
- reference to <sup>name or identifier</sup> individuals. Should be removed.
- self description of role; study in progress.

Context: ~~Department of Justice~~

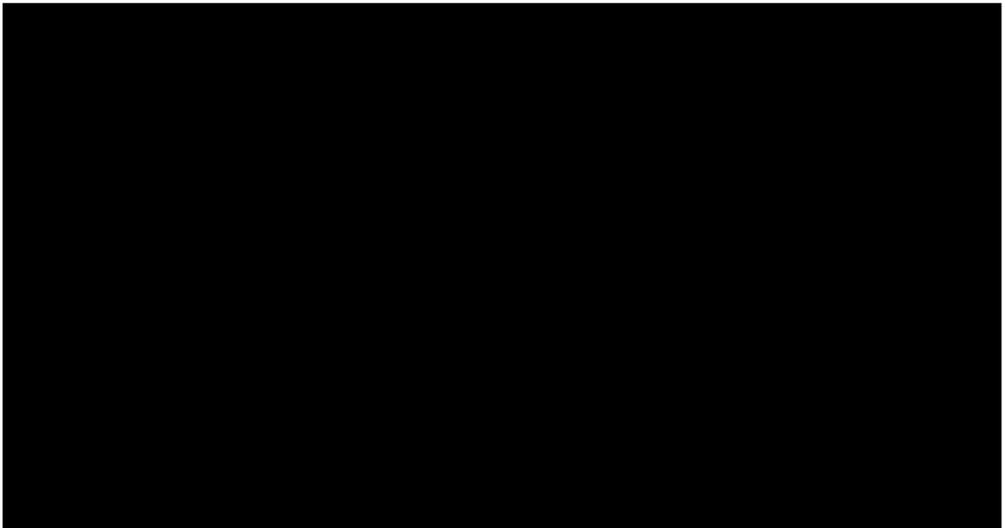
- Rare reference; identified



} CIA IRAC  
} CIA (A) 2 } GPO 1

Pub (Ans). No document

Pub Sy.



RESTRICTED  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
UNCLASSIFIED

ENCL No.  
12

FILE NOTE

D/Sec(AS)20/4

*D.P.P.*



[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
Sec(AS)2  
MB8247 [Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE  
RESTRICTED



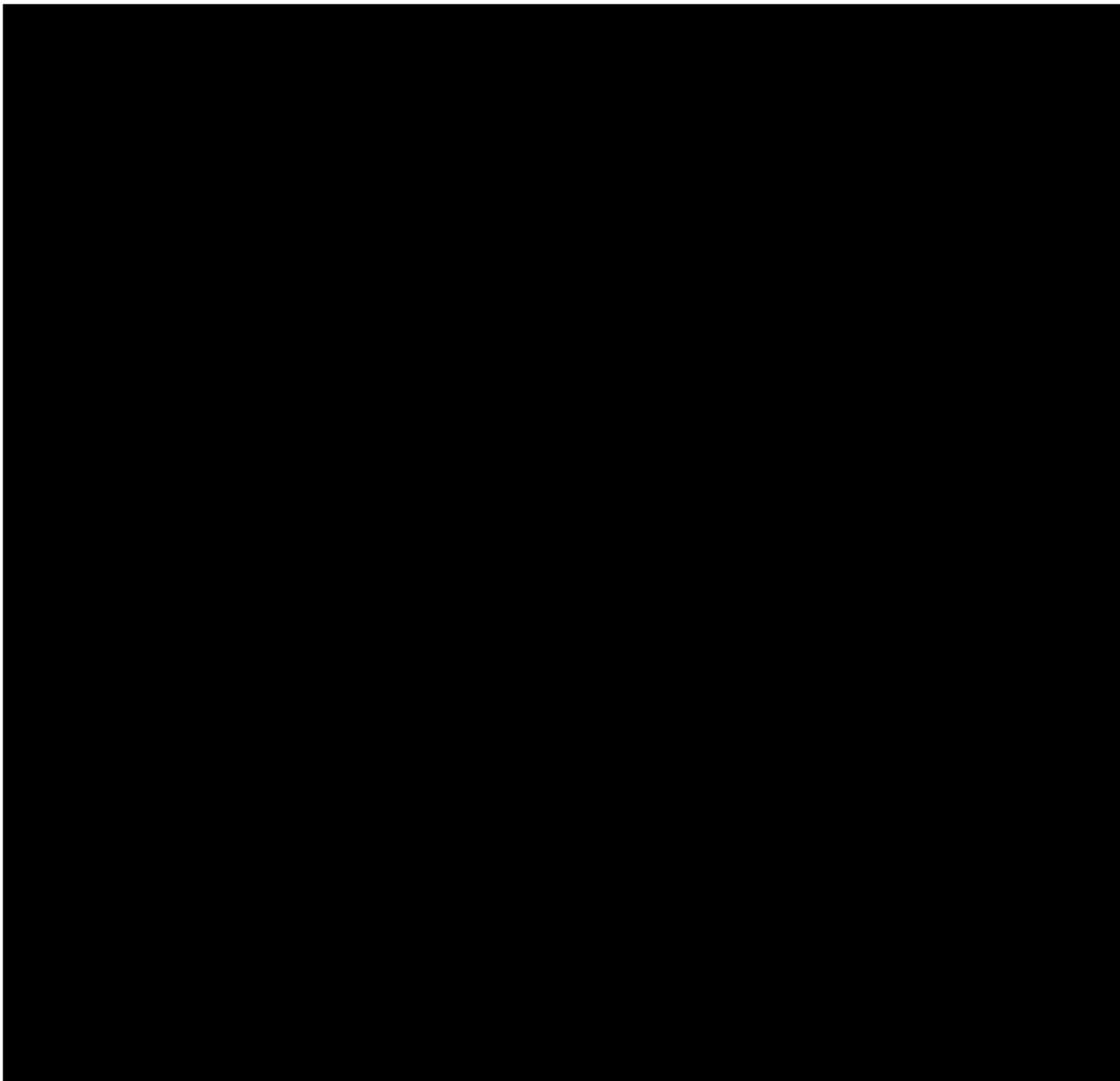
LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)20/4

10 February 1995

GF(Pol) - 

Copy to:  
Head of Sec(AS)  
CM(IR&C)7c



D9A



[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Sec(AS)2

MB8247 [Redacted]

A collection of redacted elements and text. It includes two lines of redacted text, the classification marking "Sec(AS)2", and a reference number "MB8247" followed by another redacted element.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Head of Sec (AS), [Redacted] - I have 'E' marked  
to you a draft from  
Please see the attached, and my [Redacted] comments.  
Grateful for your views & advice [Redacted] 40  
[Redacted] 7/2

LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

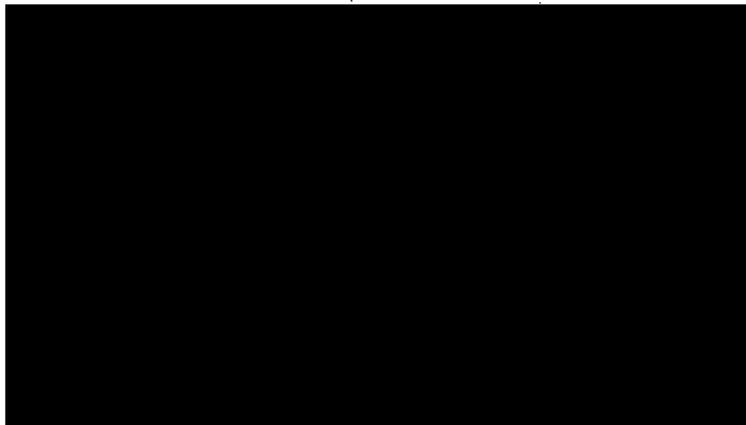
3 Feb 95

Sec(AS)2

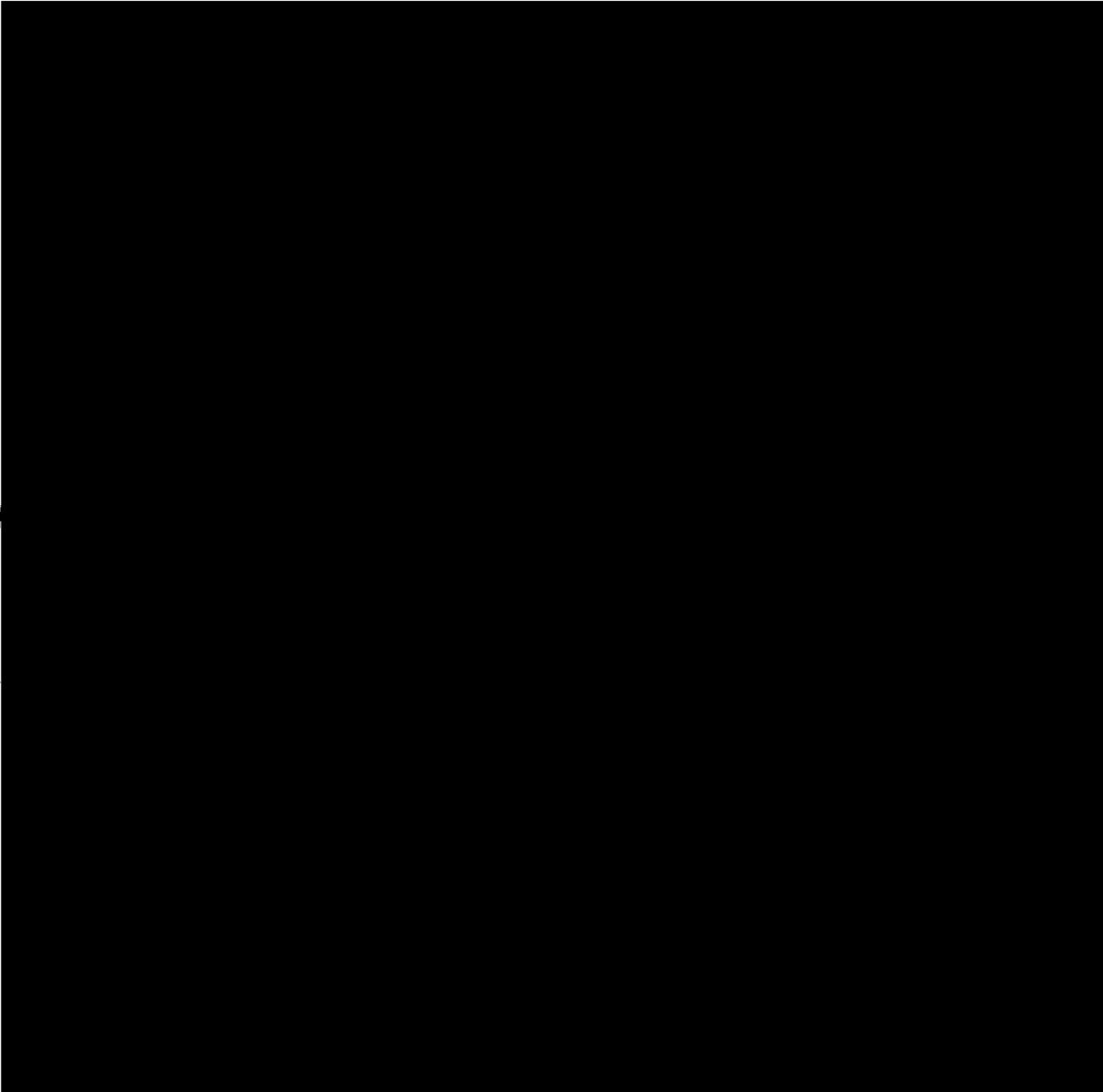
Copy to:

PCB(Air)

CM(1R&C)7c -



3/2



X  
Y

(Signed)

N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b  
MB0262



LOOSE MINUTE

D/NP/Pers

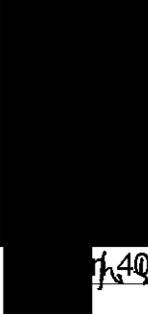
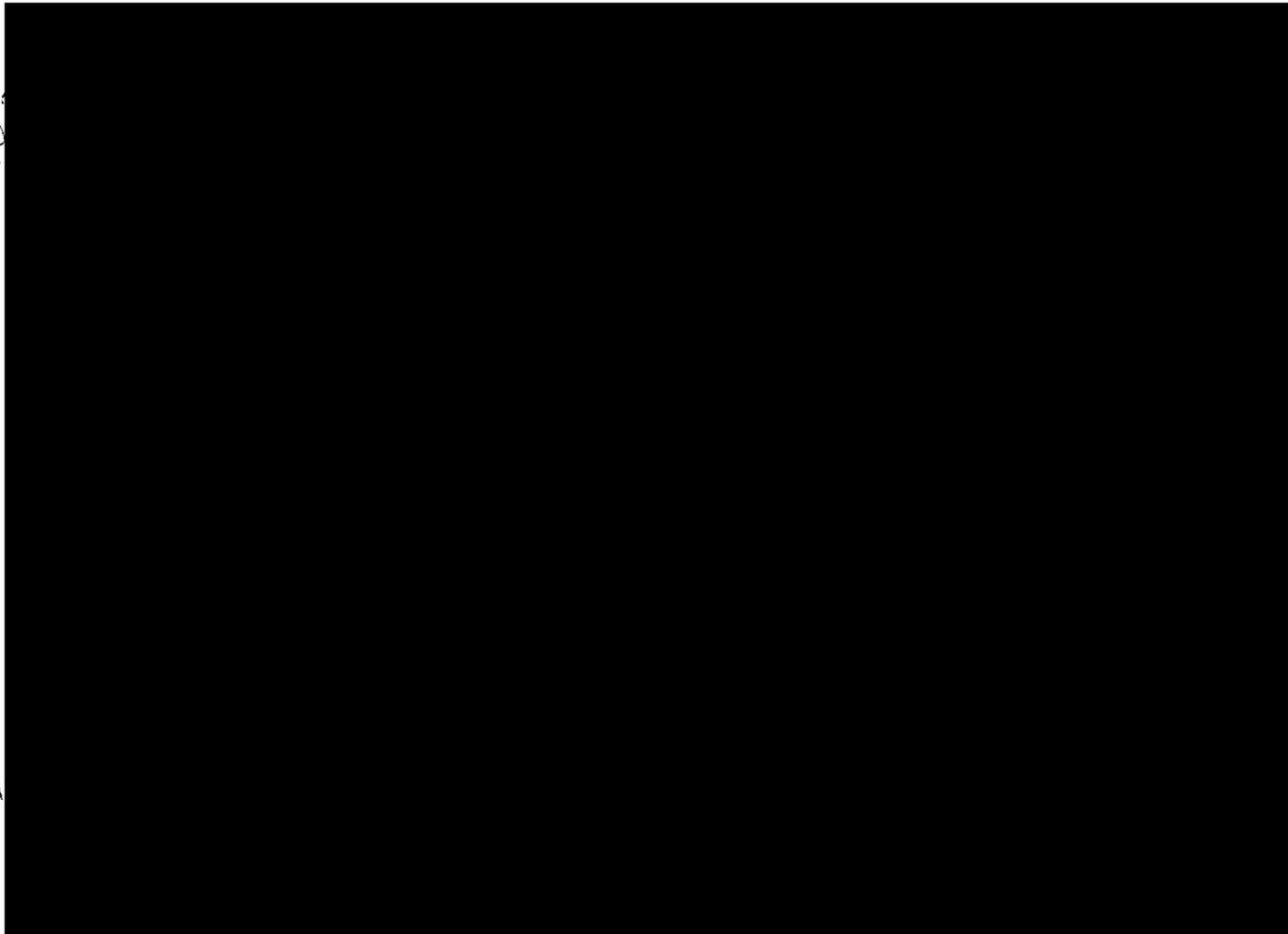
17 Jan 95

Sec(AS)2

Copy to:  
PCB(Air)

UFO BOOK - PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE

Reference: D/Sec(AS)20/4 dated 4 Jan 95



To note &  
file

40  
The above.



N G POPE  
GF(Pol)1b  
MB0262





LOOSE MINUTE

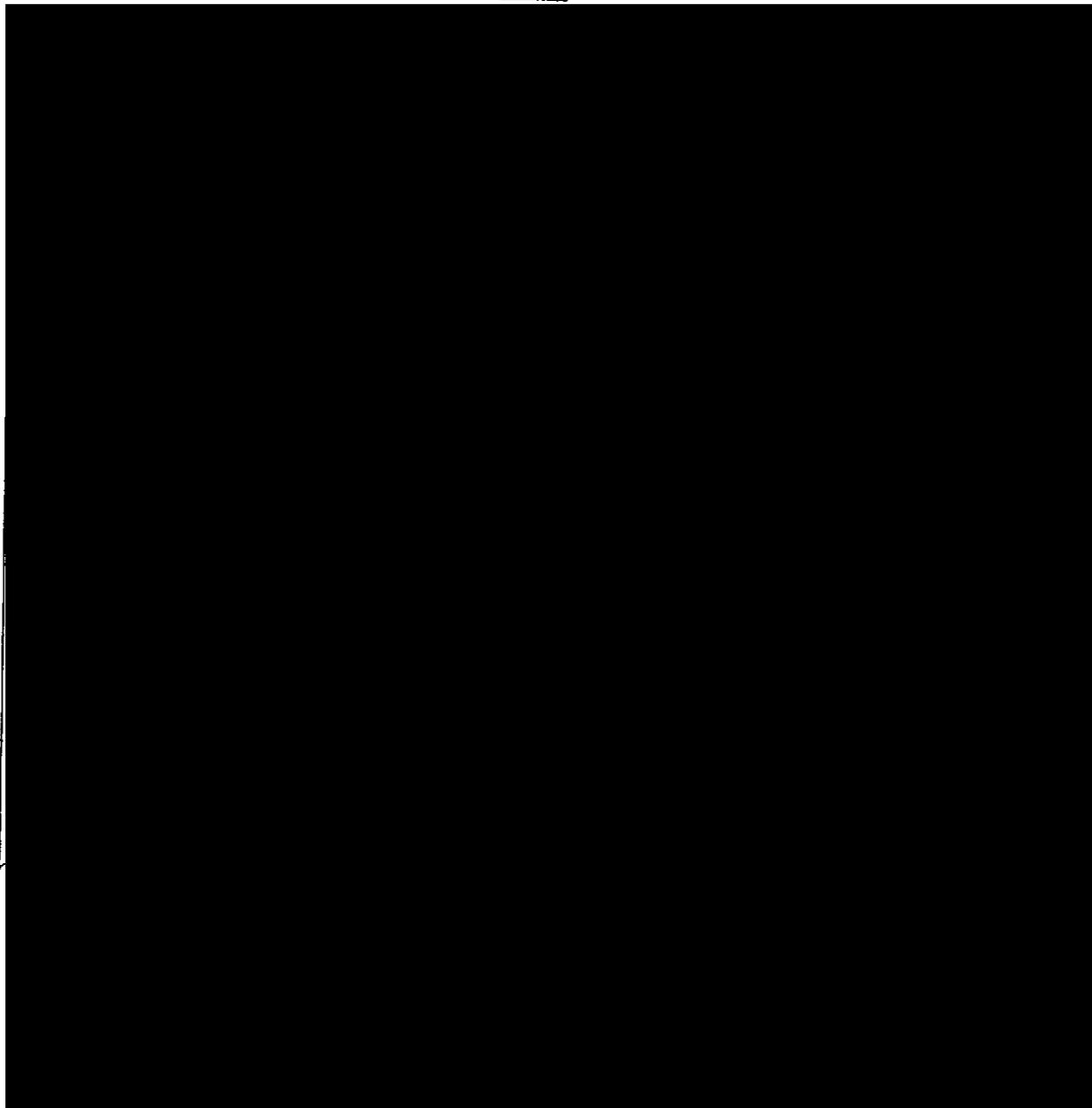
D/Sec(AS)20/4

4 January 1995

GF(Pol) - Mr Pope

Copy to:   
PCB(Air)

UFO BOOK - PUBLICATIONS CLEARANCE

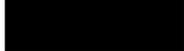


DPA?



Sec(AS)2

MB8247



**FINANCIAL AUTHORISATION FORM****FOR THE SUPPLY OF SERVICES FROM MODUS SERVICES PLC**

Send completed form to: Conference Bookings Amey Business Services Room 114 St Giles Court	For Conference Bookings use only
	Date actioned:
Tel: [REDACTED]	Actioned by:
Fax: [REDACTED]	Booking Ref. No: MR <u>56945/1</u>

**Part 1. Originator's Details**

Your Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)	[REDACTED]	Building/Room No.	MT 6/73
Rank:	BAND D	Full tel. no.	[REDACTED]
Section:	DAS-LA-Ops+Poll	Full fax no.	[REDACTED]
Your signature:	[REDACTED]	Date:	8/10/2003
Estimated cost: £ 7.70	Confirmation	YES	NO
	Faxed	YES	NO

**Details of the service required:**

(Please indicate which category this request comes under and provide further details overleaf)

Visual Aids	<input type="checkbox"/>	Catering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Conf Rm No.	5/31 MT	Bldg/Rm No.	
-------------	--------------------------	----------	-------------------------------------	-------------	---------	-------------	--

**Part 2. Financial Authorisation\*****Budget Holder's Approval:**

I have scrutinised the above request and my Financial Approval is hereby granted. I have recorded this commitment for RAB purposes.

I certify that funds are available for this order and should be charged to the following UIN:

UIN 

F	6	2	0	8	A
---	---	---	---	---	---

Signature

[REDACTED]

Date:

8/10/03

**Budget Manager's details**

Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)

[REDACTED]

Position/Appointment

DAS(CX2)fm

Building	Room Number	Tel. No.
MT	6/18	[REDACTED]

\*This form should be examined, approved and signed by the Budget Manager or an Officer with delegated budgetary authority; the signatory's full name should also be provided. Forms which are illegible, incorrect or incomplete will be returned to the branch or unit for correction or clarification.

Requests will not be processed unless accompanied with a completed copy of this form. Forms should be completed in typescript or in block capitals, using black ink.

**DETAILS OF THE SERVICE REQUIRED**

Date Required 9/10/2003

Time 11.30

Building MT

Room No. Service Required In 5/31

No. of Personnel 7

Contact on Site  
Ext. No.

<u>Catering</u>	<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Quantity</u>
Bottled Water - Sparkling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Canned Minerals	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bottled Water - Still	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandwich Lunch (One Round)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coffee & Biscuits (Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Menu 'A' (Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coffee & Biscuits (VIP Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Menu 'B' (Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tea & Biscuits (Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joel Brioche Canapé (Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tea & Biscuits (VIP Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pick N' Mix	<input type="checkbox"/>
House Wine (Red)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bits N' Bobs	<input type="checkbox"/>
House Wine (White)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fresh Fruit Platter (Per Person)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orange Juice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Afternoon Cakes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		VIP Package (Chine/Cutlery) Strictly for VIPs only	Y / N

**48 hours notice required on all buffet/sandwich lunches.**

**Tea/Coffee etc. orders must be received by 10.00 a.m. for the following day.**

<u>Visual Aids</u>	<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Quantity</u>
Overhead Projector	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flipchart with Paper & Pens	<input type="checkbox"/>
Projection System (Power Point)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteboard & 4 Colours	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slide Projector	<input type="checkbox"/>	Screen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Television (Check for Availability)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension Leads	<input type="checkbox"/>
Video (Check for Availability)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Please note that this form will not be actioned without the Conference Booking Reference No. MR 56945/1 being quoted when placing the order



**Booking Reference : MR56945/1**



**ATTENTION: BOOKINGS FOR MEETINGS ON OR AFTER 01/03/04 CAN ONLY BE MADE PROVISIONALLY.**

**Contact :** [REDACTED]      **UIN :** F6208A  
**Tel. :** [REDACTED]      **Cost Centre :** DAS2F2  
**Description :** INTERNAL MEETING      **Cost Code :** Tariff Contract  
**Booking Status:** PR      **Att. :** 7  
**Booking Notes :** ALL THE ATTENDEES ARE PASS HOLDERS AB  
 PLEASE SUPPLY SEATING FOR 7 AB

**From :** 9 OCT 2003 11:00      **Building :** METROPOLE  
**To :** 9 OCT 2003 13:30      **Location :** 531-MEETING ROOM

Facilities Required	Qty	Cost	Delivery Time

**Notes :**

Catering Required	Qty	Cost	Delivery Time
COFFEE & BISCUITS (PER PERSON)	7	7.70	11:30
		7.70	

**Notes :**

**Total :** 7.70

**Please note: 24hrs notice is required to cancel catering orders and hire of audio visual equipment. Failure to do so may result in a charge being made.**

Conference Bookings :

Room SGC 114

Telephone [REDACTED] 40

Conference Room Keys available from: -		
Building	Room	Telephone
Metropole	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Northumberland House	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
St. Giles Court	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Old War Office	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]





**REQUISITION FOR A REGISTERED FILE**

To:- DR2a2

File Nos:

- (1) D/Sec(AS)20/4 Pt C (1994 – 95) ✓
- (2) D/Sec(AS)65/3 Pt A (1995 – 96)

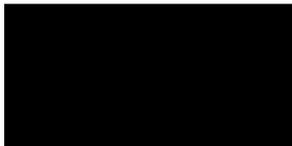
SUBJECT: (1) Public Relations - Clearances  
(2) Public Relations – Publications Clearances

IS REQUIRED BY: ASAP please

BRANCH: DAS (LA)–Ops&Pol 1a

Room 6/73, Metropole Building,  
Northumberland Avenue  
London  
WC2N 5BP

SIGNATURE:



TEL EXT:



RANK: D

DATE: 30/09/2003

NOTE:-If the file is not immediately available for any reason,  
please advise the requisitioning branch by telephone.

MODE = TRANSMISSION

START=01-OCT 09:19

END=01-OCT 09:20

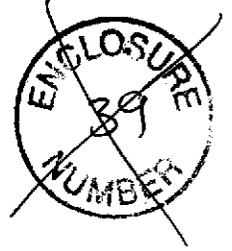
STN NO.	COM	ABBR NO.	STATION NAME/TEL.NO.	PAGES	DURATION
001	OK	8	[REDACTED]	001	00:00'20"

-DIRECTORATE AIR STAFF -

\*\*\*\*\* [REDACTED] - \*\*\*\*\* [REDACTED] \*\*\*\*\*



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



Telephone

(Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)  
(GTN)

020 7218 2140  
020 7218 9000  
[REDACTED]



Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/64/2  
Date  
13 October 2003

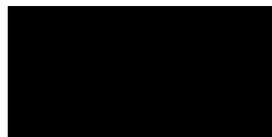
Dear [REDACTED]

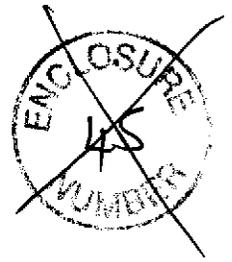
I am writing with reference to your letters of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September concerning your request for access to information about the publication of Mr Pope's book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*.

As you have asked for your request to include information held by the Publications Clearance Branch, we are currently in consultation with them about this matter and hope to send you a substantive reply soon.

I apologise for the delay and any inconvenience caused.

Yours sincerely,





From: [REDACTED]  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Directorate of Air Staff (Lower Airspace)  
Operations and Policy 1  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue,  
LONDON WC2N 5BP

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

CHOTs address: DAS-LA-Ops+Poll  
E-Mail: [das-laopspoll@defence.mod.uk](mailto:das-laopspoll@defence.mod.uk)

### FAX MESSAGE

**TO:** [REDACTED] - CL(FS)-Legal 1a

**SUBJECT:** [REDACTED] REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

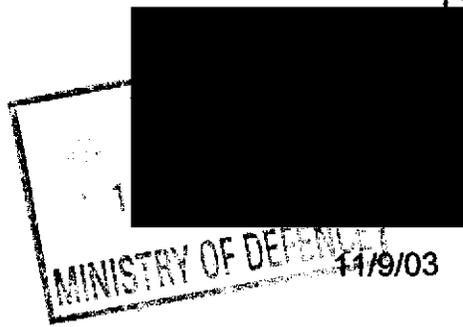
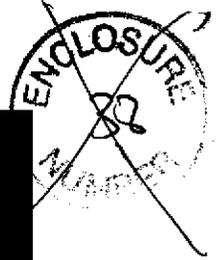
**DATE:** 1 October 2003

**NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER:** 3

[REDACTED]

Please find attached [REDACTED] letters concerning his request for documents about Nick Pope's book as discussed.

[REDACTED]



Your ref: D/DAS/64/2

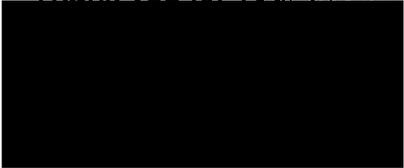
Dear 

Many thanks for your prompt response to my letter of 2 September concerning my request for access to files.

Further to my request concerning files concerning the publication of MOD Officer Nick Pope's book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, may I also include in my request any files concerning this matter which were dealt with by the Publications Clearance Branch.

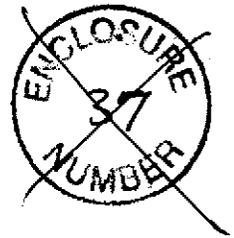
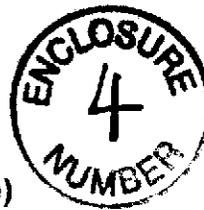
If  is still on annual leave could you please pass this letter to her line manager as you did with the one dated 2 September?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

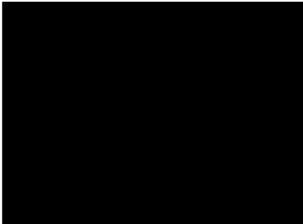




From: [REDACTED]  
Directorate of Air Staff (Lower Airspace)  
Operations & Policy 1a  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Room 6/73, Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London,  
WC2N 5BP



Telephone (Direct dial) 020 7218 2140  
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
(Fax) [REDACTED]  
E-Mail das-laopspol1a@defence.mod.uk



Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/64/3 ✓

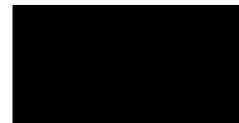
Date  
8 September 2003

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter dated 2 September, addressed to my colleague [REDACTED]. I am afraid that [REDACTED] is currently on annual leave; however, your letter has been passed to her line manager who nevertheless will need to speak to [REDACTED] on her return.

With regard to your request for a copy of file D/Sec(AS)12/5, we are calling this file back from our archives. We will endeavour to provide a substantive response to your requests as soon as is practicable.

*Yours sincerely*





2/9/03

Your ref: D/DAS/64/3

Dear 



With regard to your letter of 27 March 2003 and my request for copies of files or correspondence connected to Nick Pope and his book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, I would like to pose the following questions based on your denial of access to these files:

\* You say you have a duty to protect the confidentiality of individuals who correspond with the MOD.

Quite so but at the time Mr. Pope was in correspondence with the MOD regarding his book he was still an employee of the MOD, writing a book based on his experiences whilst in a certain position at the MOD.

As he was an employee of the MOD does this not alter things?

\* If you still insist that your initial statement applies I would then apply for copies of the relevant files with all the relevant 'confidential' material erased. I am quite prepared to pay any costs incurred in this exercise.

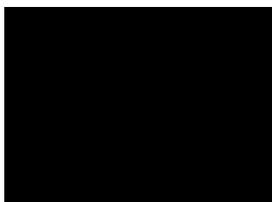
To re-iterate my request:

I am requesting copies of all and any internal MOD files or correspondence which deals with Nick Pope's *Open Skies, Closed Minds*. This includes internal memos generated by the writing of this book, letters to Mr. Pope, letters from Mr. Pope and any associated or relevant material. As noted above, if you insist on the somewhat convoluted 'confidentiality' refusal then I will be happy to pay costs incurred in sanitizing the documents. As Mr. Pope was an MOD employee and as he was writing a book based at least partly on his experiences at the UFO desk I see no real reason why members of the public should not see how the MOD went about dealing with his request to use MOD materials and how the writing of the book impacted on the MOD, all of which should be clear from the materials I am requesting.

If you decide, on the basis of this latest request, to refuse my application, I would ask that you pass this letter to your line manager for their decision. If that is still a refusal then I shall pursue the matter via the Ombudsman.

In addition to the above the request I would like to request a copy of the file D/Sec(AS) 12/5 dealing with UFOs- Close encounter reports, alien entities, abductions etc, which is currently held at the MOD. As with the request above I will be pleased to pay any copying or other costs incurred in obtaining this file.

I look forward to your reply.





DIRECTORATE OF AIR  
 MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
 ROOM 6/73  
 METROPOLE BUILDING  
 NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE  
 LONDON  
 WC2N 5BP



**FILE NOTE**

With regard to [REDACTED] request for internal correspondence with Mr Pope (former member of Secretariat (Air Staff) 1991-1994) advise was sought from the Directorate of Claims & Legal who have responsibility for requests affected by the Data Protection Act 1998. Their advise is attached to this file note.

With regard to [REDACTED] enquiry as to whether "RAF Mato" may still hold radar tapes concerning the Rendlesham Forest incident in December 1980, Air Historical branch (AHB3(RAF) - [REDACTED] was consulted to establish when Headquarters Military Air Traffic Organisation (HQ MATO) was disbanded. Directorate of Airspace Policy at HQ Strike Command (Lt Cdr [REDACTED] was consulted as to whether radar tapes may still exist. She confirmed that this would be the correct area for viewing of radar tapes, but after a search of their records informed me they only have radar tapes of aircraft accidents or air proximity incidents and of these the earliest they hold is 1990.

[REDACTED]  
DAS(LA)Ops+Pol1  
[REDACTED]

27<sup>th</sup> March 2003



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



Telephone

(Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)  
(GTN)

020 7218 2140  
020 7218 9000



Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/64/3  
Date  
27 March 2003

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your recent letter.

With regard to your request for a “copy of all and any files or correspondence which deals with Mr Pope and his book, which may have been generated at the MOD”, I should inform you that we have a statutory duty under the Data Protection Act 1998 to process personal data lawfully and an obligation under common law to protect the confidentiality of individuals who correspond with the MOD. Correspondence containing information of a personal nature is not therefore released to third parties unless we receive the explicit written consent of the individual concerned or is otherwise permissible under DPA 98. Therefore, unless we receive such consent directly from Mr Pope we will be unable to provide the information you have requested on this occasion.

You also enquired as to whether “RAF Mato” may still hold radar tapes of the Rendlesham Forest incident. HQ MATO was the Headquarters of the Military Air Traffic Organisation and was based at Uxbridge, Middlesex. MATO disbanded on 31 March 2000 and on the same day was integrated into HQ Strike Command. Enquiries at HQ Strike Command have revealed no record of any radar tapes still in existence concerning events at Rendlesham Forest.

Yours sincerely,



**FILE NOTE**

With regard to [REDACTED] request for internal correspondence with Mr Pope (former member of Secretariat (Air Staff) 1991-1994) advise was sought from the Directorate of Claims & Legal who have responsibility for requests affected by the Data Protection Act 1998. Their advise is attached to this file note.

With regard to [REDACTED] enquiry as to whether "RAF Mato" may still hold radar tapes concerning the Rendlesham Forest incident in December 1980, Air Historical branch (AHB3(RAF) - [REDACTED] was consulted to establish when Headquarters Military Air Traffic Organisation (HQ MATO) was disbanded. Directorate of Airspace Policy at HQ Strike Command (Lt Cdr [REDACTED] was consulted as to whether radar tapes may still exist. She confirmed that this would be the correct area for viewing of radar tapes, but after a search of their records informed me they only have radar tapes of aircraft accidents or air proximity incidents and of these the earliest they hold is 1990.

[REDACTED]  
DAS(LA)Ops+Pol1  
[REDACTED]

27<sup>th</sup> March 2003

## DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1

**From:** CL(FS)-Legal1a  
**Sent:** 26 February 2003 16:29  
**To:** DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Information

0

TY. If a request for information is eg what are the procedures MOD require prospective authors to follow, then this can be answered factually and if necessary copies of regulations provided. But the correspondent here is seeking material that will a) contain personal data about a third party which MOD is legally obliged to process in accordance with DPA 98 and/or b) contain material that may attract a duty of confidentiality which the MOD will owe to the third party.

I should think it likely that correspondence between Mr Pope and MOD and vice versa re his book would raise issues of confidentiality and that it would therefore be a wise precaution not to disclose it to a third party without consent. Your proposed reply is agreed but I have made a few amendments as follows:

"With regard to your request for a "copy of all and any files or correspondence which deals with Mr Pope and his book, which may have been generated at the MOD" I should inform you that we have ~~statutory duties~~ a **statutory duty** under the Data Protection Act to **process personal data lawfully** and an obligation under common law to protect the ~~privacy~~ **confidentiality** of individuals who correspond with the MOD. Correspondence containing information of a personal nature is not therefore released to third parties unless we receive the explicit written consent of the individual concerned **or is otherwise permissible under DPA 98**. Therefore, unless we receive such consent directly from Mr Pope we will be unable to provide the information you have requested on this occasion".

I hope this is helpful.

CL(FS)-Legal1a

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

**From:** DAS-LA-Ops+Pol1  
**Sent:** 25 February 2003 16:46  
**To:** CL(FS)-Legal1a  
**Subject:** Request for Information

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You may recall we discussed a letter I have received from one of our regular correspondents who has requested a copy of all and any files or correspondence we hold concerning a former member of our staff (Mr Pope) and a book he published shortly after leaving the department. I propose to say the following and would be grateful for your advice as to whether the wording is ok.

"With regard to your request for a "copy of all and any files or correspondence which deals with Mr Pope and his book, which may have been generated at the MOD" I should inform you that we have statutory duties under the Data Protection Act and an obligation under common law to protect the privacy of individuals who correspond with the MOD. Correspondence containing information of a personal nature is not therefore released to third parties unless we receive the explicit written consent of the individual concerned. Therefore, unless we receive such consent directly from Mr Pope we will be unable to provide the information you have requested on this occasion".

The reason I have referred specifically to information of a personal nature instead of just correspondence is that we do release copies of 'UFO' reports and correspondence under the Code of Practice, but we remove personal data. I do not think this is the same because even if we removed names etc, it is the contents of the correspondence which is personal to Mr Pope.

I hope this makes sense. I would be grateful for your thoughts.

DAS	
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Dear 



I wonder if you could assist me with the following enquiries:

- 1) I am doing some research into the MOD's involvement with UFOs and specifically the work carried out by a previous incumbent of the 'UFO desk', Nick Pope.

Mr Pope worked at AS2A between 1991 and 1994. Shortly after his time there he wrote a UFO book called 'Open Skies, Closed Minds', in which he refers to his time in AS2A. I also gather, from speaking to Mr Pope and reading interviews with him that his book generated much internal correspondence at the MOD, as he apparently had to ask for permission to write it.

I would therefore like to request a copy of all and any files or correspondence which deals with Mr Pope and his book, which may have been generated at the MOD. I am making this request under the Freedom of Information Act. If it is not possible to receive copies of such files could you please give me a full written explanation and details of how I can appeal against the decision?

2. I am also doing some research into the 'Rendlesham Forest' incident which took place in 1981 at RAF Bentwaters. I gather, from existing official records, that radar tapes (from RAF Neatishead and other locations) which cover the period of the incident were taken away for study by RAF officials from RAF **Mato**.

Could you answer the following questions please:

- Are there any records at RAF Mato of this incident and/or the removal or study of the Radar tapes?
- Could you tell me what brief RAF Mato fulfils?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter and I look forward to receiving your reply.

