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# Registered File Disposal Form

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc) <i>Information Management - Defense Information Management - Freedom of Information Act - Requests for Information</i>	Reference: (Prefix and Number): <i>DIDAF/10/21-8/3</i> Part: <i>J</i>
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PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors): *UNCLASSIFIED*

Date of last enclosure: <i>29/11/05</i>	Date closed: <i>29/11/05</i>
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**PART 1. DISPOSAL SCHEDULE RECOMMENDATION**  
(To be completed when the file is closed)

Destroy after \_\_\_\_\_ years

Forward to INFO(EXP)-R after \_\_\_\_\_ years

No recommendation

**FOR DEFENCE INFO(EXP)-R USE ONLY**

Date of 1st review	Date of 2nd review	Forward Destruction Date
Reviewer's	Reviewer's	Signature: _____

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

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

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

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

*For Permanent Preservation*

(ii) Key enclosures which support the recommendation are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Destroyed

✓

Considered by DR for  
permanent preservation

c. Of no further administrative value but worthy of consideration by INFO(EXP)-R for permanent preservation.

✓

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: C2

Date: 22710

Branch Title and Full Address:

RAF Business Services  
HQ Air Comd  
RAF High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire  
HP14 2UE

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)

**D/DAS/10/2/8/13 PART J**

<b>ENCLOSURE</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>AIT REF</b>
1	UFOs, Satellite debris & F540s		29-06-2005-141253-011
2	Aircraft Accidents		02-09-2005-090038-001
3	Aircraft Accidents		21-09-2005-163452-006
4	Aircraft Accidents		20-09-2005-153039-018
5	UFOs		20-10-2005-101703-006
6	UFOs		11-07-2005-085634-001
7	UFOs		27-09-2005-122044-009
8	UFOs		30-09-2005-085655-0022
9	UFOs		16-08-2005-092324-005
10	UFOs		16-09-2005-091829-002
11	UFOs		26-10-2005-140158-010
12	UFOs		04-10-2005-175642-002
13	Low Flying		12-07-2005-101951-001
14	Low Flying		11-10-2005-103519-002
15	UFOs		27-09-2005-170051-014



From: [redacted] on behalf of DAS-UFO-Office  
Sent: 29 November 2005 09:52  
To: [redacted]  
Subject: Internet-authorized: FoIA request 27-09-2005-170051-014  
Importance: High

Dear [redacted]

Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying to your requests. In order to address your comments regarding the BBC News article I had to consult the Department concerned with Air Defence and the relevant member of staff has been out of the office on business. I do however, now have a response and a letter addressing this matter and your further FOI request was put in the post to you yesterday. I have attached to this e-mail an electronic copy of the letter and scanned images of the attachments which I hope you will find helpful.

I am aware that there is still some information outstanding from your previous FOI request concerning requests for copies of the Flying Saucer Working Party report between July and November 2001. I am currently experiencing some difficulties with retrieving the appropriate file from the archives in Derbyshire, but I am pursuing this matter and as soon as I have some news I will contact you again.

Your patience is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]  
Ministry of Defence  
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information

29<sup>th</sup> November 2005

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

From: [redacted]  
Sent: 29 November 2005 08:26  
To: DAS-UFO-Office  
Subject: FoIA request 27-09-2005-170051-014

Hello [redacted]

There's no pressure on this request, it isn't at all time critical but I would appreciate an update on progress so far. If you need more time to deal with it I have no objections so long as you can provide an estimate for it's completion.

Many thanks,

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

From: [redacted]  
To: <das-ufo-office@mod.uk>  
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2005 2:39 PM  
Subject: New FoIA request - UFO reports

> Hello [REDACTED] 40

> Please find below a new FoIA request relating to UFO reports.

>

> Could you also please confirm whether or not you have received my

> request to review the information supplied in response to my

> previous application (25-05-2005-092509-001) which I sent via

> email on 2/9/05? You may like to know that I have received

> material from [REDACTED] in respect of this request, and I will

> be in touch with him when I have fully reviewed the material

> which he has sent to me.

>

> My new request is as follows:

>

> UFO reports:

>

> 1. Copies of all:

>

> a) Sighting reports

> b) Correspondence (internal an external)

> c) Investigations and/or analyses by Defence Intelligence or

> any

> other aspect of the MOD

>

> relating to sightings in the Lincolnshire area during the month

> of December 1993, including, but not limited to the area around

> Louth. Please check any relevant files up to the end of March

> 1994 for any such documentation.

>

> This should include, but is not limited to documentation

> to/from

> RAF Donna Nook, Coningsby and Waddington, and a sighting report

> from a Commanding Officer (possibly from one of those stations)

> and any additional related information.

>

> 2. Copies of all:

>

> a) Correspondence (internal an external)

> b) Sighting reports

> c) Investigations and/or analyses by Defence Intelligence or

> any

> other aspect of the MOD

>

> relating to alleged UFO sightings for 5 November 1990,

> including,

> but not limited to any information concerning the MOD's

> knowledge

> of any astronomical, meteorological, or space debris activity

> observed relating to this date, together with any

> correspondence and analyses of such activity by the MOD.

>

> 3. Copies of all:

>

> a) Correspondence (internal an external)

> b) Sightings reports

> c) Investigations and/or analyses by Defence Intelligence or

> any

> other aspect of the MOD

>

> relating to alleged UFO activity two weeks either side of 23



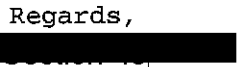

> July

> 1984 in West Yorkshire including, but not limited to any

> references to a perceived "UFO flap" around this period.

29/11/2005



>  
> If any issues or obstacles arise in relation to any part this  
> request, I would appreciate being advised as early as possible  
in  
> order that I can make any necessary alterations to it.  
>  
> I realise that you already have my postal address on file, but  
I  
> include it below in order to meet the requirements of the act.  
>  
>   
> Stoke on Trent  
>   
>   
> 

[REDACTED]  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 29 November 2005 08:21  
To: DAS-UFO-Office  
Subject: Fw: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

Hello [REDACTED] 40

It's over a month since I posted the message below. I know that you have probably had to refer this to another department, but they have surely had enough time now to make some kind of response?

As you are aware, this enquiry has been dragging on since May. I have given the MoD every opportunity to respond meaningfully, but as yet the request is unfulfilled. I don't like to be awkward or issue ultimatums, especially since I am generally pleased with the responses from the MoD until this particular request, but there has to be a limit. Unless I have some indication that significant progress is being made in relation to this request by Friday 2nd December, I feel that I have no option other than to refer the request to the Director of Information (Exploitation) for internal review.

Again, please don't take this as any form of personal criticism, I fully acknowledge that your workload is probably excessive and that you are dependent on the co-operation of other departments. I think that you would probably sympathise with my position as well.

with warm regards,  
[REDACTED]

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

From: [REDACTED]  
To: "DAS-UFO-Office" <DAS-UFO-Office@mod.uk>  
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2005 7:42 PM  
Subject: Re: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

> Hello [REDACTED] 0  
>  
> I am somewhat perplexed by the recent items on the BBC 10  
> O'clock  
> news on the 17th & 18th October (See  
> <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/4351622.stm>).  
>  
> The MoD appear to have been far more forthcoming in their  
> dealings with a national broadcasting company in comparison to  
> an  
> FoIA request made by an ordinary member of the public. I would  
> imagine that the broadcasting of such information on a public  
> television channel would be far more "prejudicial to the  
> defence  
> of the British Isles and the effectiveness of relevant forces".  
> than it would have been to provide at least an equal response  
> to  
> my enquiry.  
>  
> I was able to learn from the programme amongst other things  
> that  
> there are in the order of 12 alert situations per year, and  
> that  
> loss of radio contact is one of the triggers for an alert.  
> Neither item of information was provided in response to my  
> request, though I would not be surprised to find that  
> arrangements for Brian Hanrahan's interviews were well in hand  
> contemporaneously with my own request.  
>  
> In view of the recent broadcast, I would like to to ask you  
> once  
> again to review my original request with a view to providing a

> more adequate response: I reproduce my original request for  
> your  
> convenience below.

> "Details of any false alarms that led to heightened states of  
> alert and/or the despatch of QRA interception aircraft in  
> response to reports of unidentified aircraft or perceived  
> threats  
> from identified aircraft since 1st September 2001."

>  
> I regret that if I do not get a more substantial response on  
> this  
> occasion, I shall be appealing against the decision.

> Regards,

> [REDACTED]  
> [REDACTED]

## **AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

Applicant: [REDACTED]

Case Number: 27-09-2005-170051-014

Expiry: 25 October 2005

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

Copies of all sighting reports, Correspondence (internal and external) and investigations and/or analyses by Defence Intelligence or any other aspect of the MOD relating to;

1. UFO sightings in the Lincolnshire area during the month of December 1993, including, but not limited to the area around Louth. Please check files up to the end of March 1994. To include, but not limited to documentation to/from RAF Donna Nook, Coningsby and Waddington, a sighting report from a Commanding Officer (possibly from one of those stations) and any other related information.
2. Alleged UFO sightings for 5 November 1990, including, but not limited to any information concerning the MOD's knowledge of any astronomical, meteorological or space debris activity observed relating to this date, together with any correspondence and analyses of such activity by the MOD.
3. Alleged UFO activity two weeks either side of 23 July 1984 in West Yorkshire including, but not limited to any references to a perceived "UFO flap" around this period.

On 24 October the applicant sent another email concerning his previous FOI request. There had been an article on the BBC 10'O clock news about the RAF defending UK airspace and he believed we were withholding information from him, which had been given to the BBC. (Tab).

### **Case for release of information**

A search of all the relevant files for the periods specified has been conducted and the following information is available for release.

1. One UFO sighting for 6 December 1993 from a member of the public in Lincolnshire, reported to RAF Coningsby. Plus one UFO sighting for 9 December 1993 reported to RAF Donna Nook and the MOD response. There were also a large number of UFO reports for 6 December 1993 (1625-1635) from various areas across the South of the UK. The applicant has been informed, but they have not been provided as none of these were from Lincolnshire.
2. One UFO sighting report for 5 November 1990. This has already been released under the Code and the FOIA. A check with RAF Fylingdales has

produced some details concerning a satellite which decayed on this date and these have been provided to the applicant.

3. Our files contain no information relevant to this request.

With regard to the applicants comments about the BBC news article, CT and UK Ops –Airspace Integrity has confirmed that the information provided to the BBC is not the same as that requested by the applicant. The BBC were briefed by CT and UK Ops and Strike Command, and all the information provided was of a general nature. No specific details of “heighten states of alert and / or the despatch of QRA” were given. This information is still therefore withheld.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: 82 Name: 

Signature: 

Date: 24/11/05



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

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

[REDACTED]  
Stoke on Trent  
[REDACTED] b

**Our Reference**  
27-09-2005-170051-014

**Date**  
28<sup>th</sup> November 2005

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request of 27 September and your e-mail message of 24 October. I apologise for the delay in replying.

With regard to your requests for information a search of all our relevant files for the periods specified has produced the following.

- 1). Please find attached a copy of one UFO report for 6<sup>th</sup> December 1993 made to RAF Coningsby by a member of the public in Lincolnshire, plus the MOD's response. The MOD received a number of reports between 1625-1635 on this date from various areas including Kent, SE and SW London, Surrey, Bedfordshire, Essex, Suffolk and Wiltshire, but this was the only one from Lincolnshire. Also attached is a report for 9<sup>th</sup> December 1993 from the Lincolnshire area which appears to be relevant to your request.
- 2). Please find attached a copy of a UFO report for 5 November 1990. With regard to your comments about "MOD's knowledge of astronomical, meteorological, or space debris activity observed relating to this date", I have made some enquiries with RAF Fylingdales and they have confirmed they have records of one satellite which decayed on 5 November 1990. The object was SCC number 20925, International Designator 90094 C, Gorizont 21 platform. The object had a radar cross section of about 5.0 square metres and its destruction by burning in the Earth's atmosphere would have been visible from the ground. The actual decay time is unknown, but has been calculated to be between 1700 and 2100.
- 3). A search of all our existing UFO files for the whole of July 1984 has revealed no UFO sightings reported to MOD from West Yorkshire.

With regard to your comments concerning the 10 O'clock news item about defence of UK airspace, I can assure you that the information provided to the BBC was considerably different to that which you requested in your earlier Freedom of Information request. In order for the BBC to produce this news item reporters were briefed by officials within the MOD with responsibility for air defence matters. All the information provided was of a general nature and they were not provided with any information that was sensitive or given any specific details of "heightened states of alert and/or the despatch of QRA aircraft". The release of such information would be damaging to the defence of the UK and continues to be withheld for the reasons already stated in my previous correspondence.

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

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

Yours sincerely,


A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the undersigned.

Taken from  
D/Sec (AS) 12/3  
PE N.

- Report of 9<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Length, lines & Reply



REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

1. Date, time & duration of sighting	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec ; c 4:30 pm ; a few minutes .
2. Description of object (No of objects, size, shape, colour, brightness, noise)	Three lights forming shape of triangle . witnesses thought they were at points of triangular shape craft  . No noise .
3. Exact position of observer (Indoors/outdoors, stationary/moving)	People driving along Coastal Rd nr Louth , Lincs . Many witnesses stopped their cars and got out for better look .
4. How observed (Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, camera or camcorder)	Naked eye
5. Direction in which object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a roughly estimated bearing)	Towards / over coast in NW direction .
6. Angle of sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)	N/k - difficult to judge .
7. Distance (By reference to a known landmark)	N/k - difficult to judge in dark
8. Movements (Changes in 5, 6 & 7 may be of more use than estimates of course and speed)	Hovered . Turned on axis . Shut off at c 500 mph , towards NW "and up" .
9. Met conditions during observations (Moving clouds, haze, mist etc)	Partly
10. Nearby objects (Telephone lines, high voltage lines, reservoir, lake or dam, swamp or marsh, river, high buildings, tall chimneys, steeples, spires, TV or radio masts, airfields, generating plant, factories, pits or other sites with floodlights or night lighting)	N/k

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

11. To whom reported (Police, military, press etc)	Story ran in Lincs local paper. Dozens of witnesses viewed the paper.
12. Name & address of informant	[REDACTED]
13. Background of informant that may be volunteered	Reporter
14. Other witnesses	OC RAF Pannu Nark *
15. Date and time of receipt	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec
16. Any unusual meteorological conditions	N/k
17. Remarks	Many local people experienced automatic changes in channels on their TVs that evening.

[REDACTED]

Sec (AS) 2a

\* OC RAF Pannu Nark [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] CRO at RAF Coningsby, has reports. [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] / SATCO / VSATCO [REDACTED]  
 ↓  
 Confirmed Seclog + F3<sup>1</sup> dmy local nr Luth at 4:30 pm



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Telephone (Direct Dialling) 071-21-8 2140  
(Switchboard) 071-21-89000  
(Fax) 071-21-8



Your reference

Our reference

D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date

8 December 1993

Dear ██████████

Details of the report you made concerning the strange object you saw in the sky on Monday afternoon have been passed to this office, as we co-ordinate reports of UFO sightings in this country.

I have spoken to the Royal Observatory at Greenwich about your sighting - which was one of a number of similar reports made - and they believe that what you saw was a fireball entering the atmosphere.

The British Fireball Survey would be very interested in hearing from you, and would be grateful if you could call ██████████ on ██████████.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,  
██████████



large number of UFO reports for  
① 6 Dec 93 1625-1635.

Kent/SE & SW London/Surrey/Becks/  
Essex/Suffolk/Wiltshire Taken from  
Only one from Lincolnshire. IP/sec (AS) 12/3

---

Only one other on 9th Dec.

Taken from D/sec (AS) 12/2 Pt M.

UNCLASSIFIED

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DCC  
LIVE RAF CONINGSBY  
MESSAGE at 062230Z DEC 93

INFORMATION copy 1 for AF DUTY OFFICE  
AFI  
PIN 138

Prec Act ROUTINE Info: ROUTINE  
DTG 062230Z DEC 93  
From RAF CONINGSBY  
To MODUK AIR  
SICs [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

- ATTN AFOR. UFO REPORT
- A. 061625Z, 1 MIN
- B. A LIGHT AS BRIGHT AS A DIMMED HEADLIGHT WHICH THEN PRODUCED TWO SMALL LIGHTS (LIKE CARBON ARC FLICKERING) WHICH FADED. NO SIZE DISCERNABLE, NO SMELL OR SOUND
- C. OBSERVED FROM OVER A WAREHOUSE AT EAST KIRKBY, OVERHEAD AND AWAY
- D. NAKED EYE
- E. FROM NORTH WEST TO SOUTH EAST, HEADING TOWARD BOSTON
- F. ESTIMATED HEIGHT OF 1000 TO 2000FT
- G. UNABLE TO JUDGE
- H. MOVED AT SPEED OF MILITARY A/C BUT DID NOT CHANGE IN SIZE
- J. WEATHER NIL, GOOD VISIBILITY, 2/8 CLOUD 4000FT AND 7/8 AT 25000
- K. NIL APART FROM OUT BUILDINGS
- L. [REDACTED] CONINGSBY OPS OFFICER
- M. [REDACTED] STICKFORD, BOSTON, LINGS,
- N. [REDACTED]
- O. NIL
- P. 062100L DEC 93
- Q. REPLY REQUEST. NOTE EAST KIRKBY 5308N 0000E

Action Distribution

Addressee	Code	Action-Officer	Retrieval
MODUK AIR	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	MODUK AIR SG

Information Distribution

AFDO	DISTAFF
------	---------

Information Distributees Excluded from Delivery

82140 [REDACTED]

②

Report of 5 Nov. 1990

~~Secretary~~

DIRECT

UNCLASSIFIED

CWD197 06/1542 310C2587

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 061340Z NOV 90

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON  
TO MODUK AIR

UNCLASSIFIED



SIC Z6F

SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA

- A. 5 NOV 1800Z
- B. ONE LARGE AEROPLANE (SHAPE). 5 TO 6 WHITE STEADY LIGHTS. 1 BLUE STEADY LIGHT. CONTRAILS FROM BLUE AREA
- C. IN THE AIR M.C.6 AREA. FL270 YPENSURS
- D. NAKED EYE
- E. HEADING 100 DEGREES. SAME ALT FL270
- F. INTO OUR 12 OCLOCK
- G. ONE QUARTER MILE AHEAD
- H. STEADY
- J. N/K
- K. N/K
- L. WORKING DUTCH MILL RADAR
- M. [REDACTED]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

PAGE 2 RBD AID 0009 UNCLAS

N. NIL

D. 2 OTHERS FROM LAARBRUCH

P. OTHER INFO. AIRCRAFT WAS UNDER DUTCH MIL CONTROL UFO APPERRED IN OUR RH SIDE SAME LEVEL, WE WERE TRAVELLING AT MACH POINT 8. IT WENT INTO OUR 12 OCLOCK AND ACCLLERATED AWAY. ANOTHER 2 TORNADOS SEEN IT AND POSSIBLE IDENTED IT AS A STEALTH AIRCRAFT

BT

DISTRIBUTION Z6F

F				
CAB	1	SEC (AS)	ACTION (CXJ	1 AFDO )
CYD	1	[REDACTED]		
CAV	1	DI 35		
CAV	2	DGSTI		

**From:** [redacted] Sqn Ldr  
**Sent:** 08 November 2005 08:13  
**To:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA request

Ma'am,

Fylingdales have provided the following information for the FOIA request:

'As you know, we perform thousands of satellite tracks each day. The amount of data collected daily is so vast that we can only keep track data records on routine tracking missions for a few weeks. We do, of course, keep records on important satellite tracks (new launches, break-ups, etc.) indefinitely. there were no tracks of this nature on the day in question.

One satellite decayed from Earth orbit on 5 November 1990. The object was SCC number 20925, International Designator 90094 C, Gorizont 21 platform. The object had a radar cross section of about 5.0 square metres and it's destruction by burning in the Earth's atmosphere would have been very visible from the ground. The actual decay time is unknown, although we had calculated a decay window of 1700Z to 2100Z. If the satellite was still in orbit at about 1800Z there was a pass travelling from West to East just South of the UK that would have been visible from Southern and Central England. I can provide latitude and longitude parameters for this pass if required.'

[redacted]



Sqn Ldr  
SO2 DACCS & Sensors  
HQ 3 Group - C2 Support (Availability)

[redacted]

Internet Account: [redacted]

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or there are problems please notify the sender and then delete the email (and file(s) if attached) from your system. Recipients should note that email traffic on MOD systems is subject to monitoring, recording and auditing to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The MOD has taken steps to keep this email and any attachments free from viruses. However it accepts no liability for any loss or damage howsoever caused as a result of any virus being passed on. It is the responsibility of the recipient to perform all necessary checks. The statements expressed in this email are personal and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the department.

---

**From:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Sent:** 02 November 2005 12:02  
**To:** [redacted] Sqn Ldr  
**Subject:** FOIA request  
**Importance:** High

[redacted] on 40

To answer an FOIA request relating to UFOs, please could you ask Fylingdales for details of any records they may of "space debris" detected on 5 November 1990 around 1800Z.

Thanks in anticipation.

[redacted] n 40

SO1 Airspace Integrity  
DCT&UK Ops  
MB [redacted]  
Internet account: [redacted]



[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 15 November 2005 12:54  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA request

[Redacted] 40

We spoke. Answer below.

[Redacted] n 40

---

**From:** [Redacted] Gp Capt  
**Sent:** 08 November 2005 18:30  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA request

[Redacted] 40

This is the FOIA trail – as you can see there is no original detail. [Redacted] n 40

---

**From:** [Redacted] Sqn Ldr  
**Sent:** 08 November 2005 08:20  
**To:** [Redacted] Gp Capt  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA request

Sir,

I have received an out of office message from Wg Cdr [Redacted] 40 advising that she is not back until 21 Nov. I am unsure how urgent the FOIA Request is – ie the clock may or may not be ticking, so I thought it wise to copy the info re possible UFO sighting to you in case you receive a hastener.

Please call if you require any further info.

Regards,

[Redacted]

Sqn Ldr  
SO2 DACCS & Sensors  
HQ 3 Group - C2 Support (Availability)

[Redacted]

Internet Account: [Redacted]

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or there are problems please notify the sender and then delete the email (and file(s) if attached) from your system. Recipients should note that email traffic on MOD systems is subject to monitoring, recording and auditing to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The MOD has taken steps to keep this email and any attachments free from viruses. However it accepts no liability for any loss or damage howsoever caused as a result of any virus being passed on. It is the responsibility of the recipient to perform all necessary checks. The statements expressed in this email are personal and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the department.

<sup>1993</sup>  
1. D/Sec (AS) 12/2 Pt M. x  
12/3 Pt L x  
M x  
N x

---

Files requested from TNT  
12/10/05.

2.-

3-23 July 1984 ✓ Requested from  
Iain Goodie 12/10  
✓ D/DS8/10/209/1 Part B  
- General Briefs & Reports, UFO  
✓ Correspondence  
✓ D/DS8/10/209-Part F  
✓ D/DS8/10/209 Part G

Expiry: 25 Oct 2005

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 27 September 2005 15:39  
To: DAS-UFO-Office  
Subject: New FOIA request - UFO reports

Hello [REDACTED] 40

Please find below a new FOIA request relating to UFO reports.

Could you also please confirm whether or not you have received my request to review the information supplied in response to my previous application (25-05-2005-092509-001) which I sent via email on 2/9/05? You may like to know that I have received material from [REDACTED] in respect of this request, and I will be in touch with him when I have fully reviewed the material which he has sent to me.

My new request is as follows:

UFO reports:

1. Copies of all:

- a) Sighting reports
- b) Correspondence (internal an external)
- c) Investigations and/or analyses by Defence Intelligence or any other aspect of the MOD

relating to sightings in the Lincolnshire area during the month of December 1993, including, but not limited to the area around Louth. Please check any relevant files up to the end of March 1994 for any such documentation.

This should include, but is not limited to documentation to/from RAF Donna Nook, Coningsby and Waddington, and a sighting report from a Commanding Officer (possibly from one of those stations) and any additional related information.

2. Copies of all:

- a) Correspondence (internal an external)
- b) Sighting reports
- c) Investigations and/or analyses by Defence Intelligence or any other aspect of the MOD

relating to alleged UFO sightings for 5 November 1990, including, but not limited to any information concerning the MOD's knowledge of any astronomical, meteorological, or space debris activity observed relating to this date, together with any correspondence and analyses of such activity by the MOD. ✓

3. Copies of all:

- a) Correspondence (internal an external)
- b) Sightings reports
- c) Investigations and/or analyses by Defence Intelligence or any other aspect of the MOD

relating to alleged UFO activity two weeks either side of 23 July 1984 in West Yorkshire including, but not limited to any references to a perceived "UFO flap" around this period.

*- Nothing on files*

If any issues or obstacles arise in relation to any part this request, I would appreciate being advised as early as possible in order that I can make any necessary alterations to it.

I realise that you already have my postal address on file, but I include it below in order to meet the requirements of the act.

[REDACTED]

Stoke on Trent

[REDACTED] 0

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 16 November 2005 12:25  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA / [redacted]

[redacted] n 40

Looks fine to me.

[redacted] on 40

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 15 November 2005 13:48  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA / [redacted]  
**Importance:** High

[redacted] 40

Please see below (and attached) the draft I sent to [redacted] on 40 discussed. Thanks for the info from Fylingdales in answer to the second paragraph.

[redacted] n 40

DAS-FOI  
5-H-Section 40  
ME [redacted] 40

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 02 November 2005 11:30  
**To:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** FOIA / [redacted]  
**Importance:** High

[redacted] n 40

Attached is my draft response to [redacted] in reply to his comments about the BBC news item on air defence, and his further FOI request. I would be grateful for your comments.

Also in relation to para no.(2) of his request, please could you ask Fylingdales for details of any records they may of "space debris" on 5 November 1990 around 1800Z.

Thanks

[redacted] n 40

DAS-FOI

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 02 November 2005 11:30  
**To:** [REDACTED] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** FOIA / [REDACTED]  
**Importance:** High

**Tracking:**    **Recipient**                      **Read**  
                 [REDACTED] Wg Cdr Read: 02/11/2005 12:02

[REDACTED] 40

Attached is my draft response to [REDACTED] in reply to his comments about the BBC news item on air defence, and his further FOI request. I would be grateful for your comments.

Also in relation to para no.(2) of his request, please could you ask Fylingdales for details of any records they may of "space debris" on 5 November 1990 around 1800Z.

Thanks

[REDACTED] 40  
DAS-FOI

DRAFT

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your e-mail message of 24 October and your Freedom of Information request of 27 September.

First, with regard to your comments concerning the 10 O'clock news item about defence of UK airspace, I can assure you that the information provided to the BBC was considerably different to that which you requested in your earlier Freedom of Information request. In order for the BBC to produce this news item reporters were briefed by officials within the MOD with responsibility for air defence matters. All the information provided was of a general nature and they were not provided with any information that was sensitive or given any specific details of "heightened states of alert and/or the despatch of QRA aircraft". The release of such information would be damaging to the defence of the UK and continues to be withheld for the reasons already stated in my previous correspondence.

With regard to your further request for information a search of all our relevant files for the periods specified has produced the following.

1. Please find attached a copy of one UFO report for 6<sup>th</sup> December 1993 made to RAF Coningsby by a member of the public in Lincolnshire, plus the MOD's response. The MOD received a number of reports between 1625-1635 on this date from various areas including Kent, SE and SW London, Surrey, Bedfordshire, Essex, Suffolk and Wiltshire, but this was the only one from Lincolnshire. Also attached is a report for 9<sup>th</sup> December 1993 from the Lincolnshire area which appears to be relevant to your request.

*Why mention if not relevant to his request?*

2. Please find attached a copy of a UFO report for 5 November 1990. With regard to your comments about "MOD's knowledge of astronomical, meteorological, or space debris activity observed relating to this date", I have made some enquiries with RAF Fylingdales and they have confirmed.....

? .....

3. A search of all our existing UFO files for the whole of July 1984 has revealed no UFO sightings reported to MOD from West Yorkshire.

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

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information

Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]  
From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr  
Sent: 28 October 2005 10:23  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

[REDACTED] 40

I was the person in CT&UKOps that advised the BBC programme so I can confirm that nothing sensitive was discussed or released on the programme.

[REDACTED] 40

S01 Airspace Integrity  
DCT&UK Ops  
MB [REDACTED] n 40 I-[REDACTED] Section 40  
Internet account: [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 28 October 2005 09:37  
To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr  
Subject: RE: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

[REDACTED] n 40

I have spoken to Wing Cdr [REDACTED] (DGMC-D News RAF) who says the BBC were briefed by CT&UK Ops (not sure who) and Strike Command and were not told anything sensitive or classified. He is also of the opinion that the news article was of a general nature and did not go into specifics. With regard to the mention of the temporary loss of contact with a civil aircraft and the resulting air defence concern (I notice there was no suggestion that QRA aircraft were scrambled) Wing [REDACTED] seems to think this is not that unusual when aircraft enter our airspace and do not immediately contact air traffic. I don't know how true that is, but I suspect the BBC may have made it sound a bit more exciting than it actually was.

I will draft a response to [REDACTED] and send it to you for any comments. I will also show it Wing Cdr [REDACTED] before it goes out.

[REDACTED] 40

DAS-FOI

-----Original Message-----  
From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr  
Sent: 27 October 2005 14:16  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

[REDACTED] 40

I think you are spot on and should just go back to [REDACTED] and tell him 'No'!

[REDACTED] n 40

S01 Airspace Integrity  
DCT&UK Ops  
MB [REDACTED] n 40 I-[REDACTED] Section 40  
Internet account: [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 25 October 2005 10:28  
To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr ; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

[REDACTED]

Just a few thoughts.

I did not see the 10 o'clock news, but having now read the article on the BBC website, looks to me as if [redacted] request is rather different to what the BBC broadcast. [redacted] ion 40 seeking details of when QRA have been scrambled and for what reasons. The release of this sort of information would clearly be damaging for the reasons already given to him. The news article on the other hand, seems to be rather more general about the RAF defending the UK from possible terrorist attacks. Although it mentions an incident where contact is temporarily lost with an airliner it does not go into details or mention any other situations which might lead to a heightened state of alert. I don't think the fact the BBC has suggested that the air defenders would be concerned about such a situation and may scramble aircraft is giving away any great secret, because surely the public would expect this reaction in such a situation.

[redacted] 40  
DAS-FOI

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

From: [redacted] Wg Cdr  
Sent: 25 October 2005 08:37  
To: [redacted]  
Cc: [redacted]  
Subject: FW: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

[redacted] 40

This looks like one for you. I've attached the original correspondence that came via DAS as the original request linked the questions about air policing with UFO sightings!

The MOD did give privileged access to the BBC in terms of access to our Air Defence units but has not confirmed or denied whether the information contained in the Report was factually correct.

[redacted] 40

S01 Airspace Integrity

DCT&UK Ops

MB [redacted] n 40I- [redacted] ction 40

Internet account: [redacted]

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

From: [redacted] On Behalf Of DAS-UFO-Office  
Sent: 25 October 2005 08:27  
To: [redacted] Wg Cdr  
Subject: FW: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

[redacted] n 40

You may recall that [redacted] made an FOIA request for details of when QRA have been scrambled in response to perceived threats since 1st September 2001 and you refused this information in accordance with Section 26 of the FOIA. I don't know if your area were involved in the 10 o'clock news item he is referring to, but I would be grateful for your views on his comments. As this is not about UFO reports, this is now getting beyond what I can answer.

Thanks

[redacted] 40

DAS-FOI

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

From: [redacted]  
Sent: 24 October 2005 20:43  
To: DAS-UFO-Office  
Subject: Re: FoIA 25-05-2005-092509-001

Hello [redacted] 40

I am somewhat perplexed by the recent items on the BBC 10 O'clock news on the 17th & 18th October (See <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/4351622.stm>).

The MoD appear to have been far more forthcoming in their


\* dealings with a national broadcasting company in comparison to an FoIA request made by an ordinary member of the public. I would imagine that the broadcasting of such information on a public television channel would be far more "prejudicial to the defence of the British Isles and the effectiveness of relevant forces". than it would have been to provide at least an equal response to my enquiry.

I was able to learn from the programme amongst other things that there are in the order of 12 alert situations per year, and that loss of radio contact is one of the triggers for an alert. Neither item of information was provided in response to my request, though I would not be surprised to find that arrangements for Brian Hanrahan's interviews were well in hand contemporaneously with my own request.

In view of the recent broadcast, I would like to to ask you once again to review my original request with a view to providing a more adequate response: I reproduce my original request for your convenience below.

"Details of any false alarms that led to heightened states of alert and/or the despatch of QRA interception aircraft in response to reports of unidentified aircraft or perceived threats from identified aircraft since 1st September 2001."

I regret that if I do not get a more substantial response on this occasion, I shall be appealing against the decision.

Regards,  


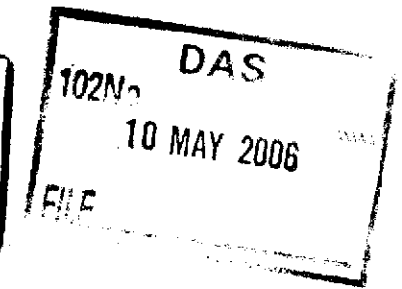
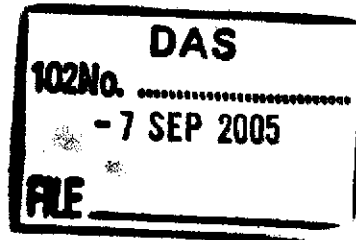
Loose Minute

DG Info4


7 September 2005

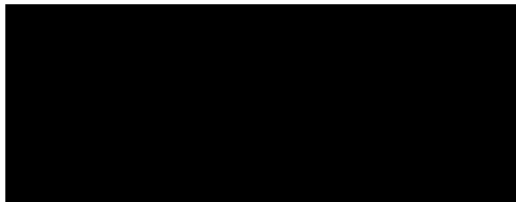
DAS - FOI

ENQUIRY FROM [REDACTED]



1. I attach two sets of papers relevant to [REDACTED] enquiry:

- a. A redacted set - which has been sent to [REDACTED] and for the purposes of comparison 
- b. An unredacted set of papers - which has not been sent to [REDACTED]





From: [redacted] Deputy Departmental Records Officer  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
 6-G-01, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

e-mail address: [redacted]

Tele: (Direct dial) [redacted]  
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
 (Fax) [redacted]



Stoke on Trent



Your Reference

Our Reference

DG Info/4

Date

7 September 2005

*Dear* [redacted]

As indicated in [redacted] email to you, dated 31 August 2005, I have agreed to respond to your enquiry concerning enquiries received by the Ministry of Defence relating to the "Flying Saucer Working Party" and "DSI/JTIC report number 7" or similar reports during the period April 2000 and September 2001 (I note that your interest extends to the end of November 2001).

I attach photocopies of relevant pages.

However, the following should be noted: I estimate the cost of complying fully with your request would have exceeded the appropriate limit for responding to Freedom of Information requests in the circumstances, and to ensure that you received papers of substance, I have therefore excluded certain papers where reference is made to JSTI Report No 7 on internal documentation during the period April 2000 to November 2001, for example where reference is made to the lack of success in locating the report or where it is included in lists of files being reviewed at enquirers request; additionally you will note that there are occasions when I have made substantial redactions to papers, this relates to information exchanged with enquirers etc that does not fall within the area of your enquiry, you will also note that I have also redacted all the names, both officials and members of the public, that appear in the correspondence, except for my own!

I hope the information that I have provided is helpful.

*ew*



From: [redacted] Room 2.13  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
 3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

101

CHOs address: Info(Exp)-Records1  
 e-mail address: defence.records.1@gtne.gov.uk

Tele: (Direct dial) [redacted]  
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
 (Fax) [redacted]

Your Reference

Our Reference

D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8

Date

13 June 2001

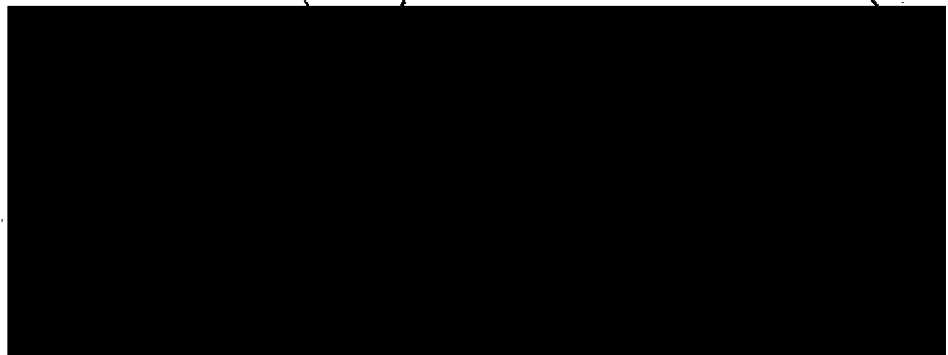
Thank you for your letter dated 5 June 2001 and for the kind comments you make following the discovery of DSI/JSTI Report No 7.

The report, copy number 17, has been removed from DEFE 19/9, and replaced with a photocopy, it is currently awaiting assignment to Public Record Office class DEFE 44 and as with other reports in this class it will receive a dedicated piece number.

DEFE 19/9 contains a number of other papers (five in all) relating to "flying saucers" or more accurately to the Working Party, photocopies are attached.

Finally, as previously advised the two short redacted passages from the report are the subject of consultation between the Ministry of Defence and the relevant party. In my experience such consultations exercises can take some considerable time. However, I will mark my records that you be advised of the outcome once a decision is made.

*Das S...*



5 June 2001

Your ref: D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 29 May and for the enclosed copy of the DSI/JTIC Report No 7 "Unidentified Flying Objects." I was most pleased to receive a copy of this document after spending a considerable amount of time attempting to locate it, or a summary of its contents.

I feel that you and your staff should be congratulated for being so alert as to the importance of locating this document, and for being so aware of its historical importance. You may be aware that the DSI/JTIC document is referred to in the P.R.O. file PREM 11/855, in the form of a personal minute from the Secretary of State for Air, replying to the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, who had asked "What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to?"

Arising from the re-location of this document I wish to ask the following:

1. Will the DSI/JTIC report, upon transfer to the P.R.O. be placed within a pre-existing file within DEFE 44, or will the document be filed under a specific piece/header identifying it by its title?
2. Did your staff identify or locate any other files relating to aerial phenomena/flying saucers/UFOs during the routine re-review of **DEFE 19/9 Scientific Intelligence, 1948-1960**? If that is the case would it be possible to obtain copies of these documents? Further to my question, I would draw your attention to the Loose Minute dated 13 December 1967 from J.C. Dickison of the Defence Intelligence Staff to S4f (Air) located in the P.R.O. file **AIR 2/18117**. This not only refers to a file containing the (now located) DSI/JTIC Report No 7 but notes in the *same* context how "we [DI 55] have recovered all but two of the 'Metropole' (ie Intelligence) files on UFOs for the period 1951-2." It stands to reason that if Dickison was referring to material contained within the file DEFE 19/9 this should also contain the other Intelligence files on UFOs relating to this period. I am informed that a policy decision by the MoD in 1967 prevented any further destruction of 'UFO' files, therefore the documents referred above should exist.

3. With regards to the two short passages deleted from the DSI/JTIC Report No 7. I note that the extracted passages are currently the subject of discussions between the MOD and the relevant party (presumably the US Air Force from the context). If a decision is made to release these redacted sentences, would it be possible to notify me of the content. If the decision is to withhold the passages, I would appreciate knowledge of the reasons why this is felt necessary in the public interest after the passage of 50 years.





From: [REDACTED] Room 2.13

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

09  
[Handwritten initials]

CHOs address: info(Exp)-Records1  
e-mail address: defence.records.1@gtnet.gov.uk

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

Your Reference

Our Reference

D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8

Date

29 May 2001

Towards the end of last year we exchanged correspondence on the subject of DSI/JTIC Report No 7.

As you will no doubt recall I regretably had to advise that it was only in the last few years that we learnt of the existence of this report and that attempts to locate it had proved unsuccessful.

I am pleased to be able to advise you that as a consequence of the routine re-review of another file (*DEFE 19/9* Scientific Intelligence, 1948-1960) a surviving copy (Copy No 17) of Report No 7 has been found.

The original copy of the Report has been removed from *DEFE 19/9* and replaced with a photocopy to facilitate cataloguing and transfer to the Public Record Office into *DEFE 44*. It is hoped that transfer arrangements can be completed within the next month or two.

Rather than suggest that you wait until available at Kew and in acknowledgement of the relative brevity of the report (just six pages) I attach a photocopy for your retention. You will note that two short passages have been deleted. These extracted passages are currently the subject of discussions between MOD and the relevant party.

[Handwritten signature]  
[REDACTED]



From: [redacted] Room 2.13  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

91

CHOTs address: Info(Exp)-Records1  
e-mail address: defence.records.1@gtnet.gov.uk

Tele: (Direct dial) [redacted]  
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
(Fax) [redacted]

---

Your Reference

Our Reference  
D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8  
Date  
29 May 2001

---

During your exchanges of correspondence with DAS (Sec), formerly Sec(AS), in September/October last year a number of closed files, identified by you, were examined for DSI/JTIC Report No 7 "Unidentified Flying Objects". Although unsuccessful my staff remained alert to your interest in this Report. As a consequence of the routine re-review of another file (DEFE 19/9 Scientific Intelligence, 1948-1960) I am pleased to be able to advise that a surviving copy (Copy No 17) of Report No 7 has been found.

The original copy of the Report has been removed from DEFE 19/9 and replaced with a photocopy to facilitate cataloguing and transfer to the Public Record Office into DEFE 44. It is hoped that transfer arrangements can be completed within the next month or two.

Rather than suggest that you wait until available at Kew and in acknowledgement of the relative brevity of the report (just six pages) I attach a photocopy for your retention. You will note that two short passages have been deleted. These extracted passages are currently the subject of discussions between MOD and the relevant party.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
[redacted]

Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB

15 January 2001

Your ref: D/DAS (Sec)64/3/1

Many thanks for your letter of 5 January. The parcel containing copies of the files I requested arrived here at the end of last week, and in return I enclose a crossed cheque made out for the amount agreed. It would be helpful if you could let me have a receipt specifying the work done for use in my end of year accounts.

I wish to thank you and the staff who worked to process my request before the holiday. Your help is very much appreciated and the material you sent will be of great help as part of my ongoing research, which will acknowledge the assistance the MOD have provided.

With regards to my question regarding the location of the missing file DSI/JTIC Report No 7. I'm satisfied that your staff have done everything reasonable to locate this document, but it is encouraging that you do not appear to completely rule out the possibility that it could have survived and may one day be found. In the meantime, I will

continue to pursue other lines of inquiry to locate the document and if successful will provide the MOD with a new copy for your records.

I look forward to hearing from you,



From: [REDACTED] Room 1.01

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

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

42  
[REDACTED]

---

Your Reference

Our Reference

D Info(Exp)R/3/7/8

Date

06 November 2000

---

Thank you for your letter dated 10 October 2000 in which you raise two further points in connection with your research into unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

You sought clarification as to the status of DSI/JTIC Report No7.

As I have previously advised only after learning of the existence of this report just a few years ago my staff have been alert to the need to locate it.

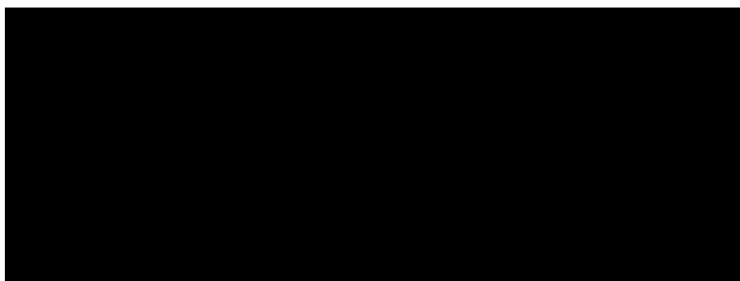
As with other government departments the Ministry of Defence is bound by the terms of the Public Records Act, 1958 and 1967. The Act requires departments to review their records selecting those thought suitable for permanent preservation and to transfer them into the custody of the Public Record Office at the 30-year point. Records too sensitive for release at this point may remain close under the authority of the Lord Chancellor, subject to periodic reviews. Records not selected for preservation are destroyed no later than the 30-year point.

In keeping with PRO guidance the MOD conducts two main reviews undertaken by Departmental Record Office (DRO) staff plus an additional pre-review by branches. For records surviving the pre and first review the final review occurs at the 25-year point ie we are therefore currently reviewing records created in the mid-1970s.

Our lack of success in locating Report No 7 in the Defence Records archive, the Defence Intelligence Staff's file store and its apparent absence on the PRO catalogue lead to me conclude that, regrettably, the document has not survived the passage of time.

I hope that this clarifies the matter.

*W. S. ...*



rd Officer

10/10/00

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter date 18 September 2000 explaining reasons why you could not locate 'Report no. 7'.

However I am not entirely satisfied with this response and wonder if you could clarify it for me.

As there is a clear reference to the fact that Report no. 7 was retrieved and placed with materials from 1967, and as the M.O.D., by its own admission, has retained all UFO files since 1967, this Report should still be in existence. Could you therefore confirm if it is officially 'lost' or whether you believe it still exists but that you cannot locate it at this moment in time?

Extract from Ministry of Defence letter to XXXXXX dated 11 October 2000

"DSI/JTIC Report No 7 "Unidentified Flying Objects" (1952) and related reports on "UFO" 1951-52 - I can confirm that a review of closed files has taken place v but none were found to contain the report you seek. As a consequence of this, and earlier searches which failed to locate the report, we conclude it has not survive the passage of time."



J  
J  
I  
I

Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB

10 October 2000

Your ref: DAS(Sec)/64/3

Finally, with regards to my request for access to **DSI/JTIC Report No 7** on UFOs (1952). It is disappointing that this document has not been located during your review of closed files. The attachment I enclosed with my letter of September 4 clearly demonstrated this document existed in 1967 when it was referred to by an officer of the DSTI branch, DI55. It seems improbable that such an important document (the basis of a briefing by the Secretary of State for Air to Prime Minister Winston Churchill in 1952) would have been lost or 'not have survived the passage of time' when other material of lesser interest *has* survived and is available in the Public Record Office today.

From the DSI/JTIC committee minutes available at the PRO it is stated that a 'watered down' copy of the Report No. 7 was being considered for release to the Press during October 1952 by DDI (Security), so it is possible copies may have been sent to a number of different MOD departments. As it is also noted that the Americans (presumably the US Air Force) would have to be consulted before any Press release, copies of Report No 7 may also have been sent to the US Embassy in 1952-53. In addition, there is a note in the minutes stating that a copy of this report had been sent to Sir Henry Tizard, whose papers are preserved at the Imperial War Museum. I intend to visit the Museum to research Tizard's papers in the near future, and will notify you if I find the document among these papers.



From: [REDACTED] Room 1.01

# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW



Tele: (Direct dial) [REDACTED]  
(Switchboard) [REDACTED]  
(Fax) [REDACTED]

020 7218 9000

Your Reference

Our Reference

D Info(Exp)R/3/7/8

Date

18 September 2000

Thank you for your letter dated 4 September 2000 seeking information on a document DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 "Unidentified Flying Objects" produced in the early 1950s.

I am aware that contained in the minutes of meetings of the Directorate of Scientific Intelligence and Joint Technical Intelligence Committee, 1950-51, (DEFE 10/496), released by the Ministry of Defence some four years, there are references to the Working Party on Flying Saucers and to the fact that a report was subsequently produced. I can assure you that in recent years attempts have been made to locate a copy but unfortunately efforts to date have proved unsuccessful.

I can confirm that we have found papers on file DEFE 10/497, which is already available for scrutiny at the Public Record Office, that do record that the DSI/JTIC considered in 1952 publication of a report but nothing to confirm that publication actually occurred.

I hope that you find this information helpful. ✓

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

DR 3/7/13/1

6 September 2000

Head of DR 1  
GSY 1.01



ENQUIRY FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE FILES

2. Unsurprisingly, given the descriptions of the pieces in the PLO class Lists, only two of these pieces contain any mention of UFOs, by any name. The two examples are the register (not a file as seems to believe) DEFE 44/1 which contains just one relevant entry, that recording the issue of DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 on Unidentified Flying Objects on 20.6.51;

3. Of DSI/JTIC Report No 7 there continues to be no trace. Records reflecting the establishment of the Flying Saucers Working Party in August 1950

(DSI/JTIC (50) 10th Mtg (9) and DSI/JTIC (50) 11th Mtg (6) refer) and on the completion of the Working Party's paper, consideration by DSI/JTIC, the winding-up of the Working Party and the distribution of just one copy of the report to Sir Henry Tizard (DSI/JTIC (51) 11th Mtg (8) refer) are contained in DEFE 10/496 and open at the PRO.

4/19/00

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wonder if you could assist me with the following query:

I am researching material for an academic book on the subject of the UK Government's involvement with the subject of UFOs/Flying Saucers. As you know there has been much material released into the PRO over recent years concerning this subject, and I have been able to work with this material. However, whilst searching for one particular document I have experienced difficulties, as follows.

The document in question is called DSI/JTIC Report No 7 On Unidentified Flying Objects. It was created in 1952 by a 'Flying Saucer Working Party'. There are several instances of minutes where this report and the composition of the working party are discussed yet the actual report itself is missing from the relevant files held at the PRO.

However the file must be in existence because evidence exists that it was retrieved in 1967 by a member of the DSTI branch, DI55. That this is the case is demonstrated by J.E.Dickison's note in file AIR 2/18117 where he states, "we have recovered all but two of the files on UFOs for the period 1951-52.....we consider that the report DSI/JTIC Report No. 7, Unidentified Flying Objects covers the situation as a whole for such activity at that time."

As I have been told that *all* UFO files from 1967 have been retained, and as DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 is clearly mentioned as having been retrieved in 1967 it should have been lodged in the UFO files for 1967 which have now been released. Close scrutiny of these files revealed that report No. 7 does not appear to be there, nor is there any mention of the file. As it was created in 1952 surely it has long since passed the 30 Year Rule marker and should be available to members of the public.

Based on the above information and current legislation about the release of documents I am therefore requesting any information you have about Report No. 7 and if at all possible to see a copy of the file. I am quite prepared to pay any costs incurred.

If, however, you deny any knowledge of this report I would like an explanation as to how it was retrieved in 1967 yet appears to be missing. If you have the report but are withholding it from public scrutiny I would be interested to know why.

From my own research I am satisfied that the government position on UFOs, ie that they are of no defence significance, misperceptions etc is valid. But from an academic point of view being able to see this report would throw considerable light on UK UFO policy in the early 1950s and it is for this reason I wish to see the report.

I realise that this sort of enquiry may not be a high priority for you but having spent many weeks at the PRO looking for this document and being unable to locate it I am obviously trying any avenues which appear relevant.

**Main Building**  
**Whitehall**  
**London SW1A 2HB**

4 September 2000

Your reference: D/Sec(AS)64/3



In the meantime, as new information has come to light I am now in a position to be more specific in terms of my request for access to files addressed to the MOD Record Officer on 27 July and 7 August. I am now able to precisely specify the name and what I suspect to be the current location of the file/s to which I referred in my earlier requests to the Record Officer. The document I am seeking is known as **DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 on Unidentified Flying Objects**. It was created in 1952 by the 'Flying Saucer Working Party' set up in August 1950 at the request of Sir Henry Tizard. DSI/JTIC minutes I have viewed at the Public Record Office (DEFE 4/74-76) demonstrate that the Working Party consisted of representatives from DSTI, ADNI (Tech), MI 10 and ADI (Tech). Report No 7 is referred to in a minute of 7 October 1952 and is listed on a register of DSI/JTIC reports in DEF 41/76 (see enclosed, Attachment A). However, the document is missing from the DSI/JTIC reports and papers which are contained within DEF 152-54. This is not because the file has been destroyed, but rather because it was "retrieved" (moved to another file?) by a member of the DSTI branch, DI55, in December 1967. In evidence for this assertion, I attach a copy (enclosed, Attachment B) of an internal memo, copied from PRO file Air 2/18117, where JE Dickison of DI55 states that: *"we [DI55] have recovered all but two of the Metropole (ie Intelligence) files on UFOs for the period 1951-2...we consider that the report DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 Unidentified Flying Objects covers the situation as a whole for such activity at that time."*

- DEF 10/496  
+97

? DEF 41

It is accepted that all files and papers relating to UFOs have been permanently preserved by the MOD from 1967 at the request of the Secretary of the State for Defence. Attachment B demonstrates that DSI/JTIC Report No 7 existed in 1967, and should therefore still exist today if that policy has been followed. I would suggest a

copy of the report will be found in the DIS/DSTI Intelligence Papers from the period 1967-70 (possibly DEFE 31/19,64 and/or DEFE 44/1), which cover the period during which it was 'retrieved' by DI55. Further copies may well exist in other MOD departments, and I would be surprised if even today Air Staff are not aware of this document, as its conclusions (that UFOs do not exist) appear to form the origin of the MOD's policy on UFOs from 1952 right up to the present day!

As the original report was created in 1952, it should be available for public scrutiny under the 30 year rule and I request access to a copy of this document plus any attached appendices under the Freedom of Information Act.

To summarise my request for access to UFO-related documents, set out in my letters to the MOD Record Officer on 27 July and 7 August and to Sec (AS) 2 of 1 and 11 August, these are:

1. DSI/JTIC Report No 7, Unidentified Flying Objects (1952), plus related Intelligence reports on UFOs, 1951-2 (see attachment).



From: [REDACTED] Room 1.01

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

91

Tele: (Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)

[REDACTED]  
020 7218 9000  
[REDACTED]

---

Your Reference

Our Reference

DR/3/7/8

Date

08 August 2000

---

**Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files**

Thank you for your letter dated 7 August clarifying further your area of interest in seeking the release of a number of files originated by the Defence Intelligence Staff over the years.

As I previously advised in view of the number of files involved, increased as a result of the discovery that a number of files in *DEFE 21* had sensitive passages removed to permit the release of the remainder of the file, it is my intention to provide you with a report of our progress of the review of this material towards the end of September.

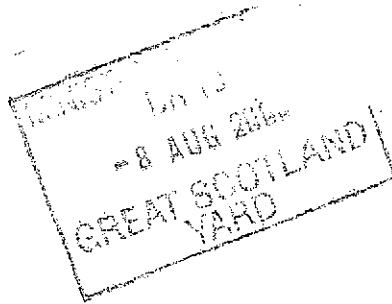
*[Handwritten signature]*

[REDACTED]

Officer

5  
SEPT

Room 1.01  
Ministry of Defence  
3-5 Great Scotland Yard  
London SW1A 2HW



7 August 2000

Your Reference: DR/3/7/8

**Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter 31 July, in reply to my application for the release of certain Defence Intelligence and predecessor departments records in the DEFE class.

Thanks also for clarifying the position with regards to the status of the records within d DEFE 44/1, which are currently retained in department in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958.

I very much appreciate your intention to arrange for a rereview of the closed records to which I requested access, and I hope I can provide some additional information which may help this process. Could I point out that of the 30 files concerned, I am solely interested in locating those records or minutes which relate to the subject of 'unidentified flying objects' which may also be referred to as 'aerial phenomena', 'unidentified aircraft' 'flying saucers' or 'anomolous radar tracks.' This may help save you time and effort in your rereview, and I hope the information in this letter will help you locate the specific records to which I refer.

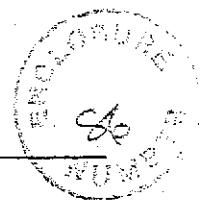
I am led to believe it was the Air Ministry's policy, until 1962, to routinely destroy records relating to unidentified flying objects at five yearly intervals. This practice was ended following Parliamentary Questions and all files have been preserved by the MOD since 1967. However, a number of Air Ministry UFO records from the 1950s, especially where these relate to Parliamentary Questions, have survived and are available for viewing at the PRO. The location of Intelligence records relating to UFOs, generated by DSTI/DSI, remains a mystery but there are clues which suggest at least some did survive and are still retained by the MOD under Section 3(4) above.

There are references in some of the PRO files which relate to Intelligence papers on UFOs generated by the DSTI staff during this period. For example, I'm enclosing a copy of a loose minute found in PRO file Air 2/18117 sent to Department S4 (Air) by J.E. Dickison of DI55 on 13 December 1967. It describes how staff had "recovered" <sup>all but</sup> two Intelligence files on UFOs for the period 1951-52, and refers to one of these specifically as "report DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 - Unidentified Flying Objects." This is good evidence that at least some Intelligence files on UFOs did survive from this period.

From an examination of the PRO catalogue, it would appear these files - if they still exist - should be listed under the DEFE class 44/1 which is a register of JSTI/DSTI/DSI reports and memoranda for the period from 1946 onwards. ]

I hope this information assists in your rereview of the documents I have described and I look forward to hearing from you in due course,

# Memorandum



To: Defence Records 1

From: Defence Records 1  
Room 1.01  
Great Scotland Yard

Date: 08 August 2000

Tel: [REDACTED]

Your Ref:

Our Ref: DR/3/7/8

Subject: ENQUIRY FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE FILES

Reference: My memos dated 31 July and 1 August 2000.

1. I attach a photo response to my letter acknowledging his request for the review of a large number of DI files recorded as retained in department in accordance with S3(4) of the PRA.
2. In an attempt to be helpful he further expands on his area of interest - "ufos" - notwithstanding this limited area of interest please ensure that the 64 files (approx) are reviewed with the view to possible release. Please advise of any that might fall into his area of interest, whether releasable or not. I am of course aware of the reference to "ufos" in *DEFE 44/1 DSI/JTIC Report No 7 - Unidentified Flying Objects*. Of which no copy is known to have survived. I believe that there are no other references in this piece to this particular phenomena, but confirm.
- 3.

Wav  
[REDACTED]

Rank: C2

Name in Block Letter [REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED] Room 1.01

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW



Tele: (Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)

[REDACTED]  
020 7218 9000  
[REDACTED]

---

Your Reference

Our Reference

DR/3/7/8

Date

31 July 2000

---

### Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files

Thank you for your letter dated 21 July 2000 concerning the status of records -

*DEFE 44/1* / - selected for preservation at the Public Record Office that are retained in department in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Acts, 1958, and your wish for these records to be released.

As you may be aware all government departments are required to review their records in accordance with the terms of the Public Records Act, 1958 and 1967. Records selected for permanent preservation are transferred into the custody of the Public Record Office (or some other suitable institution) where they generally become available to the public after 30 years ie the "30-year rule". Records not selected for permanent preservation are destroyed.

The very few records that are too sensitive for release at the normal 30-year point may be closed by either being retained in department (Section 3(4) of the Act) or by being placed on extended closure for a period between 40 and 90 years (Section 5(1)). Retained records are closed under the authority of the Lord Chancellor, but are subject to a rereview at least once every 10 years until release into the public domain is possible. Records closed under the extended closure arrangement are transferred to the PRO for release at the future designated date. The status of whole files either retained or subject to extended closure is noted on the PRO catalogue. Where pages from files are subject to a similar process a "dummy" or a photocopy of the redacted pages are appropriately endorsed.

However, the White Paper on *Open Government*, Cm 2290, published July 1993 set out a number of initiatives that, subject to resources, would see the release of records hitherto closed for more than 30 years. For example, greater use of the extraction and redaction techniques

whereby sensitive papers or passages could be removed thereby permitting the release of some part of a file, and to consider *ad hoc* requests from researchers of records closed for longer than 30 years. As a result of these and other initiatives the Ministry of Defence has released in excess of 150 records originally closed for longer than 30 years.

So far as your request for the release of certain Defence Intelligence and predecessor departments records is concerned *and DEFE 44/1* are all retained in department in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act, 1958. From a cursory examination of the PRO catalogue on the Internet I note that 34 of the 72 records assigned to class *DEFE 21* are open and available to the public.

In keeping with the MOD's commitment to greater openness I am prepared to arrange for the rereview of the closed records you have expressed an interest in. You will appreciate that our review programme for the year is well established thus the review of more than 30 additional files will have an impact on my scarce resources. But I plan to give you a report on our progress in about two months.

WTD S. . . .





# MEMORANDUM

## Memorandum

To: Defence Records I

From: Defence Records I  
Room 1.01  
Great Scotland Yard

Date: 31 July 2000

Tel: [REDACTED]

Your Ref:

Our Ref: DR/3/7/8

Subject: ENQUIRY FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE FILES

1. [REDACTED] has written seeking access to a number of Defence Intelligence files (see attached).
2. From a cursory examination of the PRO catalogue I have reduced his initial list of 75 files to 41. They are: 1, DEFE 44/1, [REDACTED]
3. You will note that DEFE 44/1 is included.
4. Please note that I have undertaken to report our progress in about two month's time I would therefore like a progress report mid-September.

Rank: C2

Name in Block Letter [REDACTED]

71

Departmental Record Officer  
Defence Records  
Room 7/40  
Metropole Building  
Northumberland Avenue  
London WC2N 5BL

21 July 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files

The Enquiry staff at the Public Record Office have suggested that I write to you in order to follow up an enquiry concerning the status of a group of MOD files which are currently "retained by the Department under section 3 (4) of the Public Record Act 1958."

The files in question all appear to have been deposited at the Public Record Office. They fall under the class reference DEFE and contain papers generated by the work of the MOD Defence Intelligence Staff. They include:

DEFE 44/1 DSI, later DSTI: Reports and Memoranda; Register of JSTI/DSTI/DSI reports and memoranda, 1946-1991.

I understand from the PRO that records would be retained under the 30 year rule until the latest date in the sequence covered by the file, in which case I believe should be available for public scrutiny on 1 January 2001. Could you confirm what is the case?

More...

As for DEFE 44/1, although this file contains material more than 50 years old, it might not be released until 2021 because it also contains material dating from 1991. In the case of files held under class DEFE 21, these apparently contain files created by both the old Directorate of Scientific Intelligence between 1950-1964, which should be open; however, they also contain later material from the DSTI relating to the period 1964-1991, which under the terms of the 1967 Act would remain closed until 2021.

In these circumstances, would it not be possible to make an exception and allow access to the reports and memoranda contained within those files which specifically relate to the period 1946-1969, which would fall under the terms of the 30 year rule?

I hope you are able to help and look forward to hearing from you,



From: [redacted] Room 2.13

# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

101

CHOs address: Info(Exp)-Records1  
e-mail address: defence.records.1@gtnet.gov.uk

Tele: (Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)

[redacted]  
020 7218 9000  
[redacted]

Your Reference

[redacted]  
Sheffield

Our Reference

D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8

Date

13 June 2001

*Dear* [redacted]

Thank you for your letter dated 5 June 2001 and for the kind comments you make following the discovery of DSI/JSTI Report No 7.

The report, copy number 17, has been removed from DEFE 19/9, and replaced with a photocopy, it is currently awaiting assignment to Public Record Office class DEFE 44 and as with other reports in this class it will receive a dedicated piece number.

DEFE 19/9 contains a number of other papers (five in all) relating to "flying saucers" or more accurately to the Working Party, photocopies are attached.

Finally, as previously advised the two short redacted passages from the report are the subject of consultation between the Ministry of Defence and the relevant party. In my experience such consultations exercises can take some considerable time. However, I will mark my records that you be advised of the outcome once a decision is made.

*David S. ...*

[redacted signature block]

cer

150

[Redacted]  
Sheffield [Redacted]  
South Yorkshire  
Tel: [Redacted]

5 June 2001

Your ref: D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8

Dear [Redacted]


Thank you for your letter of 29 May and for the enclosed copy of the DSI/JTIC Report No 7 "Unidentified Flying Objects." I was most pleased to receive a copy of this document after spending a considerable amount of time attempting to locate it, or a summary of its contents.

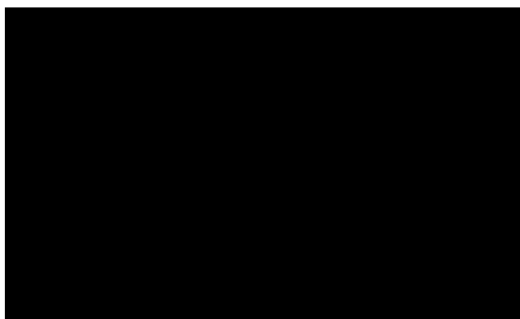
I feel that you and your staff should be congratulated for being so alert as to the importance of locating this document, and for being so aware of its historical importance. You may be aware that the DSI/JTIC document is referred to in the P.R.O. file PREM 11/855, in the form of a personal minute from the Secretary of State for Air, replying to the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, who had asked "What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to?"

Arising from the re-location of this document I wish to ask the following:

1. Will the DSI/JTIC report, upon transfer to the P.R.O. be placed within a pre-existing file within DEFE 44, or will the document be filed under a specific piece/header identifying it by its title?
2. Did your staff identify or locate any other files relating to aerial phenomena/flying saucers/UFOs during the routine re-review of DEFE 19/9 *Scientific Intelligence, 1948-1960*? If that is the case would it be possible to obtain copies of these documents? Further to my question, I would draw your attention to the Loose Minute dated 13 December 1967 from J.C. Dickison of the Defence Intelligence Staff to S4f (Air) located in the P.R.O. file AIR 2/18117. This not only refers to a file containing the (now located) DSI/JTIC Report No 7 but notes in the *same* context how "we [DI 55] have recovered all but two of the 'Metropole' (ie Intelligence) files on UFOs for the period 1951-2." It stands to reason that if Dickison was referring to material contained within the file DEFE 19/9 this should also contain the other Intelligence files on UFOs relating to this period. I am informed that a policy decision by the MoD in 1967 prevented any further destruction of 'UFO' files, therefore the documents referred above should exist.

3. With regards to the two short passages deleted from the DSI/JTIC Report No 7. I note that the extracted passages are currently to subject of discussions between the MOD and the relevant party (presumably the US Air Force from the context). If a decision is made to release these redacted sentences, would it be possible to notify me of the content. If the decision is to withhold the passages, I would appreciate knowledge of the reasons why this is felt necessary in the public interest after the passage of 50 years.

Finally, with regard to the questions addressed to the Air Historical Branch in my letter of 8 May, thank you for forwarding my letter to the AHB. I will be writing directly to the Branch shortly to take up these questions directly with 





From: [redacted] Room 2.13

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW



CHOTs address: Info(Exp)-Records1  
e-mail address: defence.records.1@gtnet.gov.uk

Tele: (Direct dial) [redacted]  
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
(Fax) [redacted]

Your Reference



Brighouse  
West Yorkshire [redacted]

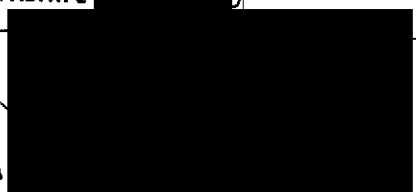
Our Reference

D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8

Date

29 May 2001

*Raw*



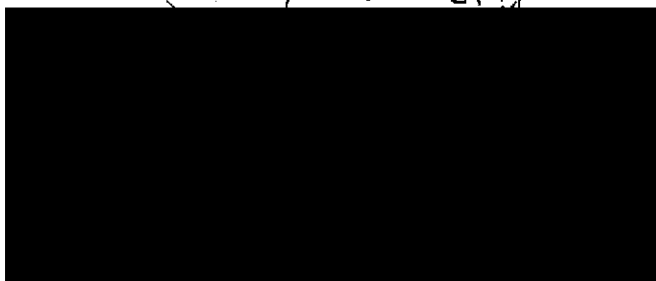
Towards the end of last year we exchanged correspondence on the subject of DSI/JTIC Report No 7.

As you will no doubt recall I regretably had to advise that it was only in the last few years that we learnt of the existence of this report and that attempts to locate it had proved unsuccessful.

I am pleased to be able to advise you that as a consequence of the routine re-review of another file (*DEFE 19/9* Scientific Intelligence, 1948-1960) a surviving copy (Copy No 17) of Report No 7 has been found.

The original copy of the Report has been removed from *DEFE 19/9* and replaced with a photocopy to facilitate cataloguing and transfer to the Public Record Office into *DEFE 44*. It is hoped that transfer arrangements can be completed within the next month or two.

Rather than suggest that you wait until available at Kew and in acknowledgement of the relative brevity of the report (just six pages) I attach a photocopy for your retention. You will note that two short passages have been deleted. These extracted passages are currently the subject of discussions between MOD and the relevant party.



Officer



From: [redacted] Room 2.13  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
 3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

01

CHOTs address: Info(Exp)-Records1  
 e-mail address: defence.records.1@gtnet.gov.uk

Tele: (Direct dial) [redacted]  
 (Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
 (Fax) [redacted]

Your Reference

[redacted]  
 Sheffield

Our Reference  
 D INFO(EXP)R/3/7/8  
 Date  
 29 May 2001

*Dear* [redacted]

Thank you for your letter dated 8 May 2001 raising a number of questions relating to records that may be held by the Air Historical Branch (AHB).

Please note that I have transferred your letter (together with your SAE) to AHB for reply. Should you wish to contact the branch direct please write to [redacted] Head Air Historical Branch, Building 266, RAF Bentley Priory, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 3HH.

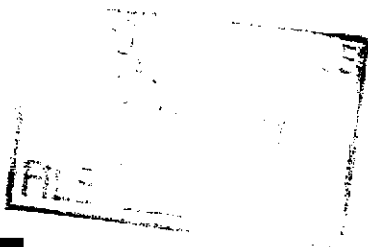
During your exchanges of correspondence with DAS (Sec), formerly Sec(AS), in September/October last year a number of closed files, identified by you, were examined for DSI/JTIC Report No 7 "Unidentified Flying Objects". Although unsuccessful my staff remained alert to your interest in this Report. As a consequence of the routine re-review of another file (DEFE 19/9 Scientific Intelligence, 1948-1960) I am pleased to be able to advise that a surviving copy (Copy No 17) of Report No 7 has been found.

The original copy of the Report has been removed from DEFE 19/9 and replaced with a photocopy to facilitate cataloguing and transfer to the Public Record Office into DEFE 44. It is hoped that transfer arrangements can be completed within the next month or two.

Rather than suggest that you wait until available at Kew and in acknowledgement of the relative brevity of the report (just six pages) I attach a photocopy for your retention. You will note that two short passages have been deleted. These extracted passages are currently the subject of discussions between MOD and the relevant party.

*and see*  
 [redacted]





Sheffield  
South Yorkshire

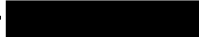
51



Ministry of Defence  
Room 8243  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB

15 January 2001

Your ref: D/DAS (Sec)64/3/1

Dear 

Many thanks for your letter of 5 January. The parcel containing copies of the files I requested arrived here at the end of last week, and in return I enclose a crossed cheque made out for the amount agreed. It would be helpful if you could let me have a receipt specifying the work done for use in my end of year accounts.

I wish to thank you and the staff who worked to process my request before the holiday. Your help is very much appreciated and the material you sent will be of great help as part my ongoing research, which will acknowledge the assistance the MOD have provided.

With regards to my request for copies of "additional UFO policy files 1968-81", I look forward to your response when this is convenient. Having reviewed the contents of the policy file AF/3459/75 I would certainly wish to see more recent policy documents, as these are directly relevant to my research into the UK Government's official position on this nebulous subject.

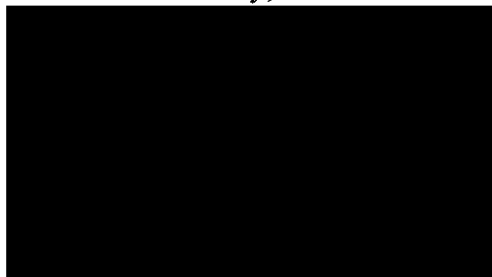
Further to the above, I wonder if you could include within the category "UFO policy files 1968-81" a copy of the file AF/419 "UFOs: BBC2 Man Alive Programme" which I believe dates from the year 1972. This TV programme is referred to in the 1970 file, and is of interest as it appears to have been the first time an MOD spokesperson appeared on British TV to answer questions on the UFO issue. I'm happy to leave to your discretion what other files are deemed to fall within the terms of my supplementary request. This will form the sum total of my request under the Code of Practice for Access to Government Information.

With regards to my question regarding the location of the missing file DSI/JTIC Report No 7. I'm satisfied that your staff have done everything reasonable to locate this document, but it is encouraging that you do not appear to completely rule out the possibility that it could have survived and may one day be found. In the meantime, I will

continue to pursue other lines of inquiry to locate the document and if successful will provide the MOD with a new copy for your records.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely,





From: [REDACTED], Room 1.01

# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

42

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

Your Reference



Brighouse

West Yorkshire [REDACTED] 0

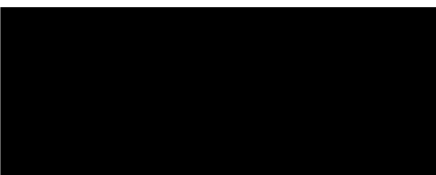
Our Reference

D Info(Exp)R/3/7/8

Date

06 November 2000

*[Handwritten signature]*



Thank you for your letter dated 10 October 2000 in which you raise two further points in connection with your research into unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

You sought clarification as to the status of DSI/JTIC Report No7.

As I have previously advised only after learning of the existence of this report just a few years ago my staff have been alert to the need to locate it.

As with other government departments the Ministry of Defence is bound by the terms of the Public Records Act, 1958 and 1967. The Act requires departments to review their records selecting those thought suitable for permanent preservation and to transfer them into the custody of the Public Record Office at the 30-year point. Records too sensitive for release at this point may remain close under the authority of the Lord Chancellor, subject to periodic reviews. Records not selected for preservation are destroyed no later than the 30-year point.

In keeping with PRO guidance the MOD conducts two main reviews undertaken by Departmental Record Office (DRO) staff plus an additional pre-review by branches. For records surviving the pre and first review the final review occurs at the 25-year point ie we are therefore currently reviewing records created in the mid-1970s.

Our lack of success in locating Report No 7 in the Defence Records archive, the Defence Intelligence Staff's file store and its apparent absence on the PRO catalogue lead me to conclude that, regrettably, the document has not survived the passage of time.

As to DEFE 40/27, I have examined this piece and can confirm our previous assessments in that it remains sensitive and should continue to be retained in department in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act, 1958. I can advise you though that the file, which is in the main a report of R V Jones' visit to the States together with a few letters, contains no references to "UFOs".

I hope that this clarifies the matter.

*W.D. S. ...*



rd Officer



From: [REDACTED] DAS 4a(Sec)  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
Room 8240, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

230 | 1

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

[REDACTED]  
Sheffield  
South Yorkshire

Your Reference

Our Reference  
DAS(Sec)/64/3  
Date  
11 October 2000

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing further to my letter of 29 September in which I indicated that I hoped to be able to reply to you in greater detail during the course of the first week in October.

Towards the end of your own letter of 4 September you summarised your request for access to information under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, asking six main questions. I shall now address these questions in the order they were asked but before doing so it might be helpful if I explain the use of the term "sanitise" in the paragraphs below. This simply means that all personal details (names, addresses) are obscured as documents that have not been released to the PRO are copied for supply to individual enquirers.

- 1) **DSI/JTIC Report No 7 'Unidentified Flying Objects' (1952) and related intelligence reports on 'UFOs' 1951-52** - I can confirm that a review of closed files has taken place but none were found to contain the report you seek. As a consequence of this, and earlier searches which failed to locate the report, we conclude it has not survived the passage of time. However, this latest review identified a number of 'UFO' related documents, six on DEFE 31/19 and one page on DEFE 44/1 which might be photocopied and supplied to you, as I shall explain below in greater detail. I am informed that these documents represent the full extent of 'UFO' material contained in closed intelligence records.
- 2) **BJ 5/311 Records of the Meteorological Office, 'Unidentified Flying Objects': meteorological aspects, 1968-79** - The file contains some 360 enclosures, mostly letters to and from members of the public, and is due for release to the Public Records Office in January 2001. Sanitising and photocopying the contents of the file might be done marginally in advance of that date (see below).
- 3) **AIR 2/18564 Air Ministry/MOD, 'UFO' Report West Freugh 1957-1971** - This file is for release in January 2002. In the meantime it would be possible to sanitise the dozen or so pages that contain personal details and photocopy them and the remainder of the file (around 40 documents), supplying you with those copies (see below).
- 4) **AF/3459/75 'UFOs': Policy and policy statements 1970** - The file includes policy documents, published articles and pamphlets, and some six pages require sanitising. It would be possible to photocopy the contents of the file and provide you with copies (see below).
- 5) **Additional policy files 1968-81** - Our researches have identified a substantial number of files, although many appear to contain correspondence from members of the public. We are now working on locating those that may include policy documents and shall write to you as soon as we have completed that research.

**AIR 20/12556 'UFO' reports January 1974 (additionally AIR 2/18873) - File AIR 20/12556 is not a 'UFO' file. AIR 2/18873 contains public enquiries concerning 'UFOs' covering the period June 1973 to February 1974 and amounts to some 109 enclosures. Additionally, AF/584 contains 'UFO' reports for January 1974 amounting to some 100 enclosures. It would be possible to sanitise and photocopy the contents of both files (see below).**

As I mentioned in my letter of 29 September, the Ministry of Defence is bound by the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. This means that we are committed to providing you with the information you require, as long as it is not exempted under the Code. However, to ensure this does not create an extra burden on the taxpayer, we have a charging regime for more complicated requests. If a request is likely to require over four hours' work, each hour's work over four hours (or part thereof) is charged at £15.00 per hour.

We estimate that the number of documents to be copied in the files mentioned in 1-4 and 6 above is in the region of 800 pages. Assuming it will take two minutes to check, sanitise and photocopy each page our calculation is that, after the first 4 hours, 22 hours of work at £15.00 per hour will remain totalling some £330.00. To copy the full 800 pages would be a four day task spread over eight half days. As the fairly small section likely to take on the work will also be heavily involved in checking material to be released in January 2001, those eight half days would be spread over an eight week period. The material could be made available to you during December 2000.

If you decide to wait to view the contents of file BJ 5/311 until its release to the Public Records Office in January 2001, then the cost of copying the remaining files falls, after deducting the first four hours of work, to around £160.00. I would be grateful for confirmation that you wish to proceed with this enquiry, indicating whether including or excluding BJ 5/311, and that you are willing to meet the appropriate charge. If the cost of obtaining the information is likely to be significantly greater than our estimate suggests we will contact you again before proceeding further.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

[REDACTED]  
Brighouse  
West Yorkshire  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

10/10/00

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter date 18 September 2000 explaining reasons why you could not locate 'Report no. 7'.

However I am not entirely satisfied with this response and wonder if you could clarify it for me.

As there is a clear reference to the fact that Report no. 7 was retrieved and placed with materials from 1967, and as the M.O.D., by its own admission, has retained all UFO files since 1967, this Report should still be in existence. Could you therefore confirm if it is officially 'lost' or whether you believe it still exists but that you cannot locate it at this moment in time?

There is another matter with which you may be able to help. I am doing detailed research on the life and career of R. V. Jones and his involvement with UFO study. After visiting the P.R.O. several times and going through all the existing files I note that one file in particular, DEFE 40/27, is still closed. This file relates to his visit to the USA in 1953.

I believe that there is information in this file pertaining to R. V. Jones and UFOs, specifically in respect of Jones' meeting with the U.S. 'Robertson Panel'. Could you explain why this file is still closed after 30 years please? Would it be possible to request that it is now declassified? If neither of these are possible could you tell me if the file *does* contain UFO material or not? If that is the case then I am requesting access to or copies of this material and will pay any reasonable costs incurred in doing so.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your time and efforts so far with my requests. I look forward to your reply.

[REDACTED]

35

[Redacted]  
Sheffield  
South Yorkshire  
Tel: [Redacted]

[Redacted]  
DAS 4a(Sec)  
Ministry of Defence  
Room 8240  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB

10 October 2000

Your ref: DAS(Sec)/64/3

Dear [Redacted]

11 Oct?

Many thanks for your letters of 29 September and 6 October in response to my request for access for MOD documents under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. Firstly, I wish to thank you and your staff for the help you have provided and the efficient and detailed attention which my enquiries have received.

Secondly, thank you for listing the contents of the documents you have located, and for explaining both the 'sanitisation' procedure and the details of the charging regime for copies which I feel is very reasonable. On that basis I want to confirm that I wish to proceed with this enquiry in terms of the documents requested, listed as nos. 1 and 3-6 in your letter of 6 October, and that I am willing to meet the appropriate charge specified.

With reference to the question concerning the contents of the Meteorological Office file, BJ 5/311 (no. 2 in your list); after taking into consideration the fact that an 'un-sanitised' version of this document will be available at the Public Record Office from 1 January 2001, I feel it would be an unnecessary waste of your staff resources to request a copy of this document from the MOD at this late stage. Therefore I do not wish to proceed with this particular part of my request.

With ref to no. 5 in your list 'additional policy files 1968-81' I am grateful that you have been able to identify a number of files relating to this enquiry, and I wish to proceed with my request for access to these documents. I realise there will probably be a large number of documents which fall within this category. It might therefore help if you could provide me with a brief summary of the number of files and pages, estimated cost of copying and the years and subjects they relate to, when your research is completed.



Finally, with regards to my request for access to **DSI/JTIC Report No 7** on UFOs (1952). It is disappointing that this document has not been located during your review of closed files. The attachment I enclosed with my letter of September 4 clearly demonstrated this document existed in 1967 when it was referred to by an officer of the DSTI branch, DI55. It seems improbable that such an important document (the basis of a briefing by the Secretary of State for Air to Prime Minister Winston Churchill in 1952) would have been lost or 'not have survived the passage of time' when other material of lesser interest *has* survived and is available in the Public Record Office today.

From the DSI/JTIC committee minutes available at the PRO it is stated that a 'watered down' copy of the Report No. 7 was being considered for release to the Press during October 1952 by DDI (Security), so it is possible copies may have been sent to a number of different MOD departments. As it is also noted that the Americans (presumably the US Air Force) would have to be consulted before any Press release, copies of Report No 7 may also have been sent to the US Embassy in 1952-53. In addition, there is a note in the minutes stating that a copy of this report had been sent to Sir Henry Tizard, whose papers are preserved at the Imperial War Museum. I intend to visit the Museum to research Tizard's papers in the near future, and will notify you if I find the document among these papers.

In the meantime, I would appreciate any information or advice you could supply as to the options which remain open to me in terms of requesting a further, comprehensive search of Defence Records to locate this historically important Intelligence report.

I look forward to hearing from you again before the end of the year as and when the first part of this request is processed.

Yours Sincerely,





From: [redacted] Room 1.01

# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW



Tele: (Direct dial) [redacted]  
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
(Fax) [redacted]

Your Reference



Brighouse

West Yorkshire [redacted]

Our Reference

D Info(Exp)R/3/7/8

Date

18 September 2000

*Deed*  
[redacted]

Thank you for your letter dated 4 September 2000 seeking information on a document DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 "Unidentified Flying Objects" produced in the early 1950s.

I am aware that contained in the minutes of meetings of the Directorate of Scientific Intelligence and Joint Technical Intelligence Committee, 1950-51, (DEFE 10/496), released by the Ministry of Defence some four years, there are references to the Working Party on Flying Saucers and to the fact that a report was subsequently produced. I can assure you that in recent years attempts have been made to locate a copy but unfortunately efforts to date have proved unsuccessful.

I can confirm that we have found papers on file DEFE 10/497, which is already available for scrutiny at the Public Record Office, that do record that the DSI/JTIC considered in 1952 publication of a report but nothing to confirm that publication actually occurred.

I hope that you find this information helpful. ✓

*W.S.*  
[redacted]

er

DR 3/7/13/1

6 September 2000



Head of DR1

GSY 1.01

ENQUIRY FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE FILES

References: A. DR/3/7/8 dated 31 July 2000  
B. DR/3/7/8 dated 1 August 2000  
C. DR/3/7/8 dated 8 August 2000

1. As requested at Reference A, I have re-reviewed the 64 withheld files or extracts from files listed in the attachment to Reference B, including the DGSTI register of Committee Papers and Directorate Publications which comprises DEFE 44/1. All remain intelligence sensitive and have now been put back for re-review again in 2010, although in four cases (DEFE 21/48, 50, 51 and 57) it may be possible to get US clearance and release these pieces either in whole or in part.

2. Unsurprisingly, given the descriptions of the pieces in the PRO class Lists, only two of these pieces contain any mention of UFOs, by any name. The two exceptions are the register (not a file as [redacted] seems to believe) DEFE 44/1 which contains just one relevant entry, that recording the issue of DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 on Unidentified Flying Objects on 20.6.51; and the registered file DEFE 31/119 which at Enclosures 22 to 26 contains a brief exchange of internal correspondence in June 1967 on the question of DSI responsibility for UFO investigation and the priority and level of effort to be allocated to it. Those five Enclosures are releasable and, exceptionally, have been photo-copied so that they may be made available to [redacted] although, given their nature, it may very well be that these papers are also contained in DEFE 31/119 and these are already open at the PRO.

3. Of DSI/JTIC Report No 7 there continues to be no trace. Records reflecting the establishment of the Flying Saucers Working Party in August 1950

MS  
108  
108

(DSI/JTIC (50) 10th Mtg (9) and DSI/JTIC (50) 11th Mtg (6) refer) and on the completion of the Working Party's paper, consideration by DSI/JTIC, the winding-up of the Working Party and the distribution of just one copy of the report to Sir Henry Tizard (DSI/JTIC (51) 11th Mtg (8) refers) are contained in DEFE 10/496 and open at the PRO.

4. As to the existence of other, BISS, files I have been unable to locate any of the UFO Incident Files (BISS/108/15/1), except for Part 9, before Part 32 despite the implication in the previous desk officer's rough note of his files on UFOs (or UAFs as we preferred to call them) that Parts 1 to 8 (1967-76) are still in existence. Parts 21 to 25 are with you and we, as we had thought, destroyed given Hayes' assurance that all BISS files had been passed to us before you obtained them from Hayes in February 1999; Hayes has yet again assured me that they have no others, and no record of any action taken in respect of any of them, save for your requisition note last year - I wish I could believe them! But if that is so, then the desk officer note-attached, for what it is worth, is the only documentary evidence we have of destruction. All the other surviving closed parts of this file, 108/15/1 - Parts 9 (1975-76), 32 (1978-83) and 34 to 54 (1983-1999) are in the BISS Archive.

5. Of the UFO Policy files (previously BISS/40/9/1) Parts 1 and 2 are of course in the PRO as DEFE 31/118 and 119; Part 3 has apparently been destroyed and Parts 4 and 5 are now in the BISS Archive. And, finally, BISS/108/15/2 (March - June 1993) concerning the 'Cosford Incident Investigation' is in the BISS Archive.

████████████████████  
DR16 x ██████████

No. 670

5 SEP 2000

6

Brighouse  
West Yorkshire

4/9/00

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wonder if you could assist me with the following query:

I am researching material for an academic book on the subject of the UK Government's involvement with the subject of UFOs/Flying Saucers. As you know there has been much material released into the PRO over recent years concerning this subject, and I have been able to work with this material. However, whilst searching for one particular document I have experienced difficulties, as follows.

The document in question is called DSI/JTIC Report No 7 On Unidentified Flying Objects. It was created in 1952 by a 'Flying Saucer Working Party'. There are several instances of minutes where this report and the composition of the working party are discussed yet the actual report itself is missing from the relevant files held at the PRO.

However the file must be in existence because evidence exists that it was retrieved in 1967 by a member of the DSTI branch, DI55. That this is the case is demonstrated by J.E. Dickison's note in file AIR 2/18117 where he states, "we have recovered all but two of the files on UFOs for the period 1951-52.....we consider that the report DSI/JTIC Report No. 7, Unidentified Flying Objects covers the situation as a whole for such activity at that time."

As I have been told that *all* UFO files from 1967 have been retained, and as DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 is clearly mentioned as having been retrieved in 1967 it should have been lodged in the UFO files for 1967 which have now been released. Close scrutiny of these files revealed that report No. 7 does not appear to be there, nor is there any mention of the file. As it was created in 1952 surely it has long since passed the 30 Year Rule marker and should be available to members of the public.

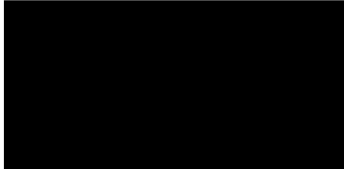
Based on the above information and current legislation about the release of documents I am therefore requesting any information you have about Report No. 7 and if at all possible to see a copy of the file. I am quite prepared to pay any costs incurred.

If, however, you deny any knowledge of this report I would like an explanation as to how it was retrieved in 1967 yet appears to be missing. If you have the report but are withholding it from public scrutiny I would be interested to know why.

From my own research I am satisfied that the government position on UFOs, ie that they are of no defence significance, misperceptions etc is valid. But from an academic point of view being able to see this report would throw considerable light on UK UFO policy in the early 1950s and it is for this reason I wish to see the report.

I realise that this sort of enquiry may not be a high priority for you but having spent many weeks at the PRO looking for this document and being unable to locate it I am obviously trying any avenues which appear relevant.

Thanks



11  
[Redacted]  
Sheffield  
South Yorkshire

Tel: [Redacted]

[Redacted]  
Secretariat(Air Staff)2  
Ministry of Defence  
Room 8247  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB

4 September 2000

Your reference: D/Sec(AS)64/3

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 23 August referring to my requests for access to UFO-related MOD files, addressed to Sec (AS)2 and the MOD Record Officer.

Firstly, let me assure you that other than the four letters you mention, addressed to Sec (AS)2 and the Record Officer I have not made any additional requests to other parts of the MOD for access to UFO-related files. For your information, I contacted the MOD Records Officer directly and separately because I was advised to do so by staff at the Public Records Office. I had asked the PRO for help in determining the specific closure period and content of certain Defence Intelligence files retained by the MOD under Section 3(4) of the Public Record Act 1967 which I wished to access under the Freedom of Information legislation. Staff advised that I should contact the MOD Record Officer directly, and provided an address for me to do so. As my request for access related to "historical" files - dating from 1950-1971 - I felt this would not fall within the remit of Sec (AS) 2.

Secondly, thank you for explaining the MOD's policy relating to the 30-year retention of files and the duty which the Department has to protect the confidentiality of employees and third parties. I did misunderstand the general policy, and fully accept your reasoning, as it is strictly applied under present legislation. However, my point was that confidentiality should only extend to material which is *not already in the public domain* - hence my comment upon the many UFO reports on file at the MOD which have already been the subject of publicity in newspapers, TV etc and where the identity of observers is known and their views have been quoted in the media (a number of whom, for example RAF air crews, are ex-MOD employees!). For this reason I find it difficult to understand why files which consist largely of newspaper cuttings (for example Air 2/18871-4) should remain 'closed' for 30 years if the MOD wishes "to encourage more open and accountable government by establishing a general statutory right of access to official records and through culture change throughout the public sector" (MOD website - Freedom of Information).

That caveat aside, I do understand and sympathise with the MOD's position on the subject of UFOs. My ongoing research into the social history of the subject at the PRO and the British Library has demonstrated how dealing with inquiries about UFOs has become an on-going public relations problem for your staff dating back to the early 50s. On the subject of "UFOs" themselves, I completely concur with the MOD's conclusions that the vast majority - if not all - observations can be explained as misidentifications of natural phenomena, balloons, planets and stars etc. However, the ongoing 'will to believe' in the existence of 'exotic' UFOs intruding into UK airspace on the part of UFOlogists and the attitude of the media, which you note observers often seek out to promote their alleged experiences, has meant the UFO myth has continued to develop and will not go away.

It is precisely these social and psychological contexts - particularly periods of Press interest and Parliamentary Questions - which I am examining as part of my on-going research based at the National Centre for English Cultural Tradition and Language, University of Sheffield. The paperwork generated by the various MOD departments which have dealt with the UFO issue - both in terms of public and internal policy - since 1950 are a crucial source of information for my project, hence my request for access to documents which currently fall within the 30 year rule.

I am grateful that you are taking the trouble to retrieve and review the UFO-related files to which I have requested access, and look forward to your progress report at the end of September.

In the meantime, as new information has come to light I am now in a position to be more specific in terms of my request for access to files addressed to the MOD Record Officer on 27 July and 7 August. I am now able to precisely specify the name and what I suspect to be the current location of the file/s to which I referred in my earlier requests to the Record Officer. The document I am seeking is known as **DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 on Unidentified Flying Objects**. It was created in 1952 by the 'Flying Saucer Working Party' set up in August 1950 at the request of Sir Henry Tizard. DSI/JTIC minutes I have viewed at the Public Record Office (DEFE 4/74-76) demonstrate that the Working Party consisted of representatives from DSTI, ADNI (Tech), MI 10 and ADI (Tech). Report No 7 is referred to in a minute of 7 October 1952 and is listed on a register of DSI/JTIC reports in DEFE 41/76 (see enclosed, Attachment A). However, the document is missing from the DSI/JTIC reports and papers which are contained within DEFE 152-54. This is not because the file has been destroyed, but rather because it was "retrieved" (moved to another file?) by a member of the DSTI branch, DI55, in December 1967. In evidence for this assertion, I attach a copy (enclosed, Attachment B) of an internal memo, copied from PRO file Air 2/18117, where JE Dickison of DI55 states that: *"we [DI55] have recovered all but two of the Metropole (ie Intelligence) files on UFOs for the period 1951-2...we consider that the report DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 Unidentified Flying Objects covers the situation as a whole for such activity at that time."*

- DEFE 10/496  
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? DEFE 41

It is accepted that all files and papers relating to UFOs have been permanently preserved by the MOD from 1967 at the request of the Secretary of the State for Defence. Attachment B demonstrates that DSI/JTIC Report No 7 existed in 1967, and should therefore still exist today if that policy has been followed. I would suggest a



copy of the report will be found in the DIS/DSTI Intelligence Papers from the period 1967-70 (possibly DEFE 31/19,64 and/or DEFE 44/1), which cover the period during which it was 'retrieved' by DI55. Further copies may well exist in other MOD departments, and I would be surprised if even today Air Staff are not aware of this document, as its conclusions (that UFOs do not exist) appear to form the origin of the MOD's policy on UFOs from 1952 right up to the present day!

As the original report was created in 1952, it should be available for public scrutiny under the 30 year rule and I request access to a copy of this document plus any attached appendices under the Freedom of Information Act.

To summarise my request for access to UFO-related documents, set out in my letters to the MOD Record Officer on 27 July and 7 August and to Sec (AS) 2 of 1 and 11 August, these are:

1. DSI/JTIC Report No 7, Unidentified Flying Objects (1952), plus related Intelligence reports on UFOs, 1951-2 (see attachment).
2. BJ 5/311 Records of the Meteorological Office. Unidentified Flying Objects: meteorological aspects, 1968-1970
3. Air 2/18564 Air Ministry/MOD. UFO Report: West Freugh, 1957-1971
4. AF/3459/75 UFOs: Policy and Policy Statements 1970. This file plus additional policy files 1968-1981.
5. Air 20/12556 (?) UFO reports January 1974 (additionally Air 2/18873 may contain information relevant to reports in this month.)

I feel this is a reasonable request for access to MOD documents under the terms of the draft Freedom of Information Act. Based upon the knowledge I already have pertaining to their contents, there is nothing contained within these documents which could conceivably compromise national security, or the privacy of individuals, particularly if any sensitive personal details are removed before release.

I would be happy to pay any reasonable charges for access to this material, and wish to thank you in advance for your efforts to retrieve and review these documents.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,





From: [redacted] Room 1.01

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW

91

Tele: (Direct dial) [redacted]  
(Switchboard) 020 7218 9000  
(Fax) [redacted]

Your Reference

[redacted]  
Sheffield  
South Yorkshire

Our Reference

DR/3/7/8

Date

08 August 2000

Dear [redacted]

**Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files**

Thank you for your letter dated 7 August clarifying further your area of interest in seeking the release of a number of files originated by the Defence Intelligence Staff over the years.

As I previously advised in view of the number of files involved, increased as a result of the discovery that a number of files in *DEFE 21* had sensitive passages removed to permit the release of the remainder of the file, it is my intention to provide you with a report of our progress of the review of this material towards the end of September.

*[Handwritten signature]*

[redacted]

Officer

85  
NUMBER



Sheffield  
South Yorkshire



Room 1.01  
Ministry of Defence  
3-5 Great Scotland Yard  
London SW1A 2HW

RECEIVED  
17 13  
- 8 AUG 2000  
GREAT SCOTLAND  
YARD

7 August 2000

Your Reference: DR/3/7/8

**Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files**

Dear

Thank you for your letter 31 July, in reply to my application for the release of certain Defence Intelligence and predecessor departments records in the DEFE class.

Thanks also for clarifying the position with regards to the status of the records within **DEFE 31/19, 64** and **DEFE 44/1**, which are currently retained in department in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958.

I very much appreciate your intention to arrange for a rereview of the closed records to which I requested access, and I hope I can provide some additional information which may help this process. Could I point out that of the 30 files concerned, I am solely interested in locating those records or minutes which relate to the subject of 'unidentified flying objects' which may also be referred to as 'aerial phenomena', 'unidentified aircraft' 'flying saucers' or 'anomolous radar tracks.' This may help save you time and effort in your rereview, and I hope the information in this letter will help you locate the specific records to which I refer.

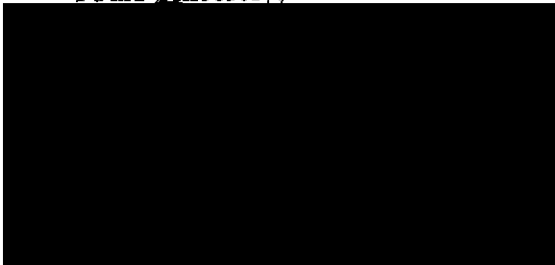
I am led to believe it was the Air Ministry's policy, until 1962, to routinely destroy records relating to unidentified flying objects at five yearly intervals. This practice was ended following Parliamentary Questions and all files have been preserved by the MOD since 1967. However, a number of Air Ministry UFO records from the 1950s, especially where these relate to Pariliamentary Questions, have survived and are available for viewing at the PRO. The location of Intelligence records relating to UFOs, generated by DST/DSI, remains a mystery but there are clues which suggest at least some did survive and are still retained by the MOD under Section 3(4) above.

There are references in some of the PRO files which relate to Intelligence papers on UFOs generated by the DSTI staff during this period. For example, I'm enclosing a copy of a loose minute found in PRO file Air 2/18117 sent to Department S4 (Air) by J.E. Dickison of DI55 on 13 December 1967. It describes how staff had "recovered" <sup>all but</sup> two Intelligence files on UFOs for the period 1951-52, and refers to one of these specifically as "report DSI/JTIC Report No. 7 - Unidentified Flying Objects." This is good evidence that at least some Intelligence files on UFOs did survive from this period.

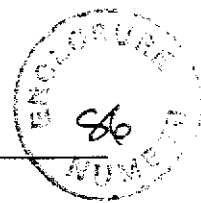
From an examination of the PRO catalogue, it would appear these files - if they still exist - should be listed under the **DEFE class 44/1** which is a register of JSTI/DSTI/DSI reports and memoranda for the period from 1946 onwards. DEFE 31/19 and 64 may also contain Intelligence reports on UFOs for the period 1967-1972 which should have been retained under the 1962 policy referred to above.

I hope this information assists in your rereview of the documents I have described and I look forward to hearing from you in due course,

Yours Sincerely,



# Memorandum



To: Defence Records 1

From: Defence Records 1  
Room 1.01  
Great Scotland Yard

Date: 08 August 2000

Tel: [REDACTED]

Your Ref: [REDACTED]

Our Ref: DR/3/7/8

Subject: ENQUIRY FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE FILES

Reference: My memos dated 31 July and 1 August 2000.

1. I attach a photocopy of [REDACTED] response to my letter acknowledging his request for the review of a large number of DI files recorded as retained in department in accordance with S3(4) of the PRA.
2. In an attempt to be helpful he further expands on his area of interest - "ufos" - notwithstanding this limited area of interest please ensure that the 64 files (approx) are reviewed with the view to possible release. Please advise of any that might fall into his area of interest, whether releasable or not. I am of course aware of the reference to "ufos" in *DEFE 44/1 DSI/JTIC Report No 7 - Unidentified Flying Objects*. Of which no copy is known to have survived. I believe that there are no other references in this piece to this particular phenomena, but confirm.
3. Finally, [REDACTED] has written separately to Sec(AS) about access to a variety of files including those that continue the run preserved at the PRO as *DEFE 35/118 & 119*. Former reference DI/55/40/9/1 Parts 1 & 2. Please ask [REDACTED] to bring me up to date on his review of DI material in general and specifically DI55 material. I seem to recall that 3 or 4 years ago, when visiting DI 55, he became aware that, other than these two files, no other "ufo" files survived until the late 1970s or was it the late 1980s (?). He also saw documentary evidence recording the destruction of these parts. Can he provide dates of destruction for each file part and the dates covered by each file (or better still copies of the destruction certificates).

*Law*



Rank: C2

Name in Block Letter [REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED] Room 1.01  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
3-5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HW



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

[REDACTED]  
Sheffield  
South Yorkshire

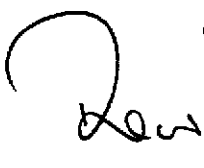
Your Reference

Our Reference

DR/3/7/8

Date

31 July 2000

 [REDACTED]

Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files

Thank you for your letter dated 21 July 2000 concerning the status of records - *64, DEFE 44/1 and DEFE 21* - selected for preservation at the Public Record Office that are retained in department in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Acts, 1958, and your wish for these records to be released.

As you may be aware all government departments are required to review their records in accordance with the terms of the Public Records Act, 1958 and 1967. Records selected for permanent preservation are transferred into the custody of the Public Record Office (or some other suitable institution) where they generally become available to the public after 30 years ie the "30-year rule". Records not selected for permanent preservation are destroyed.

The very few records that are too sensitive for release at the normal 30-year point may be closed by either being retained in department (Section 3(4) of the Act) or by being placed on extended closure for a period between 40 and 90 years (Section 5(1)). Retained records are closed under the authority of the Lord Chancellor, but are subject to a rereview at least once every 10 years until release into the public domain is possible. Records closed under the extended closure arrangement are transferred to the PRO for release at the future designated date. The status of whole files either retained or subject to extended closure is noted on the PRO catalogue. Where pages from files are subject to a similar process a "dummy" or a photocopy of the redacted pages are appropriately endorsed.

However, the White Paper on *Open Government*, Cm 2290, published July 1993 set out a number of initiatives that, subject to resources, would see the release of records hither to closed for more that 30 years. For example, greater use of the extraction and redaction techniques

whereby sensitive papers or passages could be removed thereby permitting the release of some part of a file, and to consider *ad hoc* requests from researchers of records closed for longer than 30 years. As a result of these and other initiatives the Ministry of Defence has released in excess of 11,750 records originally closed for longer than 30 years.

So far as your request for the release of certain Defence Intelligence and predecessor departments records is concerned *DEFE 31/19, 64 and DEFE 44/1* are all retained in department in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act, 1958. From a cursory examination of the PRO catalogue on the Internet I note that 34 of the 72 records assigned to class *DEFE 21* are open and available to the public.

In keeping with the MOD's commitment to greater openness I am prepared to arrange for the rereview of the closed records you have expressed an interest in. You will appreciate that our review programme for the year is well established thus the review of more than 30 additional files will have an impact on my scarce resources. But I plan to give you a report on our progress in about two months.

*W.D. S. ...*



# Memorandum

To: Defence Records 1 - Sensitivity

From: Defence Records 1  
Room 1.01  
Great Scotland Yard

Date: 31 July 2000

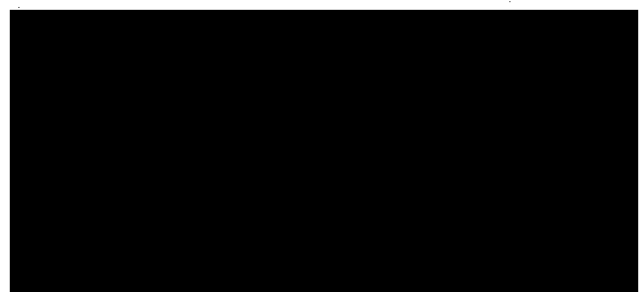
Tel: [REDACTED]

Your Ref:

Our Ref: DR/3/7/8

Subject: ENQUIRY FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE FILES

1. A [REDACTED] has written seeking access to a number of Defence Intelligence files (see attached).
2. From a cursory examination of the PRO catalogue I have reduced his initial list of 75 files to 41! They are: *DEFE 31/19, 64, DEFE 44/1, DEFE 21/1 - 4, 8 - 12, 16 & 17, 20, 28 - 30, 32, 36, 38, 47, 51 - 56, 58 and 61 - 72.*
3. You will note that *DEFE 44/1* is included. There is no way that we will release this, but please look at it and note the sensitivity sheet (I wish to ensure that whenever retained material is rereviewed we maintain an up to date record of the review history for FOI and appeal purposes).
4. Please note that I have undertaken to report our progress in about two month's time I would therefore like a progress report mid-September.



Rank:

C2

Name in Block Letter





[REDACTED]  
Sheffield  
South Yorkshire  
Tel: [REDACTED]

Departmental Record Officer  
Defence Records  
Room 7/40  
Metropole Building  
Northumberland Avenue  
London WC2N 5BL

21 July 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Defence Intelligence Staff: Registered Files**

The Enquiry staff at the Public Record Office have suggested that I write to you in order to follow up an enquiry concerning the status of a group of MOD files which are currently "retained by the Department under section 3 (4) of the Public Record Act 1958."

The files in question all appear to have been deposited at the Public Record Office. They fall under the class reference DEFE and contain papers generated by the work of the MOD Defence Intelligence Staff. They include:

**DEFE 31/19** DIS and DSTI Intelligence Papers 1967-1970

**DEFE 31/64** DIS/DSTI intelligence 1970-1972

**DEFE 44/1** DSI, later DSTI: Reports and Memoranda; Register of JSTI/DSTI/DSI reports and memoranda, 1946-1991.

**DEFE 21** DSI Registered Files 1950-1964

I understand from the PRO that records would be retained under the 30 year rule until the latest date in the sequence covered by the file, in which case DEFE 31/19 above should be available for public scrutiny on 1 January 2001. Could you confirm if that is the case?

More...

As for DEFE 44/1, although this file contains material more than 50 years old, it might not be released until 2021 because it also contains material dating from 1991. In the case of files held under class DEFE 21, these apparently contain files created by both the old Directorate of Scientific Intelligence between 1950-1964, which should be open; however, they also contain later material from the DSTI relating to the period 1964-1991, which under the terms of the 1967 Act would remain closed until 2021.

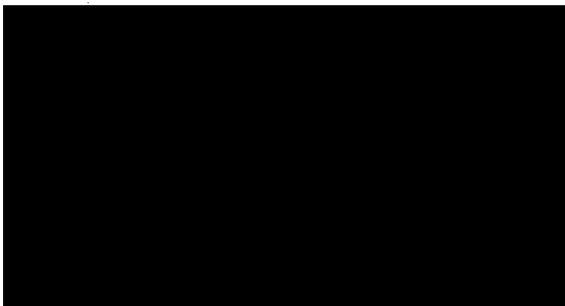
In these circumstances, would it not be possible to make an exception and allow access to the reports and memoranda contained within those files which specifically relate to the period 1946-1969, which would fall under the terms of the 30 year rule?

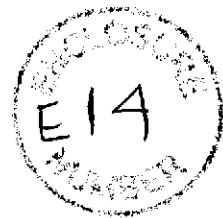
I understand that under the Freedom of Information Act all Government records – other than those created by the Security and Special Services - should be made available for public scrutiny unless it can be demonstrated their disclosure would *clearly cause harm* to “national security, defence and international relations...the internal discussion of Government policy [and/or] personal privacy.”

I understand from the FOI unit that individual departments do have the power to make exceptions and allow access to ‘closed’ material for research purposes in certain circumstances. In my case, I am researching the UK MOD’s involvement in the study of Unidentified Flying Objects, both in terms of the Air Staff and Defence and Scientific Intelligence, within the context of a sociological study based in an established academic department. The research is supported by the University of Sheffield, where I have an Honorary Research Fellowship from the National Centre for English Cultural Tradition, School of English.

I wish to apply for access to the files specified above under the Freedom of Information Act, and I would appreciate any information you can provide with regards to their current closure status under the current Access to Public Records Act, 1967.

I hope you are able to help and look forward to hearing from you,





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



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

**AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION**



**Applicant:** [REDACTED]

**Case Number:** 04-102005-175642-002

**Expiry:** 01/11/2005

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

How many reports of UFO sightings, alien abduction, crop circles, cattle mutilation and other strange phenomena have been reported in or above the borough of Bolton in the last 50 years?

We would like a total figure and breakdown of numbers for each category.

Do any eyewitness accounts exist of these sightings or experiences? If so, please provide copies.

Do any pictures, photographs or artists' impressions exist of the said UFOs, crop circles, cattle mutilation etc? If so, please make copies available.

What action was taken by the Government in light of the reported sightings/alleged experiences/situations and which Government departments dealt with them?

Of the reported sightings/alleged experiences/situations have any proved to be legitimate so far as the Government or associated agencies can determine?

If so, which ones?

Is it possible to provide a breakdown of the number of UFO sightings, alien abductions, crop circles and cattle mutilations over the last 50 years in the major towns and cities in the UK? If so, please provide details.

**Case for release of information**

I informed [REDACTED] of our policy of not investigating UFOs.

That the amount of time it would take to search through 25 years worth of files would exceed the £600 limit set by the Freedom of Information Act.

I enclosed a number of the total number of aerial sighting reports received by the MOD from 1959 to date.


I informed him that he could retrieve information about UFOs from The National Archives and The Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and gave him the web sites.

Finally, informed [REDACTED] of our policy on crop circles, alien abduction and cattle mutilation.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: D..... Name: .....

Signature: .....

Date: 11/11/2005.....



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

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

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

[REDACTED]  
Bolton  
Lancashire  
[REDACTED]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:  
04-10-2005-175642-002

Date:  
9 November 2005

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for information regarding all UFO sightings, alien abduction, crop circles, cattle mutilation and other strange phenomena that have been reported in or above the borough of Bolton in the last 50 years. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs.

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

With regard to the records we hold of UFO sightings, and some drawings and photographs of UFOs reported to the MOD, I should inform you that they are not held electronically but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received. We currently hold such records spanning a 25 year period and they are not segregated according to area or region. If we were to examine all these records in order to identify those from the Bolton area and the major towns and cities in the UK that you have requested, the cost would exceed the £600 limit set for the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, we are in the process of compiling a database of UFO reports and this has now been completed for the years 2002, 2003, 2004 and to date in 2005. During these years there were no UFO sightings reported in the Bolton area. Enclosed for your information, is a list of the total number of aerial sighting reports received from 1959 to date.

You may also wish to be aware that there is some information about UFOs available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed after 5 years until 1967 when they were generally

preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1977 are now available for viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme also contains documents relating to UFO's. These can be accessed via the internet at <http://www.foi.mod.uk>. A search in the Scheme under 'UFO' will take you to this information.

With regard to crop circles, alien abduction and cattle mutilation, occasionally a member of the public does write to us about these issues, but there is no evidence to suggest that these phenomena are caused by anything of military concern and the MOD does not therefore investigate reported sightings or carry out research into them. Also the MOD's policy and view in relation to the alien abduction phenomenon, is that we are not aware of any evidence which substantiate the existence of extraterrestrial activity. The matter of abduction by alien lifeforms is a non-issue as far as the MOD is concerned. Abduction/kidnap and cattle mutilation in the general sense is, of course, a criminal offence and as such would be a matter for the civil police.

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

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the 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



GxAITESTPTCD/  
12 October 05

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Contact Us Help

**Request:** [Redacted] 04-10-2005-175642-002  
**Days Left:** 15

Received: 04 Oct 05  
Expiry Date: 01 Nov 05  
Status: Open

- Workflow Options**
- AIT Main
- View**
- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents
- Actions**
- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Date request received: 04 October 2005

**Applicant Details**

Title: [Redacted] 40  Other: [Redacted]

First Name: [Redacted] 40 \*Surname: [Redacted] 40

Organisation: Bolton Evening News

Applicant Type: Media and Journalists  Other: [Redacted]

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

Address Line1: [Redacted]

Address Line2: [Redacted]

Address Line3: [Redacted]

Town/City: Bolton

Postcode: [Redacted] 40 Country: United Kingdom

Email: [Redacted] @boltoneveningnews.co.uk

Telephone: [Redacted] Fax: [Redacted]

GxAITESTPTCD/  
12 October 05



**Request:** [Redacted] 04-10-2005-175642-002

Received: 04 Oct 05  
Expiry Date: 01 Nov 05  
Status: Open

All sources

**Days Left:** 15

**Workflow Options**

AIT Main

**View**

Audit Trail

Comments Log

Saved Search Result

Contact Details

Documents

**Actions**

Assign Within My Group

Change Alert Settings

Edit Request Details

Upload Document

Close Case

Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

**Request Details**

Response Format Requested:

Language Requested  Welsh

\*Enter the request for information:

infosubject: Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information. A prompt response would be appreciated.  
How many reports of UFO sightings, alien abduction, crop circles, cattle mutilation and other strange phenomena have been reported in or above the borough of Bolton in the last 50 years?  
We would like a total figure and breakdown of numbers for each category.

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

To be held by helpdesk until allocated

infosubject: Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information. A prompt response would be appreciated.

How many reports of UFO sightings, alien abduction, crop circles, cattle mutilation and other strange phenomena have been reported in or above the borough of Bolton in the last 50 years?

We would like a total figure and breakdown of numbers for each category.

Do any eyewitness accounts exist of these sightings or experiences? If so, please provide copies.

Do any pictures, photographs or artists' impressions exist of the said UFOs, crop circles, cattle mutilation etc? If so, please make copies available.

What action was taken by the Government in light of the reported sightings/alleged experiences/situations and which Governmental departments dealt with them?

Of the reported sightings/alleged experiences/situations have any proved to be legitimate so far as the Government or associated agencies can determine?

If so, which ones?

Is it possible to provide a breakdown of the number of UFO sightings, alien abductions, crop circles and cattle mutilations over the last 50 years in the major towns and cities in the UK? If so, please provide details.

Thank you very much





**AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

Applicant: [REDACTED]

Case Number: 26-10-2005-140158-010

Expiry: 23/11/2005

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

Under the Freedom of Information Act could you please tell me how many reports of UFOs there have been in the Swansea area over the past 25 years and what action has been taken in respect of them.

**Case for release of information**

I have informed [REDACTED] of how files are not stored electronically but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received. That the amount of years, he was expecting to receive reports about, was over the £600 limit, set by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I looked on the database and found two reports from Swansea, in 2002 and 2005, for which I gave him the details.

I informed [REDACTED] of our policy of not investigating UFOs.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: D. Name: [REDACTED]

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 9/11/2005



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

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

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

[REDACTED]

Swansea  
 West Glamorgan  
 Wales

[REDACTED]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:  
 26-10-2005-140158-010

Date:  
 9 November 2005

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the number of UFO reports that have been reported from the Swansea area to the Ministry of Defence in the last 25 years. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFO's.

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

With regard to the records we hold of UFO sightings reported to the MOD I should inform you that they are not held electronically but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received. We currently hold such records spanning a 25 year period but they are not segregated according to area or region. If we were to examine all of these records in order to identify all reports from Swansea, the cost would exceed the £600 limit set for the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However we are in the process of compiling a database of UFO reports and this has now been completed for the years 2002, 2003, 2004, and to date 2005. During those years there were two reports from Swansea, the details are as follows:-

09/01/02	23:30	Swansea	West Glamorgan	Green, circular object, that was hovering in it's position.
January 2005		Swansea	West Glamorgan	Said it looked

				like a parachute flare.
--	--	--	--	-------------------------

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

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the 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

26-10-2005-140158-016

Expiry: 23 Nov 2005

[REDACTED]  
SWANSEA  
[REDACTED]

OCTOBER 23 2005

Dear Sir

Under the freedom of information Act could you please tell me how many reports of UFOs there have been in the SWANSEA area over the past 25 years and what action has been taken in respect of them, thank you.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
TEL [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

**Applicant:** [redacted]

**Case Number:** 16-09-2005-091829-002

**Expiry:** 13/10/2005

I think if he asked for a copy of policy he should provide it.



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

I am writing to obtain a hard copy (preferred, if possible) of the MOD's policy Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects. The MOD webpage on classes of information lists it thus:

Agree he needs to clarify what reports he is interested in.

"Unidentified Flying Objects: MOD's policy statement on alleged UFO phenomenon, and reports which have been released to the public from November 2002 unless otherwise stated."

If there are any official documents relating to the number of recent sightings submitted to or on record at the MOD, I would like to acquire hard copies.

**Case for release of information**

I have informed [redacted] that he can obtain a hard copy of the MOD's policy statement on Unidentified Flying Objects/UFO phenomenon, by looking up the information on the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and also that further information can be found in the Publication Scheme Reading Room.

I have informed [redacted] that we regularly receive UFO reports from the public and that they are put on file in the order in which they are received. I have asked [redacted] to clarify as to what recent reports he is interested in, as in a specific month/s or area.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: ...D..... Name: [redacted].....

Signature: [redacted].....

Date: ..... 28/10/2005.....





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

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

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

[REDACTED]  
London  
[REDACTED]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:  
16-09-2005-091829-002

Date:  
28 October 2005

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for a hard copy of the Ministry of Defence's policy statement on the UFO phenomena. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFO's.

I am sorry you have been unable to obtain a copy of our policy statement via the MOD Freedom of Information Publication Scheme. This can be accessed via the internet at <http://www.foi.mod.uk>. If you search under 'UFO' and then click on 'Policy' you will be able to view and print the relevant document. This search will also take you to the other UFO related documents in the Scheme. The Reading Room which can be accessed from the Publication Scheme home page also contains replies to some of the FOI requests we have already answered about UFO's. I have enclosed a copy of our 'Policy' statement for your information.

With regard to your request about recent UFO sightings, we regularly receive UFO reports from the public and they are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received. To date this year, we have received 89 sighting reports. To process all 89 reports would exceed the £600 limit set by the Freedom of Information Act, but if you would like to specify any recent reports you are interested in (for example a specific month/s or area), we may be able to assist you.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

## AITCases

16092005: ██████████16-09-2005-091829-002

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

Title: ██████████16-09-2005-091829-002  
 Person\_Title: ██████████on 40  
 First\_Name: ██████████  
 Surname: ██████████  
 Organisation: Researcher  
 Applicant\_Type: Not Specified  
 Address\_Line\_1: ██████████  
 Address\_Line\_2: ██████████  
 Address\_Line\_3: London  
 TownCity:  
 Postcode: ██████████0  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 Email: ██████████  
 Telephone: ██████████  
 Fax:  
 Request\_Details: Dear sir/Madame:  
  
 I am writing to obtain a hard copy (preferred, if possible) of the MOD's policy Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects. The MOD webpage on classes of information lists it thus:  
  
 "Unidentified Flying Objects: MOD's policy statement on alleged UFO phenomenon, and reports which have been released to the public from November 2002 unless otherwise stated."  
  
 If there are any other official documents relating to the number of recent sightings submitted to or on record at the MOD, I would liek to acquire hard copies.  
  
 Many thanks,  
  
 ██████████10  
 Case\_Number: 16-09-2005-091829-002  
 Originator: DIIV ██████████b  
 User\_Group: GxAITESTPTCDAS  
 Date\_Received: 15/09/2005  
 Date\_Due: 13/10/2005  
 Status: Open  
 Responder: DIIV ██████████10  
 Vexatious\_Type:  
 Vexatious\_Reason:

Quick\_Response\_Type:  
Quick\_Resp\_Cov\_Letter\_Issued: No  
Media\_Preference\_Met:  
Media\_Date\_Sent:  
Media\_Response\_Sent:  
Media\_Preference\_Comments:  
Closed:  
Date\_Closed:  
Media\_Type: electronic  
Requested\_Language: English  
Standard\_Response\_Comment:  
Offline\_Assigned\_To:  
Offline\_Date\_Due:  
Offline\_Date\_Responded:  
Ext\_Ref\_Department\_Name:  
Ext\_Ref\_Sent\_To\_PRO:  
Ext\_Ref\_Date\_Sent\_To\_PRO:  
Ext\_Ref\_PRO\_Accepted:  
Ext\_Ref\_Date\_PRO\_Accepted:  
Vexatious\_Supporting\_Cases:  
Vexatious\_Authorised\_By:  
Vexatious\_Date\_Authorised:  
Vexatious\_Reference:  
Request\_Location:  
Hold\_Resp\_Reason:  
Hold\_Resp\_Request\_Type:  
Hold\_Resp\_Date\_Response\_Expected:  
Hold\_Resp\_Letter\_Sent:  
Hold\_Resp\_Date\_Letter\_Sent:  
On\_Hold:  
Exemption\_Applied: No  
Exemptions\_Authorised\_By:  
Exemptions\_Date\_Authorised:  
Exemptions\_Ref\_Number:  
Std\_Resp\_Authorised:  
Std\_Resp\_Authorised\_By:  
Std\_Resp\_Date\_Authorised:  
Std\_Resp\_Reference:  
Fees\_Total\_Cost:  
Fees\_Resp\_Justification:  
Fees\_Resp\_To\_Applicant:  
Fees\_Notice\_Details:  
Fees\_Refusal\_Letter\_Details:  
Fees\_Notice\_Sent:  
Fees\_Notice\_Date\_Sent:  
Fees\_On\_Hold:  
Fees\_Date\_Paid:  
Fees\_Offline\_Authorised\_By:  
Fees\_Offline\_Authorised: No

Fees\_Date\_Authorised:  
Fees\_Auth\_Ref\_Number:  
Fees\_Online\_Authorised\_By:  
Fees\_Online\_Authorised:  
Fees\_Ref\_Letter\_Date\_Sent:  
Fees\_Refusal\_Notice\_Sent:  
Fees\_Close\_Case:

Attachments:

Comments.xml  
SearchResults.html  
Tracing.xml

Created at 16/09/2005 09:18 by AccelK2\_svc  
Last modified at 16/09/2005 14:45 by AccelK2\_svc



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



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

[REDACTED]  
Spanaway  
Washington  
USA  
98387

Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/10/2/8/13  
Date  
28 October 2005

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your two Freedom of Information requests for information about "British X-Files, UFO sightings" and in particular "flying triangles exiting out of Orfords Key, Suffolk and Bakewell, Derbyshire on 26 September 1993".

With regard to your first request I can inform you that the Ministry of Defence does not hold documents entitled "British X-Files". This department holds details of UFO sightings reported to the MOD and public correspondence about UFOs (some of which also contain sighting reports) spanning a 25 year period. These records are not held electronically, but are filed on paper files in the order in which they were received. Before any of this information can be released personal data has to be removed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Clearly, if we were to process copies of all these records the costs would quickly exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. If however, you could be more specific about the information you are seeking we may be able to assist you.

In order to answer your second request I have examined our files for any UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence on 26 September 1993 and can confirm that there are none from the areas you have stated or fitting the description you have given.

If you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of these requests, then you should contact the undersigned in the first instance. Should you remain dissatisfied, then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB.

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

Yours sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

GxAITESTPTCD,  
24 August 05

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Settings Help

**Request:** [Redacted] 16-08-2005-092324-005 Received: 15 Aug 05  
**Days Left:** 14 Expiry Date: 13 Sep 05 Status: Internal Transfer All sources

**Workflow Options**  
Internal Transfer

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

Date request received: 15 August 2005

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

**Applicant Details**

Title: [Redacted] n 40 Other: [Redacted]  
 First Name: [Redacted] 40 \*Surname: [Redacted]  
 Organisation: [Redacted]  
 Applicant Type: Not Specified Other: [Redacted]

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

Address Line1: Mufon Feidl Investigator  
 Address Line2: Mutual Ufo Network  
 Address Line3: [Redacted]  
 Town/City: Spanaway, Washington  
 Postcode: 98387 Country: United States  
 Email: [Redacted]  
 Telephone: [Redacted] Fax: [Redacted]

Clear <Back Next> Cancel

GxAITESTPTCD/

24 August 05



Request: [Redacted] 16-08-2005-092324-005

Received: 15 Aug 05  
Expiry Date: 13 Sep 05  
Status: Internal Transfer

Days Left: 14

Search icon All sources

**Workflow Options**

Internal Transfer

**View**

Audit Trail

Comments Log

Saved Search Result

Contact Details

Documents

**Actions**

Assign Within My Group

Change Alert Settings

Edit Request Details

Upload Document

Close Case

Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

**Request Details**

Response Format Requested:

Language Requested  Welsh

\*Enter the request for information:

Hello I'm interested in any flying triangles exiting out of Orfords Key U.K Suffolk and Bakewell in Derbyshire area Sept 26 1993 and any Underwater Ufo sightings you might have in your records I'm currently working and collecting Underwater Ufo sightings to study and compair to others we've had here in Uniterd states of America also working with other Ufo researchers from all around the world Ufo Italia , SOBEPS, Crimean Ufo Research Ukraine, Russian Ufo Research , Phenomenon Research Association U.K. my Primary lbntrest is in Black Flying Triangles mainley and collecting sightings to add to my already growing UFO Documents collection Case files responded back to DS-8 about

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

To be held by the help desk until allocation.

Clear

Back

Next

Cancel

Hello I'm interested in any flying triangles exiting out of Orfords Key U.K Suffolk and Bakewell in Derbyshire area Sept 26 1993 and any Underwater Ufo sightings you might have in your records I'm currently working and collecting Underwater Ufo sightings to study and compair to others we've had here in United states of America also working with other Ufo researchers from all around the world Ufo Italia , SOBEPS, Crimean Ufo Research Ukraine, Russian Ufo Research , Phenomenon Research Association U.K. my Primary ibntrest is in Black Flying Triangles mainley and collecting sightings to add to my already growing UFO Documents collection  
? Case files responded back to DS-8 about Project Black bird 1993-94 monitoring Crop circles for Ufo Activity and about HMS Manchester Ufo Lord Hill Norton told me about few years ago before his passing been collecting studying and comparing Ufo sightings for about 7 year now so far been working on 10 year Ufo study comparisant Proj!ect and Mothership study using sightings world wide I also have contacts with Civil Aviation Athority for Pilot Ufo sightings .as well as USA/FAA,NTSB,NASA,FBI,CIA,NSA,USN,ONR,DOE,DOD,DIA,and several other Goverment Agentcys to obtain Ufo documents and Ufo sighting Intelligence Breifing documents I'd like a response with in 20 working days as to my Foia Request and wavier of fees for any reproduction cost of theses documents

Sincerley [REDACTED] Mufon Field Investigator Mutual Ufo Network of Washington state

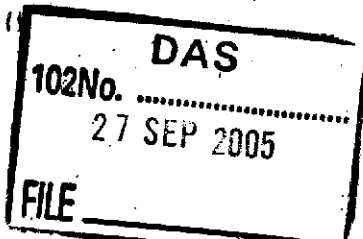
September 26 1993  
- Orfords Key, Suffolk  
Bakewell, Derbyshire.

D/Sec (AS) 12/2 Pt M - UFO Reports  
D/Sec (AS) 12/3 Pt L - UFO Correspondence  
M -  
N -

Files requested from TNT 12/10/05.



27-09-2005-151959-01  
Expiry: 25 Oct 2005



Spanaway, WA 98387

FOIA Unit  
FOIA Agency Address

Sept 19, 2005

**Request under the Freedom of Information Act.**

This is a request for a complete search of all filing systems and locations for all records held by your agency relating to: *British X Files ufo sightings*

*insert details of the desired records, or describe in detail the event(s) for which you seek information. Complete British X-Files ufo sighting reports including all documentation, including captions, that includes reference to: X-Files, ufo's insert possible alternative names and spellings, abbreviations, acronyms, etc.*

I also request all "see references" to these names. *British X-Files ufo's*

If the documents are denied in part or whole, please specify which exemptions are claimed for each passage or whole document denied. Please provide a complete itemized inventory and detailed factual justification of any denial. Specify the number of pages in each document and the total number of pages pertaining to this request. For classified material denied, please include the following information:

- the classification rating (confidential, secret, top secret, etc.)
- the identity of the classifier
- the date or event for automatic declassification or classification review

I request that censored material be 'blacked out' rather than 'whited out' or cut out. I expect that the remaining non-exempt portions of documents will be released.

Please send a memo to the appropriate units in your office or agency to assure that no records related to this request are destroyed (and please send a copy of the memo to me). Please advise of any destruction of records, and include the date and authority for such destruction.

As I expect to appeal against any denials, please specify the office and address to which an appeal should be directed.

I believe that my request qualifies for a waiver of fees as the release of the information would benefit the general public and be in the public interest.

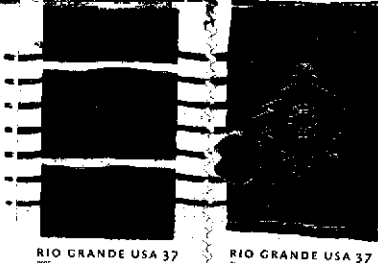
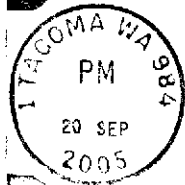
I can be reached at the telephone number listed above. Please call rather than write if there are any questions or if you need additional information from me.

I expect a response to this request within ~~30~~ working days, as provided for in the Freedom of Information Act.

Sincerely, etc



Spanaway Wa. 98387



Directorate of Air staff Freedom of information  
Ministries of Defence  
5th floor, Zone H, Main Building,  
Whitehall, London SW1A2HB

00144/2000





**AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

**Applicant:** [REDACTED]

**Case Number:** 30-09-2005-085655-002

**Expiry:** 27/10/2005

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

I would like to find out how many reports of unidentified flying objects have been registered in West Yorkshire. I would like to see the figures for the past five years if possible.

Also, it would be excellent to find out exactly where the reports were made.

**Case for release of information**

I have given [REDACTED] details of 13 UFO reports that were sighted in West Yorkshire, for the years, 2002, 2003, 2004 and up to date 2005, retrieved from the data base. That then shows him the number of UFO reports that have come from West Yorkshire and the Towns/Cities in that County in which the reports were generated.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: [REDACTED]

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 21/05/05

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request for the number of reports of flying objects that have been registered in West Yorkshire and the figures of those reports for the last five years. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs.

With regard to the records we hold of UFO sightings reported to the MOD I should inform you that they are not held electronically but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received. It is not possible to search all of the records for a five year period to identify those specifically from West Yorkshire. However, we are currently in the process of compiling a database of UFO reports and this has now been completed for the years, 2002, 2003, 2004 and up to date in 2005. I have examined these records and found 13 reports from West Yorkshire during those years, the details of which are as follows.

Reports for 2002:-

27/01/02	19.25	Leeds	West Yorkshire	Four small bright, white lights that looked like headlamps.
03/06/02	23.40	Keighley	West Yorkshire	One large object/aircraft that had a bright, white light.
19/09/02	22.21	Bradford	West Yorkshire	Two circles, one inside the other. Were 50/50 feet in diameter.
23/09/02	17.40	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire	One silver, cigar shaped object, that split into six smaller silver balls.
16/12/02	02.35	Nr M62, Nr Rothwell	West Yorkshire	A number of objects, quite large, long, thin and shaped like cuttlefish.

Reports for 2003:-

06/01/03	15.00	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire	Three silver or white balls in the sky, that were then joined by another two.
04/09/03	23.40	Todmorden	West Yorkshire	There were six lights that split, at one point becoming eight lights, that were orange and red in colour.
13/09/03	21.40	Heckmondwike	West Yorkshire	Two circular objects, about half the apparent size of the moon, that were a very dull yellow.

Reports for 2004:-

12/01/04	16.30	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire	Round object with lights all around it.
14/04/04	20.27	Honley	West Yorkshire	Looked like a jellyfish flying in the sky.
22/04/04		Queensbury	West Yorkshire	Just said an object.
14/05/04	03.10	Leeds	West Yorkshire	A very bright light.

Report for 2005:-


14/01/05	00.24	Leeds	West	Two bright lights, really round
----------	-------	-------	------	---------------------------------

			Yorkshire	and orange in colour.
--	--	--	-----------	-----------------------

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

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the 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

  
Ministry of Defence  
Director of Air Staff – Freedom of Information  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Zone H  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – [das-ufo-office@mod.uk](mailto:das-ufo-office@mod.uk)

17 October 2005

GxAITEST/PCD/  
30 September C

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

**Request:** [Redacted] 30-09-2005-085655-002  
**Days Left:** 20

Received: 29 Sep 05  
Expiry Date: 27 Oct 05  
Status: Internal Transfer

**Workflow Options**

Internal Transfer

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Date request received: 29 September 2005

**Applicant Details**

Title: [Redacted] 0 [v] Other: [Redacted]

First Name: [Redacted] \*Surname: [Redacted] 40

Organisation: Reporter

Applicant Type: Media and Journalists [v] Other: [Redacted]

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

Address Line1: Huddersfield Daily Exam

Address Line2: Queen Street South

Address Line3: Huddersfield

Town/City: West Yorkshire

Postcode: HD1 2TD Country: United Kingdom [v]

Email: [Redacted]@examiner.co.uk

Telephone: [Redacted] Fax: [Redacted]

GxAITESTPTCD/  
30 September 05



**Request:** [redacted] 30-09-2005-085655-002  
**Days Left:** 20

Received: 29 Sep 05  
Expiry Date: 27 Oct 05  
Status: Internal Transfer

🔍 All sources

**Workflow Options**

Internal Transfer

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

**Request Details**

Response Format Requested:

Language Requested  Welsh

\*Enter the request for information:

Dear Sir,

I would like to find out how many reports of unidentified flying objects have been registered in West Yorkshire. I would like to see the figures for the past five years if possible.

Also it would be excellent to find out details of exactly where the reports were made.

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

To be held by the help desk until allocation.

Done

⏪ Back

Next ⏩

Cancel

Dear Sir,

I would like to find out how many reports of unidentified flying objects have been registered in West Yorkshire. I would like to see the figures for the past five years if possible.

Also it would be excellent to find out details of exactly where the reports were made.

Regards,

██████████  
Investigations Reporter  
Huddersfield Daily Examiner  
Tel: ██████████





**AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

**Applicant:** [REDACTED]

**Case Number:** 27-09-2005-122044-009

**Expiry:** 25/10/2005

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

I wish to know how many reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects in Wales have been made by members of the public to the Ministry of Defence during the last five years. I would also like full details of the dates, times and whereabouts of each of these sightings and the outcomes of any Ministry of Defence investigations into the sightings.

**Case for release of information**

I have given [REDACTED] details of 28 reports that were sighted in Wales for the years, 2002, 2003, 2004 and up to date 2005, retrieved from the database. That then gives him the details of the dates, times and the whereabouts of each of the sightings in Wales.

I have informed him of our policy stating that we do not investigate UFOs.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: 82 Name: [REDACTED]

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 21/10/05

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request regarding the number of UFO reports that have been reported in Wales to the Ministry of Defence in the last five years, and the full details of each report. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence regarding UFOs.

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

With regard to the records we hold of UFO sightings reported to the MOD I should inform you that they are not held electronically but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received. However, we are currently in the process of compiling a database of UFO reports and this has now been completed for the years, 2002, 2003, 2004 and to date in 2005. I have examined these records and found 28 reports for Wales from those years, the details of which are as follows.

Reports for 2002:-

09/01/02	23:30	Swansea	West Glamorgan	Green, circular object, that was hovering in it's position.
24/02/02	19:00	Newport	Gwent	One large and three smaller triangular objects seen, with bright red and blue flashing lights.
08/04/02	08:35	Port Talbot	West Glamorgan	One large, round, very bright green object going very fast to the East.
04/06/02	03:20	Llansamlet	West Glamorgan	Six objects were seen omitting a bright white light.
02/11/02	23:00	Gors-goch	Dyfed	Round yellowish light followed by a green light.
02/11/02	22:58	Llanerchymedd	Gwynedd	One light, the size of a football moving slowly at about 2-3000ft.
28/11/02	14:26	Cardiff Docks	South Glamorgan	Two sightings over Cardiff docks. The objects were of different colours and were moving up and down.

Reports for 2003:-

04/01/03	21:15	St Clares	Dyfed	White object with vivid flashing green, blue and red lights.
15/01/03	22:10	Cowbridge	South Glamorgan	A large round disc, slightly smaller than the moon. Creamy white then changed green.
02/03/03	15:54	Pontypridd	Mid-Glamorgan	Strange object, silver and shaped like a dart.

14/06/03	21:35	Llandrindod Wells	Powys	Very big, red light balls hovering.
12/07/03	22:05	Rhonda	Mid-Glamorgan	Two round objects with legs, which were black and spinning.
13/08/03	22:55	Maesteg	Mid-Glamorgan	Roundish, football shaped object. The flashing lights were multi-coloured.
14/08/03	23:09	Newport	Gwent	Orange circular object seen. Stayed stationary.
24/09/03	19:25	Barry	South Glamorgan	Saw an unusual object, falling from a cloud, like it was burning and was very fast.

Reports for 2004:-

18/02/04	16:02	Rhyl	Clwyd	Large black object over Rhyl.
05/09/04	15:20	Barry	South Glamorgan	The object was a bright light at first and then looked like a box kite.
08/09/04	20:15	Cardiff	South Glamorgan	Large flash of light which turned into a grey object descending over Cardiff Bay.
24/09/04	06:30	Newport	Dyfed	One object that looked like a disc, with a tail and was shining.

Reports for 2005:-

		Port Talbot	West Glamorgan	Said it looked like a parachute flare. (Seen in January 05).
		Swansea	West Glamorgan	Said it looked like a parachute flare. (Seen in January 05).
31/01/05	05:00	Port Talbot	West Glamorgan	Looked like an orange ball of light, like a big star in the sky and it had spiderish legs.
		Briton Ferry	West Glamorgan	Just said saw something in the sky. (Seen in February 05).
20/02/05	09:50	Cardiff	South Glamorgan	Bright blue object, that broke into three to four segments and then disappeared.
20/03/05	19:35		North Wales	Just said saw a UFO.
		Cardiff	South Wales	A UFO. (Seen in 2005).
		Pontyclun	South Wales	A UFO. (Seen in 2005).
		Croesyceiliog	Gwent	Witness saw five to six white lights flying very fast overhead. They looked a bit like bright stars. (Seen in 2005).

I hope this helpful. If this information does not address your requirements or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact the undersigned in the first instance. Should you remain dissatisfied, then you may apply for an

internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB.

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the 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



Ministry of Defence  
Director of Air Staff – Freedom of Information  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Zone H  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – [das-ufo-office@mod.uk](mailto:das-ufo-office@mod.uk)

17 October 2005

GxAITESTP1 CD/  
27 September 05

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Guidance Help

**Request:** [Redacted] 27-09-2005-122044-009  
**Days Left:** 21

Received: 27 Sep 05  
Expiry Date: 25 Oct 05  
Status: Internal Transfer

🔍 All sources ▼

**Workflow Options**

Internal Transfer

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Date request received: **27 September 2005**

**Applicant Details**

Title: [Redacted] 40 ▼ Other: [Redacted]

First Name: [Redacted] \*Surname: [Redacted]

Organisation:

Applicant Type:  ▼ Other: [Redacted]

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

Address Line1: [Redacted]

Address Line2: [Redacted]

Address Line3:

Town/City:

Postcode: [Redacted] Country:  ▼

Email: [Redacted]@wme.co.uk

Telephone: [Redacted] Fax:

Clear <Back Next > Cancel

GxAITESTPTCD/  
27 September 05

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Guidance Help

**Request:** [Redacted] 27-09-2005-122044-009  
**Days Left:** 21

Received: 27 Sep 05  
Expiry Date: 25 Oct 05  
Status: Internal Transfer

🔍 All sources

- Workflow Options**
- Internal Transfer
- View**
- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

**Request Details**

Response Format Requested:

Language Requested  Welsh

**\*Enter the request for information:**

infosubject: I am writing to make a further open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the freedom of information act. In order to assist you with this request, I am outlining my query as specifically as possible. If however this request is too wide or too unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the act, you are required to advise and assist requesters.

I wish to know how many reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects in Wales have been made by members of

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

To be held by helpdesk until allocated

infosubject: I am writing to make a further open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the freedom of information act. In order to assist you with this request, I am outlining my query as specifically as possible. If however this request is too wide or too unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the act, you are required to advise and assist requesters.

I wish to know how many reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects in Wales have been made by members of the public to the Ministry of Defence during the last five years. I would also like full details of the dates, times and whereabouts of each of these sightings and the outcomes of any Ministry of Defence investigations into the sightings.

I understand that under the act, I should be entitled to a response within 20 working days. I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.



**AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

**Applicant:** [REDACTED]

**Case Number:** 11-07-2005-085634-001

**Expiry:** 5 August 2005

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

1. All reports of UFOs over the British Isles, British territories and interests.
2. Details of the interception of UFOs by RAF fighter aircraft.
3. Details of when a Vampire aircraft intercepted a UFO over the North Sea.
4. All the documents about an event in Sheffield on 24 March 1997 as detailed in the Sheffield Star.
5. All and any information regarding MAJESTIC 12 (interplanetary phenomenon unit) prior to 1950 and Project JEHOVAH post 1970 interests in the British Isles 1947 – present, including any and all technological, and informational trades between our governments own efforts into the investigation of UFOs and MAJESTIC 12.
6. Information regarding our own efforts into the investigation of UFOs from the 1940s onwards.

**Case for release of information**

1. The MOD holds details of UFO reports for a 25 year period and to supply copies of all of them would exceed the £600 limit. An explanation has been given to the applicant and he has been asked to clarify what he is seeking.
2. RAF aircraft are not required to intercept UFOs. An explanation of the policing of UK airspace has been provided to the applicant.
3. The applicant has not indicated when this incident is alleged to have happened. However, Vampire aircraft have not been used by the RAF for a considerable time, so the applicant has been informed that he can find documents over 25 years old at The National Archives (website link provided).
4. Another applicant ([REDACTED]) has already made requests for details of this incident and the RAF Police investigation report was released to him. A copy has also been produced for release to [REDACTED]. He has also been informed that he can view the Parliamentary Question about this event on the Parliamentary website (link provided).
5. MAJESTIC 12 and Project JEHOVAH are alleged to be US Government investigations into UFOs / experiments on alien beings. I believe the US government have denied this and I am not aware of any papers held by the MOD on any such projects. An explanation has been given to the applicant.
6. I am not aware of any documents which detail the history of investigations into UFOs since the 1940s. I have however given brief details of significant



changes in policy and provided a copy of the Flying Saucer Working Party report of June 1951.

There is no reason to withhold any of this information.

**Authorisation**

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

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

Signature..... [REDACTED].....

Date:.....24 October 2005.....



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

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

[REDACTED]  
Hatfield  
Hertfordshire  
[REDACTED]

Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/10/2/8/13  
Date  
24 October 2005

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your request for information about UFO sightings over the UK and in particular regarding events on 24 March 1997. Your request has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs. I apologise for the delay in sending you a response.

With regard to your request for all reports of UFOs over the British Isles, British territories and interest, I should inform you that this department holds details of UFO sightings reported to the MOD and public correspondence about UFOs (some of which also contains sighting reports) spanning a 25 year period. These records are not held electronically, but are filed on paper files in the order in which they were received. Before any of this information can be released personal data has to be removed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Clearly if we were to process copies of all these records the costs would quickly exceed the permitted £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. If however, if you could be more specific about the information you are seeking we may be able to assist you.

You also requested details of the interception of unidentified flying objects by RAF fighter aircraft. It may assist you if I explain the integrity of the UK's airspace in peacetime is maintained through continuous surveillance of the UK Air Policing Area by the Royal Air Force. This is achieved by using a combination of civil and military radar installations, which provide a continuous real-time "picture" of the UK airspace. Any threat to the UK Air Policing Area would be handled in the light of the particular circumstances at the time (it might if deemed appropriate, involve the scrambling or diversion of air defence aircraft). This system is not reliant on this department receiving reports of objects or lights which the observer is unable to identify. Reports provided to us of 'UFO' sightings are examined within this department, but consultation with air defence staff is considered only where there is sufficient evidence to suggest a breach of UK air space. The vast majority of reports we receive are very sketchy and vague. Only a handful of reports in recent years have warranted further investigation and none revealed any evidence of a threat.

In your letter you refer to an incident involving a Vampire aircraft, but do not indicated when this incident happened. If it was more than 25 years ago, any MOD documents that may have survived would now be open for public viewing at The National Archives. Details of how to access information at The National Archives and their on line catalogue can be viewed on their

website at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk).

With regard to events on 24 March 1997 I can confirm that our records show that loud bangs were heard northwest of Sheffield in the Peak District between 2145Z and 2215Z and local people believed that an aircraft had crashed in the area. The Police and RAF Search and Rescue undertook a search of the area but no crash site was found. Over a year later, in May 1998, there was renewed interest in these events from journalists and MPs and the RAF Provost and Security Services (RAF Police) were asked to investigate whether a military aircraft could have caused sonic booms. The RAF Police concluded that although there had been a sonic event, there were no military aircraft operating in the area at speeds at which a sonic boom could be generated. I enclose for your information a copy of the RAF Police report containing full details of their findings. Details of the parliamentary question asked about these events can be found on the parliamentary website at [www.parliament.uk/hansard/harsard.cfm](http://www.parliament.uk/hansard/harsard.cfm). You may wish to be aware that despite rumours of an RAF Tornado crashing into a reservoir in Derbyshire, the MOD has no record of such an event.

You also requested information regarding MAJESTIC 12 and Project JEHOVAH. I understand it is alleged that these were projects set up in the USA, you therefore need to direct your enquiries to the US Government. We are not aware of any information about these projects held by the MOD.

Finally, you requested information regarding our investigations into UFOs from the 1940s onwards. The MOD does not hold any documents about the history of the handling of UFO reports since the 1940s. We are however aware that a working party was set up in August 1950 (at the suggestion of Sir Henry Tizard) who thought "flying saucers should be investigated". This was aptly named the Flying Saucer Working Party and was dissolved in June 1951. All the surviving MOD papers produced by the Flying Saucer Working Party are now open for public viewing at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU. The final report of the Flying Saucer Working Party detailing their conclusions can be viewed in the MOD Freedom of Information Publication Scheme at [www.foi.mod.uk](http://www.foi.mod.uk). For ease of reference, please find a copy enclosed with this letter. In more recent times, a standard form was introduced for reporting UFO sightings and these were sent to Air Defence staff (to check whether there was any evidence of a threat to UK airspace), and Defence Intelligence staff (DIS) (in case they contained any information of value in DIS's task of analysing the performance and threat of foreign weapons systems, nuclear, chemical and biological warfare programmes and technologies and emerging technologies). In December 2000 DIS decided that as none of the reports they had received over a period of 50 years had yielded any valuable information whatsoever they did not wish to receive these reports any longer. Air Defence staff do not now receive every report but may be consulted as described above.

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

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

Yours sincerely,

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(Copy No. 117)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DIRECTORATE OF  
SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE

AND

ROYAL TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE



UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Report by the "Flying Saucer" Working Party

*Introduction: Historical*

1. Unidentified flying objects were first reported after the war from Sweden in the summer of 1946, and for some months there was a considerable number of alleged sightings, mostly in Sweden, but a few also in Norway, Finland and Germany. The descriptions given were usually of some sort of wingless missile travelling at very high speed, cigar-shaped or circular, sometimes emitting bright lights, and occasionally sound. The reports attracted considerable attention in the press, where the objects became known as "ghost rockets" or "spook bombs." The reports died away after the summer of 1946, and very few have appeared since the end of that year.

2. The first report of a "flying saucer" came from the United States in June 1947; the name arose because the observer (Mr. K. Arnold, of Boise, Idaho) described what he had seen as a "saucer-like disc." The report received much publicity, and was quickly followed by a great many more. Since then reports of sightings have been made at intervals in large numbers, mostly from the United States, but some from other parts of the world, including Great Britain, where there was a notable outbreak during the summer and autumn of 1950. The objects reported have become popularly known by the generic title "flying saucers," but the descriptions given have included not only flying disc-like objects of the original "saucer" type, but also wingless torpedo or cigar-shaped bodies, spherical or balloon-shaped objects, and luminous phenomena of various types.

3. The reported observations have been almost exclusively visual; reports of any associated sound have been rare. In no case has any tangible, material, or objective evidence, been submitted. It is therefore extremely difficult, if not impossible, to arrive at anything like scientific proof of the nature of the phenomena.

*Review of previous evidence*

4. A systematic and extensive investigation of all the reported incidents in the United States was carried out between 1948 and 1950 by the U.S.A.F., in conjunction with the Rand Corporation, Dr. Hynek, a well-known astronomer from Ohio State University, and other specialist consultants.

we have been enabled to study two reports (Project "Sign" and Project "Grudge") covering the investigation of incidents up to the beginning of 1949.

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5. On the Scandinavian sightings in 1946, Project "Grudge" reports as follows:—

"The Swedish Defence Staff conducted a comprehensive study of the early incidents. Several thousand reports were thoroughly investigated and plotted, with resultant conclusions that all evidence obtained of sightings was explicable in terms of astronomical phenomena."

6. Dealing with reports from the United States, Project "Grudge" quotes the opinion of the Rand Corporation after an examination of 172 incidents: "to date, we have found nothing which would seriously controvert simple rational explanations of the various phenomena in terms of balloons, conventional aircraft, planets, meteors, bits of paper, optical illusions, practical jokes, psychopathological reports, and the like."

Dr. Hynek investigated 228 incidents and concluded that approximately 33 per cent. were astronomical with varying degrees of probability; 37 per cent. were not astronomical but suggestive of other explanations, such as birds, rockets, balloons, ordinary aircraft, &c.; the remaining 30 per cent. either lacked sufficient evidence or the evidence offered suggested no explanation, though some of these might conceivably be astronomical.

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Summing up their own conclusions and those of their consultants, the authors of the "Grudge" report finally concluded that, of the 228 incidents considered, thirty must be disregarded for lack of workable evidence, while 164 can be satisfactorily explained. For the balance of thirty-four, containing some evidence, there is no apparent ready explanation, if the evidence is accepted as accurate and reliable. When psychological and physiological factors are taken into consideration, the opinion is expressed that all these incidents can also be rationally explained.

7. All the more spectacular incidents, of which much has been made recently in the British press and publications, have been fully explained. Two examples may be quoted.

The incident at Fort Knox, Kentucky, in January 1948, which caused the death of Lieutenant Mantell, U.S.A.F., is fully analysed, and all the evidence collated in the "Grudge" report. The conclusion is reached that without any doubt whatever Lieutenant Mantell met his death while pursuing the planet Venus, which was of unusual brightness on the night in question.

We have been informed, in conversation with a member of the United States investigating team, that the even more sensational report of the discovery of a crashed "flying saucer," full of the remains of very small beings, was ultimately admitted by its author to have been a complete fabrication.

8. The "Grudge" report includes a "frequency distribution" curve of the reports of incidents received between May 1947 and December 1948. This shows a marked tendency towards peaks in the few weeks immediately following an incident which received wide publicity, and is of interest in indicating the extent to which sightings may be psychological in origin.

9. The final conclusion reached by the Americans is that all reports of unidentified flying objects may be categorical as either—

- (1) misinterpretation of various conventional objects (e.g., aircraft, balloons, meteors or meteorites, stars, fireballs);
- (2) a form of mass hysteria; or
- (3) deliberate hoaxes.

#### *Investigation of incidents in the United Kingdom*

10. During the summer and autumn of 1950 the British press gave considerable publicity to reports of alleged sightings of luminous bodies travelling at high speed, usually after dark, but occasionally in daylight. The Air Ministry also received a number of letters from members of the public with similar reports. One of these, from a locomotive fireman at Derby, who was clearly a careful and accurate observer, gave an excellent description of what was undoubtedly a meteorite. We have not attempted any systematic investigation of all the evidence presented, but can find no reason for supposing that any of the phenomena reported cannot be similarly explained; in certain cases, when observations were reported at approximately the same time from widely separated localities, this was undoubtedly the explanation.

11. Three incidents were reported officially by experienced officers from R.A.F. Stations. These have been investigated in as much detail as is possible with reports of visual observations.

12. On 1st June, 1950, the pilot of a Meteor reported on landing at Tangmere that at 1430, while flying at 20,000 feet on an easterly course over the Portsmouth area, he had sighted an object travelling at very high speed on a reciprocal course, 1,000-2,000 feet above him and roughly 1,200 yards to starboard. He described the object as circular, and of bright metallic appearance. He could not give any real estimate of its speed, but thought it might be about 800 knots. He had observed it for about 15 seconds, during which period he had looked away to port and back, having no difficulty in picking up the object again.

Tangmere made enquiries of the radar station at Warling, and were informed that at about the same time as the pilot's report, the Duty Controller and three radar operators had observed an unusual response on the P.P.I., which appeared to be due to a target moving at 1,300-1,650 knots, first approaching and then receding from the station. The Controller stated that the response looked to be very thick, leaving more afterglow than a usual response behind. The operator, observing on a separate display, said that it was "slim, short and weaker than

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aircraft," and that a series of "shadows" appeared in the space between successive points.

As the receding course of the radar target could have tallied with the course of the object reported by the Meteor pilot, all the people concerned were interviewed by a member of Research Branch, Fighter Command, from whose report the above data have been taken. It was established that there was in fact a discrepancy of ten minutes between the times of the two reports, which were estimated as individually accurate to  $\pm 1$  minute. It must therefore be concluded that there was no connection between the unusual P.P.I. response and the pilot's visual observation.

We believe that the radar response can be very simply explained as due to interference from another transmitter, a phenomenon which has been frequently observed, and which is described in detail in Appendix A. It is impossible to be entirely definite about the pilot's report. Assuming that he was not merely the victim of an optical illusion, the most probable explanation, which is borne out by his description of the object as "circular," implying a spherical body, is that he saw a meteorological balloon and greatly over-estimated its speed. We can find no reason whatever for adopting any less simple hypothesis.

13. The remaining two incidents were reported from the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, and the officers concerned were interviewed by members of this Working Party.

F/Lt. Hubbard, an experienced pilot, said that at 1127 on 14th August, 1950, he and two other officers on the airfield heard a subdued humming noise, like a model Diesel motor, which caused them to search the sky overhead. The weather was fine and visibility good. The other two officers saw nothing, but F/Lt. Hubbard, who alone was wearing sun-glasses, states that he saw, almost directly overhead at first sighting, an object which he describes as a flat disc, light pearl grey in colour, about 50 feet in diameter at an estimated height of 5,000 feet. He stated that he kept it under observation for 30 seconds, during which period it travelled, at a speed estimated at 800-1,000 m.p.h., on a heading of 100°, executing a series of S-turns, oscillating so that light reflection came from different segments as it moved.

We have no reason to doubt that F/Lt. Hubbard honestly described his own impression of what he saw, but we find it impossible to believe that a most unconventional aircraft, of exceptional speed, could have travelled at no great altitude, in the middle of a fine summer morning, over a populous and air-minded district like Farnborough, without attracting the attention of more than one observer. We conclude, either that F/Lt. Hubbard was the victim of an optical illusion, or that he observed some quite normal type of aircraft and deceived himself about its shape and speed.

14. F/Lt. Hubbard was also concerned in the other incident, when, at 1609 on 5th September, 1950, he was standing on the watch-tower with five other officers, looking south in anticipation of the display by the Hawker 1081. The sky was about 3/8 obscured, with a stratocumulus cloud base at 4,000 feet. At about the same moment they all saw, at an estimated range of 10-15 miles, an object which they described as being a flat disc, light pearl grey in colour, and "about the size of a shirt button." They all observed it to follow a rectangular flight path, consisting in succession of a "falling leaf," horizontal flight "very fast," an upward "falling leaf," another horizontal stretch, and so on; finally it dived to the horizon at great speed. The pattern was estimated to be executed somewhere over the Guildford-Farnham area.

F/Lt. Hubbard was satisfied that the objects he saw on the two occasions were identical; the other observers agreed that the second object fitted the description they had been given of the first.

We have no doubt that all these officers did in fact see a flying object of some sort. We cannot, however regard the evidence of identification of this object, which was only seen at very long range, with the earlier one as of any value whatever. Further, we again find it impossible to believe that an unconventional aircraft, manoeuvring for some time over a populous area, could have failed to attract the attention of other observers. We conclude that the officers in fact saw some quite normal aircraft, manoeuvring at extreme visual range, and were led by the previous report to believe it to be something abnormal—an interesting example of one report inducing another. We are reinforced in this belief by an experience of one of our number (Wing Commander Formby, R.A.F.) which is recounted in Appendix B and illustrates the ease with which mistaken identifications may be made, even by experienced observers.

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*Conclusions and Recommendations*

15. When the only material available is a mass of purely subjective evidence, it is impossible to give anything like scientific proof that the phenomena observed are, or are not, caused by something entirely novel, such as an aircraft of extra-terrestrial origin, developed by beings unknown to us on lines more advanced than anything we have thought of. We are, however, satisfied that the bulk of the observations reported do not need such an explanation, and can be accounted for much more simply. There is a very old scientific principle, usually attributed to William of Occam, which states that the most probable hypothesis is the simplest necessary to explain the observations.

We believe that this principle should be applied to the present case, and accordingly conclude that all the observations reported were due to one or other of the following causes:—

- (1) Astronomical or meteorological phenomena of known types.
- (2) Mistaken identification of conventional aircraft, balloons, birds, or other normal or natural objects.
- (3) Optical illusions and psychological delusions.
- (4) Deliberate hoaxes.

We consider that no progress will be made by attempting further investigation of unco-ordinated and subjective evidence; and that positive results could only be obtained by organising throughout the country, or the world, continuous observation of the skies by a co-ordinated network of visual observers, equipped with photographic apparatus, and supplemented by a network of radar stations and sound locators. We should regard this, on the evidence so far available, as a singularly profitless enterprise. We accordingly recommend very strongly that no further investigation of reported mysterious aerial phenomena be undertaken, unless and until some material evidence becomes available.

*Metropole Buildings, W.C. 2.*

APPENDIX A

A NOTE ON AN UNUSUAL RADAR RESPONSE BY MR. G. E. G. GRAHAM, D.S.I. 1

With reference to the unusual response observed at Wartling on 1st June, 1950, it is suggested that the signal observed was received directly from another radar transmitter, possibly ship-borne, in the Portsmouth-Isle of Wight area. This will be termed the "Western" transmitter.

Assuming the modulation pulses of the "Western" transmitter to be isochronous with those of the Wartling set, and that the pulse of the former was occurring anything up to, say, 1.2 milliseconds minus the transmission time later than that of the latter, the received signal would be visible on the P.P.I. display. Moreover, unless the "Western" transmitter were very far away it is probable that the received signal would be of large amplitude and would therefore, as stated in the report, "appear very thick leaving more afterglow than a usual response behind."

It is reasonable to suppose that the repetition rates mentioned above would not remain identical for more than a few seconds. A relatively small drift in the repetition rates will produce a considerable change in the time interval between the transmitter pulse and the firing instant of the receiver time base. This would result in a large displacement of the received signal along the scan, which would be interpreted as a high speed movement of the "target" in the radial direction. It will be appreciated that if, at the instant of first sighting the repetition rate of the "Western" transmitter were above, but slowly approaching, that of the Wartling set, the "target" would appear to close range rapidly; as the repetition rates became equal the "target" would appear stationary, and as the "Western" repetition rate fell below that of the Wartling set, the "target" would appear to open range rapidly. It may further be noted that one would expect reflections from objects (hills, &c.) relatively close to the "Western" transmitter to be of sufficient amplitude to be displayed also on the P.P.I., which would give the impression of "shadows" between successive points as described in the report.

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**APPENDIX B**

**AN OBSERVATION OF A "FLYING SAUCER" BY WING COMMANDER FORMBY, R.A.F.**

While on the rifle range at Tipner, Portsmouth, an object having the appearance of a "Flying Saucer" was observed in the distance. Visibility was good, there being a cloudless sky and bright sunshine. The object was located and held by telescope ( $\times 20$  magnification), and gave appearance of being a circular shining disc moving on a regular flight path. It was only after observation had been kept for several minutes, and the altitude of the object changed so that it did not reflect the sunlight to the observer's eye, that it was identified as being a perfectly normal aircraft.

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Headquarters Royal Air Force  
Provost and Security Services  
Royal Air Force Rudloe Manor  
Hawthorn, Wiltshire SN13 OPQ



Telephone: (01225) 810461 Ext 5622 Military Network: 95441 - 5622  
Fax: (01225) 810461 Ext 5518 Messages: HQ RAF P&SS

MoD(Sec(AS)1a)  
(Attn Mr L

Reference: PSS/261/L163/98/SIS

Date: 27 May 98

**ALLEGED SONIC EVENT - 24 MAR 97- SHEFFIELD, PEAK DISTRICT- FINAL REPORT**

1. D/Sec(AS)/56/1 dated 25 Mar 98 tasked FCF with the investigation of an alleged sonic event which was reported to have happened on 24 Mar 97 in the Peak district near Sheffield.
2. Alfens Ops records revealed that there were no military fast jet aircraft booked into the night low flying area at the relevant times. Inquiries with all flying units failed to identify the ac concerned.
3. Mr [redacted], British Geological Survey (BGS), Edinburgh stated that on the 24 Mar 97 at 2152Z seismic monitors had recorded a signal consistent with a sonic event. A further signal consistent with a sonic event were recorded at 2206Z. These signals were monitored as coming from the area reported as the complaint location at the monitoring stations at Haverah Park (south west of Huddersfield) and Holmfirth (south west of Leeds). A low frequency microphone at Leeds University also recorded the sonic event. Mr [redacted] stated that although BGS can differentiate between sonic and seismic events, sonic events cannot be identified as being specifically caused by aircraft. Phenomena such as satellite or meteor re-entry have been known to cause sonic events and this may explain the happenings of 24 Mar 97.
4. AIS (Mil) at West Drayton were requested to provide a radar synopsis (Enclosure 1) and the radar tape for the 24 Mar 97 was still available. The tape was viewed between 242130ZMar97 and 242200ZMar97, using the Claxby and Great Dun Fell Radar Heads. The recording reveals that at 2139Z, a squawk of 2574/143(Orcam/Karlshrue), is in descent heading west. At 2145 ac squawk 2574/048 passes to the north by 2 nm of the plotted position and the aircraft lands at Manchester Airport at 2154Z. The Air Information Service Officer is of the opinion that this aircraft is too slow moving to have caused a sonic boom. No other aircraft were seen to be flying in the area.

It is therefore considered that no military link can be established to this reported event and the case is now considered closed.



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for OC

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File

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13 July 05

Home My Cases Log New Replies Policy Change Help

**Request:** Section 40 11-07-2005-085634-001  
**Days Left:** 18

Received: 08 Jul 05  
Expiry Date: 05 Aug 05  
Status: Open

All sources

**Workflow Options**

AIT Main

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Date request received: 08 July 2005

**Applicant Details**

Title:	<input type="text"/>	Other:	<input type="text"/>
First Name:	<input type="text"/>	*Surname:	<input type="text"/>
Organisation:	<input type="text" value="Ufologist/unemployed"/>		
Applicant Type:	<input type="text" value="Private Individuals"/>	Other:	<input type="text"/>

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

Address Line1:	<input type="text"/>		
Address Line2:	<input type="text" value="Hatfield"/>		
Address Line3:	<input type="text" value="Hertfordshire"/>		
Town/City:	<input type="text"/>		
Postcode:	<input type="text"/>	Country:	<input type="text" value="United Kingdom"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>		
Telephone:	<input type="text"/>	Fax:	<input type="text"/>

GxAITESTPTCD/  
13 July 05

Home My Cases Log New Requests Policy Guidance Help

**Request:** [redacted] 11-07-2005-085634-001  
**Days Left:** 18

Received: 08 Jul 05  
Expiry Date: 05 Aug 05  
Status: Open

🔍 All sources

**Workflow Options**

AIT Main

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

**Request Details**

Response Format Requested:

Language Requested  Welsh

**\*Enter the request for information:**

I request ALL reports of UFOs over the british isles, british territories, and interests. I also request information pertaining to the interception of unidentified flying objects over the british isles, territories, and interests by RAF fighters/aircraft (example: the case of a vampire interceptor engaging the UFO over the north sea). Also All radar reports concerning UFOs. In particular i would like all the details the MOD posses about this particular story:

~SHEFFIELD UFO CASE CAUSES A FUROR IN BRITAIN

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

To be held by the help desk until allocation.

Clear

⏪ Back

Next ⏩

Cancel

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Info-Access-Office  
**Sent:** 13 July 2005 11:27  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: FOI INFORMATION REQUEST 11-07-2005-085634-001

**Categories:** FOI Information Request

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

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]  
Sent: 08 July 2005 18:11  
To: Info-Access-Office  
Subject: FOI INFORMATION REQUEST 11-07-2005-085634-001

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, July 8, 2005 at 18:11:12

-----  
FirstName: [REDACTED]

LastName: [REDACTED]

occupation: Ufologist/unemployed

Company: -

Address1: [REDACTED]

City: Hatfield

State: Hertfordshire

Zip: [REDACTED]

Country: United Kingdom

e-mail: [REDACTED]

telephone: [REDACTED]

preferred format: hardcopy

infosubject: I request ALL reports of UFOs over the british isles, british territories, and interests. I also request information pertaining to the interception of unidentified flying objects over the british isles, territories, and interests by RAF fighters/aircraft (example: the case of a vampire interceptor engaging the UFO <sup>when?</sup> over the north sea). Also All radar reports concerning UFOs. In particular i would like all the details the MOD posses about this particular story:

~SHEFFIELD UFO CASE CAUSES A FUROR IN BRITAIN

The March 24, 1997 UFO incident in the Peak District west of Sheffield is now the subject of an investigation by the newspaper Sheffield Star, the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) and the Hon. Helen Jackson, Member of Parliament for Sheffield/Hillsborough. In early April, the Sheffield Star revealed that the RAF had conducted a low-altitude training exercise that night and had participated in a massive air-and-ground search for a purported missing aircraft. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Jackson submitted a list of questions about the Sheffield case to the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD).

On April 7, 1998, John Spellar, Under-Secretary of Defense sent Mrs. Jackson this response: "It is not possible 12 months after the date in question to state precisely where military activities were being carried out. Records kept show only that aircraft were tasked to carry out low flying over the Peak District between 2030 and 2107 (8:30 to 9:07 p.m.) local time on the evening of 24 March 1997. No low-level flying is

permitted over the Sheffield urban area or any other major conurbation."

The night of March 24, 1997, instruments at the University of Edinburgh recorded two mysterious sonic booms in the Sheffield area. Eyewitnesses on the ground reported seeing a triangular UFO and up to six RAF Tornado fighters flying overhead. According to the May/June 1997 issue of UFO Magazine (page 9), the witnesses described the object as "a huge triangular-shaped UFO (that) passed directly overhead at 300 feet at 9:30 p.m. The craft had pinkish-colored lights around its curved edges and a blinking blue light on its underside and 'lit up the street as bright as day.'"

Since March 24, 1997, rumors of a UFO air battle and a Tornado crash have circulated in Derbyshire and South Yorkshire. According to the story, the triangular UFO appeared over Dronfield, Derbyshire. Six RAF Tornado interceptors engaged in an air attack on the craft. The UFO supposedly shot down a Tornado, which crashed in a reservoir near the Howden Moors in Derbyshire. The UFO then fled into space. Following the exchange of letters between Under-Secretary Spellar and Mrs. Jackson, BUFORA press officer [redacted] interviewed [redacted] of MoD's "UFO desk" and his deputy, Squadron Leader [redacted] of the RAF. According to [redacted], the men "confirmed the planes involved in the incident were two Tornado GR1 Strike aircraft which were operating from the base at RAF Marham on a pre-booked and pre-planned low-level training exercise over the Peak District. These Tornados were the type used on bombing missions in the (Persian) Gulf War and are not fighters that would be scrambled for an intercept."

"They also admitted that other Tornados and indeed Jaguar fighters from other NATO bases took part in the night-time sortie, which included night-time flying at a minimum 250 feet altitude over the mountains west of Sheffield." UFO researcher [redacted] has claimed that the triangular mystery object was tracked on radar at 9:55 p.m. that night by the Royal Signals unit at the RAF Linton-upon-Ouse base, near the city of York. [redacted] stated, "The MoD/RAF current position is that the two sonic booms recorded at 2132 and 2206 (9:32 and 10:06 p.m. by Edinburgh) that night remain 'unexplained.' They claim the low-flying exercise was over fifty minutes before these sonic events were recorded and say that they have no record of them at the time of the exercise."

[redacted] and [redacted] stated, "We did not chase a UFO, and there has been no cover-up. We responded to a request by the police to help to search for a crashed aircraft and sent a helicopter from RAF Leconfield. We don't know what caused the sonic events, and the whole thing is a mystery to us, too." [redacted] revealed that the air-and-ground search involved 200 police, fire and military reserve personnel, who covered an area of 40 square miles around Bolsterstone, South Yorkshire. The helicopter from RAF Leconfield was a Westland Sea King HAS Mk 6, which assisted the West Yorkshire police helicopter in the search. (See the Sheffield Star for April 4, 1998. Also UFO Roundup, volume 2, number 12 for March 30, 1997. Many thanks to [redacted] of BUFORA and [redacted] for this story.)~

Also request any and all information regarding MAJESTIC 12 (IPU (interplanetary phenomenon unit) prior to 1950, and Project JEHOVAH post 1970) interests in the British Isles 1947-present, including any and all technological, and informational trades between our governments own efforts into the investigation of UFOs and MAJESTIC 12. I also request information regarding our own efforts into the investigation of UFOs from the 1940s onwards.

Thank you

submit: Send Form

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# COMMUNICATING DEFENCE

Thought you might like to see  
this. Hope you agree it is a  
fairly balanced piece



**DAS**  
102No. ....  
11 NOV 2005  
**FILE**



**defence**

Lt Col (Ret'd) [redacted] Defence Press Officer (East), Sorley Block, RAF Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE28 2EA

Tel: [redacted] Fax: [redacted] Mob: [redacted] Email: modpresseast@brampton.raf.mod.uk

with compliments



# More 'flying saucers' have been reported, but close encounters in

# Aliens – or pie in the sky

BLUE and white circular objects reported in the sky, shooting stars falling to the ground, a silver grey rod flying over a small town – it sounds like a scene from *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*.

But an exclusive News investigation has discovered normally quiet and unassuming small towns such as Huntingdon, Girton, Ely and St Neots are a hotbed of extra terrestrial activity.

Ten UFOs have been reported in Mid-Anglia in the past three years according to the Ministry of Defence, which revealed the figures after the News made a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

But is this an invasion of little green men or a figment of fertile imaginations?

Four lights, one brighter than the others, seen in the skies over Ely in February last year could be a signal from extraterrestrials that has travelled millions of lightyears to get here using physics we do not yet understand.

Or it could be a plane.

The British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) has investigated reports of flying saucers, abduction, crop circles and all things alien since 1964.

Robert Rosamond, the group's chairman, said most sightings can be rationally explained.

"Some are everyday like aircraft, military or civilian, or astronomical phenomena like shooting stars," he said.

"And they can be very rare like geological glowing balls of light.

"All these can be mistaken by people for UFOs. We find that 95 per cent of all reports can be explained."

Cambridgeshire seems to be a highway to the restaurant at the end of universe in the past 20 years, if reports are to be believed.

Teenager Jamie Wilks said he saw a strange craft defy the laws of gravity in Vinery Road at 10.30pm in August 1994.

The 14-year-old and his friends claimed they saw "strange pin-pricks" zipping

## War of the Worlds or an Easyjet flight to Malaga? CAMERON RAMOS makes contact and investigates UFO Cambridgeshire.

backwards and forwards in the sky, followed by what looked like some sort of craft emerging from behind a cloud.

"I'm convinced it wasn't a plane," said Jamie. "Planes don't move like it was moving. It was defying the laws of physics."

Leslie Woodbridge was convinced he saw an alien craft while driving across the Fens near Ely early one morning in November 1987.

"I thought it was an aircraft, but its shape, speed and colour soon convinced me it was something far more strange," he said.

"I wasn't dreaming. It was incredible – the most fascinating thing I've seen in my life."

Mr Rosamond says BUFORA tried to be as scientific as possible while investigating possible UFOs.

"There are a few people who will hound you out a room if you say a sighting might not be UFO but we tried to be as objective as possible," he insists.

"We are neither pro-UFO nor anti-UFO. We look at each case individually and we try to look at the broad aspects of the phenomenon."

"Ufology", as it has been dubbed, takes in many other subjects, such as psychology, the sciences and astronomy, adds Mr Rosamond.

"We have all had individual cases where there is no obvious rational explanation but they are very rare.

"We never close a case and as we learn more it is possible phenomena we don't understand now can be explained later," he said.

Hollywood has also played its part.

BUFORA files from the 1980s are bulging following the release of Stephen Spielberg's 1977 blockbuster *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and his later hit *ET*, says Mr Rosamond.

"We have files going back to 1924, and

the stereotype image of grey aliens you can see on everything from the bottom of skateboards to TV commercials came from the US.

"Prior to that there was nothing in the UK," he adds.

Since Roswell, when an alien craft allegedly crashed in New Mexico in 1947, reports of UFOs grew but over the past 15-years interest in little green men has died and sightings have dwindled.

Mr Rosamond says: "We are keeping an open mind. We will keep searching for answers."

An Ministry of Defence spokeswoman said: "A combination of civil and military radar installations provide a continuous real-time 'picture' of UK airspace.

"Any threat to the UK Air Defence Region would be handled in the light of the particular circumstances at the time (it might, if deemed appropriate, involve the scrambling or diversion of air defence aircraft).

"Reports provided to us of 'UFO' sightings are examined within this department, but consultation with air defence staff is considered only where there is sufficient evidence to suggest a breach of UK air space.

"The vast majority of reports we receive are very sketchy and vague. Only a handful of reports in recent years have warranted further investigation and none revealed any evidence of a threat.

"The MoD does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms.

"We remain totally open-minded, but to date we know of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena."

cameronramos  
@cambridge-news.co.uk



Mystery: Jamie Wilks and Andy Hyde. Below, Mulder and S

## UFO sightings in three years in M

- February 19, 2003 8.30pm Huntingdon: A shooting star falling to the ground.
- June 4, 2005 12.30am St Neots: The object looked like a dim red light.
- April 11, 2003 10.21pm Stansted Airport: A ball of fire, very bright, with no colour.
- June 8, 2005 4.45pm St Neots: The object looked like a rod that was silvery/grey.
- June 14, 2003 6.00am Girton: Small circular object. Blue and white, translucent.
- No specific date.
- January 9, 2004 10.30pm Thaxted: Strange light in the sky.
- February 8, 2004 9.45pm Ely: Four lights, one brighter than the others, sometimes fading.
- April 9, 2004 5.57pm Greater Chesterford: 60ft long symmetrical object.
- February 11, 2005 Huntingdon: The witness just said that it was a "UFO".

## Firing the imagination since ancient days

IMAGES of alien-type creatures date back thousands of years to when man lived in caves. But it is only in modern times that extraterrestrials have become a major phenomenon.

A picture in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, of the Baptism of Christ by Aert de Gelder shows a large disk shining rays of light down on John the Baptist and Christ. It was painted in 1710.

A theory of alien interference has even been put forward that suggests human

evolution has been helped along the way by spacemen. But Roswell is the most infamous UFO story that sparked decades of feverish speculation.

A flying disk was reported to have crashed landed near the town in New Mexico on July 2, 1947. *The Times* even reported US scientists had taken the object for further investigation.

The government denied claims it was an alien landing but stories continued that extraterrestrial remains were

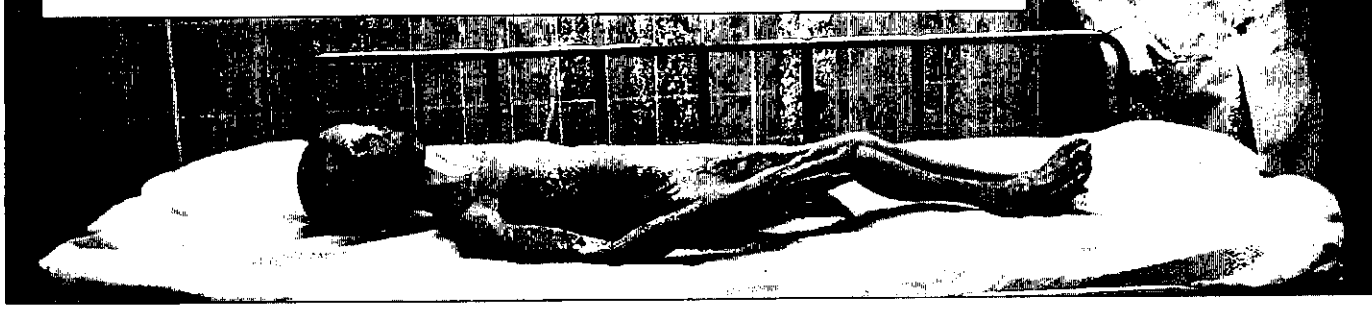
secretly transported to Hangar 18 at an air base in Ohio. The model of the autopsy, pictured, is in the town's museum.

Recently a film purporting to show an alien found at the crash site was released, adding fuel to the conspiracy theories.

But categorical evidence of life forms from outer space is still elusive.

Credible scientific evidence suggests there is a chance of life but no proof of super-intelligent beings.

The truth is out there . . .



# Mid Anglia may be more airborne than alien

# ky?

htings in



from TV's *The X Files*.

## he last Anglia

just sometime in 2005, Chatteris: The witness just said that it was a "UFO".



## Numbers of 'unexplained' aerial sightings reported to the MoD

The figures below relate to the number of reports, received by the Ministry of Defence, of aerial activity which was not immediately identifiable to the witness.

They should not be taken to reflect sightings of "UFOs/flying saucers".

■ Figures from before 1959 are not available.

1959 - 22	1975 - 208	1991 - 117
1960 - 31	1976 - 200	1992 - 147
1961 - 71	1977 - 435	1993 - 258
1962 - 46	1978 - 750	1994 - 250
1963 - 51	1979 - 550	1995 - 373
1964 - 74	1980 - 350	1996 - 609
1965 - 56	1981 - 600	1997 - 425
1966 - 95	1982 - 250	1998 - 193
1967 - 362	1983 - 390	1999 - 229
1968 - 280	1984 - 214	2000 - 210
1969 - 228	1985 - 177	2001 - 203
1970 - 181	1986 - 120	2002 - 100
1971 - 379	1987 - 150	2003 - 99
1972 - 201	1988 - 397	2004 - 85
1973 - 233	1989 - 258	2005 - 90
1974 - 177	1990 - 209	

## MAD ABOUT



the House



Parliamentary correspondent Bill Jacobs brings you all the latest from the Commons.

## Memoirs not so diplomatic

CAMBRIDGE graduate Sir Christopher Meyer, the former ambassador to the United States, revealed an interesting aside about his former boss, John Major, in his controversial memoirs.

The Peterhouse graduate was having coffee with the ex-Prime Minister and Huntingdon MP in Washington when news of the September 11 New York terrorist atrocity broke.

He was with Mr Major on the terrace of his palatial residence in the American capital when details came in of the disaster.

Meyer assumed that "some small private plane had wandered off course or got into mechanical difficulties".

Then his wife Catherine called him to the TV to see the second aircraft hitting New York's trade tower.

Both Mr Meyer, a former Downing Street Press Secretary to Mr Major, and his wife, tried to persuade the politician to go to a meeting of the Carlisle Group - one of the most

powerful private financial firms in the US.

He came back to say there had been a brief meeting before his speech was abandoned but he had met a Mr Bin Laden - not the Osama behind the massacre but one of his many brothers who was a major investor in the firm.

■ MR Meyer was pretty scathing about Mr Blair's Cabinet ministers.

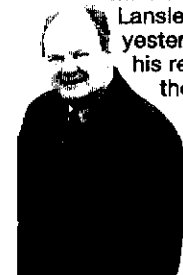
He brands Foreign Secretary Jack Straw as "tongue tied" and Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott as "blithering".

He does praise Cabinet rebels Clare Short and the late Mo Mowlam as able and also extols the virtues of Environment, Food and Rural affairs Secretary Margaret Beckett compared with her predecessor Nick Brown whom he brands ineffective and almost inaudible.

It just shows you can take the diplomat out of Cambridge but never the Cambridge graduate's superiority out of the diplomat.

## Malcolm has a 'whet' while wets remember

CAMBRIDGESHIRE South MP Andrew Lansley



yesterday paid his respects to the late Edward Heath at the former Prime Minister's memorial

service at Westminster Abbey.

As a classic "wet" Conservative that was entirely appropriate.

But Cambridgeshire North East MP Malcolm Moss, pictured left, was at a lunch with merchant bankers Coutts who look after the Royal Family's finances.

## Bush-meat, Bird flu, it's all the same to Jim

MR Paice has been tied up at Westminster with bird flu in his role as agriculture spokesman.

He's been demanding that the Cabinet Minister responsible for tackling the issue, Margaret Beckett, take decisive action.

I have taken the mickey out of Mr Paice before for his obsession of putting down Commons' motions about Symian Foaming Virus - a disease that affects chimpanzees and

other apes which are sometimes imported illegally to Britain as "bush meat".

But Mr Paice pointed out to me: "This is all about bio-security and stopping getting dangerous animal diseases in to the food chain and the human population.

"It's the same issue. The Government are not doing enough and they must act."

Sorry, Jim!



## AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

**Applicant:** [REDACTED] Cambridge Evening News

**Case Number:** 20-10-2005-101703-006    **Expiry:** 10 November 2005

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

1. What does the MOD do when it receives a reported UFO sighting, -do fighters investigate, have there been instances of fighters being scrambled after report in Cambs (or elsewhere)?
2. How are the sightings investigated?
3. How are sightings classified? I presume most have a rational explanation but could you give me a proportion for the number that are still unaccounted for.
4. There were nine reported sightings in a two-year period in Cambs (see below) how does that compare with the rest of the country?
5. Has there been an increase or decrease in reported sighting in Cambs (or nationally) over the last 10, 20, 50 years?

### Case for release of information

1. An explanation of how the MOD deals with UFO sighting reports has been given to the applicant.
2. The MOD does not investigate UFO sightings. An explanation has been given to the applicant.
3. UFO sightings are not 'classified' and the MOD does not attempt to positively identify what was seen. An explanation has been given to the applicant.
4. The MOD does not keep records by geographical area. A table has been provided of all reported UFO sightings received throughout the UK (including Cambridgeshire) in 2003, 2004 and to date in 2005.
5. We do not compile statistics on the number of UFO sightings reported by location. A list of the number of UFO reports received since records were first kept in 1959 has been provided.

There is no reason to withhold any of this information, some of which has already been released in response to earlier Freedom of Information requests.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: .....D...

Name:...

Signature.....

Date:...21 October 2005

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 October 2005 09:29  
**To:** [REDACTED]@cambridge-news.co.uk  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Internet-authorized:Request for information about UFOs  
**Importance:** High

Dear [REDACTED]

Please see attached a response to your request for information about UFO sighting reports. I apologise for not being able to get a response to you sooner.

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

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

21<sup>st</sup> October 2005



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

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

---

[REDACTED]  
Cambridge Evening News

Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/10/2/8/13  
Date  
21 October 2005

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Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing concerning your request for information about reports of 'unidentified flying objects' and how these reports are handled. Your request has been considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I will answer your questions in the same order as your e-mail.

1. The integrity of the UK's airspace in peacetime is maintained through continuous surveillance of the UK Air Policing Area by the Royal Air Force. This is achieved by using a combination of civil and military radar installations, which provide a continuous real-time "picture" of the UK airspace. Any threat to the UK Air Defence Region would be handled in the light of the particular circumstances at the time (it might if deemed appropriate, involve the scrambling or diversion of air defence aircraft). This system is not reliant on this department receiving reports of objects or lights which the observer is unable to identify. Reports provided to us of 'UFO' sightings are examined within this department, but consultation with air defence staff is considered only where there is sufficient evidence to suggest a breach of UK air space. The vast majority of reports we receive are very sketchy and vague. Only a handful of reports in recent years have warranted further investigation and none revealed any evidence of a threat.

2. The MOD does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms. We remain totally open-minded, but to date we know of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. We do not therefore carry out investigations into reported sightings.

3. UFO sightings reported to the MOD are not given classifications. With regard to your question about the proportion of reports that remain unaccounted for, I am unable to supply this information because unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each reported sighting. We believe it is possible that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. We could not justify expenditure of public funds on investigations which go beyond our specific defence remit.

4. We do not keep records of UFO sighting reports by geographical area. However, we are in the process of compiling a database of reports received by year and I have attached three tables containing brief details of all the UFO reports received by the MOD throughout the UK (including Cambridgeshire) in 2003, 2004 and to date in 2005.

5. We do not compile statistics on the number of UFO sightings reported by location, but we do record the total number of reports received annually. This figure fluctuates each year depending on public interest in the subject. I attach for your information a list of the number of UFO reports received since records were first kept in 1959.

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

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

Yours sincerely,



## UFO sighting reports received by the MOD

2005

Date	Time	Town / Village	County	Brief Description of Sighting
14-Jan-05	00:24	Leeds	West Yorkshire	Two bright lights, round, and orange in colour.
14-Jan-05		St Clements	Cornwall	A bright light was seen heading towards the earth through the clouds.
15-Jan-05	23:15	Stoke-on-Trent	Staffordshire	Just reported as a flying saucer.
24-Jan-05	23:10	Portadown	Northern Ireland	Eighteen lights moving across the sky.
31-Jan-05	05:00	Port Talbot	West Glamorgan	Orange ball of light, like a big star in the sky and it had spiderish legs.
01-Feb-05	10:30	Stirling		Black saucer, hovering.
02-Feb-05	17:50	Wellingborough	Northants	V shaped object, which had bright lights, and sounded like bees.
08-Feb-05	22:55	Orpington	London	Massive light. The object was shaped like an iron. Didn't move at all.
11-Feb-05		Huntingdon	Cambridgeshire	Just reported as a UFO.
15-Feb-05	01:00	Greenock	Strathclyde	Large yellow conical shape.
20-Feb-05		Leicester	Leicestershire	Object seen in the sky, but then the witness said it could have been a meteorite.
20-Feb-05	10:00	Walthamstow	London	A light in the sky.
20-Feb-05	09:50	Cardiff	South Glamorgan	Bright blue object, that broke into about 3 or 4 segments and then disappeared.
20-Feb-05	09:45	Nr Minehead	Somerset	A 'swishing' sound, like a firework was heard and there was a bright green light travelling from East to West. It had a white trail.
20-Feb-05		Yeovil	Somerset	Bright blue flash in the sky.
20-Feb-05		Sherborne	Dorset	A flash of green/blue colour going across the sky. Looked like it was disintegrating. Looked like it had a tail.
20-Feb-05	09:45	Barrington	Somerset	Saw an amazing blue light travelling very fast across the sky. Left a trail.
20-Feb-05		Kenton Mandeville		A blue flash of light going across the sky.
20-Feb-05			Somerset	A blue flash in the sky.
20-Feb-05			Dorset	A flash of blue light was seen.
20-Feb-05		East Coker near Yeovil	Somerset	A flying object.



20-Feb-05		Yeldersley	Derbyshire	The object was missile shaped. Was turquoise in colour, metallic and looked reflective, and was the length of an estate car.
21-Feb-05		Chivnal	Shropshire	Silver object/ball with a tail. Moving very fast.
21-Feb-05	10:00	Teddington	Middlesex	Something seen in the sky.
21-Feb-05	09:56	Winkleigh	Devon	Object seen in the sky.
27-Feb-05		Wokingham	Berkshire	Zoom of light which streaked across the sky from left to right, changed into a silver ball, then a flying saucer shape, before disappearing.
14-Mar-05	05:29	Immingham/Grimsby	Humberside	One strange light, that stayed there for about an hour. It dimmed, then got brighter again.
20-Mar-05	19:35		North Wales	Just reported a UFO.
24-Mar-05	21:30			The object was star shaped and all the colours of the rainbow and was dancing around.
31-Mar-05	21:15	Woking	Surrey	A bright star that moved to the side. It had bright lights.
04-Apr-05		Crosby		Late at night witnessed something in the sky that could not be identified.
06-Apr-05	23:00	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	One yellow sphere that was very bright and fast. Moving from West to North East.
07-Apr-05	23:15	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Three spheres within five minutes, moving from West to North East.
11-Apr-05	00:45	Shrewsbury	Shropshire	A triangular shaped, huge craft, with red lights on the stern. It hovered over the southern suburbs of Shrewsbury.
18-Apr-05	00:30	Matlock	Derbyshire	A descending white light. Then rotating beams of light going upwards from the ground.
21-Apr-05	06:31		Norfolk	Three objects were seen hovering in the sky.
22-Apr-05		Wellingborough	Northants	A UFO/bright light was seen at a high altitude.
14-May-05	21:43		South-East London	A black cigar shaped object, that looked like a disc side on. It accelerated to a great speed that would outstrip a fighter jet.
27-May-05	15:15		Kent	A small white object, that was moving parallel with an airliner.
04-Jun-05	00:30	St Neots	Cambridgeshire	The object looked like a dim red light. Was zig Zagging across the sky in an easterly direction. Was faster than a plane.
08-Jun-05	16:45	St Neots	Cambridgeshire	The object looked like a rod. Through binoculars it appeared to shine silver, but was grey to the naked eye. Was moving around.
23-Jun-05	15:15	Stapleford	Nottinghamshire	Two extremely bright, round lights, they had an object by the left of them, which was lozenge shaped. Had the speed of an arrow.
04-Jul-05	21:00	Middlesbrough	Cleveland	The object was triangular and the point was sort of rounded. It was

				silent and had no lights. Moved slowly in an Easterly direction.
11-Jul-05	23:30	Nailsworth	Gloucestershire	Strange lights in the sky at a very high altitude.
02-Aug-05	22:15			Two objects above the house which circled about five times.
03-Aug-05	00:00	Peacehaven	East Sussex	Seven red and white flashing lights. They were moving in an erratic type of way.
06-Aug-05	22:00	Rotherham	South Yorkshire	Thin band of cloud with beams of light coming down. Lights moved from side to side like search lights.
07-Aug-05	21:30	Kirby	Merseyside	Four oblongs that were equally spaced. They also looked like bright lights.
10-Aug-05	18:30	Walthamstow	London	The object was the size of a jumbo jet and was silver.
11-Aug-05	02:00	Hurst	Berkshire	The witness didn't see the object, but said that it sounded like a 1930's airship. There was a low humming noise over the house.
13-Aug-05	17:11	10 miles West of Gatwick	Sussex	One-two metres in length. Was a yellow colour and cylindrical in shape. Not a balloon shape.
21-Aug-05	11:50	Ripon	North Yorkshire	Round, football shaped object that was shiny and metallic.
23-Aug-05		North of Derbyshire		Eight to ten circular things/objects that looked quite low in the sky. They were uniform shape, small and opaque.
03-Sep-05	17:45	Little Waltham	Essex	A cylindrical shaped object, that changed from silver to black as it was moving across the sky. About 100ft wide.
04-Sep-05	22:00	Louth	Lincolnshire	Two orange orbs seen outside moving very slow at first, then very fast towards the North Sea.
04-Sep-05	02:35	Wolsingham	Northumbria	There was a three dimensional diamond shaped object, approx. size of a large helicopter. It had green lights on either side.
05-Sep-05	21:00	Hornchurch	Essex	A 'UFO'.
09-Sep-05	05:45	Little Hampton	West Sussex	One light in the sky that burst into four separate ones, before disappearing.
10-Sep-05	22:00	Loughton	Essex	Three glowing lights. They were a bright orange colour.
10-Sep-05	22:00	Loughton	Essex	Three golden orbs seen hovering in the sky for an hour, moving in a triangle formation.
10-Sep-05	22:00	Loughton	Essex	Three very suspicious looking lights up in the sky. They were orange and very bright.
10-Sep-05	21:00	Loughton	Essex	Three objects were seen in the sky. The objects appeared to be orange in colour.
10-Sep-05	20:58	Loughton	Essex	Three balls of fire in the sky. They keep circling and then lining up.
14-Sep-05	21:15	Lochgelly	Fife	Bright, white lights that were moving in semi circles.

14-Sep-05	21:45	Glenrothes	Fife	Three to six bright, white lights in circles.
14-Sep-05	23:15	Creiff	Perthshire	Clear white lights, like a torch but no beam.
14-Sep-05	20:50	Letham	Fife	White circles all over the sky.
14-Sep-05	20:55	Blairgowrie	Perthshire	Three white circles going clockwise then anti-clockwise.
14-Sep-05	21:23	Kinross	Perthshire	Two-three bright green and luminous lights circling.
17-Sep-05	15:58			One object, dark brown, that was a military shape and was fast moving.
20-Sep-05	20:39	Romford	Essex	Four orange lights above the witnesses house.
10-Oct-05				Just reported a UFO sighting in the evening.
		Chatteris	Cambridgeshire	Just reported as a UFO sighting.
		Whitstable	Kent	Strange lights in the sky.
		Port Talbot	West Glamorgan	Looked like a parachute flare.
		Swansea	West Glamorgan	Looked like a parachute flare.
		Brighton		Sighting seen sometime in 2005, in Southwick.
		Briton Ferry	West Glamorgan	Something was seen in the sky. (sometime in February 2005).
		Slough	Berkshire	Like a big shooting star, but was going too fast to be one.
		Shepton Mallet	Somerset	(Seen in April 2005). The object looked like a star, but moved very slow sideways.
		Basildon	Essex	(Seen in April 2005). Saw a spacecraft with aliens (the greys), sitting on top of it, above the bungalow.
		Kendal	Cumbria	(Was seen sometime in 2005). Just reported a UFO.
		Brixton Hill	London	(Was seen sometime in 2005). Just reported a UFO.
	09:34	Chevithorne	Devon	The object looked like a telegraph pole.
		Cardiff	South Wales	A UFO. (Seen sometime in 2005).
		Pontyclun	South Wales	A UFO. (Seen sometime in 2005).
				Two UFOs were spotted, and they were clearly not aeroplanes. (Seen sometime in July 2005).
		Lichfield	Staffordshire	The object was circular and was a dull orange colour/light. Was the size of a meduim aircraft. (Seen in August 2005).
		Ipswich	Suffolk	Just reported a UFO. ( Seen sometime in 2005).
			Somerset	A bubble like thing in the sky. It flashed across the sky. (Seen sometime in August 2005).
		Croesyceiliog	Gwent	Five to six white lights flying very fast overhead. They looked a bit like bright stars.

		Bagshot	Surrey	Just reported a UFO sighting.
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## 2004

Date	Time	Town / Village	County	Brief Description of Sighting
02-Jan-04	04:30	Ayr	Strathclyde	A square red object, pinkish at the front.
09-Jan-04	14:00	Market Harborough	Leicestershire	One large black triangular aircraft with three bright lights in a triangle formation. There was a rumbling sound.
09-Jan-04	22:30	Thaxted	Essex	Strange light that was watched for one and a half hours.
12-Jan-04	16:30	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire	Round object with white lights all around it.
27-Jan-04	21:00	Peterborough	Cambridgeshire	Four dull red lights above the house, travelling fast and low.
27-Jan-04	23:08	Retford	Nottinghamshire	One object seen over Retford Town Hall.
28-Jan-04	18:30	Peterborough	Cambridgeshire	Flashing green lights 1000-5000ft up in the sky.
28-Jan-04	18:15	Billingsley	Shropshire	Lights in the night sky flying in formation.
04-Feb-04	06:15	Grosmont	North Yorkshire	Object appeared to be a soundless pair of lights, one yellow, the other white. No discernable shape.
08-Feb-04	21:45	Ely	Cambridgeshire	Four lights, one brighter than the others, sometimes fading.
11-Feb-04	21:05	Holbeach	Lincolnshire	Two objects, described as a fast pair of speeding lights - very fast bright light.
18-Feb-04	16:02	Rhyl	Clwyd	Large black object over Rhyl.
01-Mar-04	20:00	Lowestoft	Suffolk	Yellow light in a circular formation. The flash shot across the sky and the lights went out.
17-Mar-04	20:20	Edinburgh	Lothian	Fast moving bright light.
25-Mar-04	22:10	Leighton Buzzard	Bedfordshire	Large ball of light. Looked like a rocket. No sound generally, but at times, a slight whirring sound.
27-Mar-04			Sri Lanka	Saw the object at 17:30 Sri Lankan time. The object looked like a ring doughnut and was orange and had other rings of colour surrounding it too.
02-Apr-04	12:30	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	One sphere.
09-Apr-04	17:57	Greater Chesterford	Essex	60ft long symmetrical object.

09-Apr-04	19:30	Dimchurch	Kent	Just said it was an object. That it was flying over very fast and then disappeared.
11-Apr-04	20:43	Seaforth	Merseyside	Saw a UFO, with a cluster of four bright lights in a ring shape on it. Three beams of white light shone upwards and then disappeared.
14-Apr-04	10:30	Wellingborough	Northants	A round object was flying overhead at a very fast speed.
14-Apr-04	20:27	Honley	West Yorkshire	Looked like a Jellyfish flying in the sky. May have had two bright lights on the side of the object.
15-Apr-04	22:20	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Yellow sphere. Very bright.
16-Apr-04	22:40	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Yellow sphere.
16-Apr-04	22:55	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Yellow sphere.
19-Apr-04	22:10	Filey	North Yorkshire	Two objects travelling together. They climbed at an incredible speed, and headed south down the coast.
22-Apr-04	16:30	Goole	East Yorkshire	The object looked like a boomerang and was stationary over a power station. An aircraft was circling the object.
22-Apr-04		Queensbury	West Yorkshire	Just said an object.
25-Apr-04	08:50	Primrose Hill	London	The object was a rectangle shape with a white light.
29-Apr-04	22:30	Derby	Derbyshire	Four bright lights, plus the outer circle of the round object, had eight lights going round in a clockwise direction.
05-May-04	23:10	Kings Lynn	Norfolk	A bright, pulsing-spider looking object.
10-May-04	22:45	Storth	Cumbria	Looked like a bright star and was moving around like a kite.
10-May-04	22:47	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Two yellow spheres, going at a tremendous speed.
14-May-04	03:10	Leeds	West Yorkshire	A very bright light and also saw strobe lights near the bright light.
15-May-04		West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Two spheres.
17-May-04		West Kilbride	Ayrshire	One sphere.
19-May-04	23:20	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Large bright sphere.
20-May-04	09:43		Surrey	The witness had seen the object so clearly, that grooves and windows could be seen and no room for humans to fit within it.
20-May-04	11:15	Nelson	Lancashire	The object was white in colour and 'chewy mint' shaped.
20-May-04	13:30	Skipton	North Yorkshire	Looked like a light, transparent ring.
22-May-04	23:50			Two objects were both an orange colour and were disc shaped. They looked like aircraft without wings and were very silent.
25-May-04	17:00	Paignton	Devon	Long single, black cylinder type object about 200ft long.

25-May-04		West Kilbride	Ayrshire	One sphere.
30-May-04	12:15	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Five bright spheres flying beside each other.
01-Jun-04	00:00	Hamilton	Lanarkshire	The object was a bright light and it was flashing and making engine noises.
02-Jun-04	00:35	Hamilton	Lanarkshire	One object with a bright, white flashing light, and was making engine noises.
02-Jun-04	01:00	Hayes	Middlesex	Object looked like a comet at first, was quite bright and got lighter as it grew bigger.
04-Jun-04	21:07	Coventry	West Midlands	One long, black, cigar shaped object.
05-Jun-04		Wellingborough	Northants	A black 'UFO' was seen flying over a Methodist Church.
14-Jun-04	09:30	Rushden	Northants	A 'UFO' was following an airliner.
14-Jun-04	23:15	Bridgend		One object, about 70ft long, with brilliant bright lights. The object changed shape, just before the sight was lost.
21-Jun-04	17:55	Oldham	Greater Manchester	One long, black, cigar shaped object.
13-Jul-04	01:00	Winchmore Hill	London	Object was extremely large, completely circular and the lights on it were pulsating different colours.
14-Jul-04	23:10	Corby	Northants	Bright yellow light, low level, appeared from nowhere for about ten seconds.
19-Jul-04	22:20	Wellford	Berkshire	Ball of flames with a solid underneath, the flames went out and came on again, and then plummeted to earth.
28-Jul-04		Lynton nr Exmoor	Devon	The object looks like a big white triangle on the horizon.
31-Jul-04	22:45	Shepton Mallet	Somerset	Three very strange, bright orange objects, which were quite large and going in an upward direction.
07-Aug-04	04:30	Chingford	London	Strange looking object, bigger than an aircraft, it had mesh around it and red, blue, green and yellow lights around the outside.
07-Aug-04		Greenside	Newcastle upon Tyne	Only reported as alien sightings above the house.
16-Aug-04	23:35	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Five spheres spotted, flying together.
29-Aug-04	03:05	Loughton	Essex	The object was white, hazy and round, and there was no noise.
01-Sep-04	15:55	Glossop	Derbyshire	Silver disc.
02-Sep-04	23:50	Deal	Kent	The object was very bright and was of large proportions. Large in velocity.
04-Sep-04	14:30	White Hill	East Hampshire	The object was a black cylinder rectangle shape and was the size of a house. One minute the colour was black and then changed to a

				silver colour.
05-Sep-04	10:24	Birmingham	West Midlands	An object was seen the size of a ten pence piece. It had a domed top and bottom. Was metallic in appearance.
05-Sep-04	15:20	Barry	South Glamorgan	The object was a bright light at first and then looked like a box kite. There was no sound, wings or fuselage.
07-Sep-04	11:30	Holywell	Flintshire	Two silvery objects, they were pulling apart and moving together and they left vapour trails as they were moving.
08-Sep-04	20:15	Cardiff	South Glamorgan	Large flash of light which turned into a grey object descending over Cardiff bay, with trailing smoke behind it.
09-Sep-04	23:20	Dumfries	Dumfries & Galloway	Spotted strange lights over the town.
16-Sep-04	03:50	Iwerne Minster	Somerset	The object looked like a great bright light and was really intense, like a big ball of fire, rapidly moving towards the ground.
20-Sep-04	22:00	Lutterworth	Leicestershire	Flashing lights.
24-Sep-04	06:30	Devizes	Wiltshire	Looked like a big ball of fire coming down from the sky with a tail and sparks coming off of the end of it.
24-Sep-04	06:30	Newport	Dyfed/South Wales	One object that looked like a disc, with a tail and was shiny.
24-Sep-04		Swindon	Wiltshire	Saw a big orange disc going from East to West. Said the object was totally silent and moving quite slowly.
30-Sep-04	21:10	Porchester	Hampshire	Just mentioned a sighting.
10-Oct-04	10:15	Strath Bongo/Glasgow	Strathclyde	The object looked like a wide test tube shape, that moved from the South East.
10-Oct-04	22:15	Colchester	Essex	Bright orange/red colour object, rapidly and randomly changing direction, from East to West.
11-Oct-04	02:35	Preston	Lancashire	The object was a round sphere like the moon and it had green and red flashing lights and was very noisy.
12-Oct-04	20:07	Dumfries	Dumfries & Galloway	Strange lights over the town.
18-Oct-04		Wimbledon	London	A few objects.
06-Nov-04	21:25	Driffield	East Yorkshire	The object had three to four different colour lights.
09-Nov-04		Warmington	Northants	The object was very bright like the sun, and it looked like the size of a space hopper! Had flames coming off of it, so it could have been a meteorite! Now says probably was!
11-Nov-04	14:15	Ilford	Essex	The object was the size of a round beach ball and black. Looked

				disc shaped when it became stationary in the sky. Had no wings.
19-Nov-04	08:02	Douglas	Isle of Man	The object was a silver disc, with solar panels, but turned out to be an ATR 42 - twin propeller, Euromanx aeroplane.
26-Nov-04	21:00	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Witnessed at least 25 yellow spheres, flying in groups of five, flying North over West Kilbride.
29-Nov-04	17:15	Wellingborough	Northants	A group of lights were seen and then a buzzing noise was heard.
10-Dec-04	17:25	Broxburn/Edinburgh	Lothian	Ball of fire, with a tail five to seven times the diameter of the ball. Bright orange with a weaker orange tail. Meteorite?
15-Dec-04	08:30	Lisburn/Belfast	County Antrim	Three bright lights moving in the sky.
27-Dec-04	17:15	Wellingborough	Northants	A 'UFO' was seen, and then it changed into a bright light.
		Leicester	Leicestershire	Three to four discs, that looked oval shape when the discs moved to the side. Moved in a triangular formation across the sky.
		Letchworth	Bedfordshire	Two objects flying around the sky for about two hours, and that they were going quite slow. (Seen in December '04).



**2003**

Date	Time	Town / Village	County	Brief Description of sighting
04-Jan-03	21:15	St Clares, Nr Carmarthen	Dyfed	White object with vivid flashing green, blue and red lights.
04-Jan-03	19:20	Nr Benbecula Airport		One object with a very bright light like an aircraft's landing light, with a smaller dimmer light on top of the bright light.
06-Jan-03	15:00	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire	Three silver or white balls in the sky, joined by another two. Quite large. Travelling in a line.
07-Jan-03	21:26	Blackpool	Lancashire	One bright white object, hovering at first, then moving quickly.
08-Jan-03	22:00	Coaltown of Balgonie	Fife	Changing shape. Strong blue, green and red lights pulsating lights. Jumbo Jet sized.
10-Jan-03	03:00	Brighton	Sussex	Looked like a satellite re-entering, moving across the sky, then shot off like a shooting star.
10-Jan-03		Stirling	Scotland	Two aircraft type objects flying next to each other. Both had vapour trails.
10-Jan-03	01:00	East Dulwich	London	Lights, that were formed in a worm shape, wriggling around in the sky.
11-Jan-03	23:45	Bridgnorth	Salop	Oblong in shape with three vertical flashing lights, red, yellow and green, all flashing at the same time.
13-Jan-03	07:40	Dunkeld	Tayside	Distant object moving from side to side. Bright light, brighter than any star. Went dim from time to time.
15-Jan-03	22:10	Cowbridge	South Glamorgan	A large round disc, slightly smaller than the moon. Creamy white then changed green.
19-Jan-03	18:03	Stonehaven	Grampian	Three bright lights forming a triangle. Hovering not moving.
25-Jan-03	19:08	Chester	Cheshire	Twelve bright lights moving from side to side.
29-Jan-03	18:15	Wolverhampton	West Midlands	Two triangular shaped objects, flying in perfect synchronisation. Low humming noise - not like a normal commercial airliner.
03-Feb-03		Leyland	Lancashire	Bright light lit up the curtains, and for a split second appeared to be heading for the window. Followed by a loud bang.
16-Feb-03	17:20	Birmingham	West Midlands	Object seen. Static.

19-Feb-03	18:30	Huntingdon	Cambridgeshire	Like a shooting star falling to the ground.
21-Feb-03	10:30	Penryn	Cornwall	A circular bright light - three arms on the object, (not rotating), in the middle of it was a red light.
25-Feb-03	23:00	Southfields	London	Object, not a plane, not on flight path and not a star.
01-Mar-03		Northampton	Northamptonshire	Two large white objects, close together, looked like jets or refuelling planes. Going at jet speed.
02-Mar-03	15:54	Pontypridd	Mid-Glamorgan	Strange object, silver and shaped like a dart.
11-Mar-03	21:50	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire	An object high up in the sky.
30-Mar-03	20:00	Aldershot	Hampshire	A very large delta shaped formation of steady red lights - no noise.
30-Mar-03		Glastonbury	Somerset	Lights in the sky.
31-Mar-03	09:20		London	Two silver objects that were stationary in the sky. One seemed to be closer than the other.
05-Apr-03	03:58			Massive object, about the size of two football pitches, triangular shape. Took off very fast.
07-Apr-03	02:30	Falmouth	Cornwall	One craft with three yellow lights on portside and three red lights on starboard side. Shape was between circular and triangular or Delta wing size.
11-Apr-03	22:21	Stansted Airport	Essex	A ball of fire, very bright, with no colour.
23-Apr-03	18:15	Heathrow Airport	London	A ball of light, with no colour, passed under an aircraft, front to back, very fast.
24-Apr-03		Shepherds Bush	London	Crafts coming down from behind the clouds.
05-May-03	18:30			Saw a black triangle flying quite fast and silently, through the sky in a single direction.
13-May-03	17:45	Belfast	Northern Ireland	Two objects that looked like stars.
25-May-03	23:00	Sandyford	Lanarkshire	The object was high and bright and had no anti-collision lights.
25-May-03	23:05	Kilmacolm	Strathclyde	Large bright light.
25-May-03	23:20	St. Leonards	East Kilbride	Huge white ball that was glowing. Looked like a flying jellyfish.
28-May-03	07:50	Great Yarmouth	Norfolk	The object was saucer shaped.
30-May-03	23:25	Kingston-upon-Hull	Humberside	A bright light in the sky.
31-May-03	21:00	Gateshead	Tyne and Wear	Black orb with five or six tassels underneath it.
08-Jun-03	17:00	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire	White cylindrical object moving very fast up into the sky.
09-Jun-03	06:40	Isleworth	London	Silver object as bright as a star, changed from a cylinder to

				a crescent moon shape, with red and silver stripes.
14-Jun-03	21:35	Llandrindod Wells	Powys	Very big red light balls hovering. One red light hung smaller and then dropped out.
14-Jun-03	15:39	Walthamstow	London	Cylinder shaped object, with faint stars around it. Thought it was metal, as light was shining off of it.
14-Jun-03	06:00	Girton	Cambridgeshire	Small circular object. Blue and white translucent.
20-Jun-03	08:35		Kent	A string of two sets of two lights.
21-Jun-03	16:43	Richmond	London	A doughnut shaped object was spotted moving from left to right, side to side. One side was shiny and reflective, and the other black.
21-Jun-03	12:32	Wimbledon	London	Just said something was seen for three seconds. (Didn't specify).
26-Jun-03	16:28	Melksham	Wiltshire	The object was a silvery white colour and non reflective in the sunshine.
28-Jun-03	23:22	Glastonbury	Somerset	Orange lights moving as a group in a circular motion. Moved slowly along.
08-Jul-03	20:00	Hereford	Herefordshire	A stationary triangular object was seen. The object remained stationary for about 30 minutes at quite a height.
12-Jul-03	22:05	Rhonda	Mid-Glamorgan	Two round objects with legs, which were black and spinning.
13-Jul-03		Wellingborough	Northants	Saw a ball of light in the sky.
13-Jul-03	20:30	Winterley	Cheshire	Appeared like a star, possibly a balloon.
14-Jul-03	21:30		Northamptonshire	Saw the biggest white light that the witness had ever seen before. It shot off across the sky and then disappeared.
15-Jul-03	03:25	Bermondsey	London	Assumed object to be a shooting star at first. No trail behind.
15-Jul-03	21:40	Galston on Sea	Norfolk	Disc like object, moving in the sky slowly, poised once and headed in a NE direction.
15-Jul-03	00:30	Malvern	Worcestershire	One light was seen. Erratic movement and stationary.
20-Jul-03	23:05	Bridlington	East Yorkshire	Bright white star like light. Moved from side to side, up and down and in circles.
22-Jul-03		Bridlington	East Yorkshire	Silver or white object. Moved at an unbelievable speed.
27-Jul-03	18:00	Gravesend	Kent	Silver ball up in the sky for about an hour. Disappeared and then returned again about an hour later.

04-Aug-03	21:00	Wellingborough	Northants	A brilliant orange ball of light seen 2000ft up in the sky.
08-Aug-03	22:35	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	A star shaped object. Witness watched for a few minutes, then it dropped from the sky like a bomb.
10-Aug-03	23:15	West Kilbride	Ayrshire	Could see a few round spheres.
13-Aug-03	22:55	Maesteg	Mid-Glamorgan	Round football shaped. Flashing lights-multi coloured. The lights were on top then moved around the object.
14-Aug-03	18:00	Southfleet	Kent	Unusual object, with flashing lights but not like aircraft lights, more like reflections from the sun. No trail.
14-Aug-03	23:57	Worcester	Worcestershire	Very bright white light, bigger than a star, but quickly diminishing in size until it completely disappeared.
14-Aug-03	23:09	Newport	Gwent	Orange circular object seen. Stayed stationary.
16-Aug-03	21:00	Amesbury	Wiltshire	Flying saucer shaped object.
17-Aug-03	23:45	Bonnybridge	Central	Just a sighting. No details given.
19-Aug-03	23:30	St Seithins	Perthshire	Object with two white lights with one red and one orange in the middle, both flashing.
21-Aug-03	14:00	Lincoln	Lincolnshire	Cigar shaped, grey in colour with domed ends, was silent and very slow.
27-Aug-03	23:00	Worcester	Worcestershire	A helium type balloon, size of a moon, with flashing blue and red lights, moving north along the line of the A38 over the area south of Worcester.
03-Sep-03	21:35	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire	An orange ball seen about 2000ft up in the sky.
04-Sep-03	23:40	Todmorden	West Yorkshire	Six lights that split, at one point becoming eight lights. Orange and red in colour.
13-Sep-03	21:40	Heckmondwike	West Yorkshire	Two circular objects, about half the apparent size of the moon. Very dull yellow.
13-Sep-03	22:40	Manchester	Greater Manchester	Round, white lights in the sky.
13-Sep-03	20:15	Great Yarmouth	Norfolk	Bright as Mars. White light. Dim. Moved in a South East direction.
17-Sep-03	20:45	Northampton	Northamptonshire	Two small, star size objects, much darker orange or rust colour, followed by another two doing manoeuvres.
17-Sep-03	21:00	Northolt	London	One object. White brilliant light, flickering yellow and red. Extremely brighter than other stars around it. Moving from side to side.
18-Sep-03	03:00	Wimbledon	London	Triangular object, copper coloured. Hovered over the house

				for about a minute then disappeared.
19-Sep-03	22:30	Ashby De La Launde, Nr Digby	Lincolnshire	A object spinning above a house.
22-Sep-03		Hove	East Sussex	A red unidentified flying object, definitely not an aeroplane.
24-Sep-03	19:25	Barry	South Glamorgan	An unusual object, falling from a cloud, like it was burning, Very fast. Was viewed for five minutes.
24-Sep-03	20:45	Northampton	Northamptonshire	Two pairs of objects that were not recognisable as aircraft and were purple in colour.
14-Oct-03	06:56	Whitney	Oxfordshire	Very large object with flashing lights.
26-Oct-03	21:06	North Wirral	Merseyside	Two objects travelling side by side overhead. Dull red in colour.
05-Nov-03	16:30	Southbound on the A11		Two bright lights in the sky.
17-Nov-03	02:25	Bromley	Kent	There were 20-30 red flashing lights in the sky accompanied by a whirring noise.
25-Nov-03	14:25	Wem	Shropshire	A strange bright orange/red light in the sky.
01-Dec-03		Woodbridge	Suffolk	An unusual aircraft, but with strange lights.
02-Dec-03	01:20	Aylesbury	Buckinghamshire	Nothing was seen, but a loud noise was heard, like a balloon letting out air.
02-Dec-03	01:30	Thame	Oxfordshire	A loud noise like a hot air balloon was heard, but nothing was seen.
17-Dec-03	19:15	Wokingham	Berkshire	The object was black/dark with lights along the side and a weird strobe light. Was about 60 ft across. Very high in the sky.
29-Dec-03	01:50	Nr Barnton Park	Edinburgh	A steady bright light in the sky resembling the front of a helicopter.
		Ashburton	Devon	(Seen for six weeks - Feb/March 2003). Two strange lights in the sky.
		Wellingborough	Northamptonshire	(Seen for three weeks in Feb 2003). Very bright white light with five other lights around it, that were moving. Looked like a barrage balloon from World War 2.
		Wigan	Lancashire	(Seen 2003). 17 spaceships. V shaped, oblong, wings and different colours. Could see green aliens with cream coloured bellies.

NUMBERS OF "UNEXPLAINED" AERIAL SIGHTINGS REPORTED  
TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Figures from before 1959 are not available.

N.B. The figures below relate to the number of reports, received by the Ministry of Defence, of aerial activity which was not immediately identifiable to the witness. They should not be taken to reflect sightings of "UFOs/flying saucers".

1959 - 22  
1960 - 31  
1961 - 71  
1962 - 46  
1963 - 51  
1964 - 74  
1965 - 56  
1966 - 95  
1967 - 362  
1968 - 280  
1969 - 228  
1970 - 181  
1971 - 379  
1972 - 201  
1973 - 233  
1974 - 177  
1975 - 208  
1976 - 200  
1977 - 435  
1978 - 750  
1979 - 550  
1980 - 350  
1981 - 600  
1982 - 250  
1983 - 390  
1984 - 214  
1985 - 177  
1986 - 120  
1987 - 150  
1988 - 397  
1989 - 258  
1990 - 209  
1991 - 117  
1992 - 147  
1993 - 258  
1994 - 250  
1995 - 373



1996 - 609  
1997 - 425  
1998 - 193  
1999 - 229  
2000 - 210  
2001 - 203  
2002 - 100  
2003 - 99  
2004 - 85  
2005 - 90

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 October 2005 13:30  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Internet-authorized: Freedom of Information request

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. I apologise for not replying to your request for information. I am sure you will appreciate that the subject of UFOs is popular with the general public and we have received a large number of Freedom of Information requests which we are doing our best to address as quickly as possible. I am in meetings for the rest of today, but if you could postpone writing your article for a couple of days, I will do my best to get a substantive reply to you by Friday.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Ministry of Defence  
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@cambridge-news.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 19 October 2005 08:16  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Freedom of Information request

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email however I have heard nothing since. I am writing the story today (Wednesday) and hope to include a response from the Ministry of Defence.  
If there is anything I can do to speed up my request please contact me on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Reporter  
Cambridge Evening News

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

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** 14 October 2005 10:18  
**To:** [REDACTED]@cambridge-news.co.uk  
**Cc:** presseast@brampton.raf.mod.uk  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information request

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your request for information about UFO sightings in Cambridgeshire. Your message has been passed to this department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence about UFOs. I will be sending you a full reply shortly.

Yours sincerely,

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

20/10/2005



Expiry: 10 Nov 2005

[REDACTED]  
From: BRA MOD-PressEast [presseast@brampton.raf.mod.uk]  
Sent: 13 October 2005 10:19  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Internet-Authorised: INFO ON UFOs

[REDACTED] 40

We spoke. Here are [REDACTED] questions.

Thanks for your help,

[REDACTED] 40

[REDACTED]  
Lt Col (Ret'd)  
Defence Press Officer (East)  
[REDACTED]

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

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@cambridge-news.co.uk]  
Sent: 13 October 2005 10:05  
To: 'BRA MOD-PressEastAsst'  
Subject: UFOs

[REDACTED] 40

We are just interested about how the MOD deals with UFO sightings.  
I presume you don't scramble fighters on every "coloured lights sighting"  
but.....

1. What does the MOD do when it receives a reported UFO sighting,  
-do fighters investigate, have there been instances of fighters  
being scrambled after report in Cambs (or elsewhere)?
2. How are the sightings investigated?
3. How are sightings classified? I presume most have a rational explanation but could  
you give me a proportion for the number that are still unaccounted for.
4. There were nine reported sightings in a two-year period in Cambs (see  
below) how does that compare with the rest of the country?
5. Has there been an increase or decrease in reported sighting in Cambs (or  
nationally) over the last 10, 20, 50 years?

Thanks (The truth is out there)

(Special agent) [REDACTED]  
Reporter  
Cambridge Evening News  
Tel: [REDACTED]

Reports for Cambridgeshire:-

19/02/2003  
18.30  
Huntingdon  
Cambs  
Like a shooting star falling to the ground.

14/06/2003  
06.00  
Girton  
Cambs  
Small circular object. Blue and white translucent.

27/01/2004  
21.00

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

Peterborough

Cambs

Four dull red lights above the house, travelling fast and low.

28/01/2004

18.30

Peterborough

Cambs

Flashing green lights, 1000-5000ft up in the sky.

08/02/2004

21.45

Ely

Cambs

Four lights, one brighter than the others, sometimes fading.

Chatteris

Cambs

Just said that it was a 'UFO'. (Seen sometime in 2005).

11/02/2005

Huntingdon

Cambs

The witness just said that it was a 'UFO'.

04/06/2005

00.30

St Neots

Cambs

The object looked like a dim red light.

08/06/2005

16.45

St Neots

Cambs

The object looked like a rod, that was silvery/grey.

Reports for Hertfordshire:-

Welwyn Garden City

Hertfordshire

One disc shaped object that was tangerine colour.



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



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



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



## AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

**Applicant:** [REDACTED]

**Case Number:** 29-06-2005-141253-011

**Expiry:** 25 July 2005

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

- 1 Any info (documents papers logbooks) relating to the level of alert status in force at RAF/USAF tenanted air bases in GB during 25- 30 Dec 1980.
- 2 Copies of any papers, reports or correspondence generated relating to reports of aerial phenomena reported by the public, civ aircrew and MOD sources on the evening of 25/12/80. My request relates to the re entry of the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket body shortly after 2100 on 25/12/80. I understand this object was sighted by numerous civilians over SE England including the crew of a civy airliner and reported to RAF West Drayton on 25/26.12.80.
- 3 Copies of papers reports correspondence relating to satellite debris detected sighted or reported to MOD/RAF by RAF Fylingdales or other MOD agencies between 25 / 30.12.80.
- 4 Copy of Op record book & any other surviving logbooks for Sector Operation Centre/control and Reporting Centre RAF Neatishead, Dec 80 & Jan 81.
- 5 Copy of Ops Record Book & any other surviving logbooks for Eastern radar (RAF Watton) Dec 80 & Jan 81.
- 6 Copy of Ops Record Book for RAF Bawdsey and/or units operating from RAF Bawdsey Dec 80 & Jan 81.
- 7 Copy of the report on Exercise Proper Watch which took place at RAF Bentwaters, May 89 and "tested the procedures in place for responding to the crash of a US transport a/c carrying nuclear weapons" (Hansard 30 Jun 98)

### Case for release of information

Although the applicant has stated that his request does not relate specifically to the Rendlesham Forest UFO incident, all his requests are for seemingly related information of the same period. There are also articles on the internet linking the Rendlesham incident to the UFO sighting reports and rocket re-entry mentioned in his request 2. The response to this request has therefore been co-ordinated by DAS-FOI.

1. DAS-VF1 established that details of the alert states in force at individual RAF/ USAF bases in the UK are not held centrally and individual stations do not keep records for long periods. There is therefore no information available for this period. The applicant was informed of this in my interim response on 25 August 2005.

2. Several UFO sighting reports were received around 2100 on 25 December 1980 and copies of these are attached for release to the applicant. Personal data concerning those who made the reports has been removed as it is not relevant to the request. RAF Fylingdales were consulted about the timing of the decay of the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket body and provided details which have been included in my draft response. They have confirmed that this is common knowledge and there is no reason to withhold this information.

3. RAF Fylingdales have provided details of satellite debris which decayed and returned to earth between 25-30 December 1980. They have confirmed that it is fine to release this to the applicant.

4 & 5. AHB have provided copies of the F540 Operational Record Book entries for RAF Neatishead and RAF Watton for December 1980 and January 1981 as requested. As they are now 25 years old the F540s for this period are currently going through the Departmental review process pending release to The National Archives. In order to answer this request the MOD reviewers have examined these particular documents and downgraded them to unclassified. I see no reason not to release them to the applicant.

6. AHB have confirmed that no F540s were completed for RAF Bawdsey in 1980 /1981. The applicant also requested documents from any units operating from Bawdsey and AHB have provided a copy of relevant information from the F540 of the only unit operating there at the time. As with the other F540 entries these have also been downgraded by the MOD reviewers.

7. It is not clear who answered the PQ on 30 June 1998 about Exercise Proper Watch referred to by the applicant. The parliamentary branch do not hold records that far back. DS&C-NAR1b did not know if they answered it, but confirmed that it would appear to be their area of work and they once had a file on this exercise. This file was, however, destroyed long ago (they were not sure exactly when). The applicant was informed of this in my interim response on 25 August 2005.

**Authorisation**

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

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: 

Signature: 

Date: 6/10/05



GxAITESTPTCD/  
06 July 05

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Guidance Help

**Request:** [REDACTED] 29-06-2005-141253-011  
**Days Left:** 14

Received: 27 Jun 05  
Expiry Date: 25 Jul 05  
Status: Open

**Workflow Options**

AIT Main

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

Date request received: 27 June 2005

**Applicant Details**

<b>Title:</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>Other:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>First Name:</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>*Surname:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Organisation:</b>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Applicant Type:</b>	<input type="text" value="Private Individuals"/>	<b>Other:</b>	<input type="text"/>

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

<b>Address Line1:</b>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Address Line2:</b>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Address Line3:</b>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Town/City:</b>	<input type="text" value="NOTTINGHAM"/>		
<b>Postcode:</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>Country:</b>	<input type="text" value="United Kingdom"/>
<b>Email:</b>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Telephone:</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>Fax:</b>	<input type="text"/>

GxAITESTPTCD/  
06 July 05

Home My Cases Log New Request Policy Clearance Help

**Request:** [Redacted] 29-06-2005-141253-011  
**Days Left:** 14

Received: 27 Jun 05  
Expiry Date: 25 Jul 05  
Status: Open

🔑 All sources ▼

**Workflow Options**

AIT Main

**View**

- Audit Trail
- Comments Log
- Saved Search Result
- Contact Details
- Documents

**Actions**

- Assign Within My Group
- Change Alert Settings
- Edit Request Details
- Upload Document
- Close Case
- Take Ownership

Editing the request details will initiate a new search.  
The new search results will be saved and will replace the existing save search results.

**Request Details**

Response Format Requested:

Language Requested  Welsh

\*Enter the request for information:

HARD COPY LETTER dd 16/6, REC'D 27/6

This is a request under the FOI Act. Please use above address for correspondence.

Firstly I should make clear although my application relates to the period in which the Rendlesham UFO incident occurred my request does not relate specifically to this incident per se. I am aware the MOF file is available on the pub

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

To be held by help desk until allocated

Save

⏪ Back

Next ⏩

Cancel

HARD COPY LETTER dd 16/6, REC'D 27/6

This is a request under the FOI Act. Please use above address for correspondence.

Firstly I should make clear although my application relates to the period in which the Rendlesham UFO incident occurred my request does not relate specifically to this incident per se. I am aware the MOF file is available on the pub scheme on line but my request relates to a related occurrence not dealt with by the contents of this file.

My request is for copies of original docs and any correspondence generated by MOD or related departments specific to the info listed below

1 Any info (documents papers logbooks) relating to the level of alert status in force at RAF/USAF tenanted air bases in GB during 25- 30 Dec 1980

2 Copies of any papers, reports or correspondence generated relating to reports of aerial phenomena reported by the public, civ aircrew and MOD sources on the evening of 25/12/80. My request relates to the re entry of the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket body shortly after 2100 on 25/12/80. I understand this object was sighted by numerous civilians over SE England including the crew of a civy airliner and reported to RAF West Drayton on 25/26.12.80. *check UFO files*

3 Copies of papers reports correspondence relating to satellite debris detected sighted or reported to MOD/RAF by RAF Fylingdales or other MOD agencies between 25 / 30.12.80.

4 Copy of Op record book & any other surviving logbooks for Sector Operation Centre/control and Reporting Centre RAF Neatishead, Dec 80 & Jan 81.

5 Copy of Ops Record Book & any other surviving logbooks for Eastern radar (RAF Watton) Dec 80 & Jan 81.

6 Copy of Ops Record Book for RAF Bawdsey and/or units operating from RAF Bawdsey Dec 80 & Jan 81.

7 Copy of the report on Exercise Proper Watch which took place at RAF Bentwaters, May 89 and "tested the procedures in place for responding to the crash of a US transport a/c carrying nuclear weapons" (Hansard 30 Jun 98



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

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

[REDACTED]

Nottingham  
[REDACTED]

Your Reference

Our Reference  
D/DAS/10/2/8/13  
Date  
6 October 2005

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to my message of 25 August about your Freedom of Information request, I am now in a position to give you a substantive reply to the elements of your request which remain outstanding. I apologise for the delay in providing the full response.

Request 1

Was answered in my email of 25 August 2005.

Request 2

Please find enclosed copies of UFO sighting reports received by the Ministry of Defence around 2100 on 25 December 1980. Data not relevant to your request has been removed. With regard to your enquiry about the re-entry of the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket body, RAF Fylingdales have confirmed that their records show they were informed of the decay at or before 0800Z on the 26 December 1980. However, it should be noted that in 1980 they did not receive the same level of decay date/time accuracy as they receive today and it can therefore be inferred that the decay happened between 1800Z on 25 December and 0800Z on 26 December 1980.

Request 3

RAF Fylingdales have confirmed that their records show the following satellite debris decay between 25-30 December 1980. Please note the normal definition of debris is parts, fragments etc which are not the main body of the satellite.

25 December 1980	Explorer 37	Tank
25 December 1980	Cosmos 899	Tank
26 December 1980	Cosmos 749	Tank
26 December 1980	Landsat 2	Fragment
26 December 1980	Landsat 2	Fragment
27 December 1980	Ekran 6	Tank
28 December 1980	Ekran 6	Fragment
30 December 1980	Transtage 6	Fragment
30 December 1980	Cosmos 1174	Fragment
30 December 1980	Cosmos 1236	Tank
30 December 1980	Cosmos 1227	Fragment

Records of single pieces of unknown debris in the 1980s were only kept for a few weeks and therefore no longer exist. Records of "debris clouds" (from a satellite break-up) do survive, but a search of these records shows no such occurrences during the period of your request.

Request 4

Please find enclosed copies of the Form F540 Operational Record Book for RAF Neatishead for December 1980 to January 1981 as requested.

Request 5

Please find enclosed copies of the Form F540 Operational Record Book for RAF Watton for December 1980 to January 1981 as requested.

Request 6

With regard to your request for the Form F540 Operational Record Book for RAF Bawdsey for December 1980 to January 1981, I can confirm that no Form F540 were completed for RAF Bawdsey at the time. The only resident unit was a single flight of No.85 Squadron operating Bloodhound surface to air missiles. The Form F540 for this unit contains no mention of the sub-unit operating from RAF Bawdsey, other than to mention that the unit Commander made a routine visit to the unit during January 1981. A copy of the relevant F540 is enclosed for your information.

Request 7

Was answered in my e-mail of 25 August 2005.

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

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

Yours sincerely,



OBSERVERS

1st REPORT  
2nd REPORT

PC [REDACTED] MIDLANDS POLICE

MR [REDACTED] YORK WAY,  
JANUARY SURRY.

THAMES VALLEY POLICE

DARSHWELL MET OFFICE

OBSERVER IN THAME

" " MARHAM (STONE BRIDGE)

" " JWSER.

" " LYNNHAM AREA

COASTGUARD WEST WYTON ON NARE

ATC LUTON AIRPORT

AIRCRAFT CROFTON AREA

RCC PLYMOUTH

BOC NEW REPORTER

CUMRAN POLICE

UFO Reports for 25<sup>th</sup> December 1980

Copied from D/DS8/75/2/5 Part B

UFO Reports - Aug-Dec 1980.

DEFE 24/1564.

(2)

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. DATE, TIME, DURATION OF SIGHTING 25 DEC. 2109. SHORT TIME  
(Local times to be used)
- B. DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT  
 Number 20 approx — 1 OBJECT BEHAVING UP.  
 Size SMALL  
 Shape WITH TAIL  
 Colours WHITE  
 Brightness V. BRIGHT  
 Sound NIL  
 Smell NIL
- C. EXACT POSITION OF OBSERVER  
 Geographical location UNIT + SOUTH WEST LONDON  
 Indoors/Outdoors NORFOLK, SURREY, SUSSEX, ETC.  
 Stationary/Moving (SEE OVER)
- D. HOW OBSERVED.  
 Naked eye  
 Binoculars  
 Other optical device  
 Still or cine camera
- E. DIRECTION IN WHICH OBJECT WAS FIRST SEEN SOUTH WEST  
(A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)
- F. ANGLE OF SIGHT. (Estimated heights are unreliable) HIGH - ABOUT  
STARTING
- G. DISTANCE. (By reference to a known landmark if possible) NIL
- H. MOVEMENT.  
 Steady  
 Changing  
 Erratic
- J. MET CONDITIONS DURING OBSERVATION CLEAR, V LITTLE CLOUDS.  
 Moving clouds  
 Haze  
 Mist
- K. NEARBY OBJECTS/BUILDINGS ETC NIL
- L. TO WHOM REPORTED  
 BY Police + PRIVATE CITIZENS ETC  
 Military Organisation  
 The Press
- M. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT SEE OVERLAP
- N. ANY BACKGROUND ON THE INFORMANT THAT MAY BE VOLUNTEERED NIL
- O. OTHER WITNESSES. SEE OVERLAP
- P. DATE AND TIME OF RECEIPT OF REPORT. 25 2115G+

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. 25<sup>th</sup> 21.18
- B. 4 lights (white) saucage shaped no sound.
- C. Near of St Aldates Police Station Oxford
- D. By eye
- E. West of Police Station heading East
- F. 1000' approx
- G. Overhead observer
- H. course as 'E' speed 150 mph
- J. Clear
- K. Kidlington
- L. reported by Police (Constable [redacted])
- M. Police Sergeant [redacted]  
Police Constable [redacted]
- N. \_\_\_\_\_
- O. sited by children at Barton estate
- P. sited by police mobiles
- Q.

Copy sent to MAIS ..... date/time



Thomas Valley Police.

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. 25.12.80 2107 15-20 Secs.
- B. 4 rockets trailing one after the other.  
bright & high.
- C. Ransom
- D. Naked eye.
- E. Didcot Power Station to Oxford.
- F. High.
- G. High
- H. Travelling in array.
- I. Clear Sky.

- K. —
- L. Police at Thomas Valley.
- M. [Redacted] Oxford.

- N. —
- O. —
- P. 25 2134.
- Q. —

REPORT FORM

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A. 21-10 - 21-20

B. VARIOUS REPORTS OF OBJECTS VARYING FROM 'SHOOTING STARS' TO 'POSSIBLY A LIGHT AIRCRAFT CRASH'

C. —

D. NAKED EYE

E. ~~EAST~~ OF WORCESTER

F. —

G. —

H. MOVED FROM SOUTH TO EAST ACROSS SKY

J. —

K. —

L. —

M. —

WEST MERCIA POLICE HEADQUARTERS  
WORCESTER

N. —

O. —

P. —

Q. 21.25 25/12/80

Copy sent to MAIS <sup>20<sup>th</sup></sup> ..... <sup>2200</sup> ..... date/time

REPORT FORM

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A. 21.10 25/12/80

B. 3-5 OBJECTS OVER OLD AIZ NEAR CHELMSFORD  
2 OBJECTS OVER BASILDON  
2 OBJECTS OVER LEE, JOINED BY 2 OTHERS AND  
POSSIBLY A FIFTH

C. - 1 OBJECT OVER COLCHESTER

D. OBJECTS RED WITH TRAILING SPARKS

E. - NAKED EYE

F. -

G. -

H. -

J. -

K. -

L.

M.

ESSEX POLICE HEADQUARTERS

N.

O.

ONE OBSERVER WAS AN OFF-DUTY/  
POLICE INSPECTOR

P.

Q.

21.25 25/12/80

Copy sent to MAIS ..... 25<sup>th</sup> 22<sup>00</sup> ..... date/time

REPORT FORM

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

A. 25/12/80 21.10

B. 6 OBJECTS LINE ASTERN

EACH OBJECT SHOWING A LEADING LIGHT WITH FLAME  
AT REAR, LIKE FIREWORKS

C. DOVER HARBOUR

D. NAKED EYE

E. —

F. —

G. —

H. MOVING NORTH WEST

J. CLEAR

K. —

L. —

M. DOVER COASTGUARD

N. —

O. DOVER COASTGUARD HAD 3 SIMILAR REPORT  
IN THE HYTHE - DUNGERNESS AREA

P.

Q. 25/12/80 21.10

Copy sent to MAIS .....<sup>957</sup>.....<sup>2200</sup>..... date/time

REPORT FORM

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. 25/12/80 21.07
- B. 5 OBJECTS DESCRIBED AS 'LIKE ROCKETS ON GUY FAWKES NIGHT BUT IN SLOW MOTION'
- C. PATCHAM
- D. NAKED
- E. OVERHEAD
- F. —
- G. —
- H. FROM PATCHAM <sup>MOVING</sup> TOWARDS LONDON
- J. CLEAR SKY
- K. —
- L.
- M. SUSSEX POLICE
- N. POLICE CONSTABLE.
- O.
- P.
- Q. 21.15 25/12/80

Copy sent to MAIS ... 25/2200 ..... date/time

REPORT FORM

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. 25/12/80 2110-2115
- B. SUSSEX POLICE - SEVERAL REPORTS OF CYLINDRICAL OBJECTS, WITH FIN'S, LIGHTS AND FLAMES AT REAR
- C. VARIOUS
- D. NAKED EYE
- E. —
- F. —
- G. —
- H. LAST SEEN EAST OF HASTING WHEN FLAMES APPEARED TO STOP
- J. CLEAR
- K. —
- L. —
- M. SUSSEX POLICE H.Q
- N.
- O. SEE FORM FOR 2107 RITCHMAN
- P. 21.20 25/12/80
- Q.

Copy sent to MAIS .....<sup>2<sup>th</sup></sup> 2200 ..... date/time

FOR RETRANS TO R.A.F. AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, WEST DRAYTON,  
MIDDLESEX.

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS  
=====

- A. 25/12/80, 2105 HOURS, FIFTEEN TO TWENTY SECONDS.
- B. THREE OR MAYBE FOUR  
LARGE, BUT DUE TO GREAT HEIGHT UNABLE TO BE ACCURATE.  
ROUND  
SILVER AT THE FRONT AND ORANGE AT THE REAR, LEAVING BEHIND  
LONG VAPOUR TRAILS.  
NIL  
NIL
- C. OUTDOORS, STANDING IN CAR COMPUND AT ABBEY HILL MOTORS  
HOUNDSTONE CAMP, HOUNDSTONE, YEOVIL, SOMERSET.
- D. NAKED EYE.
- E. TRAVELLING FROM WETSLANDS AIRCRAFT TOWARDS YEOVILTON  
IN A SOUTH TO NORTH DIRECTION AT VERY HIGH SPEED AT VERY  
HIGH ALTITUDE.
- F. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT AND DIRECTLY OVERHEAD. HEIGHT NOT  
ASCERTAINABLE BUT BELIEVED VERY HIGH.
- G. FIELD OF VISION COVERING AREA OF APPROX FIVE MILES.
- H. MOVEMENT IN STEADY STRAIGHT LINE AT GREAT SPEED.
- J. WEATHER CLEAR AND BRIGHT. NO CLOUD.
- K. ABBEY HILL TRADING ESTATE. RNAS YEOVILTON, WESTLAND A  
AIRCRAFT CO.
- L. REPORTED TO PS [REDACTED] AT YEOVIL POLICE STATION,  
TELE YEOVIL 5291 BY [REDACTED] OF [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], HOUNDSTONE, YEOVIL. TELEPHONE [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- M. SGT. [REDACTED] AS ABOVE
- N. NIL
- O. WITNESSED BY SEVERAL OTHER SECURITY PERSONNEL AT  
[REDACTED]

P. 2120 HOURS 25/12/80

TOD 2140 ECP

22541 LATGG 6  
44114 AVSPOL 6

REPORT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

- A. DATE, TIME, DURATION OF SIGHTING : 25 JUNE 2100-30 2 HRS.  
(Local times to be used),
- B. DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT  
 Number 1 OBJECT BREAKING UP COMET LIKE.  
 Size MEDIUM.  
 Shape COMET LIKE.  
 Colours YELLOW - WHITE.  
 Brightness MEDIUM BRIGHT.  
 Sound NIL  
 Smell NIL
- C. EXACT POSITION OF OBSERVER  
 Geographical location E ON M6 BIRMINGHAM - COVENTRY  
 Indoors/Outdoors IN CAR AT FIRST THEN OUTSIDE.  
 Stationary/Moving MOVING AT FIRST " STATIONARILY
- D. HOW OBSERVED.  
 Naked eye  
~~Binoculars~~  
~~Other optical device~~  
~~Still or cine camera~~
- E. DIRECTION IN WHICH OBJECT WAS FIRST SEEN SOUTH.  
(A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)
- F. ANGLE OF SIGHT. (Estimated heights are unreliable) 25-30° ELEVATION
- G. DISTANCE. (By reference to a known landmark if possible) NIL
- H. MOVEMENT.  
 Steady  
 Changing  
~~Erratic~~
- J. MET CONDITIONS DURING OBSERVATION  
 Moving clouds CLEAR CLOUD TO N-EAST  
 Haze  
 Mist
- K. NEARBY OBJECTS/BUILDINGS ETC OPEN & FLAT
- L. TO WHOM REPORTED  
 Police  
 Military Organisation  
 The Press
- M. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT  
 [REDACTED] HOUNSLOW  
 MIDDLESEX
- N. ANY BACKGROUND ON THE INFORMANT THAT MAY BE VOLUNTEERED STUDENT OF P.  
 POST-GRADUATE SPACE PHYSICS UNIVERSITY COLL LONDON
- O. OTHER WITNESSES. NH TEL [REDACTED]
- P. DATE AND TIME OF RECEIPT OF REPORT. 27 13 30  
 [REDACTED]

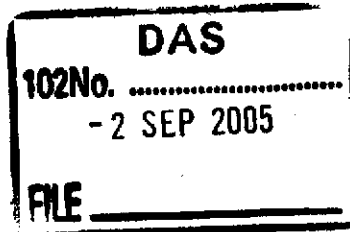


Requests 4, 5 & 6

LOOSE MINUTE

D/AHB(RAF)5/30

30 Aug 05

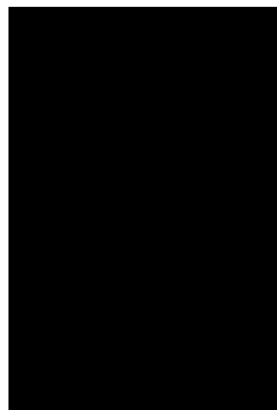


DAS – FOI

**FOI REQUEST FOR F540s FOR RAF NEATISHEAD; RAF WATTON AND  
RAF BAWDSEY Dec 80 – Jan 81**

1. Please find enclosed photocopies of the Form 540 Operational Record Books for RAF Neatishead and RAF Watton for December 1980 and January 1981. The MoD record reviewers have examined these documents and have downgraded them to unclassified.
2. The RFI also requested copies of Form 540s for RAF Bawdsey and/or units operating from there for the same period. I can confirm that no Form 540s were completed for RAF Bawdsey at that time. The only resident unit was a single flight of No 85 Squadron operating Bloodhound surface to air missiles. The Form 540 for this unit contains no mention of the sub-unit operating from Bawdsey, other than to mention that the unit commander made a routine visit to the unit.

Signed:



Head of AHB(RAF)  
BPU6/266 7828BP

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N1357 9103105 / 0589862 35,000 6/79 KP3601

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) RAF NEATISHEAD

FOR PERIOD DECEMBER 1980

PAGE NO. 1  
OF 4 PAGES

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER FIT OFF B F BERTRAM

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			<u>OPERATIONS</u>	
			1. Exercise <u>AIMING FIRST</u> , held on the 4 Dec, was a synthetic exercise involving the whole of the Operations Wing at RAF Neatishead, and for the first time the Ground Trainer at 8 Sqn RAF Lossiemouth was used for the <u>CROSS-TIE</u> of synthetic tracks to the Station. There was no live flying exercise programme.	
			2. Exercise <u>STEADY PROGRESS</u> occurred on 31 Dec, and involved RAF Neatishead in a communications exercise during which the Station provided a two hour <u>CROSS-TIE</u> with <u>HLMNS KORTENMAER</u> .	
			3. RAF Neatishead participated in the RAF Coltishall <u>MINI-ADEX</u> on 17 Dec by sending two controllers to Weybourne to provide control for the Jaguar aircraft on <u>CAD</u> .	
			4. The minor exercise programme for Dec 80 was as follows:	
			a. 3 Dec - Mosquito.	
			b. 4 Dec - Mosquito.	
			c. 12 Dec - Mosquito.	
			d. 18 Dec - Mosquito.	
			5. Exercise Profit was carried out on 20 occasions, a slight increase on last month's total.	

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PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF ANNEXES AND FILES
			<p>6. On the afternoon of 9 Dec a 23 (F) Sqn Phantom, engaged in a PI sortie under RAF Neatishead control, disappeared from the radar picture. It was then established that the crew had ejected into the sea. A SeaKing helicopter from 202 Sqn RAF Coltishall located the two crewmen approximately 35 minutes later, and happily both men had survived and were flown to hospital.</p>	
			<p>SQRA (I)</p>	
			<p>7. There were no SQRA (I) live or practice scrambles this month.</p>	
			<p><u>TRAINING</u></p>	
			<p>8. 753 live interceptions were carried out this month, of which 37 were supersonic. A further 574 synthetic interceptions were carried out of which 113 were supersonic. These figures show an increase in the live tally and a decrease in the synthetic tally in comparison to last month. The total running time for synthetic exercises during December was 8 hours 30 minutes.</p>	
			<p>9. Three C of Q ICRs (OC SAM) were awarded this month to Sqn Ldr Sharpe, Flt Lt Jones and Flt Lt Ince-Jones. One ICR (IC) was awarded to Flt Lt Van Geene.</p>	
			<p>10. Sqn Ldr Sharpe and Flt Lt Colwill attended a meeting at HQSTC, on 10-11 Dec, to discuss the integration of the Royal Naval assets into the Air Defence system.</p>	
			<p>11. Flt Lt Trevett, Flt Lt Jones, Fg Off Forrow and Fg Off Angus visited the Aggressors at USAF Alconbury, on 15-19 Dec, for the Tactical Fluid Control Course.</p>	

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) RAF NEATISHEAD

FOR PERIOD DECEMBER 1980

PAGE NO. 3

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER PIA' OFF B F BERTRAM

OF 4 PAGES

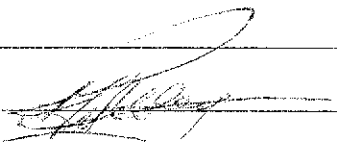
PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			<u>ENGINEERING</u>	
			12. <u>Radar</u> . The trigger system 16966 was brought into service during the month and provided trigger distribution to all services except primary surveillance radars and the R30. There were no major radar outages during the month.	
			13. <u>Comms</u> . The LSP loop back test was investigated by SRL following its repeated failure. No firm conclusions were offered by SRL but they are to return in the New Year for further investigations. The first AA4 Mk7 comms fit was completed during December and this radar is now completely autonomous and available for deployment.	
			<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	
			14. The following visits were made to RAF Neatishead during December:  a. 10 members of the Thorpe St Andrew Rotary Club visited the Station on 9 Dec for a general interest brief on the role of RAF Neatishead and to view the operational facilities.  b. 3 students of No 64 EC Course RAF West Raynham, together with one instructor, visited the Unit on 15 Dec to be briefed on the role of an SOS and to view the R30 facilities with particular emphasis on SAM operations.	

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ANNEXES  
AND FILES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS										
			<u>PERSONNEL</u>										
			15. Personnel movements for December were as follows:										
			<u>Officers</u>										
			<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Posted In</u></th> <th><u>Posted Out</u></th> <th><u>Detached</u></th> <th><u>Attached</u></th> <th><u>Released</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> <td>NIL</td> <td>NIL</td> <td>NIL</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Posted In</u>	<u>Posted Out</u>	<u>Detached</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Released</u>	1	4	NIL	NIL	NIL
<u>Posted In</u>	<u>Posted Out</u>	<u>Detached</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Released</u>									
1	4	NIL	NIL	NIL									
			<u>Airmen/Airwomen</u>										
			<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Posted In</u></th> <th><u>Posted Out</u></th> <th><u>Detached</u></th> <th><u>Attached</u></th> <th><u>Discharged</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>9</td> <td>1</td> <td>NIL</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Posted In</u>	<u>Posted Out</u>	<u>Detached</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Discharged</u>	9	9	1	NIL	1
<u>Posted In</u>	<u>Posted Out</u>	<u>Detached</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Discharged</u>									
9	9	1	NIL	1									
			 P F HOBLEY Gp Capt CO										

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) RAF NEATISHEAD

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981

PAGE NO. 1

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER FG OFF P J M ANGUS

OF 6 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			<p><u>OPERATIONS</u></p> <p>1. January proved to be a relatively busy month for RAF Neatishead and a healthy introduction to 1981. Exercise Steady Progress brought in the New Year on 31 December and was quickly followed by Exercise Mallet Blow from 12-16 January. All available Phantoms from Wattisham and Coningsby participated in this exercise by flying as airborne targets in Boulmer airspace. RAF Neatishead was purely involved through the consequent loss of it's flying programme.</p> <p>2. RAF Coltishall initiated a low level ADEX on 6 January and RAF Neatishead provided CAP control, courtesy of Weybourne Radar.</p> <p>3. RAF Marham initiated a mini ADEX on 8 January and this was followed later on in the month by their Mineval on 26 January. Neatishead was directly involved in both exercises.</p> <p>4. RAF Neatishead took part in a naval communications exercise with HLMNS KORENHAER in a 2 hour cross-tell on 19 January.</p> <p>5. There was a heavy flying programme for the Aggressors throughout the month, with sorties being flown on 6, 7, 8, 12, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 26 January.</p> <p>6. The minor exercise programme for January was as follows:</p>	

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PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			a. 7 Jan -- Mosquito.	
			b. 9 Jan -- Mosquito.	
			c. 14 Jan -- Mosquito (X2).	
			d. 16 Jan -- Mosquito.	
			e. 21 Jan -- Mosquito.	
			f. 22 Jan -- Coffee 'C'.	
			g. 23 Jan -- Mosquito.	
			h. 24 Jan -- Coffee 'B'.	
			j. 28 Jan -- Mosquito.	
			k. 30 Jan -- Mosquito.	
			7. Finally, Exercise Profit was held on 29 separate occasions during the month, a marked increase on the Profit total for December.	
			<u>SQRA (I)</u>	
			8. There was 1 live scramble of the SQRA (I) during the month. 2 Phantoms from 56 Sqn successfully intercepted and identified 2 Bear Deltas north of the Faeroes on 8 January.	
			9. Binbrook Lightnings detached to Valley from 19-20 January for their Missile Practise Camp.	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) RAF NEATISHHEADFOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981PAGE NO. 3

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER EG OFF P J M ANGUSOF 6 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			<u>TRAINING</u>	
			10. There was 1 practise SQRA (I) scramble involving 1 Binbrook Lightning on 25 January.	
			11. 611 live interceptions were carried out during the month, and a further 1055 synthetic interceptions were executed. There were 4 synthetic exercises during the month, on 9, 16, and two on 21 January. Total SIMEX running time was 5 hours exactly.	
			12. No C of Qs were awarded this month.	
			13. Finally, Neatishead was graced with the presence of ADGEEB from 14-19 January. The Unit rose like the phoenix from the ashes and everyone in Operations Wing came up to scratch in the light of evaluation.	
			14. Sqn Ldr Shields formed part of the Taceval team on the occasion of their visit to Saxa Vord from 5-9 January. Flt Lt (W) Brackenbury paid several visits to RAF Wattisham during the month, on a fact finding exercise over mission briefings and squadron operations in general.	
			<u>DETACHMENTS</u>	
			15. Flt Lt Bateman, Flt Lt Jones and Eg Off Angus detached to Cyprus from 4 Jan-	

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PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			<p>11 Feb 81 in support of the 29 Sqn APC. Fg Off (W) Saul travelled north to the arctic wastes of RAF Buchan on 2 January to join Flt Off Peters in supplementing that station's controller strength.</p> <p><u>ENGINEERING</u></p> <p>16. Radar. The Type 84 drive group B was replaced by GRSC on RAFAULT action. MRSL investigated the possibility of using a digital noise counter to set up the T84 signal processing. The T85 2nd integrator loops were upset by the newly connected trigger system 16966; adjustment of trigger timing rectified the problem. 50v dc set No 1 tripped during servicing of No 2 set on 25 Jan. An investigation into this problem is to be carried out during 6MSP. There were no major SILEWC outages during the month. ERADS training continues.</p> <p>17. Comms. There were no significant unscheduled comms outages during the month. All defects were of a minor nature and were repaired at 1st and 2nd line.</p> <p><u>ADMINISTRATION</u></p> <p>18. The following visits were made to RAF Neatishead during the month:</p> <p>a. 11 members of the Wroxham Royal British Legion visited the Unit on 6 January. They were briefed on the role of an SOC.</p> <p>b. No 15 RN Advanced Warfare Officers' Course visited the Unit on 9 January to view Ops and Eng facilities.</p>	

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) RAF NEATISHEAD

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981

PAGE NO. 5  
OF 6 PAGES

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3043.

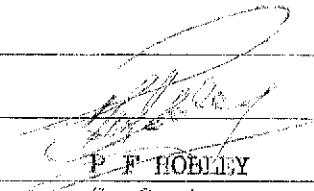
COMPILING OFFICER FG OFF P J N ANGLUS

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES										
			c. Plt Off A P Green visited the Unit from 12-16 January for pre											
			Fighter Control course familiarisation training.											
			d. The pre AOC's Inspection of the Supply Flight at RAF Neatishead was											
			carried out by Flt Lt A R Caird from HQSTC on 21 January.											
			e. 9 members of No 68 ARTS course RAF Shawbury visited the Unit on 22											
			January to view SOC facilities.											
			f. 9 members of 85 SAM Sqn visited RAF Neatishead on 27 January for SOC											
			familiarisation.											
			19. The Station Ensign was flown at half mast on 5 January to show respect follo-											
			wing the death of HRH The Princess Alice.											
			<u>PERSONNEL</u>											
			20. Personnel movements for January 1981 are as follows:											
			<u>Officers</u>											
			<table border="0" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>Posted In</td> <td>Posted Out</td> <td>Detached</td> <td>Attached</td> <td>Released</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> <td>NIL</td> <td>NIL</td> <td>NIL</td> </tr> </table>	Posted In	Posted Out	Detached	Attached	Released	1	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	
Posted In	Posted Out	Detached	Attached	Released										
1	3	NIL	NIL	NIL										

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PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES										
			<u>Airmen/Airwomen</u>											
			<table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Posted In</u></td> <td><u>Posted Out</u></td> <td><u>Detached</u></td> <td><u>Attached</u></td> <td><u>Discharged</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>11</td> <td>6</td> <td>NIL</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Posted In</u>	<u>Posted Out</u>	<u>Detached</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Discharged</u>	7	11	6	NIL	2	
<u>Posted In</u>	<u>Posted Out</u>	<u>Detached</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Discharged</u>										
7	11	6	NIL	2										
			<p>21. RAF Neatishead experienced a complete Wing Commander changeover during the 5 months from September 1980 to January 1981. Wg Cdr R J Martin arrived in September to assume command of Operations Wing following the retirement of Wg Cdr J Webb OBE. Wg Cdr Webb gave 40 years of sterling service to the RAF, as a signaller and fighter controller. He will be missed by all who knew him during his Service years. Wg Cdr R J Peberdy was posted to MOD on promotion and award of his OBE in December. He was succeeded by Wg Cdr M Grigson who has just returned to the RAF following a stint in civilian employment. Finally, Wg Cdr N Greenhalgh left Neatishead in January on posting to AFSOPM in Naples. His post will be filled in February by Wg Cdr G Keith. To those who have left Neatishead, the Station extends it's best wishes for a successful future; and to those arriving we offer our warmest welcome.</p>											
			 P. F. HOBLEY Gp Capt CO											

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PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			The Eastern Radar Contingency Plan was invoked by the Unit on the following occasions during the month:	
	01		0735 - 0741 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	01		1057 - 1103 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	01		1206 - 1208 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	01		1252 - 1257 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	01		1400 - 1405 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar ) Solid State EHT Modification	
	01		1536 - 1541 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar ) T82 Radar Head (Marconi)	
	01		2330 - 2338 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar ) 24 Nov - 6 Dec	
	02		0943 - 0948 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	02		1034 - 1041 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	02		2018 - 2032 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	03		2330 - 2334 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	05		1405 - 1413 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	07		0434 - 0442 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar )	
	18		2318 - 2347 RPERDS fail at Eastern Radar T82 on Daily Routine Maintenance	
			<u>Monthly Totals of Handlings, Services Given and Refusals of Service</u>	
			Military Aircraft in Upper Airspace 3519	
			Military Aircraft in Middle/Lower Airspace 3457	

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N499 8308753 / 0337610 25,000 10/78 KP3601

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) EASTERN RADAR RAF WATTON

FOR PERIOD DECEMBER 1980

PAGE NO. 3

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER SQN LDR P J QUAINMERE

OF 6 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			Civil Aircraft 789	
			Airways Crossing Services Given 26	
			Refusals of Service 2	
			CAC Services given to Stations allocated under SOPs:	
			<u>WYTON</u> <u>COLTISHALL</u> <u>WATPISHAM</u> <u>HONINGTON</u> <u>MILDENHALL</u> <u>LAKENHEATH</u> <u>BENTWATERS</u>	
			316            143            208            98            888            1240            629	
			<u>WOODBIDGE</u> <u>ALCONBURY</u> <u>WETHERSFIELD</u> <u>WITTING</u>	
			337            847            NIL            30	
			CAC Services given to Stations other than those above: 86	
			<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	
	03		Mr Seeley, Mr Boswell, Mr Sunderland and Mr Barton of Marconi visited the Unit to continue installation of Pulse Repetition Frequency Discrimination (PRFD) Equipment	
	04		Flight Lieutenant Young from ARTS RAF Shawbury visited the Unit for Operations Familiarisation.	
	08		Hauptmann Praeder Juergen and Oberleutnant Matthes-Harald, two German Air Force Officers from Lippe Radar made a liaison visit to the Unit; they were given a presentation on the role of Eastern Radar and spent time on console observing	

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTEDPAGE NO. 4  
OF 6 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			Area Radar procedures.	
	15		Squadron Leader Quintmere visited Stansted Air Traffic Control to discuss future use of RAF Wethersfield by the USAF.	
	16		Squadron Leader Quintmere, Senior Supervisor, visited HQ MATO to discuss with Wing Commander McMichael, Ops 3, the new RAF Watton Station Defence Plan currently in course of issue.	
	16		Squadron Leader Workmaster, Senior Operations Officer, Mr Heslington, Airwork Manager and Mr Pashley Airwork Chief Engineer attended a meeting at Midland Radar chaired by MOD on Eastern Radar's Improved Maintainability Programme.	
	17		ADO Clark of Thetford Fire Service visited the Unit to discuss the possibility of holding a fire exercise with the Thetford Fire Service in the Radar office area.	
	17/18		Mr Skelley from Plessey visited the Unit for RPERDS Evaluation.	
	18/19		Mr Johnson, Mr Armstrong and Mr Buchanan from Plessey visited the Unit to carry out RPERDS checks.	
	23		Captain Freeman and Captain Menden (USAF), two Aggressor Pilots from RAF Alconbury visited the Unit for Operations Familiarisation; they were given a presentation on the role of Eastern Radar and spent time on console observing Area Radar Procedures.	

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) EASTERN RADAR RAF WATTON

FOR PERIOD DECEMBER 1980

PAGE NO. 5

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER SQN LDR P J QUAINTIERE

OF 6 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES												
			<u>PERSONNEL</u>													
			<u>Officers</u>													
			<u>Postings In</u>													
	19		Flight Lieutenant George from Berlin (BASC)													
			<u>Detachments</u>													
	08		Flight Lieutenant Turnbull to Shetland Radar until 7 Mar 81													
			<u>Airmen</u>													
			<u>Postings In</u>													
	01		1 Sgt from RAF Honington													
			<u>Postings Out</u>													
	08		1 SAC to RAF Wildenrath													
			<u>Posted Strength as at 31 Dec 80</u>													
			<table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Officers</u></td> <td><u>WO</u></td> <td><u>FS</u></td> <td><u>SGT</u></td> <td><u>CPL</u></td> <td><u>Airmen</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>40</td> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> <td>5</td> <td>18</td> <td>78</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>FS</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>CPL</u>	<u>Airmen</u>	40	4	2	5	18	78	
<u>Officers</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>FS</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>CPL</u>	<u>Airmen</u>											
40	4	2	5	18	78											

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) EASTERN RADAR, RAF WATTON

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER SQN LDR P J QUAINTWERE

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
RAF WATTON			Officer Commanding - Wing Commander T F Burke	
			<u>OPERATIONS</u>	
			Air to Air Refuelling exercises took place on the following occasions during the	
			month:	
			Ghost Trail One	
			Leopard Trail Three	
			Eastern Radar assumed responsibility for part of Border Radar's MRSA on the	
			following occasions during the month:	
	06		0028 - 0313	
	07		0006 - 0315	
	14		0835 - 1025	
	19		2057 - 2138	
	25		1959 - 2015	
			The Eastern Radar Contingency Plan was invoked by the Unit on the following	
			occasions during the month:	
	09		1820 - 1825 - Type 82 Off the Air - Remote unserviceable	
	12		1353 - 1358 - Type 82 Off the Air - Remote RPERDS Computer Reload	

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PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
	14		0530 - 0615 - Type 82 Off the Air - Remote Unserviceable	
	25		0710 - 0720 - Type 82 Off the Air - Remote Unserviceable	
			<u>Monthly Totals of Handlings, Services Given and Refusals of Service</u>	
			Military Aircraft in Upper Airspace 3086	
			Military Aircraft in Middle/Lower Airspace 2646	
			Civil Aircraft 728	
			Airways Crossing Services given 4	
			Refusals of Service NIL	
			CAC Services given to Stations allocated under SOPs:	
			<u>WYTON</u> <u>COLTISHALL</u> <u>WATTISHAM</u> <u>HONINGTON</u> <u>MILDENHALL</u> <u>LAKENHEATH</u> <u>BENTWATERS</u>	
			329            131            317            112            876            654            491	
			<u>WOODBIDGE</u> <u>ALCONBURY</u> <u>WETHERSFIELD</u> <u>WITPEERING</u>	
			194            527            NIL            26	
			CAC Services given to Stations other than those above: 94.	
			<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	
	06		Sgt Spice, Sgt Sowerby, Sgt Kidd and J/P Ballsover from GRSC, RAF North Luffenham visited the Unit for work on the Type 82 Radar Head.	
	08/09		Mr P Patriek from Marconi made a technical visit to the Unit to carry out Station earthing.	

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

N499 8308753 / 0337610 25,000 10/78 KP3501

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) EASTERN RADAR, RAF WATTISHAM

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981

PAGE NO. 3

OF 7 PAGES

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER SON LDR P J QUAINTYMERE

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
	09		A meeting, chaired by Squadron Leader Cutler, Ops 2c, HQ MATO was held at Eastern Radar to discuss RAF Wattisham TACAN procedures; the following attended:	
			Lieutenant Colonel Shinn - RAF Mildenhall	
			Squadron Leader Ball - RAF Mildenhall	
			Captain Little - HQ STC	
			Squadron Leader Grant - HQ STC	
			Squadron Leader Workmaster - Eastern Radar, S Ops 0	
			Squadron Leader Taylor - RAF Wattisham	
			Flight Lieutenant Busch - RAF Wattisham	
			Squadron Leader Kiggell - RAF Honington	
			Flight Lieutenant (W) Paterson - RAF Honington	
			Flying Officer Thompson - RAF Honington	
	12		Mr Armstrong, Mr Higgins, Mr Buchanan and Mr Johnson from Plessey visited the Unit to carry out an RPERDS investigation.	
	13		The Air Officer Commanding HQ MATO, Air Commodore G McA Bacon made an informal visit to Eastern Radar.	

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

PAGE NO. 4  
OF 7 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
	14		Captain Carver (USAF) and 3 officers from RAF Lakenheath visited the Unit for Operations Familiarisation; they were given a presentation on the role of Eastern Radar and spent time on console observing area radar procedures.	
	16		Mr Bailey, Mr Pouncey and Mr Mahendran from Ferranti visited the Unit to observe the effects of Multi Filter Moving Target Indicator (MFM/TI) on Type 84 Radar (the visit was co-ordinated with HQ NATO).	
	21		Flight Lieutenant Whittaker + 7 visited the Unit from ARTS RAF Shawbury for Operations Familiarisation; they were given a presentation on the role of Eastern Radar and spent time on console observing area radar procedures.	
	23	1100	Captain Bunyan and Lieutenant Mandez from RAF Alconbury's Aggressor Squadron visited the Unit for Operations Familiarisation; they were given a presentation on the role of Eastern Radar and spent time on console observing area radar procedures.	
	23	1400	Lieutenant Colonel Crowder (Chief Eval Pilot SR71 Operations Beale AFB), Lieutenant Colonel Emmons (Special Flights Operations Officer) and 7 Special Flights pilots from RAF Mildenhall visited the Unit for Operations Familiarisation; they were given a presentation on the role of Eastern Radar and spent time on console observing area radar procedures. They were later entertained in the Officers' Mess by controllers from Eastern Radar.	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) EASTERNRADAR, RAF WATTON

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981

PAGE NO. 5

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in  
QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER SON LDR P. J. QUAINCERE

OF 7 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
	27		Mr Wellsted from Marconi visited the Unit to discuss with Mr Leonard (Eastern Radar's Marconi representative) Eastern Radar's Improved Maintainability Programme.	
	28		Wing Commander Ayee, Squadron Leader Snelling, Flight Lieutenant Giles and Sgt Hayward from GASC RAF North Luffenham visited the Unit to check progress on the Type 82 radar head maintenance.	
	29		Mr Seeley, Mr Crowther, Mr Gammon, Mr Stripple, Mr Brown and Mr Dodson from Marconi visited the Unit for Eastern Radar's Improved Maintainability Programme.	
	30		Lieutenant Colonel Huber and 15 aircrew from 495th Tactical Fighter Squadron, RAF Hakenheath visited the Unit for Operations Familiarisation; they were given a presentation on the role of Eastern Radar and spent time on console observing area radar procedures. They were later entertained in the Officers' Mess by controllers from Eastern Radar.	
			<u>Air Experience Flights</u>	
			The following personnel made Air Experience Flights in EC 135 aircraft during the month:	
	07		SAC Benson, SAC Wildman, SAC Wheeler.	

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
			<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
			<u>Officers</u>	
			<u>Postings Out</u>	
	05		Flight Lieutenant R W S Strachan to LATCC(Mil) RAF West Drayton	
			<u>Detachments</u>	
	05 - 17		Flight Lieutenant C D Hill - ADP Course at LATCC (Mil)	
	19 - 30		Flight Lieutenant N A Gregory - ADP Course at LATCC (Mil)	
			<u>Airmen</u>	
			<u>Postings Out</u>	
	05		1 x SAC to RAF Wildenrath	
	05		1 x SAC to RAF Prestwick (exchange posting)	
	20		1 x SAC to RAF Wattisham (on promotion to Corporal)	
			<u>Postings In</u>	
	05		1 x SAC from RAF Halton	
	05		1 x SAC from RAF Prestwick (exchange posting)	
			<u>Detachments</u>	
	05 - 09		1 x SAC to RAF Bicester for 16mm Projectionists course	

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) 85 SQUADRONFOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981COMPILING OFFICER FLT LT P G WHALEPAGE NO. 1  
OF 4 PAGESInstructions for use of this Form are contained in  
QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
RAF WEST RAYNHAM	1981		<p>1. <u>Operations.</u> With the start of a new year the Squadron fervently looks forward to a marked improvement in the number of live air exercises - a facet of squadron training that suffered badly in the latter half of 1980 as a result of HMG's financial moratorium. In fact there is reason to expect a resumption of low-level and PCF sorties by No 100 Squadron in February. The programmed task for January was:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Mosquito ECM Exercises <span style="float: right;">4</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(Flown by No 360 Sqn)</p> <p>2. Due to bad weather in the form of persistent mist and fog only two of these ECM exercises were flown. The poor weather also led to a reduction in the number of 'opportunity-basis' attacks. These comprised:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">4 attacks by Buccaneers</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">6 attacks by Canberras</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1 attack by Harrier</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">7 attacks by Jaguars</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">4 attacks by Vulcans</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">22</p>	
	6 JAN 81		<p>3. As the Stamford Training Area was not available the Army, in the form of</p>	

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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PAGE NO. 2

OF 4 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES								
RAF WEST RAYNHAM	1981		<p>7th Field Force, Colchester, requested and were granted permission to erect inflatable dummy WP vehicles on West Raynham airfield. Their purpose was to serve as targets for RAF Coltishall's Jaguars in a Forward Air Controller exercise. Attacks were mounted throughout the day and provided excellent realistic targets for 'A' Flight's Sections. It is hoped that this type of exercise will be repeated.</p>									
	8/9 JAN		<p>4. <u>Squadron Minevals.</u> The first exercise began at 0400 hours. It proved to be a good, well-planned exercise which was given extra zest by the declaration of a real, 'no-duff' Bikini State Amber as a result of the bomb outrage at RAF Uxbridge. Endex occurred 091612Z.</p>									
	22 JAN		<p>5. A further Squadron Mineval was initiated at 0903 hrs. There were fifty-eight simulated firings before endex at 1611Z.</p>									
	29 JAN		<p>6. <u>Exercise 'Blazing Skies.'</u> The Station Commander called this generation exercise at 0810 hours. There was an excellent response from the sections with all seven reaching the desired state inside twenty minutes.</p>									
	5 JAN		<p>7. <u>Bloodhound School.</u> No 65 Engagement Controllers Course assembled and comprised:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Fg Off P N Bradshaw</td> <td>FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plt Off D J Wise</td> <td>FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sgt K W Burton</td> <td>ASOp</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sgt J E A Simpson</td> <td>ASOp</td> </tr> </table>	Fg Off P N Bradshaw	FC	Plt Off D J Wise	FC	Sgt K W Burton	ASOp	Sgt J E A Simpson	ASOp	
Fg Off P N Bradshaw	FC											
Plt Off D J Wise	FC											
Sgt K W Burton	ASOp											
Sgt J E A Simpson	ASOp											

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M9443 7314976/337442 25,000 12/77 KP3601

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RAF FORM 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK OF (Unit or Formation) 85 SQUADRON

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1981

PAGE NO. 3

Instructions for use of this Form are contained in QR 2137 and 2138; and AP 3040.

COMPILING OFFICER FLT LIEUTENANT P G WHALE

OF 4 PAGES

PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
RAF WEST RAYNHAM	1981		8. <u>Engineering.</u> The Engineering Report is at Annex A.	
			9. <u>Administration.</u> Sgt P J West SNCO IC Ops Room was detached for the period	
			6 Jan - 6 Mar to attend the BMEWS Course at RAF Fylingdales.	
	6 JAN		10. <u>Visits.</u> The Squadron Commander attended the farewell Dining-Out Night of	
			AVM P A Latham, AOC 11 Group, marking his retirement from the RAF.	
	19 & 27 JAN		11. The Squadron Commander paid routine visits to RAF North Coates and RAF Bawdsey.	
	20/21 JAN		12. Flt Lt B R Powis (Sqn Trg Off) went on a routine training visit to 'B' Flt.	
	27/28 JAN		13. A party of 3 Officers and seven SNOs from 85 Sqn made a familiarisation and	
			training visit to SOC Neatishead and RAF Coltishall.	
	27 JAN		14. Flt Lt B R Powis went to 11 Gp for an EW Training meeting.	
	15 JAN		15. <u>Visitors.</u> Representatives of 'B' and 'C' Flights attended a Squadron	
			Standardization Meeting held in the Station Conference Room.	
	15 JAN		16. Wg Cdr Thornton, Wg Cdr Ops, HQ 11 Gp, accompanied by Sqn Ldr R Johnston, made	
			an initial visit to the Squadron.	
	22 JAN		17. The following Research Branch personnel visited 85 Sqn during the Mineval:	
			Flt Lt J Barker	
			Flt Lt G J E Smith and Miss C H Utting	

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PLACE	DATE	LOCAL TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	REF TO ANNEXES AND FILES
RAF WEST RAYNHAM	1981	13 JAN	18. Squadron executives attended the Flight Commander's Meeting.	
	13 JAN		<p>19. <u>Station Commander's Remarks.</u> With the squadron Part 2 'Taceval' scheduled for mid-February, much of January was devoted to training and preparing for that event. It was evident from the first Mineval that some "rust" had appeared because of inability to practise in late November and early December and a long stand-down over Christmas and New Year. However, the performance was much better in the second practice and a very good result indeed was achieved in the missile section generation exercise "Blazing Skies".</p> <p>20. The Squadron normal training suffered very badly in January because of weather cancelling half the ECM sorties and there being no silent Canberra sorties at all. However, there does seem to be some hope for better things in the next two months.</p>	
			<i>A C Reed</i>	
			A C REED	
			Wing Commander	
			Officer Commanding	

[REDACTED]

**From:** steve payne [steve.payne@nsdc.info]  
**Sent:** 25 August 2005 09:15  
**To:** DAS-UFO-Office  
**Subject:** Re: Fol request

*Interim response  
25 August 2005*

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for the update regarding your searches on my behalf. I appreciate that my request involves varied sources of information, and that this will, as a result, delay any meaningful response. I look forward to reviewing any information you can supply and I would like to thank you again for your efforts.

[REDACTED]

>>> "DAS-UFO-Office" <DAS-UFO-Office@mod.uk> 24/08/2005 15:37 >>>

Dear [REDACTED]

I apologise for not contacting you sooner regarding your Freedom of Information request. As your request consists of seven parts which span several different areas of the MOD and regard information already 25 years old, it is taking rather longer than I would have liked to compile a substantive response. However, I am able to give you an answer about some of your requests and an update on the others.

Request 1.

The MOD no longer holds information on the alert state in force at RAF Stations made available to the US Visiting Force during 25-30 December 1980.

Request 2

We are making further enquiries regarding this request and will write to you again.

Request 3.

We are making further enquiries with RAF Fylingdales, but they have already confirmed that their records show that there was no unusual activity of any kind that day and nothing that could be tied in to any potential UFO sighting.

Requests 4-6.

The Operational Records Books for these areas are currently being reviewed for potential release to The National Archives.

Staff from the Air Historical Branch have agreed to examine them for anything relevant to your request. I will write to you again regarding this.

Request 7.

The MOD no longer holds this information as the records were destroyed several years ago in accordance with normal MOD records management policies.

I hope this is helpful. I will write to you again as soon as possible regarding the outstanding information you have requested. In the meantime, I appreciate your patience.

[REDACTED]  
Ministry of Defence

Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information

Level 5, Zone H, [REDACTED]

Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

E:mail: DAS-UFO-Office

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

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
Sent: 11 August 2005 09:16  
To: DAS-UFO-Office  
Subject: FoI request

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to follow up a request I made to the MoD under the Freedom of Information Act, dated 24 June 2005 (your AIT ref 29-06-2005-141253-011).

My request was for copies of information received by the MoD relating to satellite debris re-entries in December 1980, and for various other information including copies of Operations Record Books for three RAF stations and a report on an exercise at RAF Bentwaters in 1989.

I have not so far received an acknowledgement that my request has been received and I understand that under the FOIA I should have received one within 25 days.

As my request was registered with MoD on 29 June I would expect a response from you over two weeks ago. Please could you provide me with an acknowledgement and an update on progress with my requests and an estimate date when I will receive the material requested.

Yours Faithfully

#####  
#####

Note:

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Thank You.

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Thank you.

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[REDACTED]

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Requests 4-6.

The Operational Records Books for these areas are currently being reviewed for potential release to The National Archives. Staff from the Air Historical Branch have agreed to examine them for anything relevant to your request. I will write to you again regarding this.

Request 7.

The MOD no longer holds this information as the records were destroyed several years ago in accordance with normal MOD records management policies.

I hope this is helpful. I will write to you again as soon as possible regarding the outstanding information you have requested. In the meantime, I appreciate your patience.

[REDACTED]  
Ministry of Defence  
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information  
Level 5, Zone H, [REDACTED] 0  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

E:mail: DAS-UFO-Office

*24<sup>th</sup> August 2005*

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

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
Sent: 11 August 2005 09:16  
To: DAS-UFO-Office  
Subject: FoI request

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to follow up a request I made to the MoD under the Freedom of Information Act, dated 24 June 2005 (your AIT ref 29-06-2005-141253-011).

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As my request was registered with MoD on 29 June I would expect a response from you over two weeks ago. Please could you provide me with an acknowledgement and an update on progress with my requests and an estimate date when I will receive the material requested.

Yours Faithfully

[Redacted signature]

#####  
#####

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

Thank You.

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

**From:** [Redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Sent:** 02 September 2005 09:20  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: Internet-authorized: Satellite debris - FOIA

The first of 2 e-mails back from Fylingdales.....

[Redacted] n 40  
SO1 Airspace Integrity  
DCT&UK Ops  
MB [Redacted] on [Redacted] n 40  
Internet account: [Redacted]

**From:** FYL Ops-OC  
**Sent:** 31 August 2005 15:57  
**To:** [Redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** Internet-authorized: Satellite debris - FOIA

[Redacted] on 40

I attach below the reply from [Redacted] on the question of whether we tracked debris in the given period.

[Redacted] on 40

Gentlemen

*This query is a little vague. We do, of course, detect orbiting satellite debris every minute of the day (and did back in the 80's). However, the system almost always know the identity of each object detected.*

*Maybe the question was one of these:*

- 1. Did we track any "unknown" debris? Unfortunately, records of detections of single pieces of unknown debris in the 80's were only kept for a few weeks. Records of "debris clouds", e.g. from a satellite break-up were kept in the Spacetrack Day Log but a search of the relevant log book shows no such occurrences during the relevant period.*
- 2. Did any debris decay during this period? The normal definition of debris is "non-payload". This is the record of non-payload decays during this period.*

*Year, item launched.*

1827	65082	DS	Frag	Transtage 6	30Dec80
3146	68017	B	Tank	Explorer 37	25Dec80
8010	75062	B	Tank	Cosmos 749	26Dec80
9002	75004	CL	Frag	Landsat 2	26Dec80
9005	75004	CP	Frag	Landsat 2	26Dec80
9884	77022	B	Tank	Cosmos 899	25Dec80
11771	80030	C	Frag	Cosmos 1174	30Dec80
12122	80104	B	Tank	Ekran 6	28Dec80
12123	80104	C	Frag	Ekran 6	27Dec80
12124	80105	B	Tank	Cosmos 1236	30Dec80
12129	80101	E	Frag	Cosmos 1227	30Dec80

*Precedence*

Serco Spacetrack Leader

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

**From:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Sent:** 25 August 2005 14:25  
**To:** FYL-Ops-OC  
**Subject:** FW: Satellite debris - FOIA  
**Importance:** High

[redacted] 40

Another FOIA request I'm afraid.

Grateful if you could let me know if Fyl detected any satellite debris in the timescales outlined.

Sorry to be a pain.

Thanks in anticipation.

[redacted] on 40

SOI Airspace Integrity  
DCT&UK Ops  
MB [redacted] Section 40  
Internet account: [redacted]@mod.uk

---

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 25 August 2005 09:33  
**To:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** Satellite debris  
**Importance:** High

[redacted] on 40

As discussed, please could you ask RAF Fylingdales if they have any record in their logs of satellite debris between 25<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> December 1980. As the requester has specifically asked about "satellite debris" please ask them to constrain their answer to this only.

Thanks

[redacted] 40

DAS-FOI  
5-H- [redacted] Section 40  
[redacted] 40

③

From: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr  
 Sent: 13 July 2005 08:11  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Subject: FW: Freedom of Information Request  
 Importance: High

[REDACTED] 40

Fylingdales have checked the log and their response is below:

"Our Space Track Analysts have a logbook from that period but the entries do not show any unusual activity of any kind and nothing that can be tied into any potential UFO sighting. The logbook could be photocopied or sent down to MOD if required."

I'll assume that this matter is closed unless I hear back from you.

[REDACTED] on 40

SO1 Airspace Integrity  
 DCT&UK Ops  
 MB [REDACTED] Action 40  
 Internet account: [REDACTED]@mod.uk

From: [REDACTED]  
 Sent: 08 July 2005 17:07  
 To: [REDACTED] Wg Cdr ; AHB(RAF)&PCB(AIR)-2(RAF)1; [REDACTED]  
 Subject: Freedom of Information Request  
 Importance: High

Dear All

I am co-ordinating a response to the attached Freedom of Information request. I would be grateful for your inputs / advice as indicated. If your part of the request is likely to exceed the £600 limit, please let me know with an indication of the amount of effort needed to compile the information.

Request 1. **DAS-VF1** – Is this a matter for the US authorities or the MOD? If the MOD, would it be DAS-VF?

Request 3. **CTandUKOps-Airspace Integrity** – Please could you check with your contact at RAF Fylingdales whether they have any relevant information.

Requests 4, 5 & 6. **AHB(RAF) 2(RAF)1** – Please could you let me know whether you hold these Operation Record Books and if so whether the relevant sections are releasable.

Request 7. **DSC-NAR1b** – Please see attached a copy of the Hansard entry for the PQ referred to in this request. I believe the PQ would have been answered by your area. If so could you provide an answer to this request. If it was not your area, please could you let me know asap.

This request is due for reply by 25 July, so I would appreciate a response by COP 19<sup>th</sup> July.

[REDACTED]  
 DAS-FOI  
 5-H [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] 0

13/07/2005

**From:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Sent:** 02 September 2005 09:21  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: Internet-authorised: FOI Request on decay of COSMOS 749.



[redacted] on 40

Please feel free to use all the information provided.

[redacted] on 40

SOI Airspace Integrity

DCT&UK Ops

MB [redacted] on 40

Internet account: [redacted]

**From:** FYL Ops-OC  
**Sent:** 31 August 2005 15:54  
**To:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** Internet-authorised: FOI Request on decay of COSMOS 749.

[redacted] n 40

I attach below the reply from [redacted], our Spacetrack Specialist. It shows that we were told by the SCC that the decay had occurred on the 26 Dec. As the message was received at or before 0800Z on the 26th, we can then infer that the decay happened between 260001-0800Z Dec 1980. Hope this helps.

[redacted] n 40

*Possibly more info than you need here to meet the FOI request.*

*The Spacetrack log entry shows that the decay notification message was received from Space Control Centre (SCC) before 0800Z on 26 Dec 1980. The date of decay was given as 26 Dec 1980. However it should be noted that in 1980 we did not expect or receive the same level of decay date/time assessment accuracy as we have today. It would be reasonable to have a decay window for this decay between 25/1800Z and 26/0800Z.*

*Serco Spacetrack Leader*

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

**From:** [redacted] Wg Cdr  
**Sent:** 24 August 2005 14:44  
**To:** FYL-Ops-OC  
**Subject:** FW: FOI Request  
**Importance:** High

[redacted] n 40

Grateful if you would answer yet another FOI question....

Thanks in anticipation.

[redacted] n 40

SOI Airspace Integrity

DCT&UK Ops

MB [redacted]

Internet account: [redacted]

2

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 August 2005 14:31  
**To:** [REDACTED] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** FOI Request  
**Importance:** High

[REDACTED] on 40

As discussed, my FOI applicant has asked for the following;

**Copies of any papers, reports or correspondence generated relating to reports of aerial phenomena reported by the public, civil aircrew and MOD sources on the evening of 25 December 1980. My request relates to the re-entry of the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket body shortly after 2100 on 25 December 1980. I understand this object was sighted by numerous civilians over SE England including the crew of a civilian airliner and reported to RAF West Drayton on 25-26 December 1980.**

Please could you find out from RAF Fylingdales if they have a record of the Russian Cosmos 749 re-entry on this date. If not do they know when it re-entered?.

Thanks

[REDACTED] 40  
DAS-FOI

**29-06-2005-141253-011**

State of Play.

I sent [REDACTED] an e-mail on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2005 updating him on the progress of his request. The current state of play is as follows:

Request 1. – Was answered in my e-mail of 24<sup>th</sup> August.

Request 2. - I have located, copied and prepared relevant sighting reports. I can find no other papers on our files contemporary with these events. We are awaiting a response from RAF Fylingdales (via [REDACTED]) as to whether they have any relevant information.

Request 3. – We are awaiting a response from RAF Fylingdales (via [REDACTED]) as to whether they have any relevant information.

Request 4-6 – AHB hold the F540 Operations Record Books and are examining them for the relevant information. [REDACTED] sent an e-mail to one of his staff to ask them to do this, then went on leave. Unfortunately he sent it to the wrong e-mail address, so the person who was meant to do it, did not know about the request until Seb returned.

Request 7. – Was answered in my e-mail of 24<sup>th</sup> August.

30<sup>th</sup> August 2005



**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 30 August 2005 09:09  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: UFO files

[redacted]

[redacted] b7c 40 per these four files:

D/DS8/75/2/1 G - this is missing - unless this file has recently turned-up  
D/DS8/75/2/1 H, 75/2/5 A & B - should be with you, please pass them to [redacted] b7c 40

Thanks

[redacted] b7c 40

---

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 25 August 2005 11:07  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** UFO files

[redacted] b7c 40

I need to look at the following files for an FOI request. As they cover 1980, would you please let me know if they are with your reviewers?

- D/DS8/75/2/1 Part G - UFO Reports & Correspondence
- D/DS8/75/2/1 Part H - UFO Reports & Correspondence
- D/DS8/75/2/5 Part A - UFO Reports
- D/DS8/75/2/5 Part B - UFO Reports

Thanks

[redacted] b7c 40  
DAS-FOI  
[redacted] b7c 0

*D/DS8/75/2/1 PE G - UFO Reports & Correspondence  
D/DS8/75/2/1 PE H - UFO Reports & C  
D/DS8/75/2/5 PE A - UFO Reports  
PE B - UFO Reports*

---

on 40

I need to look at the following files for an FOI request. As they cover 1980, would you please let me know if they are with your reviewers?

D/DS8/75/2/1 Part G – UFO Reports & Correspondence

D/DS8/75/2/1 Part H – UFO Reports & Correspondence

D/DS8/75/2/5 Part A - UFO Reports

D/DS8/75/2/5 Part B - UFO Reports

Thanks

n 40

DAS-FOI

25<sup>th</sup> August 2005

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 August 2005 14:31  
**To:** [REDACTED] Wg Cdr  
**Subject:** FOI Request  
**Importance:** High

[REDACTED] on 40

As discussed, my FOI applicant has asked for the following;

**Copies of any papers, reports or correspondence generated relating to reports of aerial phenomena reported by the public, civil aircrew and MOD sources on the evening of 25 December 1980. My request relates to the re-entry of the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket body shortly after 2100 on 25 December 1980. I understand this object was sighted by numerous civilians over SE England including the crew of a civilian airliner and reported to RAF West Drayton on 25-26 December 1980.**

Please could you find out from RAF Fylingdales if they have a record of the Russian Cosmos 749 re-entry on this date. If not do they know when it re-entered?.

Thanks

[REDACTED] 40

DAS-FOI

7

does not know if they answered the PQ, but they did have a file on this exercise which was destroyed long ago.  
12/7/2005.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 July 2005 13:31  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** DSC-NAR1; DSC-NAR1a; DSC-NAR AD  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] 29062005-141253-011

Ref: 29-06-2005-141253-011. [REDACTED] RFI received 27 June 2005.

[REDACTED] n 40

Following a check of our file holdings and a search through the archive file directory, we can confirm that DS&C NAR do not hold the exercise report relating to Exercise Proper Watch.

Thank you for the notification of this RFI.

[REDACTED] n 40

[REDACTED]  
 DSC-NAR1b  
 Ministry of Defence  
 Directorate of Safety & Claims - Nuclear Accident Response  
 MOD Main Building  
 Level 6, Zone C, [REDACTED] 40  
 Whitehall  
 London  
 SW1A 2HB

Tel: [REDACTED]  
 Tel MOD: [REDACTED]  
 Fax: [REDACTED]  
 Fax MOD: [REDACTED]  
 Email: [REDACTED]  
 Email MOD Internal: DSC-NAR1b

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 July 2005 17:07  
**To:** [REDACTED] Wg Cdr ; AHB(RAF)&PCB(AIR)-2(RAF)1; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Request  
**Importance:** High

Dear All

I am co-ordinating a response to the attached Freedom of Information request. I would be grateful for your inputs / advice as indicated. If your part of the request is likely to exceed the £600 limit, please let me know with an indication of the amount of effort needed to compile the information.

Request 1. **DAS-VF1** – Is this a matter for the US authorities or the MOD? If the MOD, would it be DAS-VF?

Request 3. **CTandUKOps-Airspace Integrity** – Please could you check with your contact at RAF Fylingdales whether they have any relevant information.

Requests 4, 5 & 6. **AHB(RAF) 2(RAF)1** – Please could you let me know whether you hold these Operation Record Books and if so whether the relevant sections are releasable.

Request 7. **DSC-NAR1b** – Please see attached a copy of the Hansard entry for the PQ referred to in this

12/07/2005

request. I believe the PQ would have been answered by your area. If so could you provide an answer to this request. If it was not your area, please could you let me know asap.

This request is due for reply by 25 July, so i would appreciate a response by COP 19<sup>th</sup> July.

[REDACTED]  
DAS-FOI

5-H- [REDACTED]

0

[REDACTED]

- Parliamentary Questions

[REDACTED] n 40

As discussed, I am coordinating a Freedom of Information request which asks for a copy of a report mentioned in the attached PQ which was answered in 1998.

I have sent the FOI request to DSC-NAR1b as we believe it might have been them, but if your records go back that far, it would be useful if you could let me know who provided this answer.

I am grateful for any help you can provide.

[REDACTED]  
DAS-FOI  
5-H-[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

8<sup>th</sup> July 2005

Dear All

I am co-ordinating a response to the attached Freedom of Information request. I would be grateful for your inputs / advice as indicated. If your part of the request is likely to exceed the £600 limit, please let me know with an indication of the amount of effort needed to compile the information.

- ✓ Request 1. **DAS-VF1** – Is this a matter for the US authorities or the MOD? If the MOD, would it be DAS-VF?
- ✓ Request 3. **CTandUKOps-Airspace Integrity** – Please could you check with your contact at RAF Fylingdales whether they have any relevant information.
- ✓ Requests 4, 5 & 6. **AHB(RAF) 2(RAF)1** – Please could you let me know whether you hold these Operation Record Books and if so whether the relevant sections are releasable.
- ✓ Request 7. **DSC-NAR1b** – Please see attached a copy of the Hansard entry for the PQ referred to in this request. I believe the PQ would have been answered by your area. If so could you provide an answer to this request. If it was not your area, please could you let me know asap.

This request is due for reply by 25 July, so I would appreciate a response by COP 19<sup>th</sup> July.

[REDACTED]  
DAS-FOI

5-H- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 10

8<sup>th</sup> July 2005

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 June 2005 11:26  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: AIT - Case to be placed

[REDACTED] 40

Thanks for a quick response, I have now asked the Navy to lead with input from JHC. As ever there is now another one arrived that I need to run past you, UFO-related but goes wider. Grateful for a steer on who should lead with this:

[REDACTED] 40

**Title:** [REDACTED] 29-06-2005-141253-011  
**Person\_Title:** [REDACTED] 40  
**First\_Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Surname:** [REDACTED]  
**Organisation:**  
**Applicant\_Type:** Private Individuals  
**Address\_Line\_1:** [REDACTED]  
**Address\_Line\_2:** [REDACTED]  
**Address\_Line\_3:**  
**TownCity:** NOTTINGHAM  
**Postcode:** [REDACTED] 40  
**Country:** United Kingdom  
**Email:**  
**Telephone:**  
**Fax:**  
**Request\_Details:** HARD COPY LETTER dd 16/6, REC'D 27/6

This is a request under the FOI Act. Please use above address for correspondence.

Firstly I should make clear although my application relates to the period in which the Rendlesham UFO incident occurred my request does not relate specifically to this incident per se. I am aware the MOF file is available on the pub scheme on line but my request relates to a related occurrence not dealt with by the contents of this file.

My request is for copies of original docs and any correspondence generated by MOD or related departments specific to the info listed below

1 Any info (documents papers logbooks) relating to the level of alert status in force at

01/07/2005



DAB-UC?

1 RAF/USAF tenated air bases in GB during 25- 30 Dec 1980

DAS-

2 Copies of any papers, reports or correspondence generated relating to reports of aerial phenomina reported by the public, civ aircrew and MOD sources on the evening of 25/12/80. My request [redacted] to the re entry of the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket body shortly after 2100 on 25/12/80. I understand this object was sighted by numerous civilans over SE England including the crew of a civy airliner and reported to RAF West Drayton on 25/26.12.80.

RAF Fylingdales?

3 Copies of papers reports correspondence relating to satellite debris detected sighted or reported to MOD/RAF by RAF Fylingdales or other MOD agencies between 25 / 30.12.80.

AAB?

4 Copy of Op record book & any other surviving logbooks for Sector Operation Centre/control and Reporting Centre RAF Neatishead, Dec 80 & Jan 81.

All with records reviewers for transfer to TNA-

5 Copy of Ops Record Book & any other surviving logbooks for Eastern radar (RAF Watton) Dec 80 & Jan 81.

6 Copy of Ops Record Book for RAF Bawdsey and/or units operating from RAF Bawdsey Dec 80 & Jan 81.

7 Copy of the report on Exercise Proper Watch which took place at RAF Bentwaters, May 89 and "tested the procedures in place for responding to the crash of a US transport a/c carrying nuclear weapons" (Hansard 30 Jun 98 — [redacted])

DSC-NAR16  
Level 6-Zone C-

Directorate of Safety & Claims - Nuclear Accident Response

Case\_Number: 29-06-2005-141253-011

Originator: DII [redacted]

User\_Group: GxAITESTInfoAcc

Date\_Received: 27/06/2005

Date\_Due: 25/07/2005

Status: Logged

Responder: GxAITESTInfoAcc

PQ's - [redacted]

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 29 June 2005 16:34  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: AIT - Case to be placed  
**Importance:** High

[redacted] n 40

Not for me I am pleased to say. The RAF do not fly Lynx helicopters (they are not Tri-Service as [redacted] believes). They are flown by both the RN and the Army. As he is particularly interested in the accident in 2004 involving a Lynx from Yeovilton, I suggest you sell this to the Fleet FOI cell (Fleet DCS-FOI3 [redacted] on 40 [redacted]). You might also want to send it to Land Command's FOI focal point as they would look after any Army Lynx crashes.

Hope this helps.

01/07/2005

Hansard  
30 June 1998 Column: 130

## Exercise Proper Watch

**Mr. Matthew Taylor:** To ask the Secretary of State for Defence what was the scenario of the exercise, Proper Watch, in 1989; on what dates and where it took place; if the United States Department of Defense took part; and if he will place a copy of the results of the exercise in the Library. [46819]

**Dr. Reid:** Exercise Proper Watch took place at RAF Bentwaters in May 1989. The exercise tested the procedures in place for responding to the crash of a US transport aircraft carrying nuclear weapons. The United States response forces participated in this exercise. A classified report on the exercise does exist, but for the reasons my hon. Friend the Under-Secretary of State for Defence gave to the hon. Member on 31 July 1997, *Official Report*, column 470, and under Exemption 2 of the Code of Practice of Access to Government Information, I am not prepared to release the report.



### The RAF Fylingdales Mission

The mission of RAF FYLINGDALES is

to provide **Missile Warning, Space Surveillance and Air Defence** capabilities

to meet the operational requirements of UK, US and NATO Joint forces.

Missile Warning - reflects our primary strategic role to provide early warning of Ballistic Missile attack against UK, US and NATO areas of interest.

Space Surveillance - reflects the key secondary role in providing satellite data in support of the Space Surveillance Network

and our tertiary role to provide a Satellite Warning Service to UK forces.

Air Defence - records the capability provided to the Air Surveillance and Control System by the Remote Radar Head at Staxton Wold

The mission statement *does not* suggest that we should strive to *excel* at the provision of these capabilities - **we take that for granted.**

Rendlesham Forest UFO - the rocket re-entry

## THE ROCKET RE-ENTRY

At 21.07 on the evening of 1980 December 25 (i.e. a mere six hours before the supposed UFO landing in Rendlesham Forest) the Russian Cosmos 749 rocket re-entered over north-west Europe and was widely reported as a UFO. A report on this re-entry can be found in the *Journal of the British Astronomical Association* (1981, vol. 91, page 561). It broke up during re-entry, and the last fragment is thought to have burnt out somewhere east of Clacton. Any surviving fragments would have fallen into the North Sea, and hence have been unrecoverable. As far as I am aware, no fragments from this re-entry were ever detected on radar, but it is possible that the radar tapes were examined to see if anything did get through and this may explain some of the stories about radar checks that were later attributed to the Rendlesham Forest UFO.

In her 1998 book *UFO Crash Landing?*, Jenny Randles suggests that the NSA on Orford Ness had fired an energy beam into space to "jam the electronics on the Soviet military satellite and deflect its orbital path causing it to burn up in a controlled fashion". She names the source of this energy beam as a secret radar project called Cobra Mist. And in a subsequent book, *The UFOs That Never Were*, she goes on to claim that the flightpath of the incoming debris altered "as if something caused the trajectory to be deflected". Exciting stuff, if true.

To assess the credibility of that idea requires some background information. Firstly, the object that re-entered was not what most people would think of as a 'real' satellite. It was in fact the upper stage of the carrier rocket that launched Cosmos 749 over five years earlier, in July 1975. (It is usual for the top stage of a launch rocket to go into orbit with the satellite, and is a major contributor to the amount of 'junk' in orbit). As such it was a dead, inert cylinder of metal, and there would have been no way to command it down even if anyone had wanted to do so. What's more, the re-entry started 1,500 miles away over North Africa.

The real Cosmos 749 satellite had in fact re-entered three months earlier, in September 1980. It was an electronic eavesdropping satellite but it was not the type of satellite designed to be brought back to Earth, nor was it nuclear-powered. And the British Astronomical Association research paper referenced in paragraph one makes it clear that Jenny's claim that the incoming object somehow changed course is simply wrong.

Now for some information about Cobra Mist. It was an over-the-horizon radar and as such was designed to detect missiles coming from Russia and the eastern bloc over azimuths from 19.5° to 110.5° clockwise from true north, whereas Cosmos 749 came in from the southwest. What would have been needed here was not an over-the-horizon but an over-the-shoulder radar. According to FOIA documents made available on <http://www.cufon.org/cufon/cobramst.htm> the radar never worked successfully. It was closed at the end of June 1973, over seven years before the Rendlesham Forest UFO sighting, and the hardware dismantled. The closure was publicly announced by the MoD that same month (not 1983, as Jenny has it on page 189 of *UFO Crash Landing*).

Although the Cosmos 749 re-entry sparked a rash of UFO sightings that were reported on radio that night and could well have put the airmen at RAF Woodbridge on "UFO alert", there is no evidence to suggest that it had any other connection with the later events in Rendlesham Forest.

Content last updated: 2002 November 6

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Return to Ian Ridpath's UFO page